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**2 Police and fire perks**  
Can the state afford it?

**3 Academic results**  
Will they improve?



**4 Elections**  
Should voting be easier?

**10 Horoscope**  
Plus Crossword.

Volume 25 Issue 166

THE WEEKENDER 7/10-7/12

smdp.com

# Fairmont-Miramar returns to the big screen — under an assumed name



Maya Furukawa

**NOT THE FAIRMONT:** One of Santa Monica's iconic hotels is getting a temporary makeover for a movie.

**MATTHEW HALL**  
Daily Press Editor

The Fairmont Miramar Hotel & Bungalows, a fixture of Santa Monica's skyline for more than

a century, is heading back to Hollywood — though moviegoers won't see it billed under its own name but instead will see "L'AZURINE" on the screen.

The oceanfront hotel is serving

as a filming location for "Paris Paramount," a romantic comedy from writer-director Nancy Meyers, according to IMDB. Like many of the hotel's past screen appearances, the property will stand in for a fictional

setting rather than play itself.

"Paris Paramount" follows a young filmmaker who falls for a producer, according to a plot

SEE MOVIE PAGE 11

## Hotel guests, not day trippers, drive Santa Monica's tourism economy

**MATTHEW HALL**  
Daily Press Editor

Editor's Note: As the city touts the success of World Cup tourism, the Daily Press is taking a look at the city's overall tourism industry. Yesterday we covered the city's ongoing failure to rebound from a Covid-induced decline in tourism and the reasons why officials say

SEE TOURISM PAGE 6

## Free Fiber Arts gathering to take over Will Rogers Beach this weekend

**MAAZ ALIN**  
SMDP Staff Writer

Fiber artists, their friends and their families are invited to the sand this weekend, as Los Angeles fiber artist Alexis Kavros hosts the first LA Fiber Clubs Beach Takeover, a free community gathering at Will Rogers State Beach.

The event begins at 11 a.m. Sunday, July 12, near Lifeguard Tower No. 7, just north of the snack bar at 15800 Pacific Coast Highway, and will continue into the afternoon. Admission is free,

SEE FIBER PAGE 7

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# VERNON L. GREEN

November 23, 1930 - June 12, 2026

**C**oeur d'Alene (Idaho) resident Vernon L. Green died June 12 at the age of 95. He will be remembered by family, friends and neighbors as a man who always had a dog. He will be missed.

Vernon was born Nov. 23, 1930 in Sioux City (Iowa) to Vernon and Estelle (Sherry) Green. His only sibling, sister Beverly (Green) Carr, preceded him in death in 2012.

He enlisted in the US Coast Guard in 1949, serving aboard various Coast Guard Lightships along the Oregon and Washington Coasts as well as doing weather patrol during the Korean War. During shore leave in Seattle, Vernon met Jean Ferguson. They married June 6, 1951 in Glendale (California).

Vernon finished his tour of duty with the Coast Guard in 1952 after which the newlyweds settled in Santa Monica. They welcomed three children to the family—including a set of twins.

Vernon worked as an electrician and retired from the Los Angeles Unified School District.



Following his retirement, Vernon and Jean lived in Marcola (Oregon), Redmond (Washington) and Grass Valley (California) before settling in Coeur d'Alene, (Idaho). His wife,

Jean, preceded him in death in 2004 while residing in Coeur d'Alene; they were married 53 years.

Vernon was a member of the Elks, the National Rifle Association and the American Legion. He was active in the Coast Guard Auxiliary for many years.

He cherished family stories and the memorabilia of family history left to him. He especially loved his dogs: Buttons, Daisy, Lucky, Storm, Klondike, Shadow, Rusty and Buck.

Vernon is survived by son, David (wife, Betty) of Santa Monica; son, Dan of Santa Monica, and daughter, Debbie (husband, Bill) Braden of Beaverton (Oregon) as well as grandchildren Laura and Michael. His much-loved niece, Carolyn Carr of Weiser (Idaho) also survives him.

Donations in Vernon Green's memory may be made to your local animal rescue organization.

# California is running short on money. Should the state boost police and firefighter perks?

The Legislature wants to make putting on a California police or firefighter uniform more lucrative.

Three bills are moving forward that would either raise pay for state firefighters or boost retirement benefits for public safety personnel.

Their supporters say the measures are meant to compensate people who risk their lives for others and who by the nature of their jobs are exposed to career-shortening hazards. The proposals are sailing through the Legislature with bipartisan support and overwhelming majorities of lawmakers voting for them.

"Every day has a cost, and it's one that we pay with our lives," Darrell Roberts, president of the union California Professional Firefighters said at a recent hearing where he spoke in favor of a bill that would let public safety employees retire at 55, two years earlier than currently allowed. "This job is physically and mentally demanding in the extreme and asking us to work until 57 is pushing us not just to our limit but beyond it."

The proposals carry significant price tags and could potentially drive up annual spending by hundreds of millions of dollars. They could also swell the state's long-term liabilities by billions of dollars. That could make them a tough sell to Gov. Gavin Newsom given that the state anticipates deficits in the near future.

The two retirement bills in particular are rekindling memories of California's pension crisis in the Great Recession, when major funds lost tens of billions of dollars. At the time, taxpayer advocates drew attention to sweetened benefits that former Gov. Gray Davis signed into law just a few years before the crash, when the stock market was booming.

Marcia Fritz, an accountant and longtime California pension watchdog, said the current push to expand public safety retirement benefits is similar to the law Davis signed. During Davis' tenure, California's pension funds were flush from a soaring stock market fueled by tech companies, and lawmakers believed the good run would continue.

Today, the two largest pension funds

— CalPERS and CalSTRS — have not fully recovered from their recession losses. But they have been beating their earnings targets, thanks in part to a stock market again propelled by the tech sector.

To Fritz, the lawmakers advancing the bill are "drinking the Kool Aid that the markets are never going to go down," she said. "We're the ones paying for it with reduced services."

California scaled back benefits for workers hired after 2012 when former Gov. Jerry Brown signed a law that compelled employees to work longer before earning a full pension and required them to kick in more money to fund their own pensions.

CalPERS has estimated that Brown's pension reform saved government agencies \$4 billion in its first 10 years and projected it would reduce their expenses by another \$24 billion over the next decade.

To taxpayer advocates like Fritz, that's a sign the law is working and should continue as is. To the public safety unions, that means the government agencies have capacity to increase benefits without fully unwinding Brown's law.

### THE BILLS MOVING FORWARD WOULD:

Allow public safety employees to retire at age 55 rather than 57. Assembly Bill 1383 also would allow unions to negotiate more generous retirement formulas that would give public safety employees up to 3% of their income for each year in uniform. And it would boost the cap on annual pensionable earnings by almost \$60,000 to \$249,000 a year.

Create a new deferred retirement program for California Highway Patrol officers and Cal Fire firefighters. AB 1054 is meant to give officers and firefighters an incentive to keep working later in their careers by allowing them to accumulate money that they could cash out in a single lump sum check when they retire.

Increase Cal Fire firefighters' pay by recommending a new formula for their raises. AB 2129 would encourage the governor's office to bring their compensation closer to — but not necessarily equal to — the average

SEE BUDGET PAGE 5

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GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

# Does crowning California's governor the education czar mean academic results will improve?



Photo by Laure Andrillon for CalMatters

**OAKLAND:** Students in a classroom in Oakland on Sept. 23, 2024.

In late June, after only a few minutes of discussion, both houses of the Legislature completely overhauled how California manages the nation's largest public school system and its nearly 6 million students.

The votes for Assembly Bill 181 — 21-4 in the Senate and 52-4 in the Assembly — reflected a bipartisan consensus, rare for major issues, that the system has been failing California's children. The votes were based on an implicit, perhaps even desperate, hope that streamlining administration might raise the state's mediocre levels of academic achievement.

