2 **California Governors**
Race Packs Drama & Uncertainty.

3 **Midterm Worries**
Cybersecurity Agency.

4 **Letter To The Editor**
City Staff's Grown Power.

5 **Guide**
Thanksgiving Travel.

smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press

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Council upholds historic status for 1920s craftsman bungalow

MAAZ ALIN
SMDP Staff Writer

The City Council upheld the historic designation for a modest 1923 Craftsman bungalow at 1125 18th Street at their last meeting denying an appeal that could have overturned the city's Landmarks Commission and cleared the way for potential demolition.

The hearing followed the commission's controversial 4-2 vote in July that designated the 952-square-foot residence as a "Structure of Merit", a lower-tier historic classification unique to Santa Monica. City staff recommended the council approve the appeal and deny the historic designation.

The case pits property owner H. Joseph Naim, a physician and surgeon who purchased the property in December 2021 with plans to redevelop it, against preservation advocates who see the bungalow

SEE **BUNGALOW** PAGE 6



Courtesy photo

BUNGALOW: The property will keep its designation due to a strict reading of the city's preservation rules.

Janet McKeithen celebrates 20 years at Church in Ocean Park

Fran Lyness

CEREMONY: The Church in Ocean Park recognized Reverend Janet McKeithen for her two decades of service this month with a ceremony at the church. The event was designed to foster community and connection, while recognizing McKeithen's inspiring work. McKeithen arrived at the church in 2005, building new partnerships, bringing new perspectives, and bridging new connections on that foundation. An online campaign to help continue funding her work is online at https://givebutter.com/c/CIOPauction.





Two Santa Monica businesses file for bankruptcy protection

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

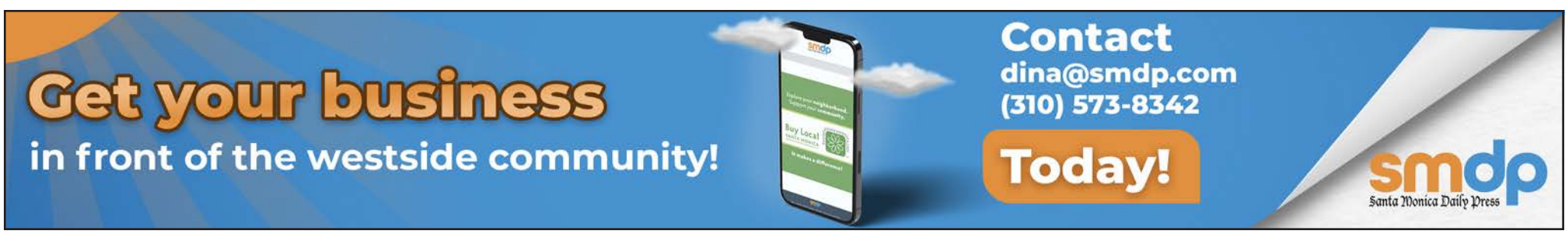
Two Santa Monica businesses filed for bankruptcy protection in November as the City continues efforts to revive the local economy in the face of economic headwinds.

Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection doesn't mean a company is closing. Chapter 11 lets businesses reorganize their debts while staying open. The company operates under court supervision to create a plan for repaying creditors, which may involve restructuring loans, renegotiating leases or making other operational changes. If the court approves the reorganization plan, the company can exit bankruptcy and operate on stronger financial ground.

Santa Monica-based Brooke Rodd Designs LLC, a lifestyle and fashion retailer, filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection on Nov. 11 in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California. On Nov. 18, 1251 Fourth Street Investors LLC, a single-asset real estate company whose main property is at 1255 4th Street, filed its own Chapter 11 petition in the same court.

The fashion retailer, owned by designer Brooke Rodd, filed under Chapter 11 Subchapter V, a simplified reorganization option for small businesses. Court documents show the company has assets between $100,000 and $500,000 but owes between $500,000 and $1 million, with one to 49 creditors listed. The case, numbered 2:25-bk-20061 and overseen by Judge Vincent Zurzolo, remains active with the company operating during

SEE **BANK** PAGE 7



A sheriff, a billionaire, a tinge of scandal. California governor's race packs drama, uncertainty

The race for California governor features former presidential wannabes, a county sheriff, two women who could become the first female to hold the office, House members current and former, an ex-Cabinet secretary and at least one billionaire with another in the wings. The contest has been singed by scandal and witnessed one campaign nearly melt down.

And it hasn't officially started yet.

The pending exit of term-limited Gov. Gavin Newsom has created the most wide-open and crowded field for the state's highest office in memory. The job pays $242,000 a year but provides an arguably more valuable national political platform and the ability to engage in trade, climate and other global affairs. By default the California governor, in a state of nearly 40 million people, is a national figure. Newsom is widely expected to launch a White House run after the Democrat's term ends in early January 2027.

The lure of the powerful job attracted its latest candidate Thursday — Democratic Rep. Eric Swalwell, who served as a House manager in President Donald Trump's 2021 impeachment trial and briefly sought his party's 2020 presidential nomination.

The eventual winner will also inherit a long list of problems, from an unchecked homeless crisis to multibillion-dollar projected future budget gaps.

The primary is June 2. Candidates can begin taking the first steps needed to qualify for the ballot next month. Newsom has not endorsed a successor.

> "It's a five-way, six-way jump ball and that ball could go in any direction"
>
> - Michael Trujillo, Democratic consultant

HOW DO DEMOCRATS STAND OUT AMONG DEMOCRATS?

Democrats are strongly favored to hold the seat in a liberal-leaning state where a Republican hasn't won a statewide race in nearly two decades. Democrats outnumber registered Republicans by nearly 2-to-1 statewide, a staggering advantage.

One challenge for the growing list of Democratic candidates will be trying to stand out when they largely agree on most issues — dealing with the state's affordability crisis and countering Trump will top the agenda. Former Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa has positioned himself toward the center political lane and has been talking about his record of cutting taxes. He also boosted police force numbers and saw crime drop when he was LA's mayor.

Billionaire businessman Tom Steyer, a recent entrant into the contest who ran for president in 2020, says the state can "break up the monopolistic power of utilities" to reduce its second-highest-in-the-nation electricity rates.

HOW MANY IS TOO MANY?

Even in a field of recognized names, there is no dominant candidate.

"It's a five-way, six-way jump ball and that ball could go in any direction," Democratic consultant Michael Trujillo said. "Any one of these Democrats running currently could be our next governor."

In California, the top two vote-getters advance to the November general election, regardless of party. With many candidates dividing up the electorate, that means the two candidates who advance could get to November with just over 20% of the vote — and maybe less. The winning advantage separating the top two finishers from the rest of the field could be a percentage point or two.

Along with Swalwell, Villaraigosa and Steyer, other Democrats in the contest include former U.S. Rep. Katie Porter, former Biden administration health secretary Xavier Becerra, former state controller Betty Yee, schools superintendent Tony Thurmond and real estate developer Stephen Cloobeck. Attorney General Rob Bonta, who previously said he wasn't running, is now reconsidering a bid.

