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RAND finds Santa Monica hotels squeezed.

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Immigrants can't buy California homes.



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Volume 25 Issue 226

MONDAY 10/5/26

smdp.com

Awareness Film Festival returns to Santa Monica for 17th year



Courtesy Image

DTSM: Awareness Film Festival marks 17th year Oct. 13–18 in Santa Monica with 100+ films focused on social impact.

MAAZ ALIN

SMDP Staff Writer

The Awareness Film Festival will mark its 17th anniversary this fall with a six-day run of more than 100 independent films, panels and gala events, continuing a mission its organizers say is rooted in social impact

rather than spectacle.

The festival runs Oct. 13-18 at venues clustered around Santa Monica's Third Street Promenade, including the Laemmle Monica Film Center, the Miles Memorial Playhouse and the Illusion Magic Lounge. It is presented by Heal One World, a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit, and features shorts, features,

narrative films and documentaries drawn from filmmakers around the world.

Organizers say the event's staying power comes down to the people behind it.

"What's kept it going is pure devotion," said Skye Kelly, the festival's director and founder. "Devotion from the volunteers, some of whom have been volunteering for over 14

years. Even the festival director is a volunteer, and each year we have an amazing team of interns."

Kelly said the festival has expanded in both scale and reputation over its 17 years. "The festival has grown not only in the number

SEE FILM FESTIVAL PAGE 8

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Santa Monica Daily Press



Tourism: RAND finds Santa Monica hotels filling rooms but earning less

MATTHEW HALL

Daily Press Editor

Editor's Note: A new RAND study puts empirical data behind several longstanding assumptions about Santa Monica, confirming some and complicating others. Researchers found the city's economy has declined more sharply over the past decade than those of Beverly Hills, Culver City and West Hollywood, with tourism, retail sales and other business indicators lagging most peer cities. Concerns about crime and homelessness hold up in specific parts of the city, chiefly downtown and along the beachfront, but not citywide. The report also found Santa Monica built less housing per resident from 2018 to 2025 than any comparison city except Beverly Hills, and that substantial policy reforms by the city's new leadership may improve its trajectory.

Santa Monica's hotels are filling rooms at a higher rate than their regional competitors, but they are taking in less money to do it, and the city's broader tourism economy has lagged its neighbors since the pandemic, according to a new RAND Corporation study.

The report, "Santa Monica's Recent Economic and Social Trends: A Case Study with Regional Comparisons," found that Santa Monica's hotel occupancy reached 76% by March 2026, the highest of any hotel submarket the researchers examined. The comparison group included the combined West Hollywood-Beverly Hills submarket, the Los Angeles International Airport submarket that includes Culver City, downtown Los Angeles, Santa Barbara and San Diego. None of the submarkets has returned to its pre-pandemic occupancy rate, the authors wrote.

The rebound followed one of the steepest drops in the region. At the February 2021 low point, Santa Monica's occupancy had fallen to 38% of its 2015 level, second lowest among the submarkets, while Santa Barbara's fell only to 63%, according to RAND. Santa Monica climbed back to within 10% of its 2015 occupancy by September 2022 and stood at 93% of that level in March 2026.

Revenue tells a different story, the researchers concluded. Using transient occupancy tax data from the California State Controller's Office, RAND found that inflation-adjusted short-term lodging revenue in Santa Monica initially recovered by fiscal 2022 and then began a gradual decline. Beverly Hills followed a similar downward path, while Culver City and West Hollywood took in more real revenue in fiscal 2024 than in fiscal 2017. The authors said the gap between rising occupancy and falling revenue suggests Santa Monica hotels have cut prices in real terms to fill rooms, a practice that may be helping sustain spending at shops and restaurants.

RAND also found that the city's tourism sector as a whole has underperformed. From 2019 through 2024, the number of tourism-related businesses in Santa Monica declined by 1% to 2% a year on average, apart from a small increase in 2021, while the comparison cities mostly grew, some by as much as 8% in a year. Santa Monica had the weakest tourism employment growth of the four cities in three of the five year-over-year periods studied.

In 2024, tourism employment in the city fell about 16%, compared with a 5% decline in West Hollywood, the best performer that year.

Annual visitors stand at 58% of a pre-pandemic baseline of 7.5 million, according to city staff cited in the report, after bottoming out at roughly 25% in 2020. The authors said nationwide declines in U.S. tourism since 2025, especially among Canadian visitors, have likely weakened the recovery. They noted that their data do not capture the 2026 FIFA World Cup, when Santa Monica hosted six weeks of special events that drew hundreds of thousands of visitors, activity that "may mark a break with the recent downward trend."

Taxes are another factor. Santa Monica has the highest city tax rates among many tourism-oriented Southern California cities, RAND found, including a 15% hotel occupancy tax, a 17% home-share tax and an 18% tax on private parking, compared with 14% hotel taxes in Beverly Hills and Culver City. A hotel-industry interviewee told researchers the taxes matter less to individual tourists than to conference planners booking large blocks of rooms when rates in Laguna Beach or Newport Beach run 20% to 30% lower. City staff said a high local minimum wage and hotel-worker wage and benefit requirements may also put Santa Monica at a disadvantage.

The study combined data analysis with interviews. Researchers Jason M. Ward, Roland Neil and Lizhong Liu compared Santa Monica with Beverly Hills, Culver City, West Hollywood and, in some analyses, other Southern California markets, drawing on CoStar hotel data, state transient occupancy tax records, DataAxle business and employment data and state sales tax data. They also conducted semi-structured interviews from March through August 2026 with 14 of the 19 people they invited, including city staff, current and former elected officials and a candidate, business owners, attorneys, architects and a developer. The authors describe the work as descriptive: it cannot establish causation, did not analyze tourist visitation trends directly and centers business and development perspectives. The study was funded by gifts from RAND supporters and income from operations.

The Rand report mirrored earlier data provided by local officials as part of the annual tourism report. Santa Monica Travel and Tourism have previously reported that the Covid era shutdowns reduced tourism in the city by about 76% and while there were incremental gains over time, the total actually dropped in 2025 and the city reported less than half as many visitors compared to 2019.

In the 2025 report, spending rose 9% to \$996.6 million as visitors spent more per day, according to Santa Monica Travel & Tourism. Lodging tax revenue fell 13% to \$54.4 million. Day-trippers made up 88% of visitors, up from 77% in 2023, but generated only 27% of spending, and the number of hotel guests fell 21%. U.S. visitation fell 17%.

Santa Monica's 8% visitor decline was steeper than the roughly 1% dip in Los

GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

How immigrants get locked out of buying a California home — even when they can afford it

A few weeks ago I sat down with a family wanting to buy a home in San Diego. They have three children, a steady income, savings and they have owned property before.

