- **AI Training** At what cost?
- **RV** Enforcement Bad for the homeless.
- Santa Monica Daily Press
- **Guard deployment** Trial over legality.
- **Redistricting fight** Stalled in Texas.

Volume 24 Issue 186

**TUESDAY 8/12/25** 

smdp.com

# Chez Jay celebrates six-decades of history making stories









66: The beloved local watering hole celebrated its 66th Anniversary over the weekend with a packed house and an opportunity for locals to share their story.



# attack in Malibu

**MATTHEW HALL** 

Daily Press Editor

An 11-year-old girl was attacked by a mountain lion Sunday evening while feeding chickens outside her family's home in the 32000 block of Pacific Coast Highway in Malibu, prompting authorities to euthanize the animal and reigniting discussions about human-wildlife coexistence in Southern California.

The Los Angeles Sheriff's Department Lost Hills Station responded to the incident, treating the girl at the scene before her family transported her to a hospital for injuries that were not lifethreatening.

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife was brought in to oversee the investigation and was able to kill the animal.

This latest attack marks another concerning incident in the Santa Monica Mountains region, where

SEE **LION** PAGE 11

# Young girl survives mountain lion | Council agenda features housing incentives and parking rate increases

**MATTHEW HALL** 

Daily Press Editor

The Santa Monica City Council will consider several items at its Tuesday meeting including an emergency security contract for Santa Monica Airport, several housing incentives and a proposal to increase parking rates.

On the consent calendar Tuesday lawmakers will vote on ratifying a \$50,000 emergency purchase order

with Premier Security Services Inc. to maintain the airport's Security Access Control System after the previous contractor unexpectedly ceased operations May 5 without notice to the city.

Airport staff discovered the service disruption May 14, leaving a pedestrian airfield access point exposed and creating what officials called "an urgent safety concern." The system monitors and controls access to the airfield around the

The council will also consider authorizing an exclusive negotiating agreement with Los Angeles River Revitalization Corporation to explore licensing approximately 276,000 square feet of Santa Monica State Beach south of the pier for "The LA Experience," an interactive history museum planned for May through September 2028.

The proposed pop-up would three themed zones

SEE COUNCIL PAGE 4

in front of the westside community!



Contact dina@smdp.com (310) 573-8342





# Free Al training comes to California colleges — but at what cost?

As artificial intelligence replaces entrylevel jobs, California's universities and community colleges are offering a glimmer of hope for students: free AI training that will teach them to master the new technology.

"You're seeing in certain coding spaces significant declines in hiring for obvious reasons," Gov. Gavin Newsom said Thursday during a press conference from the seventh floor of Google's San Francisco office.

Flanked by leadership from California's higher education systems, he called attention to the recent layoffs at Microsoft, at Google's parent company, Alphabet, and at Salesforce Tower, just a few blocks away, home to the tech company that is still the city's largest private employer.

Now, some of those companies — including Google and Microsoft — will offer a suite of AI resources for free to California schools and universities. In return, the companies could gain access to millions of new users.

The state's community colleges and its California State University campuses are "the backbone of our workforce and economic development," Newsom said, just before education leaders and tech executives signed agreements on AI.

The new deals are the latest developments in a frenzy that began in November 2022, when OpenAI publicly released the free artificial intelligence tool ChatGPT, forcing schools to adapt.

The Los Angeles Unified School District implemented an AI chatbot last year, only to cancel it three months later without disclosing why. San Diego Unified teachers started using AI software that suggested what grades to give students, CalMatters reported. Some of the district's board members were unaware that the district had purchased the software.

Last month, the company that oversees Canvas, a learning management system popular in California schools and universities, said it would add "interactive conversations in a ChatGPT-like environment" into its software.

To combat potential AI-related cheating, many K-12 and college districts are using a new feature from the software company Turnitin to detect plagiarism, but a CalMatters investigation found that the software accused students who did real work instead.

#### **MIXED SIGNALS?**

These deals are sending mixed signals, said Stephanie Goldman, the president of the Faculty Association of California Community Colleges. "Districts were already spending lots of money on AI detection software. What

SEE AI PAGE 8



Photo by Lauren Justice for CalMatters

**CLASS:** Students work in the library at San Bernadino Valley College on May 30, 2023. Recent budget cut revisions cut money that community colleges had put towards building maintenance, renewable energy, and more.



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#### **GUEST COMMENTARY**

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

# Ramping up RV enforcement only makes it harder to house California's homeless

As the cruelty of the second Trump administration continues to come to bear, the recent executive order directing states to states to criminalize unhoused people and institutionalize those with mental health disabilities creates an interesting dilemma for Sacramento politicians.

Over the past few months, legislators have been pushing Assembly Bill 630, legislation that would facilitate the towing, dismantling and essentially the destruction of many RVs statewide under the guise of health and safety. If passed, the state would allow cities to destroy the last lifelines for Californians already pushed out of their homes by skyrocketing rents — and force them into the harsh, punitive systems now championed by the White House.

Lawmakers should choose compassion and reject AB 630.

This issue is deeply personal for me. In March of 2020, I was working two well-paying jobs in downtown San Francisco yet could only afford to rent an RV. When COVID hit, my medications were cut off. It took nearly three years to have them reinstated. Without medication or steady income for rent, I lost the RV. My dog Rex and I then endured 15 traumatizing months in a shelter, where daily harassment by staff made life unbearable.

Living there was far worse than being in an RV. After speaking out against the harassment, I was kicked out with one hour's notice, two hours before sunset, with no chance to collect my belongings. We slept on the ground that night in 40-degree weather.

After two more months in a tent, with the help of social service providers, I finally secured disability benefits and found an apartment.

Currently, cities and counties can destroy "inoperable" or "abandoned" vehicles valued at \$500 or less after towing and storing them for 30 days. This policy already puts many peoples' homes at risk because many cities declare vehicles inoperable simply if their engine won't start, or deem them abandoned even when they're inhabited. AB 630 raises that threshold to \$4,000 for RVs, dramatically increasing the number of RVs subject to summary towing, storage and destruction.

As the bill's author, Assemblymember Mark Gonzalez, acknowledges, this will affect most of the tens of thousands of RVs that are used as last-resort shelter. And yet, the bill does nothing to address houselessness itself — all it would do is strip away protections.

Proponents of this bill frame RVs as threats to health and safety, but for many Californians, RVs are their only remaining refuge. Removing these mobile homes directly threatens their personal health and safety.

