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smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press

Volume 24 Issue 161 TUESDAY 7/8/25 smdp.com

Diner Antonette opens in Santa Monica with style and substance, blending nostalgia with fresh flavors

SCOTT SNOWDEN
SMDP Staff Writer

A beloved Wilshire Boulevard corner has come back to life with the opening of Diner Antonette, a heartfelt reinvention of one of Santa Monica's most architecturally striking restaurant spaces. The new bistro, which opened quietly on June 18, is a deeply personal project for restaurateur Bob Lynn, whose vision merges California-seasonal cooking, neighborhood hospitality and a sincere commitment to long-term community building.

The space, formerly Ingo's Tasty Diner, has undergone a meticulous transformation. The building itself is one of the last true examples of authentic Art Deco Streamline Moderne design in the area, and has been nominated for a second time by the Santa Monica Conservancy for its adaptive reuse and preservation. Outside, a bold neon sign greets guests under curving chrome and soft stucco edges. Inside, warm neutrals, soft black leather and three large-scale paintings by Lynn's wife, artist Sara Abbott, plus the original terrazzo floors remain intact, giving the space a refined but relaxed atmosphere.,



Scott Snowden

CLASSIC CUT: Art deco beauty reopens as Diner Antonette, blending bistro dishes with vintage vibes.

It is not just a new restaurant, it's a tribute. Diner Antonette is named after Lynn's late mother and shaped by decades of industry experience, including years spent opening restaurants for the Hillstone Group. But this one is different, this one, he says, is for Santa Monica.

"This is home," Lynn told the Daily Press. "We live four blocks away. We've always loved this building, even when it was Callahan's back in the day. So this is very much a long game for us. We own the property. We want it to become part of the neighborhood's DNA, just like Callahan's and Vienna Bakery were."

That neighboring bakery, also owned by Lynn, was carefully deconstructed after its closure in 2021 and folded into the restaurant footprint. In its place now stands

SEE **DINER** PAGE 7

California Crime Drops to Near-Historic Lows as Homicide Rate Hits Second-Lowest Since 1966

MAAZ ALIN
SMDP Staff Writer

California recorded its second-lowest homicide rate since at least 1966 in 2024, as nearly every major crime category declined across the state, according to new data released by the California Department of Justice.

The statewide homicide rate dropped 10.4% from 2023, falling to 4.3 per 100,000 residents. Overall homicides decreased by nearly 12%, continuing a downward trend that officials attribute to significant public safety investments.

"In the wake of a nationwide spike in crime during the pandemic, California made the choice to invest — not abandon — our communities," said Gov. Gavin Newsom. "While Republicans in Congress push a bill that would gut law enforcement funding and the President focuses on arresting farmworkers, California is showing what real public safety looks like: serious investments, strong enforcement, and real results."

The comprehensive crime statistics show violent crime rates decreased 6% from 511 per 100,000 residents in 2023 to 480.3 in 2024, remaining well below California's

SEE **CRIME** PAGE 6

Santa Monica's park vs. housing debate finally hits City Council tonight

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

The Santa Monica City Council will debate the future of Santa Monica Airport at a study session Tuesday night, reviewing three scenarios for transforming the 192-acre site into public parkland after the facility closes Dec. 31, 2028.

The three conceptual plans, developed through community engagement involving nearly 5,000 survey participants, offer different approaches to balancing open space, recreation, housing and financial sustainability on one of the city's most valuable properties.

"Reuse, Restoration and Resilience" emphasizes ecological restoration without new development beyond current allowances. The nature-forward approach would not require voter

SEE **COUNCIL** PAGE 11



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Wall Street falls as Trump pressures trading partners with new tariffs

Stocks on Wall Street closed broadly lower Monday as the White House stepped up pressure on major trading partners to make deals before punishing tariffs imposed by the U.S. take effect.

The S&P 500 fell 0.8% for its biggest loss since mid-June. The benchmark index remains near its all-time high set last week.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average gave back 0.9%. The Nasdaq composite also finished 0.9% lower, not too far from its own record high.

The losses were widespread. Decliners outnumbered gainers by nearly 4-to-1 on the New York Stock Exchange.

Tesla tumbled 6.8% for the biggest drop among S&P 500 stocks as the feud between CEO Elon Musk and President Donald Trump reignited over the weekend. Musk, once a top donor and ally of Trump, said he would form a third political party in protest over the Republican spending bill that passed last week.

The selling accelerated after the Trump administration released letters informing Japan and South Korea that their goods will be taxed at 25% starting on Aug. 1, citing persistent trade imbalances with the two crucial U.S. allies in Asia.

"If for any reason you decide to raise your Tariffs, then, whatever the number you choose to raise them by, will be added onto the 25% that we charge," Trump wrote in the letters to Japanese Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba and South Korean President Lee Jae-myung.

Trump also announced new tariff rates on Malaysia, Kazakhstan, South Africa, Laos and Myanmar.

Just before hefty U.S. tariffs on goods imported from nearly every country around the globe were to take effect in April, Trump postponed the levies for 90 days in hopes that foreign governments would be more willing to strike new trade deals. That 90-day negotiating period was set to expire before Wednesday.

On Sunday, Trump said he would impose an additional 10% in tariffs against the BRICS bloc of developing nations, which had condemned tariffs increases at its summit in Brazil. In addition to Brazil, the BRICS countries also include Russia, India, China and South Africa.

This latest phase in the trade war heightens the threat of potentially more severe tariffs that's been hanging over the global economy. Higher taxes on imported goods could hinder economic growth, if not increase recession risks.

"Just bringing back that meaty topic back into focus, after a strong week last week, has given a little bit of a pause in the market," said Bill Northey, senior investment director at U.S. Bank Asset Management.

The near-term outlook will likely hinge on several key factors like the extent to which trading partners are included in Trump letters, the rate of tariffs, and the effective date of such tariffs, according to analysts at Nomura.

Last week, the Trump administration announced that it reached a deal with Vietnam that would allow U.S. goods to enter the country duty-free, while Vietnamese exports to the U.S. would face a 20% levy. That was a decline from the 46% tax on Vietnamese imports he proposed in April.

"The type of deal struck with Vietnam may be a blueprint for similar countries in the region with economies heavily reliant on large trade deficits with the U.S.," said Jason Pride, chief of investment strategy and research at Glenmede.

Monday's market sell-off came on the first day of trading in the U.S. after a holiday-shortened week.

Nearly all of the sectors in the S&P 500 index closed in the red, with technology, financial and consumer-related stocks among the biggest weights on the market.

Apple fell 1.7%, JPMorgan Chase dropped 1.4% and Home Depot slid 1.1%.

Molina Healthcare fell 2.9% after the insurer lowered its profit guidance due to rapidly accelerating costs. UnitedHealth Group also recently reported a spike in costs that forced it to cut its forecast, sending its stock tumbling in April.

In deal news, software company CoreWeave agreed to acquire cryptocurrency mining company Core Scientific in an all-stock transaction valued at about $9 billion. Shares in Core Scientific sank 17.6%, while CoreWeave fell 3.3%.

Bond yields mostly rose. The yield on the 10-year Treasury rose to 4.39% from 4.34% late Thursday.

The downbeat start to the week follows a strong run for stocks, which pushed further into record heights last week after a better-than-expected U.S. jobs report.

All told, the S&P 500 fell 49.37 points to 6,229.98. The Dow lost 422.17 points to 44,406.36, and the Nasdaq slid 188.59 points to 20,412.52.

Stock indexes in Europe ended mostly higher. Asian markets closed mostly lower.

