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smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press

Volume 24 Issue 167 WEDNESDAY 7/16/25 smdp.com

## Venice will see the first medals of LA28 Games

**MAAZ ALIN**
SMDP Staff Writer

Los Angeles organizers have released the first Olympic competition schedule for the 2028 Games, exactly three years before the event returns to the city for a third time, while announcing that a youth sports program has surpassed 1 million enrollments.

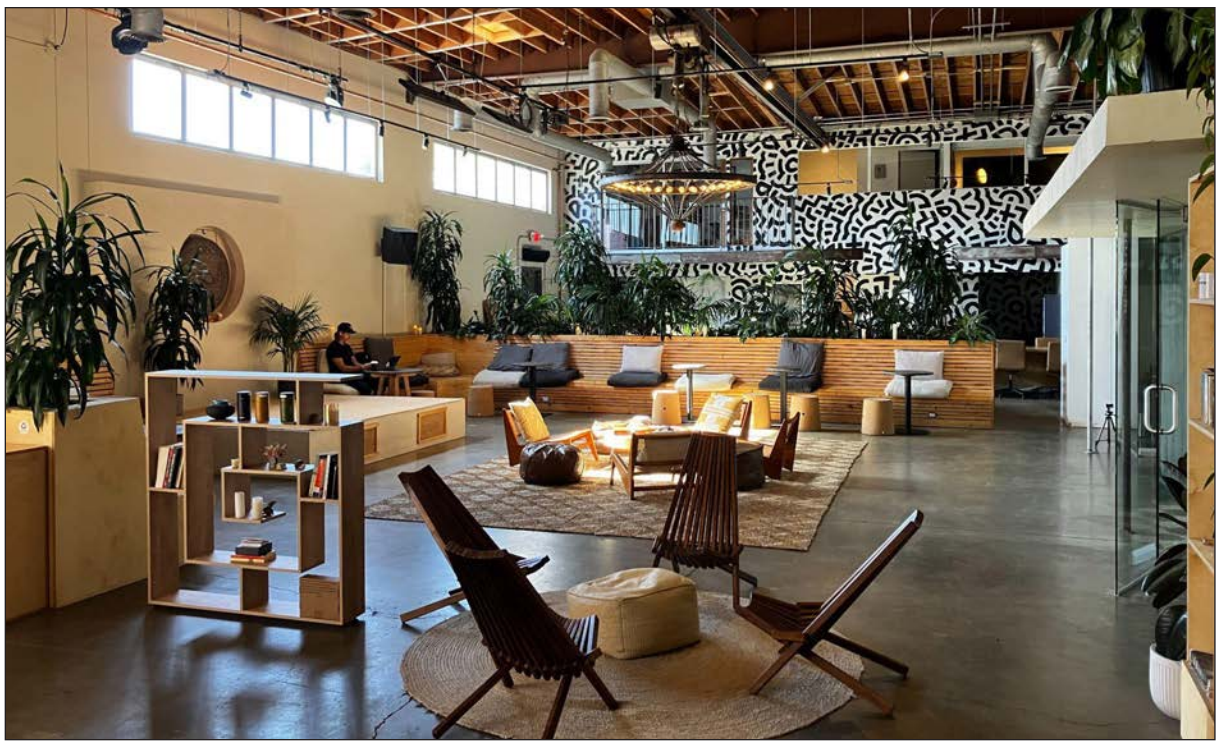
The schedule features a historic swap of athletics and swimming competitions, with track and field events moving to the first week while swimming shifts to the second week of competition. The Opening Ceremony will take place July 14, 2028, at 8 p.m. ET, split between the LA Memorial Coliseum and the new 2028 Stadium in Inglewood.

"We couldn't be more excited to mark this moment at exactly three years out from Los Angeles' third Olympic Games in 2028," said Reynold Hoover, LA28 chief executive officer. "There is so much to celebrate today between one million program enrollments in LA28's pre-Games legacy through the PlayLA program, plus the first look at the Olympic competition schedule."

The 2028 Games will mark the first time the Olympics return to the United States in nearly 30 years, with organizers designing a

SEE **SCHEDULE** PAGE 11

# MUD\WTR café to host psychedelic summit blending science, wellness and mushroom coffee



Scott Snowden

**BREW BOLDLY:** Mud\Wtr Café brings adaptogenic brews and minimalist vibes to Santa Monica's wellness crowd.

**SCOTT SNOWDEN**
SMDP Staff Writer

The Santa Monica flagship of a mushroom-based beverage brand that rose to prominence as a coffee alternative, is preparing to host its first-ever Psychedelic Summit on Saturday, July 19. The free, all-ages event being held at MUD\WTR Café aims to bridge science, spirituality and community through a day of panels, hands-on workshops and wellness-oriented experiences, all served with a side of mushroom coffee.

Organized by grassroots group Myceliumatters, the summit will feature keynote speakers, research presentations, cultivation demos and what the organizers call a "holistic wellness marketplace." It

SEE **MUDWTR** PAGE 7

## Malibu Council extends temporary event permits to aid fire-ravaged businesses

**MAAZ ALIN**
SMDP Staff Writer

The Malibu City Council has extended a proposed temporary use permit program designed to help local businesses recover from devastating losses following the 2025 Palisades fire, while adding new restrictions to preserve the city's character.

The council agreed to extend the program's sunset date from January 31, 2026, to May 31, 2026, with a mandatory review in January, after business owners and public speakers argued the original timeframe was too short for meaningful recovery.

"The whole idea here is to get our businesses back on their feet," said Council Member Doug Stewart. "I will tell you 100% from my point of view I will not let this... continue on. This is meant to be a temporary help event not to permanently change the way we do business here in Malibu."

The proposed ordinance creates a three-tiered system for temporary events aimed at stimulating economic activity after Pacific Coast Highway was closed from the eastern city limit to Carbon Beach for months following the January 7 fire. Some businesses have reported losses of up to 80 percent year-over-

SEE **PERMITS** PAGE 8




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# State of the City transitions to a community celebration at Reed Park

**MATTHEW HALL**
Daily Press Editor

Santa Monica's annual State of the City address will take place Thursday at the newly reopened Miles Memorial Playhouse and Christine Emerson Reed Park, marking a dramatic departure from the traditional seated speech to a vibrant community celebration.

The event, titled "State of the City: A Celebration of Resilience and Growth," runs from 4 to 7 p.m. and represents a significant format change designed to engage residents in a more interactive experience. Instead of a formal address, attendees will enjoy an opening reception with Mayor Lana Negrete and incoming City Manager Oliver Chi, followed by live performances in the park. Residents are encouraged to bring their own picnic supplies and seating, while the city provides entertainment and activities.

The celebration also serves as the kickoff for Santa Monica's 150th anniversary celebration, which will continue through December 2025.

Local resident John Cyrus Smith, representing the Wilshire Montana Neighborhood Coalition (Wilmont), said the event builds on the broader community revitalization efforts at Reed Park. "It symbolizes how the efforts of many residents and local groups, especially Wilmont, Parks Commissioners, SMPD and the city are finally making a difference at the park," Smith said.

Wilmont has been instrumental in activating Reed Park through regular programming, including three "Second Saturday Celebrations" with live music and movies annually, plus summer yoga and tai-chi sessions on Saturday mornings. The organization has also worked with code compliance and county officials to address safety concerns in the area.

"City officials noticed and found money to resurrect the Miles," Smith said, noting that police now maintain a daily presence at the park and ambassadors keep facilities clean. "Things are better at Reed than they have been in years and many share in that progress."

The Miles Memorial Playhouse reopening represents a significant milestone for the community. Smith welcomed the development, saying, "The Miles has so much potential as an active community resource. Its reopening is just a beginning."

The event timeline begins at 4 p.m. with the opening reception inside the Miles Memorial Playhouse, featuring light refreshments, city information boards, and opportunities to meet with city officials. City department and partner booths will operate throughout the park, offering activities for all ages and information on municipal initiatives and programs. DJ Bukue One will provide music in the park during this opening hour.

Welcome remarks by Mayor Negrete and city officials are scheduled for 5 p.m., followed by a poem from city Poet Laureate Anne Carmack.

The performance portion runs from 5:30 to 7 p.m., featuring three main acts. Downbeat 720, a city-sponsored open mic and performance lab for teens operating since 2001, will present youth artists alongside professionals Joe Hernandez-Kolski, Joshua Silverstein, and DJ Jedi, who will also serve as evening emcees.

