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Santa Monica Daily Press

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Authorities make an arrest related to deadly Palisades Fire



Courtesy photo

SUSPECT: Jonathan Rinderknecht has been arrested for starting the Palisades Fire. Officials allege he started a fire that smoldered for several days before exploding into the fatal Palisades Fire.



Courtesy image

FIRE: The suspect used ChatGP to generate images of a city on fire.

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

A 29-year-old former Pacific Palisades resident has been arrested on federal charges alleging he maliciously started the fire that became the catastrophic Palisades Fire, one of the most destructive wildfires in Los Angeles history that killed 12 people and destroyed more than 6,000 homes and buildings.

Jonathan Rinderknecht, also known as "Jonathan Rinder" and "Jon Rinder," was arrested Tuesday in Melbourne, Florida, where he currently resides, the Justice Department announced Wednesday. He faces charges of destruction of property by means of fire and appeared in United States District Court for the Middle District of Florida on Wednesday afternoon.

"The complaint alleges that a single person's recklessness caused one of the worst fires Los Angeles has ever seen, resulting in death and widespread destruction in Pacific Palisades," said Acting United States Attorney Bill Essayli. "While we cannot bring back what victims lost, we hope this criminal case brings some measure of justice to those affected by this horrific tragedy."

If convicted, Rinderknecht faces a mandatory minimum sentence of five years in federal prison and a statutory maximum sentence of 20 years.

According to a detailed affidavit filed with the criminal complaint, federal investigators determined the Palisades Fire was a "holdover" fire—a continuation of the Lachman Fire that began early in the morning on New Year's Day 2025. Although the Los Angeles City Fire Department quickly suppressed the Lachman Fire on Jan. 1, the fire continued to smolder and burn underground within the root structure of dense vegetation, unbeknownst to firefighters.

On Jan. 7, heavy winds caused the underground fire to resurface and spread above ground in what became known as the Palisades Fire, which caused widespread damage in the Pacific Palisades neighborhood of Los Angeles.

"At the request of state and local authorities, ATF took the lead in this complex investigation utilizing techniques unique to our agency's capabilities," said Special Agent in Charge Kenny Cooper of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives Los Angeles Field Division. "The horrific loss of life and property was significantly felt by ATF members, and we are honored to utilize our expertise to provide answers to this community."

The multi-agency investigation utilized witness statements, video surveillance, cellphone data and analysis of fire dynamics and patterns at the scene to determine that Rinderknecht maliciously set the Lachman Fire just after midnight on Jan. 1 on land owned by the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, an organization that received federal funding.

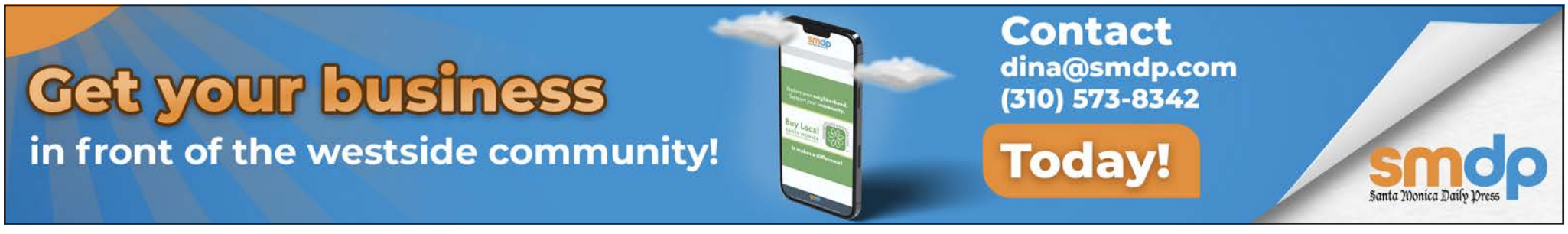
According to the affidavit, on the evening of Dec. 31, 2024, Rinderknecht was working as an Uber driver. Two passengers he drove on separate trips between 10:15 p.m. and 11:15 p.m. that night later told law enforcement they remembered Rinderknecht appeared agitated and angry.

After dropping off a passenger in Pacific Palisades around 11:34 p.m., Rinderknecht—who once lived in that neighborhood—drove toward Skull Rock Trailhead and parked his car at approximately 11:38 p.m., as confirmed by video footage. He attempted to contact a former friend via Facebook Messenger but did not connect.

Rinderknecht then walked up a trail to where it connected to the Temescal Ridge Trail, then proceeded to a small clearing at the top of the hill sometimes referred to as the "Hidden Buddha" because of a hollowed-out remnant from a wooden utility pole where people sometimes placed small Buddha figurines. The former friend told investigators he and Rinderknecht had spent considerable time together at that clearing.

At approximately 11:47 p.m., Rinderknecht used his iPhone to take two videos in or near the Hidden Buddha clearing, panning around almost 360 degrees. No fire

SEE **PALISADES FIRE** PAGE 11



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Santa Monica housing costs remain among nation's highest despite market cooling

MAAZ ALIN
SMDP Staff Writer

Santa Monica's housing market continues to command premium prices despite a cooling period following the pandemic-era real estate boom, with rental costs significantly outpacing both state and national averages.

The median rent in Santa Monica reached $2,478 in October, representing a 2.1% increase over the past year, according to the latest Apartment List rent report. The city's rental growth outpaced California's 1.3% average and far exceeded the national average, which declined 0.8% over the same period.

Monthly rent increases have remained modest, with September showing just a 0.2% uptick. However, the annual growth rate demonstrates the coastal city's continued appeal despite broader economic headwinds affecting housing markets nationwide.

Santa Monica's rental prices command a significant premium within the Los Angeles metropolitan area. The city's median rent of $2,478 stands 11.7% higher than the metro-wide median of $2,218. For individual unit types, one-bedroom apartments average $2,345 monthly, while two-bedroom units command $2,811.

The rental market reflects broader housing cost pressures that have characterized Santa Monica for years. Home prices in the beachside community have shown remarkable resilience despite recent market volatility, with median sale prices ranging from $1.65 million to $1.7 million in 2023, up from approximately $1.45 million in 2018.

That five-year appreciation of roughly 15% tells only part of the story. Santa Monica experienced dramatic price swings during the pandemic period, with home values jumping more than 20% between 2020 and 2021. Median home prices broke the $2 million mark during the height of the pandemic buying frenzy, when price per square foot topped $1,200.

The market's pandemic-era explosion reflected nationwide trends driven by lifestyle changes and historically low interest rates. Buyers bid aggressively for Santa Monica properties, attracted by the city's prime location and amenities during a period when remote work made proximity to traditional job centers less critical.

However, Federal Reserve interest rate hikes in 2022 and 2023 cooled the market significantly. Higher mortgage costs squeezed out marginal buyers and reduced purchasing power across income levels. The result was Santa Monica's first year of declining year-over-year prices in over a decade, with median values dipping 1% to 4% in 2022.

Rather than experiencing a dramatic crash, Santa Monica achieved what market analysts describe as a "soft landing." Prices eased from their peaks but stabilized rather than collapsing, demonstrating the underlying demand for housing in the prestigious coastal community.

Price per square foot remains among the nation's highest, averaging around $1,100 in 2023. While down from pandemic peaks, this figure places Santa Monica in the top 1% of U.S. markets and highlights the premium buyers pay for the city's location and lifestyle amenities.

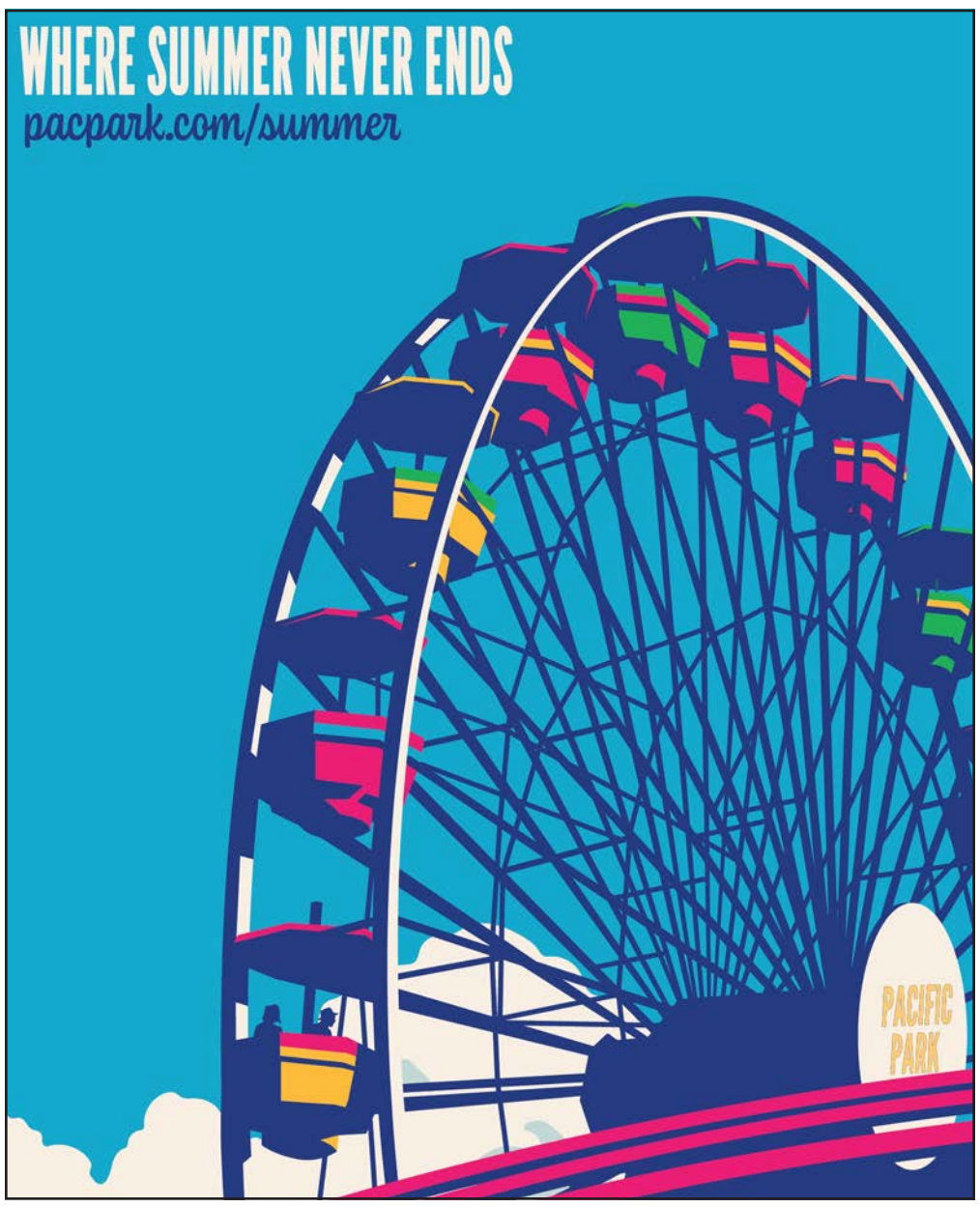
The market has shifted from the "red-hot" conditions of 2020-2021, when homes sold within weeks amid multiple offers and double-digit annual appreciation, to a more balanced environment. By 2023, year-over-year price changes flattened, and buyers faced less competition, though inventory remained limited.

