



# Seascape

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## "Tails" from the Santa Monica Animal Shelter Animal Shelter Thrives On Volunteers, Adopters

If there's one thing Santa Monica Animal Shelter Manager Sergeant Mike Graham would like everyone to remember, it's that a microchip and/or a pet license can be the difference between a potentially sad lost-pet story and one with a happy ending. He emphasizes the point with two dog "tails," one about a pup with a tiny microchip embedded under its skin, another that had neither chip nor tag. The microchipped dog was stolen from a home far beyond the city limits—and 2½ years later turned up in Santa Monica's shelter. That chip meant it could be reunited with its disbelieving owner! The second dog nearly lost its chance to go home because well-meaning "rescuers" who found it elsewhere without a tag brought it to Santa Monica, where they expected it would have a better chance of adoption. In the meantime, the owner had gone to her local shelter every day in a fruitless search for her dog, which spent several months in Santa Monica before being turned over to a San Diego rescue organization. Only sheer luck got that dog back to its grateful owner.

**ANIMAL SHELTER CONTINUED ON PAGE 9**

## Be Excited! Santa Monica Welcomes a New Library, New Parking Structure and a New School!



**Be Excited!  
Be Prepared**  
SANTA MONICA Constructs the Future

For the latest project information please visit:  
[smconstructs.org](http://smconstructs.org)  
[facebook.com/smconstructs](https://www.facebook.com/smconstructs)  
[twitter.com/smconstructs](https://twitter.com/smconstructs)



It is an exciting time for our city. Major projects are coming to completion. The community's first new branch library in over 50 years, the Pico Library, will be opening its doors this spring. In the downtown area, the expanded and improved Parking Structure 6 joins our beautiful new Tongva Park. A portion of Ocean Park Boulevard has been revitalized, now a "Complete Green Street" with new crosswalks, bike lanes and more than 100 trees. The Edison Language Academy, a Measure BB project, has just moved into its new campus with 27 classrooms and a library. The Expo line is steadily making its way into the city. Although the dust and road closures can be inconvenient, the prospect of all these new city amenities is definitely something to be excited about!

**READ MORE ABOUT BE EXCITED! PROJECTS ON PAGES 2-3**

## IN THIS ISSUE



**p.4**

A CROSSING GUARD'S STORY -  
KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE



**p.5**

GET INVOLVED - HELP SHAPE THE  
FUTURE OF DOWNTOWN



**p.6**

TEENS WORKING TOGETHER TO  
FIND SUCCESS



**p.8**

WALK THROUGH HISTORY AT  
PALISADES PARK

## 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: January 24, February 7 and 21, March 7 and 21, and April 4 and 18. We'll also be closed January 20 for the MLK holiday and February 17 for Presidents' Day. Payment and permit services are available every Friday; please call 310.458.8411 for the counter hours of your preferred service.

**CELEBRATING WOMEN** This March, the Santa Monica Commission on the Status of Women (COSW) will observe Women's History Month, which pays tribute to the generation of women and girls whose contributions have proved invaluable to society. "Celebrating Women of Character, Courage and Commitment" is the theme overarching a month-long schedule of events that begins with a reception and an official proclamation at the February 25 City Council meeting. For more details, visit [smgov.net/cosw](http://smgov.net/cosw).

**2014 ARTS LEADERSHIP AWARDS** will be announced in April by the nonprofit Santa Monica Arts Foundation to recognize exemplary leaders who have supported the city's creative community. The awards honor individuals and businesses in three categories: Artist in the Community/Bruria Finkel Award, Arts Patron Award, and the Creative Community Innovator Award. Look for information on the honorees in April at [smgov.net/artsleaders](http://smgov.net/artsleaders).

SANTA MONICA

## Seascape

Seascape is a publication of the City of Santa Monica designed to inform residents about city programs and services. Please email editorial information and comments to [seascape@smgov.net](mailto:seascape@smgov.net) or mail to:

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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).

