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2 Medicaid payments
Pulled from California.

3 Keyword search
To cancel grants.



4 Late fireworks
In election season.

6 Gas Prices
Where to fill up.

Volume 25 Issue 174

WEDNESDAY 7/22/26

smdp.com

Appian Way to close for bridge demolition



SMDP Photo

PIER: Appian Way, which provides vehicle access to the south side of the Santa Monica Pier parking lot, will close from Monday, July 27, through Monday, Aug. 3, the city announced. The closure is part of the Santa Monica Pier Bridge Replacement Project and will allow crews to safely demolish a portion of the existing Pier Bridge over the roadway. It will be limited to the area beneath the bridge, north of Seaside Terrace. The Pier will remain open throughout the closure, including all restaurants, shops, attractions and other businesses. Vehicle access to Parking Lot 1 North will remain available from Pacific Coast Highway during the closure. The city is also directing visitors to nearby public parking options, including Beach Lot 4 South, Beach Lot 3 North and Parking Structure 8. Marked parking, pedestrian routes and wayfinding signage will guide visitors to the Pier, and pedestrian access to the Pier and Ocean Front Walk will remain open throughout construction. Public transit and rideshare services will also remain available. Several Big Blue Bus routes and the Metro E Line serve downtown Santa Monica, a short walk from the Pier, and designated rideshare pickup and drop-off locations near the Pier will stay accessible. City officials are urging visitors to plan ahead, allow extra travel time and follow posted detour, parking and pedestrian signage while traveling to and from the Pier during the closure. The bridge replacement project will replace the nearly 90-year-old structure that serves as the Pier's primary vehicle access point. Officials say the project is intended to improve safety, accessibility and long-term reliability of the connection while maintaining Pier access throughout construction whenever possible.

Main Street to close for State of the City celebration

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

Main Street will close to traffic from Ocean Park Boulevard to Hollister Avenue from noon to 10 p.m. Thursday as the city hosts this year's State of the City celebration, "From Realignment to Renaissance," from 4 to 7 p.m.

The free, family-friendly event will take place along Main Street

SEE STATE OF THE CITY PAGE 7

Road rage incident sparks 100 mph police chase

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

Santa Monica road rage investigation erupted into a 45-minute, multi-jurisdiction police pursuit Tuesday morning, as a suspect fled officers and led law enforcement across Los Angeles-area freeways and city streets at speeds exceeding 100 mph before being taken into custody.

Santa Monica Police Department investigators attempted to arrest the suspect around 7 a.m. Tuesday in connection with a road rage incident that had occurred a couple of weeks earlier, but the driver fled the scene in a black Range Rover,

SEE CHASE PAGE 8

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Trump administration says it's deferring \$1B in Medicaid payments to California and Minnesota

The Trump administration on Tuesday said it was deferring more than \$1 billion in Medicaid payments to Minnesota and California because of “suspected fraud and noncompliance,” the latest in a series of punitive steps it has linked to allegations of fraud in mostly Democratic-led states.

Health Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. said the new actions — which come after previously announced Medicaid funding deferrals in those states — are part of the administration’s strategy to “stop the fraud before it happens” rather than claw back problematic spending after bad actors are prosecuted, as previous administrations had done.

“We have a duty to stop the payments, demand answers and then follow the evidence wherever it leads,” Kennedy told a news conference.

The tactic is part of the administration’s sweeping campaign to show it’s cracking down on fraud and saving taxpayers money when rising healthcare costs and other economic stressors have made affordability a top voter concern in November’s midterm elections.

In March, Vice President JD Vance launched a new anti-fraud task force at the request of President Donald Trump, bringing together officials from various departments to use data and technology to identify and investigate suspected wrongful use of federal dollars.

But the federal government hasn’t provided “data or explanation on how the deferral amount was calculated or what it was based on” to Minnesota, said John Connolly, the temporary commissioner and state Medicaid director for Minnesota’s Department of Human Services.

“Today’s actions show that the federal government is acting again in unprecedented and punitive ways as part of their war on Medicaid and its recipients,” he said in a statement. “Partnership — not politics — is required to stop criminals and protect services for the people who need them.”

Minnesota’s Democratic Gov. Tim Walz suggested the Republican administration was deferring the funds to pay for Trump’s tax cuts to wealthy Americans. California’s Democratic Gov. Gavin Newsom accused the administration of targeting it for political reasons.

The Trump administration intensified anti-immigration efforts in Minnesota earlier this year, sending in a robust force of Immigration and Customs Enforcement officers whose actions there caused weeks of counterprotests and included the shooting deaths of two civilians. Trump himself has frequently denounced California as a badly governed state.

States are facing obstacles because of the actions

The strategy has led to some false starts and headaches for states.

In April, for example, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services acknowledged to The Associated Press it made a significant

error in figures it used to help justify a fraud probe in New York. Last month, California’s Medicaid director told a congressional committee that CMS had not yet provided “any instances of fraud, waste or abuse” to the state in its justification of a \$1.3 billion Medicaid funding deferral announced in May.

And in Minnesota, state officials have been executing a thorough corrective action plan to defray CMS concerns that have led the agency to defer some \$260 million in federal money and to threaten future cuts.

“We have cooperated in good faith and proactively engaged the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to first raise the alarm on fraud in Minnesota’s Medicaid program, to effectively investigate fraud and to institute further safeguards against future misuse of funds,” Connolly said.

Kennedy didn’t specify in Tuesday’s announcement whether the new deferrals — \$867.5 million in federal Medicaid payments to California and \$199 million to Minnesota — are in addition to, or overlap with, earlier deferrals announced this year.

CMS Administrator Dr. Mehmet Oz didn’t provide concrete examples of fraud in the two states in justifying the deferrals. He did mention some patterns the agency noticed that it found questionable, including that some providers were billing for four or more patients at the same time, or billing after the date of a Medicaid beneficiary’s death.

Oz also highlighted a fast rate of growth in California’s home care program as a reason for concern. California officials have disputed that idea, explaining that the state’s home care program has grown because of an intentional strategy to keep people out of more expensive nursing homes.

Flow of money could be restored — with documentation

Kennedy and Oz said states could restart the flow of federal funding by providing documentation proving the payments in question were legitimate.

A representative for California’s Medicaid program didn’t immediately respond to a request for comment. Officials in the state have previously acknowledged they are working with the federal government to provide the requested information.

Oz said Minnesota had already returned documents to the federal government and they were being “reevaluated very carefully.”

Kennedy also suggested Tuesday that he would extend the power to exclude providers from Medicaid, Medicare and other federal health programs to CMS. In the past, that authority has rested solely with his department’s Office of the Inspector General.