Oil prices fluctuated after OPEC+ agreed on Saturday to raise production in August by 548,000 barrels per day.

U.S. benchmark crude settled 1.4% higher at $67.93 per barrel, while Brent crude, the international standard, rose 1.9% to settle at $69.58 per barrel.

This week will be relatively light on economic data. On Wednesday the Federal Reserve will release minutes from its policymaking committee's meeting last month.

The Fed's chair, Jerome Powell, has been insisting that the central bank wants to wait and see how Trump's tariffs affect the economy and inflation before making its next move on interest rates. While lower rates give a boost to the economy by making it easier to borrow money, they can also give inflation more fuel. That could be dangerous if the Trump administration's tariffs send inflation higher.

By ALEX VEIGA AP Business Writer



OPINION

CURIOUS CITY

Charles Andrews | Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Are we a cruel nation?

IT'S ALREADY TOMORROW

You know, that day you've been dreading, when we look around and become very afraid and try to figure out what we can do. And every idea seems like something we should have done... yesterday.

There is no tomorrow. Today is not as bad as it can get, but the pace of getting there is faster, better organized and more ruthless than most imagined. (Not me, I read Projet 2025 in 2024, but there is no moral high ground when the boat we are all in is rapidly sinking, in alligator-infested waters.)

There are so many inhuman, life-threatening, power-grabbing, economy-crashing, democracy-destroying, dictator-installing measures in the GOP Big Bad Billionaires Bill that you must do a little searching, making sure you check your sources, and prepare to be open-mouth shocked and appalled. It is the largest transfer of wealth in U. S. history, from the bottom to the top, of course, and millions will suffer and even die because of it. But let me name the one that keeps me awake at night.

OUR OWN GOVERNMENT IS GRABBING PEOPLE OFF THE STREETS
WITH NO WARRANTS, NOT EVEN PROBABLE CAUSE
NO DUE PROCESS
THROWING THEM INTO UNMARKED VANS AND DISAPPEARING THEM OFF TO HORRIBLE PRISONS
IN THE MOST DANGEROUS PLACES ON EARTH

Including now, Florida. "Alligator Alcatraz" is just one more example of extreme cruelty intended to spread terror and fear. What have we become? The whole thing about cutting waste and fraud was, of course, a smokescreen. In the first 100 days, Trump spent $150B MORE than Biden last year (first 100 days). $26,000,000 taxpayer money just on golf, just through the end of March. Musk's unfettered crash through our institutions and data had nothing to do with saving money, just saving his government grants (in the billions), and collecting ALL our data.

Go read a history book (unless you live in a red state that has banned them). You can start with Adolph's Brown Shirts and how they operated. Do the letters I-C-E come to mind? What the hell, people?! They are kidnapping people off our streets! And disappearing them. Is that who we are now? SOMETHING must be done. The 2nd American Revolution is well underway.

Los Angeles is an occupied city, thousands of ICE agents, National Guard and even the U.S. Marines. Why? Do you see a crisis that calls for that? But Trump declared a week ago that if he hadn't sent in the troops, "LA would have burned to the ground!" We have got to shout him down when he spews such dangerous dog do-do. Media? Do your job. Get a spine. You have failed us, when we most need you. This is not politics as usual, this is an authoritarian coup in progress. No more "whatabout" and "both sides do it." That's not journalism. The revolution may not be televised, but it sure needs accurate reporting.

I still believe in the American people and our Constitution, and that bodies in the streets by the millions, and yes art, can defeat the forces of evil autocracy that are now unraveling a coup. I'm tired of shying away from terms like "evil," or any references to Hitler and Nazi Germany. If it walks like a duck... I will no longer cater to ignorance.

THE BIG, BAD, BILLIONAIRES BILL

Will do great harm to the U.S., for decades. Some of it cannot be undone. Neutral experts estimate it will add $3-4 trillion to our already huge national debt. Yet someone on Fox this morning looked straight at the camera and said it will REDUCE the debt by $7-11T. Trump is still talking about "no tax on Social Security" and that's a big fat lie. They talked about it but it was never in the bill. I doubt Trump knows very much about what's in those 887 pages. He just knows he wants it. And his relentless bully tactics will get it for him. The burnt orange billionaire bully and his willingness, even delight, to use it. So,

WHAT KIND OF PEOPLE WILL WE BE

when all this goes into effect? Where does the money for the billionaire tax cuts come from? From the very poorest and most vulnerable among us.

14-17 million families will lose their health care, mostly through Medicaid, which Trump is STILL claiming "won't be touched." It will be "touched" for $1TRILLION, which will result in many rural hospitals having to close, and many elderly in assisted living to be turned out. PEOPLE WILL DIE.

SNA (Food Stamps) will be eliminated for 5M people. Food out of the mouths of hungry children, so billionaires can get an extra $330,000 a year. PEOPLE WILL DIE.

Remember when Trump sent his biggest campaign donor, the richest man in the world, in to cut USAID? You probably never heard of it before. A recent credible estimate said that more than 400,000 children in African nations who did not get that aid, food and medicines left locked in warehouses, have died. In just a few months.

We all have to step into the fray, folks. When your grandchildren ask you, what did you do?! What will you say?.

SEE **CURIOUS CITY** PAGE 7



Weather

Tuesday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, cloudy through mid morning, then gradual clearing, with a high near 75.
Tuesday Night: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, increasing clouds, with a low around 63.
Wednesday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, partly sunny, with a high near 75.
Wednesday Night: Patchy dense fog after 11pm. Otherwise, mostly cloudy, with a low around 63.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted	(ft)High/Low
2025/07/08	Tue	03:19 AM	-0.33	L
2025/07/08	Tue	10:01 AM	3.45	H
2025/07/08	Tue	1:50 PM	2.74	L
2025/07/08	Tue	8:20 PM	6.01	H
2025/07/09	Wed	03:52 AM	-0.58	L
2025/07/09	Wed	10:30 AM	3.55	H
2025/07/09	Wed	2:30 PM	2.65	L
2025/07/09	Wed	8:55 PM	6.22	H
2025/07/10	Thu	04:25 AM	-0.75	L
2025/07/10	Thu	11:00 AM	3.65	H
2025/07/10	Thu	3:09 PM	2.56	L
2025/07/10	Thu	9:31 PM	6.34	H
2025/07/11	Fri	04:58 AM	-0.84	L
2025/07/11	Fri	11:32 AM	3.75	H
2025/07/11	Fri	3:50 PM	2.48	L
2025/07/11	Fri	10:07 PM	6.34	H
2025/07/12	Sat	05:32 AM	-0.82	L
2025/07/12	Sat	12:05 PM	3.89	H
2025/07/12	Sat	4:33 PM	2.41	L
2025/07/12	Sat	10:44 PM	6.17	H
2025/07/13	Sun	06:05 AM	-0.68	L
2025/07/13	Sun	12:39 PM	4.07	H
2025/07/13	Sun	5:22 PM	2.36	L
2025/07/13	Sun	11:25 PM	5.80	H
2025/07/14	Mon	06:38 AM	-0.39	L
2025/07/14	Mon	1:15 PM	4.29	H
2025/07/14	Mon	6:19 PM	2.31	L
2025/07/15	Tue	12:11 AM	5.24	H
2025/07/15	Tue	07:11 AM	0.05	L
2025/07/15	Tue	1:54 PM	4.56	H
2025/07/15	Tue	7:25 PM	2.21	L
2025/07/16	Wed	01:05 AM	4.51	H
2025/07/16	Wed	07:45 AM	0.60	L
2025/07/16	Wed	2:37 PM	4.87	H

