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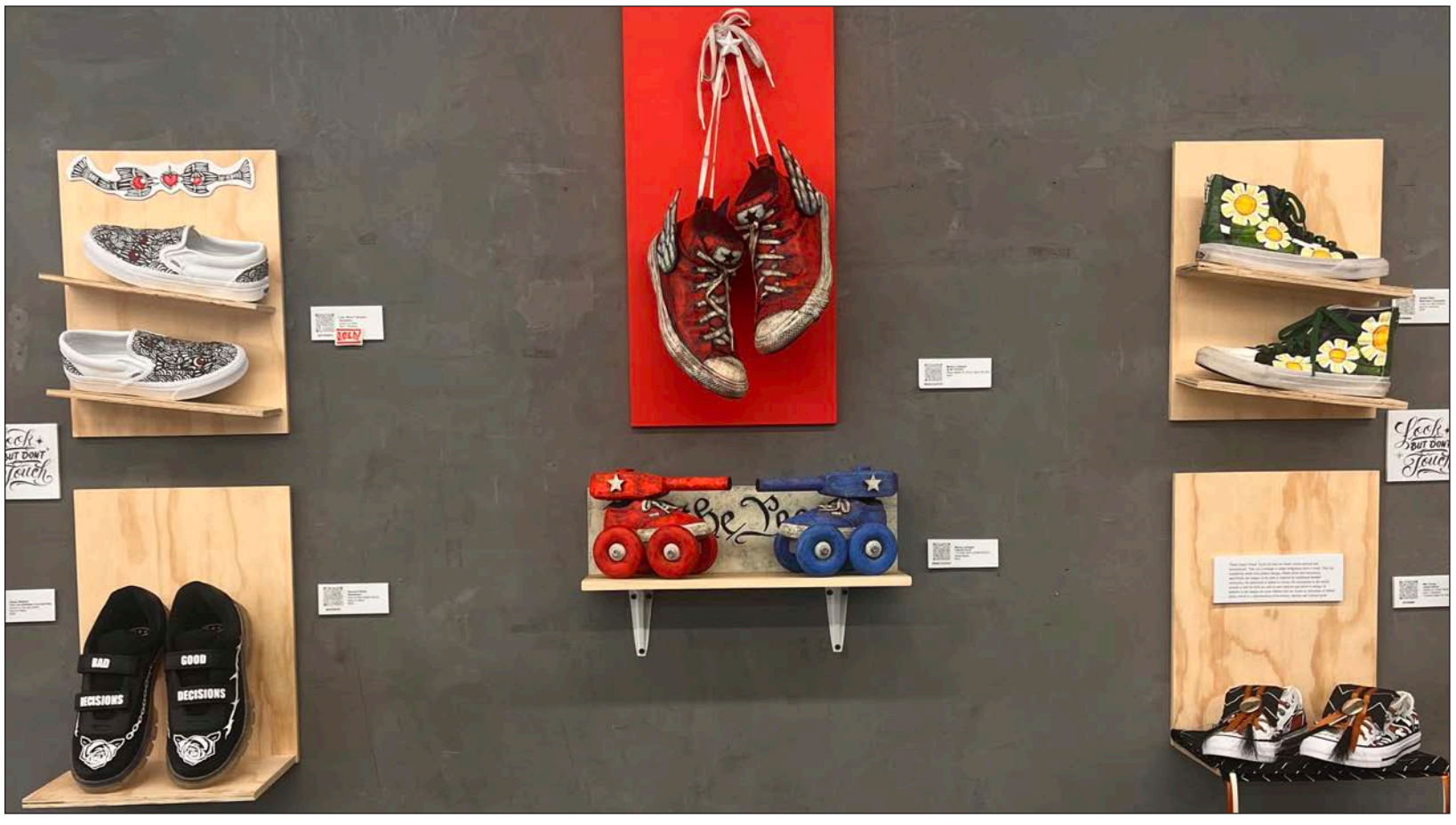
smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press

Volume 24 Issue 203 THE WEEKENDER 9/5-9/7 smdp.com

Pier 86 Barbershop fosters community with art, haircuts and shoes



Jasu Diaz

GALLERY: The "What Are Those" gallery at Pier 86 Barbershop, curated by Ernice Lucero and featuring artwork by local L.A. artists, runs until Sept. 25.

Jasu Diaz has a different idea for a neighborhood barbershop. The Oaxacan native who moved to Santa Monica when he was 10 years old always wanted to open up his own barbershop after learning to cut hair. And in 2023, he did just that by opening Pier 86 Barbershop, located at 3000 Lincoln Blvd. But he didn't stop there. Diaz went a step further and married his passion for community with his passion for art.

"I got the idea of building community here," he said. "I grew up here in Santa Monica, so just bringing back the old ways of community. I saw a lot of people walking through here, and they always would come in and say hello or just see the regular clients. So it made me feel like a gallery would bring people and community together and just build as we grow."

Will Rogers Elementary School teacher Jose Brizuela, commonly known as "Mr. B" and one of Diaz's

SEE **ART** PAGE 12

Malibu Council eases event rules for fire-affected businesses

MAAZ ALIN
SMDP Staff Writer

The Malibu City Council voted 4-1 to expand temporary event permissions for businesses affected by the 2025 Palisades Fire, rejecting a proposal for additional restrictions despite concerns about potential loopholes.

The council approved amendments to Ordinance 526 that will allow shopping centers to host up to eight events per month instead of the previously approved four, while individual businesses can hold two events monthly. The changes are designed to stimulate economic recovery following the January fire that closed Pacific Coast Highway and devastated local commerce.

"We're trying to help our businesses and small homeowners rebuild without adding restrictions," said Council Member Haylynn Conrad, who opposed adding further limitations to the ordinance.

The amendments specifically clarify that events don't need to be "open to the general public" when they involve "tenant opening events, private gatherings for friends and family of the business only, and similar events hosted by the business or shopping center for the sole purpose of promoting goods and services."

SEE **BUSINESSES** PAGE 12

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SANTA MONICA COLLEGE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the **Santa Monica Community College District (SMCCD)** will hold a public hearing on the **2025-26 Proposed Budget (5 CCR § 58301)** for approval by the Board of Trustees.

The public hearing will be held in-person in the **Santa Monica College Board Room (Business Building Room 117)**, 1900 Pico Boulevard, Santa Monica, CA 90405 and via **Zoom on Tuesday, September 9, 2025** commencing at **6:00 P.M.**

The Proposed Budget documents will be available for review as part of the agenda for the meeting at the SMCCD webpage at https://www.smc.edu/administration/governance/board-of-trustees/meetings.php starting at 12 p.m. on Friday, September 5, 2025. Instructions on how to participate via Zoom will be included in the agenda.

Dr. Kathryn E. Jeffery, Superintendent/President

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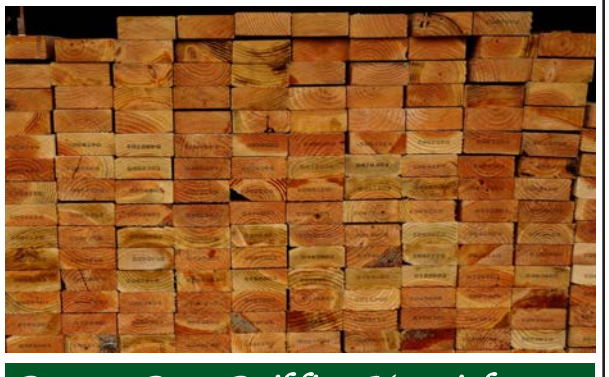

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EDITORIAL

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Chief's departure signals more change to come

Santa Monica Police Chief Ramon Batista resigned two weeks ago and the shocking departure continues to generate more controversy and questions among residents than any previous staff departure in our memory.

The Chief was generally well liked. At the same time he oversaw vital upgrades to the department including massive investments in modern technology, staffing increases and provided stable leadership following the debacle that allowed the looting of Downtown.

So why would he leave? Well, the answer is actually quite simple: City Manager Oliver Chi is setting a standard for civic employment and whether for better or worse, we're now on the Chi Train when it comes to the future of the city. City employees can either get on board or have their ticket punched.

More than most, we know the people who work for the city. Many of them are truly dedicated, hardworking civil servants who genuinely embody the notion of public good. However, those diamond individuals work in a building of fiefdoms, are often hamstrung by petty squabbles among managers and may find themselves working alongside folks that are more cubic zirconium or even some cut glass.

Chi wants the entire city to shine and while he has no control over the duller councilmembers, it's clear he's willing to blast his way through city staff to find the vein.

Prior to Batista's departure, City Attorney Doug Sloan and Director of Housing and Human Services Heather Averick left. In the days following, Director of Community Development, Arminé Chaparyan resigned after about seven months on the job.

The Chief may have been the most significant departure so far but we think there will be more cuts, voluntary or involuntary, before the train returns to the station and these efforts are actually vitally needed right now.

Whether through complacency or incompetence, the city's trajectory has been derailed and Chi is doing precisely what we needed from a new City Manager. That said, the high profile conflict with the Chief was a big risk.

In Batista's case, we don't think this was a question of competence. For us, Batista was the best Chief the city has had in the past 25 years. His public presence was both appreciated and necessary. He had no controversies or scandals to speak of. The department handled itself with distinction in both day-to-day operations and during emergencies.