“This is going to be a full force multiplier,” HHS Inspector General Thomas March Bell told a news conference. “It’s going to create additional momentum, and it’s going to exclude additional bad actors.”

By ALI SWENSON Associated Press

White House admits it used keywords to kill billions worth of California research grants

Federal agencies that terminated more than a thousand research grants at the University of California last year admitted that they used keywords related to diversity, gender, vaccine hesitancy and COVID-19 to screen for projects that ran afoul of the Trump administration's priorities.

It's an admission that lawyers for the research professors say is proof that the agencies illegally cancelled nearly \$2 billion in grants. And that's a major development in a lawsuit filed by UC researchers against the Trump administration to permanently get their grants back. The researchers' legal team is now asking the judge in the case to skip a trial and formally declare that the White House repeatedly violated the constitution, including the First Amendment. A court hearing on whether that'll happen is scheduled for Oct. 20.

The federal agencies made the admission about the keywords in signed stipulations filed in federal court last week in a case called *Thakur v. Trump* that's been ongoing since last spring.

The stipulations in the court filing show the agencies "did not terminate any grants based on alleged noncompliance with the terms of the grant" and instead used "general criteria, rather than grant-specific assessment of each award's compliance, or performance," the lawyers for the plaintiffs wrote. Lawyers for the UC professors now contend that the admission proves three wide-ranging constitutional violations:

1. By using keyword searches to review hundreds of grants and terminate them en masse rather than reviewing them individually on their merits, the Trump administration targeted research it found politically unfavorable, which is a First Amendment violation.

2. In terminating 283 Department of Energy grants from states where a majority voted for Kamala Harris in the 2024 election, and leaving untouched hundreds of grants that went to "red" states, the Trump administration wrongly punished researchers for merely living in states the White House politically opposed.

3. And by terminating billions of dollars in grants, and never rerouting that money to other grant opportunities, the Trump administration violated the constitution by not spending money in ways Congress specifically required through laws it passed on how research funds should be used.

CalMatters emailed the U.S. Department of Justice, which acts as the legal defense for the federal agencies, on July 16 to ask whether it agrees that the federal grant-making agency stipulations mean the Trump administration violated the constitutional rights of researchers. A spokesperson for the Justice Department didn't respond by publication time.

HISTORY OF LAWSUIT

The judge in this case, Rita F. Lin, has repeatedly sided with the UC professors and issued several preliminary injunctions forcing the federal agencies to restore the grants while she reviews the full merits of the case. This includes the restoration of hundreds of grants

at UCLA that the Trump administration sought to suspend over its allegations that the university tolerated antisemitism and permitted transgender women to compete on women's sports teams.

Those allegations were also the subject of a demand from the White House for UCLA to pay \$1.2 billion or experience an additional cascade of research freezes. However, months before Trump sought that settlement UCLA took steps to address antisemitism on campus, including commissioning a task force to recommend ways to create a more welcoming environment for Jewish students.

Lin, a Biden appointee, faulted the administration for disregarding those efforts by UCLA in a preliminary injunction for a different but related lawsuit. The Trump administration's justification for terminating the grants did not "mention the remedial steps UCLA had already taken to address the issues described," Lin wrote.

Lawyers for professors in the Thakur case now want Lin to make a final ruling ordering the grants to be restored, rather than a preliminary one. Even if that were to happen, the federal agencies could decide to appeal Lin's ruling to a higher court. The stakes "are huge," lawyers for the professors in the Thakur case wrote. If the White House is "allowed to terminate this funding, the researchers, graduate students, and program staff that relied on the grants to pursue their lives' work will all suffer significant damage to their reputations and careers."

The lawyers warn of lifesaving cures that will never be developed, new understandings of diseases that will go unexplored, and the decline in the country's global standing as an international juggernaut in publicly funded research.

USING KEYWORDS TO TARGET DISFAVORED GRANTS

The agencies admitted to using keywords in various ways, according to a CalMatters review of the new court filings.

The Department of Transportation identified six grants for projects worth about \$42 million to terminate because they sought "transportation equity," prioritized "disadvantaged communities," or focused on "diversifying the transportation workforce" and "equity."

The termination of three of those grants led by a UC Davis professor resulted in 77 researchers abandoning 79 in-progress projects. Lawyers for the plaintiffs wrote that the project leaders were also forced to lay off or scramble to replace funding for more than 40 graduate and undergraduate research assistants.

The National Institutes of Health admitted to using an internal search tool to flag UC grants that mentioned "health equity," "work force diversity," "structural racism," and "sexual orientation." The NIH alone suspended or cancelled more than 1,000 UC grants, including nearly 700 at UCLA, related to vaccines, cancer research and disparities in health outcomes. That figure is newly disclosed in a court filing — last year, UCLA



Surf report

WATER TEMP: 74.1

WEDNESDAY
FAIR

SURF: 3-4ft
Waist to chest

Fun zone surf continues as some new swell joins in. Morning winds staying light. SW Southern Hemi holds, old SSW tropical swell fades, a little nudge in NW windswell joins in, and some SSE Fausto swell starts to sneak in. That'll help shape at the beachbreaks. Widespread waves are waist-stomach high, while best exposures go chest+. Fresh SSE/S tropical swell mainly on the rise late day. Light winds in the morning, shift to a moderate SW/W afternoon sea breeze.

THURSDAY
FAIR

SURF: 3-4ft+
Waist to shoulder

Another fun to mid size tropical swell from Fausto is scheduled to move in. Light AM winds. Strengthening TS Fausto on a favorable track through Tuesday morning. Under that scenario, the mid-period S swell will be good for widespread fun (chest-shoulder high-ish waves) at better breaks, with top spots in North LA head high+. There will also be some NW windswell in the mix then to help out the beachbreaks. Wind looks best through the morning, trending onshore but staying manageable for the afternoon.



Weather

Wednesday: Sunny, with a high near 80. Light and variable wind becoming southwest 10 to 15 mph in the afternoon.

Wednesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 68. West southwest wind 5 to 10 mph.

Thursday: Sunny, with a high near 80. Light and variable wind becoming southwest 5 to 10 mph in the afternoon.

