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Council approves cannabis for all with vastly expanded options for opening new dispensaries in city limits

DEVAN SIPHER
Guest Author

The City Council voted 6-1 to allow commercial cannabis in Santa Monica last week. If this seems like old news, it could be because the city has debated dispensaries for more than a decade with a new round of study sessions picking up steam in the past two years.

However, the recent discussion was the first reading of an actual ordinance that vastly expands where dispensaries can operate after previously restrictive rules limited the city to just two cannabis retailers. The new law will authorize delivery permits for cannabis retailers located outside of Santa Monica and storefront permits for retailers within Santa Monica in any non-residential location permitted by state law.

The only geographic restriction will be the 600-foot buffer zones around schools, youth centers and daycare facilities mandated by the state. At the initial study session in 2023, Ajay Kolluri, the consultant hired by the city, recommended additional regulations for protecting public safety and preventing youth access. But in April 2024, the Council chose not to impose any limitations, with the exception of requiring 300 feet between marijuana dispensaries and allowing only one per city block.

Last week, staff recommended dropping these remaining requirements, saying they could delay implementation of the permit

SEE **CANNABIS** PAGE 6

Pacific Park opens spooky new attraction





Courtesy image

FUNHOUSE: Pacific Park's new Funhouse attraction has officially opened, bringing spine-tingling thrills to the Santa Monica Pier just in time for Halloween season. The 2,800-square-foot experience, designed and produced by EPIC Entertainment Group, resurrects the spirit of the legendary Toonerville Funhouse that first thrilled guests at Ocean Park Pier in the 1920s. Located past Snackville, the attraction features nine mysterious chambers filled with optical illusions and eerie surprises, including Mirror Madness, Puppet Master, and Vanilla Chill rooms. The immersive storyline follows sinister characters Sprinkles the Clown and a mysterious Fortune Teller who lure visitors deeper into the maze toward a chilling fate. "We're not just paying homage to Santa Monica's amusement legacy, we're creating a whole new chapter," said Charity Hill, EPIC's co-founder and executive producer. The modern funhouse blends nostalgia with contemporary storytelling innovations for today's thrill-seekers.

LA County faces federal threat to housing-first approach as new homeless department launches

MAAZ ALIN
SMDP Staff Writer

Los Angeles County officials warned that a federal executive order ending support for 'housing first' policies directly threatens the region's homelessness strategy and could eliminate more than $150 million in funding for permanent supportive housing programs.

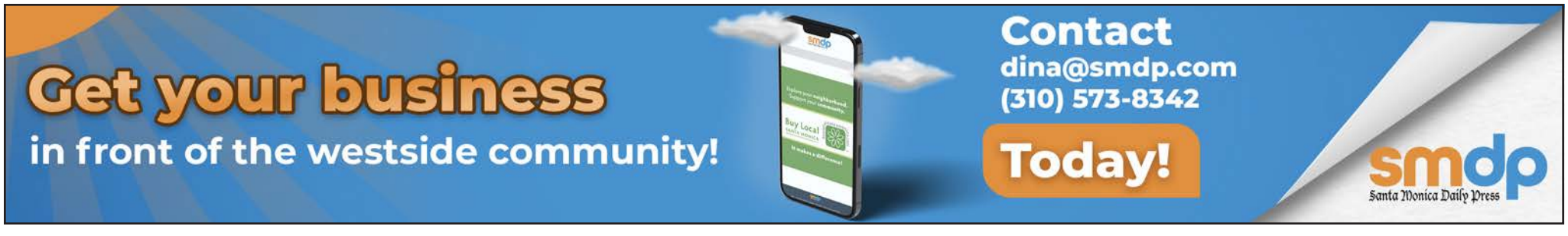
The warning came during a Board of Supervisors meeting as the county prepares to launch a new Department of Homeless Services and Housing on Jan. 1, 2026, consolidating the region's fragmented response to a crisis affecting tens of thousands of residents.

President Donald Trump's July executive order "Ending Crime and Disorder on America's Streets" directs federal agencies to stop funding housing-first programs and instead prioritize jurisdictions that enforce laws against urban camping and require treatment as a condition of housing.

"This executive order comes amidst federal budget cuts and legislation curtailing access to social safety net programs for some of our most vulnerable populations," said Sarah Mahin, director of the Department of Homeless Services and Housing.

The policy shift poses a direct challenge to Los Angeles County's evidence-based approach, which prioritizes getting people into stable housing before addressing other needs. Housing-first programs in the county maintain a 97% retention rate for participants and have housed 25,000 people through the Housing for Health program

SEE **HOMELESS** PAGE 4



Abortion advocates raise alarm about social platforms removing posts in apparent overreach

Clinics, advocacy groups and individuals who share abortion-related content online say they are seeing informational posts being taken down even if the posts don't clearly violate the platforms' policies.

The groups, in Latin America and the United States, are denouncing what they see as censorship even in places where abortion is legal. Companies like Meta claim their policies have not changed, and experts attribute the takedowns to over-enforcement at a time when social media platforms are reducing spending on content moderation in favor of artificial intelligence systems that struggle with context, nuance and gray areas.

But abortion advocates say the removals have a chilling effect even if they are later reversed, and navigating platforms' complex systems of appeals is often difficult, if not impossible.

For months, the digital rights group Electronic Frontier Foundation has been collecting examples from social media users who've seen their abortion-related posts taken down or accounts suspended.

"The goal of it was to better understand the breadth of the problem, who's affected, and with what consequences. Obviously, then once we had a better understanding of the trends, we hope to call attention to the issue, demand accountability and increase transparency in the moderation practices and ultimately, help stop the platforms from censoring this essential, sometimes life-saving information," said Jennifer Pinsof, staff attorney at EFF.

The organization says it received close to 100 examples of content takedowns from abortion providers, advocacy groups and individuals on Meta platforms such as Instagram and Facebook, as well as TikTok and even LinkedIn.

It's not clear if the takedowns are increasing or people are posting more about abortion, especially abortion medication such as mifepristone, since the Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade in 2022.

"I would say there was a wave of takedowns shortly after the election that was noticeable enough that it resulted in multiple news stories. But again, it's not something that's very easy to measure," Pinsof said.

Brenna Miller, a TikTok creator who often posts about abortion and works in reproductive health care, said she made a video unboxing an abortion pill package from the nonprofit carafem — where she talked about what was in the package and discussed the process of taking the pills at home.

She posted the video in December. It was up for at least a week before TikTok removed it, saying it violated the platform's community standards.

"TikTok does have an appeal process, which I tried to go through. And it just locked me out. It said that I didn't have the option to appeal it," Miller said. "So I started emailing them, trying to get in contact with a person to just even get an explanation of like, how I violated the community guidelines with an informational video. It took months for me to even get in contact with a person and I don't even (think) it was really a person. They were sending an automated message for months straight."

Eventually, the video was restored in May with no explanation.

"I work in public health in my 9-to-5 and we're seeing a real suppression of public health information and dissemination of that information, particularly in the reproductive health space. And people are scared," Miller said. "It's really important to get people this medically accurate information so that they're not afraid and they actually can access the health care that they need."

TikTok does not generally prohibit sharing information about abortion or abortion medication, however it does regulate selling and marketing drugs, including abortion pills and it prohibits misinformation that could harm people.

On Facebook, the Red River Women's Clinic in Moorhead, Minnesota, put up a post saying it offers both surgical and medicated abortion after it heard from a patient who didn't know it offered medication abortion. The post included a photo of mifepristone. When the clinic tried to turn the post into an ad, its account was suspended. The clinic says that since it does not offer telehealth services, it was not attempting to sell the medication. The clinic appealed the decision and won a reversal, but the account was suspended again shortly after. Ultimately, the clinic was able to resolve the issue through a connection at Meta.

"We were not trying to sell drugs. We were just informing our followers about a service, a legal service that we offer. So that's alarming that, you know, that was flagged as not fitting into their standards," said clinic director Tammi Kromenaker. "To have a private company like Meta just go with the political winds and say, we don't agree with this, so we're going to flag these and we're going to shut these down, is very alarming."

Meta said its policies and enforcement regarding medication-related abortion content have not changed and were not impacted by the changes announced in January, which included the end of its fact-checking program.

