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Volume 25 Issue 172

MONDAY 7/20/26

smdp.com

Santa Monica teen cellist earns Carnegie Hall spot

MAAZ ALIN
SMDP Staff Writer

Maxwell Prado, a 14-year-old cellist and incoming Santa Monica High School freshman, has been selected to perform at Carnegie Hall this summer through the Honors Performance Series and chosen for featured solo passages — a distinction drawn from nearly 10,000 nominations submitted from around the world.

Prado will perform with the Honors Orchestra, an ensemble of top-rated young musicians chosen through a competitive audition and review process, on July 23. He was also tapped to play featured cello solos during the performance, including passages in “Elegy” and a work by Vivaldi.

He learned of the opportunity in stages. His middle school orchestra teacher at New West Charter School, Sally O'Neill, quietly nominated him in October 2025. On Dec. 10, 2025, an email confirmed his acceptance as a finalist for the 2026 Middle School Honors Performance orchestra.

“It felt like everything stopped for one moment,” Prado said.

The news carried extra weight for him. “I remember when I was younger and I started playing piano,” he said. “My parents would ... tell that corny joke, ‘How do you get to Carnegie Hall? Practice, practice, practice.’ And now I am actually having the opportunity to play this renowned stage.” He added that it “feels absolutely surreal being able to play on such a stage as a 14-year-old



Courtesy Image

SEE **PERFORMANCE** PAGE 7 **PERFORMANCE:** Santa Monica cellist Maxwell Prado, 14, selected for Carnegie Hall solo performance July 23.

Santa Monica council sends rent-control eviction protections to November ballot; new-occupant measure splits vote

MAAZ ALIN
SMDP Staff Writer

The City Council voted Tuesday to place three proposed rent-control charter amendments on the November ballot, advancing a package of expanded eviction protections that drew a wave of impassioned opposition from small landlords even as council members split over how far the changes

SEE **RENT** PAGE 8

Malibu Council unanimously curbs new cell sites near homes

MAAZ ALIN
SMDP Staff Writer

The City Council voted unanimously Monday to bar most new wireless facilities in Malibu's residential neighborhoods, approving a pair of resolutions that supporters hailed as a long-sought first step toward keeping cell equipment away from homes.

The vote enacts what officials

SEE **MALIBU** PAGE 8

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Community Collective inaugural Builders Breakfast coalition to help turn the World Cup, Olympics and global events into economic opportunity

MICHELLE EDGAR

Special to the Daily Press

More than 50 civic, business and community leaders gathered for the inaugural Community Collective Builders Breakfast at 1212 Santa Monica on the Third Street Promenade, focusing on partnerships, downtown revitalization and Santa Monica's global future.

The monthly breakfast series aims to position Santa Monica to capitalize on upcoming global sporting events, bringing together leaders from government, business, design, development, tourism, construction, culture and community organizations to strengthen the local economy and activate public spaces beyond the Games.

Santa Monica City Councilmember Dan Hall opened the program and joined a panel with city Economic Development Manager Jennifer Taylor, Santa Monica Block Fest producer Peter Trinh and Ryan Bowling, CEO of Local Action Marketing.

The discussion tied momentum from recent World Cup activations to downtown revitalization, economic development, international partnerships, mobility infrastructure and the continuing recovery from the Palisades and Eaton fires.

A central theme emerged: Santa Monica is shifting from "managing decline" to "betting on itself." "We have two years of opportunity where the eyes of the world are on us," said Hall, a West Point graduate and Army veteran elected in 2024. "This is an opportunity that we can leverage to show the world that Santa Monica is not doing business like it used to."

Hall said city leadership is working to replace a historically restrictive culture at City Hall with one centered on collaboration and transparency. "How do we get to yes?" he asked. "How do we activate and use the amazing potential that this community has?"

He acknowledged ongoing challenges — retail vacancies, public perception issues, declining domestic overnight tourism and lingering effects of the pandemic and wildfires — but pointed to targeted investment and data-driven governance as evidence of progress. He cited city data showing Part One crime down 12.5%, while prosecution conviction rates have risen from about 65% to more than 80%.

That transformation has become visible downtown, where World Cup viewing parties, cultural programming, wellness events and Block Fest have drawn thousands of residents and visitors back to the Promenade.

Taylor said the World Cup tested how well city departments, event producers and businesses can collaborate on large-scale events. "It's really helped us test what we can do and continue to move the boundaries around really big events," she said.

She said the city's economic development team is working with representatives from about 17 countries exploring hospitality houses, cultural programming and brand activations tied to the 2028 Olympics. Because Santa Monica is not an official Olympic venue, she said, the city has more flexibility to serve as a hospitality and cultural destination. Potential activations include a



Michelle Edgar

BREAKFAST: The gathering focuses on partnerships to improve the community.

French hospitality house at the Annenberg Community Beach House and a House of Switzerland at the Camera Obscura building in Palisades Park. "We want countries investing here and our businesses and residents benefiting long after the Games," Taylor said.

Bowling said the opportunity extends

beyond sports. "This is more than a business moment — it's a pop-culture moment and an opportunity to amplify a message across Southern California, the United States and globally," he said. His firm connects international governments, sporting organizations and global brands with local communities across Southern California.

With more than 200 countries expected to engage in the region ahead of the 2028 Games, he said opportunities exist in tourism, trade, diplomacy, investment and cultural exchange. "Don't be late to the Games — start building those relationships now," he said, adding that hundreds of Olympic and Paralympic athletes will be seeking community partnerships before 2028.

Trinh said long-term success depends on creating memorable experiences rather than marketing campaigns. "Cities don't build brands through slogans — they build them through experiences, through safety, through hospitality, through great programming and vibrant public spaces," he said. He described Santa Monica as a city rediscovering its identity through food, culture, entertainment and outdoor experiences. "The city is cool. We just need to remind everyone that the city is cool," he said, adding that the city's future depends on consistent year-round programming, not just marquee events.

That strategy is being supported through the city's newly established Major Events Team, which Taylor said is coordinating programming across city departments, Downtown Santa Monica Inc., the Pier, event producers and community partners. The city also plans to expand wellness programming, farmers market partnerships and smaller "surprise-and-delight" experiences downtown, at the beach and in public parks.

Hall also pointed to the newly announced Ocean Way Festival, produced by Goldenvoice, as another chance to boost hotel stays, support restaurants and retailers, and strengthen Santa Monica's reputation as a cultural destination.

Audience discussion touched on housing, bicycle infrastructure, school safety, downtown revitalization and plans to transform the 192-acre Santa Monica Airport property into a regional arts, culture and recreation destination.

Attendees included Downtown Santa Monica Inc. CEO Debbie Lee, Gensler Managing Director Kelly Farrell, PacQuest CEO and founder Fred Cordova, Every Fire Survivors Network founder Joy Chen, Santa Monica Arts Commission Chair Susan Jain, James Cummings of London & Partners and Shawmut Design and Construction Executive Vice President Greg Skalaski.

The optimism was tempered by reminders that rebuilding neighboring communities remains urgent. Chen said her network now represents more than 10,000 fire survivors and continues pushing for insurance accountability. "Our purpose is not anti-industry. It is pro-market integrity," she said, inviting attendees to an Aug. 22 survivor and ally pickleball festival. "This recovery will take all of us."

