

Gary Limjap (310) 586-0339

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CalRE # 00927151

- Financial Slam Dunk? Homeownership in California.
- Minimum Wage Increasing in 2026.



Governor's Race
Republicans Possibly Leading.

11 What's Up Westside
Cool Things To Do.

Volume 25 Issue 26

MONDAY 12/22/25

smdp.com

Santa Monica approves digital billboard district on Third Street Promenade

Maaz alin

SMDP Staff Writer

The Santa Monica City Council voted to establish a digital display district along the Third Street Promenade and Santa Monica Place, approving an ordinance that could generate millions in annual revenue while transforming the visual character of the city's downtown corridor.

The council voted 6-0 to introduce the Digital Display District Ordinance and approved development agreements for seven large-format digital displays at four locations. Council Member Ellis Raskin recused himself from the

items.

The ordinance allows up to 16 digital displays at corner buildings on the Promenade and at Santa Monica Place, with each display limited to 1,000 square feet. If all 16 displays are eventually installed, the city could receive between \$3.5 million and \$7 million annually, according to an economic study prepared for the city.

"The Promenade — especially the 1200 block — is in urgent need of reinvention," said Daniel Negari, owner of properties at 301 Arizona Avenue and 1202 Third Street Promenade. "These digital displays

SEE **COUNCIL** PAGE 7



Courtesy photo

DISPLAYS: Council voted 6-0 to introduce the Digital Display District Ordinance and approved development agreements for seven large-format digital displays at four locations.

State regulators say Councilman Zwick is conflicted on housing votes

MATTHEW HALL

Daily Press Editor

The California Fair Political Practices Commission has ruled that Santa Monica Mayor Pro Tem Jesse Zwick must recuse himself from housing production decisions due to his employment with the Housing Action Coalition, concluding his position creates a conflict of interest under state law.

The FPPC issued a formal advice letter Dec. 8 finding that Zwick

is disqualified from participating in certain City Council decisions related to housing production under the commission's interpretation of the Political Reform Act and its "nexus test."

Zwick took a job with the Housing Action coalition earlier this year. The organization describes itself as a member-supported nonprofit that advocates for building more homes "at all levels of affordability" to address California's housing shortage. The

organization's members span more than 20 industries and include affordable and market-rate home builders, architects, designers, engineers, attorneys, labor unions and tech companies.

The commission determined that while neither Zwick nor HAC's financial interest in Santa Monica housing decisions met traditional criteria for materiality, a separate "nexus test" could apply. Under that standard, the FPPC advised that "any reasonably foreseeable

financial effect on a source of income to a public official or the official's spouse is material if the decision will achieve, defeat, aid, or hinder a purpose or goal of the source."

The FPPC concluded city housing production decisions could benefit HAC despite safeguards Zwick put in place to prevent direct benefits to himself or his employer.

The commission's advice is

SEE **ZWICK** PAGE 7

Santa Monica College wins National Award for sustainability program

MAAZ ALIN

SMDP Staff Writer

Santa Monica College has been named Outstanding Higher Education Program for 2025 by the National Recycling Coalition, joining Stanford University as recent recipients of the prestigious national honor.

The award recognizes SMC's Sustainable Materials Management program, which trains students for careers in the circular economy through degrees and certificates focused on zero waste and sustainable materials management.

"Being named an Outstanding Higher Education Program by the National Recycling Coalition is a meaningful recognition of Santa Monica College's long-standing commitment to sustainability, innovation, and student engagement," said Victoria Charles, professor and faculty leader of the program.

The program represents a shift from traditional recycling education to a comprehensive approach that examines the entire lifecycle of materials. This year, the college officially renamed the program from Recycling and Resource

SEE **SMC** PAGE 5









SUBJECT: 25ENT-0242 (Fence Wall Hedge Height Modification)

3041 Margaret Lane

APPLICANT: Dina Elkinawy

Nick and Kelli Fishbaugh PROPERTY OWNER:

A public hearing will be held by the Zoning Administrator to consider the following request:

The applicant requests approval of a height modification to allow a proposed 8'- high stucco wall within the front setback abutting Marine Street. The proposed 8' high wall exceeds the maximum allowable height of 42 inches in the front setback. Pursuant to Santa Monica Municipal Code (SMMC) Sections 9.21.050 and 9.04.050(D), fences, walls, or hedges cannot exceed a maximum height of 42 inches within the required front setback as measured from the lowest finished grade adjacent to either side of the fence, wall, or hedge. Pursuant to SMMC Section 9.04.050(D), in the cases of fences, walls, or hedges that are parallel to and within 5 feet of a public sidewalk, grade shall be the elevation of the closest point on the sidewalk. SMMC Section 9.43.080(B) allows an applicant to request a modification to this height limitation in the front setback.

DATE/TIME: TUESDAY, JANUARY 13, 2026 AT 10:30 AM

City Council Chamber, Second Floor, Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main LOCATION:

Street, Santa Monica, California

HOW TO COMMENT

The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. Members of the public unable to attend a meeting but wishing to comment on an item(s) listed on the agenda may submit written comments prior to the public hearing via email to planningcomment@santamonica.gov or via mail to the address listed below. Comments received prior to 5:30 P.M. the day before the meeting will be distributed to the Zoning Administrator prior to the meeting and posted online. All written comments shall be made part of the public record. Please note the agenda item in

You may also comment in-person at the Zoning Administrator hearing. Please check the agenda for more detailed instructions on how to comment.

Address your comments to: Ana Fernandez, Associate Planner 25ENT-0242

VIA E-MAIL:

planningcomment@santamonica.gov

City Planning Division 1685 Main Street, Mail Stop 28 Santa Monica, CA 90401

MORE INFORMATION

If you want more information about this project or wish to review the project file, please contact Ana Fernandez at (310) 458-2200 ext. 2431or by e-mail at ana.fernandez@santamonica.gov. The Zoning Ordinance is available on the City's web site at www.santamonica.gov.

For disability-related accommodations, please contact (866) 311-7266 at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting. Every attempt will be made to provide the requested accommodation. All written materials are available in alternate languages provided that the request is made with 72 hours of the meeting. Santa Monica Big Blue Bus Lines serve City Hall and the Civic Center area. The Expo Line terminus is located at Colorado Avenue and Fourth Street, and is a short walk to City Hall. Public parking is available in front of City Hall, on Olympic Drive, and in the Civic Center Parking Structure (validation free).

Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the challenge may be limited to only those issues raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Monica at, or prior to, the public hearing.

Esto es una noticia pública para revisar aplicaciones proponiendo desarrollo en Santa Monica. Si desea más información, favor de llamar a Ana Fernandez en la División de Planificación al número (310) 458-2201 ext. 2431 o envíe un correo electrónico a ana.fernandez@santamonica.

