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smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press

Volume 24 Issue 173 | THURSDAY 7/24/25 | smdp.com

City bucks trend of declining homelessness as car campers drive up local numbers

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

While homelessness decreased throughout Los Angeles County last year, the City of Santa Monica failed to keep up with the regional trend, instead reporting an increase in homeless individuals found within city limits.

The local count showed homelessness increased by 5% in 2024 rising from 774 to 812. The population growth was driven in large part by car campers with an increase of 21 people living in vehicles (to a total of 84 last year). The City also saw the number of people living in local shelters increase by 29 to a total of 202. Four fewer people were found living outside dropping that total to 475 and there were 10 fewer tents/camps throughout the city.

The City of Santa Monica framed the results as good news saying the results showed progress towards moving people off the streets.

"Seeing an increase of unhoused individuals moving indoors reflects the progress of our efforts," Director of Housing and Human Services Heather Averick said. "With our new Homelessness Strategic Plan as a guide, and continued local and regional investments and collaboration, we will remain nimble and flexible, using data to make shifts in programming as needed. We remain optimistic that we will continue to see more unhoused Santa Monicans transition from the streets indoors to stable housing."

Santa Monica's increasing homeless population is in stark contrast to the county, regional and other local results.

The Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) released the results of the overall 2025 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count earlier this month. For the second straight year, homelessness is down across Los Angeles County, falling 4% to 72,308. Homelessness also declined in the City of Los Angeles, falling by 3.4% to 43,699. Another key metric, unsheltered homelessness, decreased countywide by 9.5% and within the City of Los Angeles by 7.9%. Over the last two years, unsheltered homelessness has dropped in the County and City of Los Angeles by 14% and 17.5%, respectively.

County data is also broken down into eight "Service Planning Areas" (SPA) that group individuals by regional geography. Santa Monica is in SPA 5 which includes Bel

SEE **HOMELESS** PAGE 4



Matthew Hall

PARKING: The number of people living in cars has increased.

Malibu approves $25-32 million fire rebuilding fee waiver program

MAAZ ALIN
SMDP Staff Writer

The Malibu City Council has unanimously approved a comprehensive fee waiver program to help residents rebuild homes destroyed in the recent Broad, Franklin and Palisades fires, committing an estimated $25 to $32 million in municipal revenue to support recovery efforts.

The 5-0 vote establishes a program that will waive city planning and building permit fees for more than 1,000 structures damaged or destroyed in the three fires, with staff estimating average waivers of $50,000 for single-family homes and up to $80,000 for multi-family developments.

However, the new program includes significantly stricter requirements than the city's previous Woolsey Fire fee waiver program, incorporating lessons learned from that six-year initiative that some officials said "got out of hand."

"We really tightened it up compared to the Woolsey fire," said Yolanda Bundy, Community Development Director. "We heavily considered the fiscal impact of the program so we really tightened it up compared to the Woolsey fire."

The most significant change requires property owners to record a notarized affidavit with Los Angeles County rather than simply

SEE **FEE WAIVER** PAGE 8

Council approves controversial police contract in split vote

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

Three members of the Santa Monica City Council voted against a new contract with the Santa Monica Police Department at their last meeting citing a controversial salary provision that ties officer pay to neighboring cities.

Councilmembers Dan Hall, Natalya Zernitskaya and Jesse Zwick opposed the new four-year contract but were outvoted by Lana Negrete, Caroline Torosis, Barry Snell and Ellis Raskin who supported the contract which covers 231 police employees excluding the chief, but three members voiced strong opposition to what they called a financially irresponsible deal.

The contract runs from July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2029, and includes cost-of-living adjustments of 4% in the first year, 5% in years two and three, and 4% in the final year. The agreement also suspends but does not eliminate the so-called "number two clause" that requires the city to pay officers the second-highest base salary in the region.

Hall said his opposition wasn't about the police department, which he called "one of the best police forces in the country" but was focused on the comparative salary requirement saying it was a bad deal for the city and taxpayers.

"When other cities like Beverly Hills, Torrance raise their officer salaries, we likely have to as well," he said. "This means that city council members in Beverly Hills are making decisions for our city, are making decisions with your taxpayer dollars, and that I am not okay with."

Zernitskaya echoed those concerns, saying the police union is the only bargaining unit that has such a clause in their agreement, which has forced the city to adjust its already strained budget and compensation structures based on decisions that other cities make rather than giving councilmembers the opportunity to evaluate and adjust compensation based on the

SEE **CONTRACT** PAGE 8



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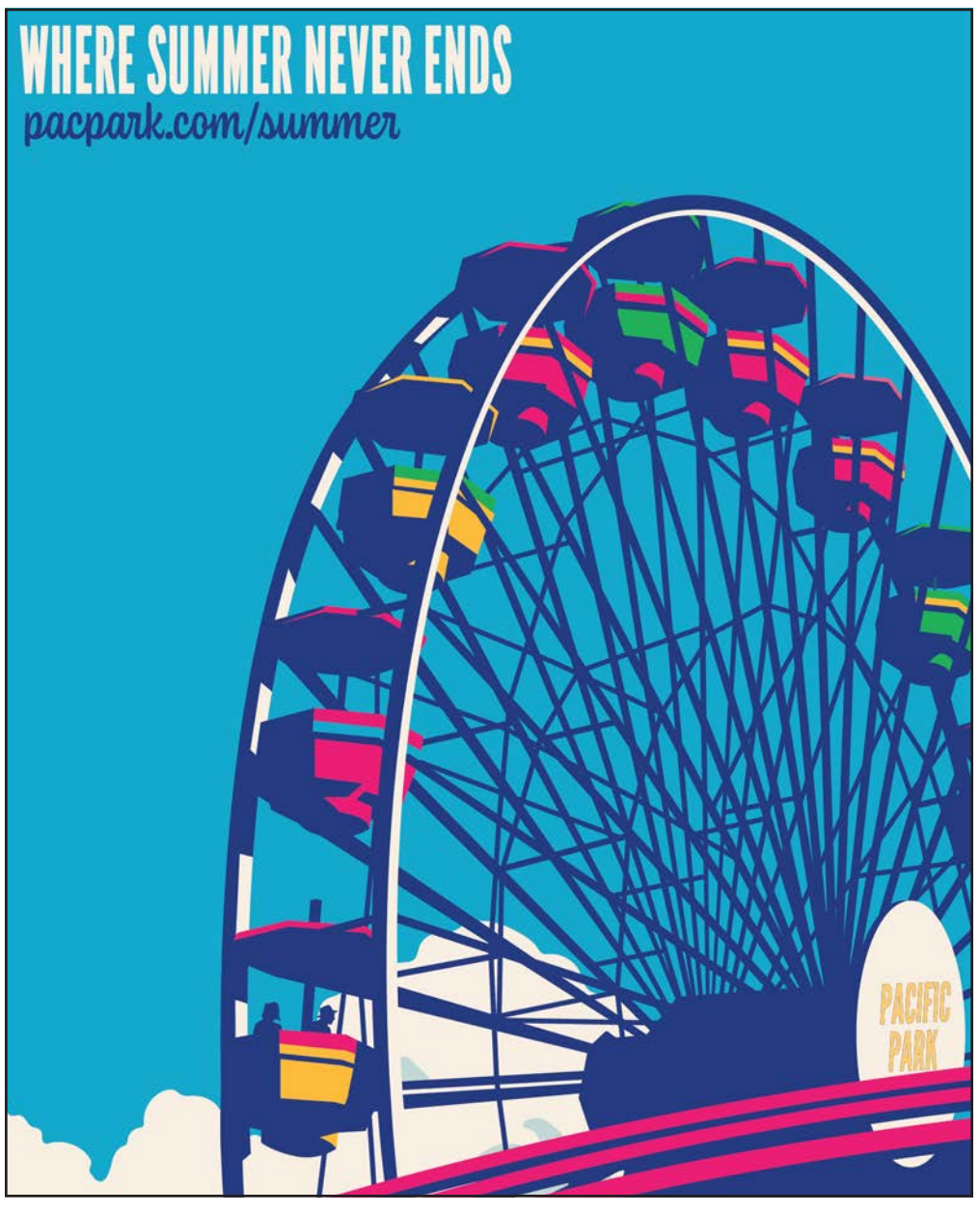

LAHSA CEO steps down after investigation clears her of alleged contract problems

MAAZ ALIN
SMDP Staff Writer

Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority CEO Dr. Va Lecia Adams Kellum will step down Friday, ending her tenure leading the embattled agency during one of its most turbulent periods as it faces federal criminal investigation and massive restructuring.

Adams Kellum announced her resignation as the agency grapples with unprecedented scrutiny over its handling of billions in homelessness funding. Her departure comes just weeks after an independent legal review cleared her of allegations that she improperly approved a $2.1 million contract with a nonprofit where her husband worked.

> I am incredibly proud of LAHSA's talented and dedicated staff and deeply grateful for their tireless work
> - Adams Kellum

"I am incredibly proud of LAHSA's talented and dedicated staff and deeply grateful for their tireless work," Adams Kellum said in a statement. "I thank them and the Commission for the opportunity to serve as CEO and for our partnership in reducing homelessness in our region."

The LAHSA Commission directed staff to begin pre-hiring procedures for an interim CEO on July 11.

Adams Kellum's departure caps a crisis-filled period for LAHSA that has seen federal investigators launch a criminal probe, audit findings alleging financial mismanagement, and both Los Angeles County and the city begin dismantling key parts of the agency's authority.

