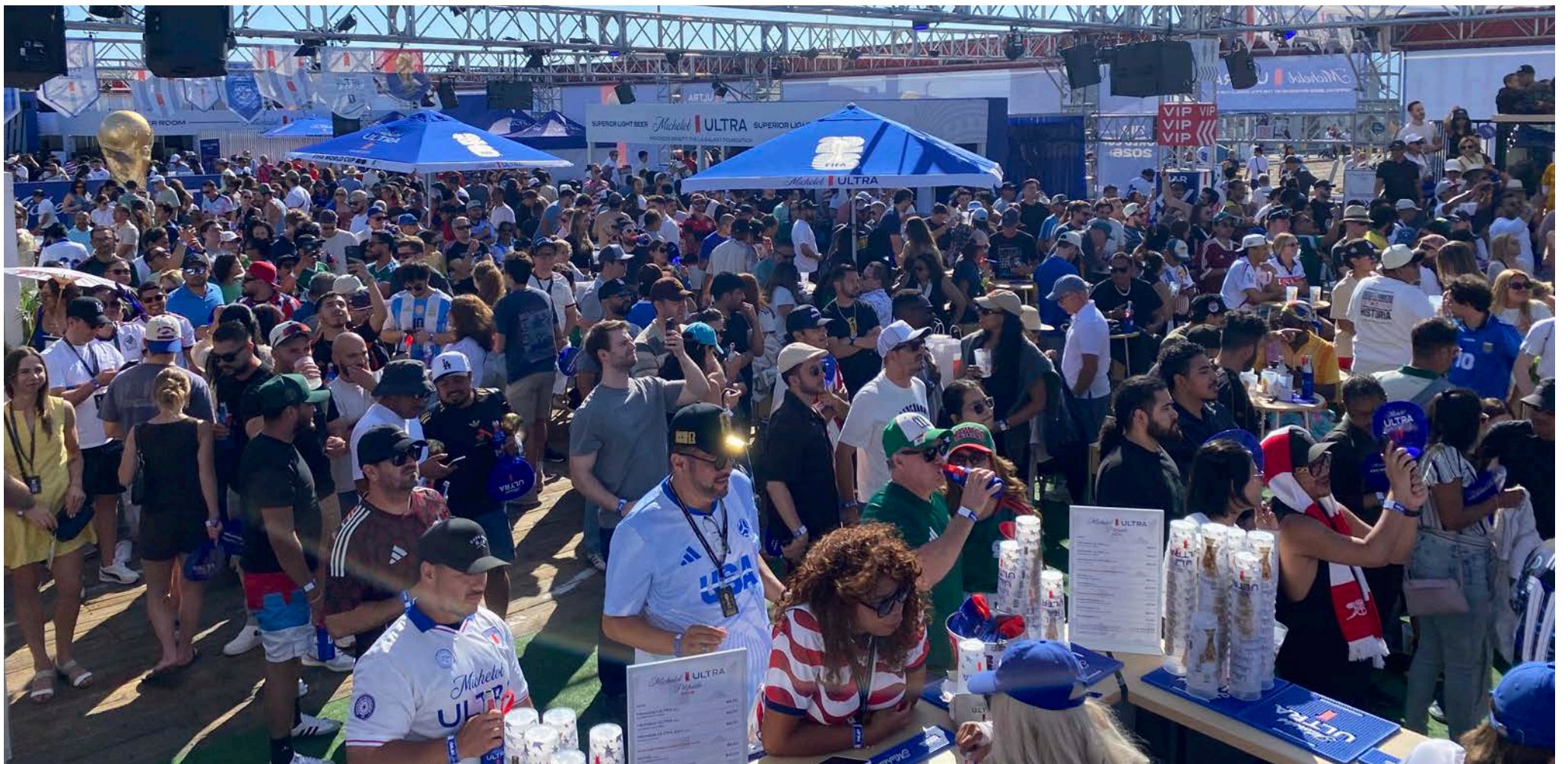


- 2 **Not Milk**
More options at schools.
- 3 **Crime and politics**
Rise and fall in California.

- 4 **Around Town**
Block parties.
- 5 **Letter to the Editor**
Roadhouse was lucky.

Santa Monica welcomes World Cup tourism boost amid longterm decline in visitors



SMDP Photo

CROWDS: The Michelob Ultra Pitchside event was one of several that drew thousands of World Cup visitors to Santa Monica in recent weeks but the city needs to convert the immediate success into a long term trend before visitor numbers return to pre-pandemic levels.

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

EDITOR'S NOTE: With the World Cup driving a surge in local tourism, SMDP will publish several stories this week about the city's relationship with visitors. The first looks at the city's current boom and precipitous fall from pre-pandemic peaks.

While Santa Monica is known for its great weather, the city has endured several years of stormy economic seas and while officials are

quick to tout the recent success of World Cup tourism, the city's long-term visitor numbers remain bleak.

Santa Monica has seen an undeniable surge in tourists for games, watch parties and activations tied to the international tournament.

According to City Manager Oliver Chi, Since the tournament began June 11, the city has welcomed hundreds of thousands of fans to various watch parties and activations. He said early economic indicators were also positive. Foot traffic on the Promenade has

run approximately 40% above year-ago levels. The Big Blue Bus provided more than 5,000 rides to and from matches at SoFi Stadium through special direct service coordinated with Metro.

Parking revenue has reflected the increase in visitors. Beach parking generated more than \$969,000 over the tournament's first 13 days, up 44% over the same period last year and above both 2023 and 2024 levels. Downtown parking brought in more than \$624,000 over the same stretch, a 40% increase over the prior year, as peak occupancy reached 4,111

vehicles, up nearly 28%.

The crowds that recently filled the Pier and local sports bars have left the city with a largely positive economic impression. According to Santa Monica Travel and Tourism, 93% of social posts mentioning the City and World Cup are "positive" and the boost comes as a wave of restaurant news, including the opening of the TMNT pizzeria, Raising Cane's and the proposed Taco Bell Cantina has pushed the city back into the

SEE TOURISM PAGE 11

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City of
Santa Monica

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING
BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA PLANNING COMMISSION

SUBJECT: 26ENT-0104 (Vesting Tentative Parcel Map)

601 Colorado Avenue

APPLICANT:

Chris Jones, KPFF, Inc.

PROPERTY OWNER:

609 Colorado Fee Owner LLC

A public hearing will be held by the Planning Commission to consider the following request:

The applicant requests approval of a Vesting Tentative Parcel Map No. 85100 to subdivide the components of a new mixed-use housing project into three airspace parcels in the Transit Adjacent (TA) Zoning District. The three airspace parcels will divide the project into the following components: (1) two levels of subterranean parking, (2) residential floor area consisting of 264 units, and (3) 3,955 square feet of ground floor commercial space. Pursuant to Santa Monica Municipal Code Section 9.54.070(B), the Planning Commission is the responsible authority to approve, conditionally approve, or deny tentative subdivision map applications.

DATE/TIME: WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5, 2026 AT 6:00 PM

LOCATION: City Council Chamber, Second Floor, Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, California

HOW TO COMMENT

The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. Members of the public unable to attend a meeting but wishing to comment on an item(s) listed on the agenda may submit written comments prior to the public hearing via email to planningcomment@santamonica.gov or via mail to the address listed below. Comments received prior to 12 p.m. on the day of the meeting will be distributed to the Planning Commission prior to the meeting and posted online. All written comments shall be made part of the public record. Please note the agenda item in your comments.

You may also comment in-person at the Planning Commission hearing. Please check the agenda for more detailed instructions on how to comment.

Address your comments to:

Ana Fernandez

Re:

Associate Planner

26ENT-0104

VIA E-MAIL:

VIA MAIL:

planningcomment@santamonica.gov

City Planning Division
1685 Main Street, Mail Stop 28
Santa Monica, CA 90401

MORE INFORMATION

If you want more information about this project or wish to review the project file, please contact Ana Fernandez at (310) 458-2200 ext. 2431 or by e-mail at ana.fernandez@santamonica.gov. The Zoning Ordinance is available on the City's web site at www.santamonica.gov. For disability-related accommodations, please contact (866) 311-7266 at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting. Every attempt will be made to provide the requested accommodation. All written materials are available in alternate languages provided the request is received 72 hours prior to the meeting. Santa Monica Big Blue Bus Lines serve City Hall and the Civic Center area. The Expo Line terminus is located at Colorado Avenue and Fourth Street, and is a short walk to City Hall. Public parking is available in front of City Hall, on Olympic Drive, and in the Civic Center Parking Structure (validation free).

Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the challenge may be limited to only those issues raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Monica at, or prior to, the public hearing.

