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smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press

Volume 24 Issue 146 TUESDAY 6/17/25 smdp.com

Thousands gather for peaceful rally in Palisades Park to protest ICE raids and the use of military for political spectacle

SCOTT SNOWDEN
SMDP Staff Writer

A crowd of several thousand demonstrators gathered peacefully in Palisades Park on Saturday morning to protest what many described as a sharp erosion of democratic values, the targeting of immigrants and an increasingly militarized tone from the federal government under President Donald Trump.

Organized loosely in response to reports of immigration raids and the possibility of a military parade marking the President's birthday, the protest drew an estimated 4,000 to 5,000 people to the ocean-facing park, where elected officials joined local residents in denouncing federal policies and calling for solidarity.

Speakers included Assemblymember Rick Chavez Zbur, State Senator Ben Allen, Santa Monica Mayor Lana Negrete,

SEE **PROTEST** PAGE 6



Scott Snowden

NO KINGS: Speakers included Assemblymember Rick Zbur, Mayor Lana Negrete and councilmembers Dan Hall and Ben Allen.

Officials delay approval of 5th Street housing development

MAAZ ALIN
SMDP Staff Writer

The Santa Monica Architectural Review Board continued its review of a proposed 132-unit residential building this month after board members raised concerns about the building's corner design and materials at the prominent gateway site near the freeway.

The eight-story, 87-foot-tall project at 1640 5th Street would include 15 affordable units and sit on an irregularly shaped parcel adjacent to the I-10 freeway and near the Downtown Santa Monica Metro Station, making it highly visible to people entering the city.

After extensive discussion, all seven board members voted to continue the project rather than approve it, citing the need for additional design refinements despite acknowledging improvements since the project's

SEE **TOWER** PAGE 6

Council praises departing civic activist even as she calls on them to do more for residents

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

Nancy Coleman, a longtime Santa Monica resident and prominent civic activist who helped shape local housing policy and government accountability measures, will be moving from one end of Route 66 to the other but not before receiving accolades from civic leaders last week.

Coleman was formally honored by the City Council Tuesday as she prepares to move to Chicago to be closer to family.

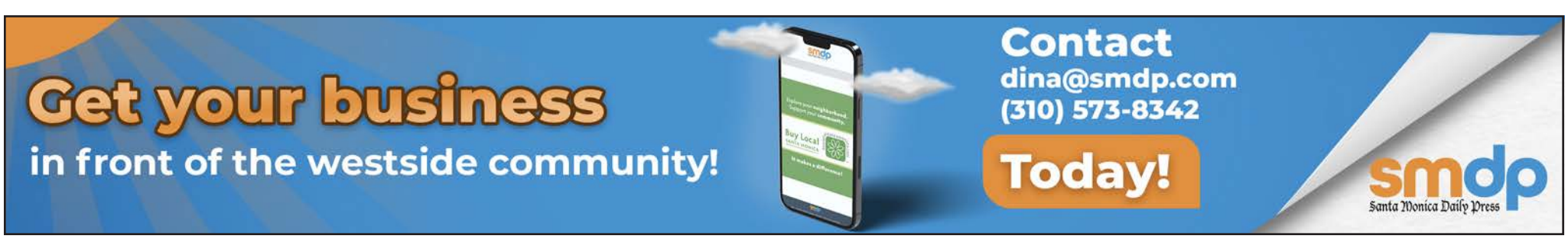
Mayor Lana Negrete presented Coleman with a commendation recognizing her extraordinary contributions and enduring legacy of advocacy, courage and public service during more than a decade of influential community work since returning to her hometown in 2011.

"As Nancy prepares to relocate to Chicago to be near her beloved children and grandchildren, the City of Santa Monica expresses a profound gratitude for her decades of public service, civic engagement and unwavering love for her hometown," Negrete said, drawing emotional reactions from the audience.

Community members came out to say that Coleman's departure represents a significant loss for local civic engagement

"The loss of Nancy Coleman to

SEE **COLEMAN** PAGE 7



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Homelessness is top of mind for many Californians. Why does the proposed budget eliminate funding for it?

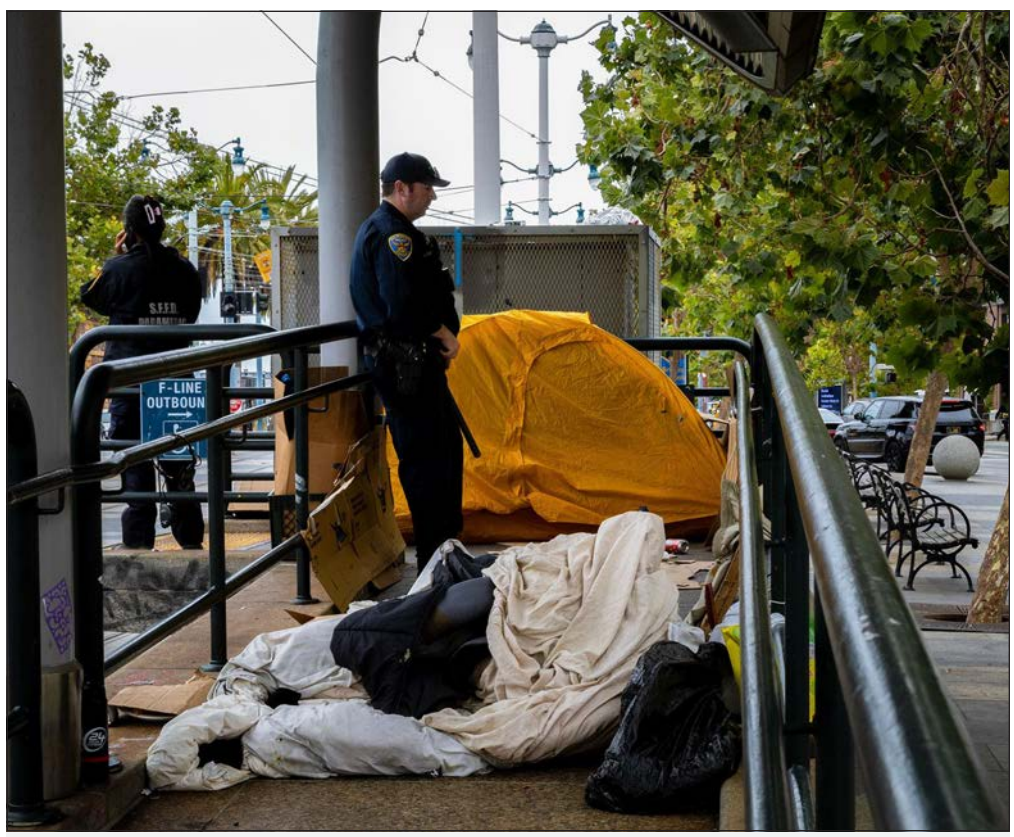


Photo by Manuel Orbegozo for CalMatters

HOMELESS: A police officer waits for James Harris to come out of his tent set up in front of the Ferry Building in San Francisco during an encampment sweep on Aug. 9, 2024.

State leaders have been talking a lot lately about cleaning up California's homeless encampments and moving people indoors. But the tentative budget they've drawn up for the upcoming year has many asking: With what money?

Both Gov. Gavin Newsom and the Legislature have proposed gutting the state's main source of homelessness funding in the 2025-26 budget, sending a wave of panic through the cities, counties and service providers that have been relying on that money for years. Now, those critics warn that thousands of Californians could end up back on the streets, undoing the tenuous progress the state has made in addressing the problem.

"It's extremely frustrating," said San Jose Mayor Matt Mahan, whose city had been receiving about $30 million a year from that pot of homelessness funding — enough to pay for about 1,000 interim housing placements. "Residents of California tell us consistently that ending unsheltered homelessness is one of their very top priorities...So the idea that the state can't make a substantial, consistent investment in residents' top priority makes me question whether or not they're really listening to the people of California."

The Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention program has doled out funds for cities and counties to spend on everything from temporary shelter to services to permanent housing since its creation six years ago. It started with $650 million in the 2019-20 budget, and has since grown to $1 billion last year.

Since 2023, the program has provided housing for more than 57,000 Californians, according to the Bring California Home Coalition, made up of affordable housing providers, advocates for homeless individuals and government staff.

SEE **HOMELESS** PAGE 4



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Music students return to fire-ravaged Pacific Palisades Senior Community



Courtesy photo

LAURA JEAN MUSIC ACADEMY: LJMA and Squad Harmonix "Spotlight Sessions" at Ciela senior living facility in Pacific Palisades.

MAAZ ALIN
SMDP Staff Writer

Students from Laura Jean Music Academy performed for seniors at Ciela Senior Living Community recently, marking their second visit since the devastating Palisades Fire forced evacuations and damaged the surrounding neighborhood in January.

The performance represented more than just a musical showcase — it symbolized resilience and community connection in the aftermath of one of the area's most destructive wildfires. Students performed solo songs, duets, piano pieces and group a cappella selections for residents who had been displaced from their home for months.

The journey to Ciela proved sobering for the young performers, who witnessed firsthand the fire's destruction as they drove through Pacific Palisades. Familiar homes and businesses lay in ruins along their route, serving as stark reminders of the community's ongoing recovery efforts. Despite the visible devastation, students expressed excitement about reconnecting with elderly residents they had grown to know through previous performances.

The visit was part of Laura Jean Music Academy's monthly "Spotlight Sessions" initiative, which sends students to perform at local senior living facilities throughout Santa Monica and Pacific Palisades. Founded in 2014 by Laura Saggers, the academy was created with the purpose of developing exceptional, well-rounded musicians in an environment that is supportive, kind and has no room for egos. The academy has made community engagement central to its educational philosophy, offering students more than 35 live performance opportunities annually.

Saggers employs what she describes as a "tough love" teaching approach. Students know she adores them and supports them wholeheartedly, championing their successes and treating them like beloved siblings. However, she also holds them accountable to the highest level they are capable of achieving and doesn't accept excuses. This philosophy extends to all LJMA teachers, who are trained to teach with this mentality. Many instructors are academy alumni who return to teach while furthering their own musical careers.

The result is outstanding quality across the board — not just in one or two top students, but in all participants. Students leave the academy with a profound sense of achievement and lifelong friendships, with many choosing to continue their musical journeys at higher levels. With the majority of students studying at LJMA for over six years, teachers become role models, confidants and close family friends.

The Spotlight Sessions program serves dual purposes: providing students with low-stress performance experience while emphasizing community service values. These monthly visits allow young musicians to share their talents with seniors while developing empathy, leadership skills and social responsibility — qualities Saggers considers essential to well-rounded musical education.

The academy's educational approach extends beyond musical instruction to character development. Teachers focus not only on advancing students' musical abilities but also on developing their overall character as they navigate life. Manners, accountability, kindness, positive thinking, leadership and confidence-building are emphasized within the classroom

SEE **MUSIC** PAGE 8



Surf report

WATER TEMP: **64.4**

TUESDAY
FAIR
SURF: 2-3ft+
Thigh to stomach

Fun day of waves if the winds cooperate off mix of SSW/S swells and NW windswell. S swell from the weekend continues to ease, mixing with some modest reinforcements. NW windswell should be up a peg, making for peaky, fun-zone surf at the beachbreaks. Points a little more mixed up than usual. Morning winds look decent at this point, maybe a little early texture for the beachbreaks out west. Afternoon window looks manageable, particularly for the points.

WEDNESDAY
FAIR
SURF: 2-3ft
Thigh to waist

Nothing great, but first in series of S'erly swells keep many SoCal breaks rideable to fun. There isn't a single swell in this run that looks remarkable but overlapping SSW to SW swells will be running for something to at least cruise on (waist high'ish) for average breaks, while top spots west of Dume push chest-high. Still enough windswell sticking around for at least semi-peaky surf. Looks like a clean start, but there is potential for some funky E wind along the points in the morning. W PM onshores add some lump west of Dume, keep points clean.

Weather

Tuesday: Sunny, with a high near 75. East wind 5 to 10 mph becoming west southwest in the morning.
Tuesday Night: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, increasing clouds, with a low around 63.
Wednesday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, mostly sunny, with a high near 74. East wind 5 to 10 mph
Wednesday Night: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, mostly cloudy, with a low around 62.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2025/06/17	Tue	01:16 AM	4.65	H
2025/06/17	Tue	08:39 AM	0.15	L
2025/06/17	Tue	3:46 PM	4.18	H
2025/06/17	Tue	9:08 PM	2.59	L
2025/06/18	Wed	02:29 AM	4.04	H
2025/06/18	Wed	09:25 AM	0.56	L
2025/06/18	Wed	4:29 PM	4.64	H
2025/06/18	Wed	10:48 PM	2.00	L
2025/06/19	Thu	04:04 AM	3.52	H
2025/06/19	Thu	10:14 AM	1.00	L

Daily Lottery

Although every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the winning number information, mistakes can occur. In the event of any discrepancies, California State laws and California Lottery regulations will prevail. Complete game information and prize claiming instructions are available at California Lottery retailers. Visit the California State Lottery web site at http://www.calottery.com

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 6/14
4 6 9 23 59
Power#: 25
Jackpot: 90 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 6/13
8 10 22 40 47
Mega#: 1
Jackpot: 280 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 6/14
7 8 30 35 39
Mega#: 4
Jackpot: 17 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 6/15
1 3 5 12 20

Daily 3
Draw Date: 6/15
EVENING: 1 5 7
Draw Date: 6/15
MIDDAY: 4 7 0

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 6/15
1st: 11 - Money Bags
2nd: 12 - Lucky Charms
3rd: 03 - Hot Shot
Race Time: 1:47.29

PUBLISHER
Ross Furukawa
ross@smdp.com

PARTNER
Todd James
todd@smdp.com

EDITOR IN CHIEF
Matthew Hall
matt@smdp.com

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Charles Andrews,
Devan Sipher,
Miles Warner.

CIRCULATION
Guadalupe Navarro
ross@smdp.com

STAFF WRITERS
Scott Snowden
scott.snowden@smdp.com
Maaz Alin
maaz@smdp.com

LEGAL ADVERTISING
Cindy Moreno
cindy@smdp.com

MARKETING & ADVERTISING MANAGER
Dina Araniva
dina@smdp.com

PRODUCTION
Esteban Inchaustegui
production@smdp.com

Julio Davalos
julio@smdp.com

2219A Main St Santa Monica, CA 90405
OFFICE (310) 458-PRESS (7737)
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Bidding Documents may be obtained by logging onto the District bidding website at: https://www.planetbids.com/portal/portal.cfm?CompanyID=13721#.

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All Bid Proposals shall be submitted on forms furnished by the District. Bid Proposals must conform with, and be responsive to, the Bid and Contract Documents, copies of which may be obtained from the District as set forth above. Only Bid Proposals submitted to the District via the bidding website, prior to the date and time set forth, shall be considered.

