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smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press

Volume 25 Issue 17 TUESDAY 12/9/25 smdp.com

Palisades Village Tree Lighting brings community together one year after devastating fires



Michelle Edgar

SANTA: The celebration was a way for the Palisades to reconnect after a tough year.

Thousands of residents filled Monument Street on Saturday for the annual Christmas Tree Lighting at Palisades Village - a tradition that returned this year with a deeper resonance, marking hope and togetherness one year after fires. Though the Village remains temporarily closed, the 50-foot white fir with 3,000 lights and more than 1,500 ornaments stood as a beacon of resilience and renewal.

Before the ceremony began, Palisades Village developer Rick Caruso reflected on what the night symbolized for a community still recovering from loss.

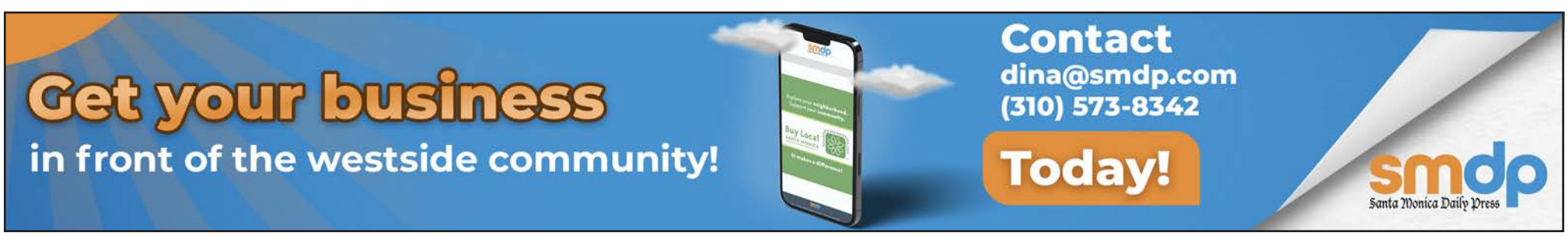
"It was never even a question that we would do this," Caruso said. "Christmas is about the new birth. It's about hope. It's about goodwill. It's about giving. And this community needed a way to come together and celebrate."

Looking at the crowd with children making crafts, families reunited, the towering white fir glowing behind him,"It's been tough on so many people. Walking in and having little kids thanking me - that really got me," he said. "When you think about how many thousands of jobs were lost, the homes lost, the lives lost - it's incredibly tough. But this community is so resilient. You can feel it out here today. I feel so grateful to be a part of this. I feel very lucky."

When asked what he hopes for most this holiday season, Caruso's response came without hesitation:

"I really hope and pray for all the people that lost their homes, especially the kids. It's going to be a tough Christmas. And the way we get through this is by doing exactly what we're doing tonight — locking arms, standing together, and taking care of

SEE **CARUSO** PAGE 6



Rams donate $5 million to LA28 free ticket program as Paralympic Games reach 1,000-day Milestone

The Los Angeles Rams kicked off a new fundraising initiative Nov. 20 with a $5 million donation to provide free tickets to the 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games for local residents, as organizers marked 1,000 days until the Paralympic Opening Ceremony.

The LA28 Organizing Committee launched the ticket donation program to ensure community organizations can distribute passes to residents who might not otherwise attend the Games. The Rams' contribution was celebrated Sunday, Nov. 23, during the team's Night Football game against the Tampa Bay Buccaneers on NBC and Peacock.

"The 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games are for everyone," said Casey Wasserman, LA28 chairperson and president. "This program is about making sure that the people who live, work and contribute to the spirit of Los Angeles can access the Games taking place in their hometown."

The initiative invites local sports teams, philanthropists and partners to fund ticket donations that will be distributed directly to community organizations. LA28 officials said they are seeking broader participation from individuals, organizations and civic leaders to expand access to the Games.

Rams Owner/Chairman E. Stanley Kroenke built SoFi Stadium, which will be renamed 2028 Stadium for the Games, as the centerpiece of his 300-acre Hollywood Park development. The venue will host both Opening Ceremonies and will be converted into the largest Olympic swimming venue in history.

> When Stan Kroenke built SoFi Stadium and Hollywood Park, it was with the goal of bringing the biggest global events in sports and entertainment to Los Angeles
>
> - Kevin Demoff, Rams President

"When Stan Kroenke built SoFi Stadium and Hollywood Park, it was with the goal of bringing the biggest global events in sports and entertainment to Los Angeles," said Rams President Kevin Demoff. "We are honored to team up with them to kick off this program which will give thousands of Angelenos who otherwise might not get to attend the Games an opportunity to experience it first-hand."

In addition to the free ticket program, LA28 announced that single tickets starting at $28 will go on sale in 2026, with early access available to the Los Angeles community through a local pre-sale. More details on the pre-sale will be released next year.

On Tuesday, LA28 marked the 1,000-day countdown to the Paralympic Games by releasing an initial preview of the competition schedule, featuring 23 sports and 560 medal events across 294 sessions.

"We're excited to mark 1,000 days from the LA28 Paralympic Games as we set the stage for athletes, fans and the global community to unite in a celebration of sport, resilience and human potential," said Reynold Hoover, LA28 chief executive officer.

The 2028 Games will mark several historic milestones. Los Angeles will host its first Paralympic Games and will become only the third city to host three Olympic Games, following 1932 and 1984. The 2028 Olympics will be the first in history to feature more women athletes than men.

The Paralympic schedule includes several notable features. Para Climbing will make its Paralympic debut, following LA28's successful proposal in 2024 to add the sport to the program. The Games will also mark the first time Paralympic competition begins before the Opening Ceremony, with Wheelchair Rugby starting two days prior and Boccia beginning one day before the Aug. 15 ceremony at 2028 Stadium.

Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass emphasized the significance of hosting the city's first Paralympic Games.

"In just 1,000 days, we will make history by hosting the first-ever Paralympic Games in Los Angeles, one that will feature the most women athletes ever competing on this world stage," Bass said. "I can't wait to celebrate the elite athleticism and determination of some of the world's greatest athletes and to see Los Angeles shine."

The Paralympic Closing Ceremony will take place Aug. 27, 2028, at LA Memorial Coliseum. The final weekend will feature finals in 17 sports, with seven sports holding championship events on the final day.

The 2028 Games will be the first since 1948 to not build any new permanent infrastructure. Hollywood Park Studios, currently under construction, will serve as the International Broadcast Center.

LA28 operates as an independently funded, nonprofit organization supported by commercial partnerships, licensing, hospitality and ticketing revenue, along with backing from the International Olympic Committee. The competition schedule will continue to evolve, with a more detailed breakdown by event expected in 2026.

Visa is the official payment partner for the Games. More information is available at LA28.org.