Genuine public safety concerns should be addressed without destroying lastresort housing of tens of thousands of Californians. Removing and dismantling someone's RV takes away their shelter from wind, rain and the dangers of the street, as well as their ability to store water and cook food. It erodes their agency and autonomy.

Even after these actions, the same number of police officers will be tasked with moving people along — people now more desperate, having lost any semblance of home or privacy.

Living one's private life in public view is highly distressing to begin with. Given the pressures of ticketing and towing from law enforcement, the situation becomes nearly unbearable. For people with homes, basic needs — getting clean, warm, seeking solitude, accessing water, using a restroom, eating a meal, or disposing of garbage — take just moments. For the unsheltered, these tasks can each consume the whole day.

Those that would suffer the negative effects from passage of this bill are our fellow community members struggling the most. There are none more affected by public safety issues than those living them without respite.

It's far easier to elevate individuals when we don't begin by knocking them down. California's leaders should reject this inhumane bill and focus on positive, effective remedies to our housing crisis that leverage peoples' potential instead.

Sean Geary is a former unhoused man who lives in his hometown of Pacifica. In 2021, he led a class-action lawsuit against Pacifica over a local ordinance that banned people in RVs from parking on city streets. This article was originally published by CalMatters.

GET IT DAILY





### Surf report

WATER TEMP: **64.4** 

TUESDAY

SURF: 4-5ft
Chest to head

SW swell holds to keep surf fun, as S swell fades. Clean AM, drained start on low tide. Mid AM best The run continues as SW swell holds, keeping waist-high+ surf in the water for average spots as better breaks are in chest-shoulder high territory. Standouts west of Dume go head-high+. An early low tide to wait out, then light onshores for mid-morning tide push. Low-end moderate W onshores puff up for the afternoon.

WEDNESDAY

SURF: 4-5ft Chest to head

Waves taper off as SW swell eases, most size in the AM. Best winds and tide then too. Slow fading SW swell, along with a little NW windswell, is still good for waist to shoulder high surf at the better breaks in the morning. Waves gradually ease during the day. A dawn patrol low tide to wait out, then light onshores for mid-morning tide push. Mid-day high tide slows most spots, while WNW afternoon onshores are moderate



**Tuesday:** Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, cloudy through mid morning, then gradual clearing, with a high near 74.

**Tuesday Night:** Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, increasing clouds, with a low around 65.

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

**Wednesday Night:** Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, mostly cloudy, with a low around 65.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Pred icted	(ft)High/Lo
2025/08/13	Wed	12:06 AM	4.94	Н
2025/08/13	Wed	06:25 AM	0.67	L
2025/08/13	Wed	12:55 PM	5.35	Н
2025/08/13	Wed	7:15 PM	1.35	L
2025/08/14	Thu	01:04 AM	4.12	Н
2025/08/14	Thu	06:55 AM	1.32	L
2025/08/14	Thu	1:39 PM	5.49	Н
2025/08/14	Thu	8:34 PM	1.26	L
2025/08/15	Fri	02:26 AM	3.34	Н
2025/08/15	Fri	07:28 AM	1.98	L
2025/08/15	Fri	2:33 PM	5.57	Н
2025/08/15	Fri	10:18 PM	0.99	L
2025/08/16	Sat	04:42 AM	2.94	Н
2025/08/16	Sat	08:11 AM	2.58	L
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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



Draw Date: 8/9
7 14 23 24 60
Power#: 14
Jackpot: 501 M



Draw Date: 8/10 2 6 19 30 37 Draw Date: 8/10

EVENING: 4 8 8

Draw Date: 8/10 MIDDAY: 2 7 8



Draw Date: 8/8 2 6 8 14 49 Mega#: 12 Jackpot: 182 M

3 10 14 17 43





Draw Date: 8/10 1st: 09 - Winning Sp 2nd: 03 - Hot Shot 3rd: 07 - Eureka Race Time: 1:47.70

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Santa Monica Daily Press

#### COUNCIL

FROM PAGE 1

highlighting Los Angeles history and cinema, the region's musical influence, and the city's Olympic and sports legacy. River LA would pay \$20,000 to cover the city's negotiation costs, with no city subsidies required for the project.

Staff said the attraction could "enhance the City's profile, support tourism activity, and generate meaningful economic opportunities for local businesses" during the Olympic Games. Any final agreement would return to the council for approval.

In other business, the council will consider adopting an emergency ordinance amending prohibited items at public assemblies. The measure addresses items that have been "misused during public demonstrations" based on observations from recent events in downtown Los Angeles.

The ordinance includes a provision about bicycle helmets that has drawn council attention. Staff noted Santa Monica's commitment to promoting bicycle use conflicts with helmet restrictions, since residents may bike to events and carry helmets with them.

Finally, the council will consider directing the Planning Commission to review zoning changes related to small lot subdivisions and duplex projects. The amendments would implement recent state legislation including Senate Bill 1123, which allows properties zoned for single-family homes to be subdivided into up to 10 parcels.

The consent calendar items are typically approved without discussion unless a council member requests separate consideration.

The Santa Monica City Council will consider two significant policy changes at the meeting that could reshape the city's approach to affordable housing development and parking revenue.

Council members will review a pilot program designed to jump-start construction of thousands of approved but unbuilt housing units, alongside proposed parking rate increases that could generate up to \$8.9 million in additional annual revenue.

The council will consider adopting an emergency ordinance establishing a pilot program to provide flexibility for developers struggling to begin construction on previously approved projects. An estimated 3,598 marketrate units and 642 affordable units across 37 projects have received approval but remain unbuilt due to financial challenges including elevated interest rates and construction costs.

The pilot program would offer three

options for developers to meet affordable housing requirements:

- Constructing affordable units off-site with developer-provided land and \$150,000 per unit in gap financing
- Substantially rehabilitating existing uninhabitable units
- Paying in-lieu fees of \$43.91 per square foot for apartments and \$51.30 per square foot for condominiums

Projects would be eligible for local density bonuses equivalent to state incentives, even without providing on-site affordable units. Under the first option, developers would have up to five years after receiving building permits to complete affordable housing construction.

The program targets projects that received final approval by Aug. 12, 2025, but have not yet obtained building permits or begun construction.

The council will also review comprehensive parking rate changes affecting the city's 42 parking facilities and 5,800 metered spaces, which generate \$51.4 million annually — roughly 6.3% of total city revenue.

