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COLDWELL BANKER REALTY
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smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press

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As art.

Volume 24 Issue 184 THE WEEKENDER 8/8-8/10 smdp.com

As movie industry flees LA, Santa Monica localizes approval of film permits

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

The Santa Monica City Council will outsource approval for film permits in the city to a new nonprofit that definitely isn't Santa Monica Travel and Tourism (SMTT).

Film Santa Monica received the contract at the July 29 meeting after Council chose to end its longstanding deal with FilmLA, the established non-profit that has handled film permitting for much of Los Angeles County since 1995.

The staff report for the item describes Film Santa Monica as a division of SMTT. Film Santa Monica's application was organized by Evan Edwards, SMTT's COO, using his SMTT email address and SMTT phone number. SMTT President/CEO Misti Kerns signed the required fiscal disclosures for the organization. Nonprofits are required by law to have boards of at least three members and according to Edwards, the SMTT Board will double as the legally required board for Film Santa Monica with a subcommittee

However, Edwards said it is a new, standalone entity. "Film Santa Monica has its own EIN and Santa Monica Business License," he said.

Edwards said Film Santa Monica is a non-profit organization 501(c) 4, whose goal is to market Santa



Courtesy image

SEE **FILM** PAGE 12

FILM: The website for Film Santa Monica is just a placeholder for now but the organization will be taking over permitting for movies and TV.



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California Supreme Court hands victory to rooftop solar panel owners

The California Supreme Court today sided with environmental groups in a case seen as pivotal for the proliferation of rooftop solar power in California.

In a unanimous vote, justices told a lower court to revisit a ruling that upheld reduced payments to solar panel owners for selling excess power back to utility companies. The lower court "erred by relying on [a] highly deferential approach" to reviewing decisions by state utility regulators, Justice Leondra Kruger wrote in the decision. The lower court used a standard dating to before the state legislature expanded judicial review of the regulators' decisions more than 25 years ago, she wrote.

The lower court of appeal had upheld the California Public Utilities Commission's 2022 decision to reduce "net energy metering" payments to panel owners by about 75%. Although the Supreme Court said that ruling relied on the wrong legal standard, the higher court did not rule on the legality of the reduced payments, leaving that for the lower court to decide under a different standard.

"They basically said the lower court kind of punted on the whole substance of the [net metering] decision," Bernadette Del Chiaro, vice president for California at the Environmental Working Group, said. "I do think they're clearly stating this needs to be reviewed."

> "They basically said the lower court kind of punted on the whole substance of the [net metering] decision
> - Bernadette Del Chiaro, vice president for California

The utility commission's previous decision to change the net metering program was intended to help make bills affordable for

SEE **SOLAR** PAGE 15

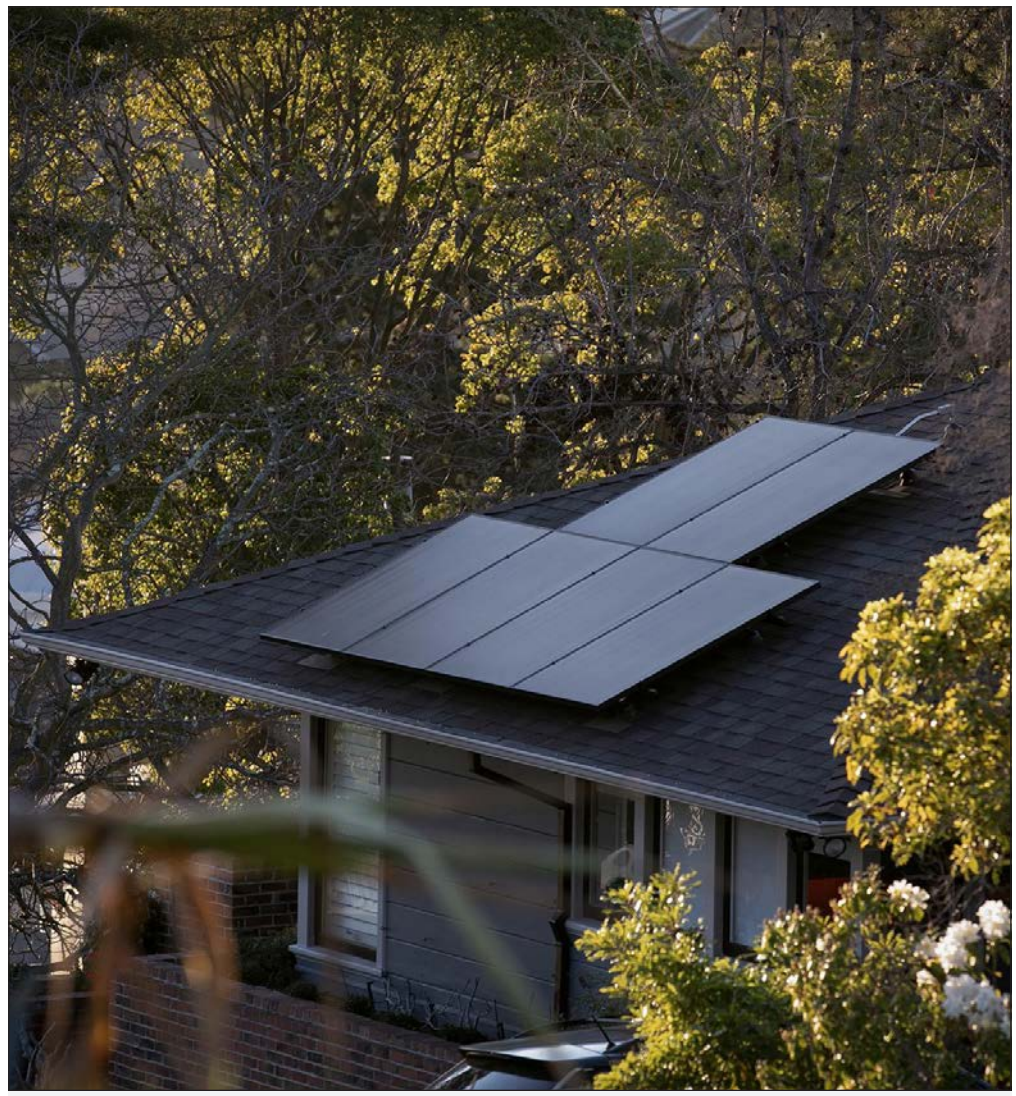


Photo by Anne Wernikoff for CalMatters

HOMES: Rooftop solar panels on a home in the Rockridge neighborhood of Oakland, on Feb. 18, 2020.

Marcia Hoffer

November 12, 1946 – June 30, 2025

Marcia Hoffer was born in Rockland, Maine on November 12, 1946, the daughter of Wesley N Wasgatt MD, an obstetrician and Eleanor Wasgatt (nee Cushing). She attended Rockland elementary schools and graduated from Rockland High School in 1964. She was an active member of Girl Scout Troop #14 from 2nd grade through high school as well a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR).

Marcia attended the University of Maine at Orono and graduated Phi Beta Kappa in 1968. After graduation, she obtained a fellowship in sociology at Herman-Kiefer Hospital in Detroit as a social worker. While attending a patient at Detroit General Hospital in November 1969, she met Kenneth J Hoffer MD in his first year of ophthalmology residency and they were married 6 months later in the Congregational Church in Rockland, ME on May 30, 1970. For their honeymoon, they went on a two-week road trip through Communist Hungary and Yugoslavia, beginning their love of daring travel.

In June 1972, after Ken completed his residency and with Marcia 8 months pregnant with their first child, they moved to Santa Monica, California and accepted the offer to join the Santa Monica Eye Group, buying their first home on Stanford St. when Kevin was born that August. Upon the death of Ken's mother Mary in March 1974, they were remarried in the Catholic Church of St. Monica's by Msgr. Raymond J. O'Flaherty. They welcomed their son Jeffrey in 1975 and their daughter, Kristin, in 1978.

Marcia began law school at night while raising her three children. She graduated and passed the California Bar in 1980 (on the first try) and began the practice of family law in Santa Monica later specializing in mediation. Marcia was involved in the community, volunteering with numerous organizations, including Vista Del Mar Child and Family Services. The busy schedule of the children finally led her to retire from law. Though unable to be religious, she was involved with her children's schooling at St. Monica's Elementary School and even became the Troop Leader for the St. Monica's Boy Scout Troop #1. They renewed their vows May 30, 1995 on their 25th Anniversary before Msgr. Lloyd Torgerson.



IN LOVING MEMORY
1946-2025

In 1997, with all three children in college, they started their 25-year exploration of Europe with a 3 month unguided car trip throughout all of Italy. From 1999 on, they did 3-month tours every 2 years through a different country or region with additional 6 week trips in 2000, 2010 and 2022. Their last big trip was to Greece in 2017 and in 2022 they took their very last EU trip for 6 weeks driving from Munich to Malta. They then decided they had traveled through every country in Europe except Romania thus ending their travel excursions. Their EU Travel Website: www.KHoffer.com.

Marcia drove to Fromin's for lunch almost everyday, was an avid fiction reader and loved to write poetry. She was exceptionally kind, always generous, whose gentle spirit left a lasting impression on everyone she met. She became the inspiration and avid supporter of the IOL Power Club in 2005 attending every annual meeting except the one in 2025. In 2024, she welcomed them to her home town of Rockland, ME.

She passed away peacefully from ovarian cancer at home on June 30, 2025 surrounded by her husband, 3 children and 5 grandchildren and will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved her. She is survived by her husband Kenneth, their three children, Kevin J (Gisele) in Pasadena, Jeffrey K (Rebecca) in Charlotte, NC and Kristin L in Burbank and their five beloved grandchildren. She was preceded by her older brother, Rowland and also leaves behind her brother Charles Wasgatt of Melrose, MA along with four nephews and two nieces.

Victims feeling exhausted and anxious about wrangling over Epstein files

Women who say they were abused by Jeffrey Epstein are feeling skeptical and anxious about the Justice Department's handling of records related to the convicted sex offender, with some backing more public disclosures as an overdue measure of transparency, and others expressing concerns about their privacy and the Trump administration's motivations.