The next Community Collective Builders Breakfast is set for Sept. 14 at 1212 Santa Monica, where organizers plan to introduce sector-focused working sessions on development, design, government, tourism, mobility, culture, business and community impact.

michelle@smdp.com

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Who Will Santa Monicans for Renters' Rights Endorse?

Back on April 10, 1979, I was an eight-year-old boy living with my 27-year-old single mother in a small apartment at 1659 Franklin Street in Santa Monica. Like many families, we were struggling to make ends meet. My father wasn't part of our lives, and my mom worked long hours just to keep a roof over our heads.

Affordable childcare wasn't an option, so after school I spent my afternoons at the Boys Club—a place I loved. More often than not, my friends and I would sneak off to the Santa Monica Pier, spending hours exploring before racing back in time for my mom to pick me up.

I don't remember exactly where my mother was working then. It may have been directory assistance at GTE, tending bar at the Gas Lite or the Elks Lodge, or another job entirely. What I do remember is how hard she worked and how uncertain our finances often felt.

I also remember something else.

I remember the excitement in our apartment when Santa Monica voters approved Rent Control on April 10, 1979. For my mother, it wasn't just another abstract political issue, it meant stability. It meant she could keep a home for her son. Even as a child, I understood that something important had happened.

My mother and I have come a long way since those days, but I know many Santa Monica families continue to face the same housing challenges we once did. Protecting renters and preserving housing stability remain just as important today as they were nearly five decades ago.

Today, I'm proud to be one of the owners of Vito Restaurant on Ocean Park Boulevard. Alongside my incredible partners and team, we've had the privilege of operating one of Santa Monica's most beloved restaurants - a local institution that has served the community for more than 45 years.

I no longer live in one of the Santa Monica apartments I once called home. As housing costs continued to rise, my family made the difficult decision to move outside the city and commute. Today, as I'm renewing my own lease, I'm once again shocked by how much my rent is increasing. While my family is fortunate to be doing well, I know many others don't have the same flexibility.

That experience serves as a reminder that the decisions made by our elected officials have real consequences for the people who live and work in Santa Monica.

As voters, we shouldn't rely solely on campaign slogans or political talking points. We should ask candidates thoughtful questions, understand the principles that guide their decisions, and then hold them accountable for their policies once they're in office.

The decisions made today will shape not only our rights and quality of life, but also those of future generations.

As Santa Monicans for Renters' Rights

considers its endorsements, I hope members—and all Santa Monica voters—will ask every current and prospective City Council candidate the questions that matter most to them.

Our priorities may differ, but we all benefit from understanding how candidates think about the limits of government authority, the protection of individual rights, and the City's role in shaping the future of our community.

For me, one important issue is understanding how far the City Council believes its authority extends when dealing with both residential and commercial tenants. I would appreciate hearing candidates' views on the following questions.

Questions for City Council Candidates

1. LIMITS OF GOVERNMENT AUTHORITY

A. If the City owns the land beneath residential housing—such as future housing that may be built on City-owned property, including the Santa Monica Airport site—should that ownership give the City authority to dictate how residents and families manage their personal affairs? Why or why not?

B. Likewise, if the City owns commercial property—such as the Santa Monica Pier or future commercial development at the Airport—should that ownership give the City authority to dictate how a private business manages its operations or workforce? If so, where should the line be drawn?

2. CITY LEASES AND LABOR CONDITIONS

A. When the City leases public property—such as the Santa Monica Airport, Santa Monica Pier, or other City-owned facilities—to a private business, what labor-management conditions, if any, should the City require as part of those leases (for example, worker recall provisions or labor peace agreements)? Please explain the principles that guide your position.

B. If you support requiring labor-related conditions in leases with private tenants, do you believe the City should hold itself to comparable standards in its own labor-management practices? If so, what standards should apply? If not, why should the City require worker protections from its tenants that it does not require of itself as an employer?

3. PUBLIC PROCESS

Should labor-management requirements affecting private businesses be adopted through publicly enacted ordinances that apply uniformly to all similarly situated businesses, or should they be negotiated individually as conditions in specific City leases? Please explain your reasoning.

Thank you,

Sean Ahaus, Founder California Roadhouse



Surf report

WATER TEMP: 64.4

MONDAY
FAIR TO GOOD

SURF: 5-7ft
Head to 2ft overhead

Fun (to locally good size) tropical swell from Elida may continue AM before dropping off PM. Watching Elida to see how much strength it maintains into Saturday (18th) as it will likely be on a good track at that point. Improving odds for surf size close in size to Sunday afternoon with clean conditions in the morning and an incoming tide. Stay tuned.



Weather

Monday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, partly sunny, with a high near 73.

Monday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 68.

Tuesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 74.

Tuesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 68.



Daily Lottery

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Draw Date: 7/15
2 7 18 29 38
Power#: 16
Jackpot: 526 M



Draw Date: 7/16
7 8 11 17 39



Draw Date: 7/14
2 4 10 48 56
Mega#: 22
Jackpot: 672 M



Draw Date: 7/16
EVENING: 3 7 5
Draw Date: 7/16
MIDDAY: 9 1 0



Draw Date: 7/15
2 5 34 36 37
Mega#: 3
Jackpot: 38 M



Draw Date: 7/16
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2nd: 06 - Whirl Win
3rd: 11 - Money Bags
Race Time: 1:48.80

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Santa Monica Daily Press

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DBA

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Name Change

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 26LBCP00205. Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, 275 Magnolia Ave, Long Beach, CA 90802. Petition of Laura Victoria Akinngabge and Oluwafemisayo Ajibike Akinngabge for Change of Name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner Laura Victoria Akinngabge and Oluwafemisayo Ajibike Akinngabge filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Oluwafemisayo Ajibike Kayode Akinngabge XVI to Oluwafemisayo Ajibike Kayode Akinngabge III. 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: 08/04/2026, Time: 8:30 AM, Dept: S26. 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: 06/23/2026. MICHAEL P. VICENCIA, Judge of the Superior Court. SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS Publish: 06/29/2026, 07/06/2026, 07/13/2026, 07/20/2026

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GUEST COMMENTARY

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To lower building costs, California wrongly takes aim at EV chargers for new apartments

Think electric vehicles are just for the rich? Think again.

Used EVs are now the most affordable cars to buy, drive and maintain. As gas prices surge and EV prices drop, demand is skyrocketing, and 2026 may be the tipping point for EV adoption. The newly approved state rebates for EV buyers is more proof.

When it comes to EVs, however, it's a tale of two drivers: those who can charge at home and those who can't. Having experienced the difference firsthand, I'm alarmed at an effort in the California Legislature to roll back home charging access for affordable housing residents.

I purchased my first EV in 2012. Living on a tight budget, I valued cutting my fueling and maintenance costs and helping clean the air in my polluted Inland Empire community.

When I moved to an apartment seven years later, I discovered how hard it was to rely on public chargers. I often drive out of my way to find a working charger, wait for it to become available and then dash back to avoid idling fees.

Public charging isn't just less convenient, it's also more expensive. Only residential charging rates are regulated; public charging companies set their own prices — often as much as six times more than residential rates.