Batista accomplished this in the face of city leadership that at best didn't consider public safety a top priority and at worst was actively opposed to enforcement.

But it's possible to have a great gem that just doesn't fit the setting.

We may never know precisely why the two couldn't come to terms because Batista and Chi are both professionals who are choosing to maintain a professional stance but it's worth noting that whatever their disagreement, the Council clearly backed Chi and that is perhaps the most interesting part of this story so far.

This council majority has spent years gaslighting residents over public safety. Whether directly or through their apologists they have denigrated residents who raised concerns, undermined organizations that have tried to address the problem and created a world where they stifle legible debate by accusing anyone that doesn't want to import homelessness into the city of bigotry.

If Chi can see the crisis so clearly he had immediate conflict with the Chief and the Council immediately backed Chi, then were they incompetent in the past when dealing with the problem or were they just lying about the reality because it was politically expedient?

It's worth noting that Mayor Lana Negrete has long talked about the city's security problems and as the one outlier on the council, her support for the City Manager may have been a case of convergent evolution where the desire to shuck responsibility for the crisis and the desire to face it head on brought everyone to the same place.

The reality is that the train has already left the station and we are genuinely disappointed that Batista is not on board. At the same time Chi deserves the chance to prove himself and we're just as genuine in our hope that he is successful because residents need to feel like they are safe passengers, not victims tied to the tracks.

editor

GET IT DAILY...

GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Senator Allen and Assemblymember Zbur will burnish their environmental legacy by opposing SB 79

I'd like to address the numerous unsupported assertions and misdirection included in ChrisTokita's Opinion Piece published by the SMDP on August 27, 2025 (Senator Allen and Assemblymember Zbur Will Destroy Their Environmental Legacy By Opposing SB 79).

It is very clear that the entire piece is about development lobbying and advocacy, using a tangential environmental angle as the Trojan Horse to make a non-existent case. This naturally follows from the fact that Mr. Tokita is a board member of the development lobbying group Abundant Housing LA (AHLA). If Mr. Tokita was serious about the environment, he would also be opposing SB79 as counter-productive to both his stated environmental and increasing transit use objectives. But that's not what development lobbyists do.

The real environmental cost of this overwhelmingly market rate bill to the State's residents includes increasing development-driven emissions while simultaneously accelerating gentrification's rising cost of living. Senator Allen and Assemblymember Zbur will burnish their environmental credentials by voting against this legislation.

SENATE BILL 79 (SB79) IS AN ANTI-ENVIRONMENT BILL

SB79 is the worse policy example to use in a pro-environmental argument. Why? Because SB79's overwhelming market rate focus is targeting the socio-economic renter demographic least likely to use public transit. This outcome has been confirmed by both domestic and international studies.

In a study published in 2024, UCLA researchers noted that the evidence suggests that in neighborhoods where ridership is high, rising rents and rent burdens are associated with fewer boardings.[1] This finding was consistent with a 2023 paper by researchers from the University of Quebec at Montreal and Polytechnique Montreal who found that as income increases, use of public transit declines.[2] So, SB79 will directly decrease the ratio of public transit to total trips. Of course, if Mr. Tokita were serious, he would have advocated for amendments to SB 79 prohibiting off-street parking. But such an amendment would expose market rate units to unacceptable levels of vacancies and/or rent reductions.

But it gets worse. As the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) in the UK noted in 2021, 51% of the lifecycle carbon emissions from a typical residential construction project are emitted before the doors opened to the first resident.[3] Given SB79s suppression of transit usage, there is no environmental justification for development that supercharges emissions. Mr. Tokita should be strongly opposed to this legislation on environmental grounds.

Given the compound negative environmental effects of SB 79, it would obviously delay any progress towards the State's 2045 carbon neutrality target. But even without the negative impacts of SB79, the State will not be meeting that 2045 target since it is not managing one of the single largest carbon emissions sources under its purview – wildfires. Carbon dioxide emissions from wildfires are not counted against California's emissions targets even though California's record-breaking 2020 fire season was noted by UCLA researchers as wiping out almost 20 years of cumulative emissions savings, generating"...almost twice the tonnage of greenhouse gases as the total amount of carbon dioxide reductions (from State initiatives) made since 2003"! [4][5]

RHNA AND SB79 ARE DEVELOPMENT LOBBYIST-BASED INITIATIVES, NOT "EVIDENCE-BASED REFORM"

Mr. Tokia asserts that SB79 is "...evidence-based reform necessary to ease California's housing shortage...". Unfortunately, there is nothing about RHNA or SB 79 that is "evidence-based". The boilerplate AHLA mantra is that the impact of new market rate luxury housing will eventually "trickle down" to lower all housing costs. This non-sensical affordability assertion requires the economically impossible assumption that investors will continue to altruistically build while the value of each new project (and their portfolio of existing real estate assets) declines in value as rents decline from oversupply. Moreover, given that real estate development projects traditionally use high levels of debt, these declines in value would push projects towards bankruptcy, wiping out investor returns in the process.

Since subsidies, which are the key to below-market-rate affordability, are nowhere near sufficient to make a dent in the state's affordability challenges, the issue of affordability is being purposely conflated with an irrelevant assertion of a supply "shortage." In an exhaustive actual evidence-based analysis, the San Francisco Fed pointed out in March of 2025 that, "...our estimates imply that differences in housing supply elasticities across U.S. cities are small and quantitatively not important for explaining differences in house price and quantity growth. Our findings challenge the consensus that relaxing regulatory constraints would substantially lower housing prices and meaningfully expand housing quantities."[6]

The only "reform" delivered by SB79, and RHNA overall, is the creation of new investment and development opportunities for market rate housing in desirable, highly profitable locations that worsen overall community affordability through gentrification. The reality is that the entire RHNA framework, including SB79, is obscure, subjective, and political. RHNA's arcane math is specifically designed to

SEE **SB 79** PAGE 15



Surf report — WATER TEMP: **73.2**

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

SSW swell keeps fun surf running and we could get another nudge of NW windswell. SSW swell keeps knee-waist-chest high waves running with head-high waves in the mix out west. A little more NW windswell looks likely, so those open beachbreaks should have a few more corners/sections to pick off. Wind forecast is lower confidence at the moment, but it is likely we'll have some early texture - either out of the SSE or W, we'll dial that in over the next couple days.

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

Fun Southern Hemi swell continues. Watching Lorena, not expecting significant surf at this point. We now have TS Lorena near Baja over the next few days, but it's still a bit up in the air whether it makes the SoCal window. If it does, we probably won't see a ton from it, more mixing into the fun surf than adding to it. We will have fun-zone SSW Southern Hemi swell in the water and a likely bump in NW windswell, so there should be decent surf for the beachbreaks. Knee-waist high, pushing chest-high for better spots. Westernmost standouts go shoulder+.

Weather

Friday: Sunny, with a high near 76. Light and variable wind becoming southwest 5 to 10 mph in the morning.
Friday Night: Increasing clouds, with a low around 64. West southwest wind 5 to 10 mph.
Saturday: Sunny, with a high near 76. Light and variable wind becoming southwest 5 to 10 mph in the morning.
Saturday Night: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, mostly cloudy, with a low around 64.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted	(ft)High/Low
2025/09/05	Fri	02:49 AM	-0.34	L
2025/09/05	Fri	09:12 AM	4.40	H
2025/09/05	Fri	2:16 PM	2.01	L
2025/09/05	Fri	8:24 PM	6.24	H
2025/09/06	Sat	03:17 AM	-0.43	L
2025/09/06	Sat	09:32 AM	4.74	H
2025/09/06	Sat	2:55 PM	1.53	L
2025/09/06	Sat	9:03 PM	6.30	H
2025/09/07	Sun	03:44 AM	-0.36	L
2025/09/07	Sun	09:56 AM	5.12	H
2025/09/07	Sun	3:36 PM	1.09	L

Daily Lottery

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

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 9/3
3 16 29 61 69
Power#: 22
Jackpot: 1.7 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 9/2
7 17 35 40 64
Mega#: 23
Jackpot: 336 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 9/3
2 5 27 30 43
Mega#: 27
Jackpot: 40 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 9/3
9 10 17 18 32

Daily 3
Draw Date: 9/3
EVENING: 5 5 9
Draw Date: 9/3
MIDDAY: 3 0 0

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 9/3
1st: 12 - Lucky Charms
2nd: 07 - Eureka
3rd: 08 - Gorgeous George
Race Time: 1:43.32

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Lien Notice

NOTICE OF PUBLIC LIEN SALE Pursuant to the California Self-Service Storage Facility Act, (B&P Code 21700et. seq.), the undersigned will sell at public auction, on September 16, 2025 personal property including but not limited to business equipment, electronics, furniture, clothing, tools and/or other miscellaneous items located at: A-AMERICAN SELF STORAGE Via storagetreasures.com @ 2:00 pm, at 2300 Federal Ave Los Angeles CA 90064 (310) 478-2211 STORED BY THE FOLLOWING PERSONS: Paul Fig Fegen. Michelle Gimlin. Chris Gordon. Lisa Eppel. Lisa Eppel. Sid Ferrad. Anthony Rogell. Tyrone Whaley. Brian Witkowski. Scott Grady. All sales are subject to prior cancellation. Terms, rules and regulations available at sale. By A-American Management Co. Inc. (310) 914-4022, Bond. #72BSBBU5400

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Ocean Park

Cancer Survivors, Patients to be Honored at Luminaria Display

Hundreds of glowing luminarias will light up the Jimmy Stewart Rose Garden at Providence Saint John's Health Center on Sunday as part of a community event honoring lives touched by cancer.