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: 7/5
1 28 34 50 58
Power#: 8
Jackpot: 203 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 7/4
17 20 24 41 42
Mega#: 24
Jackpot: 70 M

SuperLotto PLUS
Draw Date: 7/5
7 13 20 35 44
Mega#: 8
Jackpot: 23 M

Fantasy5
Draw Date: 7/6
10 12 16 24 34

Daily 3
Draw Date: 7/6
EVENING: 6 5 1
Draw Date: 7/6
MIDDAY: 5 9 9

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 7/6
1st: 12 - Lucky Charms
2nd: 05 - California Classic
3rd: 06 - Whirl Win
Race Time: 1:44.73

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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

Name Change

Order Show to show cause for Name Change Case No. 25SMCP00366 Superior Court of California, County of Los AngelesPetition of Rita Lisa Salvatore for Change of Name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner or Attorney: Robin Joslyn Huntley with this court for a decree of changing names as follows: Rita Lisa Salvatore to R. Liza Salvatore . The 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 08/01/2025 Time: 8:30 a.m, Dept: K Room: _ The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA – COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES 1725 Main St Santa Monica, Ca 90401 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

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

DBA

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 06/24/25 2025127606The following person(s) is (are) doing business The Vibe Mob 1231 12th St Santa Monica, CA 90401. Los AngelesArticles of Incorporation or Organization Number (if applicable): Ai #ON. The full name of the registrant(s) is/are Narmada Khadk 1231 12th St Santa Monica, CA 90401 If corporation or LLC- Print State of CA This is Business is Conducted: An Individual . The date registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. Registrant /Corp/LLC Narmada Khadk Title: Owner Narmada Khadk . This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 06/24/2025NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE County CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq. ,Business and Professions Code).

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GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

California air quality regulators are doing the bare minimum to curb landfill pollution

The Los Angeles County community of Val Verde has been my home for 48 years. It's where I grew up, where I raised my children and where my husband and I plan to retire. It used to be the kind of place where people said "hi" to each other on the street, kids rode their bikes around and you didn't have to think twice about the air you were breathing.

However, what used to be clean, breathable air is now filled with the stench and pollution coming from the Chiquita Canyon Landfill. Alarmingly, the air isn't just unpleasant anymore — it's toxic.

For years, my neighbors and I have been sounding the alarm over the noxious pollution being emitted by the landfill. Myself, and my friends and family, have experienced chronic symptoms like headaches, rashes, burning eyes and constant nausea. People complain of migraines, asthma attacks, stomach issues and even reproductive problems.

California's landfills also emit huge amounts of the highly pollutant greenhouse gas, methane, which are a major contributor to global warming. In 2023 alone, estimated methane emissions from California's landfills were equivalent to more than 5 million cars on the road. Greenhouse gasses are exacerbating natural disasters, like the horrible January wildfires that the Los Angeles area is still recovering from.

There are people with the power to do something about this. The California Air Resources Board sets standards for how landfill operators find and control methane emissions. Those standards, called the Landfill Methane Rule, haven't been updated since 2010. That's 15 years ago. And while the air resources board is currently considering updates to the rules, they're moving far too slow and trying to get away with the bare minimum.

CARB's most recent proposed updates to landfill regulations fail to include basic, proven strategies that could protect our health and climate. A recent report by Industrious Labs found that making common-sense updates to how landfills operate could slash methane emissions in half by 2050. Reducing methane also means reducing dangerous co-pollutants that make people sick.

One survey found that the vast majority of Val Verde residents experience frequent headaches. That's not normal. And it's only gotten worse — in 2024 alone, more than 14,000 complaints about the landfill were submitted to the South Coast Air Quality Management District.

I've learned that, while Val Verde's situation is devastating, it's unfortunately not unique. There are over 300 landfills across the state, and many — like Newby Island in Milpitas, Clover Flat Landfill in Calistoga and Avenal Landfill in Avenal — have also been in the news for making nearby residents sick. That's because landfills emit health-harming pollutants like benzene, sulfur dioxide and volatile organic compounds.

Like Val Verde, where nearly 60% of residents are Hispanic, communities of color are often the ones bearing the brunt of landfill pollution. It's no coincidence that 70% of California's highest-emitting landfills are located in these communities, a report by Industrious Labs found. Communities like mine are paying the price in doctor's bills, in sick days, in missed school and in lives shortened by toxic exposure.

CARB could make a meaningful difference right now by requiring stronger landfill cover practices, making sure that more landfill gas is collected before it escapes into our atmosphere, and using established technology to find invisible methane leaks.

These aren't radical solutions — they're affordable, effective and ready to go.

Watching the people I love suffer pushed me into activism. I had no choice. I began speaking out — not just in my neighborhood but to elected officials and policymakers across all levels of government. I even shared my story with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency last year and testified in front of the air resources board earlier this year.

Poor landfill management comes at a price, and communities across California have paid that price for too long. We've done our part — we've testified, we've suffered, we've waited. Now CARB needs to do its job and protect California communities.

Yasmina Valdivia is an activist and longtime resident of Val Verde, a town in Los Angeles County. This article was originally published by CalMatters.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Malibu

Malibu Arts Commission Opens 'Coastal Reflections' Exhibition Celebrating Surf Culture

The City of Malibu Arts Commission will host a free opening reception for its summer public art exhibition "Coastal Reflections" on Sunday, July 13, at noon at the Malibu City Gallery at City Hall.

The exhibition showcases original works in various mediums by local Malibu artists, celebrating the city's connection to ocean and surf culture.

"This exhibit is a beautiful reminder of how surfing and our coastal lifestyle have always inspired artists in Malibu," said Mayor Marianne Riggins. "I hope everyone comes out to support our incredible local artists and celebrate the resilience, reflections, and connections that art creates."

The opening reception is free and open to the public. Attendees will receive complimentary refreshments and have opportunities to meet the featured artists.

Following the reception, the exhibition will run July 14 through Aug. 22 at the Malibu City Gallery, located at 23825 Stuart Ranch Road. Gallery hours are Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., with free admission.

The summer exhibition highlights Malibu's artistic community while honoring the city's coastal heritage and surf culture that has long influenced local creative expression.

For more information, visit MalibuArtsCommission.org/CoastalReflections.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF

Citywide

SMMUSD Announces Free and Reduced-Price Meal Program for 2025-26 School Year

The Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District will provide free and reduced-price meals to eligible students during the 2025-26 school year under federal nutrition programs.

Students qualify for free meals if their household income falls at or below $20,345 annually for a family of one, scaling up to $70,395 for a family of eight. Reduced-price meals are available for households earning up to $28,953 for one person and $100,178 for eight people.

The program covers breakfast, lunch and afterschool snacks through the National School Lunch Program, School Breakfast Program and Afterschool Snack Program from July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026.

Families automatically qualify for free meals if any household member receives CalFresh, CalWORKs or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations benefits. Foster children, homeless students, migrant workers' children and runaway youth also qualify for free meals regardless of household income.

Applications are available online at http://www.myschoolapps.com or can be submitted to the Food & Nutrition Services office at 1717 4th St., Santa Monica. Families can apply at any time during the school year if their financial situation changes.

Current eligibility status from the 2024-25 school year will continue for up to 30 school days into the new academic year. The district may verify application information at any time during the school year.

Families receiving Women, Infants, and Children benefits may also be eligible by completing an application. Foster families can include foster children as household members when applying for non-foster children, potentially helping them qualify for benefits.

