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2 **LA County**
Releases Animated Film.

3 **Scholarships**
For 15 Women.

4 **ICE**
Recruit at a California University.

5 **Candidates**
Bowing Out of Race.

smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press

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The Colorado River is in trouble. Some groups want the government to step up

Earlier this year, several environmental groups sent a petition to the federal government with a seemingly simple message: Ensure that water from the imperiled Colorado River is not wasted and only being delivered for "reasonable" and "beneficial" uses.

The organizations urged the Bureau of Reclamation to use its authority to curb water waste in the Lower Basin states: California, Arizona and Nevada. They argued it was necessary to help address the river's water shortages.

The concept of reasonable and beneficial use is not new, but it's being discussed at a crucial moment. Chronic overuse, drought and rising temperatures linked to climate change have shrunk water flows. States reliant on the river are approaching a 2026 deadline to decide on new rules for sharing its supplies, and they have until mid-November to reach a preliminary agreement or risk federal intervention.

The petitioning groups argue reducing water waste could help ensure the river has a sustainable future. But others worry cuts could bring hardship to farmers and consumers.

SEE **COLORADO RIVER** PAGE 15

Raising Cane's chicken restaurant will open on the Promenade



Matthew Hall

CHICKEN: The popular chain will take up three storefronts in Downtown Santa Monica.

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

Louisiana-based chicken chain Raising Cane's will open its first Santa Monica location on the Third Street Promenade as the company continues its aggressive California expansion and the city continues to relax restrictions on chain restaurants in its flagship retail district.

The new restaurant will be part of Raising Cane's broader push across the Golden State, where the company now operates roughly 117 locations — the second-highest state total behind Texas. The chain has been rapidly expanding its

SEE **CHICKEN** PAGE 12

Police Union thanks departing Chief while supporting City Manager and Interim Chief

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

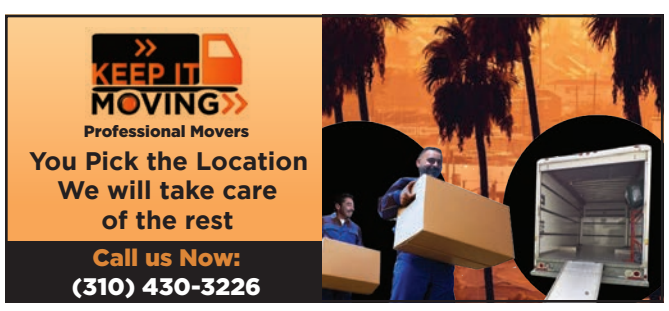
The Santa Monica Police Officers' Association expressed gratitude and disappointment this week following the resignation of Police Chief Ramon Batista, praising his collaborative approach and significant contributions to the department over the past four years.

"Over the past 4 years, the SMPOA developed a professional working relationship with Chief Batista," the union stated in a release. "Labor and management do not always view issues through the same lens, but Chief Batista was open to listening, understanding, and finding solutions that worked."

The police union highlighted Batista's substantial impact during his tenure, particularly noting his success in increasing police officer staffing levels, focusing on officer wellness, and building for the future with the coming SMART Center. The association wished Batista "the best of luck as he transitions from SMPD into new roles" while pledging continued support for the department during the transition.

Batista announced his resignation Friday after nearly four years leading the department,

SEE **POLICE** PAGE 6



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LA County releases animated film highlighting g school policing impact on student

MAAZ ALIN
SMDP Staff Writer

The Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations has released an animated short film documenting how school policing affected a Black student, as part of ongoing efforts to address racial disparities in school discipline.

The four-minute film, titled "Echoes of a System," features real-life testimony from a student and family impacted by school policing practices. The animated format allows viewers to follow the student's progression through the Antelope Valley School System, with a parent providing narration throughout.

"This film gives the public a rare and intimate look at how school policing can shape a young person's daily reality," said Robin Toma, executive director of the commission. "By sharing this story, we aim to spark honest conversations about safety, dignity, and how schools can best serve every student."

The film draws from the commission's School Safety Narrative Collection Initiative, launched in 2023 following reports that revealed significant racial disparities in school policing in the Antelope Valley region.

According to a report by the LA County Office of the Inspector General, Black students comprised just 17.8% of district enrollment but accounted for 67.3% of school-based arrests. A separate study by Neighborhood Legal Services of Los Angeles County and Cal State Northridge found that Black residents were disproportionately stopped, searched and detained throughout the region.

Paul Smith, senior human relations consultant for the commission's Transformative Justice Program, said the film serves as a catalyst for policy changes.

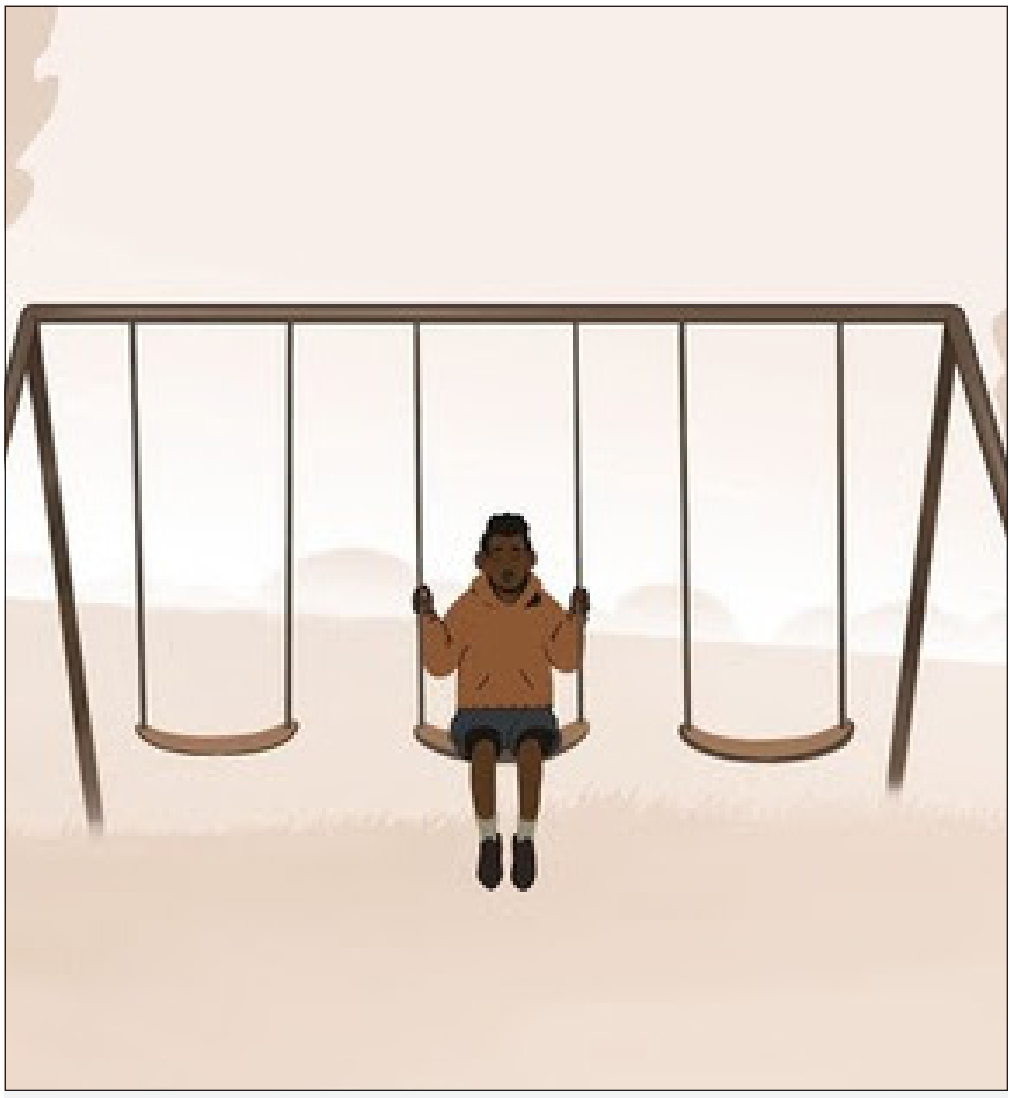
"Stories have the power to shift hearts and minds," Smith said. "We hope this film fosters greater awareness, empathy, and engagement toward policies grounded in dignity and restorative principles."

Community leaders have praised the project for highlighting systemic issues while promoting alternative approaches to school safety.

"For too long, the narratives surrounding incarceration have been dominated by punishment and fear," said Waunette Cullors, CEO and founder of The WOW Flower Project, a community partner organization. "Our goal is to shift this perspective towards one that emphasizes healing, community support, and the dismantling of harmful systems."

The commission held a special screening

SEE **SCHOOL POLICING** PAGE 12



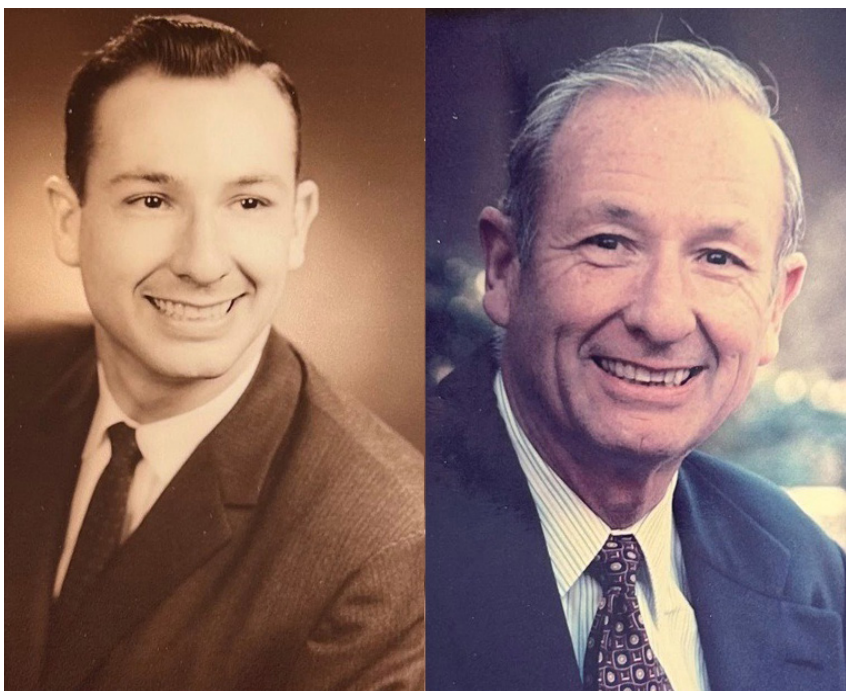
Courtesy image

ECHOES OF A SYSTEM: The four-minute film, titled "Echoes of a System," features real-life testimony from a student and family impacted by school policing practices.

