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smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press

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Architecture in action: how Santa Monica's former Sears became a school in seven weeks

MICHELLE EDGAR
Special to the Daily Press



Michelle Edgar

TOUR: The former retail building underwent an extremely fast retrofit to house a high school for students displaced by the Palisades Fire.

Southern California Development Forum (SCDF) members gathered in Santa Monica yesterday for a behind-the-scenes tour of one of the most ambitious emergency education projects: the rapid transformation of the former Sears department store into a temporary 100,000-square-foot high school campus for Palisades Charter High School. Led by Gensler Managing Director Kelly Farrell and Gensler Principal and Technical Director James Kelly, alongside CW Driver's Jamie Maccartney, the tour offered attendees insight into the unprecedented "Mission Possible" project, which delivered 90 classrooms and essential student facilities in under seven weeks following a devastating fire at the school's main campus. Proceeds from the tour supported

SEE **PALI** PAGE 15

Councilmembers push back on, but ultimately pass, Mayor's demand for more information on housing projects

The Santa Monica City Council voted unanimously Tuesday to establish new transparency standards for supportive and transitional housing projects, following weeks of community outcry over a proposed behavioral health facility that residents said appeared without adequate notice.

The measure, brought forward by Mayor Lana Negrete, directs city staff to develop coordination protocols with Los Angeles County and project developers to ensure community engagement before supportive housing projects move

SEE **COUNCIL** PAGE 12

Malibu faces major coastal risks as sea level rise study warns of Highway 1 vulnerability

MAAZ ALIN
SMDP Staff Writer

A comprehensive coastal vulnerability assessment warns that Malibu's critical Highway 1 corridor, thousands of homes, and the city's narrow beaches face significant threats from rising sea levels, with potential impacts becoming severe

SEE **COASTAL RISKS** PAGE 7

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OPINION **UNMUTED**

Devan Sipher

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Don't look up

My preference is to ignore the President's twittering on social media, but I feel obligated to make an exception. In case you missed it, last week there was a video posted of the President astride the joystick of a fighter jet expelling excrement over the citizens of our nation.

This wasn't a scene from a satirical movie like "Don't Look Up" or "Dr. Strangelove." No, this was the President of the United States being infantile (and vile) as he gleefully pooped on the population. Personally, I would have expected him to avoid making scatological references, given the accusations about his predilection for golden showers.

Whether or not such rumors are true, I definitely anticipate golden lavatories in the Donald J. Trump ballroom, which he also bestowed upon us this past week. Gilding aside, the demolition of "the people's house" is another example of the administration's philosophy of governance via sh**storm.

Trump is not the first President to alter the White House, nor is he the first to use private funds. (Franklin Roosevelt was one of several.) An indoor ballroom would seem to be an improvement over outdoor tents in a city with less than temperate weather—but not a ballroom nearly twice the size of the White House itself. The President is being atypically tightlipped about the details, possibly because even rightwing voters could be offended.

However, he's taking a page from the progressive playbook with his bulldozing of public review protocols. A rallying cry of the abundance movement is the need to jettison regulations, and Trump seems to be giving its leaders a backhanded compliment with his expedited excavation.

So in this time of head-spinning upheaval, with our role-playing President carpet-bombing the country not only with diarrhea but also executive orders of dubious constitutionality, what are the Democrats offering?

In California, Governor Gavin Newsom wants us to destroy democracy in order to save it, by voting for gerrymandering, which every grade-school student is taught is a method of disenfranchisement. Grade-school students would also recognize the reasoning: "They started it," with the "they" being Republican-led states. Unlike in those states, Californians are getting the opportunity to vote on the issue, but Californians already voted for nonpartisan redistricting. Now we're being bombarded by advertisements for Proposition 50, seeking to convince us to take a metaphoric dump on our principles.

The only thing more offensive than the millions of dollars being spent in support of 50 are the millions of dollars being spent against it, largely by sycophants and supplicants of the President. These are also the people who empower him. There wouldn't be an existential threat, or any need for 50, if there weren't so many people coddling Trump's authoritarian or just plain narcissistic impulses.

We're being assaulted from all sides, which is why the Democrats are bringing out the big guns, and by big guns, I mean former President Barack Obama. He's possibly the only person who can spark fire in the base while floating a little above the fray, though he's less elevated now than in days of yore. I'd like to believe he's motivated by his love for our republic more than his love for the bloodsport of politics. Either way, I'm not immune to the siren call of his exhortations.

The problem is there's no guarantee that 50 will accomplish anything, other than jumpstarting Newsom's likely Presidential campaign, which is reason in itself to vote no. But with Latino American citizens being rounded up in Gestapo-like raids and the military carrying out extrajudicial killings in the Caribbean, friends in other states say Californians can't afford to cling to the moral high ground. The question is, what will we have left if we surrender it? Trump has offered one alternative, and it's brown and revolting.

One could argue I've taken the bait by noticing and responding to a video that was likely created to "own the libs." But there's also a risk of normalizing behavior that should never be normal. There are millions of children across this country who look up to the President. Is this the behavior we want children to emulate? How much of a leap is there between the President spewing computer-generated feces on our streets and the January 6th rioters smearing literal feces on our Capitol?

The President seeks to befoul his opponents, and those who voted for him should note that his video doesn't distinguish between intended victims and collateral damage. The insults to our body politic keep raining down on us, so I'm reluctantly recommending voting yes on Proposition 50. Just hold your nose and carry a big umbrella.

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

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

A win for transparency: building trust across all Santa Monica neighborhoods

Los Angeles County Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath's decision to terminate the two proposed bridge housing facilities at 413 and 825 Ocean Avenue represents a pivotal moment for Santa Monica; not because one neighborhood prevailed over another, but because transparency and accountability finally did.

The projects would have converted former senior living buildings into supportive housing for individuals with serious mental illness and co-occurring substance use disorders. They advanced without public awareness or meaningful community outreach, a fundamental breach of the public trust that undergirds democratic governance.

Supervisor Horvath stated it plainly: "When a project moves forward without community awareness, it erodes trust." She was right. Now we must ensure that no community, not Ocean Avenue, not Pico, not anywhere in our city, is ever blindsided again.

COMPASSION THROUGH ACCOUNTABILITY

This has never been about abandoning vulnerable people. Santa Monica has long championed compassion, inclusion, and service to those in need. But genuine compassion cannot come at the expense of safety, oversight, or good governance. Behavioral health services must be strategically placed in clinically appropriate settings with trained staff, medical infrastructure, and proper support systems, not arbitrarily positioned beside homes, schools, or parks without community input.

We must also confront an uncomfortable truth: the social service programs consuming millions of taxpayer dollars annually are not delivering measurable improvements in outcomes. Too often, they perpetuate cycles of dependency without providing the treatment, stability, or pathways to recovery that individuals desperately need. The result is a system that fails the very people it purports to help while compromising neighborhood safety and stability.

Nowhere is this failure more starkly visible than in the Pico neighborhood, which has struggled for years under the weight of these broken systems. Consider the situation at The Manor at 1905 Pico Boulevard, a facility that has operated in distress for years and is now closing without a clear transition plan for its residents. People can be found unconscious on sidewalks, without adequate support or follow-up care. This situation is both heartbreaking and dangerous, illustrating precisely why meaningful oversight and treatment accountability are not optional luxuries but essential safeguards.

THE TRANSPARENCY DEFICIT

Much about this entire arrangement remains shrouded in mystery. The lack of transparency and the irregular process through which negotiations were conducted gave concerned residents legitimate grounds to challenge these projects. To this day, the public has not seen crucial documents that should have been available from the outset: the Request for Applications, the lease agreement, and the contract between the County, St. Joseph Center, and the property owners. These are not administrative minutiae, they are the foundation of public trust. Without them, residents are left to fill the void with speculation and suspicion.

ADDRESSING THE EQUITY QUESTION

We must acknowledge how this outcome has reverberated across our city. For many residents in historically marginalized neighborhoods, the cancellation of the Ocean Avenue projects felt like another confirmation that wealthy communities receive protection while lower-income areas bear the brunt of poorly planned initiatives. Their frustration is justified and must be heard.