"We allow posts and ads promoting health care services like abortion, as well as discussion and debate around them, as long as they follow our policies — and we give people the opportunity to appeal decisions if they think we've got it wrong," the company said in a statement.

In late January, Emory University's Center for Reproductive Health Research in the Southeast, or RISE, put up an Instagram post

SEE ABORTION PAGE 5



Spanish prime minister wants Israel banned from sports events after chaos at cycling race

Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez on Monday called for Israel to be banned from sports events after pro-Palestinian activists disrupted the end of the Spanish Vuelta cycling race in chaotic scenes in Madrid.

Israel's foreign minister responded by calling Sánchez an "antisemite and a liar."

Tensions between the countries have escalated in recent weeks as Spain's left-wing government expressed support for protesters who interrupted several stages of the Vuelta, including Sunday's final stage in Madrid, because an Israeli team was taking part.

Speaking to members of his Socialist Party, Sánchez said Israel, just like Russia, should not be allowed to compete in international sports because of its military campaign in Gaza.

"The sports organizations should consider whether it's ethical for Israel to keep participating in international competitions. Why expel Russia after the invasion of Ukraine and not expel Israel after the invasion of Gaza?" Sanchez said. "Until the barbarity ends, neither Russia nor Israel should be in any international competition."

Sánchez spoke a day after the Vuelta finale was cut short when pro-Palestinian protesters opposing the participation of Israeli team Israel Premier Tech threw barriers onto the road and clashed with police near the finish line. Authorities said two people were arrested and 22 injured, none of them seriously.

The Spanish government had already expressed sympathy with the protesters and suggested the Israel Premier Tech team should have withdrawn from the three-week-long race that became a diplomatic battleground.

The team removed its name from its uniforms but remained in the race to the end.

Israeli Foreign Minister Gideon Saar criticized Sánchez with a post on X that included a video link to the Spanish leader's speech on Monday.

"An antisemite and a liar," Saar wrote. "Did Israel invade Gaza on Oct. 7th or did the Hamas terror state invade Israel and commit the worst massacre against the Jews since the Holocaust?"

The war in Gaza began when Hamas-led militants stormed into southern Israel on Oct. 7, 2023, killing about 1,200 people, mostly civilians, and abducting 251. There are 48 hostages remaining in Gaza and Israel believes 20 are still alive.

Israel's retaliatory offensive has killed more than 67,000 Palestinians according to Gaza's Health Ministry, which doesn't say how many were civilians or combatants. The offensive has displaced most of Gaza's 2 million people, caused widespread destruction and severe hunger.

As the war has ground on, Israel has grown increasingly isolated, with Spain at the forefront of a growing list of European countries increasingly critical of Israel due to the heavy civilian toll. Countries including the U.K. and France have said they plan on recognizing a Palestinian state, and the European Commission president has called for scaling back Europe's trade ties with Israel.

Europe remains divided on its stance toward Israel, and its limited sanctions and condemnations so far have had little effect.

Madrid's conservative mayor, José Luis Martínez-Almeida, also criticized Sánchez and described Sunday's events as a sad day for the Spanish capital.

Danish rider Jonas Vingegaard, who was leading the overall classification going into the final stage, was declared the winner of the Vuelta but the customary podium ceremony was canceled.

"It's a pity that such a moment of eternity was taken from us," Vingegaard said. "Everyone has the right to protest, but not in a way that influences or endangers our race."

The teams reportedly improvised a private podium ceremony so riders could celebrate.

Danish Prime Minister Mette Frederiksen condemned the protesters for "spoiling" the race and criticized Sánchez for "praising" the protests.

"Instead I want to praise the athletes and everyone who doesn't spoil things for others," she wrote on Instagram.

Vuelta race director Javier Guillén defended letting the Israeli team stay in the race.

"The Vuelta's position was clear, we had to abide to the norms of the International Cycling Union. It's the UCI that regulates the right of admission to the race," Guillén said at a news conference on Monday. "We never got into any other type of debate. All we wanted to do was to be able to finish the race with normalcy, and that wasn't possible."

The UCI on Monday expressed "its total disapproval of and deep concern about the events that marked" the Vuelta. It also said it "strongly condemns the exploitation of sport for political purposes in general, and especially coming from a government."

"We also regret the fact that the Spanish Prime Minister and his government have supported actions that could hinder the smooth running of a sporting competition and, in some cases, expressed their admiration for the demonstrators.

"This position is contradictory to the Olympic values of unity, mutual respect, and peace. It also calls into question Spain's ability to host major international sporting events, ensuring that they take place in safe conditions and in accordance with the principles of the Olympic Charter."

The central government's representative for the Madrid region said an estimated 100,000 people were on the streets on Sunday during the protests. The number could not be independently verified.

Guillén said the Vuelta protests would likely have implications for future sports events with Israeli participants.

"After this Vuelta, the international entities will need to make decisions and cycling will need to have some internal discussions to find solutions," he said.

Next year's Tour de France begins with a stage in Barcelona.

"Hopefully everything will be solved by then," he said. "I don't want to speculate with any possibilities. I'm sure Barcelona will have a great Tour de France."

By TALES AZZONI AP Sports Writer



Surf report

WATER TEMP: **71.4**

TUESDAY — ***FAIR***
SURF: 2-3ft+ Thigh to stomach

Fun day of waves lining up as SSW/S swell picks up. Clean AM conditions, some PM bump. Steep-angled SSW/S swell is up a peg from Wed and continues to fill in. Waist high waves on tap, pushing chest+ high by the afternoon standouts, easiest to find west of Dume, but the more exposed summer points get up there at times. Light/variable to light offshore AM wind but shape will be on the softer side from a 4'+ high tide. Best wind + tide window for average breaks at dawn and then again later morning to about mid day. Wind protected points fun all afternoon.

WEDNESDAY — ***FAIR***
SURF: 2-3ft+ Thigh to stomach

Nice size as SSW/S swell continues. Clean AM, manageable afternoon onshores. Topped out SSW/S swell keeps similar size running to Tue. Waist-chest high surf, pushing shoulder-head high for standouts with some occ. larger waves likely in the mix west of Dume. Very little NW energy in the mix so shape at the unstructured beachbreaks is likely pretty lined up. Light/variable to light offshore AM wind, moderate PM onshore wind from the west (but wind-protected points stay fairly clean and have a nice afternoon).

Weather

Tuesday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, cloudy through mid morning, then gradual clearing, with a high near 79.
Tuesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 68. West southwest wind 10 to 15 mph.
Wednesday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly sunny, with a high near 80.
Wednesday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 68.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2025/09/16	Tue	12:43 AM	-0.11	L
2025/09/16	Tue	07:47 AM	4.04	H
2025/09/16	Tue	12:12 PM	2.95	L
2025/09/16	Tue	6:08 PM	5.66	H
2025/09/17	Wed	01:32 AM	-0.32	L
2025/09/17	Wed	08:15 AM	4.38	H
2025/09/17	Wed	1:11 PM	2.43	L
2025/09/17	Wed	7:08 PM	5.86	H
2025/09/18	Thu	02:11 AM	-0.36	L
2025/09/18	Thu	08:40 AM	4.67	H
2025/09/18	Thu	1:58 PM	1.93	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: 9/13
28 37 42 50 53
Power#: 19
Jackpot: 64 M

Fantasy 5 — Draw Date: 9/14
2 19 21 23 24

MEGA MILLIONS — Draw Date: 9/12
17 18 21 42 64
Mega#: 7
Jackpot: 400 M

Daily 3 — Draw Date: 9/14
EVENING: 9 1 2
Draw Date: 9/14
MIDDAY: 0 8 1

SuperLotto Plus — Draw Date: 9/13
5 11 12 20 39
Mega#: 21
Jackpot: 43 M

Daily Derby — Draw Date: 9/14
1st: 12 - Lucky Charms
2nd: 04 - Big Ben
3rd: 07 - Eureka
Race Time: 1:41.86

PUBLISHER
Ross Furukawa
ross@smdp.com

PARTNER
Todd James
todd@smdp.com

EDITOR IN CHIEF
Matthew Hall
matt@smdp.com

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Charles Andrews,
Devan Sipher,
Miles Warner.

