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JSX air service approved at Santa Monica Airport through 2028 closure date

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

The City of Santa Monica has approved a commercial operations permit and three-year lease agreement for JSX to operate scheduled passenger air service at Santa Monica Airport through Nov. 30, 2028, following what officials described as a rigorous technical and legal review.

SEE **JSX** PAGE 15

Malibu City Council approves armed security patrols, advances wildfire safety planning

MAAZ ALIN
SMDP Staff Writer

The Malibu City Council voted unanimously Monday, Nov. 24, to deploy armed security guards at two city parks experiencing persistent homelessness issues while also advancing a comprehensive update to the city's safety plans aimed at reducing wildfire risks and securing insurance discounts for residents.

The council approved a contract with American Global Security for up to 120 days to provide two armed guards patrolling Legacy Park and Malibu Bluffs Park for eight hours daily. The patrols, estimated to cost approximately $18,000 per month,

SEE **PATROLS** PAGE 5

Ice entrepreneur still has a burning passion for the cold stuff

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

In a place where the mid-December weather is a sunny 74 degrees and UGG boots can be seen paired with bikini tops, "winter" isn't really a season, but more a state of mind.

But when it comes to putting the "holly" in Hollywood, Santa Monica's seasonal ice rink is one of the ways that Los Angeles knows it's time for hot cocoa and candy canes.

The patch of ice at the corner of 5th and Broadway is a truly beloved holiday tradition. Whether it's besties in matching sweaters jamming to Taylor Swift Night, couples (young or otherwise) looking for an excuse to hold hands or families out for a night of holiday joy, the rink is the center of Santa Monica's winter activity.

It's also a technological marvel capable of supporting skating in what would be otherwise unthinkably warm conditions.

SEE **ICE** PAGE 12



Matthew Hall

ICE: Willy Bietak has kept skating at the forefront of winter entertainment for decades.



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Waymo to collect holiday toys at Santa Monica City Hall event

Santa Monica residents can donate toys for local families in need Saturday while getting a firsthand look at the autonomous vehicles that will deliver the gifts across the city.

Waymo, the autonomous driving technology company, will station one of its self-driving vehicles at Santa Monica City Hall on Dec. 6 from 3 to 4:30 p.m. to collect donations for the Boys & Girls Clubs of Santa Monica Annual Toy Drive. The collection coincides with Santa Cruise, an annual 6-mile celebratory skateboarding event from Santa Monica to Venice organized by local nonprofit Beyond the Board.

Community members who donate toys will receive a promotional code for a complimentary Waymo ride, allowing them to experience the same technology that will transport the collected gifts to more than 300 families throughout Santa Monica.

The toy collection will take place at City Hall, located at 1685 Main Street. Remarks from community leaders and partners are scheduled to begin at 4 p.m., with leadership from Boys & Girls Clubs of Santa Monica, along with families and staff, speaking about the partnership's impact on local children and families.

After the event concludes, Waymo vehicles will deliver the collected toys to the Boys & Girls Clubs of Santa Monica's office at 1220 Lincoln Blvd.

"We're proud to call Santa Monica home, and be part of this vibrant community," said Suzanne Philion, chief marketing officer at Waymo. "At Waymo, we're committed to improving road safety, making mobility more accessible, and serving our community. By using our autonomous vehicles to deliver toys to local families this holiday season, we're demonstrating how innovation can support the important work of organizations like Boys & Girls Clubs of Santa Monica."

> We're proud to call Santa Monica home, and be part of this vibrant community
>
> - Suzanne Philion, chief marketing officer at Waymo

Philion added that the company was honored to stand alongside community partners and help bring joy to local children and families during the holidays.

Brynja Seagren, CEO of Boys & Girls Clubs of Santa Monica, expressed gratitude for Waymo's support of the holiday toy drive.

"We're grateful to Waymo for supporting Boys & Girls Clubs of Santa Monica's Holiday Toy Drive and helping us create magical holiday memories for local kids," Seagren said. "We serve over 2,000 kids and teens each year and partnerships like this one show our members that innovative companies believe in their potential and their futures."

The partnership brings together Waymo's technology with the Boys & Girls Clubs' community service mission. The skateboarding event, which attracts more than 1,000 attendees annually, provides an opportunity for widespread community participation in the toy drive.

Waymo is an autonomous driving technology company that started as the Google Self-Driving Car Project in 2009. The company's fully autonomous ride-hailing service provides hundreds of thousands of rides every week in San Francisco, Phoenix, Los Angeles, Austin and Atlanta.

According to the company, data shows Waymo's technology is involved in five times fewer injury-causing collisions compared to human drivers. The Waymo Driver has autonomously driven over 100 million miles on public roads and tens of billions in simulation across 15-plus U.S. states.

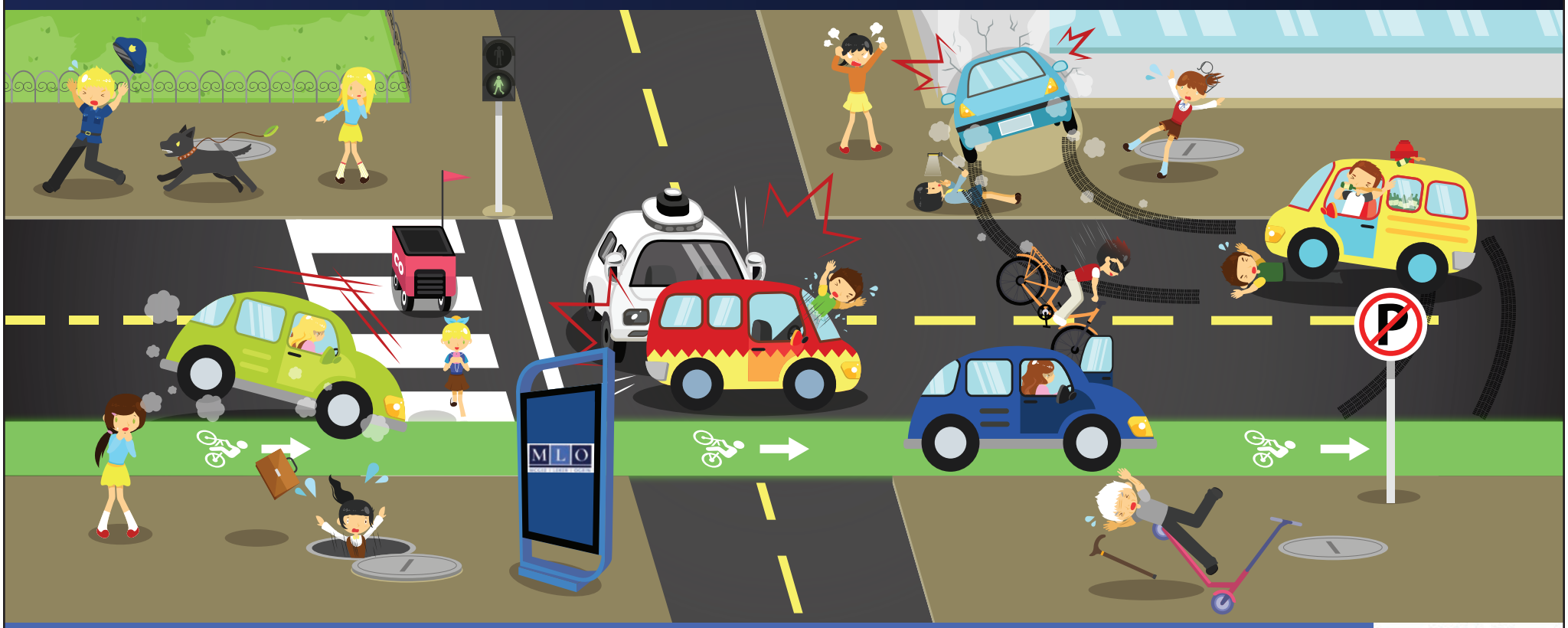
Boys & Girls Clubs of Santa Monica provides a safe, positive environment where young people can develop the qualities needed to become responsible citizens and leaders. The organization serves over 2,000 kids and teens annually and offers programs focused on academic success, healthy lifestyles, and character and leadership development.

Beyond the Board is a Santa Monica-based skateboarding nonprofit dedicated to building community and promoting active lifestyles through skateboarding events and programs. The Santa Cruise event is one of the organization's signature annual gatherings.