This is not about winners and losers. It is about demanding a process that is fair, transparent, and equitably applied across all neighborhoods, regardless of their zip codes or median incomes.

Meanwhile, commercial corridors and small businesses across Santa Monica are struggling to survive amid growing disorder, vandalism, and safety concerns that drive customers away and make daily operations increasingly untenable.

We must now establish clear, citywide and countywide guidelines for where and how supportive housing facilities are sited. This framework should include proximity standards establishing appropriate distances from schools and residential zones, mandatory community notification with adequate time for public input, transparent vetting of operators including their track records and program models, clinical appropriateness ensuring facilities have proper medical and behavioral health infrastructure, and annual public reporting on treatment outcomes, fiscal efficiency, and public safety impacts.

This is a moment that demands unity. The frustration and fear experienced by Ocean Avenue residents with these proposed projects on Ocean Ave, is something that mid-Wilshire has been trying to fight off for the last few years and could easily visit the any of our neighborhoods tomorrow. The same lack of information, the same erosion of trust. We must work together (north of Montana, Mid-City, the Pico neighborhood, and everywhere in between) to build a city that protects both our residents and those who most need help.

SEE **LETTER** PAGE 5



Weather

Friday: Patchy dense fog before 11am. Otherwise, cloudy through mid morning, then gradual clearing, with a high near 71.
Friday Night: Clear, with a low around 58. West southwest wind around 5 mph becoming calm in the evening.
Saturday: Sunny, with a high near 71. Calm wind becoming southwest around 5 mph in the afternoon.
Saturday Night: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, mostly cloudy, with a low around 59.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted	(ft)	High/Low
2025/10/31	Fri	12:01 AM	0.46		L
2025/10/31	Fri	06:51 AM	4.43		H
2025/10/31	Fri	12:23 PM	2.35		L
2025/10/31	Fri	5:57 PM	4.55		H
2025/11/01	Sat	12:36 AM	0.43		L
2025/11/01	Sat	07:09 AM	4.94		H
2025/11/01	Sat	1:08 PM	1.53		L
2025/11/01	Sat	6:56 PM	4.68		H
2025/11/02	Sun	01:08 AM	0.52		L
2025/11/02	Sun	06:33 AM	5.52		H
2025/11/02	Sun	12:51 PM	0.67		L
2025/11/02	Sun	6:50 PM	4.74		H
2025/11/03	Mon	12:40 AM	0.71		L
2025/11/03	Mon	07:00 AM	6.10		H
2025/11/03	Mon	1:35 PM	-0.13		L
2025/11/03	Mon	7:41 PM	4.70		H
2025/11/04	Tue	01:13 AM	0.99		L
2025/11/04	Tue	07:31 AM	6.61		H
2025/11/04	Tue	2:20 PM	-0.79		L
2025/11/04	Tue	8:32 PM	4.55		H
2025/11/05	Wed	01:47 AM	1.33		L
2025/11/05	Wed	08:05 AM	6.97		H
2025/11/05	Wed	3:07 PM	-1.21		L
2025/11/05	Wed	9:26 PM	4.29		H
2025/11/06	Thu	02:23 AM	1.70		L
2025/11/06	Thu	08:42 AM	7.11		H
2025/11/06	Thu	3:57 PM	-1.36		L
2025/11/06	Thu	10:25 PM	3.99		H
2025/11/07	Fri	03:01 AM	2.08		L
2025/11/07	Fri	09:24 AM	7.00		H
2025/11/07	Fri	4:52 PM	-1.26		L
2025/11/07	Fri	11:32 PM	3.71		H
2025/11/08	Sat	03:44 AM	2.46		L
2025/11/08	Sat	10:11 AM	6.65		H

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: 10/29
4 24 49 60 65
Power#: 1
Jackpot: 400 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 10/28
2 19 33 53 61
Mega#: 14
Jackpot: 754 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 10/29
1 9 16 21 37
Mega#: 19
Jackpot: 12 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 10/29
3 6 11 13 29

Daily 3
Draw Date: 10/29
EVENING: 6 7 1
Draw Date: 10/29
MIDDAY: 0 2 0

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 10/29
1st: 05 - California Classic
2nd: 11 - Money Bags
3rd: 10 - Solid Gold
Race Time: 1:42.53

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Department of Mental Health (DMH) – where were you at??

Ooh. You forgot to call, and we shouldn't have had to holla!

Santa Monica experienced a wholly avoidable example of institution – community disconnection as reported by SMDP, the Los Angeles Times and lamented by our mayor. As the coverage explained, this swirled around the scheduled opening of a residence on Ocean Avenue for those living with severe mental illness. It will be paid for by a state-funded program intended to rapidly house these members of the community. I do think these kinds of resources are sorely needed and should be a robust point in a full continuum of care that is certainly important for Santa Monica. The dust-up gained legitimate sway because the location, design, staffing, security, compatibility should have been explained, discussed, and negotiated with all partners. That did not happen here in this instance. Key people had opined on this, including Supervisor Horvath who stated there "has been inexcusably little engagement around this proposal." She is "disappointed by the lack of proper communication with Santa Monica residents." Mayor Negrete has been quoted as saying "we never got a heads up or a community meeting either."

Now that someone or some people dropped a dime or called in some favors, the project has been pulled by Supervisor Horvath. Big props to her. That said, we should not simply accept the reprieve without getting the answers and accountability for this glaring mess. It's my guess someone had the 'juice, as Lizzo would sing. The remarkable omission of an important step in full community engagement needs full explanation and accountability; the latter a "value" of DMH. Let me make sure you know the full skinny on what is supposed to drive the work of DMH. The stated DMH Values – Integrity, Respect, Accountability, Collaboration, Dedication, Transparency, and Quality and Excellence.

There are and were plenty of points of contact for engagement. Let's start with the Behavioral Health Commission (formerly the Mental Health Commission and before that Mental Health Advisory Board). This is the countywide, appointed group to advise our supervisors and the department on all things 'mental health.' Several seats on the Commission are for our 3rd Supervisorial District. There are eight Service Areas (SA), each with a Service Area Leadership Team (SALT) intended to "provide LACDMH with information, advice and recommendations" regarding local systems, needs, most effective resources and two-way communication. Santa Monica is in SA 5, has its SALT5 group that meets monthly. Where were they in this mix? Go to https://dmh.lacounty.gov for more information. These are just the entities in the DMH system that we could have tapped into. Let us not forget our mayor, city council, city manager, relevant departments, invested Commissions.

There are burning questions to ask. Honest answers should help to avoid this kind of kerfuffle in the future. We should be grateful that the Supervisor executed a smackdown, the partners had to step back, and the city avoided an institutional shakedown. Now that we can exhale, we should breathe again and understand how and why this happened. Don't take "we dunno" as an acceptable response. Treat finger-wagging or pointing as unacceptable. Lest it happen again. I hate to say it but it's true, it's happened before.

I would argue that a vision without inclusive planning is a hallucination. It is kinda like riding a blind horse towards a cliff, in this case, the ridge at the edge of Palisades Park. When you are holding town halls after you have burned your bridges, a fire usually starts in your own britches. Please indulge my metaphors.

"It is not what we do, but also what we do not do, for which we are accountable." Moliere

Karen S. Gunn, Ph.D. Gunn Consulting Group Dr. Gunn is a community and organizational psychologist, member of the Santa Monica Bay Area Human Relations Council, former chair of the Santa Monica Social Services Commission, former member of the Venice Family Clinic Board of Directors. She has been a LAC-DMH consultant for over 30 years. www.gunnconsultinggroup.org



GET IT DAILY...

COMMUNITY NEWS

Pier

Santa Monica Pier Celebrates Día de los Muertos November 1-2

The Santa Monica Pier will honor Mexican tradition with its sixth annual Día de los Muertos celebration Nov. 1-2 inside the historic Merry-Go-Round Building.

Presented by Northgate Market, the free two-day community event celebrates remembrance, family and cultural artistry through live music, dance, storytelling and large-scale public art installations.

