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Santa Monica Daily Press

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Santa Monica dune restoration project wins unanimous approval despite fire concerns

MAAZ ALIN
SMDP Staff Writer

The California Coastal Commission unanimously approved a controversial plan Thursday, Sept. 11, to restore 38.5 acres of native dune habitat along Santa Monica State Beach, despite fierce opposition from beachfront residents who warn the project could increase fire risks and attract homeless encampments.

The Phase 3 expansion will nearly double the existing dune restoration area to cover approximately 19% of Santa Monica's sandy beach, making it one of the largest coastal habitat restoration projects in Southern California. The project builds on two smaller pilot phases that have been credited with bringing back endangered species and providing natural protection against sea level rise.

Commissioner Ann Notthoff praised the nature-based approach to coastal protection, saying "it's great to see this type of soft approach to coastal erosion concerns." The commission voted 10-0 to approve

SEE **BEACH** PAGE 11



Courtesy photo

BEACH: Phase 3 expansion will nearly double the existing dune restoration area to cover approximately 19% of Santa Monica's sandy beach.

Local nonprofit opens Urban Farm to combat family homelessness

MAAZ ALIN
SMDP Staff Writer

Santa Monica Mayor Lana Negrete joined celebrity chefs and community leaders on Thursday, Sept. 11, to cut the ribbon on an urban farm designed to help homeless families rebuild their lives through fresh food and therapeutic gardening.

The Upward Bound House Urban Farm, located at 1417 Yale Street, represents a novel approach to addressing homelessness by integrating food security and wellness programs with traditional housing services. The 2,100-square-

SEE **URBAN FARM** PAGE 6



Courtesy photo

EVENT: Mayor Negrete praised the initiative as an innovative model for supporting vulnerable populations.

Oscar winner Robert Redford, who also worked to save Santa Monica landmarks, dies at 89

Robert Redford, the Hollywood golden boy who became an Oscar-winning director, liberal activist and godfather for independent cinema under the name of one of his best-loved characters, died Tuesday at 89.

Redford died "at his home at Sundance in the mountains of Utah — the place he loved, surrounded by those he loved," publicist Cindi Berger said in a statement. No cause of death was provided.

After rising to stardom in the 1960s, Redford was one of the biggest stars of the '70s with such films as "The Candidate," "All the President's Men" and "The Way We Were," capping that decade with the best director Oscar for 1980's "Ordinary People," which also won best picture in 1980. His wavy blond hair and boyish grin made him the most desired of leading men, but he worked hard to transcend his looks — whether through his political advocacy, his willingness to take on unglamorous roles or his dedication to providing a platform for low-budget movies.

His roles ranged from Washington Post journalist Bob Woodward to a mountain man in "Jeremiah Johnson" to a double

SEE **REDFORD** PAGE 7







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City of Santa Monica

SANTA MONICA RENT CONTROL BOARD
PUBLIC NOTICE

Please take notice that at its regular meeting of September 11, 2025, the Santa Monica Rent Control Board adopted revisions to the following regulations:

- Regulation 1003(d): To conform to state law to allow attendance by teleconference as authorized by Section 54953
- Regulation 4001A(b): To conform to case law by removing a provision allowing the Board to file rent decrease petitions in cases involving common areas
- Regulation 4104(D)(4)(c): To delete an outdated reference to an appendix that is no longer in use

These changes will become effective by promulgation the day after publication in the newspaper.

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Social media has us in its grip and won't let go. The Charlie Kirk killing is a case study

Charlie Kirk's mastery of social media was key to his rise as an influence in conservative politics. So the extent to which his death and its aftermath have played out on those forums shouldn't come as a surprise.

In a microcosm of life today, social media is where Americans have gone to process last week's killing in Utah and is the chief tool his supporters are using to police those they feel aren't offering proper respect. Investigators are probing the time the man accused of killing Kirk, Tyler Robinson, spent in the "dark corners of the internet" — anti-social media, if you will — leading up to when he allegedly pulled the trigger.

On the other side of the world, as the Kirk story preoccupied Americans, Nepal reeled from a spasm of violence that erupted when the government tried to ban social media platforms.

All of this is forcing a closer look at the technologies that have changed our lives, how they control what we see and understand through algorithms, and the way all the time we spend on them affects our view of the world.

COX EMERGES AS POWERFUL SPOKESMAN AGAINST SOCIAL MEDIA

Utah's governor, Republican Spencer Cox, believes "cancer" isn't a strong enough word to describe social media. "The most powerful companies in the history of the world have figured out how to hack our brains, get us addicted to outrage ... and get us to hate each other," Cox said Sunday on NBC's "Meet the Press."

Democratic Sen. Brian Schatz of Hawaii, urged Americans via social media to "pull yourself together, read a book, get some exercise, have a whiskey, walk the dog or make some pasta or go fishing or just do anything other than let this algo pickle your brain and ruin your soul."

Chilling videos of Kirk's Sept. 10 assassination immediately overwhelmed sites like X, TikTok and YouTube, and companies are still working to contain their spread. Confrontational material and conspiracy theories are pushed into social media feeds because they do precisely what they're designed to do — keep people on the platforms for longer periods of time.

"I do think we're in a moment here," said Laura Edelson, a Northeastern University professor and expert on social media algorithms. "Our country is being digitally mediated. Where we interact with other people, how we interact with broader society, that is more and more happening over feed algorithms. This is the most recent in a long line of ways that society has been changed by media technology."

Divisive content and the proliferation of the video of Kirk's death may not have been the goal but are the direct result of decisions made to maximize profits and cut back on content moderation, Edelson said.

"I don't think there are people twirling their mustaches saying how great it is that we've divided society, except the Russian troll farms and, more and more, the Chinese troll farms," she said.

X owner Elon Musk posted on his site this past week that while discourse can become negative, "it's still good there is a discussion going." President Donald Trump, who created his own social platform, was asked about Cox's comments Tuesday before leaving for a trip to the United Kingdom. He said that while social media can create "deep, dark holes that are cancerous," it wasn't all bad.

"Well, it's not a cancer in all respects," he told reporters. "In some respects, it is great."

Conservative media star Ben Shapiro, who considered Kirk a friend, admired how Kirk was willing to go to different places and talk to people who disagreed with him, a practice all too rare in the social media era.

"How social media works is a disaster area, fully a disaster area," Shapiro said in an interview with Bari Weiss on a Free Press podcast. "There's no question it's making the world a worse place — and that's not a call for censorship."

How people act on social media is a bipartisan problem, said Shapiro. The most pervasive one is people who use the third-person plural — "they" are doing something to "us," he said. That's been the case when many people discuss Kirk's death, although the shooter's motives haven't become clear and there's no evidence his actions are anything other than his own.

COLLECTING INFLAMMATORY POSTS FROM BOTH SIDES

The liberal MeidasTouch media company has collected inflammatory social posts by conservatives, particularly those who suggest they're at "war." Meanwhile, several conservatives have combed social media for posts they consider negative toward Kirk, in some cases seeking to get people fired. The Libs of TikTok site urged that a Washington state school district be defunded because it refused to lower flags to half staff.