CIRCULATION
Guadalupe Navarro
ross@smdp.com

STAFF WRITERS
Maaz Alin
maaz@smdp.com

LEGAL ADVERTISING
Cindy Moreno
cindy@smdp.com

MARKETING & ADVERTISING MANAGER
Dina Araniva
dina@smdp.com

PRODUCTION
Esteban Inchaustegui
production@smdp.com

Julio Davalos
julio@smdp.com

2219A Main St Santa Monica, CA 90405
OFFICE (310) 458-PRESS (7737)
FAX (310) 576-9913

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Santa Monica Daily Press

Classifieds

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City of Santa Monica

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
ORDINANCE NUMBER 2825 (CCS)
(CITY COUNCIL SERIES)

INTERIM ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA MONICA AMENDING INTERIM ZONING REGULATIONS SET FORTH IN INTERIM ZONING ORDINANCE NUMBER 2809 TO PROMOTE ECONOMIC RECOVERY BY INCREASING LAND USE FLEXIBILITY IN THE CITY'S DOWNTOWN AREA AND ESTABLISHING A PILOT PROGRAM TO ALLOW EXCLUSIVELY OUTDOOR COMMERCIAL USES IN THE OFFICE CAMPUS DISTRICT AND TO ALLOW ADDITIONAL FLEXIBILITY RELATED TO COMMUNITY ASSEMBLY USES IN THE BAYSIDE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

The following is a summary of Ordinance Number 2825 (CCS) prepared by the Office of the City Attorney:

Santa Monica Municipal Code (SMMC) Article 9 establishes particular uses in the Downtown and Third Street Promenade areas of the City. Consistent with City Council's continued support of local businesses and to promote economic recovery efforts within the Downtown and Third Street Promenade Area, this Interim Zoning Ordinance ("IZO") extends the provisions of IZO Numbers 2809 to allow properties on the Promenade with legal non-conforming buildings, approved pursuant to a Development Review Permit, to retain their floor area development rights and be exempt from certain non-conforming building restrictions.

The Ordinance will take effect thirty days after its adoption and will be of no further force and effect as of November 22, 2028.

The full text of the above Ordinance is available upon request from the office of the City Clerk, located at 1685 Main Street, Room 102, Santa Monica. Phone: (310) 458-8211.

City of Santa Monica

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
ORDINANCE NUMBER 2826 (CCS)
(CITY COUNCIL SERIES)

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA MONICA AMENDING THE TEXT OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE TO PROMOTE ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND INCREASE LAND USE FLEXIBILITY IN THE CITY'S DOWNTOWN AREA

The following is a summary of Ordinance Number 2826 (CCS) prepared by the Office of the City Attorney:

Santa Monica Municipal Code (SMMC) Article 9 establishes particular uses in the Downtown and Third Street Promenade areas of the City. Consistent with City Council's continued support of local businesses and to promote economic recovery efforts within the Downtown and Third Street Promenade Area, this Ordinance codifies previously adopted interim zoning regulations, with minor changes, and includes expanded opportunities for Alcohol Exemption permits, increased operational flexibility for restaurants with entertainment, and removal of the prohibition against certain fast-food restaurants in establishments with frontage along the Third Street Promenade. It also makes other minor updates to ensure consistency with other code provisions of the Santa Monica Municipal Code.

The Ordinance will take effect thirty days after its adoption.

The full text of the above Ordinance is available upon request from the office of the City Clerk, located at 1685 Main Street, Room 102, Santa Monica. Phone: (310) 458-8211.

COMMUNITY NEWS

California

McKinnor Bill to Shield Fire Survivors From Predatory Buyers Passes Legislature

The California State Legislature has given final approval to legislation protecting homeowners rebuilding from the devastating Eaton and Palisades fires that struck Los Angeles County in January 2025.

Assembly Bill 851, authored by Assemblymember Tina McKinnor (D-Inglewood), would prohibit unsolicited below-market offers on residential properties in fire-impacted areas and allow sellers to rescind property sales within four months. The Assembly approved the measure 62-5 Sept. 9, following earlier Senate passage on a 30-8 vote.

The legislation responds to reports of predatory behavior targeting fire survivors across Los Angeles and Ventura counties. Many homeowners have faced pressure from scam artists and unscrupulous buyers making unsolicited offers on damaged properties, while others encountered illegal price gouging in the rental market.

"I am extremely concerned about the potential displacement of families from the Palisades and Altadena, especially the families within the historically Black neighborhoods of Altadena," McKinnor said. "AB 851 provides important protections to all families impacted by the Eaton and Palisades fires."

The assemblymember emphasized the bill gives families "time to grieve, time to breathe and time to make an informed decision that is in the best interests of their family" after experiencing "unimaginable trauma."

Fire survivors have reported facing immediate pressure to sell their homes quickly, raising concerns about long-term displacement from communities where some families have lived for generations. The legislation aims to prevent exploitation during the vulnerable rebuilding period.

McKinnor called the measure "an important part of LA County's efforts to rebuild from this devastating natural disaster" and urged Governor Gavin Newsom to sign it into law.

The bill now awaits the governor's signature. If approved, it would add legal protections specifically tailored to the unique challenges facing communities recovering from major wildfire disasters.

The January 2025 Eaton and Palisades fires rank among the most destructive in California history, destroying thousands of homes and forcing mass evacuations across the region.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF

HOMELESS

FROM PAGE 1

alone.

The Los Angeles Continuum of Care received more than $220 million in federal funds in fiscal year 2024, with 77% supporting permanent supportive housing. Additional funding flows to continuums in Long Beach ($10.8 million), Pasadena ($6.5 million) and Glendale ($3.3 million).

"Housing first under the George W. Bush administration was adopted after SAMHSA recognized housing first as evidence-based practice," Mahin told supervisors. "It has really demonstrated time and time again that it is an effective approach."

The federal policy conflict emerges as the county faces significant fiscal pressures while standing up its new homeless services department. The consolidated department will absorb CEO Homeless Initiative operations and Department of Health Services' Housing for Health programs, but launches with what officials describe as a "structural deficit."

"The new Department of Homeless Services and Housing is starting with a structural deficit," Mahin said. "We know that there are more federal and state budget reductions in our future."

Despite the challenges, county officials highlighted progress in their encampment resolution efforts. The 'Pathway Home' program has removed more than 1,000 recreational vehicles from public streets and permanently housed 1,700 individuals since launching two years ago.

The program has conducted 62 operations across 20 cities and 15 unincorporated areas, with 40% of operations occurring in unincorporated communities. Officials emphasized the program's equity impact, noting 90% of operations have occurred in communities disproportionately impacted by homelessness and poverty.

County supervisors also launched an Emergency Centralized Response Center in December 2024 to coordinate outreach efforts. The center has processed more than 600 tickets from government partners since launch, with a 60% closure rate.

The center uses three tracking systems to manage requests, including LA-HOP for public inquiries and a specialized system for unincorporated areas. Response times have improved significantly, with average closure time dropping from 10 to 5 days for public requests.

"We have made progress on several key milestones, including securing a physical space in the Hall of Records, hiring an ECRC director, and integrating host operations into ECRC," Mahin said.

The county has also hired 2,200 new staff members under emergency authorities, reducing average hiring time by 71% from 288 days to 84 days. The expedited processes have helped execute more than $706 million in contracts and accept nearly $154 million in grant funding.

Supervisor Hilda Solis warned that federal cuts could force more people into the criminal justice system. "If these people don't get assistance through Department of Mental Health or Public Health, any one of the agencies here, there will be increase in jail system," she said.

The county plans community engagement workshops throughout September and October to help design the new department's structure, with sessions scheduled across all eight Service Planning Areas.

Officials acknowledged the challenging timing of launching a new department amid federal policy shifts and budget constraints, but emphasized their commitment to maintaining housing-first principles using local and state funding sources.

"We will continue to do both things," Mahin said, referring to housing people while providing supportive services. "We know our values in LA County."

maaz@smdp.com

COMMUNITY NEWS

Los Angeles

Board of Supervisors announces multi-language access options for meetings

Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors Chair Kathryn Barger announced expanded language translation and interpretation services for board meetings and hearings.

