



Seascape

City Wins \$1 Million Bloomberg Prize



**Wellbeing.... What is it?
Why does it matter?
What can a city do to improve it?** Thanks to a \$1 million prize from Bloomberg Philanthropies as part

of the Mayors Challenge, **Santa Monica's Wellbeing Project** will answer these questions and more.

The Wellbeing Project can be summed up in three words: **Define. Measure. Act.** We will define wellbeing as it relates to our community. We will measure the wellbeing of our community. We will use this information to take action that addresses areas of wellbeing that need it the most. Santa Monica will become the first city in the US to measure and intentionally improve the conditions needed for people to thrive.

The Wellbeing Project was inspired by the work of the Cradle to Career Working Group. For more on The Wellbeing Project, visit smgov.net/wellbeing. To get involved, "like" SantaMonicaWellbeing on Facebook, or e-mail wellbeing@smgov.net.



THE "GREENING" OF SANTA MONICA CONTINUES

Michigan Avenue Neighborhood Greenway Project Makes Its Debut!

The proposed Michigan Avenue Neighborhood Greenway was introduced to the public on March 16 at a workshop attended by 52 enthusiastic community members. A short presentation about the project was followed by four walking and biking tours of the neighborhood, each with five stops along the proposed three-mile route. These stops provided tour participants the opportunity to offer their observations on the street, sidewalks, lighting, landscaping, vehicle use and intersection crossings in the area.

Funded by a Caltrans Environmental Justice Grant, the initial phase of this planning effort is aimed at developing a consensus-based conceptual plan for the greenway. The intent is to create an inviting shared space along Michigan Avenue and adjoining streets, linking the Pico neighborhood with schools and job centers, including Downtown Santa Monica, Samohi and Bergamot Station. The Michigan Avenue Neighborhood Greenway will also help promote the city's Safe Routes to School efforts and pedestrian/bike safety in Santa Monica, while offering residents and visitors a comfortable place to interact with neighbors and enjoy other leisurely pursuits.

Potential enhancements will be demonstrated on a portion of the street at a neighborhood block party to be held later this summer. Watch for details in the next *Seascape*, coming in mid-May.



To find out more about this exciting project now, visit smgov.net/michigan or e-mail jason.kligier@smgov.net.

Enjoy Safer Travel to (and from) the Pier

Safety improvements have been made to the Santa Monica Pier's access ramp with the construction of a single, larger walkway about 10 feet wide on the north side of the ramp. Replacing the high curbs and narrow, elevated sidewalks that previously existed on both sides of the ramp, a flat, easily walkable surface also brings the adjacent bridge rail height in line with contemporary standards. This new pedestrian walking area is protected from vehicular traffic by concrete barriers. The entire bridge will continue to be closed to vehicles during large events (such as the LA Marathon) and on holiday weekends as an added safety precaution.

This initiative was championed by Santa Monica Police Chief Jacqueline Seabrooks to further enhance the safety of Pier pedestrians and motorists. An earlier safety measure, approved by the City Council last summer, reduced the vehicle speed limit on the bridge from 10 to 5 miles per hour.

These are interim but important safety enhancements while design studies are underway for a full replacement of the Pier bridge, expected to take place in late 2016. Keep up-to-date with our improvement projects by visiting smgov.net/smpier (click on the "pier projects" tab) or smgov.net/bebp.

Briefly...

CITY HALL, 1685 MAIN STREET, is open Monday through Thursday from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., and every other Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Most city offices are closed on alternate Fridays as part of the city's commute trip reduction plan to improve air quality: April 19, May 3, 17 and 31. Payment and permit services are available every Friday; please call 310.458.8411 for the counter hours of your preferred service.

All city offices will be closed Monday, May 27 for the Memorial Day holiday.

A NEW DIALING PROTOCOL instituted at City Hall ensures that emergency calls will not be inadvertently delayed due to employees accidentally dialing 9-1-1 when trying to reach an out-of-area number (often hanging up when they realize their mistake). Because hang-ups are treated as a high priority, they preempt a police response to other calls for service. Working with SMPD to minimize these accidental calls, the Information Systems Department has reconfigured the phone system so now just "9" and the area code will complete external calls. This is another example of how interdepartmental collaboration improves service to the public.

CONSTRUCTION ON THE EXPO LINE AND THE 405 FREEWAY in our area continues at a rapid clip and frequently requires street or ramp closures that could make it difficult to get to your destination— unless you "Know Before You Go" by keeping up-to-date via e-mail alerts, Twitter, Facebook and go511.com. Sign up for e-mail notifications on these important projects at buildexpo.org and metro.net.

Santa Monica's Bike Culture Grows Up: Now It Has Kids



"I am so excited to start this program. I don't often bike, however I hope this project will change that. I can't wait to have more freedom on my bike." – Fiona, student

Students at the Santa Monica Alternative School House (SMASH) received bicycle skills training in their physical education class as part of the **Safe Routes to School** pilot project sponsored by the City of Santa Monica for the 2012-2013 school year. The instruction included a series of classes, both in school and at the city's bicycle campus, teaching the rules of the road and hands-on skills. Teacher Kurt Holland enthused, "This cycling safety course is about far more than rules, best practices and better choices in transportation. With the skills from this course, our students will regain the freedom to explore their city and travel easily to learning opportunities off-site or

after-school activities. Reduced pollution, traffic congestion and enhanced road safety are obvious benefits ... but the object of this program is to free the teenagers from their parents' cars!"

Funded by Metro, Caltrans and the city, Safe Routes to School offers educational workshops, classes, fun events and contests to give children and parents greater confidence in safe walking and bicycling, and to underscore the many benefits of arriving at school by foot or on bike. Among the events so far are the popular Family Bike Fest (Santa Monica's first) and the "Kidical Mass" bike ride.

