

- 2 Long term risk
For short term high.
- 3 Tax billionaires
For healthcare.



- 4 Unmuted
City gets its flowers.
- 5 Inflation
Remains high.

Volume 25 Issue 181

THE WEEKENDER 7/31-8/2

smdp.com

Los Angeles braces for another punishing heat wave

MATTHEW HALL

Daily Press Editor

Whether you stay on dry land or hit the beach this weekend, Mother Nature may try to kill you.

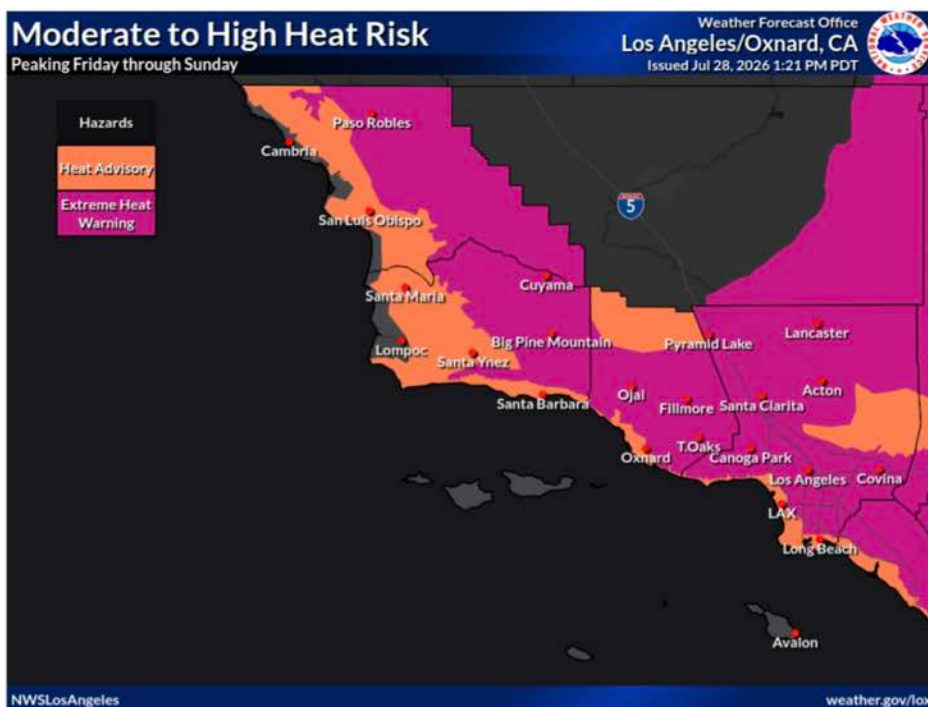
A dangerous heat wave is set to grip much of Southern California from Friday through the weekend, with the National Weather Service warning that inland valleys and interior areas could see highs well over 100 degrees while forecasters track dangerous surf conditions at area beaches from a distant tropical cyclone.

The NWS office in Los Angeles/Oxnard said in a forecast discussion issued Thursday morning that high pressure building over the region will push temperatures to within a degree or two of daily records in many areas, with Saturday carrying the highest chance of records falling. Areas between the coast and the valleys, including downtown Los Angeles, are expected to see highs in the upper 80s to mid-90s, according to the discussion.

Forecasters said overnight lows will also stay well above

High Risk for Heat Illness This Friday through at least Sunday

Weather Forecast Office
Los Angeles, CA
weather.gov/LOX



Today - Wednesday: **Very Warm, Less Humid**

Thursday: **Increasing Heat**, Heat Advisories & Warning for LA Interior
Friday - Sunday: **Hot Conditions** for areas away from coasts, widespread advisories & warnings

Suggested Actions

- Limit outdoor activities to just the early morning hours.
- Stay in air conditioned spaces during the afternoon and evening hours.
- Check in on loved ones.
- Never leave children/pets in unattended vehicles.
- Take frequent rest breaks and stay hydrated.

National Weather Service

SEE HEAT PAGE 8 **HEAT:** High temperatures and ocean dangers will cause problems for the region this weekend.

From the Roaring Twenties to the Olympic era, Casa del Mar celebrates 100 years on Santa Monica's global stage

MICHELLE EDGAR

Special to the Daily Press

Some buildings provide a backdrop to a city, others become part of its identity. For 100 years, Casa del Mar has stood at the edge of Santa Monica, its red-tiled roof, Renaissance Revival facade and sweeping arched windows facing a Pacific Ocean that has remained constant even as nearly everything surrounding it has changed.

Opened May 1, 1926, as the exclusive Club Casa del Mar, the

building arrived as Santa Monica was establishing itself as one of Southern California's most fashionable seaside destinations. A century later, its centennial coincides with another transformative moment as the region moves from the FIFA World Cup toward Super Bowl LXI in 2027 and the Olympic and Paralympic Games in 2028.

For Casa del Mar, the anniversary is more than a look back at its Jazz Age beginnings. It is an opportunity to position one of Santa Monica's most historic buildings at the center

of the city's next chapter—using hospitality, dining, music and cultural programming to welcome global visitors while giving residents new reasons to walk through its doors.

Designed by Los Angeles architect Charles F. Plummer in the Italian Renaissance Revival style, Club Casa del Mar reportedly cost \$2 million to build, an extraordinary investment at the time. The property quickly became one of the West

SEE CASA PAGE 7

Jazz Festival to reclaim LA Coastline with 17 days of free and ticketed shows

MAAZ ALIN

SM DP Staff Writer

The LA Jazz Festival will spread across the city for 17 days in August, mixing dozens of free neighborhood concerts with a two-night beachfront finale that organizers hope will establish the event as one of the largest jazz gatherings in the world.

The festival, which runs from Aug. 7 through Aug. 23, announced an expanded lineup spanning free “Jazz in the Park” concerts,

restaurant pop-ups called “Jazz After Dark,” a Caribbean Street Carnival in Venice and a closing “Jazz on the Beach” weekend headlined by John Legend, Janelle Monáe, Parliament Funkadelic featuring George Clinton and Raphael Saadiq. Terrace Martin was among the newest additions to the beach lineup.

Founder and CEO Martin Ludlow said the festival was designed to fill a gap he first noticed

SEE JAZZ PAGE 8

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GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

California's billionaire tax measure risks long-term growth for a sugar-high solution



Photo by Manuel Orbeagozo for CalMatters

TECH: Attendees of the Nvidia GTC conference in San Jose on March 18, 2026.

California has always been a place that bets on the future. From semiconductors and personal computing to biotechnology, clean energy, quantum, fusion power and AI, our state is the place that turns groundbreaking ideas into industries that transform the world.

That innovation does more than create successful companies. It produces good jobs, expands opportunity through an innovation ecosystem, and generates revenue California uses to support schools, healthcare and our social safety net.

Proposition 40, on the November ballot, would put that entire ecosystem at risk. It could ultimately hurt the Californians it is intended to help.

The measure would impose a one-time tax of 5% on Californians with more than \$1 billion in covered assets, to help fund healthcare and other essential services. Those needs are real, especially at a time when the cost of living is on the rise and Medi-Cal faces new shortfalls. California must protect the programs residents depend on, especially as federal funding remains uncertain.

Prop. 40 is not the way to do it. Voters should say 'no' and instead back two other commonsense measures on that ballot, Propositions 41 and 42.

The nonpartisan Legislative Analyst's Office estimates that Prop. 40 would produce an uptick of tens of billions of dollars in near-term revenue. But this is a sugar high. The LAO also projects an ongoing decrease in state income-tax collections of hundreds of millions of dollars or more each year if taxpayers leave California.