UNWELCOME PUBLICITY SOURS PORTER'S START

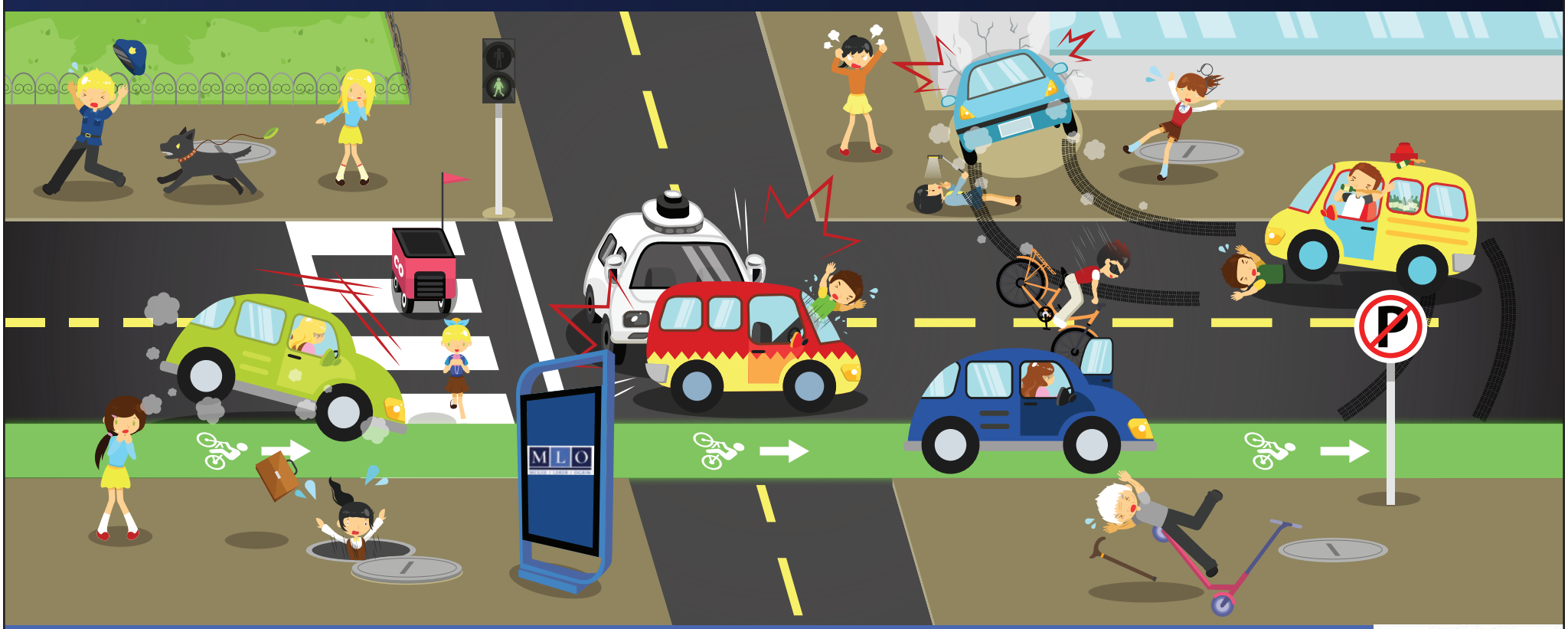
Porter — who in the House became a social media celebrity by brandishing a whiteboard at congressional hearings while grilling CEOs — joined the unfolding race in March and moved quickly to establish herself as a leading contender.

But her momentum collapsed in early October, after a snippet of a recent TV interview went viral showing her in an awkwardly tense back-and-forth with a reporter. At one point, she threatened to walk out. Shortly afterward, a video surfaced of a 2021 interview showing her loudly berating a staffer.

After a deluge of online mockery, rivals quickly questioned whether she was too

SEE GOVERNOR PAGE 11

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Big changes to the agency charged with securing elections lead to midterm worries

Since it was created in 2018, the federal government's cybersecurity agency has helped warn state and local election officials about potential threats from foreign governments, showed officials how to protect polling places from attacks and gamed out how to respond to the unexpected, such as an Election Day bomb threat or sudden disinformation campaign

> We do not have a sense of whether we can rely on CISA for these services as we approach a big election year in 2026
>
> - Steve Simon, Minnesota Secretary of State

The agency was largely absent from that space for elections this month in several states, a potential preview for the 2026 midterms. Shifting priorities of the Trump administration, staffing reductions and budget cuts have many election officials concerned about how engaged the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency will be next year, when control of Congress will be at stake in those elections.

Some officials say they have begun scrambling to fill the anticipated gaps.

"We do not have a sense of whether we can rely on CISA for these services as we approach a big election year in 2026," said Minnesota Secretary of State Steve Simon, a Democrat who until recently led the bipartisan National Association of Secretaries of State.

The association's leaders sent a letter to Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem in February asking her to preserve the cybersecurity agency's core election functions. Noem, whose department oversees the agency, replied the following month that it was reviewing its "funding, products, services, and positions" related to election security and that its services would remain available to election officials.

Simon said secretaries of state are still waiting to hear about the agency's plans.

"I regret to say that months later, the letter remains very timely and relevant," he said.

AN AGENCY IN TRANSITION

CISA, as the agency is known, was formed under the first Trump administration to help safeguard the nation's critical infrastructure, from dams and power plants to election systems. It has been undergoing a major transformation since President Donald Trump's second term began in January.

Public records suggest that roughly 1,000 CISA employees have lost their jobs over the past years. The Republican administration in March cut $10 million from two cybersecurity initiatives, including one dedicated to helping state and local election officials.

That was a few weeks after CISA announced it was conducting a review of its election-related work, and more than a dozen staffers who have worked on elections were placed on administrative leave. The FBI also disbanded a task force on foreign influence operations, including those that target U.S. elections.

CISA is still without an official director. Trump's nomination of Sean Plankey, a cybersecurity expert in the first Trump administration, has stalled in the Senate.

CISA officials did not answer questions seeking specifics about the agency's role in the recently completed elections, its plans for the 2026 election cycle or staffing levels. They said the agency remains ready to help protect election infrastructure.

"Under the leadership of President Trump and Secretary Noem, CISA is laser-focused on securing America's critical infrastructure and strengthening cyber resilience across the government and industry," said Marci McCarthy, CISA's director of public affairs.

She said CISA would announce its future organizational plans "at the appropriate time."

Christine Serrano Glassner, CISA's chief external affairs officer, said the agency's experts are ready to provide election guidance if asked.

"In the event of disruptions or threats to critical infrastructure, whether Election Day-related or not, CISA swiftly coordinates with the Office of Emergency Management and the appropriate federal, state and local authorities," she said in a statement.

STATES LEFT ON THEIR OWN

California's top election security agencies said CISA has played a "critical role" since 2018 but provided little, if any, help for the state's Nov. 4 special election, when voters approved a redrawn congressional redistricting map.

"Over the past year, CISA's capacity to support elections has been significantly diminished," the California secretary of state's office said in a statement to The Associated Press. "The agency has experienced major reductions in staffing, funding, and mission focus — including the elimination of personnel dedicated specifically to election security and foreign influence mitigation."

"This shift has left election officials

SEE **ELECTIONS** PAGE 7



Surf report

WATER TEMP: **64.4**

TUESDAY
FAIR TO GOOD
SURF: 3-4ft+ Waist to shoulder

Another fun day. Best days of the workweek Mon-Tue as combo swell and light wind continues. SSW swell starts out similar to late Monday for more waist-chest high surf, pushing head-high for standouts (mostly west of Dume). NW energy is down a peg and eases through the day, but there should still be enough juice to make for a few bowly corners at some of the beachbreaks west of Dume. Early window a good mix of wind and tide again (mid/incoming) with many spots slowing mid to late AM on the deep high. PM onshores should stay mellow enough for a good PM tide drops session.

WEDNESDAY
FAIR
SURF: 2-3ft Thigh to waist

A smaller, cruisy-er day but beautiful weather and conditions. Longboard paradise. Easing SSW/NW swell mix but the weather and conditions will make it worth getting wet (especially if you're a longboard aficionado). Still around knee-waist high at lots of spots, up to chest high at the top combo breaks to the west of Dume. High pressure day with sunny skies and pleasant temps (after a cool morning). Light wind most of the day.

Weather

Tuesday: Sunny, with a high near 71. North northwest wind 5 to 10 mph.
Tuesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 54. North northeast wind 10 to 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.
Wednesday: Sunny, with a high near 74. North wind 10 to 15 mph.
Wednesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 54.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2025/11/25	Tue	02:00 AM	3.26	H
2025/11/25	Tue	04:19 AM	3.16	L
2025/11/25	Tue	11:00 AM	5.03	H
2025/11/25	Tue	7:12 PM	0.26	L
2025/11/26	Wed	03:10 AM	3.46	H
2025/11/26	Wed	05:44 AM	3.33	L
2025/11/26	Wed	11:58 AM	4.63	H
2025/11/26	Wed	8:08 PM	0.42	L
2025/11/27	Thu	03:49 AM	3.77	H
2025/11/27	Thu	07:56 AM	3.27	L
2025/11/27	Thu	1:18 PM	4.21	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: 11/22
28 32 36 51 69
Power#: 2
Jackpot: 654 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 11/21
3 4 19 31 63
Mega#: 9
Jackpot: 70 M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS
Draw Date: 11/22
1 2 4 15 44
Mega#: 23
Jackpot: 11 M

FANTASY 5
Draw Date: 11/23
3 16 21 35 38

DAILY 3
Draw Date: 11/23
EVENING: 2 9 8
Draw Date: 11/23
MIDDAY: 5 0 6

DAILY DERBY
Draw Date: 11/23
1st: 11 - Money Bags
2nd: 09 - Winning Spirit
3rd: 02 - Lucky Star
Race Time: 1:40.62

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Re: City Staff is given great power over citizen home builders, like the Rain Tax

Dear Editor:

It used to be that once you built a new house, Building and Safety would sign off and you could move in. But now, City Council requires that a "Certificate of Occupancy" must be signed by many different "Staff" specialists before you can move in. Each of these specialists has been given the power to write pages of Directives that you must obey. These powers have grown without much supervision. This slows down the building process, adds uncertainty and expense, and overly controls the freedom of citizens who want to build their own homes.