For more information, call 310.458.8292 or e-mail peter.dzewaltowski@smgov.net.



"Starting this program is very promising because I get more freedom. It's also really good preparation for driver's education [because I'll already know] the rules for safety on the road." – Dionnie, student

city tv highlights

CITY TV SPRINGS INTO A NEW PROGRAMMING SEASON



SMC students get camera training as Studio 16 prepares for a new season.

Hey, Santa Monica! CityTV is gearing up for another exciting season of programs produced with you in mind. Along with returning favorites such as **Broad Topics**, **Non-Profit Profiles**, **SAMOHI**, **Santa Monica on Stage**, and **Be My PAL**, we are adding some hot new shows to tempt the TV taste buds of Santa Monicans of every stripe.

Love exercise or meditation? Try **Yoga for All Ages**. Is cooking your thing? Check out **Family Favorites**. Young women's empowerment is the focus of **Girl Central**, while seniors' issues are the topic on

Let's Talk, and **The Green Room** looks at environmental concerns. For those with an itch for drama (or comedy), there's the acting technique class, **On the Set with Judy Kerr**, and music lovers will groove with **Live from Studio 16**.

You'll find us on Time Warner cable and Verizon FiOS channel 16 – visit CITYTV.ORG for airtimes.



SANTA MONICA

Seascape

Seascape is a publication of the City of Santa Monica designed to inform residents about city programs and services. Please e-mail editorial information and comments to seascape@smgov.net or mail to:

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Santa Monica Seascape
City of Santa Monica
1685 Main Street
Santa Monica, CA 90401

DIANE KUNTZ DESIGN STUDIO

 *Seascape is printed on recycled paper*

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, *Seascape* is available in alternate formats by calling the City Manager's Office at 310.458.8301 (TDD/TTY 310.917.6626).

Pedestrian Action Plan Reveals Our Travel Habits



Would you be surprised to learn that pedestrians outnumber vehicles at the intersection of Santa Monica Boulevard and 4th Street during peak hours? Or that seven other intersections in our downtown area have similar pedestrian-to-vehicle ratios? These are just a few of the data gleaned from the emerging [Pedestrian Action Plan's](#) study of how we get around in Santa Monica.

The action plan is evaluating how walking in Santa Monica relates to public safety, access to schools and commercial areas, transit, health and sustainability. From its final report, expected in 2014, City Council will consider recommendations for physical improvements and programs to promote walking for fun, business, errands and other trips in Santa Monica.

Keep up-to-date with the plan's progress by joining the discussion at pedplan.santamonikatownhall.org, where you can also take part in weekly contests during the month of May.

Police Spread Safety Message Door-to-Door

Crime prevention and public safety are front-porch issues in neighborhoods throughout Santa Monica as the Santa Monica Police Department's community relations unit hits the pavement to raise public awareness and prevent crime.

Overall, crime levels are quite low throughout the city. Nevertheless, certain crimes do occur more frequently than others, and these are currently trending upward: burglaries from motor vehicles, residential burglaries, and vandalism.



With the goal of preventing property crimes and the losses associated with them, SMPD's crime prevention coordinators are canvassing various neighborhoods to distribute door hangers which provide crime prevention and reporting tips. These brightly colored door hangers (printed in both English and Spanish) are a reminder to all to be aware of your surroundings and to secure personal items.

Among the most important rules to remember: Don't leave valuables in your vehicle and never leave your residence unsecured, even if only for a few minutes. By securing your property, criminals have fewer chances to commit crimes of opportunity.

Watchful neighbors are vital in stopping crime, so consider starting a Neighborhood Watch group in your area. For more information on Neighborhood Watch, call the community relations unit at 310.458.8474.

**To report suspicious persons and/or activity, call 310.458.8491.
If you see a crime in progress, call 9-1-1.**

2013 Homeless Count Shows Continued Need for Services

On a chilly night at the end of January, more than 250 community volunteers and city staff fanned out across Santa Monica to conduct a visual count of people sleeping on the streets and in their vehicles. At the same time, each homeless service

program, local hospitals and city jail were surveyed to count the number of homeless individuals in temporary shelter that night. This nationwide event, conducted annually in Santa Monica, is an important step in the city's *Action Plan to Address Homelessness*, giving us a point-in-time picture of homelessness that enables the city to better target its resources, prioritize housing and services, and secure regional and federal funding.

The great news is that, again this year, no families and children were found sleeping on the streets of our city. This is a unique characteristic of the homeless population in Santa Monica. The results of both the sheltered and unsheltered counts indicate

that homelessness increased in Santa Monica by one percent over 2012 numbers, to 780 individuals.

Importantly, there has been some significant change within the two populations. In-shelter numbers dropped this year by 12%, to 400 individuals, due largely to the reduced reliance on local motels as emergency housing. Families using county-funded vouchers were housed outside the city, and thus included in the LA County tally. (This change does not mean there has been a reduction in bed capacity; those beds are still available, but are located outside the city.)

Continued on page 9



Shams Soomer

These volunteers were among the hardy souls who stayed out late for the 2013 Homeless Count.



SATURDAY, JUNE 1
11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Planting the Seeds of Sustainability

Every year, the Santa Monica Festival takes place in beautiful Clover Park, offering activities, food and entertainment for the whole family—giving everyone a reason to join in, celebrate sustainability, and have a blast on a Saturday afternoon! It's also a perfect time for residents to meet and talk with city staff and local groups who are deeply committed to making our community truly sustainable.