In April, U.S. Attorney Bill Essayli announced the formation of a Homelessness Funds Fraud & Corruption Task Force to investigate possible crimes involving misuse of homelessness funding. The task force includes FBI agents and HUD's Inspector General.

"If local authorities cannot provide proper oversight and accountability, we will do it for them," Essayli stated, criticizing what he called "$23 billion... and nothing to show for it."

The federal investigation followed audits that found severe financial mismanagement at LAHSA. A Los Angeles County audit released in November 2024 found the agency had failed to recoup millions in cash advances to subcontractors and maintained inadequate record-keeping.

An even more damaging federal court-ordered audit released in March found that Los Angeles agencies had made it "impossible to accurately track homelessness spending." The audit reviewed $2.4 billion in spending and found LAHSA "failed to collect accurate data on its vendors and hold them accountable."

U.S. District Judge David O. Carter, who ordered the audit, found that auditors could not verify the existence of approximately 2,300 housing placements LAHSA claimed to have made because the agency failed to provide documentation.

County Supervisor Lindsey Horvath called LAHSA's problems "a nightmare" and said "we cannot accept this dysfunction any longer."

The cascade of problems has prompted both Los Angeles County and the city to dramatically restructure their homelessness response. The county is moving approximately $300 million and several programs into a new department by 2026, effectively dismantling key parts of LAHSA's responsibilities.

"No more waste... No more contracts for services that don't deliver. We need accountability and results right now," Horvath said after the March audit findings.

However, Adams Kellum received some vindication this month when a three-month review by Norton Rose Fulbright law firm found that she "did not act improperly or unethically" regarding contracts with Upward Bound House, where her husband worked.

The investigation determined that the nonprofit had been a LAHSA subcontractor since at least 2008, long before Adams Kellum joined the agency in 2023.

"Dr. Adams Kellum did not discuss, participate in, or have any involvement in any decision regarding UBH contract terms, scope of work, or funding amounts," the law firm concluded.

The review found that Adams Kellum had alerted LAHSA to the potential conflict of interest before starting as CEO, and the agency established an "ethical wall" that she followed.

maaz@smdp.com

AROUND TOWN

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Dine LA Restaurant Week and More Food Events

SMDP's Weekly Guide to Food & Entertainment Goings-On In & Around Town includes the return of Dine LA Restaurant Week, Spazmatics concert, Esters Wine Bar 10 Year Party, and much more!

Library Celebrates Women of Marvel Comics with Author Event: The event features YALLWEST Book Festival co-founder and Santa Monica-based author Margaret Stohl, along with co-authors Judith Stephens and Jeanine Schaefer, presenting their new book "Super Visible: The Story of the Women of Marvel Comics." Thursday, July 24, 6 - 8 p.m., Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. https://smpl.bibliocommons.com/v2/events



Courtesy image

FOOD: There are deals to be found this week.

Thierry Lefort Exhibit - Step into the world of California Blue: Gallery33 is presenting a solo exhibition by renowned French artist Thierry Lefort. The FREE opening party is Thursday, July 24, 6:30-9p.m., 1415 Ocean Ave. https://www.eventbrite.com/e/thierry-lefort-california-blue-exhibition-tickets-1475241911269

The Spazmatics: They are bringing their signature '80s new-wave spectacle to The Venice West, promising high-energy covers, nerd-chic theatrics, and crowd-pleasing nostalgia. Friday, July 25, 8p.m., 1717 Lincoln Blvd. https://www.tixr.com/groups/thevenicewest/events/the-spazmatics-150480

Westside Chamber Orchestra Free Summer Series: Join The Westside Chamber Orchestra this summer at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Santa Monica for these terrific free programs. Saturday July 26, 7p.m., 958 Lincoln Blvd. https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-westside-chamber-orchestra-albinoni-ibert-rossini-schubert-tickets-1329193376169

Alice and the Wonderful Tea Party: The zany show returns to the Santa Monica Playhouse this summer with shows each Saturday and Sunday afternoon from July 13 to September 28. The interactive musical comedy invites audiences to join Alice as she accepts a party invitation to return to the Wonderland of her youth. 1211 4th St. https://www.santamonicaplayhouse.com/alice-and-the-wonderful-tea-party.html

SaMo Library Summer Film Series: The Farewell: Awkwafina stars in this touching dramedy about a woman who learns that her grandmother has only a few weeks to live. She conspires with her family to travel to China under the facade of a family wedding, giving them one last chance to say goodbye to their Nai Nai. Tuesday, Jul 29, 5 - 7p.m., Montana Branch Library 1704 Montana Ave. https://www.santamonica.gov/events/4x0jv23m94a22skdc4qxnek5xt/202507291700

ONGOING: "Two Bit Circus" Pop-Up; LiteBrite Experience; Night Market at The Bungalow (through 8/28); Wellness & Waves (through 10/11); Penmar Sunset Sessions (through 10/31)

WHAT TO EAT & DRINK?

Dine LA Restaurant Week(s) from July 25–Aug 8: https://www.instagram.com/p/DFJhxAzyCkD/ 47 SaMo eateries are participating, including:

BOA: Enjoy a multi-course lunch ($45) or dinner ($75), featuring BOA favorites like the Caesar Salad, Chicken Parmesan, Chef Dana's Wagyu Philly Cheesesteak, Chef Cones with Spicy Tuna and more. 101 Santa Monica Blvd.

Citrin: They are offering 5 courses (amuse, starter, 2 mains, dessert) for $99. Highlights include Vermillion Rockfish "ikejime", Snake Farms Sirloin and Yellow Peach and Yuzu "Pie". 1104 Wilshire Blvd.

Fia: They are offerings 4 courses (starter, pasta, main and dessert) for $95. Highlights include Shrimp & Halibut Watermelon Aguachile, Cavatelli, and Madeira Braised Short Rib. 2454 Wilshire Blvd.

Fitoor: Focusing on fire-based Indian cooking, it is offering a 3-course lunch menu at $45/pp, and a 3-course dinner menu at $65/pp. Lunch includes your choice of starter, small plate, and entree, and dinner includes your choice of small plate, entree, and dessert. Options include the scored Open Fire Chicken Kebab, followed by Alleppey

SEE **AROUND TOWN** PAGE 11



Surf report

WATER TEMP: **68.9**

THURSDAY
FAIR
SURF: 2-3ft+
Thigh to stomach

S swell tops out/holds at exposed areas. Morning winds stay on the light side. Steep-angled S swell holds in with playful size for the summer points and a little more energy west of Dume. There should be enough NW windswell in the mix to help the shape out for those better exposed beachbreaks, just wait on the tide push. Waist-chest high surf due for the points, some shoulder high+ sets working in west of Dume. Light SE breeze early morning, shifts to low-end moderate W onshores in the afternoon.

FRIDAY
FAIR TO GOOD
SURF: 3-4ft+
Waist to shoulder

Looks like the last day of fun S swell before things settle down for at least a few days. Don't miss out as lingering S swell keeps nice size in the waist-stomach high range for average spots, still upwards of chest+ for standouts - generally largest west of Pt. Dume. Morning winds looking light/variable. Moderate W onshores due in the afternoon.

Weather

Thursday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, cloudy through mid morning, then gradual clearing, with a high near 71.
Thursday Night: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, increasing clouds, with a low around 60.
Friday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, mostly sunny, with a high near 69.
Friday Night: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, mostly cloudy, with a low around 60.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2025/07/24	Thu	04:12 AM	-1.29	L
2025/07/24	Thu	10:42 AM	4.14	H
2025/07/24	Thu	3:22 PM	2.18	L
2025/07/24	Thu	9:35 PM	6.87	H
2025/07/25	Fri	04:50 AM	-1.14	L
2025/07/25	Fri	11:18 AM	4.28	H
2025/07/25	Fri	4:09 PM	2.06	L
2025/07/25	Fri	10:17 PM	6.58	H
2025/07/26	Sat	05:26 AM	-0.83	L
2025/07/26	Sat	11:53 AM	4.39	H
2025/07/26	Sat	4:55 PM	2.00	L
2025/07/26	Sat	10:58 PM	6.12	H
2025/07/27	Sun	05:59 AM	-0.40	L

Daily Lottery

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

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 7/21
8 11 28 33 42
Power#: 2
Jackpot: 325 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 7/22
22 41 42 59 69
Mega#: 17
Jackpot: 120 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 7/19
4 18 19 33 43
Mega#: 20
Jackpot: 27 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 7/22
10 11 13 21 29

Daily 3
Draw Date: 7/22
EVENING: 7 4 5
Draw Date: 7/22
MIDDAY: 7 1 9

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 7/22
1st: 11 - Money Bags
2nd: 01 - Gold Rush
3rd: 12 - Lucky Charms
Race Time: 1:47.70

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The Santa Monica Daily Press publishes Monday - Saturday with a circulation of 8,200 on weekdays and 8,000 on the weekend. The Daily Press is adjudicated as a newspaper of general circulation in the County of Los Angeles and covers news relevant to the City of Santa Monica. The Daily Press is a member of the California Newspaper Publisher's Association, the National Newspaper Association and the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce. The paper you're reading this on is composed of 100% post consumer content and the ink used to print these words is soy based. We are proud recipients of multiple honors for outstanding news coverage from the California Newspaper Publishers Association as well as a Santa Monica Sustainable Quality Award.