What they don't have is a financial history that the American mortgage system knows how to read. It's an issue I keep seeing with immigrant buyers, a missing factor when we talk about affordability.

We talk about home prices, interest rates, how much a family needs to earn. We don't often ask: What if the family has the money, but the system can't count it?

I came to the United States from Ukraine in 2022 with no American credit history. I had worked, paid bills, run a business for years — none of it followed me onto my U.S. credit report.

Today I'm a licensed realtor in San Diego working mostly with immigrants and first-time buyers, so I've witnessed this from both chairs.

About 28% of Californians, including roughly 1 in 4 San Diegans, were born outside the U.S. Most of them are in their working years. Yet less than 1 in 5 California households can afford a median-priced home. In San Diego it's worse, about 17%.

Here's what that immigrant family with three children is running into: They want to sell an apartment overseas and put the proceeds toward a down payment. But because of conditions there, the money can only reach them as cash.

A lender can't accept cash without documentation showing where it came from — a rule that applies to everyone. But it doesn't land on everyone the same way.

An American family selling a house in Ohio gets a wire from escrow and the paperwork writes itself. This family gets the same value in a form the system can't see and the money sits there, unusable, and the level of house they can qualify for drops a tier.

The credit problem works the same way. If an immigrant paid a mortgage and utilities on time for 15 years in another country, that history doesn't arrive here with them. They start over.

For an immigrant, it can feel like your financial life just disappeared at the border. The question a lender has isn't whether you're responsible, but whether it can be documented the way U.S. underwriting requires.

Then there's the space between programs.

San Diego has real homebuying assistance. The Housing Commission offers deferred loans and closing-cost grants, and CalHFA has its own products.

They work; I've used them with clients. But they're built around income ceilings, and a family that earns slightly too much falls into a gap with nothing in it. They're too well-off for help and too new for the market.

What's left is the bottom of the inventory — not because they can't afford the middle, but because the middle asks for a credit profile that takes years to build. That family with three children is sitting in that gap now.

There is movement toward change. Federal mortgage standards shifted this year to allow alternative credit data, such as rent, utilities and phone payment records.

That matters. But a rule change in Washington and a loan officer applying it in San Diego are two different events, likely years apart.

I don't think we need another program. We need better information, delivered earlier — before families start looking for homes, not after.

California's legal net immigration fell by nearly a half between 2024 and 2025 — from 248,000 to 126,000 — and the state's total population fell for the first time in years. So it's worth asking: Who are we quietly making it impossible for — not through price, but through paperwork?

By Anastasiia Chystiukhina



Weather

Monday: Sunny, with a high near 89.
Monday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 76.
Tuesday: Sunny, with a high near 89.
Tuesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 75.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted	(ft)High/Low
2026/10/05	Mon	12:22 AM	-0.11	L
2026/10/05	Mon	07:15 AM	4.31	H
2026/10/05	Mon	12:14 PM	2.58	L
2026/10/05	Mon	6:03 PM	5.46	H
2026/10/06	Tue	01:07 AM	-0.19	L
2026/10/06	Tue	07:43 AM	4.74	H
2026/10/06	Tue	1:10 PM	1.90	L
2026/10/06	Tue	7:03 PM	5.57	H
2026/10/07	Wed	01:45 AM	-0.12	L
2026/10/07	Wed	08:10 AM	5.17	H
2026/10/07	Wed	1:58 PM	1.25	L
2026/10/07	Wed	7:55 PM	5.55	H
2026/10/08	Thu	02:18 AM	0.10	L
2026/10/08	Thu	08:36 AM	5.54	H
2026/10/08	Thu	2:40 PM	0.70	L
2026/10/08	Thu	8:40 PM	5.39	H
2026/10/09	Fri	02:47 AM	0.43	L
2026/10/09	Fri	09:02 AM	5.83	H
2026/10/09	Fri	3:20 PM	0.30	L
2026/10/09	Fri	9:23 PM	5.11	H
2026/10/10	Sat	03:14 AM	0.84	L
2026/10/10	Sat	09:27 AM	6.01	H
2026/10/10	Sat	3:59 PM	0.05	L
2026/10/10	Sat	10:04 PM	4.73	H
2026/10/11	Sun	03:39 AM	1.30	L
2026/10/11	Sun	09:52 AM	6.05	H
2026/10/11	Sun	4:38 PM	-0.04	L
2026/10/11	Sun	10:47 PM	4.32	H
2026/10/12	Mon	04:02 AM	1.75	L
2026/10/12	Mon	10:17 AM	5.97	H
2026/10/12	Mon	5:17 PM	0.03	L
2026/10/12	Mon	11:33 PM	3.90	H
2026/10/13	Tue	04:23 AM	2.18	L
2026/10/13	Tue	10:42 AM	5.78	H
2026/10/13	Tue	6:00 PM	0.21	L
2026/10/14	Wed	12:26 AM	3.50	H
2026/10/14	Wed	04:41 AM	2.56	L
2026/10/14	Wed	11:09 AM	5.50	H



Daily Lottery

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Draw Date: 9/30
4 6 23 33 44
Power#: 13
Jackpot: 440 M



Draw Date: 10/1
13 19 23 28 31



Draw Date: 9/29
10 15 16 27 64
Mega#: 23
Jackpot: 321 M



Draw Date: 10/2
MIDDAY: 3 8 0
Date: 10/1
EVENING: 3 4 8



Draw Date: 9/30
2 10 12 23 39
Mega#: 2
Jackpot: 60 M



Draw Date: 10/1
1st: 01 - Gold Rush
2nd: 12 - Lucky Charms
3rd: 05 - California Classic
Race Time: 1:42.69

PUBLISHER

Ross Furukawa
ross@smdp.com

PARTNER

Todd James
todd@smdp.com

EDITOR IN CHIEF

Matthew Hall
matt@smdp.com

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Michelle Edgar,
Devan Sipher,
Miles Warner.