Robert W Howard

October 4, 1933 - August 15, 2025

IN LOVING MEMORY



1933 - 2025

Robert "Bob" W. Howard passed away peacefully surrounded by his family on Friday, August 15, 2025, in Southern California at the age of 91, following a courageous battle with pancreatic cancer.

A man of deep faith, Bob was a devoted follower of Jesus and a living example of compassion, integrity, and humility. He was an avid fly fisherman, bird watcher, world traveler, and friend to everyone he met. He had a rare gift for listening and made every person feel valued and loved. To his family, he was the best husband, dad, and grandpa anyone could ask for.

Born in Santa Monica in 1933, Bob attended Santa Monica High School, where he was one of only three students at the time ever elected student body president twice. He went on to graduate from Claremont Men's College in 1955, serving as freshman class president and earning several honors, including the Student Citizenship Award before proudly serving his country in the United States Army. It was during his time in the Army that he met the love of his life, Cleva Jo Hill, with whom he shared 65 wonderful years of marriage. They celebrated their anniversary just one week before his passing.

Bob began his career at Coldwell Banker, where he formed lifelong friendships. He later joined a startup and eventually founded his own firm, building a successful career in commercial real estate.

Bob was also a tireless servant-leader. He served on the Board of Governors of the Rose Institute, and worked relentlessly to help found and build the Discovery Science Center in Orange County, which would not be what it is today without his vision and dedication. He was a member of the Board of Governors of the Balboa Bay Club and Resort and was involved in organizations like KidWorks, which supports under-resourced youth through mentoring, tutoring, and enrichment programs. He also served as a board member and former Chairman of HomeWord, a Christian organization focused on strengthening families and communities. In addition, Bob was deeply committed to his faith, participating in several men's Bible studies and mentoring programs where he guided and inspired others with his wisdom. He also took part in the annual Portola Ride, a historic horseback journey celebrating California's cultural heritage, which became a meaningful tradition for him. His efforts touched countless lives and communities.

Bob is survived by his beloved wife, Cleva; their three children, Karen (Greg), Douglas (Cheryl), and Sharon (Mark); and six grandchildren: Joshua, Rachel (Matt), Lauren (Ryan), Keeton, Jessica, and Nathan. He and Cleva were also blessed to welcome Carol (Chuck) into their lives as a daughter in later years, forming a relationship of enduring love and devotion.

While his presence will be deeply missed, his family rejoices in the promise that he is now and forever in the presence of the Lord.

A celebration of Bob's life will be held on September 12th at 11 AM at Mariners Church in Irvine, CA. The family asks that attendees wear casual, joyful colors or fishing-inspired attire to reflect Bob's joyful spirit. All are welcome to attend and celebrate Bob's life.

LA County honors 15 women with resilience scholarships



Photo by Martin Zamora, BOS Staff Photographer

RESILIENCE SCHOLARSHIP: LA County Board of Supervisors Chair Pro Tem Hilda L. Solis and the LA County Commission for Women celebrate the recipients of their Resilience Scholarship at a special ceremony at the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration in Downtown Los Angeles.

MAAZ ALIN
SMDP Staff Writer

Fifteen women and girls from across Los Angeles County received recognition for overcoming adversity and demonstrating exceptional perseverance through the annual Resilience Scholarship program.

The Los Angeles County Commission for Women honored the recipients Aug. 15 during a ceremony at the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration. The scholarships recognize students who have shown determination, adaptability and the ability to rise above difficult challenges while achieving academic success.

"Our Resilience Scholarship winners' life stories, unique perspectives, and varied areas of study are a testament to the widespread impact they will have across Los Angeles County," said Supervisor Kathryn Barger, chair of the Board of Supervisors.

The program provides financial support beyond what federal and state financial aid covers, helping recipients with educational expenses as they pursue their academic goals.

Recipients represent all five supervisorial districts in the county. They include high school and college students studying diverse fields ranging from social work and sociology to public health.

Supervisor Janice Hahn noted that several recipients from her Fourth District plan to pursue careers focused on addressing societal problems. "These are fields of study that focus on understanding the problems our society faces and how to help solve them," Hahn said.

The 2025 scholarship recipients are:

First District: Chastity Janine Collado of James A. Garfield High School, Zixin "Rachel" Li of Gabrielino High School, and Inez Monze Meraz-Lerma of Whittier College.

Second District: Kalmykova Yana of El Camino College, Nijah S. Mendez of Baldwin Wallace University, and Caitlyn Omena Oppong of Howard University.

Third District: Jamie Bender of Pasadena City College, Mazel Faith Ceniza of John F. Kennedy High School, and Samantha James of UCLA.

> Our Resilience Scholarship winners' life stories, unique perspectives, and varied areas of study are a testament to the widespread impact they will have across Los Angeles County
>
> - Kathryn Barger, Supervisor

Fourth District: Kelli Shehani Haupage of California State University, Long Beach; Isabel Lisette Gonzalez of California State University, Dominguez Hills; and Adriana Orellana-Barrientos of UC Irvine.

Fifth District: Karen Dianne D. Campos of California State University, Northridge; Astrid Arly Hernandez of Loyola Law School; and Ava Carey LaLonde of Occidental College.

Supervisor Hilda L. Solis, the county's chair pro tem, emphasized the significance of the recipients' achievements during challenging times.

"Today's scholarship recipients have

SEE **SCHOLARSHIPS** PAGE 12



Surf report

WATER TEMP: **69.4**

FRIDAY
FAIR
SURF: 2-3ft
Thigh to waist

Fun blend of SSW/S swells continues. Still not much NW windswell. Old SSW swell and a blend of S swell from the SPAC and likely the tropics. Still not much NW windswell on radar but the southerly swell should have fun size. The tropical component will help shape and consistency. Wind currently looks light for the morning before onshore WNW flow builds in the PM. Worth watching the AM window, though..... could be a little funky.

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

Stronger round of long period SSW swell starts to build in, looks strongest the 31st-2nd. Overlapping long period SSW swells will gradually build through the day. Size for average breaks will generally hold from Friday, select long period magnets offering a little more power/bite as the new swells move in. Not peaky at the beachbreaks but may not be entirely walled either. AM wind looks lighter for longer than Thursday and especially Friday. Onshore flow in the afternoon isn't quite as strong either.

Weather

Friday: Sunny, with a high near 78. Light and variable wind becoming west southwest 5 to 10 mph.
Friday Night: Clear, with a low around 67. West southwest wind 5 to 10 mph becoming southeast after midnight.
Saturday: Sunny, with a high near 78. Light and variable wind becoming southwest 5 to 10 mph in the afternoon.
Saturday Night: Clear, with a low around 67.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted	(ft)High/Low
2025/08/29	Fri	01:37 AM	3.18	H
2025/08/29	Fri	06:17 AM	2.39	L
2025/08/29	Fri	1:19 PM	4.76	H
2025/08/29	Fri	9:13 PM	1.71	L
2025/08/30	Sat	2:09 PM	4.63	H
2025/08/30	Sat	11:15 PM	1.49	L
2025/08/31	Sun	3:40 PM	4.58	H
2025/09/01	Mon	12:30 AM	1.07	L
2025/09/01	Mon	5:11 PM	4.79	H
2025/09/02	Tue	01:16 AM	0.63	L
2025/09/02	Tue	08:40 AM	3.67	H
2025/09/02	Tue	12:07 PM	3.29	L
2025/09/02	Tue	6:15 PM	5.17	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: 8/27
9 12 22 41 61
Power#: 25
Jackpot: 950 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 8/26
7 12 30 40 69
Mega#: 17
Jackpot: 277 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 8/27
8 18 28 29 35
Mega#: 13
Jackpot: 38 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 8/27
4 15 17 18 38

Daily 3
Draw Date: 8/27
EVENING: 6 2 0
Draw Date: 8/27
MIDDAY: 4 3 1

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 8/27
1st: 05 - California Classic
2nd: 06 - Whirl Win
3rd: 03 - Hot Shot
Race Time: 1:41.62

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AWARD WINNER

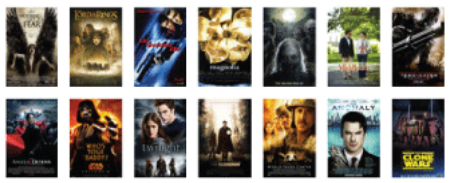
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WINNER

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

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City of Santa Monica

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA PLANNING COMMISSION

SUBJECT: **Planning Commission recommendation to the City Council regarding proposed amendments to the text of the City's Zoning Ordinance related to projects utilizing State law permitting subdivisions of up to 10 units on residentially zoned parcels and projects consisting of duplexes and lot splits on parcels zoned for single-unit residential.**

A public hearing will be held by the Planning Commission to consider Resolutions recommending to the City Council that the Council adopt amendments to the City's Zoning Ordinance to (1) allow the establishment of Accessory Dwelling Units in conjunction with projects utilizing Senate Bills 1123 and 684 as codified in California Government Code Sections 65852.28 and 66499.41, (2) modify certain requirements and development standards for projects utilizing Senate Bill 1123 to ensure project feasibility, and (3) modifying the City's ordinance for the establishment of duplexes and lot splits on parcels zoned for single-unit residential to clarify State law requirements and to establish local provisions separate from State law.

DATE/TIME: **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2025 AT 6:00 PM**

LOCATION: City Council Chamber, Second Floor, Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, California

HOW TO COMMENT
The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. Members of the public unable to attend a meeting but wishing to comment on an item(s) listed on the agenda may submit written comments prior to the public hearing via email to planningcomment@santamonica.gov or via mail to the address listed below. Comments received prior to 12 p.m. on the day of the meeting will be distributed to the Planning Commission prior to the meeting and posted online. All written comments shall be made part of the public record. Please note the agenda item in your comments.

You may also comment in-person at the Planning Commission hearing. Please check the agenda for more detailed instructions on how to comment.

Address your comments to: **Ross Fehrman, AICP, Principal Planner**
Re: Subdivisions and Development in Residential Zoning Districts

VIA E-MAIL: planningcomment@santamonica.gov
VIA MAIL: City Planning Division
1685 Main Street, Mail Stop 28
Santa Monica, CA 90401

MORE INFORMATION
If you want more information about this project or wish to review the project file, please contact Ros Fehrman by e-mail at Ross.Fehrman@santamonica.gov. The Zoning Ordinance is available on the City's web site at www.santamonica.gov. For disability-related accommodations, please contact (866) 311-7266 at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting. Every attempt will be made to provide the requested accommodation. All written materials are available in alternate languages provided the request is received 72 hours prior to the meeting. Santa Monica Big Blue Bus Lines serve City Hall and the Civic Center area. The Expo Line terminus is located at Colorado Avenue and Fourth Street, and is a short walk to City Hall. Public parking is available in front of City Hall, on Olympic Drive, and in the Civic Center Parking Structure (validation free).