The American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network will host the free public display from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. at 2121 Santa Monica Blvd. Each Light of Hope luminaria represents a life affected by the disease, celebrating survivors, honoring patients and caregivers, and remembering those who have died.

The event comes as Congress prepares its annual budget amid the president's proposed cuts to the National Cancer Institute and National Institutes of Health. The proposed reductions would affect cancer research initiatives and related programs that have contributed to advances in prevention, early detection and treatment options in California and nationwide.

Event organizer Laura LaRose, a nurse practitioner and ACS CAN volunteer who lost her father and multiple family members to cancer, will be available for interviews during the display.

Guests can donate and dedicate their own Light of Hope bags on site. The event highlights the need for continued investment in cancer research and aims to give advocates a voice for those impacted by cancer, including nearly 200,000 Californians expected to be diagnosed with the disease this year.

The Lights of Hope event serves as ACS CAN's signature fundraising effort and underscores the role elected officials play in the fight against cancer.

The American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network advocates for evidence-based public policies to reduce the cancer burden. Since 2001, the nonprofit, nonpartisan advocacy affiliate has successfully pushed for billions of dollars in cancer research funding, expanded access to quality healthcare, and advanced tobacco control measures.

More information is available at www.fightcancer.org.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF



Courtesy photo

DOUGLAS PARK: CA Santa Monica LOH 2024.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Beach

Pulmonary Hypertension Advocate to Launch 200-Mile Walk

Team PHenomenal Hope will host its second annual "Where is EB?" 5K Walk and Fundraiser on Sunday, Sept. 7, at the Annenberg Community Beach House.

The event kicks off pulmonary hypertension advocate Eric Borstein's 200-mile awareness walk from Los Angeles to San Diego to raise funds and awareness for Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension and Pulmonary Hypertension research and patient support.

Borstein, diagnosed with PAH in 2020 after collapsing from heart failure, has become a powerful voice for the PH community. The walk brings together friends, families and supporters of those affected by pulmonary hypertension.

"'Where Is EB?' represents the strength, resilience, and unrelenting spirit of those living with PH, which embodies what we strive for at Team PH," said Dr. Harrison Farber, Chief Medical Officer of PHenomenal Hope.

> "Where Is EB?' represents the strength, resilience, and unrelenting spirit of those living with PH, which embodies what we strive for at Team PH
> - Dr. Harrison Farber, Chief Medical Officer of PHenomenal Hope

The event schedule at 415 Pacific Coast Highway includes check-in from 8 to 9 a.m., opening program and walk start at 9 a.m., closing ceremonies at 11:30 a.m., and the start of Borstein's 200-mile walk at noon.

The main parking lot at 445 Pacific Coast Highway fills quickly. Additional parking is available at Lot 8 North (810 Pacific Coast Highway), Lot 9 North (530 Pacific Coast Highway) and Will Rogers State Beach. The Marvin Braude bike trail connects all parking to the beach house.

Team PHenomenal Hope, founded in 2012, is a 501(c)(3) organization that improves quality of life for people affected by pulmonary hypertension by providing hope, ending isolation and funding research.

To register or donate, visit whereiseb.org.

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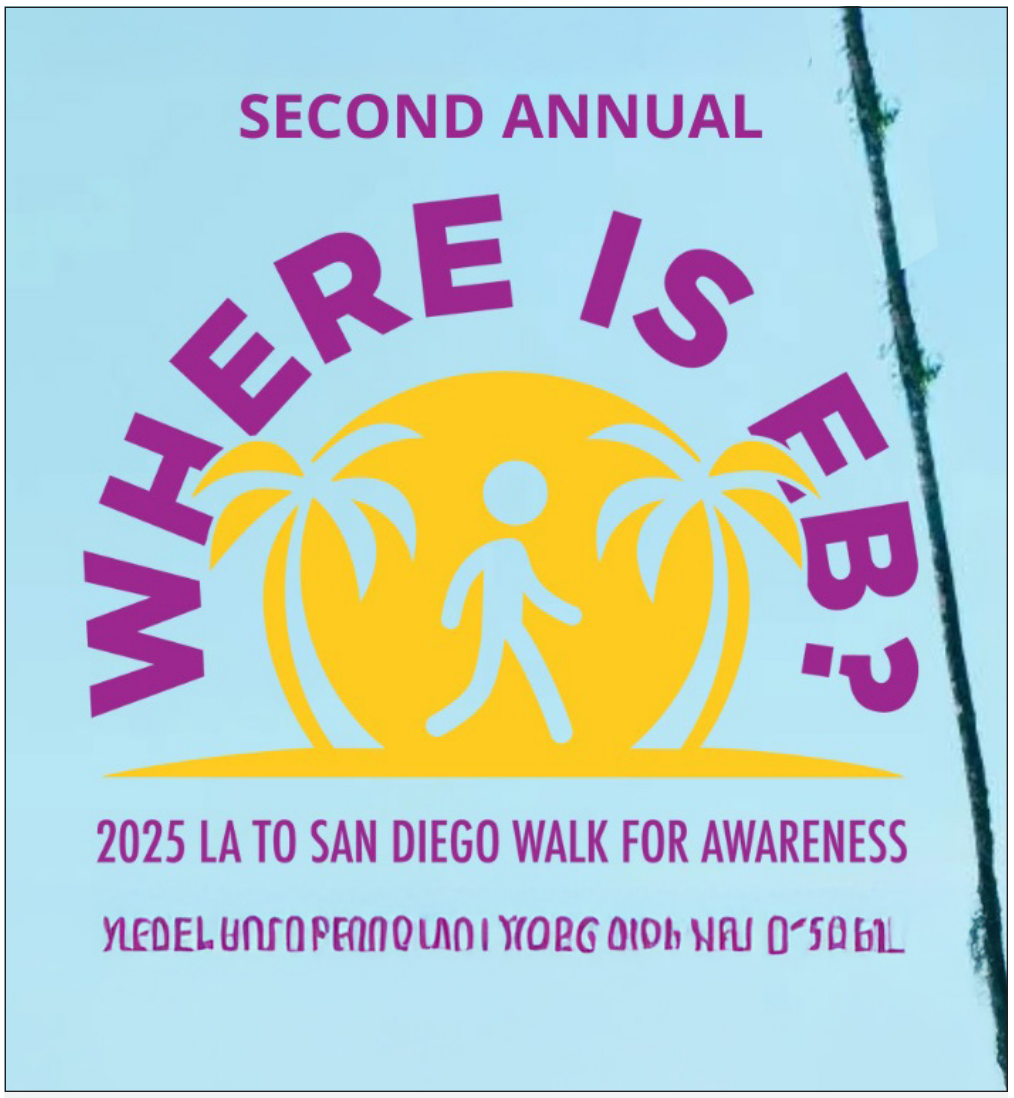

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EVENT: Pulmonary hypertension advocate Eric Borstein's 200-mile awareness walk from Los Angeles to San Diego.

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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

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.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Los Angeles

I-405 Sepulveda Pass to Close Three Lanes Each Direction This Weekend

Interstate 405 through the Sepulveda Pass will be reduced to three lanes in each direction from 10 p.m. Friday through 5 a.m. Monday as part of ongoing pavement rehabilitation work.

Caltrans is urging motorists to seek alternate routes and consider public transportation options during the closure period. This marks the second extended weekend lane reduction in the area.

Northbound I-405 will be reduced to three lanes between Santa Monica Boulevard and just north of Sunset Boulevard. The Santa Monica Boulevard and Sunset Boulevard on-ramps will be closed, though all northbound off-ramps will remain open. The eastbound and westbound Wilshire Boulevard on-ramps to northbound I-405 will stay open.

Southbound I-405 will have three lanes available from just north of Sunset Boulevard to eastbound Wilshire Boulevard. The Sunset Boulevard/Church Lane on- and off-ramps will be closed, along with the southbound I-405 off-ramp to eastbound and westbound Wilshire Boulevard.