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Santa Monica Daily Press
Classifieds

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Furniture	Travel	Commercial Lease	Services	Health and Beauty	Obituaries
	Vacation Rentals	Real Estate	Computer Services	Fitness	Tutoring

Name Change

Order Show to show cause for Name Change Case No.25SMCP00321 Superior Court of California, County of Los AngelesPetition of Jay Michael Muller and Megan Tylr Majd for Change of Name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner or Attorney: Jay Michael Muller and Megan Tylr Majd court for a decree of changing names as follows: Jay Michael Muller to Jay Michael Majd MullerMegan Tylr Majd to Megan Tylr Majd MullerThe court orders that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Notice of Hearing: Date 7/11/2025 Time: 8:30 a.m, Dept:45 Room: 529. The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA – COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES Courthouse 1725 Main St Santa Monica, CA 90405 A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Santa Monica Daily Press

HOURS MONDAY - FRIDAY 9:00am - 5:00pm
LOCATION 1640 5th Street, Suite 218, Santa Monica, CA 90401

HOMELESS

FROM PAGE 2

But with the state facing an expected deficit of $12 billion this year, those funds ended up on the chopping block. The 2025-26 budget proposed by the Legislature June 9 allocates $0. Lawmakers passed a placeholder Friday, but the budget still has to undergo additional negotiations between Newsom and lawmakers before it becomes final. Even so, the governor already has indicated he's fine with stripping homelessness funding.

At the same time, California could soon also be reeling from federal cuts. President Donald Trump's proposed budget would reduce funding to the Housing and Urban Development department by 44%, slashing the rental subsidies and federal homelessness funding that flows to California.

Newsom has, in a sense, been preparing cities and counties for a blow to state funds. He has for years resisted calls to make homelessness money permanent, instead preferring to dole it out year by year in a one-time grant — making it easier to cut in a tough budget year.

Despite ramping up spending on the issue to unprecedented levels after taking office (last year the Legislative Analyst's Office found the administration had spent $24 billion on housing and homelessness), the governor changed his tune in recent months. His message now is more along the lines of: I've done my part, now cities need to step up and take care of the crisis on their streets.

Newsom recently suggested cities do that by passing ordinances banning encampments.

"I'm not interested anymore, period full stop, in funding failure," Newsom said last month, a refrain he's been repeating often.

But the cities and service providers that rely on those funds say it appears he's no longer interested in funding success, either: While California's homeless population remains the biggest in the nation — with more than 187,000 people sleeping on the street and in shelters — it increased just 3% last year, compared to a nationwide increase of about 18%.

Critics worry gutting funding will erode that modicum of progress.

"Simply put, this choice will lead to more people moving onto California's streets and fewer avenues off the streets," the Bring California Home Coalition said in a statement.

In San Jose, the state homelessness funding has been crucial in the city's push to move people out of encampments and into temporary placements in tiny homes and converted motels. Like other cities, San Jose still is waiting to receive its homelessness allocation from the last budget. But once that money is spent, probably by next summer, San Jose will feel the hit, Mahan said. When that happens, the city probably won't have to close existing programs, because it's lucky enough to have other funding sources, he said. But it won't be able to build new units, effectively stalling the city's plan to get everyone off its streets.

Mahan and other California mayors have for months been urging state leaders to reconsider ever since Newsom's initial January budget proposal zeroed out the homelessness funds.

Instead, the Legislature suggested adding $500 million back into the state homeless funding program — but not until in the 2026-27 fiscal year. That would be a 50% reduction from last year's allocation. And there's no guarantee that money will come through at all. In addition, lawmakers proposed reducing another, smaller homelessness program — which provides money to cities specifically for cleaning up encampments and moving occupants indoors — by $100 million.

It's not all bad news, pointed out Ben Metcalf, managing director of UC Berkeley's Terner Center for Housing Innovation. The Legislature's budget includes $500 million in low-income housing tax credits to fund the construction of new affordable housing, and $120 million for the Multifamily Housing Program, which provides loans for low-income housing.

But the Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention program may have been politically easier to gut, Metcalf said. That program doesn't benefit from deep-pocketed lobbyists defending it in Sacramento.

And because of the complex, intractable nature of the homelessness crisis, the money hasn't produced the kind of tangible, grand-slam results voters want to see on their streets. Instead, homelessness remains a persistent problem, and encampments still dot California's cities.

But without that money, some shelters and housing programs are likely to close, Metcalf said. Others could simply become less effective. The state program provided funding for the types of counseling, case workers and other services that help people transition from shelters into permanent housing, he said. Without that extra help, people often languish in shelters.

"So what you end up with, probably, is more Band-Aids," Metcalf said, "or patchworks of systems that are providing some modest amount of (improvement in) the quality of life but not really helping transition people permanently out of homelessness."

By Marisa Kendall. This article was originally published by CalMatters.

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GUEST COMMENTARY

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Goodbye Santa Monica

While I grew up in Santa Monica – going to Roosevelt, Lincoln and Samohi I left to go to UC Santa Cruz and then to do graduate work at the University of Michigan. I was drawn to national politics and moved in the late 1970s to work in Washington DC for more than 35 years. Over the decades I have returned to Santa Monica to visit family and friends. In 2011 I returned to make the city my home.

The last fifteen years have been challenging. While serving on the Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury in 2013 – 2014 I became aware that the City of Santa Monica lacked an audit committee. I worked with members of the Council and the Santa Monica Transparency Project to add an Audit Committee for financial oversight to the City Council's supervision of city administrative activities. I hope that the Audit Committee will be used to monitor the financial decisions of the City. It is essential that knowledgeable residents in the city monitor Council and administrative activities.

As a lifelong advocate for the elderly and the vulnerable, I returned to Santa Monica where I served on the Social Services Commission and the We Are Santa Monica Fund Advisory Board over the last ten years.

I am stunned to hear from members of the current City Council say that residents, and their neighborhood organizations, should not be considered in policy decisions taken by the Council. The School Board announced that the timeframe for parents and concerned residents to express their preference for natural grass instead of synthetic turf at Franklin has passed. Do any school board members have children currently using these fields?

The escrow officer informed me that Los Angeles requires certification confirming shrubbery does not touch residential buildings. Santa Monica does not impose any such requirements. The first 5 feet surrounding a home should be kept clear of combustible materials, including vegetation and wooden fences, in order to prevent embers from spreading fire to buildings, structures, and decks. In April 2025, Los Angeles passed an ordinance on wildfires that includes CAL FIRE maps.

The Santa Monica City Council intends to formally adopt the CAL FIRE wildfire maps, which encompass certain areas within the city. The areas are all in the north of the city. While they can adopt these, there is no strategic plan to provide changes in the code to protect the residents. To prevent fires, keep foliage at least 5 feet away from the front, rear, and side elevations of homes and between properties. Air vents in older homes should have retrofit grates installed to prevent embers from entering attic crawl spaces. The city should analyze the fire risk of street trees near wildfire areas. Hazardous trees should be replaced. The city ordinance stipulates that hedges in the front setback must not exceed a height of forty-two inches. These rules should be enforced, regardless of whether they were previously exempted due to their provocative nature. We should learn from the Palisades fires, not put our head in the ground and hope that residents will do the correct thing and keep hedges trimmed no higher than forty-two inches.

The City Council in October decided that code enforcement should not concentrate on hedge height violations. That was before the wildfires that destroyed the Palisades. The Fire Marshall and the Council should consider changes to protect our city. We should consider CAL FIRE standards and recognize that high hedges, pine, and palm trees can be incendiary if the wind changes.

A local magazine, Santa Monica Spotlight, featured an article in their April 2025 edition on "how to build a fire-resistant home". While NOMA is a mix of 1920's and newly built homes this article provides information that should have been made available by the Fire Marshall or other city officials concerned about the impact of the Palisades fire on our city. Where do Santa Monica's officials, both administrative and elected, stand on these critical issues?

The current City Council has made changes in the format of the meetings that have included limits on resident participation. These include public comment time limits. More importantly they have included on the Consent Calendar very controversial items such as the vote to endorse SB 79. These should not fall under Consent.