That is Prop. 40's fundamental flaw. It would risk dependable, recurring revenue for a temporary infusion of money. Once that money is spent, California could be left with a smaller tax base to support essential services year after year.

This is not the way to spur business dynamism which supports innovation and job creation.

The consequences could extend beyond tax revenues. Founders and CEOs help determine where companies grow, workers are hired and investments are made. California benefits when those leaders and their companies remain rooted and invested in the success of our state.

California endures as the world's leading center of technological innovation because of its exceptional universities, skilled workforce, access to capital and a culture that rewards bold thinking. These advantages have helped California companies develop lifesaving medicines, cleaner energy and technologies that improve daily life.

But this leadership is not guaranteed. Other states and nations are investing

SEE GUEST COMMENTARY PAGE 6

GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Healthcare costs are surging. Taxing billionaires will help Californians keep their coverage

My patients are afraid, and for good reason.

As a nurse, it breaks my heart. I see elderly patients scared to get even a simple test or make an appointment because they're worried about the cost. I see expectant mothers trying to use as much of their benefits as they can before they lose healthcare coverage. Others avoid care altogether.

Premiums keep going up, and the fear in the halls of our hospital is palpable.

California is at the early stages of a full-blown healthcare crisis. Last year, President Donald Trump's regressive budget bill slashed \$100 billion in healthcare funding from California to pay for more billionaire tax breaks.

These cuts will have deadly consequences. They eliminate coverage for over a million Californians and double health insurance premiums for millions more. Clinics across our state are closing, hospitals are laying off workers, and life-saving services are being scaled down.

The working people I serve are already seeing their healthcare costs skyrocket.

Luckily, we can right this wrong. California voters have the chance to vote 'yes' on Proposition 40, which will make billionaires finally pay their fair share in taxes to keep local hospitals and ERs open and healthcare affordable for millions of Californians. Known as the California Billionaire Tax, Prop. 40 makes approximately 200 California billionaires pay a modest, one-time tax so millions of Californians aren't stuck paying more for healthcare or losing access to care altogether.

Prop. 40 will raise an estimated \$100 billion to replace the healthcare funding Trump and his donors took from working people. The funds will go to life-saving medical care for seniors, veterans and families. It will allow millions of Californians to keep their health insurance and not see their premiums go through the roof. It will also sustain public school staffing and keep children fed through food assistance programs.

The 5% tax is only paid by Californians worth more than \$1 billion in assets, a small group of people who together hold \$2 trillion in wealth — most of which will never be taxed due to loopholes that favor the ultra-wealthy.

Without Prop. 40, our patients won't be able to cover critical expenses, like medications. Depending on where they live, they could pull up to an emergency department and discover it's permanently closed, and the next closest hospital is miles away. Those

who can get treatment will see the results of major healthcare layoffs and short staffing — worsening conditions in emergency rooms that are already overwhelmed.

There's no way around it: If people can't afford the care they need, it will lead to more serious illnesses and even deaths.

This isn't about dollars and cents; it's about life and death. It's about whether healthcare for 39 million Californians should come before the greed of 200 billionaires — billionaires who built their extreme wealth on the backs of working- and middle-class people.

Sadly, a few morally bankrupt billionaires have spent tens of millions of dollars to continue avoiding taxes. They're not just spreading lies about Prop. 40 — they've also funded two sham ballot initiatives designed solely to undo it. I'm talking about Propositions 41 and 42, both of which California voters must reject.

Props. 41 and 42 were put on the ballot to trick voters into making a billionaire tax impossible to enforce. These initiatives aren't about helping California taxpayers, and they're not about audits or retirement savings, as they claim. They are about defeating one specific tax that billionaires want to avoid.

Just follow the money. One of Prop. 41 and 42's main funders is Google founder Sergey Brin, who just surpassed Jeff Bezos to become the third richest person in the world. Brin is spending more money than most of us will see in our lifetime just to try to cancel out a billionaire tax that would preserve healthcare access in California.

Voters shouldn't fall for these billionaires' lies.

When I traveled across Los Angeles to collect signatures for Prop. 40, I kept hearing the same thing that I hear from my patients: The crisis is here. People are experiencing the impact of rising healthcare costs, and they don't know what to do.

But now I get to tell them, "You're not powerless." Voters can take action to keep hospitals and ERs open and healthcare affordable for millions of families by making billionaires pay their fair share. That means approving Prop. 40 and voting 'no' on Props. 41 and 42.

Erica Olivo Reynoso is a licensed vocational nurse at Kaiser Permanente Los Angeles Medical Center, and a member of SEIU-United Healthcare Workers West.



Surf report

WATER TEMP: 64.4

FRIDAY FAIR TO GOOD

SURF: 4-5ft
Chest to head

Genevieve swell still expected to be pumping. Shape straightens out a bit as SPAC, NW swells ease. Tropical swell has good size, trends S through the day. NW windswell drops further and SPAC swell is down so shape starts to straighten out a bit for the beachbreaks. Summer points improve. Expect nice size sticking around from Genevieve. Decent breaks shoulder-head high, good spots comfortably overhead.

SATURDAY FAIR

SURF: 3-4ft+
Waist to shoulder

Surf finally starts to back down but it's still fun. Structured breaks have best shape. S/SSW swell from Genevieve settles through the day. Still a good shot it's chest high for most of the region with good breaks head high+. NW windswell may start to rebound a little. Light/variable wind for the AM, light WSW wind in the afternoon.



Weather

Friday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, cloudy through mid morning, then gradual clearing, with a high near 81.

Friday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 68. West southwest wind 5 to 10 mph becoming light and variable after midnight.

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

Saturday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 68.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted	(ft)High/Low
2026/07/31	Fri	05:22 AM	-0.29	L
2026/07/31	Fri	11:44 AM	4.32	H
2026/07/31	Fri	4:50 PM	2.08	L
2026/07/31	Fri	10:51 PM	5.69	H
2026/08/01	Sat	05:47 AM	-0.02	L
2026/08/01	Sat	12:12 PM	4.51	H
2026/08/01	Sat	5:35 PM	2.00	L
2026/08/01	Sat	11:28 PM	5.22	H
2026/08/02	Sun	06:13 AM	0.36	L
2026/08/02	Sun	12:42 PM	4.72	H
2026/08/02	Sun	6:25 PM	1.92	L
2026/08/03	Mon	12:10 AM	4.60	H
2026/08/03	Mon	06:38 AM	0.84	L
2026/08/03	Mon	1:16 PM	4.92	H
2026/08/03	Mon	7:26 PM	1.84	L



Daily Lottery

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Draw Date: 7/29
30 36 40 42 57
Power#: 2
Jackpot: 707 M



Draw Date: 7/29
12 19 26 29 39



Draw Date: 7/28
34 48 49 59 70
Mega#: 12
Jackpot: 50 M



Draw Date: 7/29
EVENING: 8 6 7
Draw Date: 7/29
MIDDAY: 7 8 4



Draw Date: 7/29
5 13 19 22 27
Mega#: 7
Jackpot: 42 M



Draw Date: 7/29
1st: 05 - California Classic
2nd: 06 - Whirl Win
3rd: 02 - Lucky Star
Race Time: 1:40.74