Higher-end segments experienced the most volatility, with a reduction in sales above $5 million contributing to slight median price declines even as mid-range homes held their value. The broader Los Angeles metro area showed annual rent growth of just 0.6%, well below Santa Monica's rate.

Within the metro area, Santa Monica's rental costs rank among the highest, though Newport Beach tops the region at $3,351 median rent. Long Beach offers the metro's most affordable option at $1,776 median rent.

Despite recent cooling, Santa Monica maintains its reputation as one of California's most expensive housing markets, with both rental and purchase prices reflecting the premium buyers and renters pay for oceanside living in Los Angeles County.

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OPINION **UNMUTED**

Devan Sipher

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

A tale of two entertainment zones

When the entertainment zone ordinance was enacted in June, the Oktoberfest celebration on the Promenade was presented as a good opportunity for seeing the legislation's potential. Though I've been somewhat skeptical about the long-term benefits of rescuing downtown via alcohol and cannabis, outdoor drinking and Oktoberfest rituals definitely seemed like a natural fit.

So I headed over to the Promenade on September 27th for a couple hours in the late afternoon/early evening to check out the Germanic-themed event, and some of what I saw was exciting.

I counted almost 400 people on the 1200 block, which was the central location of the festivities. There was a makeshift stage with an energetic band surrounded by enthusiastic spectators, and while I can remember when a jam-packed crowd on the Promenade was just an ordinary weekend, that hasn't been true for a long time.

City Manager Oliver Chi had good reason to be proud and relieved as he crowed about the event. "It was absolutely jumping," he said at last week's City Council meeting. "How cool is it to see that we still have that ability to create these spectacular moments in the city."

It was very cool to see throngs of people on the Promenade; however, Chi was presenting only a partial picture.

I described the bustling activity on the 1200 block, but that wasn't the situation on the 1300 and 1400 blocks (at least not while I was there). I counted only about 50 or so people along each of those two blocks, with less than 20 in total wearing the colored wristbands designating them as entertainment zone participants. But as sparse as those blocks may have seemed, they were far more populated than the eerily empty sidewalks on 2nd Street and 4th Street.

I decided to do an informal survey of the storefronts on or near the Promenade, going into 30 random shops and restaurants and asking how their foot traffic and sales compared to an average Saturday. It was highly unscientific, with most of the employees guesstimating, though some of the managers provided exact data from their registers. I'm hoping that Downtown Santa Monica (DTSM), Santa Monica Travel & Tourism (SMTT), and the city's economic development team have collected more accurate information, but here's what I was told:

Two of the 30 places I visited said they had doubled their sales from a typical Saturday, and six said they had a 50% increase. Another half dozen said they had a small uptick in business. But 12 of the 30 said there was no increase whatsoever, while five reported a noticeable decrease.

And five of the businesses I spoke with had no idea that Oktoberfest was taking place, including several located on the Promenade, which seems worthy of someone in leadership's attention.

It's unsurprising that it was food and beverage establishments near the Oktoberfest stage that experienced the greatest positive impact, and perhaps it should be equally unsurprising that it was mostly businesses not located on the Promenade that saw a negative impact. But it's not clearcut, because some food establishments didn't see any benefit, and a few retail stores, such as Patagonia and Aldo, reported significant gains.

I don't think one informal survey proves anything, nor does one particular event. But there are some warning signs about the entertainment zone, including the potential to create financial winners and losers. Should the city be deciding which businesses succeed or fail? And can the city be sure it's picking the right ones? The Council and DTSM have expressed eagerness for making the Promenade more experiential, yet Holey Moley and the Apple store were not among the places reporting increased foot traffic from Oktoberfest.

Despite the city manager's rousing exuberance, Oktoberfest wasn't the best of times in downtown Santa Monica history. But it certainly wasn't the worst. There's a more complicated tale to be told and reverberations to be discovered. The question is whether the people in charge are making the effort to discover them.

Devan Sipher can be reached at Unmuted.SMDP@gmail.com

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Surf report

WATER TEMP: **64.4**

THURSDAY
POOR TO FAIR
SURF: 1-2ft
Knee to thigh

Surf remains small'ish fun but comes up a bit through the day. Cleanest AM, some PM bump. Southerly swell mix continue. Mainly the mid to long period SSW Southern Hemi swell in the morning and that will be close in size to Wednesday (waist high'ish, up to chest high at standouts out west). Look for extreme angled SE swell from Priscilla to start building late in the day. A little more size/consistency but ven the top spots max out at shoulder high. Conditions are cleanest in the AM before onshore winds produce lumpy shape in the afternoon.

FRIDAY
FAIR
SURF: 1-2ft
Knee to thigh

Lining up to be the largest/fun day of SE swell from Priscilla, biggest west of Dume. This is shaping up to be the day with the most size, although Saturday should be close. The SE/Priscilla swell will show best west of Dume where waist-shoulder high waves can be expected, while standouts see head high waves if Priscilla behaves as expected when it moves into the N LA swell window on Wednesday. Some WNW onshore wind crumble possible in the morning - ok at the points but the beaches may be a little funky. Then stronger onshores build in the PM.

Weather

Thursday: Sunny, with a high near 71. Light and variable wind becoming west southwest 5 to 10 mph in the afternoon.
Thursday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 63. West wind 5 to 10 mph becoming light southwest.
Friday: Partly sunny, with a high near 74. North northwest wind 5 to 10 mph becoming southwest in the afternoon.
Friday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 61.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2025/10/09	Thu	04:30 AM	1.57	L
2025/10/09	Thu	10:49 AM	6.63	H
2025/10/09	Thu	5:57 PM	-0.57	L
2025/10/10	Fri	12:19 AM	3.92	H
2025/10/10	Fri	05:04 AM	2.11	L
2025/10/10	Fri	11:31 AM	6.45	H
2025/10/10	Fri	6:59 PM	-0.38	L
2025/10/11	Sat	01:40 AM	3.47	H
2025/10/11	Sat	05:42 AM	2.63	L
2025/10/11	Sat	12:22 PM	6.08	H
2025/10/11	Sat	8:13 PM	-0.10	L

Daily Lottery

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

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 10/6
28 29 32 66 67
Power#: 3
Jackpot: 223 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 10/7
17 26 33 45 56
Mega#: 19
Jackpot: 575 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 10/4
1 3 27 29 39
Mega#: 8
Jackpot: 49 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 10/7
10 16 25 32 39

Daily 3
Draw Date: 10/7
EVENING: 8 5 2
Draw Date: 10/7
MIDDAY: 9 2 3

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 10/7
1st: 10 - Solid Gold
2nd: 05 - California Classic
3rd: 12 - Lucky Charms
Race Time: 1:43.02

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The Santa Monica Daily Press publishes Monday - Saturday with a circulation of 8,200 on weekdays and 8,000 on the weekend. The Daily Press is adjudicated as a newspaper of general circulation in the County of Los Angeles and covers news relevant to the City of Santa Monica. The Daily Press is a member of the California Newspaper Publisher's Association, the National Newspaper Association and the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce. The paper you're reading this on is composed of 100% post consumer content and the ink used to print these words is soy based. We are proud recipients of multiple honors for outstanding news coverage from the California Newspaper Publishers Association as well as a Santa Monica Sustainable Quality Award.

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Santa Monica Daily Press

Santa Monica Daily Press

Classifieds

Notice

County of Los Angeles Department of Treasurer and Tax Collector

Notice of Divided Publication

Pursuant to Revenue and Taxation Code (R&TC) Sections 3702, 3381, and 3382, the Los Angeles County Treasurer and Tax Collector is publishing in divided distribution, the Notice of Online Public Auction of Tax-Defaulted Property Subject to the Tax Collector's Power to Sell in and for the County of Los Angeles, State of California, to various newspapers of general circulation published in the County. A portion of the list appears in each of such newspapers.

Notice of Online Public Auction Tax-Defaulted Property Subject to the Tax Collector's Power to Sell (Sale No. 2025B)

Whereas, on Tuesday, May 6, 2025, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles, State of California, directed the County of Los Angeles Treasurer and Tax Collector (TTC), to sell certain tax-defaulted properties at the online public auction.