Residents, neighborhood organizations, and other interested parties thoroughly examine the issues and provide substantial suggestions. The Council often dismisses these suggestions, saying "neighborhood groups" have misinterpreted the language. This disagreement should be discussed, not ignored. The public sits through hours of Council discussion with little or no input. We need a better way of discussing items such as the budget deficit as the year goes forward.

I leave the city I love with mixed feelings. Since 2011, I have been actively involved in addressing local issues. I have been a member of the Social Services Commission, the We Are Santa Monica Fund, Santa Monica Transparency, the North of Montana Association, and the Neighborhood Council. Engaging residents is essential to democracy. I hope that city officials (elected and administrative) will reach out to the community and develop more effective democratic ways of making policy decisions.

Nancy Coleman

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Santa Monica Daily Press editor@smdp.com

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TOWER

FROM PAGE 1

previous review in April.

"I think it's gone in a really good direction, but I think I'd like to see it come back so that we could really see how those two things are actually explored and resolved," said board member Craig Hamilton.

The board's primary concerns centered on the building's corner treatment, particularly at the southeast intersection of 5th Street and Olympic Boulevard. Board members struggled with whether the design should read as a single corner building or two separate structures that meet at an intersection.

"I don't think there's a fatal flaw anywhere that we're talking about. But I do feel like it's a little bit out of reach of the kind of thing we'd just be able to say, work with the staff on this," said board member Kevin Daly. "I feel like this is a number of things that the designer needs to pull together to make it kind of really click."

Materials also drew significant scrutiny, particularly the applicant's proposal to use brick on the lower floors.

"I don't see quite why it would be brick. There's no brick in the city. I would prefer something like wood or something, possibly a little bit warmer," said board member Barbara Coffman.

The project, developed by Lincoln Property Company, would maximize the site's potential by conforming to the irregular "L" shaped parcel. It includes three levels of subterranean parking and uses the State Density Bonus program to exceed normal height and floor area ratio limits by including affordable housing units.

Board members acknowledged the project's significance as a gateway to Santa Monica. Chair Patrick Tighe noted the building's prominence from the freeway approach, saying the design strategy of "letting something slide by" rather than creating a traditional corner treatment was "actually a good move."

The applicant had made several changes since the April review, including redesigning the southeast corner, replacing fiber cement board with brick, adding solar shading elements, and revising the roofline for consistency. However, board members felt more comprehensive refinement was needed.

"I think that the project is much better than it was when we first thought so I really appreciate that," said Coffman, while suggesting additional modifications including possible balconies for second-floor units.

Board member Qianyu Li emphasized the importance of the building's nighttime appearance, calling for more innovative lighting design.

"I think many so like on that side, if we can just try to be more innovative, and I think it will really help to improve the overall presence of the building facing the public," Li said.

The meeting also featured the introduction of new Community Development Director Arminé Chaparyan, who brings more than 24 years of local government experience to the role. Chaparyan, who previously served as city manager for South Pasadena, noted she had met with 165 individuals during her first four months on the job.

"I'm sure you all know we're in the midst of a very challenging budget process, and that, coupled with wanting to do quite a bit on the economic development recovery side, it's keeping all of us busy," Chaparyan told the board. "I want to thank you for the extensive amount of time you give us. It's the greatest volunteer work any of you would do."

The project will return to the Architectural Review Board for another hearing after the applicant addresses the board's concerns. No date was set for the continued review.

Under the Housing Accountability Act, the board cannot impose conditions that would reduce the number of residential units or residential density of the project, though it retains authority over design elements.

maaz@smdp.com



Courtesy image

SOUTH ELEVATION: Architectural Review Board voted Monday to continue its review of a proposed 132-unit residential tower.

PROTEST

FROM PAGE 1

Mayor Pro Tem Caroline Torosis and councilmembers Dan Hall, Jesse Zwick, Barry Snell, Ellis Raskin and Natalya Zernitskaya. Despite some apprehension from local businesses, the event remained entirely peaceful, with Santa Monica police closing part of Ocean Avenue to accommodate the crowd.

"We're at a crossroads," Zbur told the audience. "What kind of nation are we when ICE arrests hardworking immigrants who have never committed a crime? When the President talks about arresting the Governor? When union leaders are jailed for peacefully protesting?" He went on to denounce proposed federal budget cuts to healthcare and social services, characterizing them as attacks on the vulnerable to fund tax breaks for the wealthy.

Zbur, who chairs the Assembly Democratic Caucus, framed the day's protest as part of a broader struggle to uphold American values in the face of authoritarian threats. "We will never bow to a king again," he said, drawing loud applause. "We must be peaceful, but we must not be silent."

> We are here standing up in a proud American tradition of protest against those who want to harm the values that make this country great
>
> - Ben Allen, State Senator

Mayor Negrete, speaking next, opened by setting aside prepared remarks. "My husband reminded me [that] what makes me unique is speaking from the heart," she said. "So I said, fuck it. I'm going to speak from the heart."

She recounted how her parents became US citizens when she was in elementary school and how her multicultural family is emblematic of what she described as the American story.

"We were promised that only felons and criminals would be targeted," she said. "But what we are seeing is hardworking individuals who are trying to become citizens, being profiled and pulled off construction sites."

Negrete urged the community to resist spreading unverified rumors about immigration enforcement, warning that misinformation was fueling unnecessary fear. "There is an entire immigrant population, both documented and undocumented, living in paralyzed fear," she said. "Please confirm your first-hand information before you share it."

She also addressed concerns about public safety and stressed that the Santa Monica Police Department, which she noted is more diverse than the community it serves, was there to safeguard free speech and ensure any bad actors did not disrupt the peaceful nature of the event.

"I see children here. My kids are here," she said. "Let's show them how we raise our voices. Let's show them how we protest with class and how we do it right."

State Senator Ben Allen took the stage soon after and used the occasion to remind the crowd of the nation's ongoing pursuit of a more perfect union. He invoked historic figures from Washington to Chavez and King to underscore the continuity of peaceful dissent in American life.

"We are here standing up in a proud American tradition of protest against those who want to harm the values that make this country great," he said.

Allen, who has been active in opposing federal legal overreach, said California is pushing back through the courts. "Our Attorney General has been filing lawsuit after lawsuit and has been winning," he said. "There are judges who still understand that we need to put a pause on this madness."

He called the deployment of US troops to quell domestic dissent "deeply un-American," adding that "it's wild to me that this President, who hesitates to send troops overseas, is eager to send them onto our own streets."

Councilmember Dan Hall, an Army veteran, delivered one of the most forceful rebukes of the day, challenging both the militarization of immigration enforcement and what he described as a betrayal of constitutional principles.

"Los Angeles is not a war zone," Hall said. "Don't you dare send in federal agents like shock troops and call that patriotism. Don't you dare terrorize our immigrant neighbors and call that law and order."

He reminded active duty military personnel that their oath is to the Constitution, not to a President. "We swore an oath to a constitution, not to a king, not to a tyrant," he said.

Local businesses had braced for potential unrest, a lingering fear from the events of May 2020 when protests turned violent. Some stores downtown, including Jack's Jewelers, Burton and Sand 'n Surf, boarded up their windows. Fred Fitness closed for the day and the grand opening of Bacio di Latte was postponed.

But by afternoon, it was clear the measures were unnecessary. The protest ended without incident, with residents dispersing peacefully after hours of speeches, chants and applause. Police reported no arrests, no injuries and no significant disruptions.

While political divisions were evident in the content of the speeches, the tone of the event remained centered on unity, dignity and the call to action through peaceful means.

"We're not afraid of different ideas," Allen said. "We embrace them here."