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DBA

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File No. 2026155012. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: SOOKYOUNG CHUNG THERAPY, 430 S BURNSIDE AVE APT 5K, LOS ANGELES, CA 90036, County of Los Angeles. Registered Owner(s): SOOKYOUNG CHUNG MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY, A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION, 430 S BURNSIDE AVE APT 5K, LOS ANGELES, CA 90036. This business is conducted by: a Corporation. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000)). /s/ SOOKYOUNG CHUNG, PRESIDENT. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 07/16/2026. NOTICE: This Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or Common Law (See Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS Publish: 07/24/2026, 07/31/2026, 08/07/2026,

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2026147834. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: COOKIEBOOKIE_LA, 1228 14TH STREET UNIT 107, SANTA MONICA, CA 90404, County of Los Angeles. Registered Owner(s): GHAZAL JANGALI, 1228 14TH STREET UNIT 107, SANTA MONICA, CA 90404. This business is conducted by: an Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000)). /s/ GHAZAL JANGALI, OWNER. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 07/08/2026. NOTICE: This Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or Common Law (See Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS Publish: 07/10/2026, 07/17/2026, 07/24/2026, 07/31/2026

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CASE NO. 26STPB06813

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of ROBERT ALAN GASPER. A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by GARY JOHN GASPER in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that GARY JOHN GASPER be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (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: 10/09/26 at 8:30AM in Dept. 240 located at 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. Attorney for Petitioner EUGENE S. ALKANA, ESQ. - SBN 60411 EUGENE S. ALKANA, APLC 131 N. EL MOLINO AVENUE, SUITE 310 PASADENA CA 91101 Telephone (626) 796-8170 BSC 228803 7/24, 7/25, 7/31/26 **CNS-4063258# SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS**

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OPINION

UNMUTED

Devan Sipher

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Everything’s coming up Tournament of Roses

Santa Monica threw itself a party last week. For the second year in a row, the State of the City speech was delivered outdoors as part of a festive celebration. Last year, it was in Reed Park. This year, it took over part of Main Street. And while it might not have been an epic rager, there was music and face painting and lots of California sunshine.

Mayor Caroline Torosis delivered a vigorous pep talk, checking off the recent accomplishments on the city’s road to recovery, while also acknowledging the work to still be done. She was focused on the future and the big events coming in the next 24 months: the Ocean Way Festival in September (produced by the creators of the Coachella and Stagecoach music festivals), the Superbowl in 2027, and the 2028 Olympics and Paralympics.

But she was emphatic that the city will come away with far more than bragging rights and a cleanup bill. “The events that we are leading up to are not the prize,” she said. “The city that we create because of these events, that is the prize.”

She spoke with sincere enthusiasm, and she choked up more than once. Perhaps it was nerves, but it would be wrong to underestimate her personal investment in the city or the effort expended trying to overcome our current challenges. The steep hurdles the city faces would have likely been inconceivable only a decade ago.

“We face the ultimate question at the Council,” the Mayor said. “Are we going to manage decline or create a path forward?”

Although some recent actions by the Council give ample reason for questioning motives and methods, that’s a topic for another day. The state of the city today is indeed better than it was a year ago, and that’s partially because the Councilmembers and the City Manager made the bold choice to spend our way toward prosperity, rather than just mitigate our deterioration.

It could totally backfire, and it’s legitimate for residents to point that out. But if John Maynard Keynes has anything useful to offer the 21st century, it could also save us.

Torosis ended her speech with a semi-dramatic unveiling of the float design for the Rose Parade, which included several Santa Monica icons, including the PCH; the Pier’s Pacific Wheel, coaster, and carousel; and a rainbow-colored surfboard for good measure. The theme of the parade this year is “Welcome,” and the float design is one big welcome sign to Santa Monica.

There’s been a great deal of criticism of the city’s decision to participate in the parade. Mostly over the price tag. Over half a million dollars has been allocated, and critics can’t be blamed for their skepticism about a city claiming a fiscal crisis while spending such a large amount on a parade float.

But that’s the Keynesian bargain. You spend money to make money, and there’s a multiplier effect as the government invests money to generate economic growth. Is a parade float the same as putting cash directly in people’s pockets to pay for food? No. But it’s a clever public relations move.

To put it in perspective, a 30-second commercial on the Rose Parade broadcast could cost even more, and the float will additionally be seen by the nearly million attendees of the parade and Floatfest, a three-day post-parade exhibition. Like any form of advertising, for all the data about eyeballs and ROI, it’s hard to be entirely sure of what you’re getting for your money.

However, we’re not just getting an advertisement. We’re getting an opportunity to reintroduce ourselves to a nation of tourists that have been choosing other destinations as of late, and we’re getting a community-building activity. Torosis solicited members of the public to help affix the thousands of roses, seeds, bark and leaves that will cover the entirety of the float, and she also shared her personal history with the parade.

“Growing up in Montreal, in the dead of a Canadian winter, [my mother] would turn on the television and see roses and sunshine in January,” said Torosis. She described her mother sitting in the cold and imagining a life in California. “She saw a place that looked like it would welcome her.”

The Mayor got more than 30 seconds to sell her version and vision of the city, and like many good ads, it was heartwarming and optimistic. She didn’t promise us a rose garden, but we’re counting on her and all the councilmembers to help this city bloom again.

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

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California fire season has been quiet. A heat wave could change that fast

The fast-moving Dove Fire near a Yosemite gateway town jolted California out of a relatively quiet fire summer, forcing road closures and the evacuations of hundreds of homes.

Former U.S. Forest Service firefighter John Buckley wasn't surprised to see the fire taking off last Sunday. Driving through the area in the Central Sierra foothills earlier that day, he remembers telling his wife those fuels looked ready to burn.

"We drive back, and they're burning over at the city of Sonora," said Buckley, now the executive director of the Central Sierra Environmental Resource Center. "The fuels are now quite primed for burning, and they're only going to get drier."

Firefighters have gained the upper hand against the 226-acre blaze, which Cal Fire suspects was set by a reckless 30-year-old man. But high temperatures are looming — and new research puts numbers to the intuitive follow-on: with heat, comes fire.

It's far too early in California's fire year to make any conclusions or predictions. But with fires devouring millions of acres in the Western U.S., Canada, and Europe, California stands out for what has been, so far, a below-average summer.

To date, roughly 4,030 wildfires have burned a little over 208,000 acres in the state — down from a five-year average of nearly 5,300 fires burning more than 300,000 acres at this point, according to Cal Fire data.

Still, Cal Fire Battalion Chief David Acuña says he avoids the word 'quiet.'

"There is a superstition that when you use words like 'quiet, slow, bored' in the fire station, that just means that you're about to get hit with an amazingly busy shift," he said.

California has benefited from lucky weather conditions so far, despite a low snowpack and blistering March, according to John Abatzoglou, a professor of climatology at UC Merced.

That's about to change. "Now, of course," he said, "we have a heat wave on our doorstep."

National Weather Service offices across the state are warning of soaring temperatures starting later this week. The Los Angeles/Oxnard office said conditions will shift to "dangerously hot" by Friday.

That combination — heat waves and fire activity — is a common feature of western wildfires, Abatzoglou's team found in a recent study published in the journal *Science Advances* and led by scientist Dmitri Kalashnikov.

The paper found that just under half of the burned area in warm-season months from 2001 to 2024 occurred during or in the wake of a heatwave, particularly in forests.

Heatwaves, defined as at least three days in a row with temperatures soaring past the 90th percentile, make up 15% or less of the warm season. But climate change is fueling an increase.