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SANTA MONICA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
NOTICE OF COMPLETION AND AVAILABILITY OF THE
SMC 2024 MAIN CAMPUS MASTER PLAN UPDATE
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT
[CEQA Guidelines Sections 15085 & 15087]
State Clearinghouse No. 2025010279
July 24, 2025

TO: All Interested Agencies, Parties, Organizations, and Persons
FROM: Santa Monica Community College District
SUBJECT: Notice of Completion and Availability of a Draft Environmental Impact Report
PROJECT TITLE: Santa Monica College 2024 Main Campus Master Plan Update
COMMENT PERIOD: July 24, 2025 – September 8, 2025

In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the Santa Monica Community College District (SMCCD), as Lead Agency, has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Report (Draft EIR) for the proposed Santa Monica College 2024 Main Campus Master Plan Update (Proposed Project). This notice provides the public, nearby residents and property owners, responsible agencies, and other interested parties with a summary of the Proposed Project, conclusions of the Draft EIR, information regarding the availability of the Draft EIR for public review, and the timeframe for submitting comments on the Draft EIR. Comments must be submitted in writing according to the directions below.

Project Location, Environmental Setting, and Description: The Proposed Project Site encompasses the Santa Monica College (SMC) Main Campus located at 1900 Pico Boulevard in the City of Santa Monica, CA. The Main Campus encompasses approximately 43.98 acres and is generally bounded by Pico Boulevard to the north, 18th Court to the east, Pearl Street to the south, and 16th Street to the west, and includes adjacent properties along Pico Boulevard between 16th Street and 14th Street and along Pearl Street between 17th Street and 18th Court ("Project Site").

The Proposed Project includes the demolition of existing temporary and permanent buildings, totaling approximately 360,100 gross square feet (gsf) of building area, and the construction of new buildings consisting of 265,216 gsf of new floor area in five main new buildings ("Proposed Project"). The Proposed Project would also include approximately 207,073 gsf of building renovations to two existing buildings (the Physical and Life Science Complex and the Library and Media Center). The Proposed Project would create various new and enhanced open spaces throughout the campus, including landscaping the proposed new Student Union building, a Welcome Lawn, an outdoor amphitheater, a Science Quad, the Tri (triangular open space area), and New Quad. The Proposed Project would generally retain the current vehicular circulation and access points and existing parking supply. The Proposed Project would be constructed in three phases beginning in 2025 with final buildout anticipated to be completed by 2035.

Cortese List: The portion of the Project Site located at 1410 Pico Boulevard is included on a list of hazardous materials sites, specifically the California State Water Resources Control Board GeoTracker website. As of January 2000, the cleanup status of 1410 Pico Boulevard was completed, and the case was closed.

Anticipated Significant Environmental Effects: The Draft EIR analyzed the following environmental issue areas within the scope of the EIR: Air Quality, Aesthetics (Views, Light & Glare), Cultural/ Historic Resources, Energy Conservation, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Land Use and Planning, Noise, Cumulative Impacts, and Mandatory Findings of Significance and found that the Proposed Project would not result in any significant and unavoidable impacts. All potential impacts would be less than significant or mitigated to less-than-significant levels.

Availability of the Draft EIR: The Draft EIR and Technical Appendices will be made available to the public via the College's website at https://admin.smc.edu/administration/planning/2024-SMC-Campus-Master-Plan.php.

Request for Comments. The public and affected governmental agencies are encouraged to provide written comments to the SMCCD with respect to the adequacy and completeness of the Draft EIR. Due to the time limits mandated by state law, written comments to the Draft EIR must be received no later than 45 days after receipt of this notice. In order to receive consideration in the Final EIR, comments are due by Monday September 8, 2025. Please address all comments to Mr. Charlie Yen, Director of Facilities Planning, Santa Monica College either by USPS mail or via email as directed below.

By Mail: Mr. Charlie Yen, Director of Facilities Planning
Santa Monica Community College District
1900 Pico Boulevard
Santa Monica, CA 90405

By email: YEN_CHARLIE@smc.edu

Please provide contact information and return mailing address on your correspondence and you will be notified of future notices and hearings.

COMMUNITY NEWS

SMC

SMC Planetarium Offers Free Virtual Show in August

The Santa Monica College Planetarium will present a free, live virtual show on Friday, Aug. 8, at 8 p.m., offering viewers a sneak peek at the college's new planetarium and shows.

The presentation, titled "Sneak Peek," will be led by lecturer Sarah Vincent and streamed online at smc.edu/planetarium. The show follows a streamlined virtual digest of the popular Night Sky Show at 7 p.m., which features the latest news in astronomy and space exploration.

The new SMC Planetarium and Observatory is scheduled to open in late September 2025 and is currently in the final stages of construction. Friday's show will provide a behind-the-scenes look at the new dome and preview two new shows that will be available when the facility opens.

Planetarium lecturers are using the Zoom platform to present shows while construction continues on the new facility. Viewers must have Zoom software installed on their computers to attend the online presentations. A free download is available at zoom.com.

The virtual shows include opportunities for viewers to chat with planetarium lecturers and ask questions during the presentations. The Friday evening events are part of the planetarium's ongoing series of virtual programming.

Both the Night Sky Show and the featured presentation are offered at no cost to participants. The Night Sky Show provides updates on current astronomical events and space exploration developments.

More information about the planetarium's virtual programming is available online at smc.edu/planetarium. All shows are subject to change or cancellation without notice.

Santa Monica College is a California Community College accredited by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges.

The planetarium's virtual shows have continued the institution's educational programming during the construction period, maintaining community engagement with astronomy and space science topics through online presentations.

Registration and additional details about upcoming shows can be found at the planetarium's website.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF

HOMELESS

FROM PAGE 1

Air, Beverly Hills, Beverly Crest, Beverly Glen, Brentwood, Century City, Culver City, Holmby Hills, Laurel Canyon, Malibu, Mar Vista, Marina Del Rey, Manchester, Pacific Palisades, Palms, Rancho Park, South Robertson, Venice, Westchester and Westwood.

In SPA 5 homelessness declined by 6.4%, a decline of 343 people.

In some of those specific communities, homelessness also declined. Culver City identified 105 unsheltered persons experiencing homelessness down nearly 9% from its count of 115 persons in 2024. A RAND report released this year reported a 22% decline in homelessness in Venice. Malibu reported a record low of 33 homeless people.

"In Santa Monica, coordination with the city and county of Los Angeles and other regional partners has led to positive results," said the city in its press release. "The city, in line with the recently adopted Homelessness Strategic Plan, will continue to implement strategies to address the housing and homelessness crises."

The city cited its partnership with the County's Pathway Home program as an example of success with an additional 25 transitional shelter beds in Santa Monica.

Car camping has been a growing source of complaints for residents within the city who have said people have been allowed to live in vehicles for extended periods despite the City's prohibitions on living in cars.

In a recent incident, a camper near Douglas park spent more than six months living on the adjacent residential streets before eventually leaving.

At the time, the Santa Monica Police Department said it had issued multiple parking citations and conducted repeated outreach through the Homeless Liaison Program and contracted service providers. The occupants refused repeated offers of relocation assistance or safe parking alternatives and officials said they were helpless to address the problem.

SMPD said enforcement actions are guided by the Fourth Amendment and the California Vehicle Code. Towing an inhabited vehicle from a public street requires specific legal thresholds, such as an immediate hazard to public safety, obstruction of traffic, or an environmental threat. Unpaid citations or general concerns alone do not meet this standard.

The City acknowledged the increase in car camping.

"Outreach teams in Santa Monica continue to connect individuals to safe parking programs in Culver City and the greater Los Angeles area," said the City's announcement. "Moving forward, the city will further assess policy and program shifts to ensure this population of individuals receives the necessary support and resources."

The Santa Monica count is administered by the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority. The City used to manage its own count but handed organization over to the county agency two years ago.

LAHSA has become a controversial agency in recent years with multiple accusations and reports that its methodology undercount homelessness. At the same time, the agency's financial management practices have been questioned and its contracts with both the County and City of Los Angeles have been terminated.

editor@smdp.com

SEND YOUR NEWS TO THE EDITOR
Santa Monica Daily Press editor@smdp.com

COMMUNITY NEWS

Downtown

Santa Monica Playhouse to Present "Pain in My Asperger's"

Santa Monica Playhouse will present "Pain in My Asperger's," a one-person show exploring life with Asperger's Syndrome through story and song, on Saturday, Aug. 2 at 6 p.m.

Actor and musician Jeremy Ebenstein performs the autobiographical piece, which chronicles his journey from childhood to adulthood while living with Asperger's Syndrome, a form of autism. The show addresses universal themes including childhood bullying, romance and overcoming depression.

"Pain in My Asperger's" tells a story of optimism and love for those with Asperger's Syndrome who face additional challenges, as well as anyone who has hoped to make something of themselves, according to the playhouse.

Ebenstein, who began playing piano at age 29, uses eight original songs and compositions to share his perspective on everyday struggles including relationships and employment while pursuing his dreams of acceptance and success. Music became a skill unaffected by his condition, inspiring him to tell his story about living with the developmental disorder that affects the ability to socialize, learn and communicate effectively.

The piece was developed with Jack Fry, known for "Einstein!" and "They Call Me Mister Fry," in the Jack Fry Solo Workshops. Debra Ehrhardt, associated with "Jamaica Farewell" and "Cocktales," served as creative consultant.