As demonstrators slowly filtered out of the park, waving flags and holding signs, the sense of calm and shared purpose remained. For a community still mindful of turmoil from five years ago, Saturday offered a different memory, one of resolve, compassion and collective voice.

scott.snowden@smdp.com

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Thank you Santa Monica

The Santa Monica Police Officers Association would like to thank those in the community who came out to the protest over the weekend in Palisades Park. The event was peaceful, respectful, and a powerful message about the values Santa Monica stands for.

At one point near the end of the event, officers asked participants to step out of the street and into the park. The crowd clapped and thanked the officers for being there. These interactions between the community and police officers, here in Santa Monica, stand in stark contrast to how police and community members interact in other cities.

The Santa Monica Police Officers Association is comprised of a diverse, well-educated, and well-trained cross-section of society. We are proud to be a minority majority organization. We couldn't be more thankful for how Santa Monica was able to express itself in a loud and forceful way, while also recognizing the humanity of the officers who worked the event.

On behalf of the Santa Monica Police Officers Association, I extend a huge thank you!

Respectfully,

Cody Green, Chairperson, Santa Monica Police Officers Association

COLEMAN

FROM PAGE 1

Santa Monica, and to those of us who have really relied on her vast depth and breadth of intelligence and knowledge is tremendous," said Stacy Dalgesh during public comments to the City Council.

Coleman's most visible role was leading the North of Montana Neighborhood Association (NOMA) for eight years as chair, where she now serves as vice chair. Under her leadership, NOMA successfully advocated for stricter limits on "mansionization" – the practice of tearing down modest homes to build larger houses in historic neighborhoods.

In 2016, Coleman urged the Planning Commission to implement tighter rules on home rebuilds, warning that "more and more housing is coming down" in the North of Montana area. She pressed for specific limits including stricter height caps and lot coverage rules, asking the fundamental question: "How much square footage is appropriate for what size lot?"

Her advocacy proved effective. In early 2018, the Santa Monica City Council enacted an interim zoning ordinance to curb mansionization, temporarily capping building height and bulk in single-family residential zones while permanent rules were developed. City officials credited Coleman's work through NOMA as a driving force behind these measures.

The mayor's commendation noted that "in her role with NOMA, Nancy has been a fearless advocate for residents' rights, fighting to preserve historic character, support affordable housing and prevent unchecked development, all while upholding Santa Monica's progressive values of equity, diversity and inclusion."

Coleman also championed government transparency and accountability. She was instrumental in advocating for the formation of the City of Santa Monica audit committee and in 2015 joined fellow activists in filing a civil lawsuit against former City Manager Rod Gould, alleging he violated the city's voter-approved ethics law. The case resulted in a settlement where Gould resigned from a consulting position with a former city contractor and paid $20,000 toward legal fees.

In 2018, Coleman served as principal officer of the campaign for Measure TL, which successfully imposed term limits on the Santa Monica City Council.

Coleman's civic service extended beyond neighborhood advocacy. She served on Santa Monica's Social Services Commission through the early 2020s, helping shape the city's strategies on homelessness and other social issues during the COVID-19 pandemic.

At the county level, Coleman served two terms on the Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury, including as foreperson of the 2018-2019 jury, investigating local government operations to ensure accountability.

During the pandemic, Coleman was selected as an inaugural member of the We Are Santa Monica Fund Advisory Board, where she served as grants subcommittee chair, helping channel donations to emergency assistance and community support programs.

Elizabeth Van Denburgh, former chair of the Wilmont neighborhood association, called Coleman both a mentor and friend who provided crucial guidance on navigating city politics.

"Your enthusiasm, knowledge, intellect, perseverance, pointed questions and instinctive compassion for the residents of Santa Monica have impressed me from day one," she said.

Coleman grew up in Santa Monica, attending local schools before spending 40 years in Washington, D.C., working in public policy and nonprofit leadership, including chairing the Social Security Administration's first Federal Advisory Committee on representative payees.

"Nancy, who obviously has been here since she was a girl, was able to help those of us who were newer to know what the history was of the city, and that's a tremendous loss too," Dalgesh said.

Coleman acknowledged the praise with a brief "thank you" at the meeting before using her remaining time to again advocate for residents and specifically call for more action on fire safety following this year's Palisades fire.

"In fact, we all care about the city. We all care about the city as a whole, not just a piece of the city. And if you look at the city as a whole, you have to also look to what residents have to say. So I challenge you all to think about that," she said.

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MUSIC

FROM PAGE 3

environment.

Each lesson is custom-designed to suit individual needs, with teachers trained to determine what methods enable students to get the most from their instruction. Whether students want to prepare for exams, audition for school roles, build college applications or simply enjoy their musical journey, the academy provides years of performance and teaching experience to help them reach their goals.

The academy's commitment to live performance extends well beyond senior living facilities. Students participate in Black Tie Recitals, Open Mic Nights and performances at local farmers markets throughout the year. These varied experiences not only fast-track performers in skill and ability but also build confidence and determination while encouraging students to support each other's individual journeys.

The academy's award-winning a cappella group, Squad Harmonix, performed at Lincoln Center in New York in April, representing the pinnacle of LJMA's performance opportunities.

These varied performance experiences are designed to enhance students' technical skills, confidence and stage presence while fostering community connections. The academy's numerous performances per year encourage students to mingle with each other, make new friends and learn to support one another. More advanced students learn to support beginners by leading by example, while newer students are inspired by the possibilities they see in advanced performers — creating what Saggers calls a "win-win for everyone."

The return to Ciela following the Palisades Fire highlighted the deeper purpose behind LJMA's community engagement efforts. While the surrounding neighborhood continues rebuilding, the music academy's presence provided continuity and hope for residents who had endured displacement and uncertainty.

The Palisades Fire, which swept through the area in January, forced widespread evacuations and destroyed numerous homes and businesses. Ciela Senior Living Community was among the facilities affected, disrupting the regular programming that residents had come to expect and enjoy.

For LJMA students, the return visit marked their first opportunity to reconnect with Ciela residents after the fire. Sunday's performance represented their ongoing commitment to maintaining these relationships despite the challenges posed by the natural disaster.

The academy's emphasis on community service through music reflects broader educational goals that extend beyond technical proficiency. By encouraging students to use their talents to uplift others, LJMA aims to develop not just skilled musicians but engaged citizens who understand music's power to heal and connect communities.

Laura Jean Music Academy continues to accept new students and expand its community engagement programming. More information about the academy and its mission can be found at ljma.com.

maaz@smdp.com

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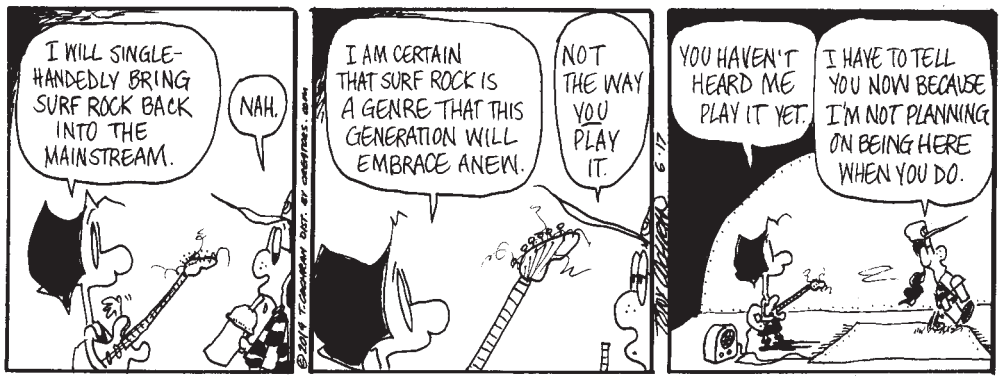


