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TUESDAY 10/6/26

smdp.com

Art, Music and Route 66 History Fill Montana Avenue



Fran Lyness

STROLL: Visitors strolled a car-free stretch of Montana Avenue on Saturday, Oct. 3, as the Montana Avenue Art Walk returned as Santa Monica's official Route 66 Centennial event. The free, 10-block celebration from Sixth to 17th streets featured fine art, live music, a classic car showcase, artisan vendors and family programming.

Off the Hook seafood festival returns to Santa Monica Pier, marks Route 66 centennial



Courtesy Image

FOOD: Off the Hook Seafood Festival returns to Santa Monica Pier Oct. 11 with 25+ restaurants and Route 66 tribute.

MAAZ ALIN
SMDP Staff Writer

More than 25 Santa Monica restaurants and chefs will serve oysters, lobster, caviar and other seafood on the Santa Monica Pier on Sunday, Oct. 11, when the Off the Hook Santa Monica Seafood Festival returns for its eighth year with a salute to the 100th anniversary of Route 66.

The festival, held in recognition of National Seafood Month, takes place at the western end of the historic highway, a spot known as the "End of the Trail."

"What makes 2026 especially exciting is that we're celebrating the 100th anniversary of Route 66 at one of the most iconic places associated with the Mother Road," said Kim Koury, president of Spin PR Group and the festival's producer. "We're incorporating some Route 66 nostalgia throughout the event, so it feels like a celebration of both Santa Monica's culinary scene and an

important piece of the city's history."

Guests can sample more than 25 seafood tastings, including oysters, lobster, shrimp, tuna, caviar and sushi, along with craft beer and wine gardens and curated cocktails. The Windbreakers will play 1970s and '80s smooth rock at a yacht rock party, and the program also includes oyster shucking and slurping competitions, games, ocean-themed photo opportunities and artisan vendors.

Participating restaurants include Santa Monica Seafood, Water Grill, Rustic Canyon, Huckleberry, Sushi Roku, Michael's Santa Monica, Mastro's Ocean Club, Fogo de Chão, Pacific Catch and The Lobster. Beverage tastings will come from producers including Duvel, Dulce Vida Tequila, Giesen Wines and Junipero Gin.

Koury said the festival began with a simple idea: bring the city's restaurants and chefs together to

SEE **SEAFOOD** PAGE 8

VOTE



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Retail and office: RAND says Santa Monica sales down a third, vacancies among region's highest

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 retail sales have fallen by about one-third from pre-pandemic levels and are still declining, while its storefront and office vacancy rates remain among the highest in the region, 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 taxable sales at Santa Monica businesses recovered to only 89% of their 2015 level in mid-2021, after adjusting for inflation, then fell to almost 60% of that level by early 2026. Beverly Hills, Culver City and West Hollywood all returned to pre-pandemic sales by late 2021. By the end of 2025, Beverly Hills

and West Hollywood were down 10% to 15% from 2015, and Culver City was down 25%.

The decline hit nearly every category. In 2015 dollars, taxable sales fell 32.8%, from \$3.24 billion in 2015 to \$2.18 billion in 2025, a loss of about \$1.06 billion, according to California Department of Tax and Fee Administration data analyzed by RAND. Clothing and accessories sales fell 75%, or \$327.7 million, the largest drop in both dollars and percentage. Restaurant and bar sales fell 23.8%, or \$151.7 million. Home furnishings fell 66.9% and gas stations 48%. Only building materials and garden stores grew. The authors said business closures, including the departure of large retailers from the Third Street Promenade and Santa Monica Place, are likely a major source of the decline.

Vacancies tell a similar story, the researchers concluded. Santa Monica's retail vacancy rate has been the highest of the four cities since late 2021, according to CoStar data. It was rising before the pandemic, as in peer cities, but kept climbing afterward while the other cities leveled off or improved. RAND estimated that at least 45% of the city's retail vacancy is tied to the Promenade and Santa Monica Place.

The Promenade's vacancy rate was 31% as of August 2026, based on 37 retail properties, the report said. Empty space is concentrated in large buildings: Those over 30,000 square feet are 47% vacant, compared with 12% for those under 10,000 square feet. Four properties are completely vacant, including

three of the largest spaces on the street.

On offices, Santa Monica had the second-highest vacancy rate of the four cities, at more than 20% in June 2026, behind Culver City's 25%, according to RAND. Culver City added a large amount of new office space from 2021 to 2024. Santa Monica has the most office properties and the largest volume of office space available for rent among the four.

Interviewees from both city government and the private sector attributed high vacancies to an oversupply of retail and hospitality space. A local architect described multiple jobs converting vacant specialty spaces back to generic layouts or subdividing large spaces. Interviewees said the Promenade's many separate owners make coordination hard, and one business owner said the city and owners needed a "come to Jesus" moment. The authors warned that a "vacancy spiral" may exist, in which closures and remote work reduce foot traffic, leading to more closures.

Nearly all interviewees described a past "extractive mindset" toward business at City Hall, though most agreed it has changed. Business owners said the sanitation and transportation departments still make costly, unexpected demands for upgrades during tenant improvements, even when a new business has the same use as the previous tenant. The report also cited a new right-to-rehire and labor peace law for businesses on city-owned land as a potential obstacle to growth.

Researchers Jason M. Ward, Roland Neil and Lizhong Liu analyzed state sales tax data,

CoStar retail and office vacancy data and DataAxle business data, comparing Santa Monica with Beverly Hills, Culver City and West Hollywood. They also interviewed 14 of the 19 people they invited between March and August 2026, including city staff, elected officials, business owners and development professionals in Santa Monica and peer cities. The authors call the study descriptive; it cannot establish causation and did not analyze tenant improvement projects or commuting patterns. Interviews were organized by theme with help from an AI tool, according to the report.