Parents who disagree with eligibility decisions can request a fair hearing by contacting Richard Marchini, Director of Food and Nutrition Services, at 310-450-8338, ext. 70-342.

For assistance with applications, contact Food & Nutrition Services at 310-450-8338, ext. 70228.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF

Income Eligibility Guidelines for Free and Reduced-Price Meals
Effective July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026

Household Size	Free Eligibility Scale for Lunch, Breakfast: Year	Month	Twice per Month	Every Two Weeks	Week	Reduced-Price Eligibility Scale for Lunch and Breakfast: Year	Month	Twice per Month	Every Two Weeks	Week
1	$20,345	$ 1,696	$ 848	$ 783	$ 392	$ 28,953	$ 2,413	$ 1,207	$ 1,114	$ 557
2	27,495	2,292	1,146	1,058	529	39,128	3,261	1,631	1,505	753
3	34,645	2,888	1,444	1,333	667	49,303	4,109	2,055	1,897	949
4	41,795	3,483	1,742	1,608	804	59,478	4,957	2,479	2,288	1,144
5	48,945	4,079	2,040	1,883	942	69,653	5,805	2,903	2,679	1,340
6	56,095	4,675	2,338	2,158	1,079	79,828	6,653	3,327	3,071	1,536
7	63,245	5,271	2,636	2,433	1,217	90,003	7,501	3,751	3,462	1,731
8	70,395	5,867	2,934	2,708	1,354	100,178	8,349	4,175	3,853	1,927
For each additional family member, add:										
	$ 7,150	$ 596	$ 298	$ 275	$ 138	$ 10,175	$ 848	$ 424	$ 392	$ 196

Courtesy image

FREE AND REDUCED-PRICE MEALS: SMMUSD will provide free and reduced-price meals to eligible students during the 2025-26 school year.

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CRIME

FROM PAGE 1

historical high of 1,103.9 recorded in 1992. Property crime rates fell 8.4% from 2,272.7 to 2,082.7 per 100,000 residents.

Motor vehicle theft showed the steepest decline at 15.2%, while burglary rates dropped 9.1% and robbery decreased 6.3%. Aggravated assault rates fell 6.5% compared to the previous year.

Since 2019, property crime has decreased 9.1% statewide, with burglary showing the largest five-year decline at 18.8%. Robbery rates have fallen 9.6% and arson decreased 8.7% over the same period.

California has invested $1.6 billion since 2019 to combat crime, hire additional police officers and improve public safety. The state distributed $267 million to 55 communities last year specifically to combat organized retail crime, enabling local agencies to make more arrests and secure additional felony charges.

"Transparency is key for understanding, preventing, and combating crime in our communities," said Attorney General Rob Bonta. "While crime rates have declined over the past year, public safety in our communities remains priorities one, two, and three."

The total number of full-time criminal justice personnel, including law enforcement officers, prosecutors, investigators, public defenders and probation officers, increased 1.9% from 2023 to 2024.

However, local jurisdictions showed mixed results. In Santa Monica, serious Part I crimes decreased 2% to 4,840 incidents, but Part II crimes including weapons violations and narcotics offenses increased 16% to 4,080 cases.

The city recorded a significant 25% increase in total calls for service to 128,820 in 2024.

While most violent crimes declined statewide, Santa Monica recorded six murders in 2024 compared to one in 2023. Auto thefts fell 16% citywide, but burglaries increased 14%, driven primarily by a 17% rise in residential break-ins.

Larceny remained the most reported crime category at 2,927 incidents, staying stable year-over-year. Arson incidents decreased 21% from 80 cases in 2023 to 63 in 2024.

The state's gun violence data revealed that firearms remained the most common weapon in homicides, accounting for 69.9% of cases where the weapon was identified. Of all crime-linked guns recovered in 2024, 65% were not associated with California sales, indicating they likely originated from states with weaker gun safety laws.

Santa Monica has seen its own share of gun crimes recently including a man shot outside the Fairmont hotel, a store owner forced to shoot a suspect robbing his store and a homeless man shooting three people over the course of several days in Downtown Santa Monica.

California's crime rates have historically remained lower than many other states. According to 2022 CDC data, Alabama's homicide rate was 152% higher than California's, while Oklahoma's was 41% higher and Arkansas' was 100% higher.

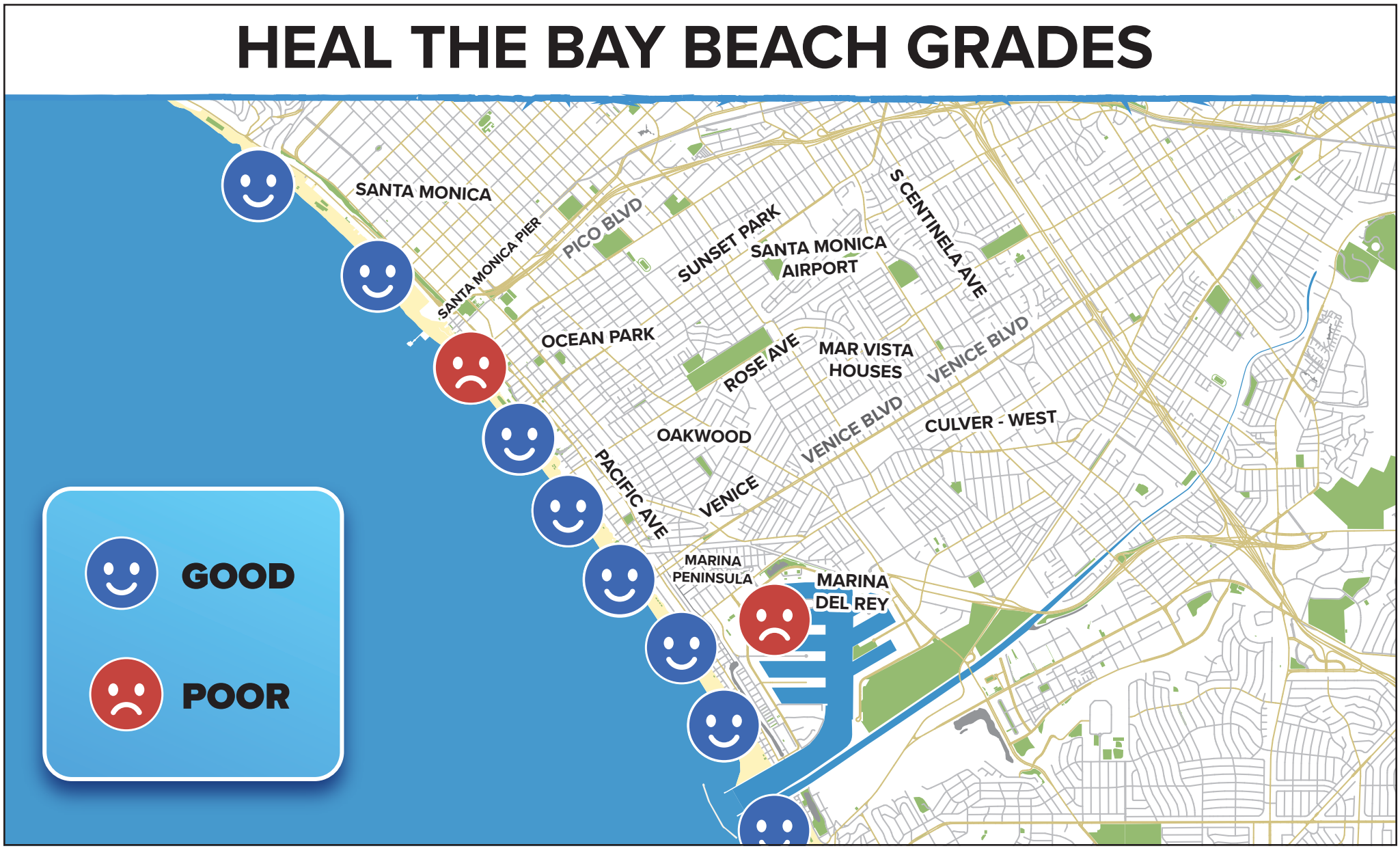
The California Highway Patrol's regional initiative targeting high-crime areas has resulted in more than 7,300 arrests, recovery of over 5,000 stolen vehicles and confiscation of more than 350 firearms across Bakersfield, San Bernardino and Oakland since its inception.

maaz@smdp.com



CalMatters

GAVIN NEWSOM: Almost all of the state's major crime categories decreased in 2024, California saw its second-lowest homicide rate since 1966.