We, as citizen voters, are indirectly responsible for this situation. We should learn more about it.

Here is just one example. One section of Staff is very focused on rain water. The federal Clean Water Act licenses Los Angeles/Santa Monica storm drains. The must guard against pollution like factory chemicals and people dumping motor oil. Neither the U.S. nor California define rain water itself as pollution. But for new residences, Santa Monica staffers do. This is ironic, since before roof water even reaches the street gutters, they have already been scoured by millions of gallons of rain from the streets (about 15 million gallons in a .75inch rainfall).

Actually, the City's well-engineered concrete curbs and culverts are a vast improvement over natural erosion. A glance down the side of the Santa Monica bluffs shows the mix of clay, sand, and silt that washed down for millions of years. In nature, rain returns to the sea, picking up sediment and vegetation. The shallow water marine life has adapted to, and expects, annual rain water with sediment.

It is not industrial pollution when rainwater flows off our well-maintained residential lots. That's why 95% of our neighbors are allowed to let their rainwater flow to the gutters. But the 5% who build a new house need a Certificate of Occupancy. So in those few cases, Staff can require you to capture of large amounts of rain to prevent it from leaving the property, or else you must pay a high fee.

Sensible water recycling is desirable. But Staff hopes that by injecting water into your expanding and contracting clay soil, it will not settle your foundations unevenly and crack stucco, or work its way the short distance downhill to continue peeling away the beach cliffs, but instead will run uphill and become drinkable.

They very much want this to be true. But is it? Maybe, if you're uphill of the wells. Probably not, within a mile of the bluffs. And you're lucky if injecting water into you soil's clay doesn't eventually settle a corner of your new house's foundation.

They charge you an "in-lieu fee" to avoid this experiment. They give you a form to calculate the fee. It's not just for rich developers. Say you need more bedrooms for the children. Land is so expensive that you can't afford to sell your smaller house in order to buy a larger one after paying taxes and commission. But you may be able to build a larger one on your present lot.

Imagine your new house will have 2,400 square feet of roof. I chose this size because across the street in Los Angeles, our sewer permit partner, up to 2500 square feet is completely EXEMPT from these fees (also exempt are all your neighbors).

For 2400 sq. ft. of new roof, S.M.'s worksheet concludes that 150 CUBIC FEET of rain water must be retained on your lot! You get options. If you don't want 150 cubic feet of rain barrels or cisterns, there are other methods, such as a 375 cubic foot gravel pit (it's larger because the gravel takes up part of the space), which is the size of a cube 13.25 feet on each side!

Although gravel pits tend to fill with dirt over time, you must maintain them, using tubes for annual inspections, informing the City each year of the condition, and repairing them for the life of the house! You must sign an agreement that you will inform any future buyer (if I were a future buyer shopping for this home, I would pass). If you don't agree, "You will not receive a Certificate of Occupancy without this final approval."

Instead of following these Directives, you may pay the "in lieu fee". For 2400 square feet the fee is currently $13,785 - which is completely exempt in L.A. (their exemption is 2500 square feet). But it's worse.

The in-lieu fee can actually be closer to $25,000. This is because, unlike L.A., Santa Monica staff also demands payment for the pre-existing hardscape that was not considered polluting before, but now must be added to the fee, such as any remaining roof, patio, driveway, as well as the square footage of any ADU conversion. A few questions:

Does this, and the many other expensive Directives that must be followed to build a new house in Santa Monica, discourage and slow down new housing, reduce the number of new bedrooms being built, and add to the cost?

Doesn't State law exempt ADU conversions from excessive fees?

Doesn't AB 253 require all building permit forms and fees to be posted?

Consider how the City is taking advantage of a very narrow segment of the population. All the other people living in roofed houses all around the neighborhood

SEE **LETTER** PAGE 11

A guide to Thanksgiving travel after the government shutdown

The turbulence caused by the longest U.S. government shutdown may still be fresh on the minds of travelers this Thanksgiving, but experts say preparing for the usual holiday crush of winter weather, heavy traffic and crowded airports can help ease the jitters.

> I think the shutdown at this point is history for air travel. The airlines understand this time of year so well. They know exactly what they need to do
> - Sheldon H. Jacobson, an airport and airlines operations expert

"I think the shutdown at this point is history for air travel. The airlines understand this time of year so well. They know exactly what they need to do," said Sheldon H. Jacobson, an airport and airlines operations expert. "The real challenge is making sure travelers can help themselves."

Here's a guide to navigating the busiest travel week of the year:

HOW BUSY COULD IT BE?

Travel forecasts point to packed airports, roads and trains.

A week after lifting the unprecedented flight restrictions it placed on commercial airlines during the shutdown, the Federal Aviation Administration is preparing for its busiest Thanksgiving week in 15 years, with more than 360,000 flights scheduled between Monday and next Tuesday. That's more than 17.8 million people who will be screened at airports, according to the Transportation Security Administration.

Transportation Secretary Sean Duffy said Monday at a news conference that air traffic controller staffing levels have stabilized in time for what he says will be the busiest Thanksgiving on record for travel, while the head of the FAA reassured passengers that they can "fly with confidence" this week.

AAA projects 1.3 million more travelers will be on the roads than last year, pushing the total number of people traveling by car to at least 73 million.

WINTER WEATHER

You can't control the weather, but you can control how prepared you are if a storm hits. If your flight is canceled or delayed, will you drive instead or postpone or cancel your trip? Knowing your options ahead of time can reduce stress if a storm leaves you stranded.

The Weather Channel offers a Thanksgiving weekly forecast highlighting major airports and highways that could be affected by bad weather — including snow, ice and rain — along with a free online tool in the Weather Channel app that shows how or if your travel route might be impacted.

Forecasters on Monday warned of flooding rain and the possibility of severe thunderstorms from Texas to Arkansas and Louisiana into Mississippi that could cause problems for airports in the Dallas-Fort Worth area and Houston.

By Monday afternoon, over 750 flights into and out of Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport were delayed and about 100 canceled, while at Love Field more than 100 flights were delayed and nearly 70 canceled, according to the flight-tracking website FlightAware.

On Tuesday, the FAA's busiest day with more than 52,000 flights scheduled, forecasters say rain is expected in the Pacific Northwest and in much of the eastern U.S. Airports in Atlanta, Chicago, New York, Philadelphia, Seattle and Washington, D.C. could be impacted, according to the Weather Channel.

Another winter storm in the central U.S. could also take shape late Friday into Saturday.

"The details will come into better focus over the next few days, but anyone traveling home after Thanksgiving should check in on the evolving forecast and be ready for changing conditions," said Matt Sitkowski, science editor-in-chief at the Weather Channel.

WHAT TO PACK (AND WHAT TO SKIP)

Jacobson, whose research contributed to the design of TSA PreCheck, recommends starting your packing by unpacking.

Check every pocket in case TSA-restricted

SEE **TRAVEL** PAGE 11

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BUNGALOW

FROM PAGE 1

as part of the city's vanishing architectural heritage.

"I truly believe that real preservation should highlight exceptional examples of history — not restrict the modification of properties that simply don't meet that level of significance anymore," Naim told the council in written comments submitted for the hearing.

Naim emphasized his track record of preserving historically significant properties, including a 1924 Italian Renaissance Revival building in Wilmington designated as a Historic-Cultural Monument in 2022, and a 1908 Craftsman home in Los Angeles's Jefferson Park historic district.