Key proposed changes include:

- Beach parking increases from \$10-15 to
   \$12-20 for daily rates during peak season
- Downtown structure parking elimination of the 90-minute free period, replaced with \$2 weekday and \$3 weekend rates for the first three hours
- Main Street lots increasing from \$1.25 to \$1.50-2.50 per hour depending on season and day
- Disabled placard holders paying 50% of posted rates at surface lots, compared to current free parking

current free parking
Staff projects the changes could increase parking revenue by 16-17%, or \$8.2-8.9 million annually.

The parking changes require California Coastal Commission approval, as most city parking lies within the coastal zone. Staff estimates the approval process could take up to a year, with implementation potentially beginning in October 2026.

Both proposals aim to address ongoing economic challenges. The housing pilot responds to a construction slowdown that saw only two multifamily building permits issued in 2025. The parking restructuring reflects seven years of largely unchanged rates despite a 25% increase in the Consumer Price Index.

The meeting begins at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday at City Hall, 1685 Main St.

editor@smdp.com

# Trial to start on whether deployment of National Guard to Los Angeles violated federal law

A federal judge will hear arguments on whether the Trump administration violated federal law when it deployed National Guard soldiers and U.S. Marines to Los Angeles following June protests over immigration raids.

President Donald Trump's administration federalized California National Guard members and sent them to the second-largest U.S. city over the objections of Democratic Gov. Gavin Newsom and city leaders, after protests erupted June 7 when Immigration and Customs Enforcement officers arrested people at multiple locations.

California is asking Judge Charles Breyer in San Francisco to order the Trump administration to return control of the remaining troops to the state and to stop the federal government from using military troops in California "to execute or assist in the execution of federal law or any civilian law enforcement functions by any federal agent or officer."

The 1878 Posse Comitatus Act prevents the president from using the military as a domestic police force. The case could set precedent for how Trump can deploy the guard in the future in California or other states

On Monday, Trump said he was deploying the National Guard across Washington, D.C., and taking over the city's police department in the hopes of reducing crime, even as the mayor has noted that crime is falling in the nation's capital.

In June, the Department of Defense ordered the deployment of roughly 4,000 California National Guard troops and 700 Marines to Los Angeles. Most of the troops have since left but 250 National Guard members remain, according to the latest figures provided by the Pentagon. The remaining troops are at the Joint Forces Training Base, in Los Alamitos, according to Newsom.

Newsom won an early victory from Breyer, who found the Trump administration violated the Constitution's 10th Amendment, which defines power between federal and state governments, and exceeded its authority.

The Trump administration immediately appealed, arguing that courts can't second guess the president's decisions and secured a temporary halt allowing control of the California National Guard to stay in federal hands as the lawsuit unfolds.

After their deployment, the guard members accompanied federal immigration officers on raids in Los Angeles and at two marijuana farm sites in Ventura County while Marines mostly stood guard around a federal building in downtown Los Angeles that includes a detention center at the core of protests.

The Trump administration argued the troops were needed to protect federal buildings and personnel in Los Angeles, which has been a key location in the federal government's aggressive immigration strategy.

Since June, federal agents have rounded up immigrants without legal status to be in the U.S. from Home Depots, car washes, bus stops, and farms. Some U.S. citizens have also been detained.

Ernesto Santacruz Jr., the field office director for the Department of Homeland Security in Los Angeles, said in court documents that the troops were needed because local law enforcement was slow to respond when a crowd gathered outside the federal building to protest the June 7 immigration arrests.

The presence of the National Guard and Marines has played an essential role in protecting federal property and personnel from the violent mobs

- Ernesto Santacruz Jr.

"The presence of the National Guard and Marines has played an essential role in protecting federal property and personnel from the violent mobs," Santacruz said.

After opposition from the Trump administration, Breyer issued an order allowing California's attorneys to take Santacruz's deposition. They also took a declaration from a military official on the troops' role in Los Angeles.

The Trump administration's attorneys argued in court filings last week that the case should be canceled. They argued that the president has the authority to call on the National Guard to enforce U.S. laws when federal law enforcement isn't enough.

Trump federalized members of the California National Guard under Section 12406 of Title 10, which allows the president to call the National Guard into federal service when the country "is invaded," when "there is a rebellion or danger of a rebellion against the authority of the Government," or when the president is otherwise unable "to execute the laws of the United States."

Breyer found the protests in Los Angeles "fall far short of 'rebellion."

"Next week's trial is not cancelled," he said in a ruling ordering the three-day bench trial

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By JANIE HAR and OLGA R. RODRIGUEZ Associated Press

# as Gavin Newsom urges president to give up

Texas Republicans were unable again Monday to approve new congressional districts to meet President Donald Trump's demands as California Gov. Gavin Newsom and other Democrats urged Republicans to stand down and avoid a partisan brawl spanning multiple

Texas Democratic lawmakers remained outside of Texas after leaving the state to deny their GOP colleagues the quorum necessary to vote on Trump's aggressive redistricting play and push the stalemate into its second week. The president's agenda also spurred Democratic governors, including Newsom, to pledge retaliatory redistricting efforts in their states — setting up the possibility of an extended standoff that could upend the 2026 midterm elections.

Newsom urged Trump in a letter Monday to abandon his scheme, telling the president he is "playing with fire" and "risking the destabilization of our democracy."

At the Texas Capitol, House Speaker Dustin Burrows adjourned another attempted session within minutes of its early afternoon opening. He used the brief gathering to chastise dozens of Democrats who have civil warrants out for their arrest. Because they are out of state, those lawmakers are beyond the reach of state authorities.

Burrows said Texas law enforcement agencies have been to the residences of the absent legislators, "conducting surveillance, knocking on doors" and calling their cellphones trying to bring them to the statehouse.

The search continues, and it will not stop," the speaker said. Later he added, "Eventually you will be here."

#### JUST A FEW SEATS COULD DETERMINE CON-**TROL OF CONGRESS**

Burrows' GOP House majority wants to redraw districts so that five more Republicans can be elected. Trump, who has said the GOP is "entitled" to the seats, is pushing other Republican-controlled legislatures to follow suit as he tries to avoid a repeat of the 2018 midterms. Those elections during Trump's first presidency yielded a new Democratic majority in the U.S. House that stymied his agenda and twice impeached him. Existing maps nationally put Democrats within three seats of a House majority at a time when there are only several dozen competitive districts out of 435.

"Stealing congressional districts — mid-

decade — is wrong," Texas Rep. Trey Martinez Fischer, one of the lawmakers who left the state, said Monday. "It's just nothing other than old-school cheating."