The report's findings mirror previous reporting from various sources. Downtown Santa Monica Inc. counted 346,147 Promenade visitors in March 2026 about half the amount counted in 2019. Ground-floor occupancy was 75% in April, ranging from 62% on the 1200 block to 83% on the 1300 block and 78% on the 1400 block.

Santa Monica Place went to a receiver in the first quarter of 2025 after owner Macerich defaulted on a \$300 million loan. Nordstrom closed and the mall's vacancy rate was almost 70%. The mall now has new owners who have begun a series of events to draw customers back alongside promises of new businesses including a recently opened high-end gym.

The most recent HdL Companies sales tax report posted by the city shows adjusted sales fell 4.5% in the first quarter of 2025, during the Palisades Fire, and 1.6% in the second

SEE **RAND RETAIL** PAGE 8

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Photo by Amy Williams

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OPINION

UNMUTED

Devan Sipher

Send comments to
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Deja vu all over again

Close the doors and batten the hatches, because El Niño isn't the only tempest on the horizon. Senate Bill 79 (SB 79) and its threat of upzoned neighborhoods is barreling towards us. That was the message from the last City Council meeting.

Residents from the Pico neighborhood lined up to plead for mercy from likely displacement, but they weren't the only ones seeking protection. Council members also expressed distress about the impending SB 79 tsunami, which would suggest they're also victims of the law, except for the minor detail that they're the ones who eagerly opened the floodgates by endorsing it. And they rushed to do so before it was even a law, when it was a bill, only a bill, offering them a chance to get attention on Capitol Hill (if Sacramento had any hills).

Technically, it was Councilmember Dan Hall who demanded that the entire council endorse SB 79. Giving the other council members credit, they caved quickly. It's also worth mentioning that Hall recently questioned the legitimacy of any city commissioners appointed by previous councils (all those rightwing councils of yore in the People's Republic of Santa Monica). Even among Hall's supporters, of whom there are many in the old-guard of the city, there was shock and disapproval that he would say something from the dais so brazenly undemocratic and well, Trumpy.

The other council members didn't criticize him. They were too busy doing damage control on SB 79, as was the city staff. The community development director, Jing Yeo, repeatedly spoke with urgency at the Council meeting about "closing the door on SB 79 as quickly as possible," warning that if the Council didn't pass the proposed legislation "that door would remain open," for large-scale SB 79 applications.

Mayor Caroline Torosis was troubled by the prospect (and seemingly by the nomenclature), asking Yeo to confirm the Council could preclude such applications "if we were to close the window."

"The purpose of these exclusion ordinances is to close the door," Yeo responded.

With all the doors and windows opening and closing, residents could be forgiven for thinking they had wandered into a poorly written French farce.

Karl Marx said that history repeats itself, first as tragedy and then as farce, and our

current dilemma seems to be playing out as proof of that. Five years ago, Santa Monica's builder's remedy fiasco was extended by several weeks due to a missed deadline and it was during that time that most of the projects came in.

In that case, builders could ignore city zoning laws and erect towers much larger than otherwise allowed, and we will all soon be living with the 34-story skyscraper and other highrises that will be the repercussions.

There was much blame to go around at the time and supposedly a major lesson was learned. Yet here we are again. The SB 79 deadline was July 1st, and the race to "close the door" is after the horse is already out of the barn, to mix metaphors. Once again, builders are free to submit projects that exceed the city's limits, because the city missed a deadline. And once again no one is being held accountable.

To be fair, many council members have a sincere desire to do something about the dearth of affordable housing, and not all of the SB 79 projects will be towering ones. Councilmember Hall has expressed confidence that the result will be moderately priced townhomes. However, the latest townhomes for sale in Pico were listed at \$3.25 million. I asked Hall if that's what he had in mind, and he didn't respond.

Facts on the ground are such pesky things, and forcing a politician to face reality is like telling a child that Santa Claus doesn't exist.

There's a world of abundance, if we would all just close our eyes and imagine it. Perhaps that was a topic at the campaign fundraiser for Hall that was coincidentally paid for by the developer of the first SB 79 project in Santa Monica. We'll skip over the fact that this developer is the owner of a sex app, because we're a sex positive community, and we'll also skip over the fact that he's based on the East coast, because it's a long-established progressive principle to act locally and think globally.

There's an echo chamber in some political circles about the virtue of their goals that prevents real-world consequences from intruding. Is that a 34-story skyscraper or just one more mountain on the horizon? Are we closing a door or opening one?

Devan Sipher can be reached at Devan@smdp.com.



Surf report

WATER TEMP: 75.0

TUESDAY
FAIR

SURF: 2-3ft+
Thigh to stomach

Surf from Rachel shows a bit better with a gradual bump in size through the day. Dawn to 10am: Swell from Rachel shows better while trending SSE/S. Modest NW swell mix and SPAC swell blend in. Expect widespread surf in the waist-stomach high range, standouts west of Dume chest-shoulder high at times. Variable to light offshore wind early but you'll want to plan around the deep high tide - many breaks swamped. Afternoon Outlook: Light to moderate onshore WNW wind through the afternoon low tide favors the south facing points. Wind drops some through the evening.

WEDNESDAY
FAIR

SURF: 2-3ft+
Thigh to stomach

Southerly energy from Rachel provides a few fun-sized waves all day. Tropical energy from Rachel shows little better than Tue as direction trends more SSE/S. Expect widespread waist-chest high surf with continued head high surf at standouts, but it'll be on the softer side (compared to a similar size Southern Hemi) with the short to mid-period energy. Still looking like a fun day with favorable wind for at least the morning.



Weather

Tuesday: Sunny, with a high near 89. North wind 5 to 10 mph becoming south southeast in the morning.

Tuesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 72. West southwest wind 5 to 10 mph becoming north northeast after midnight.

Wednesday: Sunny, with a high near 85. Light and variable wind becoming west 5 to 10 mph in the afternoon.

Wednesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 70.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
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



Daily Lottery

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Draw Date: 10/3
4 42 44 55 59
Power#: 14
Jackpot: 467 M



Draw Date: 10/4
16 17 19 31 37



Draw Date: 10/2
6 37 40 41 55
Mega#: 10
Jackpot: 345 M



Draw Date: 10/4
EVENING: 8 6 2
Draw Date: 10/4
MIDDAY: 2 7 2



Draw Date: 10/3
14 19 23 26 33
Mega#: 25
Jackpot: 61 M



Draw Date: 10/4
1st: 07 - Eureka
2nd: 08 - Gorgeous George
3rd: 05 - California Classic
Race Time: 1:47.03

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GUEST COMMENTARY

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Would closing California’s corporate tax loopholes actually generate new revenue?



Photo by Miguel Gutierrez Jr., CalMatters

SACRAMENTO: Janitors, nurses, teachers and labor organizers rally at the state Capitol in Sacramento to launch UnRig California on March 11, 2026. The initiative is a multiyear campaign aimed at reforming the state’s economy and tax code.

California unions whose members depend on the state budget for their salaries celebrated last week when Gov. Gavin Newsom signed legislation aimed at plugging corporate tax loopholes.

“Giant, highly profitable, global corporations often pay less in California taxes than a social worker or a teacher,” Arnulfo De La Cruz, president of the Service Employees International Union, said in a statement. “That makes no sense at all, and we’re going to change that. Accountability for corporate tax credits is long overdue.

“Every year, caregivers, social workers, child care providers and state workers have to fight to justify funding for the vital work we do; yet, corporations walk away with billions in tax dollars and never have to justify a penny of it.”

Senate Bill 1349, sponsored by SEIU and other unions and carried by state Sen. Lena Gonzalez, a Long Beach Democrat, orders the Legislative Analyst’s Office to study major “tax expenditures,” the official name for tax laws that favor certain classes of taxpayers. The LAO would recommend changes or repeals of those that it deems to be cost-ineffective.

It’s the latest wrinkle in a yearslong political debate over whether tax laws should be used to subsidize specific economic sectors, thereby reducing revenue that could have been used for public services. But it’s tinged in irony.

The Department of Finance already publishes an annual report on tax expenditures, the latest of which indicates that they cost the state budget about

\$100 billion a year, with \$76 billion of that from personal income taxes.

Corporate tax expenditures, the obvious target of SB 1349, are a relatively small \$8.2 billion, including a series of tax credits for Southern California’s film and TV production industry. In fact, the Democratic legislators who sent SB 1349 to Newsom’s desk also voted for two bills that expand the credits the industry says are needed to prevent production from fleeing to other states.

Moreover, the vast majority of the loopholes in the finance department report were enacted during the last 60 years when Democrats dominated the Capitol. If SEIU and other advocates of closing them are looking for villains, they needn’t go far.

The history of one relatively tiny tax expenditure, enacted nearly 40 years ago, illustrates the irrational nature of tax policy.

While purchasers of off-the-shelf computer software on optical discs, such as the Quicken personal finance program, must pay sales taxes, custom software purchased by corporations is tax-free, thanks to a bill passed nearly 40 years ago.

The measure was sponsored by custom software makers and carried by a legislator from Silicon Valley. The finance department says it costs state and local governments \$56 million a year.

Software delivered or accessed electronically, rather than physically, also

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Santa Monica

Santa Monica tribute to Gloria Steinem raises more than \$80,000 for ERA

More than 130 people gathered in Santa Monica on Constitution Day to honor Gloria Steinem. The event raised more than \$80,000 toward recognition of the Equal Rights Amendment as the 28th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

The event, Unfinished: Cocktails & Conversation for Gender Equality, was among the first major Los Angeles gatherings for the ERA since Steinem died Sept. 2. It benefited ERA Coalition Forward, a 501(c)(3) organization where Steinem was a co-founding board member.

Guests included board members Alyssa Milano and Lisa Ann Walter, along with Christine Lahti, Ashley Blaine Featherson-Jenkins, Blair Imani and Sasha Farber. Katherine Spillar, executive director of the Feminist Majority Foundation and executive editor of Ms. magazine, also attended. Poet Yazmin Monet Watkins performed, and comedian Dulo hosted. Chair emerita Carol Jenkins appeared in a tribute video. A short film by Culture House was screened with its founders in attendance.

“The Equal Rights Amendment has waited over 100 years. Every dollar raised that night brings us closer to recognition of the ERA as the 28th Amendment,” Milano said.

“Gloria spent her life on this amendment and did not live to see it recognized. That is the work we carry now,” said Zakiya Thomas, president and CEO of ERA Coalition Forward. “The people in that room understood that this is not a commemoration. It’s a campaign for our rights, and it continues.”

Glass Ladder Group founder Sabrina K. Garba moderated a conversation about how long the fight for the amendment has already taken. Walter, the organization’s board co-chair, said her commitment began with a childhood subscription to Ms., the magazine Steinem co-founded.

“It never made sense to me why we were not equal ... I took my babysitting money allowance, and I saved it up until I could afford the first year of subscription to Ms. magazine,” Walter said.

Artist Mary Harris painted the scene as the evening unfolded. The finished work is titled “In Love & Memory of Gloria Steinem.”

Range Media Partners donated the venue. Dia Natural Wine, Frenchwood, Le Great Outdoor, Pilate-ology, Pizanna and The Lip Bar provided in-kind support.

Donations to ERA Coalition Forward can be made at givebutter.com/c/unfinished-cocktails-conversation-for-gender-equality.

“The Equal Rights Amendment has waited over 100 years. Every dollar raised that night brings us closer to recognition of the ERA as the 28th Amendment

- Alyssa Milano

Citywide

Red Cross urges residents to plan escape routes, check smoke alarms during Fire Prevention Week

The American Red Cross is urging Los Angeles-area residents to take steps to prevent home fires and prepare their households to escape one, as Fire Prevention Week runs through Oct. 10.