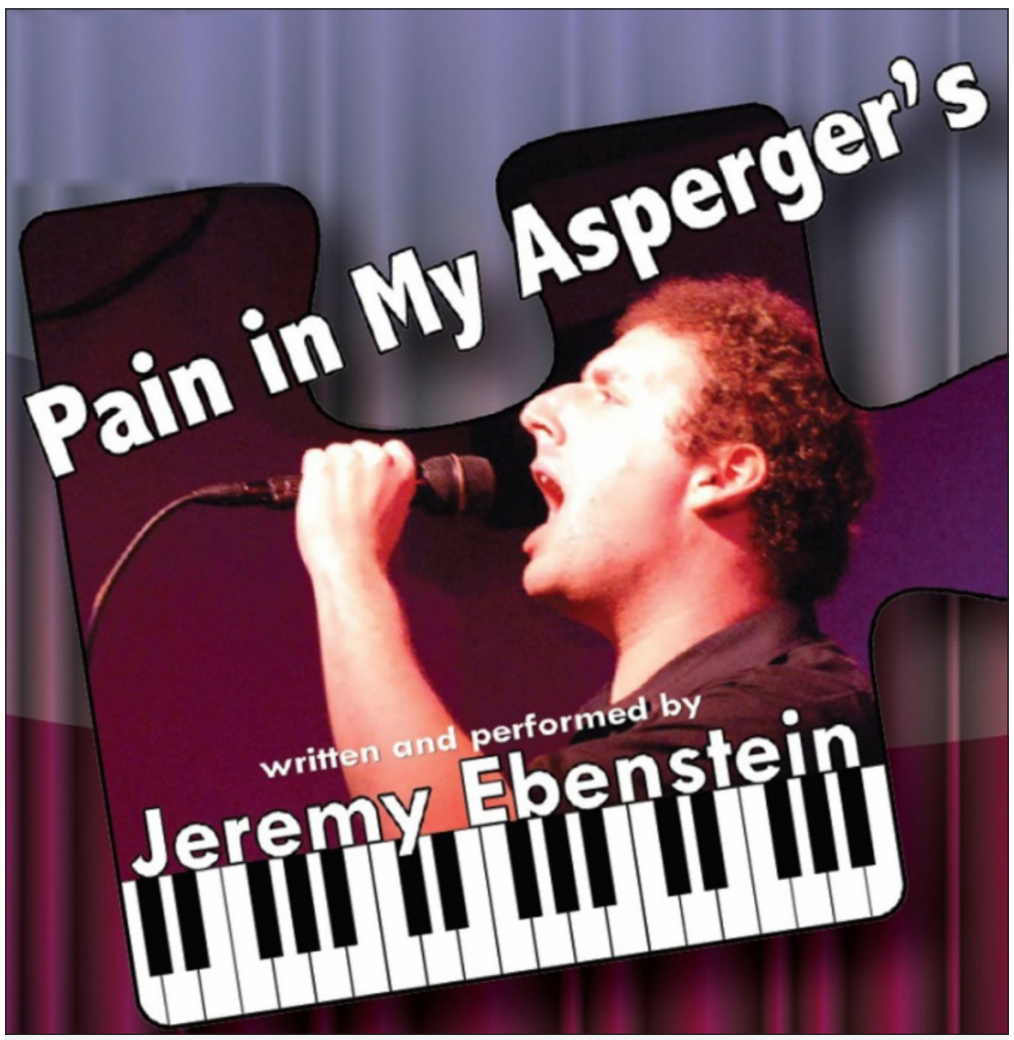
Tickets cost $25 with discounts available for students, teachers, seniors and current and former military personnel.

For more information, visit SantaMonicaPlayhouse.com/Pain-In-My-Aspergers.html.

Santa Monica Playhouse is located at 1211 4th Street, one block east of the Third Street Promenade. The venue is accessible by Santa Monica Blue Bus or LA Metro Rapid #720 at the 4th and Wilshire stop, or by Metro E (Expo) line to 4th and Colorado.

Santa Monica Playhouse programs receive support from grants including the We Are Santa Monica Fund, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors through the Los Angeles County Department of Arts and Culture, the City of Santa Monica and the Santa Monica Arts Commission, the Ahmanson Foundation, the Rotary Club Foundation and Playhouse PALS.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF



Courtesy image

PAIN IN MY ASPERGER'S: One-person show exploring life with Asperger's Syndrome through story and song, on Saturday, Aug. 2 at 6 p.m.

GET IT DAILY...

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*Offer to non insured patients
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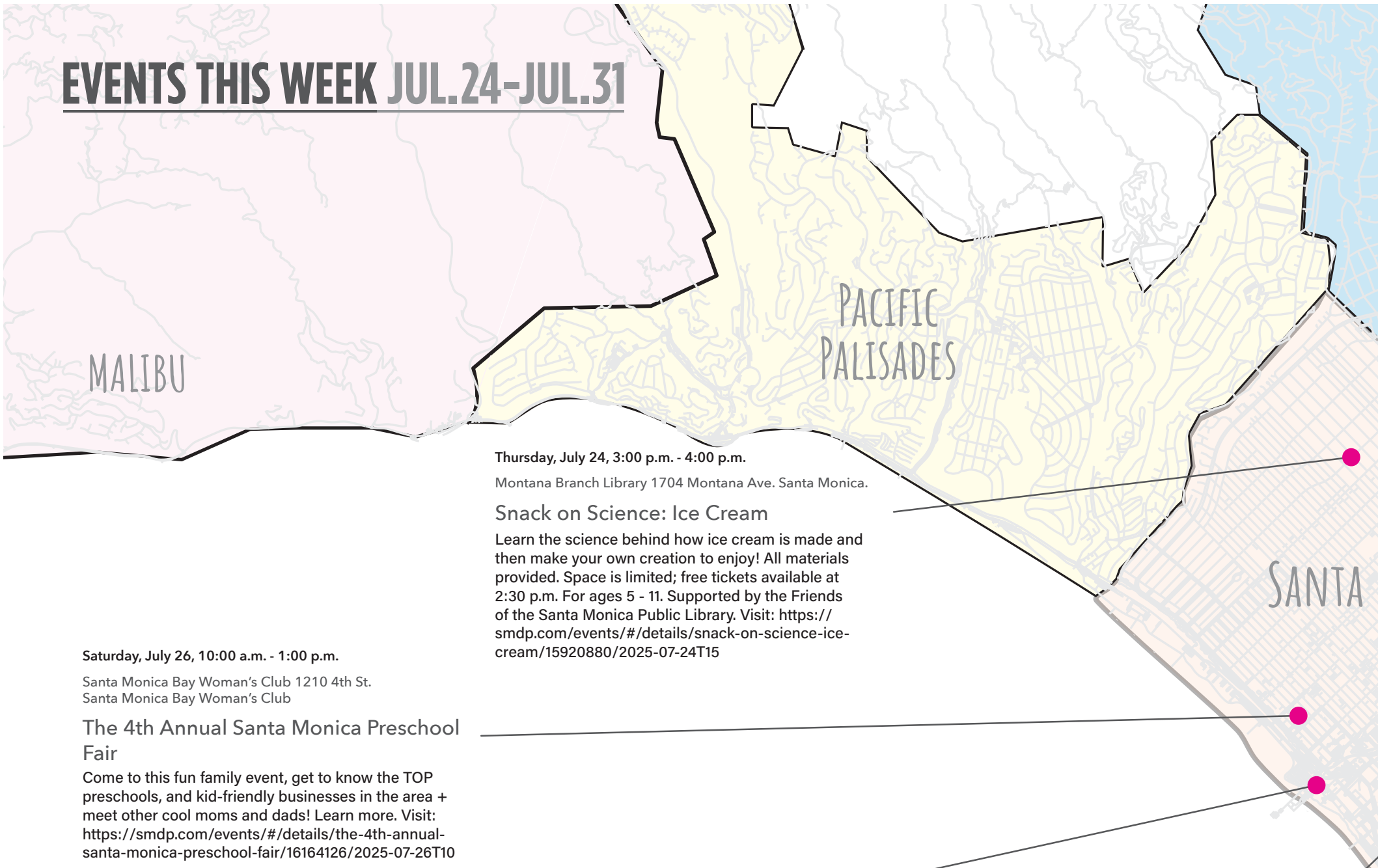
CELEBRATE WITH US
Visit www.chezjays.com to purchase tickets

EVENTS THIS WEEK JUL.24-JUL.31



Thursday, July 24, 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Montana Branch Library 1704 Montana Ave. Santa Monica.

Snack on Science: Ice Cream

Learn the science behind how ice cream is made and then make your own creation to enjoy! All materials provided. Space is limited; free tickets available at 2:30 p.m. For ages 5 - 11. Supported by the Friends of the Santa Monica Public Library. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/snack-on-science-ice-cream/15920880/2025-07-24T15

Saturday, July 26, 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Santa Monica Bay Woman's Club 1210 4th St. Santa Monica Bay Woman's Club

The 4th Annual Santa Monica Preschool Fair

Come to this fun family event, get to know the TOP preschools, and kid-friendly businesses in the area + meet other cool moms and dads! Learn more. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/the-4th-annual-santa-monica-preschool-fair/16164126/2025-07-26T10

Thursday, July 24, 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

The Lobster 1602 Ocean Ave. Santa Monica.