Saturday's celebration runs from 3 to 10 p.m., while Sunday's event continues from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. The century-old carousel will be transformed into a space of color and creativity, adorned with marigolds, papel picado and handmade ofrendas.

"Día de los Muertos is a two-day celebration of remembrance, honor, respect, joy and beauty," said artist and event producer Sylvia Sanchez. "We are not mourning death—we are celebrating life."

Saturday's schedule includes a traditional Aztec blessing at 3 p.m. at the West End, followed by a Kids Pan de Muerto class. A parade to the Merry-Go-Round Building begins at 3:15 p.m., with blessing of the ofrendas at 3:30 p.m.

Performances include Santa Monica Ballet Folklórico at 4 p.m., Mariachi Mexcal at 5 p.m. inside the building, and Grupo La Rosa Folklórico on the outdoor stage at 5 p.m. All the Vibes Band performs at 7 p.m. on the outdoor stage.

Visitors can enjoy face painting, art displays, vendor offerings and hot chocolate from Soda Jerks. Guests are encouraged to bring photos of loved ones to contribute to the community ofrenda. Photocopies are recommended, as frames are not provided and items must be collected after the event.

Local artists featured include Sylvia Sanchez alongside contributions from Renay Regalado Garcia, Celina Jacques, Fernando Escobar and Christine Lopez.

Sunday allows visitors to experience the altars and installations at their own pace.

The celebration is supported by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors through the Department of Arts and Culture.

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

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF



Courtesy photo

PIER: Santa Monica Pier Celebrates Día de los Muertos with Two-Day Cultural Tribute, Art Installations, and Live Performances.

Malibu

Malibu Supports Regional Wildfire Collaboration, Continues Local Mitigation

The City of Malibu is strengthening wildfire preparedness through regional partnerships and local initiatives following devastating recent fires.

On Oct. 7, the city submitted a letter of support for Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning's application to FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, reinforcing the need for unified regional wildfire resilience action.

The county's application aims to create two Joint Powers Authorities: one for the Santa Monica Mountains and one for the San Gabriel Mountains. This structure would establish formal partnerships for public agencies to collaborate, share resources and execute long-term wildfire prevention projects across the region.

"The recent wildfires have devastated our community—the Palisades Fire alone destroyed nearly 600 homes," said Mayor Marianne Riggins. "Long-term resilience depends on coordinated action across the entire region."

> "The recent wildfires have devastated our community—the Palisades Fire alone destroyed nearly 600 homes"
> - Marianne Riggins, Mayor

While supporting regional planning, Malibu focuses on local programs that directly prepare residents. The city's Fire Safety Liaisons provide year-round guidance, coordinate community preparedness efforts and offer free home wildfire hazard assessments.

Fire Safety Liaison Bradley Yocum helps Malibu neighborhoods pursue Firewise Community recognition, a national program honoring communities taking meaningful steps to reduce wildfire risk.

"Wildfire preparedness doesn't happen overnight; it takes ongoing collaboration, strong relationships and community action," said Fire Safety Liaison Gabe Etcheverry.

At its Oct. 15 meeting, City Council approved a $100,000 grant for the Malibu Community Brigade to support wildfire safety projects, including public education, brush clearance and neighborhood outreach efforts. City Council will approve the official agreement at its Monday, Nov. 10 meeting.

The city encourages all residents to get involved and stay informed. For more information and resources, visit MalibuRebuilds.org/Fire-Preparedness.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF

LETTER

FROM PAGE 3

Compassion and accountability are not opposing forces; they are essential partners. If Santa Monica can lead on transparency and thoughtful planning, we can establish a model for cities across Los Angeles County, one where vulnerable individuals receive effective care and communities are treated with respect.

Real progress does not emerge from secrecy or haste. It is built on trust, inclusion, and the conviction that every neighborhood deserves both safety and dignity—including the people we are trying to help.

We call on the Santa Monica City Council to adopt comprehensive oversight measures requiring annual public reporting on the effectiveness of all social service programs and behavioral health facilities operating within our city. These reports must include transparent data on treatment outcomes, fiscal efficiency, and public safety impacts. Only through such accountability can we ensure that every dollar spent makes a meaningful difference: improving lives, restoring trust, and securing the future of our city.

The question before us is not whether we will help those in crisis. It is whether we will do so with wisdom, transparency, and respect for all communities. Santa Monica can and must answer yes to both.

By Ashley Oelsen



Santa Monica Daily Press

Classifieds

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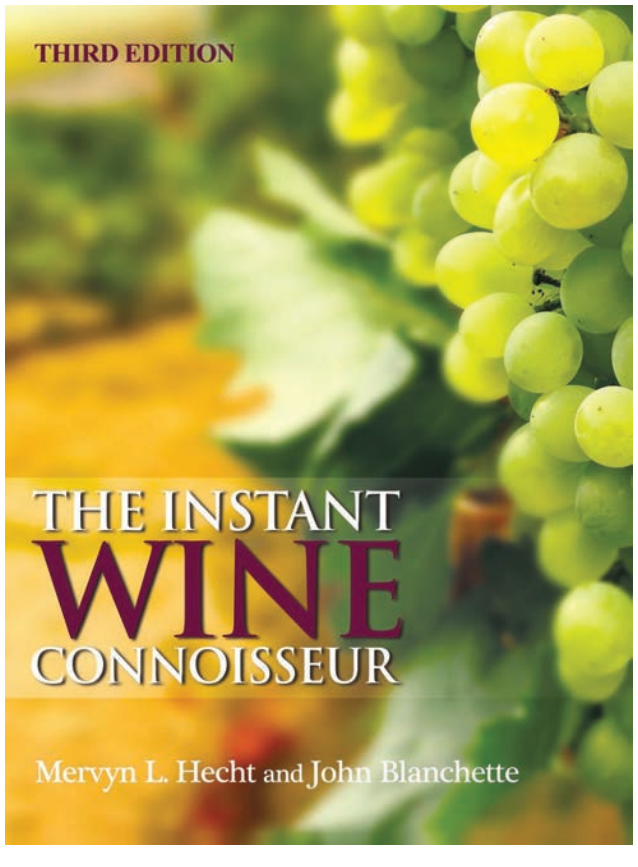
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COMMUNITY NEWS

Pier

Music Tech Leaders Gather at Santa Monica Conference to Chart Industry's Post-Streaming Future

Music industry executives, investors and technology startups will converge on Santa Monica's beaches Nov. 4-6 for Music Tectonics 2025, a conference focused on moving the music business beyond its current streaming-dominated model.

The seventh annual gathering brings together representatives from major labels including Warner Music Group and Universal Music Group, instrument manufacturers like Roland and Shure, and venture capital firms to explore new revenue streams and technological innovations in music.

"People go to trade conferences to see where the industry is. You come to Music Tectonics to see where it's going," said Dmitri Vietze, the conference founder and CEO of Rock Paper Scissors. "Our programming this year reflects the best thinking on transforming the industry and helping to return music's value in practical and fantastic ways."

The conference's central theme addresses what organizers see as streaming's maturation and the need for fresh approaches to music monetization. Keynote speaker Tatiana Cirisano, vice president of music strategy at MIDiA Research, will present "Optimization Is Not Enough: Are You Ready for Streaming's Reckoning?"

"We are never trying to jump on a single trend or hype cycle. Instead, we're looking at things that will really have an impact for artists, fans, and the industry as a whole," Vietze said in an interview.

The three-day event spans multiple Santa Monica venues, beginning with a Creator Fair at the Santa Monica Pier Carousel, continuing with panels at the Annenberg Community Beach House, and concluding with startup-focused programming at Expert Dojo and Universal Music Group's studios.

Programming will examine direct-to-fan e-commerce, music's integration with gaming, and how labels and publishers can adapt to technological change. Companies participating include Riot Games, BMG, Create Music Group, and financial technology firms serving the music industry.

A highlight of the conference is the Swimming with Narwhals startup competition, featuring four finalists representing diverse music technology applications. Music League focuses on music discovery and social sharing, while Plates offers modern music marketing tools. Roxxem combines language learning with music through interactive games, and Sesh provides fan engagement platforms for artists.