Texas Democrats intend to run out the clock on their current special session, which cannot extend beyond Aug. 19. But Gov. Greg Abbott said he'll call lawmakers back to the Statehouse again and again until enough Democrats show up to reach the attendance threshold required to vote on the bill.

Responding to Texas, Newsom and other California Democrats are considering new boundaries to yield a five-seat shift toward Democrats, neutralizing any Texas change. That would require, however, getting California voters to set aside existing maps drawn by an independent commission. New York Gov. Kathy Hochul and Illinois Gov. JB Pritzker have promised similar efforts in their Democratic-run statehouses.

In his letter to Trump, Newsom said he prefers that independent bodies draw political districts rather than partisan legislatures, as is done in Texas and most GOP-controlled states. But, Newsom wrote, "California cannot stand idly by as this power grab unfolds.'

If Texas and "the other states call off their redistricting efforts," the governor added, "we will happily do the same. And American democracy will be better for it."

#### IN AUSTIN AND AROUND THE COUNTRY, **TEXAS OFFICIALS DIG IN**

The absent Texas lawmakers are staying in Illinois, New York and elsewhere. They have appeared with Newsom, Pritzker and Hochul at various points and say they have no intention of returning as long as Republicans are intent on mollifying Trump.

Abbott and Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton, a U.S. Senate candidate, want state courts to remove Democratic lawmakers from office, asserting that they have abandoned their posts. Paxton has asked an Illinois court to enforce the Texas warrants issued for absent lawmakers so they could be arrested beyond Texas' borders.

State Rep. Rhetta Bowers, who's also staying in Illinois, pointed back to some white politicians' tactics during the Civil Rights Movement. She noted the proposed Texas maps would disproportionately affect districts

SEE **TRUMP** PAGE 8

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#### **COMMUNITY NEWS**

#### Santa Monica

#### Ruskin Group Theatre Presents "The Fantasticks" Through August 24

The longest-running off-Broadway musical in history comes to Santa Monica as Ruskin Group Theatre presents "The Fantasticks" through Aug. 24, 2025.

Performances run at 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, with 2 p.m. Sunday matinees. The production features moonlight, magic and timeless romance in this multi-award-winning musical with an unforgettable score.

Director Elina de Santos, the first woman to receive the Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle Award for Career Achievement in Directing, brings the story into the 21st century while preserving the original's wit, sensitivity and beauty. Her staging offers fresh insight with imaginative flair to the cherished classic about young love, growing pains and life's bittersweet beauty.

The cast features Rhett Hemingway as Matt and Sophie Pollono as Luisa in this tale that explores how love changes and deepens as lovers mature.

Stage and Cinema praised the production, calling it rare to see something so familiar feel fresh. The review highlighted Pollono's performance, describing her as "absolutely ready for the Great White Way" and noting her "sweet and unforced" soprano voice.

As Luisa, she's vulnerable, sassy, and overflowing with more love than a Hallmark factory

- Stage and Cinema

"As Luisa, she's vulnerable, sassy, and overflowing with more love than a Hallmark factory," the review stated, adding that no microphones are used in the intimate space.

Pollono can also be heard on the newly released studio cast album of "Jo – The Little Women Musical," where she performs alongside Laura Benanti and Christine Ebersole as Amy March. A West End production of that musical is reportedly in development.

The production reminds audiences why some plays remain eternally relevant and deeply moving, with modern Los Angeles audiences being reintroduced to this beautiful musical that proves the smallest stories can leave the biggest impressions.

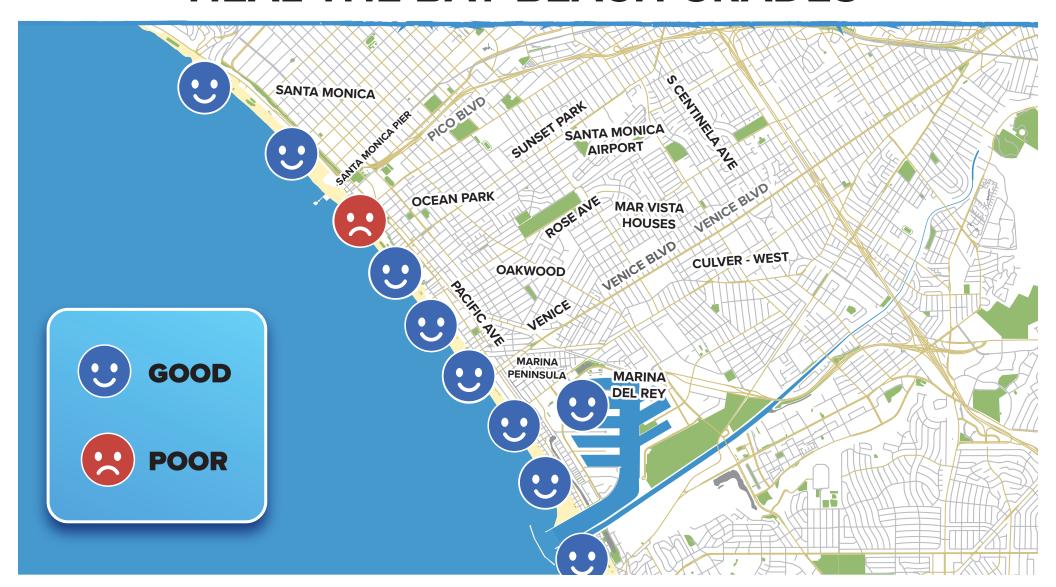
The intimate staging allows audiences to experience the full impact of the performers' voices and the story's emotional depth without amplification. Visit https://www.ruskingrouptheatre.com for more information.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF



Andy DePung **THE FANTASTICKS:** The show features Raven Scott as The Mute and Michael D. Cohen as Bellomy.

## **HEAL THE BAY BEACH GRADES**



#### **COMMUNITY NEWS**

#### The Reach

#### **LACoFD Launches Free Beach Safety Program for Ocean Education**

The Los Angeles County Fire Department Lifeguard Division will host the first of four Beach Safety Day events Saturday, offering hands-on ocean safety training to community members ages 9 and older.

The free program runs from 7:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. at the Annenberg Community Beach House, 415 Pacific Coast Highway, Santa Monica. Additional sessions are scheduled for Aug. 23 at the same location, followed by Sept. 6 and Sept. 13 at the Dockweiler Youth Center.