String Theory, a hybrid performance ensemble combining music and movement, will present their immersive musical installations. The group travels nationally and internationally creating collaborative performances.

Performers from Los Angeles Performance Practice's BRIDGE THE GAPS initiative will also participate. This program supports artists impacted by the Los Angeles wildfires with space residencies at the Miles Memorial Playhouse.

Additional activities include 15-minute tours of the historic Miles Memorial Playhouse led by Santa Monica Conservancy docents, trivia, giveaways, a beer garden by Santa Monica Brew Works, and food from Border Grill and Hot Dog on a Stick.

Transportation options include free Big Blue Bus rides for event attendees on routes 1, 2, 3, 8, 9, 18, and 41, all within a 10-minute walk of Reed Park. Free parking is available at St. Monica Catholic Church at 725 California Ave. and Santa Monica Main Library at 601 Santa Monica Blvd. Bike valet service will be provided along California Avenue.

The park, Miles Memorial Playhouse, and restrooms are wheelchair accessible, with an ADA viewing section near the performance stage.

Wilmont has encouraged members to attend the free, all-ages event. "Wilmont has emailed members with all the details about the event and encourages everyone to attend," Smith said.

The event is located at Christine Emerson Reed Park, 1133 7th Street.

editor@smdp.com

GET IT DAILY...



OPINION

# UNMUTED

**Devan Sipher**

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

**DO YOU HEAR THE PEOPLE SING?**

More than 150 people signed up to speak at the City Council meeting last week. And many more people gathered in the chambers as well as at competing rallies outside City Hall to make their voices heard on the topic of the airport conversion.

There were soccer moms, union workers, teenage softball players, city commissioners, and even two past mayors offering up their passionate and discordant visions for the future use of the airport land. There were also aviation aficionados who were there to champion keeping the runway open. Even with a new Council rule limiting public comment to one minute per person, the meeting lasted eight hours.

This is what democracy looks like.

People showed up and engaged in civil debate. That's no small accomplishment in the current political climate, though if a Martian were to have landed in Santa Monica last Tuesday, they might have concluded that the biggest civic challenge facing our society is deciding what kind of park we should build.

Should it be a "Great Park" with solely recreational activities that can emulate New York's Central Park (which should be noted has numerous and necessary commercial activities)? Or should the park be less great in size but also incorporate housing for city workers or low-income residents (which would require a voter referendum that is far from assured)?

I would be hard pressed to say if there were more people at the meeting favoring one viewpoint or the other, though each side presented polling that "proved" they represent the majority of citizens. But if the question is which side won, the answer is the city.

"It really makes me feel so proud to live here," Mayor Pro Tempore Caroline Torosis said at the conclusion of public input. "Regardless of the fact that everyone might disagree, we all did it respectfully."

Of course, there were moments of pique, both in the chamber and on the dais. But for the most part, attendees' comments were offered courteously, and the Council listened patiently before providing extensive comments of their own. There was also some astute questioning of city staff, particularly from Councilmembers Ellis Raskin and Jesse Zwick.

However, there was an anticlimactic feeling to the proceedings as the realization set in that this supposedly do-or-die moment was neither. The airport conversion project is still at a preliminary stage, and the Council was not being asked to make the kind of definitive choice that many residents, as well as some Councilmembers, seemed to think was imminent.

It's hard to know if Murphy's law or human error was more responsible for the misunderstanding. Despite painstaking effort to create maximal transparency, the planning process has become somewhat opaque, and perhaps there's a direct correlation. Staff have earnestly labored to involve the public in every step of the sausage getting made, resulting in multiple complex and confusing surveys. Democracy can be messy. And inefficient.

But on Thursday we will celebrate the 150th birthday of this improbable small beach town on the rim of an urban metropolis. What are the odds that Santa Monica would have become a separate city, let alone remained one as Los Angeles annexed neighboring towns and territories? We can take pride in the frontier spirit and adaptability that has permitted this city to persevere through many a downturn, and we can hope that we will continue to persevere and prosper for another 150 years.

Happy birthday, Santa Monica. Keep showing up. Keep making your voices heard. And as Mayor Lana Negrete often says, "Keep it sassy."

Devan Sipher can be reached at Unmuted.SMDP@gmail.com






## Surf report

WATER TEMP: **64.8**

**WEDNESDAY** — ***FAIR***
**SURF:** 3-4ft+ Waist to shoulder

SSW swell builds further. Inconsistent but packing nice push when the sets show. Long period SSW swell continues to build in through the day. Expect a bit of a wait between the best sets but there will be good power/push for the size when they show. Again, not much NW windswell in the mix so shape is pretty walled at the beachbreaks. Listen here for more on the Workweek Surf Forecast. Clean conditions look likely for the morning but shape will be a bit drained around the AM low tide. Onshore flow currently looks manageable in the afternoon.

**THURSDAY** — ***FAIR TO GOOD***
**SURF:** 3-4ft+ Waist to shoulder

Quality SSW swell continues for the 17th-19th.
New SSW/S swell looks a little larger than the swell for the 13th-14th, and similar to that pulse it should outperform current model expectations as it shows over the 17th-18th. That sets up waist-chest-shoulder high waves for good breaks, head high sets possible for standouts during favorable tides. Not much NW windswell which will favor the points again. Wind looks light and conditions clean in the AM. Onshore flow builds in the PM for some bump/texture, especially outside the points.

## Weather

**Wednesday:** Patchy fog. Otherwise, cloudy, with a high near 69. Light and variable wind becoming southwest 5 to 10 mph.
**Wednesday Night:** Patchy fog. Otherwise, cloudy, with a low around 60. West southwest wind 5 to 10 mph.
**Thursday:** Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, mostly sunny, with a high near 68.
**Thursday Night:** Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, mostly cloudy, with a low around 61.

| Date | Day | Time (LST/LDT) | Predicted (ft) | High/Low |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2025/07/16 | Wed | 01:05 AM | 4.51 | H |
| 2025/07/16 | Wed | 07:45 AM | 0.60 | L |
| 2025/07/16 | Wed | 2:37 PM | 4.87 | H |
| 2025/07/16 | Wed | 8:49 PM | 1.99 | L |
| 2025/07/17 | Thu | 02:17 AM | 3.73 | H |
| 2025/07/17 | Thu | 08:22 AM | 1.21 | L |
| 2025/07/17 | Thu | 3:26 PM | 5.21 | H |
| 2025/07/17 | Thu | 10:31 PM | 1.51 | L |
| 2025/07/18 | Fri | 04:02 AM | 3.11 | H |
| 2025/07/18 | Fri | 09:09 AM | 1.80 | L |
| 2025/07/18 | Fri | 4:20 PM | 5.57 | H |