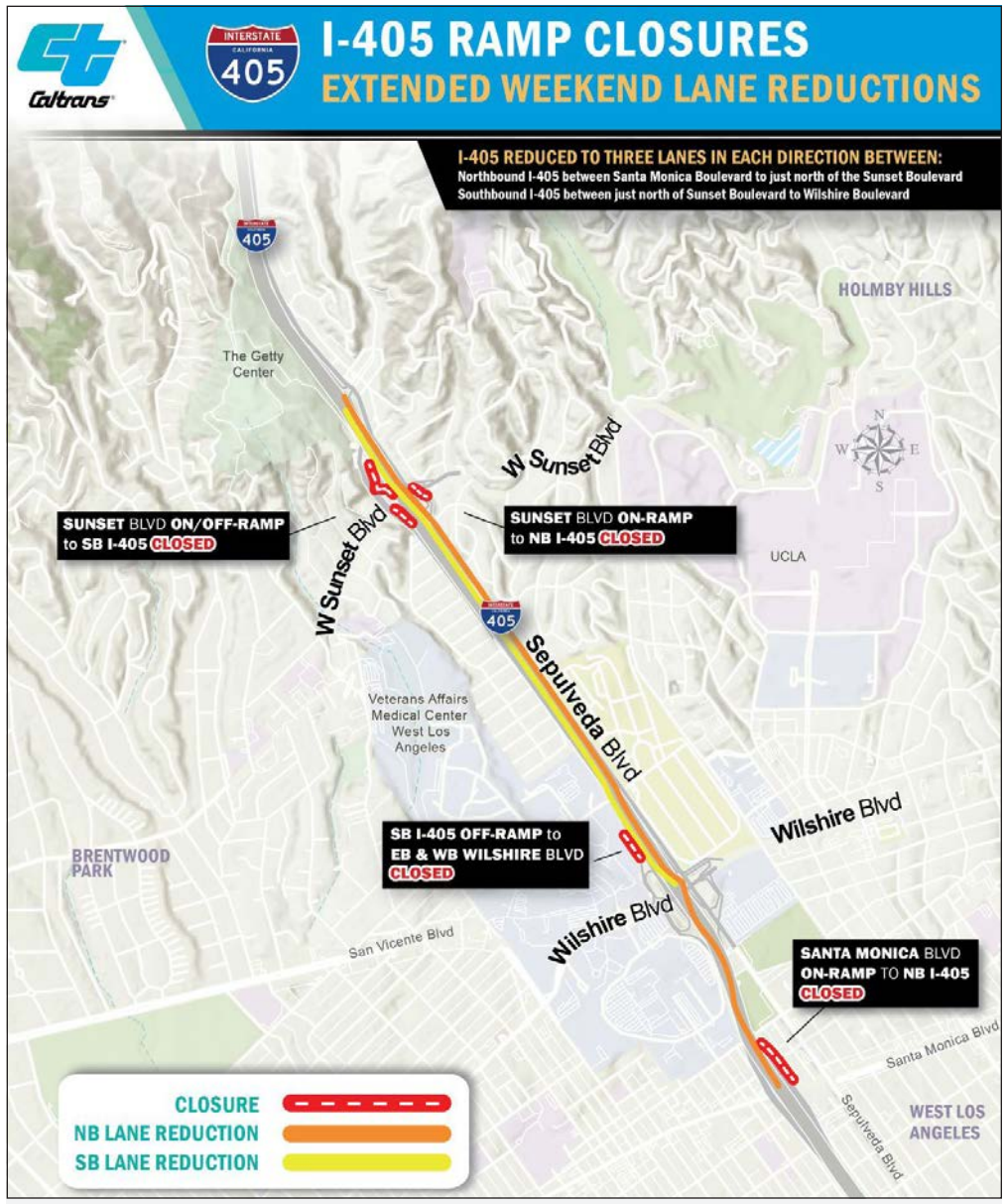
Caltrans recommends alternate routes for affected travelers. Drivers seeking northbound I-405 from Santa Monica Boulevard should travel east on Santa Monica Boulevard, then north on Sepulveda Boulevard to the Moraga Drive on-ramp. Those heading to southbound I-405 from Sunset Boulevard should take Church Lane north, then Sepulveda Boulevard south and Santa Monica Boulevard west to the southbound I-405 on-ramp.

The work is part of the $143.7 million I-405 Pavement Rehabilitation Project between Van Nuys and Westwood communities. Extended weekend lane reductions will occur approximately every two weeks along various I-405 sections, with about 25 total weekend closures planned for the project.

Residents and businesses near construction areas may experience noise, vibrations and dust from construction activities. The schedule is subject to change due to weather or operational reasons, including closure times, dates and the number of lanes affected.

Current road conditions are available on the Caltrans Quickmap website. The project aims to improve safety and mobility along I-405 while sustainably extending pavement life.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF



Courtesy image

MAP: Northbound I-405 will be reduced to three lanes between Santa Monica Boulevard and just north of Sunset Boulevard.

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

LA Opera to present free West Side Story simulcast at two locations



Photo Todd Rosenberg, Lyric Opera of Chicago

OPERA: Francesca Zambello's production of West Side Story.

MAAZ ALIN
SMDP Staff Writer

LA Opera will broadcast its season-opening production of "West Side Story" free of charge to outdoor audiences at two Southern California locations on Sept. 27, marking the company's continued effort to bring opera to diverse communities across Los Angeles County.

The high-definition simulcast will transmit live from the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion to large LED screens at Loma Alta Park in Altadena and Santa Monica Pier, beginning at 7:30 p.m. Saturday.

Music Director James Conlon will conduct the production, staged by director Francesca Zambello and featuring original choreography by Jerome Robbins. The cast includes soprano Gabriella Reyes as Maria, tenor Duke Kim as Tony, Amanda Castro as Anita, Taylor Harley as Riff and Yurel Echezarreta as Bernardo.

Los Angeles County is providing generous support to make the simulcasts possible, according to LA Opera.

"Experiencing live theater under the night sky is one of those unforgettable LA moments," said Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath, who represents the Third District. "This year, I'm excited that West Side Story is coming to the Santa Monica Pier for a free simulcast on September 27."

The Santa Monica Pier event will mark the 12th "Opera at the Beach" simulcast at that location. The Altadena screening represents the first time LA Opera's annual live simulcast will reach audiences there, with the new "Opera in the Park" program launching at Loma Alta Park.

> "Experiencing live theater under the night sky is one of those unforgettable LA moments"
> - Lindsey P. Horvath, Supervisor

"Nothing unites us, comforts us, heals us or brings us joy like music does," said Kathryn Barger, chair of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, who represents the Fifth District. "Residents from Altadena and beyond will get to enjoy West Side Story by the world-class LA Opera, plus lots of fun activities for the whole family."

SEE **OPERA** PAGE 15

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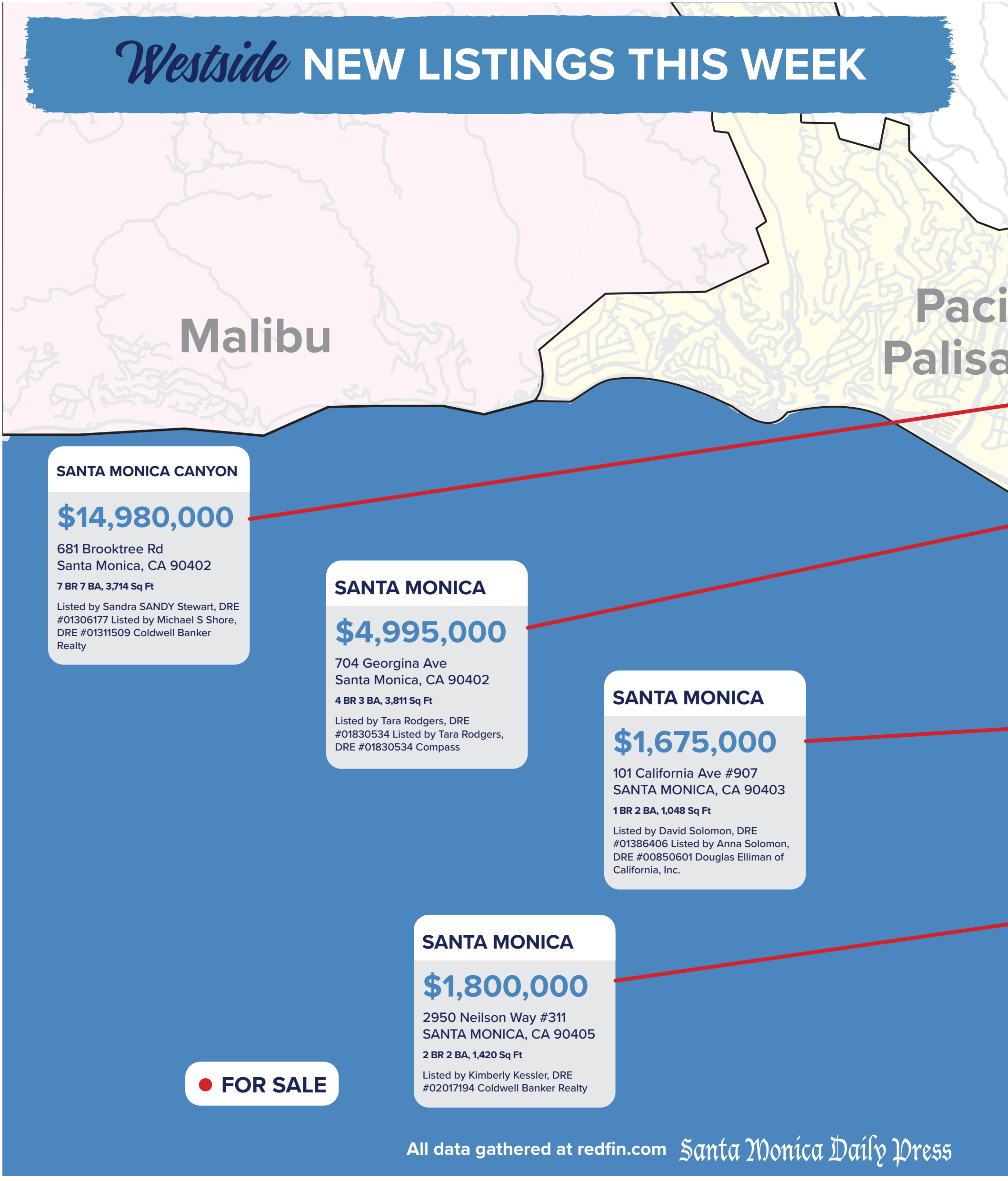
Westside NEW LISTINGS THIS WEEK