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

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

Immigration agents signed up to recruit at a California university. Then the protests started

Cal Poly Pomona postponed its annual fall job fair this week after students, alumni and community members criticized its inclusion of Customs and Border Protection as an in-person recruiter, underscoring the heightened sensitivity about immigration agencies on college campuses this fall.

The interim president of the Los Angeles County campus with nearly 28,000 students — the majority of whom are Latino — said leadership responded to the criticism and decided to rethink their approach to job fairs.

"We have listened carefully and are leveraging this input to design career programming this fall that is more personal and better tailored to the evolving needs of our students and to workforce demands," said Iris S. Levine in a public letter Monday. "I want to thank those of you who reached out and shared your perspectives with honesty and passion," she added.

Tracee Passeggi, the career center director at Cal Poly Pomona, said she received 200 to 250 emails between late Thursday and Monday protesting the presence of immigration law enforcement at the job fair.

In the days leading up to the postponement, social media swirled with rumors that Immigration and Customs Enforcement would be among the employers at the September job fair, something the campus said is not true in a Tuesday FAQ.

"FYI @calpolypomona invited ICE to come and recruit at a job fair on September 18th from 10:30am-2:30pm. Even when calling themselves a HSI (Hispanic serving institution). Stand up against the racial profiling and ICE bounty hunters. Contact: Career@cpp.edu, President@cpp.edu, Admin_affairs@cpp.edu," read one message from a poster on the campus's main Facebook page on Sunday.

More than 106,000 employers share job updates on the Cal Poly Pomona career portal called Handshake, a common software tool among college campuses. Both Immigration and Customs Enforcement and Customs and Border Protection are in the system and receive updates about campus career events. But ICE has never taken part in a career fair, the FAQ said.

Meanwhile, Customs and Border Protection, the multi-pronged agency that oversees Border Patrol, a law enforcement agency that's conducted immigration raids in California, was among the roughly 200 employers registered for the career fair slated Sept. 18-19 and has participated in almost every job fair at the campus since 2017.

Billy Gallagher, the faculty union senior field representative at Cal Poly Pomona, said the hyper-vigilance about immigration law enforcement on the campus makes sense, especially given that judges have faulted the agencies for using racial criteria in their arrests in the Los Angeles area. The federal government under the current Trump administration has appealed a preliminary injunction from a district judge to the U.S. Supreme Court.

"There've been arrests, U.S. citizens swept up. At this point, it's hard to tell even who's who in some of these raids, so there was definitely concern among faculty for sure," Gallagher said, adding that officers at both Customs and Border Protection and Immigration and Customs Enforcement have led immigration raids in California. Most of the students on campus are Latino, he also noted.

> We have listened carefully and are leveraging this input to design career programming this fall that is more personal and better tailored to the evolving needs of our students and to workforce demands
> - Iris S. Levine

CAREER FAIR POSTPONED, NOT CANCELLED

The campus doesn't have a new date for the career fair, said Passeggi of the career center, but she aims to finalize those plans by late September, she said in an interview.

The postponed career fair was technically two events on consecutive days, and Customs and Border Protection was scheduled to appear on just one of those days with some 80 other employers.

Still, both dates were postponed. Passeggi said her team will use the opportunity to organize the fairs in new ways. What that means, she doesn't know yet, but she pointed to the job fairs for the school's hospitality and education majors that are smaller and subject-specific. Each event includes 200 students and 35 employers. The postponed event usually draws more than 1,500 students. It's also outside and exposed to the elements on hot or, in the spring, possibly rainy days. She's unsure if the redesigned fairs will be virtual or in-person.

"We have received some feedback from students saying that they were disappointed that the career fair was canceled," she said, noting that her office was battling two types of misinformation: that the fair was called off and that Immigration and Customs Enforcement was among the employers. Neither is true.

The Career Center will still support

SEE **RECRUIT** PAGE 10

GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

With candidates bowing out, California's gubernatorial race remains wide open



Photo by Fred Greaves for CalMatters

EVENT: Former U.S. Rep. Katie Porter speaks during a gubernatorial candidates' event hosted by the California Federation of Labor Unions, AFL-CIO and the State Building and Construction Trades Council at the Sheraton Grand Hotel in Sacramento on May 12, 2025.

Given California's size and its cultural and economic impact around the globe, whoever captures its governorship instantly becomes one of the nation's most prominent politicians and a potential candidate for president.

However, running for governor is not for the faint of heart. It requires early commitment, stamina, a thick skin and the ability to raise the huge amounts of cash.

That's why, in most cases, serious candidates come from the ranks of lesser officeholders, spend years laying the groundwork their campaigns and declare themselves at least two years in advance of the election they hope to win.

Of the 10 men who have won the governorship since World War II — including Jerry Brown twice — only two didn't use other offices as springboards: actors Ronald Reagan and Arnold Schwarzenegger.

However, the historic pattern is not holding for 2026 as Gavin Newsom's governorship ends. Two of the most prominent potential Democratic candidates, former Vice President Kamala Harris and Lt. Gov. Eleni Kounalakis, have checked out, and those who remain in the field are — in political terms — middleweights at best.

The muddled situation is obvious in the latest poll by UC Berkeley's Institute of Governmental Studies.

The strongest candidate at the moment is former Rep. Katie Porter, who lost her bid for the U.S. Senate last year, with just 17% in the Berkeley poll. She's followed by Chad Bianco, the Republican sheriff of Riverside County, and Democrat Xavier Becerra, a former attorney general and Biden cabinet member, at 10% each. Meanwhile, nine other declared candidates are trailing at no more than 6% each, while 38% of voters are undecided.

When second choices of voters are included in the standings, Porter receives 22% of the preferences, followed by

SEE **GUEST COMMENTARY** PAGE 12

Santa Monica Daily Press

Classifieds

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or email **cindy@smdp.com**

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	Vacation Rentals	Real Estate	Computer Services	Fitness	Tutoring

DBA

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 2025134852 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 7/29/2025 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as COCOMELT. 734 NOWITA PLACE, VENICE, CA, 90291. The full name of registrant(s) is/are: SHILPA LOKAREDDY 734 NOWITA PLACE VENICE, CA, 90291. This Business is being conducted by: Individual. The registrant has not yet commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above. /s/:SHILPA LOKAREDDY-Owner. SHILPA LOKAREDDY. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 7/29/2025. NOTICE: 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 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 08/11/25, 08/18/25, 08/25/25, 09/01/25.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAMECase No. 25SMCP00471Superior Court of California, County of Los AngelesPetition of Lyviere Aimee Lopez for Change of Name TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:Petitioner or Attorney: Lyviere Aimee Lopez filed a petition with this court for a decree of changing names as follows: Lyviere Aimee Lopez to Aimee Lyviere Helfand 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 10/10/2025 Time: 8:30 a.m, Dept: K Room: - The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA – COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES 1725 Main Street Santa Monica, CA 90401A 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.

Auction Sale Notice

Notice is hereby given that under and pursuant to the California Civil Code section 1993; Section 6066 of the Government Code any other applicable CA Statutes, that the items of property listed below is believed to be abandoned by Kris Kristy and all other owners, occupants, partners, tenants and/or subtenants at address: 415 Sherman Canal, Ct B, Venice, CA 90291. Items will be sold at a Public Auction by Tom Dempsey, to be offered in bulk and or bulk lots at a competitive bid sale through an Online Auction Thursday, September 11th, 2025 at 10:00 am at 415 Sherman Canal, Ct B, Venice, CA 90291.Auction access via WWW.MEGAAUCTIONS.NETItems to be sold are to include but are not limited to:Shelving Units, Books, Die Cast Toys, Glass Bottles, Globe, Draws, Upright Lamps, Vases, Hutch, Metal Rack, Framed Art, CD Player, Stereo, CD's, Samsung TV, Ladies Watch, Vornado Floor Fan, Broom, Textiles, Women's Clothing, Costume Jewelry, Brush, Plastic Containers, Storage Totes, Step Stool, Bottle Opener, Side Table, Hutch Desk, Mini Draws, Metal Stand, Desk Lamp, Apple iMac, Electric Pencil Sharpener, Mini Scales, Decor Glass Hand, Candle, DVD's, Mini Christmas Tree, Women's Hats, Clothing Rack, Hangers, Cupboard, Table Fan, Bowls, Scales, Pitchers, Chalace, LED Ceiling Lights, Microwave, Toaster Oven, Kitchenware, Pots & Pans, Rice Cooker, Blender, Toaster, InstaPot, Coffee Carafe, Kitchen Chairs, Packages (unopened), Camel Neon Sign, LG Red Washer DLG2302R Dryer, Maytag Epic Z Washer, Building Materials, Buckets, Tarps, Trash Bin, Step Ladder, Garden Hose, Garden Décor, Storage Totes, Bike, Plastic Hand Cart, Outdoor Grill, Watering Cans, Furniture Dolly, Wicker Furniture, Shop Vac, Bike Pump, Tool Kit, Teak Chairs, Teak Table, Sprayer, Snapware Containers, Upright Dolly, Bike Holder, Garden Chairs, Phillips CTR TV Set, Jetson Gen 1 Electric Bike, Coleman RAM Canoe, Fiberglass Skiff, Various Items Unsearched.