GOP Rep. Randy Fine of Florida asked people to point out negative Kirk posts from anyone who works in government, at a place that receives public funding or is licensed by government — a teacher or lawyer, for instance. "These monsters want a fight?" he wrote on X. "Congratulations, they got one."

A Washington Post columnist, Karen Attiah, wrote Monday that she was fired for a series of BlueSky posts that expressed little sympathy for Kirk. But she wrote on Substack that "not performing over-the-top grief for white men who espouse violence was not the same as endorsing violence against them." A Post spokeswoman declined to comment.

So much of what people use to talk about politics — algorithmically driven social media sites and cable television — is designed to pull Americans apart, said James Talarico, a Democratic state lawmaker in Texas who recently announced a bid for the U.S. Senate. "We've got to find our way back to each other because that's the only way we can continue this American experiment," he said on MSNBC.

Among the most persistent examples of those divisions are the lies and misinformation about elections that have spread for years through online social channels. They have

SEE **SOCIAL MEDIA** PAGE 11

Retail sales up 0.6% in August from July even as tariffs hurt jobs and lead to price hikes

Shoppers increased their spending at a better-than-expected pace in August from July, helped by back-to-school shopping, even as President Donald Trump's tariffs start to hurt the job market and lead to price increases.

Retail sales rose 0.6% last month from July, when sales were up a revised 0.6%, according to the Commerce Department's report. In June, retail sales rose 0.9%, the government agency said.

The August performance, announced Tuesday, was also likely helped by the continued efforts by Americans to keep pushing up purchases ahead of expected price increases.

The sales increases followed two straight months of spending declines in April and May.

Excluding auto sales, which have been volatile since Trump imposed tariffs on many foreign-made cars, retail sales rose 0.7% in August. Sales at auto vehicle and parts dealers rose 0.5%.

The data showed solid spending across various other outlets. Business at electronics and appliance stores was up 0.3%, while online retailers saw a 2% increase. Business at clothing and accessories retailers rose 1%.

And business at restaurants, the lone services component within the Census Bureau report and a barometer of discretionary spending, rose 0.7%. Business at furniture and home furnishings stores was down 0.3%.

A category of sales that excludes volatile sectors such as gas, cars, and restaurants rose last month by 0.7% from the previous month. The figure feeds into the Bureau of Economic Analysis's consumption estimate and is a sign that consumers are still spending on some discretionary items.

"This is further evidence that we shouldn't underestimate the strength of the consumer," Bankrate senior industry analyst Ted Rossman wrote in a note Tuesday. "Back-to-school shopping was a key theme in August, as evidenced by the strong clothing and electronics sales."

Government retail data isn't adjusted for inflation, which rose 0.4% from July to August, according to the latest government report. That was faster than the 0.2% pace the previous month. So that could have inflated the sales figures as well.

Consumer prices increased 2.9% in August from a year earlier, the Labor Department said last week, up from 2.7% the previous month and the biggest jump since January. Excluding the volatile food and energy categories, core prices rose 3.1%, the same as in July. Both figures are above the Federal Reserve's 2% target.

Stronger-than-expected retail sales, coupled with higher inflation as well as data showing soaring applications for unemployment aid, all create a complicated picture of the economy. Such data put the Federal Reserve in an increasingly tough spot as it prepares to cut rates at its meeting this week, economists said.

Earlier this month, the Labor Department reported that U.S. employers — companies, government agencies and nonprofits — added 22,000 jobs last month, down from 79,000 in July and well below the 80,000 that economists had expected.

Carl B. Weinberg, chief economist at High Frequency Economics, noted the retail sales increase "will not be enough of a surprise to stop the Fed from cutting rates this week, but it should support a hawkish message from the Fed Chair that a knock-on rate cut is not assured."

Major retailers including Walmart, Macy's and Best Buy recently reported their quarterly results, underscoring that shoppers are still buying, but are choosy. Some have raised prices ,but many have described the hikes as modest.

Still, so far, shoppers haven't felt the big sting as some economists predicted earlier in the year as many retailers ordered goods ahead of tariffs and absorbed a big chunk of the costs as they came in, worried about passing on any hefty price increases.

The price gains have also been gradual enough to mute changes in consumer behavior, Walmart CEO Doug McMillon told analysts last month.

But Walmart and others said they expect to see costs increase as they replenish inventory at post-tariff levels.

Jewelry maker Pandora hasn't announced specific price increases, but Pandora CEO Alexander Lacik said in a call with analysts last month that the company is monitoring the scenario.

He noted that "the U.S. consumer will eventually have to bear the brunt of these tariffs," but added, "it's not just on jewelry, it's on many product categories. So the big question mark is, what happens with inflation in the U.S., unemployment rates, all sorts of other macro drivers, and I think this is ahead of us."

Matt Priest, president and CEO of trade group Footwear Distributors and Retailers of America, told reporters Monday that members are starting to pass along price increases to shoppers. Its members had previously paid a total of $3 billion in tariffs annually for years; that number is now on track to hit $5 billion by year-end. He warned that women's shoes will be affected first.

"Women's shoes are more fashion-oriented," Priest said. "Our ability to front-load women's product based on fashion trends was limited, and so we are seeing that those increases start to hit consumers first."

By ANNE D'INNOCENZIO AP Retail Writer

SEND YOUR NEWS TO THE EDITOR

Santa Monica Daily Press editor@smdp.com



Surf report

WATER TEMP: **71.6**

WEDNESDAY — ***FAIR***
SURF: 3-4ft Waist to chest

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 faily clean and have a nice afternoon).

THURSDAY — ***FAIR TO GOOD***
SURF: 3-4ft Waist to chest

Not far off from Wed as SSW/S swell lingers. Clean AM conditions. Swell very slowly winds down throughout the day and the AM/PM windows probably won't feel all that different size-wise. Waist-chest high waves aren't too hard to find, still shoulder-head high for tops spots. Shape still struggles outside of the points without significant NW windswell running. Medium confidence on a clean start, but there is an outside chance at westerly onshores puffing up early.

Weather

Wednesday: Mostly cloudy, with a high near 80. Light and variable wind becoming west southwest 5 to 10 mph in the afternoon.
Wednesday Night: A slight chance of showers, then a chance of showers and thunderstorms after 11pm. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 71.
Thursday: Showers likely and possibly a thunderstorm before 11am, then a chance of showers and thunderstorms after 11am. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 76.
Thursday Night: A 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 67.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted	(ft)High/Low
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
2025/09/18	Thu	7:56 PM	5.94	H
2025/09/19	Fri	02:44 AM	-0.26	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: 9/15
14 15 32 42 49
Power#: 1
Jackpot: 81 M

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

SUPER LOTTO PLUS
Draw Date: 9/13
5 11 12 20 39
Mega#: 21
Jackpot: 43 M

FANTASY 5
Draw Date: 9/15
7 8 27 28 34

DAILY 3
Draw Date: 9/15
EVENING: 8 9 2
Draw Date: 9/15
MIDDAY: 2 4 0

DAILY DERBY
Draw Date: 9/15
1st: 04 - Big Ben
2nd: 08 - Gorgeous George
3rd: 01 - Gold Rush
Race Time: 1:48.25

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Pier

Locals' Night Returns to Santa Monica Pier with Reggae Theme Sept. 18

Santa Monica's popular Locals' Night series returns Thursday, Sept. 18, from 3:30 to 10 p.m. at the Santa Monica Pier, featuring reggae music, community vendors and family activities.