SANTA MONICA CANYON

$14,980,000

681 Brooktree Rd
Santa Monica, CA 90402

7 BR 7 BA, 3,714 Sq Ft

Listed by Sandra SANDY Stewart, DRE #01306177 Listed by Michael S Shore, DRE #01311509 Coldwell Banker Realty

SANTA MONICA

$4,995,000

704 Georgina Ave
Santa Monica, CA 90402

4 BR 3 BA, 3,811 Sq Ft

Listed by Tara Rodgers, DRE #01830534 Listed by Tara Rodgers, DRE #01830534 Compass

SANTA MONICA

$1,675,000

101 California Ave #907
SANTA MONICA, CA 90403

1 BR 2 BA, 1,048 Sq Ft

Listed by David Solomon, DRE #01386406 Listed by Anna Solomon, DRE #00850601 Douglas Elliman of California, Inc.

SANTA MONICA

$1,800,000

2950 Neilson Way #311
SANTA MONICA, CA 90405

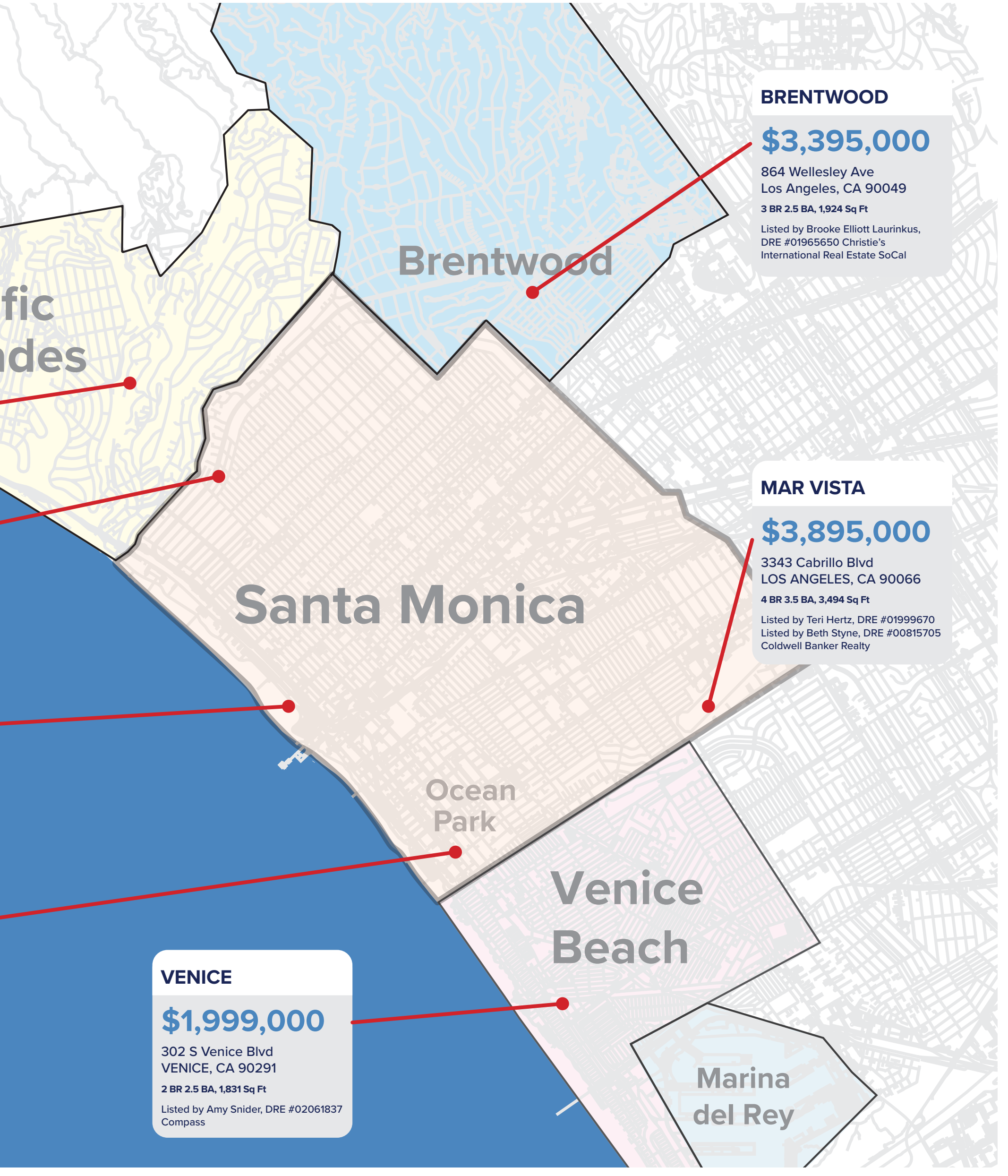
2 BR 2 BA, 1,420 Sq Ft

Listed by Kimberly Kessler, DRE #02017194 Coldwell Banker Realty

● FOR SALE

All data gathered at redfin.com

Santa Monica Daily Press



BRENTWOOD

$3,395,000

864 Wellesley Ave
Los Angeles, CA 90049

3 BR 2.5 BA, 1,924 Sq Ft

Listed by Brooke Elliott Laurinkus, DRE #01965650 Christie's International Real Estate SoCal

MAR VISTA

$3,895,000

3343 Cabrillo Blvd
LOS ANGELES, CA 90066

4 BR 3.5 BA, 3,494 Sq Ft

Listed by Teri Hertz, DRE #01999670
Listed by Beth Styne, DRE #00815705
Coldwell Banker Realty

VENICE

$1,999,000

302 S Venice Blvd
VENICE, CA 90291

2 BR 2.5 BA, 1,831 Sq Ft

Listed by Amy Snider, DRE #02061837
Compass

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Saturday, October 25, 2025
8:00 AM
Santa Monica Pier
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SUMMER FRIDAYS

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MakingStridesWalk.org/SantaMonica

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FRIDAY | SEPTEMBER 5

PUPPETS IN THE LIBRARY!
4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. Ocean Park Branch Library 2601 Main St. Santa Monica. Celebrate Library Card Sign-Up Month with a puppet show highlighting how great it is to have a library card. Then make a paper bag puppet to take home and create your own puppet shows! For ages 4 - 11. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/puppets-in-the-library-/16455886/2025-09-05T16

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/14385252/2025-09-05T18

TRIVIAL COMEDY
8:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. The Crow 2525 Michigan Avenue #Unit F4 Santa Monica. Come flex your knowledge AND enjoy a fun showcase of some hilarious comics who also have some favorite trivia fun facts too. In between sets, our host will be asking the audience trivia questions which you can answer for your chance at winning a cool prize! Recommended for 18 + (material is mature and can be compared to content seen in rated R films). Bergamot Station Arts Center • @bergamotsantamonica. Doors open 30 minutes before. No-drink minimum. 10% off at Birdie G's • @birdiegsla. FREE PARKING in our lot. Located directly at the 26th Street/Bergamot Station Metro Stop. 24/7 security guard on site. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/trivial-comedy/16607353/2025-09-05T20

ELECTRIC LODGE PRESENTS: HIGH VOLTAGE
8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. Electric Lodge 1416 Electric Avenue Los Angeles. Electric Lodge presents: High Voltage. Join us for High Voltage, an electrifying evening of performance! First Friday of each month. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/electric-lodge-presents-high-voltage/15774947/2025-09-05T20

BRISK FESTIVAL LA 2025
8:30 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. $19.00 to $29.00. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/brisk-festival-la-2025/16402497/2025-09-05T20

SATURDAY | SEPTEMBER 6

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/16094481/2025-09-06T10

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/14548485/2025-09-06T11

NOMA ANNUAL MEETING
1:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Franklin School Auditorium 2400 Montana Ave Santa Monica. The NOMA ANNUAL MEETING IN PERSON! IN PERSON! IN PERSON! SATURDAY SEPT 6th at 1:30PM / FRANKLIN SCHOOL. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/noma-annual-meeting/16653363/2025-09-06T13

A PIERFECT BENEFIT
3:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Santa Monica Pier 200 Santa Monica Pier, Ste A Santa Monica. Celebrate the Pier's golden hour at an unforgettable gathering of cocktails, appetizers, and heartfelt moments as we honor everything the Santa Monica Pier represents. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/a-pierfect-benefit/16281738/2025-09-06T15