Apartment residents without home charging, who in California tend to be young, Black or Latino, are thus denied the key to EV's greatest cost savings.

That's made me concerned about Assembly Bill 2748, authored by Assemblymember Sharon Quirk-Silva, which would roll back EV charging requirements for new affordable housing by allowing developers to follow the 2022 building standards, rather than 2025.

The bill's goal is laudable: to reduce building costs for affordable housing. But ironically, in some cases the bill would have the opposite effect, an analysis by the National Charging Access Coalition found. And in all cases, it would reduce access to charging for those who need affordable transportation the most.

The 2025 building code was carefully designed to expand charging access for residents while minimizing costs for developers. When parking is assigned, it removes a requirement for expensive charging stations and allows developers

to provide simple, lower-cost outlets.

This approach roughly doubles the number of charging outlets compared with the 2022 code for essentially the same or lower costs, according to the coalition's analysis. It also incentivizes developers to provide assigned parking with charging outlets wired directly to residents' meters, which gives them access to utility-regulated and state-discounted rates, making charging even more affordable.

By exempting affordable housing development from the current code provisions, the coalition's analysis suggests AB 2748 would roughly halve charging access and set up tenants and property managers for much higher future costs. Installing EV charging as a retrofit can triple costs — and in one instance was 30 times more expensive — versus including it during construction before concrete is poured and transformers are sized.

Taxpayers and ratepayers will ultimately bear the burden as state agencies and utilities spend millions retrofitting multifamily buildings to add charging. Delaying EV charging infrastructure until it becomes dramatically more expensive isn't savings — it's deferred spending with interest.

Reducing charging access for California's lowest income residents isn't an effective way to reduce construction costs. EV charging infrastructure accounts for less than 1% of the cost of building affordable housing, far less than the 10 to 15% spent on development fees.

The main culprits of high construction costs are not charging outlets; they are lumber, labor and land. Yet for the residents who will live in these buildings, access to home charging can mean the difference between affordable transportation or years of dependence on higher-cost public charging or expensive gasoline.

Affordable housing tenants deserve the same opportunity that residents of new market-rate apartments enjoy: to charge at home while they sleep and never need to pump gas again.

Housing must be affordable not only to build, but to live in.

Michelle Pierce is an electric vehicle advocate and consultant who founded EV Nirvana. She is a co-leader of the National Charging Access Coalition.

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Wildfire smoke kills tens of thousands of people a year. Here's how it attacks the body

Smoke from wildfires — which are burning more of the Northern Hemisphere as Earth warms — attacks nearly every system in the human body, killing tens of thousands of people a year, numerous medical studies show.

It attacks the body immediately, spiking asthma cases with increased ambulance runs within hours, swamps emergency rooms in a day or so with people suffering from heart attacks and other cardiovascular and lung issues, as well as mental health issues, doctors and scientists told The Associated Press.

Smoke also harms pregnant women, increasing the risk of premature births and low-weight babies who could have breathing problems the rest of their lives, doctors and studies say. And then there are long-term risks connecting prolonged smoke and other air pollution exposure to some cancers and dementia.

After huge global fires in 2018 and 2019, the medical and science communities started looking at the health effects from the smoke with “more and more studies coming out finding that there’s all types of impacts that may not have been so obvious before,” said Dr. Mary Johnson, a Harvard School of Public Health environmental health scientist.

Smoke causes inflammation by triggering the body’s immune system to go into overtime to fight the irritant. Scientists have found it can harm the brain, the skin and men’s sperm, with almost no system of the body spared, Johnson said. People over 60 become more prone to stroke in wildfire smoke, she said.

“Wildfire smoke is the toxic product of combustion of whatever burned,” which could include houses and cars, said Dr. Courtney Howard, an emergency room physician, chair of the Global Climate and Health Alliance and president-elect of the Canadian Medical Association.

“So really it’s a big giant toxic soup of particles and gases.”

Scientists have counted at least 1,000 toxins in wildfire smoke, according to Colorado State University environmental toxicologist Luke Montrose.

“If I gave you a list, you would recognize some of these as being very bad, oftentimes associated with the burning of diesel fuel or cigarette smoke, things like formaldehyde or volatile organic compounds,” Montrose said. “So just the smoke itself can be bad.”

RIISING GLOBAL TEMPERATURES FROM CLIMATE CHANGE MEANS MORE FIRES

So far this year, more than 5,740 square miles (more than 14,860 square kilometers) of the United States has burned from wildfires, which is 31% more than the average of the previous 10 years on this date, according to the National Interagency Fire Center. The amount of U.S. land burned each year in the 2020s — averaged out over a decade — is now more than twice what it was 30 years ago.

Europe saw a record high amount of land burned in 2025, Canada has had several record or near-record fire years in the 2020s and the Arctic recently has had unprecedented levels of burning.

“Wildfires are becoming more frequent and intense because of climate change, and when a fire happens, you have smoke,” said Colleen

6 Wildfires are becoming more frequent and intense because of climate change, and when a fire happens, you have smoke

- Colleen Reid, a University of Colorado geographic health professor

Reid, a University of Colorado geographic health professor.

Most of the biggest particles in wildfire smoke fall close to where a blaze is burning, while the smallest particles — the ones that scientists say do the most damage — travel the farthest. In a typical wildfire, the nasty particles that harm human health are about the size of one micron, Reid said.

INSIDE THE BODY, PARTICLES ATTACK

First those particles have to get by your body’s protection, mainly nose hairs and mucus, then they get into your lungs and from there the bloodstream.

Montrose said the particles can be coated in lots of chemicals and have large surface areas. That triggers the body’s defense system to “send signals to other cells that say, ‘We have a problem. We need to mount an immune response to this.’ And that’s where you get your acute effect or your effect within minutes, hours or even that day.” It’s mostly happening in the hearts and lungs, he said.

And many people die.

On average 24,100 people died each year in the Lower 48 states between 2006 and 2020 due to long-term exposure to tiny particles from wildfire smoke, according to a study this year in the journal Science Advances. A Stanford study projects that U.S. wildfire smoke deaths will increase with climate change and by midcentury hit an annual cost of \$244 billion in terms of the economic value the government puts on each life.

On a global scale, wildfire smoke particles cause 677,745 deaths annually, with almost 39% of them children under age 5, according to a 2021 study that combined observations, studies on how the body responds to the particles and computer models to calculate the toll.

The biggest nonlethal effects have to do with the way people breathe, especially those with asthma.

“We did a study here in 2014 after we had about two-and-a-half months of smoke off and on, because we’re in the subarctic so we’re warming at triple the global rate, so in a way we’re kind of canaries in the coal mine of the health impacts of climate change,” Howard said on a clear day from Yellowknife, Canada.

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ERICKSON-HALL CONSTRUCTION CO. HAS BEEN SELECTED AS THE LEASE-LEASEBACK CONTRACTOR FOR THE **SANTA MONICA HS STUDENT SERVICES BLDG – INCREMENT 2A**

Scope of work to include: construction of a permanent soldier pile shoring wall, earthwork required for the shoring system, and mass earthwork associated with the future Student Services Building and related site improvements.