## Daily Lottery

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

**POWERBALL**
Draw Date: 7/14
8 12 45 46 63
Power#: 24
Jackpot: 264 M

**MEGA MILLIONS**
Draw Date: 7/11
12 23 24 31 56
Mega#: 1
Jackpot: 90 M

**SuperLotto Plus**
Draw Date: 7/12
4 7 10 36 46
Mega#: 26
Jackpot: 25 M

**Fantasy 5**
Draw Date: 7/14
5 10 17 24 33

**Daily 3**
Draw Date: 7/14
EVENING: 7 1 0
Draw Date: 7/14
MIDDAY: 2 2 6

**Daily Derby**
Draw Date: 7/14
1st: 12 - Lucky Charms
2nd: 05 - California Classic
3rd: 07 - Eureka
Race Time: 1:41.96

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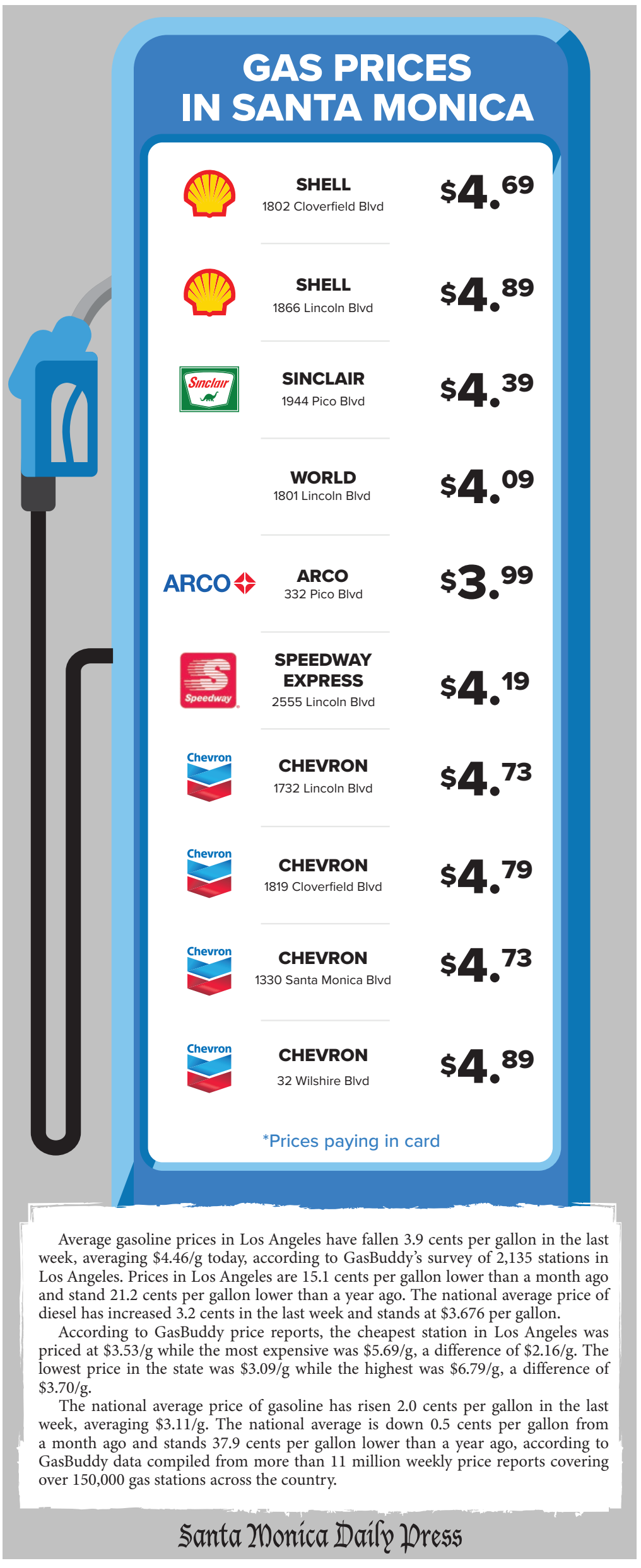
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Santa Monica Daily Press




Average gasoline prices in Los Angeles have fallen 3.9 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging $4.46/g today, according to GasBuddy's survey of 2,135 stations in Los Angeles. Prices in Los Angeles are 15.1 cents per gallon lower than a month ago and stand 21.2 cents per gallon lower than a year ago. The national average price of diesel has increased 3.2 cents in the last week and stands at $3.676 per gallon.

According to GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in Los Angeles was priced at $3.53/g while the most expensive was $5.69/g, a difference of $2.16/g. The lowest price in the state was $3.09/g while the highest was $6.79/g, a difference of $3.70/g.

The national average price of gasoline has risen 2.0 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging $3.11/g. The national average is down 0.5 cents per gallon from a month ago and stands 37.9 cents per gallon lower than a year ago, according to GasBuddy data compiled from more than 11 million weekly price reports covering over 150,000 gas stations across the country.

Santa Monica Daily Press

## GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

# *Federal immigration crackdown threatens California's historic housing reforms*



Photo by Rahul Lal, CalMatters

**CONSTRUCTION:** Housing construction in a neighborhood in Elk Grove on July 8, 2022.

California has finally made real progress on one of its most stubborn problems: the housing crisis. After decades of paralysis, the state has begun to unwind the bureaucratic thicket that made it almost impossible to build new homes in cities. This should be a moment for cautious optimism.

Yet a new and very different problem looms — one that threatens to undermine these hard-won reforms before a single unit is built: a growing national effort to crack down on the very workers California needs to build its future.

This summer, Gov. Gavin Newsom pushed through a pair of bills — Assembly Bill 130 and Senate Bill 131 — that amount to the most significant overhaul of California's development rules in more than 50 years. In particular, the reforms are massively curtailing the California Environmental Quality Act, which for decades has allowed opponents to block urban housing with endless lawsuits and reviews.

Urban infill projects near transit are now largely exempt from CEQA litigation. Developers are, for the first time in a generation, preparing to build at scale.

But just as California removes the red tape, it may find itself caught in another bind: a lack of construction workers. And this time, the cause isn't homegrown.

More than 40% of California's construction workforce is foreign-born, according to the National Association of Homebuilders. That includes more than half a million immigrants, many of them undocumented, who work as framers, drywallers, roofers and laborers.

These are physically demanding jobs, often shunned by native-born workers. Without them, the math of housing development simply doesn't work.

Yet the national political winds are blowing in the opposite direction. The Trump-aligned right has completely changed the conversation about immigration. Their focus is on deporting not just criminals, but all undocumented migrants. Mass deportation, as recently as last year considered a fringe idea, is now the openly stated policy objective.

The implications for industries that rely heavily on immigrants are as dire as they are obvious. Heightened enforcement, even without sweeping raids, creates fear and uncertainty. Some workers leave preemptively. Others move into the shadows.

The result? Just as building permits get faster, the labor force that builds will get scarcer. Construction firms already report difficulty assembling full crews. Wages are rising. Projects are being delayed — not by paperwork, but by a shortage of hands.

If this trend continues, California risks an awkward outcome: a flood of new housing approvals but not enough workers to actually build them. The "abundance agenda" could turn into a shelf full of blueprints.

In the worst case, we end up with a hollow boom — developments greenlit but never started, or started but never finished.

As construction lags, pressure will mount on Sacramento to push back against federal immigration policy. California has clashed with Washington before — on climate, guns, and abortion. Housing could be next. Newsom, perhaps eyeing national office, may argue that federal immigration enforcement is sabotaging state-led economic reform.

This will be a high-stakes confrontation. The federal government controls immigration. California controls land use. The two are now on a collision course.

The deeper irony is hard to miss. For

SEE **GUEST COMMENTARY** PAGE 6

# ‘Severance’ leads Emmy nominees with 27 and ‘The Studio’ tops comedies as Apple TV+ dominates

“Severance” separated itself from the field with 27 Emmy nominations Tuesday, while “The Studio” led comedy nominees with a record-tying 23 in a dominant year for Apple TV+.

No other dramas came close to the dystopian workplace series “Severance,” which achieved a convergence of acclaim and audience buzz for its second season that brought an expected Emmy bounty.

“It’s been the best kind of morning,” Apple TV+ head of programming Matt Cherniss told The Associated Press.

Lead acting nominations came for “Severance” stars Adam Scott and Britt Lower for what amounted to dual roles as their characters’ “innie” work selves and “outie” home selves. Tramell Tillman got a supporting nod for playing their tone-shifting, pineapple-wielding supervisor. Patricia Arquette was nominated for supporting actress for playing an ousted outcast from the sinister family business at the center of the show. And Ben Stiller got a nomination for directing the Season 2 finale.

Apple’s Hollywood satire “The Studio” was expected to make a significant showing for its first season, but it romped over more established shows like “Hacks,” which got 14, and “The Bear,” which got 13.

And “The Studio” tied a record set by “The Bear” last year when it also got 23 nominations, the most ever for a comedy.

Seth Rogen, who co-created “The Studio” with longtime collaborator Evan Goldberg, personally got three nominations — for acting, writing and directing.

Rogen told the AP that “my ego is in shock” and called the raft of nominations “very validating in a way that I’m not used to being validated.”

His show’s A-list roster of guest stars brought in a bounty, with nominations for Martin Scorsese, Ron Howard, Bryan Cranston, Anthony Mackie, Dave Franco and Zoë Kravitz. The men made for five of the six nominees in the guest actor in a comedy category.

“The Penguin,” HBO’s dark drama from the “Batman” universe, was also surprisingly dominant in the limited series category with 24 nominations, including nods for leads Colin Farrell and Cristin Milioti.

Netflix’s acclaimed “Adolescence” got 13 limited series nominations, including a supporting actor nod for 15-year-old Owen Cooper, who plays a 13-year-old suspected of a killing.