Edited by SMDP Staff

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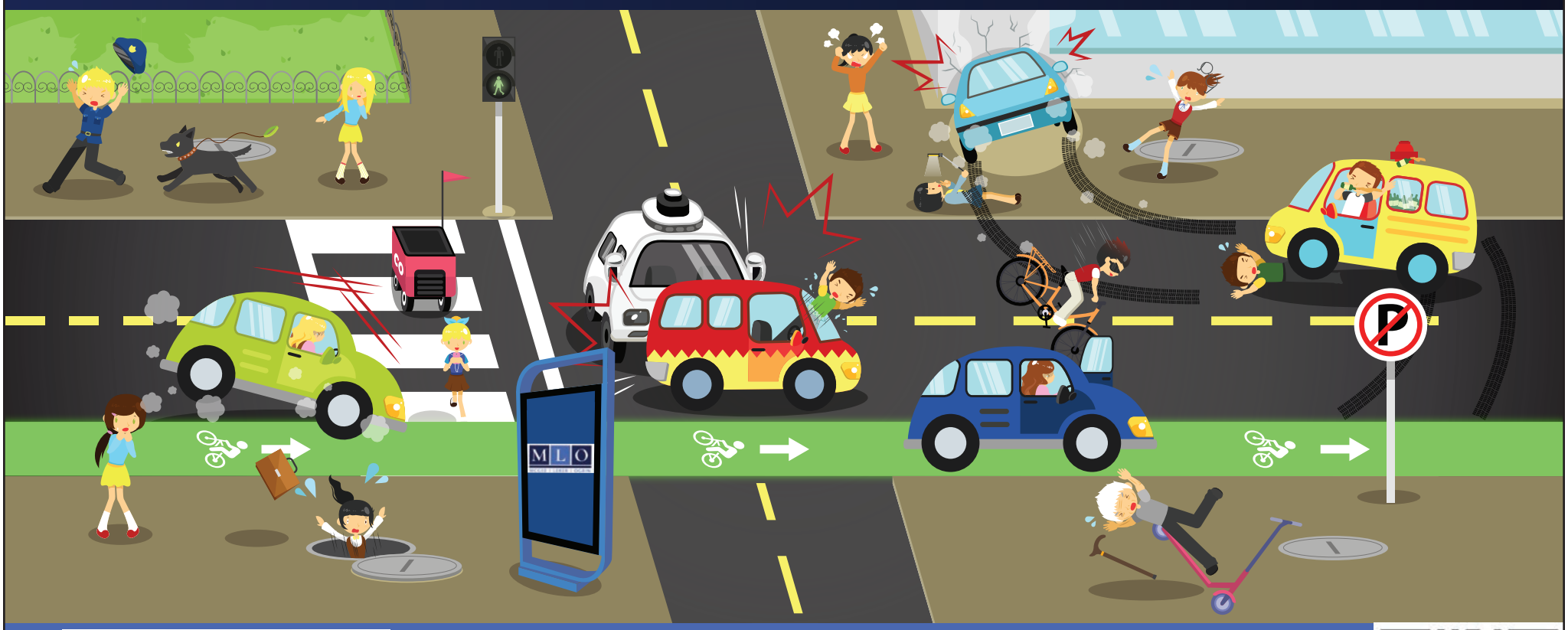

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Massive beach event appears to be in the works from ESPN and Anheuser-Busch

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

The Santa Monica City Council meets Tuesday night for an agenda short on substance but long on rumor with a batch of lease negotiations that suggest a large-scale event is on its way to the beach.

Five items are scheduled for closed session discussions Tuesday night related to uses on or near the Santa Monica Pier.

Event production company Silverback LLC is negotiating for Crescent Bay Park and Beach Lot 4 South, ESPN is asking to use the Pier itself, the French National Sports Committee is attempting to secure the Annenberg Beach House, concert promoter Goldenvoice is asking to use 550,000 square feet of sand area south of the Santa Monica Pier and Anheuser-Busch is also negotiating for use of the Pier.

Closed session items are not discussed in public but the subject of those discussions must be disclosed on agendas in advance of the meeting. However, if action is taken on a closed session item, the Council is required to report that action.

Information on the negotiations is limited in advance of the meeting and Santa Monica declined to provide any additional information about any of the talks.

At least one of the deals is Olympic-related. The French National Sports Committee, whose full name is French National Olympic and Sports Committee handles Olympic participation for France and France's overseas territories. While Olympic organizations are working to secure facilities in advance of the 2028 games, Los Angeles is preparing for both the World Cup in 2026 and Superbowl in 2027.

Los Angeles most recently hosted the Superbowl in 2022 and for that event, the NFL hosted an event on the Pier and a mini-broadcast station was set up for shots before and after the game.

To accommodate three major sporting events in quick succession, Los Angeles is leveraging existing venues rather than building new ones, with SoFi Stadium undergoing FIFA-required modifications for World Cup matches and the historic Coliseum serving Olympic events. LAX is undergoing a $30 billion modernization, while LA Metro's "Twenty-eight by '28" initiative aims to complete 28 transit projects before the Olympics, including rail extensions and an automated people-mover.

Security coordination involves federal agencies, with the Olympics designated a National Special Security Event under Secret Service leadership. The $7.15 billion Olympics budget relies on private financing through sponsorships and broadcast rights, with the city and state providing backstop guarantees. LA28 has already secured over $2 billion in sponsorships.

The preparations involve extensive public-private collaboration among city, regional, state and federal entities. While community response includes excitement about tourism revenue and legacy programs for youth sports, some activists worry about displacement and surveillance. Transportation agencies plan to deploy thousands of additional buses and are encouraging a "transit-first" approach to manage crowds efficiently.

Council will meet at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday night for the abbreviated agenda that will also include the transition of Mayor from Lana Negrete to Caroline Torosis.

editor@smdp.com

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Surf report

WATER TEMP: **62.6**

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

Less push than Monday but marginally rideable on the small wave gear. More offshores early. Leftover NW swell mix and traces of SSW swell energy. Looking pretty weak but a low-incoming tide helps the cause in the morning. Good one for the micro groms and beginners. Going to be pretty small and slow for the points east of Dume. Steady offshore flow due most of the morning, shifting to a light afternoon sea breeze.

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

Looking like Tuesday, small but rideable on the small wave gear. Light offshores for early morning. Lingering NW swell mix and traces of SSW swell for waves mainly under waist high. Low-incoming tide helps in the morning. Best suited for the mioro groms and beginners.
Light offshore flow and groomed clean in the morning. Light+ WNW onshores and dropping tide over the afternoon.