ESPAÑOL

Esto es una noticia pública para revisar aplicaciones proponiendo desarrollo en Santa Monica. Si desea más información, favor de llamar a Ana Fernandez en la División de Planificación al número (310) 458-2201 ext. 2431 o envíe un correo electrónico a ana.fernandez@santamonica.gov

GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

They've got milk, but many California kids can't tolerate it. Schools can now offer alternatives



Photo by Adriana Heldiz, CalMatters

SAN DIEGO: A student eats lunch at a school in San Diego on May 5, 2025.

Got milk? For the first time in history, every student in the El Monte Union High School District in Los Angeles County can finally answer yes.

The federal Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act includes a provision allowing schools to proactively offer plant-based milk options, such as soy milk, on the lunch line. It's a major step forward for millions of students who can't digest lactose or who choose nondairy options for health, ethical, religious or cultural reasons.

After the law change last year, we worked together — as a student advocate and the district's director of nutrition services — to bring soy milk to our lunch lines alongside cow's milk. About 99% of the students in our district are from racial or ethnic backgrounds with a high prevalence of lactose intolerance. They have embraced the new plant-based option.

Now all of our students can benefit from the nutrients available in dairy and nondairy milk, and everyone feels included at the lunch table.

There's still a problem. Due to federal policies that subsidize cow's milk and require it in school meals, soy milk costs about 75 cents more per carton. With reimbursements to schools at \$5.71 per lunch, most can't afford to offer nondairy milk without dedicated funding, which we were lucky to receive on a one-time basis from Friends of the Earth.

California's new budget will help address this challenge by investing \$400 million in school kitchen infrastructure and training, allowing these funds to be used

to procure healthy and sustainable foods, including plant-based beverages. For the first time, school districts will have a real opportunity to expand access to nondairy milk.

But it's up to schools and districts to take advantage of it.

Nearly 70% of Americans agree students should have access to nutritious plant-based beverages at school. That support reflects a larger reality: Millions of children cannot digest lactose.

Lactose intolerance disproportionately affects students of color. As many as 90% of people from parts of Eastern Asia, 80% of Native Americans, 65% of Africans and African Americans and 50% of Latinos are lactose intolerant, compared to 20% of Caucasians, according to Harvard Health. In California, where 80% of public school students are students of color and 60% rely on school meals, the lack of accessible nondairy options is a significant issue.

The benefits of expanding access to plant-based milk extend far beyond equity.

Research from Johns Hopkins University found that dairy operations contribute 32% of the greenhouse gas emissions associated with school meals. Cow's milk is responsible for most of it. The same study found that substituting with soy milk could reduce school meal emissions by 25%.

California is one of a handful of states offering free school lunches to all public school students. It's also a leader in climate-smart procurement and

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SEE MILK PAGE 11

GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

How crime and the politics of crime rise and fall in California

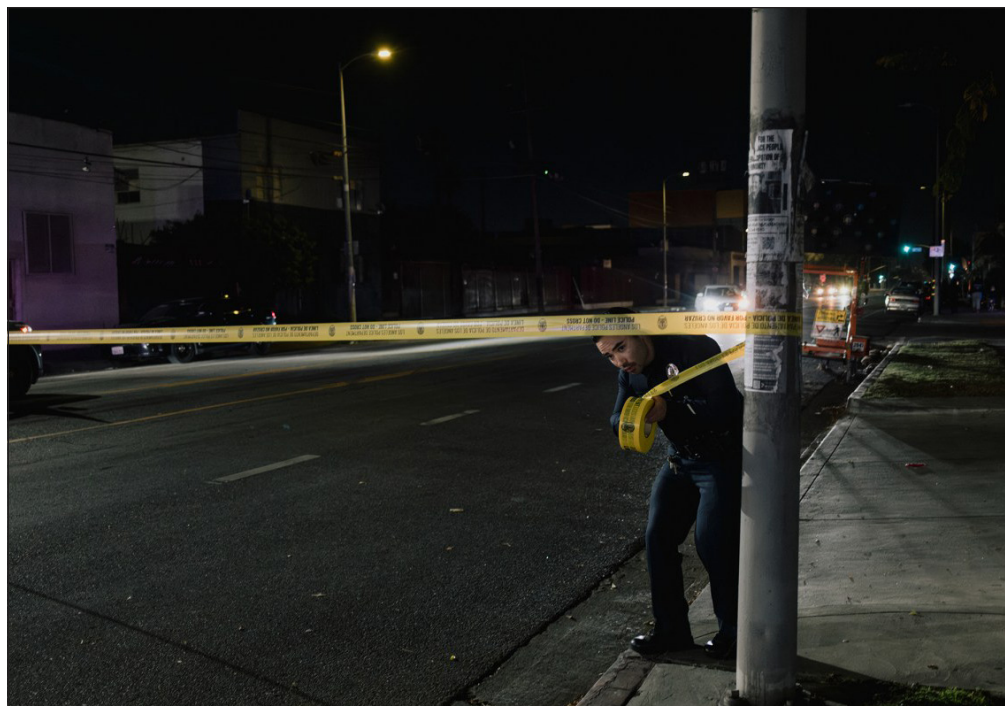


Photo by Mark Abramson for CalMatters

L.A.: A Los Angeles police officer puts up police tape at a crime scene outside a grocery store on Dec. 7, 2024.

For two decades, beginning in the late 1970s, the most powerful issue in California politics was crime.

Sensational crimes such as the 1993 kidnapping and murder of 12-year-old Polly Klaas fueled anti-crime furor and new laws, including the infamous three strikes measure.

By depicting Democrats as soft on criminals, Republicans dominated elections for president, U.S. Senate and the governorship and made strong gains in the Legislature.

Jerry Brown, the Democratic governor who took office in 1975 as the anti-crime movement was gathering steam, felt the backlash, compelling him to sign a string of tough anti-crime bills that Democratic legislators carried to placate voters.

Brown's opposition to the death penalty was a factor in his failed 1982 bid for a U.S. Senate seat. Voters instead opted for Republican Pete Wilson and elected another Republican, capital punishment advocate George Deukmejian, to succeed Brown as governor. Eight years later, Wilson won the governorship.

In 1986, voters not only re-elected Deukmejian as governor, but they ousted three of Brown's state Supreme Court appointees, including Chief Justice Rose Bird. Bird and Justices Cruz Reynoso and Joseph Grodin had made opposition to the death penalty obvious in their rulings.

Although he had signed bills to put more criminals behind bars, Brown was reluctant to build new prisons to house a sharply rising number of felons. That changed when Deukmejian became governor. In the 16 years of his and Pete Wilson's governorships, the state built

dozens of new prisons, as the number of inmates climbed from about 24,000 in 1980 to a peak of 173,000 in 2006.

Crime as a powerful political issue was not as irrational as some critics have contended. The latest report on California crime, released by Attorney General Rob Bonta, confirms that in both absolute and relative terms, the state during the 1980s and 1990s saw sharp increases in criminal behavior, particularly violent crimes such as murder, rape, robbery and aggravated assault.

In 1980, there were 209,903 such crimes reported, more than twice the 1970 total. Violent crimes hit a high water mark of 345,508 in 1992, and homicides a high of 4,005 in 1993. Relatively, violent crimes reached a high of 1,079.8 incidents per 100,000 Californians in 1991.

Crime as a political issue began to taper off in the late 1990s, as did crime as a demonstrable threat.

In 2025, there were 170,397 violent crimes reported — less than half the 1992 record — and the crime rate declined to 431.1 crimes per 100,000 Californians, well under half of the 1991 mark.

Why crime exploded during the 1980s and early 1990s has never been fully explained, although many possibilities have been advanced.

The more recent decline is also something of a mystery. And it's been accompanied by a reversal in criminal justice politics.

Federal courts in 2011 compelled California to reduce its inmate population due to overcrowding. The current



Surf report WATER TEMP: 68.9

THURSDAY | **SURF:** 3-4ft
FAIR | Waist to chest

Surf holds as swell mix continues. Wind stays on the lighter side, offshores due early morning. Continued blend of SW/SSW swell and NW windswell maintains widespread waist-chest high waves, while summertime standouts are hitting head high+. The swell blend keeps beachbreaks in play. Light ENE offshores expected early morning, shifting S-SSW through the day while staying on the lighter side.

FRIDAY | **SURF:** 3-4ft
FAIR | Waist to chest

Fading but still fun waves with easing swell, most size in the morning. Best winds then too. Easing mix of SW/SSW swell and NW windswell is still good for waist-chest high zone surf in the morning, as top breaks go shoulder-head high. Waves gradually taper off during the day. Light E offshore winds early AM, shift SE-SSE while puffing up to low-end moderate through the day

Weather

Thursday: Mostly cloudy, then gradually becoming sunny, with a high near 76.