Cooking and home heating are two of the leading causes of home fires, according to the organization, which released a list of safety and prevention tips to mark the week, which began Oct. 4.

People may have less than two minutes to get out of a burning home, the Red Cross said. The organization recommends that households draw up a fire escape plan and practice it twice a year, timing each drill to see how long it takes everyone to get out.

Every member of a household should know two ways out of each room and agree on a meeting spot a safe distance from the home, such as a neighbor’s house or a tree in the front yard, according to the Red Cross. Once outside, residents should stay out, never going back in for people, pets or belongings, and call 911.

Working smoke alarms can cut the risk of dying in a home fire nearly in half, the Red Cross said. The organization recommends placing alarms on every level of a home, including inside and outside bedrooms and sleeping areas, testing them monthly and changing batteries at least once a year if the model requires it. Alarms 10 years old or older should be replaced because their sensors become less sensitive over time. Parents should also teach children what a smoke alarm sounds like and what to do when they hear one.

Cooking is the leading cause of home fires in the United States, according to the Red Cross. The organization advises residents never to leave cooking food unattended and to turn off the stove if they must leave the kitchen, even briefly. Other recommendations include avoiding loose clothing and dangling sleeves while cooking, keeping children at least 3 feet from the stove, keeping pot holders, towels, packaging and other flammable items away from heat sources, and keeping a fire extinguisher in the kitchen.

Home heating equipment is the second leading cause of home fires, the Red Cross said, a risk that grows as temperatures drop and people turn their heat back on. The organization warns against using a stove or oven to heat a home and against leaving a fireplace fire unattended. Embers should be fully extinguished before going to bed or leaving the house, and a glass or metal screen should be used to contain them.

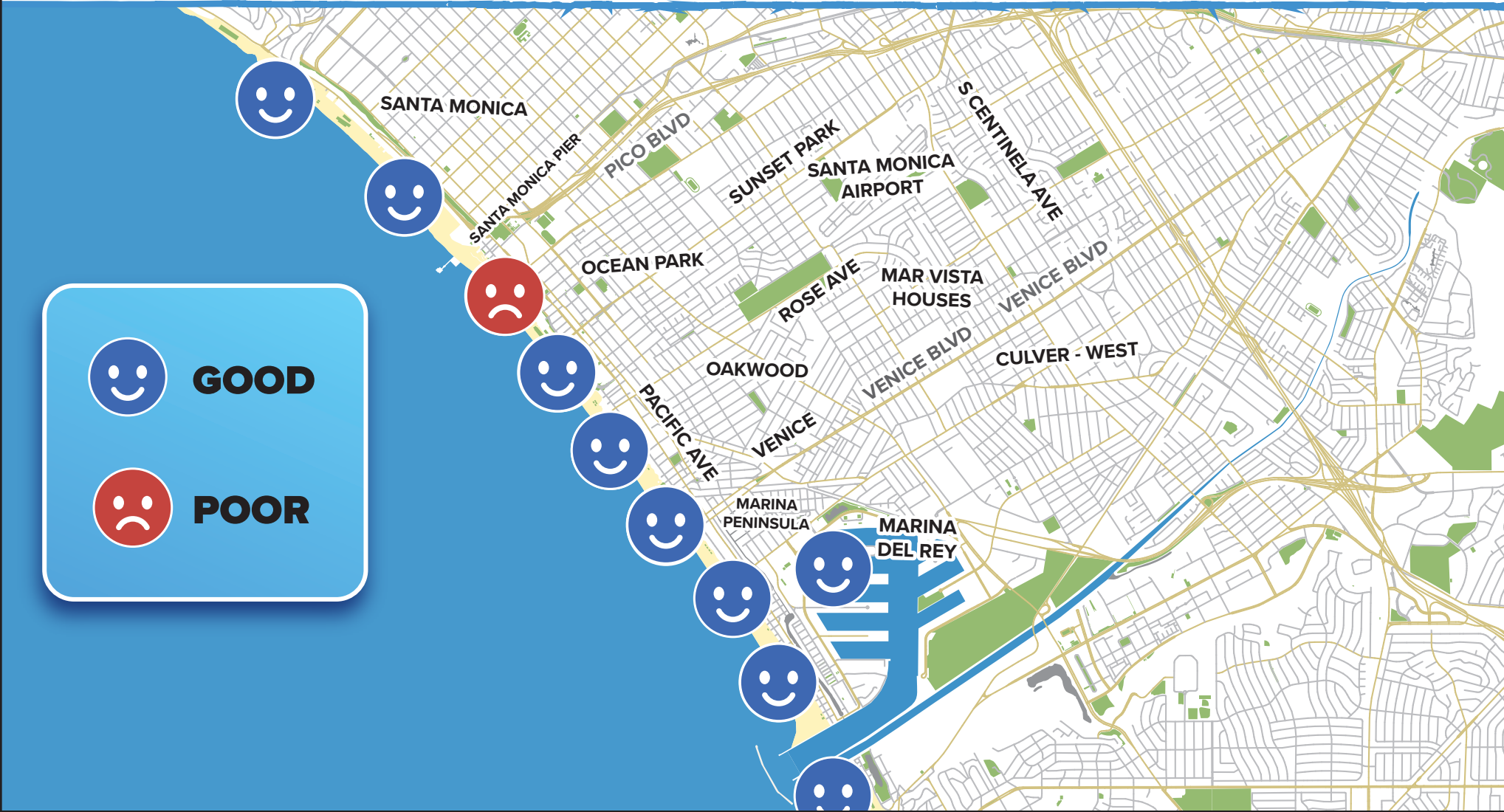
Space heaters should have at least 3 feet of clearance and sit on a level, hard, nonflammable surface such as ceramic tile, away from rugs, bedding and drapes, according to the Red Cross. They should be plugged directly into a wall outlet rather than an extension cord and turned off whenever someone leaves the room or goes to sleep.

More information is available at redcross.org.