Abatzoglou pointed to a few reasons for the link. Heatwaves create chronic conditions that lead to drier, more flammable fuels. They also mean hotter nights, which previous research found increases nighttime fire intensity, shuttering a critical window for

“There is a superstition that when you use words like ‘quiet, slow, bored’ in the fire station, that just means that you’re about to get hit with an amazingly busy shift

- David Acuña

fire suppression. The researchers found that heatwaves can also prime conditions for lightning, which has sparked some of California's biggest blazes.

"And then it's off to the races in terms of fire activity," Abatzoglou said.

The paper's findings don't mean all heatwaves will bring an uptick in fire activity, he added. That still requires ignitions in the right place, at the right time.

Acuña cautioned Californians against creating those sparks. That means mowing before 10 a.m. on hot days or skipping the yard work during a red flag warning. It also means securing tow chains so they don't drag and spark against the road, and not parking hot cars on dry grass.

California sought and received federal funding assistance related to the Dove Fire within hours. But a separate, months-long fight between Sacramento and Washington continues over slower-moving wildfire recovery funds — including hundreds of millions in aid tied to last year's L.A. fires that Gov. Gavin Newsom said in May FEMA was still sitting on.

As for predictions for the season ahead, Acuña likes to make them about as much as he likes the word 'quiet.'

"It depends on what the weather brings us," he said. "If it brings us hot, windy, red flag warning conditions, then that could certainly be a problem. If it brings us rain, well, that brings us a totally different concern. We are ready to respond."

Rachel Becker, CalMatters Water Reporter

US economy grows at a sluggish 1.5% in second-quarter with inflation remaining stubbornly high

The U.S. economy expanded at a sluggish 1.5% pace from April through June as rising imports weighed on growth, yet consumers continued to spend. And the Federal Reserve's favored measure of inflation grew more slowly last month. But it remained above the central bank's 2% target at a time when Americans are frustrated about the high cost of living ahead of the midterm elections, now less than 100 days away.

Growth in U.S. gross domestic product — the nation's output of goods and services — decelerated from 2.1% in the first three months of 2026, the Commerce Department reported Thursday, coming in below economists' expectations. But consumer spending — which accounts for about 70% of U.S. economic activity — increased at a 3.2% annual clip, up from 0.5% in the January-March period.

A measure of the economy's underlying strength — which strips out volatile government spending and trade numbers — looked good, expanding at a 3.9% annual pace, up from 1.7% from January through March.

Business investment, excluding housing, rose at an 8.4% pace, down from 10.6% from January through March but strong, reflecting a surge in investment in artificial intelligence.

Imports are subtracted from the economic figures because GDP is only supposed to count what is produced in the United States. Imports rose at an 11.5% pace, partly on a surge in shipments of computer chips and other products that support AI investment. The imports shaved 1.5 percentage off second-quarter GDP growth.

"The consumer rescued the quarter," said Olu Sonola, head of U.S. economics at Fitch Ratings. "AI investment remains a powerful growth story, but the import surge underpinning the buildout is a reminder that an AI boom does not automatically translate into an equally large boost to U.S. GDP."

The Commerce Department also said Thursday that its personal consumption

expenditures (PCE) price index, the one favored by the Fed, rose 3.7% last month from June 2025, down from a 4.1% year-over-year increase in May. Excluding volatile food and energy prices, so-called core consumer prices were up 3.3% from a year earlier, little-changed from 3.4% increase in May. Prices actually fell 0.1% from May to June on a 9.2% drop in the price of gasoline and other energy products.

The PCE prices were about in line with economists' expectations. But the year-over-year increase in prices has been stuck above the Fed's 2% target for more than five years, and some Fed officials are getting impatient with progress against inflation.

The Fed on Wednesday chose to leave its benchmark interest rate unchanged for the fifth straight meeting. But three regional Fed presidents dissented, saying they wanted to raise rates to combat elevated inflation.

The American economy has been surprisingly resilient in the face of the Iran war and the spike in energy prices it caused. The job market has bounced back this year from a lackluster 2025, giving consumers the wherewithal to spend. Employers are adding an average 92,000 jobs a month this year, compared with fewer than 10,000 a month in 2025 when high interest rates and President Donald Trump's erratic use of tariffs discouraged businesses from hiring.

Higher costs have frustrated Americans ahead of November's midterm elections, which will determine whether President Donald Trump's Republicans keep full control of Congress.

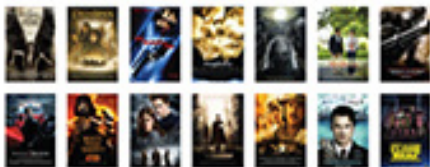
A new AP-NORC poll found that the public is souring on the Iran war. And about 7 in 10 U.S. adults — 72% — say it's "extremely" or "very" important for the U.S. to prevent domestic oil and gas prices from rising, up from 67% in March.

By PAUL WISEMAN AP Economics Writer

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NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING

SANTA MONICA
ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
SANTA MONICA CITY HALL

DATE/TIME: Monday, August 3, 2026, 7:00 PM

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

PUBLIC HEARING:

3205 Ocean Park Boulevard (25ARB-0225) Multi-Unit Residential / Mixed Use

Review of the design, colors, materials, and landscape plans for the construction of a seven story, 81'-1" tall, 107,254 square feet, residential housing project consisting of 102 residential units (86 market rate units; 16 affordable units), and 120 vehicle parking stalls within one subterranean and two above-ground levels. *Previously reviewed on May 18, 2026.*

1633 26th Street (25ARB 0228): Multi-Unit Residential

Review of the design, colors materials and landscape plans for the construction of an 8-story multi-unit development with 353 total residential units (317 market rate units; 36 affordable units) with three levels of above grade parking and one level subterranean parking in the Bergamot Transit Village (BTV) Zoning District. *Previously reviewed on February 2, 2026.*

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

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

For disability-related accommodations, please contact (866) 311-7266 at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting. Every attempt will be made to provide the requested accommodation.

All written materials are available in alternate languages provided the request is received 72 hours prior to the meeting.

Santa Monica Big Blue Bus Lines serve City Hall and the Civic Center area. The Expo Line terminus is located at Colorado Avenue and Fourth Street and is a short walk to City Hall. Public parking is available in front of City Hall, on Olympic Drive, and in the Civic Center Parking Structure (validation free).

Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the challenge may be limited to only those issues raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Monica at, or prior to, the public hearing.

TRANSLATION SERVICE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST. Please contact planning@santamonica.gov at least 72 hours prior to the scheduled meeting.

SERVICIO DE TRADUCCIÓN DISPONIBLE A PEDIDO. Comuníquese al planning@santamonica.gov al menos 72 horas antes de la reunión programada.

ESPAÑOL: Esto es una noticia pública para revisar aplicaciones proponiendo desarrollo en Santa Monica. Si desea más información, favor de llamar a Ana Fernandez en la División de Planificación al número (310) 458-2201 ext. 2431 o envíe un correo electrónico a ana.fernandez@santamonica.gov

Father of boy rescued from pounding California surf says he is beyond grateful to teen lifeguard

The father of a 10-year-old rescued from pounding surf off the California coast in a dramatic scene captured on video says he is beyond grateful to the teenage lifeguard who saved his son.

"He ran into that water despite those conditions that are deadly. You have 10 foot waves; you have riptides and currents coming in," Summit Rai told The Associated Press on Wednesday. "It is not safe for him to go into that water. So he's risking his own safety."

Rai's son Nathaniel was standing in shallow water when he lost his footing and was pulled into the ocean Saturday by powerful swells that suddenly came ashore at Seabright Beach in Santa Cruz, about 60 miles (about 100 kilometers) down the coast from San Francisco. Rai, who was in his home city of Dallas, said he heard about what happened when he spoke to his kids on the phone that evening.