Many expect Cooper to become the youngest Emmy winner in more than 40 years, largely because of a breath-taking episode that is one long therapy session inside a juvenile jail. Like all “Adolescence” episodes, it’s done in one long shot.

His psychologist scene partner, Erin Doherty, was also nominated, for limited series supporting actress.

“If you just sit and listen, and let someone talk, that is such a gorgeous offering,” Doherty told the AP. “I don’t think we do it that often. I’m trying to take that forward.”

“The White Lotus,” “The Pitt” and “Matlock” score in acting categories

HBO’s high-end soap “The White Lotus” got its usual flowering of drama acting nominations for its Thailand-set third season, with four cast members including Carrie Coon getting supporting actress nods, and three including Walton Goggins up for supporting actor. It was second in the drama categories to “Severance” with 23 nominations.

“The Pitt,” HBO Max’s prestige medical procedural, got 13 nominations, including best drama and best actor for its star, “ER” veteran Noah Wyle. One of its nurses, Katherine LaNasa, was able to squeeze in among the women of “The White Lotus” for a supporting actress nod.

Wyle, who was nominated five times without a win for “ER,” could join Scott to make best actor in a drama a two-man race, with both seeking their first Emmy.

The broadcast networks have largely become Emmy non-entities in the top categories. Oscar-winner Kathy Bates was a big exception this year. She’s considered a heavy favorite to win best actress in a drama for CBS’ “Matlock.” She’s the first person nominated in the category from a network show since 2019, and would be the first to win it since 2015. At 77, she’s also the oldest ever nominee in the category.

ABC’s “Abbott Elementary,” which has kept hope alive for the networks in recent years, got six nominations including acting and writing nods for creator Quinta Brunson.

### HBO IS STILL KING IN THE OVERALL NUMBERS

“The Last of Us” brought in 16 nominations in drama categories for HBO to add to the elite cable and streaming giant’s totals run up by “The White Lotus,” “The Pitt” and “The Penguin.” Bella Ramsey got a nod for best actress in a drama for “The Last of Us.” Pedro Pascal was nominated for lead actor despite appearing in only about half of the season’s episodes.

HBO with its streaming counterpart HBO Max has been so prolific for decades in Emmy nominations that it almost felt like an off year without it having a “Succession” or a “Game of Thrones” atop the drama category. But it definitely wasn’t. It led all outlets with 142 nominations, the most it’s ever gotten.

Netflix followed with 120 nominations overall, including 11 for “Monsters: The Lyle And Erik Menendez Story” and 10 for “Black Mirror.”

Apple TV+ had 79 nominations overall.

“Shrinking” added to its total with seven in the comedy categories, including acting nominations for Harrison Ford and Jason Segel.

“Andor” represented Disney+ with 14 nominations. The gritty series from the “Star Wars” galaxy is up for best drama series and a slew of technical categories. Forest Whitaker was nominated for best guest actor in a drama.

He’s one of several Oscar winners in the guest acting categories along with Scorsese, Howard and Jamie Lee Curtis and Olivia Colman for their performances in “The Bear.”

“Andor” star Diego Luna was surprisingly omitted from the lead actor in a drama

SEE **EMMY** PAGE 8

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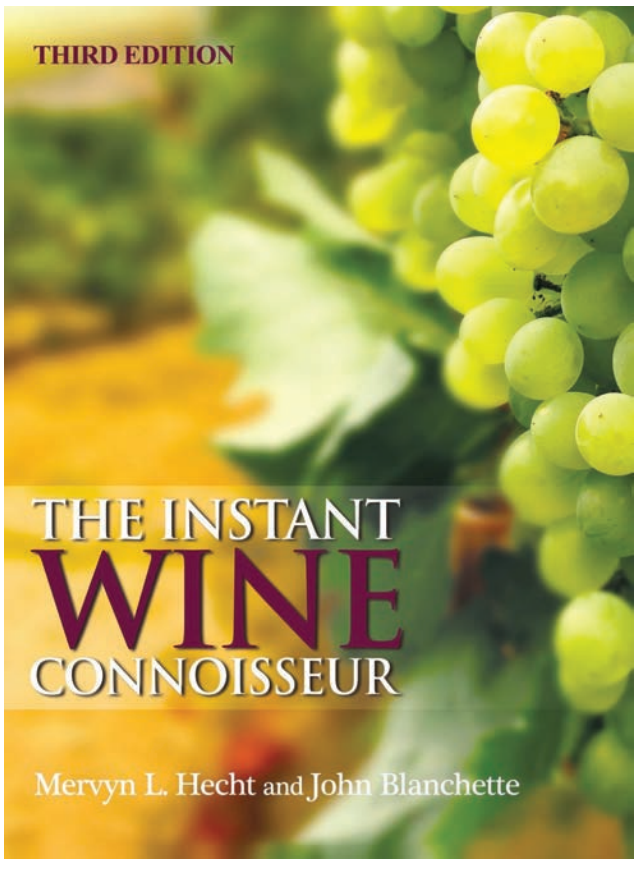
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★★★★★ ...Hecht has a joyful eye and fabulous taste




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# Trump administration fires 17 immigration court judges across ten states, union says

Seventeen immigration court judges have been fired in recent days, according to the union that represents them, as the Trump administration pushes forward with its mass deportations of immigrants in the country.

The International Federation of Professional and Technical Engineers, which represents immigration court judges as well as other professionals, said in a news release that 15 judges were fired "without cause" on Friday and another two on Monday. The union said they were working in courts in 10 different states across the country — California, Illinois, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, New York, Ohio, Texas, Utah and Virginia.

"It's outrageous and against the public interest that at the same time Congress has authorized 800 immigration judges, we are firing large numbers of immigration judges without cause," said the union's President Matt Biggs. "This is nonsensical. The answer is to stop firing and start hiring."

> It's outrageous and against the public interest that at the same time Congress has authorized 800 immigration judges, we are firing large numbers of immigration judges without cause
> - Matt Biggs

### FIRINGS COME WITH COURTS AT THE CENTER OF ADMINISTRATION EFFORTS

The firings come as the courts have been increasingly at the center of the Trump administration's hardline immigration enforcement efforts with Immigration and Customs Enforcement officers arresting immigrants as they appear at court for proceedings.

A spokeswoman for the Executive Office of Immigration Review, which is the part of the Justice Department that oversees the courts, said in an email that the office would not comment on the firings.

The large-scale arrests began in May and have unleashed fear among asylum-seekers and immigrants appearing in court. In what has become a familiar scene, a judge will grant a government lawyer's request to dismiss deportation proceedings against an immigrant. Meanwhile, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement officers are waiting in the hallway to arrest the person and put them on a fast track to deportation as soon as he or she leaves the courtroom.

Immigration court judges are also dealing with a massive backlog of roughly 3.5 million cases that ballooned in recent years. Cases can take years to weave their way to a final determination, with judges and lawyers frequently scheduling final hearings on the merits of a case over a year out. Unlike criminal courts, immigrants don't have the right to a lawyer, and if they can't afford one they represent themselves — often using an interpreter to make their case.

### COURTS ARE GETTING A CASH INFUSION

Under recently passed legislation that will use $170 billion to supercharge immigration enforcement, the courts are set to get an infusion of $3.3 billion. That will go toward raising the number of judges to 800 and hiring more staff to support them.

But the union said that since the Trump administration took office over 103 judges have either been fired or voluntarily left after taking what was dubbed the "Fork in the Road" offers at the beginning of the administration. The union said that rather than speeding up the immigration court process, the Justice Department's firings would actually make the backlogs worse. The union said that it can take as long as a year to recruit, hire and train new immigration court judges.

There are currently about 600 judges, according to the union figures. Immigration courts fall under the Justice Department.

By REBECCA SANTANA Associated Press

## GUEST COMMENTARY

FROM PAGE 4

years, the consensus was that California's housing problems were self-inflicted — caused by too much regulation and not enough political courage. Now that the state is finally addressing those issues, it's being undermined by a different kind of politics: a national campaign against the very people who build homes.

If California wants to realize its new housing vision, it will need not just faster permits but also enough skilled workers to turn blueprints into homes. That means protecting the workforce it has — even when doing so puts it at odds with Washington.

Otherwise, we will be left with the worst of both worlds: new rules, no results and a housing crisis that continues to degrade the quality of life for far too many Californians.