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HEAL THE BAY BEACH GRADES



COMMUNITY NEWS

Los Angeles

LA to activate first speed cameras Oct. 26

Los Angeles will activate the first of 125 automated speed cameras Oct. 26, launching the largest pilot program allowed under state law in California, city officials announced Thursday.

The Los Angeles Department of Transportation has begun installing the cameras across all 15 City Council districts. All of them are expected to be running by the end of the year. Officials chose the locations based on crash history, speeding data and proximity to schools, senior centers and high-injury corridors, with input from council offices and the community.

The cameras photograph the rear license plates of vehicles traveling 11 mph or more over the posted limit. LADOT’s Parking Enforcement and Traffic Control Division reviews each image, and confirmed violations result in a civil citation mailed to the vehicle’s registered owner.

Each camera will issue only written warnings for its first 60 days. After that, a driver’s first violation of 11 to 15 mph over the limit will still draw a warning. Later violations start at \$50 and rise with speed. Drivers going 16 mph or more over the limit will be cited starting at \$100. The full fine schedule is posted at [LASpeedsafety.org](#).

Rep. Laura Friedman, D-Calif., who authored the state legislation that made the pilot possible, said privacy protections are built into the program.

“These cameras only capture the rear license plate, don’t film the driver, and the photos must be deleted within five days if there’s no violation,” Friedman said.

Under state law, registered owner information may be used only to process citations and cannot be shared with local, state or federal law enforcement without a court-issued subpoena.

Mayor Karen Bass said the cameras will help hold reckless drivers accountable and pledged to work with residents to keep the program fair and transparent. City Councilmember Hugo Soto-Martinez noted that traffic violence kills more people in Los Angeles than homicides do.

Citation revenue will be reinvested in LADOT’s traffic safety programs. City officials pointed to San Francisco, which saw speeding fall by more than 70% after its cameras were activated.

Damian Kevitt, executive director of the advocacy group Streets Are For Everyone, which worked with the city on the program for three years, said speeding is the largest factor behind rising serious injuries and deaths on LA roads.

“Implementing speed safety systems could be the single most effective tool to save lives on LA roads since the seatbelt,” Kevitt said.

LADOT began a multilingual public information campaign this summer that includes community events, billboards and ads in multilingual newspapers.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF

High temps bake the city

SANTA MONICA / OCTOBER HEAT

October records fall

NEW OCTOBER HIGH

102°F

Oct. 3, 2026
Previous: 101°F | Oct. 24, 2017

NEW OCTOBER WARMEST LOW

74°F

Oct. 4, 2026
Previous: 73°F | Oct. 13, 2015

OCTOBER 3 HIGH RECORD

+6°F

102°F in 2026 vs. 96°F in 2014
Above the previous airport record

OCTOBER 4 HIGH RECORD

+10°F

101°F in 2026 vs. 91°F in 2014
Above the previous airport record

Sources: NWS CF6SMO; NOAA historical data compiled by Extreme Weather Watch.

SMDP Image

HEAT: The National Weather Service issued an Extreme Heat Warning for Santa Monica through Thursday and it temperatures soared over the weekend. The city broke multiple records over a three day stretch and may break more if the heat does persist through Thursday.

GET IT
DAILY...



Newsom signs Zbur bill setting path to Santa Monica coastal plan

MATTHEW HALL

Daily Press Editor

Gov. Gavin Newsom has signed Assembly Bill 1740, a new law gives Santa Monica a defined path to a certified Local Coastal Program after more than 50 years without one. The once controversial measure also creates a statewide fast track for bike, pedestrian and transit projects that improve access to the coast.

The bill was authored by Assemblymember Rick Chavez Zbur, D-Santa Monica. Once the city's program is certified, Santa Monica will be able to process most coastal development permits locally instead of requiring separate approval from the California Coastal Commission. The commission will keep oversight.

The city of Santa Monica and the advocacy group Streets For All sponsored the bill but its final version came out of negotiations among the city, the commission, and housing, environmental and mobility advocates.

“Getting to this agreement was no small undertaking. It took months of hard work, difficult conversations, and a willingness from stakeholders with very different perspectives to stay at the table and find common ground,” Zbur said. “What we achieved is a solution that works for Santa Monica, strengthens the partnership between the City and the Coastal Commission, and creates new opportunities for communities across California to improve bike, pedestrian, and transit access to our coast.”

The law requires Santa Monica to submit a complete proposed LCP to the commission by Jan. 1, 2029. The commission must then:

- give the city a written list of any identified issues within 45 days, and
- act on the submission within six months of receiving it.

If the commission misses the six-month deadline, it must send quarterly written updates to the Legislature explaining the delay. It must also reimburse the city for reasonable costs of coordinating on suggested modifications. The reporting requirement expires Dec. 31, 2032.

The city has an incentive to move faster. If it submits a complete program by Dec. 31, 2027, it will get priority consideration for funding from the state's Active Transportation Program. That program supports bike lanes, pedestrian paths, safe-routes-to-school improvements and quick-build projects.

“I have a high degree of confidence that this is going to lead to an LCP within a short period of time,” Zbur said.

The statewide part of the law works independently of the Santa Monica process. It amends Section 30610.91 of the Public Resources Code. Under the change, the commission's executive director may waive the coastal development permit requirement for projects that convert existing road right-of-way into bicycle, transit or pedestrian infrastructure. To qualify, the director must find that the project, on balance, provides commensurate or enhanced public access to the coast. Replacing lost parking is no longer an automatic requirement. The loss of parking near beaches has historically complicated or blocked bike lane approvals.

The law also requires more transparency around approvals, denials and pending applications.

Santa Monica Mayor Caroline Torosis said the city is among the last coastal cities without a state-certified program.

“Cities up and down the coast make their own permitting decisions under coastal programs the state has certified,” she said. “Santa Monica is one of the last that doesn’t. AB 1740 puts us on the clock to get there; now the work is ours. Thank you to Assemblyman Zbur for seeing it through, and to Governor Newsom for signing this important piece of legislation.”