Probate Sale

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:SPIRO M. PAVLOVICH, JR. a.k.a. NICHOLAS ROCKEFELLER CASE NUMBER: 25STPB00826 To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both of SPIRO M. PAVLOVICH, JR., NICHOLAS ROCKEFELLER. A Petition for Probate has been filed by HELEN B. KIM in the Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles-Stanley Mosk Courthouse. The Petition for Probate requests that HELEN B. KIM be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows: Date: Sept 16th , 2025 Time: 8:30 a.m Dept. 79 Room 610 Address of Court: Stanley Mosk Courthouse 111 N. Hill St 4th Floor Los Angeles, CA 90012 If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law. You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. Attorney for the Petitioner: LAWRENCE M. LEBOWSKY Address: 11150 W. OLYMPIC BLVD., SUITE 1120 LOS ANGELES CA 90064. Telephone: (310) 914-4100

Summons

STATEMENT OF DAMAGES(Personal Injury or Wrongful Death) Civ 050Case No: 25SMCV00721Attorney for JUSTIN PORTNOYATTORNEY OR PARTY WITHOUT ATTORNEY (Name and Address):Eddie Dennis, Esq. (SBN: 312483)Lederer & Nojima, LLP12100 WIlshire Boulevard, Suite 480Los Angeles, CA 90025SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OFSTREET ADDRESS: 1725 Main St MAILING ADDRESS: CITY AND ZIP CODE: Santa Monica , C 90401BRANCH NAME: Santa Monica Courthouse PLAINTIFF: JUSTIN PORTNOYDEFENDANT: ALI SADEGHI, et al.STATEMENT OF DAMAGES(Personal Injury or Wrongful Death)To (name of one defendant only): Eight8Home, LLC Plaintiff (name of one plaintiff only):JUSTIN PORTNOYseeks damages in the above-entitled action, as follows:1. General damages AMOUNTa. Pain, suffering, and inconvenience .$ 4,500,000.00 b. Emotional distress. $ 500,000.00c. Loss of consortium $d. Loss of society and companionship (wrongful death actions only) $e. Other (specify) $f. Other (specify) $g. Continued on Attachment 1.g.2. Special damagesa. Medical expenses (to date) $ 1,000,000.00b. Future medical expenses (present value) $ 1,500.000.00c. Loss of earnings (to date) . $ d. Loss of future earning capacity (present value) . $ e. Property damage . $f. Funeral expenses (wrongful death actions only) $g. Future contributions (present value) (wrongful death actions only) $h. Value of personal service, advice, or training (wrongful death actions only) . $i. Other (specify) $j. Other (specify) $k. Continued on Attachment 2.k.3. Punitive damages: Plaintiff reserves the right to seek punitive damages in the amount of (specify).. when pursuing a judgment in the suit filed against you.Date: 08/12/2025(TYPE OR PRINT NAME) Eddie Dennis, Esq. (SIGNATURE OF PLAINTIFF OR ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF) E.D.S.PROOF OF SERVICE(After having the other party served as described below, with any of the documents identified in item 1, have the person who servedThe documents complete this Proof of Service. Plaintiff cannot serve these papers.)1. I served thea. Statement of Damagesc. by serving OTHER SERVED BY PUBLICATION 2. Manner of service (check proper box):f. Other (specify code section):SERVED BY PUBLICATION

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POLICE

FROM PAGE 1

citing philosophical differences with the "new administration." The 18th police chief in Santa Monica's 127-year history will step down October 4, with Deputy Chief Darrick Jacob named as acting chief to facilitate the transition.

In his resignation letter to new City Manager Oliver Chi, Batista indicated that his nearly 40 years of experience in public safety and policing and deeply held sense of justice appear to be at odds with demands set by the new administration. "In that light, the right path is to transition leadership here, as I look forward with purpose, conviction, and optimism to my next challenge," Batista wrote.

Notably, that paragraph was omitted from the letter released to the public announcing his resignation, with no clarification given as to why the two letters differ.

During his tenure, Batista oversaw significant improvements to the department. He rebuilt staffing from a critical low of 177 working officers in October 2021 to 231 sworn officers out of 233 authorized positions by 2024. The department hired 73 new officers in 2024, with 25% being women, increasing overall female representation to 15%.

The chief also implemented recommendations from the Office of Independent Review following events in 2020, launched new technology systems, and secured a $6 million grant to establish the city's first Real-Time Crime and Information Center. Under his leadership, the department responded to more than 128,000 calls for service in 2024 while making over 50,000 proactive contacts and achieving a 2% reduction in Part 1 Crime.

While praising Batista's tenure, the Police Officers' Association expressed serious concerns about the pattern of leadership turnover affecting both city government and the police department. Since 2015, the City of Santa Monica has hired seven city managers – permanent, acting, or interim – while the Santa Monica Police Department will now experience its fifth transition in chiefs in nearly the same timeframe.

"The need for stable leadership is imperative for police officers to deliver the highest level of service to the community," the union emphasized in their statement, highlighting how frequent changes in leadership can impact departmental operations and officer morale.

Batista's departure marks the third senior staff resignation since Chi's hiring as city manager, following Heather Averick's departure as head of housing and human services and Doug Sloan's resignation from the City Attorney position.

Despite concerns about turnover, the police union expressed optimism about the future under the new city manager's leadership. "SMPOA is excited to see the leadership of the new City Manager unfold, along with the changes he will bring," the association stated.

The union indicated they expect to participate in the selection process for the next permanent police chief, noting that "the SMPOA anticipates being involved in the interviewing of the new candidates for Police Chief to ensure that all viewpoints are included in the selection process."

City Manager Chi praised the departing chief's service, stating, "I am grateful to Chief Batista for his service to Santa Monica and commend him for his many contributions. His dedication, kindness and vision have shaped our Police Department in positive ways."

Chi also expressed confidence in Acting Chief Jacob, who has served the department since 2004 and previously worked with the Northridge Police Department and Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department. Jacob, a Navy veteran who has been deputy chief since 2020, holds degrees from California State University, Northridge.

The police union also said the support the Interim Chief

"Your police officers will continue to provide the best service possible with the resources available, and we give our full support to Chief Darrick Jacob during this transitional period," they said.

editor@smdp.com



COMMUNITY NEWS

West Hollywood

BOA Steakhouse Eliminates Seed Oils From All Menu Items

BOA Steakhouse has removed all seed oils from its menu across all locations, replacing them with avocado oil, pomace olive oil and beef tallow in salad dressings, sauces and cooking methods.

The upscale dining destination from Innovative Dining Group implemented the change at its West Hollywood, Santa Monica, Manhattan Beach and Austin locations. The upcoming Las Vegas location, scheduled to open in fall 2025, will launch with the updated menu.

Corporate Executive Chef Brendan Collins oversaw the transition, which he said was designed to maintain the restaurant's signature flavors while using cleaner ingredients.

"We wanted to approach this change with intention," Collins said. "Every substitution was selected to deliver the same bold, satisfying flavor profile our guests know and love from BOA. These new ingredients not only meet that standard, but they elevate it."

Collins brings decades of experience from celebrated Los Angeles restaurants including two-Michelin star Melisse, Waterloo & City, Fia and Market Tavern.

The move reflects BOA's commitment to ingredient transparency and responds to growing consumer interest in cleaner food preparation. Lee Maen, founder and co-CEO of Innovative Dining Group, said the company wanted to be among the first modern steakhouses to make comprehensive ingredient changes.

"We know guests are paying more attention than ever to how their food is being prepared, and we're proud to be one of the first modern steakhouses to make this change across the board," Maen said. "This is just one more way we're continuing to evolve and put our guests first."

> We know guests are paying more attention than ever to how their food is being prepared, and we're proud to be one of the first modern steakhouses to make this change across the board
> - Lee Maen

The transition was implemented across every location, preparation method and menu item without changing the restaurant's upbeat, social dining atmosphere or decadent approach to steakhouse cuisine.

Innovative Dining Group has operated for 25 years, focusing on culinary innovation and elevated hospitality. The seed oil elimination represents the latest in what the company describes as forward-thinking decisions centered on guest satisfaction.

BOA Steakhouse is known for its modern approach to the traditional steakhouse experience, combining high-quality ingredients with contemporary dining concepts.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF



Courtesy photo

FOOD: BOA Steakhouse implemented the change at its West Hollywood, Santa Monica, Manhattan Beach and Austin locations.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Ocean Park

Truly Pizza Returns to Casa del Mar for Labor Day Weekend Pop-Up



Courtesy photo

TRULY PIZZA: Recently ranked No. 9 on the 50 Top Pizza USA 2025 list and recipient of the Performance of the Year award.

The award-winning pizzeria will host its second exclusive event at Hotel Casa del Mar's Patio del Mar on Aug. 31 and Sept. 1 from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., following a sold-out Memorial Day Weekend debut.

Recently ranked No. 9 on the 50 Top Pizza USA 2025 list and recipient of the Performance of the Year award, Truly Pizza will offer a one-of-a-kind menu available only during the pop-up weekend. The menu features seasonal creations alongside collaborations with The Cheese Store of Beverly Hills and Big Noise Beer.

"We were overwhelmed by the response to our first pop-up and are excited to bring Truly Pizza back to Casa del Mar," said Donna Baldwin, co-founder of Truly Pizza. "Our team is passionate about creating memorable pizza experiences, and we can't wait to share another exclusive menu with our Westside guests this Labor Day weekend."

> We were overwhelmed by the response to our first pop-up and are excited to bring Truly Pizza back to Casa del Mar
>
> - Donna Baldwin, co-founder of Truly Pizza

The menu includes starters such as seasonal burrata plate, wedge salad and Casa scallop crudo special. Pizza options feature classics like cheese and pepperoni alongside specialties including summer shrimp, black truffle, sweet and spicy, and smoky vodka. Dessert includes vanilla EVOO and sea salt organic soft serve.

Set against ocean views from the Patio del Mar, the event operates on a first-come, first-served basis and is expected to sell out. Limited reservations are available on Resy.com for either Aug. 31 or Sept. 1.