COMMUNITY NEWS

Main Street

New 24/7 Respite Hub Connects Homeless Individuals to Housing Services

Santa Monica's new diversion program, SaMo Bridge, has successfully connected 37 people to housing and supportive services in its first month of operation since opening in May.

The collaborative program between the City Attorney's Office, Police Department and nonprofit Exodus Recovery serves justice-involved individuals experiencing homelessness and behavioral health challenges. Law enforcement officers can refer participants instead of taking them to jail for minor offenses.

The program's 24/7 respite hub, located at Main Street and Pico Boulevard, provides immediate support including light snacks, clean clothing and a safe resting place. Exodus Recovery staff initiate case management services to connect participants with housing resources, substance use treatment and mental health care.

Individuals who complete a 90-day care plan may earn dismissal of their charges or avoid new case filings from the City Attorney's Office. The program aims to interrupt the cycle of arrest, release and re-arrest that contributes to prolonged homelessness.

In its first month, the Police Department engaged and referred 56 people to SaMo Bridge, with 37 immediately connected to housing and services. The city's annual goal is to engage 260 individuals through the program.

SaMo Bridge joins the city's existing diversion portfolio, which includes STEP Court and the Alternatives to Incarceration Pre-Filing Diversion Program. The initiative supports the city's strategic priority of providing affordable, livable and secure housing for all residents.

The next community update on SaMo Bridge is scheduled for the Human Services Commission meeting on Wednesday, July 9, at 3 p.m. in the SMI meeting room at 330 Olympic Drive.

Status updates, FAQs and reports are available on the city's new diversion webpage at santamonica.gov.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF

DINER

FROM PAGE 1

a whimsical, welcoming retail shop and a 60-seat patio space tucked behind the building, still undergoing finishing touches. The boutique, curated by longtime buyer Jennifer Steele, offers an eclectic mix of wines, gifts and plush novelties that reflect the restaurant's broader spirit: thoughtful, local and unpretentious.

"We built in layers," Lynn said. "A proper diner, a retail experience that's warm and fun, and a back patio for relaxed gatherings. We wanted three experiences under one roof, depending on your mood or who you're with."

That sense of hospitality runs throughout the business. Steele, who also manages the team's Arizona outpost, called the shop "a joyful extension" of the guest experience. "Everything in there is meant to make you smile," she said. "It sounds corny, but it's true. People are looking for joy again."

In the kitchen, Lynn's son Jordan Lynn, the restaurant's executive chef, has kept about 70 percent of the original Ingo's menu while adding new seasonal offerings that reflect his own culinary journey. Among them is a now-signature crispy chicken dish subtly spiced with Bombay-style flavors, inspired by his travels to India and time spent learning home-style techniques from family cooks in Mumbai.

"India changed the way I look at food," Jordan said. "There's such depth to the everyday cooking there; nuance, emotional connection, respect for ingredients. That experience still finds its way into how I cook here, even if it's just a braised green or a spice blend."

Other standouts include a fermented pine nut dressing served over radicchio, a tender filet mignon steak au poivre and a house-ground burger that Jordan describes as his most ambitious swing. The patties are ground to order using a custom low-temperature setup and cooked in Japanese cast iron omelet pans to develop a crisp exterior while preserving a soft, meaty center.

"I wanted the texture of a pub burger with the crispy lace of a smashburger," Jordan said. "We've worked really hard to make that balance right."

The menu changes frequently, especially when it comes to fruits, vegetables and fish. Items are drawn from local farmers markets several times a week. Even the pasta and pickles are made in-house.

"We don't do it for the ego," Jordan said. "We do it because it shows a level of care. That kind of attention resonates with people."

Bob Lynn, for his part, speaks as passionately about municipal governance as he does about hospitality. He remains supportive of the city's potential, though he feels the current structure is overdue for modernization.

"Santa Monica is still run like a small beach town, but it's not one anymore," he said. "It's a global destination. I think it's time we had a directly elected mayor. The city charter was written for a different era."

When asked if he would ever consider running for office himself, he didn't say no. "If the structure changed, maybe," he said with a smile. "I think we need more business people with real-world experience getting involved. People who understand what it takes to get things done."

He may never seek public office, but Lynn is already doing more than most to lift Santa Monica. In a city still wrestling with retail vacancies, turnover and economic recovery, Diner Antonette stands out not just for its elegance or menu, but for its optimism and for the man behind it, who is humble, modest and refreshingly genuine.

"This was a labor of love," Lynn said. "We didn't do any public relations stunts, we're not rushing anything. We're just doing it right, we want people to feel like they belong here."

Diner Antonette is open daily for happy hour from 4pm and dinner from 5pm, with brunch and lunch service expected later this year. The restaurant is located at 1213 Wilshire Boulevard in Santa Monica.

scott.snowden@smdp.com

CURIOUS CITY

FROM PAGE 3

SANTA MONICA

Sorry. Too much thinking about an escalating existential crisis leaves me little bandwidth for our ongoing local crises. I wish the Council members would pay more attention to crime and safety issues than they do to density development. But maybe that's just my slant.

Our police chief recently went begging to the Council for five more officers, and was left holding the bag. You have Jesse Zwick writing in the Daily Press, "Save the Civic? Or Save the City?" It's laughable but it shows where his efforts lie. He did his best to stand in the way of letting a high level professional group restore the historic Civic Auditorium back to performance level, at no cost to the city. Council also discussed giving it to the school district to turn into a second gym. Holey moley. Get the libraries open, don't discuss selling them. These things happen when ideology dictates policy.