TTC does hereby give public notice, that unless said properties are redeemed, prior to the close of business on Friday, October 17, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. Pacific Time, the last business day prior to the first day of the online public auction, TTC will offer for sale and sell said properties on Saturday, October 18, 2025, beginning at 3:00 p.m. Pacific Time, through Tuesday, October 21, 2025, at 12:00 p.m. Pacific Time, to the highest bidder, for not less than the minimum bid, at online public auction at https://www.govease.com/los-angeles.

Free computer access is available at public libraries located throughout Los Angeles County. The County and its employees are not liable for the failure of any electronic equipment that may prevent a person from participating in an online auction.

The minimum bid for each parcel is the total amount necessary to redeem, plus costs, as required by R&TC Section 3698.5.

If a property does not sell during the online public auction, the right of redemption will revive and remain until Friday, December 5, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. Pacific Time.

TTC will re-offer any properties that did not sell or were not redeemed prior to Friday, December 5, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. Pacific Time, for sale at online public auction at https://www.govease.com/los-angeles beginning Saturday, December 6, 2025, at 3:00 p.m. Pacific Time, through Tuesday, December 9, 2025, at 12:00 p.m. Pacific Time.

Information regarding this sale is available at ttc.lacounty.gov. Bidders are required to pre-register at https://www.govease.com/los-angeles and submit a deposit of $5,000, or 10 percent of the spend limit that is set by each registered bidder. Bid deposits must be in the form of wire transfer, cashier's check, or bank-issued money order at the time of registration. Registration will begin on Friday, September 12, 2025, at 8:00 a.m. Pacific Time and end on Tuesday, October 14, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. Pacific Time.

Pursuant to R&TC Section 3692.3, TTC sells all property ''as is'' and the County and its employees are not liable for any known or unknown conditions of the properties, including, but not limited to, errors in the records of the Office of the Assessor (Assessor) pertaining to improvement of the property.

If TTC sells a property, parties of interest, as defined by R&TC Section 4675, have a right to file a claim with the County for any proceeds from the sale, which are in excess of the liens and costs required to be paid from the proceeds. If there are any excess proceeds after the application of the minimum bid, TTC will send notice to all parties of interest, pursuant to State law.

Please direct requests for information concerning redemption of tax-defaulted property to the Treasurer and Tax Collector, at 225 North Hill Street, Room 130, Los Angeles, California 90012. You may also call (213) 974-2045, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Pacific Time, visit our website at ttc.lacounty.gov or email us at auction@ttc.lacounty.gov.

The Assessor's Identification Number (AIN) in this publication refers to the Assessor's Map Book, the Map Page, and the individual Parcel Number on the Map Page. If a change in the AIN occurred, the publication will show both prior and current AINs. An explanation of the parcel numbering system and the referenced maps are available at the Office of the Assessor located at 500 West Temple Street, Room 225, Los Angeles, California 90012, or at assessor.lacounty.gov.

I certify under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed at Los Angeles, California, on September 4 , 2025.

ELIZABETH BUENROSTRO GINSBERG
Treasurer and Tax Collector County of Los Angeles State of California

The real property that is subject to this notice is situated in the County of Los Angeles, State of California, and is described as follows:

PUBLIC AUCTION NOTICE OF SALE OF TAX-DEFAULTED PROPERTY SUBJECT TO THE POWER OF SALE(SALE NO. 2025B)

2587 AIN 4119-001-089 ROBERTS,CLEO AND KELLEY,HOLLENE LOCATION CITY-LOS ANGELES $2,585.00

2609 AIN 4224-024-032 TINSLEY,LILLIAN M TR TINSLEY TRUST LOCATION CITY-LOS ANGELES $12,527.00

2613 AIN 4239-029-001 HJG CA LLC LOCATION CITY-LOS ANGELES $411,772.00

2623 AIN 4284-001-043 GILBERT,BRIAN G TR 827 BAY HOUSE TRUST LOCATION CITY SANTA MONIC $49,570.00

2624 AIN 4286-003-001 202 MAIN LLC C/O C/O SOHEIL DARVICH LOCATION CITY-LOS ANGELES $499,105.00

CN120649 534 Sep 25, Oct 2,9, 2025

HOURS MONDAY - FRIDAY 9:00am - 5:00pm
LOCATION 1640 5th Street, Suite 218, Santa Monica, CA 90401

AROUND TOWN

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Community, Park & Halloween Events

SMDP's Weekly Guide to Food & Entertainment Goings-On In & Around Town includes Tech Street event, Free Movies, Vamos Al Parque!, and much more!



Courtesy image

TECH: Los Angeles Tech Week is coming to the beach.

Commercial Brokers International Exotic Car Show: Get up close to some of the coolest exotic cars in town and chat with fellow car enthusiasts. Register at the event to receive a wristband for exclusive discounts to nearby restaurants and retailers. Saturday, Oct. 11, 3 – 6p.m., 3rd St. Promenade https://www.eventbrite.com/e/community-exotic-car-show-santa-monica-tickets-1766457143869

Wilmont's Celebration & Movie in Reed Park: Picnic starts at 4:30p.m., live music at 5:30p.m., and screening of Wall-E at 6:30p.m. Saturday, Oct. 11 https://www.wilmont.org

Vamos Al Parque! (Let's Go to the Park): The free, family-friendly event will highlight Indigenous and Latine heritage through performances, hands-on workshops and cultural activities. Attendees can enjoy lounging areas, all-ages artmaking, an Aztec dance performance, Native music, craft vendors, fresh fruit bowls and more Sunday, Oct. 12 · 10a.m. - 2p.m., Pacific Palisades Park https://www.eventbrite.com/e/vamos-al-parque-lets-go-to-the-park-tickets-1485148462029

Vinyl Pop Up Market 🎧 Find some new vinyl for your collection at Santa Monica Brew Works' pop-up Vinyl Market. Sunday, Oct. 12 12 - 4p.m., 1920 Colorado Ave. instagram.com/p/DPKgOqKEt6J

Cinema Sundays at Sunset on the Promenade: Wizard of Oz: This summer, Third Street Promenade transforms into Santa Monica's most charming outdoor movie theater every weekend. Sunday, Oct. 12, 6 p.m., in front of the Apple Store, 1415 3rd Street Promenade https://www.eventbrite.com/e/cinema-sundays-at-sunset-tickets-1588204385069

New Afterschool Kitchen Club Helps Kids Build Confidence and Cooking Skills: With back-to-school season in full swing, The Gourmandise School at Santa Monica Place is making afterschool activities extra tasty with the launch of Kitchen Club, a brand-new cooking series designed for kids ages 8–13. Each week introduces a new theme, from Bake Sale Bests and Breakfast Pastries to Halloween Treats and French Macarons. Kids work in pairs to practice cooking basics, gain confidence, and create recipes completely from scratch—then take their tasty creations home to share. 395 Santa Monica Place https://thegourmandiseschool.com/kids-teens/#kitchen-club

Tech St. Santa Monica: Turning Ocean Avenue and parts of Palisades Park into a vibrant showcase of innovation, entrepreneurship, and community spirit, this event celebrates 150 years of innovation, entrepreneurship, technology, investment into the community, music, entertainment & culture of the City of Santa Monica. This one-day outdoor festival will gather 3,000+ founders, investors, entrepreneurs, and innovators for a full day of connection, innovation, and culture. Monday, Oct. 13, Ocean Ave. tech-week.com

SEE **AROUND TOWN** PAGE 8

COMMUNITY NEWS

Pier

UCLA Health Takes Over Final Wellness & Waves Event of Season

The Santa Monica Pier Corporation will conclude its Wellness & Waves series with a UCLA Health Takeover on Saturday, Oct. 11, from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

The free community event invites guests to "Be A Kid For A Day" with physical activity, play and mental wellness activities. The event is promoted to UCLA Health's 38,000 employees and their families but open to all.

"UCLA Health is proud to bring wellness beyond our hospital walls and into the heart of the community," said Patrese Kirsch, director of Workforce Wellness and Community Engagement at UCLA Health.

Event highlights include guided runs and walks with UCLA Recreation instructors, yoga sessions with Tiffany Caronia and Jess Ray, and therapy animals from UCLA's People Animal Connection program.

Special perks include a free Playland Arcade game, basketball contests, free Merry Go-Round rides, 20% off Pacific Park unlimited ride wristbands and complimentary refreshments for yoga participants.

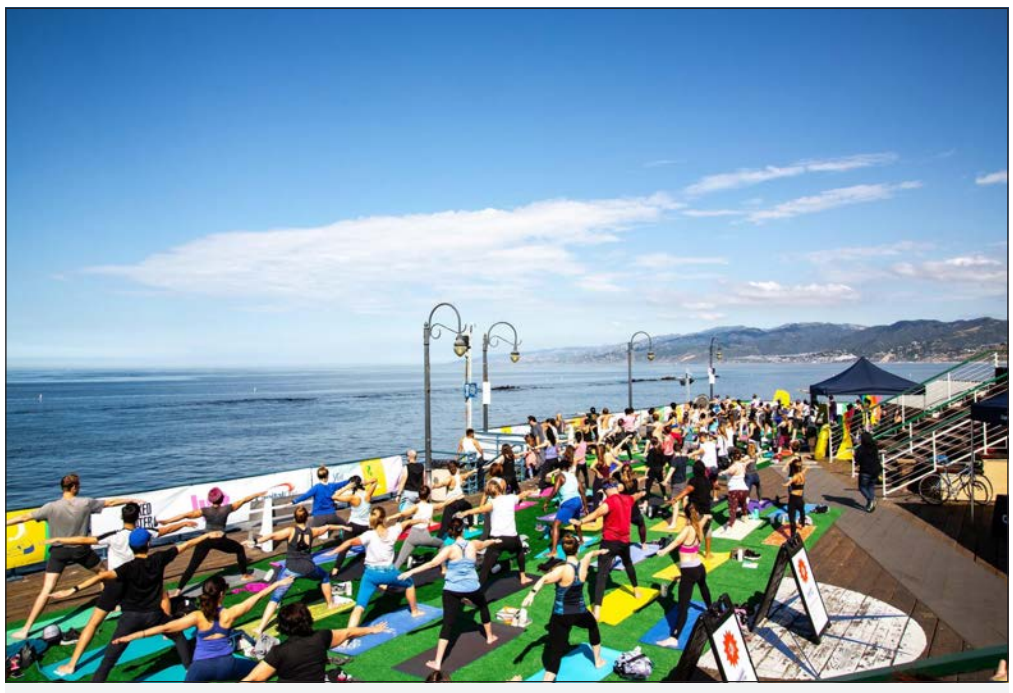
UCLA Health tents and the UCLA Recreation FITWELL Wellness Lounge will celebrate 100 years of UCLA Health Santa Monica Medical Center alongside the pier's 116th anniversary.