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

Contact dina@smdp.com today!

Why homeownership in California isn't nearly the financial slam dunk it once was



Photo by Tash Kimmell for CalMatters Credit: Tash Kimmell / CalMatters L.A.: A single family home in South Central, Los Angeles on Sept. 4 2020.

It's the benchmark of success, a milestone of responsible adulthood, a time-tested way to amass wealth for you and your progeny. Homeownership, we're told again and again, is a status that every right-thinking person should aspire to — the white-picket-fencefronted embodiment of the American Dream.

BUT WHAT IF IT'S ALSO A LITTLE OVERRATED?

For generations it has been taken as a near article of faith across the country that ownership is both the financially and socially superior way to inhabit a home and that public policy makers should always promote it. California legislators and housing advocates spent this past year enacting sweeping policies aimed at making it easier to build housing of all kinds. This coming year, many of them indicate that they plan to focus specifically on providing more plentiful paths

They'll have their work cut out for them.

The state's homeownership rate of roughly 55% is second lowest in the nation, above New York, and a full 10 percentage points beneath the national average. Most of that gap, both common sense and researchers at UC Berkeley tell us, isn't the result of an atypical fondness for the freedoms of renting but comes down to the price tag. The median price of a detached single-family home across in the United States is \$426,800. In California, it's \$852,680. In San Francisco it's well over \$1 million.

With borrowing rates still hovering above 6%, those prices translate to estimated monthly mortgage costs between \$4,000 to \$6,000 or more. Even in all but the toniest neighborhoods of coastal California, that's far above the cost of renting a typical apartment. In Orange County, the estimated all-in monthly costs on a home (including taxes, insurance, maintenance and any association fees) is four times the average rent, according to a recent analysis by the commercial real

estate firm CBRE. In Los Angeles and San Francisco, the "buying premium" is three times greater than renting. Nationally, it's twice as much.

Economists and housing finance experts are careful to note that it depends - on a person's financial circumstances, the particulars of their preferences and the market in which they want to live, how long they plan to occupy a home and, most challenging of all, what the future holds.

But across the country, the gap between renting and owning is "way out of line" with the historic norm, said Laurie Goodman, an economist at the Urban Institute, a liberalleaning thinktank in Washington D.C.

In 2018, Goodman co-authored a paper on homeownership in the United States, which came to the fairly unambiguous conclusion that most people most of the time would be better off buying a home (assuming they can afford the monthly payments) compared to renting.

"Homeownership is not the universal panacea, but the financial returns on homeownership have been more beneficial than renting for most homeowners and will likely remain so if current patterns continue," Goodman wrote in a corresponding blog post at the time.

Current patterns did not continue: Today we see dizzying prices and interest rates and flat rents in most places. Homeownership isn't nearly the financial slam dunk it once was, she said.

Take a market like San Francisco. The average price of an admittedly rare singlefamily home in the city is \$1.38 million, according to Zillow. Depending on the size of a buyer's downpayment, that would work out to a monthly loan payment of roughly \$6,500. The average rent for one is \$4,350.

In order for all those extra monthly

SEE **HOUSING** PAGE 6

California's minimum wage is increasing in 2026 as Los Angeles debates \$30 an hour

You can't

threaten to

blow a hole in

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then the only

way to stop it is

on the backs of

workers

- Kurt Petersen

Californians will see the minimum wage increase to \$16.90 per hour starting Jan. 1. The adjustment — a boost of 40 cents per hour – was calculated in August by the Department of Finance as part of its minimum wage annual review required by state law.

California has been raising its minimum wage over the past decade. Former Gov. Jerry Brown in 2016 signed a watershed law to increase minimum wage from \$10.50

per hour to \$15 per hour, plus annual adjustments for inflation.

The current rate of \$16.50 per hour suggests that a minimum wage worker needs to work 98 hours per week to afford a one-bedroom rental at fair market rent in California, according to the National Low Income Housing Coalition.

California is one of 19 states to raise minimum wages in 2026, according payroll company ADP. Cities and counties can also set their own minimum wages. This year, over two dozen local jurisdictions have increased local minimum wages. West Hollywood will have a \$20.25 minimum wage starting in January — the highest of any California city, according to the UC Berkeley Labor Center.

Voters last November

narrowly rejected a ballot measure that would have increased the minimum wage to \$18 per hour. But some low-wage workers this year have successfully lobbied for bumps in pay in specific industries.

Under laws Gov. Gavin Newsom signed in 2023, fast food workers earn a minimum wage of \$20 an hour and health care workers are on track to make \$25 an hour.

That momentum extended to Los Angeles hotel and airport employees. Labor organizers in May secured a city minimum wage increase

to \$30 per hour for those workers by the 2028 Olympics. Large businesses fought back, arguing that wage hikes will only increase challenges for the tourism industry, which is still struggling to find its footing after the pandemic.

After failing to gather enough signatures for a ballot measure to repeal the new minimum wage, business groups later filed a different measure that could gut millions of dollars of

revenue from the city's general fund.

Following the move, Los Angeles City Council President Marqueece Harris-Dawson month introduced a motion to delay the full wage increase from taking effect until 2030, according to reporting from the Los Angeles Times.

Labor leaders rebuked the motion, calling it "repulsive."

'You can't threaten to blow a hole in our budget and then the only way to stop it is on the backs of workers," said Kurt Petersen, co-president of the union that represents many hotel workers, UNITE HERE Local 11. "That kind of raw extortion and shakedown has no place in our city."

According to Peterson, a coalition of community organizations and unions

are beginning to collect signatures for a ballot measure that would raise the minimum wage to \$30 per hour for all workers in Los Angeles.

'The power is everyone together," said Peterson. "Working people need help and raising wages is the easiest, most straightforward thing to do. Going up 40 cents per hour in 2026 doesn't move the

Cayla Mihalovich, California Local News Fellow

Surf report

WATER TEMP: 62.4

SURF: 0-1ft

Day for the big boards/small humans. Mellow surf, best on either side of the mid-AM high tide. A small mix of shorter/mid-period WNW energy for knee-thigh high surf - tougher for the points, especially around the mid-AM high tide. Morning looks clean and the best option at this point. Moderate lump possible in the afternoon. Not a bad idea to get in the water before likely weather issues later in the week

TUESDAY **POOR**

Shin to knee

Down day before a bit more action through the second half of the week. Little NW swell leftovers on tap early, then may see some building S windswell over the afternoon. Wind doesn't look great - could be light early then SE trending S flow builds through the day.



Monday: Mostly cloudy, with a high near 64. Monday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 53. Tuesday: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 53.