Michael Schneider, founder and CEO of Streets For All, said multimodal projects have long been too difficult to build in the coastal zone.

“I’m grateful to Assemblymember Zbur for authoring this critical bill, and to Governor Newsom for signing it, creating a streamlined process, which will allow cities to more easily install bike lanes, bus lanes, and pedestrian safety improvements,” Schneider said.

Coastal Commission Executive Director Kate Huckelbridge said the law supports the commission's current work with Santa Monica.

“It also expedites bike lanes and other multimodal projects that will improve public access to the coast without weakening Coastal Act protections,” Huckelbridge said.

The signed law is much narrower than the bill Zbur introduced in February. That version created broad exemptions from coastal development permit requirements for multifamily housing, building renovations, outdoor dining, temporary events and parking changes. It applied to more than a dozen coastal cities that met specific urbanization criteria.

The Coastal Commission opposed earlier versions of the bill. Later amendments limited it to Santa Monica, which drew criticism from environmental groups and some residents who called it a targeted carve-out. The housing and commercial exemptions were eventually removed. So was the bill's original findings section, which had argued that the Coastal Act's permitting framework was poorly suited to dense, transit-rich urban communities.

Santa Monica's effort to get a certified program goes back decades:

- 1992: The commission approved the city's Land Use Plan, which still serves as the standard of review for coastal permits in the city. The companion Implementation Plan, which works as the coastal zoning ordinance, was never approved.
- 2014: The city started a new LCP process.
- October 2018: The City Council adopted a revised Land Use Plan. The city later withdrew it before the commission acted.
- May 2023: The city resumed the update.
- May 2026: After AB 1740 was introduced, the council voted unanimously to direct staff to negotiate a memorandum of understanding with the commission. The target is to complete both plans by June 2027.

editor@smdp.com

SEAFOOD

FROM PAGE 1

celebrate its seafood and culinary community while giving back. It has since grown into one of Santa Monica’s signature food events, she said, drawing visitors from across Los Angeles and some who fly in for it.

“Even after taking a three-year hiatus after the pandemic, we were able to rebuild and get support from local community partners and sponsors,” Koury said.

The festival raises money for Heal the Bay, which works to protect the coastline, restore local waterways and keep Santa Monica Bay clean.

“Heal the Bay has been a wonderful partner, and supporting its mission to protect our coastline, restore local waterways and keep Santa Monica Bay clean is such a natural fit for a seafood festival taking place literally over the ocean,” Koury said.

New this year, the event will also benefit the Santa Monica Pier Corporation, helping fund free community programming on the pier. Koury said the Route 66 tie-in led organizers to support the pier, which she said many people don’t realize is a nonprofit.

“For me, the goal goes beyond raising a specific dollar amount,” she said. “It’s about using the festival as a platform to support the organizations that help protect two of Santa Monica’s greatest treasures — our ocean and our Pier — while bringing people to Santa Monica and supporting our local restaurants and businesses.”

Koury, who has lived in Santa Monica for 25 years and has produced events in the city for 20, called the festival “truly a labor of love.”

The festival is free of single-use plastics, and organizers said it highlights education and innovation around ocean conservation and sustainable seafood.

Two additions this year expand that focus. Santa Monica College’s Life Sciences Department will be on-site promoting its aquaculture program, and OC Coastkeepers will collect oyster shells through its Shells for Shorelines program. The shells will be

repurposed for native oyster restoration projects in Southern California.

Koury said the festival collected more than 70 pounds of oyster shells last year and expects to double that amount this year.

Asked whether sustainability and a luxury seafood festival are at odds, Koury said it is an important conversation to have.

“Celebrating great seafood and protecting the ocean it comes from shouldn’t be opposing ideas,” she said. “If we want to continue enjoying seafood for generations to come, we have to think about where it comes from, how it’s harvested and what we can do to protect our marine environment.”

She said the festival aims to make sustainability part of the experience “not in a preachy way, but in a way that gets people thinking and talking about it while they’re enjoying themselves.”

Koury also rejected the luxury label, saying organizers try to keep the ticket price low so guests get an all-inclusive experience with unlimited tastings and adult beverages for \$115.

“I don’t even think you can find a seafood buffet in Las Vegas for that price anymore,” she said.

General admission tickets, called Little Fish, start at \$115 and include seafood and beverage tastings, games and live music, with entry at 4 p.m. A cash bar and nonalcoholic options will also be available.

VIP tickets, called Big Fish, start at \$175 and add early entry at 3 p.m. and access to the Sustainable Seafood VIP Lounge, presented by Santa Monica Seafood. The lounge offers curated cocktails and extra tastings from restaurants including Calabra at Santa Monica Proper Hotel, Shuck Brothers and Vibe Caviar. VIP guests also receive a gift bag and a pass for unlimited rides at Pacific Park, valued at \$40.

Tickets are available at offthehookseafoodfest.com.

“Ultimately, the message is pretty simple,” Koury said. “We can celebrate the ocean while also taking responsibility for protecting it.”

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RAND RETAIL

FROM PAGE 2

quarter, with fine dining down 11.3%. City staff project growth of 2.1% in fiscal 2025-26 and 3.6% in fiscal 2026-27.

In March 2026, the council approved an eight-point economic development package that includes a \$3 million recruitment fund, eliminates the \$1,000-per-seat wastewater fee for restaurants and expands the Entertainment Zone to Main Street and Montana Avenue. The city closed fiscal 2025-26 with an \$8.95 million surplus, a year after declaring fiscal distress.

RAND recommended that the city expand its business concierge service so it systematically addresses recurring problems, and develop clear guidance for sanitation and

transportation staff to reduce “idiosyncratic judgments” about compliance during tenant improvements. To cut vacancies and draw foot traffic, the authors suggested temporary “pop up” stores, which West Hollywood has used to incubate permanent businesses, along with more events and festivals, large redevelopment such as the Civic Auditorium and courting employers in target industries.