Weather

Tuesday: Sunny, with a high near 74. North northeast wind 5 to 10 mph becoming west southwest in the afternoon.
Tuesday Night: Clear, with a low around 57. North wind 5 to 10 mph.
Wednesday: Sunny, with a high near 74. North northeast wind 5 to 10 mph becoming west in the afternoon.
Wednesday Night: Clear, with a low around 57.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted	(ft)High/Low
2025/12/09	Tue	01:29 AM	3.85	H
2025/12/09	Tue	05:51 AM	2.74	L
2025/12/09	Tue	11:52 AM	5.36	H
2025/12/09	Tue	7:21 PM	-0.29	L
2025/12/10	Wed	02:32 AM	4.04	H
2025/12/10	Wed	07:20 AM	2.79	L
2025/12/10	Wed	12:58 PM	4.59	H
2025/12/10	Wed	8:17 PM	0.26	L
2025/12/11	Thu	03:28 AM	4.31	H
2025/12/11	Thu	09:11 AM	2.54	L
2025/12/11	Thu	2:21 PM	3.90	H
2025/12/11	Thu	9:12 PM	0.77	L
2025/12/12	Fri	04:15 AM	4.62	H
2025/12/12	Fri	10:42 AM	1.99	L
2025/12/12	Fri	3:54 PM	3.44	H
2025/12/12	Fri	10:02 PM	1.23	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: 12/6
13 14 26 28 44
Power#: 7
Jackpot: 875 M

Mega Millions — Draw Date: 12/5
34 38 42 44 69
Mega#: 8
Jackpot: 60 M

SuperLotto Plus — Draw Date: 12/6
6 10 30 42 43
Mega#: 19
Jackpot: 9 M

Fantasy 5 — Draw Date: 12/7
11 13 14 19 39

Daily 3 — Draw Date: 12/7
EVENING: 7 4 8
Draw Date: 12/7
MIDDAY: 5 7 5

Daily Derby — Draw Date: 12/7
1st: 05 - California Classic
2nd: 10 - Solid Gold
3rd: 04 - Big Ben
Race Time: 1:49.42

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Name Change

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 25SMCP006007 Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, 1725 Main Street, Room 102, Santa Monica, CA 90401. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner Adel Etian Hanna Abdou filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Present name: Adel Etian Hanna Abdou to Proposed name: Adel Etian Hanna. 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 Date: 01-09-26 Time: 8:30 AM Dept.: K. The address of the court is same as noted above. A copy of this Order to Show Cause must be published at least once each week for four successive weeks before the date set for hearing on the petition in a newspaper of general circulation (for resident of the county) printed in this county (specify paper): Santa Monica Mirror (for other petitioners) printed in the county in which petitioner resides or, if no county, in the local subdivision or territory where petitioner resides. Date: NOV 25 2025 s/ LAWRENCE H. CHO, Judge of the Superior Court. SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS Publish: December 2, 2025, December 9, 2025, December 16, 2025, December 23, 2025

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Dates: 12/08/25-12/10/25Time: 9:30 AM-5:30 PMLocation: 1431 Ocean Ave, Santa Monica, CA 90401Description: Join us for an estate sale featuring furniture, household items, collectibles, and more! Everything must go, so come find great deals!*cash only*

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Golden Globes enter the world of podcasts and tread carefully, avoiding controversy

The Golden Globes this year introduced a best podcast category and, predictably, the nominees announced Monday will get people talking.

The six nominees for the inaugural best podcast award are "Armchair Expert with Dax Shepard," "Call Her Daddy," "Good Hang with Amy Poehler," "The Mel Robbins Podcast," "SmartLess" and "Up First," from NPR. Representing a mix of news, advice and celebrity interviews, they were drawn from a shortlist of 25 programs the Globes had previously deemed eligible.

> They're trying to bill themselves as an award show that is for the masses and non-controversial, celebrating the best in entertainment. Having this political sideshow, I think they just wanted to avoid that
> - Ben Bogardus

The nominations avoided politics or controversy by passing on popular podcasts from the shortlist, such as conservative-leaning programs "The Megyn Kelly Show," "The Tucker Carlson Show," "The Ben Shapiro Show," Candace Owen's "Candace" and, most notably, "The Joe Rogan Experience," which topped Spotify, Apple and YouTube's list of weekly podcast charts this year. The left-leaning "Pod Save America" also was snubbed, as were popular true crime podcasts like "Morbid" and "Rotten Mango."

Ben Bogardus, a professor and chair of the journalism department at Quinnipiac University, said it seemed that the Globes' voting body — after years of scandal for the beleaguered awards show — wanted to avoid any controversy, like inviting a podcast host who might show up and say something contentious.

"They're trying to bill themselves as an award show that is for the masses and non-controversial, celebrating the best in entertainment. Having this political sideshow, I think they just wanted to avoid that," he said.

Reaction to the apparent snubbing of politics-related podcasts early Monday was light, with a handful of X users weighing in with criticism that high-ranking programs from personalities like Rogan and "manosphere" podcaster Theo Von had been left off the final cut. There was no direct reaction from the hosts themselves.

Shapiro had launched an all-out Golden Globes publicity campaign for his decade-old podcast, on which he's spoken with the likes of U.S. Vice President JD Vance and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy in the past year. In addition to making the rounds with industry publications, Shapiro also secured massive billboard space in New York City's Times Square.

The 25 potential candidates — including The New York Times' "The Daily" and Barstool Sports' "Pardon My Take" — mostly matched up with the most listened-to shows.

"If that's how you want to pick your 'best podcast,' that's certainly one starting point and one way to do it," says Karl Hughes, a 20-year podcasting veteran who is CEO of The Podcast Consultant. "I think it leaves a lot of stuff out. It leaves a lot of nuance out."

Eligible podcasts must have original content and must have released at least six episodes between Jan. 1, 2025, and Sept. 30, 2025, with each episode having a minimum length of 30 minutes. The award, which will be handed out at the Nikki Glaser-hosted show Jan. 11, recognizes "the quality, creativity, audience engagement and impact" of the podcast, per the Globes.

Many podcast experts were left scratching their heads since the Globes didn't use any categories for its long list and was a bit murky about what constituted a best podcast. Quality of production? Consistency? The stories being told? Raw numbers?

"It's a good thing for the industry to get more recognition and getting recognition in a major award ceremony is awesome," Hughes says. "I think that's cool to see. But the way it's done, of course, is a very blunt instrument."

Controversy almost immediately ensued after the initial announcement when it was revealed that Luminate Data, an entertainment tracking and analytics company, would create the shortlist. Luminate belongs to Penske Media Corp., which owns the Globes. Then there's the accompanying costs associated with traditional ad campaigns for the award in the pages of Variety and The Hollywood Reporter — also owned by Penske. The company did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

While more digital-friendly awards shows like the Webby Awards, the Ambies, iHeartRadio and The Shorty Awards recognize podcasting, the Globes' move marks the first time podcasts have been included by a major awards show.

Hughes says that's a natural step as podcasting matures and starts attracting more corporate dollars. He hopes the Globes' spotlight will make podcasting accessible to more people.

"It'll open up the door for more individuals and businesses that want to use the medium to tell interesting stories because it's got a little more respect, a little more gravitas, a little more mainstream appeal," he said.