This season, Wellness & Waves welcomed nearly 3,000 guests for free wellness experiences. The series will return in April 2026 for another 26-week run.

The Santa Monica Pier is located at 200 Santa Monica Pier, Suite A, Santa Monica, CA 90401.

For more information and yoga registration, visit santamonicapier.org/wellness-and-waves. Register for basketball at playlandarcade.com. Buy discounted wristbands at https://tickets.pacpark.com/en/promotion/uclahealth/.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF



Santa Monica Pier Corporation

EVENT: The free community event invites guests to "Be A Kid For A Day" with physical activity, play and mental wellness activities.

Mid-City

Transportation Workshop Offers Resources for Seniors and Disabled Residents

Santa Monica residents will have the opportunity to learn about transportation options for older adults and people with disabilities during a free workshop Friday.

The city is partnering with Lyft and the Elder-Well Adult Day Program to host the educational event, which will cover several transportation programs including the Mobility On-Demand Every Day (MODE) Program, Senior TAP cards, Lyft Silver and the LIFE Program. Participants will also receive a complimentary lunch.

The workshop is scheduled for Friday, Oct. 10, from noon to 2 p.m. at the Elder-Well Adult Day Program, located at 1529 Wilshire Blvd.

Attendees planning to complete applications during the event should bring specific documentation. Required items include a valid government-issued photo identification such as a state ID, driver's license or passport. Proof of Santa Monica residency is also necessary, which can include a utility bill dated within three months, a copy of a lease agreement, property tax bill or a Housing Authority letter verifying assistance dated within one year.

Income verification is required for those seeking to qualify for low-income programs. Acceptable documents include Cal Fresh or EBT cards, federal tax returns, Medi-Cal cards, proof of Lifeline service, recent pay stubs, SNAP documentation or W-2 forms.

The workshop aims to help residents navigate available transportation resources that can improve mobility and independence for seniors and individuals with disabilities in Santa Monica.

Street parking near the venue is limited, and organizers encourage attendees to use public transportation. Big Blue Bus Route 2 provides service to the area.

Reservations are optional but welcomed. Interested residents can RSVP by calling 310-310-8313 or visiting the registration link.

The collaboration between the city, Lyft and Elder-Well Adult Day Program reflects ongoing efforts to address transportation challenges faced by vulnerable populations in Santa Monica.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF

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If you don't like what we have to say we will give you a copy of your x-rays at no charge

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*Offer to non insured patients

OR

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$99 EXAM AND CLEANING
For New Patients
INCLUDES FULL XRAYS
*Offer to non insured patients

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500+ Voices
City of Santa Monica
One community vision for aging and disability inclusion

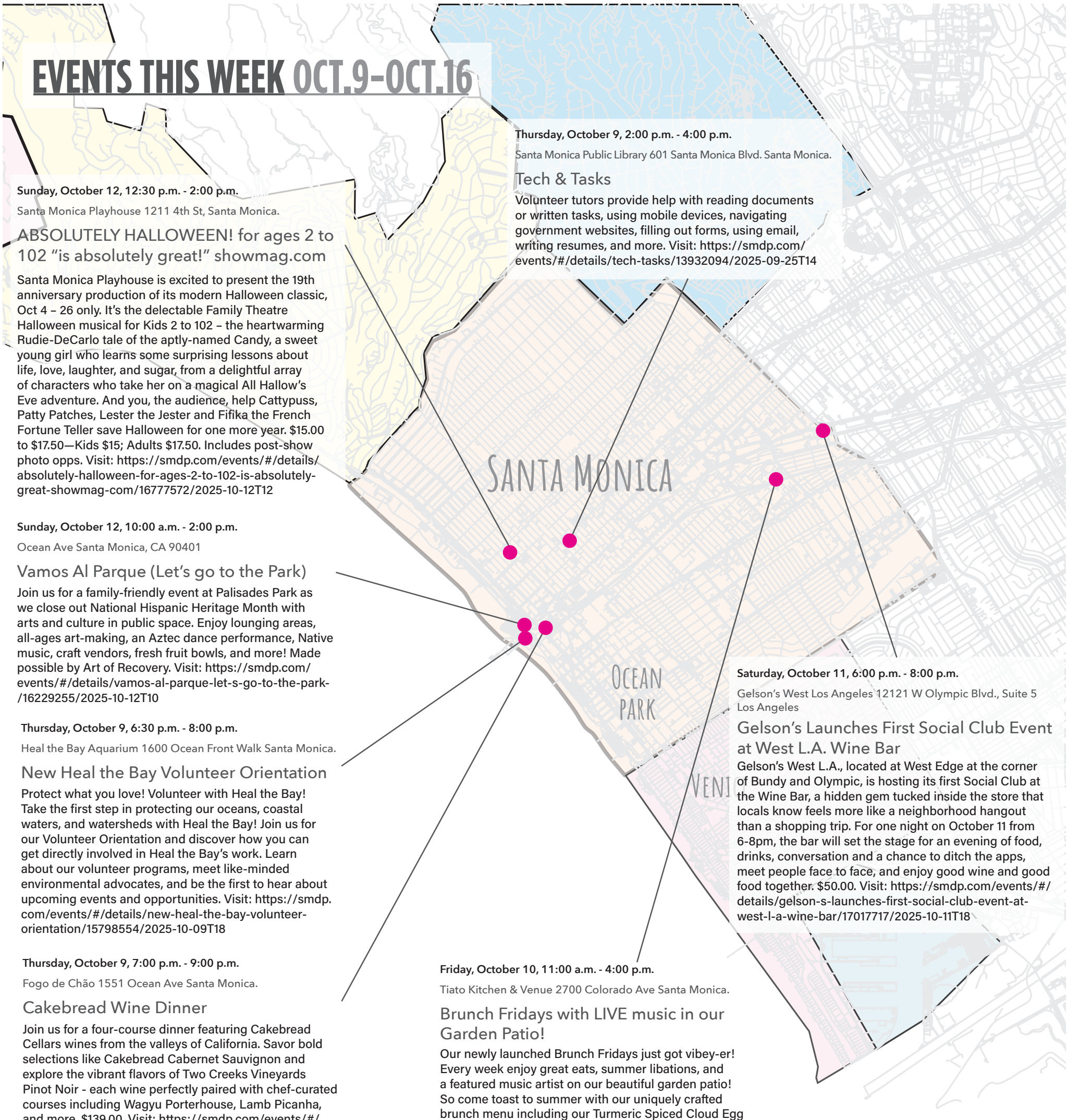


Come learn about Santa Monica's Aging and Disability Action Plan!

October 8	3:00 PM	Human Services Commission
October 8	6:30 PM	Disabilities Commission
October 14	6:15 PM	Housing Commission
October 22	12:00 PM	Virtual Community Presentation

Phone: (310) 458-2200 x5771
Web: santamonica.gov/aging-and-disability-action-plan

EVENTS THIS WEEK OCT.9-OCT.16



Sunday, October 12, 12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Santa Monica Playhouse 1211 4th St, Santa Monica.

ABSOLUTELY HALLOWEEN! for ages 2 to 102 "is absolutely great!" showmag.com

Santa Monica Playhouse is excited to present the 19th anniversary production of its modern Halloween classic, Oct 4 – 26 only. It's the delectable Family Theatre Halloween musical for Kids 2 to 102 – the heartwarming Rudie-DeCarlo tale of the aptly-named Candy, a sweet young girl who learns some surprising lessons about life, love, laughter, and sugar, from a delightful array of characters who take her on a magical All Hallow's Eve adventure. And you, the audience, help Cattypuss, Patty Patches, Lester the Jester and Fifika the French Fortune Teller save Halloween for one more year. $15.00 to $17.50—Kids $15; Adults $17.50. Includes post-show photo opps. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/absolutely-halloween-for-ages-2-to-102-is-absolutely-great-showmag-com/16777572/2025-10-12T12

Sunday, October 12, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Ocean Ave Santa Monica, CA 90401

Vamos Al Parque (Let's go to the Park)

Join us for a family-friendly event at Palisades Park as we close out National Hispanic Heritage Month with arts and culture in public space. Enjoy lounging areas, all-ages art-making, an Aztec dance performance, Native music, craft vendors, fresh fruit bowls, and more! Made possible by Art of Recovery. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/vamos-al-parque-let-s-go-to-the-park-/16229255/2025-10-12T10

Thursday, October 9, 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Heal the Bay Aquarium 1600 Ocean Front Walk Santa Monica.