## Be Excited! New Pico Branch Library Opens in April



Early spring marks a new chapter for the Santa Monica Public Library. The opening of the Pico Branch brings the number of libraries in the city to five. Located at Virginia Avenue Park, the new library's services, collections and programs will be the ideal complement to both Cradle to Career youth and family programs at VAP, as well as services and programming for adults and active seniors. The Pico Library will be the final piece in the VAP community campus providing a place to read, connect, relax and learn.

Features of the new Pico Branch, designed by Koning Eizenberg Architecture, include:

- An innovative two-building design, featuring the main 7,872 square-foot library with a children's area, study rooms, reading spaces and computer commons, connected to the 818 square-foot community room (The Annex) by a roofline trellis.
- A brand-new 25,000-item "opening day" collection, including popular collections of books, music, newspapers and magazines for adults, teens and children in English and in Spanish.
- Vibrant program space in The Annex for new youth and family story times, after-school activities, summer reading programs, book clubs, film screenings, do-it-yourself activities and educational, as well as informational and cultural programs for all ages.

- Tracking a LEED® Platinum rating for sustainability with features that include a dynamic, folded roof design incorporating skylights, large roof overhangs and a canopy along the entrance for shade, a rainwater harvesting system, natural daylighting and a strong visual connection with the park.

The Pico Branch Library is positioned in the heart of Virginia Avenue Park, adjacent to the popular Saturday Farmers Market, and will prove to be an asset to the community with vast information sources, referral and literacy-based services and an extensive collection of materials.

For more information, call 310.458.8606 or visit [smpl.org/picobranch.aspx](http://smpl.org/picobranch.aspx). For project information, please visit [smconstructs.org/picolibrary](http://smconstructs.org/picolibrary).

### Community Celebration

**Pico Branch Library**  
2201 Pico Boulevard  
Saturday, April 12 • 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Join us in celebrating the official opening of the newest addition to the Santa Monica Public Library. Share in the excitement of the ribbon-cutting ceremony and participate in a neighborhood festival featuring music, dance, storytelling, crafts and tours. **READY • SET • READ!**

## Be Excited! New School Now Open!

A new year and a brand-new campus for the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District! The Edison Language Academy is now operating out of brand new facilities located just steps from the old one. The new campus includes 27 classrooms for kindergarten through fifth grade, a new library and cafeteria. New administrative and support facilities offer a welcoming environment for both students and visitors. The second phase to be completed later this year will bring two preschool classrooms and new outdoor improvements, including a restroom/coaching building, accessible playfields and playgrounds, outdoor eating and learning areas, and new landscaping throughout the campus.

The \$34 million project was mostly funded by Measure BB, a \$268-million parcel tax passed by Santa Monica and Malibu voters in 2006 for the repair and renovation of the district's schools, and \$425,000 from the City of Santa Monica for play yard access. Thanks to an agreement between the city and school district, Edison will be a new Playground Partnership site. Children and their families will be able to use school playgrounds during non-school hours.

Edison Language Academy is a Dual Immersion Elementary School, where all students learn to understand, speak, read and write in both English and Spanish. For more information, please visit [fip.smmusd.org/edison.html](http://fip.smmusd.org/edison.html).



## Be Excited! Parking Structure 6 is Back in Business!

Parking in Downtown just got a whole lot easier. The renovated Parking Structure 6 reopened at the end of the year, making an additional 744 parking spaces, 11 general ADA spaces, 15 van ADA spaces, 30 electric vehicle charging stations and enclosed bike racks available for your parking needs.

The new structure makes the most of the valuable Downtown space by doubling the number of spots the previous structure provided. The additional spaces lighten the load for the other structures in the area and therefore lessens traffic congestion from drivers circling looking for spaces. The dramatic red diagonal staircase makes PS6 easy to find and increases safety for pedestrians. Happy parking and make sure you check out the panoramic views of Downtown, the Pier and the beach from the top floor!