Tuesday Night: Rain likely. Cloudy, with a low around 57.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted	(ft)High/Lo
2025/12/22	Mon	03:16 AM	2.60	L
2025/12/22	Mon	09:35 AM	5.81	Н
2025/12/22	Mon	5:12 PM	-0.58	L
2025/12/23	Tue	12:00 AM	3.49	Н
2025/12/23	Tue	03:58 AM	2.66	L
2025/12/23	Tue	10:11 AM	5.55	Н
2025/12/23	Tue	5:48 PM	-0.40	L
2025/12/24	Wed	12:41 AM	3.59	Н
2025/12/24	Wed	04:50 AM	2.73	L
2025/12/24	Wed	10:52 AM	5.16	Н
2025/12/24	Wed	6:23 PM	-0.12	L
2025/12/25	Thu	01:24 AM	3.77	Н
2025/12/25	Thu	05:55 AM	2.75	L
2025/12/25	Thu	11:40 AM	4.61	Н
2025/12/25	Thu	7:01 PM	0.24	L
2025/12/26	Fri	02:08 AM	4.05	Н
2025/12/26	Fri	07:22 AM	2.63	L
2025/12/26	Fri	12:43 PM	3.95	Н
2025/12/26	Fri	7:42 PM	0.68	L

* Daily Lottery

1 3 4 17 40

Jackpot: 12 M

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 nation and prize claiming instructions are available at California Lottery retailers. Visit the California State Lotter



Draw Date: 12/17 25 33 53 62 66 Jackpot: 1.5 M



Draw Date: 12/18 Draw Date: 12/18

EVENING: 2 6 1

Draw Date: 12/18

MIDDAY: 8 3 9



Jackpot: 90 M



Draw Date: 12/18 1st: 03 - Hot Shot 2nd: 04 - Big Ben 3rd: 09 - Winning Spirit Race Time: 1:48.85

PUBLISHER

Ross Furukawa

PARTNER

Todd James

EDITOR IN CHIEF

Matthew Hall

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Charles Andrews, Devan Sipher, Miles Warner

CIRCULATION

Guadalupe Navarro ross@smdp.com

STAFF WRITERS

Maaz Alin maaz@smdp.com

LEGAL ADVERTISING

legal@smdp.com

MARKETING & ADVERTISING MANAGER

dina@smdp.com

PRODUCTION

Esteban Inchaustequi production@smdp.com

Julio Davalos

2219A Main St Santa Monica. CA 90405 OFFICE (310) 458-PRESS (7737) FAX (310) 576-9913



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

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or email legal@smdp.com

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No 25SMCP00608 Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, 1725 Main Street, Room 102, Santa Monica, CA 90401. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner Hannah Diane Roosth filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Hannah Diane Roosth to Diane Roosth. 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: 01/09/2026, Time: 8:30 AM, Dept. K. The address of the 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, printed in this county. Date: NOV 25 2025. s/ Lawrence H. Cho, Judge of the Superior Court. SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS Publish: December 1, 8, 15, 22, 2025

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2025263617 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: DAVANZO GEOSPATIAL CONSULTING, 2411 Ashland Ave. Santa Monica, CA 90405, Los Angeles County. Registered Owner(s): EDUARDO DAVANZO, 2411
Ashland Ave, Santa Monica, CA 90405. This business is conducted by: Individual. The date registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 11/2025. s/ EDUARDO DAVANZO, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 11/24/2025. SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS Publish: 2025, December 22, 2025

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2025267425 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: 1. AERO WYSE, 2. AERO WISE, 3. AERO WISDOM, 8033 SUNSET BLVD #453, LOS ANGELES, CA 90046, LOS ANGELES COUNTY. Registered Owner(s): SOMNIUM REM, LLC, 8489 CRESCENT DRIVE, LOS ANGELES, CA 90046. This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company. The date registrant nmenced to transact business under the fictitious iness name or names listed above on: N/A. s/ JESSE MOWRY, MANAGING MEMBER, This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 12/2/2025.
SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS Publish: 12/08/2025, 12/15/2025, 12/22/2025, 12/29/2025

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2025272313 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: CALIBRA ADVISORY, 21485 COLINA DRIVE. TOPANGA, CA 90290, LOS ANGELES COUNTY. Registered Owner(s): MEK PROPERTIES INC., 21485 COLINA DRIVE, TOPANGA CA 90290 This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 12/2025. s/ MARK KITCHING, PRESIDENT. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 12/8/2025. SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish on: December 15, 22, 29, 2025 and January 5, 2026.

Name Change

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 25SMCP00612 Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, 1725 Main St., Santa Monica CA 90401. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner Gustavo Aminadab Barreno filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Present name: Gustavo Aminadab Barre to Proposed name: Gustavo Guevara Ramos. 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: 01/16/2026, Time: 8:30a, Dept.: K. 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, printed in this county, specify paper: Santa Monica Daily Press. Date: 12/01/2025, s/ Lawrence H. Cho. Judge of the Superior Court. SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish on December 08, 15,

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 25SMCP00616 Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles 1725 Main Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401 Santa Monica Courthouse TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner Lauren Haley Kells Harold filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Present name: Lauren Haley Kells Harold to Proposed name: Haley Kells Harrold. 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 grant the petition without a hearing. NOTICE OF HEARING Date: 01/23/2026 Time: 8:30 AM Dept.: K. 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 this county) printed in this county. Date: DEC 03 2025 s/ LAWRENCE H. CHO. JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT. SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS Publish: December 08, 15, 22, 29, 2025

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 25STCP04178. Superior Court of California. County of Los Angeles. Petition filed: December 11, 2025. To All Interested Persons: Petitioner Kayla Renee Hutchison filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Present name: Kayla Renee Hutchison to Proposed name: Kayla Renee Hinkston, 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: January 10, 2026, Time: 8:30 AM, Dept.: 45, Room: 529. The address of the court

Name Change

is same as noted above: Los Angeles Superior Court, 111 N. Hill Street, Room 102, Los Angeles, CA 90012, 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: Santa Monica Daily Press, for resident of this county, printed in this county. Date: December 11, 2025. s/ Virginia Keeny, Judge of the Superior Court. SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS Publish: December 15, 22, 29, 2025, January 5, 2026.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 25SMCP00610. Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, Santa Monica Court, 1725 Main Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401, TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner Daniel Enku Enku filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Present name: Daniel Enku Enku to Proposed name: Semaii Ehssen. 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: 01/09/2026, Time: 8:30 a.m., Department: K, Room: A-203, Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, Santa Monica Court, 1725 Main Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401. A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Santa Monica Daily Press. Date: November 26, 2025. s/ Hon. Lawrence Cho, Judge of the Superior Court. SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS Publish: 12/08/2025, 12/15/2025, 12/22/2025, 12/29/2025

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 25SMCP00615 Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles 1725 Main Street, Santa Monica, CÁ 90401 TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner Samuel Francis Leghart filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Present name: Samuel Francis Leghart to Proposed name: Samuel Francis Cubedo. 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: January 23, 2026 Time: 8:30 AM Dept.: K. The address of the court is the 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 printed in this county: Santa Monica Daily Press. Date: December 2, 2025 s/ Lawrence H. Cho, Judge of the Superior Court. SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS Publish: December 15, 22, 29, 2025 and January 05, 2025.