This year's festival is loaded with sustainable offerings, including:

GREAT FOOD

Let a sustainable food cook-off tempt your taste buds, as leading chefs craft flavorful and nutritious meals you can prepare in your own home. Don't miss the sustainable food coloring book station for the kids, and be sure to pick up a free copy of the *Meatless Monday Community Cookbook*.

CLIMATE ACTION!

Energy efficiency and solar power are established ways to fight climate change, and if you are not familiar with the hugely popular Solar Santa Monica program, you couldn't ask for a better time and place to get informed.

BIKING SAVVY

A showcase of more than 30 bikes, "bike fit" and confident city cycling presentations, do-it-yourself repairs and maintenance, and safe riding tips are all on tap. FREE bike valet will be available on 25th Street at Ocean Park Boulevard.

Visit smgov.net/festival

TAKING ACTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE

Almost all aspects of daily life generate greenhouse gases that contribute to global warming and climate change. From using energy in our homes and driving vehicles to work, to throwing out waste and using water, our actions create climate-changing carbon emissions.

In February, Santa Monica officially adopted the 15X15 Climate Action Plan (CAP) to reduce these emissions 15 percent below 1990 levels by 2015. The plan identifies 15 measures to achieve this reduction target in eight categories, including: Energy Use and Generation, Waste Reduction and Recycling, Transportation and Mobility, Water Conservation and Efficiency, and Climate Mitigation and Adaptation.

To be sure, progress has already been made: Community-wide emissions are now nearly 14 percent below 1990 levels. But with economic and population growth anticipated to occur in Santa Monica over the next few years, the CAP seeks to mitigate and reduce emissions even further.

While governments can plan for tomorrow, as individuals we can act today. Here are some easy steps to reducing your own carbon footprint:

- Eat meat less frequently by substituting vegetable-based proteins like beans and soy.
- Increase your physical activity by walking, biking or taking public transit for local errands.
- Unplug chargers or use power strips to avoid "phantom loads" for electronics not in use.

View the plan and learn more at sustainablem.org.



COOKING WITH THE FARMERS MARKET

Strawberry Shortcakes *Makes 12 shortcakes.*

- 3 to 4 pint baskets strawberries, hulled and quartered lengthwise
- 2 to 4 tablespoons sugar
- 1 to 2 tablespoons lemon juice
- 1 cup heavy cream

FOR THE BISCUITS:

- 2 cups plus 2 tablespoons flour
- 1/4 cup sugar, plus more for sprinkling
- 1 tablespoon baking powder
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1-1/2 cups heavy cream

Preheat oven to 425 degrees. Line a large baking sheet with parchment paper. Place berries in a bowl and sprinkle with sugar and lemon juice to taste. Stir gently, let stand until some syrup forms, at least 30 minutes. Whip the cream to soft peaks and refrigerate until serving.

MAKE THE BISCUITS In a bowl, stir together the flour, sugar, baking powder and salt. Use a fork to make a well in the dry ingredients and pour in the cream. Working from the center toward the edge of the bowl, use the fork to stir the dry ingredients into the cream until just blended. The dough will be sticky and lumpy. Using a large spoon, scoop dough portions the size of small lemons onto the prepared pan. You should have 12 biscuits. Sprinkle the tops with sugar. Bake until lightly golden, 15-17 minutes. Let cool at least 15 minutes on the pan on a rack, then slice in half horizontally. The biscuits are best served within a couple of hours of baking, but may be refreshed in a hot oven. Or, freeze some unbaked for another time (bake frozen biscuits for 30 minutes).

ASSEMBLE THE SHORTCAKES Just before serving, place the biscuit bottoms, cut side up, in individual bowls, top with strawberries, some of the syrup and whipped cream, and then the biscuit tops. Surround with more berries.

Used with permission from The Santa Monica Farmers' Market Cookbook: Seasonal Foods, Simple Recipes, and Stories from the Market and Farm by Amelia Saltsman (Blenheim Press, 2007).



Wednesday - Downtown	Saturday - Downtown	Saturday - Pico Market	Sunday - Main Street
Arizona Ave & 2nd St.	Arizona Ave & 3rd St.	2200 Virginia Ave.	2640 Main Street
8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.	8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	9:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.



Staci Valentine

We're also on the web at smgov.net/farmersmarket.

State Grant Funds Invention of Reusable Products from Old Tires

A Tire-Derived Product (TDP) grant from CalRecycle to promote the use of goods made from waste tires has prompted Santa Monica's Resource Recovery & Recycling Division (RRR) to find some very creative uses for old tires! At the same time, reusing this recycled "crumb" rubber helps prevent the unpleasant environmental effects of unlawful disposal and stockpiling of old tires.

Among the RRR projects: Rubber curb ramps for moving trash and recycling bins help equipment operators more easily push the bins, also helping to reduce the incidence of worker injuries. Another is creation of "bumpers" installed along enclosure walls to alleviate damage, liability and repair costs incurred when moving heavy equipment.

The final grant-funded project is a rubber *Boardwalk to the Sea*, which extends a walkway adjacent to the Santa Monica Pier to the shoreline, thus improving access for everyone, including wheelchair-users. (But, just like sand, it will get pretty warm, so be sure to wear those flip-flops if you're walking down to the water!)



Main Street Gets Solar-Powered Trash and Recycling Containers

Have you seen the new additions on Main Street? In early March, 13 "Big Belly" solar-powered trash compactors and recycling units were installed along this very busy corridor for the convenience of visitors to its shops, restaurants and coffee houses.