"When I purchased 1125 18th Street in December 2021, I did so knowing its R2 zoning and its potential — I planned not to erase history, but to contribute something thoughtful and positive to Santa Monica's evolving community," Naim stated.

The appeal was filed by Landmarks Commissioner Pam O'Connor, who argued the commission had misapplied preservation standards by focusing on the property's rarity within the tiny Green Acres Tract rather than considering the broader neighborhood context.

City staff and an independent consultant, Page and Turnbull, recommended against the designation, finding that modest Craftsman bungalows remain "relatively common" in the Wilshire-Montana neighborhood and throughout Santa Monica. According to the city's 2018 Historic Resources Inventory, 178 Craftsman-style buildings were identified citywide, with 30 in the Wilshire-Montana area alone.

> It would seem to me that we might need to update our ordinance, because the way that our ordinance is being applied here seems inconsistent with the written letter of the law
>
> - Caroline Torosis, Mayor Pro Tem

The case raised questions over Santa Monica's "Structure of Merit" designation — a two-tiered preservation system established in 1975 that city officials acknowledge has been difficult to apply consistently.

Unlike the city's 143 full "Landmark" designations, which provide strong protection against demolition, the Structure of Merit classification allows demolition after a 180-day waiting period if the city cannot negotiate preservation alternatives with the property owner.

Several council members raised questions about legal ambiguity in the city's preservation ordinance, particularly regarding Criterion A, which allows designation simply because a property "has been identified in the City's Historic Resources Inventory."

"It would seem to me that we might need to update our ordinance, because the way that our ordinance is being applied here seems inconsistent with the written letter of the law," Mayor Pro Tem Caroline Torosis said during the hearing.

Multiple council members suggested the property appeared to meet the technical requirements for Structure of Merit status under the city's current code, even as they questioned whether the designation made sense.

"If I'm reading the letter of the law, it reads, does it meet criterion A or criterion B? If it meets criterion A, and we confirmed that it does, then the structure meets the criteria for a structure of merit," Council Member Dan Hall said.

Council Member Ellis Raskin questioned staff's interpretation: "Aren't we not supposed to read parts of statutes and ordinances as a circle? It sounds to me like this is speaking to the distinction between structure of merit and the landmark designation, and that there is an intentionally lower bar for the Structure of Merit."

The property attracted significant public interest, with neighborhood residents divided. Preservationists argued the bungalow represents a disappearing architectural heritage, particularly in the eastern portion of the Wilshire-Montana neighborhood where only a handful of Craftsman homes remain.

Resident Neil Risch conducted his own survey of Craftsman homes in the area, finding that only two such structures survive in the historic Green Acres development tract spanning 17th to 21st streets.

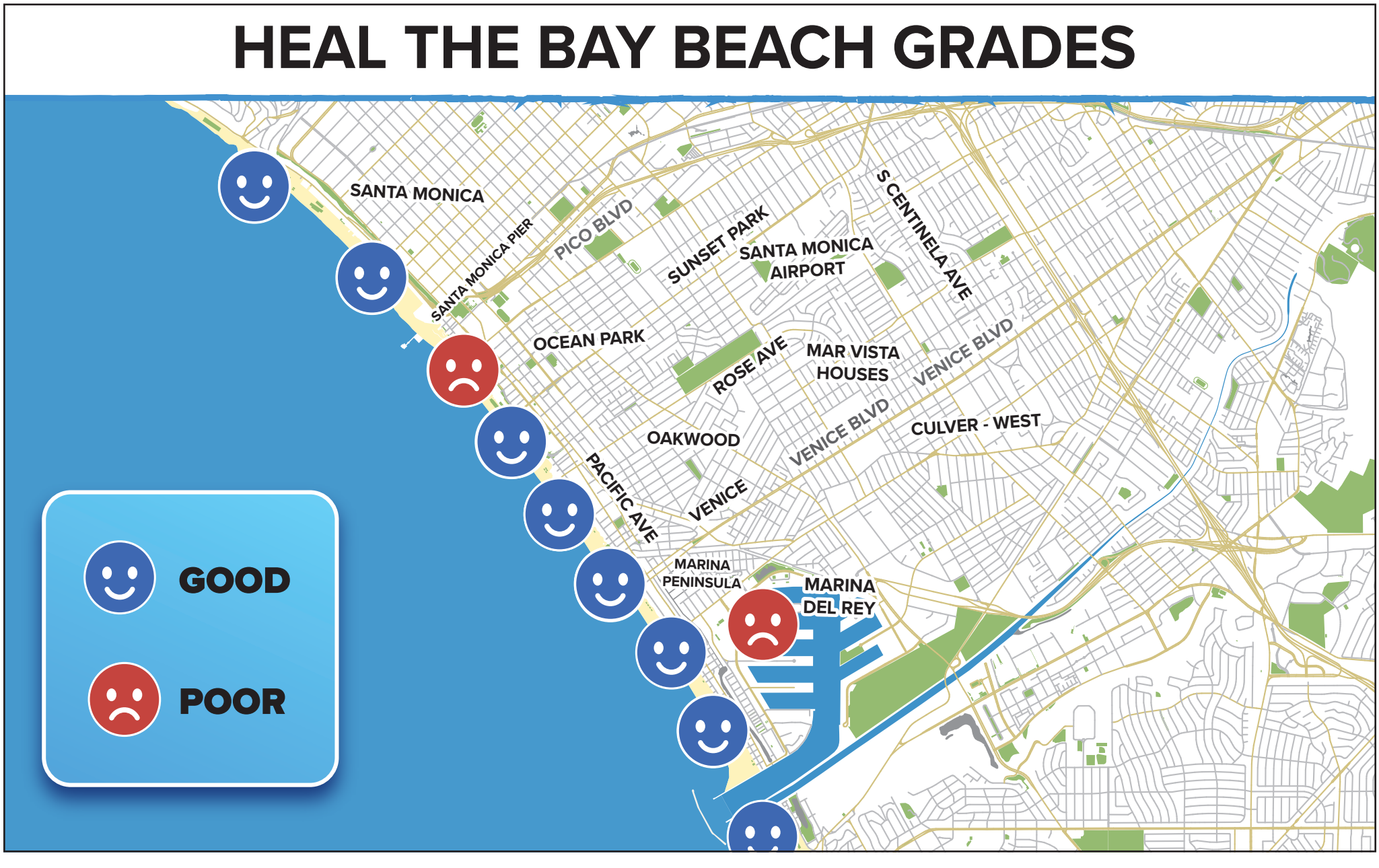
However, opponents argued that preservation was being weaponized to block housing development in a city facing affordability challenges. Several speakers urged the council to not only deny this designation but to eliminate the Structure of Merit category entirely, citing concerns about reduced city revenues from Mills Act tax breaks.

The Santa Monica Conservancy, which filed the original designation application in response to Naim's demolition permit, defended the property's significance.

"The Conservancy's in-depth knowledge of Santa Monica's architectural evolution, cultural histories, and other historical associations can bring a nuanced, contextual perspective not always uncovered by outside consultants," wrote Ruthann Lehrer of the conservancy in written comments.

The 103-year-old bungalow features characteristic Craftsman elements including a low-pitched gable roof, exposed rafter tails and prairie-style window muntins. The property also includes a second residence at the rear of the lot, which was never part of the designation consideration.

maaz@smdp.com



BANK

FROM PAGE 1

proceedings.

Rodd worked in the music and photography industries before starting her fashion line after a cross-country move and winning a reality TV show. But the business has struggled with what the filing describes as a large gap between assets and liabilities.

The company says it wants to restructure its debt and keep its Santa Monica store open. Court filings show the business plans to submit a reorganization plan for court approval, letting it continue operations while addressing what it owes creditors.

1251 Fourth Street Investors LLC reports $10 million to $50 million in both assets and liabilities. The real estate company's case, numbered 25-20294, shows that funds will be available for distribution to unsecured creditors.

The building houses the TJ Maxx store, but there has been no indication that the retailer is leaving because of problems with the building owner.

The filings come as the city tries to revive the local economy against a backdrop of troubling fiscal projections.