The free service provides real-time translation and interpretation in over 70 languages using AI technology. Features include live audio interpretation, real-time translated subtitles and mobile phone or computer accessibility.

"Every resident has the right to engage with their local government," Supervisor Kathryn Barger said. "This service is an important step and valuable resource to ensure that the diverse communities that make up our County can have their voices heard."

Executive Officer Edward Yen said expanding language access capabilities underscores the need for making county services more accessible to everyone.

"By making this translation service available, we make L.A. County governance more transparent and accessible for all," Yen said.

The AI translation service was previously used during press conferences for the January 2025 windstorms and wildfires emergency, ensuring native language access for affected communities.

To use the platform during board meetings, residents can visit attend.wordly.ai/join/QHKT-4397, click "attend," select their preferred language and watch automatic translated captions.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF



Courtesy photo

LA COUNTY: Service now provides real-time translation and interpretation in over 70 languages using AI technology.

City of Santa Monica

Free Tax Preparation Services Available at Public Library Branches

Santa Monica Public Library will host free tax preparation services through Haven Services on two October dates, responding to extended filing deadlines for Los Angeles County residents affected by January wildfires.

The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program will operate by appointment only at two locations. Services are scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 4, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Montana Branch Library, 1704 Montana Ave., and Friday, Oct. 10, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Pico Branch Library, 2201 Pico Blvd.

Federal and California state tax filing deadlines were postponed to Oct. 15, 2025, for LA County residents due to January wildfire impacts.

Residents can schedule appointments by calling Haven Services at (213) 375-4663, visiting havenservices.org/programs-services/income-tax-assistance, or picking up flyers at any Santa Monica Public Library location. Online booking is available at smplmontanabranch.youcanbook.me for the Montana location and smplpicobranch.youcanbook.me for the Pico location.

Haven Services, a nonprofit organization serving the Greater Los Angeles area, provides free financial education and services to vulnerable communities. The organization's mission focuses on breaking cycles of economic hardship through no-cost assistance programs.

Both library locations are wheelchair accessible and accommodate visitors with disabilities. Residents requiring special accommodations should contact Library Administration at (310) 458-8606 at least one week before events or email library@santamonica.gov. Administration offices operate Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. TTY/TDD users may call (310) 395-8499.

Required documentation lists and additional information are available through Haven Services or at library locations.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF

ABORTION

FROM PAGE 2

about mifepristone that described what it is and why it matters. In March, its account was suspended. The organization then appealed the decision but the appeal was denied and its account was deleted permanently. This decision was later reversed after they were able to connect with someone at Meta. Once the account was restored, it became clear that the suspension was because it was flagged as trying to "buy, sell, promote or exchange illegal or restricted drugs."

"Where I get concerned is (that) with the increased use of social media, we also have seen correspondingly an increased rise of misinformation and disinformation on social media platforms about many health topics," said Sara Redd, director of research translation at RISE and an assistant professor at Emory University. "One of main goals through our communications and through our social media is to promote scientifically accurate evidence-based information about reproductive health care, including abortion."

Laura Edelson, assistant professor of computer science at Northeastern University, said that at the end of the day, while people love to debate platforms' policies and what the policies should be, what matters is people's "experiences of sharing information and the information are able to get and they're able to see."

"This is just a policy that is not being implemented well. And that, in and of itself, is not all that surprising because we know that Meta has dramatically reduced spending on content moderation efforts," Edelson said. "There are fewer people who are spending time maintaining automated models. And so content that is even vaguely close to borderline is at risk of being taken down."

By BARBARA ORTUTAY, AP Technology Writer

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CANNABIS

FROM PAGE 1

program and increase risk of litigation from applicants, and Council concurred. However, other cities in LA county have come to different conclusions. Culver City requires 1,000 feet between pot shops as does Long Beach, and both cities also require 600 feet of distance from parks and playgrounds, while Los Angeles requires 700 feet from all of the above, as well as from supportive housing and substance abuse recovery facilities.

The Santa Monica ordinance also establishes an equity program in order to address the disproportionate impact of cannabis criminalization on minority communities. Staff recommended eligibility based on drug conviction history for an applicant or family member, income at less than 80% of area median, and residency status as current or former student, resident or business owner.

However, during public comment, Justin Palmore, a social equity partner at Harvest, one of the two current dispensaries in the city, suggested that the Council was setting applicants up for failure. "If you look at the criteria for social equity that you're low income and you're a victim of crime, that doesn't give you business acumen," said Palmore, who objected to permitting more than one cannabis shop per block and recommended creating a mentorship program.

"We know that a lot of these equity programs have failed," acknowledged Councilmember Caroline Torosis without addressing Palmore's request to regulate the distance between retail locations.

Mayor Lana Negrete was the lone opponent of the expanded rules questioning why the city should allow multiple retailers in close proximity.

Councilmember Barry Snell also had questions over limiting the number of stores in the city.

"Have we established a limit on cannabis stores?" he asked. "Have we ever had any discussion about that?"

Council has had extensive discussions on the topic.

There was an extended discussion in 2023, at which time Councilmembers Torosis and Jesse Zwick suggested 600- to 1000-foot buffers between stores, which would have resulted in a natural cap of 25-38 in total. But in 2024 the Council instead decided on a cap of 62, and the current ordinance creates a cap of 426, though that would only be if every possible building were both available and desirable, which is highly unlikely. (Culver City with roughly half Santa Monica's population has a cap of three, and Long Beach with about five times Santa Monica's population has a cap of 40.) Staff has stated that demand for permits will likely be less than previously anticipated and that past limitations on dispensary locations resulted in windfalls for landlords who were able to artificially inflate rent prices.

"As much as I would love to not necessarily have one block become our "pot row," I think in general all of these regulations that we're talking about are sort of imagining some gold rush that, as staff has mentioned, passed us by," said Councilmember Zwick. "The industry is bad right now. Stores are closing."

COMMUNITY NEWS

City of Santa Monica

City Manager Names Jing Yeo Community Development Director

City Manager Oliver Chi announced the appointment of Jing Yeo as director of the Community Development Department, promoting the longtime planning manager to the permanent leadership role.

Yeo has served Santa Monica since 2006 and worked as planning manager since 2016. She assumed interim director duties following David Martin's retirement in December 2024 after his long tenure leading the department.



Courtesy photo

CITY: Planning Manager Jing Yeo.

"More than her technical expertise and deep familiarity with Santa Monica, to me, what stands out most about Jing is her humble, people-centered approach to leadership," Chi said. "She understands that the best results are achieved when an organization prioritizes team-oriented behaviors and systems."

Chi said Yeo's approach reflects the culture the city is building across the organization, grounded in humility, integrity, motivation and care. He expressed confidence that under Yeo's leadership, the Community Development Department will achieve positive community outcomes while strengthening the city's organizational foundation.