"My son told me that he drowned and my son told me that he went unconscious," he said. "He was very subdued, still in a state of shock."

By the next morning, Rai had watched the video of the rescue that has since caught the attention of President Donald Trump.

Ryder Williams, 16, the lifeguard who saved Nathaniel, said he saw the boy lose his footing in ankle-deep water. He radioed in and then raced toward Nathaniel.

"After the first wave, I was unable to pull him out because he was limp and the waves were pushing so hard," he said in a statement.

California State Parks, which employs the lifeguards at that beach, said the boy was swept about 15 yards (13.7 meters) into the ocean before the lifeguard made contact with him.

In the video, Williams can be seen diving into a coming wave while holding tight to the boy.

Another lifeguard jumped in to help, along with some bystanders, who Williams said he warned to go back to the shore.

"I'm grateful to have had the opportunity to return the child to his family safely," he said. "This is my job and I love what I do. I'm thankful to my fellow lifeguards who perform rescues just like this every day."

The boy had no serious injuries, and after an medical evaluation he was released to his family, the California State Parks said in an emailed statement.

Rai said his son told him that he got sand in his lungs and was coughing it out after getting to the shore. Now his son, who is expected back from California in a few days, is dealing with the psychological effects of what happened.

"He's still been thinking about it a lot. It's on his mind," he said. "It bothers him when he's sleeping. So it's obviously traumatizing."

Rai has reached out to Williams and said he hopes to be able to thank him directly.

"What he did, I can never ever repay," he said. "I'm forever grateful."

By HALLIE GOLDEN Associated Press

GUEST COMMENTARY

FROM PAGE 2

heavily in their innovation economies. California should reinforce the reasons companies choose to build here, not put out a big sign that encourages entrepreneurs to leave our state.

The problem is that Prop. 40 would, in practice, tax the estimated value of businesses and ideas before they are actually sold or make any money. This approach doesn't work for companies that spend years on research with no guarantee of success.

For example, a biotech company might spend 10 years creating a new medicine, or a clean-energy startup might need years of funding before it ever turns a profit. Under this plan, founders could end up with a massive tax bill for value that only exists on paper, without having the actual cash to pay it.

The larger concern is what California could lose if more companies are formed or expanded elsewhere: jobs, investment, technological progress and future tax revenue.

To be sure, successful business leaders should contribute to the state that helped make their success possible. California already taxes wages, business income, dividends and capital gains. Those who benefit most should help support the institutions that make broad-based prosperity possible.

That is why voters should reject Prop.

40 and support Proposition 42.

Prop. 42 would establish a clear rule against new state taxes based simply on ownership of financial assets, business interests and intellectual property. It would also prevent certain new taxes from being applied retroactively.

The measure would not prevent California from taxing income or realized gains. It would preserve a sensible distinction between taxing economic gains and taxing ownership itself, while giving founders and CEOs predictable rules before deciding where to grow a company and hire workers.

Proposition 41 also deserves support. Greater review, transparency and auditing of special taxes would help voters understand how proposed taxes would operate and whether the programs they fund are delivering results.

California does not have to choose between technological leadership and strong public services. Our innovation economy helps make those services possible.

Prop. 40 makes the wrong bet: temporary money today at the risk of losing companies, jobs and dependable revenue tomorrow. Props. 41 and 42 offer a more responsible path grounded in accountability, predictability and confidence in California's future.

Ahmad Thomas is the CEO of the Silicon Valley Leadership Group.

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CASA

FROM PAGE 1

Coast's most glamorous private beach clubs, attracting Hollywood stars and Southern California's social elite.

Its grand lobby, coffered ceilings, Mediterranean tilework and oversized windows overlooking the Pacific created the feeling of an Italian palazzo transported to the California coast. Charlie Chaplin, Greta Garbo and Marion Davies were among the prominent figures associated with its early years, but Casa del Mar's history is not a straight line from private club to luxury hotel. The building has repeatedly reinvented itself.

In 1941, the U.S. Navy took control of the property during World War II and used it for military personnel. By 1960, the original club had closed. In 1967, the building became the headquarters of Synanon, an organization founded as a drug rehabilitation program that later became controversial for its authoritarian practices.

Another transformation followed in 1978, when nutritionist Nathan Pritikin turned the property into the Pritikin Longevity Center. Spaces that once hosted Jazz Age parties became part of a program centered on nutrition, exercise and heart health, anticipating the wellness movement that would become closely associated with Southern California.

The Edward Thomas Hospitality Corporation, owner of neighboring Shutters on the Beach, acquired the building in 1997 and undertook a restoration valued at more than \$50 million. Casa del Mar reopened as a luxury hotel in 1999 with 129 guest rooms, including 17 suites, and was later listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Its centennial programming is now bringing those different chapters to life. Centennial Memory Walls display archival photographs from the original beach club, while Prohibition-inspired cocktails, live music and anniversary dining experiences evoke the atmosphere of the 1920s. A seasonal prix-fixe menu priced at \$192.60 offers a playful reference to the year the property first opened.

"What truly sets Casa del Mar apart is the people who bring it to life every day," Charlie Lopez-Quintana, vice president and managing director of ETC Hotels, said in announcing the centennial. "Our team greets, serves and cares for guests with warmth and consistency that never goes out of style. Their dedication is the heartbeat of the hotel. And

of course, having the Pacific Ocean as our backyard doesn't hurt either."

That emphasis on experience and human connection will become increasingly important as Santa Monica competes for attention during Southern California's coming cycle of global sporting events.

Santa Monica welcomed approximately 3.9 million visitors in 2025, according to Santa Monica Travel & Tourism. Those visitors contributed an estimated \$996.6 million to the local economy, while international visitation increased 4.1%. Tourism supported 6,444 local jobs, and Santa Monica hotels generated \$60.2 million for the city's General Fund, helping pay for essential services.

Hotel revenue is projected to surpass \$400 million in 2026, an increase of 9.8% from the previous year. Occupancy is expected to rise from 72.9% to 76.3%, with hotel demand growing 4.6%, driven partly by the global events arriving across the region.

Following the World Cup, Super Bowl LXI will bring another surge of national and international attention when it is played at SoFi Stadium on Feb. 14, 2027. One year later, Los Angeles will welcome athletes and spectators for the 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Although competitions will take place across the region, the economic opportunity will stretch far beyond stadium walls. Visitors will need places to stay, dine, gather, entertain clients and experience Southern California between events. Santa Monica has an opportunity to become the beachfront home base through which many of those travelers encounter Los Angeles.

Casa del Mar's yearlong centennial provides a model for how historic hotels can respond. Its dining, music and cultural experiences turn the property into more than a collection of guest rooms. They create a connection to place.

The next opportunity is to expand that spirit as the world arrives: opening gathering spaces to residents and visitors, presenting cultural conversations, hosting athlete and community programming, and creating experiences that encourage guests to explore surrounding restaurants, retailers and neighborhoods.

At 100, Casa del Mar possesses something that cannot be newly constructed: a century of stories with a future that will depend on making that history feel accessible and alive.

michelle@smdp.com



Courtesy images

HOTEL: The beachfront hotel has a long history of hospitality in Santa Monica.

GET IT DAILY...