Bidders shall possess the appropriate California license classification for the scope of work being bid. Anticipated Bid Packages and License Classifications:

- Shoring (A, C-61)
- Earthwork (A, C-12)
- Survey (Licensed Land Surveyor / PLS)
- Erosion Control (A, C-27)

This bid is for Increment 2A of the project. Increment 1 is currently ongoing and consists of demolition of the existing building and installation of site utilities. Increment 2B is expected to bid in September and will consist of construction of a new 50,000 sf two-story Student Services Building featuring a black box theater, classrooms, and offices.

This project includes a Project Labor Agreement (PLA)

This project requires Sexual Abuse & Molestation Insurance (SAM)

Job Walk Date: 7/21/2026 at 8:00 AM

RFI's due: 7/24/2026

Prequalification Deadline: 7/28/2026

Prequalified Subcontractor List Issued: 8/4/2026

Bid Date: 8/11/2026 @ 2:00 PM

Lead Estimator: Travis Miinch

Project Address: 601 Pico Blvd., Santa Monica, CA 90405

Bid Documents can be obtained by contacting planroom@ericksonhall.com

All bids are to be submitted through BuildingConnected

This project requires **Prevailing Wage, Skilled & Trained Workforce & PLA**

This project for **Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District** requires **Prequalification** through <http://www.qualitybidders.com> Public Contract Code 20111.6 requires the district to pre-qualify for certain projects. PCC 20111.6 applies to prime contractors and M/E/P subcontractors with the following licenses:

- General Contractors (A and B)
- Mechanical, Electrical and Plumbing subcontractors (C-4, C-7, C-10, C-16, C-20, C-34, C-36, C-38, C-42, C-43 and C-46).

If you are planning to bid this project, we encourage your participation and welcome your bid. All qualified bidders will receive consideration without regard to race, color, religion, sex or national origin. Erickson-Hall Construction Company requires all subcontractors submitting bids in excess of \$50,000 to be prepared to furnish performance and payment bonds issued by a corporate security. Erickson-Hall Construction Company, at its sole discretion, reserves the right to waive this requirement or permit substitute security or alternate guarantees. We offer assistance in obtaining necessary equipment, supplies materials, bonds, lines of credit and insurance.

Erickson-Hall Construction provides notice to all contractors of the adoption of SB 854, this requires subcontractors to comply with the requirements as set forth on the Department of Industrial Relations (DIR) website at <http://www.dir.ca.gov/Public-Works/publicworks.html>. SB 854 requires all contractors who perform public works projects must be registered with the Department of Industrial Relations. No contractor or subcontractor may be listed on a bid proposal for a public works project (submitted on or after, unless registered with the Department of Industrial Relations pursuant to Labor Code section 1725.5).

World Cup beer sales are hopping. Brewers hope the stout demand outlasts the tournament

The World Cup has been a bonanza for beer in the U.S. Bars in Boston reported needing emergency deliveries to keep taps from running dry on some game days. Fans downed a total of 290,000 stadium beers during the six matches in Philadelphia, FIFA organizers said.

But all that frothy foam obscures a cold reality: Beer sales have been struggling globally, and it's unclear if soccer's world championship tournament can reverse the trend despite having three countries and 16 cities as co-hosts this year.

In the U.S., beer consumption has fallen steadily for a decade, according to the Brewers Association, a trade group for craft brewers. Canada has seen a similar decline, according to the national statistics agency. The Brewers of Europe trade association says the story is the same in the European Union.

CONSUMERS ARE BUYING LESS REGULAR BEER AND MORE 'WELLNESS' DRINKS

Many consumers are cutting back on alcohol for health reasons. Last year was the first time in Gallup's polling that a majority of Americans – 53% – said drinking “one or two drinks a day” was bad for one's health.

While sales of non-alcoholic beer have grown, they still make up only around 1% of the U.S. market, according to the Beer Institute, a trade group for brewers.

Economic worries also have taken a toll on sales. U.S. consumption of all types of alcohol – including wine and spirits – fell 5% last year, and affordability concerns were partly to blame, beverage market research company IWSR said.

Craig Purser, the president and CEO of the National Beer Wholesalers Association, said he thinks smartphones and Netflix have taken consumers away from socializing with a cold beer in hand.

“If you have this behavior where we're cocooning and we're not spending time with other folks, that's going to affect beer consumption,” Purser said.

WORLD CUP HOST CITIES SAW A BUMP IN BEER SALES AT STADIUMS, BARS AND RESTAURANTS

Enter the World Cup and the soccer fans who traveled from around the world to support their national teams and engage in communal celebration or sorrow.

In the first four weeks of the tournament, beer sales in bars, restaurants, stadiums and other venues rose 14% in U.S. host cities compared to the same period last year, according to the Beer Institute. The bump extended beyond host cities; sales were up 4% nationally, the institute said.

Jim Koch, the brewer, founder and CEO of the Boston Beer Co., which makes Samuel Adams and other brands, said the company had to make two emergency deliveries to its Sam Adams Boston Taproom on the first day that Scotland's fans were in town.

“At one point, we were pouring them a Sam Adams Boston Lager every 12 seconds. What a wonderful group of people,” he said.

But that wasn't all that warmed Koch's heart.

“I didn't see a single soul on their phone,” he said, “They had a beer in their hand and they were talking to each other. They were doing what beer is meant to do, which is helping people enjoy each other's company.”

The plentiful drinking on display in stadiums stood in stark contrast to the World Cup held four years ago in Qatar, where the government banned the sale of alcoholic beer in match venues.

Brewers leaned heavily into this year's tournament. Budweiser and Michelob Ultra maker AB InBev, the World's Cup's official beer sponsor, doled out marketing support to bars and hosted 200,000 watch parties in 40 countries.

Molson Coors said it would spend 60% more than last year on marketing in June and July; it also debuted a limited edition soccer ball that can hold 12 cans of Miller Lite.

A TEAM'S LOSS CAN MAKE SUPPORTERS CRY, BUT NOT IN THEIR BEER

Maybell Romero, a law professor at Tulane University School of Law in New Orleans, usually prefers cocktails over beer. But she says she opts for beer during the World Cup since it has lower alcohol content than liquor or wine and watching games can be an all-day affair.

“If I drink cocktail after cocktail, I will not be functional after a few hours,” Romero said.

Romero, who has been watching this year's matches at bars in Mexico City, said she's enjoyed trying new beers, especially those with novel ingredients like champagne yeast. She might order an occasional beer once the World Cup ends but expects to go back to mostly drinking cocktails.

Beer consumption was expected to fall in some markets even before the World Cup ended. Shares in AB InBev and Constellation Brands — which owns the U.S. rights to Mexican beer brands like Corona and Modelo — tumbled after Mexico and Brazil were eliminated from the tournament.

Romero observed the mood shift in Mexico City after those losses.

“The city is collectively depressed,” she said. “Everything is a lot quieter, and people aren't going out as much.”

MAJOR SPORTING EVENTS ON THE HORIZON ALLOW THE BEER INDUSTRY TO HOLD OUT HOPE

Purser remains hopeful the World Cup will remind people how much they like to gather and cheer on athletes, especially with the Summer Olympics heading to Los Angeles in 2028. Occasions are expanding, he said; college and professional football games are now played on more nights of the week, for example. And beer's consumer base is widening as more brands put out low- and no-alcohol versions, he said.