The measure demotes the elected state superintendent of schools from the head of the state Department of Education to a member of the state school board and replaces the superintendent with an "education commissioner" appointed by the governor.

Assemblywoman Darshana Patel, a San Diego Democrat, research scientist and local school board member, cogently expressed that hope during the Assembly's brief floor debate.

"We can't keep doing the same thing and expect different outcomes

for our students, our schools and our communities. They are the ones who are the real victims of this misalignment of our systems and structures," she said, adding, "The proposal before you today would promote a more coherent policy making. The change will allow policy makers and the public to hold the governor accountable for educational outcomes."

The last sentence of her remarks is the key element. While the governor has always been an important member of California's complex education leadership structure, the multitude of other participants has made it easy to pass the buck when academic test results and other measures expose academic shortcomings.

Suddenly undoing many decades of managerial status quo, as first proposed in Gov. Gavin Newsom's state of the state address last January, is a remarkable feat unto itself. Doing so over the opposition of the California Teachers Association elevates it to a minor political miracle.

"The proposal would divert attention away from the real needs of students

SEE EDUCATION PAGE 7



## Surf report WATER TEMP: 70.3

**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

**SATURDAY** | **SURF:** 2-3ft+  
*FAIR* | Thigh to stomach

Surf dips as swell eases, still fun zone. Morning looks offshore. Mix of SSW swell and NW windswell continues to slowly taper off. Morning still running thigh-stomach high, with better sets at standouts. Waves gradually ease during the day. At this point the call is for ESE winds in the morning then going moderate SSE for the afternoon.

## Weather

**Friday:** Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, cloudy through mid morning, then gradual clearing, with a high near 75.

**Friday Night:** Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, increasing clouds, with a low around 64. Southwest wind 5 to 10 mph.

**Saturday:** Patchy fog. Otherwise, cloudy, with a high near 74. Light south southeast wind becoming south southwest 5 to 10 mph.

**Saturday Night:** Cloudy, with a low around 66.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
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
2026/07/12	Sun	1:41 PM	2.39	L
2026/07/12	Sun	8:10 PM	7.12	H
2026/07/13	Mon	03:39 AM	-1.56	L
2026/07/13	Mon	10:12 AM	3.92	H
2026/07/13	Mon	2:38 PM	2.22	L

## Daily Lottery

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

<p>Draw Date: 7/8 12 29 37 43 55 Power#: 18 Jackpot: 457 M</p>	<p>Draw Date: 7/8 11 23 25 28 36</p>
<p>Draw Date: 7/7 2 31 35 36 63 Mega#: 12 Jackpot: 604 M</p>	<p>Draw Date: 7/8 EVENING: 2 2 6 Draw Date: 7/8 MIDDAY: 1 3 1</p>
<p>Draw Date: 7/8 18 22 28 33 38 Mega#: 15 Jackpot: 36 M</p>	<p>Draw Date: 7/8 1st: 11 - Money Bags 2nd: 04 - Big Ben 3rd: 05 - California Classic Race Time: 1:45.68</p>

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Santa Monica Daily Press

## GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

# California ponders a fundamental question: Should voting be easier or harder?

There is a problem with elections in California and Los Angeles. It's just not the one you think.

For some, the issue is fraud. Lengthy ballot counts, ending in elections won by Democrats, strike those critics as prima facie evidence that results are being manipulated. They have no evidence, mind you, but they don't like the outcome, so they assume chicanery.

What should offend the public, however, is not false charges of fraud but real evidence of voter indifference. In the 2024 presidential election, with California's own Kamala Harris running against Donald Trump, less than 60% of the state's eligible voters bothered to cast a ballot. That's a problem: Low turnout undermines electoral legitimacy by producing outcomes that large numbers of people — sometimes local majorities —

don't necessarily support.

Turnout is still being tabulated in the June gubernatorial race and Los Angeles mayoral election, but even those hotly contested primaries failed to entice eligible residents, especially younger voters of color. Barely 38% of registered voters in L.A. County cast ballots last month, according to preliminary data.

This year offers a series of opportunities for Californians to consider their voting principles and whether they should enlarge or constrain participation.

Those who seek to restrict the vote have qualified a measure for the November ballot that would require would-be voters to produce a government-issued ID card if voting in person, or to supply the last four digits of such an ID on their mail-in ballot. If Proposition 39 passes, fewer people might vote, which in theory would help

more conservative candidates win.

At the other end of the debate are those who seek to expand the franchise. They have already found success in San Francisco, where certain residents without legal status can vote in school board races. That 2016 measure, which later had to fight its way through the courts, is grounded in the notion that voting should be open to those who care about a place, rather than as a reward of citizenship.

A similar measure ran aground in Los Angeles recently, but will almost certainly be back on the civic agenda soon.

The common thread is a serious disagreement in California about who should vote and in which elections. Here, then, are a few issues and observations.

## THE EFFECTS OF WIDER PARTICIPATION

First, long counts are a natural result of the state favoring participation. It is a reflection of local leaders — and their constituents — backing a process that makes it easier to vote.

The Supreme Court recently validated that choice, upholding election rules that permit ballots postmarked by Election Day to be counted as much as a week later. That ruling, incidentally, upheld the voting system of deep red Mississippi, which adopted a process that is similar to California's — a reminder that voting does not have to be a matter of partisan disagreement.

Second, noncitizen voting redefines participation. It is expressly prohibited in

federal elections and in nearly 20 states. But many localities have permitted it in the past, and in recent years Vermont, Maryland, Washington D.C. and California have authorized noncitizens to vote in local races if those jurisdictions approve it.

When the idea was floated this year for some local races in Los Angeles, the usual suspects breathed fire, claiming that L.A. was on the verge of letting "illegal aliens" flood voting rolls. As usual, those claims were false. The measure would have let L.A. voters authorize legal, noncitizen residents — green card holders, for example — participate in elections for city council or school board.

Councilman Hugo Soto-Martinez championed the idea. He and others contended that opening the franchise to legal, noncitizen residents would recognize the real interest that taxpaying legal immigrants have in city or school board races.

There's room for disagreement, but the point is worth considering. A green card holder who has lived and worked in Los Angeles for years and who has children in Los Angeles schools surely has a greater stake in education matters than a recent transplant without kids. If the theory of voting is to let "stakeholders" participate, then noncitizen voting makes sense.

After seeming poised to head to the November ballot, however, Soto-Martinez

SEE VOTING PAGE 8



## NOTICE OF ELECTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT a General Municipal Election will be held in the City of Santa Monica on Tuesday, November 3, 2026, for the following officers:

For three (3) members of the City Council	Full term of four (4) years
For three (3) members of the Rent Control Board	Full term of four (4) years
For four (4) members of the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Board of Education	Full term of four (4) years
For four (4) members of the Santa Monica Community College District Board of Trustees	Full term of four (4) years

The Nomination Period for these offices begins on July 13, 2026, and closes on August 7, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. One Candidate Workshop will be held on July 13 at 10:00 a.m. at City Hall, in the Council Chamber where Nomination Packets will be issued. Candidates unable to attend the workshop must make appointments to pick up Nomination Packets after the workshop. Available appointment dates/times will be posted at [santamonica.gov/elections/2026-11-03](http://santamonica.gov/elections/2026-11-03) on July 6\* when City Clerk staff will begin taking appointments.

If Nomination Papers for an incumbent officer are not filed by August 7, 2026, the voters shall have until the 83d day before the election, August 12, 2026, to nominate candidates other than the person who is the incumbent, for that incumbent's elective office.

If no one or only one person is nominated for an elective office, appointment to the elective office may be made as prescribed by Section 10229, Elections Code of the State of California.