Thursday Night: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, increasing clouds, with a low around 65.

Friday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, mostly sunny, with a high near 74.

Friday Night: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, mostly cloudy, with a low around 64.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2026/07/09	Thu	12:12 AM	0.92	L
2026/07/09	Thu	06:13 AM	2.89	H
2026/07/09	Thu	10:28 AM	2.18	L
2026/07/09	Thu	5:31 PM	5.83	H
2026/07/10	Fri	01:13 AM	0.10	L
2026/07/10	Fri	07:45 AM	3.11	H
2026/07/10	Fri	11:35 AM	2.41	L
2026/07/10	Fri	6:24 PM	6.32	H
2026/07/11	Sat	02:06 AM	-0.63	L
2026/07/11	Sat	08:45 AM	3.42	H
2026/07/11	Sat	12:40 PM	2.47	L
2026/07/11	Sat	7:18 PM	6.77	H
2026/07/12	Sun	02:54 AM	-1.20	L
2026/07/12	Sun	09:30 AM	3.69	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>

<p>Draw Date: 7/6 17 44 63 66 67 Power#: 4 Jackpot: 434 M</p>	<p>Draw Date: 7/7 6 13 26 27 36</p>
<p>Draw Date: 7/7 2 31 35 36 63 Mega#: 12 Jackpot: 604 M</p>	<p>Draw Date: 7/8 MIDDAY: 1 3 1 Draw Date: 7/7 EVENING: 9 2 3</p>
<p>Draw Date: 7/4 11 18 21 23 38 Mega#: 10 Jackpot: 35 M</p>	<p>Draw Date: 7/7 1st: 04 - Big Ben 2nd: 06 - Whirl Win 3rd: 11 - Money Bags Race Time: 1:42.95</p>

PUBLISHER
Ross Furukawa
ross@smdp.com

PARTNER
Todd James
todd@smdp.com

EDITOR IN CHIEF
Matthew Hall
matt@smdp.com

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Michelle Edgar,
Devan Sipher,
Miles Warner.

CIRCULATION
Guadalupe Navarro
ross@smdp.com

STAFF WRITERS
Maaz Alin
maaz@smdp.com

LEGAL ADVERTISING
legal@smdp.com

MARKETING & ADVERTISING MANAGER
Dina Araniva
dina@smdp.com

Pablo Ocasio
pablo@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)
FAX (310) 576-9913



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DBA

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2026112920. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: TK WEST ARTS, 1401 HAVENHURST DRIVE #4, WEST HOLLYWOOD, CA 90046, County of Los Angeles. Registered Owner(s): TAKESHI KUDO, 1401 HAVENHURST DRIVE #4, WEST HOLLYWOOD, CA 90046. This business is conducted by: an Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000)). /s/ TAKESHI KUDO, OWNER. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 05/21/2026. NOTICE: This Fictitious 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 before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or Common Law (See Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS Publish: 06/25/2026, 07/02/2026, 07/09/2026, 07/16/2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2026125512. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: SHAW CREATIVE GROUP, 5750 WEST CENTINELA AVE 103, LOS ANGELES, CA 90045, County of Los Angeles. Registered Owner(s): JASMINE SHAW, 5750 WEST CENTINELA AVE 103, LOS ANGELES, CA 90045. This business is conducted by: an Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000)). /s/ JASMINE SHAW, OWNER. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 06/08/2026. NOTICE: This Fictitious 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 before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or Common Law (See Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS Publish: 06/25/2026, 07/02/2026, 07/09/2026, 07/16/2026

DBA

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2026132626. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: EXODUS BEER SHOP, 2819 PICO BLVD, SANTA MONICA, CA 90405, County of Los Angeles. Registered Owner(s): KYSKY SOLUTIONS LLC, 7032 YARROW WAY, CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA 95610. This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000)). /s/ KYLE MACDONALD, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 06/17/2026. NOTICE: This Fictitious 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 before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or Common Law (See Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS Publish: 06/18/2026, 06/25/2026, 07/02/2026, 07/09/2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2026144374. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: LAINEY'S WORLD, 1327 WEST HOLT AVE, POMONA, CA 91768, County of Los Angeles. Registered Owner(s): KASSANDRA MARIE PHAM, 1327 WEST HOLT AVE, POMONA, CA 91768. This business is conducted by: an Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 07/2026. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000)). /s/ KASSANDRA MARIE PHAM, OWNER. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 07/02/2026. NOTICE: This Fictitious 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 before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or Common Law (See Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS Publish: 07/09/2026, 07/16/2026, 07/23/2026, 07/30/2026

DBA

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2026131937. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: SNOOZE & SHOWER VENICE BEACH, 1515 PACIFIC AVENUE, VENICE, CA 90291, County of Los Angeles. Registered Owner(s): NAPX, INC., 52 EL BONITO WAY, MILLBRAE, CA 94030. This business is conducted by: a Corporation. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000)). /s/ NEIL WONG, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 06/16/2026. NOTICE: This Fictitious 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 before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or Common Law (See Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS Publish: 06/18/2026, 06/25/2026, 07/02/2026, 07/09/2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2026144804. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: TICK TOCK STABLES, 1314 17TH ST UNIT 2, SANTA MONICA, CA 90404, County of Los Angeles. Registered Owner(s): TICK TOCK STABLES, LLC, 1314 17TH ST UNIT 2, SANTA MONICA, CA 90404. This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000)). /s/ PATRICIA RONTEN, MANAGING MEMBER. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 07/02/2026. NOTICE: This Fictitious 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 before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or Common Law (See Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS Publish: 07/09/2026, 07/16/2026, 07/23/2026, 07/30/2026

HOURS MONDAY - FRIDAY 9:00am - 5:00pm
LOCATION 2219A Main St Santa Monica, CA 90405

AROUND TOWN

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Block Parties and Beach Bashes

SMDP's Weekly Guide to Food & Entertainment Goings-On In & Around Town includes the massive Santa Monica Block Fest, World Cup beach fan zones, Michelin-grade grand openings, and much more!



Courtesy image

PARTY: Santa Monica has a party theme this week.

Golden Hour at Third Street Promenade: Designed to complement the Pier fan experience with free pre- and post-match activities, Golden Hour features exhibitors, fan experiences, local vendors and more. July 10 santamoniacup.com/events/golden-hour

World Cup 26 Fan Zone at Venice Beach: Enjoy two days of quarter-finals on the beach with Live match viewing, food, music, and Venice Beach summer. There are both free and premium options. Friday & Saturday, July 10 to 11, Windward Plaza eventbrite.com/e/los-angeles-world-cup-26-fan-zone-at-venice-beach-tickets-1988769851161

Sunset Swim at the Annenberg Beach House: Spend your evening poolside at the historic Annenberg Community Beach House, home to the iconic 1920s Marion Davies estate built by media mogul William Randolph Hearst. Sunset Swim invites adults to enjoy an evening of swimming, relaxing, and connecting by the sea at our historic and heated pool. Float under the evening sky, unwind with friends old and new, and enjoy complimentary s'mores and pool floaties while taking in the ocean air and sunset views. Friday, July 10, 415 PCH (also July 24 and Aug. 7 and 21) santamonica.gov/events/49c3xhnjw5g4v5918cz3g4735y/202607101800

The Crow's Comedy Confessional: A monthly stand-up comedy show where we collect anonymous confessions from the audience, and the comedians work them into their act. Friday, July 10, 9p.m., 2525 Michigan Ave. crowcomedy.com

Open Air House Music Fest at Tongva Park: Enjoy specialty coffee, multiple bars,

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Santa Monica's loss

City manager Oliver Chi and the city council did Mr. Sean Ahaus a favor by terminating his lease agreement. Mr. Ahaus did everything he could to please them, yet they wanted more and along with Unite 11. It would have been a devastating enterprise in the long run.

Unite 11 protested the Spitfire Grill at Santa Monica Airport upsetting the patrons who were just trying to enjoy a meal and the Le Meriden Delfina back in 2024 where the American Film Market was held. They banged their drums, blew their whistles, screamed in their megaphones and took pictures of the men and women who were buying and selling multi-million dollars films from all over the world. Why they took pictures of them is beyond me, but it was a enough that the AFM vowed never to have another event in Santa Monica ever again. That was a revenue loss to the city of \$20 million dollars.

Factor in renovations, employee payroll, food and beverage costs, insurance, parking etc. it would be a losing investment unless he stayed open 24 hours a day for seven days a week and even then he might break even. Especially in these times when dining out is a luxury for some. Also, people in their 20's and 30's are less likely to drink alcoholic beverages nowadays.