GUEST COMMENTARY

California's very odd election year starts with Republicans possibly leading the governor's race



Photo by Fred Greaves for CalMatters

SACRAMENTO: Democratic candidates for governor at an event hosted by labor and building and trade organizations in Sacramento on May 12, 2025. Some on the dais have dropped out and others have joined but aren't there. In attendance were Katie Porter, Eleni Kounalakis, Toni Atkins, Antonio Villaraigosa, Betty Yee, Xavier Becerra and Tony Thurmond.

The 2026 campaigns for governor, a raft of other statewide offices, 52 congressional seats and 100 slots in the state Legislature officially begin today with the onset of candidate filing. It could be one of the oddest election cycles in California's 175 years as a state, albeit one that puts the state's convoluted politics in the national spotlight.

There are so many Democrats running for governor that it's theoretically possible for a Republican to win the office, despite the state's deeply blue political profile, especially with the possibility of even more Democratic hopefuls jumping into the mob — as a herd of kangaroos is dubbed in Australia.

Meanwhile, both incumbent members of Congress and aspirants will be running in districts that have been radically gerrymandered to shrink Republicans' tiny delegation even more, as Democrats seek to regain control of Congress.

The possibility of a Republican governor, although very scant, stems from the state's top-two primary election system. All candidates, regardless of party, will appear on the same June 2 primary election ballot, and the two with the highest percentages of the vote — no matter how small those shares may be will face each other in the November election.

With upwards of a dozen Democrats now running and the possibility of others, it's possible the two Republicans in the mix so far — Riverside County Sheriff Chad Bianco and former television commentator Steve Hilton — could theoretically finish one and two with perhaps as few as 10-15% of the votes each.

It's not likely if the Democratic cohort shrinks in the next few months as the weakest contenders drop out, lacking enough money or poll support to continue. However, the lack of a natural Democratic frontrunner and the seeming lack of party leadership strong enough to cull the herd bolster the mathematical possibility of a GOP upset.

Had former Vice President Kamala Harris or U.S. Sen. Alex Padilla decided to run, either would have been the immediate frontrunner. But by opting out, they left a vacuum.

At the moment, former Congresswoman Katie Porter is leading the Democratic pack, albeit with scarcely double-digit support in the polls. She and former Controller Betty Yee are the only two women now running with Harris. Lt. Gov. Eleni Kounalakis and former state Sen. Toni Atkins out . Porter also gained recognition during her unsuccessful bid for a U.S. Senate seat last year.

Billionaire Tom Steyer is currently the most visible contender, spending some of his immense wealth on television and internet ads to depict himself as a populist who rails against "Sacramento politicians" and promises to reduce electric bills not unlike how Donald Trump achieved

Beyond Porter, former Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa and former Attorney General and Biden cabinet member Xavier Becerra appear to be the strongest Democratic strivers. However, everyone is still waiting to see whether Attorney General Rob Bonta or Los

FROM PAGE 1

Management to Sustainable Materials Management to reflect the field's evolution.

"It's about managing materials not just discarding them or recycling them," Charles said, explaining the alignment with industry standards and Environmental Protection Agency guidelines.

Charles teaches alongside two industry experts who bring real-world experience into the classroom. Angela Vincent serves as zero waste communications manager at Stanford, while Samuel Sasu works at CalRecycle, the state's leading agency for recycling and materials management policy.

The program's practical focus has helped graduates find immediate employment in the sustainability field. Eric Newton, a former Cirque du Soleil performer who completed the certificate program, was hired by a major Los Angeles waste hauler within one semester of graduation.

"Everything we learned in the SMM courses is directly applicable," said Newton, who now serves as education lead at Universal Waste Systems. "It's not just signing people up for a green or blue bin. It's education, training and meeting people where they are."

Newton teaches sustainability best practices at schools, businesses and community events across the region, conducting 10 events during Earth Month 2025 alone. He brings his performance background to the work, rewriting classic show tunes into sustainability-themed songs.

"I try to make it whimsical and fun," Newton said. "It helps people hear the information fresh."

The program offers multiple pathways for students, including an Associate in Science degree, a Certificate of Achievement, and an advanced certificate in zero waste policy and practice. All courses carry zero textbook cost through 2026, funded by an Open Educational Resources grant from the SMC Library.

Students can also prepare for TRUE Advisor Certification through a partnership with the U.S. Green Building Council. The

college funds exam fees for dozens of students, and employers recognize the credential immediately, according to Charles.

The program has influenced sustainability education across campus disciplines. Faculty in English, accounting, fashion, cosmetology and early childhood education now incorporate environmental themes into their courses.

SMC's Sustainable Materials Management program is part of a broader sustainability ecosystem at the college that includes Environmental Science, Environmental Studies, and a Sustainability Education hub. The college also offers three free online certificates through its Sustainability Systems & Technology noncredit program.

Charles, who also teaches in SMC's Business Department, helped develop a Business and Sustainability certificate for students integrating environmental thinking into accounting, marketing or management.

"When I go into a business, I say, 'I'm here to teach you how to use your resources more efficiently," Charles said. "What business doesn't want to hear that?"

The program's impact extends beyond the classroom. Student initiatives include the Buy Nothing movement and SMC's new Thrifted Treasures club, which organizes repair events and swaps to keep items out of landfills.

Newton, who volunteers as a guest speaker each semester, represents the program's success in preparing students for professional careers.

"I feel fortunate to be working in an area I'm passionate about," he said.

Charles emphasized that the award affirms the program's mission: "Most importantly, it affirms that our students are gaining real-world skills and leadership experience that prepare them to drive meaningful environmental change beyond the campus."

For more information on the Sustainable Materials Management Program at SMC, email Victoria Charles at Charles_Victoria@smc.edu or visit the webpage smc.edu/SMM.

maaz@smdp.com



Photo Credit: Courtesy of SMC

PROGRAM: Faculty Lead Victoria Charles doing outreach for the Sustainable Materials Management Program.