For project information please visit [smconstructs.org/ps6](http://smconstructs.org/ps6).



## Santa Monica Continues to Invest in Fiscal Responsibility

In the past, this was the time of year that the city actively worked on its annual budget and solicited input from residents about community priorities. With the city's recent transition to a two-year budget cycle, this now happens every other year, so you can expect to find news in next winter's edition of *Seascope* about how you can help shape the city's budget.



In recent years, well-publicized financial transgressions and bankruptcies of several California municipalities have caused public concern about how cities manage their finances. Santa Monica's officials and employees are committed to upholding the highest standards of public service, in order to continue to earn the support and respect of the community. The City of Santa Monica has enjoyed a long history of good government and fiscal responsibility. Over the past several years, the city has:

- Maintained its AAA credit rating (held since 1995), even in the aftermath of the 2008 economic downturn;
- Increased its "rainy day" reserves to 15%, established a \$9.7 million Economic Uncertainty Reserve, and currently maintains total reserves of 18%;
- Received the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) *Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting* in each of the last 29 years, most recently on October 10, 2013;
- Achieved a 5% General Fund budget decrease in the FY 2013-15 biennial budget;
- Paid down retirement unfunded liability using savings, lowering retirement costs by \$1.4 million per year; and
- Adopted financial planning revenue and expenditure policies to guide the development of balanced budgets in accordance with best practices.

The city maintains an internal auditor position, and external audits show no deficiencies in controls or financial practices. All of these accomplishments serve to ensure that over time, Santa Monica can weather the inevitable downturns in the economy. City officials are well aware of their responsibility to make certain that both necessary and desirable community services, programs and activities are properly funded, managed and maintained for the benefit of residents.

Additional savings have been achieved through a number of changes to employee salaries and benefits:

- City employees have contributed toward their pensions since they were increased in 2007, and currently pay up to 9.2% of salary towards retirement.
- Employees have paid increased contributions toward health care costs over the past four years.
- Retirement benefits for new employees were lowered even before enactment of California's pension reform bill.

The city has long developed and adopted balanced budgets and conducted annual reviews of its financial policies in open meetings so members of the public may question, comment and address issues of concern. We're proud of our strong history of prudent fiscal management while continuing to provide quality municipal services. For more information about the city's budget, go to [smgov.net/finance](http://smgov.net/finance).

## Be Excited! Be Prepared! Here Comes Expo

The Expo Light Rail Line is more than 50% complete. Contractors are beginning to install more than 30 miles of rail between Culver City and Santa Monica—that means street closures as the tracks come in. Colorado Avenue will primarily be affected with several closures over the next few months. Please visit [smconstructs.org/expo](http://smconstructs.org/expo) for more information.



## Keeping the Streets Safe for Kids

### Meet Crossing Guard Vic Fernandez

Vic has been a crossing guard at Santa Monica's McKinley School since 2009. With his brother, he has owned The Santa Monica Music Center for 40 years, offering lessons, renting instruments to students, making repairs and working with kids. "My own kids went through school here," Vic says, "and being a crossing guard is a great way to still be involved. McKinley is my other family."



**How he became a crossing guard:** "The [previous] crossing guard supervisor was a friend, and he knew I wanted to slow down, move toward retirement and suggested this would be a perfect gig for me. So I thought I'd try it out ... five years later, I'm still hooked!" Vic says he'll eventually retire from his music business, but he has no plans to give up *this* job.

**His favorite thing about being a crossing guard:** "It's great to have a job where you say 'Good morning' with a smile every day and you get it in return from the kids and their parents—it's such a pleasant experience!" He adds that if he's not at his corner for a day or two, he hears from the substitute guard about the concern of the kids and parents: "It's a real connection."