Three of the six nominated titles came from SiriusXM, with the others from Amazon, Spotify and NPR. Robbins, a nominee for her self-help podcast, said in a statement that she

SEE GOLDEN GLOBE PAGE 7

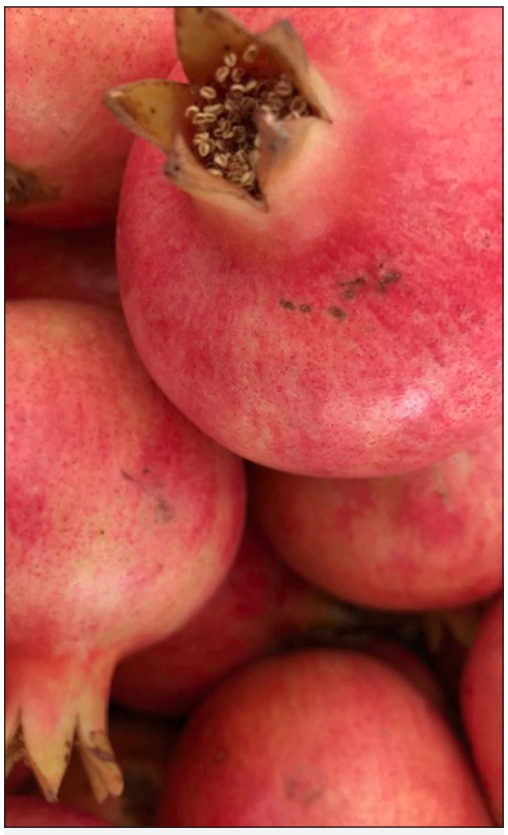
FRESH AT THE MARKET

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Holiday Magic at the Farmers Market

We are so excited to have you join us as we celebrate the holidays and this community. There is a lot going on this month, starting with last week's Miracle on Main Street event and tree lighting after the Kids' Main Street Farmers Market. The Mini Winter Festival at the Pico Farmers Market on December 13th is in collaboration with the Pico Farmers Market, Virgina Avenue Park and the Pico Boulevard businesses. Enjoy a festive morning featuring local art and business booths, face painting, live music, the annual SMC Glass sale and more.

This holiday season, consider gift shopping at the farmers markets. Give the gift of fresh fruits and vegetables, herbs, nuts, olive oil in an ingredient basket for a favorite stew or pasta recipe. We've got what you need for that incredibly unique and super fun gift. No time to cook? Create a dish with friends as part of a dinner gathering. Host a TikTok farmers market cooking party where everyone brings an ingredient from their favorite farmer at the market. Organize a holiday meet up at the farmers market with your favorite foodies and maybe discover something new. We have incredible farmers offering the best of the season and so much more!



Courtesy photo
FESTIVAL: The Mini Winter Festival at the Pico Farmers Market on December 13th is in collaboration with the Pico Farmers Market, Virgina Avenue Park and the Pico Boulevard businesses.

Has the price of Christmas trees got you down? Try making a rosemary Christmas tree. You can find rosemary and other herbs for your holiday dishes at your favorite farmers market!

Did you know that Fat Uncle Farms doesn't just have organic dry-farmed almonds? They also have heritage grains for baking bread, cookies and other holiday treats. Look for their pop up on the 1st and 3rd Sundays in December. Also new this month, RB Ranch organic macadamia nuts make a super delicious gift and Garcia Family Farms is back with organic citrus.

DECEMBER CALENDAR 2025

Pico

December 13	GM Jazz Trio Mini Winter Festival: SMC glass sale, photo booth, holiday crafts and activities presented by Pico Blvd Merchants. Join us for a fun, family friendly holiday event supporting local farmers and vendors.
December 20	East of Lincoln Educational activity and seedling giveaway: UC Master Gardeners
December 27	Megan Ukoh – singer/songwriter

Main Street

December 14	GM Jazz Quartet – 10am-1pm Adventures with Doc JC
December 21	Winter Solstice Celebration Megan Ukoh – 10-11:30am Cadre Scott – 11:30am-1pm Fat Uncle Farms and Buon Gusto pop ups
December 28	Triple B Band – 10am-1pm

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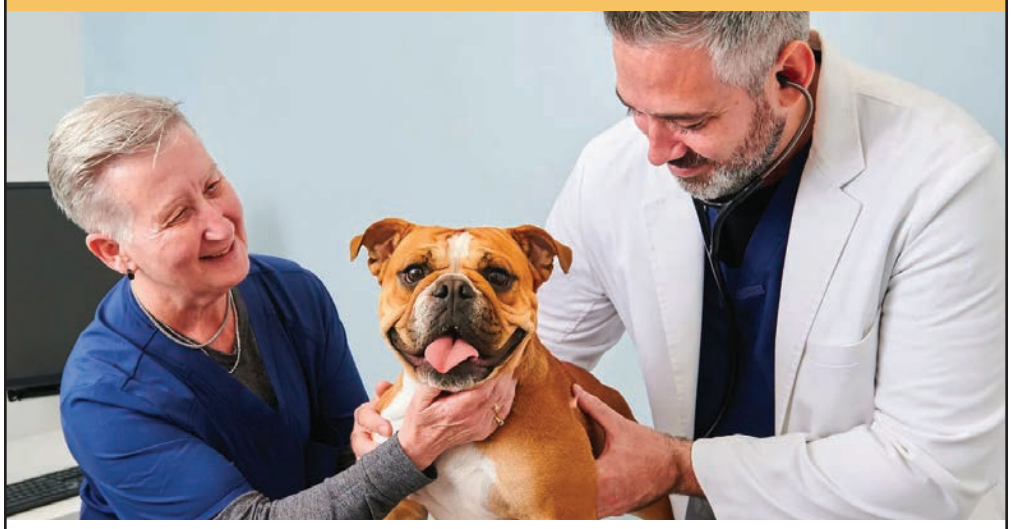

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CARUSO

FROM PAGE 1

each other."

Caruso also addressed broader hopes for Los Angeles heading into the new year.

"I hope the city does a better job really supporting residents - not just in the Palisades, everywhere," he said. "We need a cleaner city, a safer city. We need to get back to what cities are supposed to be: giving people a quality life."

Families enjoyed live music, warm drinks from Angelini Ristorante & Bar, holiday crafts, ornament calligraphy, and treats from local partners including Bay Theater, Blue Ribbon Sushi, K Bakery, King Kone, the Pacific Palisades Baseball Association, and the Sunset Smash food truck. Children wrote letters to Santa with Steadfast LA, and the evening featured appearances by Benton Sporting Goods owner and PPBA Commissioner Bob Benton, honorary mayors Gigi Rice and Ted McGinley, and a "White Christmas" sing-along led by Jimmy Dunne alongside Village School, St. Matthew's Parish, a special performance by Eloise Geller, The Adderley School, and the Jason McGee Choir.

One of the most unifying moments of the night came when Jimmy Dunne encouraged the entire crowd to turn on the small Palisades Village lights that volunteers had distributed just moments earlier. As thousands of handheld lights illuminated Monument Street, Dunne led families in a powerful, communal rendition of "White Christmas."

For many children and students — especially those returning to Palisades Village for the first time since the fires — the moment was deeply emotional. Their faces glowed with the soft light of their lanterns as snowflakes began to fall, and cheers erupted when Santa appeared, marking a rare and joyful moment in a year marked by loss.

Santa's arrival to snowfall closed the ceremony with a shared sense of uplift, togetherness, and renewed hope.

LAFD Fire Chief Jaime Moore, spoke about recovery, prevention, and what rebuilding requires.

Chief Moore described the evening as "overwhelming in the best way," adding, "When you see neighbors standing shoulder-to-shoulder after everything they've been through, it reminds you why we do this work."

He shared a personal connection to the Palisades having grown up in Venice, attended Santa Monica High School, and watched his college roommate lose his home in the fire. "This isn't just another fire for me," he said. "I know these streets. I know these families - this one hits home."