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Santa Monica Daily Press

editor@smdp.com

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CITY OF SANTA MONICA NOTICE INVITING BIDS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that bids will be received by the City of Santa Monica until 3:00 p.m. on the date indicated at which time they will be opened and posted for:

BID #4508 CUMMINS ENGINE PROPULSION SYSTEM OVERHAULS AND REPAIRS. Submission Deadline is January 8, 2026 at 3:00 PM Pacific Time.

Bids must be submitted on forms supplied by the City of Santa Monica. Bid packages containing all forms, specifications, terms and conditions may be obtained on the CITY'S ONLINE VENDOR PORTAL. The website for this Notice of Inviting Bids and related documents is: OpenGov (https://secure.procurenow.com/portal/santa-monica-ca). There is no charge for bid package and specifications.



HOUSING

FROM PAGE 2

payments to eventually pay off, the value of the house will need to soar vertiginously into the indefinite future. Or rents, which determine how much a person can save by not buying, will need to shoot up as well. Or the stock market or other possible places a well-heeled renter could park all the extra money they aren't spending on a mortgage, will need to flatline.

Or a combination of all of the above.

A person buying into that market is assuming a very specific and by no means certain version of the financial future, said Goodman.

Either that, or they're just "desperate to own in San Francisco because they're just desperate to own in San Francisco," she said. "For whatever reason."

THE CASE FOR RENTING FOREVER

For many Californians, this isn't actually a decision. The number of renters who can buy locally and get away with spending anything less than 40% of their income on monthly homeownership costs are in the single digit percentages in Los Angeles, San Diego, Riverside, Sacramento, San Jose and Ventura, according to the CBRE report. Being a tenant in California is hard enough. More than half of California renters are spending more than 30% of their income on rent as it is.

But for those lucky enough to rent by choice, it's not necessarily a bad choice to make.

Remember that yawning "buying premium" between the monthly cost of owning and renting? A wealthy tenant is in a position to save and invest the difference. Though homeownership is often touted as the best way to build wealth, it's not the only way. It might not even be the best way: On average and over long stretches of time, the stock market regularly outperforms median home prices — albeit, without quite so many tax benefits and other boosts that federal and state governments shower upon homeowners.

Rather than pouring every last dollar in disposable income (and then some) into a single depreciating asset that threatens to leak when it rains, parking that money elsewhere also allows a renter the option to diversify.

"I think more people are starting to be

"I think more people are starting to be interested in renting and saving at the same time, because they've been priced out of owning a home, but they still want to achieve their financial goals and they're looking into those alternatives and getting more savvy about it," said Redfin economist Daryl Fairweather.

Running the numbers on whether renting and saving is, in fact, the better financial call gets very "murky," she said. Much of it depends on the future of home prices, local rents, stock prices, interest rates and how long a person plans to stay put. It's a hugely complex and individual choice and it's not risk-free. Fairweather touted an online rent-vs-buy calculator produced by the New York

But California's specific conditions — high prices relative to rents, high maintenance and insurance costs, the relatively large number of tenants protected by rent control policies of one kind or another — the financial argument for renting may be about as good as it's ever been

THE PERKS OF OWNING PROPERTY

Even if renting is a better deal on paper, there are plenty of reasons someone might want to buy that have nothing to do with money.

Space is one: For a host of regulatory and financial reasons, the vast majority of rental units are apartments while detached single-family houses are predominantly reserved for owners. Especially for growing families, the option is often either to cram your spouse and kids into an urban apartment or drive out of the city (and possibly out of the state) until

I think more people are starting to be interested in renting and saving at the same time, because they've been priced out of owning a home, but they still want to achieve their financial goals and they're looking into those alternatives and getting more savvy about it

- Daryl Fairweather, Redfin economist

you can afford to buy.

Education is another. Rentals are also more likely than owner-occupied units to be in neighborhoods with poorly performing public schools and elevated crime rates.

For some, homeownership also comes with an entirely non-monetary warm and fuzzy factor, whether it's independence — deciding when and what color to paint your walls, for instance — or a sense of security.

Finally, just because someone can save and invest the extra hundreds or thousands of dollars a month that would have gone to a mortgage payment, that doesn't mean they will. No one likes making a mortgage payment, but by converting part of your paycheck each month into home equity, it acts as a kind of forced savings plan. It's perpetually tempting not to save.

"It takes more discipline to go against the social trend," said Fairweather.

Ben Christopher, CalMatters Housing Reporter

Santa Monica Daily Press

COUNCIL

FROM PAGE 1

are the next step. They will generate much needed revenue for the city in year one, with a long-term revenue platform."

The ordinance requires each digital display operator to pay the city a one-time contribution of \$500,000 plus ongoing annual payments consisting of either 20% of gross revenues or a minimum annual guarantee of \$500,000, whichever is greater. The minimum annual guarantee escalates 3% annually.

Council Member Dan Hall successfully moved to allocate the first \$5 million in revenue to the city's realignment plan. Above that threshold, approximately 10% would go toward repaying borrowing against the city's Housing Trust Fund, 85% toward downtown revitalization efforts including tenant improvements and public infrastructure, and up to 5% for a new moving image media art program.

"I think it's vital, it's absolutely vital that we'd be investing in these things as we promised we are, and this is a key part of that," said Mayor Pro Tem Jesse Zwick, referring to the city's downtown revitalization goals.

The ordinance establishes strict operational standards for the displays. Operating hours are limited to 6 a.m. or 7 a.m. until 2 a.m., depending on the season, aligning with the entertainment zone. Brightness levels are capped at 6,000 candelas per meter squared during daytime, decreasing to 200 candelas after 10 p.m. Light trespass onto residential properties cannot exceed 3 foot-candles.

Audio is prohibited except for city programming events. Digital displays must use 100% renewable energy where commercially available and cannot show scrolling text in any direction. Static images must remain on screen for at least 12 seconds with a transition rate of no more than once every 12 seconds.

Each display must allocate 20% of its operating time to city content and public art programming. However, Mayor Caroline Torosis expressed concern about the city's readiness to manage this requirement.

"I'm deeply concerned that we are not ready with the 20% of our time," Torosis said. "Someone needs to be programming this, or we need to put it to a third party contractor that specializes in this for civic engagement, art, immersive experiences."

City Manager Oliver Chi acknowledged the need for additional resources, saying staff would bring back a staffing plan to effectively manage the allocation of screen time as the program launches.

Six of the 12 corner buildings on the Promenade eligible for digital displays are designated historic landmarks. The ordinance waives review by the Landmarks Commission, requiring only that displays be reversible and not materially impair the buildings' historic significance. This drew criticism from the Santa Monica Conservancy.

"The Landmarks Commission has the

experience and expertise to guide applicants into making good design decisions that balance existing historic features with digital sign overlays," wrote Nina Fresco and Ruthann Lehrer of the conservancy. "Relegating this process to a non-binding consultation makes historic resources subject to alterations that could permanently detract from their significance."