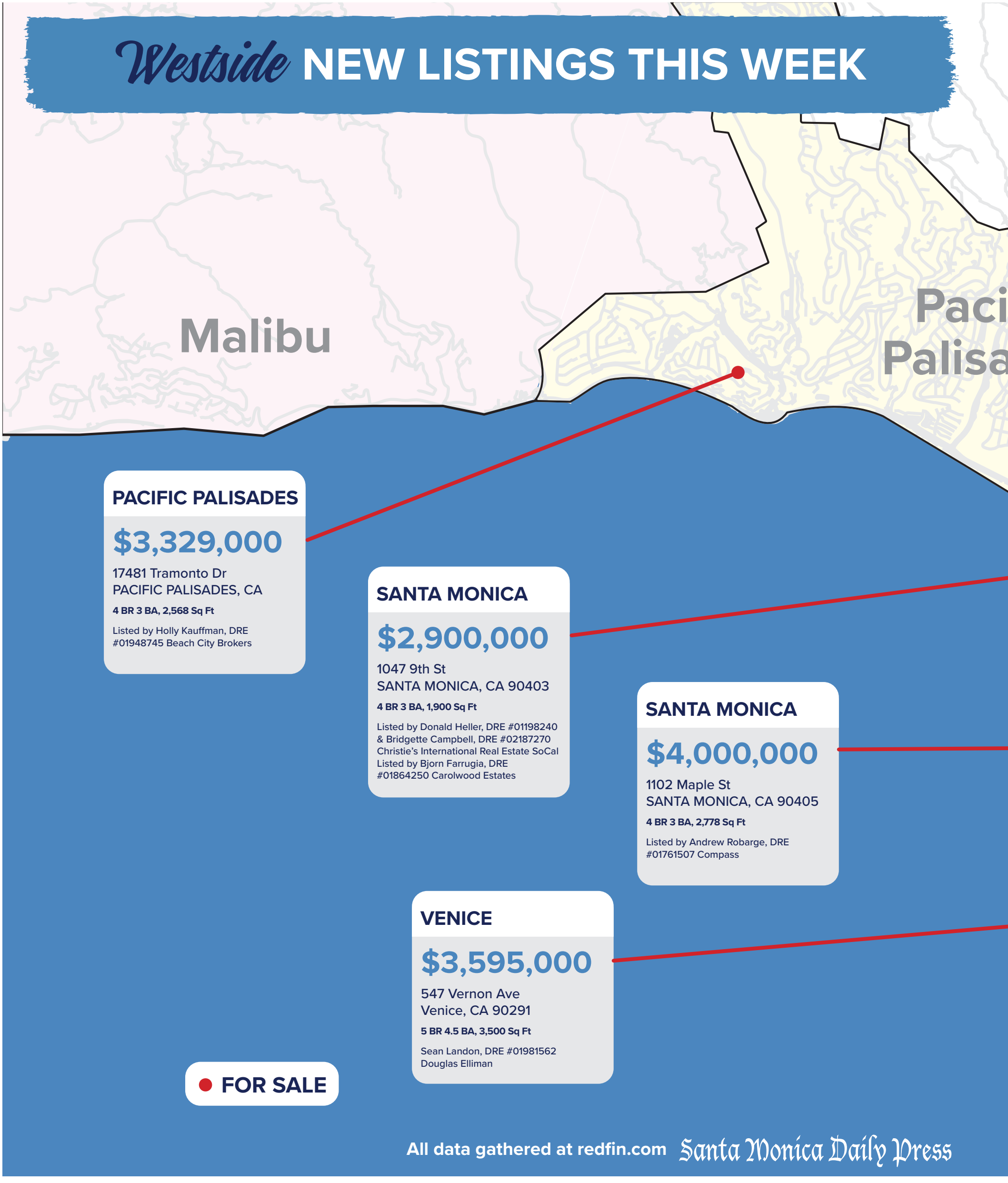
For more information, visit www.trulypizza.com or follow @trulypizza on social media.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF

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Westside NEW LISTINGS THIS WEEK



PACIFIC PALISADES

$3,329,000

17481 Tramonto Dr
PACIFIC PALISADES, CA

4 BR 3 BA, 2,568 Sq Ft

Listed by Holly Kauffman, DRE #01948745 Beach City Brokers

SANTA MONICA

$2,900,000

1047 9th St
SANTA MONICA, CA 90403

4 BR 3 BA, 1,900 Sq Ft

Listed by Donald Heller, DRE #01198240 & Bridgette Campbell, DRE #02187270 Christie's International Real Estate SoCal
Listed by Bjorn Farrugia, DRE #01864250 Carolwood Estates

SANTA MONICA

$4,000,000

1102 Maple St
SANTA MONICA, CA 90405

4 BR 3 BA, 2,778 Sq Ft

Listed by Andrew Robarge, DRE #01761507 Compass

VENICE

$3,595,000

547 Vernon Ave
Venice, CA 90291

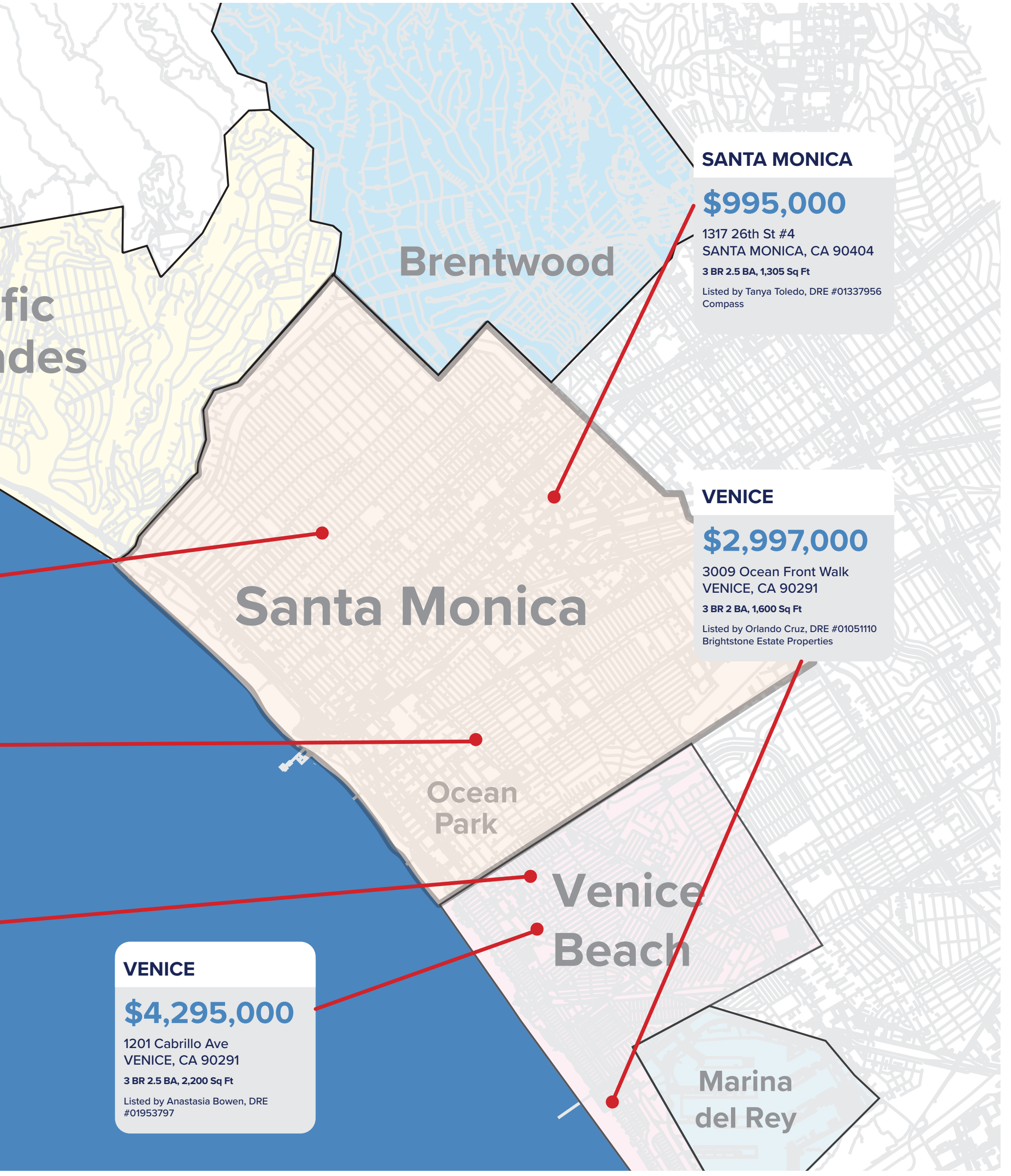
5 BR 4.5 BA, 3,500 Sq Ft

Sean Landon, DRE #01981562 Douglas Elliman

● FOR SALE

All data gathered at redfin.com

Santa Monica Daily Press



SANTA MONICA

$995,000

1317 26th St #4
SANTA MONICA, CA 90404

3 BR 2.5 BA, 1,305 Sq Ft

Listed by Tanya Toledo, DRE #01337956
Compass

VENICE

$2,997,000

3009 Ocean Front Walk
VENICE, CA 90291

3 BR 2 BA, 1,600 Sq Ft

Listed by Orlando Cruz, DRE #01051110
Brightstone Estate Properties

VENICE

$4,295,000

1201 Cabrillo Ave
VENICE, CA 90291

3 BR 2.5 BA, 2,200 Sq Ft

Listed by Anastasia Bowen, DRE #01953797

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RECRUIT

FROM PAGE 4

students seeking to connect with employers and organize internships, she said.

With much of the email and social media blowback occurring over the weekend, she thinks the campus leadership rallied fast. "We moved as quickly as we could" in a transparent manner, she said, pointing to the FAQ and letter from the president.

Nonetheless, "I can definitely hear where our community is coming from," she said.

FACULTY, STUDENT PERSPECTIVES

The campus' response to the outcry was sensible, said Mario Guerrero, a professor at Cal Poly Pomona who is chair of the university's Political Science Department. "I think it speaks volumes about (Levine's) leadership and being able to hear what folks were saying, but also respond appropriately. It's a super delicate situation for fairly obvious reasons," he said. "Even reading the comments now, people are still unhappy, and that's always going to be part of it, but at least you know you can point to leadership being able to make proactive moves to protect the students however they can."

Guerrero also thinks that the worry over immigration law enforcement as an employer at a job fair tapped into wider fears about those federal agents entering campus and arresting students, faculty or staff.

On Instagram, a student group that's a subsidiary of the faculty union and that has chapters across multiple Cal State campuses, criticized Cal Poly Pomona for writing that it cannot bar employers from participating in its job fair because it is a public university. "Disappointed once again in administration, ignoring the safety and needs of their campus population — while claiming their hands are tied," read the text on an Instagram Story posted earlier this week.

The campus administration was "getting pretty pummeled by students," Gallagher said, and he's "certainly hoping that the (Cal Poly Pomona) administration continues to listen to students."

CAMPUS STAFF LIMITED IF FEDERAL IMMIGRATION OFFICERS ENTER CAMPUS

The California Faculty Association, the systemwide faculty union, published in January a list of demands to California State University leadership that seeks to block federal agents from conducting immigration law enforcement on campus. The demands, updated in July, included blocking those agencies from participating in job fairs.

But as a public system, Cal State University campuses cannot limit who enters their sites. Cal Poly Pomona administrators said as much in a February email to staff: "CSU is a public university, and a large portion of CSU property is open to the general public. The areas on campus that are open to the general public, like the campus quad and walkways, are also open to federal immigration enforcement officers."

> I think it speaks volumes about (Levine's) leadership and being able to hear what folks were saying, but also respond appropriately. It's a super delicate situation for fairly obvious reasons
> - Mario Guerrero

The notice said that immigration officers cannot enter areas that aren't open to the general public, such as classrooms that are in session and residence halls — "unless the officer presents a valid judicial warrant or declares that exigent circumstances exist."

However, the guidance says that staff and faculty do not need to divulge any information. The campus appointed an administrator to deal with immigration law enforcement. The guidance says personnel should "respectfully inform the officer that you lack authority but will immediately contact" the designated administrator. If that person isn't available, personnel should contact campus police or campus legal counsel.