Presented by Pacific Park, the free event kicks off the new season as part of the Third Thursday at the Pier initiative. The celebration includes live music, classic car displays, educational activities and local vendor booths designed to bring the community together.

The evening's entertainment lineup features multiple performers on the main stage from 4:30 to 9:30 p.m., hosted by Syrus Yarbrough from 5 to 9 p.m. Musical acts include Junor Francis (4:30-6 p.m.), Blaze Mob (6:30-7:30 p.m.) and Quinto Sol (8-9:30 p.m.).

The main parking deck will showcase a Classic Car Club display and live DJ Devil-Los from 5 to 8 p.m., along with booths from city partners and local creators.

Family activities at the carousel run from 3:30 to 5 p.m., including Books & Cookies Musical Storytime at 3:30 and 4:30 p.m., plus a Heal the Bay Aquarium educational pop-up.

"There's a common misconception that we're part of the city government, but the Pier Corporation is actually a nonprofit dedicated to the people who love this place," said Jim Harris, executive director and historian of the Santa Monica Pier Corporation. "These events don't just happen—they happen because of the generous support of our sponsors, volunteers, and everyone who shows up to be part of it."

The Santa Monica Pier Corporation, a nonprofit organization that operates independently from the city, relies on sponsor support and community participation to fund events like Locals' Night.

All ages are welcome to attend the free event. Organizers encourage visitors to arrive early and support local businesses and organizations participating in the festivities.

Free tickets are available at: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/locals-night-at-the-santa-monica-pier-tickets-1035331714027

The Santa Monica Pier is located at 200 Santa Monica Pier, Suite A, Santa Monica, CA 90401. Attendees are encouraged to use rideshare, Metro, bus or bike transportation.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF



Courtesy photo

EVENT: Locals Night Returns to the Santa Monica Pier with Reggae Rhythms and Community Vibes on Sept. 18.

SMC

SMC Gallery Opens Photography Exhibition Exploring Latino Masculinities

The Santa Monica College Emeritus Art Gallery will host a free opening reception Thursday, Sept. 18, for "Nurturing Masculinities," a photography exhibition by Juan Manuel Valenzuela that examines generational shifts in cultural definitions of masculinity.

The reception runs from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the gallery, located on the first floor of the SMC Emeritus Campus at 1227 Second St. The exhibition continues through Nov. 7 as part of FotoSoCal, a constellation of art exhibits presented at more than 20 community colleges across Southern California.

> "Valenzuela's work is compelling conceptually and in materiality"
> - Erika Hirugami

Valenzuela uses photography to document how concepts of masculinity are passed between generations. Exhibition Curator Erika Hirugami describes the work as the artist's "blueprint and aesthetic exploration of the soft margins of intergenerationally inherited masculinity," contrasting what Valenzuela learned from his elders with the nurturing he aims to provide his son.

Hirugami, a first-generation Mexican Japanese immigrant, founded CuratorLove and co-founded UNDOC+Collective. As curatorial director of FotoSoCal, she selected works that challenge traditional notions of Latino masculinities while showcasing methodical production techniques rarely seen in major museum photography collections.

"Valenzuela's work is compelling conceptually and in materiality," Hirugami said. "The work is equal parts aesthetically challenging to a larger conversation about Latino masculinities, while also being methodically produced in ways rarely seen in the photography canon at major museums."

Gallery Director Jesse Benson said the exhibition offers viewers an opportunity to consider Valenzuela's work both as a standalone piece and within Hirugami's broader FotoSoCal project.

The gallery is open 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Parking is available at Santa Monica Public Parking Structure No. 2 next door to the campus.

SMC's Emeritus program, founded in 1975, serves the lifelong learning interests of older adults through more than 120 noncredit classes and special programs for more than 3,000 students annually.

More information is available at smc.edu/emeritusgallery.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF



Courtesy photo

EXHIBITION: "Planes pa' los pollos hacen gallos finos No. 10" is one of the visual works in photographer Juan Manuel Valenzuela's "Nurturing Masculinities" exhibition in the Emeritus Art Gallery at 1227 Second St., Santa Monica.

Classifieds

Name Change

Order Show to show cause for Name Change Case No.25VECP00480 Superior Court of California, County of Los AngelesPetition of Max Flores for Change of Name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner or Attorney: Max Flores court for a decree of changing names as follows: Max Flores to Max Ezkibell . The court orders that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Notice of Hearing: Date 10/10/2025 Time: 8:30 a.m, Dept: I Room: 520 The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA – COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES Burbank Courthouse 6230 Sylmar Ave Van Nuys, CA 91401 . A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Santa Monica Daily Press

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Los Angeles

Providence Saint John's Opens Women's Health & Wellness Center

Providence Saint John's Health Center celebrated the grand opening of its Women's Health & Wellness Center with a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Sept. 11, honoring donors, clinicians and caregivers who made the facility possible.

More than 50 guests, including donors, medical staff, hospital and foundation leadership and trustees, attended the celebration for the first-of-its-kind facility in Southern California.

Located at 1301 20th St., Suite 440, the 7,000-square-foot center is the region's first hospital-affiliated space to integrate pelvic health physical therapy, acupuncture, fourth-trimester maternal health and cancer survivorship services under one roof. Each patient receives a dedicated navigator who coordinates care, removes barriers and connects patients to health and community resources.

> This center is a place where women are seen, heard and cared for as whole people, focused on providing resources, treatments and therapies that are unique to women's health care
> - Dr. Tiffany Grunwald

"This center is a place where women are seen, heard and cared for as whole people, focused on providing resources, treatments and therapies that are unique to women's health care," said Dr. Tiffany Grunwald, executive medical director of the Women's Health & Wellness Institute. "It's a model of care that's long overdue."

The center offers comprehensive services in a spa-like setting, including acupuncture, cannabis and hemp counseling, lactation support, nutrition counseling and pelvic floor therapy. Patients receive expert care for urinary incontinence, overactive bladder and pelvic organ prolapse.

Priority care pathways include a Fourth Trimester Program supporting mothers through pregnancy and postpartum, Pelvic Health addressing incontinence and pelvic floor dysfunction, and Cancer Survivorship providing holistic support for recovery and wellness. Additional pathways for fertility, hormone balancing and mental health are planned as the center expands.

"With the opening of our new Women's Health & Wellness Center, we're yet again delivering on the Providence Promise: to know me, care for me and ease my way," said Michael Ricks, chief executive of Providence Saint John's Health Center and the Providence LA-Coastal Service Area.