Some Promenade property owners raised concerns in a letter to the council. The group calling itself "Concerned Promenade Property Owners" warned that digital sign revenue could surpass traditional tenant revenue, potentially making ground floor spaces difficult to lease. They called the ordinance "not well thought through" and requested the city "take a step back" for more comprehensive planning.

"Signs follow people, people do not follow signs," the letter stated, questioning whether digital signs would actually increase foot traffic as intended.

Supporters praised the program as essential for economic recovery. Brad Ewing and Carl Hansen, co-chairs of SMF, said the displays "present an opportunity to revitalize Third Street Promenade and support its economic recovery."

Hunter Hall, executive director of the Main Street Business Improvement Association, said his organization has seen positive results from similar digital kiosks already installed in their district. "When the digital kiosks were first introduced, there was understandable hesitation—but the results have been overwhelmingly positive," Hall wrote.

Judy Abdo, a former councilmember and mayor, also voiced support, saying the displays "will create a meaningful and longterm revenue stream for the City, offer a platform to spotlight community programs, and serve as a virtual digital gallery for local artists."

The ordinance will take effect 30 days after a second reading scheduled for early 2026. The approved development agreements include four displays at Santa Monica Place and three on the Promenade at 301 Arizona Avenue, 1202 Third Street Promenade, and 1310 Third Street Promenade.

Development agreements have 30-year terms, though some council members expressed reservations about the lengthy commitment and potential visual impact on downtown.

"Thirty years is a really long time, and I don't know where digital media and advertisement is going to be in 30 years," said Council Member Lana Negrete. "I just hope that we're not regretting this when I'm 75 years old."

Council Member Barry Snell said he had "real reservations with respect to the amount of signs that we're talking about initially" but was interested in how the rollout would proceed.

maaz@smdp.com

GUEST COMMENTARY

FROM PAGE 4

Angeles businessman Rick Caruso will opt in.

Having so much uncertainty this late in the game is very unusual. However, at some point, perhaps around February or March, when the Democratic field finally begins to shrink, it will be possible to sort out the truly viable candidates from the wannabes and do some realistic handicapping.

Until then, as Willie Brown, the former state Assembly speaker and San Francisco Mayor and one of the state's most astute politicians, put it to Politico:

"The field is not considered of a quality that you as a Democrat would expect in California. We're still pretty much carried away with stardom, with individuals who have some impact ... We don't have any candidates like that at the moment."

Dan Walters, CalMatters Opinion Columnist

ZWICK

FROM PAGE 1

forward-looking only. By statute, the FPPC does not issue opinions on past actions and did not find that Zwick acted improperly, violated the law or failed to disclose his employment.

The city issued a statement last week emphasizing that Zwick "acted transparently, ethically, and in good faith" throughout the matter, proactively seeking legal guidance before taking action.

Before applying for the HAC position in June, Zwick consulted with the City Attorney's Office to determine whether accepting such employment would create a conflict of interest with his council role. Relying on that legal advice, he applied for the position in July and accepted an offer Aug. 18 after additional consultation with city legal staff.

Zwick said he was frustrated that the advice he initially received seemed lacking.

"Reasonable minds differ all the time in their reading of the law, and it can be difficult to predict how the FPPC will interpret complex statutes like the Political Reform Act, but legal advice should be mindful of the full spectrum of opinions one might encounter on a given issue," he said. "I disagree with the FPPC's interpretation in my case, which did not account for the many steps I took to avoid any actual or perceived conflict, but I will of course be following the agency's advice. That means the stance I adopted while awaiting formal guidance, in which I've recused myself on all matters involving housing production, will be my ongoing policy."

The ruling essentially codifies the status quo as Zwick has already been avoiding votes on housing issues out of an abundance of caution.

The City said Zwick took steps to avoid conflicts, including ensuring he would perform no work related to Santa Monica, having Santa Monica excluded from his professional portfolio and confirming HAC would cease advocacy activities in Santa Monica. HAC ended its Santa Monica advocacy before Zwick's Sept. 8 start date.

Zwick said the job has had no impact on his opinions as a councilmember and while he has avoided troublesome votes, his stance on housing has remained consistent.

"I've advocated for one thing and one thing only my entire time on council: what I believe is best for my community. Plenty of people may disagree with the things I stand for, but I'd challenge anyone to show where I've been inconsistent on them."

Zwick said he strongly believes he has maintained a high ethical standard during his time on Council but acknowledged the ruling would energize individuals who disagreed with his positions.

"At each stage in the process, I sought out legal advice and followed it. And when new guidance emerged, I responded immediately," he said. "It's pretty common practice these days to accuse your political opponents of being unethical. All I know is I've tried my best to do the right thing always, and I'd like to think that even when we disagree we're capable of extending that basic assumption of good intentions towards one another."

City Hall requested the FPPC advice after six neighborhood associations called for an investigation.

Northeast Neighbors initiated the inquiry in an Oct. 5 letter, alleging Zwick has "continually voted in alignment with the Housing Action Coalition since he was

endorsed by them in his race for Santa Monica City Council." The organization expressed concern that Zwick may be unable to objectively perform his duties as a councilmember while working as a paid advocate for the Bay Area-based nonprofit.

Five additional neighborhood associations
— Friends of Sunset Park, North of Montana Association, Pico Neighborhood Organization, SM Mid City Neighbors and Wilshire Montana Neighborhood Coalition
— subsequently sent a joint letter supporting the investigation request.

The groups pointed to Zwick's participation in votes at the Sept. 30 City Council meeting as evidence of potential conflicts. They noted that while other councilmembers recused themselves from discussion about continuing the Off-site Affordable Housing Pilot Incentive Program, Zwick participated fully despite his employer's pro-development mission.

"Councilmember Snell recognized his potential conflict-of-interest on 11A and recused himself; Mr. Zwick saw no such ethical dilemma and participated fully, despite the fact that his vote to support an issue eagerly sought by developers would directly benefit his employer's mission," the letter stated.

The off-site program was first approved before Zwick took the job and while he voted on the expansion, he said that discussion was not an approval of a new program but just direction to staff to expand

The associations argued that development-related decisions are central to a Santa Monica councilmember's role, including matters of land use, affordability, building and safety codes and zoning ordinances. They contended that Zwick's position with an advocacy group representing developers, architects, engineers and attorneys creates constant conflicts.

"Residents deserve Councilmembers they can trust to make decisions based on what is best for our City, not what benefits their employer or themselves," the joint letter stated.

The neighborhood groups cited California Government Code Section 1090 and local policies that prohibit officials from involvement in contracts or matters where they have a financial interest.