The polls will be open on November 3, 2026 between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.

/s/Denise Anderson-Warren, Interim City Clerk July 6, 2026



## NOTIFICACION DE LA ELECCIÓN

POR LA PRESENTE SE DA AVISO de que se habrá de llevar a cabo una Elección Municipal General en la Ciudad de Santa Mónica el martes, 3 de noviembre de 2026, para los siguientes funcionarios:

Para tres (3) miembros del Concejo Municipal	Período completo de cuatro (4) años
Para tres (3) miembros de la Junta del Control de Alquileres	Período completo de cuatro (4) años
Para cuatro (4) miembros del Distrito Escolar Unificado de Santa Mónica-Malibu	Período completo de cuatro (4) años
Para cuatro (4) miembros de la Junta de Síndicos del distrito de la comunidad universitaria de Santa Mónica	Período completo de cuatro (4) años

El período de nominación para estas oficinas comienza el 13 de julio de 2026 y cierra el 7 de agosto de 2026 a las 5:00 p.m. El 13 de julio de 2026 a las 10:00 a.m. se llevará a cabo un taller de candidatos en el ayuntamiento, en la sala del Consejo, donde se emitirán los documentos de nominación. Se les alienta a los candidatos potenciales que no pueden asistir al taller, que se comuniquen con la Oficina de la Secretaria Municipal para programar una cita para recoger los documentos de nominación. Las citas disponibles se publicarán en [santamonica.gov/elections/2026-11-03](http://santamonica.gov/elections/2026-11-03) el 6 de julio momento en el cual la Oficina de la Secretaria Municipal comenzará a tomar citas.

Si los papeles de nominación para un oficial titular no son presentados para el 7 de agosto de 2026, los votantes tendrán hasta 83 días antes de la elección, el 12 de agosto de 2026, para nominar otros candidatos que no sean la persona que es el titular, para la oficina electiva del titular.

Si no se nombra a nadie o solamente a una persona para un cargo electivo, se puede realizar el nombramiento al cargo elegido según lo prescrito por la Sección 10229 del Código Electoral del Estado de California.

Los centros electorales estarán abiertos el 3 de noviembre de 2026 entre las 7:00 am. y 8:00 pm.

/f/Denise Anderson-Warren, Secretaria Municipal Interino Fecha: 6 de julio de 2026

**BUDGET**

FROM PAGE 2

of what 20 local fire departments pay.

**HOW MUCH DO THEY COST?**

The bill that would allow police and firefighters to retire earlier carries the biggest potential cost, requiring an additional \$282 million in annual contributions to the California Public Employees' Retirement system and increasing its long-term liabilities by \$4.8 billion.

Its price tag would increase if cities, counties and other local government agencies agree to offer more generous pension formulas to police and firefighters, as the bill would allow. If that happens, CalPERS estimates it would cost an additional \$353 million in annual contributions and further swell the fund's long-term debt.

Those estimates do not account for the 20 county-run pension systems that are separate from CalPERS.

The potential costs are one reason California cities and counties oppose the measure. "We do definitely support strong retirement benefits, but those benefits must remain sustainable and fiscally responsible for our local agencies," Johnnie Pina, a lobbyist for the League of California Cities, said at a recent Senate hearing.

It's less clear what the other two measures will cost.

Supporters of the bill that would give CHP officers and Cal Fire firefighters access to an alternate retirement investment program during their last five years of service say it is intended to be cost neutral, although similar plans offered by cities and counties have driven up expenses. The bill requires CalPERS to assess the program every five years, which union representatives say would allow lawmakers to make adjustments if they see unintended drawbacks.

The measure that would nudge Newsom to raise pay for Cal Fire firefighters has an uncertain cost because it's written in a way that would allow flexibility for the governor's office.

It encourages the governor to bargain "in good faith" toward bringing Cal Fire compensation closer to what local governments pay, but does not mandate it. A 2023 state compensation survey found that local fire departments pay firefighters between 11% and 29% more than Cal Fire.

"Instead of being the lowest paid, we will inevitably be somewhere in the middle" if the bill becomes law, firefighter union lobbyist Terry McHale told lawmakers at a hearing earlier this year.

Last year, Newsom rejected a similar measure that was more explicit in demanding an increase in Cal Fire pay. Newsom wrote in a veto message that it would "create significant cost pressures for the state and circumvent the collective bargaining process." Officials estimate it would have cost between \$373 million and \$609 million in its first year.

Cal Fire's firefighter union essentially wants what only one other group of state workers has: Raises based on what other government agencies pay. CHP officers receive annual raises based on what several other large California police departments pay; every other state worker union has to negotiate compensation with the governor.

**WHAT WILL NEWSOM DO?**

All three measures face a major obstacle later this month in the Senate Appropriations Committee, which has the power to sideline

bills over cost concerns. If they clear that committee, the bills have a good chance of reaching Newsom's desk.

At the most recent hearing, lawmakers said increasing incentives to recruit and retain first responders was so important that they'd cut other programs to make room for the additional spending. They commended emergency personnel who rushed to a chemical spill in Orange County in May not knowing if the danger would harm them.

"I still get goosebumps for these firefighters and their families that had to know that they're that they're they were putting their lives online to save that explosion from happening, which they actually end up doing," Sen. Tony Strickland, a Republican representing Huntington Beach, said at the hearing.

"You can't put a price tag on that," he said.

**“I still get goosebumps for these firefighters and their families that had to know that they’re that they’re they were putting their lives online to save that explosion from happening, which they actually end up doing”**  
- Tony Strickland, Sen.

The unions have also been a steady presence in the Capitol throughout Newsom's tenure. Firefighter unions have contributed \$6.2 million to lawmakers and legislative campaigns since 2019 and the law enforcement organization known as PORAC has spent \$4.5 million over that time, according to CalMatters Digital Democracy database.

They've also been reliable allies to Newsom. California Professional Firefighters and the California Correctional Peace Officers Association were two of the largest donors in helping the governor defeat a 2021 recall campaign.

But the unions' support for Newsom and other lawmakers doesn't guarantee that he'll sign the bills. Newsom was mayor of San Francisco during the Great Recession, and he backed a successful ballot measure that required city employees to put more of their own money toward their pensions.