In letters addressed to federal judges in New York this week, several victims or their attorneys said they would support the public release of grand jury testimony that led to criminal indictments against Epstein and his former girlfriend, Ghislaine Maxwell — if the government agreed to allow them to review the material and redact sensitive information.

The Justice Department has asked the court to take the rare step of unsealing transcripts of that secret testimony, in part to placate people who believe that the government has hidden some things it knows about Epstein's wrongdoing.

Other victims, meanwhile, accused President Donald Trump of sidelining victims as he seeks to shift the focus from Epstein, who killed himself in 2019 while awaiting trial on charges that he habitually sexually abused underage girls. Some expressed concern that the administration — in its eagerness to make the scandal go away — might give Maxwell clemency, immunity from future prosecution or better living conditions in prison as part of a deal to get her to testify before Congress.

"I am not some pawn in your political warfare," one alleged victim wrote in a letter submitted to the court by her lawyer this week. "What you have done and continue to do is eating at me day after day as you help to perpetuate this story indefinitely."

Added another victim, in a letter submitted anonymously on Wednesday: "This is all very exhausting."

Maxwell was convicted in 2021 of helping Epstein sexually abuse underage girls and is serving a 20-year prison sentence. A top Justice Department official, Deputy Attorney General Todd Blanche, interviewed Maxwell for nine hours late last month, saying he wanted to hear anything she had to say about misdeeds committed by Epstein or others. After that interview, Maxwell was moved from a federal prison in Florida to a low-security prison camp in Texas.

Alicia Arden, who said Epstein sexually assaulted her in the late 1990s, held a news conference on Wednesday in Los Angeles. She said she would support the release of additional material related to the case, including a transcript of Maxwell's interview with Blanche.

But she also expressed outrage at the possibility that Maxwell could receive clemency or other special treatment through the process, adding that the Justice Department's approach had been "very upsetting" so far.

The Trump administration has faced weeks of furor from some segments of the president's political base, which have demanded public disclosure of files related to Epstein. Epstein has long been the subject of conspiracy theories because of his friendships with the rich and powerful, including Trump himself, Britain's Prince Andrew and former President Bill Clinton.

Last month, the Justice Department announced it would not release additional files related to the Epstein sex trafficking investigation.

Prosecutors later asked to unseal the grand jury transcripts, though they've told the court they contain little information that hasn't already been made public. Two judges who will decide whether to release the transcripts then asked victims to share their views on the matter.

In a letter submitted to the court Tuesday, attorneys Brad Edwards and Paul Cassell, who represent numerous Epstein victims, wrote: "For survivors who bravely testified, the perception that Ms. Maxwell is being legitimized in public discourse has already resulted in re-traumatization."

An attorney for Maxwell, David Oscar Markus, said this week that she opposed the release of the grand jury transcripts.

"Jeffrey Epstein is dead. Ghislaine Maxwell is not," he wrote. "Whatever interest the public may have in Epstein, that interest cannot justify a broad intrusion into grand jury secrecy in a case where the defendant is alive, her legal options are viable, and her due process rights remain."

The Justice Department did not respond to a request for comment on the victims' statements.

By JAKE OFFENHARTZ and JAIMIE DING Associated Press





Weather

Friday: Mostly cloudy, then gradually becoming sunny, with a high near 75.
Friday Night: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, increasing clouds, with a low around 64.
Saturday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, mostly sunny, with a high near 74.
Saturday Night: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, mostly cloudy, with a low around 64.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted	(ft)High/Low
2025/08/08	Fri	03:57 AM	-0.68	L
2025/08/08	Fri	10:20 AM	4.12	H
2025/08/08	Fri	3:05 PM	2.20	L
2025/08/08	Fri	9:18 PM	6.53	H
2025/08/09	Sat	04:26 AM	-0.73	L
2025/08/09	Sat	10:46 AM	4.35	H
2025/08/09	Sat	3:45 PM	1.95	L
2025/08/09	Sat	9:55 PM	6.47	H
2025/08/10	Sun	04:56 AM	-0.62	L
2025/08/10	Sun	11:14 AM	4.60	H
2025/08/10	Sun	4:29 PM	1.73	L
2025/08/10	Sun	10:34 PM	6.18	H
2025/08/11	Mon	05:25 AM	-0.34	L
2025/08/11	Mon	11:45 AM	4.87	H
2025/08/11	Mon	5:18 PM	1.55	L
2025/08/11	Mon	11:17 PM	5.66	H
2025/08/12	Tue	05:55 AM	0.10	L
2025/08/12	Tue	12:18 PM	5.13	H
2025/08/12	Tue	6:12 PM	1.43	L
2025/08/13	Wed	12:06 AM	4.94	H
2025/08/13	Wed	06:25 AM	0.67	L
2025/08/13	Wed	12:55 PM	5.35	H
2025/08/13	Wed	7:15 PM	1.35	L
2025/08/14	Thu	01:04 AM	4.12	H
2025/08/14	Thu	06:55 AM	1.32	L
2025/08/14	Thu	1:39 PM	5.49	H
2025/08/14	Thu	8:34 PM	1.26	L
2025/08/15	Fri	02:26 AM	3.34	H
2025/08/15	Fri	07:28 AM	1.98	L
2025/08/15	Fri	2:33 PM	5.57	H
2025/08/15	Fri	10:18 PM	0.99	L
2025/08/16	Sat	04:42 AM	2.94	H
2025/08/16	Sat	08:11 AM	2.58	L
2025/08/16	Sat	3:42 PM	5.64	H

Daily Lottery

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

Powerball
Draw Date: 8/6
15 27 43 45 53
Power#: 9
Jackpot: 482 M

Mega Millions
Draw Date: 8/5
12 27 42 59 65
Mega#: 2
Jackpot: 166 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 8/6
1 15 28 30 35
Mega#: 19
Jackpot: 32 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 8/6
10 12 24 26 31

Daily 3
Draw Date: 8/6
EVENING: 6 8 4
Draw Date: 8/6
MIDDAY: 8 3 1

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 8/6
1st: 07 - Eureka
2nd: 10 - Solid Gold
3rd: 11 - Money Bags
Race Time: 1:42.46

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AWARD WINNER

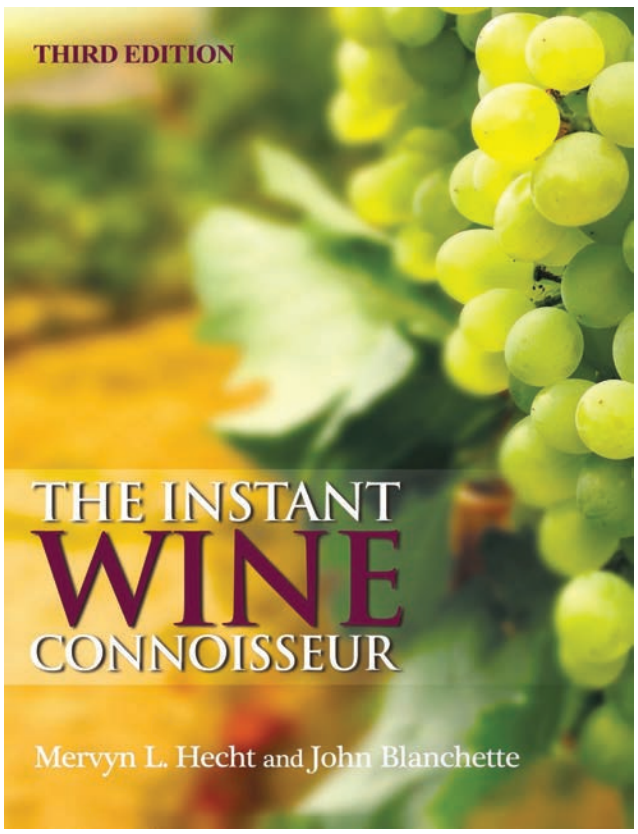
Sustainable Quality Awards WINNER

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 Daily Press

★★★★★ A light-hearted fun read.
★★★★★ Well written, particularly useful, instantly accessible.
★★★★★ ...Hecht has a joyful eye and fabulous taste



Daily Press Food &Wine Columnist Merv Hecht takes you on an delightful tour of the world of wine. A fun way to increase your appreciation and knowledge of wine.

available at amazon

Several states threaten to redraw congressional maps after Texas kicks off fight

A push by Texas Republicans to redraw congressional maps to secure five more GOP seats in the U.S. House has kicked off a no-holds-barred battle between blue and red states, each threatening to redraw their own House seats.

The process of changing congressional maps in a bid to ensure one party's victory over another — called gerrymandering — has typically been done more furtively, with parties fearing a backlash from voters wary of a rigged system.

But President Donald Trump's call for Texas to blatantly redraw the maps to better ensure that Republicans retain control of the House in the 2026 elections has blown the lid off of the practice: gerrymandering, once a feared accusation, has now become a battle cry.

That's whipped up fear of an unending tit-for-tat redistricting, and pushed lawmakers, including some Republican representatives from Democratic states, to publicly decry the proposals.

Here are the states now considering early redistricting.

TEXAS KICKED IT OFF, BUT DEMOCRATS LEFT THE STATE

Dozens of Democrats left Texas in a Hail Mary to halt a vote on redistricting, leaving the legislature without enough lawmakers present — called a quorum — to proceed.

Democrats, who didn't show up for a third day Wednesday, wouldn't have the votes to stop the bill otherwise.

In response, Gov. Gregg Abbott and fellow Republicans are threatening the Democrats who left with arrests, fines and removal from office.

The state Attorney General Ken Paxton warned he could ask the courts to vacate their seats if they don't show up when the House convenes on Friday. Trump and Texas Sen. John Cornyn also asked the FBI to get involved.

Still, past efforts by Democrats to abscond and deny Republicans a quorum only delayed the passage of bills, but didn't quash them.