CIRCULATION

Guadalupe Navarro
ross@smdp.com

STAFF WRITERS

Maaz Alin
maaz@smdp.com

LEGAL ADVERTISING

legal@smdp.com

MARKETING & ADVERTISING

MANAGER

Dina Araniva
dina@smdp.com

Pablo Ocasio
pablo@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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Name change

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 26SMCP00439. Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, 1725 Main Street, Santa Monica 90401. Petition of Monte Kyle Kevin Field for Change of Name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner Monte Kyle Kevin Field filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Monte Kyle Kevin Field to Monte Kyle Kevin Grix. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter 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: 10/23/2026, Time: 8:30 AM, Dept: K. The address of the court is same as noted above. 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. Date: 09/08/2026. LAWRENCE H. CHO, Judge of the Superior Court. SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS Publish: 09/19/2026, 09/26/2026, 10/03/2026, 10/10/2026

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 26SMCP00467. Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, 1725 Main Street, Santa Monica 90401. Petition of Alina Tukhieva Akil for Change of Name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner Alina Tukhieva Akil filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Alina Tukhieva Akil to Alina Akil. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter 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: 11/20/2026, Time: 8:30AM, Dept: K. The address of the court is same as noted above. 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. Date: 10/02/2026. Lawrence Cho, Judge of the Superior Court. SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS Publish: 10/05/2026, 10/12/2026, 10/19/2026, 10/26/2026

Name change

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 26SMCP00431. Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, 1725 Main Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401. Petition of Yiyun Kang for Change of Name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner Yiyun Kang filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Yiyun Kang to Ariel Liu. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter 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: 10/23/2026, Time: 8:30 AM, Dept: K. The address of the court is same as noted above. 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. Date: 09/01/2026. LAWRENCE H. CHO, Judge of the Superior Court. SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS Publish: 09/14/2026, 09/21/2026, 09/28/2026, 10/05/2026

Name change

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 26SMCP00412. Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, 1725 Main Street, Room 102, Santa Monica, CA 90401. Petition of Laura Elizabeth Young for Change of Name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner Laura Elizabeth Young filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Laura Elizabeth Young to Laura Elizabeth Montari-Young. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter 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: 2026-10-16, Time: 8:30 AM, Dept: K. The address of the court is same as noted above. 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. Date: 2026-08-24. Lawrence H. Cho, Judge of the Superior Court. SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS Publish: 09/21/2026, 09/28/2026, 10/05/2026, 10/12/2026

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a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000)). /s/ REYNA BRYAN, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 05/27/2026. NOTICE: This Fictitious 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 before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or Common Law (See Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS Publish: 09/21/2026, 09/28/2026, 10/05/2026, 10/12/2026

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

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Yes on Measure ES: Protecting the school funding Santa Monica can no longer afford to lose

As a longtime resident and your City Councilman, I'm writing to urge you to support Measure ES on the upcoming November 3rd ballot. Measure ES is the only way to ensure our public schools continue to receive a reliable and essential funding stream —funding in the amount of \$12 million a year that has kept our schools among the best in California as state and federal funding have diminished. So, as someone whose day job is accounting, let me explain why.

For two decades, the City has allocated significant funding to our school district. But today, the City is in the midst of a serious financial crisis. This is an indisputable fact and anyone who says otherwise, doesn't know how to crunch numbers. Sure, the City Council is working its way out of "financial distress," but the upswing is slow, given the state of local and national economy. So, come next year, when the City's agreement with the school district expires (the Master Facilities Use Agreement— MFUA), the City Council will face extremely tough budgetary decisions—cut city services such as police, fire and library hours to maintain academic excellence in our schools, or eliminate school funding, forcing the school district to make serious cuts of their own in teachers, math and art programs, and early childhood education.

The numbers speak for themselves. Without Measure ES funding to replace the current \$12 million dollars a year our schools depend on, the previously mentioned budget cuts will be made by the City Council. And none of us should want that. A strong school district benefits the entire community, as do the level of police, fire and other critical city services that make Santa Monica special.

Measure ES is critical. It isn't additional school funding. It merely protects the existing amount of school funding that the City's own budget can no longer sustain. At \$495 a year for property owners, or roughly \$1.36 a day, Measure ES is an inexpensive way for residents to secure our children's future. I also want to highlight how carefully this measure was crafted. Seniors on fixed incomes are exempt. Affordable housing, nonprofits, and religious organizations are exempt. Thanks to local rent control protections, many renters will pay little or nothing. This is not a one-size-fits-all tax — it's designed to protect those least able to pay while asking property owners to invest in the community's future.

I understand hesitation around any new tax, especially when the city is already under fiscal pressure. But that's precisely the point: the city cannot be relied upon to backfill this gap; voters must act directly to protect our schools. Measure ES was placed on the ballot by residents, not politicians, specifically because they recognized this risk and refused to wait for a crisis to arrive. Santa Monica has always taken pride in strong public schools. We don't want a citywide budget crunch to unravel that legacy. I'll be voting yes on Measure ES, and I hope you will too.

Barry Snell

RAND

FROM PAGE 2

Angeles, which drew 49.5 million visitors in 2025. SMTT projected hotel revenue would top \$400 million in 2026, putting it on track to surpass pre-pandemic levels in 2027.

RAND recommended that the city pursue several low-risk ways to draw more visitors and foot traffic, including more festivals, events and other activities, building on World Cup events and the planned but eventually delayed Ocean Way Festival. The inaugural festival was canceled in mid-September because of storm surf and runoff from Hurricane Marie.

The authors also suggested filling vacant space with temporary "pop up" stores, pursuing larger redevelopment projects such as the Civic Auditorium as an anchor for foot traffic, and actively courting employers in sectors where the city could grow. They urged the city to expand its new business concierge service and to comprehensively review its recently adopted right-to-rehire and labor peace law for businesses on city-owned land, including the Santa Monica Pier, citing "substantial concerns" from city staff and business owners.

editor@smdp.com

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Santa Monica Daily Press

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Mid City

Santa Monica Brew Works moves 12th anniversary celebration to Oct. 10

Santa Monica Brew Works has moved its 12th anniversary celebration to Oct. 10 because the Dodgers have a playoff game on Oct. 3, the original date.

The brewery said it has an obligation to uphold its title as “Santa Monica’s Most Loved Place to Catch a Game.”

The celebration will be held at the brewery’s Tasting Room and Beer Garden, 1920 Colorado Ave.

For the occasion, the brewery is bringing back Hang 12 Hazy IPA, reimagined as a hazy double IPA made with real pineapple purée. Hang 12 will be available on draft and in 16-ounce four-packs to go. Guests who buy a pint on draft will receive a commemorative glass and koozie to take home, and those who buy a four-pack will receive a Hang 12 sticker, while supplies last.

From 2 to 6 p.m., Rock Live Karaoke returns for its third consecutive year at the anniversary celebration. Guests can take the stage, grab the mic and sing their favorites backed by a full live band.

Founded in 2014, Santa Monica Brew Works invites longtime supporters and first-time visitors to raise a glass to 12 years of beach-brewed beer and community.

For event updates, follow @santamonicabrewworks on Instagram and Facebook.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF



Courtesy Image

CELEBRATION: Santa Monica Brew Works celebrates 12 years Oct. 10 with Hang 12 Hazy Double IPA and live karaoke.

Santa Monica

Postal Service releases recommended 2026 holiday shipping dates

The U.S. Postal Service has announced its recommended mailing and shipping dates for delivery by Dec. 25.