Adam Ashton, CalMatters Deputy Editor

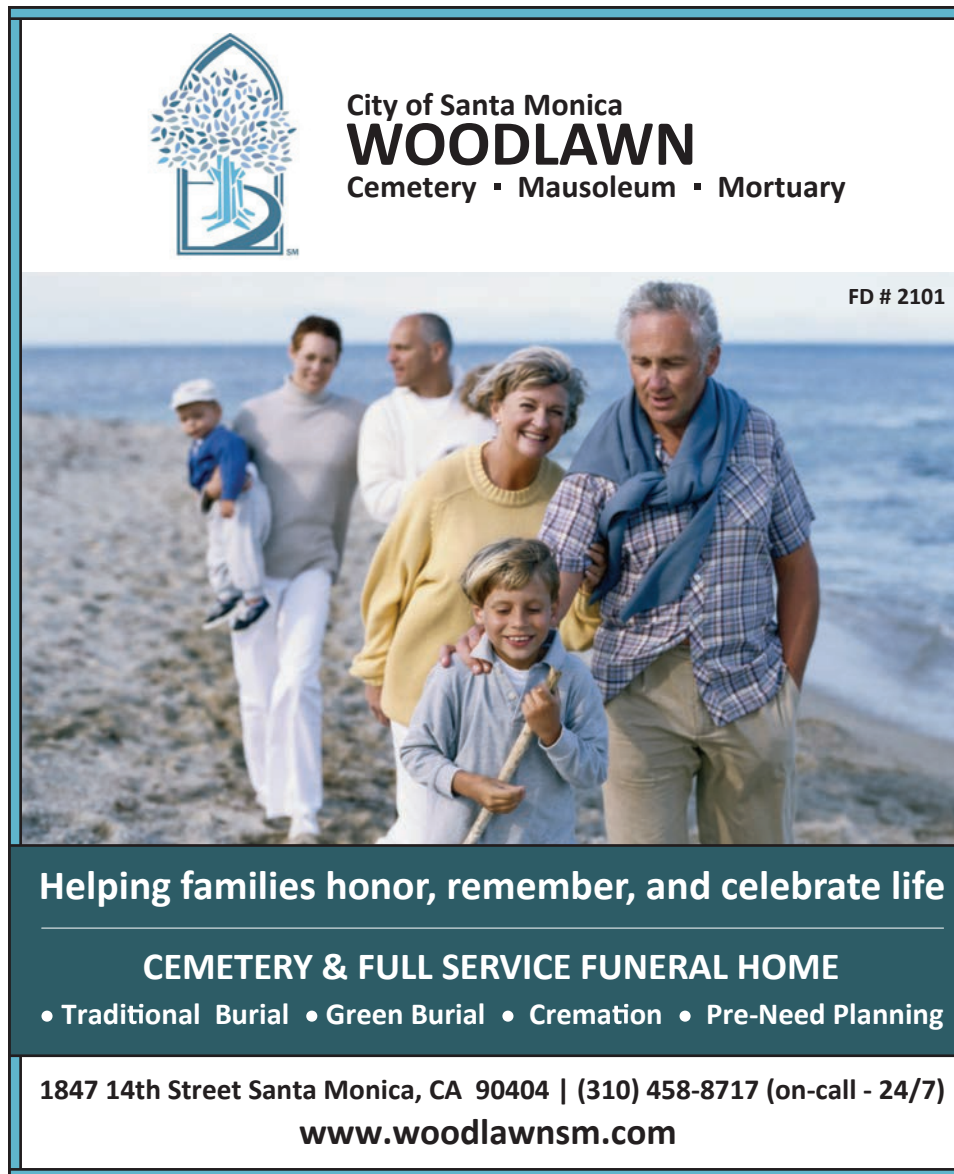


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**City of Santa Monica** NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING  
BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA PLANNING COMMISSION

**SUBJECT:** Planning Commission recommendation to the City Council regarding amendments to the Santa Monica Land Use and Circulation Plan (LUCE), Bergamot Area Plan (BAP), 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, Bergamot Area Plan (BAP), 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://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.

**TOURISM**

FROM PAGE 1

Santa Monica remains at 50% of historic highs. Today we cover the economic value of tourism.

**FEWER VISITORS MEANS LOWER HOTEL TAX REVENUES**

Santa Monica's recovery strategy rests heavily on Transient Occupancy Tax revenue, the 15% levy on overnight hotel stays that flows directly into the city's General Fund and represents one of its single largest revenue sources. In 2025, the City of Santa Monica generated \$54.4 million in Transient Occupancy Tax, a 13.2% decrease from the \$62.7 million generated in 2024.

The decline in revenue comes as there are actually more hotel rooms available. All hotels and rooms that had been under renovation over the previous three years fully reopened by 2025, bringing the city's annual room supply up 4% compared to 2024.

Santa Monica now has 4,189 total rooms and units available daily, including 3,936 hotel and motel rooms across 36 properties and 253 beds at the International Hostel. Over the course of the year, that translates to a total annual supply of 1,608,329 available rooms.

Despite the increased supply, the citywide occupancy rate dipped to 72.3% in 2025, down from 75% in 2024, leaving a vacancy rate of 27.7%.

**INTERNATIONAL VISITORS CARRY THE LOAD**

The principal driver of 2025's spending gains was the continued growth of international visitation. International travelers now account for 50% of all Santa Monica visitors, up from 44% in 2024 and just 24% in 2023 — a dramatic compositional shift in who is actually coming to the city.

Those visitors are also significantly more lucrative. International visitors spent an average of \$212 per person per day in 2025, compared to \$158 for domestic U.S. visitors. Their combined total spending reached \$601.9 million — 60% of all visitor spending — up 28% from \$470.9 million in 2024.

The flip side of that equation played out in the domestic numbers. U.S. visitor volume fell 17% from 2024, to 1.95 million from 2.36 million, and their total spending dropped 11% to \$394.8 million despite a modest per-capita increase. The study attributed the domestic decline partly to high U.S. travel costs motivating American travelers to go abroad rather than stay home.

**THE DAY-TRIPPER DILEMMA**

One of the more persistent structural features of Santa Monica's tourism economy is its overwhelming preponderance of day visitors — people who arrive, spend part of the day, and leave without staying overnight. In 2025, 88% of all visitors were day visitors, up from 84% in 2024 and 77% in 2023. The trend line is moving in a direction that creates challenges for the city's hotel-heavy tax base.

The contrast in economic contribution between the two groups is stark. Day visitors accounted for 88% of total visitor volume but generated only 27% of total visitor spending. Hotel guests, averaging \$445 per person per day compared to \$78 for day visitors, are far and away more economically valuable per person to the city.

Hotel guest numbers fell sharply, dropping

21% to 422,800 from 534,800 in 2024. The decline had a pronounced effect on tax revenue to the city. Visitor-generated lodging and retail sales taxes fell 10% to \$60.2 million, with transient occupancy tax — the city's primary tourism-related revenue stream — declining 13% to \$54.4 million. The tax equivalent contributed by visitors amounted to \$1,267 per Santa Monica household, down from \$1,441 in 2024.

**INFLATION DRIVES SPENDING**

Against that backdrop of stubborn volume decline, the spending picture offers mixed results. Total direct visitor spending reached \$996.6 million in 2025, a 9% increase over the \$916.6 million recorded in 2024, driven by a 19% spike in overall per-capita daily spending to \$187 from \$156.

However, that spending is driven largely by inflation driving increases in prices. Adjusted for inflation, real visitor spending in 2025 totaled \$290.8 million — compared to a real-dollar peak of \$766.6 million in 2017. In practical terms, the city is collecting more nominal dollars from far fewer visitors spending far less in inflation-adjusted terms than it once did.

When combined with indirect and induced spending, the total economic impact of Santa Monica tourism reached approximately \$1.3 billion in 2025, up from \$1.19 billion in 2024.

**REPEAT VISITATION DECLINING**

Another dimension of the industry's long-term challenges is the declining share of visitors who have been to Santa Monica before. In 2025, 70% of visitors were in the city for the first time — up from 65% in 2024 and 51% in 2023. The report tied the rise in first-timers directly to the increase in long-haul international arrivals, who are less likely to have visited previously.

Among the diminishing pool of repeat visitors, those who had been to Santa Monica before averaged 3.2 prior trips in the past three years, up from 2.6 in 2024. But the overall visitor base is becoming increasingly composed of people experiencing the destination for the first time, a mix that carries implications for spending patterns, brand loyalty, and long-term visitation stability.

The report noted that satisfaction ratings, while generally high, declined across most measured categories from 2024 to 2025, including overall destination satisfaction, value for money, and authentic shopping experiences. Among past visitors rating their impression of Santa Monica compared to prior visits, 19% said the city had gotten worse — the third consecutive year that figure has risen.

Among past visitors to Santa Monica, 19.2% said their impression of the city had worsened since their last visit. Of those, 60.8% cited an increase in homelessness, while 43.7% pointed to worsening traffic and congestion and 43.3% said the city feels less safe. Cost was a factor for 41.7%, who said Santa Monica has become too expensive, and 32% said the area was dirtier than they remembered. Smaller shares flagged parking availability (18%), a less vibrant atmosphere (17.7%), fewer new things to see and do (13.3%), an unwelcoming feel (9.6%), overcrowding (7.1%) and a lack of new restaurants (6.9%).

editor@smdp.com

**ADVERTISE WITH US TODAY!**

**FIBER**

FROM PAGE 1

and organizers say all fiber clubs, fiber artists and their friends and family are welcome. Attendees are encouraged to bring a project, a snack to share and the usual beach gear, such as sunscreen, chairs and umbrellas. Games, prizes and snacks will be provided.