Fourteen firefighters from Task Force 69 were present at the event, along with members of Moore's staff - a poignant reminder of the magnitude of the response and the deep ties between LAFD and the Palisades.

Moore outlined the key pillars of a safer future:

Fire-resistant construction "What we build now determines what survives later."

Updated water mains and hydrant capacity "If the water system can't support us, our hands are tied."

Smart planning and spacing "Access and spacing decisions save minutes — and in a fire, minutes save lives."

Strict brush clearance "We can't compromise on brush clearance. Not here. Not anymore."

Evacuation drills & education "You prepare people before disaster strikes — not during."

"We are not waiting for the next fire," he said. "We're preparing right now."

Among the many community members attending the event was Jake Levine, Special Assistant to the President on Biden's National Security Council, and now running for Congress in CA-32,, whose family suffered devastating losses in the fire — including his childhood home, and his aunt and uncle's home.

"This has been the hardest year of our lives," Levine shared. "But tonight - this was the first real joy we've felt since the fire. I was motivated to run for Congress because the fires revealed a need for new and more dynamic leadership – tonight was a wonderful of the resistant spirit of the Palisades.:

Levine was formerly on the founding team of Department of Angels, a nonprofit he helped start that conducts soil testing, supports survivors, and advocates for safe rebuilding.

"Being here, seeing neighbors again, seeing the lights — it reminded us that we're not alone," he said. "This is what hope looks like."

He added that what he hopes most for the community moving forward is simple: "A Palisades where families can rebuild safely, where community isn't just a word, and where resilience is matched with real support."

Another powerful moment of the night came from Ryan Robert Becker, whose family has lived in the Palisades since the 1970s. As he spoke with SMDP, he described the evening as nothing short of transformative.

"This is the rebirth of the Palisades," Becker said. "After everything we've been through, seeing everyone here together again — it feels special in a way I can't fully describe."

Becker is currently navigating the future of his late father's property and expressed gratitude for the community's strength and the emerging solutions being developed to support families rebuilding.

His cousin, Nicole Becker Ewing, echoed that sentiment with emotion: "This is the heart of the theme tonight," she said. "Hope, rebuilding, and remembering who we are to each other."

Caruso confirmed that Palisades Village is on track to fully reopen in August 2026, with retailers returning and construction progressing on key amenities.

He also noted that local schools - with Marquez open, Pali High reopening in January, and St. Matthew's and Calvary Christian on deck - signal a turning point in community revitalization.

The Palisades Recreation Center is slated for groundbreaking early next year as planning and fundraising accelerate, and the Village to reopen next August.

And through it all, Steadfast LA, the Builder's Alliance, and the newly completed Thomas James Homes model home remain pillars of progress.

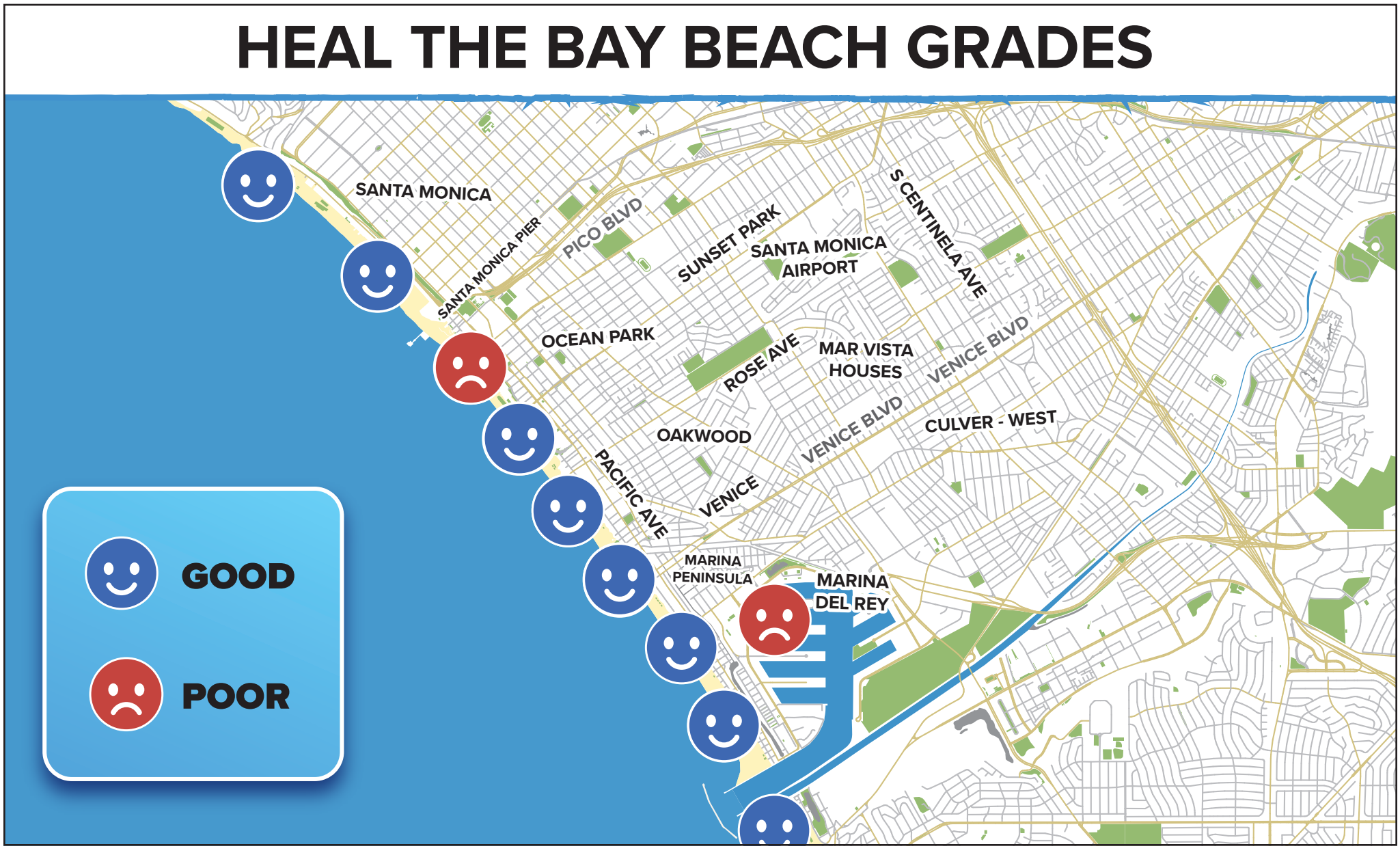
"We're going to keep working hard," Caruso said. "Supporting small businesses with grants, helping families rebuild, showing up in every way we can."

As snowflakes drifted across Monument Street and families lingered beneath the glow of the tree, Caruso paused to greet familiar faces in the crowd.

"Enjoy the night," he said softly. "This is what matters most."

Palisades Village will continue its holiday celebrations with a Menorah Lighting Ceremony on Sunday, December 14.