I for one enjoyed Patrick's Roadhouse especially their breakfasts, plus you never knew who you were going to meet there. I for one was lucky to meet and talk with Eric Braden, a gentleman and a nice guy let alone a great actor.

Mr. Ahaus has an iconic restaurant that is legendary. There are plenty of other coastal cities that would welcome him with open arms. As the rebuilding of the Pacific Palisades continues perhaps that might be another outlet. I'm sure Rick Caruso would be more than happy to talk with him.

Whitney Scott Bain, Santa Monica

COMMUNITY NEWS

California

State budget secures \$5 million for UCLA reproductive health center

California's 2026-27 state budget includes \$5 million in one-time funding for the UCLA Center for Reproductive Health, Law and Policy, Assembly Democratic Caucus Chair Rick Chavez Zbur, D-Hollywood, announced.

Zbur said he championed the investment throughout this year's budget hearings. The money will let the center continue providing legal expertise, policy analysis, research and strategic support as other states restrict access to reproductive health care.

"California has a responsibility not only to protect reproductive freedom within our own borders, but to lead the nation in developing the legal strategies, research, and policy solutions that will safeguard those rights for generations to come," Zbur said. He said the funding ensures the center can remain "a national hub for innovation, legal scholarship, and reproductive justice" at a time when providers, patients and advocates face "unprecedented attacks."

Founded in 2022 with seed funding from the state, the center brings together lawyers, policy experts, scholars and researchers. It provides free legal help to patients and providers, supports government attorneys and policymakers, convenes experts to develop legal frameworks, and trains reproductive justice advocates. Its work extends beyond abortion access to contraception, maternal health equity, family-building policy, racial and economic disparities, and issues such as menopause.

Melissa Goodman, executive director of the center, said the funding "fuels our work to develop new legal frameworks and data that move from academia into courtrooms and legislatures." She said the center is "leading the way towards legal innovation" on abortion, maternal health, pregnancy criminalization, infertility and menopause while providing urgent legal services.

Angela Pontes, senior vice president of government affairs for Planned Parenthood Affiliates of California, called the center "a critical partner in the fight to protect reproductive freedom" as the Trump administration and congressional Republicans move to strip health care access, including efforts to "defund" Planned Parenthood. She thanked Zbur and the Legislature for the investment.

The funding was included in the final 2026-27 state budget approved by the Legislature and signed by Gov. Gavin Newsom.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF



City of Santa Monica

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING
BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA PLANNING COMMISSION

SUBJECT: Planning Commission recommendation to the City Council regarding amendments to the Santa Monica Land Use and Circulation Plan (LUCE), Downtown Community Plan (DCP), and Text of the City's Zoning Ordinance for consistency with existing State law, to modify the Community Meeting Requirement for Housing Projects, and to make other minor changes, corrections, and clarifications as necessary.

A public hearing will be held by the Planning Commission to consider Resolutions recommending to the City Council that the Council adopt amendments to the Land Use and Circulation Element (LUCE) of the City's General Plan and Downtown Community Plan (DCP), and Zoning Ordinance (1) for consistency with State law; (2) to modify the community requirement for housing projects, and (3) making other minor changes, corrections, and clarifications.

DATE/TIME: WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5, 2026 AT 6:00 PM

LOCATION: City Council Chamber, Second Floor, Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, California

HOW TO COMMENT

The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. Members of the public unable to attend a meeting but wishing to comment on an item(s) listed on the agenda may submit written comments prior to the public hearing via email to planningcomment@santamonica.gov or via mail to the address listed below. Comments received prior to 12 p.m. on the day of the meeting will be distributed to the Planning Commission prior to the meeting and posted online. All written comments shall be made part of the public record. Please note the agenda item in your comments.

You may also comment in-person at the Planning Commission hearing. Please check the agenda for more detailed instructions on how to comment.

Address your comments to: **Rachel Kwok** Environmental Planner
Re: Amendments for Consistency with State Law

VIA E-MAIL: planningcomment@santamonica.gov
VIA MAIL: City Planning Division
1685 Main Street, Mail Stop 28
Santa Monica, CA 90401

MORE INFORMATION

If you want more information about these amendments, please visit the Planning Commission webpage. The Zoning Ordinance is available on the City's web site at www.santamonica.gov. For disability-related accommodations, please contact (866) 311-7266 at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting. Every attempt will be made to provide the requested accommodation. All written materials are available in alternate languages provided the request is received 72 hours prior to the meeting. Santa Monica Big Blue Bus Lines serve City Hall and the Civic Center area. The Expo Line terminus is located at Colorado Avenue and Fourth Street, and is a short walk to City Hall. Public parking is available in front of City Hall, on Olympic Drive, and in the Civic Center Parking Structure (validation free).

Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the challenge may be limited to only those issues raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Monica at, or prior to, the public hearing.

ESPAÑOL

Esto es una noticia de una audiencia pública para normativa revisada en Santa Monica. Si deseas más información, favor de llamar a Ana Fernandez en la División de Planificación al número (310) 458-2201 ext. 2431.

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Santa Monica Daily Press

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EVENTS THIS WEEK JUL 9 - JUL 16

Saturday, July 11, 7:00 p.m. - 8:15 p.m.

Santa Monica Playhouse 1211 4th St, Santa Monica.

My Lawyer is an Angel - chasing the ambulance chasers off the road!

It's the world premiere of acclaimed playwright Jerry Mayer's serious comedy about ambulance chasers, those predators whose faces leer down at us from every billboard in town, and the angel of an attorney (yes, there is such a thing) who's on a mission to chase them off the road. \$25.00 to \$35.00— USe Code SMDP for \$10 off each ticket (phone or email only). Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/my-lawyer-is-an-angel-chasing-the-ambulance-chasers-off-the-road-/18922943/2026-07-11T19>

Saturday, July 11, 11:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

LouLou Santa Monica 395 Santa Monica Place Santa Monica.

Saturday Rosé Brunch at Loulou Santa Monica

Saturday Rosé Brunch at Loulou Santa Monica- Every Saturday from 11:30 AM -Named one of the 14 Best Buffet Brunches in the USA.This is how weekends should begin.French Rosé flowing.Crêpe, Omelette & Paëlla stations.DJ's & live performances with the Riviera Vibe.A Rooftop bathed in sunshine and Pacific breezes.\$55 before noon | \$65 after noonGroups of 6+ get a complimentary Bottle of Côte de Provence Rosé (21+)Brunch, Celebrate, Escape.Repeat!LouLou is your new Saturday ritual.Book now: bit.ly/loulou-rose-brunch-booking. \$55.00 to \$65.00. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/saturday-ros-brunch-at-loulou-santa-monica/18746443/2026-07-11T11>

Friday, July 10, 9:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.

Marelle at Sandbourne Santa Monica 1740 Ocean Ave Santa Monica.

Late Night Happy Hour at Marelle - Night Cap Menu

Marelle will be launching a late-night happy hour menu called 'Night Cap' starting Monday, April 6th. Guests can order from this menu exclusively at Marelle, bar and bar lounge only. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/late-night-happy-hour-at-marelle-night-cap-menu/18409321/2026-07-10T21>

Friday, July 10, 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Santa Monica Beach Lifeguard Tower 28 Santa Monica.

🌞 Shabbat on the Beach 🌞

Bring a friend or the whole family! Warm your toes in the sand, and join your community in singing and celebrating the joys of a magical Shabbat experience. Feel free to bring your own instruments to join Rabbi Katzan during Shabbat on the Beach. Make sure to bring beach chairs, blankets, jackets, and your own dinner if you plan to picnic on the beach afterward. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/-shabbat-on-the-beach-/18778280/2026-07-10T17>

Saturday, July 11, 9:15 a.m. - 5:15 p.m.