New Heal the Bay Volunteer Orientation

Protect what you love! Volunteer with Heal the Bay! Take the first step in protecting our oceans, coastal waters, and watersheds with Heal the Bay! Join us for our Volunteer Orientation and discover how you can get directly involved in Heal the Bay's work. Learn about our volunteer programs, meet like-minded environmental advocates, and be the first to hear about upcoming events and opportunities. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/new-heal-the-bay-volunteer-orientation/15798554/2025-10-09T18

Thursday, October 9, 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Fogo de Chão 1551 Ocean Ave Santa Monica.

Cakebread Wine Dinner

Join us for a four-course dinner featuring Cakebread Cellars wines from the valleys of California. Savor bold selections like Cakebread Cabernet Sauvignon and explore the vibrant flavors of Two Creeks Vineyards Pinot Noir - each wine perfectly paired with chef-curated courses including Wagyu Porterhouse, Lamb Picanha, and more. $139.00. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/cakebread-wine-dinner/17082493/2025-10-09T19

Check out more events at: smdp.com/events

Thursday, October 9, 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Santa Monica Public Library 601 Santa Monica Blvd. Santa Monica.

Tech & Tasks

Volunteer tutors provide help with reading documents or written tasks, using mobile devices, navigating government websites, filling out forms, using email, writing resumes, and more. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/tech-tasks/13932094/2025-09-25T14

Saturday, October 11, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Gelson's West Los Angeles 12121 W Olympic Blvd., Suite 5 Los Angeles

Gelson's Launches First Social Club Event at West L.A. Wine Bar

Gelson's West L.A., located at West Edge at the corner of Bundy and Olympic, is hosting its first Social Club at the Wine Bar, a hidden gem tucked inside the store that locals know feels more like a neighborhood hangout than a shopping trip. For one night on October 11 from 6-8pm, the bar will set the stage for an evening of food, drinks, conversation and a chance to ditch the apps, meet people face to face, and enjoy good wine and good food together. $50.00. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/gelson-s-launches-first-social-club-event-at-west-l-a-wine-bar/17017717/2025-10-11T18

Friday, October 10, 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Tiato Kitchen & Venue 2700 Colorado Ave Santa Monica.

Brunch Fridays with LIVE music in our Garden Patio!

Our newly launched Brunch Fridays just got vibey-er! Every week enjoy great eats, summer libations, and a featured music artist on our beautiful garden patio! So come toast to summer with our uniquely crafted brunch menu including our Turmeric Spiced Cloud Egg dish, Smoked Gouda Scramble with Smashed Ube, Vietnamese French Toast, along with Mama An classics such as Famous Garlic Noodles, Shaken Beef, and Seafood Egg Fried Rice! And of course, it wouldn't be brunch without bottomless mimosas & summer punch bowls, so grab your brunch crew and enjoy the fair along the beautiful backdrop of Al fresco dining. RESERVE NOW. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/brunch-fridays-with-live-music-in-our-garden-patio-/14639006/2025-10-10T11



THURSDAY | OCTOBER 9

REBUILD COMMITTEE - SANTA MONICA & PALIBU CHAMBER

3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Zoom link to be sent before the meeting Santa Monica, CA. Rebuild Committee - Santa Monica & PaliBu Chamber Must be a Member to attend - either a member of Santa Monica Chamber or PaliBu Chamber. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/rebuild-committee-santa-monica-palibu-chamber/15499169/2025-10-09T15

CHAGOS ARCHIPELAGOS AND 1925: A LITERARY ENCYCOLPEDIA

6:30 p.m. Brentwood Country Mart 225 26th Street, Suite #33 Santa Monica. Chagos Archipelagos. A Spanish woman trying to retire as an assassin, a French Foreign Legion deserter from Madagascar, a mysterious (perhaps CIA) woman from America, a billionaire military contractor, and a man wandering the seas alone on a sailing ship bump into each other in the Indian Ocean, and not all of them survive. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/chagos-archipelagos-and-1925-a-literary-encycolpedia/17009431/2025-10-09T18

RENT CONTROL BOARD MEETING

7:00 p.m. Santa Monica City Hall 1685 Main Street Santa Monica. The Rent Control Board meets to conduct business associated with the Rent Control Charter Amendment and Regulations. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/rent-control-board-meeting/13406661/2025-10-09T19

FRIDAY | OCTOBER 10

DRUNK THEATRE: THE WILDEST IMPROV COMEDY SHOW!

8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Santa Monica Playhouse 1211 4th St, Santa Monica. A comedian takes five shots of whiskey in a row and tries to perform an improvised play with five sober comedians. What could go wrong?! Drunk Theatre is the entirely improvised, unpredictable, and crazy comedy show that'll kick your weekend into overdrive. Reserve your spot now as limited seating and space is available. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/drunk-theatre-the-wildest-improv-comedy-show-/15793351/2025-10-10T08

LIVE MUSIC FRIDAYS AT THE SURFING FOX

6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. 120 Colorado Ave Santa Monica. Erinn Alissa performs acoustic folk pop with her guitar Friday nights at The Surfing Fox. Enjoy a night of live music, tasty bites, and Foxtails! Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/live-music-fridays-at-the-surfing-fox/14385252/2025-10-10T18

OKTOBERFEST GRILLED CHEESE AND BEER NIGHT!

7:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. Andrew's Cheese Shop 728 Montana Avenue Santa Monica. It's October, and that can only mean one thing: Andrew's Oktoberfest-themed Grilled Cheese & Beer Night is back! For this event, they'll be pairing their famous grilled cheese recipes with specialty limited release Oktoberfest-themed beers. Don't miss out on this special event featuring some rare gems only available this time of year. It all starts with a tangy, zippy starter salad, followed by four courses of our famous grilled cheeses paired with four Oktoberfest-themed specialty beers, and an awesome dessert course of an imperial stout or sour beer float with french vanilla ice cream. $81.88. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/oktoberfest-grilled-cheese-and-beer-night-/16950647/2025-10-10T19

SATURDAY | OCTOBER 11

VERMICOMPOSTING!! TURN YOUR KITCHEN SCRAPS INTO PLANT FOOD

9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Main Street Community Garden 2318 Main Street Santa Monica. Come learn how fun, easy and downright interesting composting can become with the help of creepy/crawlies! Master Gardener Meg Sullivan will demonstrate how to set up and operate a worm bin. She'll also show how to harvest the resulting compost and turn it into super beneficial worm tea. Wiggly friends and brown gold will be provided at the end of the presentation. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/vermicomposting-turn-your-kitchen-scraps-into-plant-food/16949612/2025-10-11T09

ARTISTS & FLEAS: VENICE MARKETPLACE

11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Westminster Elementary School 1010 Abbot Kinney Los Angeles. Artists & Fleas in Venice is located in the vibrant, artistic heart of Venice at the corner of Abbot Kinney and Westminster Avenue in the outdoor lot of Westminister Avenue Elementary School. Join 50+ merchants every Saturday (rain or shine!) for a fabulous lineup of art, design, food trucks and vintage. Date: Every Saturday Time: 11:00 AM - 5:00 PM Location: Westminster Elementary School - 1010 Abbot Kinney Check our website here for a list of vendors. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/artists-fleas-venice-marketplace/14548485/2025-10-11T11

SUNDAY | OCTOBER 12

THE WATERFRONT - SUNDAY REAL FUNDAY BRUNCH BUFFET

11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. The Waterfront 205 Ocean Front Walk Venice. Enjoy a bottomless brunch buffet Sundays at The Waterfront! The Waterfront Venice is a full-service restaurant celebrating Californian cuisine with views of the Pacific Ocean. Situated between Rose and Navy on the famous Venice Beach Boardwalk, our food & beverage menus celebrate California with carefully selected seasonal produce from local farms. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/the-waterfront-sunday-real-funday-brunch-buffet/14894114/2025-10-12T11

THE HIGHLY SENSITIVE RABBIT

3:00 p.m. Brentwood Country Mart 225 26th Street, Suite #33 Santa Monica. A highly sensitive rabbit learns lessons of kindness and self-care from other desert animals. Aurora is a highly sensitive rabbit. She worries about the natural world and the other animals around her. When a flash flood destroys her family's burrow, Aurora must accept her sensitive nature and learn how to thrive by using breathing techniques, taking time alone, and setting boundaries. Eventually, she comes to understand that she can connect with others and enjoy the beauty of the world while embracing who she is. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/the-highly-sensitive-rabbit/17009413/2025-10-12T15

SANTA MONICA COLLEGE

SANTA MONICA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND COMPLETION AND AVAILABILITY OF THE SMC 2024 MAIN CAMPUS MASTER PLAN UPDATE FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

[CEQA Guidelines Sections 15085 & 15087]
State Clearinghouse No. 2025010279
October 9, 2025

TO: All Interested Agencies, Parties, Organizations, and Persons
FROM: Santa Monica Community College District (SMCCD)
SUBJECT: Notice of Completion and Public Hearing to Certify the Final Environmental Impact Report
PROJECT: Santa Monica College 2024 Main Campus Master Plan Update

In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the Santa Monica Community College District (SMCCD), as Lead Agency, has prepared a Final Environmental Impact Report (Final EIR) for the proposed Santa Monica College 2024 Main Campus Master Plan Update (Proposed Project). This notice provides the public, nearby residents and property owners, responsible agencies, and other interested parties with notice of completion and availability of the Final EIR and public hearing to consider certification of the Final EIR and approval of the Proposed Project.

Notice of Proposed Hearing: The SMCCD Board of Trustees will hold a public hearing on November 4, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room at the Business Building Room 117, Santa Monica College, 1900 Pico Boulevard, Santa Monica, CA 90405 for the purpose of taking public comment prior to the certification of the Final EIR and approval of the Proposed Project. The SMCCD Board of Trustees will consider all testimony presented at the hearing, written communication received prior to or at the hearing, and the merits of the project as it relates to existing environmental and land use regulations.