The University of California has similar guidance and stresses that hiding evidence or individuals violates federal law. So does interfering with an arrest. "Further, you should not put yourself in physical danger," UC's guidance says.

Cal State University spokesperson Amy Bentley-Smith didn't answer CalMatters' questions about whether other campuses invited immigration law enforcement agencies to job fairs. But in an email, she wrote that campuses should try to "mitigate" community concerns about those agencies appearing on site. "That can include informing key stakeholders, like Dream Center coordinators, of the dates and times when" immigration law enforcement are on campus, she wrote.

By Mikhail Zinshteyn. This article was originally published by CalMatters.

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

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FRIDAY | AUGUST 29

"PATRIZIA MUSSA: PALAZZO DREAMS" AT GALERIE XII

10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Bergamot Station Arts Center 2525 Michigan Ave Santa Monica. The exhibition brings together photographs of Italy's earliest permanent theaters-from Vicenza, Sabbioneta, and Parma, which mark the transition from court theaters to purpose-built venues, to iconic institutions such as Teatro alla Scala in Milan, Teatro San Carlo in Naples, Teatro La Fenice in Venice, Teatro Regio in Turin, Teatro Argentina in Rome, Teatro della Pergola in Florence, and Teatro Massimo in Palermo. Other images highlight the inherently theatrical nature of certain Italian architectural landmarks, including the Royal Palace of Venaria, the Palace of Stupinigi, the Royal Palace of Caserta, and Palazzo Grimani in Venice. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/-patrizia-mussa-palazzo-dreams-at-galerie-xii/16449186/2025-08-29T10

DISNEY ANIMATED FILMS

11:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. California Heritage Museum 2612 Main Street Santa Monica. Disney Animated Films showcases more than 100 original works of art from the production of Disney's most cherished animated classics including Bambi, Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs, Peter Pan, Lady and the Tramp and more. We offer visitors an intimate glimpse behind the scenes of filmmaking history. All artwork is generously on loan from the prestigious Mark Hilbert Collection. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/disney-animated-films/16449187/2025-08-29T11

LIVE MUSIC FRIDAYS AT THE SURFING FOX

6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. 120 Colorado Ave. Santa Monica. Erinn Alissa performs acoustic folk pop with her guitar Friday nights at The Surfing Fox. Enjoy a night of live music, tasty bites, and Foxtails! Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/live-music-fridays-at-the-surfing-fox/14385252/2025-08-22T18

SATURDAY | AUGUST 30

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/16094481/2025-08-30T10

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/14548485/2025-08-30T11

BRISK FESTIVAL LA 2025

6:00 p.m. - 11:30 p.m. Morgan-Wixson Theatre 2627 Pico Bvd Santa Monica. Brisk Festival LA Celebrates Its 5th Edition with 49 Plays, 33 in English and 16 in Spanish, Over 200 Artists, and a Fresh Take on Contemporary Theater. From August 16 to September 7, 2025, Brisk Festival LA returns to the Morgan-Wixson Theater with a bold new edition showcasing 49 short plays—33 in English and 16 in Spanish—written, directed, and performed by over 200 artists from across the globe. Following the successful launch of its first international edition in Buenos Aires, the festival is back in Los Angeles to celebrate five editions of storytelling that transcends language and geography. Produced by Full Emotions and founded by actor and filmmaker Christian Rodrigo, Brisk has become a vital platform for independent theater, amplifying new voices and fostering cultural exchange through the performing arts. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/brisk-festival-la-2025/16402497/2025-08-30T18

THE 16TH ANNUAL MIXMATCH DANCE FESTIVAL

7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Highways Performance Space 1651 18th St. Santa Monica. Showcasing all forms of dance such as jazz, ballet/pointe, modern, contemporary, tap, belly, pole, lyrical, hip hop, folk, dance on film and much more, curious audiences can expect an evening packing a punch of excitement and energy. MixMatch aims to hook audiences looking for a fun, relaxed, exciting night out with the guarantee of leaving the theater completely captivated by at least one of the evening's dance works! $25.00. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/the-16th-annual-mixmatch-dance-festival/16562466/2025-08-30T19

COMEDY NIGHT AT WEARY LIVERS

7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Come and check out the funniest comedians here at the hottest bar in Santa Monica- Weary Livers! $12.51. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/comedy-night-at-weary-livers/16644275/2025-08-30T19

SUNDAY | AUGUST 31

TRULY PIZZA X PATIO DEL MAR

11:00 a.m. - 7:30 p.m. Patio del Mar at Casa del Mar 1910 Ocean Way Santa Monica. Hotel Casa del Mar is serving something "Truly" special for Labor Day weekend! The iconic hotel is thrilled to welcome back Truly Pizza to Patio del Mar for another exclusive coastal pop-up. The first pop-up sold out, so don't miss your chance to reserve a spot! Savor a menu that blends the refined charm of Casa del Mar with Truly's innovative, artisanal pizza creations. This limited engagement features handcrafted dishes, award-winning pizzas, and desserts, all set against the stunning backdrop of the Pacific Ocean - a perfect blend of community spirit, exceptional California flavors, and the simple joy of gathering. The Truly Pizza pop-up will be available at Patio del Mar, the hotel's al fresco dining venue, on August 31 & September 1 from 11:00am to sunset. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/truly-pizza-x-patio-del-mar/16439252/2025-08-31T11

THE WATERFRONT - SUNDAY REAL FUNDAY BRUNCH BUFFET

11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. The Waterfront 205 Ocean Front Walk Venice. Enjoy a bottomless brunch buffet Sundays at The Waterfront! The Waterfront Venice is a full-service restaurant celebrating Californian cuisine with views of the Pacific Ocean. Situated between Rose and Navy on the famous Venice Beach Boardwalk, our food & beverage menus celebrate California with carefully selected seasonal produce from local farms. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/the-waterfront-sunday-real-funday-brunch-buffet/14894114/2025-08-31T11

LET'S SCREAM IT OUT

7:00 p.m. Santa Monica Pier 200 Santa Monica Pier, Ste A Santa Monica. Hi! I'm Ashley Reyes, Licensed Clinical Social Worker. I've been working as a therapist for 8 years and have had the privilege to embark on many healing journeys. As a trauma informed therapist & simply navigating this world with you-I see the need to release so much from our mind & bodies. Our bodies hold onto emotions not just in our minds, but physically in our muscles, nervous system, and even our posture. Emotions can become trapped in the body, manifesting as tension, fatigue, anxiety, or even chronic pain. This emotional residue builds up when we suppress feelings instead of expressing them. Screaming can be a powerful release. It activates the vagus nerve, which helps regulate our stress response and brings the body back into balance. Letting out a primal scream releases pent-up energy, clears emotional stagnation, and provides a cathartic reset. It's not about being out of control—it's about reclaiming control through full, honest expression. This is an opportunity to connect with your breathe, mind, body & to RELEASE what has been weighing heavy on your heart. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/let-s-scream-it-out/16644329/2025-08-31T19

VENICE ELECTRIC LIGHT PARADE - SUNDAYS AT SUNSET

Windward Plaza 1501 Ocean Front Walk Venice. Join the Magic of the Venice Electric Light Parade Every Sunday Night! Looking for a unique and vibrant way to end your weekend? The Venice Electric Light Parade (VELP) is here to light up your Sunday evenings! Founded by Marcus Gladney, this family-friendly weekly event celebrates community, creativity, and safe cycling. Bring your LED-lit bicycle and join us for an unforgettable ride along the iconic Venice Beach. Details: When: Every Sunday evening. Meet 45 minutes before sunset. Where: Windward Plaza, Venice Beach. Who: Open to everyone! Bring your bike, lights, and good vibes. Cost: FREE to join! Experience the magic of glowing bikes, amazing sound bikes playing great music, and the welcoming energy of the Venice community. The parade follows a strict no-smoking or drinking policy, ensuring a safe and enjoyable experience for all. Why Join? Connect with old and new friends. Celebrate the artistic and cultural spirit of Venice. Enjoy a safe and fun environment for all ages. So, light up your ride, bring your friends, and join us this Sunday at Windward Plaza. Don't forget to turn on your lights and practice safe cycling at night! Let's ride into the sunset together! Approximate Sunset. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/venice-electric-light-parade-sundays-at-sunset/14970341/2025-08-31T00

MONDAY | SEPTEMBER 1

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/14639005/2025-09-01T17

CHICKEN

FROM PAGE 1

California footprint since opening its first West Coast location in Costa Mesa in 2015.

The Santa Monica opening comes as city officials work to address high vacancy rates downtown while balancing concerns about maintaining the Promenade's distinctive character. In 2023, the Santa Monica City Council suspended a ban on businesses with more than 150 locations nationwide, reopening the door for large chain restaurants to locate in the area. That decision was upheld this year.

In 2018, the council first banned fast food businesses with more than 100 nationwide locations, rules that were made permanent in 2021 with an increased threshold of 150 locations. Under those restrictions, existing businesses that wanted to relocate couldn't expand, and several restaurants expressed interest in downtown locations but were blocked by the rules. A Yogurtland location just feet from the Promenade was prevented from moving onto the strip proper and that business ultimately moved away from Downtown entirely.

The rules and restrictions for restaurants downtown have fluctuated over time. Where once there were discussions of banning new alcohol licenses on the Promenade, the area now features an outdoor entertainment zone allowing alcohol and the former ban on fast food has now been lifted.

During the recent discussions, city planner Steve Mizokami explained that the fast-food prohibition had unintentionally restricted smaller businesses like ice cream shops and bakeries, while noting the difficulty in distinguishing between "fast food" and "fast casual" restaurants.

Proponents of lifting the ban said the move wasn't about any specific business but rather an attempt to address downtown's vacant storefronts and lack of options to draw customers. Council members initially expressed concerns about attracting distinctive locally owned businesses but ultimately upheld the permanent elimination of fast-food restaurant restrictions.

Raising Canes is replacing several stores that were once versions of the fast food/fast casual segment. Their Promenade location will be the former Bibimbap location and they are expanding into several adjacent units, including the former Yogurt Land location.

Founded in 1996 by Todd Graves near Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, Raising Cane's has transformed from a single college-town restaurant into one of America's fastest-growing chains. Graves funded the original venture himself after banks refused loans for his business plan, which had earned poor grades in college. He worked construction and fished in Alaska to save money, eventually naming the restaurant after his yellow Labrador.