> We're grateful to Waymo for supporting Boys & Girls Clubs of Santa Monica's Holiday Toy Drive and helping us create magical holiday memories for local kids
>
> - Brynja Seagren, CEO of Boys & Girls Clubs of Santa Monica

Submitted by Waymo and the Boys & Girls Club

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Where the blame will fall if ACA subsidies expire, according to a new poll

Fifty-two-year-old Dinam Bigny sank into debt and had to get a roommate this year, in part because of health insurance premiums that cost him nearly $900 per month.

Next year, those monthly fees will rise by $200 — a significant enough increase that the program manager in Aldie, Virginia, has resigned himself to finding cheaper coverage.

"I won't be able to pay it, because I really drained out any savings that I have right now," he said. "Emergency fund is still draining out — that's the scary part."

Bigny is among the many Americans dependent on Affordable Care Act marketplace health insurance plans who are already struggling with the high cost of health care, according to a new survey from the health care research nonprofit KFF.

Most of the more than 1,300 enrollees surveyed in early November say they anticipate that their health costs will be impacted next year if Congress doesn't extend expiring COVID-era tax credits that help more than 90% of enrollees pay for health insurance premiums, per KFF. The possibility of an extension looks increasingly unlikely.

The enhanced premium tax credits set to expire at the end of this year have been at the center of recent tensions in Congress, with Democrats calling for a straight extension and several Republican lawmakers vehemently opposed to the idea. Their inability to agree on a path forward fueled a record 43-day government shutdown earlier this fall.

President Donald Trump and some Republicans in Congress have circulated proposals in recent weeks to offer a short-term extension or reform the Affordable Care Act, but no plan has emerged as a clear winner. Meanwhile, the window for Americans to shop for next year's plans is well underway with less than a month to go until the subsidies expire.

KFF's poll reveals that marketplace enrollees — most of whom say they would be directly impacted by the subsidies expiring — overwhelmingly support an extension. The survey found this group is more likely to blame Trump and Republicans in Congress than Democrats if the tax credits are left to expire.

ENROLLEES ALREADY FIND IT CHALLENGING TO AFFORD HEALTH EXPENSES

The expiration of the tax credits — which a separate KFF analysis found will more than double monthly payments for the average subsidized enrollee — comes as Americans are already overwhelmed by high health expenses, the poll shows.

About 6 in 10 Affordable Care Act enrollees find it "somewhat" or "very" difficult to afford out-of-pocket costs for medical care, such as deductibles and copays. That exceeds the roughly half of enrollees who find it challenging to afford health insurance premiums. Most also say they could not afford a $300 per year increase in their health insurance costs without significantly disrupting their household finances.

Cynthia Cox, a vice president of KFF who leads the organization's ACA research, said the population of Americans on Affordable Care Act health insurance includes some high-earning entrepreneurs and small business owners, but the bulk of enrollees are lower-income and therefore vulnerable to even small increases in health costs.

"These are often going to be people who are living paycheck to paycheck, who have volatile or unpredictable incomes as well," she said. "Increases that many of them are facing are going to be some sort of financial hardship for them."

MOST ENROLLEES SEE COST INCREASES ON THE HORIZON

Slightly more than half of Affordable Care Act marketplace enrollees believe their health insurance costs will increase "a lot more than usual" next year, according to the poll. About another 4 in 10 anticipate increases that will be "a little more than usual" or "about the same as usual."

Larry Griffin, a 56-year-old investment banker and financial adviser in Paso Robles, California, already pays $920 a month for his gold-level health plan through the state's insurance marketplace. He says that price will go up to about $1,400 a month next year — alongside jumps in copays and his annual out-of-pocket maximum.

He's concerned the increases will affect his ability to save money for his upcoming retirement, but with the recent amputation of his left leg below the knee, as well as other health issues, he said he can't risk going off health insurance or downgrading his plan.

Griffin is among the roughly three-quarters of marketplace enrollees who say health insurance is "very important" for their ability to access the health care they need.

"I'm not going to say that I can't manage it, I can, but it's just another one of those things," he said. "Here's, you know, knock number 5,000 against me after all of the other things I've had to deal with."

Patricia Roberts, 52, a full-time caregiver for her daughter in Auburn, Alabama, received a notice saying her monthly health insurance premiums would rise from around $800 a month to $1,100 a month next year — but she was later notified the monthly cost would actually be more than $1,400, prompting her to look for a downgraded plan.

She said her friends across the border in Georgia are staring down doubling monthly fees next year.

"I don't know how people are going to live, with it already being a struggle just to pay for food and all the other things," Roberts said.

SUPPORT FOR AN EXTENSION STRETCHES ACROSS POLITICAL PARTIES

The poll shows allowing the enhanced tax credits to expire would be overwhelmingly unpopular with current marketplace enrollees.

Support for continuing the tax credits extends across party lines. Nearly all Democrats and about 8 in 10 independents who are enrolled in marketplace plans say the credits should be extended, as do about 7 in 10 Republicans. Support is similarly high among Republicans and Republican-leaning independents who support the MAGA

SEE **INSURANCE** PAGE 4



Surf report — WATER TEMP: 63.0

FRIDAY — ***POOR TO FAIR*** | **SURF:** 1-2ft Knee to thigh

Smaller day of waves and a deep high tide bogging down much of the morning. Mostly working with modest southerly swell as a little bit of shorter-period NW energy mixes in. Pretty flat around the 7' high tide, bumping into knee-high territory for the points as it drops. Standouts go thigh-high+. Wind should stay down long enough to get a piece of the tide drop, and the back half of the day could stay fairly decent too.

SATURDAY — ***POOR TO FAIR*** | **SURF:** 1-2ft Knee to thigh

Combo nudges up but the morning high tide slows things down. Light PM wind possible. S swell bumps up for the weekend and some fresh WNW swell mixes in. Not enough to power through the AM high tide but there should be some waves to track down as the tide drops into the afternoon. Wind looks light for the morning and there's potential it'll stay down for the afternoon low tide session.

Weather

Friday: Sunny, with a high near 66. North northeast wind 5 to 10 mph becoming southwest in the afternoon.
Friday Night: Clear, with a low around 47. West wind around 5 mph becoming northeast in the evening.
Saturday: Sunny, with a high near 64. East southeast wind 5 to 10 mph becoming southwest in the afternoon.
Saturday Night: Clear, with a low around 51.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2025/12/05	Fri	02:03 AM	2.08	L
2025/12/05	Fri	08:26 AM	7.28	H
2025/12/05	Fri	3:53 PM	-1.79	L
2025/12/05	Fri	10:30 PM	3.81	H
2025/12/06	Sat	02:50 AM	2.24	L
2025/12/06	Sat	09:12 AM	7.09	H
2025/12/06	Sat	4:44 PM	-1.63	L
2025/12/06	Sat	11:27 PM	3.76	H
2025/12/07	Sun	03:41 AM	2.41	L
2025/12/07	Sun	10:01 AM	6.68	H
2025/12/07	Sun	5:36 PM	-1.29	L
2025/12/08	Mon	12:27 AM	3.76	H
2025/12/08	Mon	04:41 AM	2.59	L
2025/12/08	Mon	10:54 AM	6.08	H
2025/12/08	Mon	6:28 PM	-0.82	L

Daily Lottery

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

POWERBALL — Draw Date: 12/3
1 14 20 46 51
Power#: 26
Jackpot: 820 M

MEGA MILLIONS — Draw Date: 12/2
17 25 26 53 60
Mega#: 16
Jackpot: 50 M

SuperLotto Plus — Draw Date: 12/3
4 11 19 23 24
Mega#: 27
Jackpot: 8 M

Fantasy 5 — Draw Date: 12/3
6 7 28 29 32

Daily 3 — Draw Date: 12/3
EVENING: 9 9 8
Draw Date: 12/3
MIDDAY: 2 5 9

Daily Derby — Draw Date: 12/3
1st: 08 - Gorgeous George
2nd: 01 - Gold Rush
3rd: 02 - Lucky Star
Race Time: 1:40.98

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Santa Monica Daily Press

GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Value of historic preservation

The SMDP report on the controversy over a historic preservation issue: "Santa Monica Council Weighs Historic Status for 1920s Craftsman Bungalow," by Maaz Alin on November 25th, omitted key points that were presented by the Santa Monica Conservancy and discussed by councilmembers.