In addition to their energy efficiency, the trash compactors are outfitted with a computer chip and network management software so they can send a message alerting the Resource Recovery and Recycling Division that they are full and ready for collection. What could be better? Big Bellies reduce unsightly trash overflow and also the number of collection trips city staff must make, and Main Street's many visitors now have a more convenient way to dispose of their on-the-go trash and recyclables!



ARE YOU BUYING LOCAL?

Calling all residents! The City of Santa Monica and your local business district want to know what types of products and services you'd like to have in your neighborhood. Complete our quick online survey and you'll also be entered to win one of numerous prizes, including theater tickets, a free massage, gym memberships, Buy Local t-shirts and more!



WWW.SURVEYMONKEY.COM/S/BUYLOCALSM

Oh, to be a Car(e)-free Kid Again!



Four Santa Monica Malibu Unified School District (SMMUSD) schools have joined the City of Santa Monica's Car(e) Free Campaign, a friendly competition aimed at encouraging students to walk and bike to school each day.

Throughout March and April, students at John Adams Middle

School, Lincoln Middle School, Will Rogers Elementary School, and Roosevelt Elementary School are tracking their trips made to and from school without a car. These "car-free" miles count toward monthly incentives such as stickers and Car(e) Free buttons. Participants record their commuting trips in Car(e) Free log books and, at the end of the campaign,

prizes will be awarded to those who walked and biked the farthest, as well as to the class accumulating the most car-free miles. One competition target is to be the first class to walk and bike enough miles to reach San Francisco.

The campaign culminates in early May with Bike It Walk It Day during National Walk to School Week. Chris Regan, John Adams' assistant principal, expects the campaign to have long-term, positive effects: "It is great to see so many groups—the schools, the district, the City of Santa Monica—working together to ensure that students are learning to live a healthy lifestyle," he said. "The students enjoy walking and biking to school and we are all working to encourage more and more of them to do so on a regular basis."

The Car(e) Free Campaign is part of the Safe Routes to School pilot project managed by the City of Santa Monica in partnership with SMMUSD and Parent-Teacher-Student associations. (See page 2 for a related story on this project.)



Santa Monica Police Activities League



Taneaia Bryant gets her shot and avoids getting wet during SMFD training.

Say Cheese!

Santa Monica youth can explore our community through a new lens in the Kids With Cameras program. In this six-week summer session, kids learn about photojournalism and telling stories through pictures. “It was fun and we got to take pictures of the Ferris wheel at Pacific Park,” said Taneaia Bryant, a two-year veteran of the program. Added fellow shutterbug Erica Atkins, “We learned how to use a camera and go places I have never been. I never thought my pictures would turn out so great.”

This fall, the young photographers’ works will be displayed during a culmination ceremony and they will share their experiences from the summer.

Check out this and the other summer classes that PAL offers, starting the week of June 17 – call the PAL Youth Center at 310.458.8988.

This Summer at PAL

PAL provides educational, cultural and recreational programs for youth ages 6-17, overseen by caring volunteers and staff from the Santa Monica Police and Community and Cultural Services departments. Activities include classes in culinary arts, computer, basketball camp, acrobatics, SAT prep and more.

PAL Youth Center at Memorial Park

1401 Olympic Blvd.

Mon-Fri noon – 10 p.m., Sat noon – 6 p.m.

Friday Nights w/PAL for youth ages 13-17, 6 p.m. – 1 a.m. Weekly sign-up required.

PAL Homework Assistance

Mon-Thu 2:30 – 6:30 p.m.

Computers available until 9 p.m.

PAL Fitness Gym @ Virginia Avenue Park

2200 Virginia Avenue

Mon – Fri noon – 8 p.m., Sat 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

310.458.8988 | smgov.net/pal

Virginia Avenue Park Says, “Welcome to the Neighborhood!” New residents learn about all their city has to offer

On the evening of March 1, Virginia Avenue Park’s (VAP) Thelma Terry multi-purpose room was abuzz with activity. Park staffers bustled about, laying out food platters and arranging chairs in anticipation of the night’s activities. Representatives of various local service organizations and programs were setting up displays and promotional materials on long tables. A podium had been erected at the head of the room, and the night’s speakers rehearsed their speeches quietly to themselves in the corner. This was all in preparation for VAP’s “Welcome to the Neighborhood” event, a casual two hours dedicated to providing new residents with the opportunity to tour the facilities, meet staff and learn about the abundance of social programs at their disposal.

Co-sponsored by the VAP advisory board, “Welcome” was aimed at the residents of High Place West, a newly opened Community Corporation Housing project. Consisting of 47 affordable, individual multi-bedroom units, High Place West is just a few blocks from VAP. “We want to encourage the new residents to become a part of the community—not be isolated in their building,” VAP Director Carla Fantozzi said. “We invited them here tonight to meet their neighbors, learn about the diverse resources available for them at VAP, and to join other local families in sharing in community-wide celebrations.”

Noteworthy community representatives included those from Connections for Children, the Venice Family Clinic, PAL, Rosie’s Girls and the Pico Neighborhood Association. Also featured were presentations by park staffers and students.

Attendees packed the main room, taking up all the chairs and enjoying the enticing food offerings. They socialized and mingled with staff and community members, picking up flyers and brochures from the program booths.

Fantozzi was delighted to witness the new residents’ positive reaction to their special welcome. “It was very exciting to see the amazing turnout ... not only of the new residents, but also our VAP families who came out to welcome their new neighbors. It was a warm and inviting atmosphere.”



For more information on Virginia Avenue Park’s programming, hours of operations and facilities, visit smgov.net/departments/CCS and click on the Places, Parks and Beaches tab.