In the contiguous United States, the Postal Service recommends sending mail and packages by the following dates:

- USPS Ground Advantage and First-Class Mail: Dec. 17
- Priority Mail: Dec. 18
- Priority Mail Express: Dec. 19

For Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico and U.S. territories, the recommended date for Ground Advantage is one day earlier, Dec. 16. The recommended dates for First-Class Mail, Priority Mail and Priority Mail Express are the same as in the contiguous states.

Recommended dates for military and international addresses will be posted on the USPS holiday shipping page starting in mid-October.

The Postal Service urges customers to mail and ship packages early to make sure they arrive by Dec. 25.

The Postal Service’s website, usps.com, and its YouTube channel have tips on preparing packages, ordering free shipping supplies, packaging guidelines (including restricted and prohibited items) and post office hours. More holiday information is available at usps.com/holidaynews.

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¹ “Medicare & You,” Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, 2020
Includes the Participating (in GA: Designated) Providers and Preventive Benefits Rider. Product not available in all states. Acceptance guaranteed for one insurance policy/certificate of this type. Contact us for complete details about this insurance solicitation. This specific offer is not available in CO, LA, NY; call 1-800-969-4781 or respond for similar offer. Certificate C250A (ID: C250E; PA: C250Q); Insurance Policy P150 (GA: P150GA; NY: P150NY; OK: P150OK; TN: P150TN); Rider kinds B438/B439 (GA: B439B).
6255

COMMUNITY NEWS

Santa Monica

Santa Monica market tragedy survivor’s memoir ‘The Peach’ due Oct. 15

“The Peach: A Memoir of Trauma, Survival, and Forgiveness” by Melissa H. Cronin will be released Oct. 15 by Mnemosyne Books, a new imprint of Saint Julian Press.

The memoir returns to an ordinary summer morning in July 2003, when Cronin was reaching for a ripe peach at the Santa Monica Farmers’ Market. In the next instant, an out-of-control vehicle tore through the crowd, killing 10 people and injuring dozens more. Cronin survived, but her recovery became a far longer journey.

Cronin chronicles the years that followed — shaped by traumatic brain injury, grief, fractured memory, resilience and the difficult work of forgiveness. The book moves beyond catastrophe toward a meditation on identity, compassion and rebuilding a life after loss. Throughout, she bears witness to acts of kindness from strangers, medical workers, friends, family and fellow survivors, suggesting that healing is rarely an individual achievement.

The memoir has drawn praise from fellow authors. Mira Bartok, author of “The Memory Palace,” called it a reminder that some people still choose to turn toward the light. Carolyn Roy-Bornstein said Cronin captures the universal core of a brain injury’s world-shattering, transformational experience. Marianne Leone described the book as a remarkable story of sudden loss, recovery and the redemptive power of forgiveness, written in luminous prose. Madeleine Tobias, a retired psychotherapist who treated trauma survivors for more than 30 years, said the book offers hope that healing is possible with the right support and time.

Cronin is a former neonatal intensive care nurse, gardener and nature artist. She earned an MFA in writing from Vermont College of Fine Arts, and her work has received a Notable Mention in The Best American Essays and support from the Vermont Studio Center and the Vermont Arts Council. She and her husband live in Vermont’s Champlain Islands.

The Peach will be available in paperback and e-book wherever books are sold starting Oct. 15. Print and e-book editions can be pre-ordered now from major retailers.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF

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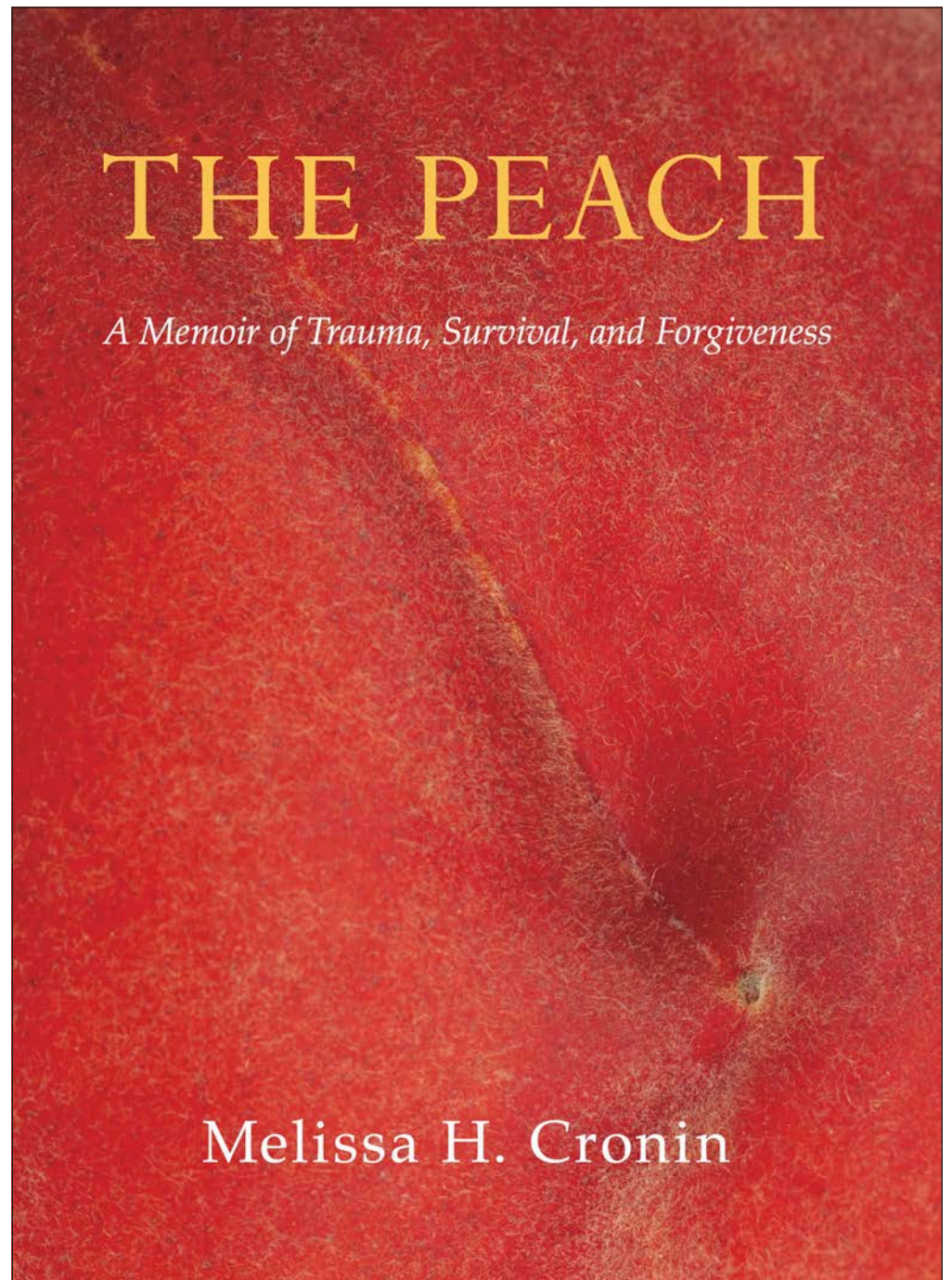
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Santa Monica Daily Press