Investors from Patron, Sony Ventures, Connect Ventures, Mindset Ventures and Creator Partners will participate in panels and evaluate startup pitches. The conference concludes with a startup bootcamp where entrepreneurs can present ideas directly to Universal Music Group executives.

The Creator Fair, returning for its second year, addresses what organizers see as a growing divide between traditional recording industry players and the creator economy emerging on platforms like TikTok, Instagram and YouTube.

"We noticed that there was a big division between the recording industry and the music creation side of musical instruments and software," Vietze explained. The Creator Fair enables "cross-pollination" between these sectors.

Head of Events Shayli Ankenbruck emphasized the conference's comprehensive approach. "We curate Music Tectonics so that it embraces all sides of the music business right now, from tech startups to global entertainment enterprises to music makers of all stripes," she said.

The Santa Monica location reflects deliberate choices about atmosphere and accessibility. Vietze said the beachside setting provides "a destination that made our attendees happy and safe" while offering both indoor and outdoor spaces.

"We're bringing investors, movers and shakers from all around the globe together to do business and learn. The least we can do is make the view breathtaking and the vibes as magical and tectonic as our theme," he said.

The conference builds on year-round programming including a weekly podcast and monthly online events. Previous attendees have secured new jobs, partnerships and investments through connections made at the event, according to organizers.

"People walk away with new jobs, new partnerships, and new investments," Vietze said.

Tickets can be purchased on the Music Tectonics website (https://www.musictectonics.com/). The conference represents one of the music industry's largest gatherings focused specifically on technology innovation and business development.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF



Brandon Ogden

EVENT: Three-day event spans multiple Santa Monica venues, beginning with a Creator Fair at the Santa Monica Pier Carousel, continuing with panels at the Annenberg Community Beach House, and concluding with startup-focused programming at Expert Dojo and Universal Music Group's studios.

COASTAL RISKS

FROM PAGE 1

as water levels rise 2.5 to 6.6 feet in coming decades.

The assessment, presented to the Malibu City Council on Monday, identifies four major areas of vulnerability along the city's 21-mile coastline: residential and commercial development, septic systems in low-lying areas, the Pacific Coast Highway, and the city's already narrow beaches.

Environmental Science Associates, the consulting firm that conducted the study, used U.S. Geological Survey modeling to project coastal hazards including tidal inundation, shoreline erosion, storm flooding and wave runup under current conditions and future sea level rise scenarios.

"Development, including residential and commercial development along the coast, are exposed to shoreline and bluff erosion as well as tidal inundation and coastal storm flooding and wave runup," said James Jackson, a civil engineer and hydrologist with Environmental Science Associates.

The study takes on new urgency following the January Palisades Fire, which destroyed numerous coastal homes previously identified as vulnerable in the assessment. Council members raised concerns about how the disaster affects both immediate rebuilding efforts and long-term coastal planning.

"A lot of the homes that were identified as vulnerable in the study are obviously not there, but the results of the vulnerability assessment are still valid," Jackson told the council.

City Council member Steve Uhring expressed particular concern about Highway 1's vulnerability, warning that the critical transportation corridor could be lost during a major storm. "If we get a big storm, PCH is gone," Uhring said, urging staff to share risk information with the California Department of Transportation.

The assessment reveals that Highway 1 faces exposure to both shoreline erosion and coastal storm flooding. Jackson noted that the modeling assumes coastal hazards without considering protective infrastructure, providing a worst-case scenario for planning purposes.

Council member Bruce Silverstein highlighted a potential conflict between rebuilding efforts and future coastal regulations. He noted that structures being rebuilt after the fire likely would not meet stricter standards that might be applied to new development based on the vulnerability findings.

"Nothing that the council is going to do is going to require anyone with a house on the beach to take their house down or make a material change to it because of these vulnerabilities," Silverstein said. "Going forward, those same reasons and rules would dictate with respect to undeveloped properties that it's going to be much more difficult."

The study examined sea level rise projections that have shifted timing based on updated state guidance. The 2.5-foot scenario now projects to occur between 2070 and 2075 under current planning approaches, representing a shift further into the future from earlier projections.

Septic systems present another significant concern, particularly in low-lying areas where existing high groundwater conditions will worsen with additional sea level rise. The city's beaches, already narrow under current conditions, face additional pressure that could result in widespread beach loss along the coastline.

The project, which began in 2019 and was delayed by COVID-19, will move into its adaptation planning phase in 2026. Environmental Science Associates will compile potential mitigation measures ranging from nature-based solutions like dune restoration to traditional engineering approaches including coastal armoring and structural elevation.

Jackson said the next phase will identify "a range of possible adaptation measures that may be suitable along the city's shoreline and to identify near term measures that should be explored further."

The final report, expected in 2026, will include coastal hazard maps for each sea level rise scenario and could inform future amendments to the city's Local Coastal Program. Jackson emphasized that the current study is intended as an educational foundation rather than a comprehensive adaptation plan.

Mayor Marianne Riggins expressed interest in beginning mitigation efforts before the study's completion, noting that other coastal communities are already implementing protective measures. "There's a half a dozen cities up and down the coast right now that are doing various things along their coastline," she said.

The assessment aligns with California Coastal Commission sea level rise policy guidance and will help inform the city's long-term planning and resilience efforts. Public engagement included workshops, surveys, and an online mapping tool where residents can access vulnerability data.

Project information and resources are available at MalibuCity.org/Coastal.

maaz@smdp.com

BRAD ANDREW LIPSHY

December 9, 1963 - October 24, 2025

It is with deep sorrow that we share the passing of Brad Andrew Lipshy, who died suddenly on Friday October 24th in Santa Monica, CA at the age of 61.



IN LOVING MEMORY

Brad leaves behind his children Katherine Ellis; Sarah, Jonathan and Samuel Lipshy; his mother Esther Ritz; father Bruce Lipshy (Lynn); brother Marc Lipshy (Melissa); sister Jennifer Lipshy Karpeles (Jason); and nieces and nephews Emma and Miles Lipshy and Ethan, Alex, Henry and Isabelle Karpeles; as well as a rich community of family and friends.

Born in Dallas in 1963, Brad was the founder and CEO of an event-planning firm based in Santa Monica. He was funny, creative, spiritual, passionate, warm, and truly larger than life. He will be missed dearly.

Anyone who wishes to honor his memory is encouraged to make a donation to Beit T'shuvah in Los Angeles.

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Westside NEWLY LISTED THIS WEEK

Malibu

Paci
Palisa

SANTA MONICA

$15,595,000

705 Palisades Beach Rd

4 BR 4.5 BA, 3,908 Sq Ft

Listed by Colette Stevens ,•DRE #01702926
•Pardee Properties

SANTA MONICA CANYON

$6,495,000

143 Ocean Avenue Ext

4 BR 6.5 BA, 6,230 Sq Ft

Listed by John Hathorn, ,•DRE #00960182
•Christie's International Real Estate SoCal
Rosanna Eusebio, •DRE #02035443
•Compass