Lawmakers from across the country have rallied behind the Texas Democrats. Many gathered outside the Massachusetts statehouse Wednesday, comparing themselves to the colonists who dumped tea into the Boston Harbor in defiance of British rule in 1773.

One sign held up by a supporter read: "Texas is first. Your state is next."

CALIFORNIA DEMOCRATS PROPOSE RETALIATION

Responding to developments in Texas, Democrats in California are considering a draft proposal to reshape their own district maps and cut away five Republican seats while securing more vulnerable seats already held by Democrats.

Democratic Gov. Gavin Newsom has been outspoken about wanting partisan redistricting if Texas moves ahead with its plans.

Unlike Texas, however, California has an independent commission that handles redistricting after the census each decade, which is typically when districts are reshaped to account for population shifts.

Any changes would first need the approval of state lawmakers and voters, and state leaders plan to call a special election in November for California residents to do just that.

MISSOURI'S GOVERNOR UNDER PRESSURE FROM TRUMP

The Trump administration wants Gov. Mike Kehoe to call a special legislative session for congressional redistricting that favors Republicans.

Kehoe has expressed interest and discussed it with Republican legislative leaders, but has made no decision.

Republicans now hold six of the state's eight U.S. House seats, and the GOP could pick up another by reshaping a Kansas City area district held by a Democrat.

NEW YORK DEMOCRATS TRY TO CHANGE STATE LAW

New York, similar to California, has an independent commission that redistricts only after every census. Last week, state Democrats introduced legislation to allow mid-decade redistricting.

Democratic Gov. Kathy Hochul said if Texas proceeds, "we must do the same."

The proposal, however, would require an amendment to the state constitution, a change that would have to pass the legislature twice and be approved by voters.

That means the soonest new maps could be in place would be for the 2028 elections.

WISCONSIN DEMOCRATS TAKE A DIFFERENT TACK

While Republicans control the legislature in the battleground state, Democrats turned to the courts to try to force a redrawing of congressional district boundary lines before the 2026 midterms.

Two lawsuits were filed in July after the liberal-controlled Wisconsin Supreme Court — without explanation — previously declined to hear challenges directly.

MARYLAND DEMOCRATS PROMISE A RESPONSE TO TEXAS

The House Majority leader, David Moon, a Democrat, says he will sponsor legislation to trigger redistricting in Maryland if Texas or any other state holds redistricting ahead of the census.

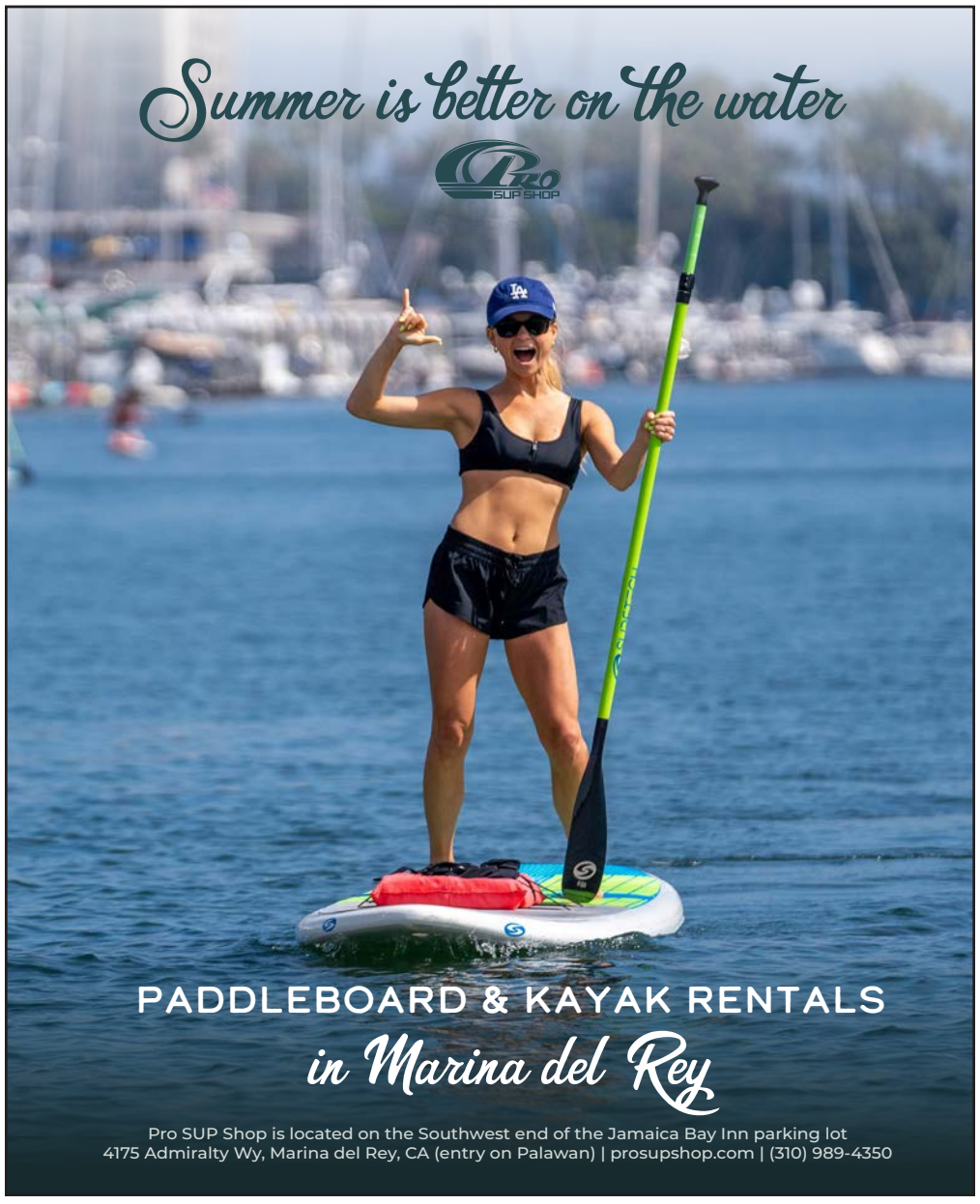
FLORIDA'S GOVERNOR HINTS AT SUPPORT FOR REDISTRICTING

Republican Gov. Ron DeSantis has said he is considering early redistricting and "working through what that would look like."

OHIO MUST REDRAW ITS MAPS BEFORE THE 2026 MIDTERMS

That's because a law in the Republican-led state requires it before the 2026 midterm elections. The GOP holds 10 of its 15 House seats already, and could try to expand that edge.

SEE **CONGRESS** PAGE 15



GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Deepfakes pose an obvious peril in politics, but California's bans amount to censorship

A few weeks ago, a video popped up on YouTube, purporting to be a verbal clash between Sen. Josh Hawley, a Missouri Republican, and Gov. Gavin Newsom during a congressional hearing.

The video claimed that Hawley cleaned Newsom's clock in their debate over a lawsuit that Newsom had filed. The problem is it was fake, created with video snippets of both politicians and a voiceover describing what supposedly happened.

The video, which has since vanished from YouTube, is a fairly crude example of how technology can be manipulated to depict seemingly real events.

More sophisticated examples of artificial intelligence, known as deepfakes, can literally put words in political figures' mouths or even create seemingly real persons.

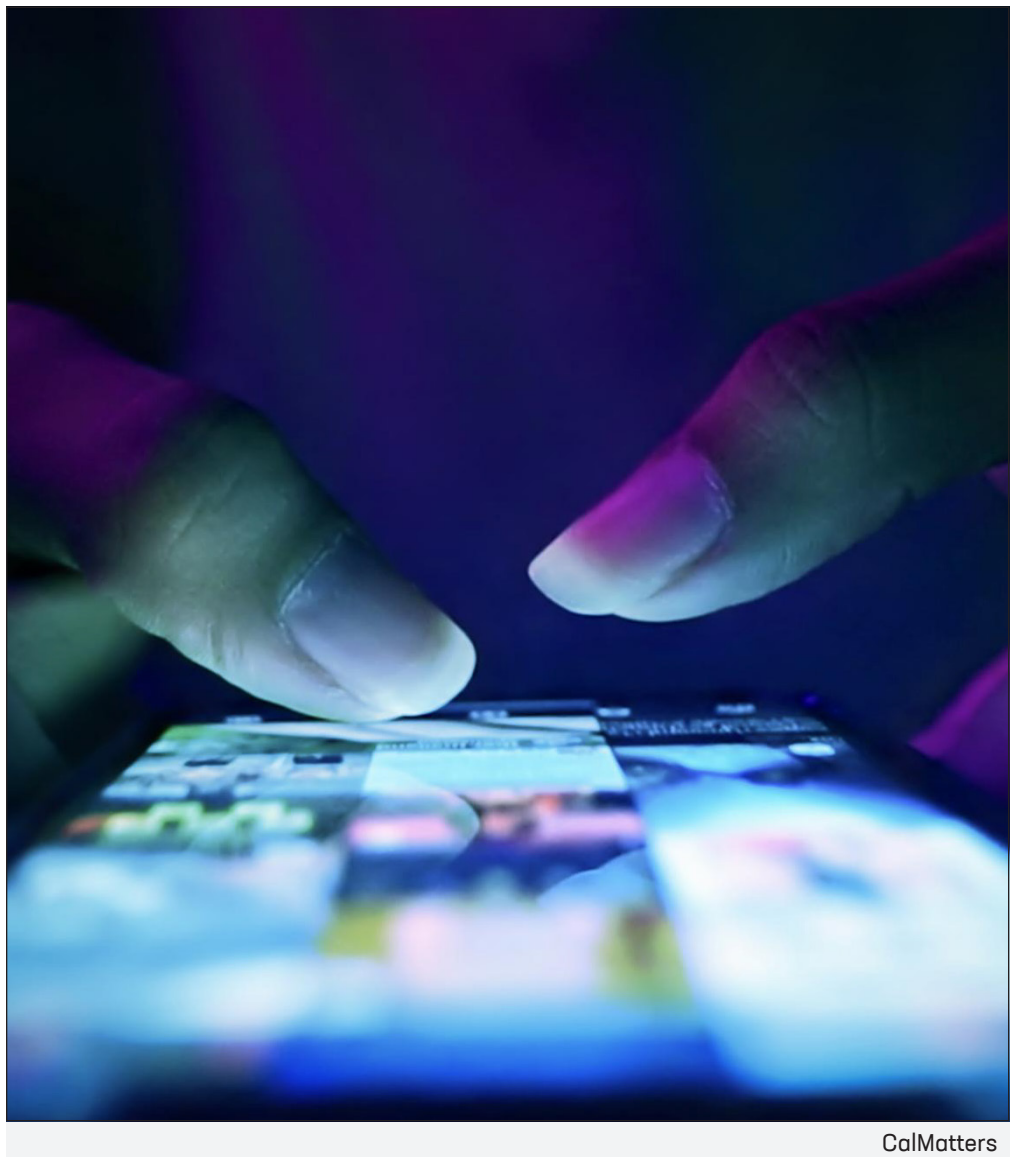
Last year, Christopher Kohls, going by the name "Mr. Reagan" on social media, posted a video in which Kamala Harris seemingly acknowledged that she had been the "ultimate diversity hire" when Joe Biden chose her as his vice presidential running mate.