The Lobster's Sunset Jazz & Pizza Night

Back by popular demand, The Lobster's Jazz & Pizza Sunset Series returns to Santa Monica on Thursday, July 24th with an unforgettable kickoff soirée! From 6-9pm, experience a perfect summer evening filled with smooth jazz, handcrafted pizzas by acclaimed Chef Govind Armstrong, $5 OPEN Brewing beers, and a breathtaking oceanfront sunset as your backdrop. The series continues every Thursday from 7–9pm in the bar and patio, blending the laid-back luxury of California coastal living with the lively ambiance of our three-piece house jazz band. Signature seafood offerings remain available inside, but the patio is where summer magic lives. Come sip and savor seaside all summer long. Walk-ins are available but reservations are encouraged. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/the-lobster-s-sunset-jazz-pizza-night/16247536/2025-07-24T18

Saturday, July 26, 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Santa Monica Elks Lodge #906 1040 Pico Blvd. Santa Monica.

S.M. Elks Lodge Garage Sale

Join Santa Monica Elks Lodge for our multifamily indoor sale extravaganza! Are you looking for some fashion finds, unique home decor, item to stock a kitchen or a vast collection of books, DVDs and vintage collectables we have treasures galore. We have plenty of free parking in our lot and hot coffee! Join us from 8am-1pm. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/s-m-elks-lodge-garage-sale/16287377/2025-07-26T08

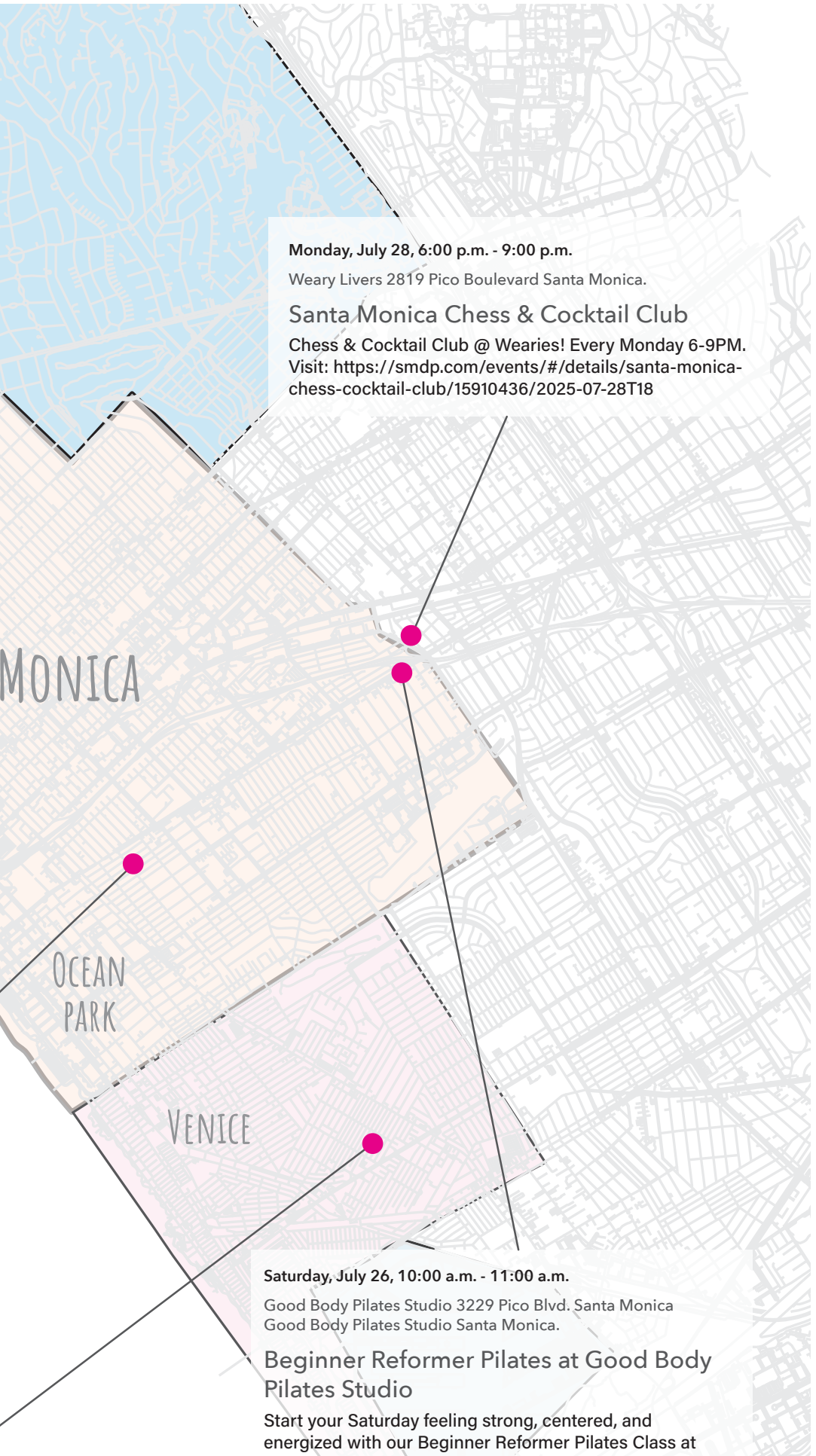
Friday, July 25, 8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

Beyond Baroque Literary Arts Center 681 Venice Blvd Venice Beach Los Angeles

Book Launch: The Press, Shelter, and The Pact: Three Plays by David Lloyd

Join us for a book launch compiling three captivating plays written by David Lloyd. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/book-launch-the-press-shelter-and-the-pact-three-plays-by-david-lloyd/16348241/2025-07-25T20

Check out more events at: smdp.com/events



Monday, July 28, 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Weary Livers 2819 Pico Boulevard Santa Monica.

Santa Monica Chess & Cocktail Club

Chess & Cocktail Club @ Wearies! Every Monday 6-9PM. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/santa-monica-chess-cocktail-club/15910436/2025-07-28T18

Saturday, July 26, 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Good Body Pilates Studio 3229 Pico Blvd. Santa Monica
Good Body Pilates Studio Santa Monica.

Beginner Reformer Pilates at Good Body Pilates Studio

Start your Saturday feeling strong, centered, and energized with our Beginner Reformer Pilates Class at Good Body Pilates Studio, taught by expert instructor Kylie. This group class is perfect for those new to Pilates or anyone looking to reconnect with the fundamentals in a welcoming and supportive environment. No experience necessary! Located in the heart of Santa Monica on Pico Boulevard, right across from Trader Joe's, our boutique studio is surrounded by great local coffee shops and restaurants, making it the perfect place to kick off your weekend. Plenty of metered parking available on Pico Blvd, and both metered and free street parking available on Urban Ave. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/beginner-reformer-pilates-at-good-body-pilates-studio/16094481/2025-07-26T10



THURSDAY | JULY 24

SNACK ON SCIENCE: ICE CREAM

3-4 p.m. Montana Branch Library, 1704 Montana Ave. Learn the science behind how ice cream is made and then make your own creation to enjoy! All materials provided. Space is limited; free tickets available at 2:30 p.m. For ages 5 - 11. Supported by the Friends of the Santa Monica Public Library. https://smdp.com/events/#/details/snack-on-science-ice-cream/15920880/2025-07-24T15

FRIDAY | JULY 25

THE NIGHT SKY SHOW

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

SATURDAY | JULY 26

ARTISTS & FLEAS: VENICE MARKETPLACE

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

SUNDAY | JULY 27

THE WATERFRONT - SUNDAY REAL FUNDAY BRUNCH BUFFET

11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. The Waterfront 205 Ocean Front Walk Venice. Enjoy a bottomless brunch buffet Sundays at The Waterfront! The Waterfront Venice is a full-service restaurant celebrating Californian cuisine with views of the Pacific Ocean. Situated between Rose and Navy on the famous Venice Beach Boardwalk, our food & beverage menus celebrate California with carefully selected seasonal produce from local farms. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/the-waterfront-sunday-real-funday-brunch-buffet/14894114/2025-07-20T11

MONDAY | JULY 28

PIZZA PARTY AT BODEGA WINE BAR

6:00 p.m. -10:00 p.m. 814 Broadway Santa Monica, CA 90401. Every Monday Night at Bodega, every bottle of wine you purchase gets you a pizza half off! 6pm-Close. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/pizza-party-at-bodega-wine-bar/11526040/2025-07-21T18

TUESDAY | JULY 29

WALKING MEDITATION

2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Beach lot 5 South 2600 Bernard Away Santa Monica. Walking meditation is and has always been a significant alternative to sitting meditation, especially for those starting a new practice. The goal of meditation is to be able to practice in all positions, conditions and activities whether sitting, standing, walking, lying down, or whenever awake. We'll meet Tuesday's and Thursdays at 2 pm by the Mobile Community Meditation and Retreat Center VAN parked in the Santa Monica Beach lot 5 South (by the grass on the east side of the parking lot and across the street from the basketball courts at Ocean View Park) We'll walk silently together for approximately 45 minutes on the shoreline. Everyone is welcome to join whether new to meditation or with many years of experience. Please remember to bring sand shoes if you prefer not to walk barefoot, sunscreen, a hat, a jacket if it's cold and water. Tho there's a dog in the photo, unfortunately dogs are not permitted on the beach. Looking forward to meeting and meditating with you all. please feel free to reach out with any concerns or questions and please arrive 5 minutes early. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/walking-meditation/16206460/2025-07-15T14

GELSON'S WEST LA TO HOST TACO TUESDAYS WITH TACOS, MARGARITAS, AND MEZCALS

4:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. Gelson's 12121 W Olympic Blvd, Los Angeles. Every Tuesday from 4 PM to 10 PM, Gelson's West LA Wine Bar will be hosting Taco Tuesdays, bringing together a festive blend of flavors and fun. Enjoy a variety of mouthwatering tacos, refreshing margaritas, and smooth mezcals, all served in a vibrant, welcoming atmosphere. The perfect way to spice up the week—gather friends and enjoy a night of great food, drinks, and good times. Prices vary. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/gelson-s-west-la-to-host-taco-tuesdays-with-tacos-margaritas-and-mezcals/15309564/2025-07-08T16

WEDNESDAY | JULY 30

FRIENDS OF VENICE LIBRARY: YOGA FOR EVERYONE!