VENICE

$3,395,000

709 Vernon Ave

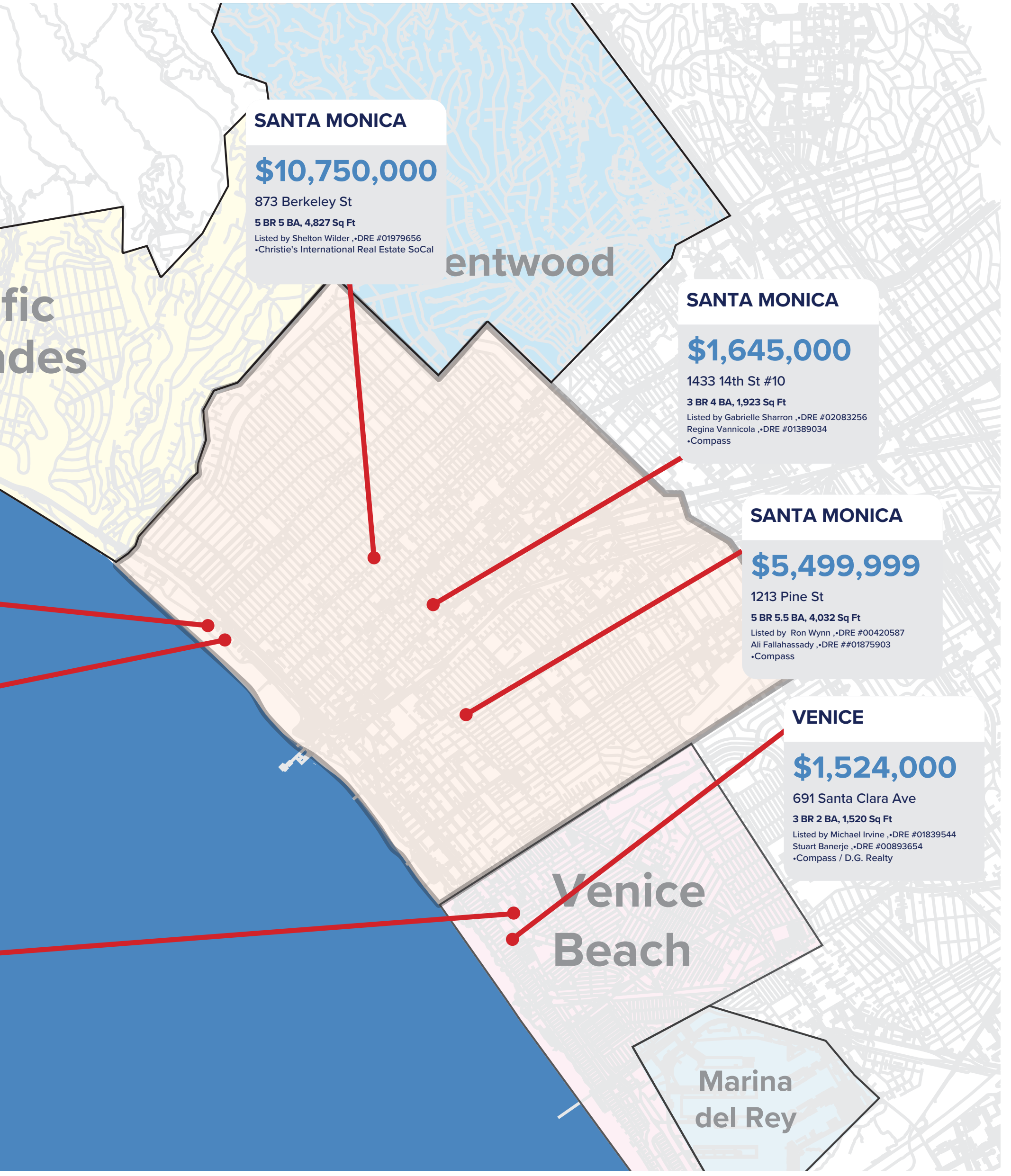
4 BR 4.5 BA, 2,470 Sq Ft

Listed by Kerri Madden ,•DRE #02065144
•Christie's International Real Estate SoCal
•Compass

● FOR SALE

All data gathered at redfin.com

Santa Monica Daily Press



SANTA MONICA

$10,750,000

873 Berkeley St

5 BR 5 BA, 4,827 Sq Ft

Listed by Shelton Wilder ,•DRE #01979656
•Christie's International Real Estate SoCal

SANTA MONICA

$1,645,000

1433 14th St #10

3 BR 4 BA, 1,923 Sq Ft

Listed by Gabrielle Sharron ,•DRE #02083256
Regina Vannicola ,•DRE #01389034
•Compass

SANTA MONICA

$5,499,999

1213 Pine St

5 BR 5.5 BA, 4,032 Sq Ft

Listed by Ron Wynn ,•DRE #00420587
Ali Fallahassady ,•DRE ##01875903
•Compass

VENICE

$1,524,000

691 Santa Clara Ave

3 BR 2 BA, 1,520 Sq Ft

Listed by Michael Irvine ,•DRE #01839544
Stuart Banerje ,•DRE #00893654
•Compass / D.G. Realty


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to mental health services offered through the postpartum period.
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Better.™



FRIDAY | OCTOBER 31

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-/15793351/2025-10-31T08

2025 TRICK OR TREAT DOWNTOWN

3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. 1351 Third Street Promenade. Ready for a trick-or-treating adventure in Downtown Santa Monica? Halloween Party on the Promenade Join us on Third Street Promenade for a Monster Mash for all ages! Dogs are more than welcome to join the fun too (and hopefully wearing costumes of their own...) The party will include : Kid-friendly costumed characters Mini Pumpkin Patch - Pick your FREE pumpkin! (first come, first served) Pumpkin decorating Appearances by special guests! Games Face painting Photo ops Arts & Crafts Free treats, stickers, and tattoos And more! Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/2025-trick-or-treat-downtown/16679542/2025-10-31T15

THE OFFICIAL HALLOWEEN BAR CRAWL (FRI & SAT)

4:00 p.m. - 11:59 p.m. Cabo Cantina 1240 3rd Street Promenade Santa Monica. Get ready to celebrate Halloween like never before! On October 31st and November 1st, join us in Santa Monica for a spooktacular TWO-DAY bar crawl featuring creepy cocktails, outrageous costumes, and an electrifying atmosphere. We're making our way through Santa Monica's top bars with exclusive drink deals, Halloween-themed entertainment, and surprises lurking around every corner. Grab your friends and throw on your most hilarious, horrifying, or out-of-this-world outfits—because this night is all about bold looks and big scares. Each stop on the crawl will bring a new vibe, from bone-rattling beats to ghoulishly good drinks. Whether you're dressed as a vampire, villain, or just out to vibe, this is the place to be for Halloween night. Santa Monica is turning up the fright and fun — and you won't want to miss a moment. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/the-official-halloween-bar-crawl-fri-sat-/16355332/2025-10-31T16

TRICK OR DRINK: SANTA MONICA HALLOWEEN BAR CRAWL (3 DAYS)

6:00 p.m. - 2:00 a.m. Britannia Pub 318 Santa Monica Blvd Los Angeles. Barcrawlerz is a Santa Monica Bar Crawl like no other. Trick or Drink features The Best Drink Specials and The Best Bars in Town. This is a THREE DAY EVENT! Saturday, October 25th: 4PM-2AM (Registration 4PM-10PM). Friday, October 31st: 6PM-2AM (Registration 6PM-11PM). Saturday, November 1st: 4PM-2AM (Registration 4PM-10PM). PARTICIPATING BARS: BRITANNIA PUB [REGISTRATION]. BARNEY'S BEANERY. CABO CANTINA. LANEA. LOULOU. SANTA MONICA WHALER. Here is how it works: 1) Pre-Purchase Your Bar Crawl Wristband. 2) Check in at Britannia Pub (318 Santa Monica Blvd) to get your wristband and map with participating bars, their location, and their drink specials. (Registration on Saturday 10/25 is from 4PM-10PM, Friday 10/31 is from 6pm-11pm, and Saturday 11/1 is from 4PM-10PM) *WRISTBAND MUST BE PICKED UP DURING THESE TIMES* 3) Your wristband gets you into any of the participating bars with no cover, plus gets you drink specials all night. 4) Have Fun! For questions, email info@barcrawlerz.com or Call 310-273-8772 Ext. 5. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/trick-or-drink-santa-monica-halloween-bar-crawl-3-days-/16913358/2025-10-31T18

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/14385252/2025-10-31T18

SATURDAY | NOVEMBER 1

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/14548485/2025-11-01T11

DÍA DE LOS MUERTOS CELEBRATION AT SANTA MONICA PIER

5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Santa Monica Public Library 601 Santa Monica Blvd. Santa Monica. The Santa Monica Pier will celebrate Día de Los Muertos with a vibrant two-day art installation. This family-friendly event honors the meaningful connections within the Santa Monica community, featuring a community altar and stunning creations by local artists. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/d-a-de-los-muertos-celebration-at-santa-monica-pier/15799901/2025-11-01T17