The center also hosts monthly seminars on women's health topics including incontinence treatments, hormone therapies and sexual wellness.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF

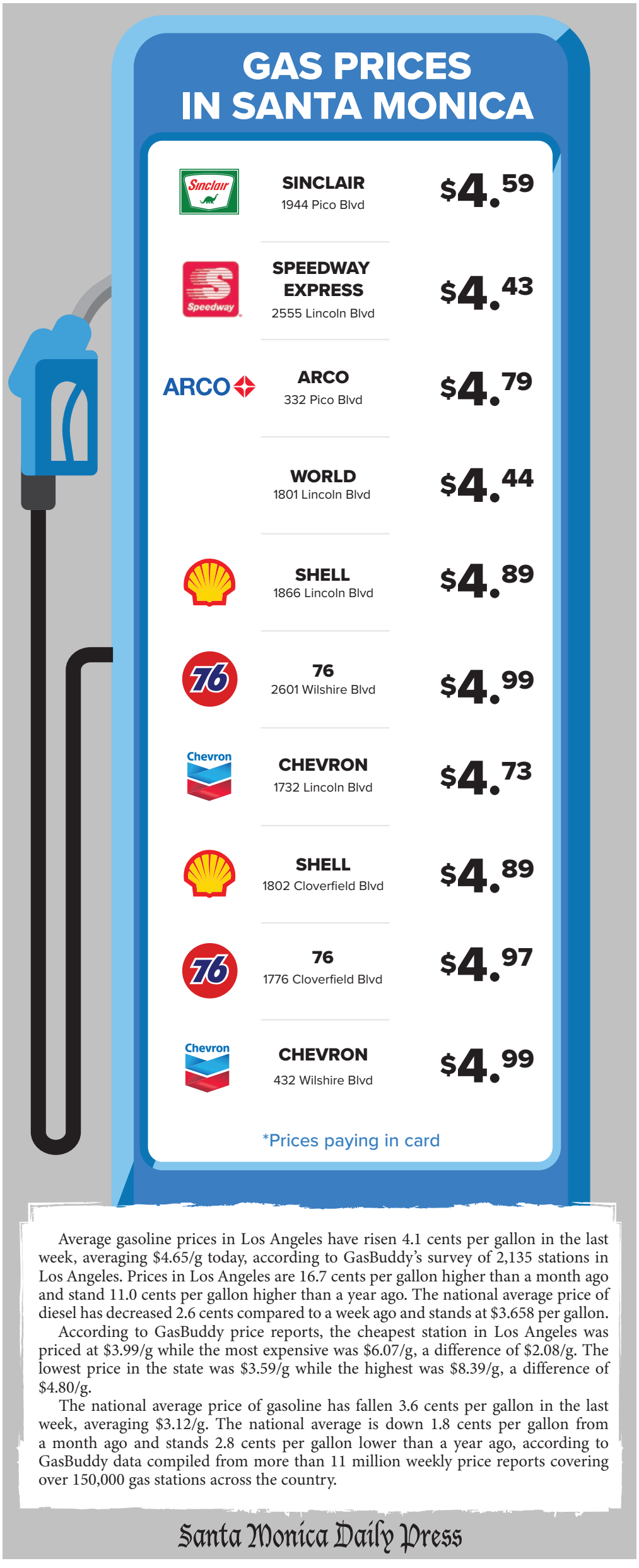


Bill Devlin

OPEN: Tiffany Grunwald, M.D., executive medical director of the Women's Health & Wellness Institute, cuts the ribbon at the Women's Health & Wellness Center's grand opening event.

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Don't be brash. Food scraps are too precious to trash.
Food scraps belong in the green organics bin.
Los restos de comida son muy importantes para tiralos al la basura. Mejor colócalos en el contenedor verde para materiales orgánicos.
City of Santa Monica
City of Santa Monica
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Average gasoline prices in Los Angeles have risen 4.1 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging $4.65/g today, according to GasBuddy's survey of 2,135 stations in Los Angeles. Prices in Los Angeles are 16.7 cents per gallon higher than a month ago and stand 11.0 cents per gallon higher than a year ago. The national average price of diesel has decreased 2.6 cents compared to a week ago and stands at $3.658 per gallon.

According to GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in Los Angeles was priced at $3.99/g while the most expensive was $6.07/g, a difference of $2.08/g. The lowest price in the state was $3.59/g while the highest was $8.39/g, a difference of $4.80/g.

The national average price of gasoline has fallen 3.6 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging $3.12/g. The national average is down 1.8 cents per gallon from a month ago and stands 2.8 cents per gallon lower than a year ago, according to GasBuddy data compiled from more than 11 million weekly price reports covering over 150,000 gas stations across the country.

Santa Monica Daily Press

COMMUNITY NEWS

Los Angeles

LA County Commission Releases Human Rights Implementation Report

The Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations released a report examining how county priorities and operations reflect internationally recognized human rights standards. The report, created in collaboration with the International Justice Clinic at UC Irvine School of Law and Northeastern University School of Law Center for Global Law and Justice, highlights how daily county work implements fundamental human rights principles.

"This report gives the public a clear look at how we are working to protect human rights every day in Los Angeles County," said Board of Supervisors Chair Kathryn Barger. "It's a responsibility we take seriously—it's part of our core mission to serve every community with fairness and respect."

The report demonstrates how LA County departments share a core mission to improve quality of life with integrity, inclusivity, compassion, customer orientation and equity. It connects this local work to broader international human rights commitments, serving as a resource for officials, advocates and community members.

"Los Angeles County remains steadfast in its commitment to lead with integrity, inclusivity, and compassion, and to protect the rights of all Angelenos," said Chair Pro Tem Hilda L. Solis. "In these unprecedented times, amid recovery from devastating wildfires and growing fear in our communities due to ongoing immigration actions, we stand united in our promise to build a stronger, more inclusive County for all."

Supervisor Holly J. Mitchell noted that four years ago, the Board approved her motion to incorporate the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination into county ordinance. "Now is the time to double down on that commitment—together—for all residents, including women, immigrants, and our most vulnerable communities," she said.

The report references twelve key international instruments that promote specific rights and freedoms, all sharing the commitment that government respects, protects and fulfills rights without discrimination. From public defenders safeguarding the right to counsel to public hospitals delivering care regardless of income, the document shows how county employees' work fundamentally protects human rights.

"This report highlights how the LA County government promotes and protects human rights, which is the crucial foundation of healthy relations among all County residents," said Robin Toma, LACCHR Executive Director.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF

URBAN FARM

FROM PAGE 1

foot facility includes growing fields, hydroponic towers, a greenhouse and a teaching kitchen.

"This farm is more than soil and seeds—it's a symbol of what's possible when a community comes together with love, imagination, and a shared belief that every child deserves a place to grow," said Christine Mirasy-Glasco, CEO of Upward Bound House, during the ceremony.

The ribbon-cutting drew acclaimed Los Angeles chefs including Josiah Citrin and members of the Rustic Canyon restaurant group, who have supported the nonprofit's mission. Families served by the organization participated in planting demonstrations while chefs prepared lunch using ingredients grown on-site.

Mayor Negrete praised the initiative as an innovative model for supporting vulnerable populations. She commended Upward Bound House for "reimagining how we support our most vulnerable neighbors – from housing, to wellness, to food security – in one integrated model."

The farm produces more than 100 pounds of fruits and vegetables every two months, which are distributed through the organization's food pantry and meal services. Beyond nutrition, the space serves as a therapeutic environment where parents and children engage in gardening and nature-based activities that support mental and physical wellness.