While the decision made to deny the appeal utilized a provision in the landmarks ordinance that staff and the consultant failed to acknowledge, councilmembers' discussion and decision endorsed the rationale presented by the Conservancy.

The bungalow represents the first wave of residential development in the Wilmont neighborhood in the 1920s and is one of just 30 Craftsman homes surviving there today. Wilmont's area is from Ocean to 21stSt. and Wilshire to Montana. Citywide, only 178 Craftsman bungalows remain, mostly in Ocean Park. As such, it represents an architectural type that is rare in the context of today's urbanized streetscapes, meeting the designation criteria of "no longer prevalent."

Additionally, the design of this bungalow is a distinctive and original treatment of Craftsman bungalow architecture, meeting the criteria of "unique and rare."

City Council's action supported these positive findings of the Landmarks Commission in upholding the designation. What helped them to understand the value of preserving significant historic places were examples presented by the Conservancy in which a small-scale historic structure is combined with new residential development in one project. Santa Monica has pioneered this solution to the misconception that preservation and new construction are incompatible, through zoning incentives allowing variances in height and development standards. Our City can be proud of innovative solutions where a small Victorian home has new condos behind, and high-rise affordable housing units include the historic Japanese community center Nikkei Hall. Combining old and new results in success. As our City accelerates its growth with new housing, preserving "windows into the past" such as we see at 1125 18th St. retains the layered fabric of our neighborhoods with tangible links showing the story of our evolution.

Ruthann Lehrer. Santa Monica Conservancy



GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Wind, water and solar energy aren't enough. California needs nuclear options

Sure, California can swear off fossil fuels and shut down its nuclear plants, powering itself entirely with wind, water, and sun.

All it takes is getting used to weekly rolling blackouts.

Some energy predictions are tricky; this one isn't. We can estimate how much electricity each solar panel and wind turbine will produce, and when they'll produce it. Then we can plug those numbers into a computer, along with green advocates' optimistic projections of future electricity demand, to see how supply and demand match up on an hourly and seasonal basis.

Even with vastly expanded battery storage capacity to smooth things out, the match is poor.

California will sometimes generate renewable energy in abundance, but grid operators will still face tough choices — such as disconnecting generators when there's too much sun and little demand or firing up fossil-fuel based gas turbines when there's no sun or wind at all.

During much of the year, especially in late summer and throughout December and January, solar and wind power will meet demand for some hours but not have enough excess to charge the batteries.

California might generate as much energy from wind and sun as it uses overall, but not when it's needed. To keep the power flowing, the state will actually need up to 80 gigawatts of gas-fired backup capacity — far more than it has today — or risk repeated shortfalls.

Eighty gigawatts is enormous. California's current peak demand is just over 52 gigawatts, but by 2050 — with millions of electric vehicles, heat pumps, and energy-hungry data centers — electric demand will be far higher.

Keeping all that backup generation on standby won't come cheap. The cost of maintaining this fossil fuel capacity must be added to the already high cost of intermittent renewables like solar and wind.

A system powered solely by solar, wind, and hydro isn't an engineering strategy; it's a belief system. Zealotry and energy reliability don't mix.

Some zealots who advocate for an all-renewable energy future have offered unrealistic scenarios for powering California while eliminating carbon emissions. Our recent studies show their plan for California would leave it short of power at least 50 days a year.

The state's official energy plan isn't much better. A new grid simulator — the Hourly Electric Grid Analysis, or HELGA — compares expected demand with renewable output on an hour-by-hour basis. It shows California's plan would cost nearly a trillion dollars yet still require the grid to burn almost as much natural gas as it does today.

Like every other state, California will need large, zero-carbon generators that operate independently of the weather to meet its climate goals.

Realistically, that means nuclear power.

A fleet of advanced reactors running around the clock can provide reliable, carbon-free electricity. New designs — such as Bill Gates's Natrium reactor with molten salt thermal storage — are engineered to ramp output up and down in response to grid demand. Others will operate continuously, supplying the grid or charging storage systems as needed.

California can reach its climate goals, but not through blind adherence to ideology. Clean, reliable power is possible, but only if the state faces reality about what it takes to get there.

Leonard Rodberg is professor emeritus of Urban Studies at Queens College, City University of New York.

INSURANCE

FROM PAGE 3

movement, and those who don't.

Yvette Laugier, 56, a Republican in Chicago, said while her income is too high to qualify her for the enhanced premium tax credits, she supports extending them temporarily with additional fraud protections to give lower-income enrollees more time to consider their options.

Among those who think Congress should extend the credits, about 4 in 10 say Trump would deserve "most of the blame" if they were allowed to expire and roughly one-third say that about Republicans in Congress. Democrats in Congress are much less likely to receive blame: only 23% of enrollees say they would deserve the bulk of responsibility.

Bigny, in Virginia, said the blame should be split between both Democrats and Republicans. But he has hope they can come to a compromise and potentially a temporary extension in the coming weeks.

"They should just sit and really look for what's best for American people overall," he said.

By ALI SWENSON, LINLEY SANDERS and AMELIA THOMSON-DEVEAUX Associated Press. Swenson reported from New York.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Pico

Brooklyn Banjo Player Nora Brown to Perform at McCabe's Guitar Shop

Twenty-year-old Brooklyn banjo player Nora Brown will perform at McCabe's Guitar Shop on Jan. 3 with award-winning fiddle player Stephanie Coleman.

Brown, who has more than 150,000 monthly listeners on Spotify, plays Appalachian-style folk music and has performed two NPR Tiny Desk Concerts. Her music will be featured in Ken Burns' PBS documentary series "The American Revolution," premiering Sunday, Nov. 16.

Rock legend Robert Plant has praised Brown in recent interviews with MOJO and Guitar.com, saying, "If you don't know Nora Brown, your world is about to change."

Brown was introduced to traditional music at age 6 through what her parents thought would be routine ukulele lessons. The late Shlomo Pestcoe, a historian and old-time musician, taught her old-time tunes on ukulele from his studio apartment in Brooklyn, later instructing her on fiddle, mandolin, guitar and banjo.

Brown now plays traditional Appalachian music with a focus on banjo playing from Eastern Kentucky and Tennessee. She has studied with mentors including the late John Cohen and learned directly from master musicians Alice Gerrard, George Gibson and the late Lee Sexton.

She has toured across the U.S., Europe and Japan, playing renowned festivals including Newport Folk Festival, Roskilde Festival and the Trans-Pecos Festival of Love in Marfa, Texas. She has performed on NPR's Tiny Desk twice, TED Salon, WNYC's "Dolly Parton's America" and an official showcase at the 2022 Americana Fest in Nashville.

Since 2019, Brown has released four albums on Brooklyn's Jalopy Records Label. All records have charted on the Billboard Bluegrass Charts during their first week of release.

The New Yorker called her most recent record, "Long Time To Be Gone," a "disarming collection of traditional laments and exquisite banjo instrumentals." Fretboard Journal called her second album, "Sidetrack My Engine," "some of the most interesting and haunting traditional music we've heard... impossibly talented."

Brown has won numerous banjo and folk song competitions at various fiddlers conventions, including the Clifftop Appalachian String Band Music Festival and The Grayson County Old-Time and Bluegrass Fiddlers Convention.

Brown performs solo and as a duo with Coleman. She also collaborates with singer-songwriters Jackson Lynch and Hannah Read.

For more information, visit: https://nicklosseatonmedia.com/nora-brown/

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF



Courtesy photo

NORA BROWN: Who has more than 150,000 monthly listeners on Spotify, plays Appalachian-style folk music and has performed two NPR Tiny Desk Concerts.

PATROLS

FROM PAGE 1

are designed to deter illegal camping and transient activity that has escalated at the parks in recent months.

"Legacy Park has become a central congregation site for people experiencing homelessness," said Luis Flores, senior management analyst, in a staff report. "The presence of shopping carts and storage of personal belongings creates the perception that camping and other illegal behavior is permissible at this location."

> "Legacy Park has become a central congregation site for people experiencing homelessness"
>
> - Luis Flores, senior management analyst

The security guards will have no enforcement or arresting capabilities but will provide increased visibility and reporting to the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department. The armed status is primarily for the guards' safety, according to city staff.

Council Member Bruce Silverstein emphasized the need to focus on law enforcement rather than the homeless population itself. Silverstein also requested that the city's camping ordinance amendment, currently under review by an ad hoc committee, be brought forward for consideration no later than the first meeting in January.