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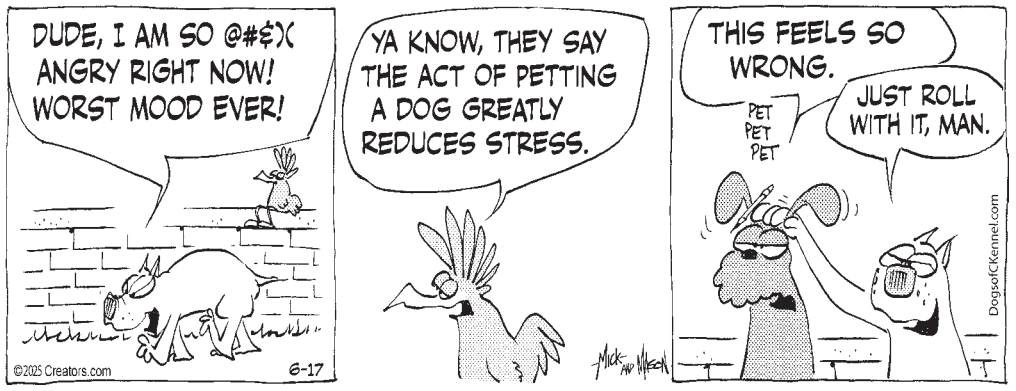
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



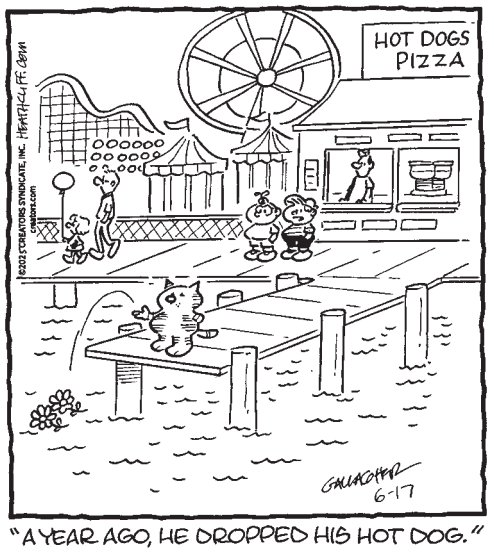
Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



"A YEAR AGO, HE DROPPED HIS HOT DOG."

Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING



FIND THE WORDS

This is a theme puzzle with the subject stated below. Find the listed words in the grid. (They may run in any direction but always in a straight line. Some letters are used more than once.) Ring each word as you find it and when you have completed the puzzle, there will be 15 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle.

© australianwordgames.com.au 6609

At the golf club

E	A	W	E	B	B	H	K	C	I	L	B	I	N	H
D	A	Y	M	O	T	I	O	N	F	T	G	A	E	T
W	B	H	T	I	M	S	N	O	R	E	M	A	C	A
I	I	E	R	D	N	A	S	L	K	R	A	L	L	P
N	L	R	E	E	M	P	O	R	O	D	U	S	M	F
A	I	O	E	L	A	F	L	N	D	B	R	E	Y	F
K	T	C	S	B	T	A	H	A	N	A	K	I	O	R
E	Y	S	A	U	C	D	E	O	Y	L	V	P	V	I
N	T	E	P	O	H	E	E	A	G	L	E	I	N	E
N	T	L	P	R	T	L	L	O	S	T	E	R	S	D
E	U	U	R	T	E	O	U	N	D	E	R	G	P	E
D	P	R	O	E	N	H	I	I	R	A	P	N	O	G
Y	T	R	A	P	I	P	V	C	O	N	D	O	R	G
P	I	H	C	O	N	O	F	N	I	L	V	E	D	F
D	R	A	H	I	T	T	I	N	G	A	N	G	E	R

Ability
Anger
Approach
Ball
Bye
Cameron Smith
Chip
Club
Condor
Davis
Devlin
Divot
Drive
Drop
Eagle
Easy
Edwina
Kennedy
Fade
Flag
Fried egg
Grip
Hard
Heel
Hitting
Hole
Hook
Hope
In play
Kemp
Loft
Lost
Match
Motion
Niblick
Nine
Norman
On par
Path
Pins
Putt
Rules
Sand
Score
Trap
Trees
Trouble
Under
Webb

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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (June 17)

Your commitment is so unshakable, the drive becomes the vehicle you'll ride right to the moment you've been dreaming of. The next two seasons are not about work, rather about submitting to the process and fate's favor. More highlights: You'll be paid to do what you love. You'll travel in a group where you get a rich sense of belonging. Laughs and challenges abound. Leo and Taurus adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 21, 6, 13, 15 and 31.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Socializing can be an art form, and it's one you're intent on elevating today. You'll put thought into your interactions. You'll analyze what works and grow from what you learn. Picking the right people to share yourself with is key to your success.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Your best moves will come from listening well. It keeps you from being reactive or scattered. You don't make it about you. Instead, you make it about comprehension, empathy and presence.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). The people who never fail are the same ones who never try. Learning, growth and creativity require some trial and error. Let yourself learn without the pressure of thinking you have to be successful or talented or correct.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Today's exchange may be financial, but it's not entirely about the money. There's energy and respect interwoven into the deal. The best deals favor both parties in ways that transcend dollar amounts.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). When life throws you into situations you can't control, stay grounded. Over-efforting doesn't solve anything. Focus on what's within reach - your attitude, your next step, your response. That shift - from resistance to acceptance - gives you power.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Gather insight without jumping to fix things. The solution, if there is one, isn't yours to provide. As your understanding deepens, you'll reach a point where the next step - whether it's action or restraint - will feel obvious.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You can see shapes in clouds - angels, dogs, trees - but they're still just clouds. Thoughts are the same. Interpret, find meaning and definition there if you like, though it doesn't make it true, important or yours to hold on to.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Humility is a path to power. Unglamorous tasks - done with care, skill and pride - will be transformative. Eventually, such efforts may be praised, but that's not why you're doing it. You do it because it's right.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). The only thing scarier than not getting what you want is getting what you want. Having it means you'll have to rise to meet it. You'll have to change, stretch, take up space - intimidating but not wrong, just real.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Silence is wisdom. When you don't rush to fill the space with words, it shows you're attuned to the moment's depth. You're not blurting, fixing or performing - you're feeling it out, giving space, noticing nuance. That's emotional intelligence.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You're no longer drawn to relationships that are likely to wreak confusion, depletion or the subtle eclipse of self. You'll get a glimpse of an old emotional pattern and honor the instinct to go the other way. Go with grace and without justification.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). To lower another person's stress is to provide a gift beyond measure. What feels like a minor act to you might become someone else's turning point, or simply the soft moment that made the rest bearable.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

S	I	N	G	■	■	E	R	A	S	■	M	A	T	H
N	O	E	L	S	■	N	O	N	E	■	A	L	O	E
A	W	A	I	T	■	D	A	T	A	■	S	A	G	A
G	A	R	B	A	G	E	D	I	S	P	O	S	A	L
■	■	■	■	R	O	D	S	■	I	A	N	■	■	■
■	C	A	I	R	O	■	■	C	D	S	■	K	I	T
D	I	R	T	Y	D	I	S	H	E	S	■	O	W	E
A	T	M	S	■	■	M	E	A	■	■	E	R	I	E
D	E	E	■	P	A	P	E	R	T	O	W	E	L	S
A	D	D	■	E	L	S	■	■	O	N	E	A	L	■
■	■	■	G	E	L	■	K	A	L	E	■	■	■	■
H	O	T	A	N	D	C	O	L	D	W	A	T	E	R
E	D	I	T	■	O	R	A	L	■	A	G	I	L	E
R	O	D	E	■	N	I	L	E	■	Y	E	L	L	S
B	R	E	D	■	E	B	A	Y	■	■	S	E	A	T