"Access to fresh, quality food is a basic dignity everyone deserves," said Chef Citrin, lauding the farm for bringing that dignity to families rebuilding their lives.

The project became possible through a land donation from Roque & Mark, a local real estate development firm. The Markevicius family, who owns the company, provided use of the vacant lot in 2015. A. "Mark" Markevicius, the firm's chairman, spoke about his personal connection to the project, noting he grew up on a farm and was grateful to help create a nurturing farm space for children in Santa Monica.

Upward Bound House has operated in Los Angeles County since 1990, when it was founded by community leaders at the First United Methodist Church of Santa Monica during a growing affordable housing crisis. The organization began by offering shelter in a four-unit building and has since expanded to serve families across Santa Monica, Culver City, Compton and South Los Angeles.

The nonprofit's track record demonstrates significant impact: since 1990, it has placed more than 1,400 families—over 2,600 children—into permanent housing. Remarkably, 95% of families housed by the organization remain housed after one year. In 2025 alone, Upward Bound House helped more than 280 families, including 524 children, transition from homelessness to stable housing.

The urban farm extends the organization's comprehensive approach beyond emergency shelter. Families use the space for hands-on learning experiences, from tending plants to preparing healthy meals in the teaching kitchen. The initiative addresses both food insecurity and trauma healing—common challenges for families experiencing homelessness.

"This farm provides fresh, locally grown produce to families while offering engaging programs that support mental and physical wellness. Through hands-on learning and time in nature, families come together to grow, cook, and learn," according to the organization's description of the program.

Community volunteers help maintain the facility alongside residents, creating connections that extend beyond the immediate services. The collaborative effort represents what Mirasy-Glasco called "a catalyst for stability, health, and dignity" in these families' journey out of homelessness.

The ribbon-cutting ceremony marked the farm's official designation as a fully realized program, though it has been operating since the initial land donation a decade ago.

maaz@smdp.com

REDFORD

FROM PAGE 1

agent in the Marvel Cinematic Universe, and his co-stars included Jane Fonda, Meryl Streep and Tom Cruise. But his most famous screen partner was his old friend and fellow activist and practical joker Paul Newman, their films a variation of their warm, teasing relationship off screen. Redford played the wily outlaw opposite Newman in 1969's "Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid," a box-office smash from which Redford's Sundance Institute and festival got its name. He also teamed with Newman on 1973's best picture Oscar winner, "The Sting," which earned Redford a best-actor nomination as a young con artist in 1930s Chicago.

Film roles after the '70s became more sporadic as Redford concentrated on directing and producing, and his new role as patriarch of the independent-film movement in the 1980s and '90s through his Sundance Institute. But he starred in 1985's best picture champion "Out of Africa" and in 2013 received some of the best reviews of his career as a shipwrecked sailor in "All is Lost," in which he was the film's only performer. In 2018, he was praised again in what he called his farewell movie, "The Old Man and the Gun."

"I just figure that I've had a long career that I'm very pleased with. It's been so long, ever since I was 21," he told The Associated Press shortly before the film came out. "I figure now as I'm getting into my 80s, it's maybe time to move toward retirement and spend more time with my wife and family."

SUNDANCE IS BORN

Redford had watched Hollywood grow more cautious and controlling during the 1970s and wanted to recapture the creative spirit of the early part of the decade. Sundance was created to nurture new talent away from the pressures of Hollywood, the institute providing a training ground and the festival, based in Park City, Utah, where Redford had purchased land with the initial hope of opening a ski resort. Instead, Park City became a place of discovery for such previously unknown filmmakers as Quentin Tarantino, Steven Soderbergh, Paul Thomas Anderson and Darren Aronofsky.

"For me, the word to be underscored is 'independence,'" Redford told the AP in 2018. "I've always believed in that word. That's what led to me eventually wanting to create a category that supported independent artists who weren't given a chance to be heard.

"The industry was pretty well controlled by the mainstream, which I was a part of. But I saw other stories out there that weren't having a chance to be told and I thought, 'Well, maybe I can commit my energies to giving those people a chance.' As I look back on it, I feel very good about that."

Sundance was even criticized as buyers swarmed in looking for potential hits and celebrities overran the town each winter.

"We have never, ever changed our policies for how we program our festival. It's always been built on diversity," Redford told the AP in 2004. "The fact is that the diversity has become commercial. Because independent films have achieved their own success, Hollywood, being just a business, is going to grab them. So when Hollywood grabs your films, they go, 'Oh, it's gone Hollywood.'"

By 2025, the festival had become so prominent that organizers decided they had outgrown Park City and approved relocating to Boulder, Colorado, starting in 2027. Redford, who had attended the University of Colorado Boulder, issued a statement saying that "change is inevitable, we must always evolve and grow, which has been at the core of our survival."

Redford's affinity for the outdoors was well captured in "A River Runs Through It" and other films and through his decades of advocacy for the environment, inspired in part by witnessing the transformation of Los Angeles into a city of smog and freeways. His activities ranged from lobbying for such legislation as the Clean Air Act and Clean Water Act to pushing for land conservation in Utah to serving on the board of the Natural Resources Defense Council.

Redford was married twice, most recently to Sibylle Szaggars. He had four children, two of whom have died — Scott Anthony, who died in infancy, in 1959; and James Redford, an activist and filmmaker who died in 2020.

REDFORD'S EARLY LIFE

Robert Redford was born Charles Robert Redford Jr. on Aug. 18, 1936, in Santa Monica, a California boy whose blond good looks eased his way over an apprenticeship in television and live theater that eventually led to the big screen.

While his career took him to the heart of Hollywood, he maintained a strong connection to the city of his birth.

The future Oscar winner developed his love of cinema at the Aero Theatre on Montana Avenue, which he called his "boyhood cinema." In 2001, Redford attempted to save the aging Art Deco theater through his Sundance Cinemas venture, proposing restoration and independent film programming. The project ultimately failed due to parking issues and financial obstacles but the effort was welcomed by locals who credited him for helping spark interest in the cinema.

Redford's connection to the Santa Monica Pier proved more successful. After enjoying the landmark as a child, he joined efforts to save it from demolition in 1973. While filming "The Sting" on the pier, Redford and co-star Paul Newman signed petitions opposing the city council's plan to replace it with an artificial island resort. The grassroots campaign succeeded, and the pier was designated a historic landmark in 1976.

The Natural Resources Defense Council honored Redford's environmental advocacy by naming its Santa Monica headquarters the "Robert Redford Building" in 2003. The city's tourism materials proudly claim Santa Monica as the "birthplace" of the Hollywood icon.

Redford attended college on a baseball scholarship and would later star as a middle-aged slugger in 1984's "The Natural," the adaptation of Bernard Malamud's baseball novel. He had an early interest in drawing and painting, then went on to study at the American Academy of Dramatic Arts, debuting on Broadway in the late 1950s and moving into television on such shows as "The Twilight Zone," "Alfred Hitchcock Presents" and "The Untouchables."

After scoring a Broadway lead in "Sunday in New York," Redford was cast by director Mike Nichols in a production of Neil Simon's "Barefoot in the Park," later starring with Fonda in the film version. Redford did miss out on one of Nichols' greatest successes, "The Graduate," released in 1967. Nichols had considered casting Redford in the part eventually played by Dustin Hoffman, but Redford seemed unable to relate to the socially awkward young man who ends up having an affair with one of his parents' friends.