SUNDAY | NOVEMBER 2

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/14894114/2025-10-26T11

WESTSIDE FOOD BANK'S 35TH ANNUAL 5K HUNGER WALK

12:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Ocean View Park 2701 Barnard Way Santa Monica. Mark your calendars for November 2nd, 2025! Join Westside Food Bank's 35th Annual 5K Hunger Walk at Ocean View Park (2701 Barnard Way, Santa Monica, CA 90405), right across the street from the beach. We are walking to help those facing hunger in LA County. This free event is family-friendly and a great way to raise awareness and funds toward fighting food insecurity. All walkers will receive a T-shirt and a swag bag for participating. Registration is required. You can sign up individually or as a team at wsfb.org/hungerwalk! If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to Westside Food Bank's Development Team at development@wsfb.org or call 310-828-6016, ext. 32. Thank you, and we look forward to seeing you there as we take steps toward a hunger-free community! Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/westside-food-bank-s-35th-annual-5k-hunger-walk/16677286/2025-11-02T12

VENICE ELECTRIC LIGHT PARADE - SUNDAYS AT SUNSET

Windward Plaza 1501 Ocean Front Walk Venice. Join the Magic of the Venice Electric Light Parade Every Sunday Night! Looking for a unique and vibrant way to end your weekend? The Venice Electric Light Parade (VELP) is here to light up your Sunday evenings! Founded by Marcus Gladney, this family-friendly weekly event celebrates community, creativity, and safe cycling. Bring your LED-lit bicycle and join us for an unforgettable ride along the iconic Venice Beach. Details: When: Every Sunday evening. Meet 45 minutes before sunset. Where: Windward Plaza, Venice Beach. Who: Open to everyone! Bring your bike, lights, and good vibes. Cost: FREE to join! Experience the magic of glowing bikes, amazing sound bikes playing great music, and the welcoming energy of the Venice community. The parade follows a strict no-smoking or drinking policy, ensuring a safe and enjoyable experience for all. Why Join? Connect with old and new friends. Celebrate the artistic and cultural spirit of Venice. Enjoy a safe and fun environment for all ages. So, light up your ride, bring your friends, and join us this Sunday at Windward Plaza. Don't forget to turn on your lights and practice safe cycling at night! Let's ride into the sunset together! Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/venice-electric-light-parade-sundays-at-sunset/14970341/2025-10-26T00

MONDAY | NOVEMBER 3

PIZZA PARTY AT BODEGA WINE BAR

6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. 814 Broadway Santa Monica. Every Monday Night at Bodega, every bottle of wine you purchase gets you a pizza half off! 6pm-Close. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/pizza-party-at-bodega-wine-bar/11526040/2025-10-27T18

IMPROV 101: INTRO TO IMPROV (MONDAY NIGHTS)

7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. 1424 4th Street Santa Monica. Jump into Improv! Learn the basics, spark creativity, & your boost confidence with fun exercises and expert guidance. 6 weeks + a Showcase! Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/improv-101-intro-to-improv-monday-nights-/17275470/2025-11-03T19

TUESDAY | NOVEMBER 4

MEMORIES & MOVEMENT SENIOR CLUB

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

TECH & TASKS

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

TUESDAY OPEN MIC

10:00 p.m. Westside Comedy Theater 1323-A 3rd St Santa Monica. The best open mic in Los Angeles! The Tuesday Open Mic is a weekly open mic. Hop onstage and perform your best 3 minutes! Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/tuesday-open-mic/16004734/2025-10-28T22

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[1] "Medicare & You," Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, 2020
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6255

COUNCIL

FROM PAGE 1

forward. The vote came after extensive debate among council members over legal concerns and the specific language of the directive.

It came just a day after a proposal to put housing for severely mentally ill individuals on Ocean Ave was canceled by Los Angeles County following weeks of fierce opposition by local residents.

"I'm trying to make it simple in plain language," Negrete said during the meeting. "We have a crisis on our streets. It's a national problem. We have homeless people. We have folks that are experiencing mental illness that need to enter medical facilities and have treatment."

The mayor's original proposal called for seven key components: coordination between the city and county on outreach efforts; establishment of best practices for community engagement; clarification of zoning requirements and notification procedures; a comprehensive review of land-use regulations; creation of a communications framework; development of a citywide site inventory for potential projects; and retrospective review of existing facilities.

The framework would require that City Council receive official written briefings whenever such projects are first discussed or potential sites are evaluated, ensuring transparency "at all stages." The proposal also called for a communications system including an accessible webpage, designated hotline, and clear response protocols.

However, the path to approval proved contentious, with Council Member Dan Hall proposing significant amendments that sparked debate over intent and political messaging.

Hall's changes included adding language to keep certain sites confidential "knowing that these sites might one day serve extremely sensitive and vulnerable patient populations to include rape victims, domestic abuse survivors and child sex trafficking survivors." He also proposed adding a clause stating that nothing in the item should be executed if deemed contrary to state housing law, referencing a 2022 "builders remedy" situation that resulted from a non-compliant housing element.

Additionally, Hall requested that retrospective reviews be privileged with legal advice and that the city manager's October 13 email timeline regarding the recently terminated Ocean Avenue projects be made public.

Negrete pushed back against some of Hall's additions, particularly the builders remedy reference and what she characterized as "dramatic language" about vulnerable populations.

"That has nothing to do with this," Negrete said of the builders remedy language. "That's a statement. Let's be honest. That's a statement. I think if we're all moving in the same direction, supposedly we're all rowing in this direction."

She questioned whether Hall's amendments were politically motivated rather than substantive, saying the reference to rape victims and child sex trafficking survivors was "really for shock value" and had "nothing to do with what I'm asking for."

"I don't need you to explain. I'm just saying it has nothing to do with this," she added. "If it makes you feel better, I'll go for it, because I'll be the bigger person."

Hall defended his amendments as necessary public education and legal protection, not political statements. "Part of why it's important to outline the types of victims in patient populations living in places like this is so that the public can understand that sometimes projects have to remain confidential to a certain point," he said.

He emphasized that the builders remedy language was meant to protect the city from falling out of compliance with state housing law. "I do not want to risk falling out of compliance with our housing element, and that is incredibly important," Hall said.

Negrete shared personal connections to the issue, revealing that she has a family member who utilizes such facilities. "One has saved one of my family members' lives," she said. "So I think we just have to come up with an outreach, coordination, standards and best practices."

Council Member Jesse Zwick raised concerns about whether the framework could conflict with state housing laws that require supportive housing to be treated the same as other residential uses in multifamily zones. Interim City Attorney confirmed that state housing element law generally requires transitional supportive housing be considered residential use, subject only to restrictions applied to similar housing.

"When it comes to the permitting of these sites, the city is obliged to process supportive housing service-based forms of housing the same way it would process any other housing in a given multifamily zone," Zwick noted.

Council Members Ellis Raskin and Natalya Zernitskaya both expressed support for transparency while cautioning about the need to avoid stigmatizing homeless populations and maintain legal compliance with state fair housing laws.

"These projects involve general populations, involve people who are going through traumas, and involve people who need discretion," Raskin said. "We need to think about how these processes and opportunities for engagement don't further stigmatize populations that have already been so stigmatized."

Council Member Barry Snell said he supported the measure and hoped it would lead to more equitable distribution of such facilities across the city. He noted that according to the map Negrete provided, Sunset Park has five such facilities, while wealthier neighborhoods have fewer.

The measure drew overwhelming support from public comments and consistent criticism of the council for its handling of the recently terminated Ocean Avenue behavioral health facility projects. Residents described feeling "blindsided" by projects approved without adequate notice and expressed frustration with what they characterized as the council's "secrecy."