Sudoku

Fill in the blank cells using numbers 1 to 9. Each number can appear only once in each row, column, and 3x3 block. Use logic and process of elimination to solve the puzzle.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

2	1	4	7	6	3	8	9	5
9	6	8	2	4	5	3	7	1
3	7	5	1	9	8	6	2	4
5	3	2	6	8	1	7	4	9
1	8	9	3	7	4	2	5	6
7	4	6	9	5	2	1	8	3
4	2	1	5	3	7	9	6	8
8	9	3	4	2	6	5	1	7
6	5	7	8	1	9	4	3	2

				2				6
5		8		7		1		4
			4		8		3	
	3		6			5	2	
8		1		3		6		9
	6	9			5		1	
	1		2		4			
4		5		9		3		2
9				6				

Newsday Crossword

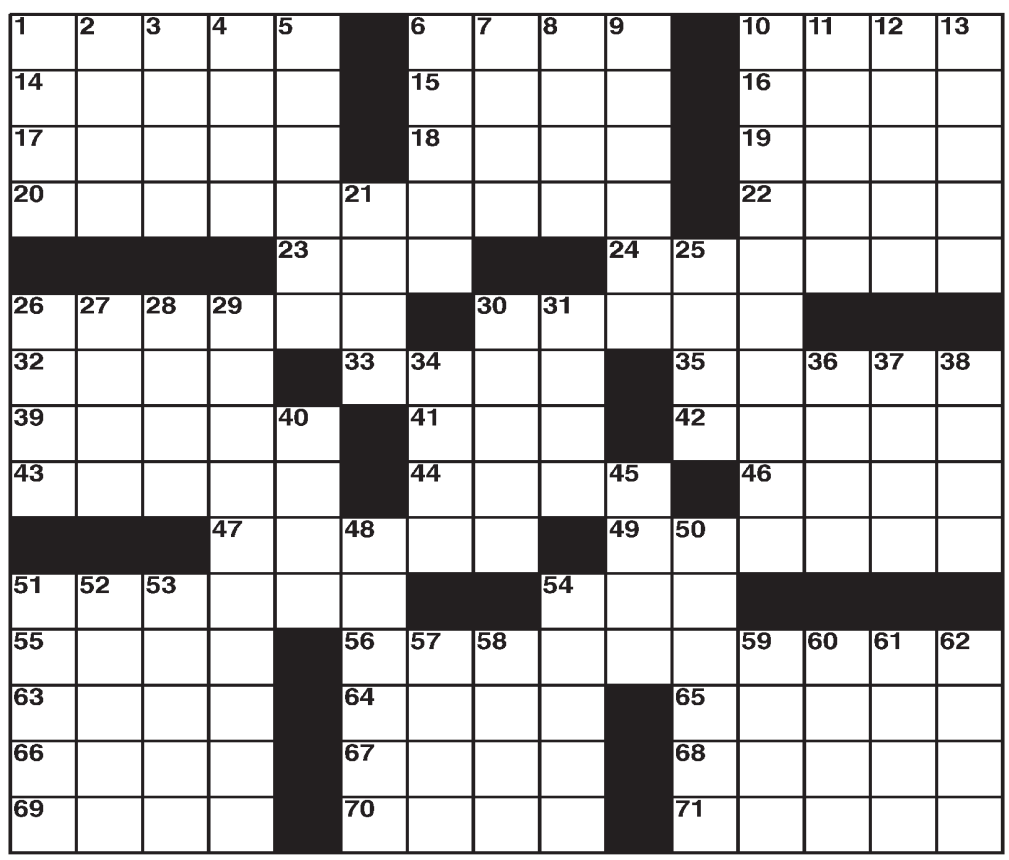
INFIELD DIAGRAM by Sally R. Stein
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Taking little time
6 And others: Abbr.
10 Toad's relative
14 Sheet in a copier tray
15 Flower with thorns
16 Des Moines' state
17 Boxing match locale
18 Revise one's writing
19 "Points" scored in baseball
20 Additional layer of paint
22 Rung of a ladder
23 Leopard or lion
24 Walks inside
26 Took a break
30 Felt concern
32 Apiece
33 Performer in a leading role
35 Dental exam images
39 To no __ (unsuccessful)
41 "Single" prefix for cycle
42 Not allowed
43 Back-in-style fashion
44 Any fizzy soft drink
46 Not squishy, as a mattress
47 Male duck
49 Small sofa
51 Fail to remember
54 Prohibition
55 Where people "worship from"
56 Numbers in real estate listings
63 Volcanic flow
64 At any time
65 Like very much
66 Glider on snow
67 Identify
68 Aladdin's magical pal
69 Otherwise
70 Narrow opening
71 Made less complicated

DOWN

1 Resorts with saunas
2 Rabbit's relative
3 Oil cartel
4 Nevada casino city
5 Hypnotic state
6 Build, as a building
7 Well-__ (wealthy)
8 Korea's continent
9 Any monogram initial
10 Earliest version of a speech
11 Path of travel
12 Rent recipient
13 Sounds of fright
21 Fathers, informally
25 "Better luck __ time"
26 Bring up, as children
27 Roof overhang
28 "Shoo!"
29 Eight-year-old's typical class
30 Lake boat
31 Getting little rain
34 Elephant's long tooth
36 Just slightly
37 Days of __ (olden times)
38 A few of
40 Handed-down stories
45 Initials meaning "right away"
48 Capital of Greece
50 Make very angry
51 Not factual
52 Jack-__-trades
53 Enthusiastic reviews
54 French flat hat
57 Lemon-shaped
58 Interoffice note
59 Creative notion
60 Discuss the pros and __
61 A Great Lake
62 Sesame-__ bun



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06/17/25

MORE OF STAN'S CROSSWORDS! Play FREE from Stan's archives of Easy, Hard and Sunday puzzles at: tinyurl.com/stan-newman-crosswords



TUESDAY | JUNE 17

BOOKS & BAGELS - VENICE LIBRARY BOOK CLUB
12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. Venice Branch Library 501 S Venice Blvd. Venice. Join us the third Tuesday of each month for bagels, coffee and tea. We will have a thoughtful discussion of the current selection and discuss other great things we've been reading. Copies available at the front desk. Plus you get bagels, coffee & tea provided by the Friends of Venice Library! Join for a lively discussion of that month's fiction or non-fiction book pick. New members welcome! Copies of the books are available at the circulation desk. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/books-bagels-venice-library-book-club/14548474/2025-06-17T12

GELSON'S WEST LA TO HOST TACO TUESDAYS WITH TACOS, MARGARITAS, AND MEZCALS
4:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. Gelson's 12121 W Olympic Blvd, Los Angeles. Every Tuesday from 4 PM to 10 PM, Gelson's West LA Wine Bar will be hosting Taco Tuesdays, bringing together a festive blend of flavors and fun. Enjoy a variety of mouthwatering tacos, refreshing margaritas, and smooth mezcals, all served in a vibrant, welcoming atmosphere. The perfect way to spice up the week—gather friends and enjoy a night of great food, drinks, and good times. Prices vary. For more information, visit https://www.gelsons.com/events/view/taco-tuesdays-at-gelsons-west-la-wine-bar. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/gelson-s-west-la-to-host-taco-tuesdays-with-tacos-margaritas-and-mezcals/15309564/2025-06-10T16

WEDNESDAY | JUNE 18

DOWNTOWN FARMERS MARKET - WEDNESDAY MARKET
8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Downtown Santa Monica Arizona Avenue (Between 4th & Ocean) Santa Monica. One of the largest grower-only Certified Farmers Market in Southern California and a favorite for local chefs! Enjoy one of Santa Monica's farmers markets, widely considered to be among the best on the west coast and featuring field-fresh produce, hundreds of kinds of vegetables, brilliant cut flowers, breads, cheeses, and more. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/downtown-farmers-market-wednesday-market/12382446/2025-06-04T08