"I said, 'You can't play it. You can never play a loser,'" Nichols said during a 2003 screening of the film in New York. "And Redford said, 'What do you mean? Of course I can play a loser.' And I said, 'OK, have you ever struck out with a girl?' and he said, 'What do you mean?' And he wasn't joking."

INDIE CHAMPION, MAINSTREAM STAR

Even as Redford championed low-budget independent filmmaking, he continued to star in mainstream Hollywood productions himself, scoring the occasional hit such as 2001's "Spy Game," which co-starred Brad Pitt, an heir apparent to Redford's handsome legacy whom he had directed in "A River Runs Through It."

Ironically, "The Blair Witch Project," "Garden State," "Napoleon Dynamite" and other scrappy films that came out of Sundance sometimes made bigger waves — and more money — than some Redford-starring box-office duds like "Havana," "The Last Castle" and "An Unfinished Life."

Redford also appeared in several political narratives. He satirized campaigning as an idealist running for U.S. senator in 1972's "The Candidate" and uttered one of the more memorable closing lines, "What do we do now?" after his character manages to win. He starred as Woodward to Hoffman's Carl Bernstein in 1976's "All the President's Men," the story of the Washington Post reporters whose Watergate investigation helped bring down President Richard Nixon.

With 2007's "Lions for Lambs," Redford returned to directing in a saga of a congressman (Tom Cruise), a journalist (Meryl Streep) and an academic (Redford) whose lives intersect over the war on terrorism in Afghanistan.

His biggest filmmaking triumph came with his directing debut on "Ordinary People," which beat Martin Scorsese's classic "Raging Bull" at the Oscars. The film starred Donald Sutherland and Mary Tyler Moore as the repressed parents of a troubled young man, played by Timothy Hutton, in his big screen debut. Redford was praised for casting Moore in an unexpectedly serious role and for his even-handed treatment of the characters, a quality that Roger Ebert believed set "the film apart from the sophisticated suburban soap opera it could easily have become."

Redford's other directing efforts included "The Horse Whisperer," "The Milagro Beanfield War" and 1994's "Quiz Show," the last of which also earned best picture and director Oscar nominations. In 2002, Redford received an honorary Oscar, with academy organizers citing him as "actor, director, producer, creator of Sundance, inspiration to independent and innovative filmmakers everywhere."

"The idea of the outlaw has always been very appealing to me. If you look at some of the films, it's usually having to do with the outlaw sensibility, which I think has probably been my sensibility. I think I was just born with it," Redford said in 2018. "From the time I was just a kid, I was always trying to break free of the bounds that I was stuck with, and always wanted to go outside."

Associated Press journalists Hillel Italie, Jake Coyle and Mallika Sen contributed to this report. Bob Thomas, a longtime Associated Press journalist who died in 2014, was the principal writer of this obituary.



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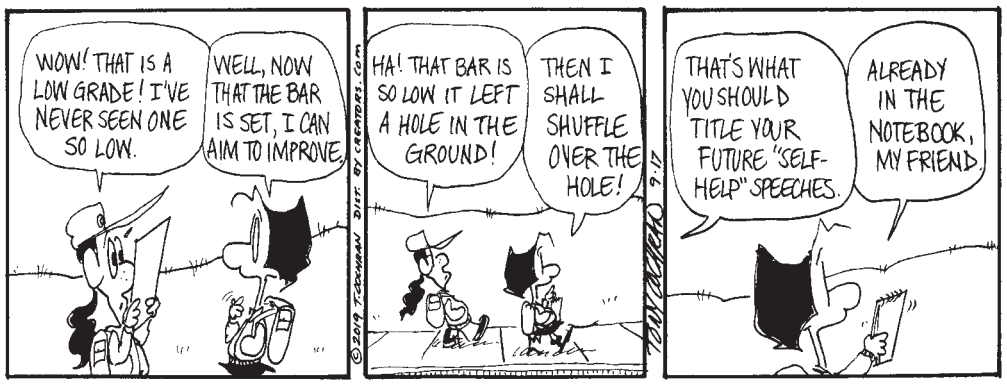
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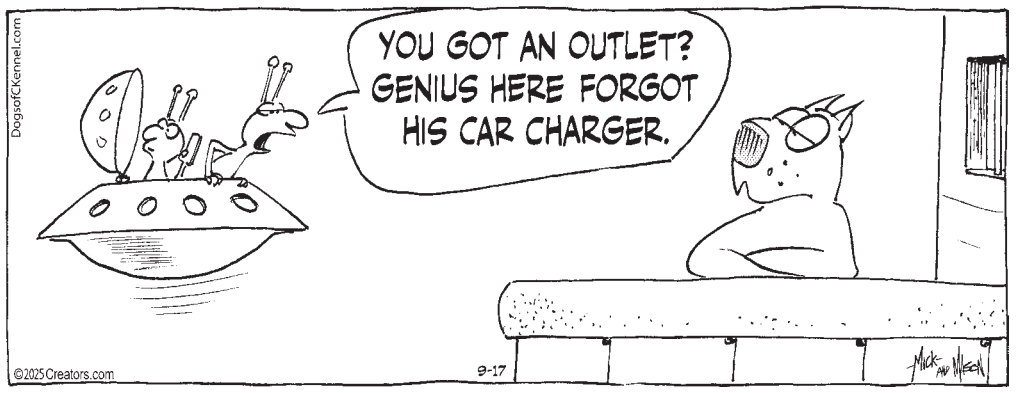
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



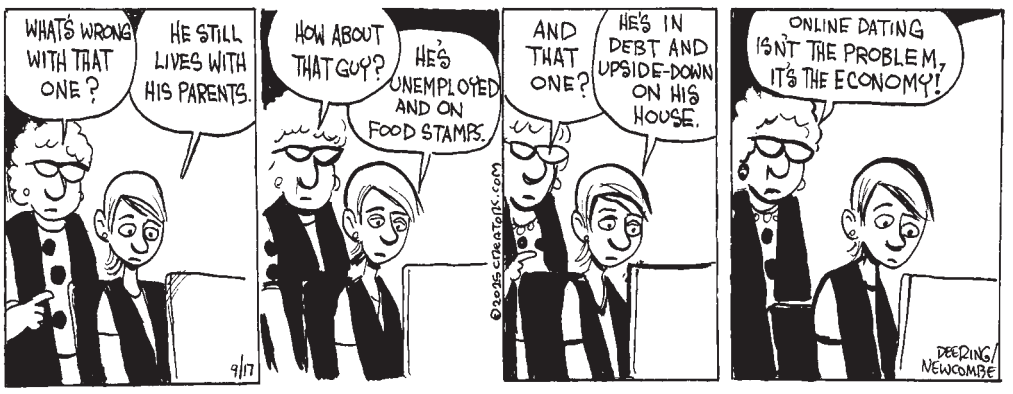
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