Parking on Temescal Canyon is free, and a paid beach lot that accepts credit cards is also available. There are several beach restrooms nearby, along with a hot-food stand called Beach Side Cafe, Kavros said.

The gathering grew out of a private tradition. Kavros founded a low-key Los Angeles crochet club a few years ago and has thrown a party with games and prizes twice a year ever since. This year, when she asked members where to hold their midyear celebration, the group voted for the beach over a Mid-City park.

"Since I won't have to borrow chairs from my neighbors and figure out how to fill over a dozen people into one room in my apartment, I decided to open the invitation to all fiber clubs and artists," she said.

Kavros is the founder of Remy A Crafty Hedgehog, a small, woman-owned business focused on fiber craft and whimsy. A Santa Monica native, she competes in crochet competitions, sells her pieces and patterns, and teaches the craft to others. She has taught with the Santa Monica Library, demonstrated at the Los Angeles County Fair and is a member of the Greater Los Angeles Spinning Guild, where she is learning to spin yarn. With her husband, Andrew, she also produces stop-motion videos featuring her crochet.

Her path into organizing began with a feeling she has been chasing ever since. After attending her first LA Yarn Crawl, she said, she was left in tears at the end of the weekend, having spent three days among people who shared her craft.

"I felt like I finally found my people. I felt so seen. And I wasn't ready for that feeling to end," she said.

That desire to recreate the experience led her to start her club, which she launched by reaching out to strangers on Reddit. She

found that while Los Angeles has many knitting groups, crochet clubs were scarce, and the idea drew an enthusiastic response. Since the first meeting, the club has gathered across the city, taking field trips to museum fiber exhibits and carpooling to yarn crawls. It charges no fees and requires no attendance.

Kavros hopes the beach event helps counter what she describes as a lonely side of a popular hobby. Fiber arts, she said, can be isolating because the work is fundamentally solitary, even in a group.

"Even when we are all sitting together we are each making something alone and simply sitting beside someone doing the same," she said, adding that many makers stay tethered to their couches simply because packing up supplies feels daunting.

She sees gatherings like this one as a chance to build a "third place" where adults can form friendships that are otherwise hard to make, especially among those who work remotely. She said she hopes a first-time attendee who arrives alone leaves feeling understood, and perhaps with the phone number of a nearby crafter and plans to meet for coffee.

Prizes for the event are sponsored in part by Yarn Over Hook, a free social platform for crocheters that Kavros works with as a co-host of the weekly YouTube show "Stitches!" The two are also leading Summer Stash Bash, a drive to crochet 1,000 soap sacks, fill each with a bar of soap and donate them to local charities. Kavros said the effort blew past its goal at the halfway point.

"We are so excited to sponsor prizes for LA Fiber Clubs Beach Takeover, crochet community is what we are all about at Yarn Over Hook," said Sammi, head of video production and lead instructor with Yarn Over Hook. "We strive to offer digital connection to crochet artists around the world, and anytime that can happen in the real world we are all for it!"

Kavros said she hopes the takeover becomes an annual tradition. Additional details are posted on Instagram at @remyacraftyhedgehog.

maaz@smdp.com

**EDUCATION**

FROM PAGE 3

and schools by introducing a significant governance change that is both unnecessary and counterproductive," the powerful union wrote in a statement before AB 181's approval. "This proposal does nothing to improve student outcomes or strengthen public education."

For decades, the teachers association and other education unions have easily gotten their favored candidates for state superintendent elected. And those chosen officials have faithfully echoed the unions' position that the key to increasing outcomes is allocating more money.

School funding has increased sharply since the turn of the century, but test scores have not followed suit. Some categories, such as elementary school reading levels, remain embarrassingly low.

The first hint that change was on the table came late last year, when Policy Analysis for California Education, a consortium of education faculty at five major universities, issued a lengthy critique of the current system. The report said California's complicated mélange of

state and local authority "often results in overlapping responsibilities, fragmented authority, and challenges in ensuring streamlined decision-making."

By design, the consortium's recommendations closely resembled Newsom's proposal and the final legislation.

The obvious question is if streamlining education governance and making the governor accountable, at least on paper, for academic outcomes will merely rearrange chairs on a sinking ship, or actually generate more achievement for the \$25,000-plus that the new state budget will be spending on each public school student.

California's education establishment has been reluctant to change its mantra that more money is needed to boost results and equally reluctant to embrace improvements in instructional techniques, such as using phonics to upgrade elementary reading ability.

The onus will be on Newsom's successor, most likely Xavier Becerra, to become the new schools sheriff in town.

Dan Walters, CalMatters Opinion Columnist



**SANTA MONICA  
LANDMARKS COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING  
SANTA MONICA CITY HALL**

**DATE/TIME:** Monday, July 13, 2026, 7:00 PM

**LOCATION:** Council Chambers, (wheelchair accessible)  
Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main Street, Room 250

**DISCUSSION ITEMS:****Mills Act Contracts**

Review and possible recommendation to the City Council to enter into a Mills Act contract for the following properties:

- 325 Georgina Avenue
- 1355 Third Street Promenade/301 Santa Monica Boulevard
- 2623 3rd Street

**1355 Third Street Promenade- Digital Billboard**

Review and provide non-binding comments regarding the following request:

A proposed Development Agreement for the installation and operation of a new, full motion LED digital billboard that would be installed on the upper-level façade of the existing building at 1355 Third Street Promenade (the Project). The digital billboard will be approximately 1,000 square feet and will display paid on-premise and off-premise advertising and community content including civic announcements, community interest content, public safety information, public art programming, events information, and local business spotlights.

More information is available online at <https://www.smgov.net/Departments/PCD/Boards-Commissions/Landmarks-Commission/> (en Espanol tambien at (310) 458-2201 ext. 2431#).

The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. Those wishing to give written public comment shall email comments to [planningcomment@santamonica.gov](mailto:planningcomment@santamonica.gov). Comments received **prior to 12 p.m.** on the day of the meeting will be distributed to the Landmarks Commission prior to the meeting and posted online. Please note the agenda item in your comments.

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.

**TRANSLATION SERVICE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST.** Please contact [planning@santamonica.gov](mailto:planning@santamonica.gov) at least 72 hours prior to the scheduled meeting.

**SERVICIO DE TRADUCCIÓN DISPONIBLE A PEDIDO.** Comuníquese al [planning@santamonica.gov](mailto:planning@santamonica.gov) al menos 72 horas antes de la reunión programada.