FRIENDS OF VENICE LIBRARY: YOGA FOR EVERYONE!
12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. Venice Branch Library 501 S Venice Blvd. Venice. Through body awareness, movement, and breath, you will be guided on how to bring your body, mind, and spirit back into balance for overall well-being. All levels are welcome. Generously funded by the Friends of Venice Library. For ADA accommodations, call (213) 228-7430 at least 72 hours prior to the event. Para ajustes razonables según la ley de ADA, llama al (213) 228-7430 al menos 72 horas antes del evento. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/friends-of-venice-library-yoga-for-everyone-/14548476/2025-06-04T12

THURSDAY | JUNE 19

LUNCHTIME LINE DANCE
12:30 p.m. Venice - Abbot Kinney Memorial Branch Library 501 S. Venice Boulevard Venice. Get fit and meet new friends learning line dances on your lunch break. We will learn new and old dances to various styles, including country, disco, Latin, soul, and more. All levels are welcome. For ADA accommodations, call (213) 228-7430 at least 72 hours prior to the event. Para ajustes razonables según la ley de ADA, llama al (213) 228-7430 al menos 72 horas antes del evento. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/lunchtime-line-dance/12342961/2025-06-05T12

FRIDAY | JUNE 20

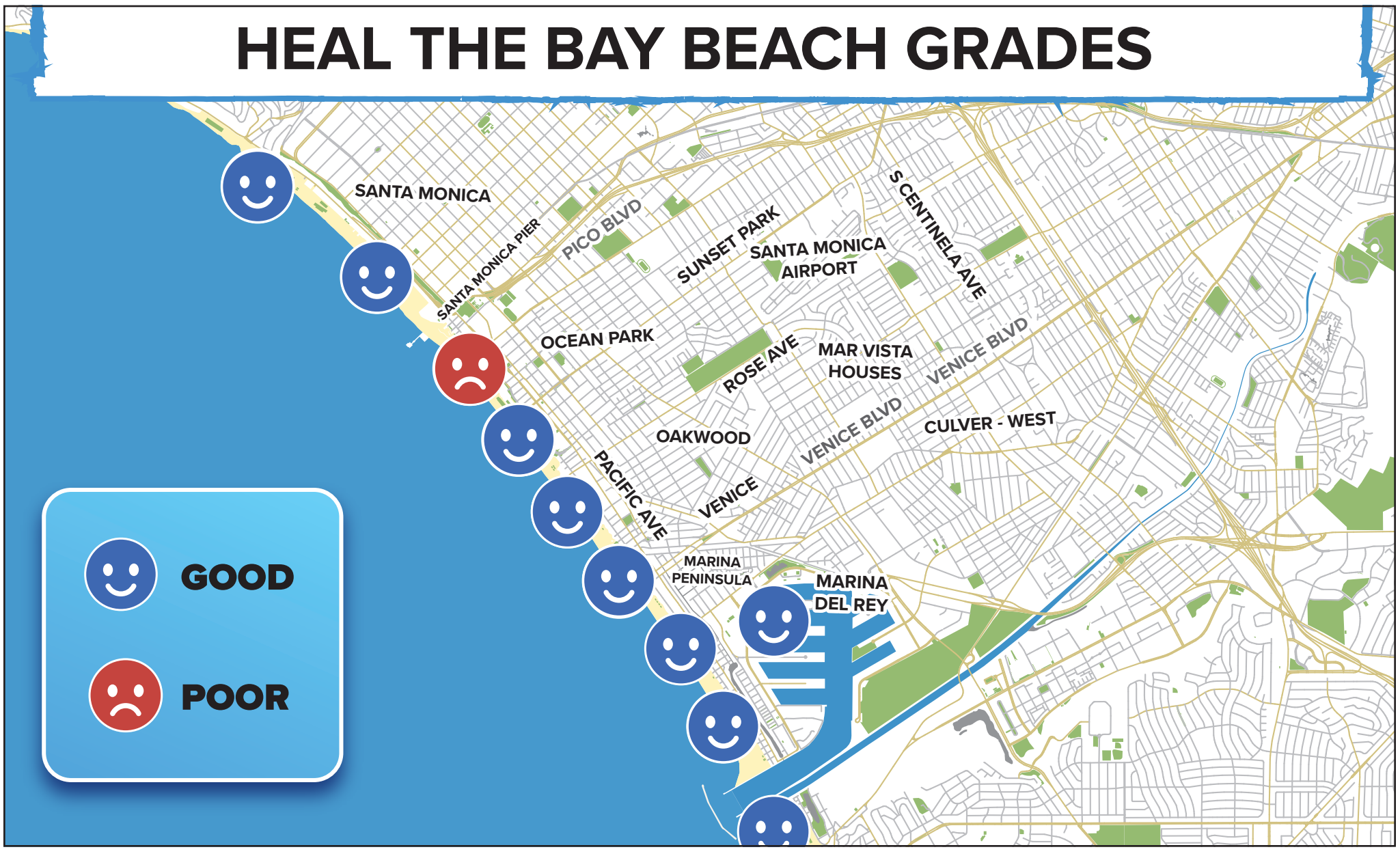
THE NIGHT SKY SHOW
7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Santa Monica College 1900 Pico Blvd Santa Monica. The Night Sky Show is a short program with the latest news in space exploration and astronomy. The program uses freeware sky visualization tools to show you the constellations planets and deep sky objects in the Southern California night sky. The show will last about 30 minutes followed by a short Q&A when guests can type questions into a chat box. We will answer as many questions as possible. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/the-night-sky-show/14165546/2025-06-20T19

SATURDAY | JUNE 21

DOWNTOWN FARMERS MARKET - SATURDAY MARKET
8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Santa Monica Farmers Market - Arizona Ave and 3rd Street Arizona Ave and 3rd Street Santa Monica. Santa Monica Farmers Markets create thriving, vibrant communities that are inclusive, connected, and diverse by promoting the prosperity of California farmers and small food businesses, preservation of the agricultural arts and sustainable food systems. The Saturday Downtown Farmers Market is open from 8:00am to 1:00pm, year-round and operates rain or shine. May be closed for selected holidays. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/downtown-farmers-market-saturday-market/13357377/2025-06-07T08

ART-MAKING IN COMMUNITY FOR HEALING
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. 18th Street Arts Center 1639 18th Street Santa Monica. What started as a response to the devastating fires that impacted Los Angeles has evolved into a space for the whole community to process current stressors in our lives and the state of the world. Join us again on Saturday, April 19, from 10am-12pm for a series of community art-making gatherings focused on safety, connection, and healing, entitled Art-making in Community for Healing. These open studio-style gatherings provide space to process our experiences as a community through creative expression, with licensed mental health and trained arts healing practitioners available for support. The final 30 minutes will be dedicated to optional sharing in community. Each gathering is FREE and welcomes participants of all ages and offers a nurturing environment. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/art-making-in-community-for-healing/15431720/2025-06-21T10

UC Master Gardeners at Pico Farmers Market
10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Visit with the UC Master Gardeners at the Saturday Pico Farmers Market. he booth is filled with free advice on how to care for plants, how to troubleshoot a gardening problem, and much more. Free seeds and seedlings are available on a limited basis. Market attendance is subject to change based on weather and holidays. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/uc-master-gardeners-at-pico-farmers-market/13766365/2025-06-21T10



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BECCA BERLINSKY
Real Estate Broker
760.525.5625
Becca.Berlinsky@CBRealty.com
BeccaBerlinsky.com
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