The lifeguard-led events focus on essential ocean safety skills, including navigating different ocean conditions, water safety instruction and drowning prevention education. Participants will experience interactive demonstrations of lifesaving techniques while learning about environmental awareness and sustainability.

"Beach Safety Days are dedicated to promoting water safety, environmental stewardship, and ocean awareness," according to program materials. The initiative aims to strengthen connections between the community and ocean safety professionals while empowering both seasoned beachgoers and first-time ocean visitors.

The program includes instruction on basic first aid and rescue board techniques, teaching participants how to swim around a buoy with confidence. Attendees will also learn about career opportunities as Los Angeles County lifeguards and other programs provided by the Lifeguard Division.

Participants should bring comfortable swimwear, extra clothes or a sweatshirt, sunscreen, towel, water and snacks. Officials recommend having dry, warm clothes available due to unpredictable weather conditions.

The events welcome individuals and families seeking valuable resources to ensure safe and enjoyable beach experiences. The program supports the LACoFD's broader mission of water safety education and community outreach.

Registration and additional information about the 2025 Beach Safety Days are available at https://fire. lacounty.gov/beachsafetydays. The initiative represents part of ongoing efforts to reduce water-related accidents and promote ocean literacy throughout Los Angeles County's coastal communities.

Community members may attend one or all four sessions throughout the program's duration.

**EDITED BY SMDP STAFF** 





Courtesy photo LOS ANGELES COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT: The free program runs from 7:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. at the Annenberg Community Beach House, 415 Pacific Coast Highway, Santa Monica.

FIX YOUR CREDIT

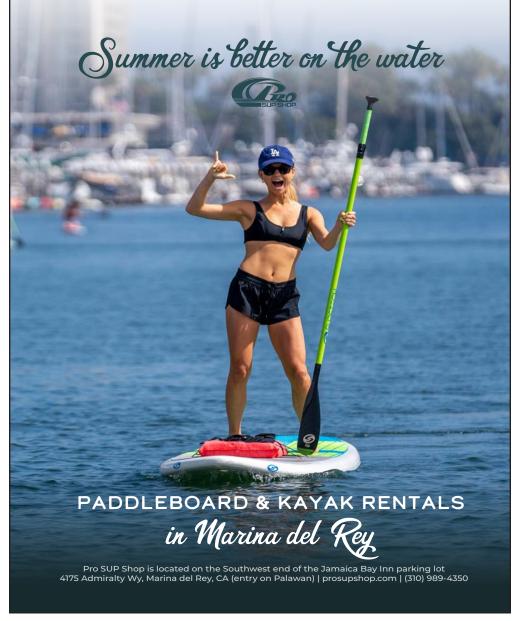
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## Santa Monica Daily Press

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Lost and Found
Personals
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Obituaries

#### NR/

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: ORIGINAL FILING This Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 07/9/25 2025141884The following person(s) is (are) doing business SG & Co 736 Muskingum Ave Pacific Palisades, CA 90272 . Los AngelesArticles of Incorporation or Organization Number (if applicable): Ai #ON. The full name of the registrant(s) is/are Sarah Gibbsons Co Inc 736 Muskingum Ave Pacific Palisades, CA 90272 If corporation or LLC- Print State of CA This is Business is Conducted: A Corporation The date registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 07/2025. Registrant / Corp/LLC Sarah Gibbsons Co Inc Title: 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).

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 06/17/25 2025123The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Russon & Johnston CPAS 5126 Clareton Drive Suite 110 Aguora Hills, CA 91301 . Los AngelesArticles of Incorporation or Organization Number (if applicable): Ai #ON. The full name of the registrant(s) is/ are 1. John Russon 5126 Clareton Drive Suite 110 Aguora Hills, CA 91301 2, Nathan Johnstpn 5126 Clareton Drive Suite 110 Aguora Hills, CA 91301 If corporation or LLC- Print State of CA This is Business is Conducted: A Limited Liability Partnership The date registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 01/25. Registrant /Corp/LLC Nathan Johnston Title: General Partner Nathan . This statement was filed Johnston with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 06/17/2025NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE County

#### NRΔ

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).

#### Name Change

Order Show to show cause for Name Change Case No.25NCWP00347 Superior Court of California, County of Los AngelesPetition of Basil Maall Calderon Olivia for Change of Name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner or Attorney:Basil Maall Calderon Olivia court for a decree of changing names as follows: Basil Maall Calderon Olivia to Basil Maall Benatar OliviaThe court orders that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Notice of Hearing: Date 9/12/2025 Time: 8:30 a.m, Dept: L Room: 506 The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA -COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES Courthouse 1270 Norwalk Blvd Norwalk, CA90650 . 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 neral circulation, printed in this county Santa Monica Daily Press

Order Show to show cause for Name Change Case No. 25STCP02782 Superior Court of California, County of Los AngelesPetition of GEUNSU LEE, HYE YOUNG CHO for Change of Name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS Petitioner or Attorney: GEUNSU LEE, HYE YOUNG CHO with this court for a decree of changing names as follows: Eunsun Lee to Ella Choeunsun Lee . The court orders that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Notice of Hearing: Date 09/12/2025 Time: 8:30 a.m, Dept: K Room: \_ The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA - COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES Santa Monica Courthouse 1725 Main St, Santa Monica, CA 90401 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

#### Name Change

Order Show to show cause for Name Change Case No.25NNCP00538 Superior Court of California, County of Los AngelesPetition of Julia Carol Hill for Change of Name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner or Attorney;Julia Carol Hill court for a decree of changing names as follows: Julia Carol Hill to Julia Long The court orders that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Notice of Hearing: Date 9/19/2025 Time: 8:30 a.m., Dept: V Room:

The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA – COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES Alhambra Courthouse 150 W Commonwealth Ave Alhambra, CA 91801. 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 Manica Daily Proces

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#### ΑI

FROM PAGE 2

do you do when it's built into the software they're using?"

Don Daves-Rougeaux, a senior adviser for the community college system, acknowledged the potential contradiction but said it's part of a broader effort to keep up with the rapid pace of changes in AI. He said the community college system will frequently reevaluate the use of Turnitin along with all other AI tools.

California's community college system is responsible for the bulk of job training in the state, though it receives the least funding from the state per student.

"Oftentimes when we are having these conversations, we are looked at as a smaller system," said Daves-Rougeaux. The state's 116 community colleges collectively educate roughly 2.1 million students.