**Words of wisdom for kids/parents/motorists:** "One thing I enjoy is seeing so many parents really talking with their kids as they walk them to school or drop them off, but I notice others who are probably talking business on the phone. Parents should take advantage of the opportunity to really be with their kids." He also wants drivers to remember that they need to be attentive. "My kids' lives are at stake—it's important to make

eye contact with pedestrians when coming to a crosswalk or corner so everyone can get where they need to, safely."

**What potential crossing guards should know:** "You have to take the job seriously—it's very responsible, you are protecting the kids and you have to be vigilant. It's an important job, and you have to treat it that way. And you'll get great support from the Santa Monica Police Department."

**Do you have what it takes to be a crossing guard?** Several part-time/as-needed positions will be advertised in coming months on the city's website ([smgov.net/hr](http://smgov.net/hr)). Candidates must complete a city employment application, interview, background check and physical prior to official hiring. SMPD on-the-job training is required as well, with new guards placed at multiple locations over a period of weeks before a final assignment (with a veteran guard) is made. Be sure to check the online listings or call the city's Jobline at 310.458.8697 to take advantage of this opportunity to serve the community.

## Do Your Part to Keep City Roads Safe for Everyone

Winter months bring chillier days and longer nights. With the sun setting around 5 p.m., the evening rush hour is cloaked in darkness. Since the ability to perceive and judge distance is severely impaired at night, the chance of an accident goes up. In fact, city traffic engineers say 40% of collisions happen when motorists are going straight and they just don't see the car in front of them or a pedestrian in the crosswalk. That's why it is even more important to avoid distractions while driving at night.



From October to December 2013, the Santa Monica Police Department issued 2,574 citations for distracted driving, 400 of them for failure to yield to a pedestrian in a crosswalk (which comes with a fine of \$136.50). In addition, 928 citations were issued for pedestrian violations.

To keep everyone safer on the roads, follow these safe-driving tips:

- Allow enough distance to stop.
- Keep dashboard lights at a safe, low setting.
- Keep your windshield and windows clean.
- Limit distractions. Since your nighttime vision will not be as good as it is during the day, your reaction time will also be slower. And remember—no texting while driving.

For more information, please visit [smgov.net/departments/pcd/transportation](http://smgov.net/departments/pcd/transportation).

## Be a Smart and Safe Senior Driver

Remember back to when you took driver's ed in high school? Think you could pass the test now? For most of us it's been 10, 20 or even 60 years since we've had behind-the-wheel training or reviewed the rules of the road, and even the most experienced drivers can benefit from brushing up on their skills. The American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) and WISE & Healthy Aging offer a Smart Driver Course where participants will learn how to manage and accommodate common age-related changes in vision, hearing and reaction time. In addition, you'll learn:

- How to minimize the effects of dangerous blind spots;
- How to maintain the proper following distance behind another car;
- The safest ways to change lanes and make turns at busy intersections;
- Proper use of safety belts, air bags, antilock brakes and new technology found in cars today;
- Ways to monitor your own and others' driving skills and capabilities;
- The effects of medications on driving; and
- The importance of eliminating distractions, such as eating, smoking and using a cellphone.

AARP's Smart Driver Course is offered at Ken Edwards Center on 4th Street. For a schedule and more information, please call 310.394.9871 or visit [wiseandhealthyaging.org/transportation](http://wiseandhealthyaging.org/transportation).

# Downtown Specific Plan Draft to Be Released in February 2014

Downtown Santa Monica is a key piece of Santa Monica's promising future. Creating a dynamic, balanced Downtown that provides a thriving environment for living, working, entertainment and enrichment is what the Downtown Specific Plan is all about. Having the right overall vision and principles to guide that vision are critical to the long-term success of both



Downtown and the city as whole. Developed with input from a dozen community workshops and public meetings over the past two years, the Downtown Specific Plan Draft will be completed in February 2014.