12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. Venice Branch Library 501 S Venice Blvd. Venice. Through body awareness, movement, and breath, you will be guided on how to bring your body, mind, and spirit back into balance for overall well-being. All levels are welcome. Generously funded by the Friends of Venice Library. For ADA accommodations, call (213) 228-7430 at least 72 hours prior to the event. Para ajustes razonables según la ley de ADA, llama al (213) 228-7430 al menos 72 horas antes del evento. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/friends-of-venice-library-yoga-for-everyone-/14548476/2025-07-02T12

City of Santa Monica

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS

July 24, 2025
City of Santa Monica
Housing and Human Services
1685 Main St, Mail Stop #19 Santa Monica, CA 90401

This Notice shall satisfy the above-cited separate but related procedural notification requirements for activities to be undertaken by the City of Santa Monica Housing Authority.

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about August 11, 2025, City of Santa Monica and the City of Santa Monica Housing Authority (SMHA) (known collectively as "the City") will submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the release $2,000,000 in Community Project Funding (CPF) and of 57 Project-Based Section 8 Vouchers (PBV) as authorized by the United States Housing Act of 1937, as amended, to undertake a project known as 1318 4th Street for the purpose of providing affordable supportive housing.

1318 4th Street is proposed by EAH Inc. / EAH Housing, a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization established in 1968. The project site is a 30,000 sf property at 1318 4th Street in the City of Santa Monica. The purpose and need for the project is to provide permanent, supportive affordable housing in the City of Santa Monica, in proximity to public transit, and with supportive services on-site, including case management, transportation, computer/internet access and/or training, household or life skills training, social clubs/education, substance abuse/alcohol abuse treatment or counseling, legal services, and domestic violence support, to be provided by The People Concern, a local nonprofit social services organization.

The project is seeking 50 SMHA Project Based Vouchers. Rent requested for the 44; 0-Bedroom Units, is $1,777 and for the 6 1-Bedroom Units, is $2,006 each for 20 years. This new construction will provide a community room and two manager's housing units, for a total of 122 units. The project has been deemed a 100 percent affordable housing project. The new construction would be six stories with a floor area ratio of 4.0. Project features would include outdoor and indoor amenities.

Total project cost is estimated to be $122,835,025.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The City of Santa Monica Housing Authority has determined that the project will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 is not required. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR) on file at https://www.santamonica.gov/housing-news

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group or agency disagreeing with this determination or wishing to comment on the project may submit written comments by email to Agustin Aleman, Sr. Development Analyst at agustin.aleman@santamonica.gov. All comments received by 5:00 PM on August 7, 2025, will be considered by the City of Santa Monica, prior to submission of a request for release of funds. Comments should specify which Notice they are addressing.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

The City certifies to the U.S. HUD that Mr. Oliver Chi, in his capacity as City Manager, in his capacity as NEPA Certifying Officer consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. HUD's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows the City of Santa Monica Housing Authority to use Program funds.

OBJECTIONS

U.S. HUD Office will accept objections to the City's Request for Release of Funds and Environmental Certification for a period of fifteen days following the submission date specified above or the actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if they are on the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer or other officer of the City of Santa Monica, approved by the U.S. HUD; (b) the City has omitted a step or failed to make a determination or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58, (c) the grant recipient or other participants in the development process have committed funds, incurred costs or undertaken activities not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by US HUD; or (d) another Federal, State or local agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted via email in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58, Sec. 58.76) and shall be addressed to HUD at CPDLA@hud.gov and HUD Los Angeles Office of Public Housing at HUDLOSANGELESOPH@hud.gov. Potential objectors should contact HUD Los Angeles Office of Public Housing via email to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Oliver Chi, City Manager and NEPA Certifying Officer

Santa Monica Daily Press office (310) 458-7737

CONTRACT

FROM PAGE 1

unique needs and circumstances of Santa Monica.

She noted the clause has created mandatory increases in salaries for senior management staff because managers must be paid more than their subordinates, citing a recent police chief salary increase of 6% and city manager salary increase of 10%. Zernitskaya said some management roles within the city are actually paid higher base salaries than the president of the United States.

Zwick warned the contract would consume significant city resources without improving public safety.

He said the additional $22 million in costs over the next four years effectively wipes out the entirety of the savings from a recent hiring freeze affecting all non-sworn personnel that aimed to save approximately $5 million annually.

"But what pains me most is that the deal we sold to every other bargaining group, we told them, in what I felt at the time is completely honesty, that we had no more money hidden away to better compensate the incredibly hard work by grounds, men, janitors, mechanics, bus drivers and so many other people to commute long hours and work for much lower pay any better," he said.

He said paying current officers more will actually reduce public safety.

"To those who may cast this vote as anti public safety, I'll just say that these pay increases will not add one cop to our streets, in fact, they will ensure that we will have no money to pay for additional public safety personnel over the next four year period. This is the opposite, I'm pretty sure, that the general public, including the general public that considers public safety as a top issue, would have wanted, but that is the result."

Beyond salary increases, the contract includes several benefit enhancements: conversion of on-call pay to straight time, increased city contributions of $192 to the medical trust fund for each eligible employee, and bi-weekly deferred compensation contributions of $41.50 per employee.

The agreement also increases uniform allowances to $2,000 annually and converts 80 hours of personal leave for Field Training Officers to incentive pay equal to 4% of base salary.

The total first-year cost of the negotiated changes is approximately $7.4 million, with $4.8 million coming from the General Fund. The budget impact was included in the city's five-year financial forecast.

A separate contract with California Teamsters Local 986, representing 410 skilled trades and maintenance workers, passed unanimously.

Previously, Santa Monica police reported a 2% decrease in serious Part I crimes in 2024 despite a 25% increase in overall calls for service, according to the department's annual report.

The department recorded 4,840 Part I crimes — including murder, rape and robbery — down 77 incidents from 2023. However, Part II crimes like weapons violations and narcotics offenses jumped 16% to 4,080 cases.

editor@smdp.com

FEE WAIVER

FROM PAGE 1

signing one for city staff. This creates a legal covenant that runs with the property, ensuring enforcement if homes are sold before completion.

"If they sell it then they have to refund all the fees and certificate occupancy will not be issued until that refund happens," Bundy explained to council members.

"The only thing that I really have concern of is the waiving of the fees for the time extensions," Conrad said. "That would be my only consideration is to remove to strike the time extensions."

The council agreed, viewing the change as an incentive for timely completion of rebuilding projects.

The program sparked debate during public comment, with speakers offering contrasting views on the substantial financial commitment.

Ryan, a public commenter, raised constitutional concerns about the fee waivers, arguing the city lacked adequate projections.

"You don't know what amount of gift of public funds is being contemplated and that's what it is," Ryan said. "What happened with Woolsey got out of hand it's been six years and you were still waiving fees and there's no motivating factor involved."

However, Danny Smith, another public speaker, defended the program's economic benefits. "I think the economic benefit of getting these houses rebuilt quicker will outweigh by many factors the revenue lost to the fee waivers," Smith said.

City Attorney Trevor Rusin addressed the constitutional concerns, outlining multiple public purposes that justify the fee waivers under state law.

"A huge portion of the city was wiped out by this and the rebuilding of that would provide a public benefit to the city it also increases the city's tax base," Rusin said. He added that the program serves to preserve the "character of the city the rural nature of it and the residents that have been living here rather than turning it over to outside developers."

The fee waiver program applies to properties that were primary residences at the time of the fires and are being rebuilt as "like-for-like" or "like-for-like plus 10%" structures. Single-family homes and duplexes are eligible, but commercial properties are excluded.

Key deadlines include June 30, 2028, for submitting applications and obtaining planning approvals, and December 30, 2030, for pulling building permits.

The program includes special provisions for properties owned by limited liability companies and corporations, requiring additional documentation and affidavits from managing members.

For duplexes, both owners must have occupied their respective units as primary residences at the time of the fires and must jointly record affidavits to qualify for the program.

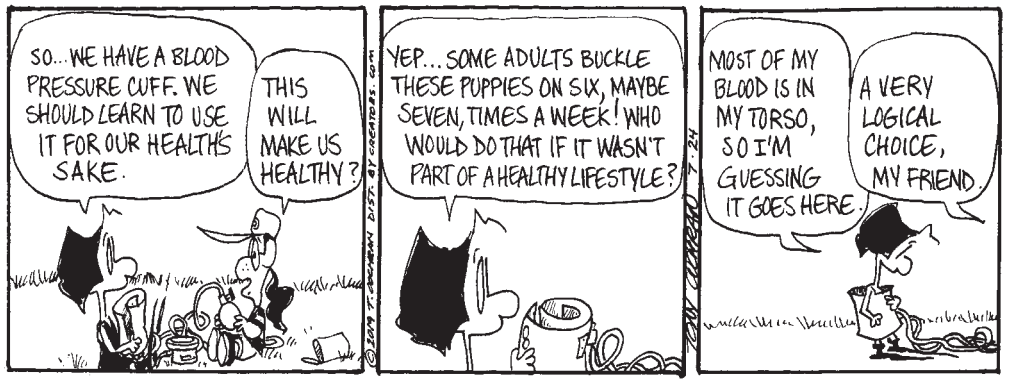
The Broad Fire occurred on November 6, 2024, the Franklin Fire on December 9, 2024, and the Palisades Fire on January 7, 2025, collectively destroying or damaging more than 1,000 structures in Malibu.