In May, the NCAA reversed its long-standing ban on alcohol advertising during

COMMUNITY NEWS

LA County

LA County Updates Collection Costs for Delinquent Property Taxes

Los Angeles County Treasurer and Tax Collector Elizabeth Buenrostro Ginsberg has updated the collection costs for recovering delinquent unsecured property taxes to reflect actual costs, the department announced.

The changes take effect Sept. 1, 2026, starting with unsecured property tax bills due in fiscal year 2026-27. Delinquent unsecured property taxes will incur a 10% penalty and a \$12 Notice of Enforcement collection cost — down from \$20 — if not paid by the delinquency date.

After 90 days from the delinquency date, outstanding taxes will incur an additional \$93 Notice of Lien collection cost, up from \$29, plus penalties at a rate of 1.5% per month until paid in full. The department will also institute enforcement proceedings, which include recording a tax lien against the assessee of record if payment is not received on time.

Property owners who pay on time will not be affected.

Unsecured property tax bills can be viewed at ttc.lacounty.gov/request-unsecured-bill, and mail and in-person payment instructions are available at ttc.lacounty.gov/pay-your-property-taxes-unsecured. Delinquent unsecured property taxes cannot be paid online.

Property owners can find answers to most questions or submit inquiries at ttc.lacounty.gov/unsecured-public-inquiries, call the Unsecured Property Tax Section at 1-213-893-7935, or visit 225 N. Hill St., First Floor Lobby, Los Angeles, CA 90012, between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Pacific time, Monday through Friday, excluding county holidays.

Spanish-language assistance is available by calling 1-213-974-2111 during the same hours.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF

SMOKE

FROM PAGE 5

“We found a full doubling of emergency department visits for asthma and about 50% increase in pneumonia.”

“Even in individuals that don’t have asthma, the air can be so irritating that you could have difficulty with your respiratory system regardless,” Johnson said, “whether it’s coughing, whether it’s chest tightness, whether it’s sore throat, headache.”

THERE ARE WAYS TO MINIMIZE THE RISKS

Studies have linked smoke to people having more trouble with decision making and other

cognitive issues. People come to the emergency room depressed, Howard said. That’s why it’s important to find a place with clean air — including designated shelters or libraries — to get a break from the smoke and possibly exercise, she said.

Experts suggest people wear high-quality masks when outdoors, even though they don’t provide perfect protection. Inside, check windows and doors for seals, invest in a good ventilation system and check air filters, they say.

“Staying away from the smoke is No. 1 if you can,” Johnson said.

By SETH BORENSTEIN AP Science Writer

PERFORMANCE

FROM PAGE 1

... given such a great opportunity where many amazing musicians have played before me.”

Prado began on piano before discovering the cello in fourth grade, just as pandemic lockdowns were easing at Edison Elementary School in Santa Monica. During a music class showcasing different instruments, he was captivated by a video of Jacqueline du Pré performing Elgar’s Cello Concerto.

“I knew at that moment that I wanted to play the cello,” he said. When he finally held one the following week, “it felt so natural, like I had always been playing the cello. ... This instrument was the instrument I was born to play.”

He has focused on the cello for five years, training under sought-after instructor Betsy Rettig, and has been part of Santa Monica-based Elemental Music since he began the instrument in fourth grade. He has performed with the Elemental Academy Philharmonic for three years, serving as first-chair cellist for the last two, and has spent three years in the organization’s Chamber Music Institute.

Prado also studies with The Colburn School’s youth orchestra and chamber programs, and this year he performed in LA Opera’s production of “Noah’s Flood” at the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels.

Beyond the concert hall, he volunteers his time playing for others, including residents in the memory care unit at Ivy Park assisted living community in Santa Monica.

“Music transcends ages,” Prado said. “It doesn’t matter if you’re young or you’re old. Music just makes people feel.” He recalled that at Ivy Park, “some of them clapped, some of them sang along, and ultimately, they all seem to smile.” Music, he said, “is really the most amazing language.”

O’Neill said she has enjoyed watching him mature during his middle school years. “It has been wonderful watching Maxwell develop not only as a musician, but also as a leader and a well-rounded cellist,” she said. “His dedication, humility, and love for music truly stand out.”

As he heads to high school, Prado said he expects the same balancing act as his classmates. He will have daily orchestra rehearsals at Santa Monica High while continuing his work with Colburn, Elemental Music and Rettig.

“Like every incoming freshman, I know there will be an adjustment period,” he said. “We all have to learn how to balance school, music, friends, family and time to recharge.” He added: “Where there’s a will, there’s a way, and for me, that way is through music.”

Finalists will travel to New York City to rehearse under internationally recognized conductor Kurt Mosier before the performance.

“Being selected to the Honors Performance Series is something each finalist should be extremely proud of accomplishing,” said Marion Gomez, music director for the series. “We processed nearly 10,000 nominations this year and selected some of the most talented student performers from around the world. Working with these conductors and performing at these renowned venues is a once-in-a-lifetime experience these musicians will never forget.”

The Honors Performance Series, presented by the educational travel organization WorldStrides, was created to showcase accomplished student performers in world-renowned venues under master conductors. The July 23 concert is open to the public, with tickets available through the Carnegie Hall box office.

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MALIBU

FROM PAGE 1

have called Phase 1 of a “residential fix,” prohibiting new wireless installations in residential areas except where federal law requires the city to allow them. Because the changes were adopted as resolutions rather than ordinances, they took effect immediately and apply to any application submitted after the vote.

“

It’s a marked departure from the way things used to be

- Bruce Silverstein, Mayor

”

“It’s a marked departure from the way things used to be,” Mayor Bruce Silverstein said before the vote. “The residents have been clamoring for this for many years now, and every time it’s been raised, it’s been deferred.”

Under the new standards, the siting restriction applies on private property in residential zoning districts and, in the public right-of-way, to any location within 300 feet of a residential parcel fronting the roadway. The required spacing between wireless facilities in the right-of-way near homes increases from 600 feet to 1,000 feet. The rules steer carriers toward Pacific Coast Highway and arterial roads, which remain the preferred locations.

The restrictions apply only to brand-new facilities and to modifications that fall outside federal limits. Senior Planner Patrick Achis told the council the city must still approve qualifying “eligible facility requests” — changes to existing sites that meet Federal Communications Commission criteria. Achis said Malibu has approved 39 wireless applications in the past 12 months, all of them eligible facility requests, and that the last brand-new facility was approved about three and a half years ago.

Staff also pushed back on a comparison, raised repeatedly in public comment, to the city of Calabasas, which some residents believe regulates wireless equipment more strictly. Achis said Malibu’s rules are the tougher of the two. Calabasas permits new facilities in

residential and open-space zones if they are screened, and approves them administratively without a public hearing, he said. Malibu, by contrast, requires discretionary review, a public hearing and, where applicable, a coastal development permit.

Assistant Community Development Director Tyler Eaton said Malibu’s process has at times proved so demanding that applicants abandoned their projects. “We’ve had a few of those that have not made it through the process,” he said.

Much of the council’s discussion turned on the tension between limiting equipment and maintaining reliable service in a fire-prone community with frequent power shutoffs. Councilmember Marianne Riggins said she shared residents’ health concerns about 5G technology but stressed that Malibu cannot afford coverage gaps during emergencies.