Courtesy Image

MEMOIR: “The Peach” by Santa Monica Farmers’ Market crash survivor Melissa H. Cronin releases Oct. 15.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Pico

Free Continuum festival to honor Belmar history and Black Santa Monica Oct. 11

Historic Belmar Park will host Continuum: Honoring Belmar History & Black Santa Monica from noon to 5 p.m. Oct. 11. The free, all-ages celebration will feature KCRW DJs, live music, a vendor village curated by Black Market Flea and discussions with award-winning journalist Sam Sanders.

The event highlights Santa Monica’s little-known history as home to one of the oldest African American settlements in a California seaside community.

KCRW DJ Tyler “Boogie” Boudreaux, a Los Angeles radio host, producer, organizer and activist, will perform. Sanders, host of “The Sam Sanders Show,” will discuss Belmar history and Black Santa Monica through a lens of Black joy and preserving legacy. He will be joined by historian Alison Rose Jefferson, artist April Banks, archivist Carolyne Edwards of Quinn Research Center and Maurice Harris of Bloom & Plume.

Cure For Paranoia, this year’s NPR Tiny Desk winner and a project of rapper Cameron McCloud, will also perform. So will Party In My Living Room, a 1990s- and 2000s-inspired house party and concert series presented with GV Black. That set will be hosted by founder THURZ with the jazz, hip-hop and soul collective Katalyst. Songs with Strings, led by conductor Vincent Ott and musician Andrew Loper, will be backed by the string quartet wholesoul, founded by violist Drew Alexander Forde. The set features Adanna Duru, My Favorite Color, NomBe, Ramir, Robyn L and VANS!

At a “Give Someone Their Flowers” Bloom Bar hosted by Santa Monica floral studio Viola Floral, participants can make mini bouquets for local elders. The bouquets will be donated through the Black seniors group Memories & Movement and Meals on Wheels West, which delivers food to homebound seniors.

Visitors can also explore historical panels developed by Jefferson and a monumental red sculpture by Banks titled “A Resurrection in Four Stanzas.” Art-making activities and a photography and multimedia installation will feature archival images and works from Quinn Research Center, Santa Monica Conservancy and ZEAL, a worker-owned creative arts cooperative.

Continuum is produced by Go As If Productions. It is part of the 2026 Ocean Way Festival community benefits package developed with the city and the California Coastal Commission. Its partner is GV Black, an employee-led Goldenvoice initiative that supports Black, Indigenous and people of color voices in event production. The Ocean Way Festival is scheduled to return to Santa Monica in 2027.

For more information, visit santamonica.gov.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF



CULTURE: Continuum festival honors Black Santa Monica and Belmar history Oct. 11 with KCRW DJs, NPR Tiny Desk winner. Zay Monae



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FILM FESTIVAL

FROM PAGE 1

of films, but in the quality of films and the recognition of the audience to how important it is to come out and see these films each year,” she said.

Selecting the lineup is a sprawling effort. Kelly said more than 50 programming assistants and volunteers help review and rate over 700 submissions, which are then narrowed by a handful of lead programmers. What sets the event apart from a conventional festival, she said, is its priorities.

“The awareness factor is the number one factor,” Kelly said, though she added that films must still be entertaining and of good quality. “We will show films that might be controversial or not be quite as polished, but do an amazing job of expressing the story at hand and really creating that awareness.”

This year’s slate includes “Solidarity,” a film by Santa Monica College alum Dustin Brown, along with shorts by Alci Rengifo and Salvador Carrasco, and roughly 100 other titles. Many filmmakers are local, Kelly said, which boosts attendance and makes post-screening question-and-answer sessions “even more special.”

Each screening is paired with a nonprofit partner — a deliberate choice, Kelly said, meant to give inspired audiences somewhere to channel that energy. Partner organizations table at the festival and sometimes join panels so that moviegoers leaving a theater and “looking for a place to volunteer, donate or be engaged with the organization” find one waiting.

Proceeds support Heal One World’s free and low-cost wellness programs, including classes at its yoga studio on Pico Boulevard. Kelly said the festival aims to raise \$20,000 each year to cover the studio’s rent and

overhead, a goal complicated by rising venue costs, even with an all-volunteer staff. “At the yoga studio, we have free wellness classes that are open to everyone no matter their background, ability to pay or knowledge,” she said. The studio, nearly 18 years old, added online classes in 2020.

The festival’s return to Santa Monica follows a decade in downtown Los Angeles, where it was hosted by Regal theaters before prices climbed. Kelly said the organization is glad to be back and part of what she called “a resurgence of the promenade

area.” The Illusion Magic Lounge offers two theater spaces plus room for a red carpet and filmmaker mingling, while the newly renovated Miles Memorial Playhouse will host the Wednesday opening event.

Programming also includes industry panels, media presentations, networking events and an awards ceremony where attendees vote on their favorites. The closing-night gala features a celebrity guest DJ and donated gourmet vegan food.

For newcomers unsure where to start, Kelly kept it simple. “There really isn’t a reason to

not come. Every film block is something special,” she said, recommending panels and networking for aspiring filmmakers and encouraging others to “find a film that you think you need to see, come out to see it and stay for the Q&A.”

Individual tickets are \$25, with day passes at \$30 and an all-access pass for \$125; student discounts are available. More information and tickets are at awarenessfestival.org.

maaz@smdp.com



Courtesy Image

FILM: Awareness Film Festival returns to Santa Monica Oct. 13–18 with 100+ socially conscious films.

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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 22 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle. © australianwordgames.com.au 7084

Getting to work

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

Alley	Desk	Race	Suit
Angry	Discuss	Radio	Taxis
Beans	Dress	Recycle bin	Television
Bike	Drink	Rise	Toast
Boss	Eggs	Runs	Turn
Buses	Hash	Rush	Type
Cars	Ills	School	Update
Chair	In bed	Shave	Urgent
Computer	Lunch	Shoes	Wake
Corner	Mobile	Sleep	Walk
Cranky	Money	Slow	
Dark	News	Soap	
Delay	Petrol	Stop	

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
Day trip to the peninsula



TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Oct. 5)

In your Year of the Key Guest, people invite you into rooms where important things are happening, and you'll be a part of what's decided or created there. You will drill down on a special interest, resulting in special bonds, rare experiences and a project that pays you well. More highlights: You'll transform a place where you spend a lot of time. You'll embark on adventures with a small group. The money and justice you've had coming find their way to you. Gemini and Cancer adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 4, 16, 8, 21 and 50.



HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Frank Lloyd Wright said, “An idea is salvation by imagination.” An idea can also just be fun and doesn’t have to save anyone to be useful in a given moment. Take the pressure off and dream a little.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Love doesn’t always have to be about duty. In fact, feeling like you’re always “on duty” around someone might be a sign that the distribution of work has become lopsided, which can feel unloving indeed.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You can avoid many problems by just listening a little harder or being slightly more curious about where other people are coming from. With only the slightest increase in awareness, you’ll avoid hours of needless extra work.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). When you’re having trouble motivating yourself, make the plans smaller. But to motivate others, make the plans much grander so as to stir people’s imaginations and lift hopes and spirits.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). A couple’s dance involves an amount of space between dancers that makes the moves possible and comfortable. Relationships are like this, too. There’s an amount of distance that tends to work best for the relationship, which you’ll find through trial and error.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). People will say it can’t be done, but the joke is on them since you are already doing it. Even so, it might be better to keep this on the down-low until you’ve worked out how to present it in the most auspicious light.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). It has always been OK for you to know your own strength and beauty, though you have often been discouraged from letting others know that you know. Your political savvy has you managing the moment without forgetting yourself in it.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). There is an overall sense that you want something to happen, even if you’re not sure what. Movement begets movement. Any small change will put the more significant change in motion.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Many people hesitate to help others when they haven’t yet assessed whether the person deserves relief. You find that conditional kind of help off-putting. You’ll offer relief in the moment of suffering, no further investigation necessary.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Your task list has reached an overwhelming length. Start passing it out to the competent people that you know. You might be surprised who has been wanting to help you and is just waiting for the moment you let them.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Don’t worry, there is no secret recipe, comprehensive guide or redeeming formula you somehow missed. There are only a thousand routes to the destination, yours being as valid as any.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You really are doing what you most want to do, even when you’re doing a tedious piece of work. In that work, you avoid the consequences that would surely come to pass if you were not to tend to your duties.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

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

Newsday Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 “Now hear ___!”
- 5 HS student’s exam
- 9 Underworld of Greek myth
- 14 Impetuous
- 15 Need to scratch
- 16 *Gone With the Wind* surname
- 17 Norway’s capital
- 18 Animal’s den
- 19 Four-star general Powell
- 20 Tale with a baby swan

- 23 Also
- 24 Stop-sign color
- 25 Military jet’s home: Abbr.
- 28 Dorm room sleeping spot
- 32 Donkey
- 35 Cheerless atmosphere
- 37 Ripped
- 38 Diarist ___ Frank
- 39 Tale with a “guess my name” guy
- 42 Recedes, as the tide
- 43 Mystical glow
- 44 Stops marching
- 45 Letter before tee
- 46 Take note of
- 48 Point opposite WNW
- 49 Great pitcher
- 50 Balloon contents
- 52 Tale with a gingerbread house
- 61 Nebraska’s largest city

- 62 Boyfriend
- 63 Secret writing
- 64 Enlarge, as a road
- 65 Husband or wife
- 66 Matures
- 67 Tilts a little
- 68 Telescope sight
- 69 Skillets and woks

DOWN

- 1 Jogging pace
- 2 Corned-beef concoction
- 3 Spot of land in the sea
- 4 Yell
- 5 Sleeper’s headrest
- 6 Stick around
- 7 Corrosive substance

- 8 Drive-___ window
- 9 Pawned
- 10 Get ___ of (grasp)
- 11 Artist Salvador
- 12 Ireland nickname
- 13 Performed a tune
- 21 “I’ve no idea”
- 22 Fishing basket
- 25 Think alike
- 26 Bungaloes
- 27 Does poorly on stage
- 29 Group’s response to “Who’s there?”
- 30 University of ___ Dame
- 31 Prickly shrub
- 32 Leg joint
- 33 Peevish moods
- 34 Feel intuitively

ONCE UPON A TIME by Billie Truitt
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

- 36 Photo ___ (camera sessions)
- 38 “___ matter of fact...”
- 40 Clothing tag
- 41 That group’s
- 46 Atlantic and Pacific
- 47 Less specific
- 49 Very pale
- 51 News summary
- 52 Coyote’s cry
- 53 French female friend
- 54 Nothing, in Mexico
- 55 Rocket interceptors: Abbr.
- 56 Well-groomed
- 57 Facts and figures
- 58 Garment for Caesar
- 59 Biblical paradise
- 60 Not so much

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13
14					15					16				
17					18					19				
20					21					22				
			23						24					
25	26	27		28		29	30	31				32	33	34
35			36			37					38			
39					40					41				
42					43					44				
45				46						47			48	
			49						50		51			
52	53	54				55	56	57				58	59	60
61						62					63			
64						65					66			
67						68					69			



MONDAY | OCTOBER 5

COMMUNAL GARDENING @ ISHIHARA PARK

9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Ishihara Park 2909 Exposition Blvd Santa Monica. Communal Garden Program Work Days @ Ishihara Park Learning Garden - Mondays and Wednesdays | 9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. | Free. Come get your hands dirty in the Communal Garden Program at Ishihara Park Learning Garden, a communal spot to learn and acquire gardening skills. Seasoned as well as new gardeners of all ages are welcome. Free drop in activity, no reservation needed. Visit the Ishihara Park Learning Garden site for More Information. Subject to cancellation due to weather. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/communal-gardening-ishihara-park/18461167/2026-10-05T09>

LIBRARY PLAYDATE

11:00 a.m. Main Library, Youth Activity Room. Interact through play, connect with others, and access resources. For ages 0 - 3 and their parents/caregivers.