Kohls said it was a parody, but Elon Musk posted it on his social media platform X, drawing criticism from Newsom and a vow to outlaw such material. It was one of many clashes with Musk, the billionaire electric car and rocket tycoon, after he became a Donald Trump ally.

Within weeks, Newsom signed two bills aimed at either regulating or banning AI-generated political videos. Kohl, later joined by other content creators, sued, contending that they violate free speech.

This week John Mendez, a federal judge in Sacramento, struck down one of the measures, Assembly Bill 2655, carried by Assemblyman Marc Berman, a Palo Alto Democrat. He ruled that the federal Communications Decency Act protects X and other sites from liability for material posted by third parties, such as Kohl or Musk.

SEE **GUEST COMMENTARY** PAGE 15



CalMatters

ONLINE: There are concerns that attempts to keep people safe are curtailing rights.

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City of Santa Monica

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Santa Monica invites sealed proposals for

- **RFP # 433 PROACTIVE VIDEO (CCTV) MONITORING SERVICE**
- **Submission Deadline Is September 2, 2025 at 3:00 PM Pacific Time.**
- A Non-Mandatory pre-proposal will be held on 8/18/25 at 10:00 am at 601 Santa Monica Blvd. Santa Monica, CA 90401.

Proposals must include forms furnished by the City of Santa Monica. Request for Proposals may be obtained on the **CITY'S ONLINE VENDOR PORTAL**. The website for this Request for Proposals and related documents is OpenGov (https://secure.procurenow.com/portal/santa-monica-ca). There is no charge for the RFP package.

City of Santa Monica

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
NOTICE INVITING APPLICATIONS TO THE

BUILDING & FIRE-LIFE SAFETY COMMISSION

UNSCHEDULED VACANCY

Building & Fire-Life Safety Commission:
One seat available for a term ending June 30, 2028.
Applicant must be a California licensed civil engineer or structural engineer.

Applications due by noon, Tuesday, September 23, 2025.
Appointments to be made by City Council, Tuesday, September 30, 2025.

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. In addition, this position will be required to complete two hours of Ethics Training (AB1234) biennially, as well as attend other city sponsored trainings deemed necessary by the city.

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.



COMMUNITY NEWS

The Pier

Free Saturday Morning Fitness Series Continues Through October at Santa Monica Pier

The Santa Monica Pier's weekly "Wellness & Waves" fitness program continues each Saturday through Oct. 11, offering free group runs and yoga classes with ocean views from 8 to 10 a.m.

The community fitness series begins with group runs from 8 to 9 a.m. beneath the iconic Santa Monica Pier Arch sign, welcoming runners of all levels. Yoga and Yoga-Pilates Fusion classes follow from 9 to 10 a.m. at the pier's west end, led by instructors from local wellness studios.

Special events complement the regular programming. On Saturday, participants can receive free Kreation juice at Google Store Santa Monica on Third Street Promenade while supplies last with a validation card.

A separate ticketed event, "MOVE by CITY SHRED," takes place Sunday featuring somatic movement, dance and high-intensity interval training in a two-hour choreographed experience. The event includes swag bags, wellness demonstrations, cold plunges, recovery zones, studio class passes and pier-side challenges. Tickets are available at https://www.sweatpals.com/event/move-santa-monica.

The Santa Monica Pier Corporation, which operates the program, encourages participants to arrive by rideshare, Metro, bus or bicycle. Attendees should bring yoga mats, towels and water.

Program updates and instructor announcements are shared on Santa Monica Pier's Instagram account @santamonicapier and other social media channels.

Partners for "Wellness & Waves" include Google Store Santa Monica, Good Body Pilates, shefayoga Venice, Pacific Park on the Santa Monica Pier, Lifeway Kefir and Santa Monica Travel & Tourism.

The Santa Monica Pier Corporation operates as an independent 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, separate from city funding, and relies on community support to maintain programming and facilities.

Registration is encouraged at santamonicapier.org/wellness-and-waves. More information about pier events is available at santamonicapier.org or on the pier's social media accounts on Facebook, Instagram, X, Threads and TikTok.

The Santa Monica Pier is located at 200 Santa Monica Pier, Santa Monica, CA 90401.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF



Courtesy photo
SANTA MONICA PIER - WELLNESS & WAVES 2025: "Wellness & Waves" fitness program continues each Saturday through Oct. 11.

Main Street

Local Architect to Host Public Concrete Casting Event on Main Street

Santa Monica native Thomas Musca will demonstrate his concrete artistry during a public "pour party" Sunday evening, creating a custom bar table for a local establishment while inviting community participation.

Musca, a Roosevelt, Lincoln and Santa Monica High School alumnus who earned his Bachelor of Architecture degree from Cornell University, founded Cassius Castings in Santa Monica shortly after graduation. The company has gained recognition for creating sleek, complex brutalist pieces that appear to challenge conventional engineering principles.

The Sunday evening project involves casting a 10-foot bar-height table for Not No Bar, with members of the public invited to participate in the live concrete pouring process on Main Street. These interactive events have become a signature element of Musca's practice, allowing friends, clients and community members to witness custom, site-specific pieces take shape in real time.

Musca's recent pour parties have attracted attention in design publications, highlighting his unique approach to public engagement with architectural craftsmanship.

The architect's fascination with concrete began in 2019 when he started experimenting with glass fiber-reinforced concrete furnishings. His work draws inspiration from John Lautner's Sheats-Goldstein residence and 20th-century Soviet brutalism, combining these influences into contemporary designs.

What began as a personal hobby has evolved into a Santa Monica-based business specializing in made-to-order furnishings and custom site-based projects that explore concrete's creative potential. Cassius Castings focuses on pushing the boundaries of what can be achieved with the versatile building material.

The public event will take place at 2422 Main Street in Santa Monica, beginning at 7 p.m. Sunday, August 10. Community members are encouraged to attend and participate in the concrete casting process.

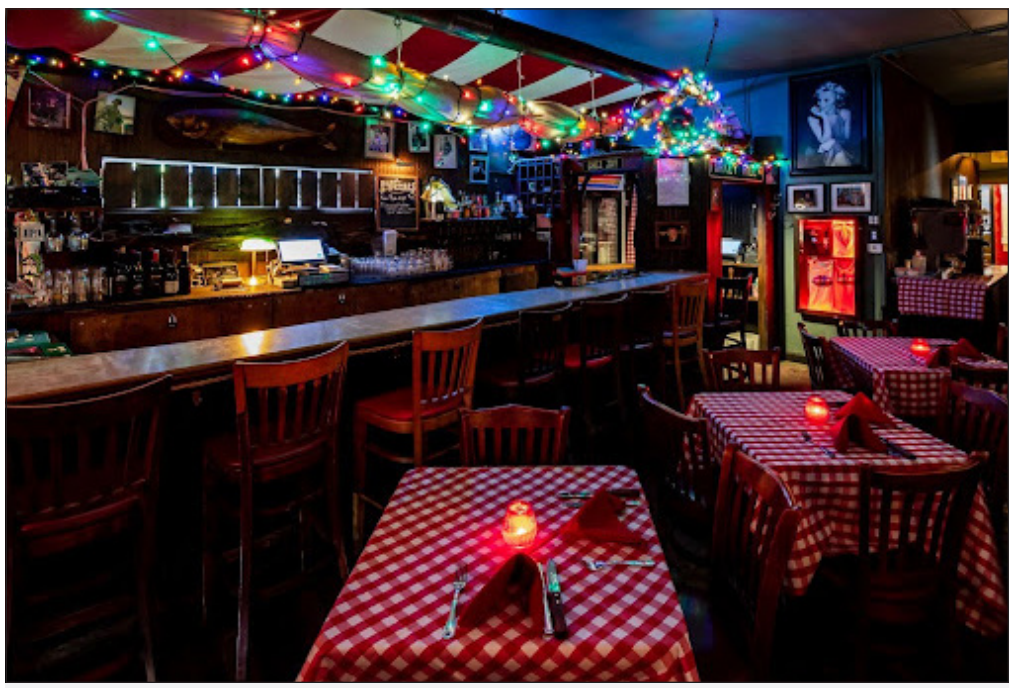
Musca's work represents a growing trend of architects and designers who are making their creative processes more accessible to the public, breaking down traditional barriers between professional practice and community engagement. The pour parties serve both as marketing events and genuine opportunities for public education about architectural techniques and materials.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF

COMMUNITY NEWS

Ocean Ave.

Historic Chez Jay Restaurant Celebrates 66th Anniversary with All-Day Party



Courtesy photo

CHEZ JAY: Chez Jay celebrate its 66th anniversary on Aug. 9 with an all-day celebration.