The program represents one of the largest municipal fee waiver initiatives in the city's history, reflecting the scale of destruction from the three fires and the city's commitment to supporting residents through the rebuilding process.

maaz@smdp.com

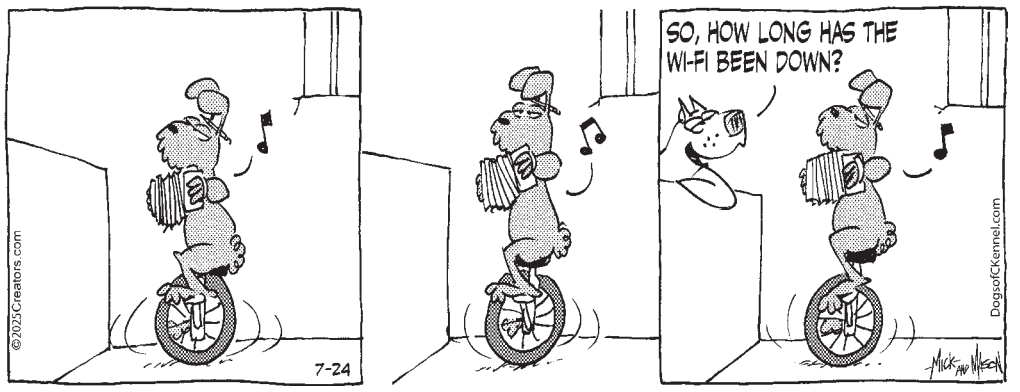
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



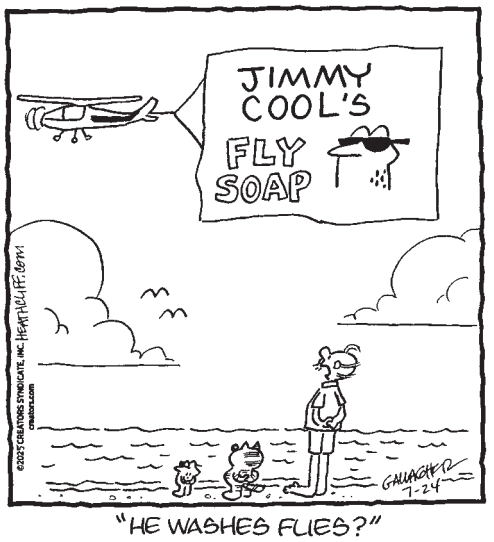
Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

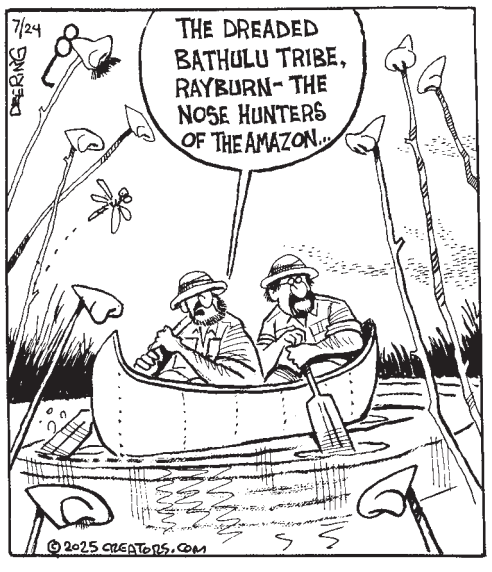
By PETER GALLAGHER



"HE WASHES FLIES?"

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 6646

Happy New Year!

C	E	E	S	B	T	R	O	P	S	T	L	L	A	B
L	C	E	K	U	K	B	V	Y	E	H	O	R	N	S
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Amok	Diet	Hope	Peanuts
Baby	Drinks	Horns	Pyrotechnic
Ball	Drunk	Hugs	Reminisce
Break	Feast	Idol	Save
Bubbly	Finances	Keep	Show
Cheers	Forgiveness	Kiss	Sing
Chips	Funny	Laugh	Snacks
Clock	Future	Loud	Soda
Crowds	Games	Melee	Sport
Debt	Happy	Night	Thank
Design	Hats	Noise	Traditional

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
The most populous state

Covering the city by the bay since 2001.
To advertise, email cindy@smdp.com or call 310.458.7737
smdp Santa Monica Daily Press

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (July 24)

You're a master of nuance, a storm of beauty and brains, and a true artist of your own life. But you still need other people - and here they come this year to help execute your vision, to point out the gaps and simply to witness you. More highlights: financial wins come steadily two per season. A meaningful ceremony anchors you. A sharp turn in a close relationship leads somewhere breathtaking. Capricorn and Gemini adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 5, 19, 28, 11, and 40.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Confidence clicks, and suddenly you're reaching for something bold - a creative risk, a move with no safety net. Whether you stick the landing or fumble it is irrelevant. It's all a part of your style, and imperfection is a key element.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You take your responsibilities seriously and you expect others to do the same, though it doesn't matter in the least until their responsibility connects in some way to your own. Such will be the case today, affording you the opportunity to use advanced communication skills.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Reactions tell a story, for instance the way your eye twitches or your chest tightens when someone says the exact right (or wrong) thing. This might change things. Keep moving through the scene. Let information settle.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Zirconia might pass for a diamond, but silk flowers fool no one, and a digital heart can't touch the rush of real love. Most stand-ins fall flat. Today, you'd rather go without than settle for imitation.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You're understated but influential. What's your secret? Focus. You focus on what matters to you and dial out the rest. Your every move counts. Your turn of phrase, an idea you float, the way you handle a moment - it's creating a lasting effect.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). No perspective is 100% right, but hindsight will be the closest. That's why you're reserving judgment, keeping your tone neutral and paying close attention. Later, when the picture sharpens, you'll be proud of the way you handled this moment.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Your curiosity leads somewhere unexpected - to learning the side streets, discovering the new theory, new ventures revealed or attractions ignited. In short, whatever thread you follow, you'll be glad you did.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You'll feel pressure to make the "correct" choice - the one others expect or would agree with. But today isn't about getting something right so much as doing what's right for you. Your inner compass is sharper than the crowd's opinion.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Culture is so all-encompassing that you usually don't notice it, just like a fish doesn't notice the water it swims in. It's the backdrop of everything: your values, habits, language, preferences, assumptions. Today you become aware of culture because you enter a different one.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You've a keen and accurate sense of whom you can trust. You are quick to feel negative vibes and avoid them like the plague. Your talent for assessing people accurately will lead you to the best and steer you from the rest.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You're moving before others realize the game's begun. While they scan the room, you're already making decisions that guide the outcome. Trust your read; it's sharp, quick and more accurate than most.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). To be or perform "being" - that is the question. To work at being liked, impressive, agreeable or "on" might help you fit in or succeed briefly.But over time, it drains you. Today you put less into managing perceptions and more into simply living life.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

	A	L	A		S	O	A	M	I		C	R	O	P
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	C	L	U	E		S	A	N	D	W	E	D	G	E
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SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

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.