Thursday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 69.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted	(ft)High/Low
2026/07/22	Wed	05:56 AM	2.85	H
2026/07/22	Wed	09:37 AM	2.55	L
2026/07/22	Wed	5:03 PM	5.09	H
2026/07/23	Thu	01:00 AM	0.86	L
2026/07/23	Thu	08:06 AM	3.06	H
2026/07/23	Thu	10:55 AM	2.90	L
2026/07/23	Thu	5:56 PM	5.23	H
2026/07/24	Fri	01:50 AM	0.43	L
2026/07/24	Fri	08:58 AM	3.33	H
2026/07/24	Fri	12:08 PM	3.02	L
2026/07/24	Fri	6:46 PM	5.42	H
2026/07/25	Sat	02:30 AM	0.09	L
2026/07/25	Sat	09:25 AM	3.52	H



Daily Lottery

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Draw Date: 7/20
2 9 44 53 59
Power#: 8
Jackpot: 567 M



Draw Date: 7/20
14 27 29 31 33



Draw Date: 7/17
22 34 45 48 55
Mega#: 14
Jackpot: 707 M



Draw Date: 7/20
EVENING: 6 8 6
Draw Date: 7/20
MIDDAY: 1 9 2



Draw Date: 7/18
2 3 10 27 37
Mega#: 7
Jackpot: 39 M



Draw Date: 7/20
1st: 07 - Eureka
2nd: 10 - Solid Gold
3rd: 11 - Money Bags
Race Time: 1:41.60

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Santa Monica Daily Press

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Classifieds

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Summons

Summons

Summons

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIAFOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
PHILADELPHIA INDEMNITY INSURANCE COMPANY, Plaintiff, vs. LAUREN PRAKKE, AN INDIVIDUAL; AND DOES 1 THROUGH 25, INCLUSIVE, Defendants.
Case No.: 23STLC02162[Unlimited excessed \$25,000]COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES
CAUSES OF ACTION: 1. Subrogation 2. Negligence
COMES NOW Plaintiff, PHILADELPHIA INDEMNITY INSURANCE COMPANY, alleges as follows:
PRELIMINARY ALLEGATIONS1. At all times mentioned herein, plaintiff PHILADELPHIA INDEMNITY INSURANCE COMPANY (sometimes referred to as "plaintiff") was an insurance company qualified to do business in California.2. At all relevant times referenced herein, 1012 2nd Street Homeowners' Association, (hereinafter referred to as "Insured") is and was a business entity insured by Plaintiff for damages incurred in the incident described herein.3. At all times mentioned herein, defendant, Lauren Prakke, was an individual residing in the City of Santa Monica in the County of Los Angeles, State of California.4. The true names and capacities of defendants DOES 1 through 25, Inclusive, are unknown to plaintiff. Plaintiff therefore sues said defendants by such fictitious names. Plaintiff will seek leave of court to amend this complaint to insert the true names and capacities of the fictitiously named defendants when the same have been ascertained.5. Plaintiff is informed and believes and based upon such information and belief thereon alleges, that each defendant designated as a DOE herein is responsible in some manner for the acts, omissions, occurrences, and liabilities hereafter alleged and referred to.6. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that at all relevant times mentioned herein, Defendant, Lauren Prakke, and DOES 1 through 25 inclusive, and any one of them, were members of or adjacent to the 1012 2nd Street Homeowners Association.7. Insured is the 1012 2nd Street Homeowners Association.8. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that at all relevant times mentioned herein, Lauren Prakke in Apartment 2 at 1012 2nd Street in Santa Monica was in dominion and control of the water that flowed from her apartment and caused the April 8, 2020 waterfall incident to Insured.9. On April 8, 2020, without warning, Plaintiff's Insured's HOA (in particular, Apartment 1) experienced water damage due to water intrusion from water coming from Defendant's overflowing bathtub.10. An investigation suggests that either by Defendant's negligence or neglect or chosen behavior, that water was coming from Defendant (most likely from the bath tub overflowing for 5-10 minutes) that

intruded into Plaintiff's Insured's HOA causing damages.11. As a direct and proximate result of the negligence of said Defendants, and each of them and as a result of the damages caused by said Defendants, and after receiving proof of loss, Plaintiff paid to or on behalf of Insured the sum of \$13,467.20 and became subrogated to that amount.FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION-SUBROGATION AGAINST ALL DEFENDANTS12. Plaintiff hereby incorporates by reference herein each and every allegation contained above as though fully set forth herein.13. At all relevant times herein, plaintiff's insured, 1012 2ND STREET HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION, had a policy of insurance in effect which was issued by plaintiff and covered Commercial General Liability. The policy number was PHPK2003227. That at said times, 1012 2ND STREET HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION was insured by plaintiff against any damage done to Plaintiff's personal property.14. 1012 2ND STREET HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION sustained damage to due to water damage and made a lawful demand for compensation upon plaintiff based upon the policy of insurance. Plaintiff has been obligated to pay various expenses of its insured pursuant to the Commercial General Liability coverage portions of the insurance policy issued to 1012 2ND STREET HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION by plaintiff in the amount of \$13,467.20. Plaintiff paid the claim of its insured to protect its own interests, and not as a volunteer.15. By reason of the aforesaid policy of insurance, the payments made pursuant to the policy, and pursuant to California Insurance Code Section 11580.2(g), plaintiff subrogated to the rights of 1012 2ND STREET HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION for all payments made for replacement and repairs to Plaintiff's personal property. If not for the policy of insurance described herein, 1012 2ND STREET HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION could have validly asserted its claim for damages arising from the water intrusion incident against the defendants, and each of them.16. Justice requires that the loss be entirely shifted from plaintiff to defendants, and each of them, whose equitable position is inferior to that of the plaintiff. Plaintiff is entitled to recovery of all damages alleged herein, which are in a liquidated form, and is also entitled to pre-judgment interest at the maximum rate allowed by law pursuant to the provisions of California Civil Code Sections 3287(a) and 3291.SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION-NEGLIGENCE AGAINST ALL DEFENDANTS17. Plaintiff hereby incorporates by reference herein each and every allegation contained above as though fully set forth herein.18. Plaintiff is informed and believes and based upon such information and belief thereon alleges that Defendants and each

of them so negligently, wantonly, recklessly and carelessly allowed her bath tub to overflow with water so as to cause damages to Plaintiff.19. As a direct and proximate result of the negligence of said Defendants, and each of them and as a result of the damages caused by said Defendants, and after receiving proof of loss, Plaintiff paid to or on behalf of Insured the sum of \$13,467.20 and became subrogated to that amount.PRAYER FOR RELIEFWHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for judgment against the Defendants, and each of them as follows:FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION: 1. For monetary damage in the amount of \$13,467.20 2. Interest from the date of loss, per Civil Code Sections 3287 and 3291. 3. Costs of Suit. 4. All other damages that are deemed proper by the Court.SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION: 1. For monetary damage in the amount of \$13,467.20 2. Interest from the date of loss, per Civil Code Sections 3287 and 3291. 3. Costs of Suit. 4. All other damages that are deemed proper by the Court.DATED: April 4, 2023ROBINSON DI LANDOBy: Michael C. Robinson / Orion S. Robinson, Attorneys for Plaintiff, PHILADELPHIA INDEMNITY INSURANCE COMPANY
SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS07/22/26, 07/29/26, 08/05/26, 08/12/26

SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL) Case No. 25SMCV02967. NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: Ernesto de Jesus Velez. YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF: Kenneth Levin. NOTICE! You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below. You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center, your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court. The name and address of the court is: Santa Monica Courthouse, 1725 Main St., Santa Monica, CA 90401. The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney is: . SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS Publish: 07/08/2026, 07/15/2026, 07/22/2026, 07/29/2026



OPINION

UNMUTED

Devan Sipher

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

The fireworks arrived late in Santa Monica

Last Wednesday should have been a fairly routine meeting for the Santa Monica Democratic Club. Members were meeting on Zoom to vote on endorsements in the November local elections, and since political clubs tend to be, well, political, the preferred slate would typically be a pretty safe bet.

But not this time. Only one person running for Rent Control Board earned an endorsement on the first ballot, and it wasn't any of the three recommended by the club's board. It was Heather Thomason, a newcomer to city politics, who seemed to win over disparate cohorts with her intelligence and empathy. But the shocker of the evening was that none of the ten City Council candidates won an endorsement. Not even Mayor Caroline Torosis.

This was a coup of sorts from the growing number of Democrats disaffected with party orthodoxy. Up until now they've been largely dismissed as NIMBY or MAGA-lite barbarians at the gate, regardless of their liberal bona fides.

Councilmember Lana Negrete, a proud Latina, has repeatedly been "schooled" about racial discrimination by white male counterparts on the Council. (It takes a whole lot of progressive piety to do that with a straight face.) So she likely took satisfaction receiving the highest number of votes on the first ballot. The Mayor came in first on the second ballot.

But neither received the necessary 55% required for an endorsement, making what took place somewhere between a revolution and a circular firing squad.

It's an embarrassment for the board of the club and for the Mayor, so, ideally, it will motivate them to embrace a broader vision of the Democratic party. But the vote wasn't about unity. It was a stalemate with both sides seeming as committed to blocking the other's success as bolstering their own.

That's a zero-sum approach, which seems counter-productive to democratic goals, yet it was also present the following evening during a fiery Town Hall at Santa Monica College. The meeting was organized by Friends of Sunset Park (FOSP) and the Pico Neighborhood Association (PNA), and the heat-generating topic was the relocation of the city's homeless shelter system.

City manager Oliver Chi bravely chose to show up in person and engage with angry residents, but the collision was coming from the day he announced the city's intention to relocate the downtown shelter. There was never going to be a positive response from the selected

neighborhood, given the drugs, violence and antisocial behavior that are too often associated with the homeless in Santa Monica.

Chi pointed out that the 30-year old tent-like SAMOSHEL was built as a temporary solution, but he wasn't getting objections to closing it down. The objections were to the city's plan to operate a shelter out of the Palm Motel on 14th Street.

Zina Josephs, the secretary of FOSP, offered fair-minded suggestions, including a "good neighbor agreement," which she said had previously worked with an HIV-treatment center. Maria Loya, the treasurer of PNA, seemed more interested in rabble-rousing, which wasn't really necessary, since the rabble were already roused.

What followed was less a Q&A with the city staff than a volatile venting session. However, sometimes venting can be therapeutic, and some useful information was communicated in the process.

Loya raised a community concern that the proposed facility will permit drug use, but Chi and his staff claimed otherwise, repeatedly insisting that only people receiving treatment and support services would be eligible for placement, and, unlike at SAMOSHEL, unhoused individuals would not be allowed to check themselves in.

Local residents have reason to be skeptical about the project, but as much as they don't want a shelter in their neighborhood, it was clear they also don't want the homeless on their streets. There was an unwillingness to acknowledge the discrepancy, and while the problems identified were real, the solutions often relied on magical thinking—though some might say the same of the city plan.

Councilmember Negrete attempted to bridge the gap between the two sides, empathizing with her neighbors while clarifying the city's challenges. She reminded the attendees that there are laws providing everyone, including the unhoused, with civil liberties. Loya responded, "There shouldn't be."

Those words would be unsettling coming from any American, but they're particularly disheartening coming from a supposed civil rights activist.

Two weeks ago, we celebrated the semiquincentennial of our country, which seemed more inevitable than remarkable. Perhaps that's because the focus (especially by our President) was more on where we are today than where we came from. However, 250 years ago there was nothing inevitable about this

Republicans tee up government funding bill months early to avoid election season shutdown

House Republicans will aim to head-off a potential government shutdown before this fall's critical midterm elections with a vote Tuesday to fund the federal government through Dec. 4.

The deadline for action is more than two months away, but House GOP leaders are not leaving to chance that a possible shutdown sours the mood of voters. House Speaker Mike Johnson is daring Democrats to vote against the bill, and if they do, "then they alone are going to own the chaos that ensues if the government shuts down after September 30."

It's highly unusual for Congress to pass a stopgap funding bill months before the end of the fiscal year. Lawmakers normally act just days or even hours before the deadline. But once lawmakers leave town this week, the House is scheduled to be in session for only 16 more days before the funding deadline.

GOP leadership is laying the groundwork to spend most of that time on another priority: a long-shot, party-line bill that spends \$95 billion to boost defense, aid farmers and get portions of President Donald Trump's elections overhaul bill passed into law.

"I think it's kind of smart to go ahead and take the potential chaos of a shutdown off the table because the amount of damage that does to the American citizens," said Rep. Austin Scott, R-Ga. He said he believed a shutdown "probably works to the advantage of Democrats politically," and he blamed the press for such a scenario.

Democrats are expected to overwhelmingly oppose the stopgap measure, which would generally fund agencies at current spending levels.

Rep. Rosa DeLauro, the senior Democrat on the House Appropriations Committee, said the legislation was dropped on Democrats on Friday without any bipartisan negotiations. She said that, among other priorities, Democrats would have pushed for provisions to prevent the Trump administration from enacting a rule that allows agency heads to block or terminate grants that they claim don't match the president's priorities.

"We still have two months before the end of the fiscal year and should not rush through an incomplete funding extension," DeLauro said. "We ought to wait for the information that we need to get it right the first time."

Republicans said work on the dozen annual spending bills would continue in the months ahead, but that funding the government through Dec. 4 could help lawmakers avoid a repeat of the past year when the country

“
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funding
extension

- Rosa DeLauro, Rep.

experienced the longest federal shutdown in history followed by the longest partial shutdown in history.