The city stated it will fully implement the FPPC's guidance. Consistent with the commission's advice, Zwick will continue to recuse himself from all council matters identified by the FPPC, and the city is taking appropriate procedural steps to ensure full compliance with state law.

"The City remains committed to ethical governance, transparency, and protecting public trust," the statement said. "This matter reflects the importance of public officials seeking legal guidance—as Mayor Pro Tem Zwick did—and of institutions correcting course when legal interpretations are clarified."

Zwick said the in ability to vote on housing issues is weighing on his mind as he considers whether to run for reelection in 2026.

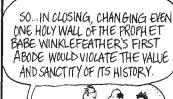
"While it's been difficult to balance a day job and growing young family with public service that occupies my nights and weekends, it's also been incredibly meaningful to get to play an active role in helping shape and improve the community I love," he said. "An inability to vote on some of the most vital issues concerning our future certainly makes it hard for me to see a path where running again makes sense for me or my family."

editor@smdp.com



Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN

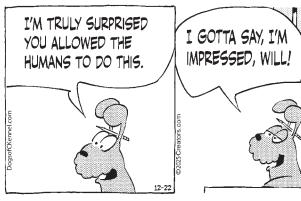






Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART





Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER

Strange Brew

Bv 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 6797

Council ruling

B D

Acts	Deals	Interruptions	Quorum	
Advice	Debt	Issues	Record	
Agenda	Dogs	Laws	Share	
Argue	Drive	Library	Shire	
Bins	Enjoy	Local	Space	
Boss	Fair	Mediate	Special	
Bridge	Fees	News	Staff	
Chat	Funds	Online	Strollers	
Civil	Gavel	Open	Talk	
Community	Grants	Outfall	Topics	
Cost	History	Plan	Town	
Data	House	Purse	Works	

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE. **Tech dependence**

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(I) HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You can say no warmly, strangely, lightly, whimsically and without anyone feeling hurt: "I don't think my spirit wants to go." "My energy's being weird today." It's really acceptable for you to do - or not do - what you want.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). There's intelligence in what your attention gravitates toward, especially when you're not stressed. So take care of your nervous system first. Then, from the calm place, let intuition choose the order of activities, and you'll be golden.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). There are changes that occur without awareness or effort, but those aren't the sort you're interested in now. You want to steer your life. That's why you're educating yourself about all options, and as you do this, more options open up.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You're in that awkward phase where it feels like your past efforts didn't matter because you can't yet see results. But the seeds you've planted are maturing underground. You can relax today in the knowledge that your day is approaching.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Thinking about something in the abstract creates internal conflict. You can imagine so many possibilities, risks, meanings, interpretations - it all gets quite dizzying. This doesn't have to be complicated. Just act. When you actually do the thing, the ambiguity dissolves.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). This new habit you're building is still a struggle, but it will get easier. Soon you'll notice this is no longer any effort at all for you, and after that, you'll be the proud owner of a new identity. It's not even a habit. It's just who you are.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You're caught between two things, and neither option feels quite right. It's OK to let it be uncomfortable for a minute. Because that's better than letting fear push you into a choice you're not ready to make.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Your presence is a gift, not a guarantee. People need to learn not to assume access to you. You're not being aloof; you're just asserting your right to your own time and experience. Follow your own rules

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Your confidence grows because of the action you take. Even when it is not immediately rewarded or even noticed, you witness yourself. Your body knows the truth, and the mind stretches its idea of what you're capable of.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You have values you don't think about until they surface, as they will spontaneously today. You're not afraid to notice and wonder at your own behavior, some of which will surprise you in the best way.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You don't have to worry about what people think - their opinions are already shifting. If you tried to manage them now, you'd have the influence of a sandcastle builder 10 minutes before high tide.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Energetic mismatches are just a dud. Avoid! Work alongside people who match your intensity, and together you'll find ideas you couldn't reach alone. Shared effort makes progress easier, victories sweeter and the whole journey far more fun.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

AIRIEIA ASADA B|R|A REWS ALDER OER HOOVERDAM OCAL AMUSEDMARSMEELS WATTERSON EPEE SURNAME SEC NIECES WEDNESDAYADDAMS OTOOLELLEI LANCERSARCH WAREHOUS TOM ORCS LEO DA WYATTEARP NC SELMA MARTS I D S E $|\mathbf{A}|$

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

١	4	5	6	1	3	2	7	8	9
	9	8	3	7	5	6	1	4	2
	1	7	2	4	9	8	6	5	3
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	2	6	8	9	1	4	3	7	5
	7	3	5	2	8	9	4	1	6
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65	3			2	9	1		
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1		4	9	6			7	
2	·				4	3		5
		9					1	4

Newsday Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Stitches together
- 5 Mural or sculpture
- 8 Three Bears female
- 12 Door to leave through
- 13 Hint for a detective
- 14 The Mississippi or Nile
- 15 List of meal choices
- 16 Liquids for frying
- 17 An hour after midnight: Abbr.
- 18 Container for frozen cubes
- 20 Needing a good scrubbing
- 21 Fish eggs in sushi
- 22 Some car turns
- 23 Long yellow-skinned fruit
- 27 Elevator stop
- 29 White gemstones
- 30 "__ there, done that"
- 31 Flapjack chain, for short
- 35 Any fizzy soft drink
- 36 Jockey's mount
- 37 Showroom model, for
- 38 Practice boxing
- 39 Headphones cover them
- 40 An additional time
- 41 Get wed
- 43 Attractive
- 44 Prefix meaning "large"
- 46 Luau necklace
- 47 Large stringed instrument
- 48 Handheld hot-air blower
- 54 Spanish goodbye
- 55 Pig's sound
- 56 Make simpler
- **57** Bit of a jigsaw puzzle

58 Poems of praise 10 Beef and pork

- 59 Swiss peaks
- 60 Fell underwater
- 61 Miles __ hour
- 62 Tenant's payment

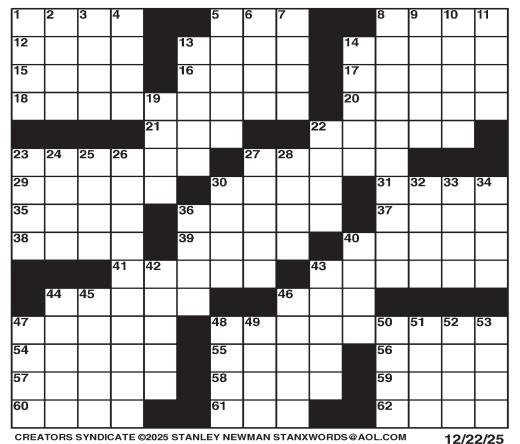
DOWN

- 1 "Half" prefix for circle
- 2 Company officer, for short
- 3 Champagne, for example
- 4 Movie ticket remnant
- 5 "Great minds think
- 6 Regulation
- 7 Midterm or final
- 8 Small appliance to keep food cool
- 9 Prevent from happening