“We have gone through two major fires on each end of town and not had proper coverage so that people can get accurate information for evacuations,” Riggins said. She recounted a recent outage at her own home: “The power was out for 10 days, and I didn’t have service in my house. I happen to live on Cliffside on Point Dume.”

Councilmember Steve Uhring urged staff to monitor how carriers respond to the new rules and report back quickly. “Telecom companies — they’ve demonstrated they’re very powerful,” he said. “They got great lobbyists. If it isn’t working, we’ve got to tweak it. Let’s tweak it earlier versus later.”

Several members said the more consequential work lies ahead. “The real meat on the bones is going to come in Phase 2,” Councilmember Doug Stewart said, pointing to installation and maintenance standards. “The engineers can do a great job to put it together, but if it isn’t installed properly, it’s a mess.”

Phase 2, targeted for August or September, is expected to focus on fire safety, equipment upkeep and enforcement. Silverstein floated requiring periodic inspections of wireless sites every few years — paid for by the carriers — to check for degradation and fire hazards. Interim City Attorney Trevor Rusin said the city could likely justify such a rule if it established a clear rationale and kept the requirements proportional, and agreed to research the question for the next round of amendments.

Riggins said she would support mandatory checks tied to maintenance and power shutoffs, noting that backup batteries at some sites fail to work after prolonged outages. “Is there something that we can add in for periodic maintenance and/or checks after a PSPS season?” she asked. “I would absolutely support having that.”

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RENT

FROM PAGE 1

should go.

Three of the proposals — a state-required environmental finding, a set of administrative updates to the Rent Control Board paired with a reaffirmation of the city’s just-cause eviction laws, and a prohibition on evictions over relatively small rental debts — were adopted together, 6-0. A separate measure, which would bar evictions when tenants add new occupants to a household, passed 4-2, with Council Members Lana Negrete and Barry Snell opposed. Council Member Jesse Zwick recused himself because of his employment as Southern California director of the Housing Action Coalition.

The proposals grew out of a January directive that council members said was prompted by federal immigration enforcement in the region. Council Member Dan Hall urged colleagues to recall that context, noting that Immigration and Customs Enforcement raids had left some households scrambling. “Primary tenants were taken into custody by federal immigration enforcement, leaving family members ... in pretty rough straits,” Hall said, describing the eviction protections as working “hand in hand as both a financial protection and a household protection.”

Chief Deputy City Attorney Romy Ganschow, who presented the measures, said the amendments followed a survey of tenant protections in comparable California cities and multiple public hearings before the Rent Control Board, which recommended them.

The nonpayment measure would prohibit evictions when a tenant owes less than a threshold tied to federal fair-market rent estimates for local ZIP codes. According to the staff report, roughly 75% of eviction lawsuits reported to the city attorney’s office since 2024 were for nonpayment, with a median amount of about \$6,000 in cases that were filed.

The most contested measure would prevent landlords from evicting tenants who move additional family members or non-family “household” members into a unit, and would let certain occupants remain after the original tenant leaves. Negrete pressed Ganschow repeatedly on whether that could create what critics call “perpetual tenancy,” asking whether a series of occupants could each pass the unit along. “That could happen under this regulation,” Ganschow acknowledged. “It wouldn’t preclude that.”

Negrete, who said she lives in a rent-controlled building, described fielding calls from small landlords who felt blindsided. “I don’t think ... they don’t not want to be involved. They’re just not getting these notifications,” she said, asking whether the vote could be delayed. She also worried about effects on “small mom and pop good landlords” who might conclude, “God, I can’t handle this anymore. I’m going to put it up for sale.”

Mayor Caroline Torosis defended the measure by pointing to situations she said she had seen on the Rent Control Board. “You

“

I don’t think ... they don’t not want to be involved. They’re just not getting these notifications

- Lana Negrete, Council Members

”

have ... an elderly parent passes away, child is not on the lease, lives with the parent as a caretaker,” she said. “We’re talking about someone’s pocketbook versus ... a roof over someone’s head and an exacerbating homeless crisis.”

Snell, who said he is a renter and a business owner but not a landlord, supported the other measures but balked at the occupancy provision, citing concern for landlords unable “to dictate who’s in the place on a serial basis.” He successfully moved to split that resolution off for a separate vote, a procedural motion that carried 5-1.

Council Member Ellis Raskin, who carried the main motion, invoked the Rent Control Board’s independent authority. “There’s been a lot of hard work that’s gone to this,” he said. “Our elected experts to the rent control board have been hard at work at this over the last six months.” He added that the council was “not making law tonight,” because “it’s the electorate that decides.”

Written comments submitted before the meeting ran heavily against the package, particularly from landlords and the Apartment Association of Greater Los Angeles, which warned the occupancy language was vague and “ripe for abuse” and could invite litigation. Supporters, including a resident who works a tenant hotline, said the nonpayment protection could buy the city time to connect struggling renters with relief funds before eviction proceedings begin.

The council then voted 6-0 to authorize members to draft ballot arguments in favor of the measures — Hall for the administrative updates, Torosis for the nonpayment protection and Raskin for the occupancy measure. No member filed arguments against any measure. Ballot arguments are due within 14 days.

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BEER

FROM PAGE 6

March Madness, allowing makers of beer, wine, spirits and hard seltzer makers to sponsor the college basketball tournaments for the first time starting next season.

The Boston Beer Co.’s Koch said he’s not fretting until then.

“People worry that the beer business has

declined for a few years, and I always remind them that beer has been a part of human society, human civilization, for 10,000 years,” he said. “Beer will always be a part enhancing our enjoyment of our lives and the time we spend on this earth.”

By DEE-ANN DURBIN AP Business Writer. AP Video Journalist Rodrique Ngowi contributed from Boston.



Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN

THIS IS THE LAST WEEK OF FREEDOM BEFORE WE AGAIN ASSUME THE YOKE OF EDUCATION.

SIGH... YES.

I DIDN'T GET EVERYTHING DONE.

YOU DIDN'T GET ANYTHING DONE.

SIGH... YOU'RE RIGHT... I DIDN'T GET ANYTHING DONE.

NOPE! IT WAS A VERY SUCCESSFUL SUMMER!

Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART

NICE SUNSET. WHERE DO YOU THINK IT GOES AT NIGHT?

OH... IT RECHARGES, KENNY.

SNICKER SNICK

Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE

I'M THINKING OF BECOMING AN UBER DRIVER ON WEEKENDS.

WHAT? WHY?

I NEED THE MONEY.

BUT, JAN, YOU'VE HAD MORE TICKETS THAN ANYONE ELSE I KNOW! YOUR LICENSE HAS BEEN SUSPENDED THREE TIMES! YOU HAVE SERIOUS ROAD RAGE!

IT'S EITHER THAT OR RAISE THE RENT.

ON THE OTHER HAND, YOU ARE AN EXCELLENT DRIVER.

Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER

Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING

MY DUDES!

"THE BARITONE CHIPMUNK."

OK, HERE'S THE PLAN...

FIND THE WORDS

This is a theme puzzle with the subject stated below. Find the listed words in the grid. (They may run in any direction but always in a straight line. Some letters are used more than once.) Ring each word as you find it and when you have completed the puzzle, there will be 19 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle.