The plan draft proposes solutions to a wide range of topics and concerns—improving the pedestrian experience, addressing vehicle congestion, sustaining economic vitality, preservation of historic resources, integration of Expo Light Rail, enhanced cultural amenities, new housing and more. To read a summary of the entire Downtown Specific Plan discussion to date, scan the QR code below (or go to

[smgov.net/pcd/plans/downtown-specific-plan](http://smgov.net/pcd/plans/downtown-specific-plan)). This version includes the City Council's action to limit overall height to 84 feet (6-7 stories), and lower in areas that transition to neighborhoods. Because walkability plays a vital role in Downtown's success, the City Council also directed that maintaining and enhancing the successful and pleasurable pedestrian experience be a key focus of the plan.

Watch for announcements on the city's website and in local media about the release of this important document and a community meeting to be held in February, as well as a schedule of Planning Commission hearings that will begin this spring.



## Trouble With Trespassers?

The Santa Monica Police Department (SMPD) now offers property owners and their agents a more convenient way to authorize the arrest of trespassing individuals, via a simple online form that is valid for six months. Instead of having to provide both verbal and written authorization to SMPD each time someone illegally enters and refuses to leave private property, the owner/agent may complete and submit a blanket authorization form, thereby allowing officers to enter a property to remove and/or arrest the offender(s). This is particularly helpful in the case of vacant or abandoned buildings, or when businesses are closed and neither owners nor agents are on-site.

Once the trespass authorization form is submitted online, a confirmation email will be sent within 24 hours; emails will also be sent five days prior to and on the date of the authorization's expiration. For the blanket authorization form and more information, visit [santamonicapd.org/trespass](http://santamonicapd.org/trespass).

## If It Seems Too Good to Be True... It Probably Is

### Phone and Email Scams

If you receive a phone call or email about an incredible investment opportunity, a sweepstakes or lottery prize, or a loved one in trouble, use caution! Telephone and email scams are more prevalent than ever, so consider these tips to avoid being defrauded:

- High-pressure sales tactics that urge you to "act now" are a sign that the offer might be too good to be true. Talk with a trusted relative or friend before making any commitment.
- Beware of calls or emails asking for Social Security numbers, PINs, account numbers, or other personal information. Remember: Banks and government agencies don't contact people to request this type of information; they already have it.
- Watch out for "free" offers or prizes that require you to pay taxes, shipping fees or other costs.
- Check out charities to find out what percentage of money collected goes to the actual cause. Visit [charitynavigator.org](http://charitynavigator.org).
- Never wire money to anyone you don't know. It's virtually impossible to recover these funds.
- Don't open attachments or click on links in emails from unfamiliar senders. They could contain viruses.
- Never verify your bank account information by clicking on an emailed link. Call your bank directly if you're concerned about the security of your account.
- If a stranger contacts you claiming that a relative is in trouble, give your loved one a call. There's a good chance the individual will pick up the phone and be bewildered to hear that he or she is supposedly in jail or stranded in a foreign airport.

If you've received a phone call or email that seems fraudulent, report it! Call the City Attorney's Consumer Protection Unit at 310.458.8336 or visit [smgov.net/departments/cao](http://smgov.net/departments/cao).

## CODE COMPLIANCE BY THE NUMBERS



Last year was a busy one for the Code Compliance Division. Even a reduced staffing level couldn't keep productivity down! For more information, please visit [smgov.net/departments/pcd/about-us/code-compliance](http://smgov.net/departments/pcd/about-us/code-compliance).

|                                       | 2012  | 2013  |
|---------------------------------------|-------|-------|
| Total Zoning Code Cases Received      | 1,057 | 1,013 |
| Total Building-Related Cases Received | 915   | 1,554 |
| Total Cases                           | 1,972 | 2,567 |
| Backlog Cases Closed                  | 222   | 253   |
| Current Cases Closed                  | 1,503 | 2,047 |
| Total No. of Citations Issued         | 121   | 346   |