Notice to Suppliers/Contractors to Register for Bid Opportunities

Suppliers and licensed contractors interested in doing business with Santa Monica College (SMC) should register through SMC's Online Portal PlanetBids at <https://www.planetbids.com/portal/portal.cfm?CompanyID=13721>

Click on Vendor Registration and successfully complete all required fields to be notified when bidding opportunities arise for a specific category. Suppliers/Contractors are solely responsible for maintaining up-to-date and accurate business profile information.

NOTE: Registration only signifies interest in doing business with SMC, it does not guarantee notification or constitute a contract.



City of
Santa Monica

CITY OF SANTA MONICA NOTICE INVITING APPLICATIONS TO THE

Personnel Board

UNSCHEDULED VACANCY

PERSONNEL BOARD:

One seat available for a term ending **June 30, 2029**

Must be either a resident of the City or a resident of Los Angeles County that is employed full-time within the City, or owns real property in the City, or has been issued a business license by the City.

Applications due by noon, September 1, 2026

Appointments to be made by City Council, **September 8, 2026**

Applicants are encouraged to attend the meeting and speak about their qualifications during public comment.

No Santa Monica City Employee may serve as a member of any Board or Commission.

The State Political Reform Act requires certain officeholders to disclose their interest and income which may be materially affected by their official action. The applicants appointed to serve in these positions will be required to file a Statement of Economic Interest (Form 700) upon assuming office, and annually thereafter.

Applications are available on-line at: www.smgov.net/boards
All current applications on file will be considered.

Disability related assistance and alternate formats of this document are available upon request by calling (310) 458-8211.



JAZZ

FROM PAGE 1

decades ago after moving to Los Angeles from Ohio. While impressed by the music at the city’s existing jazz events, he was struck by how little of the art form’s history was reflected in the world’s biggest media market.

“Jazz really is the sound of freedom, and was created in a very painful moment in the life and time of the African American journey,” Ludlow said. He traced the music’s roots from Congo Square and pre-colonial Africa through the slave trade to the Caribbean and finally to New Orleans, “that melting pot,” where the genre came together as “a true American made genre.”

Ludlow said his research into international festivals revealed three common traits: they ran for multiple weekends, drew hundreds of thousands of people — more than a million in Montreal — and were often staged near major waterways. By comparison, he said, LA’s existing offering drew about 18,000 people a day.

That led him to the coast, a decision he framed as both cultural and political. Ludlow described a long history of “coastal racial pushout,” citing Bruce’s Beach, where a Black family was driven from a resort to make way for the city of Manhattan Beach, and the former Ebony Beach Club in Santa Monica, which he said was seized through misused eminent domain.

“We were always denied access to those shores,” Ludlow said, adding that more than 150 significant properties owned by people of color around the country were taken through similar tactics. Putting the festival on the sand, he said, was a way “to reclaim the coastline as the people’s coastline.”

The free Caribbean Street Carnival will transform Venice’s historic Windward Circle into a four-stage celebration on Aug. 21, spotlighting African, Latin, Cuban and New Orleans traditions. Performers include Adekunle Gold, Tito Puente Jr., Arturo O’Farrill & The Afro Latin Jazz Ensemble, Delfeayo Marsalis & the Uptown Jazz

Orchestra and the Dafnis Prieto Sí o Sí Quartet.

Ludlow said Venice was chosen for its international character and its historical ties to New Orleans, noting that the neighborhood’s original design team hired a Black New Orleans man to help plan the community modeled on the canals of Venice, Italy.

“All you have to do is walk through the streets of Venice on any given day, and you’re going to meet people from Holland, Amsterdam, Belgium, Tokyo, Beijing, Cape Town,” he said. “So what better place to harness that night.”

The festival opens Aug. 7 in Leimert Park with Lalah Hathaway, Pete Escovedo and Chief Adjuah, among others. Fifteen free “Jazz in the Park” concerts on Aug. 8-9 and Aug. 15-16 will feature artists including Cory Henry & The Funk Apostles, Billy Childs and Mumu Fresh, while 20 free “Jazz After Dark” pop-ups will bring performers such as MonoNeon, Keyon Harrold and Gretchen Parlato into locally owned venues.

Ludlow said the beach setting is central to the experience, pointing to the coastline’s status as one of the city’s most iconic images and to the calming effect of the water. He described the opportunity for festivalgoers “to walk, take their shoes off, feel the sand under their feet, put on those summer outfits,” and likened the event’s potential to the acclaimed Montreal festival.

“It is the land of the Oscars. It is the land of the Grammys, and soon it’ll be the land of the LA Jazz Festival as well,” he said.

Airbnb is the festival’s title sponsor, with Hennessy and Transitions Lenses signed as official marketing partners. StubHub is the official ticket marketplace. Tickets for the Aug. 22-23 Jazz on the Beach shows are on sale, and free reservations for other events are available at LAJazzFestival.com.

The festival will also host a Jazz Youth Camp expected to bring more than 2,000 students from across LA County into workshops and masterclasses.

maaz@smdp.com

HEAT

FROM PAGE 1

normal because of unusually warm ocean temperatures, meaning residents will get less nighttime relief than usual. Coastal areas, where fewer homes have air conditioning, are expected to be hit hardest by the lack of overnight cooling, the discussion said.

An Extreme Heat Warning is in effect from 10 a.m. Friday to 8 p.m. Sunday for a swath of zones including the Santa Monica Mountains recreational and interior areas, while a Heat Advisory covers coastal zones — including Santa Monica, Malibu, Pacific Palisades, Los Angeles County beaches and Long Beach — from 10 a.m. Friday to 8 p.m. Sunday, with temperatures of 85 to 100 degrees expected, according to the advisory. The NWS is urging residents to drink plenty of fluids, stay in air-conditioned spaces, limit strenuous outdoor activity to early morning or evening, and check on relatives and neighbors. People without air conditioning or shelter can call 211 for help finding a cooling location, and the agency said heat stroke is a medical emergency requiring a call to 911.

A slow cooling trend is expected to begin Sunday, but the NWS said temperatures will remain 5 to 10 degrees above normal and high pressure aloft will keep temperatures above normal along the West Coast through next week, with heat hazards potentially continuing.

The heat is arriving alongside hazardous ocean conditions. A High Surf Advisory is in effect until 5 p.m. Saturday for Catalina and Santa Barbara islands and the beaches of Ventura and Los Angeles counties, with breaking waves of 4 to 8 feet and dangerous rip currents expected, largely from a long-period southerly swell generated by Tropical Cyclone Genevieve. The NWS said very strong, severe rip currents have already been reported at some beaches, along with strong long-shore currents and the risk of sneaker waves, and advised beachgoers to stay near occupied lifeguard towers and off rock jetties. A Coastal Flood Advisory is also in effect until 3 a.m. Saturday, with high tides of 6.2 to nearly 7 feet expected in the evening hours through Friday night that could bring minor flooding to low-lying parking lots, beaches and walkways. Small Craft Advisories are in effect for area waters through the weekend and, in some zones, into early next week because of the combination of southerly swell and northwesterly wind waves.

The coming heat wave follows a string of extreme weather events in the region so far this year. In March, a high-pressure ridge pushed temperatures 20 to 35 degrees above normal from roughly March 16-20. Woodland Hills reached 102 degrees on March 19, its hottest March day on record, while downtown Los Angeles hit 94 degrees, breaking a daily record of 87 degrees set in 1997, and Burbank reached 98 degrees. The event was part of a broader national pattern with experts finding unusual heat over almost 40% of the contiguous United States.