"We've seen that happen twice in this Congress already," said Rep. Tom Cole, chairman of the House Appropriations Committee. "I'm not willing to risk a third time if we can avoid that."

Some of the more conservative Republican lawmakers appear fine with the bill to extend funding to Dec. 4, known as a continuing resolution.

In this environment, that's "the best way to spend the least amount of money," said Rep. Eric Burlison, R-Mo. "You keep spending levels static for at least a period of time."

It's unclear if the Senate will go along with the bill. Spending bills require support from 60 senators to advance to a final vote, so some Democrats would need to support it.

By KEVIN FREKING Associated Press



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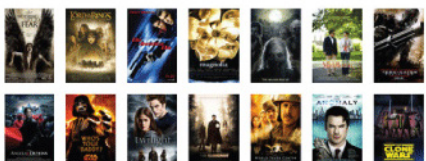
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Average gasoline prices in Los Angeles have risen 8.7 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$5.48/g today, according to GasBuddy's survey of 2,135 stations in Los Angeles. Prices in Los Angeles are 10.6 cents per gallon lower than a month ago and stand \$1.03/g higher than a year ago. The national average price of diesel has decreased 22.3 cents compared to a week ago and stands at \$5.077 per gallon.

According to GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in Los Angeles was priced at \$4.79/g yesterday while the most expensive was \$7.09/g, a difference of \$2.30/g. The lowest price in the state yesterday was \$3.69/g while the highest was \$7.59/g, a difference of \$3.90/g.

The national average price of gasoline has risen 13.0 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$3.95/g today. The national average is up 6.5 cents per gallon from a month ago and stands 85.7 cents per gallon higher 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

COMMUNITY NEWS

Wilmont

10 Santa Monica PAL students awarded more than \$31,000 in scholarships

The Santa Monica Police Activities League awarded more than \$31,000 in scholarships to 10 local students during its annual Chris Carrey PAL Education Fund Recognition Dinner on Thursday, July 9, at St. Monica's Grand Pavilion.

The scholarships went to high school juniors and graduating seniors who demonstrated financial need, academic commitment and a dedication to pursuing higher education. Individual awards ranged from \$1,500 to \$6,000. During the evening, six graduating seniors shared their stories and discussed their plans after high school.

This year's recipients are Hawene Alemayehu, Hiroshy Aguilar Aquino, Adrian Barajas, Branden Banks, Julian Gonzalez-Alfaro, Jasmin Morales, Gabriela Paniagua, Jose Perez, Kaleb Seyum and Ricardo Torres. They will continue their education at institutions including California State University, Fullerton; California State University, Long Beach; Santa Monica College; and other colleges and trade schools.

Eighty percent of this year's recipients live in Santa Monica's Pico Neighborhood, which PAL described as one of the city's most historically underserved communities. Since the program began in 2002, PAL has awarded more than \$475,000 in scholarships. Many recipients are the first in their families to attend college.

"The Chris Carrey PAL Education Fund continues to change lives by giving our young people the opportunity to pursue their educational dreams," said Eula Fritz, director of the Santa Monica Police Activities League. "These scholarships represent far more than financial assistance—they reflect the belief our community has in these students, their potential, and the bright futures that lie ahead."

The fund was established through a gift from Ed Simmons and Standard Parking, together with Neil and Karen Carrey, in memory of Chris Carrey. It provides scholarships for post-secondary education to PAL members selected through a competitive application process.

The awards honor Chris Carrey, who lived in Santa Monica for all 16½ years of his life. A student in the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District, he was active in youth sports, excelled in tennis, played bass guitar and dreamed of becoming a chef. He completed his community service with PAL.

“The Chris Carrey PAL Education Fund continues to change lives by giving our young people the opportunity to pursue their educational dreams

- Eula Fritz, director of the Santa Monica Police Activities League

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF



Photo courtesy of Sam Tello

STUDENT: 10 Santa Monica PAL students awarded more than \$31,000 in Chris Carrey PAL education fund scholarships.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Los Angeles

Public Financing Authority advances Palisades Fire recovery in inaugural meeting

The newly established Public Financing Authority for the Unincorporated Santa Monica Mountains Disaster Recovery Financing District held its first meeting, selecting Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath as chair and approving a plan to guide long-term recovery from the January 2025 Palisades Fire.

At the meeting, the authority adopted its bylaws, held a public hearing and approved the Infrastructure Financing Plan, which will direct future investment in rebuilding and wildfire resilience.

The plan establishes a framework for reinvesting future property tax growth generated within the district back into the community without raising taxes. The district is projected to generate about \$245 million over the next 50 years to support infrastructure improvements, wildfire resilience, community restoration and rebuilding throughout the unincorporated Santa Monica Mountains.

"Today's meeting marks an important milestone in our recovery. In the absence of federal recovery funding, Los Angeles County is creatively reinvesting local resources to rebuild the roads, infrastructure, and public facilities our communities need," Horvath said. "This Disaster Recovery Financing District lays an important foundation for the long-term recovery from the Palisades Fire. We won't stop until every family has the chance to come home, critical infrastructure investments are made, and our communities are stronger and more resilient than before."

The plan identifies five priority investment areas: county facility restoration, infrastructure improvements, rebuilding assistance, community restoration, and fire safety and resilience. The authority will prioritize projects based on community needs, public input and project readiness as recovery progresses.

The Public Financing Authority includes Horvath, Supervisor Kathryn Barger, Board Chair Hilda L. Solis, Jonathan Markiles, president of the Sunset Mesa Property Owners Association, and Ronald Romalont, president of the Topanga Chamber of Commerce.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF

SMC

SMC Planetarium's August shows explore Mars, telescopes and eclipses

The Santa Monica College Planetarium will present live-hosted shows on Friday evenings in August, along with a Sunday Family Matinée on Aug. 16, featuring programs on the Mars rover Curiosity, the Great Observatories, eclipses and moon phases, and the sun.

Each show runs about 40 minutes and is followed by a short audience Q&A with Planetarium Lecturer Sarah Vincent. Friday shows begin at 6 p.m. with "The Night Sky Show," which covers the latest news in astronomy and space exploration, followed at 7 p.m. by the feature program. No children under age 3 are permitted at Friday shows. The Sunday matinée starts at 1 p.m. with "The Night Sky Show," followed by a feature program at 2 p.m.