The council directed staff to simultaneously issue a Request for Proposals to ensure a competitive bidding process is concluded by the time the American Global Security contract expires. The contract includes a 30-day termination provision, giving the city flexibility to adjust the arrangement if needed.

Council Member Haylynn Conrad suggested that sheriff's deputies, who currently park at City Hall, relocate to the library or county property where homeless activity is concentrated. She also expressed concern about potential unintended consequences of the enforcement efforts.

"I worry about them dispersing, or we're making it very uncomfortable for them," Conrad said. "I worry about them going up into the flammable mountains."

In a separate action, the council received a presentation on the city's General Plan Safety Element update, a mandatory planning document that addresses geological hazards, flooding, wildfire risks and climate adaptation. The update is being conducted jointly by the Public Safety Department, Planning Division and Atlas Planning Solutions.

Aaron Pfannenstiel, representing Atlas Planning Solutions, outlined new state requirements that have been added since the city's safety element was last updated in 1995. These include provisions for wildfire protection, single ingress-egress locations, evacuation networks and climate adaptation measures.

The update must be reviewed and approved by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection and the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection. Achieving a "clean checklist" from the board is critical because it makes Malibu eligible for the fire risk reduction community list.

"Placement on this list offers two major benefits," said Susan Dueñas, public safety director. "It can help community members get discounts on their insurance, and it ensures that the city's future CalFire grant applications are prioritized."

The approval process is scheduled to begin Dec. 9, with the board reviewing the city's compliance with fire safety requirements. Once approved, the fire-related policies become locked in place, though other safety policies remain subject to change.

Council members highlighted a persistent constraint affecting emergency planning: Malibu's communications infrastructure. The city loses most communications capability when power goes out, creating significant challenges for emergency alerts and evacuation coordination.

Pfannenstiel acknowledged the concern but noted that the Safety Element establishes high-level policy while detailed alert and warning systems are addressed in the city's Emergency Operations Plan.

The Safety Element will next go to the Public Safety Commission and Planning Commission for review before returning to the City Council for final adoption.

The security patrols are part of a broader strategy to improve public safety at the parks, which also includes expanded signage detailing municipal code violations and integration of security cameras with the Sheriff's Department's real-time watch center.

Funding for the security services was not included in the city's adopted budget for fiscal year 2025-26 and will require an appropriation of approximately $64,131 for the initial three-month period.

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Santa Monica Daily Press

Classifieds

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DBA

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2025268677 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: SWISS COPYWRITING SERVICE, 4108 Del Rey Ave, Apt 520, Marina Del Rey, CA 90292, Los Angeles County. Registered Owner(s): Swiss Luster, 4108 Del Rey Ave, Apt 520, Marina Del Rey, CA 90292. This business is conducted by: an Individual. The date registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 08/2022. s/ Swiss Luster, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 12/3/2025. SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to be published 12/5/2025, 12/12/2025, 12/19/2025, 12/26/2025

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COMMUNITY NEWS

SMMUSD

SMMUSD Students Honored by National Merit Scholarship Program

Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District congratulated five National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists and 29 Commended Students recognized for academic excellence.

These students rank among the top-scoring participants in the National Merit Scholarship Program, a distinction achieved by less than 4% of entrants nationwide.

Out of 1.5 million entrants, about 50,000 with the highest Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test and National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test scores qualify for recognition in the program as semifinalists and commended students.

Santa Monica High School semifinalists are Eli Bendersky Boreth, Camille Choe, Sabrina Glasser, Carly Knauf and Kaveh Naini.

Samohi commended students are James Baxter, Leo Bernknopf, Sloane Bryant, Eleanor Cadena, Nathaniel Chin, Ruby Dembo, Yungbihn Douglas, Zephyr Fehmers, Mateo Haykinson, Shelby Katzen, Rana Kurt, Andrew Lau, Harper McCallum, Tobin Palmer, Alexander Paris-Callahan, Clara Percus, Noah Pust, Govind Raman, Alexander Sebastian, Marina Shickler, Emma Stajduhar, Matthew Tigrak, Silas Tropea-Lester, Rosalie Tsirlin, Connor Wong and Stephen Yoon.

Malibu High School commended students are Aidan Colburn, Tanner Kies and Zoe Retts.

"We are incredibly proud of each of our semifinalists and commended students," said SMMUSD Superintendent Dr. Antonio Shelton. "Their accomplishments demonstrate remarkable dedication and intellectual curiosity. These students remind us what is possible when perseverance meets passion, and they represent the excellence that defines our district."

> "We are incredibly proud of each of our semifinalists and commended students"
> - Dr. Antonio Shelton, SMMUSD Superintendent

According to the National Merit Scholarship website, semifinalists are designated on a state representation basis and are the highest scoring entrants in each state. To advance to finalist standing in the competition, semifinalists must meet high academic standards as well as other requirements.

Additionally, out of the 50,000 students recognized, 34,000 are commended students. These students receive letters of commendation in recognition of their outstanding academic promise. Although commended students do not continue in the competition for National Merit Scholarships, some become candidates for special scholarships sponsored by corporations and businesses.

The SMMUSD Board of Education recognized the Samohi students at its Nov. 20 regular meeting and will recognize the MHS students at its Feb. 5, 2026, meeting in Malibu.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF



Courtesy photo

SCHOLARSHIPS: These students rank among the top-scoring participants in the National Merit Scholarship Program, a distinction achieved by less than 4% of entrants nationwide.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Los Angeles

Supervisor Horvath Awards $310,000 to Malibu and Topanga Canyon Businesses Impacted by Wildfire

Los Angeles County Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath announced $310,000 in grant awards to support Malibu and Topanga Canyon small businesses impacted by wildfire-related road closures through the Malibu-Topanga Business Interruption Fund.

The program provides up to $20,000 in direct financial assistance to small businesses experiencing economic hardship due to extended closures of Pacific Coast Highway and Topanga Canyon Boulevard following the Palisades Fire.

"With this $310,000 commitment, we're supporting Malibu and Topanga Canyon small businesses — vital places of gathering, sources of livelihood and anchors of our local communities," Horvath said. "These businesses are the heart of the Santa Monica Mountains, and this funding is part of our ongoing commitment to help them recover from the hardships of 2025 and rebuild stronger than ever. I encourage everyone to shop local and keep these important places thriving."

> With this $310,000 commitment, we're supporting Malibu and Topanga Canyon small businesses — vital places of gathering, sources of livelihood and anchors of our local communities
> - Lindsey P. Horvath, Los Angeles County Supervisor

These grants deliver critical economic relief to local businesses still recovering from prolonged disruptions that severely limited customer access and contributed to significant revenue losses.

"When disaster strikes, the county must move quickly to provide targeted relief," said Kelly LoBianco, director of the LA County Department of Economic Opportunity. "This program shows what local government can do when we act nimbly and compassionately — partnering with trusted organizations like AidKit to get dollars directly to the businesses that need them most."

Horvath's office and DEO provided both in-person and virtual assistance throughout the application period, including webinars in English and Spanish and one-on-one support to help business owners apply for relief.

The Malibu-Topanga Business Interruption Fund is part of LA County's comprehensive wildfire recovery efforts. Earlier this year, DEO launched the LA Region Small Business and Worker Relief Funds, in partnership with public and philanthropic partners.

Together, these funds have delivered more than $23.6 million to more than 2,204 businesses and 2,843 workers across the region.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF

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First United Methodist Church of Santa Monica presents:
CHRISTMAS CONCERT
Featuring: Arthur Honegger's Une Cantate de Noël with the South Bay Children's Choir; and the ever popular "Carols, Etc."



Sunday, December 7
4 P.M. in the Sanctuary
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The Chancel Choir and guest singers; the Los Angeles Concert Orchestra, and the South Bay Children's Choir
CONDUCTED BY
Dr. James Smith
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No admission charge, freewill offering will be taken. Reception to follow performance
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REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

SANTA MONICA GREAT PARK COALITION

Greetings from the Santa Monica Great Park Coalition

Our coalition formed a year ago, to bring together the many groups and individuals who look forward to the conversion of the 192-acre Santa Monica Airport into a Great Park when the airport closes at the end of 2028.

Today, the Coalition includes more than 70 organizations representing more than 25,000 people, all dedicated to advancing community health, restoring green space and habitat, mitigating climate change, strengthening local sustainability and biodiversity, and creating vibrant recreation opportunities.