Nils Gilman is the chief operating officer and executive vice president of the Berggruen Institute. This article was originally published by CalMatters.

## MUDWTR

FROM PAGE 1

will take place at MUD\WTR's 5,748-square-foot Main Street space, a converted former carpet factory known for its pine-accented, plant-filled interior and sliding aircraft hangar-style doors.

"This free summit is a milestone for the psychedelic community in Southern California," said Aixarret Hernandez, co-founder of Myceliumatters. "It's a space to bring science, culture and community together and to provide accessible education about the healing potential of psychedelics in a safe, inclusive environment."

Scheduled from 11am to 6pm, the summit is designed to appeal to the curious and the committed alike, with a lineup that includes neuropharmacologists, medical researchers, local doctors and veterans working at the forefront of psychedelic integration and harm reduction. Many of the speakers are affiliated with the Treatment & Research in Psychedelics (TRIP) Clinic, also based in Santa Monica.

Attendees will be able to take part in mushroom cultivation and cactus grafting workshops, explore wellness products and sample MUDWTR's non-psychedelic drinks made with ingredients like Lion's Mane, Cordyceps, Reishi and Chaga. According to founder Shane Heath, the formulation was created as a functional yet flavorful alternative to traditional coffee, inspired by his own experience with stress and burnout in the tech industry.

"I'd bring this drink into the office and everyone asked me what it was," Heath said. "So I just started calling it mud … despite everyone around drinking coffee, most people I talked to actually wanted to drink less."



Courtesy image

**MIND FUEL:** "The goal isn't just coffee. It's conscious ritual," says Mud\Wtr Café founder Shane Heath.

Heath founded MUDWTR in 2018 after leaving a career as a UX designer in Silicon Valley. Drawing on his familiarity with gourmet mushrooms, his mother worked for Monterey Mushrooms, one of the largest growers in North America, he began developing blends intended to offer focus, physical performance and mood-lifting benefits without the jittery effects of caffeine.

What began as a homegrown beverage business evolved into a multimillion-dollar online operation, with nearly two million customers and a headquarters that now doubles as the café. The space has since expanded its offerings to include cold plunge stations, a sauna and weekly breathwork classes, establishing itself as a wellness hub that stretches beyond coffee alternatives.

A portion of proceeds from the upcoming summit will go toward supporting the Temple of the Rose and Chalice, a newly launched entheogenic church led by TRIP Clinic directors Dr. Keith Heinzerling and Karina Sergi. According to organizers, the church aims to foster spiritual growth and communal healing through sacred plant-based practices.

For those looking for a deeper experience, VIP tickets are available and include front-row seating, access to a meet-up lounge and curated gift bags.

Myceliumatters, the group behind the event, was founded to promote psychedelic literacy and education across Los Angeles and the Southwest. Though this will be their first large-scale event in Santa Monica, the group hopes it will serve as a model for future community-based programming in the psychedelic space.

The summit also reflects a broader shift in Southern California's wellness landscape, where conversations around microdosing, psilocybin-assisted therapy and plant-based medicine are becoming increasingly mainstream. Santa Monica, already a magnet for alternative health movements, appears poised to play a central role in shaping that discourse.

For MUDWTR, the summit is another step in its evolution from a quirky caffeine substitute to a cultural platform that blends lifestyle branding with wellness ideology. Founder Shane Heath has long championed the idea of the café as a "third place," a space that isn't home or work, but somewhere in between where people can gather, reflect and connect.

"It's something that coffee culture started," Heath said. "You come in and you share, you communicate with other individuals."

With its blend of research, ritual and retail, the Psychedelic Summit is aiming to expand that third space even further, into the growing and sometimes controversial territory of plant medicine, mental health and spiritual exploration.

MUD\WTR Café is located at 2515 Main Street. More information is available at mudwtrgather.com. The summit is free and open to the public.

scott.snowden@smdp.com



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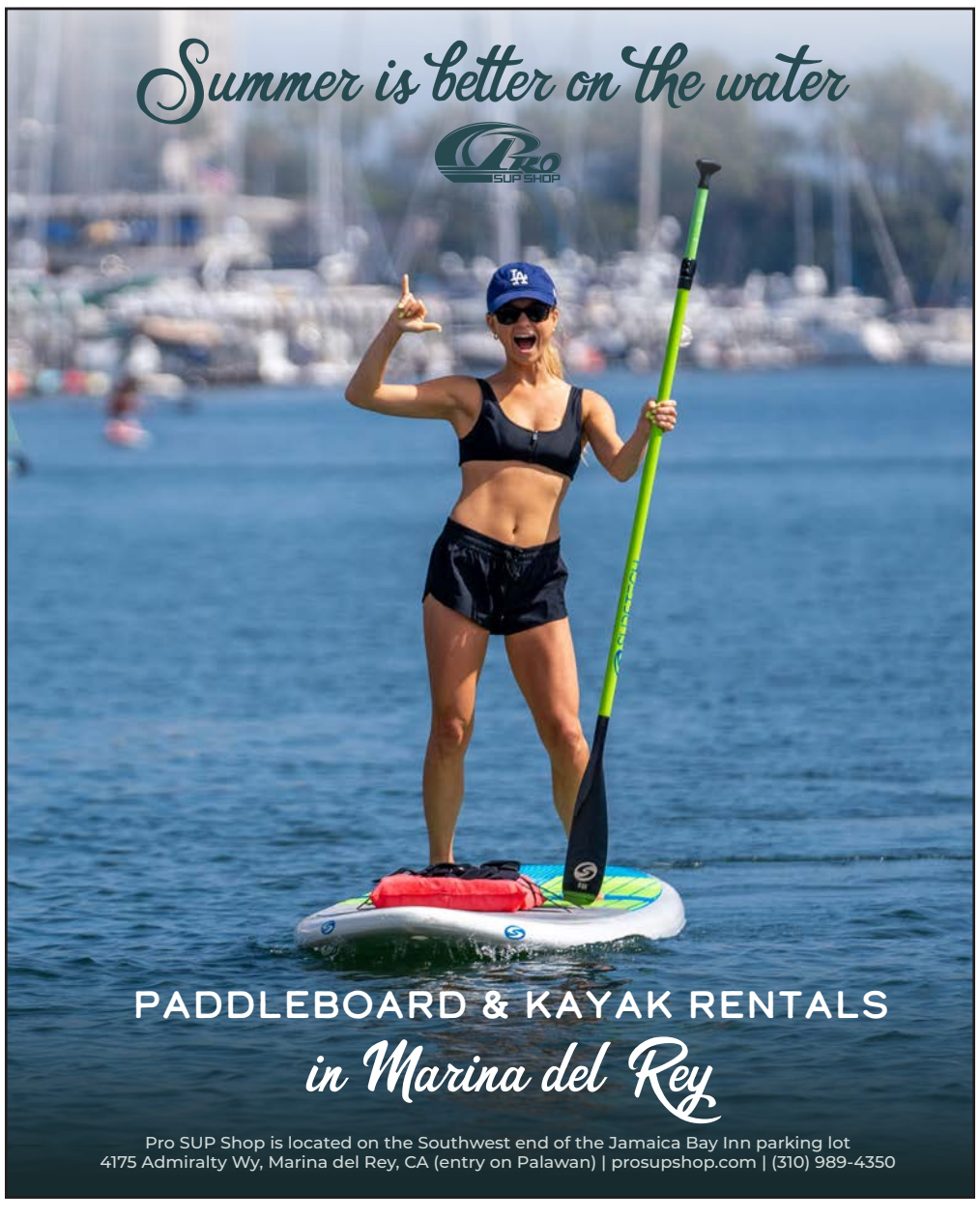
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## PERMITS

FROM PAGE 1

year, according to city documents.

### THREE-TIER PERMIT SYSTEM

Under the modified proposal, events with 99 people or fewer would require only a planning clearance costing $396, with applications submitted at least two days prior to the event. No public noticing would be required, and there would be no limit on the number of these events.

Events with 100-250 people would require a temporary use permit costing $821 for regular businesses and $342 for nonprofits. Applications must be submitted seven days in advance, with neighbor notification required five days before the event. Shopping centers would be allowed four such events per month, while individual businesses would be limited to two per month.