1450 OCEAN AVENUE CENTER



Have You Heard? Fun New Programs for All at 1450 Ocean

There’s a whole new schedule of arts activities and cultural events at 1450 Ocean Avenue in Palisades Park. Art history, craftersnoons, travelogue writing workshops, photography practice and more are offered to adults of all ages.

Find the current schedule in *Recscape*, online at smgov.net/recenroll or visit facebook.com/1450Ocean.

MARATHON NO OBSTACLE FOR PAL RUNNERS

Twenty-three young people, participants in the Santa Monica Police Activities League's (PAL) running program, ran the 26.2 miles of the Los Angeles Marathon on March 17, joining four of their PAL mentors in completing the arduous race from Dodger Stadium to Santa Monica. One of the young runners, Gaby Martinez, completed the event in 4 hours and 4 minutes!



In partnership with Students Run LA (SRLA)—which provides training workshops, clothing and race fees for the young runners—PAL staff (including Santa Monica police officers) have been training youth to run the marathon for the last 15 years; more than 125 of them have completed it. As a result of their exposure to an active lifestyle and the pleasure of running through training, many of these young people have improved their fitness and health—an important outcome of PAL's alliance with the *Active Santa Monica* initiative.

There are other valuable benefits to be gained from marathon training—among them, learning how to set and achieve goals, as well as character development and resilience to overcome obstacles and barriers. “This program is about more than just running a marathon,” said high school senior Amy Albuera, competing in her third LA marathon, to describe its impact on young lives. “For me, running has been a stress reliever and helped me focus better mentally. Most of all, it is about being able to finish what you start with the help and support of mentors that believe in and encourage you. They have helped many kids just like me accomplish their goals—to not only finish a

marathon but to get better grades, go on to college and start a career. You can apply what you learn in this program to anything in life.”



Newly Improved and Reopened: Ken Edwards Center

Long home to community meetings and events, the Ken Edwards Center (KEC) at 1527 4th Street has received a make-over, resulting in a refreshed facility with brighter, friendlier spaces. The facility is also home to WISE & Healthy Aging, the premier organization serving older adults in Santa Monica. WISE offerings at the newly renamed Club 1527, which has moved from the former Senior Recreation Center to KEC, include a meal program, wellness activities, social connections and community involvement.

To reserve a room at KEC for community meetings or events, contact Community



Recreation at 310.458.8300. For more information on WISE & Healthy Aging programs and Club 1527, call 310.394.9871 or visit wiseandhealthyaging.org.

VIRGINIA AVENUE PARK

2200 Virginia Ave. | smgov.net/vapark | 310.458.8688



WE'RE READY FOR SUMMER! ARE YOU?

PARENTS WITH INFANTS AND TODDLERS will find numerous opportunities to learn and play with their children at the park. Enjoy the playgrounds, fields and water splash pad seven days a week.

YOUTH IN GRADES 1–5 can learn, laugh and be active all summer long! Free half-day summer camps are available Monday through Friday for residents or students attending SMMUSD schools. On Saturday, visit the *Saturday Kidz Zone* from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. with tons of activities!

TEENS AND COLLEGE-AGE YOUTH should be sure to check out summer break activities at the Teen Center—participate in arts workshops, classes or just chill and enjoy the summertime fun!

SENIORS can start the morning fresh with exercise, art or music through SMC's Emeritus classes. Call 310.434.4306 for more information.

Find us on Facebook at [vapark!](https://www.facebook.com/vapark)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

HEAL THE BAY & PIER AQUARIUM EARTH WEEKEND CELEBRATION

on the Santa Monica Pier. Celebrate our amazing planet and all the ways we can protect it. The Pier Aquarium's Kids' Zone will be filled with activities and experiences for your children, while the Market Zone will have activities for all ages!

Looking to green your transportation? The Eco-Motion Zone will be filled with inspiring tips and products for getting around L.A. April 20 & 21, 11 a.m. - 6 p.m.

healthebay.org/smpa

30TH ANNIVERSARY REDEDICATION OF THE CHILDREN'S TREE OF LIFE

at Ocean Ave. and Colorado Blvd. Three times destroyed and three times replanted since it was first planted in Palisades Park at a 1983 Earth Day celebration, this tree was officially declared a "living monument to world peace" by the late Ken Edwards, mayor of Santa Monica. April 22, 6 - 7 p.m.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DROP-OFF

at the city's HHW Center, 2500 Michigan Ave. The first Saturday of every month, residents may bring household hazardous materials (paints and stains, cleaners, auto and household batteries, household and garden poisons and fertilizers, fluorescent tubes and CFLs, etc.) for unloading and processing by a technician.

May 4, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. 310.458-8255

DOWNBEAT 720

at Miles Memorial Playhouse. Teens 13-19 invited to share their talents on this free and fun open stage. All levels encouraged.

May 14 & 28, 7:20 - 9:30 p.m.

facebook.com/groups/downbeat720

MASTER GARDENERS AT THE FARMERS MARKET

at Virginia Avenue Park. The Master Gardeners of Los Angeles visit the Pico Farmers Market on the third Saturday of each month, providing free gardening tips, solutions to gardening problems, seeds and seedlings as well as their technical expertise based on the Master Gardener Volunteer Training Program.

May 18, 9:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.



City of Santa Monica
10th annual · 2013



City Of Santa Monica's Alternative Building Materials, Landscaping & Design Expo

Friday & Saturday
May 10 & 11
2013

10am - 5pm

Santa Monica
Civic Auditorium



Over 100 Exhibits

solar · plumbing fixtures · rain harvesting · construction materials · irrigation · rebates · and more...

Friday, May 10 - Two continuous tracks of programming with free CEUs for Architects, Builders and Industry

Saturday, May 11 - Compost, Veggie & Wildlife Garden workshops for homeowners, apartment dwellers, schools and businesses.