GATHER AND GROW: THE STAGE SPEAKS
4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Reed Park Santa Monica. Experience the power of live art with The Stage Speaks! Don't miss out on this opportunity to experience the magic of contemporary poetry and performance in a beautiful outdoor setting and historic playhouse. Grab your friends and family and immerse yourself in a world of creativity and expression with Get Lit and Santa Monica Rep's youth play reading of The House on Mango Street. This stage adaptation of Sandra Cisneros' beloved novel is about growing up and finding one's voice. Great for older youth, teens and adults. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/gather-and-grow-the-stage-speaks/16455887/2025-09-06T16

I GOTTA CROW
8:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. The Crow 2525 Michigan Ave Unit F4 Santa Monica. The Crow's favorite show curates elevated comedy with comics from HBO, Netflix, Comedy Central, and late night TV. Curated Comedy with comics from HBO, Netflix, Comedy Central and late night TV. THE CROW is listed in the LA Times as one of the best places to see comedy in LA! Read a more about The Crow in this feature article of the LA Times. Directions to The Crow at Bergamot Station: FREE PARKING in the lot at Bergamot Station Arts Center. (You're welcome, Los Angeles.) We are right at the Bergamot Station Metro Stop ! (You are soooo welcome, Los Angeles!) Fun Facts: Safe Space! (Security guards on premises 24/7.) The Crow is located directly behind our favorite restaurant, Birdie G's . If you want to grab a fine dinner there before, we encourage you to make a reservation. 10% off your meal with your ticket to The Crow. More info can be found at: www.CrowComedy.com Lineup subject to change. No drink minimum. The Crow is owned and operated by a female/mom/stand-up comic. I Gotta Crow occurs most Saturday's. Check our website or ticket link for official listings! $23.88. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/i-gotta-crow/14639013/2025-09-06T20

SUNDAY | SEPTEMBER 7

TEAM PHENOMENAL HOPE PRESENTS: "WHERE IS EB?" 5K WALK AND FUNDRAISER
8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Annenberg Community Beach House 415 Pacific Coast Highway Santa Monica. TEAM PHENOMENAL HOPE PRESENTS THE 2ND ANNUAL "WHERE IS EB?" 5K WALK AND FUNDRAISER ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2025. Pulmonary Hypertension Advocate Eric Borstein to Kick-off His 200-Mile Awareness Journey from Los Angeles to San Diego. Team PHenomenal Hope presents the 2nd Annual "Where is EB?" 5K Walk and Fundraiser, a community event aimed at raising awareness and funds for Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension (PAH) and Pulmonary Hypertension (PH) research and patient support. The 5K community walk will kick-off Eric Borstein's, 200 mile walk from Los Angeles to San Diego to raise awareness for the rare disease. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/team-phenomenal-hope-presents-where-is-eb-5k-walk-and-fundraiser/16369628/2025-09-07T08

GRANDPARENTS DAY CELEBRATION
11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Elder-Well Adult Day Program 1529 Wilshire Blvd, , CA 90403 Santa Monica. The Grandparent's Day event will celebrate decades of love, wisdom, and cherished memories. Families are invited to spend an afternoon of joy and connection, while also benefitting Alzheimer's Los Angeles and The Memory Connection. There will be various activities for everyone to enjoy, such as an ice cream social, photo booth, arts & crafts, music, and more. Free—Admission is free, but donations are encouraged. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/grandparents-day-celebration/16663819/2025-09-07T11

SEPTEMBER RUN
11:00 a.m. Bread + Butter | Main Street 2645 Main Street Santa Monica. Join our monthly 4 miles fun run . Expect great vibes, discover a new coffee venue and meet the LA running community. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/september-run/16644432/2025-09-07T11

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/14894114/2025-09-07T11

ORCHESTRA SANTA MONICA PRESENTS "CLASSICAL JUKEBOX+"
3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Santa Monica College Performing Arts Center 1310 11th St Santa Monica. Enjoy Maestro Kalia's curated selection of musical favorites ranging from classical to modern on this concert's jukebox. With a variety of "top hits", some newer and lesser-known works, and an audience-selected piece, this promises to be an engaging and exciting afternoon of music! Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/orchestra-santa-monica-presents-classical-jukebox-/16535417/2025-09-07T15

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6255

ART

FROM PAGE 1

clients, introduced Diaz to art curator and Santa Monica local Ernie Lucero. And "What Are Those" was born – an exhibit showcasing different customized shoes based on the cultural experiences of urban Los Angeles. Each shoe showcases a unique community and chapter of L.A. and was completed by local artists.

"These classic Chuck Taylor All Stars are hand-custom-painted and accessorised," one gallery label reads. "They are an homage to urban indigenous native youth. Specifically, the tongue of the shoe is inspired by traditional beaded moccasins, the placement is meant to convey the connection in the world around us and the belts are said to carry prayers and positive energy."

Another piece is the "Monarch Metamorphosis" – featuring butterflies hand-painted by San Fernando Valley native Erica Friend on a pair of classic Adidas Sambas. One hand-painted pair of Vans by Johnny Zepeda tells the story of the ocean under the Santa Monica Pier. Manny LeGaspe's piece, entitled "Child's Play – Toying with Democracy," showcases two red and blue shoes molded into military tanks, facing off in front of a paper that says "We the People."

The excitement of getting a new pair and expressing one's self through shoes is something everyone can relate to, Diaz said.

"It's been amazing just seeing so many people come by and just seeing how impressed they are by seeing a lot of the art, and didn't think a barber shop would host a small gallery event like this," he added.

Looking forward, Diaz hopes to continue chasing his dream one day by also having a cafe in the barbershop – tying hospitality, art, and haircutting all together. Beyond "What Are Those," he looks forward to bringing the community together with new galleries every month and a half. For October, he plans to host a gallery dedicated to Day of the Dead for the second year in a row.

"It's nice sharing memories and sharing a lot of stuff that I grew up with," he said. "And then people that may not know about the culture – it's also nice every day when they can come in here and learn about it and maybe share some of their own loved ones that have passed away. So, there's many stories that come by and you share all kinds of stuff with different people that you've never met."

Pier 86 Barbershop is open Mon.-Sat. from 10 a.m.-7 p.m. "What Are Those" is free and open to the public until Sept. 25.

By SAM MULICK

BUSINESSES

FROM PAGE 1

Mayor Pro Tem Bruce Silverstein proposed adding language requiring that "no compensation directly or indirectly is provided to anyone for the use of the facility beyond the normal rent paid by the tenant." He argued the restriction would prevent businesses from essentially renting out space for private events or accepting payment from companies to promote their products.

"We make mistakes a lot of times when we adopt legislation at city council," Silverstein said. "The mistake we make is we don't think about what are the ways in which very good lawyers could read what we write to find ways around what we say."

However, his proposal failed to gain support from other council members, who expressed concern about creating excessive red tape.

Council Member Doug Stewart, referencing his experience in the wine business, said Bruce's amendment could raise questions about routine promotional activities. "We're not talking about Los Angeles here, we're talking about local stores and businesses," he said. "I think we're going maybe a bridge too far and trying to squash a bug that isn't there."

The ordinance stems from the Palisades Fire that broke out January 7, affecting nearly one-third of Malibu geographically and forcing the closure of PCH from the eastern city limit to Carbon Beach through Memorial Day weekend. The fire significantly impacted businesses by cutting off access from the greater Los Angeles area during the crucial winter and spring tourist seasons.

The approved amendments allow events with up to 250 attendees on commercially and institutionally zoned properties through May 31, 2026. Events with 99 or fewer people require only a planning clearance two days in advance, while larger gatherings need a temporary use permit filed seven days prior.

Shopping centers can now host 48 events annually with no more than eight per month, while individual businesses are limited to 24 events yearly with no more than two monthly. The previous proposal had limited individual businesses to 20 events annually.

The changes were requested by a shopping center representative who sought additional flexibility following the council's August 11 meeting. Staff and the city attorney reviewed and adapted the requests into the current proposal.

The ordinance also allows expanded temporary signage, permitting six signs per shopping center or two signs per parcel for other commercial businesses, each not exceeding 16 square feet.

City staff noted that the temporary use permit ordinance to assist local businesses is in full swing, with plans for ground-level outreach to raise awareness among affected businesses.

The council scheduled the second reading and final adoption of Ordinance 526 for the September 8 meeting. The vote occurred after 10:30 p.m. during a lengthy council session, with no public speakers addressing the item.

Mayor Pro Tem Bruce Silverstein cast the sole dissenting vote, maintaining his position that additional safeguards were necessary to prevent abuse of the expanded permissions.

The ordinance includes several disqualifying conditions, including properties with noise violations, unpermitted events in the past year, or outstanding code enforcement violations without compliance agreements.