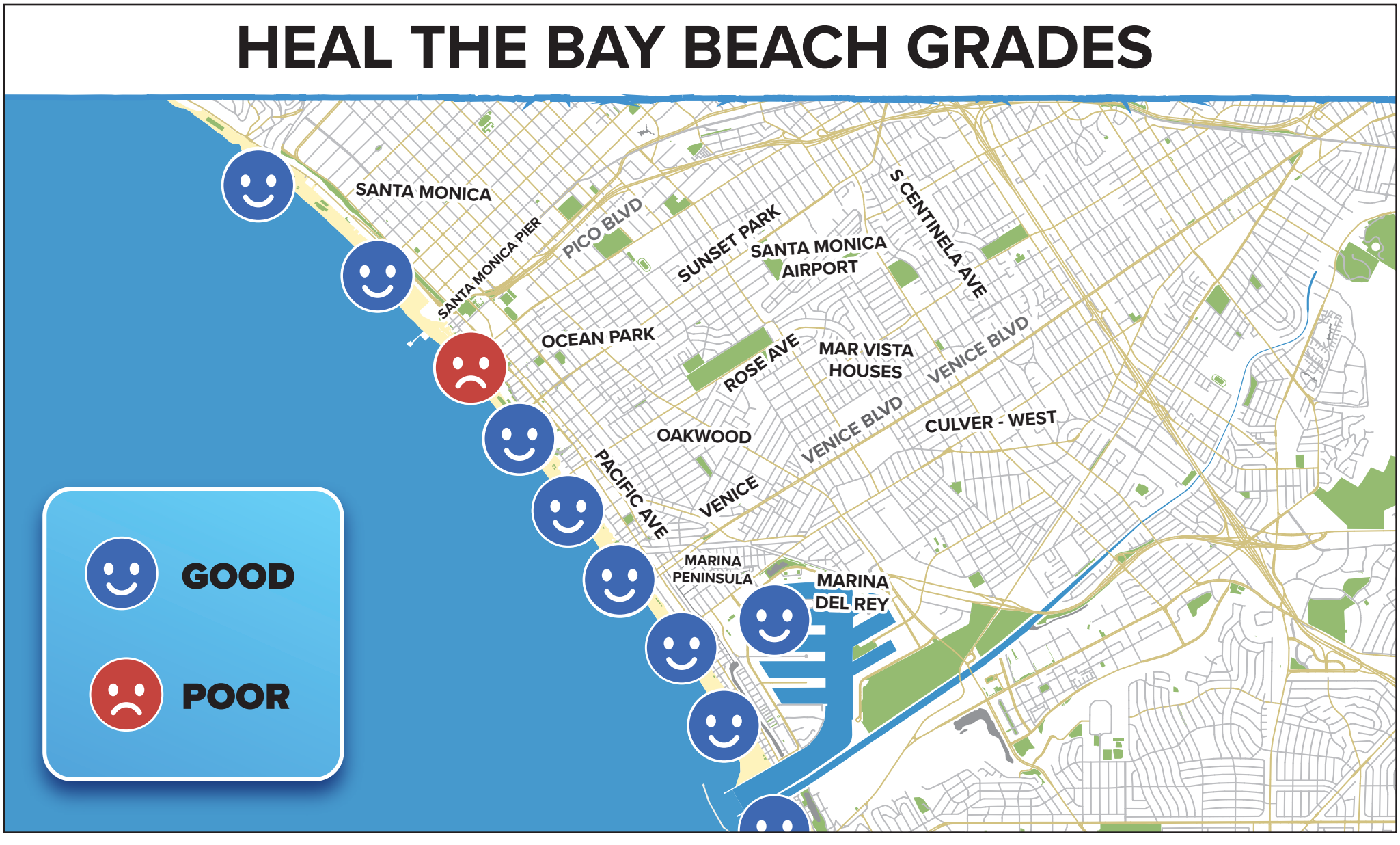
Yeo holds a bachelor's degree in urban and economic geography from the University of British Columbia and a master's degree in planning and urban design from the University of Toronto.

"I love this city and have seen it go through many different eras," Yeo said. "I'm excited for what's next and could not be more thrilled to step into this leadership role at this time."

Yeo said she is confident that with support from city leadership, council and the community development team, the department will achieve success in goals of economic opportunity and growth.

Yeo assumes the director position immediately with an annual salary of $264,912.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF



COMMUNITY NEWS

SMMUSD

District Reports $3.6M Revenue Surplus in 2024-25 Financial Summary

The Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District exceeded revenue projections by $3.6 million in the 2024-25 fiscal year while strategically using one-time funding to maintain educational programs, according to year-end financial statements presented to the school board Sept. 10.

The district offset approximately $12 million in General Fund expenditures through strategic use of state-allocated resources while preserving academic programs, Superintendent Dr. Antonio Shelton said during the board meeting.

"By carefully managing resources, making efficient use of one-time revenues, and keeping students at the center of every decision, we are ensuring strong programs, safe schools, and dedicated staff remain in place to support learning," Shelton said.

The largest savings of $6.6 million came from staff transitions and vacancies, while an additional $3.2 million resulted from reduced consulting, legal and operational fees and contracts. The district also realized $2.3 million in savings from deferred operating and capital expenses and supply cost efficiencies.

District revenues come from local property taxes, voter-approved parcel taxes, city joint use agreements and tax measures, lease income, and interest earnings. The year-end results exceeded June 2025 estimates, strengthening the General Fund.

To further stabilize the budget, the district used earmarked, one-time funds including expiring state allocations and "use it or lose it" resources from Career Technical Education and COVID Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief funds. The district also benefited from a health benefit credit from transitioning from CalPERS Health to SISC Health.

While these one-time resources provided short-term relief and cannot be used for new long-term commitments, they helped preserve teaching positions and support school operations while avoiding classroom impacts.

The district maintained the state's required 3% reserve for economic uncertainty and set aside funds to address the current structural deficit. District staff emphasized that while the fund balance is healthier than earlier estimates, the results will not create ongoing funding for new programs.

The SMMUSD Board of Education approved the financial statements, which will be submitted to the Los Angeles County Office of Education in accordance with state law.

Community members may view the full presentation at: https://bit.ly/SMMUSD-Sept10Meeting.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF

Santa Monica Daily Press office (310) 458-7737

Classifieds

DBA

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 08/6/25 202516151The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Plot Luck 2000 Main St #310 Santa Monica, CA 90405 . Los Angeles Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number (if applicable): Ai #ON. The full name of the registrant(s) is/are Brian Williamson 2000 Main St #310 Santa Monica, CA 90405 If corporation or LLC- Print State of CAThis is Business is Conducted: An Individual . The date registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A Registrant / Corp/LLC Brian Williamson Title: Owner Brian Williamson . This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 08/6/2025NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE County CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq. ,Business and Professions Code).

DBA

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 09/5/25 20251185481 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as 1. WHAT WHERE STUDIO 2. WHAT WHERE STUDIOS 1217 Wilshire Blvd #3106 Santa Monica, CA 90403 . Los Angeles Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number (if applicable): Ai #ON. The full name of the registrant(s) is/are Stephanie Scott Krupa 1217 Wilshire Blvd #3106 Santa Monica, CA 90403 If corporation or LLC- Print State of CA This is Business is Conducted: An Individual . The date registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 09/2025 Registrant /Corp/ LLC Scott Krupa Title: Owner Scott Krupa . This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 09/5/2025 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 14411 et seq. ,Business and Professions Code).

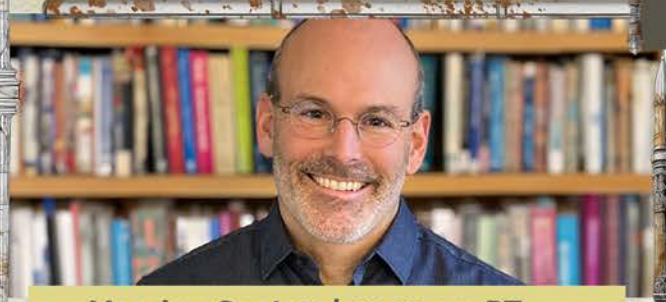
DBA

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 09/8/25 2025186403 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Loved Animals Love Studio 5021 Berryman Ave Culver City, CA 90230. Los Angeles Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number (if applicable): Ai #ON. The full name of the registrant(s) is/are May Sun 5021 Berryman Ave Culver City, CA 90230. If corporation or LLC- Print State of CA This is Business is Conducted: An Individual . The date registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 09/2025 Registrant /Corp/LLC May Sun Title: Owner May Sun . This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 09/8/2025 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 14411 et seq. ,Business and Professions Code).