Santa Monica City Council unanimously approved a realignment plan recently to restore public safety, revitalize downtown and reach fiscal stability by 2028. The framework addresses rising homelessness, deteriorating public spaces and a projected $29.6 million deficit by using $60 million in reserves for immediate investments. Priorities include a new downtown police substation, expanded patrols, infrastructure improvements, economic development events, streamlined permitting and housing policies. New revenue from parking adjustments, ambulance operations and digital signage aims to generate $21.5 million annually. The plan projects modest deficits through 2027 before reaching a $3.4 million surplus by 2028, with property development potentially rebuilding reserves to $200 million to $300 million.

editor@smdp.com

ELECTIONS

FROM PAGE 3

nationwide without the critical federal partnership they have relied on for several election cycles," according to the office.

CISA alerted California officials in September that it would no longer participate in a task force that brought together federal, state and local agencies to support county election offices. California election officials and the governor's Office of Emergency Services did what they could to fill the gaps and plan for various security scenarios.

In Orange County, California, the registrar of voters, Bob Page, said in an email that the state offices and other county departments "stepped up" to support his office "to fill the void left by CISA's absence."

Neighboring Los Angeles County had a different experience. The registrar's office, which oversees elections, said it continues to get a range of cybersecurity services from CISA, including threat intelligence, network monitoring and security testing of its equipment, although local jurisdictions now have to cover the costs of some services that had been federally funded.

Some other states that held elections this month also said they did not have coordination with CISA.

Mississippi's secretary of state, who heads the national association that sent the letter to Noem, did not directly respond to a request for comment, but his office confirmed that CISA was not involved in the state's recent elections.

In Pennsylvania, which held a nationally watched retention election for three state Supreme Court justices, the Department of State said it is also relied more on its own partners to ensure the elections were secure.

In an email, the department said it was "relying much less on CISA than it had in recent years." Instead, it has begun collaborating with the state police, the state's own homeland security department, local cybersecurity experts and other agencies.

LOOKING FOR ALTERNATIVES

Simon, the former head of the secretary of state's association, said state and local election officials need answers about CISA's plans because officials will have to seek alternatives if the services it had been providing will not be available next year.

In some cases, such as classified intelligence briefings, there are no alternatives to the federal government, he said. But there might be ways to get other services, such as testing of election equipment to see if it can be penetrated from outside.

In past election years, CISA also would conduct tabletop exercises with local agencies and election offices to game out various scenarios that might affecting voting or ballot counting, and how they would react. Simon said that is something CISA was very good at.

"We are starting to assume that some of those services are not going to be available to us, and we are looking elsewhere to fill that void," Simon said.

By STEVE KARNOWSKI and JULIE CARR SMYTH
Associated Press

City of Santa Monica

**CITY OF SANTA MONICA
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Santa Monica invites sealed proposals for

RFP: # 467 Government and Stakeholder Coordination Consultant

- **Submission Deadline is December 2nd, 2025 at 3:00 PM Pacific Time.**

Proposals must include forms furnished by the City of Santa Monica. Request for Proposals may be obtained on the **City's Online Vendor Portal.** The website for this Request for Proposals and related documents is OpenGov (https://procurement.opengov.com/portal/santa-monica-ca) There is no charge for the RFP package.



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Psychic
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Tutoring

Summons

FIRST AMENDED SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL) Case No. 23SMCV02104 NOTICE TO DEFENDANT (AVISO AL DEMANDADO): Pablo Roskell, AML Associates LLC, a Wyoming Limited Liability Company, Macias Abraham, Venice Home Construction LLC, a California Limited Liability Company. YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF (LO ESTÁ DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE): Isaac Aba, 2052 Bundy Dr, #1073, Los Angeles, CA 90025. NOTICE! You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below. You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court. There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. NOTE: The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of $10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case. ¡AVISO! Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 días, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su versión. Lea la información a continuación. Tiene 30 DÍAS DE CALENDARIO después de que le entreguen esta citación y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefónica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y más información en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede más cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario de la corte que le dé un formulario de exención de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podrá quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin más advertencia. Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remisión a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services, (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, (www.sucorte.ca.gov) o poniéndose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales. AVISO: Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos exentos por imponer un gravamen sobre cualquier recuperación de $10,000 ó más de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesión de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desechar el caso. The name and address of the court is (El nombre y dirección de la corte es): Beverly Hills Courthouse, 9355 Burton Way, Beverly Hills, CA 90210. DATE (Fecha): 03/17/2025. Clerk, by (Secretario) David W. Slayton, Executive Officer/Clerk of Court, By J. Sam, Deputy (Adjunto) Clerk. Electronically FILED by Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles 9/17/2025 3:25 PM. SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS Publish: November 11, 2025, November 18, 2025, November 25, 2025, December 02, 2025

SUMMONS ON SECOND AMENDED COMPLAINT (CITACION JUDICIAL) Case No. 25LBCV01515 NOTICE TO DEFENDANT (AVISO AL DEMANDADO): LONG BEACH HEALTHCARE CENTER, LLC dba LONG BEACH HEALTHCARE CENTER; BEECAN HEALTH CT, LLC; IHCM MANAGER LLC; JERRY SHAPIRO; CHAIM RASKIN; COREY SLOCUM, an individual; SOPHIA VALLE, a nominal Defendant; and DOES 1 through 100. YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF (LO ESTÁ DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE): ORLANDO MASCARENAZ, by and through his successor in interest, Josie Diaz; JOSIE DIAZ, individually. NOTICE! You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below. You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court. There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. NOTE: The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of $10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case. ¡AVISO! Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 días, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su versión. Lea la información a continuación. Tiene 30 DÍAS DE CALENDARIO después de que le entreguen esta citación y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefónica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. 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Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services, (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, (www.sucorte.ca.gov) o poniéndose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales. AVISO: Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos exentos por imponer un gravamen sobre cualquier recuperación de $10,000 ó más de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesión de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desechar el caso. The name and address of the court is (El nombre y dirección de la corte es): Governor George Deukmejian Courthouse, 275 Magnolia, Long Beach, CA 90802. The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is (El nombre, la dirección y el número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es): Lanzone Morgan, LLP, 356 Redondo Avenue, Long Beach, California 90814; (562) 596-1700. DATE (Fecha): 10/29/2025. Clerk, by (Secretario) David W. Slayton, Executive Officer/Clerk of Court, By A. Miranda, Deputy (Adjunto) Clerk. Electronically FILED by Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, 10/29/2025 8:00 AM, David W. Slayton, Executive Officer/Clerk of Court, By A. Miranda, Deputy Clerk. SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS Publish: 11/11/2025, 11/18/2025, 11/25/2025, 12/02/2025

Lien

NOTICE OF PUBLIC LIEN SALE Pursuant to the California Self-Service Storage Facility Act, (B&P Code 21700et. seq.), the undersigned will sell at public auction, on Dec 9th, 2025 personal property including, but not limited to business equipment, electronics, furniture, clothing, tools and/or other miscellaneous items located at: A-AMERICAN SELF STORAGE via storagetreasures.com @ 2:00 pm, at 141 West Avenue L Lancaster, CA 93534 (661)948-9505 STORED BY THE FOLLOWING PERSONS: Michael Guerram Caryn Shelley Tami Sullivan Crystal Trejo Jessica Vargas Latoya Wynn Labron Callahn Diane Gonzales Diane Gonzales Diane Gonzales Priscilla Lopez Torres Luis Molina Anita Bordlamay Darnell Brown Brian Burwell Brian Burwell Denise Castillo Tanachi Kaufman Michael Martinez Johnny Medina Cedric Parker Jovan Silver Jonathan Smith Manuel Corral Latasha Frazier Giovanni Garcia Valentine Gaye Barry Grant James Haywood Dayvon Horrice Caitlyn Kern Wendy Martin Deasia Mcdavid Gina Ortiz Gina Ortiz Michelle Pinonez Roberta Joy Riley Maurice Robins Rochelle Santana Caryn Shelley Tracie Taylor Francisco Velasco All sales are subject to prior cancellation. Terms, rules and regulations available at sale. By A-American Storage Management Co, Inc. (310)914-4022, Bond #72BSBBU5400