Chez Jay, the legendary Santa Monica restaurant designated as a Historic Landmark, will celebrate its 66th anniversary on Aug. 9 with an all-day celebration from 3 p.m. to midnight.

The nautically-themed establishment, located on Route 66 (Ocean Avenue) just half a block south of the Santa Monica Pier, has been a celebrity hangout and neighborhood institution since opening in 1959. The restaurant continues to thrive as many longtime Los Angeles restaurants close.

The anniversary celebration features three distinct experiences:

Free Entertainment runs from 3-10 p.m. in the adjacent parking lot, dubbed "The Lot." Live music until 9:30 p.m. will feature covers of The Beach Boys, Motown, jazz and oldies hits. The event includes a retro "Route 66" classic car display, a mini Chez Jay museum with memorabilia and historic photographs, and an interactive "Rumor Has It" video booth. Food and drinks will be available for purchase.

The restaurant's storied history includes visits from Marilyn Monroe and JFK, serving as a meeting place for the Pentagon Papers transfer, hosting jazz sessions with luminaries like Chet Baker, and providing a paparazzi-free environment where celebrities mingled with locals.

Originally founded by Jay Fiondella, who purchased the struggling "Dawn Cafe" for $1, Chez Jay is one of Los Angeles' oldest, longest-running, family-owned independent restaurants. Current co-owners are Michael Anderson and his son Chris Anderson.

Visit https://chezjays.com for more information.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF

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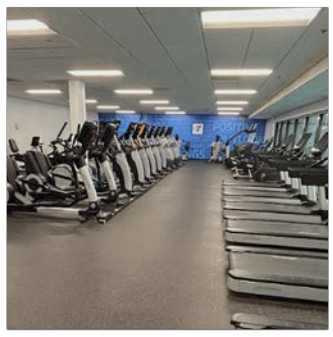
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827 12th St,
Santa Monica, CA 90403

2 Units 10 BR 8 BA, 6,746 Sq Ft

Listed by Kenny Stevens
•DRE #01090251 • Compass
•310-968-7005 (agent)
•kenny@kennystevensteam.com (agent)

SANTA MONICA

$17,500,000

537 San Vicente Blvd,
Santa Monica, CA 90402

1 & 2 Units 47 BR 47 BA, 40,412 Sq Ft

Listed by Jonathan Taksa
•DRE #01366169 • Remax Commercial and Investment Realty •310-968-5303 (agent) •jon@taksainvestment.com (agent)

SANTA MONICA

$4,195,000

844 5th St,
Santa Monica, CA 90403

2 Units 13 BR 12 BA, 7,374 Sq Ft

Listed by David Schuchman
•DRE #01472937 • Roque & Mark Company, Inc. •310-903-7706 (agent)
•david@roque-mark.com (agent)

SANTA MONICA

$32,622,000

01 Ocean Ave,
Santa Monica, CA 90403

38 BR 38 BA, 30,954 Sq Ft

Listed by Nancy Bush
•DRE #00962565 • Lyon Stahl Investment Real Estate, Inc. Listed by Michael McKinney •DRE #00634672 • Lyon Stahl Investment Real Estate, Inc.
Contact: 310-849-9210

SANTA MONICA

$3,800,000

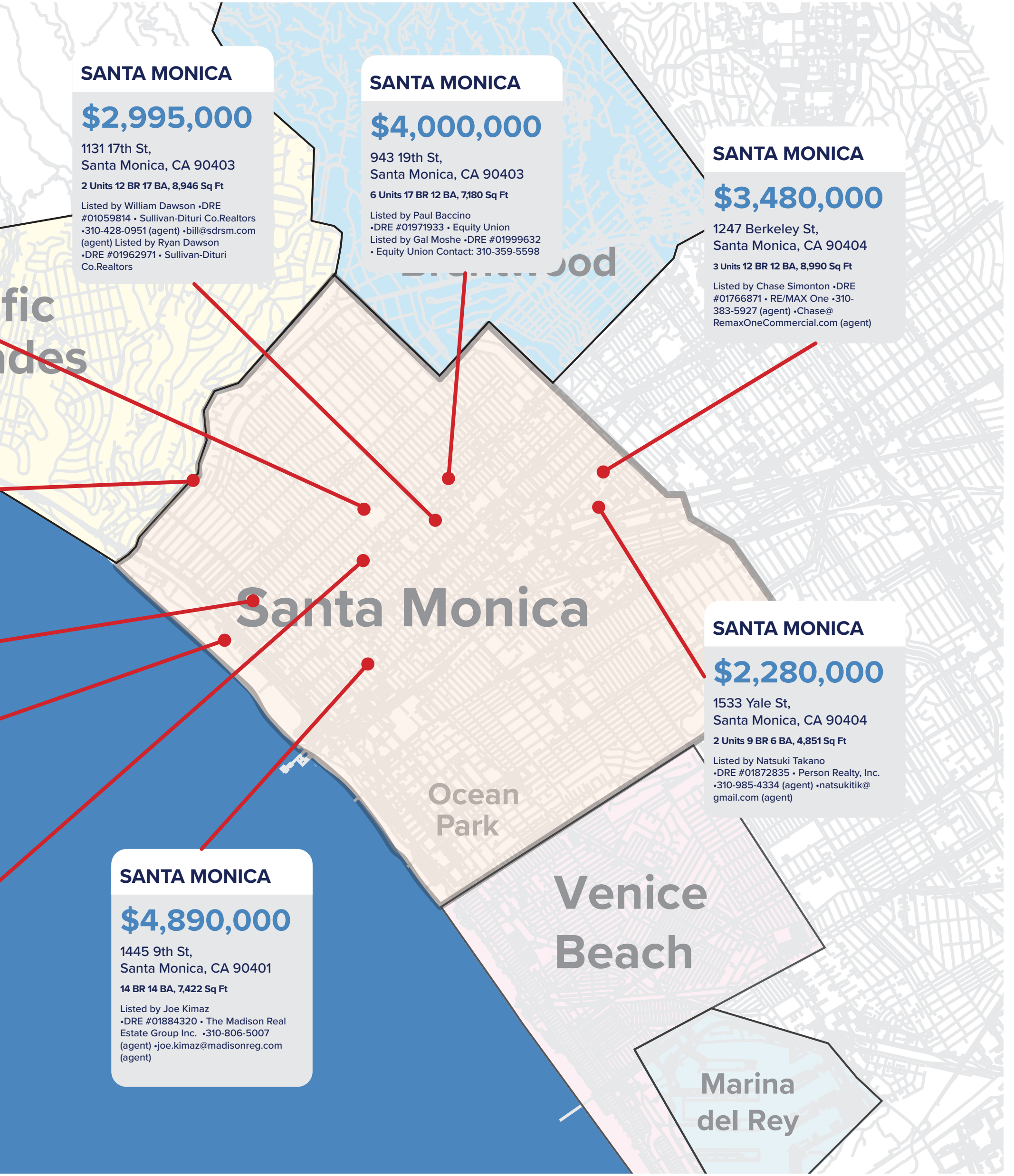
1050 12th St,
Santa Monica, CA 90403

10 Units 13 BR 10 BA, 7,068 Sq Ft

Listed by Sandra Miller
•DRE #01446377 • ENGEL & VÖLKERS Santa Monica •213-364-9815 (agent)
•sandra.miller@evrealestate.com (agent)

● FOR SALE

All data gathered at redfin.com Santa Monica Daily Press



SANTA MONICA

$2,995,000

1131 17th St,
Santa Monica, CA 90403

2 Units 12 BR 17 BA, 8,946 Sq Ft

Listed by William Dawson •DRE #01059814 • Sullivan-Dituri Co.Realtors •310-428-0951 (agent) •bill@sdrsm.com (agent) Listed by Ryan Dawson •DRE #01962971 • Sullivan-Dituri Co.Realtors

SANTA MONICA

$4,000,000

943 19th St,
Santa Monica, CA 90403

6 Units 17 BR 12 BA, 7,180 Sq Ft

Listed by Paul Baccino •DRE #01971933 • Equity Union
Listed by Gal Moshe •DRE #01999632 • Equity Union Contact: 310-359-5598

SANTA MONICA

$3,480,000

1247 Berkeley St,
Santa Monica, CA 90404

3 Units 12 BR 12 BA, 8,990 Sq Ft

Listed by Chase Simonton •DRE #01766871 • RE/MAX One •310-383-5927 (agent) •Chase@RemaxOneCommercial.com (agent)

SANTA MONICA

$2,280,000

1533 Yale St,
Santa Monica, CA 90404

2 Units 9 BR 6 BA, 4,851 Sq Ft

Listed by Natsuki Takano •DRE #01872835 • Person Realty, Inc. •310-985-4334 (agent) •natsukitik@gmail.com (agent)

SANTA MONICA

$4,890,000

1445 9th St,
Santa Monica, CA 90401

14 BR 14 BA, 7,422 Sq Ft

Listed by Joe Kimaz •DRE #01884320 • The Madison Real Estate Group Inc. •310-806-5007 (agent) •joe.kimaz@madisonreg.com (agent)



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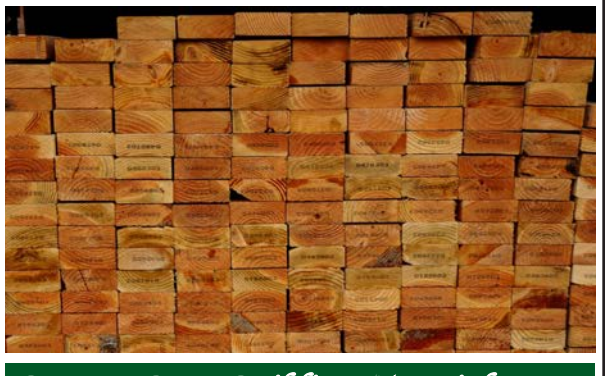






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COMMUNITY NEWS

Santa Monica

Gilson Daub Opens Santa Monica Office Under Veteran Attorney Robert Lance

Gilson Daub, a leading workers' compensation defense and general liability law firm, has opened a new Santa Monica office led by seasoned attorney Robert Lance, the company announced Monday.