In the deals announced Thursday, the community college system will partner with Google, Microsoft, Adobe and IBM to roll out additional AI training for teachers. Daves-Rougeaux said the system has also signed deals that will allow students to use exclusive versions of Google's counterpart to ChatGPT, Gemini, and Google's AI research tool, Notebook LLM. Daves-Rougeaux said these tools will save community colleges "hundreds of millions of dollars," though he could not provide an exact figure.

"It's a tough situation for faculty," said Goldman. "AI is super important but it has come up time and time again: How do you use AI in the classroom while still ensuring that students, who are still developing critical thinking skills, aren't just using it as a crutch?"

One concern is that faculty could lose control over how AI is used in their classrooms, she added.

The K-12 system and Cal State University system are forming their own tech deals. Amy Bentley-Smith, a spokesperson for the Cal State system, said it is working on its own AI programs with Google, Microsoft, Adobe and IBM as well as Amazon Web Services, Intel, LinkedIn, Open AI and others.

Angela Musallam, a spokesperson for the state government operations agency, said California high schools are part of the deal with Adobe, which aims to promote "AI

literacy," the idea that students and teachers should have basic skills to detect and use artificial intelligence.

Much like the community college system, which is governed by local districts, Musallam said individual K-12 districts would need to approve any deal.

#### WILL DEALS MAKE A DIFFERENCE TO STU-DENTS, TEACHERS?

Experts say it's too early to tell how effective AI training will actually be.

Justin Reich, an associate professor at MIT, said a similar frenzy took place 20 years ago when teachers tried to teach computer literacy. "We do not know what AI literacy is, how to use it, and how to teach with it. And we probably won't for many years," Reich said

The state's new deals with Google, Microsoft, Adobe and IBM allow these tech companies to recruit new users — a benefit for the companies — but the actual lessons aren't time-tested, he said.

"Tech companies say: 'These tools can save teachers time,' but the track record is really bad," said Reich. "You cannot ask schools to do more right now. They are maxed out."

Erin Mote, the CEO of an education nonprofit called InnovateEDU, said she agrees that state and education leaders need to ask critical questions about the efficacy of the tools that tech companies offer but that schools still have an imperative to act.

"There are a lot of rungs on the career ladder that are disappearing," she said. "The biggest mistake we could make as educators is to wait and pause."

Last year, the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office signed an agreement with NVIDIA, a technology infrastructure company, to offer AI training similar to the kinds of lessons that Google, Microsoft, Adobe and IBM will deliver.

Melissa Villarin, a spokesperson for the chancellor's office, said the state won't share data about how the NVIDIA program is going because the cohort of teachers involved is still too small

By Adam Echelman. This article was originally published by CalMatters.

#### **TRUMP**

FROM PAGE !

represented by Black and Latino Democrats, and she raised concerns about Abbott and Paxton's use of law enforcement and the justice system against their political opponents.

Those are "the very same tactics used against Black and brown Americans" who pushed for passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, she said.

"Their fight is our fight, and just like the Civil Rights heroes of the past, no matter the cost we are prepared to see it through to the end," Bowers said.

At the very least, the Democrats face \$500 fines for each daily absence under legislative rules.

Ramón Romero, Jr., one of the Democrats staying outside Chicago, confirmed Monday that he and his colleagues have consulted with attorneys. "They know where we are," Romero said. "We feel very safe here in the state of Illinois."

Democrats urged Abbott to focus on flood response and he declined

In Austin, Rep. Joe Moody was one of just nine Democratic lawmakers present in the House chamber on Monday. He expressed solidarity with colleagues he said "are doing something that is absolutely within their right" as members.

"The idea that quorum can be broken is enshrined in the Texas Constitution. So are the efforts to compel them" to return, Moody said.

From his speaker's chair, Burrows never mentioned the redistricting legislation, instead highlighting that the special session also includes several disaster response measures after catastrophic floods in July killed at least 135 people in the state. He said those bills are set for action on the floor Tuesday morning.

"The only thing standing between Texas and real disaster relief is whether our absent colleagues decide to show up tomorrow," Burrows said.

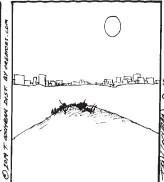
Abbott last month added the redistricting proposal to a lengthy agenda he gave to lawmakers in ordering them back to the Texas Capitol for the special session. Texas Democrats balked and urged the governor and legislative leaders to prioritize the flood response over Trump's agenda.

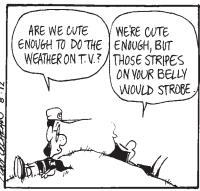
By BILL BARROW, NADIA LATHAN and SOPHIA TAREEN Associated Press. Barrow reported from Atlanta. Tareen reported from Chicago.

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

#### **Agnes**







#### **Dogs of C-Kennel**

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



#### **Zack Hill**

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



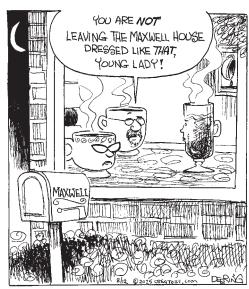
#### Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER

**Strange Brew** 

By JOHN DEERING





# FIND THE WORDS

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

© australianwordgames.com.au 6665

#### Well documented

Α	С	S	С	Ε	N	Ε	R	Υ	Α	Ε	Α	G	Ε	R
0	J	M	L	Ι	F	N	Ε	D	0	M	R	U	L	В
V	P	P	Ε	Т	S	0	C	Α	Т	S	Ν	Α	P	S
Ε	Ε	M	D	Ε	Р	Т	Н	0	F	F	1	Ε	L	D
R	G	Α	Υ	Ε	J	0	Υ	F	U	L	Α	M	Р	F
Ε	Ε	U	S	L	K	R	Α	G	-1	S	Н	0	Т	S
X	R	R	N	Р	L	Α	Ν	G	L	Ε	-	Υ	L	L
Р	Z	Ε	Ε	-	Ε	-	Н	0	M	Ε	Ν	Ν	Ε	Н
0	Α	0	Н	Т	Т	С	S	S	D	-1	K	Ν	X	C
S	M	R	0	Т	S	F	Т	Т	-1	R	S	Α	1	Α
U	Α	Υ	Ε	M	0	-	0	R	Ν	Т	Α	Ν	Р	Ε
R	Т	S	U	C	F	R	S	0	Α	-1	Ν	C	0	В
Ε	Ε	R	U	F	Р	0	В	Р	Υ	Т	R	Α	Р	-
С	U	S	Α	L	В	U	M	S	K	Ε	1	Р	Р	K
0	R	C	Α	M	Α	Ε	R	Ι	Α	L	Т	0	Υ	Ε

Aerial	Cats	Kids	Scenery
Albums	Cost	Lamp	Setting
Amateur	Cousin	Lens	Shots
Angle	Depth of	Macro	Silly
Anti-shake	field	Mode	Sister
Aspect	Eager	Nanny	Snaps
ratio	Film	Overexposure	Sports
Beach	Flare	Party	Storm
Bike	Focus	Pets	Tiff
Blur	Home	Pixel	Tone
Brother	Joyful	Poppy	Unit
Card	<b>JPEG</b>	Prints	Zoom

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.