NOTICE OF PUBLIC LIEN SALE Pursuant to the California Self-Service Storage Facility Act, (B&P Code 21700et. seq.), the undersigned will sell at public auction, on Dec 9th, 2025 personal property including, but not limited to business equipment, electronics, furniture, clothing, tools and/or other miscellaneous items located at: A-AMERICAN SELF STORAGE via storagetreasures.com @ 4:00 pm, at 41413 10th St. West Palmdale, CA 93551 (661)273-6834 STORED BY THE FOLLOWING PERSONS: Tracy Sitterle Josh Schlender Felicia Ross Joseph Reasner Sean Patten Jesse Galvan Julie Domanick Tim Anderson Shirley Ahn Layson Shirley Ahn Layson Shirley Ahn Layson Shirley Ahn Donald Younger Edward WIlliams Pete Venzor Christopher Scalph William Russell Devonte Norton Andy Ybarra Steven Wilson Sabrena Whigham Tracy Sitterle Theresa Marinas Christopher Strongman Ralph Rugama Norman Bennett All sales are subject to prior cancellation. Terms, rules and regulations available at sale. By A-American Storage Management Co, Inc. (310)914-4022, Bond. #72BSBBU54

NOTICE OF PUBLIC LIEN SALE Pursuant to the California Self-Service Storage Facility Act, (B&P Code 21700et. seq.), the undersigned will sell at public auction, on Dec 9th, 2025 personal property including, but not limited to business equipment, electronics, furniture, clothing, tools and/or other miscellaneous items located at: A-AMERICAN SELF STORAGE via storagetreasures.com @ 12:00 pm, at 37228 10th St. East Palmdale, CA 93550 (661)947-3448 STORED BY THE FOLLOWING PERSONS: Jose Cornejo Jose Estrada Gloria Lovato Raymond Mcdonald Jon Primmer Patricia Rivers Aura RodriguezErvin Ford Dejahne Graham Robert Howard Jr All sales are subject to prior cancellation. Terms, rules and regulations available at sale. By A-American Storage Management Co, Inc. (310)914-4022, Bond. #72BSBBU54

Lien

NOTICE OF PUBLIC LIEN SALE Pursuant to the California Self-Service Storage Facility Act, (B&P Code 21700et. seq.), the undersigned will sell at public auction, on Dec 9th, 2025 personal property including, but not limited to business equipment, electronics, furniture, clothing, tools and/or other miscellaneous items located at: A-AMERICAN SELF STORAGE via storagetreasures.com @ 1:00 pm, at 100 E Avenue G8 Lancaster, CA 93535 (661)677-9797 STORED BY THE FOLLOWING PERSONS: Ricardo Carter Damon Harvey Stacey McKinney Abdul Ryan Idris Ryan Vincent Baggio Rodney Hays Lewis Smith All sales are subject to prior cancellation. Terms, rules and regulations available at sale. By A-American Storage Management Co, Inc. (310)914-4022, Bond #72BSBBU5400

Name Change

Black Crows Corp. seeks a Finance Director North America for its office in Culver City, CA. Lead the North American finance department, ensure accurate & timely financial reporting, oversee financial ops. Reqs bachelor's & 24 months experience. May telecommute from within a reasonable commuting distance of Culver City, CA one day per week. Apply by sending a resume to chloe.minie@blackcrows.com & reference the job title above. Applicants who fail to provide a resume and pre-screening question responses will not be considered.

Name Change

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 25SMCP00576. Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, 1725 Main Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401. Petition of Erika Georgiou & Andrew Forero for Change of Name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner Erika Georgiou filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: James Troy Georgiou Forero to Jamie Troy Georgiou Forero. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing. NOTICE OF HEARING: December 19, 2025, 8:30 AM, Dept. K, Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, 1725 Main Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401. Dated: 11/07/2025. s/ Lawrence Cho, Judge of the Superior Court. SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish: 11/11/2025, 11/18/2025, 11/25/2025, 12/02/2025.

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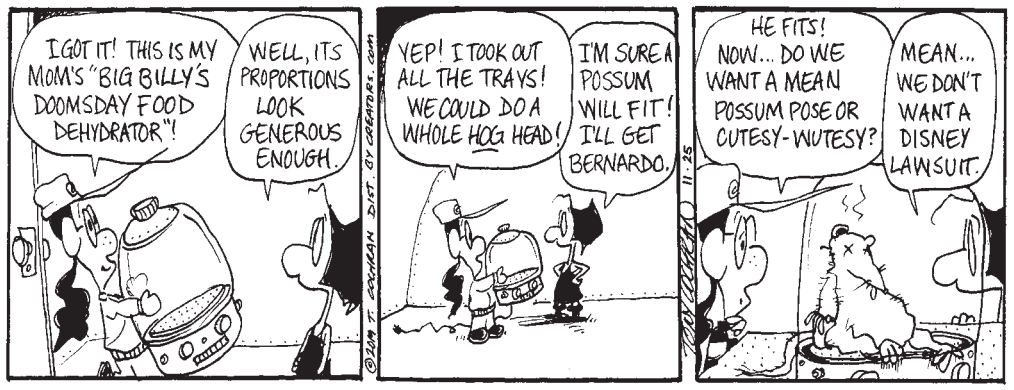
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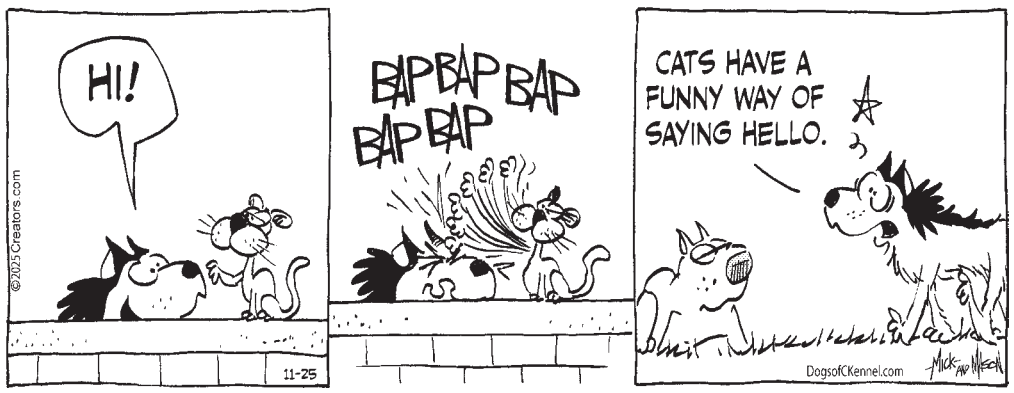
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



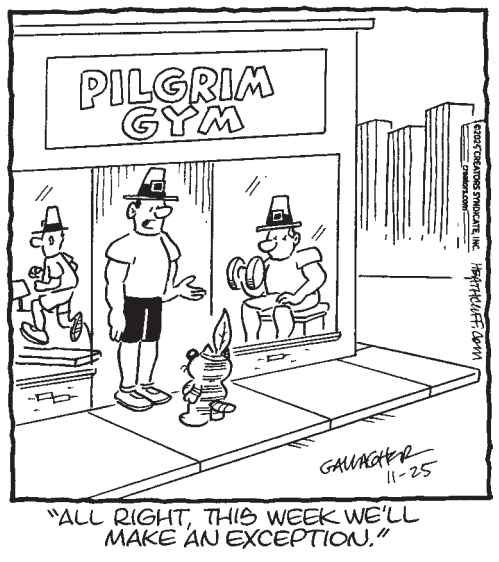
Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



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 24 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle. © australianwordgames.com.au 6770

Barbershop banter

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

Afro	Colour	Long	Short
Aloe	Comb	Magazines	Style
Barber	Conversation	Mirror	Sweep
Basin	Dull	Music	Talk
Beard	Dyed	Natural	Tidy
Boys	Elegant	Plait	Trendy
Braid	Funny	Radio	Trim
Brush	Hair	Razor	Volume
Care	Heat	Regulars	Wash
Chat	Jokes	Roots	Wigs
Clean	Layering	Shave	Youthful

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
The season of sausages

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smdp Santa Monica Daily Press

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Nov. 25)