The expansion marks the firm's latest growth initiative, adding to eight new offices launched nationwide over the past two years. Lance joins Gilson Daub alongside three former colleagues from Singerman Law: trial attorneys Michelle Stupell and Violet Babassi, and paralegal Taylor Samya.

"At Gilson Daub, we're always looking for exceptional leaders, especially in Los Angeles, the heart of workers' compensation in California," said Brent Daub, senior founding partner. "Rob brings exactly what we need: a clear alignment with our vision and values, a talent for building loyal, collaborative, high-performing teams, and a passion for delivering outstanding client service."



Courtesy photo
ROBERT LANCE: Lance brings more than 25 years of legal experience, with a strong focus on workers' compensation litigation in the medical and healthcare sectors.

Lance brings more than 25 years of legal experience, with a strong focus on workers' compensation litigation in the medical and healthcare sectors. He previously served as managing partner of the Santa Monica office of Dietz, Gilmor & Chazen from 2014 to 2023.

Born in Montreal and raised in Queens, New York, Lance earned his Juris Doctor from the University of La Verne College of Law and a Bachelor of Science from Emory University. He served as Barrister President of the Beverly Hills Bar Association from 2008 to 2009 and remains an active member of the California Bar Association.

Lance regularly provides legal training to employers and insurance professionals across Southern California. He volunteers with his children's high school sports teams and supports Special Angel Band, a music education nonprofit founded by his wife. The multilingual attorney also owns a soccer shop in Trento, Italy.

"I was drawn to Gilson Daub because of its unique culture: how the firm treats people, values quality of life, and balances strong legal service with practical solutions," Lance said. "With the new Santa Monica office, my goal is to thoughtfully build a trusted, responsive team that clients can rely on."

The new office will serve clients in Greater Los Angeles, Orange and Ventura counties. Gilson Daub operates in 22 cities across 13 states, specializing in workers' compensation, insurance defense and risk management.

For more information, visit www.gilsondaub.com.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF

Los Angeles

LA County Board Urges State Action to Keep Planned Parenthood Centers Open

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors approved a motion Tuesday calling for emergency state intervention to prevent the closure of Planned Parenthood health centers countywide.

The motion, introduced by Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath and co-authored by Supervisor Janice Hahn, responds to new federal restrictions blocking Planned Parenthood facilities from receiving Medicaid reimbursements for services. While a federal court injunction has temporarily halted the restrictions, access to preventative health services remains uncertain.

Los Angeles County's 23 Planned Parenthood health centers serve approximately 250,000 patients annually. The organization's outreach teams, including Promotoras Comunitarias and the Black Health Initiative, reach nearly 50,000 people each year in underserved communities.

"For decades, Planned Parenthood has been a trusted source of care in Los Angeles County—providing essential health services, trusted information, and compassionate support, especially in communities too often overlooked," Horvath said. "We won't let political attacks erase decades of progress."

Hahn emphasized the broader healthcare implications, stating the federal restrictions could "impact families for generations to come" by depriving underserved populations of comprehensive medical services.

The board directed the County's Chief Executive Office to send a letter signed by all five supervisors to Governor Gavin Newsom and state legislative leaders requesting emergency funding and policy solutions.

Without state intervention, an estimated 115 Planned Parenthood health centers could close statewide, including all 23 facilities in Los Angeles County. Officials warn that other healthcare providers lack the capacity to fill the resulting service gaps.

The centers provide cancer screenings, birth control, sexually transmitted infection treatment and other preventative care services, particularly serving communities with limited healthcare access.

The federal court injunction provides temporary protection, but county officials stress the urgency of securing long-term solutions to maintain healthcare access for vulnerable populations.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF

SEND YOUR NEWS TO THE EDITOR

Santa Monica Daily Press editor@smdp.com



THURSDAY | AUGUST 7

NOMA MEETING THURSDAY, AUGUST 7, 2025
7:00 p.m. Zoom N/A Santa Monica. SM Fire Chief Matthew Hallock and Fire Marshal Joe Cavin will be addressing fire threats to our city and strategies for fire prevention at the next North of Montana Avenue Neighborhood Council meeting this Thursday at 7pm. The public is invited; entry to the Zoom session available at smnoma.org. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/noma-meeting-thursday-august-7-2025/16452492/2025-08-07T19

FRIDAY | AUGUST 8

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/14165546/2025-08-08T19

SATURDAY | AUGUST 9

BEGINNER REFORMER PILATES AT GOOD BODY PILATES STUDIO
10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Good Body Pilates Studio 3229 Pico Blvd. Santa Monica Good Body Pilates Studio Santa Monica. 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/16094481/2025-08-09T10

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

I GOTTA CROW
8:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. The Crow 2525 Michigan Ave Unit F4 Santa Monica. The Crow's favorite show curates elevated comedy with comics from HBO, Netflix, Comedy Central, and late night TV. Curated Comedy with comics from HBO, Netflix, Comedy Central and late night TV. THE CROW is listed in the LA Times as one of the best places to see comedy in LA! Read a more about The Crow in this feature article of the LA Times. Directions to The Crow at Bergamot Station: FREE PARKING in the lot at Bergamot Station Arts Center. (You're welcome, Los Angeles.) We are right at the Bergamot Station Metro Stop ! (You are soooo welcome, Los Angeles!) Fun Facts: Safe Space! (Security guards on premises 24/7.) The Crow is located directly behind our favorite restaurant, Birdie G's . If you want to grab a fine dinner there before, we encourage you to make a reservation. 10% off your meal with your ticket to The Crow. More info can be found at: www.CrowComedy.com Lineup subject to change. No drink minimum. The Crow is owned and operated by a female/mom/stand-up comic. I Gotta Crow occurs most Saturday's. $23.88. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/i-gotta-crow/14639013/2025-08-09T20

SUNDAY | AUGUST 10

DAVID BOWIE ART EXHIBIT AT SANTA MONICA ART MUSEUM
10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. Santa Monica Art Museum 1219 3rd St Promenade Santa Monica. A DAY WITH DAVID BOWIE: Step into the orbit of one of music's most iconic figures. This intimate photographic exhibition explores David Bowie's essence and artistic energy through rare images, featuring moments captured by Christine de Grancy during Bowie's time with Brian Eno and the artists of Gugging. A tribute to imagination, rebellion, and reinvention. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/david-bowie-art-exhibit-at-santa-monica-art-museum/16449189/2025-08-10T10

MONDAY | AUGUST 11

ARBOR VENICE MONDAY NIGHT POOL TOURNEY
5:30 p.m. 2907 Main Street CA 90405 Join us at the pool table on the Back Patio Santa Monica. Join in the fun as Arbor Venice takes over Tavern on Main. We'll be showing awesome skateboard and snowboarding footage on our screens and hosting a pool tourney with awesome prizes for the winner each week. Monday $9 Burger+Beer special is a great addition to the festivities. Come and play, hang or whatever suits your mood. All are welcome at Tavern on Main. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/arbor-venice-monday-night-pool-tourney/14639005/2025-08-11T17

TUESDAY | AUGUST 12

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/16206460/2025-08-05T14

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

CITY COUNCIL MEETING
5:30 p.m. Santa Monica City Hall 1685 Main St. Santa Monica. The City Council is made up of seven members elected at-large for staggered four-year terms. Every two years, after each election, the City Council selects one of its members to serve as Mayor and another to serve as Mayor Pro Tempore. The City Council also sits as the following bodies for the City of Santa Monica. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/city-council-meeting/13799967/2025-08-12T17

TUESDAY OPEN MIC
10:00 p.m. Westside Comedy Theater 1323-A 3rd St Santa Monica. The best open mic in Los Angeles! The Tuesday Open Mic is a weekly open mic. Hop onstage and perform your best 3 minutes! Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/tuesday-open-mic/16004734/2025-08-05T22

WEDNESDAY | AUGUST 13

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

ORIGINAL UNDERSTUDIES
8:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Mi's Westside Comedy Theater 1323-A Third Street Promenade Santa Monica. Original Understudies. The Bear Supply Hour is now Original Understudies. The same high energy comedy that was once named one of "The 100 Best Things in Comedy" by The Comedy Bureau, is now joined by a cast of both fresh and veteran comedians in fast-paced sketch and long form improv. Every show features special guests creating a high-octane, freakishly entertaining, one-of-a-kind improvised spectacle. FEATURING: Shaun Boylan, Caroline Cotter, Joey Greer, James Heaney. THIS SHOW IS 21 AND OVER. PLEASE BRING A VALID I.D. LINE-UP SUBJECT TO CHANGE. IF YOU ARE NOT PHYSICALLY HERE TO CLAIM YOUR TICKETS THEY WILL BECOME VOID 15 MINUTES AFTER SHOW START TIME. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/original-understudies/15018109/2025-08-13T20

GET IT DAILY...

Santa Monica Daily Press

Classifieds

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CLASSIFICATIONS					
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Furniture	Travel	Commercial Lease	Services	Health and Beauty	Obituaries
	Vacation Rentals	Real Estate	Computer Services	Fitness	Tutoring

DBA

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 06/13/25 2025119607The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Zia Tile 8467 Easter Ave Bell Gardens, CA 9021. . Los AngelesArticles of Incorporation or Organization Number (if applicable): Ai #ON. The full name of the registrant(s) is/are Zia Ventures LLC 8467 Easter Ave Bell Gardens, CA 9021 If corporation or LLC- Print State of CA This is Business is Conducted: A Limited Libility Company . The date registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. Registrant /Corp/LLC Zia Ventures LLC Title: Owner Mike Leflore . This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 07/9/2025NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS 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 PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq. ,Business and Professions Code).