This summer brought additional heat waves in July, with Los Angeles County Public Health issuing heat advisories and warnings around July 8, July 14-17 and July 22-27. During the late-July event, inland valleys had been forecast to reach 100 to 107 degrees and desert areas up to 118 degrees, though observed temperatures came in below forecast — the official NWS station in Palm Springs peaked around 107 degrees on July 25-26, roughly 2 degrees below normal, with no daily records broken.

Even so, none of this year’s heat events have approached the region’s all-time extremes. The hottest temperature ever officially recorded in Los Angeles County — as well as Ventura, Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo counties — remains 121 degrees at Woodland Hills’ Pierce College on Sept. 6, 2020, which broke a prior record of 119 degrees set in July 2006, according to the NWS. Downtown Los Angeles’ all-time record stands at 113 degrees, set Sept. 27, 2010.

The heat has also been part of a broader global pattern. Copernicus, the European climate monitoring service, found that June 2026 was Earth’s second-warmest June on record, with a global average surface air temperature 0.56 degrees Celsius above the 1991-2020 average, behind only June 2024. Western Europe recorded its hottest June ever, and a late-June heat wave broke 10 all-time national temperature records across the continent, with the monitoring network EuroMOMO recording more than 10,000 excess deaths during the period. South Asia also suffered a deadly April-May heat wave with readings of 45 to 50 degrees Celsius, while the eastern United States experienced a lethal heat dome in late June and early July. A strengthening El Niño has put 2026 on track to rank among the warmest years on record.

editor@smdp.com

Classifieds

Name Change

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 26SMCP00330. Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, 1725 Main Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401. Petition of Afaf Farah Mostafa for Change of Name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner Afaf Farah Mostafa filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Afaf Farah Mostafa to Afaf Farah Moustafa. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. NOTICE OF HEARING: Date: 09/11/2026, Time: 8:30 AM, Dept: K. The address of the court is same as noted above. A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS. Date: 07/21/2026. LAWRENCE H. CHO, Judge of the Superior Court. SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS Publish: 07/24/2026, 07/31/2026, 08/07/2026, 08/14/2026

Hearing

NOTICE OF HEARING TO CONDUCT ENTERTAINMENT WITH DANCE AND DANCE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT APPLICATION HAS BEEN MADE TO THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY BUSINESS LICENSE COMMISSION TO CONDUCT ADDRESS OF PREMISES: 4499 ADMILARLTY WAY MARINA DEL REY, CA 90292 NAME OF APPLICANT: THE WAREHOUSE RESTAURANT DATE OF HEARING: 08/05/2026 TIME OF HEARING: 09:15 A.M. “ANY PERSON HAVING OBJECTIONS TO THE GRANTING OF THE LICENSE MAY, AT ANY TIME PRIOR TO THE ABOVE DATE, FILE WITH THE BUSINESS LICENSE COMMISSION OBJECTIONS IN WRITING GIVING REASONS THEREFOR, AND MAY APPEAR AT THE TIME AND PLACE OF THE HEARING AND BE HEARD RELATIVE THERETO”

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSION:
BUSINESS LICENSE COMMISSION 500 W. TEMPLE STREET, RM 374 LOS ANGELES, CA 90012 CN129459 Jul 29,30,31, 2026

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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 7018

Our summer obsession

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

Anchor	Dink	India	Runs
Appeal	Draw	Infield	Shade
Ashes	Duck	Medium-pace	South
Ball	Edge	Mullygrubber	Africa
Byes	Extra	Nightwatchman	Spin
Cheer	Fair	Over	Symonds
Clap	Family	Pads	Underarm
Close	Fast	Picnic	Warne
Coach	Grass	Play	Win
Cordon	Hayden	Retire	
Crease	Humour	Rivalry	

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
Pick a destination

TODAY’S BIRTHDAY (June 31)

Welcome to your Year of the Bell when your voice carries further, communicates more and changes people’s moods and actions. Your uplifting power is remarkable. You will be often the center of celebration, big and small. More highlights: Money finally flows in from something you started long ago. A special introduction changes your social circle. You learn a skill you’ve admired from afar. Taurus and Virgo adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 16, 8, 22, 12 and 10.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You’re testing your own limits, not trying to impress people. Your ambition is internally motivated rather than externally validated. When you do get attention for what you’re doing, the recognition will be a byproduct, not the goal.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Before you buy it, ask yourself what you’ll have to do after you own it. Store it? Clean it? Fix it? Insure it? The real cost of anything includes the time it asks from you. Money can be earned again. Time can’t.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). The person who understands the assignment will have a great impact, and you want that to be you. The leader has an assignment, too: knowing where the group needs to go and what each individual is headed as well.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). A season of rapid change is upon you. Times like these can feel like you’re reacting instead of choosing your life. Pause often and ask yourself: “Is this taking me where I want to go?” That answer is your compass.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). The opportunity is right for you. Even though you know how much work is involved, how much money it will take and the other risks you’ll be taking, it still feels exciting - maybe to the level that you’re tempted to say it’s “a calling.”

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You don’t always recognize what’s meant for you the moment you encounter it. Sometimes the right path becomes recognizable only after you’ve walked it for a while. Looking back, the path seems obvious. Living it rarely does.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). With tedious tasks it helps to ask: What would make this more fun? Music? The company of a friend? More frequent rewards? Adding some whimsy to your workflow makes it easier to stay engaged long enough to see progress.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Working with people who have a different style from yours doesn’t have to be stressful, but it will require patience. In the end, what you make will be better, not in spite of the variety of approaches, but because of it.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Of course you’re wondering what people think of your work and whether they will notice it at all. The better question is: Who cares? Just give it everything you’ve got. That approach will teach you more than external validation ever could.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Life works out. Love happens. Friendships grow stronger. These good things and more will unfold, though not on your schedule - on their own. Trust the timing of the universe as it balances a bigger picture than any individual can imagine.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You’re trying to solve a problem with addition that is better solved by subtraction. Take one thing away instead of adding another. Too many details get chaotic. Simplicity helps you see each element and understand how it fits with the others.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). There are times when hiding your enthusiasm is appropriate - the poker game, the closing of a sale, asking for the date - it helps to be cool. Avoid the opposite, though. If your internally unenthused, just leave.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY’S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

Newsday Crossword

CRUNCH TIME by Billie Truitt
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

- 1 Party staple
- 4 Burger topper
- 8 What’s kept in many kegs
- 12 BC abuts it
- 13 Biscotti flavoring
- 14 Pair of matching socks
- 16 Make known
- 17 Rope-game style
- 19 “It can wait”
- 21 Can
- 22 Driver’s warning
- 24 Words before many words
- 25 John ___ (the Lone Ranger)
- 26 True grit
- 28 Toon hunter
- 31 We, to Henri
- 34 Converges on
- 37 800+ episode franchise
- 38 Urban circler
- 40 Start to stop
- 41 Tiny role
- 43 Diploma feature
- 44 Texter’s farewell
- 45 Class handout
- 47 Flaky mineral
- 49 Muzzle
- 51 A must
- 57 Stealthily
- 59 Jersey City, Greenwich, etc.
- 60 Iffy
- 62 Tablet holding
- 63 Beyond unexpected

- 64 Source of sea salt
- 65 Green space
- 66 Fake fur advocate
- 67 Get caught
- 68 What five Across answers share

DOWN

- 1 Artemis equivalent
- 2 Bad apples or sour grapes
- 3 Medicare segment
- 4 Mountainous demarcation
- 5 Watson in *Elementary*
- 6 Comparably sized
- 7 Anthony Hopkins, by birth