Project Location, Environmental Setting, and Description: The Project Site encompasses the Santa Monica College (SMC) Main Campus located at 1900 Pico Boulevard in the City of Santa Monica, CA. The Main Campus encompasses approximately 43.98 acres and is generally bounded by Pico Boulevard to the north, 18th Court to the east, Pearl Street to the south, and 16th Street to the west, and includes adjacent properties along Pico Boulevard between 16th Street and 14th Street and along Pearl Street between 17th Street and 18th Court ("Project Site").

The Proposed Project includes the demolition of existing temporary and permanent buildings, totaling approximately 360,100 gross square feet (gsf) of building area, and the construction of new buildings consisting of 265,216 gsf of new floor area in five main new buildings ("Proposed Project"). The Proposed Project would also include approximately 207,073 gsf of building renovations to two existing buildings (the Physical and Life Science Complex and the Library and Media Center). The Proposed Project would create various new and enhanced open spaces throughout the campus, including landscaping the proposed new Student Union building, a Welcome Lawn, an outdoor amphitheater, a Science Quad, the Tri (triangular open space area), and New Quad. The Proposed Project would generally retain the current vehicular circulation and access points and existing parking supply. The Proposed Project would be constructed in three phases beginning in 2025 with final buildout anticipated to be completed by 2035.

Anticipated Significant Environmental Effects: The Final EIR analyzed the following environmental issue areas within the scope of the EIR: Air Quality, Aesthetics (Views, Light & Glare), Cultural/Historic Resources, Energy Conservation, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Land Use and Planning, Noise, Cumulative Impacts, and Mandatory Findings of Significance and found that the Proposed Project would not result in any significant and unavoidable impacts. All potential impacts would be less than significant or mitigated to less-than-significant levels.

Availability of the EIR: The Final EIR, together with the Draft EIR and Technical Appendices will be made available to the public via the College's website at https://admin.smc.edu/administration/planning/2024-SMC-Campus-Master-Plan.php.

Any inquiries or correspondence should be sent to Charlie Yen, Director of Contract Services, Santa Monica Community College District, 1900 Pico Boulevard, Santa Monica, California 90405, email: Yen_Charlie@smc.edu.

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

Contact dina@smdp.com today!

AROUND TOWN

FROM PAGE 4

Live Talks: An Evening with Werner Herzog: From legendary filmmaker and author Werner Herzog, a compact, effervescent, and deeply personal exploration of art, philosophy, and history that unravels one of our most elusive and contested questions: What is truth—and how to find it in our "post-truth" era? Tuesday, Oct. 14, 8p.m., New Roads School 3131 Olympic Blvd. https://livetalksla.org/events/werner-herzog/

Broadstage Palisades' Road to Recovery - An AirTalk Live Event: AirTalk host Larry Mantle will talk with guests about what the road to rebuilding looks like and how best to navigate this new reality. Tuesday, Oct. 14, 7:30p.m., 1310 11th St. https://broadstage.org/tickets-shows/calendar/palisades-road-to-recovery/

Binge Free Festival: The month-long festival of FREE shows at Santa Monica Playhouse, returns for a Tenth Anniversary Season. Following extensive repair and renovation to our Main Stage due to a flooding incident, we plan to re-open our refurbished Main Stage with the opening of our new Binge Free Festival. Opens Oct. 14 santamonicaplayhouse.com

ONGOING: "Two Bit Circus" Pop-Up; LiteBrite Experience; Wellness & Waves (through 10/11); Weekly Western Wednesday Line Dancing (through 10/29); Penmar Sunset Sessions (through 10/31)

WHAT TO EAT & DRINK?

Wine N' Jazz at Canal Club 🍷 Enjoy live jazz by Babo, delicious wines by Doctors Order Wines and curated food pairings. Your ticket includes wine sampling, food, and access to our jazz concert on the patio. Saturday, Oct. 11, 600 Mildred Ave., Venice thecanalmarket.com/goods/p/jazz-night

Rustic Cantina: Enjoy the sounds of cumbia, salsa, and boleros while you dine at Rustic Canyon. Thursday, Oct. 9, 1223 Wilshire Blvd. instagram.com/p/DPb8QCvkoqn/

Sunset Jazz & Pizza Night at The Lobster: Featuring Sonrisa Puerto Rican Rum, enjoy an extended happy hour with their unique Fiery Spiny Lobster Pizza. This event promises complimentary rum sips, $8 mojitos, and live music. We will fill up, so come early and grab your spot or bar stool. Thursday, Oct. 16, 6 - 9p.m. 1602 Ocean Ave. instagram.com/thelobstersm

Wags & Witches at Fairmont Miramar Hotel: Join a howling good time sipping on spooky cocktails, showing off your most creative Halloween looks, and taking part in a spirited costume contest with prizes for the best dressed. Thursday, Oct. 16, 6 - 8p.m., 101 Wilshire Blvd. https://www.fairmont-miramar.com/explore/event-calendar/#!/e/wags-witches-with-wags-walks-07f1cd11

Petitgrain Boulangerie Listed #3 on "Best Cinnamon Rolls In LA" List: The Infatuation states "Santa Monica's Petitgrain is already on our list for the best cookies and best croissants, so we weren't exactly shocked when their beautiful snail-shaped roll wowed us. What is surprising, however, is the way Petitgrain lends a savvy French accent to the classic formula. The buttery laminated dough is off-the-charts flaky, and there's a nutty, sesame-like flavor to the caramelized bottom layer, á la a great kouign aman. The icing is more of a thin, glossy glaze that crackles like a candy shell and adds sweetness without distracting from the pastry." 1209 Wilshire Blvd. https://www.theinfatuation.com/los-angeles/guides/best-cinnamon-rolls-la

Mouth Watering Video Review of Pasjoli: Insta Influencer @BrittanyVHEats highlights the hits on the new menu of the Main St. Michelin recognized brasserie. https://www.instagram.com/reel/DPO3nrpDhuq/

LA Times Profiles New Jade Rabbit by Former Cassia Chef: "Love Panda Express? This new fast-casual restaurant is redefining Chinese American food." https://www.latimes.com/food/story/2025-10-06/jade-rabbit-panda-express-chinese-american-restaurant-santa-monica

Further Afield: Mr. Bones Pumpkin Patch: Culver City's favorite pumpkin village offers plenty of family fun, including photo ops in front of giant pumpkin installations, a straw maze, a super slide, petting zoo, giant rocking horses, and pumpkin decorating sessions. Open daily through Oct. 31. mrbonespumpkinpatch.com

Even Further Afield: Carved at Descanso Gardens This family-friendly Carved returns for 2025 with a freshly thought out pumpkin wonderland featuring a new route, hundreds of carved pumpkins, and kid-friendly activities. Nightly through Oct. 30. descansogardens.org/events-and-activities/carved/

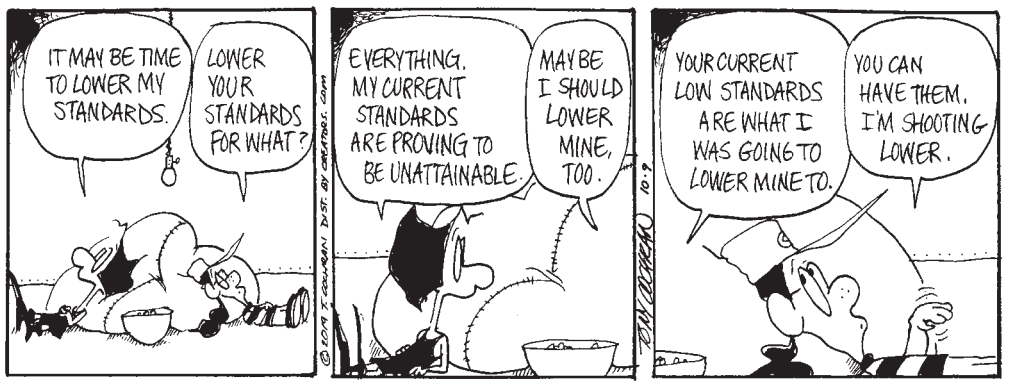
Looking Ahead: 3rd St. Promenade Dia de los Muertos Celebration (10/18); Main St. Day of the Dog Festival (10/19); OTH Santa Monica Seafood Festival (10/19); LA Wine & Food Festival (11/7-9)

If there's something you think is worth highlighting, you can reach out directly to me at sean@smdp.com. Let me know if you have any feedback on Around Town: Community, Park & Halloween Events



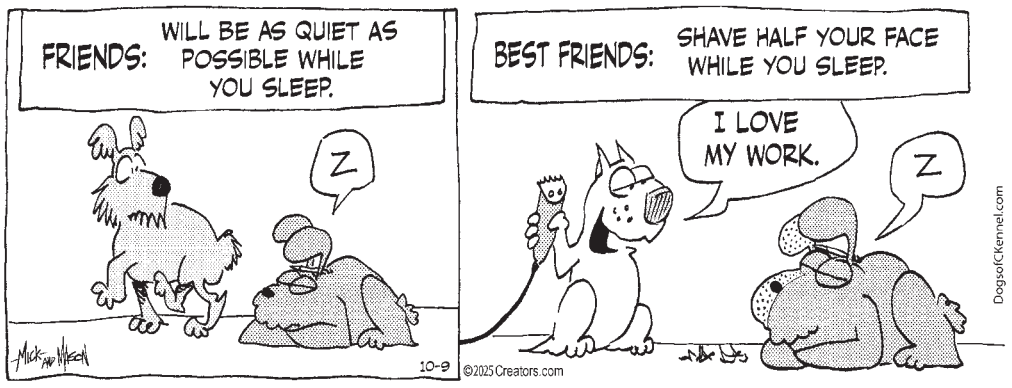
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



"IT'S SLUG WEATHER."