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Wednesday, Oct 1 | 7:00 pm PT

Scared of Failure: Do It Anyway

ELLEN BENNETT

Founder and CEO of Hedley & Bennett, Author of *Dream First, Details Later*



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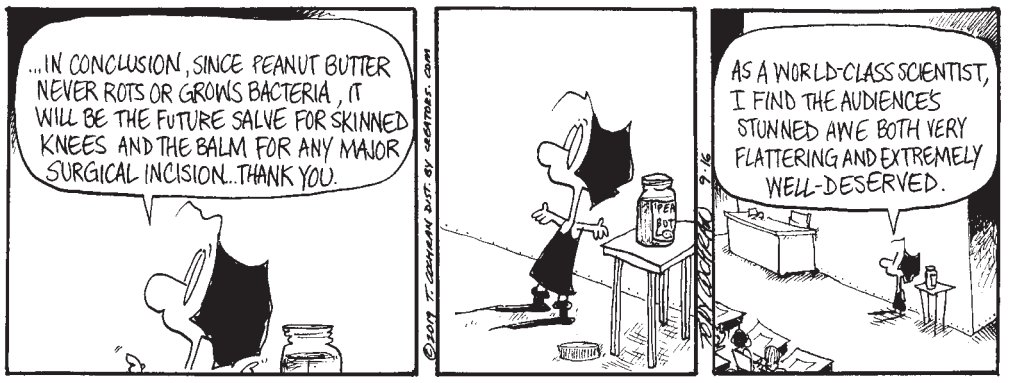
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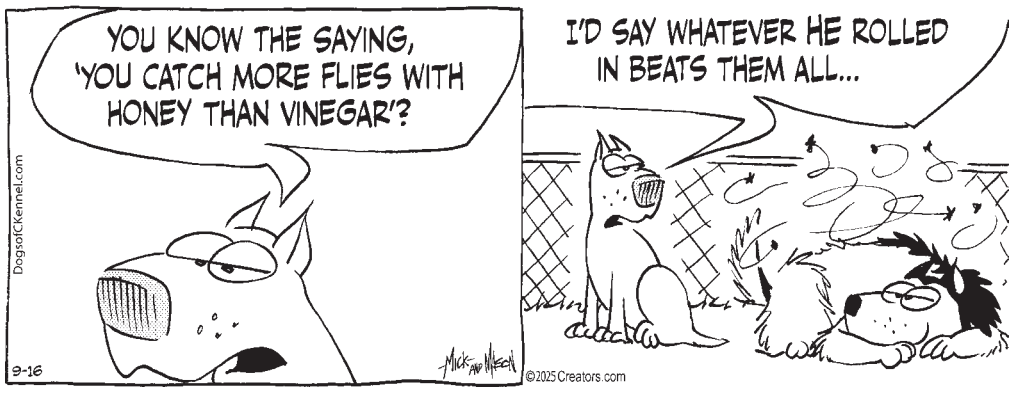
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



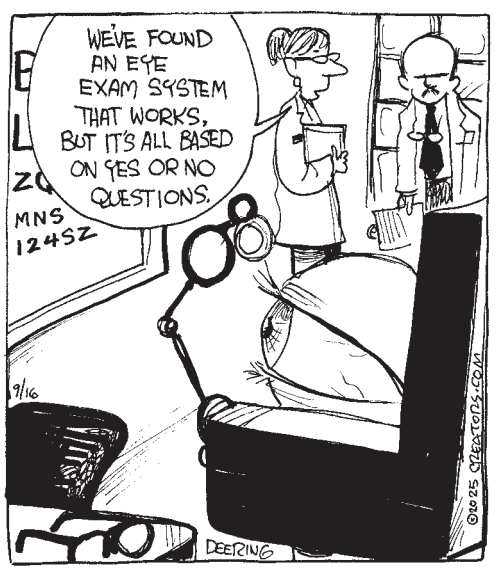
Heathcliff

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

© australianwordgames.com.au 6700

Choose your game

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

Ability	Expert	Hike	Park	Skip
Achieve	Fault	Hunt	Pass	Swim
Arena	Fish	Join	Peel	Team
Arms	Float	Kart	Pelota	Tice
Avid	Friends	Kick	Puck	Tired
Baton	Gala	League	Push	Toss
Boot	Games	Legs	Referee	Track
Canoe	Gear	Lift	Relaxed	Yoga
Club	Goal	Loser	Roquet	
Crew	Golf	Ludo	Rules	
Daily	Hand	Mallet	Shot put	
Distance	Healthy	Pairs	Sideline	

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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Sept. 16)

Welcome to your Year of Answering the Call. You don't have to wait for anyone to hire, promote, cast or formally assign you a task. You know what to do because it calls to you in a voice that sounds like destiny, and you board the train - no steering. You're simply on this track the whole way. More highlights: You'll seize a golden invitation, make a home more beautiful, draw closer to an ally with unusual talent, and gain financial ease from an unexpected stream. Cancer and Scorpio adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 4, 2, 22, 1 and 15.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Every time you bring something new into your life, it takes space, time, money or energy. That means something else has to go, even if you don't notice it right away. Make that trade consciously.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). The beauty you create might seem casual, but it's actually the sum of many careful choices. Today, someone notices, and their appreciation reminds you that your standards and taste elevate everything around you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Your life is smooth today because you have the maturity of conscious speech. Your words are spells. You understand their power to make your internal weather and the mood with which you touch the world.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Claim more hope, more optimism, conviction and self-belief. Strength grows as you move in the direction you want to go. You'll find that much of the noise will be drowned out by the rushing air created by your own momentum.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). The day grounds you in a universal truth: Like any creature, your basic drive is to survive and thrive - nothing to be ashamed of. It's just life. But today, you go further, evolving, strategizing and bringing the special sauce to life.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Your effort is noticeable, not because you announce it, but because results are stacking up. People trust you to deliver, and you do. You're building credibility daily, and today it earns you an opportunity you've been wanting.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Oh, the hidden strings that can come with generosity. The offering that doesn't feel neutral simply isn't. It might be worth it anyway, though. Think it through. Clarify expectations. Know what's really being exchanged.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Tools, strategies, allies, mindset shifts - these are all points of leverage and power. What is going to help you feel more in control? What will make you more capable of shaping your circumstances instead of just reacting?

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Just keep moving. Don't obsess over how long it takes. The timeline matters less than the fact that you actually do the thing. Momentum builds confidence, and completion unlocks doors that perfectionism or hesitation would have kept shut.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You'll notice a contrast for the first time. It's a difference between you and someone you thought was just like you. You'll begin to process both the gifts and cautions in this key difference.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Part of you feels like you're in constant survival mode compared to others in your group who have luxuries you don't possess. But don't assume their situation is better. Sometimes our struggles are exactly what keep us purposeful and strong.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You're cast in a new role. Assume that you either earned the position or you'll adapt quickly to it because it's where you need to be right now. And if it feels like pretending, just know that's how everyone feels at first.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

Newsday Crossword

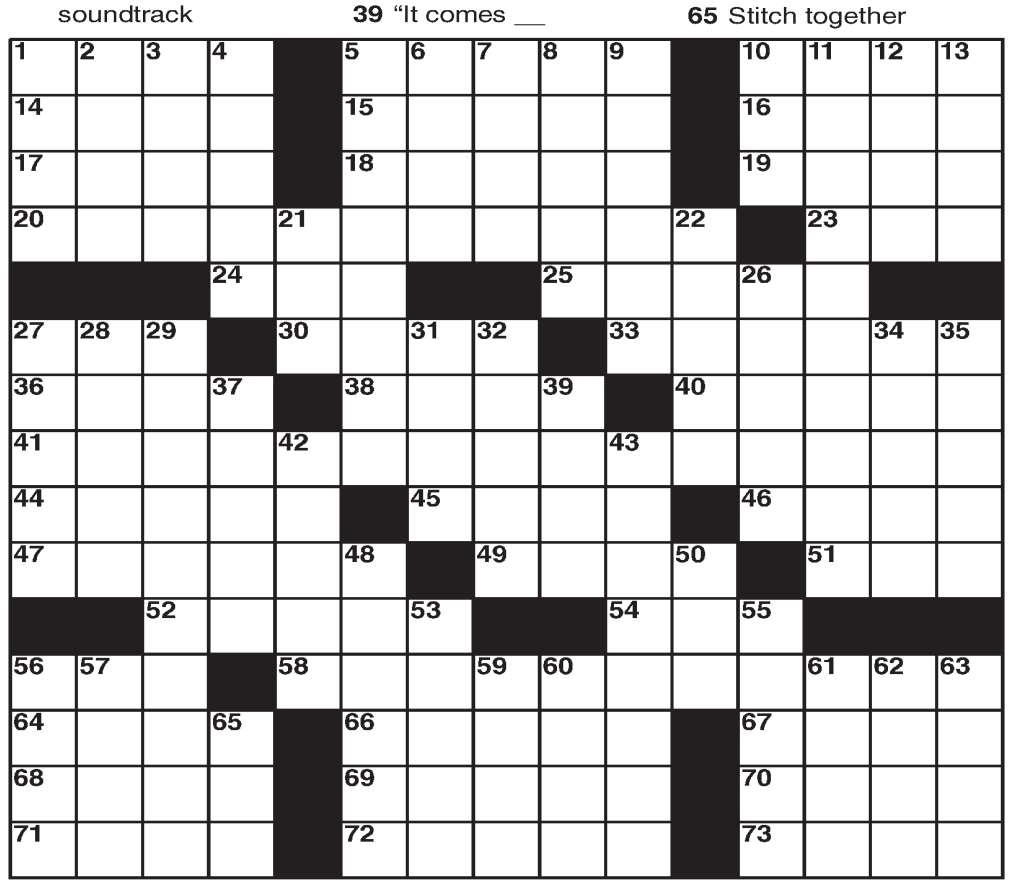
RELIABLES by Billie Truitt
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 24-hr. cash dispensers
5 Pumpkin or squash
10 Natural bandage
14 Faucet leak
15 __ circle (most trusted friends)
16 Dice toss
17 Pickle flavoring
18 Refrain from
19 "Assuming that's true..."
20 Reliable motive for action
23 Weather that hinders visibility
24 Letter after ess
25 Light brown color
27 "Constrictor" snake
30 Bachelor of __ degree
33 Narrow river
36 Hill-building insects
38 Tra __ (song sounds)
40 Forbidden thing
41 Reliable store patrons
44 "__ my reasons"
45 Yes-__ question
46 Fill fully
47 Make a choice
49 Sulk
51 Formal "no" vote
52 Potato-growing state
54 Second notes of scales
56 Flying mammal
58 Reliable regular cash amounts
64 __ for (chooses)
66 Buildings' locations
67 Fail to mention
68 Bottom of a shoe
69 Modify to fit
70 Await approval
71 Gush forth
72 Begins to thaw
73 Finishes