By Michelle Edgar, Special to the Daily Press



COMMUNITY NEWS

SMC

Santa Monica College Musical Theatre Workshop Presents 'Roaring On!'SMC

The Santa Monica College Musical Theatre Workshop will celebrate live theater with performances of "Roaring On!" Dec. 12-14 at the Studio Stage in the SMC Theatre Arts Complex on the main campus at 1900 Pico Blvd.

Performances are scheduled for Friday, Dec. 12, at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 13, at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.; and Sunday, Dec. 14, at 2 p.m.

Directed by SMC Theatre Arts faculty Perviz Sawoski with musical direction by SMC Music faculty Gary Gray, the lively revue features SMC students performing solos, duets and group numbers showcasing the best of a wide range of musical theater genres.

Tickets are $15 in advance or $18 at the door for general admission, plus a modest service charge. Advance tickets can be purchased online at smc.edu/tickets or by calling 310-434-3005 Monday through Friday during limited hours.

Tickets may also be purchased starting 45 minutes before each performance at the Theatre Arts Box Office at the SMC Main Campus. Free parking is available on premises.

Seating is strictly on a first-arrival basis with no late seating. No video feed will be offered in the lobby area.

Performances are subject to change or cancellation without notice.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF



Courtesy photo

THEATRE: SMC students in Theatre and Music 45 rehearse for SMC Musical Theatre Workshop's "Roaring On!" on Friday, Dec. 12, at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 13, at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.; and Sunday, Dec. 14, at 2 p.m. in the Theatre Arts Studio Stage.

GOLDEN GLOBE

FROM PAGE 4

was grateful.

"To be nominated for this award is surreal. It is also proof of a simple truth: It is never too late to change your life. Your age, your past, and your doubts do not determine what you can create next," she said.

Bogardus marveled at how the podcasting industry has grown up in the past 25 years, moving beyond its origins in radio and giving hosts freedom that content creators in other media don't have: "Going into an award show now really shows that it has come into its own as a type of communication that people consume, which can be on par with television, with radio, with streaming, with internet videos, with social media."

By MARK KENNEDY AP Entertainment Writer. Associated Press reporter Meg Kinnard in Columbia, South Carolina, contributed to this report.



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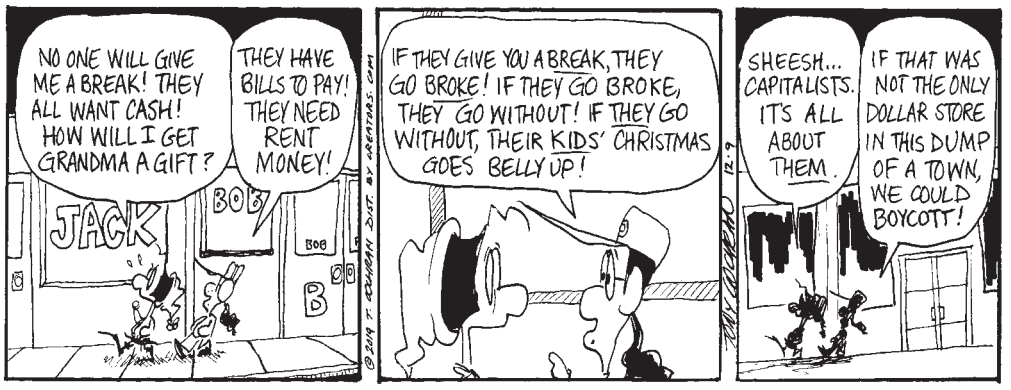
Better.™

Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



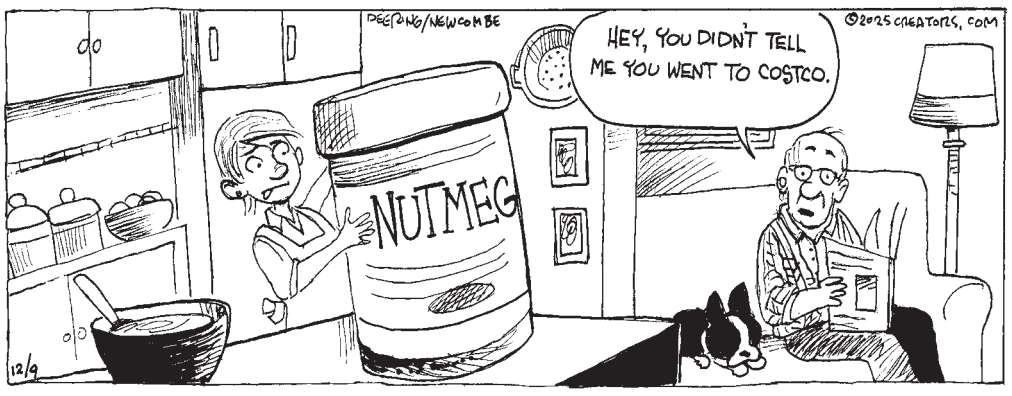
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



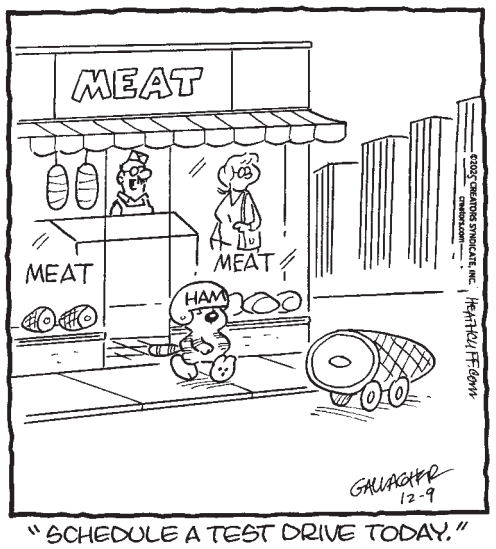
Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

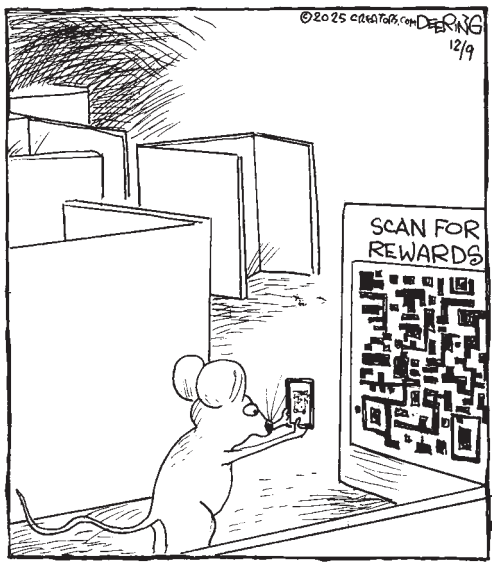
By PETER GALLAGHER



"SCHEDULE A TEST DRIVE TODAY."