- 8 Cinephile resource
- 9 Imperiled heroine of silents
- 10 Banquet hall valet, e.g.
- 11 Schools of thought
- 13 Fawn over
- 15 Evacuation order
- 18 Gets down
- 20 Extreme aficionado
- 23 Pedestaled figures
- 27 Whichever
- 28 TV monitor
- 29 Syfy sister channel
- 30 Dollar Tree ancestor
- 32 Onetime Navaho foe
- 33 Pundit
- 35 Contemporary of Andy and Jasper

- 36 Long-running satire staple
- 38 Lady Gaga accessory
- 39 Tire shop task
- 42 Showcase
- 44 “Gotta run!”
- 46 Speck
- 48 “Sleeping Prophet” Edgar
- 49 Great expectation
- 50 Intl. delegate
- 52 National anthem artillery
- 53 Get down
- 54 Brand of brush heads
- 55 Drive off
- 56 Bother vocally
- 58 Hearing statement
- 61 Ricardo’s relative

1	2	3			4	5	6	7		8	9	10	11	
12				13						14				15
16				17						18				
19				20				21						
22						23					24			
			25						26	27				
28	29	30			31		32	33		34			35	36
37				38					39			40		
41			42			43					44			
		45			46			47		48				
49	50				51	52	53					54	55	56
57				58					59					
60								61				62		
63						64						65		
	66					67						68		

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



FRIDAY | JULY 31

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>

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>

SATURDAY | AUGUST 1

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

8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Santa Monica Pier 200 Santa Monica Pier, Ste A Santa Monica. The Santa Monica Pier Corporation invites the community to move, stretch, and recharge by the ocean as Wellness & Waves returns for its 2026 season. Taking place every Saturday from April 4 through October 17, 2026, from 8 to 10 a.m., this free, all-ages wellness series transforms the iconic Santa Monica Pier into an open-air fitness destination at the most iconic outdoor setting in Southern California. With the Pacific Ocean as its backdrop, Wellness & Waves offers a welcoming, energizing way to start the weekend—no membership required. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/wellness-waves-returns-to-santa-monica-pier-free-sat-morning-fitness/18475500/2026-08-01T08>

SATURDAY MORNING YOGA WITH KIM

9:15 a.m. - 5:15 p.m. Palisades Community Renewal Center 3212 Nebraska Ave Santa Monica. Free Community Yoga created with care for those impacted by the Palisades Fire In case this event has been updated, please visit <https://www.pccrsm.org/event/saturday-morning-yoga-with-kim-ed898> for full details before arriving. Thank you! Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/saturday-morning-yoga-with-kim/19029087/2026-08-01T09>

FAMILY ART SOCIAL 10:00AM-1:00PM

10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. Palisades Community Renewal Center 3212 Nebraska Ave Santa Monica. Unleash your creativity and connect with your community at our Community Arts workshop! In case this event has been updated, please visit <https://www.pccrsm.org/event/family-art-social-10-00am-1-00pm-3b93d> for full details before arriving. Thank you! Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/family-art-social-10-00am-1-00pm/19149864/2026-08-01T10>

SATURDAY ROSÉ BRUNCH AT LOULOU SANTA MONICA

11:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. LouLou Santa Monica 395 Santa Monica Place Santa Monica. Saturday Rosé Brunch at Loulou Santa Monica- Every Saturday from 11:30 AM -Named one of the 14 Best Buffet Brunches in the USA.This is how weekends should begin.French Rosé flowing.Crêpe, Omelette & Paëlla stations.DJ's & live performances with the Riviera Vibe.A Rooftop bathed in sunshine and Pacific breezes.\$55 before noon | \$65 after noonGroups of 6+ get a complimentary Bottle of Côte de Provence Rosé (21+)Brunch, Celebrate, Escape. Repeat!LouLou is your new Saturday ritual.Book now: bit

ly/loulou-rose-brunch-booking. \$55.00 to \$65.00. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/saturday-ros-brunch-at-loulou-santa-monica/18746443/2026-08-01T11>

SHABBAT & CHILL -SHABBAT LUNCH AT THE BEACH

12:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Shul on the Beach 505 Ocean Front Walk Venice. Shabbat & Chill. Kick off the first Saturday of every month with an elevated Shabbat experience. Featuring delicious catered cuisine, amazing people, and plenty of time to schmooze, connect, and unwind. Rabbi Rubanowitz returns with his popular lunch discussion series, Shabbat and Love: How Shabbat Can Transform Your Dating and Relationships. \$15.00. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/shabbat-chill-shabbat-lunch-at-the-beach/19459474/2026-08-01T12>

SUNDAY | AUGUST 2

SUMMER SING ALONG WITH LOVEBUG & ME MUSIC

10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Palisades Park Ocean Ave, Santa Monica, CA 90401 Santa Monica. Bring the family to the event of the season... our annual Summer Sing Along with LoveBug & Me Music Enjoy the ocean view while creating core memories, featuring an interactive family concert, sensory stations, art projects, goodies & more! \$15.00 to \$40.00— 1st Child + 2 Adults: \$40. Siblings under 6 months, free. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/summer-sing-along-with-lovebug-me-music/19347417/2026-08-02T10>

WEST LA FARMER'S MARKET CONCERT SERIES: EARL THOMAS & SHEA WELSH

10:45 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. West LA Civic Center Bandshell 11338 Santa Monica Blvd. Los Angeles. West LA Farmer's Market Concert Series: Earl Thomas & Shea Welsh Performance from 10:45am - 12 at West LA Civic Center Bandshell 11338 Santa Monica Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90025. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/west-la-farmer-s-market-concert-series-earl-thomas-shea-welsh/19473492/2026-08-02T10>

STUFFED TEDDY BEAR PROJECT

2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. American Legion - Ronald Reagan Palisades Post 283 15247 La Cruz Drive Pacific Palisades. Join us for a meaningful afternoon of service as we assemble stuffed teddy bears for children of deployed servicemembers. These bears will be sent as a comforting reminder that their families are supported, remembered, and appreciated while their loved ones are away serving our country. The American Legion Auxiliary will partner with Operation Gratitude® on this special project to help bring encouragement and joy to military children. Volunteers of all ages are welcome to participate. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/stuffed-teddy-bear-project/19388244/2026-08-02T14>

ACRYLIC/OIL PAINTING WORKSHOP SUNDAY

3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Paint Lab 1453 14th St Santa Monica. In this workshop each student will work on their own project with guidance from an instructor.

\$61.60. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/acrylic-oil-painting-workshop-sunday/18978924/2026-08-02T15>

VENICE ELECTRIC LIGHT PARADE - SUNDAYS AT SUNSET

5:05 p.m. Windward Plaza 1501 Ocean Front Walk Venice. Looking for a unique and vibrant way to end your weekend? The Venice Electric Light Parade (VELP) is here to light up your Sunday evenings! Founded by Marcus Gladney, this family-friendly weekly event celebrates community, creativity, and safe cycling. Bring your LED-lit bicycle and join us for an unforgettable ride along the iconic Venice Beach. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/venice-electric-light-parade-sundays-at-sunset/14970341/2026-08-02T17>

IMPROV 101: INTRO TO IMPROV (SUNDAYS)

6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. 1424 4th Street Santa Monica. Jump into Improv! Learn the basics, spark creativity, & your boost confidence with fun exercises and expert guidance. 6 weeks + a Showcase! \$365.00. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/improv-101-intro-to-improv-sundays-18996119/2026-08-02T18>

MONDAY | AUGUST 3

COMMUNAL GARDENING @ ISHIHARA PARK

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

SUMMER FUN AT HOLY GROUNDS

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



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