"The Night Sky Show" plays Aug. 7, 14, 21 and 28 at 6 p.m., and at the Aug. 16 matinée at 1 p.m. Feature programs include "Mission Close-up: Curiosity" on Aug. 7 at 7 p.m., examining the rover's decade-plus exploration of Mars; "The Great Observatories" on Aug. 14 at 7 p.m. and Aug. 16 at 2 p.m., about the four space-based telescopes including Hubble; "Physics of Eclipses and Moon Phases" on Aug. 21 at 7 p.m., ahead of the Aug. 27 partial lunar eclipse; and "Solar System Survey: Sun" on Aug. 28 at 7 p.m., the first in a new series.

All shows take place in the SMC Planetarium, room MSB 126 of the Mathematics + Science Building on the SMC Main Campus at 1900 Pico Blvd. Free parking is available on campus.

Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$7 for children ages 3-12 for either "The Night Sky Show" or a feature program. A combo ticket is \$16 for adults and \$10 for children. Tickets may be purchased at smc.edu/tickets, with a \$1 per ticket service fee.

All shows are subject to change or cancellation without notice. More information is available at smc.edu/planetarium or by calling 310-434-4163.

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Santa Monica Daily Press

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STATE OF THE CITY

FROM PAGE 1

and at the Ocean Park Branch Library, giving residents a chance to explore the corridor, patronize local businesses and take part in activities celebrating the city's progress.

Mayor Caroline Torosis is scheduled to deliver the State of the City address during the event. In a statement, Torosis said the choice of location was deliberate.

"Santa Monica is on stronger footing than we've been in years, and this year's State of the City is about what we do with that," Torosis said. "We're holding it on Main Street, outside the newly reopened Ocean Park Branch Library, because the future of this city gets built in neighborhoods like this one. I'll be sharing where we're headed on housing, public safety and a local economy that works for the people who live and work here."

Santa Monica Poet Laureate Jay Baldwin will also give a reading. The event will feature activations from community partners ESPN, Fever and Goldenvoice.

ESPN, which will launch its ESPN Beach hub at the Santa Monica Pier and Beach next year for Super Bowl coverage, will host a meet-and-greet with NFL Network reporter Taylor Bisciotti, a live broadcast of "The D'Marco and Travis Afternoon Show" on ESPN LA 710AM, and giveaways.

Goldenvoice, a division of AEG Presents, will offer attendees a preview of its inaugural Ocean Way Festival, which will headline The Killers and Olivia Dean alongside Jack White, Khruangbin, Sublime and other acts. Tickets go on sale to Santa Monica residents Wednesday at 11 a.m. and to the public Thursday at 11 a.m.

Fever will give attendees a sneak preview of its upcoming European-style holiday

market, planned to open in late November on the Santa Monica Pier parking deck and run through January 2027.

The city will also distribute a limited number of vouchers, redeemable for one eligible purchase per person, excluding alcohol, at participating Main Street businesses while supplies last. Participating businesses include Augie's on Main, CoTo Imports, Dolcenero Gelato, Edgemar, Heartbreak Hill Running Company, Manchego, Rabano, Santa Monica Travel & Tourism, Sushi Vegan, Thai Vegan and Zona Little Italy.

A Main Street Entertainment Zone will allow adults 21 and older to purchase alcoholic beverages from participating businesses and consume them on sidewalks between Strand Avenue and Pier Avenue and in the closed section of Main Street, with wristbands required and outside alcohol prohibited.

"This event is a great opportunity to showcase everything Main Street has to offer while welcoming residents and visitors to support our local businesses," said Hunter Hall, executive director of the Main Street Business Improvement Association Board.

State of the City originated 15 years ago as the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce's Economic Sustainability Summit, remaining a paid Chamber event until the city took over as primary host. The event went virtual during the pandemic and returned in 2025 as a community celebration at Miles Memorial Playhouse and Reed Park, drawing more than 700 residents. This year's iteration ties into the city's promotion of the FIFA World Cup, Super Bowl LXI and the 2028 Olympics.

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DBA

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Summons

SUMMONS CASE NO. 23STLC02162NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: Lauren Prakke, an individual; and Does 1 through 20, inclusiveYOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF: Philadelphia Indemnity Insurance CompanyNOTICE! You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below.You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court.There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. NOTE: The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of \$10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case.The name and address of the court is: Los Angeles Superior Court, Stanley Mosk Courthouse, 111 N Hill St, Los Angeles, CA 90012The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is: Orion S. Robinson, Esq., 801 S. Grand Ave, Ste. 500, Los Angeles, CA 90017, (213) 229-0100DATE: 04/04/2023David W. Slayton, Executive Officer/Clerk of Court, By N. Alvarez, DeputySANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS07/22/26, 07/29/26, 08/5/26, 08/12/26

PLACE YOUR CLASSIFIED HERE

CHASE
FROM PAGE 1

police said.

The California Highway Patrol was called in to assist at approximately 7:17 a.m. and picked up pursuit of the SUV on the southbound 405 Freeway just south of the 118 Freeway near Pacoima.

The chase continued through central Los Angeles and onto the 101 Freeway before moving onto surface streets. The driver then traveled down Vermont Avenue and merged onto the eastbound 10 Freeway.

Aerial news footage showed the SUV crossing into oncoming lanes at several points during the pursuit and narrowly avoiding collisions as it reached speeds topping 100 mph.

The pursuit ended around 7:55 a.m. near San Gabriel Boulevard and Hill Drive in

South San Gabriel, when an officer used a patrol vehicle to push the SUV to a stop. The driver surrendered and was taken into custody without further incident.

The underlying investigation stems from a road rage incident reported on July 3 at approximately 8:25 p.m. near 18th Street and Broadway in Santa Monica. According to police, the driver of a black sedan fired a single round at another driver during the confrontation, striking the victim's vehicle. The victim was not struck or injured.

The suspect fled before officers arrived at the scene that night, and SMPD investigators worked in the weeks since to identify and locate the driver, leading to Tuesday's attempted arrest and pursuit.

The suspect's identity and potential charges had not been released as of Tuesday.

The Westside Current contributed to this report.

GRANTS
FROM PAGE 3

indicated that closer to 500 NIH grants were terminated. The health research agency also declared that it's possible that DOGE, the short-lived federal office that billionaire Elon Musk led in 2025, used AI to target grants for termination. Lawyers for the plaintiffs wrote to the judge that these admissions show the agencies "identified the viewpoints they wanted to suppress, searched the grants they funded for those that expressed those viewpoints, and terminated those grants on that basis." That violates the researchers' First Amendment rights, the lawyers wrote. The Environmental Protection Agency, one of the

named agencies in the suit, is in the process of settling with lawyers for the UC professors to avoid further litigation.