Free Admission · AltBuildExpo.Com · 310-390-2930

Happening at the Civic Auditorium

APRIL 27-28 VINTAGE FASHION EXPO

MAY 10-11 ALT BUILD EXPO (See QR code and ad above)

MAY 17-19 MY FAVORITE BEAD SHOW

MAY 25 SANTA MONICA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA CONCERT*

*This free Santa Monica Symphony concert is a tribute to the Santa Monica Civic Auditorium, which will be closing its doors in June. Auditorium parking is \$10.00.

The Civic Auditorium is served by Big Blue Bus lines 1, 3, 7, 8 and 10. For more information, please call 310.458.2288, or check us out on the web. All events are subject to change without notice.

santamonicacivic.org



Pier Aquarium Offers Summertime Fun

What to do with the kids on a summer's day? Heal the Bay's Santa Monica Pier Aquarium can keep them and adults happily busy with a variety of programs.

- **SCIENCE ADVENTURES CAMP** is a fun, safe and exciting way for kids entering Kindergarten through third grade to learn marine science, through exclusive use of the Aquarium's marine education center located just steps from the Santa Monica Bay. Register online at healthebay.org/summercamps or call 310.393.6149, Ext. 106, for more information.
- **SUMMER FIELD TRIPS** for pre-Kindergarten through 12th grade students offer hands-on marine science education. Call 310.393.6149, Ext. 105 for details.
- **PLANNING A BEACH DAY?** Drop in at the Aquarium Tuesday through Friday afternoons and help feed the sea stars. Bonus!—on Tuesdays, you'll also get a break on feeding your child at Rusty's Surf Ranch. With proof of Aquarium entry, Rusty's will provide one free child's meal for every adult entrée of \$11 or more.



Sea stars ARE for touching in the Aquarium touch-tank!

- **SATURDAYS AT 3:30 p.m.**, our storyteller captivates young audiences, and **SUNDAYS AT 3:30 p.m.**, it's dinner time for our sharks. Watch them chow down and get the facts about these misunderstood creatures.

The Aquarium is open from 12:30 to 5 p.m. on weekends, 2 to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday.

For more information, visit healthebay.org/aquarium

Sunny Santa Monica Celebrates BritWeek!

Saturday, May 4 / 10 a.m. – 9 p.m.

Sunday, May 5 / 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Along the Third Street Promenade from Santa Monica Place to Wilshire Blvd.

Downtown Santa Monica and BritWeek (a two-week, California-born fete of everything British) will host the first-ever *Santa Monica Spring Jubilee Celebrates BritWeek*, a two-day festival for the whole family!

This exciting new event will present the best in spring flowers, plants and accessories, and feature a variety of family-friendly activities and entertainment, many with a British flavor—and all without the need to worry about London fog or the currency exchange rate. How about a contest in which landscape professionals create garden vignettes with an “Urban Tea Garden” theme? Visitors will be treated to this and a multitude of hands-on demonstrations, dance exhibitions, concerts, retail events, refreshments, and much more!

Admission is free and parking is available at various locations throughout Downtown Santa Monica.

For more information, please visit www.downtownsm.com.

HOMELESS COUNT *Continued from page 3*

However, the unsheltered count—of those sleeping on the streets, in cars or in encampments—has increased sharply in the past year, by 20%, to 380 individuals. Much of this population was located in the downtown area and along the Wilshire corridor.

To address this growing need, city departments and local nonprofit agencies will redouble their efforts to gather more information on who is homeless. Through this collaboration, strategies will be developed to engage and house those who have been in Santa Monica the longest, while redirecting those with no ties here back to their home communities. Specific measures are being coordinated to address new “hot spots” identified in this year's count, and to reduce the impact of homelessness in Downtown Santa Monica.

We extend our sincere thanks to all the volunteers who came out to count with us on January 30. It would be impossible to collect these data without their generous donation of time and energy!

For more information, or to stay connected on homeless issues in Santa Monica, please visit our website: smgov.net/homelessness.



SATURDAY, JUNE 1
11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Get Into the Art Zone!



Step into a place where the only boundaries are those of the imagination at this year's Santa Monica Festival at Clover Park.

New this year, the **Art Zone**

celebrates the creative spirit of our city, which is home to more than 1,600 arts-related businesses that employ some 11,000 people.

The Art Zone will include local arts and cultural organizations presenting art workshops and activities to explore and build creative confidence. Watch for more information, including a complete schedule of events and activities, in a special Festival issue of *Seascope*, coming in mid-May.

Visit smgov.net/festival

Be the First to Know

Get timely e-mail alerts from Big Blue Bus with just a few clicks!

Admit it, you're itching to be in the know—and now you can be, at least where the Big Blue Bus is concerned. Automatically receive announcements right to your inbox from BBB's convenient e-mail alert program. It's quick and easy to sign up and there's no worry—we'll never spam you or share your information with others!



Four options allow you to receive only the information you need most (or all of it, if you choose):

- **Service Alerts** – Detours, service impacts, schedule changes, temporary stop closures and emergency notices
- **Rider Updates** – New services and policies
- **News** – Press releases and media advisories
- **Community** – Community meetings, surveys and transit activities across BBB's service area

To begin receiving our messages, visit BigBlueBus.com, scroll to the bottom of the home page (or any of our pages) and click on the alert options of your choice. Enter your e-mail address and hit the "submit" button—*voilà!* You'll be hearing from us!

RIDE BLUE. GO GREEN.

BigBlueBus.com / Questions? Call us at (310) 451-5444

Seascope Survey – Coming Next Issue!