Events with 251 or more attendees would continue under existing regulations, limited to six per year with current notification requirements.

The council made a significant modification requiring all events to be open to the general public rather than private gatherings, addressing concerns about businesses renting out space for weddings and private parties.

"I thought what we were trying to do was allow businesses to do things out of the ordinary to get people to come in and patronize the business," said Mayor Pro Tem Bruce Silverstein. "Not change the type of business you're conducting in order to bring money in to pay the rent."

### SHOPPING CENTER FOCUS

After lengthy discussion, the council agreed that shopping centers would serve as the primary applicant for events within their premises, rather than individual parcels. This change was requested by Cross Creek Ranch representatives, who noted their property has 40 tenant spaces and abundant common areas.

"Cross Creek Ranch has 40 tenant spaces plus abundant community open space and plazas," said Beth Gordie, attorney for Cross Creek Ranch. "There are circumstances under which simultaneous events will benefit local businesses and the community without detriment to the properties in the vicinity."

The council also limited events to one-day affairs and specified they must be held in common areas or occupied tenant spaces, not vacant ones.

### ENFORCEMENT AND CHARACTER CONCERNS

Several council members expressed concerns about enforcement and maintaining Malibu's rural character. Council Member Stewart warned against turning Malibu into Disneyland, while others worried about the city's ability to monitor compliance.

"We're going from a regulated environment to a free-for-all," Stewart said, emphasizing the need for weekend code enforcement staff.

The ordinance includes provisions for permit revocation if property owners violate noise ordinances or other regulations. Events must comply with existing noise, lighting and nuisance restrictions.

### SIGNAGE PROVISIONS

The proposal also allows temporary signage, with six signs per shopping center or two per parcel for other businesses, limited to 16 square feet each. Signs must be temporary without permanent foundations and cannot be illuminated.

The council removed language that would have allowed the community development director to authorize illuminated signs, citing the city's dark sky ordinance.

### ECONOMIC RECOVERY CONTEXT

The ordinance responds to severe economic impacts from the fire and subsequent highway closure that lasted until Memorial Day weekend. The closure forced visitors from the greater Los Angeles area to use longer routes through Malibu Canyon Road or Kanan Dume Road, significantly reducing foot traffic.

Staff noted that current temporary use permit requirements, including a 35-day advance application period, have been too burdensome for businesses trying to recover quickly.

The council planned to put the item on "second call" later in the meeting to allow staff to incorporate the agreed-upon changes before a final vote, highlighting the urgency council members felt to provide businesses with recovery tools while preserving community standards.

maaz@smdp.com

## EMMY

FROM PAGE 5

category. Other snubs included former Emmy powerhouses "The Handmaid's Tale," which got just one nomination, and "Squid Game," which got none.

Actors Harvey Guillén and Brenda Song announced the nominations in key categories.

### 'SEVERANCE' DELIVERS BIG FOR APPLE TV+

"Severance" has become a signature show for Apple TV+. The streamer has gotten plenty of Emmy nominations for dramas including "The Morning Show" and "Slow Horses," and "Ted Lasso" thrived the comedy side.

But Apple has lacked the kind of breakaway prestige drama that HBO seems to produce perennially. "Severance" became its most-nominated show ever and could easily become its biggest winner when the Emmys are handed out in September, reaching the upper echelons previously enjoyed by "Succession" and "Shogun," which left room for others by taking this year off.

Cherniss said Apple TV+, which has been knocked as the streamer with big stars and big budgets for shows that go unnoticed, was rewarded for taking big swings.

"'Severance' is such an ambitious show," he said, adding that "all of the shows that have been nominated took big risks."

### HOW STREAMING HAS CHANGED TV AND THE EMMYS

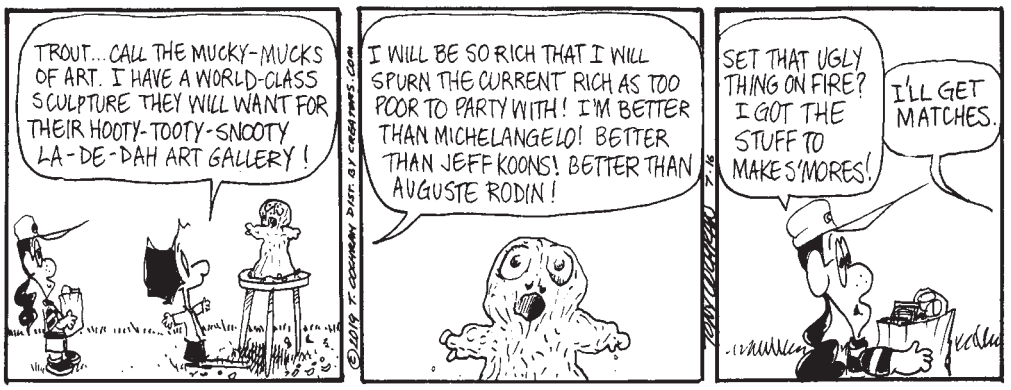
All the shows are living in the splintered world of the streaming era, and the like the Oscars its most acclaimed nominees rarely have the huge audience they once did. While an impressive average of 10 million people per episode watched Wyle on "The Pitt" on HBO Max, according to Warner Bros. Discovery, 30 years ago an average of 30 million sat down and watched him on "ER" on NBC.

The broadcast networks rotate on who airs the Emmys. This year is CBS's turn. It will air the 77th Primetime Emmy Awards from the Peacock Theater in Los Angeles on Sept. 14. Nate Bargatze is slated to host.

By ANDREW DALTON AP Entertainment Writer. Associated Press Writers writers Ryan Pearson, Liam McEwan and Jocelyn Noveck contributed.

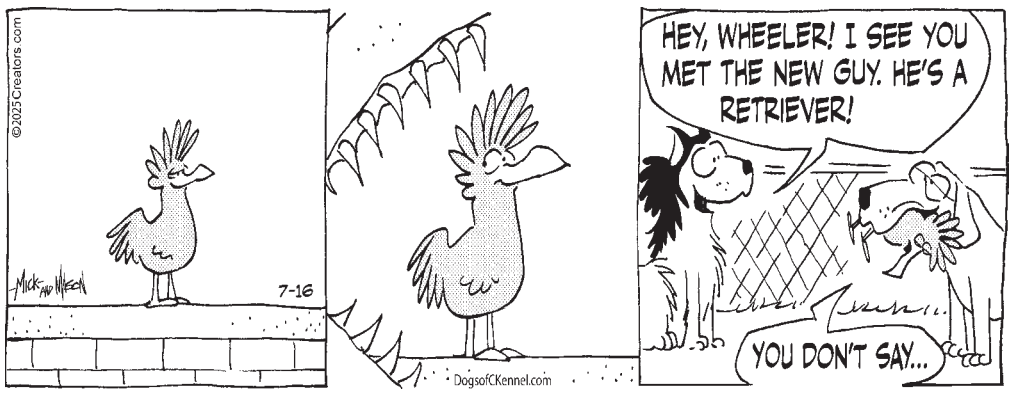
## Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



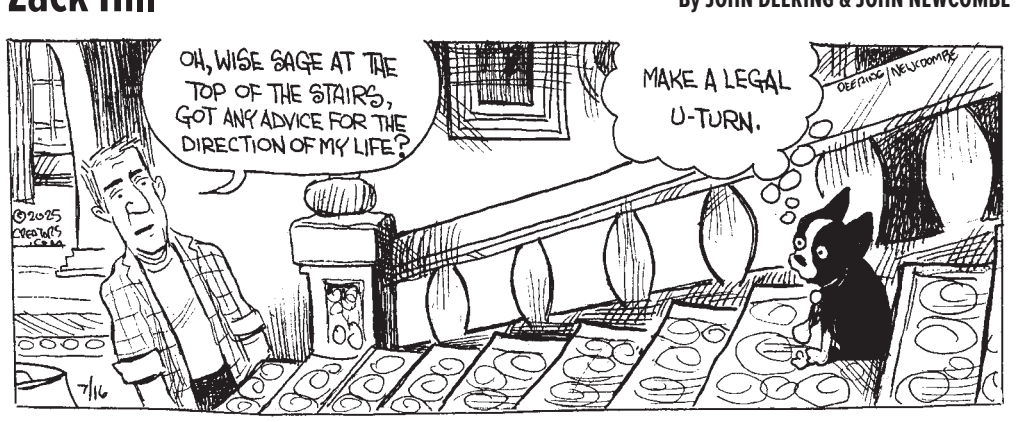

## Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



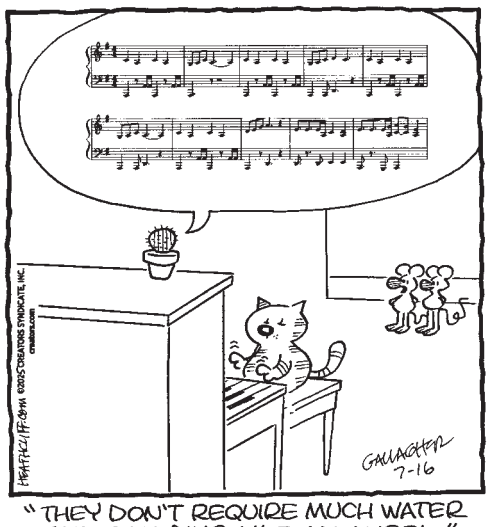

## Zack Hill

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 20 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle.** © australianwordgames.com.au 6638