PLACE YOUR CLASSIFIED HERE

HOURS MONDAY - FRIDAY 9:00am - 5:00pm
LOCATION 1640 5th Street, Suite 218, Santa Monica, CA 90401

Public Notice

ANCC Magnet Recognition Program® Site Visit
The ANCC Magnet Recognition Program® is the highest credential a healthcare organization can achieve. A Magnet designation indicates to patients and the public that these organizations have met the most stringent, evidence-based standards of nursing excellence in patient care delivery. Providence Saint Johns Health Center has applied to the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) for the prestigious designation of Magnet. We invite patients, family members, staff, and other interested parties to provide feedback via email or direct mail. All comments must be submitted by September 5, 2025. Anonymous comments should be sent in writing to the Magnet Program Office. Please note that ALL COMMENTS WILL BE KEPT CONFIDENTIALand will not be shared with the organization. Send comments to: Beckie Mathews, American Nurses Association Magnet Recognition Program Office, 8403 Colesville Road, Suite 500 Silver Spring, MD 20910. Email comments to magnet@ana.org.

INSIDE
THE DAILY PRESS
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FROM PAGE 1

Monica as a world class filming destination and provide concierge type services.

Santa Monica Travel & Tourism is a private, non-profit corporation established in 1982 and funded by the City of Santa Monica's general fund and Tourism Marketing District assessment that operates under contract to promote Santa Monica as a conference, business and leisure travel destination. As an accredited Destination Marketing Organization and Santa Monica Green Certified Business, SMTT serves as a sales and service organization that acts as the marketing representative for local businesses and the community while also operating three visitor center locations staffed with trained travel specialists who provide visitors guides, maps, and comprehensive information on attractions, hotels, dining, museums, galleries and entertainment.

Edwards said SMTT wants to oversee film permits as film production is a vital driver of positive local economic impact.

"Film Santa Monica was created specifically to deliver a tailored and efficient permitting experience for those interested in filming here," he said. "We are concentrated exclusively on promoting Santa Monica and further establishing our unique identity that distinguishes us from other location competitors. The strong brand of Santa Monica helps to build trust, drives our recognition ultimately increasing opportunities for employment, business values and sales."

He said establishing a separate entity allows SMTT to maintain accountability with a structure solely devoted to increased film permitting and production support for Santa Monica, Los Angeles and California.

Santa Monica has outsourced film permitting since 2013 due to the volume and complexity of requests. The city requires permits for commercial filming and photography in public spaces including streets, parks, city facilities, Santa Monica Pier, Santa Monica State Beach and beach parking lots.

The three-year contract has no cost to the city covering permit coordination, permit process improvement, marketing, notification, monitoring and complaint referral services for filming activities on public property and in city facilities. Film Santa Monica will charge processing fees directly to applicants rather than the city.

Staff recommended Film Santa Monica following an evaluation process that began with a request for proposals issued in February. The city received three bids and selected Film Santa Monica based on criteria including ability to meet objectives, experience, stability and value-added services.

Staff said Film Santa Monica is uniquely positioned to elevate the City of Santa Monica's film permit program by leveraging SMTT's prior expertise in destination marketing, industry partnerships, and strategic outreach.

The contract includes an option for a two-year renewal at the city's discretion. Film Santa Monica will coordinate permits for all public areas and city-owned facilities while notifying residents and businesses of filming activities.

Film and television production in Los Angeles has plummeted over the past five years, with on-location filming in Greater LA dropping more than 30% between 2018 and 2023. Last year recorded just 23,480 shoot days, one of the lowest totals in decades, and production remained 22% below 2024 levels in the first quarter of 2025.

The industry's workforce has contracted dramatically. Motion picture payrolls in the LA region averaged about 100,000 jobs in 2024, down 25% from pre-COVID levels. The unemployment rate for film and TV workers hovers around 20%, and industry guilds estimate 18,000 California crew jobs have disappeared over three years.

Only about 20% of television series for North American audiences are now filmed in California, as productions increasingly migrate to competing markets offering more generous incentives. States like Georgia, New York and New Mexico provide tax credits of 30-40%, compared to California's 20% standard credit. These rival jurisdictions now capture four of every five new film and television projects.

High costs and regulatory hurdles compound the problem. Los Angeles has some of the world's highest production expenses, from crew wages to location fees, while complex permitting processes burden filmmakers with additional costs and delays.

Gov. Gavin Newsom has called the decline a "crisis" for the state. California's share of national motion-picture employment has fallen to its lowest level in decades, dropping from over half the U.S. market a decade ago to about 46% in 2023.

California has taken significant steps to try to revitalize its film and television industry with the historic expansion of the state's Film and Television Tax Credit Program, more than doubling annual funding from $330 million to $750 million.

Newsom signed the expansion into law in July, with the California Assembly and Senate approving programmatic changes through AB 1138. The legislation represents the culmination of a year-long campaign by the Entertainment Union Coalition, which represents 165,000 workers in California's film industry.

"California is where filmed entertainment was born, and with this expansion, we're making sure it stays here," Newsom said. "We're not just investing in productions and soundstages—we're investing in middle-class careers, small businesses, and the communities that power this iconic industry."

The expanded program introduces several key changes designed to keep production in California. The base credit rate increases to 35% for all participants, including independent productions. The per-production cap rises to $120 million, while funding for independent films triples from $26 million to $75 million.

New project types now eligible include half-hour series, animation and large-scale competition series. Productions filming outside Los Angeles can receive credits up to 45% for certain expenditures, encouraging geographic diversity within the state.

editor@smdp.com

LET US KNOW YOUR OPINION
Santa Monica Daily Press editor@smdp.com

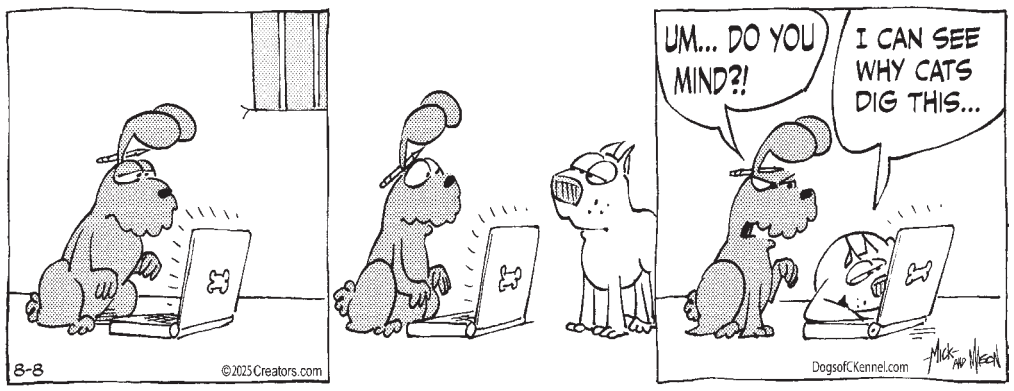
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



"THE BROFISH ARE A HIT."

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 21 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle.

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Holiday wishlist

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

Alaska	Fiji	Lisbon	Russia
Alps	Finland	London	Samoa
Art gallery	Flight	Maps	Snow
Bahamas	Food	Monaco	Spain
Bali	France	Nepal	Timor
Cairo	Hanoi	Nice	Togo
Chile	India	Niger	Tokyo
Crete	Italy	Noumea	Tonga
Cusco	Kenya	Oman	Trek
Devon	Kuta	Paris	Ubud
Dubai	Laos	Perth	Vienna
Duoro	Libya	Reno	
Explore	Lima	Rome	

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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Aug. 8)

The year ahead is animated by courage. You'll initiate what others only talk about. You'll volunteer first, speak up when needed and back yourself fiercely. More highlights: A reunion. You've both grown in beautiful ways. You'll add to your legacy. You'll develop a signature move. Exquisite timing will magically move your financial and professional realm three times. Pisces and Libra adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 4, 9, 22, 17 and 35.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). The fastest way to lock something into your brain is to teach it. Share the idea, talk it out, sketch it on a napkin. It doesn't need to be perfect; it just needs to move through you.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Be open to support. You'll be nudged to reconsider your automatic "I've got it" reflex. There's a smarter way to use energy; let good people show up. Give up a little independence in the spirit of shared labor.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). While reputation carries people in some instances, with children, animals or honest souls, what matters is presence. You love the realness of a moment, and the moment - including all the people in it - will love you back.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Momentum is everything. You'll notice what's slowing you down - an obligation, a habit, a too-long explanation. Cut it. Trim the edge. Eliminate drag. Release resistance. Aim for sleek motion and sharp results.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). A person who loves you no matter what. Someone you show up for without condition. A relationship where energy flows both ways. These are the touchstones that give you pause while you take in the gift of it.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). A roadblock appears, and others turn around. You, however, change shape. Flow, twist, reroute - it's natural to you. While others wait for a fix, you move forward with grace, ease and quiet brilliance. That's your superpower today.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Act from your own reasons, not for applause or approval. Asking, "What's in it for me?" isn't selfish; it's smart. When you're clear on your real reason, you're less likely to chase approval and more likely to act from purpose.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Nighttime habits shape your next day's vibe. How do you land the day - wind down or spin out? Do you set intentions or collapse into the dark and hope for the best? Work on a stellar evening ritual to set you up for success.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). When the present doesn't feel quite solid and the future isn't clear, you still feel powerful because you are. Even without full clarity or control, you still have a gift. You elevate what you touch. You transform "good enough" into "perfectly fitting for this moment."