They steal your heart

# Covering the city by the bay since 2001.







#### TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Aug. 12)

Your charms know no bounds this year - not smooth social tricks but benevolent wit that draws relationships, deals and general good luck your way time and again. You'll feel yourself becoming the kind of person you looked up to as a child - and yet you'll still feel like yourself, only freer. More highlights: A new relationship opens your world. Adventures unfold from a single "yes." Three causes thrive with your involvement. Scorpio and Capricorn adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 8, 14, 29, 4 and 11.



#### **O** HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You were made to feel like "too much," but your aliveness doesn't need to be reined in. Nothing you present today needs to be made digestible or prettied up. The work is good. All you need to do is believe that and give it.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). There's a lot of energy to read in a social circle. Don't worry about fitting in. Just focus on taking it all in. You'll learn more by reading the room than you will by trying to rule the room before it's your turn.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). There's transformative power in intention. When you commit to something, whether or not the outcome is as envisioned, your effort still shifts reality. The very act of setting an intention and beginning changes the landscape.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You're getting better at a craft. You're honoring a vision that's personal and somehow also universal. But mostly, you're enjoying the work itself. The work has to be the best part, or the rest won't satisfy.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Choose the option that energizes you the most - the one you want to do, even if it's not the smartest on paper. Or do the one that just gets you moving now. You can re-evaluate later. Momentum matters more than analysis.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). What does it really mean to bring yourself wholly to the moment? You're absolutely right to push on the concept. Just because you're not hyperfocused on what someone else wants from you doesn't mean you're present to what you need.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Loud thoughts, an overwhelming number of details, too much responsibility ... It could start like this, but once you choose one energizing focus - something that feels exciting, true or meaningful - all the mental noise quiets down. Next comes relief, then fast action

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You will do something good without seeking or needing credit. Of course, you could be discovered accidentally, and the prospect gives you a thrill. The interplay of humility and vanity is paradoxical.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). The right endeavor is one you feel curious about or lit up by. And if you don't believe it has value or impact, it won't last. When the task is well aligned with your values, you're willing to do it even when it's hard.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Great timing isn't about clockwork - it's about synchronicity, intuition, sensing the flow of what's happening and showing up with the right energy. Today "perfect timing" and "perfect presence" are the same thing.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Don't let the thrill of showing off an asset or accomplishment overshadow the original, deeper reason you endeavored in the first place. Public reaction feels good, but stay connected to the deeper fulfillment of knowing you've earned a level of mastery.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Today's decisions won't feel like hard work. They will feel natural - like they pull you toward them, the way gravity does. Instead of trying to figure out what's "right" with logic alone, you follow the centered feeling that comes with "right for you."

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

T	Α	М	Р	Α		Ε	L	S	Α		F	0	Α	М
S	T	Е	Α	L		М	0	0	Ν		U	C	L	Α
K	Е	T	T	L	E	C	0	R	Ν		N	E		L
				S	L	Ε	P	T		S	N	Α	K	Е
	R	Ε	C	Ε	D	E			S	С	E	N	E	S
S	Е	D	Α	T	E		S	Р	0	Ι	L			
0	М	Е	N		R	Α	T	0	N		C	Α	F	Е
M	T	N	D			F	0	R			Α	G	E	D
E	T	S	Y		P	Α	R	Е	D		K	T	W	T
			Α	L	Α	R	M		0	М	E	L	E	T
G	R	Α	P	Е	S			C	L	0	S	E	R	
R	Α	М	P	S		Ε	G	R	Е	T				
Π	D	0	L		F	R	I	E	D	0	R	Ε	0	S
L	T	N	E		Α	Τ	L	S		R	0	G	U	Е
L	0	G	S		N	E	Α	T		S	T	0	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

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

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

#### **Newsday Crossword**

#### **ACROSS**

- 1 \_\_ for (chooses)
- 5 Accept eagerly
- 10 Fruit in a "Newton" cookie
- 13 Be patient
- 14 Justice Kagan
- 15 Keogh plan alternative
- 16 Walk inside
- 17 Brother of Moses
- 18 At the present time
- 19 River through New Orleans
- 21 Liquid in a pen
- 22 Pigpen
- 23 Tap on the head
- 24 Conclusions
- 26 Work with needle and thread
- 27 Disappears suddenly
- 31 Known far and wide
- 34 Sit for a photo
- 35 Stay out of sight
- 36 French male friends
- 37 Sturdily made
- 38 Vampire novelist Rice
- 39 Any fizzy soft drink
- 40 Outdoor parking
- 41 Ballpark keyboard instrument
- 42 Hedge-reducing devices
- 44 Young dog
- 45 Edible sunflower bit
- 46 Inedible cherry bit
- 47 Mortgage agency Fannie
- 50 "A mouse!"
- 52 Finding fault with
- 56 Two less than penta-

- 57 Boat paddled on lakes
- 58 Old-style "Awesome!"
- **59** Up in the \_\_\_ (unsettled)
- 60 Film performer
- 61 Monopoly or Scrabble
- 62 Allow
- 63 Offers in a store
- 64 Lost traction, as on ice

#### **DOWN**

- 1 "Buy this today" ad phrase
- 2 Gullible person
- 3 Makes a knot in
- 4 Resembling zebras
- 5 Last but not

- 8 Still in its original
- 7 Criminal, to a cop

6 Jai \_\_ (court sport)

- packaging
- 9 Italian-style sandwich
- 10 Completing
- 11 Metal in barbells
- 12 Stare in amazement
- 16 Three letters of "minimum"
- 20 Wood-cutting tool
- 25 E flat's other name
- 26 Big Bird's street
- 27 Battery power
- measures
- 28 With no guarantee 29 Novelist Ferber or
- Buchanan
- 30 "That remains to be