LOWE FAMILY YMCA PUMPKIN PATCH

3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Simon Meadow 15551 W Sunset Blvd Pacific Palisades, CA. The Lowe Family YMCA Pumpkin Patch returns to Simon Meadow Monday to Friday from 3 to 6 p.m. and Saturdays and Sundays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Explore the playful hay maze, snap photos with festive photo props, enjoy an art installation and shop pumpkins of all sizes. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/lowe-family-ymca-pumpkin-patch/20059545/2026-10-05T15>

PIZZA PARTY AT BODEGA WINE BAR

6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. 814 Broadway Santa Monica, CA. Every Monday Night at Bodega, every bottle of wine you purchase gets you a pizza half off! 6pm-Close. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/pizza-party-at-bodega-wine-bar/11526040/2026-10-05T18>

LATE NIGHT HAPPY HOUR AT MARELLE - NIGHT CAP MENU

9:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. Marelle at Sandbourne Santa Monica 1740 Ocean Ave Santa Monica, CA. Late-night happy hour at Marelle in Santa Monica, offering \$10 nibbles and \$13 cocktails after 9pm. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/late-night-happy-hour-at-marelle-night-cap-menu/18409321/2026-10-05T21>

TUESDAY | OCTOBER 6

LADIES GOLF CLINIC

9:30am-11:00am Four Wood Golf 828 Pico Blvd, Suite 5 Santa Monica. Join us every Tuesday from 9:30-11:00 AM for a relaxed, social golf experience designed for women of all skill levels. Whether you're picking up a club for the first time or looking to build confidence in your game, Matchas & Mulligans is all about learning, connecting, and having fun in a welcoming, pressure-free environment. Led by our in-house golf pros, you'll learn new skills each session. Blend of light instruction with a social atmosphere — the ladies' clinic is perfect for improving your skills while meeting like-

minded golfers. \$60.00. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/ladies-golf-clinic/19572527/2026-10-06T09>

ACRYLIC/OIL PAINTING WORKSHOP TUESDAY

1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Paint Lab 1453 14th St Santa Monica. A workshop for painters of any level to work on their own acrylic or oil projects with individual guidance from an instructor. \$61.60. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/acrylic-oil-painting-workshop-tuesday/19429773/2026-10-06T13>

ELEMENTARY ART STUDIO 3:30-4:20PM

3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Palisades Community Renewal Center 3212 Nebraska Ave Santa Monica. A weekly art studio for elementary students at Palisades Community Renewal Center exploring drawing, color, collage, and mixed media. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/elementary-art-studio-3-30-4-20pm/18825639/2026-10-06T15>

STAND UP 101: FIND YOUR VOICE (TUESDAYS)

7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. 1424 4th Street Santa Monica, CA. Jump into Stand Up! Discover your own comedic sensibility and shape it into a clear and unique point of view! 6 weeks + a Showcase! \$365.00. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/stand-up-101-find-your-voice-tuesdays-/19228417/2026-10-06T19>

WEDNESDAY | OCTOBER 7

AI FOR EVERYDAY LIFE WORKSHOP

11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Main Library, Computer Training Room. Curious about Artificial Intelligence (AI) but unsure where to start? Learn what AI is and get guidance on how to safely use it in this interactive session designed for older adults.

EGO CLUB

2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Pico Branch, The Annex. Explore the limits of your building imagination or try out one of our suggested builds. All materials provided. For ages 18 months - 11 years old.

PLUS ME PROJECT: TEEN EDITION

4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. Montana Branch. Build confidence, reflect on your experiences, and connect with other teens through personal storytelling in this writing workshop. For ages 13 - 18.

THE LIBRARIANS SCREENING & DISCUSSION

5:30 p.m. - 8 p.m. Main Library, Multipurpose Room. Celebrate Banned Books Week with us at this film screening and discussion. First, enjoy the thought-provoking documentary The Librarians, which highlights the vital, often challenging, role librarians play in protecting access to diverse ideas and viewpoints. Following the film, stay for a panel discussion in which librarians and authors explore the spike in book bans across the country and the significance of libraries as bastions of intellectual freedom. Film runtime: 92 mins.

OCEAN PARK BOOK GROUP

6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Ocean Park Branch. This new community-led, monthly book discussion group meets in person at 6 p.m. on the first Wednesday of the month. The group discusses popular fiction titles. Titles include: October 7, 2026: The Big Sleep by Raymond Chandler, November 4, 2026: James by Percival Everett, December 2, 2026: The Year of Living Danishly by Helen Russel

THURSDAY | OCTOBER 8

PACIFIC PALISADES FRIENDS AND NEWCOMERS JUST COFFEE

10:00 a.m. The Penmar 1233 Rose Avenue Pacific Palisades, CA. A relaxed morning coffee gathering for friends and newcomers, with fresh air, open views, and easy conversation. Pacific Palisades Friends and Newcomers hosts "Just Coffee" on the second Thursday of each month. Come start your morning with friends, fresh air and good coffee. Open-air fairway views and great company in a relaxed outdoor setting. This month's Just Coffee will take place at The Penmar, 1233 Rose Avenue, Venice. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/pacific-palisades-friends-and-newcomers-just-coffee/19945553/2026-10-08T10>

SMC GLASS PUMPKIN SALES

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. 1900 Pico Blvd Santa Monica, CA. The SMC Glass Pumpkin Sales are wonderful opportunities to buy handcrafted glass pumpkins. Each pumpkin is a truly unique work of art that can enhance fall-season home and office decor, as well as satisfy holiday and year-round gift needs. Proceeds from this sale will benefit the SMC Art Department. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/smc-glass-pumpkin-sales/19944713/2026-10-08T10>

LOW IMPACT GROUP EXERCISE CLASS

11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. American Legion Ronald Reagan - Palisades Post 283 15247 La Cruz Drive Pacific Palisades. Power up your Thursday with our free, low-impact group exercise classes — open to all members of the Legion Family, designed for every fitness level, and held from 10:30am to 11:30pm at Palisades Post 283. Come move, recharge, and feel great heading into the rest of your day! Sign up here to receive emails about upcoming exercise classes and cancellations: post283.com/exercise. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/low-impact-group-exercise-class/18566926/2026-10-08T11>

REACH PROGRAM APPLICATION SUPPORT

1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Main Library, Lobby. Office of Sustainability staff answer questions about the city's Renter's Energy and Cooling/Heating Program, which offers free appliances for income-qualified Santa Monica renters.

COMPUTER PRACTICE: OPEN LAB

2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Main Library, Computer Classroom. Build computer skills at your own pace

through guided online lessons. Support is available if needed.

FRIDAY | OCTOBER 9

MOBILE COMMUNITY MEDITATION CENTER - GUIDED MEDITATION

10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Ocean View Park 2701 Bernard Way Santa Monica. A 45-minute fully guided mindfulness meditation outdoors, open to all experience levels; bring a chair or cushion and settle in by the ocean. Please join Mobile Community Meditation Center aka Buddhist Boondockers Wednesdays and Fridays at 10 am for a 45 minute fully guided mindfulness meditation - on the grass, under the shade of the trees, with a view of the sparkling ocean. (Tuesday and Thursday offered via zoom). Free— Any contributions are accepted and appreciated. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/mobile-community-meditation-center-guided-meditation/19479748/2026-10-09T10>

FIX-IT FAMILIA STORYTIME

3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. / Pico Branch, The Annex. Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month and enjoy a special storytime featuring Lucky Diaz's, Fix-It Familia, followed by a craft inspired by the book. For ages 5 - 11.