**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](mailto:ana.fernandez@santamonica.gov)

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# Classifieds

## DBA

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2026135671. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: BROT DONER, 1348 3RD STREET PROMENADE, SANTA MONICA, CA 90401, County of Los Angeles. Registered Owner(s): BROT SANTA MONICA LLC, 1348 3RD STREET PROMENADE, SANTA MONICA, CA 90401. 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/ TURGAY OZDEMIR, MANAGER. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 06/22/2026. 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: 07/03/2026, 07/10/2026, 07/17/2026, 07/24/2026

## Name change

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 26SMCP00270. Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, 1725 Main Street, Santa Monica, 90401. Petition of Jesus Alberto Hernandez Martinez for Change of Name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner Jesus Alberto Hernandez Martinez filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Jesus Alberto Hernandez Martinez to Jesus Alberto Hernandez. 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: 06/05/2026. Lawrence H. Cho, Judge of the Superior Court. SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS Publish: 06/19/2026, 06/26/2026, 07/03/2026, 07/10/2026

## Auction Notice

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION – ABANDONED PERSONAL PROPERTY

Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to California Civil Code §§1983-1991, Government Code §6066, and other applicable California statutes, the personal property listed below is believed to be abandoned by Aram Avagyan dba Whiskey Park, and all other owners, occupants, partners, tenants and/or subtenants, located at 2136 Colorado Blvd #A, Los Angeles, CA 90041. The property will be sold at public auction by John Cheng, offered in one or more lots through a competitive online public auction facilitated by MEGA Auctions, to be conducted on Thursday, July 23, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. via online public auction. Auction access : WWW.MEGAAUCTIONS.NET Items to be sold are to include but are not limited to: Restaurant furniture inc. tables, chairs, bar stools, booth seating, sideboards, display shelving, lighting fixtures, stanchions, signage

## DBA

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2026126183. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: WELLNEZZ-ZOBRA HEMPHILL-WARD, LMFT, 3231 OCEAN PARK BLVD STE 115, SANTA MONICA, CA 90405, County of Los Angeles. Registered Owner(s): ZOBRA HEMPHILL-WARD, MARRIAGE & FAMILY THERAPIST, PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION, 3231 OCEAN PARK BLVD STE 115, SANTA MONICA, CA 90405. This business is conducted by: a Corporation. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 05/2026. 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/ ZOBRA HEMPHILL-WARD, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 06/09/2026. 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: 07/03/2026, 07/10/2026, 07/17/2026, 07/24/2026

## Name change

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 26SMCP002279. Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles. Petition of Danae Paige Rico for Change of Name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner Danae Paige Rico filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Danae Paige Rico to Paige Wells Rico. 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: 08/07/2026, Time: 8:30AM, Dept: K. The address of the court is Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles. 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: 06/11/2026. LAWRENCE H. CHO, Judge of the Superior Court. SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS Publish: 06/19/2026, 06/26/2026, 07/03/2026, 07/10/2026

## DBA

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2026147834. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: COOKIEBOOKIE\_LA, 1228 14TH STREET UNIT 107, SANTA MONICA, CA 90404, County of Los Angeles. Registered Owner(s): GHAZAL JANGALI, 1228 14TH STREET UNIT 107, SANTA MONICA, CA 90404. 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/ GHAZAL JANGALI, OWNER. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 07/08/2026. 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: 07/10/2026, 07/17/2026, 07/24/2026, 07/31/2026

## Name change

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 26SMCP00288. Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, 1725 Main Street, Room 102, Santa Monica, CA 90401. Petition of Amanda Lizzette Moulin-Cortes for Change of Name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner Amanda Lizzette Moulin-Cortes filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Amanda Lizzette Moulin-Cortes to Amanda Young. 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: 08/07/2026, Time: 8:30 AM, Dept: K. The address of the court is the 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: 06/18/2026. Lawrence H. Cho, Judge of the Superior Court. SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS Publish: 06/26/2026, 07/03/2026, 07/10/2026, 07/17/2026.

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## VOTING

FROM PAGE 4

pulled the measure at the last minute, conceding that it had riled some Black leaders, who worry about the effects on representation in their communities. The idea will certainly return.

Meanwhile, it's a reminder that these are tough issues, with sometimes unexpected ramifications.

### LOSING IS NOT EVIDENCE OF FRAUD

Third, losing elections is not evidence — much less proof — of fraud.

On June 10, the Dodgers were ahead 6-1 in the 7th inning against the Pittsburgh Pirates. The Dodgers blew the lead and lost 9-8. It must have been rigged! The Dodgers were the better team on paper, and they had the lead.

Fraud! Recount!

That's ridiculous, of course. Sometimes a lead slips away. That's why baseball teams play all nine innings.

To state the obvious, that's true in elections, too. Losers like to complain, and that's been the case in both the state and Los Angeles elections this summer. President Trump responded to Spencer Pratt's defeat in the L.A. mayoral race by claiming, predictably, that the election was "rigged."

Trump's a well-documented liar, so it hardly bears noting, but there was no evidence whatsoever that the city's elections were rigged. Ballots were

counted as they arrived, and though they arrived slowly, they were lawfully tallied and logged.

The late-arriving ballots skewed more liberal than in-person votes, as is typical, given that younger, working, more liberal people take more advantage of California mail-in options. The Democratic skew was even more pronounced in this cycle, as many Democrats waited until the end to choose between Tom Steyer and Xavier Becerra in the governor's race.

The state balloting ultimately settled on Becerra and Republican Steve Hilton as the top-two finishers (hardly what you would expect if Democrats were manipulating the process). The Los Angeles count put incumbent Mayor Karen Bass on top, with City Councilmember Nithya Raman finishing second (again, not the outcome preferred by Bass, who was hoping to run against the hapless Pratt).

Those results don't reflect rigging — they reflect math. Becerra's finish in the gubernatorial primary is no more evidence of fraud than Wyoming's history of electing Republicans.

The United States has a voting problem, but it's not the one Trump likes to mawl about. Federal, state and local elections are not marred by widespread fraud. Illegal immigrants are not casting ballots. The real problem is that too few people participate, not too many.

Jim Newton, CalMatters Contributor

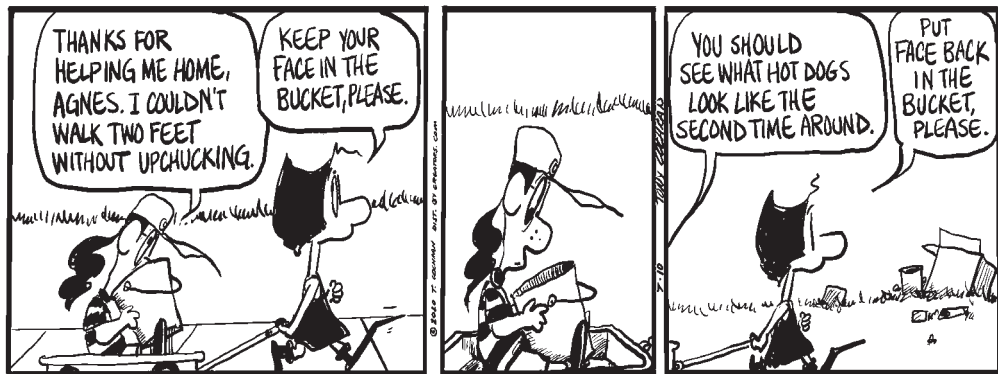


Photo by Salvador Ochoa for CalMatters

**CHICO:** A voter receives their ballot at Chico State's Bell Memorial Union in Chico on June 2, 2026.

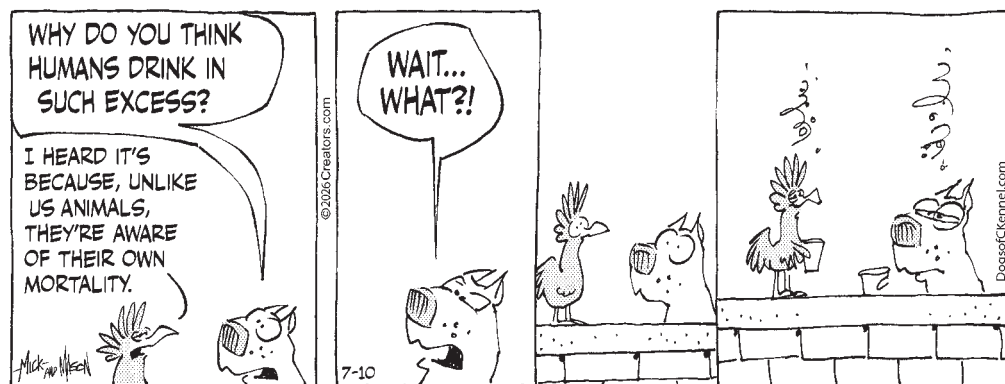
**Agnes**

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

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**In for a service**

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

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| Bond        | Disc       | Mats     | Skid       |
| Boot        | Door       | Mid-life | Suitable   |
| Brakes      | Engine     | crisis   | Torn       |
| Broken      | Four-wheel | Oils     | Used       |
| Bumper      | drive      | Pedal    | Utes       |
| Bush        | Fuel       | Pins     | Valve      |
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**TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (July 10)**

It's your Year of the Kalpavriksha. In Hindu tradition, the Kalpavriksha is a divine tree associated with abundance and fulfilled wishes. A single good decision branches into opportunities you couldn't have predicted at the start. Age-old family tensions ease, beginning a harmonious era. Your energy returns in a way that makes life feel bigger and more inviting. Luxury entirely suited to you. More highlights: Sagittarius and Pisces adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 5, 20, 24, 15 and 7.