DOWN

1 Does sums
2 Three-person band
3 Run-of-the-__ (ordinary)
4 Share 50/50
5 With great care
6 __ about (approximately)
7 Golden Rule preposition
8 Modify, as a soundtrack
9 Planes without pilots
10 __ Lanka (Asian nation)
11 Seed that's roasted for a morning brew
12 "Not only that..."
13 Online diary
21 Antidrug agcy.
22 "Me too"
26 Metric weights
27 Underlying principle
28 __ house (free)
29 Snacked
31 Tex-Mex folded tortilla
32 Drink soup noisily
34 Major blood vessel
35 Amble along
37 Kept for later
39 "It comes __ surprise..."
42 "Low-power" morning beverage, for short
43 Travelers on vacation
48 Today before noon
50 Two hours before noon
53 Zinc __ ointment
55 "View" suffix for tele- or micro-
56 Supervisor
57 For each, informally
59 List-shortening abbr.
60 Branch of govt.
61 Prophetic sign
62 Keep in __ (remember)
63 Predicted takeoff hrs.
65 Stitch together



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09/16/25

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



TUESDAY | SEPTEMBER 16

MEMORIES & MOVEMENT SENIOR CLUB
11 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Virginia Avenue Park 2200 Virginia Ave. Santa Monica. Come, learn, and have fun every Tuesday from 10:30 AM to 1:00 PM in The Patio room. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/memories-movement-senior-club/14853634/2025-09-16T10

BOOKS & BAGELS - VENICE LIBRARY BOOK CLUB
12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. Venice Branch Library 501 S Venice Blvd. Venice. Join us the third Tuesday of each month for bagels, coffee and tea. We will have a thoughtful discussion of the current selection and discuss other great things we've been reading. Copies available at the front desk. Plus you get bagels, coffee & tea provided by the Friends of Venice Library! Join for a lively discussion of that month's fiction or non-fiction book pick. New members welcome! Copies of the books are available at the circulation desk. Venice Branch Library (LAPL), 501 South Venice Blvd., Venice, CA 90291 Schedule: June 18: Poverty, by America, Matthew Desmond July 16: Vaster Wilds, Lauren Groff? August 20: Last American Man, Elizabeth Gilbert? September 17: Hello Beautiful, Ann Napalitano? October 15: On Animals, Susan Orlean? November 19: Quiet American, Graham Greene?? Generously funded by Friends of Venice Library. Join them today to show your support for the library: For ADA accommodations, call (213) 228-7430 at least 72 hours prior to the event.Para ajustes razonables según la ley de ADA, llama al (213) 228-7430 al menos 72 horas antes del evento. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/books-bagels-venice-library-book-club/14548474/2025-09-16T12

TECH & TASKS
4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Pico Branch Library 2201 Pico Blvd. Santa Monica. Volunteer tutors provide help with reading documents or written tasks, using mobile devices, navigating government websites, filling out forms, using email, writing resumes and more. Assistance provided on a drop-in, first arrive. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/tech-tasks/16225799/2025-09-16T16

SCENE BY SCENE STORYBUILDING FOR TEENS
5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Santa Monica Public Library 601 Santa Monica Blvd. Santa Monica. Learn how to write great scenes and use them to build your story with children's/young adult book author Erika Lewis. All kinds of stories and scenes are welcome. Start with a blank page or an already written scene. Materials will be provided. Space is limited. To register, email library@santamonica.gov. For ages 13 - 18. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/scene-by-scene-storybuilding-for-teens/16455894/2025-09-16T17

FINDING FOCUS: OWN YOUR ATTENTION IN AN AGE OF DISTRACTION
6:30 p.m. Brentwood Country Mart 225 26th Street, Suite #33 Santa Monica. A must-read action plan to reclaim your focus, direct your attention, and save your mind in an era of endless distraction. Our brains are wired for focus. We are designed for it, we crave it, and yet in our current age of overload, we often feel like our minds are bolting from one distraction to the next, with sustained focus always just out of reach. Finding Focus is an empowering guide to reclaiming your most precious resource: your attention. Leading behavioral scientist Dr. Zelana Montminy unveils the science behind focus and distraction, revealing how our hyperconnected reality and the endless flux between digital and physical life fragments our thoughts and diminishes our well-being. Finding Focus equips you with powerful strategies to: · Silence the noise · Rewire your brain · Unleash your potential · Rediscover yourself. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/finding-focus-own-your-attention-in-an-age-of-distraction/16583971/2025-09-16T18

TUESDAY OPEN MIC
10:00 p.m. Westside Comedy Theater 1323-A 3rd St Santa Monica. The best open mic in Los Angeles! The Tuesday Open Mic is a weekly open mic. Hop onstage and perform your best 3 minutes! Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/tuesday-open-mic/16004734/2025-09-16T22

WEDNESDAY | SEPTEMBER 17

DUNGEONS & DRAGONS
4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Santa Monica Public Library 601 Santa Monica Blvd. Santa Monica. Join the adventure for one-shot sessions with characters you created or pick up a ready-made character for the day's journey! All materials provided. For ages 9 - 14. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/dungeons-dragons/16488652/2025-09-17T16

CINEHAUS MOVIE NIGHTS
7:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. The Eden Hotel 1301 Ocean Avenue Santa Monica. CineHaus presents: Sunset Screenings at The Eden Step into old Hollywood charm as CineHaus transforms the courtyard of The Eden Hotel into a dreamy open-air cinema. Grab a cocktail or a hot drink, settle under the stars, and lose yourself in iconic films the way they were meant to be seen — together. From hot popcorn and candy to s'mores, we've got everything you need for the perfect movie night. Cozy, timeless, unforgettable — only at CineHaus. Dates vary — check our lineup! Doors 7:30 PM | Movie 8:00 PM | Tickets - buytickets.at/cinehaus | First-come seating Drinks, snacks, s'mores & good vibes every time Bottle service inquiries: nikita@nolongernetwork.com Gift certificates: tickettailor.com/events/cinehaus/store. $17.00 to $185.00. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/cinehaus-movie-nights/16585124/2025-09-17T19

THURSDAY | SEPTEMBER 18

COUNTERING TRUTH DECAY: A COMMUNITY CONVERSATION
5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. 18th Street Arts Center (Olympic Campus) 1639 18th Street 18th Street Arts Center (Olympic Campus) Santa Monica. A community-led conversation about the impact of misinformation on local issues and what it can be done about it. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/countering-truth-decay-a-community-conversation/16644701/2025-09-18T17