Progress toward the Great Park has been continuous. 2024 and 2025 were years of change and challenge in Santa Monica, with new leaders taking office, but nothing has stopped the park planning process.

A Year of Steady Progress

In 2024, the City began the Santa Monica Airport Conversion process. The City assembled an expert team of staff centered in the Public Works Department and hired one of the world's top planning firms, Sasaki, to consult. Following early community engagement in the spring, the team conducted an additional survey in fall 2024 to gauge public interest in the Great Park. The response was overwhelming, culminating in a December 2024 workshop that attracted more than 800 people, the largest turnout for a city planning workshop in living memory, reflecting the community's strong desire to participate in Great Park planning.

The Public Process and Unanimous Council Direction

Community responses overwhelmingly favored dedicating the land to a Great Park, and out of this broad public process emerged five guiding principles that the City Council unanimously adopted in January: ***Start with Nature, Inspire Wonder, Balance Economics, Amplify Versatility,*** and ***Celebrate Place.*** The Council then directed the planning team to return in July, after more public outreach, with three alternative scenarios showing possible long-term outcomes for the airport site.

Staff and Sasaki developed these scenarios over the spring, conducted additional public outreach, and presented them to the City Council in July. At its July 8 meeting, the Council voted to direct the SMAC team to develop a plan to be submitted for environmental review. Importantly, the Council directed that the plan be limited to park and recreation uses allowed by Measure LC, ensuring that no ballot measure would be required.

Measure LC is the ballot measure approved by 60 percent of Santa Monica voters in 2014, stating that if and when the airport closes, the land cannot be developed for anything other than parks and recreation purposes unless voters approve another plan.

The July meeting clarified another important point. The City Attorney informed the Council that amenities commonly incorporated into parks, such as restaurants and cafes, can be built as part of the park without violating Measure LC. This gives the planners more flexibility in creating a park that will have wide appeal and adds possibilities for funding sources.

Phased Planning and Strategic Leadership

The Council also directed the planning team to plan for development of the Great Park over time and in phases. Funding sources can therefore be matched with specific features as they are built, rather than requiring all funding for the ultimate park to be in place on day one. This approach links clearly to the guiding principle ***Balance Economics,*** making the park's growth feasible and fiscally sound.

Just after the July meeting, Santa Monica welcomed its new City Manager, Oliver Chi. One of his first actions was to bring responsibility for Great Park planning into the City Manager's Office. The planning team will now report directly to him. This was a welcome recognition that building the Great Park will be a major civic achievement in Santa Monica, and a magnificent legacy that we will leave for future generations.

As we write this report, the planning team, under the City Manager's direction, is preparing a plan for public review and then Council consideration early in the new year. With Mr. Chi's community-minded leadership guiding this work, we look forward to the next steps. The Coalition will continue its steady advocacy for a Great Park that reflects community priorities.

A Path for Funding the Great Park

It's vital to understand how a new park can be funded, even during a period when the City is facing temporary operating deficits. Parks are not built with the City's annual operating budget. Instead, they are funded with capital funds, which come from a variety of sources, including local, regional, and federal grants, philanthropic donations, foundations, and nonprofit support organizations.

It is important to remember that the *most* expensive part of the Great Park, the land, is already paid for. Santa Monica purchased it in 1926 with a parks bond, a century-old decision that now offers our park-poor city a rare second chance to realize its original vision.

The airport generates millions each year in lease revenues. Although nearly all of this income originates from non-aviation businesses, all of the revenue goes into a separate Airport Fund that, under FAA regulations, the City may use only for airport operations. These funds do not enter the City's general operating budget. When the airport closes, the aviation leases and expenses will end as well, while non-aviation lease revenues will continue and new revenues will be added. At closure, these lease revenues will be available to the City, and at the same time the City will no longer have to pay for operation of the airport. The City can then place this income into a Park Fund to support construction and long term maintenance of the Great Park, and these revenues can also back revenue bonds for major features.

As plans develop, specific sources will be matched to specific park elements. The City will be able to phase construction, leverage grants, and partner with state, county, and community organizations to create a 192-acre Great Park that reflects Santa Monica's values and long term vision.

Health, Safety, and Economic Benefits

Countless local and regional studies show that parks greatly improve community health and resident well-being. A Great Park will also strengthen climate resilience through increased tree canopy, native landscapes, and green infrastructure that will cool surrounding areas, improve air quality, and capture stormwater, helping prepare our city for a hotter and more unpredictable climate. Our Great Park can play a crucial role in emergencies, by providing a water feature and open space for firefighting operations and helicopter landings. In addition, research consistently shows that the creation of a major park often leads to stronger economic activity in surrounding areas, increasing local business revenues, tourism spending, and overall commercial vitality. Our Great Park will deliver all these essential benefits and more, creating a healthier, safer, and more vital community.

A Century in the Making

There are well-funded interests that want to keep the airport open. Others want to use the land for purposes other than a park. We should remember that closing the airport and returning it to park use is not a recent idea. This was the original location of Clover Field Park until the federal government took over the land at the start of World War II. Santa Monica has sought to close the airport since Douglas Aircraft closed its plant in 1975. In 1984 the City entered an agreement with the Federal Aviation Administration to close the airport in 2015, but the FAA reneged. After suing the federal government, the City obtained a new agreement in 2017. As allowed by that agreement, the City Council has voted to close the airport on December 31, 2028.

Looking Ahead

The Great Park Coalition exists to marshal the hopes of all who see the need for and the beauty of a Great Park for our city and our region. We will continue to inform the community of progress toward that goal. Thank you for your attention!

Learn more about the Santa Monica Great Park Coalition and get involved at www.greatparkcoalition.org

ORLA

Mediterranean by Michael Mina

BRUNCH WITH SANTA

Santa and his elves bring holiday cheer to Orla with festive music, joyful photo moments, and a lively, family-friendly atmosphere. Enjoy a Mediterranean take on brunch, elevated with seasonal flavors and holiday favorites.

Saturday, December 6, 13 & 20
11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

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FRIDAY | DECEMBER 5

UNIQLO THIRD ST PROMENADE GRAND OPENING

10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. 1431 Third St Promenade Contact Info 8089902643 chunen.choy@uniqlo-usa.com Visit UNIQLO's NEW and LARGER Santa Monica store at 1431 Third Street Promenade opening FRIDAY 12/5. From Fri 12/5- Sun 12/7 enjoy Santa Monica exclusive giveaways and new collections. Limited-time promotions Fri 12/5 - Thurs 12/11. ACTIVATIONS: The fir Santa Monica, CA. Visit UNIQLO's NEW and LARGER Santa Monica store at 1431 Third Street Promenade opening FRIDAY 12/5. From Fri 12/5- Sun 12/7 enjoy Santa Monica exclusive giveaways and new collections. Limited-time. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/uniqlo-third-st-promenade-grand-opening/17526454/2025-12-05T10

BRUNCH FRIDAYS WITH LIVE MUSIC IN OUR GARDEN PATIO!

11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Tiato Kitchen & Venue 2700 Colorado Ave Santa Monica. Our newly launched Brunch Fridays just got vibey-er! Every week enjoy great eats, summer libations, and a featured music artist on our beautiful garden patio! So come toast to summer with our uniquely crafted brunch menu including our Turmeric Spiced Cloud Egg dish, Smoked Gouda Scramble with Smashed Ube, Vietnamese French Toast, along with Mama An classics such as Famous Garlic Noodles, Shaken Beef, and Seafood Egg Fried Rice! And of course, it wouldn't be brunch without bottomless mimosas & summer punch bowls, so grab your brunch crew and enjoy the fair along the beautiful backdrop of Al fresco dining. RESERVE NOW. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/brunch-fridays-with-live-music-in-our-garden-patio-/14639006/2025-12-05T11

LIVE MUSIC FRIDAYS AT THE SURFING FOX

6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. 120 Colorado Ave CA Contact Info (424) 214-1830 matt.sedgwick@candrpr.com Visit thesurfingfoxsm.com to view menus and learn more 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 Foxtai. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/live-music-fridays-at-the-surfing-fox/14385252/2025-12-05T18

SATURDAY | DECEMBER 6

BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF SANTA MONICA

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Boys & Girls Clubs of Santa Monica 1238 Lincoln Blvd. Santa Monica. The Elks Hoop Shoot, funded by the Elks National Foundation, is a free throw contest for children ages 8 to 13. Age group is determined by contestant's age as of April 1, 2026. For more information, contact the Lodge Elks Hoop Shoot Director at sm.elkslodge906@gmail.com or visit elks.org/hoopshoot. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/boys-girls-clubs-of-santa-monica/17284272/2025-12-06T09