© australianwordgames.com.au 7007

What's in the wardrobe?

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

Air Mesh	Denim	Logo	Staple
Ballistic	Deodorize	Mini	Suit
nylon	Dress	Oxford	Ties
Belt	Eyelets	Parka	Tricot
Blouse	Fleece	Poplin	Twill
Bolero	Hand	Raglan	Velcro
Boots	Hat	Ramie	Vest
Brim	Heels	Safety	V-neck
Buckle	Interfacing	Sarong	Work
Caps	Jumper	Shawl	Woven
Coat	Leisure	Skirt	Yoke

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.

So much to explore



TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (July 20)

It's your Year of the Carousel, in which familiar themes return and enjoyment is no longer a reward for finishing the work - it's part of the experience. You're being carried in a beautiful spectacle of music and lights. More highlights: A hobby becomes a talent and an income stream. Close relationships glow with warmth, tenderness and just plain fun. You'll sign a contract that protects and funds you. Libra and Pisces adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 7, 22, 16, 3 and 9.



HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). The main tension today is between your desire to lead and your awareness that collaboration often brings about the best result - often, but not always. And what about today? You'll figure out how to take initiative without needing complete control.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Yes, your values differ from those of many around you. They may even conflict with what the group is collectively trying to accomplish. Even so, practical and logistical realities require participation. You'll make it work while remaining true to what matters most.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Being heard isn't the same as being understood. Some conversations generate attention. Others create connection. You'll know the difference by how you feel afterward. One leaves you energized. The other leaves you feeling strangely alone.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Like schools of fish and flocks of birds behaving as a single creature, there is a group mind influencing your scene on levels that feel practically primordial. But your need to express and assert your individuality will be stronger today.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You are quickly becoming a favorite of those with knowledge to impart. What you learn will apply in many areas of life, sometimes as metaphor, sometimes as a lesson with immediate applications.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Not everyone will understand your vision immediately, and that's perfectly normal. New ideas often need time before they make sense to other people. The challenge isn't convincing everyone. It's staying on purpose without becoming dependent on approval.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You'll have fresh ideas about who should be doing what. As you look at the division of labor, you'll get a clearer sense of what belongs on your plate and what works better as a group effort. A few responsibilities are ready to change hands.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). The golden question today: How do I express myself fully without forgetting that I'm part of something larger? The line between personal glory and collective good will reveal itself, and you will walk it with the grace of a veteran tightrope artist.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You're getting noticed, which is nice. Still, the more interesting question is what you want to do with that attention. For now, the answer can wait. Simply notice which doors begin to open.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Your beliefs are evolving. Stay curious enough to let new information add nuance to the picture. What you learn now may not change your mind so much as broaden the context around it.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You're gravitating toward certain people and steering clear of others. Fair enough. Just don't become so selective that you overlook an unexpected ally. Useful insight will come from an unlikely source.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). The gears don't automatically run smoothly. They have to be fitted. You turn the machinery on and notice where it rubs, where the timing is off, where the shapes miss connection. It's the fine tuning that makes it work.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

Sudoku

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

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

Newsday Crossword

COMPETITIONS by Sally R. Stein
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

- One-on-one teacher
- Vehicle on snow
- Arrange for in advance
- Cooktop range
- Piece of plumbing
- Actor's job
- Summoned with a beeper
- Leave off a list
- "What's ___ for me!?"
- Competition with Thoroughbreds
- Letters symbolizing sleep
- Have a meal
- Back of a ship
- Police vehicle, informally
- ___ order (needing repair)
- "We're in trouble now"
- Open-handed hit
- Name of a book or film
- Makes angry
- Soldier show group: Abbr.
- White marsh bird
- Helpful upward push
- Orange's covering
- Color variations
- Bags for potatoes
- Type of blood vessel
- Cuban ballroom dance
- Nest egg acronym
- Federal disaster aid unit: Abbr.
- Competition with sprinters
- Revise for publication
- Crunchy Mexican food

- ___ out (reaches a peak)
- Hockey puck shape
- Baker's appliance
- Important happening
- Wide belt
- Loch ___ monster
- Students' work stations

DOWN

- Small amt. of sugar
- Great Salt Lake state
- Takeout meal order
- Located above
- Water parted in Exodus
- Soccer or skiing
- Capital of Peru
- Long heroic tale

- Dislike very much
- Competition with boxers
- Solitary-type person
- From another planet
- Earns after taxes
- Organs for hearing
- Carryall bag
- Sidewalk's edge
- Cleveland's state
- Game played on ponies
- Competition with kings and rooks
- Desert spot with water
- "Once ___ a time..."
- Wait in hiding
- Factually correct
- Rude glance

- Website for crafts
- Wild guess
- Not illuminated
- T-shirt fabric
- Smashed into
- Social ___ (Instagram, Facebook etc.)
- Out of whack
- Clickable phone images
- Government agents, for short
- Four-star review
- Top poker pair
- Roof overhang
- Former spouses
- Run of about 11,000 yards, for short
- Roads that may cross avenues: Abbr.

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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07/20/26

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



MONDAY | JULY 20

SUMMER FUN AT HOLY GROUNDS

Join us at Holy Grounds on weekday mornings this summer for a cup of coffee, chats with old and new friends, and special activities at 10a! We're located at 725 California Avenue in Santa Monica. Free underground parking! Holy Grounds is the coffee bar and book/gift shop at St. Monica. Located inside the Caruso Community Center, we serve organic coffee and tea from Urth Caffe, assorted pastries and baked goods, and soft drinks. We also have a great selection of books, music, jewelry and unique religious gifts for all occasions! Free WiFi for our customers! Stop by and check us out! Mondays: Connect with our parish Navigators and find your niche at the parish. Tuesdays: Drop in for Coffee Talk with Father Vince and discuss faith issues that are of interest to you! Wednesdays: Meet up with special guests from our local community. Thursdays: Test your board games skills! Fridays: Deacon Kevin welcomes all to Book Club.

COMMUNAL GARDENING @ ISHIHARA PARK

9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Ishihara Park 2909 Exposition Blvd Santa Monica. Communal Garden Program Work Days @ Ishihara Park Learning Garden - Mondays and Wednesdays | 9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. | Free. Come get your hands dirty in the Communal Garden Program at Ishihara Park Learning Garden, a communal spot to learn and acquire gardening skills. Seasoned as well as new gardeners of all ages are welcome. Free drop in activity, no reservation needed. Visit the Ishihara Park Learning Garden site for More Information. Subject to cancellation due to weather. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/communal-gardening-ishihara-park/18461167/2026-07-06T09>

PIZZA PARTY AT BODEGA WINE BAR

6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. 814 Broadway Santa Monica. Every Monday Night at Bodega, every bottle of wine you purchase gets you a pizza half off! 6pm-Close. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/pizza-party-at-bodega-wine-bar/11526040/2026-07-06T18>