The authors also urged incentives beyond the city’s 2024 adaptive reuse ordinance to convert offices and other commercial buildings to housing, and a comprehensive review of the labor law for leases on city-owned land, which they said the council appears to have adopted “without substantial research” into its benefits or costs.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

SMC

SMC gallery to host free reception Oct. 13 for faculty exhibition ‘Living Echoes’

The SMC Pete & Susan Barrett Art Gallery will host a free reception from 5 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 13, for “Living Echoes,” an exhibition of work by Santa Monica College art faculty.

The free exhibition opened Sept. 22 and runs through March 13, 2027. A free artist talk and panel is scheduled for 5 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 17, in the gallery.

Students in SMC’s Art 80, 82 and 84 Gallery Exhibition & Display course series curated the show. Their instructor is Kim Garcia. The students conducted studio visits, produced a learning guide, and selected and mounted the artwork. The course series gives students hands-on experience in planning, researching, operating and managing exhibition spaces.

The exhibition brings together 27 faculty artists working in painting, sculpture, photography, installation and mixed media. It explores connections between memory, identity, material and place.

“The exhibition,” Garcia said, “explores how artists process what is happening around and within themselves in a fast-paced world where constant change can feel overwhelming.”

The featured artists are Rhiannon Aarons, Liv Aanrud, Amanda Artsy, Terri Bromberg, Jerrold Burchman, Nehemiah Cisneros, Ismael de Anda III, Rebecca Frantz, Kim Garcia, Nevada Hardman, Carlson Hatton, Robert Brian Huerta, Jorge A. Jimenez Jr., Amy MacKay, Robin Mitchell, Margaret Oakley, Nathan Ota and Risk, Holly Perez, Kaelyn Rodriguez, Reinhart Revilla Selvik, Jane Shibata, Svetlana Shigroff, Emily Silver, Matthew Thomason, Marc Trujillo, Gerald Michael Vicich, Natasha Wheat and John Zarcone.

The gallery is at the SMC Performing Arts Center, 1310 11th St., at Santa Monica Boulevard. Visitors enter through the center’s courtyard.

The gallery is a student-centered contemporary art space. It works to close equity gaps in higher education and in gallery and museum settings, and it hosts workshops and campus and citywide activities.

Information about the exhibition, related events and gallery hours is available at smc.edu/barrett or by calling 310-434-4165. Gallery activities are subject to change or cancellation without notice.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF



Courtesy Image

SHOW: A free gallery reception for the Santa Monica College Art Faculty Exhibition “Living Echoes,” will be held Tuesday, Oct. 13, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

GUEST COMMENTARY

FROM PAGE 4

has been tax-free, regardless of who is buying it. This year, the Legislature erased that loophole for “prewritten” software that individuals download, but didn’t touch the loophole for custom software. It also continued to exempt downloaded music, movies and games.

Taxing downloaded software is estimated to increase state revenue — and cost consumers — about \$1 billion a year.

Unwarranted loopholes, such as the custom software tax exemption or the film

industry tax credits, are welfare for the wealthy and should be closed as a matter of equity.

However, the tax expenditures with the largest price tags, such as the sales tax exemptions for food and drugs, the exclusion of employers’ healthcare and pension contributions from income taxes, or the deduction of mortgage interest are also those with the broadest popular support.

It’s highly doubtful that SB 1349 will produce the cornucopia of revenues its sponsors seek.

By Dan Walters

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Agnes

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Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART

Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE

Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER

Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING

FIND THE WORDS

This is a theme puzzle with the subject stated below. Find the listed words in the grid. (They may run in any direction but always in a straight line. Some letters are used more than once.) Ring each word as you find it and when you have completed the puzzle, there will be 17 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle.

© australianwordgames.com.au 7085

Remember Mum

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

Adore	Dinner	Mama	Sage
Argue	Family	Meals	Sons
Asleep	Fathers	Messy	Spouse
Beautiful	Fete	Movie	Strict
Best	Gift	Patient	Sweet
Book	Happy	Perm	Tea and
Bright	Heart	Phone	toast
Busy	Hugs	Picnic	Tickets
Cake	In May	Relaxed	Tired
Card	Kids	Remedy	
Chat	Love	River cruise	
Days	Lunch	Robe	

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.

Watching traffic reports



TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Oct. 6)

In your Year of the Living Gallery, your world fills with things worth seeing. Purchases become assets, and creative choices attract attention. People trust your eye and seek your taste. More highlights: You'll open to influences from all around the world and see new places in person. You'll have a special relationship you've longed for. A drain in your finances is fixed forever. Aquarius and Leo adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 10, 12, 40, 27 and 6.



HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Hate to ask a favor? Would you still have something against it if you knew for certain that the person you ask would like you better if you let them help you? People like most the people they help.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). There's a sense that you've found yourself - again. Not because you were lost but because you keep creating yourself anew and each incarnation feels like a discovery.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). People around you may act out of character, change their minds or try to break a promise. Focus on the influence you still have. Keep your cool. Do what you said you would do. Others take their cue from you.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). The size of the injury and the size of the suffering don't always match. Often it is those who have known the most pain who can bear the most. The smallest hurt may prove to be the final straw.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). The moon and Jupiter's meeting in your sign is making everything feel bigger and more important to you. It could lead to catastrophizing, aggrandizing or just your run-of-the-mill exaggerations, which are actually a lot of fun with the right audience.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Consider that some people in your life remain dissatisfied because that's the way they prefer it. If they stay displeased, the other person keeps trying to win their approval, which lets them remain the judge and hold the upper hand.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Your work may be hard, but your vision keeps you moving through it with determination and a true heart. You know you can do this, and you will. Others feel it, too, so they get on board.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Even when you don't yet know the particular set of personalities you're dealing with in a group, you are so adept at reading what the situation needs and responding in kind that nearly everyone relaxes and finds their place around you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Someone is giving you more attention than you want or the wrong kind. If you feel like you're being chased, try chasing them instead. You'll upset the balance they enjoyed and send them backing away.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Today shows you an excellent example of what psychologists call "goal-directed attention." You want something and your mind becomes alert to anything that might help you get it. Competing concerns will be pushed out of focus.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Today sees you preparing for an opportunity you do not yet have. Nonetheless, you're learning the skills, clearing the space and getting ready to move in the moment someone opens the door.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Your creativity can have unlikely sources of fuel. Even anger has a place here. Put the sharp line in the drawing, the ugly chord in the song or the rude truth in the joke. Give the feeling a form you work with.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