Palisades Community Renewal Center 3212 Nebraska Ave Santa Monica

Saturday Morning Yoga with Kimaturday Morning Yoga with Kim

Free Community Yoga created with care for those impacted by the Palisades Fire In case this event has been updated, please visit <https://www.pcrsm.org/event/saturday-morning-yoga-with-kim-b1469> for full details before arriving. Thank you! Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/saturday-morning-yoga-with-kim/19029087/2026-07-11T09>

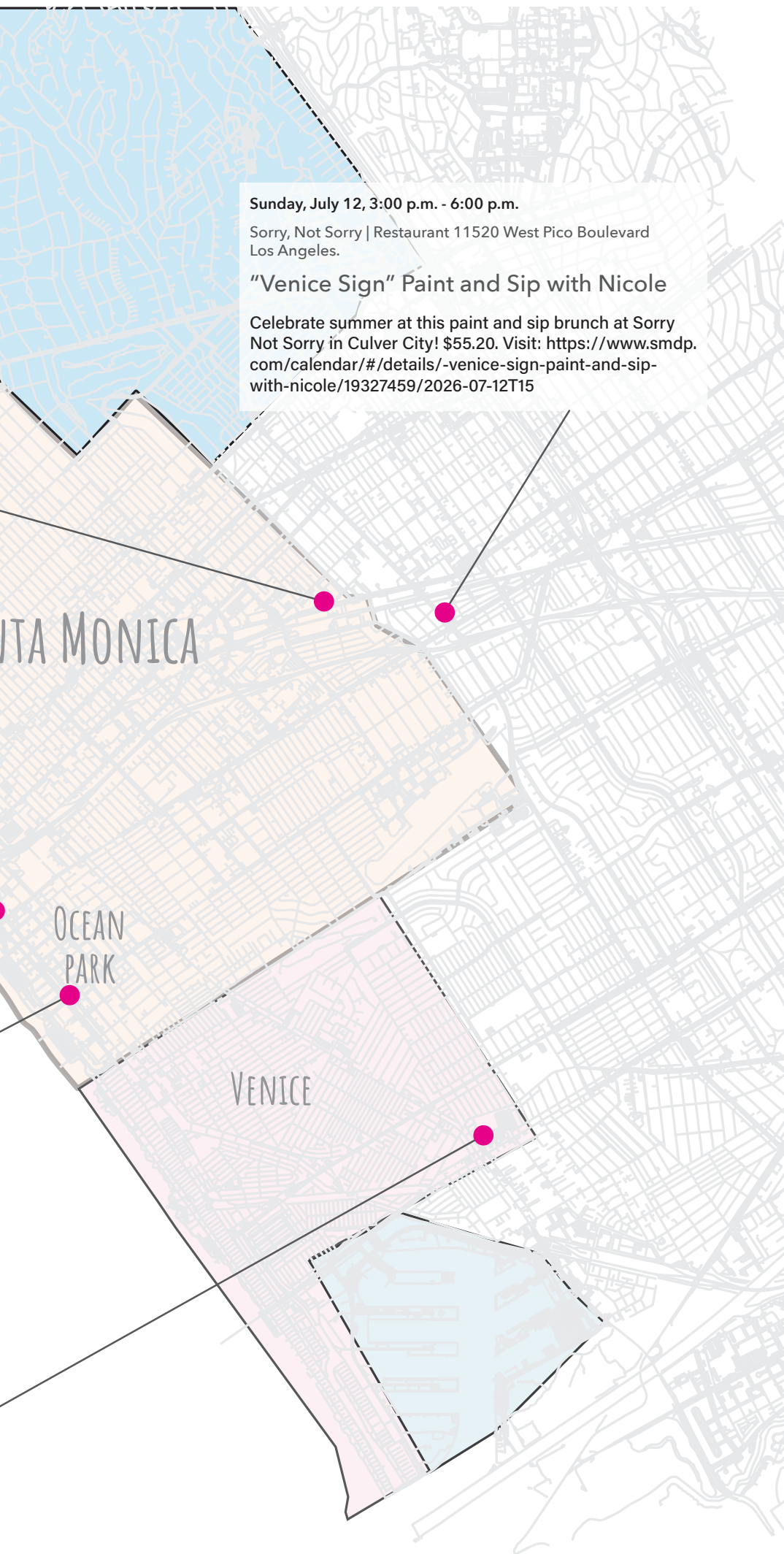
Thursday, July 09, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Venice Beach Beach Ave Venice.

Paint, Sound & Sunset

A beginner-friendly Watercolor Painting Workshop followed by a live Sound Bath in Venice Beach at sunset. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/paint-sound-sunset/19271246/2026-07-09T18>

Check out
more events at:
[smdp.com/events](https://www.smdp.com/events)



Sunday, July 12, 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Sorry, Not Sorry | Restaurant 11520 West Pico Boulevard Los Angeles.

"Venice Sign" Paint and Sip with Nicole

Celebrate summer at this paint and sip brunch at Sorry Not Sorry in Culver City! \$55.20. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/-venice-sign-paint-and-sip-with-nicole/19327459/2026-07-12T15>



THURSDAY | JULY 9

LOW IMPACT GROUP EXERCISE CLASS

1:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. American Legion Ronald Reagan-Palises Post 283 15247 La Cruz Drive Pacific Palisades. Power up your Thursday with our free, low-impact group exercise classes — open to all members of the Legion Family, designed for every fitness level, and held from 11:00am to 12:00pm at Palisades Post 283. Come move, recharge, and feel great heading into the rest of your day! Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/low-impact-group-exercise-class/18566926/2026-07-09T11>

CLUB LATINO PARA ADULTOS MAYORES

11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Virginia Avenue Park 2200 Virginia Ave. Santa Monica. Venga, aprenda, y diviértase cada jueves de 11 AM a 1 PM el el salón 3 del parque Virginia. Cada semana será algo nuevo: Ejercicio, Hablando con amigos, Aprendizaje, Presentadores Invitados, Salud y Bienestar. Hay comida para los adultos mayores que participan durante las dos horas. Para más información llame al (310) 458-8688. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/club-latino-para-adultos-mayores/13943928/2026-07-09T11>

ELEMENTARY ART STUDIO SUMMER CAMP

1:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. Palisades Community Renewal Center 3212 Nebraska Ave Santa Monica. Join us for our summer art workshops for elementary age kids! In case this event has been updated, please visit <https://www.pcrsm.org/event/elementary-art-studio-summer-camp-04c90> for full details before arriving. Thank you! Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/elementary-art-studio-summer-camp/19066074/2026-07-09T13>

CROCHET & KNITTING WORKSHOP SERIES

4:30 p.m. - 1:00 a.m. Palisades Community Renewal Center 3212 Nebraska Ave Santa Monica. Join us for a beginner friendly crochet & knitting camp! In case this event has been updated, please visit <https://www.pcrsm.org/event/crochet-knitting-workshop-series> for full details before arriving. Thank you! Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/crochet-knitting-workshop-series/19066075/2026-07-09T16>

L.A. BOOK LAUNCH: CHABÓCHI DOLL BY FÉI IKÁ SHUMARI

7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. Beyond Baroque Literary Arts Center 681 Venice Blvd, Venice Beach Los Angeles. Book launch for féi iká shumari's Chabóchi Doll. Part auto-fiction, part manifesto, féi iká shumari's CHABÓCHI DOLL snaps the present moment in America tainted by the persecution of undocumented and native bodies, extensive trans legislation seeking to seize the livelihood of trans people, all while negotiating the radicalness of her joy and two-spirited embodiment, when confronted with a brain tumor diagnosis. With laughable sass, switchblade precision, and exquisite analysis, these coming-of-age-at-thirty essays turn womanhood, citizenship, and disability on their head. The author will be reading excerpts from her collection of essays, alongside co-features Chekwube Danladi, Jade Phoenix, Myriam Gurba, and Richard Villegas Jr. in The Wanda Coleman Theater. \$0.00 to \$11.49. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/l-a-book-launch-chab-chi-doll-by-f-i-ik-shumari/19307949/2026-07-09T19>

07-09T19

THE PRICE BY ARTHUR MILLER

8:00 p.m. Pacific Resident Theatre 703 Venice Blvd., Venice. In Arthur Miller's 1968 tour de force masterwork, THE PRICE, two brothers reunite in the attic of a New York brownstone to sort through their late father's possessions. What begins as a long overdue reunion becomes an unforgettable exploration of the value of success versus personal integrity as four indelible characters struggle to make sense of the past and create a future. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/the-price-by-arthur-miller/18933874/2026-07-09T20>

FRIDAY | JULY 10

PALISADIAN COFFEE AND CHAT

9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Palisades Garden Cafe 15231 La Cruz Dr Pacific Palisades. An informal hello run by Palisadian resident Rebecca Martin. No Agenda, no powerpoint, just a chance to say hello for those who have moved back to the Palisades, or are working on it. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/palisadian-coffee-and-chat/19242128/2026-07-10T09>

MARION DAVIES GUEST HOUSE TOUR AT ACBH

12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. Pacific Coast Highway Santa Monica. Santa Monica Conservancy docents will be on hand to share the rich history of the Annenberg Community Beach House site from the 1920s to the present day. Our free 20-minute docent tours are available every weekend on a walk-up basis for individuals and groups of up to six people. Just head to the Marion Davies Guest House, where you will be greeted by a docent. To learn more about the history of the Annenberg Community Beach House, click here. For groups of twelve or more, please get in touch with guest services at (310)-458-4904 or beach.house@santamonica.gov. View parking details on the City website. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/marion-davies-guest-house-tour-at-acbh/19340399/2026-07-10T12>