THE GORDONS IMPROV RESIDENCY

7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. Westside Comedy Theater 1323-A 3rd St Santa Monica. Welcome to The Gordons Improv Show at Westside Comedy Theater! IMPROV RESIDENT TEAM NIGHT! Check out our current lineup of Resident Improv Teams! These teams perform Long-Form Improv all inspired by a suggestion from the audience. Think of it as a sitcom made up on the spot. Catch them before they are gone! These teams rotate every three months! Get ready for a night filled with laughter, spontaneity, and hilarious moments. Join us for an evening of unscripted comedy where every joke is made up on

the spot. Our talented improv performers will have you in stitches as they create scenes, characters, and stories based on your suggestions. Don't miss out on this one-of-a-kind experience! Grab your friends and come on down to Westside Comedy Theater for a night you won't forget. TICKETS MUST BE PURCHASED @ <https://ci.ovationtix.com/34923/production/1126449?performanceId=11576550>. \$10.00. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/the-gordons-improv-residency/14863274/2026-07-20T19>

COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABILITY, ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE, AND THE ENVIRONMENT

7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. Civic Center Parking Structure 333 Civic Center Dr Santa Monica. The Commission on Sustainability, Environmental Justice and the Environment shall act in an advisory capacity on sustainability, environmental programs and policy issues. The Commission closely monitors the Santa Monica's Sustainable City Plan and advises the Council on plan implementation. The Commission on Sustainability, Environment Justice, and the environment is an expert panel made up of seven (7) members selected by the City Council with 4 year terms. Commissioners must have significant expertise in one or more areas of environmental policy and must reside or work in Santa. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/commission-on-sustainability-environmental-justice-and-the-environment/13766366/2026-07-20T19>

CASTANEA SICILIAN CAFE - EARLY BIRD SPECIAL

9:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. Castanea Cafe 1307 Ocean Front Walk Venice. Enjoy 50% OFF all coffees at Castanea Venice Beach ?? Early Bird special every Mon–Thu from 9–10am. Start your morning with premium coffee at a special price – limited time offer! Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/castanea-sicilian-cafe-early-bird-special/18847307/2026-07-06T21>

LATE NIGHT HAPPY HOUR AT MARELLE - NIGHT CAP MENU

9:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. Marelle at Sandbourne Santa Monica 1740 Ocean Ave Santa Monica. Marelle will be launching a late-night happy hour menu called 'Night Cap' starting Monday, April 6th. Guests can order from this menu exclusively at Marelle, bar and bar lounge only. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/late-night-happy-hour-at-marelle-night-cap-menu/18409321/2026-07-06T21>

TUESDAY | JULY 21

MEMORIES & MOVEMENT SENIOR CLUB

11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Virginia Avenue Park 2200 Virginia Ave. Santa Monica. Come, learn, and have fun every 2nd and 4th Tuesday from 10:30 AM to 1:00 PM in The Patio room at Virginia Avenue Park. Each week there will be something new: Exercise,

Talking with Friends, Learning, Guest Presenters, Health & Wellness! Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/memories-movement-senior-club/14853634/2026-07-07T10>

ELEMENTARY ART STUDIO SUMMER CAMP

1:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. Palisades Community Renewal Center 3212 Nebraska Ave Santa Monica. Join us for our summer art workshops for elementary age kids! In case this event has been updated, please visit <https://www.pcrsm.org/event/elementary-art-studio-summer-camp-383c6> for full details before arriving. Thank you! Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/elementary-art-studio-summer-camp/19066074/2026-07-14T13>

WALK-IN TUTORING WITH LAURIE

2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. West Los Angeles Regional Library 11360 Santa Monica Boulevard Los Angeles. Walk-In Tutoring With Laurie Walk-in tutoring is available for any adult who needs help with internet searches, filling out forms, English conversation, reading, writing, resumes, and applications. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/walk-in-tutoring-with-laurie/17128550/2026-07-07T14>

ELEMENTARY ART STUDIO 3:30-4:20PM

3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Palisades Community Renewal Center 3212 Nebraska Ave Santa Monica. Open to all skill levels, sparking creativity through drawing, color work, collage, and mixed-media techniques. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/elementary-art-studio-3-30-4-20pm/18825639/2026-07-07T15>

WEEKLY WALKING CLUB

4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. Near Palisades Recreation Center Toyopa Drive and Alma Real Drive Pacific Palisades. A weekly walking club will meet on Tuesdays for approximately one hour to walk 1.5 to 2 miles. The group will meet at the corner of Toyopa and Alma Real. All levels are welcome. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/weekly-walking-club/19106860/2026-07-21T16>

BUMBLE BEES & BUTTERFLIES

6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. A presentation on gardening for native bees and other pollinators by Sarah Caso, CA Climate Action Corps Fellow and Bee Scientist. ZOOM – [RSVP HERE](#) – Zoom Link provided upon registration. Join us on this Summer Evening for a fascinating presentation on gardening with the intention of supporting native bees and other pollinators. Did you know California is host to nearly 1,600 different Bee Species ? That folks, is not a typo. Miner Bees, Sunflower Bees and Masked Bees are just a small portion, and many of them are probably hiding in plain sight. It's true that if you build it, they will come. Sarah will start with a brief knowledge test for everyone, then proceed to her presentation on the myriad of native bees and

pollinators. She will cover a bit of their life cycle, nesting habits and of course, identifying plants that will support these important creatures, before finishing off with Q&A and some local resources to check out. It'll beee buzztastic. [RSVP HERE](#) to reserve your spot. You'll receive a Zoom Link when you register.

IMPROV 201: INTERMEDIATE IMPROV - CHARACTER (TUESDAYS)

7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. 1424 4th Street Santa Monica. Let go and awaken your imagination to creating unique & fun characters! 8 weeks + a Showcase! \$370.00. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/improv-201-intermediate-improv-character-tuesdays/19228392/2026-07-21T19>

WEDNESDAY | JULY 22

TODDLER STORYTIME AND SONGS

10:00 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. West Los Angeles Regional Library 11360 Santa Monica Boulevard Los Angeles. Toddler Storytime and Songs Join us for storytime on Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. We share stories, songs, and movement activities to build early literacy skills for toddlers aged 18 months to 3 years. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/toddler-storytime-and-songs/18526513/2026-07-08T10>

MOBILE COMMUNITY MEDITATION CENTER - GUIDED MEDITATION

10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Santa Monica Beach lot 5 South 2600 Bernard Way Santa Monica. Please join Mobile Community Meditation Center aka Buddhist Boondockers Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays at 10 am for a 45 minute fully guided mindfulness meditation - on the grass, under the shade of the trees, with a stunning view of the sparkling ocean. Whether you're new to meditation or a seasoned practitioner, everyone is welcomed. Bring your own chair or cushion and try to arrive 5 minutes early and be ready to enjoy a truly peaceful moment as we relax, be present and make new friends; giving ourselves the love and attention we deserve by quieting our minds, finding peace and creating community. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/mobile-community-meditation-center-guided-meditation/16994548/2026-07-08T10>

LAUGH FOR THE HEALTH OF IT

11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Wise and Healthy Aging 1527 4th Street Santa Monica. Kim Selbert, Certified Laughter Yoga Leader and Licensed Marriage & Family Therapist will facilitate this class. We all need more laughter in our lives, right? Through clapping, guided breathing and gentle movement with music, we will learn how to reduce stress, become more energetic and playful and connect positively with other seniors. It's easy, fun and very uplifting. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/laugh-for-the-health-of-it/19300395/2026-07-08T11>



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