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

Newsday Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Tablet downloads
- 5 Household felines
- 9 Overexcited, informally
- 14 "Wherefore art ___ Romeo?"
- 15 Do damage to
- 16 Small and glittering, as eyes
- 17 Wines and dines
- 18 Brainstorm
- 19 Nickname for an NCO

- 20 Fishy pizza topping
- 22 Playful aquatic mammal
- 23 Bring back on staff
- 24 Parsley or thyme
- 26 Sports cable channel
- 29 Beaded calculating tool
- 33 Infield covers
- 37 Granola grains
- 39 Folk wisdom
- 40 Woodwind instrument
- 41 Opinion piece
- 42 Women's links org.
- 43 Gas station machine
- 44 Cutlet meat
- 45 So far
- 46 Paper fastener
- 48 Piece of lettuce
- 50 Hearing organs
- 52 Showy flower
- 57 Wizardry student Potter
- 60 Fungal pizza topping

- 63 Truism
- 64 Actress Hathaway
- 65 Luxurious
- 66 Reddish hair tint
- 67 Play the leading role
- 68 "Understood"
- 69 Invite to enter
- 70 Optimistic emotion
- 71 Butterfly catchers

DOWN

- 1 Engaged in battle
- 2 Call up
- 3 Doggie
- 4 Japanese fish dish
- 5 Sour cream and ___ dip

- 6 German auto
- 7 Genealogy chart
- 8 Hidden supply
- 9 Soak up
- 10 Beefy pizza topping
- 11 Acting role
- 12 Slight advantage
- 13 Salon colorist
- 21 Metal-bearing rocks
- 25 Not at all difficult
- 27 Sit for a photo
- 28 Twangy-sounding
- 30 Exact duplicate
- 31 Craving
- 32 Chair or sofa
- 33 Outperforms
- 34 Border on

PIZZA PARTNERS by Ruth Warham
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

- 35 Italy's capital, in Italy
- 36 Spicy pizza topping
- 38 "Tall" story
- 41 At any time
- 45 In the distance
- 47 Nonprofessional guy
- 49 Cling (to)
- 51 Shatter to bits
- 53 Offer to a hitchhiker
- 54 Off the leash
- 55 "None for me, thanks"
- 56 Fireplace residue
- 57 Sounds of laughter
- 58 Lumberjacks' tools
- 59 Skating surface
- 61 Golden Rule word
- 62 Break sharply

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						70					71			

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



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](https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/low-impact-group-exercise-class/18566926/2026-10-08T11). 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>

SATURDAY | OCTOBER 10

ONCE UPON A GARDEN: A STORYTIME

9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Main Street Community Garden, 2318 Main Street, Santa Monica 90405. Join us for a garden-themed story time surrounded by nature! We'll enjoy stories about flowers, plants, and growing gardens. Along with garden-inspired songs, and fun movement activities and songs. Come explore, read, and learn as we celebrate all the wonderful things that grow in the garden. “Once Upon a Garden: A Storytime” will be led by librarians from the Santa Monica Public Library. Story time begins at 10 am. Join us at 9 am to grab a cup of coffee, kid friendly snacks and wandering around the gardens to see what's growing, pick up seed packets and chat with gardeners. Limited seating, please bring blankets or chairs. For more info: [SANTAMONICA.GOV/Events](https://www.santamonica.gov/events).

CLASSICS BOOK GROUP

11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Zoom. This community-led, monthly book discussion group meets virtually at 11 a.m. on the second Saturday of the month. The group discusses classic fiction titles. For Zoom link, email library@santamonica.gov.

SCREAM AND STREAM – TEEN MOVIE

2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Main Library, Youth Activity Room. Connect with friends and celebrate the spooky season with themed snacks and a film. For ages 13 - 18.

LGBT HISTORY MONTH FILM SCREENING

7:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. Miles Memorial Playhouse, 1130 Lincoln Blvd. Join us for Janis Ian: Breaking Silence, a documentary about lesbian pop artist Janis Ian from Santa Monica filmmaker Varda Bar-Kar. Q&A with the director to follow. Runtime: 114 min. SUNDAY | OCTOBER 11

CONTINUUM: HONORING THE HISTORY OF BELMAR AND BLACK SANTA MONICA

Noon to 5:00 p.m. Historic Belmar Park. This free, all-ages cultural activation presented by the city of Santa Monica and GV Black honors the history of Belmar and the Black experience in Santa Monica and will include conversations with award-winning journalist and radio host Sam Sanders, DJ sets by KCRW's Tyler “Boogie” Boudreaux, live music performances from Katalyst Collective, Songs With Strings, and NPR Tiny Desk Concert Winner Cure For Paranoia, fusing live strings, hip-hop and jazz. Shop the vendor village curated by Black Market Flea and enjoy art-making, art installations and more.

BENEFITTING THE YOUTH OF THE SANTA MONICA POLICE ACTIVITIES LEAGUE



POKER TOURNAMENT



Saturday, October 17, 2026

Check-In, Dinner & Bar | 5:00 PM

Poker Lessons | 5:30 PM

First Hand Dealt | 6:00 PM SHARP

Santa Monica Moose Lodge | 1600 Ocean Park Blvd.



\$150 Buy-In
Sponsorships Available



Santa Monica PAL 310.458.8988 | pal@santamonica.gov