BEACH COUNTRY | COUNTRY NIGHT • PERRY'S BEACH CLUB

3:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Perry's Beach Club 930 Pacific Coast Highway Santa Monica. A Mix of Country Music and EDM on the Sand. \$23.18 to \$642.09. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/beach-country-country-night-perry-s-beach-club/19228358/2026-07-10T15>

BUNDY TRIANGLE NIGHT MARKET

5:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Bundy Triangle 1500 S Bundy Drive Los Angeles. Cayton Children's Museum will offer free, weekly hands-on activities for children and families at the Bundy Triangle Night Market in Sawtelle every Friday from March 27 through the end of October, the museum announced. The programming, offered in partnership with Los Angeles City Councilwoman Traci Park, will run from 5 to 8 p.m. each Friday at the Bundy Triangle, a public space at Ohio Avenue and Bundy Drive. The broader night market, presented by Raw Inspiration, runs from 5 to 9 p.m. The Bundy Triangle events are free and open to the public. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/bundy-triangle-night-market/18490079/2026-07-10T17>



Santa Monica Daily Press

Classifieds

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or email legal@smdp.com

CLASSIFICATIONS	Pets	Apartments/Condos	Real Estate Loans	Attorney Services	Wealth and Success
Announcements	Boats	Rent	Storage Space	Business	Lost and Found
Creative	Jewelry	Houses for Rent	Vehicles for Sale	Opportunities	Personals
Employment	Wanted	Roommates	Massage	Yard Sales	Psychic
For Sale	Travel	Commercial Lease	Services	Health and Beauty	Obituaries
Furniture	Vacation Rentals	Real Estate	Computer Services	Fitness	Tutoring

Name Change

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 26SMCP00280. Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, 1725 Main St, Santa Monica, CA 90401. Petitioner Maryah Elizabeth Thompson for Change of Name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner Maryah Elizabeth Thompson filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Maryah Elizabeth Thompson to Maryah

Elizabeth Thompson Whitfield. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter 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: 07/24/2026, Time: 8:30 AM, Dept: K. The address of the court is same as noted above. 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. Date: 06/16/2026. Lawrence H. Cho, Judge of the Superior Court. SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS Publish: 06/25/2026, 07/02/2026, 07/09/2026, 07/16/2026

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COMMUNITY NEWS

California

ABC awards nearly \$3 million in grants to fight alcohol-related crime

The California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control will award nearly \$3 million in the 2026-27 fiscal year to 43 local law enforcement agencies to combat alcohol-related crime, the agency announced.

The grants go to police and sheriff's departments through ABC's Alcohol Policing Partnership Program, created in 1995 to strengthen partnerships between the agency and local law enforcement. The program targets problem businesses, works to keep alcohol away from minors and pursues penalties — including fines, suspensions or revocations — against businesses that break the law.

ABC said the funds will help reduce alcohol sales to minors and to obviously intoxicated patrons, along with other alcohol-related crime.

"Too many young people are killed in alcohol-related incidents every year," ABC Director Paul Tupy said. "If we can limit youth access to alcohol, and prevent service to obviously intoxicated patrons, then we can save lives and strengthen communities."

The program has distributed more than \$75 million to local law enforcement over the past 30 years.

The 43 selected agencies include the Santa Monica Police Department, along with the Inglewood, Los Angeles, Long Beach, Downey, South Gate and San Fernando police departments and the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department. Others range from Berkeley and Chula Vista to Redding, Eureka and Watsonville.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF

Malibu

Malibu opens candidate nomination period July 13 for November City Council election

The city of Malibu will open its candidate nomination period July 13 for the 2026 General Municipal Election, when voters will fill two City Council seats.

The election is set for Tuesday, Nov. 3. The nominating period opens Monday, July 13, and closes Aug. 7. If one or more incumbents does not file, the period will be extended through Aug. 12.

Mayor Bruce Silverstein encouraged residents to run, calling the council the voice of residents in the city's governance. He said he hoped everyone who cares about the city, its residents and its fragile rural environment would consider running. He noted the opportunity arises only once every other year and that, unlike partisan state and national contests, the council election is nonpartisan and focused on local issues.

Nomination packets may be picked up in person at the City Clerk's Office at Malibu City Hall, 23825 Stuart Ranch Road, throughout the nomination period during the office's posted hours. Hours are listed at www.MalibuCity.org/Elections under "notices."

Before raising or spending any campaign money, candidates must complete and sign the Declaration of Intent to Solicit and Receive Contributions Form and Fair Political Practices Commission Form 501 and file them with the city clerk. Both forms are available on the elections webpage at www.MalibuCity.org/Elections, along with information on key dates, voter registration, vote-by-mail ballots and candidates. The page will be updated regularly.

To schedule an appointment to pull nomination paperwork, candidates may email City Clerk Kelsey Pettijohn at KPettijohn@MalibuCity.org or call 310-456-2489, ext. 228.

The city's general municipal elections are consolidated with Los Angeles County elections. In 2015, the council voted to consolidate city elections with the statewide general election in November of even years in an effort to increase voter participation.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF

LA Country

LA County Transitions to Behavioral Health Services Act

Los Angeles County's departments of Mental Health and Public Health have joined counties statewide in transitioning from the Mental Health Services Act to the voter-approved Behavioral Health Services Act, part of a broader state effort known as the Behavioral Health Transformation.

The change stems from Proposition 1, which California voters passed in March 2024, amending the 2004 Mental Health Services Act. The measure adds no new taxes but reconfigures how existing mental health tax funding is used, allowing money to go toward substance use disorder services. Its passage also approved \$6.3 billion in bonds to support treatment and housing beds.

The act maintains most of the funding allocated under the prior law but changes how those funds are used and expands planning to include the Public Health Department's Substance Abuse Prevention and Control Bureau in all behavioral health programming.

"Many of BHSA's changes are administrative, which means consumers will experience a seamless transition to this new age of mental health care in Los Angeles County," said Department of Mental Health Director Lisa H. Wong. "Through BHSA, the State's new funding mechanisms allow us to expand specialized services, invest in innovative programs and broaden our reach."

Barbara Ferrer, director of the county Department of Public Health, called the change "a great opportunity for us to reimagine mental health and substance use services to ensure that we focus on client-level needs with an eye toward enhancing care and outcomes."

The act restructures five existing funding categories into three. Housing and operating subsidies, at 30% of funding, help people experiencing chronic homelessness through resources such as security deposits, interim housing, rental subsidies and licensed residential care. Full-Service Partnerships, at 35%, provide the department's most intensive level of care for those who need services most. Behavioral Health Services and Supports, also 35%, covers early intervention efforts to prevent homelessness, overdose and suicide, as well as flexible funding for outpatient and crisis care and workforce support.

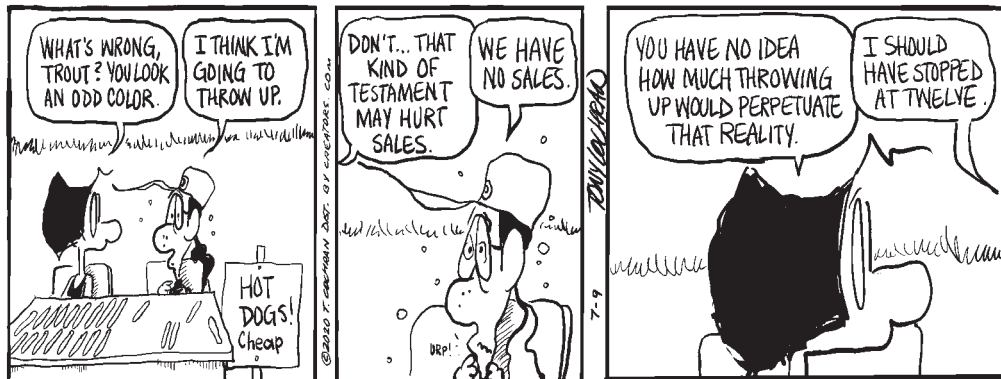
County officials led implementation planning with community stakeholders through 30 in-person and virtual sessions reaching 224 organizations across eight service areas. Officials said continuity of care anchors the phased transition and that no client will lose services.