A separate federal district judge in Massachusetts last week dealt the Trump administration a blow in its ability to terminate grants and withhold federal funding. The White House relied on a legal phrase in many of its funding cancellations — "no longer effectuates . . . agency priorities." California and 22 other states sued, arguing that there's no law or right for the federal government to cancel funding based on new program goals and White House desires after the grants were already awarded. The judge agreed.

By MIKHAIL ZINSHTEY/CalMatters

UNMUTED
FROM PAGE 4

country's history. Fifty-six people signed a declaration that was far more likely to guarantee a death sentence than to immortalize them. They risked everything, which is easy to forget, and it makes me wonder, what are we risking today?

What do we risk when we complain about municipal inadequacies or when we demand litmus tests of political virtue? It's not only the President who wants

glory on the cheap. We want our dream of democracy to be manifested without a price tag. We assume that we are owed a functional and fair society, but the truth is that we have to labor—and compromise—to attain it.

Fireworks are great on the fourth of July, because they remind us how spectacular and combustible our country remains.

Devan Sipher can be reached at Devan@smdp.com.

SAVE THE KITTENS

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LET US KNOW YOUR OPINION

Santa Monica Daily Press

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Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN

Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART

Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE

Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER

Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING

FIND THE WORDS

This is a theme puzzle with the subject stated below. Find the listed words in the grid. (They may run in any direction but always in a straight line. Some letters are used more than once.) Ring each word as you find it and when you have completed the puzzle, there will be 20 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle. © australianwordgames.com.au 7009

Close to the beach

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

Albany	Canoe	Lorne	Seven Mile
Alva	Capes	Main	Beach
Avalon	Corio	Miami	Surf
Avoca	Dee Why	Noosa	Swim
Bake	Dunes	Heads	Tide
Bega	Eden	Nowra	Tugun
Boil	Esperance	Play	Ulladulla
Bondi	Glenelg	Rest	Urunga
Bowen	Harbord	Robe	Wanda
Bronte	Iluka	Rock	Wave
Cable	Jet ski	Sailing	Yamba
Cairns	Leeman	Sale	

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
Called to order for a vote

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (July 22)

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Instead of “I’m playing it cool,” it’s “I’m obsessed!” Even before you share your excitement, people feel its power. Enthusiasm is the ambrosia of the gods, with sweetness that fuels creativity and attracts support.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Instead of “I don’t know,” it’s “I love this.” A clear preference saves time and points you toward opportunities that fit. You don’t need a complete plan before expressing what delights you. Passion often provides the first clue and the next step.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Instead of “I’m secretly working on this,” it’s “I’ll show you the process.” When you let people see the sketches, drafts, experiments and revisions, they feel invested. The audience becomes part of the story, cheering progress and celebrating milestones.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Instead of “I wonder whether I’m qualified,” it’s “I have something to offer.” Generosity creates confidence. Focus on helping, entertaining, teaching, building or improving. Contribution shifts attention away from self-consciousness and toward the people who benefit from your gifts.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Instead of “How do I pay my dues?” it’s “How do I create my own niche?” You’re building something that reflects your originality and voice - your unmistakable point of view. There’s much less competition because no one else sounds like you.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Instead of “I wear a lot of hats to keep this show running,” it’s “I’m known for this one thing I do like nobody else can.” General competence is good, but distinction is what grows your reputation and brings in stellar opportunities.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Instead of “I’m waiting for confidence,” it’s “I’ll gain confidence by doing it.” Confidence grows from experience, not contemplation. Every attempt teaches something useful. You earn your swagger through participation.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Instead of “I hope someone notices,” it’s “I’ll make it easy to find.” Share the work. Send the invitation. Wear the outfit. Tell the story. Visibility is how opportunities, collaborators, customers and friends discover what you have to offer.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Instead of “I’ll blend in,” it’s “I’ll bring my flavor.” Every group benefits from people who contribute something distinct. There’s value in your perspective, humor, taste and style. Communities become more interesting when people stop sanding down their most recognizable edges.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Instead of “I need more information,” it’s “I know enough to begin.” Action generates questions that study alone cannot. The path reveals itself with each step. Experience teaches lessons no amount of preparation can replace.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Instead of “I should be realistic,” it’s “I should dream wholeheartedly.” Realism has its place, but most of the world was created by people who were at least a little delusional. The projects, relationships and adventures that shape us often start with unreasonable expectations.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Instead of “What if I fail?” it’s “What if I become excellent?” Success depends on spending less time evaluating possibilities and more time practicing the thing. With repetition, you become masterful.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

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

Newsday Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Tree with cones
- 4 Traditional proverb
- 9 Egg-shaped
- 13 Object of worship
- 15 High male singing voice
- 16 San Juan, Puerto ____
- 17 Evaluate
- 18 Something scary
- 20 Wild guess
- 21 “If not...”
- 22 Rental agreement
- 23 Hare’s race opponent
- 25 Ceiling appliance
- 26 Increases, as a bet
- 27 Antagonistic
- 31 Attention-grabbing sight
- 36 “In what way?”
- 37 Entangle, as thread
- 38 Stan of Marvel Comics
- 39 Not at all taut
- 41 Intense anger
- 42 Astonishing thing
- 44 Much more than sore
- 47 December 24th or 31st
- 48 Tiny speck
- 49 Press reporting
- 54 Lebanon neighbor
- 57 ____ in the woods (innocent person)
- 58 Adam’s second son
- 59 Very attractive thing
- 61 Lug around
- 62 Sicilian volcano

- 63 Loop in a lariat
- 64 Guitarist Clapton
- 65 Burrows through
- 66 Formerly possessed
- 67 Explosive initials
- test
- 12 Handed-down
- wisdom
- 14 Base of many salads
- 19 Cry of regret
- 24 White gem
- 25 In favor of
- 27 Follow, as advice
- 28 Breakfast restaurant
- chain
- 29 Misplace
- 30 Antique pitcher
- 31 Toledo’s lake
- 32 Knitter’s material
- 33 At any time
- 34 Dressed (in)
- 35 Chop down
- 39 Be wild about

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		

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



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>

THURSDAY | JULY 23

LOW IMPACT GROUP EXERCISE CLASS

11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. American Legion Ronald Reagan-Palisades Post 283 15247 La Cruz Drive Pacific Palisades. Power up your Thursday with our free, low-impact group exercise classes — open to all members of the Legion Family, designed for every fitness level, and held from 11:00am to 12:00pm at Palisades Post 283. Come move, recharge, and feel great heading into the rest of your day! Sign up here to receive emails about upcoming exercise classes and cancellations: [post283.com/exercise](https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/low-impact-group-exercise-class/18566926/2026-07-16T11). Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/low-impact-group-exercise-class/18566926/2026-07-16T11>