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

© australianwordgames.com.au 6723

Getting hitched

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

Acceptance	China	Groom	Shoes
Advice	Civil	Happy	Sign
Alcohol	Compliments	History	Speeches
Amaze	Crystal	Kiss	Spouse
Amity	Dear	Knee	Surprise
Balloons	Delight	Like	Tables
Beach	Emerald	Love	Toasts
Blue	Express	Park	Veil
Boutonniere	Eyes	Photography	Wife
Bride	Fond	Poem	
Cake	Gifts	Relatives	

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.

At the end of the news

Covering the city by the bay since 2001.
To advertise, email cindy@smdp.com or call 310.458.7737
smdp Santa Monica Daily Press

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Oct. 9)

Welcome to your year of Inspired Movement. Change sweeps through your spaces, locations, professional and emotional world, shifting things around until they feel just right. More highlights: You'll travel into new territories and glide through transitions, making the journey itself a triumph. Connections to heritage and the strengthening of family bonds will be big. A significant sale funds the next venture. Sagittarius and Virgo adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 23, 5, 31 and 11.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Impressing new people is fun, but it won't feed you like earning the respect of your inner circle. They are there for a reason. Their well-being means the most to you, and contributing to it connects you to who you essentially are.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). It's not always true, but it will be true today. How a person does one thing is how they do just about everything. For that reason, you will predict what someone is going to do on the grand scale by correctly analyzing their small-scale action.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Soft skills will make a world of difference. Everyone needs entertainment. Creativity will matter more than precision. Someone less technically skilled will be the choice you need, bringing unpredictability and fun.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). No one knows what to say. So you can relax and let yourself off the hook for whatever you did say, reflexively, accidentally, clumsily, frustratedly... The ones who love you don't mind, and the ones who mind don't love you, so who cares?

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Progress doesn't require the perfect plan. Pick three concrete actions and take them. It doesn't really matter which ones. The act of moving forward teaches you something and helps you make better choices next time.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Every influence leaves a trace. The world impresses on you, even when you barely notice how because what you're surrounded by is so familiar. It's time to leave the scene so you can come back and notice more about it.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Your emotional intelligence is off the charts. Acts of generosity aren't just good deeds; they're turning points. You could even change a life with the sweetness you give today. To you, it's not a big deal. To someone else, it's everything.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). The game changes. What worked the last time could work again, or not at all. Think of your next moves as an experiment, and base the rest of your game on the new things you learn, because the old rules won't apply.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Strength in balance is the theme. Moments of self-doubt are as natural as moments of overconfidence, and neither is a shameful state. Both encourage adjustment and a settling into the very effective middle zone where you'll be most productive.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). The work feels endless because just as you finish one thing, more appears. To avoid burnout, don't just plow through nonstop. Pause to rest. Acknowledge progress. Those steps restore energy and motivation, making your work cycle sustainable.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). It's maddening not understanding people, but not nearly as frustrating as not understanding yourself. Today it will help to step back for the broader view of patterns and dynamics that are not visible up close.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Attention is a golden asset. To break someone's attention, even without meaning to, is destruction, as this is the nature of "breaking". To break someone's attention on purpose is a kind of theft. Is it warranted?

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

Sudoku

Fill in the blank cells using numbers 1 to 9. Each number can appear only once in each row, column, and 3x3 block. Use logic and process of elimination to solve the puzzle.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

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

Newsday Crossword

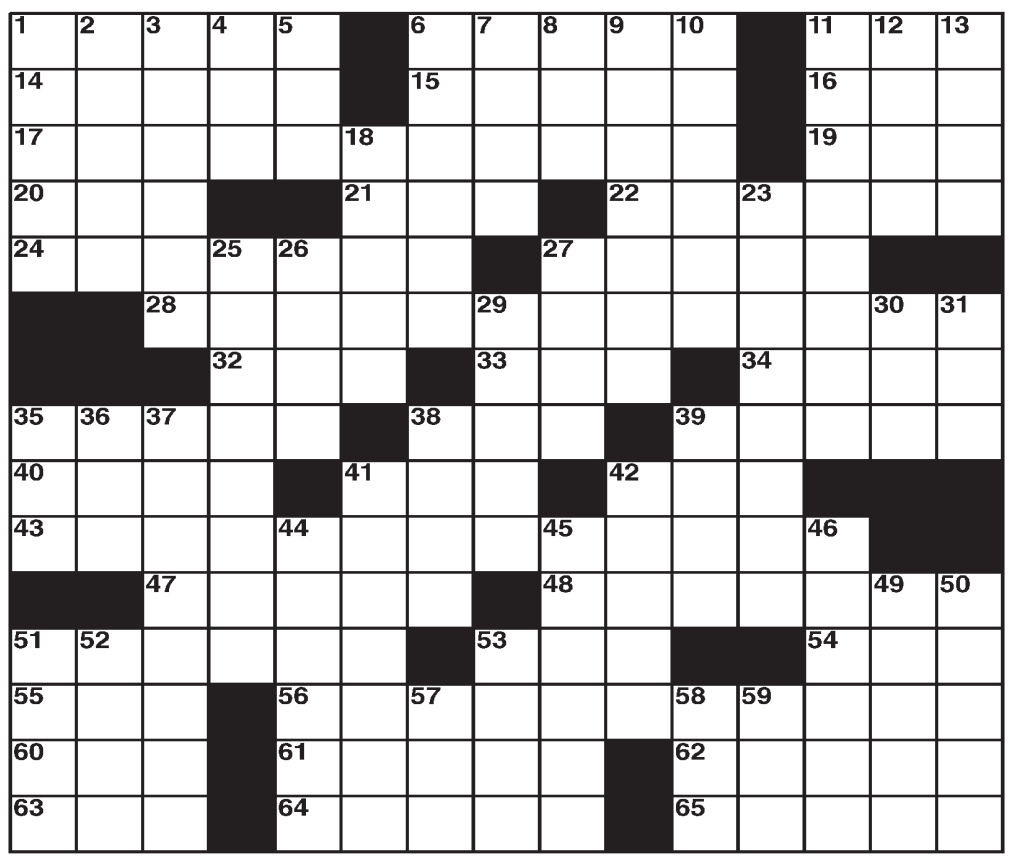
TIMEOUT by Fred Piscop
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Brothers' boss
6 Biblical queen's home
11 Vocation
14 Wailing warning
15 Travel endorsements
16 Big bumbler
17 ...during a case
19 Fact-check
20 "Where __?"
21 Caribou kin
22 "Poison" plant group
24 Stadiumgoer's souvenir
27 Volunteer group's offer
28 ...during a symphony
32 Grafton's "Trespass" title starter
33 Not-so-big shot
34 Pharaoh-era goddess
35 Compote ingredients
38 Green land
39 Tiny amount
40 Athena's craft concern
41 Needle holder
42 UN observer
43 ...for an orator
47 Minimum
48 Grown naturally
51 Common village ctr.
53 Elvis-era prez
54 Non-__ (48-Across label)
55 Bill dispenser
56 ...at an 11-Across
60 "You don't mean?!"
61 Obviously impatient
62 Nautical nonsense
63 Well-put
64 Second chances
65 Forfeits

DOWN

1 Tunesmiths' org.
2 Forest or desert
3 UCLA team
4 Anthem contraction
5 Choice for a charge
6 Slender and graceful
7 Backwoods boor
8 Compass reading
9 Short-legged hounds
10 "In that sense..."
11 Indonesian language
12 Crude group
13 Backs a hand
18 Charters, say
23 California lily
25 N as in nuclei
26 Rotational line
27 Seattle Storm's league
29 Reviewer who wrote *The Great Movies*
30 Thus: Lat.
31 Scolding sound
35 Baby food
36 Bungle something
37 The Cub Scouts have one
38 Fuzzy stuff
39 Snail cousin
41 Unscrupulous act
42 European capital, humorously
44 Most Popular Driver Award presenter
45 Western coolers
46 Karl Marx collaborator
49 Something visible
50 RC alternatives
51 Family nickname
52 Situated on
53 "In that case..."
57 ProFlowers.com owner
58 12-Down qty.
59 Vegas casino with a Carnival theme



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10/09/25

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PALISADES FIRE

FROM PAGE 1

or fireworks were visible in the footage.

At approximately 11:54 p.m., Rinderknecht used his iPhone to listen to the song "Un Zder, Un The" by French artist Josman. According to the affidavit, an English translation of the French lyrics reveals a theme of despair and bitterness. Google records indicate Rinderknecht had listened to the same song nine times in the previous four days, and the music video for the song shows the main character lighting things on fire.

Environmental sensing platforms operated by the University of California at San Diego captured the first indication of the Lachman Fire at 12:12:01 a.m. on Jan. 1, 2025. Footage taken from the same camera 35 seconds earlier did not show a fire.

GPS data obtained from Rinderknecht's iPhone carrier shows he attempted to call 911 at approximately 12:12:31 a.m., but the call did not go through because he was out of cellphone range. The GPS data placed his iPhone in the Hidden Buddha clearing, approximately 30 to 40 feet from where investigators later determined the fire originated.

Rinderknecht made several more unsuccessful attempts to call 911 over the next minute while remaining in the Hidden Buddha clearing, watching the fire grow. He finally connected with 911 at approximately 12:17 a.m. when he was almost at the bottom of the trail. By that point, a local resident had already reported the fire to authorities.

According to the affidavit, during the 911 call, Rinderknecht typed a question into the ChatGPT app on his iPhone asking, "Are you at fault if a fire is lift [sic] because of your cigarettes." ChatGPT's response was "Yes," followed by an explanation.