It's been about five years since your favorite city newsletter underwent a redesign, and we're getting ready for another "refresher" in a few months. As part of that effort, we want to get our readers' perspective on the things they love about *Seascope*—as well as those things that may be somewhat less captivating. And, of course, we want feedback on the articles, photos and ads found within its pages, as well as suggestions for new additions to the content.

The next issue of *Seascope*—coming to mailboxes in mid-May—will include a short (10-15 questions) reader survey that can be completed, easily removed and mailed back to the city.

The survey will also be available online for those who prefer to keep their newsletter intact.

We'll be anxious to hear from you, either way!



Stay Alert for
Cars, Bikes
and Pedestrians.
Watch the Road.

smgov.net/watchtheroad



Chase Away the Gloom and Gray

SoCal beach weather in May and June can be a mixed bag: a few sunny beach days here and there, but “May Gray” and “June Gloom” inevitably roll in. Despite the lack of sun, there is still fun to be had at the Annenberg Beach House—and the extra cloud cover usually means a smaller crowd, perfect for discovering all it has to offer. Foggy mornings make parking easy, and folks visiting the café can savor their coffee, tea and scones a bit longer.

PRE-SUMMER POOL WEEKENDS at the Beach House include Memorial Day weekend, May 25-27, and June 1-2 and 8-9. The summer season officially kicks off June 15. For all of these dates, reservations are available (though not required) for pool passes, parking, courts, fields and canopies. At Guest Services, you can rent a paddleboard or borrow a volleyball or sand toys. For more contemplative pursuits, explore the Marion Davies Guest House on a tour with a Santa Monica Conservancy docent, check out the art gallery or cozy up with your laptop (free Wi-Fi) or something to read.

We’ll be at the Santa Monica Festival on June 1, so you can find out more about our summer season—or visit annenbergbeachhouse.com or give us a call at **310.458.4904**. We’d love to help you plan your great day at the beach, no matter what it looks like!

PLANNING A MEETING, CELEBRATING A MILESTONE OR SCOUTING A LOCATION?

Look no further. Our spectacular ocean views, dedicated staff and unique spaces make the Beach House the perfect spot for your event or shoot. We make it easy—choose from our pre-approved caterers, or take advantage of our one-stop permitting process for location scouts.

Photos online: pinterest.com/acbhevents. Call **310.458.4934** to schedule a site tour.

SEE CLASS LISTINGS IN RECSAPE ON PAGE 14, OR VISIT ANNENBERGBEACHHOUSE.COM.

Transforming Bergamot

The wait is over! The recently released draft Bergamot Area Plan concludes two years of intensive dialogue and outreach surrounding the future of the former industrial lands, and charts a course for the area’s incremental transformation. Guided by community voices, the plan lays out a roadmap for integrating the Exposition Light Rail into the fabric of our community, and describes how new streets and uses, community gathering places, and many other place-making features will transition the area into a “complete neighborhood.”

The draft Bergamot Area Plan is currently being reviewed by community members and city officials, and can be downloaded from the project website at bergamotplan.net. We invite you to submit your comments to bergamotplan@smgov.net.



ADULT PROGRAMS SUMMER 2013

A sampling of coming attractions.
For complete program information, visit smpl.org



MAIN LIBRARY

The Curiosity Mars Rover: From Launch to Landing

NASA/JPL's Keith Novak discusses this amazing feat of engineering and shares the latest images. Saturday, 4/27, 1 p.m.

Yoga For Special Needs: An Introduction

Bea Ammidown presents a DVD screening on this topic as well as live demonstrations. Saturday, 5/4, 3 p.m.

Dan Brown Live Video Author Talk *Da Vinci Code* author Dan Brown discusses his new novel in this live broadcast from New York's Lincoln Center. Wednesday, 5/15, 4:30 p.m.

Santa Monica Farmers Market Discussion Chefs and farmers discuss shopping for and cooking with market ingredients. Thursday, 5/16, 7 p.m.

Documentary: Ball Talk Director Kevin Bender introduces and discusses this documentary on veteran baseball announcers. Saturday, 5/18, 3 p.m.

A Summer at Downton Abbey Catch up with all three seasons of this *Masterpiece Classic*. New episodes every Tuesday at 6:30 p.m., 5/28 through 8/27

FAIRVIEW BRANCH LIBRARY

Online Travel Resources

Explore the best travel websites and resources to plan your next holiday. Saturday, 4/27, 11 a.m.

Literature Book Group Saturday, 11 a.m. 5/11 - *The Professor's House* by Willa Cather

Write-Away Join us every Tuesday at noon for inspiration, guidance and support from and for fellow writers.



MONTANA AVENUE BRANCH LIBRARY

In Case You Missed It Film Series Tuesday, 6:30 p.m. 4/30 - *The Other Dream Team*; 5/21 - *Frankenweenie*

Mystery Book Group Wednesday, 7 p.m. 5/8 - *The Water's Edge* by Karin Fossum

Book Group Wednesday, 7 p.m. 5/15 - *The Whistling Season* by Ivan Doig

OCEAN PARK BRANCH LIBRARY

Pulitzer Prize Book Group Saturday, 11 a.m. 5/18 - *The Mambo Kings Play Songs of Love* by Oscar Hijuelos

Mystery Book Group Tuesday, 7 p.m. 5/21 - *Murder in the Latin Quarter* by Cara Black

History of Film Series: The New World Host Elaina Archer screens and discusses this 2005 historical epic about Pocahontas and John Smith (played by Colin Farrell). Tuesday, 5/7, 6 p.m.