DOWNTOWN WALKING TOUR

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Hosteling Intl. 1436 2nd Street Santa Monica. Join the Santa Monica Conservancy's Downtown Walking Tour. Discover downtown Santa Monica's architectural gems, history, and culture. From Art Deco to Victorian and Romanesque Revival, you'll explore the various styles that fill the streets of Santa Monica. Explore downtown's diverse architectural heritage, including Bay Cities Guaranty Building, El Miro Theater, Georgian Hotel, Gussie Moran House, Keller Block and more! The Downtown Walking Tour is FREE for Conservancy members, FREE for guests staying at Hostelling International, and $10 for the general public. Learn More. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/downtown-walking-tour/15830816/2025-12-06T10

BEGINNER REFORMER PILATES AT GOOD BODY PILATES STUDIO

10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Good Body Pilates Studio 3229 Pico Blvd. Santa Monica Good Body Pilates Studio Santa Monica. Start your Saturday feeling strong, centered, and energized with our Beginner Reformer Pilates Class at Good Body Pilates Studio, taught by expert instructor Kylie. This group class is perfect for those new to Pilates or anyone looking to reconnect with the fundamentals in a welcoming and supportive environment. No experience necessary! Located in the heart of Santa Monica on Pico Boulevard, right across from Trader Joe's, our boutique studio is surrounded by great local coffee shops and restaurants, making it the perfect place to kick off your weekend. Plenty of metered parking available on Pico Blvd, and both metered and free street parking available on Urban Ave. Learn more. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/beginner-reformer-pilates-at-good-body-pilates-studio/16094481/2025-12-06T10

NEIGHBORHOOD COALITION ANNUAL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

11:00 a.m.– 1 p.m. Montana Branch Library, 1704 Montana Ave at 17th St. We hope you can join us at our annual Wilmont membership meeting. All members are welcomed and you can join online or at our annual meeting. We are a city-recognized, non-profit organization advocating for our residents on issues such as public safety, homelessness and development, providing monthly meetings about the city we live in and the people who run it, and doing community outreach such as live music and outdoor summer movies at Reed Park. We meet the FIRST TUESDAY of every month at 7 PM via ZOOM. Santa Monica Interim Police Chief Darrick Jacob with Q &A Wilmont/City Hot Topics and Guests Wilmont Award.

SUNDAY | DECEMBER 7

SANTA MONICA AIRPORT ANTIQUE MARKET

8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Santa Monica Airport 2800-3200 Airport Ave Santa Monica. Noted as One of the Top Ten "Flea Markets' in America, visit the Santa Monica Airport Antique Market, a fun outdoor (and dog-friendly!) marketfull of many great dealers with furniture, antiques, collectibles, art, vintage clothes, jewelry, rugs and much more. A destination for decorators, designers, boutique owners, families with their friendly dogs and collectors of all ages.Shop for ancient to antique, Victorian to Mid-Century, from vintage to the eccentric. Our dealers bring; shabby chic, architectural salvage and industrial furniture, paintings from listed European and American artists, original vintage prints, posters and lithographs, estate jewelry, vintage to couture fashion, books, candelabras, outdoor furniture and garden accessories, rugs from around the world, tribal and African art, sculpture and beads, exotic plants and more. Located next to the Museum of Flying. Occursevery 1st and 4th sunday of every month. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/santa-monica-airport-antique-market/15831601/2025-12-07T08

VENICE ELECTRIC LIGHT PARADE - SUNDAYS AT SUNSET

Windward Plaza 1501 Ocean Front Walk Venice, CA. 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! Approximate Sunset. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/venice-electric-light-parade-sundays-at-sunset/14970341/2025-12-07T00

MONDAY | DECEMBER 8

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/11526040/2025-12-08T18

THE GORDONS IMPROV RESIDENCY

Westside Comedy Theater 1323-A 3rd St Santa Monica. Welcome to The Gordons Improv Show at Westside Comedy Theater! IMPROV RESIDENT TEAM NIGHT! Check out our current lineup of Resident Improv Teams! These teams perform Long-Form Improv all inspired by a suggestion from the audience. Think of it as a sitcom made up on the spot. Catch them before they are gone! These teams rotate every three months!Get ready for a night filled with laughter, spontaneity, and hilarious moments. Join us for an evening of unscripted comedy where every joke is made up on the spot. Our talented improv performers will have you in stitches as they create scenes, characters, and stories based on your suggestions. Don't miss out on this one-of-a-kind experience! Grab your friends and come on down to Westside Comedy Theater for a night you won't forget. $10.00. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/the-gordons-improv-residency/14863274/2025-12-08T19

LANDMARKS COMMISSION

7:00 p.m. City Council Chambers Santa Monica. Established in 1975, the mission of the Landmarks Commission is "To protect improvements and areas which represent the City's cultural, social, economic, political and architectural history; safeguard the City's historic, aesthetic and cultural heritage; and promote the use of landmarks and historic districts for the education, pleasure and welfare of the people." [SMMC Chapter 9.56] Designate landmarks, structures of merit, and advise on potential historic districts. Conduct evaluations of applications for designation of historic resources. Regulate and control the alteration of any landmark Maintain a current listing and description of designated historic resources. Provide for a suitable, sign, plaque or other marker indicating the designation. Participate in environmental review procedures Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/landmarks-commission/11868081/2025-12-08T19

TUESDAY | DECEMBER 9

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). Everyone is welcome to join whether new to meditation or with many years of experience. Please remember to bring sand shoes if you prefer not to walk barefoot, sunscreen, a hat, a jacket if it's cold and water. Looking forward to meeting and meditating with you all. please feel free to reach out with any concerns or questions and please arrive 5 minutes early. Didn't forget to check schedule for any changes or cancellations. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/walking-meditation/16206460/2025-12-02T08

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Summons

SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL) Case No. 25SMCV00899 NOTICE TO DEFENDANT (AVISO AL DEMANDADO): HELENE BERK IRVIN, an individual; and DOES 1 through 25, inclusive. YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF (LO ESTÁ DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE): JEFFERY MAROZ, an individual. 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): Los Angeles County Superior Court, 1725 Main Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401. 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): J.Scott Russo, Russo & Duckworth, LLP, 3404 Via Oporto, Ste. 201, Newport Beach, CA 92663 949-752-7106. DATE (Fecha): 02/21/2025. Clerk, by (Secretario) David W. Slayton, Executive Officer/Clerk of Court, By W. Lee, Deputy (Adjunto) Clerk. Electronically FILED by Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles 2/21/2025 3:04 PM David W. Slayton, Executive Officer/Clerk of Court, By W. Lee, Deputy Clerk. SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS Publish: 12/05/2025, 12/12/2025, 12/19/2025, 12/26/2025

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

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ICE

FROM PAGE 1

But even with all that said, it still understates the true nature of the rink because while it can hardly be described as a "berg", it is the tip of a far-reaching, frozen empire helmed by a second generation Olympian who was able to carve true Hollywood career out of the ice as the Man who Produces Winter.

Willy Bietak is more Jack Frost than Santa Claus in appearance. Lithe and still nimble at 72, he manages to hit the ice several times a year at one of the many locations Santa Monica based Willy Bietak Productions builds each year.

He has a storied career with skates before coming to Los Angeles. A multi-year champion in his native Austria, Bietak also competed in the Olympics and at the World Championships.

It was during one of those competitions that his post-skating life would take shape.

"I was competing at the Worlds in Lyon and ran into Doris Fleming who invited me to a production meeting," Bietak said, referring to the mother of Olympic figure skating champion Peggy Fleming. That 1971 encounter led to his first production job as location manager for "Peggy Fleming to Europe with Love," a television special filmed at Prince Ludwig's castle in Germany, Davos, Switzerland and other European locations.

That led to other opportunities and Bietak came to America in 1971, initially planning a brief visit to learn the production business. Instead, he became a performer in Fleming's show, met his future wife and embarked on the American Dream.

"We joined Peggy's show and did a whole summer tour," Bietak said. "That was the start of my romance with Cathy (Steele). I ended up marrying her a few years later."