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

© australianwordgames.com.au 6784

Under the big top

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

Action	Drinks	Joey	Seal
Arrow	Event	Josh	Spectacle
Bear	Fair	Kids	Take
Bikes	Feat	Loony	Tame
Boss	Flying	Music	Trip
hostler	trapeze	Nets	Tune
Cage	Fold	Owners	Under the
Cats	Fool	Parade	stars
Circus	Gate	Pretend	Unique
Crier	Glitter	Props	Urges
Danger	Gymnast	Ride	Zany
Dog	Humour	Roar	

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
Time for reflection

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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Dec. 9)

In this Year of Impossible Wishing, you prove that more is possible when you shoot for what isn't. Life is exciting because you make peace with reaching, never stop striving, and let the dreaming itself give you joy and sustenance - it totally will! Fellow dreamers are attracted to what you'll build together. More highlights: joyful travel, admiration from peers and deep romantic loyalty. Leo and Aquarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 9, 12, 33, 25 and 46.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Remember when you thought someone else could help you more than you could help yourself? What an amazingly powerful ally you can be to yourself as you act strictly on your own behalf - not selfish, just necessary.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). A negotiation is due. Asking for what you want might feel awkward, but do it anyway. It's tempting to give in just to keep the peace, yet real harmony comes from meeting halfway.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Choose bite-sized tasks, or break them down into manageable chunks, because working on something that can be completed within the day will bring you satisfaction, progress, attention, help and good fortune. Prep takes time, too, so factor that in.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You already know what you care about. You don't need to question whether you're doing enough for the cause. Your integrity is intact. You don't need to prove your purpose today. You already embody it.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). When life gets loud, emotionally charged, chaotic and demanding, the instinct is to escape. But instead of numbing out, checking out or running away, you'll rise to a perspective that lets you see the situation without being consumed by it.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). True belonging empowers. It doesn't erase individuality. Avoid trying to belong to groups controlled by a few powerful people at the expense of many other hardworking underlings. Belonging shouldn't be confused with submission.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). What you fantasize about is more likely to come true than what you don't. The mental exercise is a rehearsal for reality. Each vivid detail draws the future closer. Keep picturing the scene, and you'll also start to see the environment around you echo your imaginings.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Even though humans are rumored to be social creatures, on days like today, it feels hard to connect. It's the overthinking that's the problem. Make like a barnacle and let nature clump you together for the group good.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). In choices so small you almost don't notice them, the people you talk to, the pictures you take, the habits you're building - all are culminating into this new emerging version of you. The change feels good and right.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). People who interrupt often seem rude or self-important. Interrupting breaks the rhythm of conversation and signals ego. But in a certain moment today an interruption will be wise and necessary to stop misinformation or protect a boundary.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Anyone can point out what's wrong. It takes creativity and will to see what's good. Luckily, the sunny side calls to you. Today, optimism is the most empowering stance. The world brightens in response to your enthusiasm.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). People who are very familiar with one another have a shared history which builds context and intent into every communication. Even though newcomers have no such advantage, but the unbiased take of fresh eyes will be invaluable to today's work.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

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

Newsday Crossword

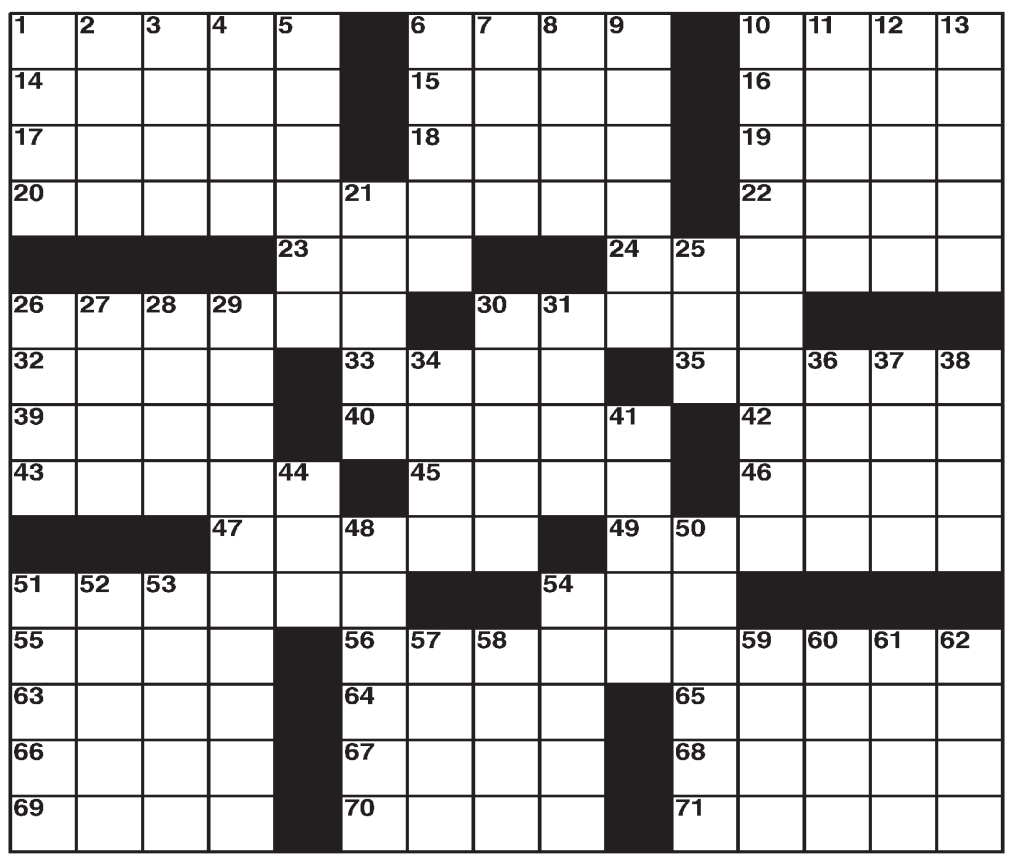
SORTS OF SANDWICHES by Billie Truitt
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Aussie bearlike beast
6 Flower stalk
10 Recipe amt.
14 Deduce logically
15 Surface for surfing
16 "Very funny"
17 Socially smooth
18 Similar (to)
19 Sailor's assents
20 Annual thaw at winter's end
22 Tips of socks
23 French "yes"
24 Skeptical comment
26 Walks proudly
30 Damascus' country
32 Ireland nickname
33 Tex-Mex snack in a shell
35 Steal, informally
39 Change for a $20 bill
40 Nebraska city
42 Part of a train track
43 Smooth transition
45 Revered person
46 Matures, as wine
47 Brainy introverts
49 Take sides against
51 Snoopy's breed
54 "Silly me!"
55 Curve of a foot
56 Stand-up performer's workplace
63 Carryall bag
64 Sign of the future
65 March composer John Philip ___
66 Strong smell
67 Rowboat implements
68 Coal residue
69 Infamous Roman emperor
70 Joint above a shin
71 Noble actions

DOWN

1 Affectionate greeting
2 "Climb ___!" (invitation from a tree house)
3 Miles away
4 Jeans maker Strauss
5 "Am so!" reply
6 Hindu guru
7 Help oneself to
8 Wicked
9 Wise advisor
10 Director's "We're all done"
11 Louisiana wetland
12 Thin and transparent
13 No longer fashionable
21 Great enthusiasm
25 That dude's
26 Goes down, as the sun
27 Maple or oak
28 Round jewelry
29 Brave person not getting credit
30 A whole bunch
31 Pirate chant beginning
34 In the center of
36 *Othello* villain
37 Crusty desserts
38 Otherwise
41 How bedtime stories are read
44 Snakelike fish
48 Heat up again
50 Gym class, for short
51 Conductor's wand
52 Wear away
53 Cast member
54 Tightly packed
57 Persian Gulf nation
58 A ___ pittance (very little money)
59 Attend a party
60 Oil change, informally
61 Pre-owned
62 Cakes of soap