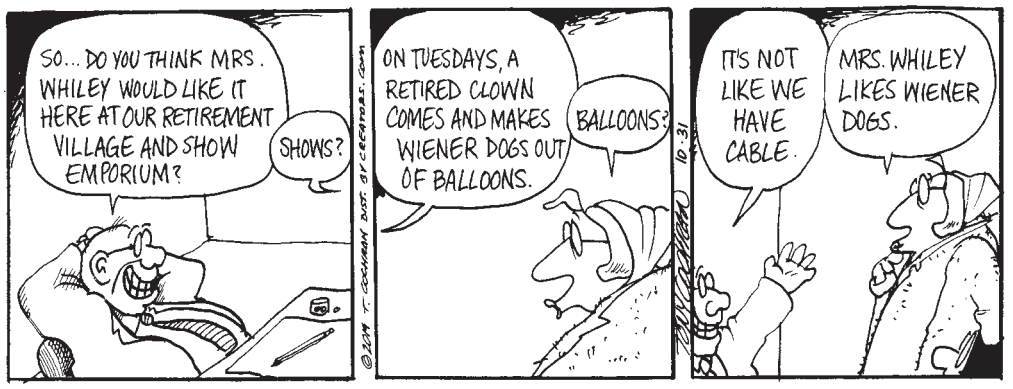
Many comments specifically praised Mayor Negrete for her October 9 memo addressing the issue, with residents thanking her for providing "a clear roadmap toward a balanced approach that supports mental health initiatives while prioritizing accountability, transparency, and respect for Santa Monica residents."

Some comments alleged that other city council members knew about these projects and kept that information quiet.

The motion, as amended by Hall and seconded by Raskin, ultimately passed unanimously. City staff will return with recommendations after working with the city attorney to ensure all provisions comply with state housing law.

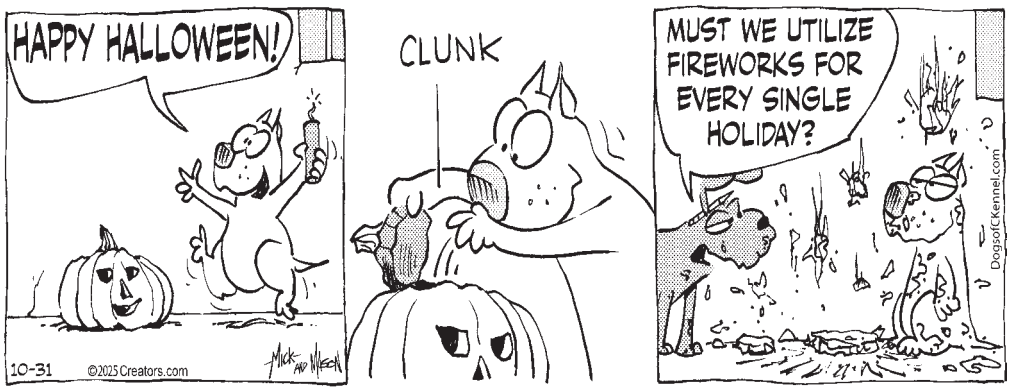
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



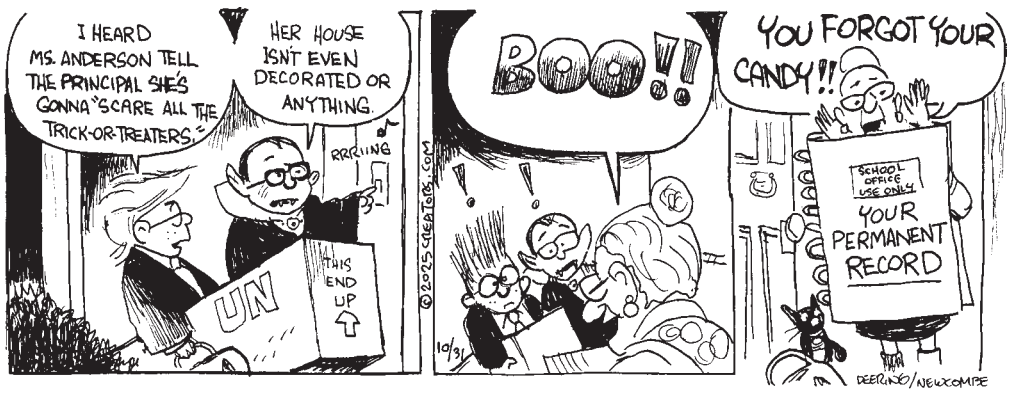
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



"HIS FAVORITE SPOT."

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

© australianwordgames.com 6745

Story creators

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

Adams	Funder	Lurie	Rowe
Amis	Garner	Malouf	Sheldon
Anh Do	Gemmell	Marr	Silvey
Base	Gibbs	Mem Fox	Stead
Byatt	Griffiths	Modjeska	Story
Carey	Hardworking	Morton	White
Castro	Hathorn	Moss	Wood
Clark	Hines	Nunn	Zusak
Cleary	Inspired	Parish	
Dawe	Keneally	Paterson	
Drama	Ludlum	Rodda	

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
We need to use them all

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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Oct. 31)

Welcome to your Year of Marvelous Breakthroughs. What seems impossible becomes second nature in a matter of months. Work turns profitable after a strange experiment. You'll fall for someone's quirks and be delighted when they love yours, too. More highlights: An old habit breaks, replaced with something healing. A negotiation goes your way. Creative work draws applause and new fans. Taurus and Sagittarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 5, 11, 33, 48 and 17.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Your best trick is showing up fearless, even when you're making it up as you go. Your best treat is the thrill of spontaneity. You'll be admired for your bravery. You dive in first and figure it out later.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Your best trick is transforming the ordinary into luxury, adding comfort and beauty where none was expected. Your best treat is simple pleasures done well. Tonight, it's about good food, cozy vibes and affection so sweet it could rot a tooth.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Your best trick is how you change the game with a few well-chosen words - quips that are clever, sly and funny. Your best treat is being the spark that makes everyone lean closer to hear more.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Your best trick is conjuring safety wherever you go, creating a haven in chaos. Your best treat is the sweetness of being everyone's "home base," and tonight they'll gravitate toward you for grounding.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Your best trick is how you can turn any room into your stage. Your best treat is the joy of basking in admiration, not because you demanded it, but because your warmth lights the way.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Your best trick is noticing the details no one else sees. It will mean a lot to the ones who put a lot of care into their celebration of the night. Your best treat is the trust you inspire when people realize you'll catch what they miss.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Your best trick is making the difficult look effortless, from outfits to logistics; you'll put your excellent taste to work. Your best treat is the harmony you leave behind, like fairy dust that lingers after you've gone.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Your best trick is seeing the truth hiding under every mask. Whether you reveal your knowledge - that's up to you. Your best treat is intensity. Even fleeting connections become unforgettable as everything seems to bend to your magnetism.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Your best trick is turning the rules into guidelines that keep games fun. To you, the restrictions are hallways - just another way to move through the adventure. Your best treat is wide, bright, contagious laughter.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Your best trick is the way you employ leadership skills to conjure order from chaos. Your best treat is the dignity you radiate. It elevates all. Others bring the best version of themselves to your presence.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Your best trick is defying expectations, slipping out of every box they try to put you in. Your best treat is freedom. You feel it and live it. You grant it to others just by being yourself.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Your best trick is applying your limitless imagination to dreaming something into existence before anyone else believes it's possible. Your best treat is empathy; you know how to dissolve loneliness in an instant.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