Welcome to your Year of Community Magic. You'll step into a circle where your gifts uplift many, and the group returns the energy tenfold. You'll attract collaborators who challenge and stretch you, helping your career blossom in directions you couldn't map alone. More highlights: financial stability through a smart partnership, an artistic triumph and an adventure that changes your worldview. Aries and Gemini adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 6, 15, 22, 40 and 13.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Your personal journey also happens to be very relatable. Though what you're doing feels specific to you, it will become meaningful to others, too, if communicated well. The first step is to read the room and adjust your vibes to match it.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Life is like a bubbly drink. Down it on the fresh pour and enjoy the effervescence. If you wait, it goes flat. The sparkle is fleeting, and that's what makes it precious. Taste the moment.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). After a string of intense days, the quiet feels strange but sacred. The body exhales first; the mind lags behind, replaying everything. Let yourself land. Stillness isn't the absence of motion; it's the moment your spirit catches up to you.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). To those who know how to read the signals, body language often tells a deeper truth than words. You are such a person. You may not know exactly what's being expressed, but you read the tension and it makes you curious about getting a fuller story, which you're sure to do today.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). People like you, but that's not what's important here. External approval or popularity isn't the real reward. It's nice, but secondary. The point is, your contribution is making a difference. It's meaningful and will have an impact beyond your control or awareness.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). There are those who will keep taking for as long as they are allowed. With these types, you need to state the boundaries and then refer to them multiple times. Being assertive is the kindest thing to do.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). The day's events remind you that you are in a phase of self-improvement and discernment - not a phase of comfort. Because you want growth, you will opt for the more challenging lessons and teachers.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Follow the muse. She speaks in posters and puffy clouds. She speaks in street art and store windows. She beckons with song and draws you into detours that will be better than the main road.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). There were times you distanced yourself from the decision-making process just to keep things simple for the group. But right now, they need your leadership. Gather the relevant information and leap back in.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You'll receive appreciation, emotional rewards, creative satisfaction - the nonmonetary kinds of payment that make life rich. But it's the financial compensation that allows you to keep going. Material stability keeps the whole system functioning.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Some people can't meet your playfulness. Humor is intimacy in disguise. When you make someone laugh, you've shown them your rhythm, your timing, your view of the world. That can be terrifying for the person who's used to controlling the scene.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Are you starting to notice a pattern? Something repeating in a relationship or a little habit of yours that's not doing you any good? If you knock it off soon, it will be quick and painless with a rich reward.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

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

Newsday Crossword

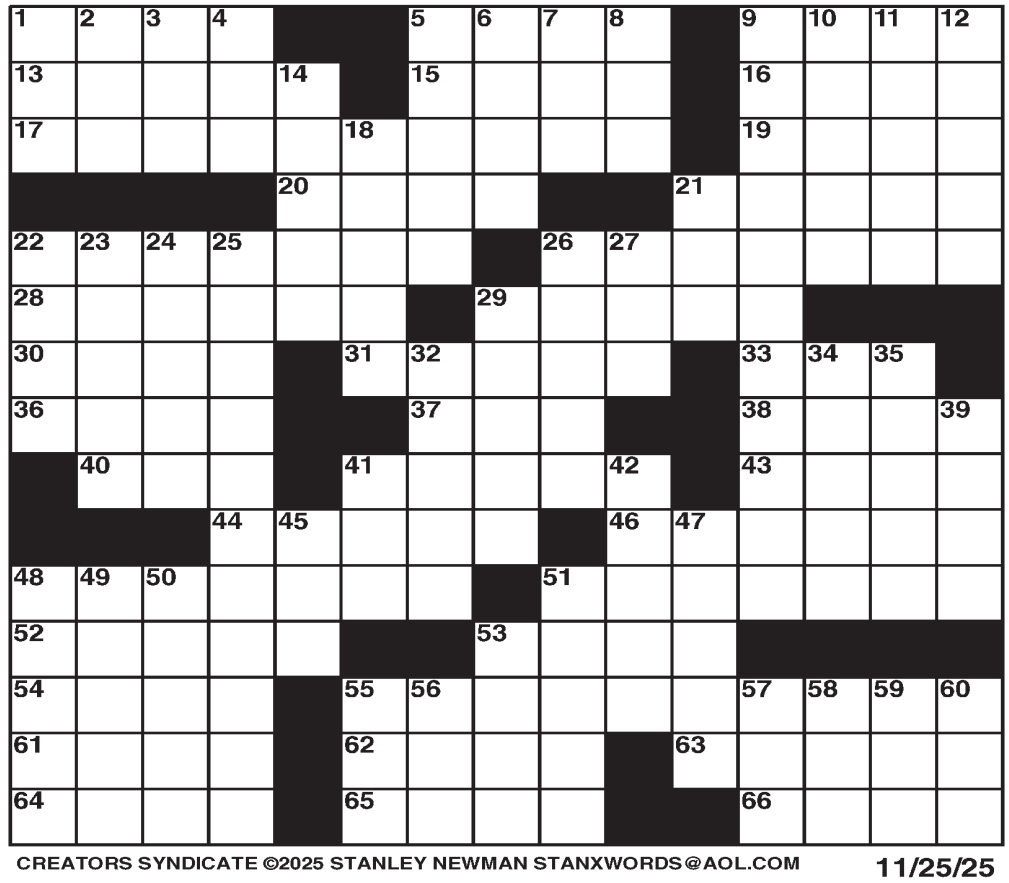
WATERY WORDS by Guilherme Gilioli
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Points at a target
5 Quickly
9 End of a prayer
13 Flexible, as a gymnast
15 Triple-decker cookie
16 Jules Verne sub captain
17 Real-time online broadcast
19 Colorful eye part
20 Epic tale
21 Look happy
22 Cuisine with chow mein and dim sum
26 Was the inventor of
28 Least common
29 Lodging near an Interstate
30 State confidently
31 The lesser of two __
33 Resort with saunas
36 Clothing-store section with ties
37 "Without further __..."
38 Rowboat blades
40 The Big Apple: Abbr.
41 Backup strategy
43 Food-inspecting agcy.
44 Long sandwiches
46 King's __ (large sum of money)
48 Supervisor at work
51 Thinks curiously (about)
52 Cake frosting
53 Breathe quickly
54 Mail-routing abbr.
55 Workplace gambling group
61 A __ pittance (very little money)
62 Chest muscles, for short
63 From then until now
64 Revered person
65 School exam
66 Tennis great Sampras

DOWN

1 Each and every
2 Three, on a sundial
3 Music video network
4 That woman
5 Sign fraudulently
6 Region
7 The Caribbean, e.g.
8 Hanks or Cruise
9 "Moo" or "meow"
10 Be worthy of
11 Author Zola
12 Snooped (around)
14 Four letters in "scissors"
18 Small food sample
21 Take a look at
22 Study hard
23 Place of refuge
24 Literary twist
25 CNN, for example
26 Two-dot punctuation
27 ACLU concerns
29 "Golden touch" king
32 Bravery in battle
34 Out of style
35 Strong enthusiasm
39 __ Club (Costco rival)
41 Prefix meaning "before"
42 Rodeo horse, for short
45 Omelet ingredient
47 Pays to play poker
48 Southeast Florida city
49 Performed in a play
50 Explosive liquid, briefly
51 Belt's spot
53 Single-stripe soldiers: Abbr.
55 Decide (to)
56 Service charge
57 Remarkable thing
58 Hour after noon
59 Halloween's mo.
60 Director Spike



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11/25/25

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

GOVERNOR

FROM PAGE 2

unsteady for the job. But Porter's campaign lined up supporters to help her weather the fallout. It is unclear if the unflattering episode will influence voters.

BECERRA'S NAME PULLED INTO SACRAMENTO SCANDAL

Prosecutors allege longtime Becerra aide Sean McCluskie was at the center of a plan to steal money from one of Becerra's dormant state campaign accounts to pad his salary after he accepted a job as Becerra's chief of staff in Washington.

Becerra is a former House member and state attorney general.

Villaraigosa launched a digital ad spotlighting Becerra's connection to the scandal. Becerra is not implicated in the indictment. But the ad attempts to raise doubts about his judgment and features clips from a TV interview in which Becerra said he knew payments were being made from his account but didn't know they were being improperly used.

A REPUBLICAN SURPRISE?

Even in a heavily Democratic state, Republicans can pull off surprises.

Last year, former baseball star Steve Garvey finished second in the U.S. Senate primary, besting Porter and then-Democratic Rep. Barbara Lee and advancing to the November election. He lost to now-Democratic Sen. Adam Schiff. The leading Republicans in the governor's race — Riverside County Sheriff Chad Bianco and conservative commentator Steve Hilton — are hoping to slip through into November, given the large Democratic field dividing the vote.