The transition from performing to producing accelerated through work on projects including "The David Frost Show" and "Guinness World Records." Bietak eventually started a company with Dick Foster, staging ice shows at venues including Caesars Palace in Las Vegas but it was touring shows that provided the challenge that would ground the rest of his career.

In order to move ice rinks to indoor theaters (and later cruise ships) around the world, a new way of creating ice had to be developed.

"We have a unique ice system that nobody else has other than Disney has one very close to this," Bietak said, noting the proprietary engineering allows ice to form even in warm weather. "There's a lot of operators that use plastic pipes and that's fine when the weather is cold, but when it gets like this it becomes very marginal."

The shift to seasonal rinks began about 20 years ago when Pepsi Cola approached the company to produce a rink in San Francisco's Embarcadero Center for a Pepsi Crystal promotion. That project evolved into permanent seasonal installations at Union Square, Pershing Square in Los Angeles and eventually Santa Monica.

Bietak, who lives nearby, visits the Santa Monica location about once a week and still skates occasionally, though less frequently than in his competitive years.

The seasonal rinks now serve a dual purpose as both community amenities and practical use for equipment between touring productions. However, Bietak's company operations extend far beyond California's winter ice rinks.

In 1999, Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines put out a bid for ice skating shows on their cruise ships. Bietak's company won the contract and now produces shows for 17 ships, each receiving new cast changes once or twice yearly.

The cruise line productions require an unprecedented scale of talent recruitment. The company employs about 300 principal skaters annually, with producers traveling internationally for auditions, including recent trips to Japan and the World Figure Skating Championships in Boston.

"We're scouring the world for talent," Bietak said. "Everyone that's in my company comes from the skating world and we want to have the best skaters and the best productions and the best creativity."

The company also produces themed theatrical productions, including "Broadway on Ice," which toured the theater circuit with Olympic champion Dorothy Hamill and other stars. An "Opera Festival on Ice" production at the Royal Opera House in Oman combined live opera singers with Olympic champion skaters performing on ice installed on the theater stage.

"They have this gorgeous Royal Opera House that is really one of the nicest ones in the world," Bietak said. "We had four opera singers live and the skating cast including Olympic champions."

The combined company efforts make it one of, if not the, largest employer or skaters in the world but despite the scale of his cruise ship and theatrical operations, Bietak maintains enthusiasm for community rink projects.

"We have thousands of skaters," he said of the Santa Monica operation. "We like to have both business and passion. We love ice skating and love the fact that this is really a great sport for kids and adults alike. It's great to have the physical exercise. It's a thing that parents and kids can do together, that friends can do together. It creates a bonding."

He recalls his own introduction to skating at age 11 in Austria, noting many friendships formed then persist today across continents.

Recent challenges have tested the seasonal operations. Last year's wildfires forced temporary closures, and the original engineer who designed the company's ice system died several years ago. Still, the company recently built a new system using the established design.

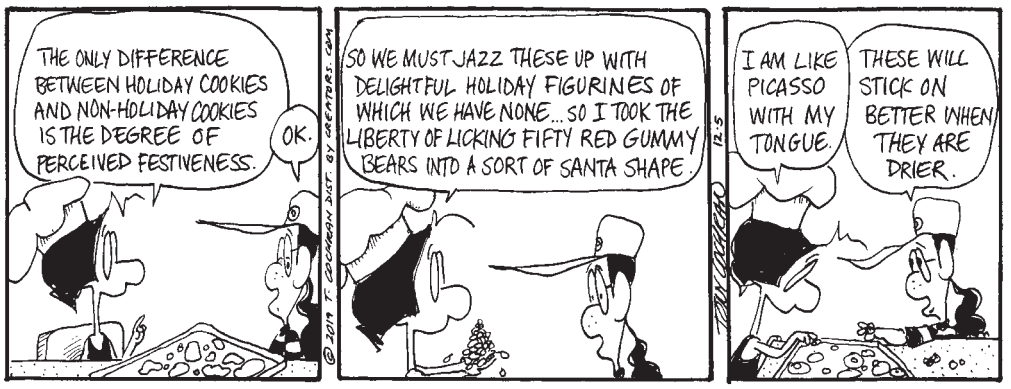
As for the future, Bietak sees continued interest driven by competitive skating's visibility on sports channels and the emergence of new talent that draws audiences to rinks and inspires the next generation of skaters.

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SEND YOUR NEWS TO THE EDITOR
Santa Monica Daily Press editor@smdp.com

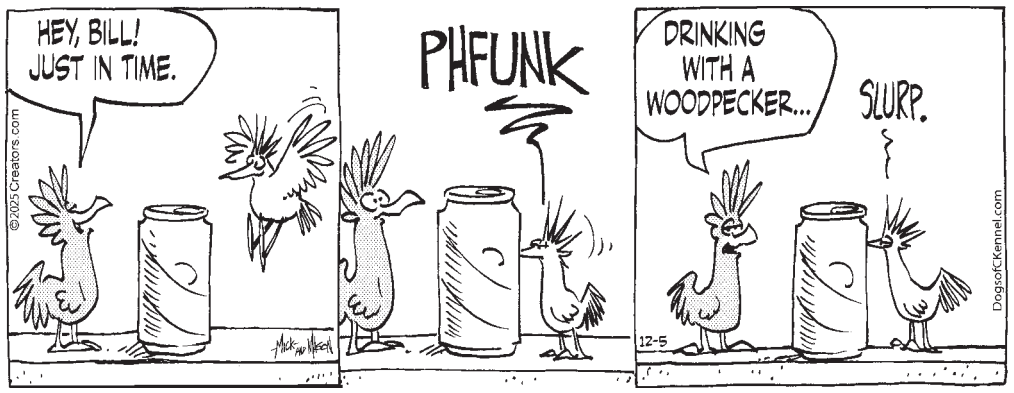
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



"IT'S RAINING GARBAGE."

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 20 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle. © australianwordgames.com.au 6780

High rollers

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

Accrue	Crib	Land	Rewards
Aces	Crown	Lights	Rules
Action	Deal	Lone	Skip
Adept	Debt	Loser	Solo
Amuse	Deuce	Lotto	Star
Ante	Dice	Luck	Taps
Banker	Envy	Ludo	Trivial
Beat	Fear	Luxury	Pursuit
Bets	Flutter	Move	Trump
Bluff	Happy	Odds	Two up
Call	Keno	Outwit	Upset
Cast	Kismet	Pick	Winner
Chess	Kits	Punt	Yahtzee

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
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smdp Santa Monica Daily Press

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Dec. 5)

Welcome to your Year of Infinite Curiosity. Following your fascinations leads to an unexpected career pivot and thrilling collaborations. Beginner's luck strikes twice, and the rewards for trying something new will come in many forms including social, romantic and financial. More highlights: winning over a mentor, building a creative empire and love that grows through shared adventure. Aquarius and Libra adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 3, 24, 18, 40 and 14.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Don't get so concerned with doing the right thing that it blocks you from doing the interesting thing, the thing you want to do or the thing you've never done. You'll never be in quite this situation again. You may as well play it like only you can.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Here comes a challenge that seems custom-made for you. You'll be so into it, you may even raise the stakes to make things more interesting. It's not about who wins the game when it's your favorite game to play.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Real trust is as attractive as disloyalty is unattractive. It can take a lot of effort to be true to your word. You'll go to great lengths to deliver as promised. Expect the same standard from others.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Your contributions to a project will be considerable, though it's nothing flashy in the delivery. Simple acts of cooperation are what keep production flowing. You influence by just showing up ready to work.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). To feel life's poetry, you need a big heart and a wide range of experience. Thinking and feeling deeply is a gift, even when it hurts. The same depth that aches also lets you love and create fully.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You've been an emotional barista lately, serving comfort, pep and reassurance on demand. Slip yourself a refill. A single kind thought toward yourself changes the flavor of your whole day.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Tension can be a source of beauty. For instance, the tension of a guitar string is necessary for melodious expression. The strain you feel now may be tuning you - aligning effort and purpose so something harmonious can emerge.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Cut the static out of a relationship. Speak from the heart. You shouldn't have to explain too much, just tell the truth. You'll be understood, if not now, then in time. The important thing is to clear the air.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You've had help with a project along the way, but today it's all you. Your effort, your instincts, your follow-through - these are what's bringing it home. Let the satisfaction sink in. You deserve to feel good about this.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). People will work out their differences in their own way. It's very likely that your interference isn't necessary, so you can relax. Sometimes getting involved only makes things more dramatic than they need to be.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You're feeling emotionally full. The love, friendship and connection flow easily. You're around good people, and your natural warmth multiplies in their company. It's a day to enjoy togetherness and affection without effort.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You're gathering new information and asking great questions, and you'll be around people who really do know what they are talking about. You absorb all you can, and whatever doesn't apply now could be helpful to you later.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