- **EYES ONLY** by Sally R. Stein Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com
  - 31 Rapid
  - 32 Love: Sp.
  - 33 Knee-length woman's garment
  - 34 Of low quality
  - 37 Speed contest on snow
  - 41 Pleasure trips
  - 43 Popular tourist spots
  - **44** Photograph, for short
  - 46 Docks for ships
  - 47 Southeast Florida city
  - 48 Paid to play poker
  - 49 Swelled head
  - 50 And others: Abbr.
  - 51 Cleveland's lake
  - 53 Worldwide: Abbr.
  - 54 Hammer or chisel
  - 55 Great enthusiasm

10

13 15 14 17 18 16 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 28 30 29 32 34 36 38 37 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 48 47 49 54 52 53 50 51 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 63 62 64

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Hard and Sunday puzzles at: tinyurl.com/stan-newman-crosswords

#### **COMMUNITY NEWS**

#### Los Angeles

#### Los Angeles County Marks 50 Years of Multilingual Voting Access

Los Angeles County celebrated the 50th anniversary of federal legislation requiring translated election materials and language assistance for voters during a special event at the Japanese American Cultural and Community Center.

The county's Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk Dean C. Logan announced the milestone commemoration of Section 203 of the Voting Rights Act, which was signed into law by President Gerald R. Ford on Aug. 6, 1975. The provision built upon the original Voting Rights Act signed by President Lyndon B. Johnson on Aug. 6, 1965.

Los Angeles County leads the nation in language accessibility, providing election materials in English and 18 additional languages — more than any other jurisdiction in the United States.

The celebration, titled "We Speak Your Language: 50 Years of Language Access and Empowerment," honored community-based organizations and advocates who have worked to advance language access and voter empowerment throughout the county.

"Language access is fundamental to fair and inclusive elections," Logan said. "For 50 years, Section 203 has opened the door for many voters. Here in L.A. County, we've built on that foundation — working closely with local partners to ensure that every eligible voter, in every community, has the opportunity to cast their ballot with confidence and in the language they understand."

Los Angeles County Board Chair Pro Tem and First District Supervisor Hilda L. Solis emphasized the legislation's historical significance.

"The Voting Rights Act of 1965, with its amendment to Section 203 in 1975, stands as one of the most transformative pieces of legislation in American history, outlawing racial discrimination and giving millions of Americans, long excluded from full participation in our democracy," Solis said.

The county continues its commitment to multilingual voting access through collaboration with community organizations via the Language Accessibility Advisory Committee, which works to advance equitable voting access across Los Angeles County.

Senior Deputy Kathay Feng highlighted the importance of linguistic diversity in elections.

"For 50 years, the Voting Rights Act has protected language access — it's time to celebrate linguistic diversity as our superpower," Feng said. "We're showing that election offices can meet voters where they are and build a democracy that hears all voices — in the languages of our communities."

Voters can request translated election materials by contacting the county's Bilingual Assistance Hotline at (800) 815-2666, option 3. More information about voting in languages other than English is available at LAVOTE.gov.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF

#### LION

FROM PAGE 1

mountain lions and humans increasingly share space along the urban-wildland interface.

This weekend's Malibu attack follows a pattern of mountain lion encounters with young children in the greater Los Angeles area. In September 2024, a mountain lion attacked a 5-year-old boy during a family picnic at Malibu Creek State Park in broad daylight. The lion grabbed the child by the head and began dragging him away before family members and nearby adults charged at the cougar, yelling until it dropped the boy and climbed a tree. Park rangers later euthanized the one-year-old female lion, which was found to be underweight and possibly inexperienced or desperate.

In August 2021 in Calabasas, a 65-pound mountain lion attacked a 5-year-old boy playing in his front yard. The lion dragged the child about 45 yards across the lawn, inflicting wounds to his head and upper body, before the boy's mother fought off the animal with her bare hands. Wildlife officers found the lion behaving aggressively nearby and shot it on sight.

Despite the recent incidents, mountain lion attacks on humans remain extremely rare, with only roughly two dozen verified attacks in California over the past 40 years and just a handful of fatalities statewide since 1986.

The Santa Monica Mountains host a small but resilient population of mountain lions that face significant survival challenges. Biologists estimate only 10-15 adult and subadult mountain lions live in the range at any given time, making each animal critical to the population's survival.

Since 2002, the National Park Service has monitored over 100 mountain lions in and around the Santa Monica range using GPS collars, providing detailed insights into their behavior and population dynamics. The research reveals a population under severe stress from habitat fragmentation and human-related dangers.

The Santa Monica Mountains effectively function as a "habitat island," surrounded by the Pacific Ocean to the south and hemmed in by major highways—the 101 to the north and the 405 to the east—along with dense urban development. This isolation has created the lowest genetic diversity observed in western mountain lions, comparable only to the critically inbred Florida panthers of the 1990s.

Human-caused deaths pose the greatest threat to these lions. At least 32 cougars have been killed by vehicles in the study area since 2002, making car strikes a leading cause of mortality. Rodenticide poisoning presents another major danger—28 of 29 local lions tested had anticoagulant rat poisons in their systems, with seven dying directly from internal bleeding caused by these toxins.

Conservation efforts are underway to address the population's isolation. The groundbreaking Wallis Annenberg Wildlife Crossing is under construction at Liberty Canyon over the 101 Freeway, slated to open by late 2025. This vegetated bridge will allow mountain lions and other wildlife to safely cross between the Santa Monica Mountains and wilderness areas to the north, potentially boosting genetic diversity and reducing roadkill deaths.

editor@smdp.com



#### 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/walkingmeditation/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-openmic/16004734/2025-08-05T22

#### **WEDNESDAY | AUGUST 13**

## DOWNTOWN FARMERS MARKET - WEDNESDAY MARKET

8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Downtown Santa Monica Arizona Avenue (Between 4th & Ocean) Santa Monica. One of the largest grower-only Certified Farmers Market in Southern California and a favorite for local chefs! Enjoy one of Santa Monica's farmers markets, widely considered to be among the best on the west coast and featuring field-fresh produce, hundreds of kinds of vegetables, brilliant cut flowers, breads, cheeses, and more. Downtown Farmers Market Locations: Wednesdays at Arizona Ave & 2nd St and Saturdays at Arizona & 3rd St. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/downtown-farmers-market-wednesday-market/12382446/2025-08-13T08

#### 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/originalunderstudies/15018109/2025-08-13T20

To learn how to feature your upcoming event on the SMDP and various digital event calendars

Contact dina@smdp.com today!



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