The company's growth has been explosive in recent years. From 240 restaurants across 20 states in 2015, Cane's expanded to 457 locations by 2019 and more than doubled to 727 by 2023. As of 2025, the chain operates nearly 900 locations across more than 40 states and has opened international outlets in the Middle East.

Raising Cane's has cultivated an intensely loyal customer base known as "Caniacs." Grand openings frequently feature long lines and overnight camping, including a 2015 California debut that drew more than 100 fans waiting for free chicken. The chain's proprietary Cane's Sauce was recently crowned the industry's "most craveable" sauce in a nationwide survey.

The company's expansion strategy centers on a minimalist menu embodying its "One Love" slogan — essentially just chicken fingers, crinkle-cut fries, coleslaw, Texas toast and drinks. This streamlined approach differentiates Cane's from competitors offering extensive menus and allows the chain to maintain speed and food quality.

Raising Cane's opened 118 new restaurants in 2024, a company record, and plans nearly 100 more openings this year. The chain has set ambitious targets of reaching 1,600-plus restaurants and around $10 billion in annual sales within the next few years, which would likely place it among the ten largest U.S. restaurant chains by system-wide sales.

The company remains privately owned, with founder Graves holding roughly 90 percent of the business.

editor@smdp.com



SCHOOL POLICING

FROM PAGE 2

of the film on Aug. 4 in the Antelope Valley, attended by parents, students and community leaders. The organization has since shared the film and related reports with oversight bodies, educators and community groups to support advocacy for mental health services, restorative practices and culturally responsive alternatives to traditional policing methods.

As schools across the county begin the new academic year, the commission hopes the film will influence ongoing discussions about student safety and discipline policies. The animated format was chosen to protect the privacy of those sharing their experiences while making their stories accessible to broader audiences.

The film represents part of a larger initiative by LA County to examine and reform school policing practices. The commission has been working with various stakeholders to develop alternatives that prioritize student well-being over punitive measures.

In conjunction with the film's release, the commission is promoting a companion resource toolkit created by the LA County Probation Oversight Commission. The toolkit, available in English and Spanish, provides step-by-step guidance for students and families dealing with issues involving school resource officers.

The Probation Oversight Commission was authorized in 2024 by the Board of Supervisors to provide free assistance with community complaints about School Resource Deputies at schools served by Los Angeles County Sheriff's deputies.

The commission's broader goal is to encourage school districts to adopt policies that address the root causes of student behavioral issues rather than relying primarily on law enforcement interventions. Officials hope the personal narrative featured in "Echoes of a System" will help policymakers and community members understand the long-term impact of current practices on students of color.

The film and related resources are available through the LA County Commission on Human Relations website as part of their ongoing effort to promote more equitable approaches to school safety.

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SCHOLARSHIPS

FROM PAGE 3

demonstrated an extraordinary commitment to their education, personal growth, and communities," Solis said. "As we navigate unprecedented times, it is inspirational to see the perseverance and determination each of these young women have demonstrated in the face of adversity."

Supervisor Holly J. Mitchell highlighted the program's role in addressing educational inequality. "The Resilience Scholarship helps close the opportunity gap that far too many of our young people face," she said.

The scholarship program was established in 1999 as a run/walk event. Despite facing financial challenges in 2011, the Commission for Women maintained the program through its Women of the Year event and fundraiser. Since its inception, more than 400 recipients from across the county's five supervisorial districts have received awards.

Dr. Regina Smith, president of the Los Angeles County Commission for Women, said the program aligns with the organization's broader mission.

"It is the mission of the Los Angeles County Commission for Women to ensure that women and girls are safe, supported, and that they thrive," Smith said. "We recognize that these are challenging times, yet women and girls of LA County will rise to the occasion."

The Commission for Women serves as a citizens' advisory body dedicated to promoting and protecting the rights and interests of women and girls in Los Angeles County through education, advocacy and community engagement.

More information about the Resilience Scholarship Program and the Los Angeles County Commission for Women is available at laccw.lacounty.gov.

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GUEST COMMENTARY

FROM PAGE 5

Becerra at 18%, Bianco at 15% and Republican Steve Hilton, a former Fox News contributor, at 12%.

In the absence of a standout, there's much speculation in political circles about who could command instant status. Los Angeles businessman Rick Caruso, a very wealthy Republican turned Democrat, often mentioned. This week, Politico focused on Sen. Alex Padilla.

"A prominent political entity in Sacramento is currently in the field polling the 2026 governor's race with Padilla's name included as a potential candidate," Politico reported. "Padilla is not ruling out a run, according to a person familiar with his thinking who was granted anonymity to discuss internal deliberations.

"Edgar Rodriguez, a spokesperson for the senator, pivoted to ... Newsom's redistricting measure, Proposition 50 — but notably, did not close the door on a gubernatorial bid."

Pivoting from the U.S. Senate to a bid for governor is not unprecedented. That's exactly what Republican Pete Wilson did in 1990 after eight years in the Senate.

Wilson, then the mayor of San Diego, wanted to run for governor in 1982, but a coterie of influential Republicans preferred Lt. Gov. Mike Curb and promised to help Wilson win a Senate seat if he would not challenge Curb. Wilson easily bested Democrat Jerry Brown in their 1982 Senate duel but the Curb gambit failed. Attorney General George Deukmejian defeated Curb in the Republican primary and won a very narrow victory over Tom Bradley, the Democratic mayor of Los Angeles, for the governorship.

Were he to run, Padilla would almost certainly become the frontrunner, and there's a certain logic to a shift from the Senate to the governorship.

The Senate is controlled by Republicans and that's likely to continue after next year's elections, Politico and other oddsmakers believe. Padilla, like Wilson, may be tempted to going from being 1% of the Senate to being No. 1 in the nation's most populous state.

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

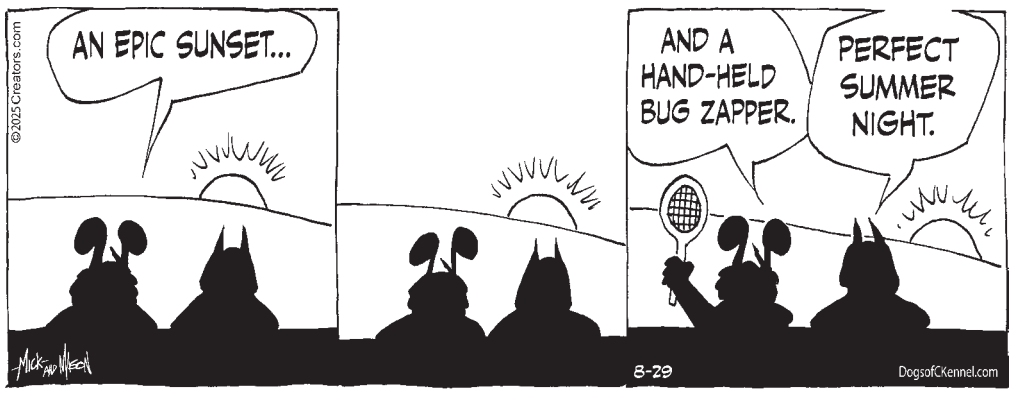
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

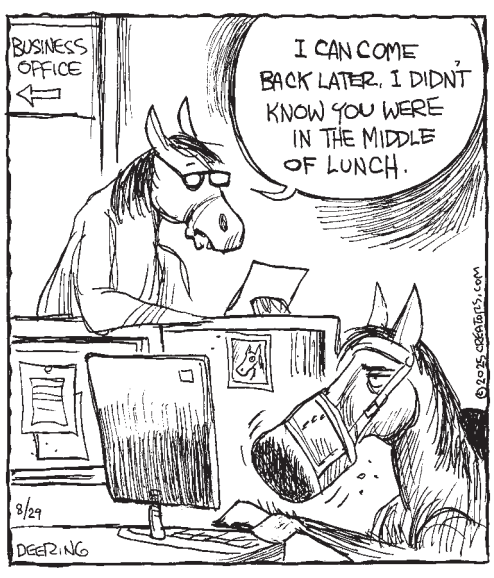
By PETER GALLAGHER



"HIS MUSE."

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

© australianwordgames.com.au 6682

A dish served cold

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

Aloe	Diet	Lentils	Soya beans
Artichoke	Dill	Lunch	Spinach
Asparagus	Eggs	Mace	Sprout
Basil	Fennel	Melons	Squash
Beds	Fresh	Neep	Taro
Beet	Fruit	Nuts	Thyme
Carrots	Greens	Okra	Turnip
Cauliflower	Grow	Pear	Water
Celery	Herbs	Pumpkin	Yams
Cheese	Hose	Radish	Zucchini
Corn	Kale	Reap	
Crop	Leek	Sage	

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.

A life on the water

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To advertise, email cindy@smdp.com or call 310.458.7737
smdp Santa Monica Daily Press

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Aug. 29)

You may not think of yourself as a big deal, but this year you sign one, and even though it doesn't go to your head, it still feels good. Next season brings a new and profound purpose. You will attract committed people because you are one. More highlights: A raise or unexpected check opens up a new possibility. Unwanted habits fall away. A close relationship deepens in ways that change both of you for good. Capricorn and Libra adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 8, 14, 7, 11 and 3.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). It's easy and comfortable to hang out with people who are like you, and there's a time and place for that kind of connection. But real growth happens with people who think differently, live differently or see the world in unfamiliar ways.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You're already prepared in the practical sense. You've handled the logistics, done the planning, packed the bag. Now, what really matters is your energy. The way you carry yourself. Your attitude is the first thing people will register, even before you speak.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). This afternoon will pull at your attention in a variety of ways. People send you messages, make requests, offer temptations... nothing you can't handle. You'll knock out three real, trackable tasks by lunch. That's your anchor.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). It's good to give. Better to give without expecting anything back. Best of all? A gift that no one knows came from you. That kind of move changes things far beyond what you'll ever see.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You'll find yourself fantasizing about a time when your calendar is your own - when you move as you please, travel where you're called, and make space to wonder and wander. The journey of imagination plants a seed that will blossom in your future.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You'll encounter situations that could go a number of ways, and your attitude tips it toward fun. Your flexibility and presence make things work well for all. A conversation, a connection or a name passed your way will unlock your next round of progress.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Social energy is sensitive. Like a recipe, swap one ingredient and the whole thing transforms - sometimes for better, sometimes not, but never without consequence. Today, it's not just about who's invited; it's the chemistry between them that sets the tone.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Shakespeare said all the world is a stage, but you don't always feel like delivering your soliloquy from the center. In fact, today you find it far more useful to hang the lights, move the set and call a few shots from the wings, which is what really makes the show go on.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). If you're not excited about what's on your plate, it's a perfectly acceptable and very informative mood. Don't touch that attitude; just change the plate and let the mood adjust on its own. Soul-deep fulfillment is coming.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Of all the things to risk, rejection is among the best things to put on the line because it doesn't break anything of real value. It might crack a facade or chip away at ego, but that stuff needed to go anyway. It was clouding your shine.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Today brings bright fun in a buttoned-up disguise. Intellectual stimulation isn't just "brain stuff"; it's a full-body experience that contributes to your overall sense of vitality and well-being. When your mind lights up, everything else follows.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You're capable of moving fast physically, mentally and emotionally. But when you're in a leadership role or part of a group effort, going too far ahead of others can create problems. True leadership isn't just about progress, it's about bringing people with you.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