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12/09/25

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



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

MEMORIES & MOVEMENT SENIOR CLUB

10:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Come, learn, and have fun every 2nd and 4th Tuesday from 10:30 AM to 1:00 PM in The Patio room at Virginia Avenue Park. Each week there will be something new: Exercise, Talking with Friends, Learning, Guest Presenters, Health & Wellness! Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/memories-movement-senior-club/14853634/2025-12-02T10

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/16225799/2025-12-02T16

GELSON'S WEST LA TO HOST TACO TUESDAYS WITH TACOS, MARGARITAS, AND MEZCALS

4:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. Gelson's 12121 W Olympic Blvd, Los Angeles. Every Tuesday from 4 PM to 10 PM, Gelson's West LA Wine Bar will be hosting Taco Tuesdays, bringing together a festive blend of flavors and fun. Enjoy a variety of mouthwatering tacos, refreshing margaritas, and smooth mezcals, all served in a vibrant, welcoming atmosphere. The perfect way to spice up the week—gather friends and enjoy a night of great food, drinks, and good times. Prices vary. For more information, visit https://www.gelsons.com/events/view/taco-tuesdays-at-gelsons-west-la-wine-bar. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/gelson-s-west-la-to-host-taco-tuesdays-with-tacos-margaritas-and-mezcals/15309564/2025-12-02T16

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

5:30 p.m. Santa Monica City Hall 1685 Main St. Santa Monica. The City Council is made up of seven members elected at-large for staggered four-year terms. Every two years, after each election, the City Council selects one of its members to serve as Mayor and another to serve as Mayor Pro Tempore. The City Council also sits as the following bodies for the City of Santa Monica. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/city-council-meeting/13799967/2025-12-09T17

HOLIDAY WREATH MAKING WORKSHOP

6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Viola Floral 1639 11th St. Suite 162 Santa Monica. oin us for an evening of wreathmaking to celebrate the winter season! We'll start with beautiful 18" grapevine wreaths, and use an array of winter greens and special touches and embellishments—all customized to your individual style. Enjoy a wine pairing from Divine Vintage and leave with stunning winter-themed art for your door! Difficulty: Beginner–Intermediate. Address: Viola Floral Studio: 1639 11th St. Suite 162, Santa Monica. Convenient parking in the back of the building. Please note that all workshops are non-refundable, but if something comes up, feel free to send a friend in your place — flower joy is always transferable. Please plan to arrive 15 minutes early to settle in, sip something refreshing, and get ready to bloom. Kit Included. Everything is taken care of by our amazing team, including all materials and tools. Expect to leave with a breathtaking wreath crafted by your own hands, enriched with newfound knowledge of florals and design. Light bites and bubbly will be provided! Following your purchase, our team will be in touch to coordinate the next steps. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/holiday-wreath-making-workshop/17198388/2025-12-09T18

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/16004734/2025-12-02T22

WEDNESDAY | DECEMBER 10

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/12382446/2025-12-03T08

PET PHOTOS WITH SANTA

4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Santa Monica Place 395 Santa Monica Pl, Santa Monica. Bring your cats and dogs for festive photos with Santa! Pets must be on a leash or in a carrier. December 10 & 11 | 4 - 7 p.m. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/pet-photos-with-santa/17477348/2025-12-10T16

ANNUAL HOLIDAY TOY DRIVE AND POLICY UPDATE

5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Santa Monica Place 395 Santa Monica Pl, Santa Monica. Please join us for our Annual Holiday Toy Drive and Policy Update, in partnership with Connections for Children and Safe Place for Youth! This will be a great opportunity to give back and help local families in need this holiday season, as well as for us to discuss the top legislative and district issues going into the new year. Come enjoy live music, spirited conversation, and free snacks and beverages. A donation is not required to attend the event. However, if you are able, please consider bringing a new, unwrapped toy that will be distributed to local families in the coming weeks. If you have any questions on this matter or need any assistance, please feel free to contact our Capitol office at (916) 651-4024 or our district office at (310) 414-8190. You can also visit our website for additional resources. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/annual-holiday-toy-drive-and-policy-update/17552086/2025-12-10T17

ORIGINAL UNDERSTUDIES

8:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Mi's Westside Comedy Theater 1323-A Third Street Promenade Santa Monica. The Bear Supply Hour is now Original Understudies. The same high energy comedy that was once named one of "The 100 Best Things in Comedy" by The Comedy Bureau, is now joined by a cast of both fresh and veteran comedians in fast-paced sketch and long form improv. Every show features special guests creating a high-octane, freakishly entertaining, one-of-a-kind improvised spectacle. $11.49. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/original-understudies/15018109/2025-12-10T20

THURSDAY | DECEMBER 11

SANTA MONICA PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD MEETING

6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Santa Monica Public Library 601 Santa Monica Blvd. Santa Monica. This is a regular meeting of the Library Board held on the second Thursday of the month at 6 p.m. at the Main Library, Administration Conference Room, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. The public is welcome to attend. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/santa-monica-public-library-board-meeting/14604496/2025-12-11T18

RENT CONTROL BOARD MEETING

7:00 p.m. Santa Monica City Hall 1685 Main Street Santa Monica. The Rent Control Board meets to conduct business associated with the Rent Control Charter Amendment and Regulations. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/rent-control-board-meeting/13406661/2025-12-11T19

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-/17408731/2025-12-11T00

FRIDAY | DECEMBER 12

DRUNK THEATRE: THE WILDEST IMPROV COMEDY SHOW!

8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Santa Monica Playhouse 1211 4th St, Santa Monica. A comedian takes five shots of whiskey in a row and tries to perform an improvised play with five sober comedians. What could go wrong?! Drunk Theatre is the entirely improvised, unpredictable, and crazy comedy show that'll kick your weekend into overdrive. Reserve your spot now as limited seating and space is available. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/drunk-theatre-the-wildest-improv-comedy-show-/15793351/2025-12-12T08

BRUNCH FRIDAYS WITH LIVE MUSIC IN OUR GARDEN PATIO!

11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. 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-/14639006/2025-12-12T11

Downtown Santa Monica
THIRD STREET PROMENADE

HOLIDAYS! HAPPENINGS

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Nov 7th, 2025 - Jan 19th, 2026
1324 5th Street

Santa Monica's favorite ice rink is back! Lace up your skates and join us on the corner of 5th Street and Arizona Avenue for the ultimate outdoor holiday experience.

BUY TICKETS NOW

HOLIDAY THURSDAYS
Dec 4th, 11th, & 18th | 5-7 PM
Every Thursday till Christmas. Hot chocolate and treats, a toy soldier band, snow, arts & crafts, and more!

HANUKKAH IN SANTA MONICA
Dec 14th - 21st | SUNDOWN
Local community groups will host Menorah lightings on the 1400 block of Third Street Promenade.