BUNDY TRIANGLE NIGHT MARKET

5:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Bundy Triangle 1500 S Bundy Drive Los Angeles. Cayton Children's Museum offers free hands-on activities for families at the Bundy Triangle Night Market every Friday through October. Cayton Children's Museum will offer free, weekly hands-on activities for children and families at the Bundy Triangle Night Market in Sawtelle every Friday from March 27 through the end of October, the museum announced. The programming, offered in partnership with Los Angeles City Councilwoman Traci Park, will run from 5 to 8 p.m. each Friday at the Bundy Triangle, a public space at Ohio Avenue and Bundy Drive. The broader night market, presented by Raw Inspiration, runs from 5 to 9 p.m. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/bundy-triangle-night-market/18490079/2026-10-09T17>

SUNSET SESSIONS

5:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. The Penmar 1233 Rose Avenue Los Angeles, CA. Live music at The Penmar as the sun sets. A weekly series of outdoor evening concerts with a relaxed vibe. Music and good vibes as the Sun sets. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/sunset-sessions/18537173/2026-10-09T17>

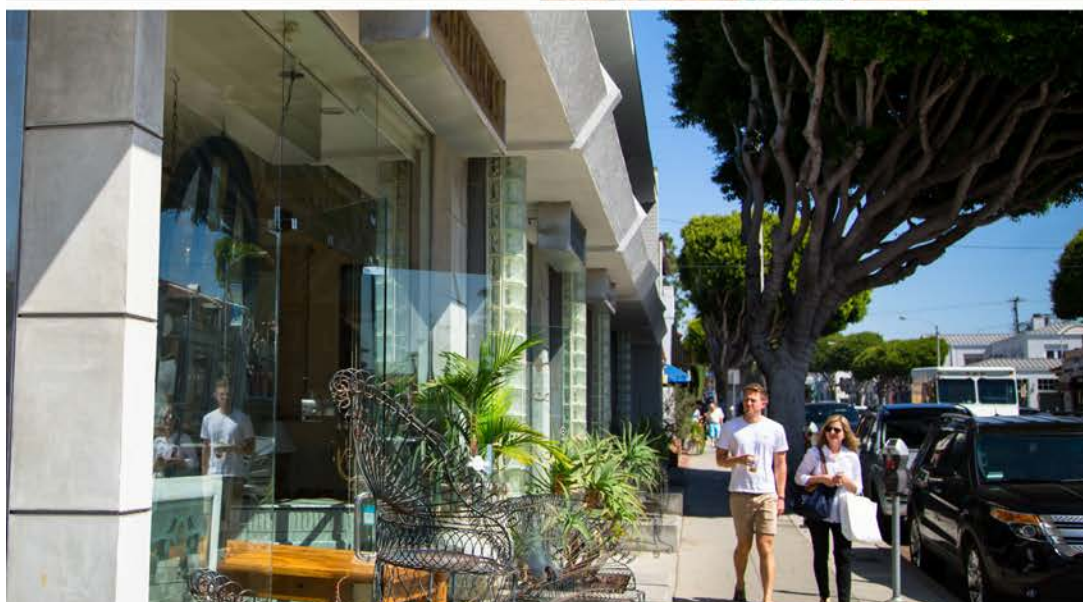
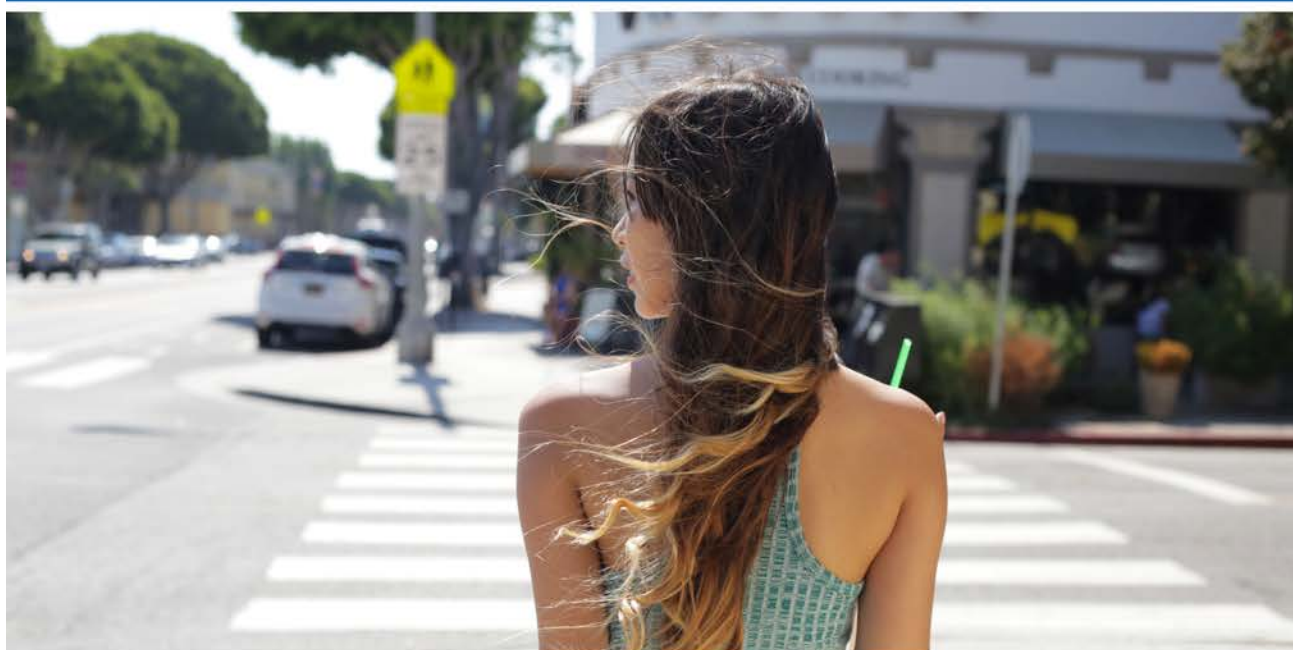
CHRISTY CARLSON ROMANO WITH MARA WILSON! ONCE UPON A TRAINWRECK!

6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Zibby's Bookshop 1113 Montana Ave Santa Monica, CA. Disney Channel alum Christy Carlson Romano talks with Mara Wilson about childhood fame, resilience, and memoir, in a candid author-event conversation. \$34.00. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/christy-carlson-romano-with-mara-wilson-once-upon-a-trainwreck-/19783889/2026-10-09T18>

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