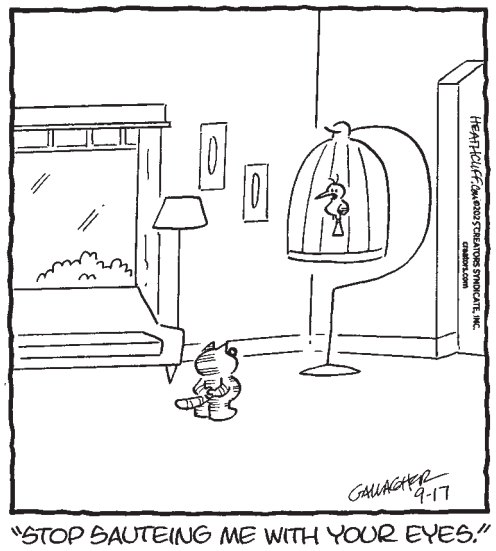
Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

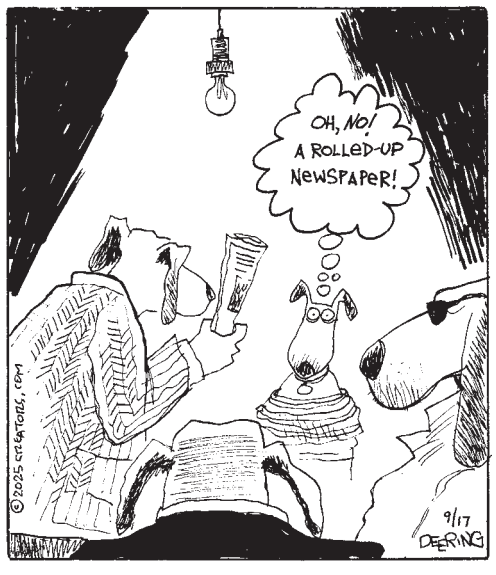
By PETER GALLAGHER



"STOP SAUTEING ME WITH YOUR EYES."

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 6701

Something sweet

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

Aero	Clothes	Macaroon	Piece
Anzac biscuits	Cluster	Melt	Soft
Bars	Coconut	Meringue	Sorbet
Buns	Delivery	Mints	Sponge
Busy	Dirt	Mousse	Sweet
Cakes	Fast	Musk	Syrup
Cash	Fete	Nausea	Treat
Cherry	Frog	Nougat	Trifle
Chips	Hard	Packet	TV mix
Churro	Jams	Party	Wine gums
	Layer	Pick-me-up	

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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Sept. 17)

Welcome to your Year of Fulfillment. It's not the gifts life brings that make your heart glad, it's knowing you earned them. You are unshakably resourceful, endlessly creative and powered by a charisma that makes people lean closer. Progress is measured in commitment and continuation, not speed. More highlights: a triumph and trophy, a reunion, an investment that triples. Aquarius and Libra adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 25, 11, 6, 35 and 5.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Your curiosity will reveal something about you - and them, too. If someone reacts defensively, they may have something to protect, conceal or control. Those who value openness and transparency will take your curiosity as respect and interest.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Anxious people will always find something to worry about, but you don't have to join them. Keep your focus on what's real and present. Do what can be done today, and celebrate what's already good in this moment.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). The world tends to pay attention to flashiness, but the true star is the one who shows up again and again with loyalty, stamina and heart. Consistency is its own brilliance. Those who keep building create legacies that dazzle long after the sparkles fade.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). It's OK if you don't feel totally, powerfully in control at all times. Here's a mantra you can keep in your pocket for other moods: "I've handled worse. I'm safe now. I have love, talent and support. I can do this."

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You take your struggles and strengths and alchemize them into something useful for others. The work you do to process your emotions becomes fuel, encouragement and courage for the people who witness it.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You'll connect easily because you're genuinely curious. Asking questions leads to surprising admissions, little gems people hand over gladly. That exchange builds loyalty. Relationships deepen when people feel you're really paying attention.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You've been gathering resources, often unconsciously, through stray conversations, encounters and experiences. Today, something clicks, and you realize you're more prepared than you thought. You have exactly what you need to keep it pushing.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You're exciting because you entertain risky ideas. It's not about doing them all. It's the creative playfulness that captivates. Someone is drawn in by the possibilities you generate and wants to be part of your orbit.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Even if you feel mentally and emotionally all over the place, it's working for you. Your imagination, memories and hopes will all feel vivid at once, and yet you'll still manage to stay in the present moment and function well.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). The journey is the fun part, so why would you want to rush it? Remember to enjoy preparation. Give yourself plenty of time to dress well, slip into the mindset, and cultivate the vibes that make all the difference.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Instinct rises in newness. Your first impressions have a kind of subliminal power. The moment you meet people or observe fresh places will give you key information you won't get further down the line. Note it.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). This situation isn't forever because nothing ever is. Life keeps shifting. You keep growing and people around you do, too. Your projects evolve, your days move you into new terrains, and today you're feeling at peace with the movement. Let go.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

Newsday Crossword

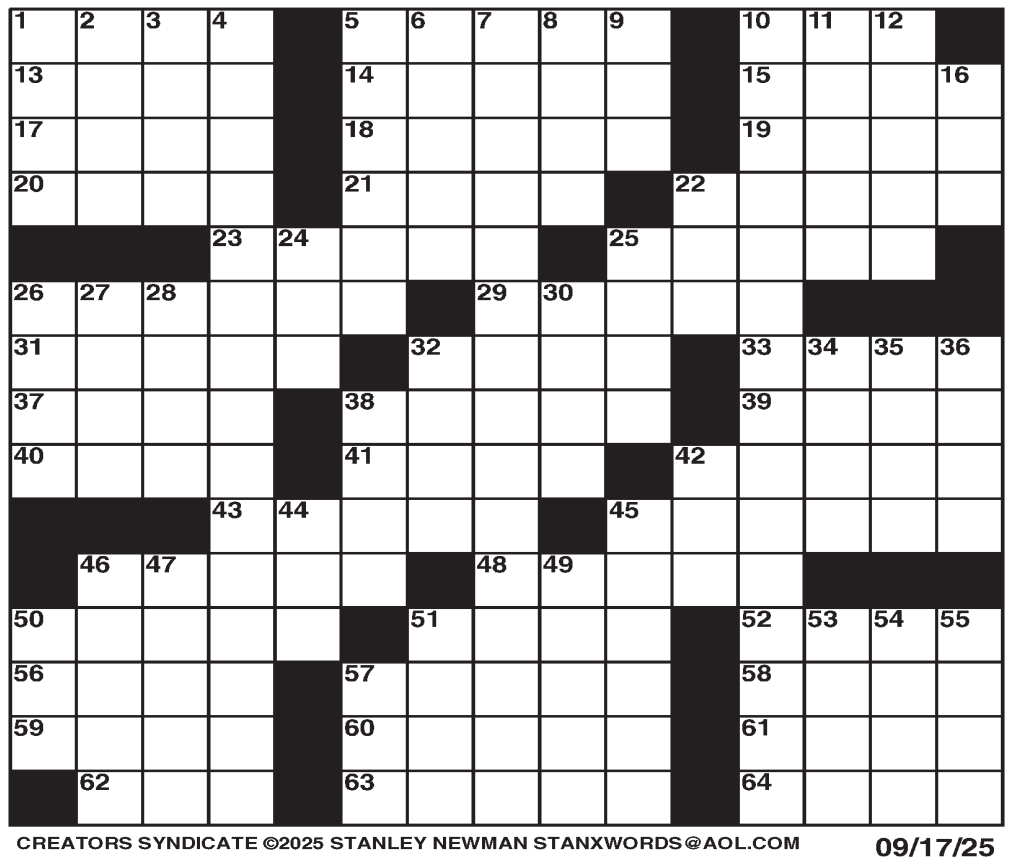
TOP CHOICES by Winston Emmons
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Nevada neighbor
5 Itemizes
10 Good buddy
13 Actor's part
14 Worth the same amount
15 Shortest-named Great Lake
17 "It wasn't me"
18 Belly
19 Author Quindlen or actress Kendrick
20 Walk heavily
21 Key __ pie
22 Slalom competitor
23 French-speaking Caribbean nation
25 Mature, as mangos
26 Tuxedo neckwear
29 Yours, old-style
31 Dislike very much
32 Commotions
33 Ewes' mates
37 Canine sound
38 Champagne-toast sound
39 Chimney duct
40 Page in a book
41 Roll of sticky cellophane
42 Self-confident manner
43 Rainy month
45 Arranged in stacks
46 __ congestion (cold symptom)
48 An hr. after noon
50 Suspicious, informally
51 "We gotta go!"
52 Immediately, in memos
56 Prefix meaning "against"
57 Castles' watery surrounders
58 Forbidden thing
59 Evil Roman emperor
60 Banquet host
61 Removes with a scissor
62 Dad, to Grandma
63 Bottomless pit
64 "It all __ fails..."