There are other unknowns. Billionaire shopping mall developer Rick Caruso hasn't ruled out a run, after losing his bid to become Los Angeles mayor.

By MICHAEL R. BLOOD AP Political Writer

LETTER

FROM PAGE 4

are not subject to these demands.

The other citizens are free of the Staff power to withhold a Certificate of Occupancy. Even professional remodelers, if they alter less than 50% of their spec house, don't face these fees and Directives.

If rainwater running off our lots is damaging the ocean, S.M. should enforce the rules on everyone. If not, they should pick on no one. Staff shouldn't be given the power to arbitrarily charge much more "in-lieu fee" than their storm drain permit partner, L.A.

Like L.A., the fee should NOT include the already-existing surfaces unless the neighbors are also charged for theirs. It should NOT illegally include ADU conversions. And like L.A., it should exempt at least the first 2500 square feet, so that people get equal treatment, whether they're adding to their old home or building an unattached new home.

This is just one example of the extreme demands arising from the unrestrained "Certificate of Occupancy" powers of local Staff. People wanting to build a larger house should be encouraged, not treated as the enemy for wanting to add more bedrooms during the housing crisis.

Sincerely,

Mary Williams, Santa Monica

TRAVEL

FROM PAGE 5

items, like full-sized bottles, were left behind from a previous trip. This simple scan can help you get through security faster, especially when airports are crowded.

If you're traveling with gifts, Jacobson suggests wrapping them at your destination because TSA agents may need to open them.

When deciding which clothes and shoes to pack, James Belanger, vice president of meteorology at the Weather Company, said to check the "feels like" temperature for a better sense of the weather, especially for those not used to the cold.

And don't forget a REAL ID is required to fly within the U.S., or bring another accepted form of ID, like a passport or military ID.

People with iPhones can now also add their U.S. passport details to Apple Wallet, which can be scanned at participating airports if travelers don't have a REAL ID. More than a dozen states already accept some form of a mobile ID at airport checkpoints, and travelers can go to the TSA website for more details.

ROAD TRIP READY

Whether driving is your top choice or backup plan, AAA spokesperson Aixa Diaz suggests checking your tires, car battery and fluids, then hitting the road with a full tank of gas as early as possible to avoid traffic. Last year, AAA said, it responded to nearly 600,000 emergency roadside assistance calls during the Thanksgiving travel period to help drivers stranded by dead batteries, flat tires and empty tanks.

According to an analysis by Google Maps:

— Traffic on Wednesday is expected to be 14% heavier than usual between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., with peak traffic from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

— On Thanksgiving Day, the roads will be busiest between noon and 3 p.m.

— When it's time to head home, avoid driving from 12 to 3 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, when traffic is heaviest.

The best passenger

"...is an informed passenger," Jacobson likes to say.

Download your airline's app to track your flight status, and check it regularly as your travel date approaches. That way, if your flight is canceled the day before, you can quickly look for alternatives.

Driving or flying, leave earlier than you think you need to. Knowing you won't have to rush to your destination can help calm any nerves, whether it's lingering anxiety from the shutdown or because you're traveling with young kids or someone who needs extra help getting around.

"These are some very simple things to think about, but they're important things to think about," Jacobson said.

By RIO YAMAT AP Airlines and Travel Writer. Associated Press writer Jamie Stengle in Dallas contributed.



TUESDAY | NOVEMBER 25

WALKING MEDITATION

8:00 a.m.- 9:00 a.m. Beach lot 5 South 2600 Bernard Way Los Angeles. Walking meditation is and has always been a significant alternative to sitting meditation, especially for those starting a new practice. The goal of meditation is to be able to practice in all positions, conditions and activities whether sitting, standing, walking, lying down, or whenever awake. We'll meet Tuesday's and Thursdays at 8 am at lifeguard tower 28 in line with Ashland Street (paid parking available in the Santa Monica Beach lot 5 South) We'll walk silently together for approximately 45 minutes on the shoreline (from tower 28 to the rainbow tower at Brooks Street and back). Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/walking-meditation/16206460/2025-11-25T08

SANTA MONICA COLLEGE GUITAR SHOWCASE PRESENTS FREE CONCERT NOV. 25

11:15 a.m. SMC Performing Arts Center 1310 11th Street, Santa Monica Boulevard Santa Monica. The Santa Monica College Music Department will present the popular SMC Guitar Showcase on Tuesday, Nov. 25, at 11:15 a.m. in The Edye at the SMC Performing Arts Center, 1310 11th Street (at Santa Monica Boulevard), Santa Monica. The concert is free, but seating is limited and strictly on a first-arrival basis. Early arrival is highly recommended. Free parking on premises. Under the direction of Jimmy Cheesman, the epic concert will feature SMC guitar students performing a range of classical, rock, pop, blues, and reggae music. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/santa-monica-college-guitar-showcase-presents-free-concert-nov-25/17423814/2025-11-25T11

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. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/tech-tasks/16225799/2025-11-25T16

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/16004734/2025-11-25T22

WEDNESDAY | NOVEMBER 26

DOWNTOWN FARMERS MARKET - WEDNESDAY MARKET

8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Downtown Santa Monica Arizona Avenue (Between 4th & Ocean) Santa Monica. One of the largest grower-only Certified Farmers Market in Southern California and a favorite for local chefs! Enjoy one of Santa Monica's farmers markets, widely considered to be among the best on the west coast and featuring field-fresh produce, hundreds of kinds of vegetables, brilliant cut flowers, breads, cheeses, and more. Downtown Farmers Market Locations: Wednesdays at Arizona Ave & 2nd St and Saturdays at Arizona & 3rd St. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/downtown-farmers-market-wednesday-market/12382446/2025-11-26T08

FRIENDS OF VENICE LIBRARY: YOGA FOR EVERYONE!

12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. Venice Branch Library 501 S Venice Blvd. Venice. Through body awareness, movement, and breath, you will be guided on how to bring your body, mind, and spirit back into balance for overall well-being. All levels are welcome. Generously funded by the Friends of Venice Library. For ADA accommodations, call (213) 228-7430 at least 72 hours prior to the event. Para ajustes razonables según la ley de ADA, llama al (213) 228-7430 al menos 72 horas antes del evento. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/friends-of-venice-library-yoga-for-everyone-/14548476/2025-11-26T12

THURSDAY | NOVEMBER 27

THANKSGIVING IN VENICE 2025- FEED THE HOMELESS

6:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Rose Ave- In between Hampton Dr and Main St 219 E Rose Avenue Los Angeles. THANKSGIVING IN VENICE outreach brought to you by Lost Angel x Havasole #LostAngelsOrg x #Havasole x #MovingForwardTgthr x #VeniceBeach. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/thanksgiving-in-venice-2025-feed-the-homeless/17476025/2025-11-27T06

CLUB LATINO PARA ADULTOS MAYORES

11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Virginia Avenue Park 2200 Virginia Ave. Santa Monica. Venga, aprenda, y diviertase cada jueves de 11 AM a 1 PM el el salón 3 del parque Virginia. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/club-latino-para-adultos-mayores/13943928/2025-11-27T11

OAKWOOD ROOTS FARMERS AND WELLNESS MARKET

11:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. 685 Westminster Ave Venice. Oakwood Roots Venice Farmers' and Wellness Market is a hub for local foods, wellness classes, and holistic healing. We are dedicated to fostering a strong community, supporting local businesses, and advocating for sustainable practices. Join us in creating a healthier and more connected neighborhood. This is part of a larger effort to revitalize the abandoned parking lots across the street from the park into a community hub, in partnership with Community Corporation of Santa Monica and Hoopbus. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/oakwood-roots-farmers-and-wellness-market/14548473/2025-11-27T11

FOOTBALL SHOWINGS AT THE WHALER!

101 Broadway CA 90401 Contact Info (424) 330-0166 info@venicewhaler.com Does not apply on holidays Santa Monica. Enjoy food & drink specials during every football game! The Whaler shows every college and nfl game on all tvs every week all season! (Sound is only on if that is the only game playing). Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/football-showings-at-the-whaler-/17408731/2025-11-27T00

THANKS FOR THE LOVE

THANK YOU *for voting* SANTA MONICA BREW WORKS MOST LOVED "BAR / LOUNGE" *and* MOST LOVED "SPOT TO CATCH A GAME"

MOST LOVED 2025 Santa Monica

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