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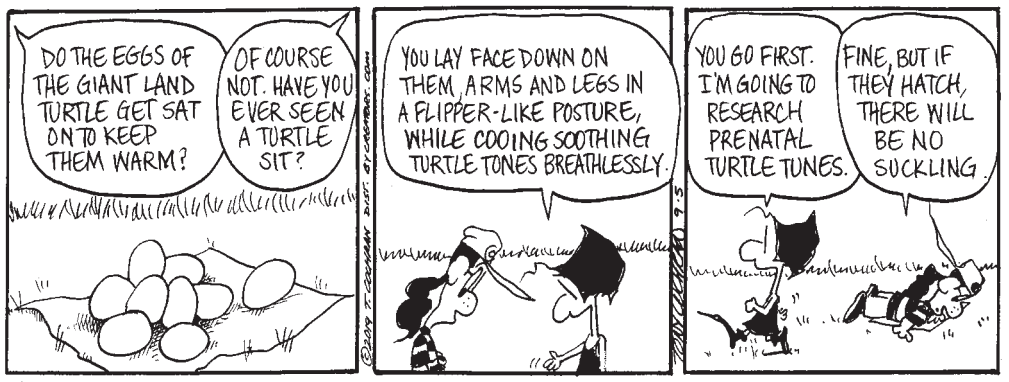
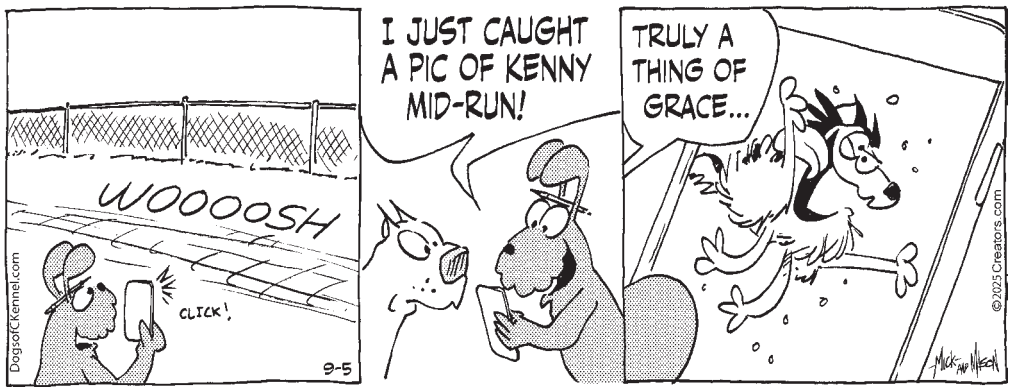
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



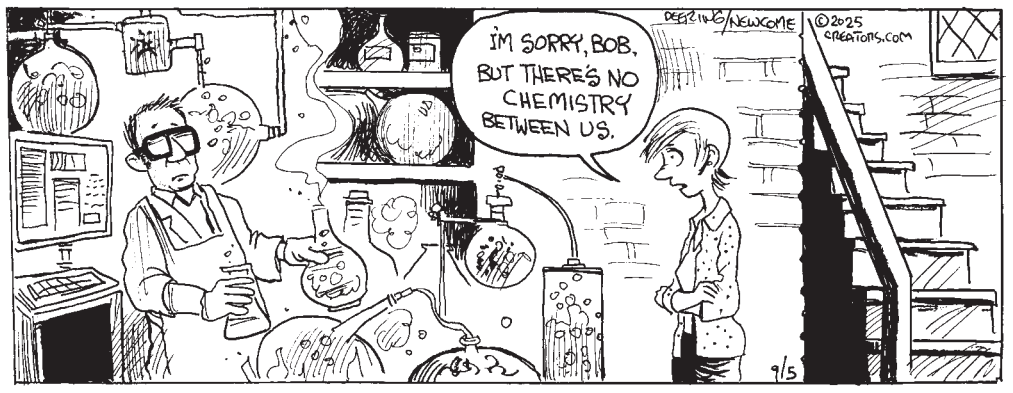
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING



FIND THE WORDS

This is a theme puzzle with the subject stated below. Find the listed words in the grid. (They may run in any direction but always in a straight line. Some letters are used more than once.) Ring each word as you find it and when you have completed the puzzle, there will be 20 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle. © australianwordgames.com.au 6689

In the tool shed

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

Air bed
Axes
Bench
Biscuit joiner
Broom
Busy
Clamp
Crowbar
Dirt
Dish
Dust
Esky
Gloves
Grout
Heat gun
Hoist
Hose
Junk
Kero
Kits
Nuts and bolts
Oily
Petrol
Pinball
Plane
Pliers
Pots
Racks
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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Sept. 5)

Your brilliance is supported in this year of continuous improvements and transformations. You decide who you want to be and then let the world form to you. People love all versions of you: before, after and during the changes. Relationships strengthen. More highlights: A new setting inspires the best work of your life and requisite pay. Family grows. A move or renovation is featured. Libra and Scorpio adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 12, 1, 44, 50 and 28.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You don't need to dominate the room to make an impact. People feel you even when you're unassuming or just trying to blend. You'll do it all with authenticity. One well-placed truth from you can change the tone and the direction the group takes.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You care enough about your growth to risk discomfort. You're not just doing the work it takes to be good; you're doing what it takes to be great. You're aiming high, and you're brave enough to hear what could make you better.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Someone in your world is drawing strength from your reliability, even if they never say it. You're a reference point for them. A comfort. A stabilizer. Because you keep showing up, doing the work, they'll start to believe they can do it, too.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You're tempted to explain yourself, but it's not necessary. Let your actions speak for you and know that people interpret events, behavior and words in the way it makes sense to them based on things you had nothing to do with and cannot control.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You're generous with your attention and trust, always looking for ways to encourage. And because that trust is real, not naive or performative, people feel seen, valued and motivated to be the kind of person you already believe they are.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). The truth is that most humans are capable of the things that few humans do. You burn with a desire for experience, for accomplishment or for the deep inner knowing that your choices are rare, remarkable and all your own. Believe in yourself.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). The conditions you're in count more toward output than anything inside you now. Small changes to your surroundings will greatly impact your motivation. Organize your space, adjusting lighting, removing distractions, adding inspiration. Your mood and productivity soar.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). When you're inspired, everyone feels it. That spark lights up in your eyes and in everything you say and do. The trick is keeping it alive even when things get tedious. Today you'll find a way - a new angle or fun twist that keeps you lit.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You've already done the emotional calculus, so there's no need to keep taking on this equation. Go with the conclusions you've drawn and let the scene play out. Confidence will matter in this. Play it like you trust your timing, your read and your decision and they will, too.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Someone's softness makes you stronger. You're nourished by warmth, connection and subtle signals that show you're understood. Whether it's a glance, a word or just the ease in someone's company, it will fill your well and you'll pour it forward.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). When you're in the middle of a social situation, it's easy to lose track of your internal state as you reach, engage and maybe even perform a little. But the afterglow (or lack of it) tells the truth. Today's real emotional data comes after the moment.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). The most empowering version of your story is the one that propels you forward. If your feeling is nostalgia, regret or reticence, the story needs a rewrite. How else can you think about what happened?

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

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

Newsday Crossword

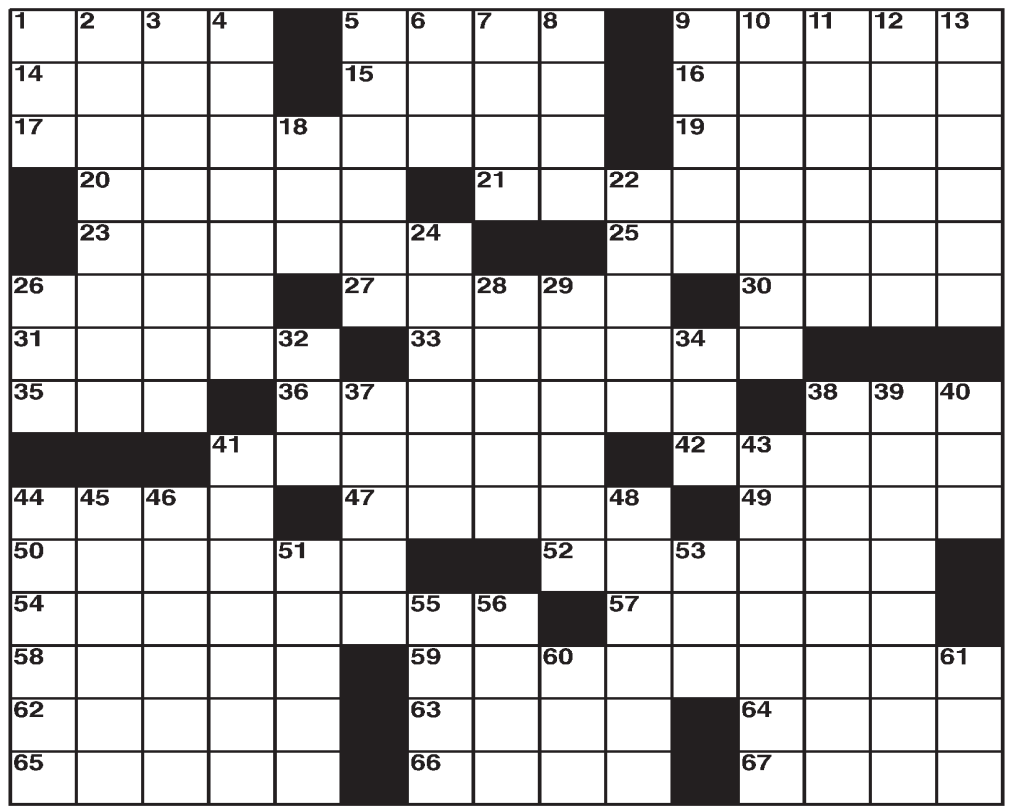
CAR CHORE by S.N.
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Widespread
5 South Sudan's capital
9 Hit the ___ (decline suddenly)
14 Many an operatic performance
15 Heavy duty
16 Fjord, essentially
17 Ristorante turnover
19 Spirited attack
20 Media mogul moniker
21 Bach wrote sonatas for it
23 Precisely correct
25 Looped fastener for cables
26 Do the numbers
27 Brewed beverage
30 Ostentatious display
31 Has no use for
33 Was known as
35 Call conclusion
36 '60s ill-fated NASA mission
38 Store to improve
41 Auspices
42 Cranial cavity
44 Evaluation symbol
47 Prepare for action
49 C-suite
50 Give refuge to
52 Bloke's "first-rate"
54 Out of nothing
57 In the dark
58 Anxiety
59 Tiny detail
62 Speed demon
63 Understand intuitively
64 *Time Machine* people
65 Excess
66 Burnt, as briquettes
67 What Boone 33-Across