Newsday Crossword

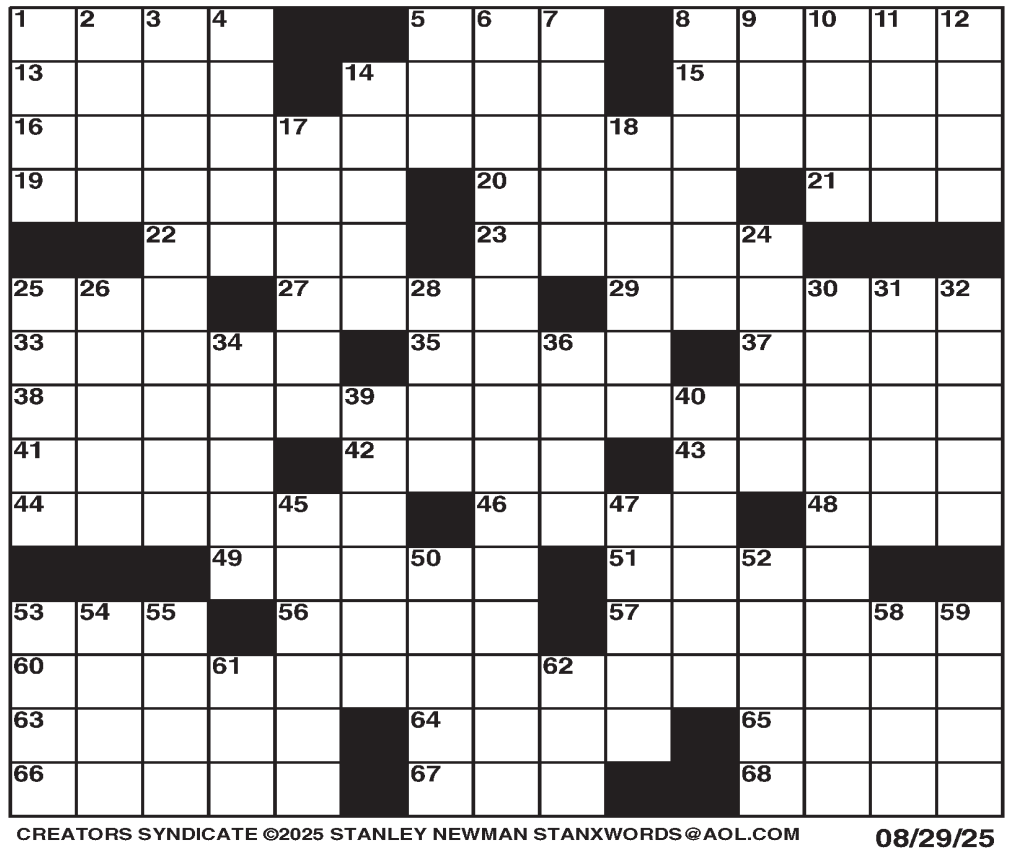
FREE FRIDAY by Prasanna Keshava
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Predicament
5 NYC NBA venue
8 Like a well-__ machine
13 Cry of dismay
14 *Croqueta*, for instance
15 "I wanna play, coach!"
16 FREE 14-Down
19 Money that sounds musical
20 ASAP imperative
21 Drill boss, briefly
22 Scots "ago"
23 Golf commentator's cry
25 Letters on Valvoline bottles
27 Mobile home
29 Most of Kiribati
33 Visibly amazed
35 How muesli tastes
37 Stand-up standout
38 FREE 14-Down
41 "That said...," initially
42 Short Instagram video
43 *...Hungry Caterpillar* author
44 Christen anew
46 Well-planned
48 Medium power
49 Got the gold in
51 Rae in *Barbie*
53 "I'm amazed!"
56 '70s arcade success
57 Tannery output
60 FREE 14-Down
63 Get around
64 For __ (not free)
65 Local conveyance, for short
66 Where tweets come from
67 USPS designation
68 "...__ the custom"

DOWN

1 School supt.'s realm
2 Type of tubing
3 Unrestricted period
4 Very little
5 Follower of beer or bath
6 FREE 14-Down
7 Full series
8 Bat better than
9 Olympic nation abbr. four above JAM alphabetically
10 *Mutiny on the Bounty* costuming
11 Cyberzine
12 Frat letter, familiarly
14 Number of words in the four longest answers
17 Pivot point
18 Emerson output
24 Designer Kamali
25 Tastiness
26 Multicolored mineral
28 Slim to __ (poor odds)
30 They see what you're saying
31 Is idling
32 Exorbitant
34 *Silas Marner* "Shucks!"
36 Latter-day prefix for health
39 "Things __ what they seem"
40 Steps out of line
45 Powered bikes
47 Kind of corridor
50 Camp David Accords VIP
52 Company founded as Sleeper, Inc.
53 Gangster film good guy
54 What Christmas lights may be clipped to
55 Youngest Olympian
58 Morales in *La Bamba*
59 S&L IDs
61 Box with parts
62 Director who didn't like "Spike TV"



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08/29/25

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

COLORADO RIVER

FROM PAGE 1

The river supports 40 million people across seven U.S. states, two states in Mexico and Native American tribes.

"We don't have a management future for the Colorado River right now and it's getting pretty scary," said Mark Gold, adjunct professor at the University of California, Los Angeles, and former director of water scarcity solutions with the Natural Resources Defense Council, a petition group. "We should be dealing with this as a water scarcity emergency, and one of the things that you really want to do in an emergency is, let's deal with water waste first."

The bureau has not responded to the petition. In a statement to The Associated Press, the agency said it continues to operate with the agreements and rules in place and has other strategies to "reduce the risk of reaching critical elevations" at the river's reservoirs, Lakes Powell and Mead.

DEFINING 'BENEFICIAL' AND 'REASONABLE' IS NOT EASY

A bureau code says "deliveries of Colorado River water to each Contractor will not exceed those reasonably required for beneficial use."

But Cara Horowitz, director of UCLA's Frank G. Wells Environmental Law Clinic, wasn't sure what that meant or how it's applied. So she and her students sought to find out with government records.

"As best as we could tell, it's never defined the phrase and it does not use the phrase in any meaningful way as it's making water delivery decisions," said Horowitz, who is representing the groups. They believe the bureau needs a reformed process to determine whether states are avoiding wasteful and unreasonable use. In the petition, the groups urged the bureau to address those issues and perform periodic reviews of water use.

Experts say that defining reasonable and beneficial use could be challenging, but some argue it's worth a try. Others worry that allowing an authority to determine what's wasteful could have negative impacts.

"It's potentially a whole can of worms that we need to approach very carefully," said Sarah Porter, the Kyl Center for Water Policy director at Arizona State University. "Who gets to be the entity that decides what's an appropriate amount of use for any particular water user or community?"

The groups see it differently. For example, they think farmers should be incentivized to change "wasteful" irrigation practices and consider growing crops better suited for certain climates. An example they gave of "unreasonable" use is year-round flood irrigation of thirsty crops in deserts. In cities and industries, wasteful use includes watering ornamental turf or using water-intensive cooling systems.

In a 2003 case, the bureau invoked the provision when it ordered water reductions to California's Imperial Irrigation District, the largest river water user, after determining it couldn't beneficially use it all. The district sued and the dispute eventually settled.

CONCERNS FROM FARMERS AND CITIES

California's Imperial Valley relies 100% on Colorado River water. The desert's temperate, mild winters are ideal for growing two-thirds of winter vegetables consumed nationally.

Andrew Leimgruber, a fourth-generation farmer here, has tried to reduce his use with water-savings programs. He grows crops like carrots, onions and mostly alfalfa, which he often flood-irrigates because it fills the plant's deep root system. For up to 60 days in the summer, he doesn't water it at all.

Water cuts because of "unreasonable" use could mean people won't be able to eat a Caesar salad in New York City in January, Leimgruber said. He worries about short-term food shortages and putting farmers out of business.

Bill Hasencamp, manager of Colorado River Resources for the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, said the agency supports an annual process to ensure water is being beneficially used, even as that definition changes, but he doesn't think it's meant to solve the river's existential crisis. He worries invoking this tool could result in litigation. "Once things go to court, there's always a wild card that's sort of out of anyone's control."

A CALIFORNIA PROVISION AS A MODEL

Some experts point to California's constitution as a potential model, which contains a provision on reasonable and beneficial use. How that is interpreted is fluid and decided by state water regulators, or the courts.

"The way it's written is actually very adaptable to the times, so it's actually about what is wasted and reasonable use in a given time," said Felicia Marcus, fellow at Stanford University's Water in the West program and former chair of the California State Water Resources Control Board. "So things that would have seemed to be reasonable 50 years ago, no longer are."

The state water board has invoked its beneficial and reasonable use provision in times of drought, for example, to help support using less water in cities. It's deemed washing sidewalks or washing cars in driveways as unreasonable. In another case, the water agency argued and won that it was unreasonable for a senior water rights holder to take so much water that fish couldn't swim to cold water refuges.

Water regulators have also threatened to apply their unreasonable use authority to get the holders of water rights to better manage their use. "It's a tool that gets used as both a threat and a backstop," said Marcus.

ADDRESSING SHORTAGES REQUIRES MULTIPLE APPROACHES

Leimgruber, the Imperial Valley farmer, said limiting population growth and expansion in arid areas could help. John Boelts, a farmer and Arizona Farm Bureau president, suggested more desalination projects. And Noah Garrison, a water researcher at UCLA, found in a recent study he co-authored that states could do more to recycle wastewater.

Still, as decades-long droughts plague parts of the basin and with critical deadlines approaching, some experts say it's time for the bureau to be more assertive.

"There's responsibility here to be the water master on the river or it gets thrown to the Supreme Court, which will take years to work its way through," said Marcus. The "beneficial use petition is one way to say, 'Here's a tool you have, step up and consider it.'"

By DORANY PINEDA Associated Press. The Associated Press receives support from the Walton Family Foundation for coverage of water and environmental policy. The AP is solely responsible for all content.



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