MONTANA BRANCH BOOK GROUP
6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Montana Branch Library 1704 Montana Ave. Santa Monica. This community-led, monthly book discussion group meets in person at 6 p.m. on the third Thursday of the month at the Montana Branch Library. This book group discusses a mix of fiction and nonfiction titles, often on topics chosen from current events. To register, email library@santamonica.gov. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/montana-branch-book-group/14818668/2025-09-18T18

AN EVENING WITH BILL MCKIBBEN
9:15 p.m. The Ann and Jerry Moss Theater-New Roads School Herb Alpert Educational Village 3131 Olympic Blvd. The Ann and Jerry Moss Theater-New Roads School Santa Monica. A conversation with Bill McKibben, "Here Comes the Sun: A Last Chance for the Climate and a Fresh Chance for Civilization." $28.53. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/an-evening-with-bill-mckibben/16644529/2025-09-18T21

FRIDAY | SEPTEMBER 19

LIVE MUSIC FRIDAYS AT THE SURFING FOX
6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. 120 Colorado Ave Santa Monica, CA. 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/14385252/2025-09-19T18

COUNTERING TRUTH DECAY: A COMMUNITY CONVERSATION
5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. PDT. Doors at 5:20 p.m. 18th Street Arts Center (Olympic Campus) 1639 18th Street 18th Street Arts Center (Olympic Campus) Santa Monica. A discussion about the impact of misinformation on local issues and what can be done about it. We will engage in dialogue groups to address the issue of the declining role of fact-based information in our local and national discourse. Refreshments and Spanish interpretation services will be provided. Una conversación sobre los impactos de la desinformación en los asuntos locales y el qué se puede hacer al respecto. Proporcionará un canal para la participación creativa y reflexiva en un tema nacional. Se ofrecerán refrigerios y servicios de interpretación en español. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/countering-truth-decay-a-community-conversation/16644701/2025-09-19T00

SATURDAY | SEPTEMBER 20

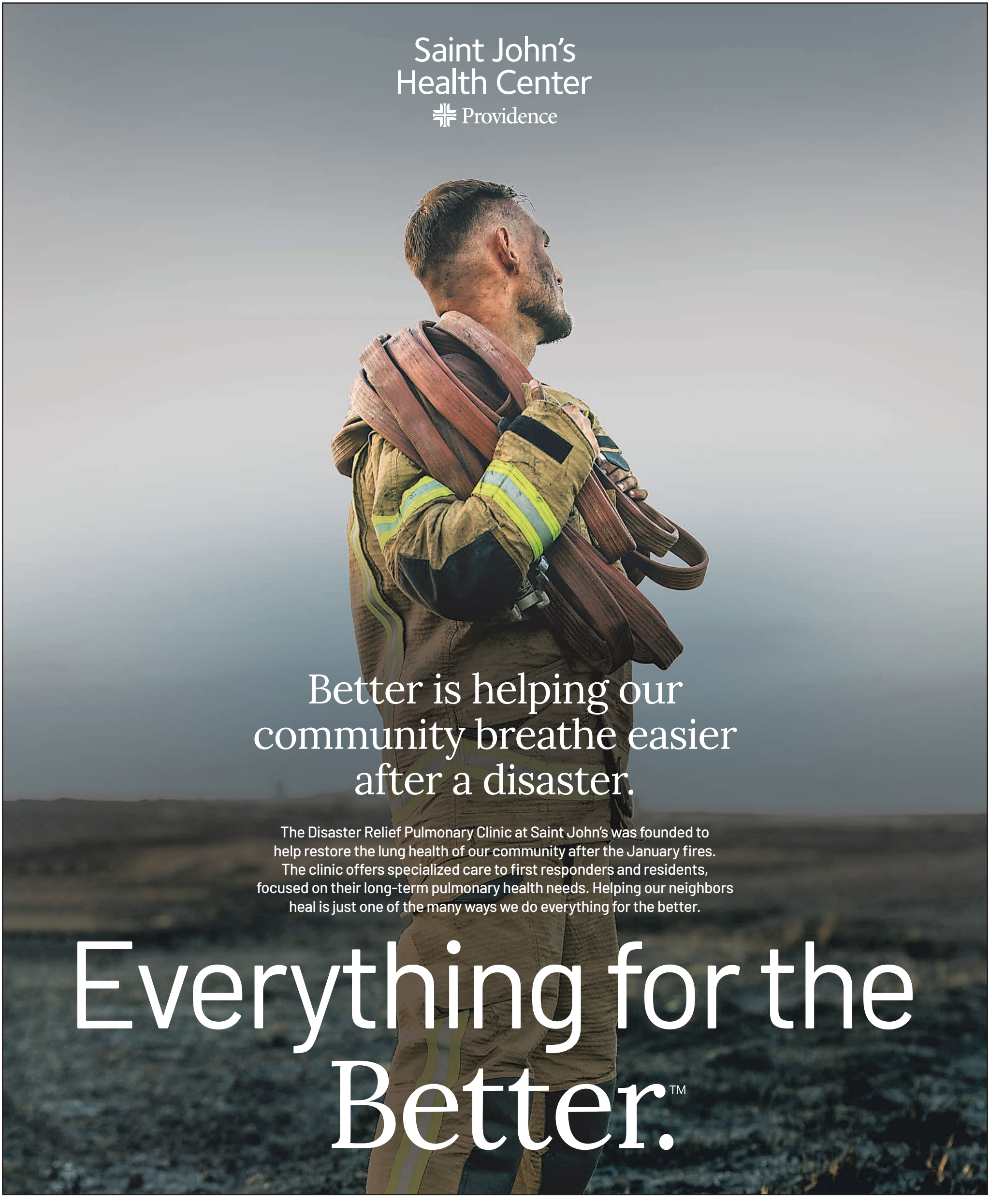
COASTAL CLEAN UP DAY 2025
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Heal the Bay Presents The 36th Annual Coastal Cleanup Day. Coastal Cleanup Day is the world's largest volunteer-driven environmental event, mobilizing millions of people across the world to protect our planet! In Los Angeles County, Heal the Bay proudly leads this monumental effort, organizing over 50 cleanup sites spanning our coasts, rivers, parks, and dive and kayak sites. Our amazing volunteers picked up more than 18,000 pounds of trash last year! Save the date on Saturday, September 20th, 2025, 9 am to noon, as we once again welcome more than 7,000 volunteers to help tackle Los Angeles's marine debris crisis! Please contact ccd@healthebay.org with any questions. Registration Coming Soon About Coastal Cleanup Day, LA County: Coastal Cleanup Day is an international day of action to protect our oceans, watersheds, and wildlife from trash and plastic pollution. In collaboration with the California Coastal Commission and the Ocean Conservancy, Heal the Bay has proudly been the Los Angeles County Coordinator of this event for the past 36 years. Choose one of the many clean up sites throughout the county. Whether you want to tidy up the mountains, better your neighborhood, or spruce up the beach, we've got you covered! Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/coastal-clean-up-day-2025/16449375/2025-09-20T09

COMPOST GIVEAWAY AT CITY YARDS
9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. City Yards 2500 Michigan Ave Santa Monica. Join us for Resource Recovery and Recycling's quarterly compost giveaway on September 20th, 2025, from 9:00am to 2:00pm at City Yards, 2500 Michigan Avenue. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/compost-giveaway-at-city-yards/14544561/2025-09-20T09

UC MASTER GARDENERS AT PICO FARMERS MARKET
10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Visit with the UC Master Gardeners at the Saturday Pico Farmers Market. he booth is filled with free advice on how to care for plants, how to troubleshoot a gardening problem, and much more. Free seeds and seedlings are available on a limited basis. Market attendance is subject to change based on weather and holiday. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/uc-master-gardeners-at-pico-farmers-market/16517441/2025-09-20T10

Saint John's Health Center

Providence



Better is helping our community breathe easier after a disaster.

The Disaster Relief Pulmonary Clinic at Saint John's was founded to help restore the lung health of our community after the January fires. The clinic offers specialized care to first responders and residents, focused on their long-term pulmonary health needs. Helping our neighbors heal is just one of the many ways we do everything for the better.

Everything for the Better.™