DOWN

1 Script writers
2 Phone's time saver
3 Treacherous people
4 Warehousing
5 Change positions a lot
6 Hour after *mezzanotte*
7 Narcissus, for instance
8 Where eggplant was first eaten
9 Oscar winner as Loretta
10 Unprincipled conduct
11 Land of Lincoln collegians
12 Reverent
13 Whom Fox replaced in *Back to the Future*
18 Seething
22 Make sure of
24 Joke you haven't heard before
26 Byron's "___ Walks in Beauty"
28 Swift's significant other
29 "We exclusively!"
32 Lose momentum
34 Grafton's *Burglar* starter
37 Lab dish deviser
38 British Caribbean island
39 Informal initiative
40 Appraisal abbr.
41 Person settling disputes
43 Tacit
44 Wool gathering need
45 IRS' compliance shortfall
46 Botanical balm for bruises
48 Courageous
51 #5 busiest US airport
53 Aesopian saver
55 Louise Suggs Rookie of the Year awarder
56 Communally owned
60 Kin of kabuki
61 ___ change (what the five longest Across answers end with)



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SB 79

FROM PAGE 3

enable multiples more market rate housing than the publicly disclosed allocations indicate.

RHNA and SB79 are designed to address the "shortage" of high-profit luxury market rate housing in desirable locations, not the affordability crisis impacting residents throughout the state.

Mr. Tokia asserts that building more affordable housing near transit and work hubs is the exact thing that SB 79 will "legalize" – he does not say "materialize." That's because the affordability provisions do not apply to projects of 10 units or less (the likely size of projects on single family lots) and the affordable inclusion requirements max out at 13% and are further diluted with density bonuses. And, of course, the bill contains no new affordable housing subsidies which are limited by State and federal budgets.

Since affordability is an economic issue, there is no consensus at either the State or national levels as to what any housing supply "shortage" estimate should be. California's own estimate inexplicably dropped by 1 million units (29%), from 3.5 million to 2.5 million, between 2019 and 2021, without one housing unit being built. During the drafting of the 6th Cycle RHNA allocations in 2019, 154,000 housing units were shifted from affordable areas to already developed cities in the course of four weeks based on AHLA lobbing. It turns out that there can be as many "shortage" and "allocation" models are there are development lobbying groups.

Meanwhile, the State population is not projected to recover to its 2021 levels until 2028 and Southern California's until 2032. Populations for both are essentially flat through around 2050 and then both go into terminal population decline.

RHNA ALLOCATIONS, AND SB 79, ARE BASED ON LOBBYING, NOT SCIENCE

As a board member of AHLA, Mr. Tokita understands all of this. His organization has deftly exploited all these opportunities. His organization increased Santa Monica's draft 6th Cycle Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) mandate by almost 90% in the span of four weeks, from 4,829 housing units on October 2, 2019 to 9,058 housing units on November 4, 2019. This was accomplished through a highly orchestrated lobbying of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) in 2019 through both legal and public messaging in the LA Times.[7]

As insurance to eliminate Santa Monica City Council opposition to these unsupported made-up numbers, AHLA manufactured yet another shortage/allocation "model" [7] to assert that Santa Monica should be allocated 14,155 housing units instead of SCAG's proposed 9,058 units. This new number was then used by AHLA at the December 10, 2019 City Council meeting [8] to threaten additional State lobbying for a higher Santa Monica allocation if the Council did not adopt the proposed (and made up) draft 9,058 allocation.

How can supposedly scientific housing unit allocations move at the whim of lobbyists when they supposedly take years of research to construct? The answer: because they are simply made up.

SB79 is essentially designed to eliminate single family areas to ensure maximizing development financial returns. That's why SB79 initially had no affordability and why the existing affordability provisions are slim. Market rate housing maximizes investment profitability in already expensive places.

Developer profits are further increased by the indirect subsidies provided by the existing residents who shoulder the increased taxes inevitably necessary to provide expanded services and infrastructure support. Increasing the share of relatively high-income residents in a location.

Other than providing virtually unlimited high profit investment and development opportunities to legislative sponsors, SB79 contains no benefits to the residents of either California or Santa Monica. In fact, by increasing the share of high cost market rate housing in desirable locations such as Santa Monica, residents will be subjected to the increasing cost of living from accelerated gentrification that makes everything in the community more expensive. That's in addition to additional taxes required for expanded services and infrastructure capacity. All of this is the exact opposite of what a policy marketed as addressing affordability is supposed to do.

Senator Allen and Assemblymember Zbur should have no environmental or economic worries about voting against this exploitative and destructive profiteering legislation. All of their constituents will be very grateful. References: [1] Neighborhood change and transit ridership: Evidence from Los Angeles and Orange Counties. Michael Manville, Hannah King , Juan Matute , Theodore Lau UCLA Institute of Transportation Studies; Journal of Transport Geography 11-02-2024 https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0966692324002576/pdfft?md5=bb205df5b968e7d425ec9e503375974d&pid=1-s2.0-S0966692324002576-main.pdf [2] Breaking down public transit travel time for more accurate transport equity policies - Science Direct 06-29-2023 Published in Transportation Research Part A https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S096585642300176 3?ref=pdf_download&fr=RR-2&rr=975fc7fd6f0cc213 [3] Construction companies told to stop knocking down buildings - BBC 09-24-2021 https://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-58667328. [4] A single, devastating California fire season wiped out years of efforts to cut emissions – LA Times 10-20-2022 https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2022-10-20/california-wildfires-offset-greenhouse-gas-reductions. [5] Wildfires are Erasing California's Climate Gains University of Chicago Energy P licy Institute 10-17-2022 https://epic.uchicago.edu/news/wildfires-are-erasing-californias-climate-gains/ [6] Supply Constraints Do Not Explain House Price and Quantity Growth Across U.S. Cities - San Francisco Fed 03-2025 https://www.frbsf.org/wp-content/uploads/wp2025-06.pdf [7] Opinion: SoCal's new housing plan is going to make traffic and air pollution worse for everyone - LA Times 10-25-2019 https://www.latimes.com/opinion/story/2019-10-25/housing-crisis-los-angeles-scag-homeless-development [8] Santa Monica City Council Meeting 12-10-2019, Item 4.A. - Housing Policy Study Session (Timestamp 03:36:00) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yaU0Ze5h-Y0&t=8882s

By Marc L. Verville, Former Chair, Santa Monica Audit Subcommittee.

OPERA

FROM PAGE 7

Barger noted that Loma Alta Park has provided "respite, rejuvenation and resources" for the Altadena community during rebuilding and recovery efforts.

Both simulcasts will feature subtitles in English and Spanish. No tickets are required, but organizers encourage advance registration at LAOpera.org/Beach or LAOpera.org/Park for parking information, updates and a free gift at the event.

Seating is general admission at both locations. Attendees should bring their own chairs or blankets and arrive early for pre-performance activities and optimal viewing spots. Outside alcoholic beverages and pets are not permitted.

Pre-show activities will begin at 4:30 p.m. at Loma Alta Park and 5:30 p.m. at Santa Monica Pier. Both locations will offer family-friendly crafts, giveaways, free popcorn and entertainment.

At the Altadena location, Caltech will present a booth exploring jet propulsion history in honor of the musical's Jets gang. Other activities include lawn games, musical performances by local artists, face painting with biodegradable glitter and performances by jugglers and magicians.

Santa Monica Pier activities will feature a baby shark viewing tank provided by Heal the Bay Aquarium, paying tribute to the musical's Sharks gang, along with art activities and gift basket giveaways.

Leonard Bernstein and Stephen Sondheim's "West Side Story" tells the tale of star-crossed lovers Tony and Maria, whose romance unfolds against the backdrop of rival gangs in New York City. Tony, a former member of the Jets, falls for Maria, whose brother Bernardo leads the opposing Sharks gang.

The Altadena simulcast will take place at Loma Alta Park, 3330 N. Lincoln Avenue, with free parking available. The Santa Monica Pier is located at the western terminus of Colorado Avenue, accessible by Metro Expo Line to the downtown Santa Monica station.

LA Opera, which performs its mainstage productions at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, also operates the LA Opera Off Grand initiative featuring performances at various venues throughout Los Angeles. The company's LA Opera Connects department provides educational programming and community engagement throughout Los Angeles County.

Additional production information is available at LAOpera.org/WestSideStory.

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