SANTA MONICA MAIN LIBRARY AND BRANCH INFORMATION

Main Library

601 Santa Monica Blvd., 310.458.8600

Fairview Branch

2101 Ocean Park Blvd., 310.458.8681

Montana Avenue

1704 Montana Ave., 310.458.8682

Ocean Park Branch

2601 Main St., 310.458.8683

Library Hours

Main Library: Mon - Thu 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Fri/Sat 10 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.; Sun 1 - 5 p.m.

Branches: Mon - Thu noon - 9 p.m.
Fri noon - 5:30 p.m., Sat 10 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Closed on Sundays

Big Blue Bus Routes

Main Library Routes 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 9 and 10

Fairview Branch Routes 8, Crosstown Ride and Sunset Ride

Montana Ave Routes 3 and Crosstown Ride

Ocean Park Branch Routes 1 & 8

Bike parking available.

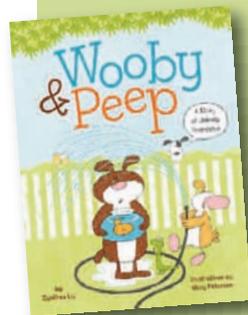
All city libraries are wheelchair accessible. To request a disability-related accommodation for events, call the library at 310.458.8606 (TDD 310.395.8499) at least one week in advance.

YOUTH PROGRAMS

MAIN LIBRARY

Mother/Daughter Japanese Tea Party Learn about the Japanese Tea Ceremony with your mom! Craft to follow.

Grades K - 5. Space is limited. Registration begins Monday, 4/29. Sign up at the Youth Reference desk or call 310.458.8621. Saturday, 5/11, 2 - 4 p.m. Multipurpose Rm.



Celebrate "Children's Book Week" with Wooby and Peep

Join us for a reading of *Wooby and Peep* by the illustrator, Mary Peterson, followed by a friendship-themed craft.

Ages 3 - 8. Wednesday, 5/15, 3:45 p.m.

Programs for Teens:

Food Fan Club Eat and learn about the food you eat with the Santa Monica Farmers Market. Thursday, 5/2 at 4 p.m. Activity Rm.

"Racy Reads" Teen Book Group Munch on snacks and talk about books and issues that matter to YOU at this monthly book club. Grades 8 - 12. Monday, 5/20, 5:30 p.m. Activity Rm.

FAIRVIEW BRANCH LIBRARY

Mother's Day Nail Party Decorate your nails with Cha Cha Covers for Mother's Day. Limited space; event will be ticketed. Grades K - 5. Thursday, 5/9, 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Programs for Tweens/Teens:

Talk It Up! Teen Book Club First five to sign up get a free copy of the book, *American Born Chinese* by Gene Yang.

Ages 12 - 18. Monday, 5/13, 3:45 - 4:30 p.m.

Snack Attack Make a delicious and healthful snack with fresh produce from the Santa Monica Farmers Market. Space is limited. Ages 12 - 18. Monday, 5/20, 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.

MONTANA AVENUE BRANCH LIBRARY

Preschool Club Stories and crafts for 2 - 5 year olds. Tuesday, 5/14, 3 p.m.

Programs for Tweens/Teens:

Tween Scene Crafts and activities for 10 - 13 year olds. Wednesday, 5/8, 4 p.m.

OCEAN PARK BRANCH LIBRARY

May Mischief! Celebrate the merry, merry month of May with puppets. Ages 3 - 7. Tuesday, 5/14, 3:30 and 4:30 p.m.

Paws 4 Reading Practice reading to a furry friend! Ages 6 and up. Registration required. Wednesday, 5/16, 3:30 p.m.



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HIGHLIGHTS
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CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

The Santa Monica City Council regularly meets at 5:30 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month in Council Chambers, located at City Hall, 1685 Main Street. Upcoming City Council meetings are scheduled for:

- April 23
- May 14 and 28

Visit smgov.net/council for more information or to check the status of future agenda items. City Council meetings are broadcast live on CityTV cable channel 16 and streamed at citytv.org. Regular meetings air on 89.9 KCRW from 8 p.m. to midnight.

All Council meetings are open to the public. Public comment may be made in person at any meeting, or prior to the meeting via regular U.S. mail, e-mail or by fax to:

City Hall
 1685 Main Street, Room 209
 Santa Monica, California 90401
 Phone: 310.458.8201
 Fax: 310.458.1621
 E-mail all Council members: council@smgov.net



It’s a Great Time to Enjoy Our Beach Trail!

Walk or bike to the beach and enjoy the newly improved Marvin Braude Beach Trail, which runs along the entire length of Santa Monica State Beach and connects to LA’s beach bike path at the northern and southern city limits (more than 5 gorgeous city miles in all!). Restricted to non-motorized uses, the beach trail has been recently updated with signs and markings—all to reinforce good trail etiquette and help ensure that people of all ages and abilities can enjoy these improvements (and the beach) safely and comfortably.



Practice good trail etiquette

- Whether you’re biking, walking or jogging: Keep to the right except to pass safely; step off the path to stop; be alert for people crossing; and respect others using the path. Pay attention to the centerline and edge markings that identify a “shoulder” area for slower users.
- Use your chosen path as it is intended: Walkers only on the path designated for exclusive pedestrian use; bikes only on the bikeway unless there is no adjacent walkway for pedestrians; and use by all visitors where the trail is marked for shared use.
- Be aware of the “conflict zones” identified by signs indicating: Where people are likely to cross your path to get from parking to the beach or to reach a restroom or playground; where you should cross to get to or from the walkway or the bike path; and where users crossing the trail should be especially alert for bicycles (also encouraging them to cross in the safest places).

Please Watch Out for Each Other