Newsday Crossword

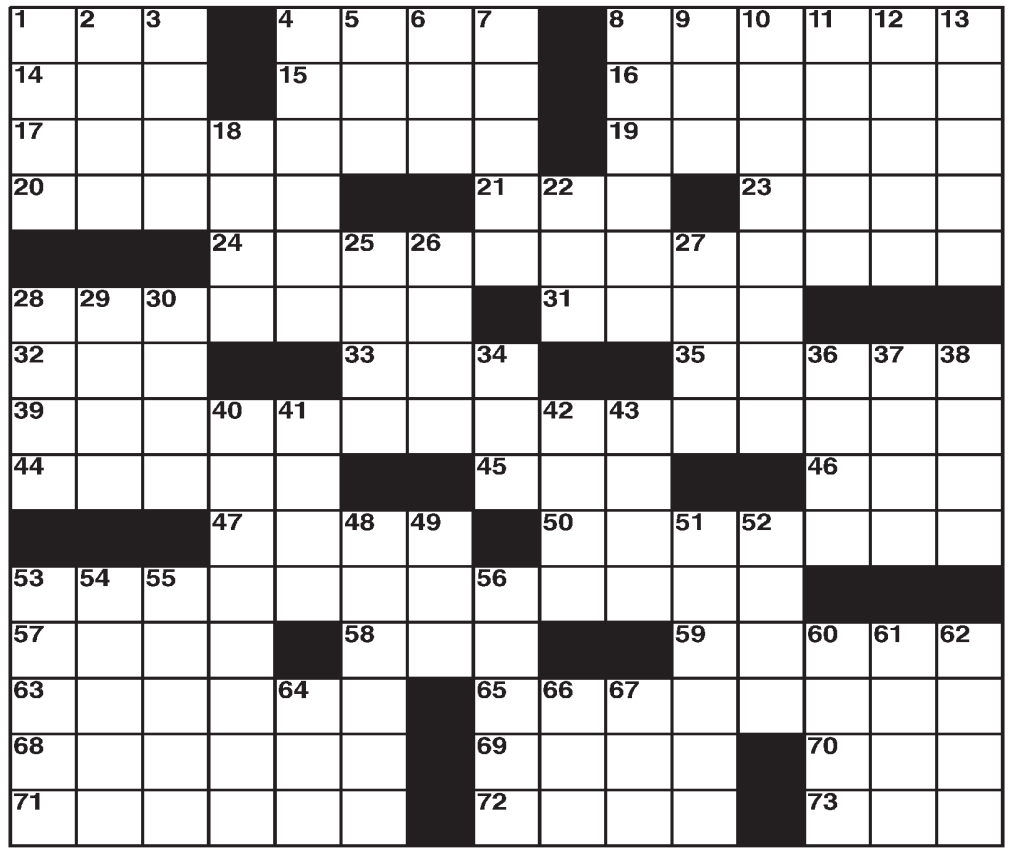
OFF-SEASON APPLIANCE by Billie Truitt
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Compass reading
4 Finishing stroke
8 Wishful thinking
14 "Amazing!"
15 About 9% of the globe
16 "Darn it!"
17 65-Across component
19 MLB cap provider
20 Venue for vows
21 Pack away
23 Art student's subj.
24 65-Across component
28 Insect appendage
31 "Serves you right!"
32 Knee stabilizer, for short
33 Small handful
35 Mike Brady or Homer Simpson
39 65-Across component
44 Medicare prescription section
45 Leaves in the pantry
46 Mauna __
47 SoCal school
50 Mental asset
53 65-Across component
57 Sorority letter
58 Wine and dine
59 Limerick's poetic pattern
63 Mental asset
65 The appliance in question
68 Pucci of fashion
69 Scrapbooking binder
70 One of the first ISPs
71 Trust in
72 Orange edibles
73 Where swine dine

DOWN

1 Cushioned seating
2 Inner essence
3 Sharpen
4 Funding source
5 World Bank headquarters
6 Solder component
7 Costar of the first *Star Trek*
8 "Wait!"
9 Diamond scoreboard letters
10 Henry VIII's successor
11 Gladiator venue
12 French Revolution figure
13 Convey orally
18 Gown designer's stock
22 Lee of films
25 "I got this"
26 Spirits worshipped in Shinto
27 Black-clad teen subculture
28 Online driver safety course offerer
29 ESPNU media partner
30 Texter's "couldn't finish it all"
34 Piece of earthenware
36 Section with slicers
37 Very often
38 When an offensive begins
40 "You can't count us out yet"
41 Not incl.
42 Steps away
43 Extended account
48 Affixes with thread
49 Veggie in miso soup
51 Search-result subcategory
52 Tragic monarch
53 More prudent
54 *Pour* __ (fragrance category)
55 Net sales
56 Bewildered
60 Sampling skewing
61 Dark mark
62 Join forces (with)
64 *Familia* member
66 Much like
67 Aggregate



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12/05/25

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JSX

FROM PAGE 1

The decision included an affirmation of the city's commitment to permanently close the airport at midnight on Dec. 31, 2028, as authorized under a 2017 Federal Consent Decree with the Federal Aviation Administration. City officials said compliance with that agreement safeguards Santa Monica's legal right to close the airport on schedule while ensuring current operations comply with federal and local standards.

> "All Santa Monica Airport leases will expire, or be terminated by the City, before the closure date"
>
> - Oliver Chi, City Manager

"All Santa Monica Airport leases will expire, or be terminated by the City, before the closure date," City Manager Oliver Chi said. "By adhering to the Consent Decree today, we are safeguarding the City's ability to close the airport on Dec. 31, 2028."

In evaluating the JSX proposal, city staff and legal counsel conducted a multi-disciplinary assessment covering safety, environmental, traffic and policy considerations.

JSX is federally certified by the FAA and U.S. Department of Transportation to operate its 30-seat ATR 42-600 aircraft safely at the airport.

The city determined no new environmental review was required under the California Environmental Quality Act, as the permit does not represent a new project or an expansion of existing use.

City officials said federal law and the 2017 Federal Consent Decree prohibit Santa Monica from denying airport access to qualified aeronautical users who meet established standards. The city's review confirmed that JSX's proposal is consistent with the city's Airport Leasing and Licensing Policy and its Minimum Standards for Commercial Aeronautical Services.

JSX must comply with all airport operational restrictions, including hours of operation, noise limits and environmental standards. City staff will continue monitoring compliance throughout the lease term and provide regular public updates.

The Dallas-based company submitted its application in September, proposing to launch daily flights in 2025 using the ATR 42-600, a fuel-efficient turboprop aircraft designed with advanced noise-reduction technology. JSX markets itself as a hop-on public charter service that bridges the gap between commercial airlines and private jets.

"JSX has reimagined regional air travel with comfort, reliability, and accessibility at its core, and we see Santa Monica Airport as a natural gateway to extend that experience to local residents," said Alex Wilcox, JSX's chief executive officer.

The company said more than 2,200 Santa Monica residents have already flown JSX from other regional airports, taking more than 14,000 trips in recent years. Founded in 2016, JSX operates 29 airports across the United States and Mexico with a fleet of 50 Embraer jets and two ATR 42-600 turboprops.

However, the approval has drawn a legal challenge from residents who filed a lawsuit in Los Angeles Superior Court recently.

The petitioners argue the city improperly relied on exemptions to avoid conducting a comprehensive environmental review before approving what they characterize as a significant departure from current airport operations. They contend that Santa Monica Airport has never included daily scheduled passenger air service, operating instead as a general aviation facility serving flight training and charter services.

The lawsuit identifies multiple environmental concerns that petitioners argue should have been analyzed, including aircraft noise and frequency, fuel delivery and storage, air quality, greenhouse gas emissions, traffic, ground access, safety, and emergency and fire response.

Petitioners are seeking a writ of mandate commanding the city to rescind approval of the permit for failure to comply with CEQA, along with injunctive relief preventing JSX from operating until the city has fully complied with environmental review requirements.

editor@smdp.com







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