DOWN

1 Caterer's coffeemakers
2 Screwdriver or chisel
3 Female choral voice
4 Maximum stylishness
5 Leave alone
6 Resigner's statement
7 Heads-of-state negotiation
8 Domesticated
9 Crafty
10 Athlete's optimal goal
11 Golfer Palmer's nickname
12 Bedsheets and pillowcases
16 Corn on the cob
22 Moral misdeed
24 What fills a football
25 Jeopardize
26 Weep loudly
27 Woodwind instrument
28 Horse-stopping shout
30 Sharpen, as skills
32 Jai __ (court game)
34 Made a landing
35 Writer's inspiration
36 What grass is grown from
38 Bottom-left PC key
42 Cork removal sound
44 Settle a bill
45 Feels subconsciously
46 Highest sudoku digits
47 Houston ballplayer
49 Brief memos
50 Ceiling appliance
51 Hair accessory with teeth
53 Nary a __ (nobody)
54 Tiny pests at a picnic
55 Sit for a portrait
57 "Do __ favor..."



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BEACH

FROM PAGE 1

the five-year permit after a contentious public hearing that highlighted deep divisions over the project's benefits and risks.

The restoration involves hand-planting native coastal vegetation and installing low-profile fencing across four polygon-shaped areas stretching from Will Rogers State Beach to Venice Beach. No sand will be imported, and the ocean-facing sides of each restored area will remain unfenced to preserve public beach access.

Supporters argue the "living shoreline" project offers critical environmental benefits. Research from the first phase showed restored dunes reduced wave travel distance by an average of 45 feet, providing natural flood protection. The pilot areas have also attracted thousands of endangered El Segundo blue butterflies and provided the first successful western snowy plover nesting site in the Los Angeles region in nearly 70 years.

"This project directly addresses the loss of biodiversity caused by decades of coastal alteration," said Ashley Oelsen, a conservation biologist and Santa Monica environmental commissioner who lives on Palisades Beach Road. "Expanding the dunes gives us a chance to bring back what we have lost."

Environmental groups including the Surfrider Foundation, Friends of Ballona Wetlands, and USC Sea Grant endorsed the project as a model for climate adaptation. Dr. Kyle Emery, a marine biologist at UC Santa Barbara who has studied the pilot sites, called the restoration "a powerful blend of scientific validation, ecological restoration, public benefit, and long-term resilience."

However, residents of nearby Palisades Beach Road mounted fierce opposition, submitting nearly identical form letters warning of fire hazards and public safety concerns. They argued the vegetation and driftwood placement could create dangerous fuel loads near residential properties, especially given the recent Palisades fire that devastated the area.

"This project introduces a significant and foreseeable fire hazard to our community," wrote Ziad Ghandour, a Palisades Beach Road resident, in comments shared by multiple opponents. "The introduction of dry vegetation, dune grasses, and associated landscaping in an area historically managed for open, sandy conditions creates increased fuel loads."

Residents also expressed concern the dunes would become "homeless magnets" and compromise beach activities, particularly with the 2028 Olympics approaching. One speaker warned the project would reduce available beach area and increase maintenance problems.

Commission staff firmly rejected these concerns, noting no evidence from the existing phases supports claims of increased fire risk, crime, or maintenance issues. Staff explained that coastal dune vegetation consists of low-growing, salt-tolerant native plants with high moisture content that don't behave like fire-prone dry brush.

"We have not experienced these sorts of issues" with the pilot phases, said staff member Steve Hudson. "These are sandy beaches, and restoration projects involve sparse vegetation within the sand."

The approved project includes safeguards to preserve public access, including 25-foot-wide pedestrian corridors through the restored areas and requirements to maintain passable shoreline access during high tides. Educational signage will be provided in multiple languages, including Spanish.

The restoration is a partnership between the City of Santa Monica and The Bay Foundation, which will manage the site through modified beach grooming practices. The project requires the city to assume risks from coastal hazards and includes a five-year sunset provision allowing the commission to reassess the program's effectiveness.

The dune restoration represents a shift toward "soft" coastal protection alternatives to traditional seawalls and rock revetments, which can harm beach dynamics and limit public access. If successful, the Santa Monica model could be replicated at beaches throughout California facing similar challenges from sea level rise and coastal erosion.

maaz@smdp.com

SOCIAL MEDIA

FROM PAGE 2

undermined faith in one of the country's bedrock institutions and contributed to the rage that led Trump supporters to violently storm the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021.

Whether meaningful change is possible remains an open question. Nepal's unrest illustrated the dangers of government involvement: Social media sites were shut down and users protested, suggesting it had been a way to stop criticism of government. Police opened fire at one demonstration, killing 19 people.

Persuading social media sites to change their algorithms is also an uphill battle. They live off attention and people spending as much time as possible on them. Unless advertisers flee for fear of being associated with violent posts, there's little incentive for them to change, said Jasmine Enberg, a social media analyst at EMarketer.

Young people in particular are becoming aware of the dangers of spending too much time on social media, she said.

But turn their phones off? "The reality of the situation," Enberg said, "is that there's a limit to how much they can limit their behavior."

By DAVID BAUDER AP Media Writer. Associated Press writers Barbara Ortutay in San Francisco, Darlene Superville in Washington and Ali Swenson in New York and contributed to this report.

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

Contact dina@smdp.com today!



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. 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

Join Kehillat Israel on the campus of Santa Monica High School for an inspiring and meaningful High Holy Days.



Kehillat Israel
HIGH HOLY DAYS 5786

More information
ourki.org/hhd