Few people pay much attention to local politics, and even fewer to the school board. But they have been out of control for years, in my opinion. Someone who does follow it is SMDP columnist Miles Warner. His June 2 column nailed it from the headline to the last period: "Your School Board Doesn't Care What You Think (and they don't have to)." https://smdp.com/opinion/our-school-board-does-not-care-what-you-think-and-they-dont-have-to/

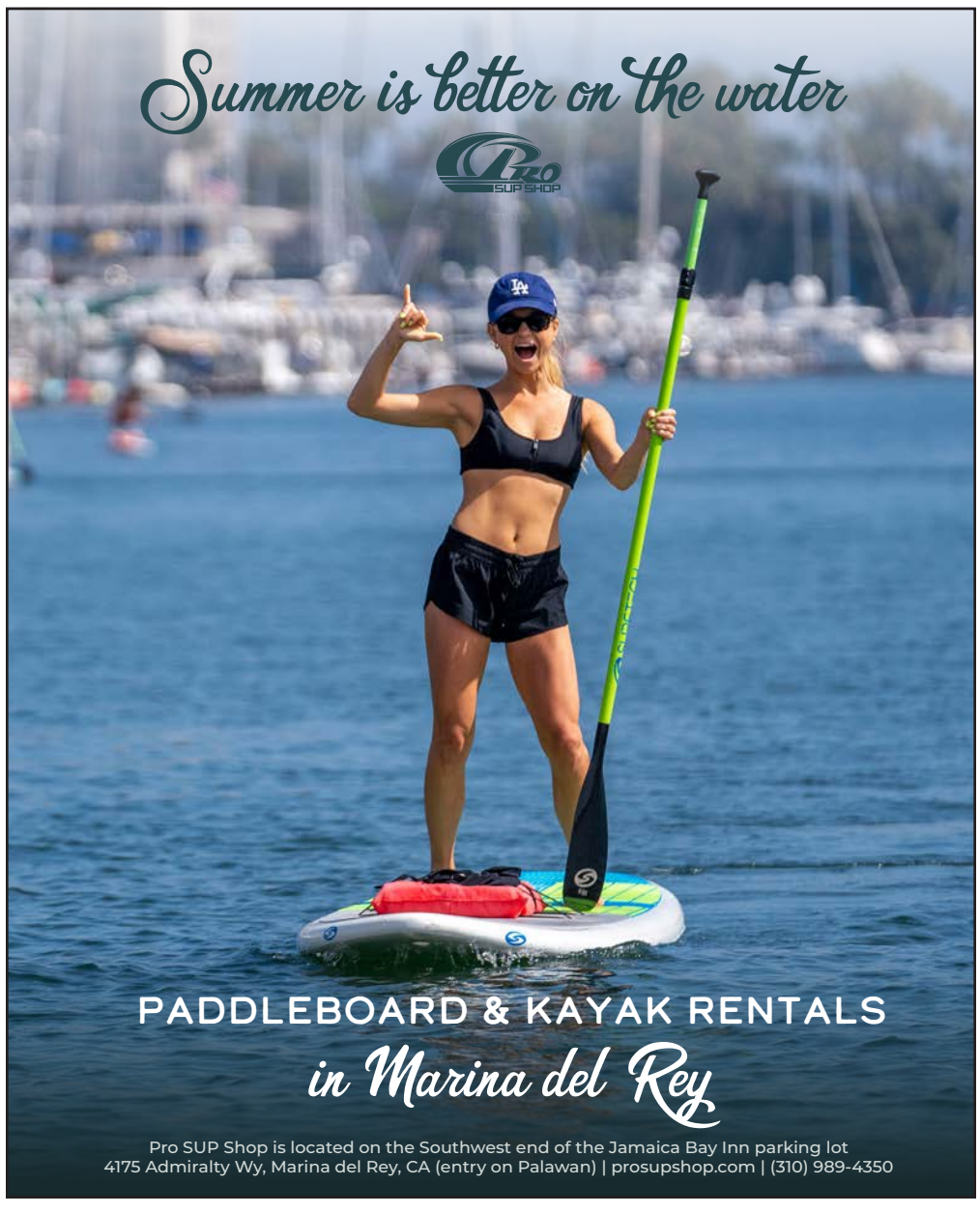
SMMUSD

Has become one of the biggest developers in the area, to the tune of more than $1.5B in construction, financed by our school bonds. Samohi is now unrecognizable, there have been complaints about some of the new buildings, they built a $40M gym that couldn't be used for competition, they demolished the historic History Building, 80 years old, instead of repurposing it. Many community members, and historic preservation professionals asked for the renovation, but it fell on deaf ears, and it was razed. They let a water leak at SMASH go neglected for 10 years until the whole SMASH/John Muir campus had to be demolished. Now that the replacement is nearly ready, they want to throw away the SMASH name, a proud beacon of alternative education for more than half a century. Even little kids are unhappy enough to make signs and attend board meetings.

They want to replace grass with plastic grass. They let their historic Muir Woods mural deteriorate to ruin, then paint it over despite thousands of signatures asking for it to be repainted.

Please, Lord, only one crisis at a time.

Charles Andrews has lived in Santa Monica for 38 years and wouldn't live anywhere else in the world. Really. Send love and/or rebuke to him at therealmr-music@gmail.com



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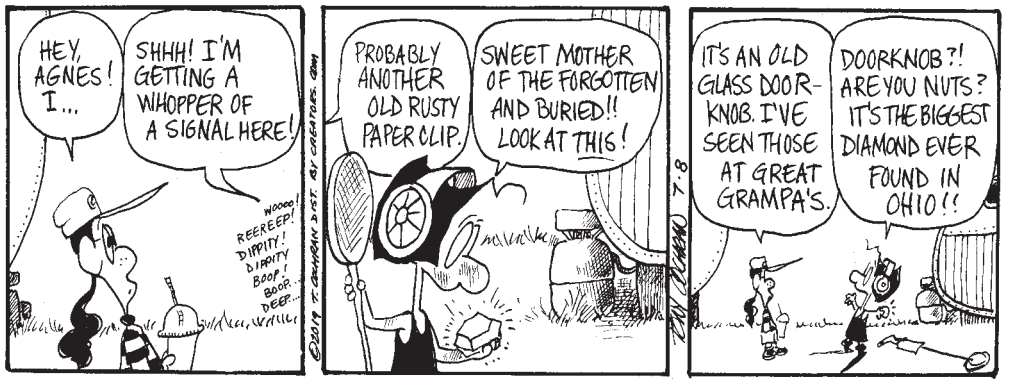
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



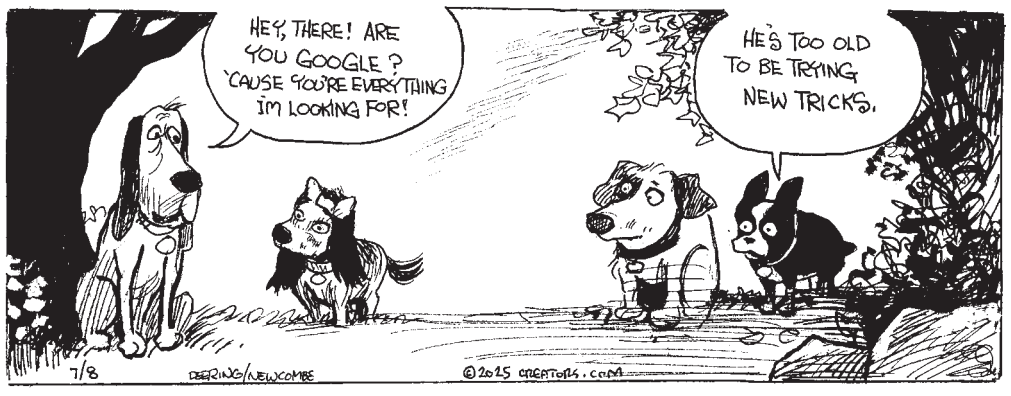
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



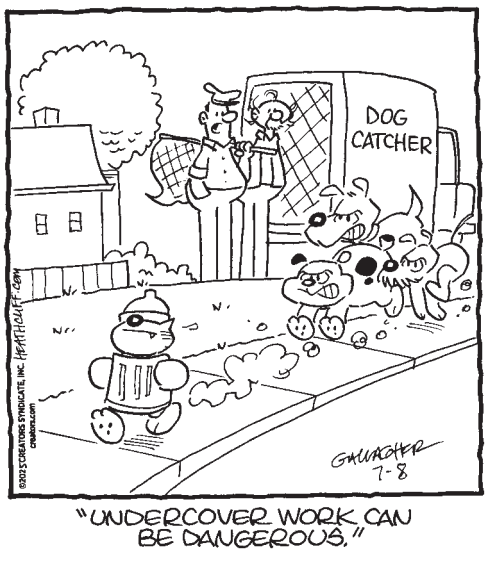
Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



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 19 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle.