Sudoku

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

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

Newsday Crossword

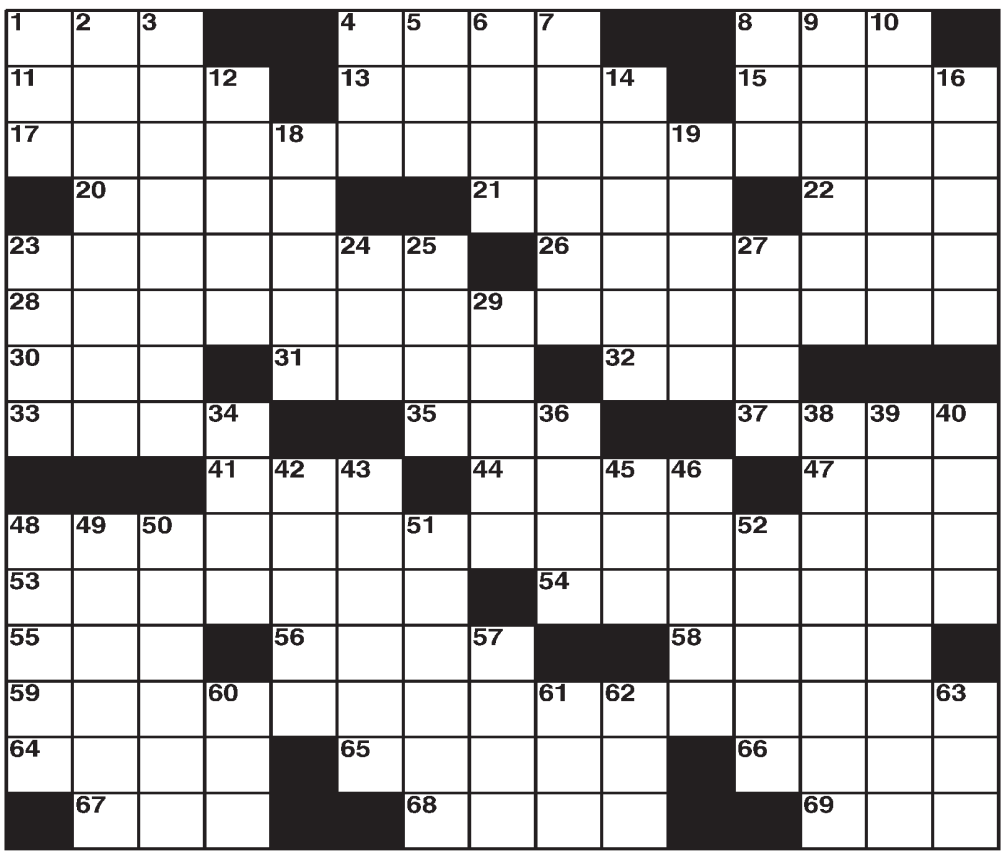
PARK RANGERS by Kevin Christian
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Yahoo alternative
4 Ending like -ita
8 Rugged bike
11 However, typed with thumbs
13 San Francisco's __ Buena Island
15 Cold, in Cancún
17 The least required
20 Bunker Hill general
21 '90s German leader
22 Duke's hoops rival
23 Of a state-union system
26 Barbadian Ambassador/singer
28 Start of a family favor request
30 Spot for the night
31 Sharp cry
32 Cellular material
33 Took a turn
35 __ rule
37 Gooey dirt
41 Charger connection
44 Higher-up
47 Security Council vote
48 Frothy sweet
53 Annoys a lot
54 Part of a bass' range
55 Certain phone chats
56 Piccata meat
58 Behold, of old
59 Was a pioneer
64 Cylindrical structure
65 Youngest White House child this century
66 Faint-colored
67 Archaeo- opposite
68 Mythical river
69 NASA propellant

DOWN

1 Swarm around
2 Onset
3 1980s *SNL* cast member
4 Needle hole
5 Film noir protagonist
6 Trying trip
7 Use up
8 Back on board
9 Three-part
10 Capital close to Slovakia
12 Kant contemporary
14 Less ruddy
16 Award in the NATO alphabet
18 Overly academic
19 Minnesota congresswoman Omar
23 11-Across kin
24 Formal vote
25 Bugs Bunny's girlfriend
27 Sistine ceiling subject
29 Distressed
34 Legendary Sherwoodian
36 Spin on ice
38 Averse to mixing
39 Eclectic British rocker
40 Martial arts weapon
42 Work out
43 Isn't colorfast
45 Moody music
46 Quail or recoil
48 Baby furniture
49 Lincoln's first veep
50 Now lower
51 Postures on mats
52 Twist open
57 Out of concern that
60 Where a homophone of a word in the four longest answers can be found
61 Question of motive
62 Overexert
63 Survey check-off



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10/31/25

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PALI

FROM PAGE 1

the ACE Mentor Program, which provides career pathways for high school students in architecture, construction, and engineering.

What unfolded during the event was more than a walkthrough—it was a civic story about what can be achieved when urgency, innovation, and public-private collaboration converge around a shared goal: keeping students in classrooms.

When the fire displaced more than 3,000 students earlier this year, Palisades Charter High School was forced to move learning online. School leadership, architects, and builders were tasked with finding an immediate solution. Their answer was bold: convert a shuttered Sears building into a fully functioning school in a matter of weeks. A process that typically takes years—design, permitting, approvals, and construction—was condensed into 46 days through an integrated approach that brought all stakeholders to the table from day one.

"This wasn't about building a school under ideal circumstances," said Farrell. "It was about protecting educational continuity. When everyone shares the same mission, speed becomes possible."

The City of Santa Monica played a central role as a hands-on partner. City officials attended daily site walks, fast-tracked approvals, and aligned inspections with construction timelines to ensure safety requirements were met without slowing progress.

"This project proved what is possible when a city acts as a collaborator, not a gatekeeper," said Farrell. "Every decision came back to the same priority: get students back into classrooms as quickly and safely as possible."

Instead of following the traditional linear process of design, then permit, then build, Gensler and CW Driver worked concurrently across all phases. Gensler's international office in Bangalore drafted drawings overnight while construction moved forward during the day. CW Driver implemented double shifts six days a week to meet the aggressive timeline. The result: a 100,000-square-foot campus featuring 90 classrooms, food service, specialized learning spaces, and branded school graphics all completed $1.5 million under budget.

"This was architectural innovation at the pace of human need," said James Kelly of Gensler. "We were sketching designs in real time while construction crews were already in motion."

The space originally lacked basic infrastructure and required rapid improvisation. Heating was capped, gas service was unavailable, and water was supplied daily by World Central Kitchen. Temporary hand-washing stations were installed. Storage areas were converted into medical rooms and special education spaces. To address sound transfer between classrooms without costly roof-to-deck drywall installation, the team deployed an innovative acoustic insulation known as Insul-Quilt.

"This was architectural innovation under pressure," said CW Driver's Jamie Maccartney. "Every hour counted. Every decision was evaluated based on student impact."

While the build was widely regarded as a success, ongoing operations required equal coordination. According to Rafael Negro, Director of Operations at Palisades Charter High School, the early days saw significant congestion around stairwells, requiring safety drills and new traffic flow protocols. Food service had to be reestablished under a new vendor to ensure uninterrupted meal delivery. The facility operates under a lease that requires the property to be returned to its original condition, including full demolition of the temporary classrooms at the end of its use.

"This was never built to be permanent, but it had to function like a real campus immediately," Negro said. "We had to manage logistics, safety, food distribution, special education requirements, and overall student movement in an urban environment. Our guiding questions were always: are we safe, and are we learning?"

Negro emphasized that while the project is a success story in emergency response, its next chapter requires community engagement.

"We built this campus quickly and efficiently, but not with everything our students could benefit from," he said. "There is a real opportunity now for industry partners, philanthropists, and local leaders to invest in enrichment - WiFi improvements, digital learning tools, wellness spaces for student mental health, arts programs, and mentorship pipelines."

> "This project didn't just build a temporary school—it inspired the next generation of builders"
>
> - Peter Barsuk, Board Member of ACE Mentor

Proceeds from the SCDF event benefited the ACE Mentor Program, which introduces students to careers in design and construction—a direct extension of the project's legacy.

"This project didn't just build a temporary school—it inspired the next generation of builders," said Peter Barsuk, Board Member of ACE Mentor. "Students are seeing what's possible when a community steps up."

Pali High Charter is increasingly being viewed as a model for educational resilience and civic problem-solving. "We didn't just open a temporary campus," Farrell said. "We opened a new model for how communities respond to crisis—with urgency, partnership, and purpose."

In Santa Monica, the future of education was not paused — it was reconstructed in seven weeks.



Michelle Edgar

PALI: The students hope to return to their regular campus in the new year.

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SANTA MONICA COLLEGE

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FALL & WINTER



Photo by Ed Gandara

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- **Intercollegiate Athletic Competitions**
- **Music Concerts**
- **Planetarium Shows**
- ***Santa Monica Review* Issue Launch Party**
- **Theatre Arts Performances**
- **And Much More!**

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SANTA MONICA COLLEGE

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