## The Supercar scene

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

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Apex | Energy | Inspection | Runs |
| Bends | Engine | Lanes | Skaife |
| Brave | Europe | Laps | Skill |
| Cars | Exhaust | Leading | Smash |
| Circuit | Failure | Marque | Spain |
| Concentrate | Fast | Mini | Sport |
| Crew | Fuel | Nitro | Streets |
| Dips | Gear | Owen | Success |
| Dirt | Hairpin | Pits | Turbo |
| Disqualify | Heats | Renault | Wheel |
| Doctor | Idols | Rules | |

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## TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (July 16)

You will know a new level of drive as you strike on exactly what you want. You'll find yourself in a room you used to only dream of entering and realize with pride that your route there was completely your own. More highlights: You'll attract someone who's not just compatible but deeply curious about you. You'll speak and perform to wildly positive reviews. Scorpio and Sagittarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 5, 2, 33, 39 and 10.

## HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). There's a rhythm to endurance - a beat that doesn't always call for brilliance, just consistency. When the stakes aren't sky-high and your reserves are low, coasting can be a smart strategy.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Your ideas are ahead of the curve, which can be thrilling or isolating depending on who's listening. Find the ones who get it or who want to. Don't waste time convincing anyone who just isn't ready or will never be ready for what you can offer.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Some people expect you to lead emotionally, to make the vibe better, softer, sweeter. You can - but only if you want to. Today, you have permission to receive care instead. Let someone else read the room and show up for you.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You don't just go through the motions of friendliness - you actually see people. You notice tone shifts, unspoken needs, who's being left out and who might need a moment of grace. Your way of being shapes the emotional climate around you.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Your loyalty will figure in and sway the action. Led by the dictates of your true-blue heart, you'll wind up doing things you didn't expect. What others think of as an option, you think of as a duty.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You welcome critique and will process it well, finding what's useful. Those who poke holes in the plan are doing the plan a great service. Those holes are what aerate it so something truly strong and vibrant can grow there.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Our judgments of others generally are about an unacknowledged part of ourselves - what Carl Jung called the shadow. Just like we admire traits that reflect our light, we often resist traits that represent our shadow. Notice what you feel. Turn toward your aspirations.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Relationships are like suitcases where you keep a collection of thoughts. Whether it's your relationship with a person, idea, animal or endeavor, your connection to it mostly lives in your mind. You're the one who gets to decide its usefulness, health or meaning.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You can absolutely finish what you started. You may be tired, but your fire is intact. You're creatively flying in moments. And the meetups you have with others will be fuel, not just output.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You're not drawing a lot of attention today, and there's something glorious about this - it gives you a chance to work under the radar. Ah, the freedom to figure things out and do things the way you like without worrying about pleasing anyone else.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). How do you gain perspective while staying emotionally present? The high-flying bird has the best view, but who can hear its song? The answer is to stay fluid. Rise above for insight. Zoom in and out, go wide and narrow, return to ground for expression and connection.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You have so many good ideas today, it would be a shame to waste this creative energy sitting in a meeting that will only accomplish half of what it set out to or maybe accomplish nothing. Go solo. Make a list and tackle all you can before you meet with others.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

## Sudoku

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

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

## Newsday Crossword

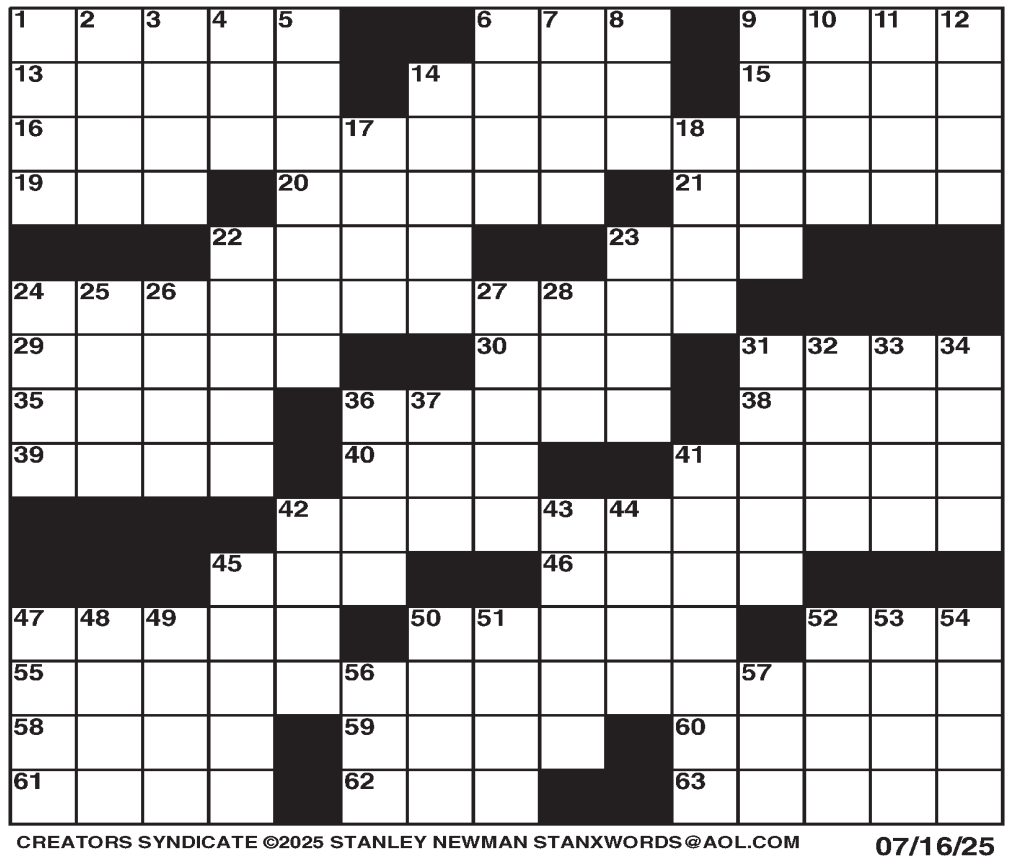
**GOOD AS NEW** by Steve Faiella
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

**ACROSS**

**1** Disney deer
**6** Taxi
**9** Ancient Andes dweller
**13** Pungent slice on a burger
**14** Uncomplicate
**15** Pigeon sounds
**16** Change fabrics on a sofa
**19** Lamb's mother
**20** Keep entertained
**21** Pester
**22** Dot on a radar screen
**23** Last year's jrs.
**24** With 42-Across, find a relaxed place to sit after dinner
**29** Turn topsy-turvy
**30** Born, in wedding announcements
**31** Narrow opening for coins
**35** Home ownership document
**36** Reduced-price events
**38** Sit for a portrait
**39** "Electric" fish
**40** Numero __ (the boss)
**41** National bird
**42** See 24-Across
**45** Homer Simpson's bartender
**46** Pointers and poodles
**47** In the lead
**50** Top of an ocean wave
**52** Goat sound
**55** Military command to attach blades to rifles
**58** Region
**59** Aluminum wrap
**60** Ten Commandments mountain
**61** Wines pairing well with steak
**62** Spy missions, for short
**63** Concert ticket remnants