© australianwordgames.com.au 6630

Patrolled beaches

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

Airways	Dedicated	Ocean	Ski
Alarm	Dive	Panic	Summer
Attack	Effort	Plan	Tangled
Beach	Encouragement	Police	Tension
Belt	Girls	Rescue	Train
Boats	Guys	Rips	Tube
Cadets	High tide	Risk	Undertow
Calm	Kick	Roster	Wash
Caps	Legs	Sand	Waves
Club	Lessons	Scan	Whistle
Community	Marine	Shark	
Crew	Oars	Signs	

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (July 8)

You hold the emotional weather. Others flourish in your sunshine and breeziness; they cozy up to your warmth; they marvel at your coolness when the pressure is on, your chill when everyone needs to relax. Is it any surprise you're given a leadership role? More highlights: hot intuition, a financial upgrade after one well-timed risk, and a deep relationship. Taurus and Aquarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are 3, 11, 12, 9 and 29.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). People will follow your lead when they believe you have a vision, even if they can't see it, too. With today's clarity, you can lay down a quick boundary or redirect a conversation that's headed in a direction you simply don't want to go.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You've changed. The others haven't caught up to the new you yet, but they can sense that the old dynamic no longer fits. You'll figure out where your growth quietly outpaces the pattern - and you'll feel the power of choosing not to play along.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Being trusted with someone's world, however briefly, is a tremendous privilege. You'll experience someone's essence today, and it will color your mood like light through stained glass.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You'll be drawn to something you don't usually do - and that's the exact reason you should try it. A small departure from your routine leads to a big shift in energy and maybe even chemistry. One different move changes the whole rhythm, opening up possibilities you wouldn't have seen from the usual groove.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). People notice when they're not respected, even if they rarely notice when they are the ones who are not offering the respect a person or situation deserves. You've learned to lead with grace anyway. You'll offer kindness today that will be remembered later.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You'll spot the small adjustment that makes everything smoother, faster or more elegant. It may seem minor - rearranging a step, rewording a phrase, shifting timing slightly - but the effect is outsized.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). A sudden, intuitive flash moves you to act - and thank heavens you listened. The window is small, the timing tight. And yet, somehow, you're exactly where you need to be. Your instincts are your secret superpower.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). There's a difference between secrecy and privacy. You're not hiding anything - you're just choosing when and how to share. Your discernment makes others feel safe. People tell you things today they haven't told anyone else.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You're not in the mood to be confined by expectations - not yours, not theirs. Luckily, there's room for improvisation. A surprising opportunity arises when you veer off the plan and follow your curiosity.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). People like you and want to impress you, so they offer their advice. It may feel like they are trying to tell you to be something other than you are. It's not that. They want to matter to you and be part of your world.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You don't need to explain a single thing. The results speak for themselves. Your calm is magnetic, your quiet confidence louder than applause. Let others make noise. You've already arrived.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Karma's currency is nonlinear. What you give will circle back in surprising ways, from unlikely places. Don't measure too closely. Just know fairness is real. The universe balances its books in its own brilliant time.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

Newsday Crossword

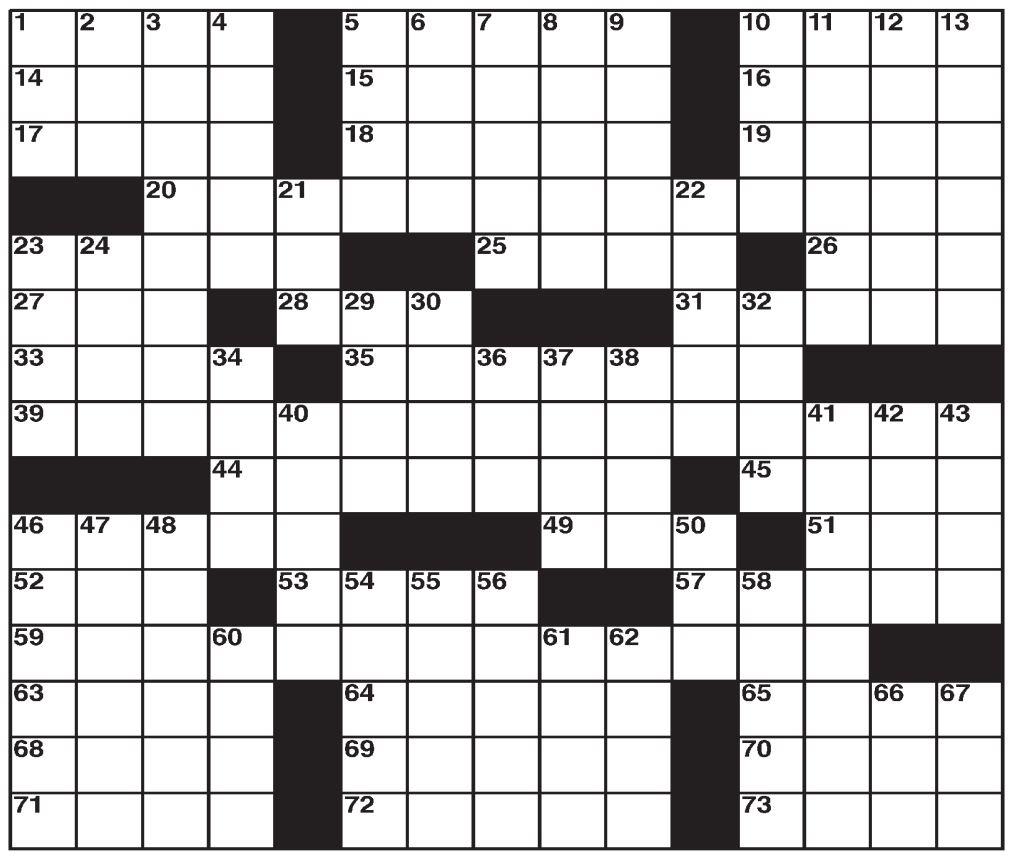
IN YOUR SALAD by Billie Truitt
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Hawaiian restaurant figurine
5 Freeze over
10 True statement
14 "Put a lid __!"
15 Mythology with Odin and Thor
16 Rebound of a sound
17 Brings to a close
18 Recommends highly
19 Greek war god
20 Insignificant thing
23 Double-curve letters
25 Wrench or chisel
26 Direction opposite NNW
27 Sound of contentment
28 Beret or beanie
31 Desert spots with water
33 Cheer for a team
35 Discusses
39 Easy-to-attain goals
44 Weak excuse for missing homework
45 A single time
46 Rival of Coke
49 Airport safety org.
51 Took first place
52 Wood chopping implement
53 Toward the dawn
57 Get off the couch
59 Young person
63 Male turkeys
64 Off the leash, say
65 Prefix meaning "air"
68 Japan's continent
69 Overthrows
70 Make watertight
71 Complete collections
72 Take by force
73 Outer border

DOWN

1 Tip of a sock
2 Quaint hotel
3 *Sesame Street*, for one
4 "Who's there?" response
5 Worldwide: Abbr.
6 A little chilly
7 Spout lava
8 "We're eager to go also!"
9 Green Italian sauce
10 Heroic deed
11 Word above the first clue here
12 Mousetrap morsel
13 Throws gently
21 Campfire residue
22 Disinterested
23 __ Grey tea
24 "Scat!"
29 __ cost (free)
30 Clothing labels with prices
32 Roundish hairstyle
34 The thing here
36 On, as a lamp
37 Make a sweater or scarf
38 Cpls.' superiors
40 Visitor from another planet
41 Not wished for
42 Clickable phone image
43 __ bar (serve drinks)
46 Ziti and spaghetti
47 Reveal, as a secret
48 Allow
50 Make a request
54 Visibly elated
55 Scrub thoroughly
56 The ones there
58 Make fun of
60 "Your guess __ good as mine"
61 Suffix meaning "adherents"
62 *"__ la vie!"*
66 Periodical, for short
67 Spanish cheer



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07/08/25

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

COUNCIL

FROM PAGE 1

approval under Measure LC, a 2014 ballot measure restricting airport land development, but faces significant funding challenges.