**HOROSCOPES**

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19). You're about to share something when a small voice says: "Hold up! Take one more look." Heed it for best results. Double and triple check. Polish will make a big difference in the reception.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20). Someone relays an idea. Someone else relays the same idea. The idea won't be accepted equally from these two sources. Bias is always in effect. If your message isn't getting through, consider whether it needs a different messenger.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 21). An attractive someone presents a bit of a mystery. Don't try to solve it too quickly. You wouldn't skip to the last page of a good story. The pleasure comes from watching the character reveal themselves one chapter at a time.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22). When what you're doing really matters, it still matters whether others know you did it or not. When the work is inherently important like this, it doesn't need publicity or praise, it just needs to happen.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22). You reach out expecting an exchange that's short and sweet and end up talking for an hour. Your easy vibe together is no accident. It was built through years of shared experiences, small kindnesses and mutual trust.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Don't strive. No reason to believe you should be anywhere but where you are. Status is an illusion. What appears to be higher is really just a different way to be at the same elevation. And anyway, higher isn't better.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You've already read the article, lived through the experience, tested the process, sat through the meeting or learned the lesson. Now someone else wants the distilled version. Because what often helps the most is not a high volume of information, it's a few points that truly matter.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). It's as though you're pulled in and out of a relationship by a tide that's too strong to successfully fight against. Still, the struggle is always an option. You'll find more peace in accepting the ebb and flow than in trying to control it.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). It doesn't matter how old you are. Today's energy has a way of bringing out the younger version of everyone. People stay out longer, laugh harder, take chances and forget the practicalities. A little mischief is good for the soul.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). It will take creativity to solve today's problem. The real dilemma isn't: "Do I have good ideas?" It's: "Am I shutting them down before they've had a chance to become something?" Go for numbers. Quality will be the byproduct of quantity.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You'll bring a little levity to an otherwise serious discourse. In the spirit of fun, you'll make a new friend. Humor has a way of skipping introductions and creating instant familiarity.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20). In theory, someone should only be able to hurt your feelings once. But feelings don't obey that rule. People hurt us repeatedly even when we can predict them. You'd rather risk it than never give anyone another chance.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

**Newsday Crossword**

**UNWET** by Ron Ammirante  
Edited by Stanley Newman  
www.stanxwords.com

**ACROSS**

- 1 Energy source
- 4 Rio beach
- 8 India-born director
- 12 Draft pick
- 13 Reaches a peak, with "out"
- 14 Other than those
- 15 \_\_\_ water
- 18 Palm fruit
- 19 Place for a pin
- 20 Hwy. crime
- 21 Horse hue
- 22 Water \_\_\_
- 26 HS department
- 28 Winter coat
- 29 Jack up
- 30 Solar wind particle
- 31 It means "green"
- 33 Very small
- 37 Alternate puzzle title
- 42 Nickname akin to Liz
- 43 Shortened "up to"
- 44 Japanese chip maker
- 45 Tolled
- 48 Word on a Hawaiian cocktail menu
- 50 Takeout menu eponym
- 51 \_\_\_ water
- 56 Charlie's role-playing granddaughter
- 57 AL West team
- 58 Afro-Cuban dance
- 61 The last of *Lear*
- 62 Water \_\_\_
- 65 What might be found around a tree

- 66 Convent complex
- 67 Root word
- 68 Epsom salts amts.
- 69 Potter's purchase
- 70 Instrument inventor

**DOWN**

- 1 Big house in Britain
- 2 Fiat sister brand, for short
- 3 Tense tennis moments
- 4 Informal lunchroom
- 5 Stain remover brand
- 6 Lost in Paris
- 7 Intrinsically
- 8 Prohibition potation
- 9 Tire rim giant

- 10 Noah descendant
- 11 Touch up, as a tat
- 13 *Sopranos* analyst
- 16 Mag mogul's nickname
- 17 South Seas amulet
- 23 Dell rival
- 24 Retro design style
- 25 Abbreviated agenda
- 26 Calculator key
- 27 Well-composed
- 32 Vote (for)
- 34 Entertainment consoles
- 35 Hero followers
- 36 Bottle opener brand
- 38 Radio's domain
- 39 Mars or Mercury,

- long ago
- 40 Nickname for Ernesto
- 41 Scandinavian saint
- 46 Court plea, in brief
- 47 Pink jelly ingredients
- 49 Restless
- 51 Immodest claim
- 52 Attractions close to Inverness
- 53 Above all others
- 54 Karate derivative
- 55 Earth agitator
- 59 Fancy fundraiser
- 60 What many get a charge out of
- 63 Driving-home reward
- 64 Word on the Mideast metropolis list

**Sudoku**

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

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.

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

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	
68						69						70	

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07/10/26

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

## MOVIE

FROM PAGE 1

description. After the pair make several hit films together, they break up — only to be forced back into each other's orbit to complete a high-profile project featuring volatile movie stars.

The film's cast includes Penélope Cruz, Owen Wilson, Jude Law, Tony Hale, Kieran Culkin, Beverly D'Angelo, Erin Doherty and Apple Martin. Meyers, whose credits include "Private Benjamin," "Baby Boom," "Father of the Bride," "The Parent Trap," "Something's Gotta Give," "The Holiday," "It's Complicated" and "The Intern," is directing.

### A HISTORY BEFORE THE CAMERAS

The Miramar's relationship with Hollywood dates back nearly 80 years. The hotel appeared in the 1946 film noir "The Blue Dahlia," and went on to serve as a location for "Let's Make It Legal" (1951), "That Touch of Mink" (1962), "Hold On!" (1966) and the 2007 legal thriller "Fracture."

Its small-screen resume is even longer. The hotel has appeared in episodes of "Columbo," "Starsky and Hutch," "Simon & Simon," "Knots Landing," "Entourage" and "Denise Richards: It's Complicated," along with "Dallas," "Dynasty," "Hart to Hart," "Remington Steele," "Moonlighting," "Parenthood," "90210," "Modern Family," "Giuliana & Bill," "Numb3rs" and "Project Runway."

### A NEW PERMITTING SYSTEM BEHIND THE SCENES

The production arrives as Santa Monica settles into a new system for handling film permits. Film Santa Monica, a division of Santa Monica Travel and Tourism, took over permitting duties after the City Council awarded it a three-year contract last year, ending the city's longstanding arrangement with FilmLA, the nonprofit that has coordinated permitting across much of Los Angeles County since 1995. The city had outsourced the function to FilmLA since 2013 due to the volume and complexity of requests.

Santa Monica Travel and Tourism is a private nonprofit established in 1982 to promote the city as a destination; it is funded

through the city's general fund and a Tourism Marketing District assessment. Film Santa Monica operates as a standalone entity, though the tourism group's board also serves as Film Santa Monica's legally required board through a subcommittee.