Prevention programs previously overseen by the county Department of Mental Health will now be administered by the California Department of Public Health.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF

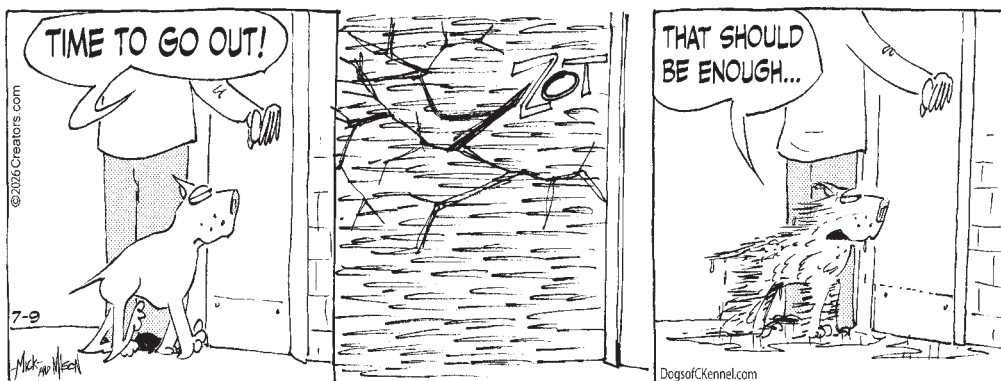
Agnes

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

© australianwordgames.com.au 6996

Canberra

H	U	G	H	E	S	R	E	N	R	U	T	C	S	D
M	E	M	B	E	R	S	E	T	A	E	N	M	C	A
C	A	T	H	A	Y	N	R	S	O	M	O	A	A	E
U	R	W	U	A	N	E	U	I	P	E	O	P	A	T
R	P	A	S	O	C	K	S	M	E	L	L	S	S	S
T	A	L	C	O	R	K	S	A	N	B	T	P	I	E
I	G	L	E	E	N	T	E	N	C	A	E	L	C	M
N	E	A	N	V	N	C	L	T	I	C	C	U	O	O
B	C	H	I	A	E	O	L	C	T	K	R	L	B	H
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- | | | | |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------------|
| Acton | City Hill | Holt | Mist |
| Aims | Cold | Hughes | Neat |
| Amaroo | Crace | Isaacs | Open |
| Aranda | Curtin | Lake | Page |
| Banks | Deakin | Lanyon | Reid |
| Belconnen | Dips | Homestead | Russell |
| Braddon | Drives | Left | Scenic |
| Bruce | Evatt | Maps | Spectacular |
| Cafe | Flynn | Mawson | Trout |
| Carp | Hackett | Melba | Turner |
| Casey | Hall | Members | Woden |

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.

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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (July 9)

It's your Year of the Cowrie Shell. For centuries, cowrie shells served as currency across parts of Africa, Asia and the Pacific and became symbols of wealth, fertility and protection. The treasure of small things collect into substantial abundance. More highlights: Love notes, applauding audiences, and affirmations that your work moves people. Perfect financial partners. You'll seize learning and travel opportunities. Gemini and Sagittarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 8, 19, 20, 1 and 17.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Someone drops the ball - inconvenient but understandable. You could turn it into a larger statement about their character, or you could chalk it up to being human. Giving people the room to be imperfect is a keystone of social grace.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Today requires a measure of courage. Were you not so brave, you could stay home, watch a show, live vicariously. But that's not you. So up and out into the world you go, and you return home tonight better for the effort.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You're quick to help when someone asks. Look beyond the request itself. A person's sense of urgency does not always reflect the reality of the situation. Before offering your time, energy or resources, make sure they're truly needed.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You have many kinds of love to give and you're generous with it. Whether it's compassion, friendship, fandom, romance or something else, you give freely without requiring they love you back, pay it forward or even be gracious receivers. That's true love.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Someone responds to you as the person you've become, not the person you used to be. It's a subtle moment, but a meaningful one. The effort you've invested in yourself is beginning to show.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). With Venus now in your realm, affection is purposeful. Love and follow-through go hand in hand. Your timely responses and practical support are received as a message: "I like you." You'll complete a task for someone; is this you flirting?

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You saw the missing piece. Now the tricky part: How do you bring it up to the others without making them feel like you're showing off, or they're underperforming or being unobservant? A question may accomplish more than a declaration.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You're so thoughtful today, remembering what people like, checking back on what matters to them, anticipating their needs... how do you know how to do all this? Practice. You have practiced being not just the server, but the served.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Fun facts and trivia are fodder for small talk, but your favorite is learning something that serves a practical purpose. Today's nugget becomes useful almost immediately, giving you one of those satisfying moments when knowledge turns into capability.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Your name comes up in a room you're not even in. Someone needs a capable person and someone else recommends you. But of course. It's not you consciously building a reputation. It's the natural goodness of you being you.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You're warm. This we know. Now comes the part where warmth becomes stewardship. You follow through. You make sure that, in the weeks to come, resources, talents and relationships flourish on your watch.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You know someone likes you because they care to return your calls, show up where they said they will and do what they said they'd do - plus a little extra. Notice what they make easier for you. Your appreciation encourages more of the same.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

Newsday Crossword

HEAD COUNT by Fred Piscop
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

- 1 "Out you go!"
- 5 Get ready to go
- 9 Flimsy
- 13 Mule's team
- 14 Former Canadian leader Mulroney
- 15 Loafing around
- 16 Tubular floating toy
- 18 Very vivid, as crayons
- 19 Multiplex multitude
- 20 Nostalgic souvenir
- 22 Issa of *Barbie*
- 23 Something to tote
- 24 Brief flight
- 27 Racing rarity
- 34 Foolishly imitative
- 36 "High" time
- 37 ___-Cuban (jazz genre)
- 38 Surrealist Magritte
- 39 Well-thought-out
- 40 Robin Hood beneficiaries
- 41 Marching band instrument
- 42 Sonar signal
- 43 Hits with hail
- 44 DC image on the back of a \$50
- 47 Scrabble two-pointer
- 48 Many a Christmas tree
- 49 Purely
- 51 "Father of Modern Astronomy"
- 55 Cookies-and-creme dessert
- 59 Gulf state

DOWN

- 60 Bit in many a casserole
- 62 Tequila drink, for short
- 63 Be penitent
- 64 Red Muppet
- 65 Pizzeria implement
- 66 Cafeteria employee
- 67 Belles at balls
- 1 Drains of energy
- 2 Swamp predator
- 3 Cupid counterpart
- 4 First unelected president
- 5 Career athletes
- 6 Response to an SOS

7 Windless

- 8 Squatting exercise
- 9 Pinot noir or Merlot
- 10 Biblical wonderland
- 11 Much (of)
- 12 Powerball relative
- 14 Big mistake
- 17 Poetic preposition
- 21 Apple product
- 24 Credo starter
- 25 Grammy category
- 26 Attach to a corkboard
- 28 Tuna can phrase
- 29 Animal shelter
- 30 Credo conclusion
- 31 Days ___ (yore)
- 32 Authored
- 33 Ancient explorers

35 Part of many playoffs

- 39 Source of pollen
- 43 *Moby Dick* ship co-owner
- 45 Up to, in brief
- 46 River painted by Cézanne
- 50 Shaped like oak leaves
- 51 Hiker's snack
- 52 Opposite of *ennemie*
- 53 Well into the night
- 54 *Simpsons* bus driver
- 55 Pen plaint
- 56 "The King of Football"
- 57 Metrical foot
- 58 Son of Seth
- 61 Sydney Zoo favorite

Sudoku

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

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.

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

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12
13					14						15		
16				17							18		
19							20		21				
			22					23					
24	25	26		27		28	29	30			31	32	33
34			35			36					37		
38						39					40		
41						42					43		
44				45					46			47	
			48					49		50			
51	52	53				54		55			56	57	58
59						60		61					
62						63					64		
65						66					67		

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

TOURISM

FROM PAGE 1

limelight.

Positive press comes as a welcome change for a city that had lost its economic footing in recent years due to the Covid pandemic, Federal policies, wildfires and local impacts of crime, homelessness and traffic.

CITY ATTRACTS HALF AS MANY VISITORS

Santa Monica's tourism industry generated nearly \$1 billion in visitor spending last year, driven largely by a surge in high-spending international travelers but the city remains in a prolonged period of visitor volume far below its pre-COVID peak.

According to Santa Monica Travel & Tourism's annual report, the city attracted 3.89 million visitors — an 8% decline from the 4.22 million recorded in 2024. More significantly, that figure represents less than half of the 8.71 million visitors Santa Monica drew at its peak in 2017, a benchmark the city has not approached in the eight years since.

The city last crossed the 8 million visitor threshold in 2019, recording 8.41 million arrivals. The pandemic year of 2020 collapsed total visitation to 2.03 million. While the recovery years of 2021 and 2022 brought meaningful rebounds, the trajectory has pointed steadily downward since a post-pandemic high of 5.32 million in 2022, with each subsequent year recording fewer visitors than the last.

Total visitor days — a metric calculated by multiplying visitor volume by average length of stay — fell to 5.34 million in 2025, down 9% from 5.87 million in 2024 and far below the 11.85 million recorded at the city's 2017 peak.