"Weaving Park and Community" proposes connecting parks, culture and neighborhoods through a multi-use path and waterway called "The Bend." This scenario introduces limited housing and commercial development at the site's edges while maintaining a park-first vision, requiring voter approval for expanded commercial uses.

The most ambitious option, "Growing Park, Growing Community," envisions extensive housing and commercial development surrounding a large recreational lake. This scenario would generate the most revenue but requires the highest level of voter approval and carries the greatest political complexity.

All scenarios dedicate more than two-thirds of the site to recreation and aim for financial self-sufficiency. However, debate over the inclusion of any housing at the site has been fierce in recent months with park-only supporters appearing to gain momentum heading into the Council meeting following the endorsement of a park by the local democratic club and a public statement by one Councilmember that they would not support housing on airport property.

The council must decide whether the preferred scenario should include uses requiring future voter approval under Measure LC as the project moves toward environmental review and implementation planning.

FINANCIAL APPROVALS

Before Council even gets to the Airport, they will approve a host of financial issues via the consent calendar.

The largest budget item involves the Santa Monica Tourism Marketing District's $7.1 million fiscal year 2025-26 budget. The district, funded through hotel assessments, projects revenues of $7.1 million with expenditures focused on travel industry sales ($1.35 million), marketing ($1.6 million) and salaries and benefits ($2.33 million). The budget reflects 19% revenue growth as the district works to strengthen Santa Monica's tourism brand and increase hotel occupancy rates.

Downtown Santa Monica Inc. is seeking approval for its $9.6 million budget, representing a slight decrease from the previous year despite increased operational costs. The organization plans to boost spending on its Downtown Outreach Program by 328% to $867,316, emphasizing enhanced security and ambassador services. The budget deficit will be covered by cash reserves.

The Santa Monica Pier Corporation's $2.5 million balanced budget projects revenues from event rentals, filming and corporate partnerships. Event deck rentals remain the corporation's main revenue source as it works to diversify income streams through its nonprofit status.

Council will also consider accepting a $2.5 million federal Urban Area Security Initiative grant for homeland security projects in the Fire and Police departments. The grant will fund radio upgrades for police interoperability ($1 million), multi-utility vehicles for emergency response ($120,000) and regional training programs for the Fire Department ($700,000).

The city reached tentative agreements with two bargaining units in fiscal year 2025-26. The California Teamsters Local 986 agreement covers 410 skilled trades and maintenance employees, while the Santa Monica Police Officers Association represents 231 public safety employees. Both agreements include cost-of-living adjustments and enhanced benefits.

POLICY REFORMS

While Santa Monica has a long history of drawn out meetings that force non-essential items to be pushed to future agendas, the July 8 meeting does include several high profile requests by councilmembers for discussions on significant policy reforms.

Council members Dan Hall, Ellis Raskin and Mayor Pro Tem Caroline Torosis are requesting suspension of the Neighborhood Association Grant Program until new policy frameworks are adopted. The motion seeks to reform conditions for official recognition of community organizations and participation in grant programs.

The proposal would continue funding only 501(c)(3) organizations for community-building events like block parties through fiscal year 2027, subject to independent audits and nonpartisan activity restrictions.

Council members are also requesting development of a "Right to Recall" ordinance for Santa Monica Pier businesses, modeled after policies in Los Angeles and Long Beach. The ordinance would require employers to offer positions to qualified laid-off workers before hiring new employees. The proposal also calls for Labor Peace Agreements for new or renewed leases on city-owned property.

Councilmembers are also asking for a boards and commissions reorganization study to streamline Santa Monica's 26 standing bodies, and a 30-day report on compliance with new state housing approval mandates.

The meeting starts at 5:30 p.m. in City Hall, 1685 Main Street.

editor@smdp.com





TUESDAY | JULY 8

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. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/gelson-s-west-la-to-host-taco-tuesdays-with-tacos-margaritas-and-mezcals/15309564/2025-07-08T16

WEDNESDAY | JULY 9

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-/14548476/2025-07-02T12

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SINGIN' AND WINGIN

9:00 p.m. - 11:55 p.m. Tavern on Main 2907 Main St Santa Monica. Wednesdays are made for chicken wings and belting out your favorite songs! Join us for a fun filled evening of Karaoke, hosted by none other than Karaoke Star! $0.50 wings special all day long - 7 flavors to choose from Happy Hour from 4p-6p. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/wednesday-night-singin-and-wingin/14639011/2025-07-02T21

THURSDAY | JULY 10

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/12342961/2025-07-03T12

FRIDAY | JULY 11

DRUNK THEATRE: THE WILDEST IMPROV COMEDY SHOW!

8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Santa Monica Playhouse 1211 4th St, Santa Monica. A comedian takes five shots of whiskey in a row and tries to perform an improvised play with five sober comedians. What could go wrong?! Drunk Theatre is the entirely improvised, unpredictable, and crazy comedy show that'll kick your weekend into overdrive. Reserve your spot now as limited seating and space is available. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/drunk-theatre-the-wildest-improv-comedy-show-/15793351/2025-07-11T08

A SPACE ODYSSEY

7:30 p.m. Aero Theatr 1328 Montana Ave Santa Monica. $14.00 (member) ; $19.00 (general admission). Ticket prices include a $2.00 online booking fee. Aero Theatre | 'Ultra Cinematheque 70 Fest 2025'. The American Cinematheque's own pristine 70mm archival print!

SATURDAY | JULY 12

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

TOUR OF HYPERION WATER RECLAMATION PLANT

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. 12000 Vista del Mar, Playa de Rey. Join Heal the Bay and LA Sanitation & Environment for an exclusive behind-the-scenes tour of the Hyperion Water Reclamation Plant, the largest wastewater treatment facility in the Western United States. This guided tour offers a unique look into the intricate processes that transform millions of gallons of wastewater each day into a valuable resource for Los Angeles. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/tour-of-hyperion-water-reclamation-plant/15985891/2025-07-12T10

ARTISTS & FLEAS: VENICE MARKETPLACE

11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Westminster Elementary School 1010 Abbot Kinney Los Angeles. Artists & Fleas in Venice is located in the vibrant, artistic heart of Venice at the corner of Abbot Kinney and Westminster Avenue in the outdoor lot of Westminister Avenue Elementary School. Join 50+ merchants every Saturday (rain or shine!) for a fabulous lineup of art, design, food trucks and vintage. Date: Every Saturday Time: 11:00 AM - 5:00 PM Location: Westminster Elementary School - 1010 Abbot Kinney Check our website here for a list of vendors. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/artists-fleas-venice-marketplace/14548485/2025-06-28T11

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