After the call, Rinderknecht got into his car and drove away from the fire around 12:20 a.m. His movements were captured by camera footage from nearby residences. On his way down Palisades Drive, he passed fire engines driving up the same road responding to the fire. Rinderknecht then turned around and followed the fire engines back to the scene at what appeared to be a high rate of speed.

When Rinderknecht arrived back at the base of the hill, he walked back up the same trail he had used earlier that night to watch the fire and the firefighters. At approximately 1:02 a.m., he used his iPhone to take four short videos of the fire and firefighters from the trail.

"Based on my training and experience, arsonists sometimes call 911 to report the fires they have set, and arsonists sometimes like to watch firefighters respond to the fires that they have set," wrote Special Agent William M. Schry of ATF in the affidavit.

During an interview with law enforcement on Jan. 24, 2025, Rinderknecht lied about where he was when he first saw the Lachman Fire, according to the complaint. He claimed he was near the bottom of a hiking trail when he first saw the fire and called 911, but geolocation data from his iPhone carrier showed he was standing in the Hidden Buddha clearing, approximately 30 feet from the fire as it rapidly grew.

Rinderknecht also correctly told investigators the Lachman Fire began on the hillside below and south of the Hidden Buddha clearing—non-public information that investigators believe he could only have known by witnessing the start of the fire.

"During his interview on Jan. 24, 2025, investigators noticed that Rinderknecht's carotid artery would pulsate and become visible whenever they asked Rinderknecht a question about how the fire started or who started it," the affidavit states. "Based on my training and experience, that indicates that Rinderknecht was extremely anxious as to that issue."

Investigators also found what appears to be a green, barbecue-style lighter in the glove compartment of Rinderknecht's car. Video footage from Rinderknecht's iPhone time-stamped on the afternoon of Dec. 31, 2024, showed what appears to be the same lighter inside Rinderknecht's apartment. Subsequent laboratory testing confirmed that DNA found on the lighter matched a sample of Rinderknecht's DNA.

During his Jan. 24 interview, Rinderknecht admitted he brought a lighter with him when he walked up to the Hidden Buddha clearing, but he claimed he could not remember what kind of lighter he brought.

The affidavit details several concerning digital records found on Rinderknecht's devices. On July 11, 2024, Rinderknecht provided a prompt to ChatGPT describing "a dystopian painting" featuring "a burning forest" with people running from the fire, leading to scenes depicting extreme wealth inequality. ChatGPT produced an image based on this description.

Acting U.S. Attorney Essayli noted during the announcement that "among the evidence that was collected from his digital devices was an image he generated on ChatGPT depicting a burning city."

On Nov. 1, 2024, Rinderknecht asked ChatGPT about burning a Bible, saying, "I literally burnt the Bible that I had. It felt amazing. I felt so liberated." On Aug. 30, 2024, he wrote to a family member, "Burned the Bible I had literally."

The investigative team conducted a systematic examination of the fire scene, developing, testing and eliminating multiple hypotheses. Using witness statements, video surveillance, cellphone data and analysis of fire dynamics, investigators excluded other potential causes including fireworks, lightning, power lines, refraction of sunlight through glass and discarded cigarettes.

"Timing Advance" data from T-Mobile and AT&T showed no cellphones using those providers were in the vicinity of the Hidden Buddha clearing during the relevant time period other than Rinderknecht's iPhone.

The investigative team determined the cause of the Lachman Fire was incendiary—an intentional ignition in an area or under circumstances where there should not be a fire. The cause was determined to be the introduction of an open flame, likely a lighter, to combustible material such as vegetation or paper.

After extensive analysis, investigators determined the Palisades Fire was a holdover fire. During the Lachman Fire, a firebrand became seated within dense vegetation and continued to smolder and burn within the root structure. This underground burning was not visible to firefighters in the aftermath of the Lachman Fire or to members of the public who visited the hillside afterward.

The strong sustained winds and even stronger wind gusts in the area on the morning of Jan. 7, 2025, created conditions in which the holdover fire from the Lachman Fire ignited additional fuels and spread, becoming the Palisades Fire.

The Lachman Fire burned approximately 8 to 10 acres before being suppressed by LAFD on Jan. 1. The fire started on property owned by the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority and spread onto land owned by California State Parks.

The Palisades Fire, which was first reported around 10:27 a.m. on Jan. 7, caused catastrophic damage. The blaze killed 12 people and destroyed more than 6,000 homes and buildings in the Pacific Palisades, a wealthy coastal neighborhood of Los Angeles. The fire ripped through hillside neighborhoods, destroying mansions with spectacular views of the ocean and downtown Los Angeles.

The fire burned approximately 202 acres of federal land within the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, including several buildings within the Camp 8 Historic District. It also burned thousands of acres of property owned by the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority and Topanga State Park, both organizations that receive federal financial assistance.

Full containment of the Palisades Fire was achieved on Jan. 31, 2025.

An outside review released in September found that a lack of resources and outdated policies for sending emergency alerts led to delayed evacuation warnings during the fires.

ATF investigated the matter with substantial assistance from the Los Angeles Police Department and the United States Forest Service. Assistant United States Attorneys Mark A. Williams, Matthew W. O'Brien, Danbee C. Kim and Laura A. Alexander are prosecuting the case.

Investigators have not yet determined the cause of a second blaze called the Eaton Fire, which broke out the same day in the community of Altadena and killed 18 people.

Rinderknecht is presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in court.

The Associated Press contributed to this report

Santa Monica Daily Press

Classifieds

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or email cindy@smdp.com

Name Change

Order Show to show cause for Name Change Case No.25SMCP00437 Superior Court of California, County of Los AngelesPetition of Miriam Candelario for Change of Name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner or Attorney: Miriam Candelario court for a decree of changing names as follows: Miriam Candelario to Miriam Candelario Carillio . The court orders that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Notice of Hearing: Date 10/24 /2025 Time: 8:30 a.m, Dept: K Room: _ The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA – COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES Santa Monica Courthouse 7215 Main St Santa Monica, CA 90401. 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

Help Wanted

Computer/IT: Java Developr, SW Designr (Sta Monica CA)-Globant IT Srvcs Corp- Lead SW dvlpmt projcts incld'g dsign'g/dvlp'g Java-basd appls. Wrk at client's Sta Monica CA site. Reqs: Bs. Systms Eng', SW Eng' or US eqvlt + 2yrs/exp in job or as Java Dvlpr Sr or clsly reltd occptn resp for dsign'g/dvlp'g Java apps/SW apply'g objct-orientd anlysis/dsign skills, deep knwldg/undrstnd'g of Java/JEE internls. Must have exp utlz'g Java frmwrks/lbraries, AWS, Kinesis, Dynamo, Redis, Aurora, IAM, Terraform, Github, Python, Node, SQL, NoSQL DB, Script basd languags, CI/CD, Jenkins, Spinnaker, Kubernates, Docker, Internl Frmwrks (Mariner, Yellowpage id), Spring suite (Versn 4,5,6), Kafka, Kinesis, Agile methdlgies(Scrum), Internl Procsses (QCI), Jira/Confluent, LucidChart, Google Drive, Slack, Zoom, UML, Logging w/ Sl4J. Must have exp utlz'g Metrcs w/Micrometr to monitr systm reqs, Datadog, Cloudwatch, Spring Boot test, Integratn test/end-to-end test to perfrm migrtn betwn frmwrks vrsions. Sal/Rnge: $120K-$135K/yr. Resumes: na_hr@globant.com, Ref: Job# 000119.

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CA based IT Co: RJT Compuquest, Inc. DBA Apolis has multi. openings @ var. lvls. @ its Santa Monica, CA hqs & unanticipated lctns. across the U.S. for the ff. pos.: Sftwr Dvlpr/Engr to dvlp, create, & modify comp. apps. sftwr & spec. utl. pgrms & customize sftwr for clients – Wage level $160,000- $185,000. Bachelor's Degree with 0-5 years exp. Req. Bus. Anlst- to analyze bus. & other data proc. probs. for app. to elec. data proc. sys. Wage level: $145,000-$150,000 Bachelor's Degree with 0-5 years exp. Req.Sftwr QA Engr & Testers- to dvlp & execute sftwr test plans inorder to identify sftwr prblms & causes;– Wage level $86,000 to $135,000. Bachelor's Degree with 0-5 years exp. Req. Comp. Sys Engr/Architect- to des. & dvlp. soln. to apps. prblms & sys. admin issues. Prfrm sys. mgmt. & integ. func. – Wage level $150,500 to $155,000. Bachelor's Degree with 0-2 years exp. Req. DB Architect- dsgn strat for ent DB sys. & set standards for ops., prgrmmng, & security. Dsgn & constr lge RDBS – Wage level $152,000 to $155,000. Bachelor's Degree with 0-2 years exp. IT Proj Mgr to plan, initiate & manage it proj, lead, guide, & monitortech staff- Wage level $ 240,000 Bachelor's Degree w 0-5 yrs exp.; Comp. Programmer to create, modify, & test code & srcipts for comp. app to run; work specs. Drawn by software & web developers- Wage Level: $ 85,000-$ 126,000. Travel/relocation to various unanticipated worksites within the United States is required. International travel is not required. Exact worksite location and frequency of travel (in percentage) can't be predicted as it may vary/change depending on proj. availability. Bachelor's degree or equiv. is min. educ. req along with work related experience & major field of study in: CIS,MIS,BusAd,Engrng or rel. Intrstd. in any of the psns. above, pls. send resume to: Apolis; Attn: HR, 1299 Ocean Avenue, Suite 470, Santa Monica, CA 90401.

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