REGIONAL COMPARISONS

Santa Monica's struggles to bring back visitors stand in stark contrast to other

Southern California destinations. San Diego saw roughly 32 million visitors in fiscal 2024 — about 90% of its pre-pandemic peak. Santa Barbara hosted 6.5 million visitors in 2023 who spent \$2.24 billion, matching or exceeding pre-COVID spending levels.

Even neighboring West Hollywood reported 4.9 million unique visitors in 2023 — 4% higher than 2019 levels — while Santa Monica remained stuck at roughly 50% of its pre-pandemic visitor volume.

Local officials said Santa Monica's relative success wasn't a fair way to measure the city's recovery as it faced unique challenges.

Santa Monica Travel and Tourism said Los Angeles County faced some of the state's most prolonged COVID-19 restrictions and reopened later than markets such as San Diego and Santa Barbara — a delay that pushed meetings, events and leisure travelers to competing venues that have since retained that business.

The city has also contended with broader perceptions of Los Angeles County as a whole. International visitors frequently do not distinguish between Santa Monica and the greater Los Angeles region, meaning wildfires, crime headlines, political unrest and immigration enforcement activity have dampened travel demand even when those events occurred elsewhere in the county.

International travel faces additional obstacles outside the destination's control. Geopolitical uncertainty, shifting federal policy, visa or other related costs, and reduced international air arrivals at LAX compared with other Southern California airports have all weighed on recovery across California's international markets.

UP NEXT: A look at the economic value of tourism and which visitors drive the local economy.

editor@smdp.com

decisions.

Their voices are being heard.

California's newly enacted budget protects School Meals for All and invests in school kitchens, farm-to-school programs and healthy, sustainable food procurement. By providing funding schools can use to buy nondairy milk, state leaders have created a powerful opportunity to make school meals more inclusive.

Now districts must seize this opportunity and ensure every student has access to a beverage that meets their needs.

Emily Lin is a senior at Arroyo High School in Los Angeles County. Suzy Sayre is the director of nutrition services at El Monte Union High School District.

Other ballot measures and laws enacted by the Legislature and Gov. Gavin Newsom have continued to soften the treatment of lawbreakers.

However, in 2024, voters passed Proposition 36, which tightened up the loose provisions of Prop. 47 and signaled at least a mild backlash, likely driven by a surge of smash-and-grab robberies.

Whether that backlash gains strength or California continues to ease off on punishment is a question that awaits an answer.

Dan Walters, CalMatters Opinion Columnist

AROUND TOWN

FROM PAGE 4

local vendors, and a lineup of house music led by internationally acclaimed German DJ Cinthie. Saturday, July 11, Tongva Park, 1-9p.m. <https://posh.vip/e/caf-grooves-product-pluto-present>

Venice Book Club's Summer Book Exchange: Clear some space for new reads on your bookshelf thanks to this book swap in a coffee shop. Plus, the event is raising money for Reading For Kids and donating any leftover books to the library. Saturday, July 11, SABA Coffee, 12912 Venice Blvd. instagram.com/p/DaMKOMWmaj9

Santa Monica Block Fest: What started as a single-block community event is now a city co-produced, multi-stage, full scale production in the Entertainment Zone with pop-up bars, local vendors, VIP gardens all across three iconic blocks of Third Street Promenade, and a night market, bringing more than 20 top-tier food and merch vendors into the movement. Saturday, July 11, 5 p.m. - Midnight, all 3 blocks of the 3rd Street Promenade (Broadway to Wilshire) santamonica.gov/events/santa-monica-block-fest

Pitch A Friend: Help your bestie find their person through this singles event at Bodega Wine Bar, 814 Broadway Ave. Monday, July 13, 7p.m. instagram.com/p/DZ-YdfrFLpE

Annenberg Beach House Sunset Picnic - Route 66 Edition: Bring your own picnic and enjoy a relaxed night by the ocean. Come with friends, family, or on your own and join a communal table. There's live music, ocean views, complimentary s'mores (while supplies last) & board games. Thursday, July 16, 5-8p.m., 415 PCH eventbrite.com/e/sunset-picnic-route-66-edition-tickets-1987961278699

ONGOING: Museum of Illusions; The CUBE VR; Splatter Studio; Wellness & Waves @ the Pier (Saturdays through 10/17)

WHAT TO EAT & DRINK?

Tipsy Scholar A Cabaret of Cabernet: Join our sommelier and winemaker Amanda Rubin for a fun and interactive evening as she guides you through a flight of our Cabernet Sauvignon. Learn all about this grape, identify aromas and flavors while gaining insider tips straight from the experts. \$30 per person. Wednesday, July 15, AJA Vineyards, 1417 2nd St. eventbrite.com/e/tipsy-scholar-a-cabaret-of-cabernet-tickets-1992527417142

Khan Saab Desi Craft Kitchen Grand Opening: The Michelin Bib Gourmand-recognized restaurant is coming to Santa Monica. Created by Chef Imran Ali Mookhi, the restaurant showcases elevated Pakistani and Indian cuisine, handcrafted mocktails, and bold South Asian flavors made with exceptional attention to detail. Thursday, July 16, 7p.m., 115 Santa Monica Blvd. khansaaboc.com

The Lobster Celebrates 27th Anniversary: Enjoy freshly-made pizzas by Chef Govind Armstrong, a live DJ, drink specials, and happy hour pricing all night as the iconic oceanfront restaurant toasts 27 years in Santa Monica. Thursday, July 16, 6 - 9p.m., 1602 Ocean Ave. the lobster.com/events

Multiple SaMo Spots on The Infatuation's "The Best Pizza In LA" List: Not No Bar (2424 Main St) is walk-in only and lines form fast, but the reward is a bubbly-crust, Neapolitan-ish pie. If you spot "La Blanca" (a ricotta white pie squiggled with pesto and mustard greens), order it immediately. Milo & Olive (2723 Wilshire Blvd) secured its regular slot for its crisp, wood-fired crusts. The play here remains the mixed mushroom pie loaded with fungi. theinfatuation.com/los-angeles/guides/the-best-pizza-in-los-angeles

Pasjoli on Eater's "38 Best Restaurants in LA" List: Years out from opening in 2019 as a French fine dining restaurant, chef Dave Beran's Pasjoli has settled into a new rhythm as a neighborhood bistro — and it may be the best iteration of the restaurant yet. Warm light from pendants overhead bounces off the brick walls, casting a soft glow onto diners below. A semi-open kitchen offers a glimpse of the chefs at work, plating crudo in a shallow puddle of olive oil and near-perfect circles of beef tartare. The upscale French roots are still there, in dishes like a rich French onion soupette that may be more cheese than soup, and delicate crepes caviar in beurre blanc. But Beran's also brought a casual playfulness to the menu that makes Pasjoli feel more confidently itself than ever. la.eater.com/maps/best-los-angeles-restaurants-eater-38-essential

Cobi's Featured on Celeb Podcast "Dinner on Me": Modern Family's Jesse Ferguson sat down with Celeb Chef Curtis Stone at the Michelin-recognized Main St. Indonesian restaurant. 2104 Main St. instagram.com/p/DaN5LL3jfkK

Further Afield: Festival Beverly Hills: Join a day of music, dance, interactive workshops, and culinary delights that showcase the rich tapestry of many cultures from around the world. Sunday, July 12, 11a.m. - 6p.m., Beverly Gardens Park, 9439 Santa Monica Blvd. beverlyhills.org/1335/Festival-Beverly-Hills-July-12

Looking Ahead: COAST Open Streets Festival (7/19); State of the City Event (7/23); National Night Out (8/4); A Pierfect Benefit (9/19)

If there's something you think is worth highlighting, you can reach out directly to me at sean@smdp.com. Let me know if you have any feedback on Around Town: Block Parties and Beach Bashes

MILK

FROM PAGE 2

sustainable food systems, so the state has a high-impact opportunity to reduce the environmental footprint of its school meals.

The current system is also remarkably wasteful. Nationally, about 45 million gallons of milk are discarded in schools every year. Offering plant-based alternatives increases the likelihood students will actually drink what schools are serving, reducing waste.

Students have spent years advocating for more inclusive cafeteria options. They've pushed for policy changes in Washington and have worked locally to give students a voice in school food

CRIME

FROM PAGE 3

population, about 90,000, is scarcely half the peak. And one-by-one, prisons are being closed.

Jerry Brown, who had signed numerous lock-'em-up bills during his first governorship, returned to the position in 2011 and championed more lenient treatment. He sponsored a 2014 ballot measure, Proposition 47, that made it much easier for inmates serving time for offenses deemed nonviolent to gain parole by redefining "nonviolent" to cover some pretty serious offenses.



*Grazie mille
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