**DOWN**

**1** Tiresome speaker
**2** Once more
**3** Rats' smaller cousins
**4** Unhappy spectator's shout
**5** Null and void
**6** Leopards and lions
**7** Tennis great Arthur
**8** Stinging insect
**9** Phone symbols to click on
**10** Person, place, or thing
**11** Designer Chanel
**12** With a grayish-white color
**14** Gush, as a volcano
**17** Mideast ruler
**18** Give a darn
**22** "Marching" musical groups
**23** Women and girls
**24** Impolite
**25** Fencing blade
**26** Banana covering
**27** At minimum power
**28** Golf starting point
**31** Trains in a ring
**32** Company's emblem
**33** Scandinavian capital
**34** Abound (with)
**36** Fully confident
**37** Santa __, CA
**41** Potentially messy picnic game
**42** Long-gone flightless bird
**43** Best possible
**44** Fond of snooping
**45** Ancient Mexican pyramid builders
**47** A long way away
**48** Add new employees
**49** Crossed (out)
**50** Any farm harvest
**51** Sluggers' stats: Abbr.
**52** Eatery's list
**53** Runs __ (owes for drinks)
**54** Without a warranty
**56** Sci-fi saucer, for short
**57** Trivial complaint



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07/16/25

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

## SCHEDULE

FROM PAGE 1

schedule to accommodate both domestic and global viewership across 844 ticketed events.

In a break from Olympic tradition, athletics will launch the Games at the LA Memorial Coliseum during the first week, while swimming competitions will conclude the sporting events during the second week at the 2028 Stadium. The marathon events will maintain their traditional final weekend placement.

The first medal of the LA28 Games will be awarded at Venice Beach, where triathlon competition will crown Los Angeles' first Olympic champion along the Pacific coastline.

Day 15 of competition promises to be the most medal-heavy day in Olympic history, with 16 gold and bronze medal team sport matches and finals for 19 individual sports, including swimming, all scheduled for a single day.

Swimming will close out the Games on Day 16 with the final competition session at the 2028 Stadium, setting the stage for the Closing Ceremony at the LA Memorial Coliseum on July 30, 2028.

"We are now three years away from the LA Memorial Coliseum hosting the opening of the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics and I'm proud that the first medal will be awarded at the iconic Venice Beach," said Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass. "When the world comes here for these Games, we will highlight every neighborhood as we host a Games for all."

The competition schedule was developed in coordination with Olympic Broadcasting Services, International Federations and received approval from the International Olympic Committee Executive Board. A more detailed schedule with medal events and gender order will be released later this year.

Alongside the schedule announcement, LA28 celebrated the PlayLA program reaching 1 million enrollments, marking a significant pre-Games legacy achievement. The program, operated in partnership with Los Angeles Recreation and Parks, has received up to $160 million in investment from LA28 and the International Olympic Committee.

PlayLA offers sports programming for children ages 3-17 across more than 40 Olympic and adaptive sports, including aquatics, athletics, boxing, flag football, judo, adaptive swimming, adaptive athletics, para surfing and sitting volleyball.

"We are already delivering that legacy as we announce there have been more than one million enrollments in PlayLA," Bass said. "I want to thank LA28 and the International Olympic Committee for making these programs possible."

The LA28 Games will mark Los Angeles' third time hosting the Olympics, following the 1984 and 1932 Games, and the city's first time hosting the Paralympics. Los Angeles previously hosted Olympics during different eras of the Games' development, with the upcoming event representing the most ambitious sports lineup in Olympic history.

The Games are operated by a privately funded, non-profit organization with revenue from corporate partners, licensing agreements, hospitality and ticketing programs, plus a significant contribution from the International Olympic Committee.

Organizers noted the competition schedule will continue evolving as planning progresses toward the 2028 Games.

maaz@smdp.com




Courtesy image

**LA28:** Olympic competition schedule for the 2028.




## WEDNESDAY | JULY 16

**FRIENDS OF VENICE LIBRARY: YOGA FOR EVERYONE!**
12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. Venice Branch Library 501 S Venice Blvd. Venice. Through body awareness, movement, and breath, you will be guided on how to bring your body, mind, and spirit back into balance for overall well-being. All levels are welcome. Generously funded by the Friends of Venice Library. For ADA accommodations, call (213) 228-7430 at least 72 hours prior to the event. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/friends-of-venice-library-yoga-for-everyone-/14548476/2025-07-16T12

**DISNEY'S DESCENDANTS: THE MUSICAL PRESENTED BY TP YOUTH**
7:00 p.m. Paul Revere Middle School 1450 Allenford Avenue Los Angeles. "Disney's Descendants: The Musical" is set on the Isle of the Lost – home of the most infamous villains who ever lived – where the teenaged children of Maleficent, the Evil Queen, Jafar, and Cruella De Vil have been imprisoned, never venturing off the island... until now. When the four troublemakers are sent to attend prep school alongside the children of beloved Disney heroes, they have a difficult choice to make: Should they follow in their parents' wicked footsteps or learn to be good? $15.00 to $30.00. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/disney-s-descendants-the-musical-presented-by-tp-youth/16200211/2025-07-16T19

## THURSDAY | JULY 17

**ARTS/CRAFTS**
11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Virginia Avenue Park 2200 Virginia Ave Santa Monica. Venga, aprenda, y diviertase cada jueves de 11 AM a 1 PM el el salón 3 del parque Virginia. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/arts-crafts/14712446/2025-07-17T11

**BOOK DISCUSSIONS**
6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Montana Branch Library 1704 Montana Ave. Santa Monica. This community-led, monthly book discussion group meets in person at 6 p.m. on the third Thursday of the month at the Montana Branch Library. This book group discusses a mix of fiction and nonfiction titles, often on topics chosen from current events. To register, email library@santamonica.gov. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/book-discussions/14712450/2025-07-17T18

**MONTANA AVENUE BRANCH BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**
6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Montana Branch Library 1704 Montana Ave. Santa Monica. This community-led, monthly book discussion group meets in person at 6 p.m. on the third Thursday of the month at the Montana Branch. This book group discusses a mix of fiction and nonfiction titles, often on topics chosen from current events. To register, email library@santamonica.gov. Supported by the Friends of the Santa Monica Public Library. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/montana-avenue-branch-book-discussion-group/13906564/2025-07-17T18

## FRIDAY | JULY 18

**THE NIGHT SKY SHOW**
7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Santa Monica College 1900 Pico Blvd Santa Monica. The Night Sky Show is a short program with the latest news in space exploration and astronomy. The program uses freeware sky visualization tools to show you the constellations planets and deep sky objects in the Southern California night sky. The show will last about 30 minutes followed by a short Q&A when guests can type questions into a chat box. We will answer as many questions as possible. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/the-night-sky-show/14165546/2025-07-11T19

## SATURDAY | JULY 19

**COMPOST**
9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. City Yards 2500 Michigan Ave Santa Monica. Join us for Resource Recovery and Recycling's quarterly compost giveaway on July 19th, 2025, from 9:00am to 2:00pm at City Yards, 2500 Michigan Avenue. Please bring gloves and containers if you're picking up compost - a limited supply of bags are available. This is a self-service event so please be prepared to load your own compost. We're also giving away FREE food scrap pails. One per household while supplies last. This event is open to all Santa Monica residents with proof of residency. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/compost/14712444/2025-07-19T09

**UC MASTER GARDENERS AT PICO FARMERS MARKET**
10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Visit with the UC Master Gardeners at the Saturday Pico Farmers Market. he booth is filled with free advice on how to care for plants, how to troubleshoot a gardening problem, and much more. Free seeds and seedlings are available on a limited basis. Market attendance is subject to change based on weather and holidays. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/uc-master-gardeners-at-pico-farmers-market/13766365/2025-07-19T10

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

To learn how to feature your upcoming event on the SMDP and various digital event calendars

Contact dina@smdp.com today!

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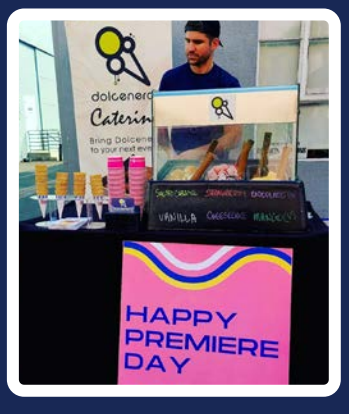
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