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). The goal is within reach, but not if you let a dozen distractions split your focus. Choose one thing - the real thing - and make it your whole world for a while. You'll surprise yourself with what happens.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You're curious, you're capable and you're discerning. You don't just absorb everything you come across. Lies, deceptions and fakes run amok. You research well and trust your filters. They won't let you down.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You're not just showing up for yourself today; you're also a spotter of talent. You'll notice someone who's still developing but has real promise - and you'll instinctively support them. Your encouragement helps others grow.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

H	E	M	I	■	I	S	M	S	■	I	H	O	P	■
E	V	E	R	■	A	L	A	I	■	N	A	I	L	■
R	E	T	A	I	N	I	N	G	W	A	L	L	S	■
O	N	E	N	D	■	C	I	N	E	M	A	■	■	■
I	S	O	■	E	E	K	■	■	C	O	L	L	A	R
C	O	R	R	A	L	■	■	D	A	N	■	A	N	Y
■	■	■	C	L	I	N	G	I	N	G	V	I	N	E
A	D	A	M	■	■	A	I	R	■	■	I	D	E	S
G	R	I	P	P	I	N	G	T	A	L	E	■	■	■
R	A	N	■	I	R	A	■	■	D	I	S	A	R	M
A	T	T	I	L	A	■	■	A	O	K	■	P	E	R
■	■	■	S	E	Q	U	E	L	■	E	P	O	C	H
■	H	O	L	D	I	N	G	P	E	N	A	L	T	Y
■	E	S	A	U	■	I	G	E	R	■	C	L	O	D
■	R	U	M	P	■	T	O	N	E	■	T	O	R	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	9	7	1	2	8	6	4	5
8	1	4	6	5	7	9	2	3
2	6	5	4	9	3	8	1	7
9	2	3	7	8	1	5	6	4
7	4	1	5	6	2	3	9	8
5	8	6	3	4	9	2	7	1
1	5	9	2	3	4	7	8	6
6	7	2	8	1	5	4	3	9
4	3	8	9	7	6	1	5	2

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

Newsday Crossword

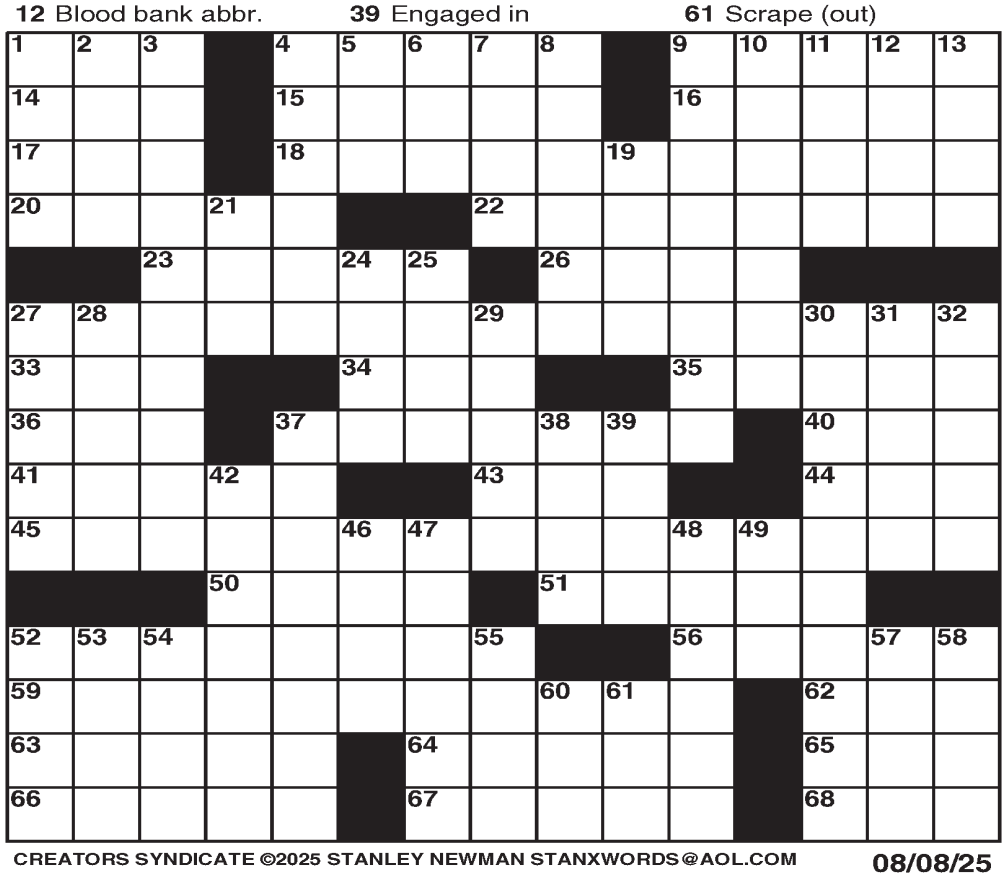
'TIS THE SEASON by Billie Truitt
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Tease
4 Exasperation exclamation
9 Poetic feet
14 Fuss and noise
15 Aural assault
16 Shows approval
17 One more than *cinque*
18 Phrase on front fences
20 Crafter's supply
22 Most retiring
23 Mitigates
26 Piece of a solar panel
27 Nostalgic musing
33 Omega-3 source
34 Rowing crew leader
35 Absent from
36 Sorority letter
37 Field event
40 Philosopher Lao-__
41 *Some Like* __
43 Grammy category
44 MLB or NBA honor
45 Used
50 Cantata selection
51 Parts of pumps
52 "Let's get moving!"
56 Adhesive adornment
59 "The Queen of Disco"
62 Significant span
63 Patron of the arts
64 Ramen morsel
65 Console before Wii
66 Whole lots
67 Reach perfection
68 Tuck into

DOWN

1 Wood shaper
2 Noodle nugget
3 Capital near the Oregon Trail
4 Order superior
5 "Light" or "dark" drink
6 Unrefined
7 Cyrillic "city" suffix
8 Regarding this
9 "No more, really"
10 Pacino, for long
11 Assembled
12 Blood bank abbr.
13 USMC rank
19 Male name (+ y = female name)
21 USC aides
24 Fix permanently
25 Drive off
27 Clinch a victory
28 Phrase on much world currency
29 Surplus
30 Where it's happening
31 Mississippi feeder in Mississippi
32 Personal property
37 Disney film franchise
38 Jewelry scale parts
39 Engaged in
42 "That's enough"
46 Stamping machines
47 Less specific
48 First on the moon, alphabetically
49 Thou
52 Folds in
53 Common winter wear
54 Rice, for instance
55 Opposite of nulli-
57 Sphere of interest
58 The __ word of the four longest answers spells a season ending soon
60 Unruly hair
61 Scrape (out)



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08/08/25

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SOLAR

FROM PAGE 2

all customers while still encouraging the adoption of renewable energy sources. Environmental groups argued in the case that the utility commission's decision left out crucial considerations around benefits to customers and disadvantaged communities.

Under previous iterations of the program – "NEM 1" and "NEM 2" – utilities paid solar customers a retail rate for their extra energy, which is the same price the utilities would charge other customers when they resold that energy. This was changed under the current iteration of the program – "NEM 3.0" – which instead gives customers the "avoided cost," which is how much utilities save by not buying that power on the wholesale market.

Customers who joined the program after mid-April 2023 receive the new rate, while customers under the prior two versions will continue to receive the old rate for the duration of their contracts, which is typically about 20 years.

Utility commissioners ruled in favor of power companies, which argued that older versions of the program created an unfair cost burden on customers. Those without rooftop solar, utilities said, have to pay more than their peers for routine maintenance to the grid. The groups bringing the lawsuit said this idea is overblown.

Environmental groups said this decision left out considerations around the benefits to low-income customers, as well as the benefits of having "millions of customer generation facilities providing power on hot summer days and preventing blackouts," Malinda Dickenson, representative of the three environmental groups, said at a June hearing.

The fallout from the utility commission's 2022 decision included an 82% drop in customers requesting connections for rooftop solar installations, and industry groups expected a loss of about 17,000 jobs during the first year of the change.

By Malena Carollo. This article was originally published by CalMatters.

CONGRESS

FROM PAGE 4

INDIANA'S GOVERNOR WILL SPEAK WITH THE VICE PRESIDENT J.D. VANCE

Republican Gov. Mike Braun told reporters Tuesday that Vance will visit Indiana to discuss matters including redistricting in the solidly GOP state.

Braun, who would have to call a special session to draw new maps, said he expects a "broad conversation" with legislative leaders on the move's constitutionality and said no commitments have yet been made.

"It looks like it's going to happen across many Republican states," Braun said in a video by WRTV in Indianapolis.

By JESSE BEDAYN Associated Press. Associated Press writers Anthony Izaguirre in Albany, New York, Holly Ramer in Concord, New Hampshire, Scott Bauer in Madison, Wisconsin, David Lieb in Jefferson City, Missouri, Isabella Volmert in Lansing, Michigan, and Brian Witte in Annapolis, Maryland, contributed to this report.

GUEST COMMENTARY

FROM PAGE 5

AB 2655 would have barred internet sites from posting deceptive political material during campaign seasons. "They don't have anything to do with these videos that the state is objecting to," Mendez said.

Notably, Mendez indicated that he will also reject the second measure, Assembly Bill 2839, carried by Assemblywoman Gail Pellerin, a Santa Cruz Democrat. It would prohibit anyone from "knowingly distributing an advertisement or other election communication ... that contains certain materially deceptive content."

"I think the statute just fails miserably in accomplishing what it would like to do," Mendez said, adding "It's become a censorship law and there is no way that is going to survive."

As the country's political polarization deepens, voters become more willing to believe allegations that those on the other side of the divide are evil, corrupt and power hungry. Meanwhile, artificial intelligence makes political deepfakes ever more sophisticated and capable of fooling gullible voters into believing their lies.

Exaggeration, selective facts and downright lies have always been evident in political campaigns, but historically held in check, at least partially, by newspapers and other political media.

Unfortunately, however, the mainstream media have fallen on economic hard times and have become less capable of policing political discourse. Meanwhile, X, YouTube, podcasts and other digital media have exploded as alternative sources but they tend to drive polarization rather than counteract it.

The bills that Democratic legislators and a Democratic governor enacted last year were clearly aimed at crippling media on the other side of the ideological divide but, as Judge Mendez ruled, violate free speech.

Censorship cannot be the answer. The approach that Newsom and legislators took is a slippery slope that would invite retaliation from their political rivals, thus deepening the already yawning political divide.

It is, however, a genuine quandary. Unfettered use of AI-driven deepfakes in political campaigns present an obvious peril, but so does any effort to prohibit free speech, no matter how distasteful.

By Dan Walters. This article was originally published by CalMatters.

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