The arrangement costs the city nothing. Film Santa Monica instead charges processing fees to applicants for permit coordination, marketing, notification, monitoring and complaint-referral services tied to filming on public property and in city facilities. The contract includes an option for a two-year renewal at the city's discretion.

The shift comes as Los Angeles-area production continues a steep, prolonged decline. On-location filming across greater Los Angeles fell more than 30% between 2018 and 2023, and recent shooting days ranked among the lowest in decades. Only about 20% of North American television series are now filmed in California, as productions increasingly move to states with more generous tax incentives. In response, Gov. Gavin Newsom signed an expansion of California's Film and Television Tax Credit Program, boosting annual funding from \$330 million to \$750 million and raising the base credit rate to 35%.

Santa Monica Mayor Caroline Torosis said the city's new in-house permitting system is designed to keep productions like "Paris Paramount" coming.

"Film production has always been part of Santa Monica's identity, and we're making sure it's part of our future," Torosis said. "Bringing film permitting in-house means productions have one responsive team that can move quickly and solve problems, making it easier and more cost effective to choose Santa Monica. Every production supports local jobs, fills our restaurants and hotels, and generates revenue that helps pay for the city services our community depends on. It's another example of the Realignment Plan in action, removing unnecessary barriers, supporting our local economy, and making Santa Monica a place where business can thrive."

"Paris Paramount" is scheduled for a Dec. 2027 release.

editor@smdp.com



## 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](mailto: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>

### SUMMER FRIDAY FAMILY MOVIE NIGHTS

Join us every Friday this summer for family movie night! Featuring after-hours museum access, themed activities, snacks, and favorite films. Perfect for little ones who can't sit through a full movie! (Movie nights run from 5-8PM). Summer Movie Schedule: 6/26 Space Jam. 7/3 Homeward Bound. 7/10 Encanto. 7/17 Lyle, Lye Crocodile. 7/24 Honey, I Shrunk the Kids. 7/31 Happy Feet. 8/7 Ratatouille. 8/14 Hook. 8/21 Coco. 8/28 Matilda. Private Movie Screenings. Bring movie night to your next celebration. Private screenings are available for birthday parties, group events, and special gatherings. Contact our team to create a custom movie experience at Cayton Children's Museum.

### MISHKON TEPHILO - SHABBAT ON THE BEACH

5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Santa Monica Beach Look for the blue and white Mishkon flag Los Angeles. Warm your toes in the sand, and join your community in singing and

celebrating the joys of a magical Shabbat experience. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/mishkon-tephilo-shabbat-on-the-beach/19253571/2026-07-10T17>

## SATURDAY | JULY 11

### WELLNESS & WAVES RETURNS TO SANTA MONICA PIER, FREE SAT. MORNING FITNESS

8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Santa Monica Pier 200 Santa Monica Pier, Ste A Santa Monica. The Santa Monica Pier Corporation invites the community to move, stretch, and recharge by the ocean as Wellness & Waves returns for its 2026 season. Taking place every Saturday from April 4 through October 17, 2026, from 8 to 10 a.m., this free, all-ages wellness series transforms the iconic Santa Monica Pier into an open-air fitness destination at the most iconic outdoor setting in Southern California. With the Pacific Ocean as its backdrop, Wellness & Waves offers a welcoming, energizing way to start the weekend—no membership required. Each Saturday morning begins at the top of the Santa Monica Pier at the intersection of Colorado and Ocean with an easygoing group run from 8 to 9 a.m., open to all levels. Guests can then head to the west end of the Pier for yoga and yoga-pilates fusion classes from 9 to 10 a.m., led by top local instructors. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/wellness-waves-returns-to-santa-monica-pier-free-sat-morning-fitness/18475500/2026-07-11T08>

### NOTHING WASTED: A PRESERVATION WORKSHOP

9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Main Street Community Garden, 2318 Main Street, Santa Monica, 90405. Savor the season with this workshop demonstrating the basics of fermentation to preserve seasonal ingredients with delicious foods like sauerkraut, pickles, fizzy fermented fruits and sodas. And go beyond preservation with creative ideas using every day kitchen tools & techniques to reduce waste and elevate every meal. This workshop will be taught by UC Master Gardener Naz Fatima Shekarchi. Naz has worked as a chef and food & beverage consultant in Los Angeles and New York. Workshop starts at 10 am. Limited seating, please bring a chair or blanket. Join us at 9 am to pick up a cup of coffee and pastry, and seed packets, and wander through the garden to see what is growing. Directions and details at <https://www.santamonica.gov/events/4fjtxcz8sk203w0m8d-v2nkve/202607110900>

### \$5 COMMUNITY DOG TRAINING CLASSES!

10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Virginia Avenue Park 2200 Virginia Ave Santa Monica. People's Dog Training®, A Love At First Sit® Program host ongoing \$5 ongoing Community Dog Training Classes on Saturdays at Virginia Ave Park in Santa Monica. Sign-up at <https://www.peoplesdogtraining.com/community-training>. \$5.00 — General \$5.00 then Pay-What-You-Can. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/-5-community-dog-training-classes-11981844/2026-07-11T10>

### FAMILY ART STUDIO 10:00AM-1:00PM

10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. Palisades Community Renewal Center 3212 Nebraska Ave Santa Monica. Unleash your creativity and connect with your community at our Community Arts workshop! In case this event has been updated, please visit <https://www.pccrsm.org/event/family-art-studio-10-00am-1-00pm-3f92b> for full details before arriving. Thank you! Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/family-art-studio-10-00am-1-00pm/18763431/2026-07-11T10>

## Classifieds

### Petition to Administer Estate

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF Marty Kevin Lay Case No. 26STPB06831. To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of Marty Kevin Lay. A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by Andrea Lay in the Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that Andrea Lay be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. A HEARING on the petition will be held on 07/27/2026 at 8:30 a.m. in Dept. 244 located at 111 North Hill Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012. IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. IF YOU ARE

A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, or 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. Attorney for Petitioner: Adrienne K. Miller, Esq., Adrienne K. Miller, Attorney at Law APC, 1633 Erringer Road, Suite 205, Simi Valley, CA 93065, (805) 522-1640. SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS Publish: 07/03/2026, 07/10/2026, 07/17/2026

### Help Wanted

Associate Director, Analytical Ops For Kite Pharma, Inc. (Santa Monica, CA). Rspnsble for condctng scientfc rsrch for the dvlpmnt of drug cnddtes or the rsrch spprt of mrktd drgs. Reqs Bach dgree in Chmstry, Biochmstry, or rel fld + 8 yrs of exp in phrmceutcl Qulty & Qulty Cntrl. Alt, emplry will acct a Mast dgree in the abve lstd flds + 6 yrs of exp in phrmceutcl Qulty & Qulty Cntrl or a PhD in the abve lstd flds + 4 yrs of exp in phrmceutcl Qulty & Qulty Cntrl. Mst hve fl term of exp w/ the follwng: undrstndng of mtrial qulfcctn prcses; undrstndng/exp w/ Qulty Systms; undrstndng of Data Intgrty prncples & implmntn; exp leading/dvlpng a team of hgh achievng individual cntrbrs; & exp ovrsseeing & drvng prjcts to cmplt. Tlcmntng prmtd up to 2 tmes/wk. Annual sly rnge for this pstr is \$167,440 - \$251,160. Cmpnstr will vary dpndng on exp & qualfcctns, & for bnfts visit: <https://www.gilead.com/careers/compensation-benefits-and-wellbeing>. To apply for this role: [globalmobilityservices@gilead.com](mailto:globalmobilityservices@gilead.com) & ref Job code AM012.

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