- 11 General's fighting force
- 13 Hot chocolate drink
- 14 Contest with cowboys
- 19 Large coffee dispensers
- __ Star State (Texas)
- 23 Workplace supervisor
- 24 Each, informally
- 25 Nothing, in Spanish
- 26 Nightstand waker-upper device
- 27 Short-distance commuter boat
- 28 Not as much
- 30 Male pig
- 32 Warmth from a furnace
- 33 Don't include
- 34 Polo player's ride

HOTEL ROOM by Doug Peterson Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

- 36 Wartime medal recipient
- 40 Getting very little rain
- 42 Stood up
- 43 Employee benefits, for short
- 44 Social __ (Facebook, Instagram, etc.)
- 45 Visitor from outer space
- 46 Cruise ship
- 47 Toothpaste tube tops
- 48 Basketball target
- 49 Personal assistant
- 50 Raise, as children 51 Connecticut
- university 52 Channel for NBA and
- NFL games 53 Take a break from
- work



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



MONDAY | DECEMBER 22

HOLIDAY CENTERPIECE WORKSHOP

1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Viola Floral Studios 1639 11th St. Suite 162 Santa Monica. Learn tried-and-true professional techniques for holiday flower arranging! You'll build a low and lush flower arrangement that has these 3 key elements: Doesn't block views during meals. Enhances your existing holiday decor. Uses seasonal flowers as a conversation starter. You'll build a versatile holiday centerpiece in a 12 inch rectangular vessel using seasonal varieties. The techniques you learn will inspire you to update your florals as the seasons change. Exactly what you need in your holiday hosting toolkit! Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/holiday-centerpiece-workshop/17600673/2025-12-22T13

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! Visit: https:// smdp.com/events/#/details/pizza-party-at-bodegawine-bar/11526040/2025-12-22T18. The Gordons Improv Residency 7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. 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. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/the-gordonsimprov-residency/14863274/2025-12-22T19

PIZZA PARTY! A COMEDY SHOW

7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. The Crow 2525 Michigan Ave Unit F4, Santa Monica. What do you get when you have LA's sauciest comedians and three boxes of hot pizza? A Pizza party! Join us the fourth Monday of the every month for a comedy show with the funniest pepperonies in town... when it when it comes to comedy we deliver! \$15.00. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/pizzaparty-a-comedy-show/13385486/2025-12-22T19

TUESDAY | DECEMBER 23

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/14853634/2025-12-03710

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/16225799/2025-12-02716

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/gelsons-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/13799967/2025-12-23T17

8PM FREE "ROXY'S GOT BALLS" BINGO TUESDAYS @ TINY'S HI-DIVE IN LOS ANGELES!

8:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. Tiny's Hi-Dive 12012 West Pico Boulevard Los Angeles. 8pm TUESDAYS "Roxy's Got Balls!" Drag Queen BINGO is LIVE & FREE at Tiny's Hi-Dive in Los Angeles w/ Roxy Wood! Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/8pm-free-roxy-sgot-balls-bingo-tuesdays-tiny-s-hi-dive-in-los-angeles/14857154/2025-12-23T20

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/16004734/2025-12-16T22

WEDNESDAY | DECEMBER 24

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/12382446/2025-12-17T08

STAR STORIES WITH PAM

12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. West Los Angeles Regional Library 11360 Santa Monica Boulevard Los Angeles. STAR Stories With Pam Children are invited to share the joy of storytelling and reading with our special STAR volunteer, Pam. Come three times and take home a free book. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/star-stories-with-pam/15607289/2025-12-17T12

VINO & VINYL - WEDNESDAY HAPPY HOUR

6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. The Venice West 1717 Lincoln Blvd, Venice. Unwind and set the vibe with Vino & Vinyl, our laid-back happy hour at The Venice West. Enjoy half-off bottles of wine, food and bar specials, and a rotating selection of classic vinyl spinning from 6–7:30 PM. Perfect for music lovers, wine drinkers, and anyone looking to ease into the evening, Venice style. Happy Hour Join us weeknights from 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM for our restaurant's Happy Hour, featuring great deals including \$5 beers & snacks, \$10 craft cocktails, and more! Age Requirement All shows at The Venice West are 21+ only, unless otherwise stated.

Valid government-issued photo ID is required for entry. Guests who cannot provide proof of age will not be admitted and no refunds will be issued. Parking Please note that residential/street parking is the only parking available near the venue. We strongly encourage rideshare services (Uber, Lyft, etc.) for a safe and convenient experience. Accessibility (ADA) We strive to make The Venice West welcoming and accessible to all guests. If you or someone in your party requires ADA seating or other special accommodations, please reach out to us in advance at info@venicemusicgroup. com so we can best prepare for your needs. Recording Policy To maintain the integrity of the live performance experience, audio and video recording is strictly prohibited during all comedy events unless otherwise specified. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation. Ticket Policy All ticket sales are final and non-refundable. In the event of a cancellation without a rescheduled date, a full refund will be automatically issued to the original form of payment. By purchasing a ticket, you agree to this policy. Please double-check the event title, time, and location before completing your purchase. For questions, contact us at info@ venicemusicgroup.com. We look forward to hosting you at The Venice West-thank you for supporting live entertainment and our artists! Visit: https://smdp. com/events/#/details/vino-vinyl-wednesday-happyhour/17651745/2025-12-24T18

THURSDAY | DECEMBER 25

CLUB LATINO PARA ADULTOS MAYORES

11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Virginia Avenue Park 2200 Virginia Ave. Santa Monica. Venga, aprenda, y diviertase cada jueves de 11 AM a 1 PM el el salón 3 del parque Virginia. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/clublatino-para-adultos-mayores/13943928/2025-12-25T11

OAKWOOD ROOTS FARMERS AND WELLNESS MARKET

11:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. 685 Westminster Ave Venice. Oakwood Roots Venice Farmers' and Wellness Market is a hub for local foods, wellness classes, and holistic healing. We are dedicated to fostering a strong community, supporting local businesses, and advocating for sustainable practices. Join us in creating a healthier and more connected neighborhood. This is part of a larger effort to revitalize the abandoned parking lots across the street from the park into a community hub, in partnership with Community Corporation of Santa Monica and Hoopbus. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/oakwood-rootsfarmers-and-wellness-market/14548473/2025-12-25T11

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-/17408731/2025-12-25T00



Recycle your cans and bottles for a cash refund at a recycling center or put them in your blue bin.