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

Newsday Crossword

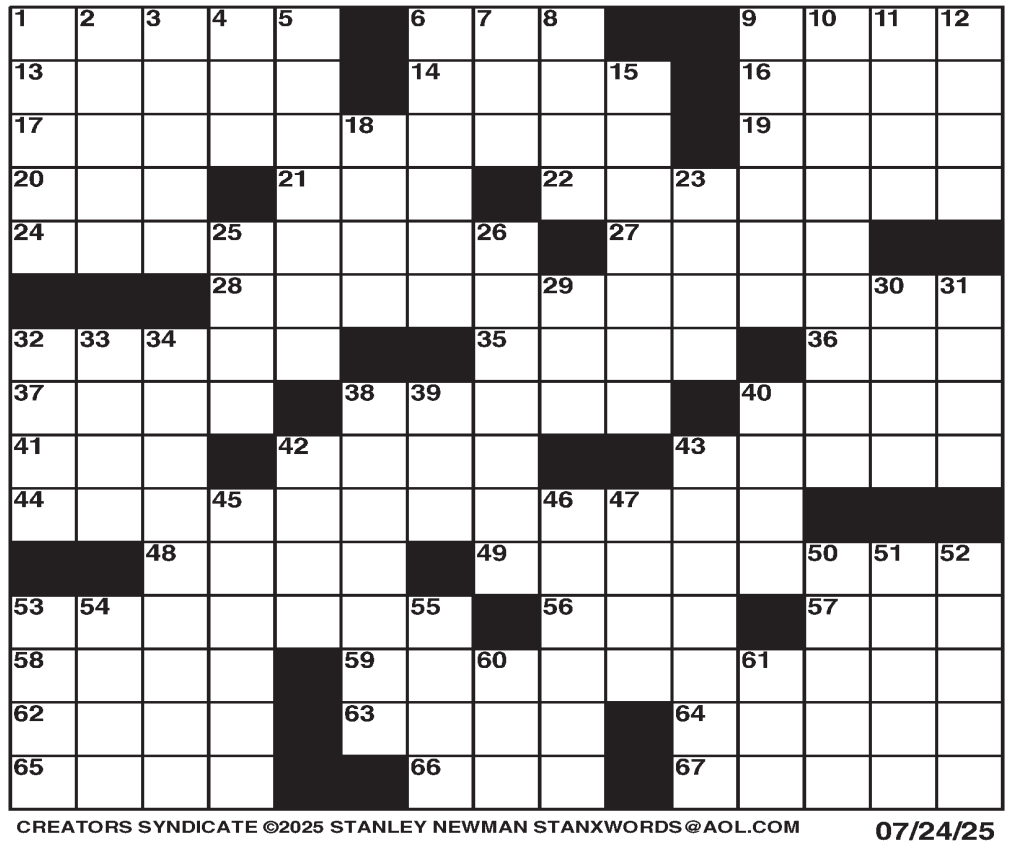
DESIGNER-LABELED by Frédérick Lavoie
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Sword handles
6 Grafton's __ *for Burglar*
9 Happy hour edibles
13 Cybercommerce
14 Ages and ages
16 Oven sound
17 Do the same
19 One in the lead
20 Special handling
21 Sopping
22 Wide-ranging array
24 Nation northeast of Venice
27 Plea for seconds
28 Region beyond Mars
32 Reach a maximum
35 Mare hair
36 Passing through
37 Tick off
38 Sporty Mazda
40 Sort of sandwich
41 Before now
42 Milk product
43 Displays disuse
44 Conference room courtesies
48 Rescue op
49 Upcoming
53 TV shows from Seoul
56 A, in French class
57 Place for a plant
58 Beyond dry
59 Stays on the lookout for danger
62 Derby, for instance
63 Shade close to beige
64 Canadian novelist Munro
65 Poetic contraction
66 Start using
67 Garbage can insert

DOWN

1 Tests the weight of
2 Coral chain
3 Edie of TV
4 Open __ 9
5 Last to finish
6 Closest pal
7 Debt evidence
8 Pert person
9 Assimilate
10 Particular aversions
11 Sound loudly
12 Perky
15 Staying power
18 Cleared out
23 Network connection
25 Widespread
26 Floating fleets
29 Vegan's __ milk
30 Vocal buoyancy
31 Parlor art
32 Wolverine weapon
33 Capital on the Baltic
34 Specialized subject matter
38 Microwavable dessert
39 Dublin's country's IOC designation
40 Essential thing
42 Overstuff
43 Extension of a sort
45 Doesn't commit
46 Turbocharge
47 Jupiter and Neptune, to Saturn
50 Choose to take part
51 Ball-rolling game
52 Upper regions
53 Playmobile
54 Inconclusive result
55 Splinter group
60 Notable period
61 1,001 Nights name



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07/24/25

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

AROUND TOWN

FROM PAGE 3

Fish Curry (soak it up with some naan), and finishing off with the rich Chocolate Nemesis. 1755 Ocean Ave.

Luke's Lobster: The lobster shack is offering a lunch tasting from 11 am - 4 pm for $25 (2oz mini lobster roll, small lobster bisque, poppyseed slaw) and three-Course Dinner from 4 pm to close for $45 (6oz lobster roll, small clam chowder, poppyseed slaw, soft drink). 200 Santa Monica Blvd.

Lunetta: The market-driven restaurant has a $35 Lunch and $65 dinner, with such items as a Greek wedge, Summer corn chowder, Maine lobster, rock shrimp roll, and a nectarine & blueberry Crumble with vanilla ice cream. 2420 Pico Blvd.

Orla by Michael Mina: the new Egyptian-Mediterranean restaurant located inside the Regent Santa Monica, is offering a multi-course prix-fixe lunch for $35 and/or dinner starting at $65. 1700 Ocean Ave.

Fig & Soko at Fairmont Hotel: "Indulge in a carefully curated multi-course menu featuring fresh, seasonal ingredients inspired by local farmers' markets. Whether you're a devoted local or a curious visitor, it's the perfect opportunity to experience the acclaimed culinary artistry of FIG and Chef Masa Shimakawa at Soko." 101 Wilshire Blvd.

Sushi Roku: Enjoy a sushi plate for $45 featuring Tuna, Salmon, Albacore, White Lotus Roll, shrimp tempura, and more. 1401 Ocean Ave.

Terrazza at Hotel Casa del Mar: Enjoy lunch and dinner menus for Dine LA Restaurant week at Terrazza, as well as a special menu at Patio del Mar. 1910 Ocean Way
https://www.discoverlosangeles.com/dinela

The Lobster's Sunset Jazz & Pizza Night: Enjoy a summer evening filled with smooth jazz, handcrafted pizzas, $5 OPEN Brewing beers, and a breathtaking oceanfront sunset as your backdrop. Every Thursday, starting July 24, 6 - 9p.m., 1602 Ocean Ave. https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-lobsters-sunset-jazz-pizza-night-tickets-1471502326069

Andrew's Grilled Cheese and Wine Trivia Night: Join a fun twist on their classic grilled cheese night. For this pop up dinner, they'll be pairing their decadent open-faced grilled cheeses with unique and interesting wines. Plus, they're adding trivia to the mix. Friday, July 25, 7p.m., 728 Montana Ave. https://www.eventbrite.com/e/andrews-grilled-cheese-and-wine-trivia-night-tickets-1447413636149

Aspen Vodka Cocktail Class in the Potting Shed at Fig Restaurant: Join an evening of creativity and craftsmanship at FIG's exclusive Cocktail Class Series, held in their private dining room – Potting Shed. This hands-on experience is for cocktail enthusiasts and beginners alike. You'll learn the art of crafting signature cocktails that are as visually stunning as they are delicious. Two cocktails and bar snacks included. $45. Tuesday, July 29, 6p.m., Fairmont Hotel, 101 Wilshire Blvd. https://www.fairmont-miramar.com/explore/event-calendar/#!/event/7e2959cc-fd4a-4cb4-a896-85044eff2764

Esther's Wine Bar 10 Years Celebration: They are celebrating with live music, free champagne toasts, caviar bumps, special pours, and house cocktails. July 30, 1314 7th St. https://www.instagram.com/esterswine

Su Casa Coffee x Juneshine: A new café concept arrives at 2914 Main St. as local coffee brand Su Casa takes over JuneShine Santa Monica during the day, transforming the popular kombucha tasting room into a daytime gathering spot for all to enjoy. The café residency welcomes guests Wednesdays - Friday from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., offering a low-key and relaxed environment serving expertly brewed Su Casa coffee by day and refreshing JuneShine hard kombuchas each evening. https://www.instagram.com/sucasacoffeeclub/

Turn Dough Opening: The popular European-style chimney-cake and soft-serve dessert shop, has opened its third SoCal location at 215 Broadway, just steps from the Santa Monica Pier. The new outpost offers Instagram-ready treats—from Nutella-filled "Unicorn" cones to Belgian waffles and crepes—with generous hours for indulgent seaside snacking. https://turndough.com/

Further Afield: Brewsology Beer Fest: This is the boozy hybrid of your middle school museum field trip. Taking over the California Science Center after hours, the event features free samples from dozens of local craft breweries and cideries, food trucks, and access throughout the museum, including exhibits, science demonstrations and access to brewery reps. Saturday, July 26, 7 - 11p.m., 700 Exposition Park Dr. https://www.brewsology.com/los-angeles

Looking Ahead: National Night Out (8/5); Festival of Chariots (8/3); Thai Fest by the Beach (9/20-21); Abbot Kinney Festival (9/28); Main St. Day of the Dog Festival (10/18)

If there's something you think is worth highlighting, you can reach out directly to me at sean@smdp.com. Let me know if you have any feedback on Around Town: Dine LA Restaurant Week and More Food Events

Santa Monica Daily Press
Classifieds
FOR QUOTES PLEASE CALL 310-573-8074
or email cindy@smdp.com

Notice

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: Esfir Khazan CASE NUMBER: 25STPB07355 To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both of Esfir Khazan A Petition for Probate has been filed by Jennifer Smilowitz the Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles-Stanley Mosk Courthouse. The Petition for Probate requests by Jennifer Smilowitz appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. The petition requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court. The petition requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows: Date: Aug 1st , 2025 Time: 8:30 a.m Dept. H Room - Address of Court: Stanley Mosk Courthouse 111 N. Hill St Los Angeles, CA 90012 If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law. You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. Robert B. Rosenstein/Paul N. Evenson (Address): 28600 Mercedes St., Ste. 100 Temecula, CA 92590 (Telephone): (951) 296-3888 07/24/25, 07/31/25, 08/07/25

Name Change

Order Show to show cause for Name Change Case No.25SMCP00302 Superior Court of California, County of Los AngelesPetition of Loukas Avkabii Savkisian name of a minor by and through her/his/their mother/father/parent Kristina Netchaeva for Change of Name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner or Attorney: Kristina Netchaeva - Loukas Avkabii Savkisian court for a decree of changing names as follows: Loukas Avkabii Savkisian to Loukas Avkabii NetchaevaThe court orders that all persons interested in this matter shall 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 8/15 /2025 Time: 8:30 a.m, Dept: 107 Room: 107 The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA – COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES Courthouse 6230 Sylmar Ave Van Nuys, CA 91401. 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

PLACE YOUR CLASSIFIED HERE

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