[com/calendar/#/details/low-impact-group-exercise-class/18566926/2026-07-16T11](https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/low-impact-group-exercise-class/18566926/2026-07-16T11)

CLUB LATINO PARA ADULTOS MAYORES

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. Cada semana será algo nuevo: Ejercicio, Hablando con amigos, Aprendizaje, Presentadores Invitados, Salud y Bienestar. Hay comida para los adultos mayores que participan durante las dos horas. Para más información llame al (310) 458-8688. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/club-latino-para-adultos-mayores/13943928/2026-07-16T11>

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.pccrsm.org/event/elementary-art-studio-summer-camp-6d445> for full details before arriving. Thank you! Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/elementary-art-studio-summer-camp/19066074/2026-07-16T13>

STORY-CRAFT TIME

3:00 p.m. 861 Alma Real Drive Pacific Palisades. Listen to a story and create something inspired by it! Recommended for children ages 3 and older. For ADA accommodations, please call (213) 228-7430 at least 72 hours prior to the event. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/story-craft-time/19018567/2026-07-23T15>

HAMA SUSHI - MUSIC OPEN MIC (THURSDAYS)

6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. 352 Westminster Ave Venice. Thursday nights in Venice! Open Mic at Hama Sushi. Exciting things are happening at Hama Sushi! Open Mic every Thursday 6:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m. Come on down to Hama. The world is waiting! Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/hama-sushi-music-open-mic-thursdays-18526607/2026-07-23T18>

THE DINNER TABLE AT VENICE STEAKHOUSE

7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. Venice Steakhouse 1715 Pacific Avenue Los Angeles. An evening of dry-aged steak, crave-able sides, great wine, and the kind of connection that happens when strangers share a table. \$135.23. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/the-dinner-table-at-venice-steakhouse/19404964/2026-07-23T19>

TULUM THURSDAYS AT LOULOU SANTA MONICA

7:00 p.m. - 11:30 p.m. LouLou Santa Monica 395 Santa Monica PI #300 Santa Monica. Tulum Thursdays at LouLou Santa Monica- Every Thursday from 6:00 PM - Step into LouLou's signature Bohemian Chic haven where the elegance of

Tulum meets the coastal glamour of Santa Monica. Sunset rooftop vibes. Afro-Tribal House beats by DJ Yanicrash. Live percussion performances Cocktails, cuisine & curated moments. Inspired by the spirit of Ibiza, Mykonos, and the Riviera Maya, Tulum Thursdays are a ritual of rhythm, flavor, and barefoot luxury. Watch the LouLou experience: bit.ly/loulou-tulum-thursdays-yt. LouLou Santa Monica Tulum Thursdays Every Thursday from 7:00 PM 395 Santa Monica PI #300, Santa Monica, CA 90401(323) 410 - 2337info@loulousantamonica.comloulousantamonica.com Reserve your table now: bit.ly/booking-loulou

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/18409321/2026-07-23T21>

FRIDAY | JULY 24

Palisades Seniors Luncheon

11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Pacific Palisades Woman's Club 901 Haverford Ave Pacific Palisades. Presented by Pali Long-Term Recovery Group in partnership with the American Red Cross and California Community Foundation. Enjoy a delicious lunch and catch-up with friends, neighbors and fellow Palisadians while listening to guest speaker Sam Laganà explore Coach John Wooden's timeless principles for living a life of purpose, character and integrity while sharing a compelling vision of hope, healing and renewal for the future of Pacific Palisades. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/palisades-seniors-luncheon/19431410/2026-07-24T11>

SUMMER FAMILY MOVIE NIGHTS AT THE CAYTON

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

Bundy Triangle Night Market

5:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Bundy Triangle 1500 S Bundy

Drive Los Angeles. Cayton Children's Museum will offer free, weekly hands-on activities for children and families at the Bundy Triangle Night Market in Sawtelle every Friday from March 27 through the end of October, the museum announced. The programming, offered in partnership with Los Angeles City Councilwoman Traci Park, will run from 5 to 8 p.m. each Friday at the Bundy Triangle, a public space at Ohio Avenue and Bundy Drive. The broader night market, presented by Raw Inspiration, runs from 5 to 9 p.m. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/bundy-triangle-night-market/18490079/2026-07-24T17>

SUNSET SESSIONS- BENEFITING MAKE A WISH

5:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. The Penmar 1233 Rose Avenue Los Angeles. Music and good vibes as the Sun sets. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/sunset-sessions-benefiting-make-a-wish/19264528/2026-07-24T17>

THE NIGHT SKY SHOW

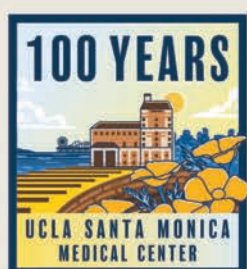
6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. (MSB 126 Planetarium) Math & Science Building, 1900 Pico Blvd Santa Monica. The Night Sky Show - Using SMC's 4K Digistar projection system, Planetarium Lecturer Sarah Vincent will talk about the latest news in astronomy and space exploration, and present a virtual tour of constellations and other night-sky celebrities making their appearance in the evenings ahead. The Night Sky Show is followed by the Feature Program. General Admission: \$10. Children (3-12): \$7. Show Combo (Include the Feature Program at 7 p.m.): \$16 adults, \$10 children (3-12) (A \$1 per ticket service fee will be charged by the ticketing company.) There will be a short intermission prior the start of the Feature Program. No children under age 3 at Friday evening shows. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/the-night-sky-show/18045435/2026-07-24T18>

DEAR EVAN HANSEN

7:00 p.m. Miles Playhouse Pacific Palisades. Directors Sydney Diamond and Lara Ganz lead a cast of 20 teen actors in the powerful and deeply moving musical, "Dear Evan Hansen," presented by Palisades Youth Performing Arts at Miles Playhouse, located at 1130 Lincoln Blvd, Santa Monica, CA 90403. Anxiety? Check. Awkward conversations? Check. Life-changing misunderstandings? Double check. Dear Evan Hansen is a funny, moving and unforgettable musical about friendship, family and finding connection in a world that's constantly refreshing its feed. Come for the incredible music, stay for the emotional rollercoaster, and remember: sometimes a single letter can change everything. \$15.00 to \$35.00. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/dear-evan-hansen/19451692/2026-07-24T19>

UCLA

Health

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Medical Center

CELEBRATING A CENTURY OF CARE FOR SANTA MONICA

We've been providing care to the people of Santa Monica for generations and stand ready to serve the generations yet to come — right here, in a place we've called home for 100 years.