## Making Time for Toddlers



Most weekday mornings you will find parents and caregivers at Virginia Avenue Park (VAP), pushing strollers, chatting with other parents and getting advice from early childhood professionals. VAP hosts several early childhood programs presented by **Connections for Children**, the **Westside Family Health Center** and the soon-to-open **Pico Neighborhood Library**. They are a key component of Santa Monica's Cradle to Career Initiative to support the healthy development of our young children. Playing, singing and

reading are fun learning experiences that help ensure toddlers' readiness for kindergarten—a key area in need of improvement highlighted in Santa Monica's 2012/13 Youth Wellbeing Report Card. Findings show that just one-third of kindergartners in Santa Monica are very ready for school, with boys generally less ready than girls. These programs provide adults with strategies to prepare young children for kindergarten, a critical element in their future success as life-long learners. All 0-5 programs are free at Virginia Avenue Park.

Visit [smgov.net/vapark](http://smgov.net/vapark) to learn more about the wide variety of programs and services available at Virginia Avenue Park.

**Family Time** presented by **Connections for Children**  
Mondays, 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.

This program allows children up to 5 years of age and their caregivers to participate in activities together, facilitates sharing of resources, discussion of topics such as child development, preschool readiness, and building a community support network.

To register, call Judy Laureano at 310.452.3325, Ext. 210, or email [judy@cfcc-ca.org](mailto:judy@cfcc-ca.org).

**Mother-Infant Support** presented by **Westside Family Health Center**  
Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. (English)  
Fridays, 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. (Spanish)

This class is for mothers and their infants who are 6 weeks to 18 months old. It's a great opportunity to build a support network by connecting with other mothers.

To register, call Julie Kirk at 310.450.4773, Ext. 230, or email [jkirk@wfhcenter.org](mailto:jkirk@wfhcenter.org).



## Men's Group Strives Toward Success at VAP's Teen Center

It's a sure bet that anyone who parents, teaches or otherwise works with young people would love to have a foolproof recipe for motivating and engaging kids as they move through their teenage years to young adulthood. We want to help them successfully navigate the many emotional and physical changes that accompany these challenging years.

Virginia Avenue Park's Teen Center is doing its part to help in these critical stages of development by offering a holistic approach to youth engagement that is focused on four key areas: academic improvement, civic engagement, positive youth development and parent involvement. One of the more popular programs aimed at positive youth development

is the weekly Men's Group, for teens 14 years and older. At these meetings, young men openly discuss the social and personal issues they face: what it means to be a man, how pride can interfere with decision-making, and how to earn others' respect and maintain their own self-respect. The Men's Group offers a safe place to explore their views on masculinity and vulnerability and, through open dialog, they are encouraged to take action to change social norms.

The Teen Center's programs set the stage for significant, constructive engagement with youth during these impressionable, transitional years. To learn more about our programs, visit [smgov.net/vapark](http://smgov.net/vapark).



# Celebrating and Supporting Local Arts and Culture

**More visual and performing artists, arts presenters, designers, architects, and film and music producers per capita are found in Santa Monica than in any other city in the state.**

In the last ten years the number of nonprofit arts agencies in Santa Monica has more than doubled. They, along with 60 commercial art galleries, numerous live theaters and movie theaters, several bookstores and myriad music venues, help attract and anchor a large and diverse creative sector, enriching the city's cultural and economic base. Explore the arts in Santa Monica and discover something new!

In this and future *Seascape* issues, we're highlighting a few of the city's arts grantees to encourage you to take advantage of the wide variety of performances, programs and exhibits offered by these outstanding organizations.

**The Broad Stage** ([thebroadstage.com](http://thebroadstage.com)) at the Santa Monica College Performing Arts Center strives to promote artistic excellence, creativity, collaboration and the free exchange of ideas in an open, caring community of learners. The Broad Stage also produces community outreach programming, including master classes, open rehearsals, lifelong learning opportunities, and low-cost and free family events.



**Cabeza de Vaca** ([cabezadebaca.com](http://cabezadebaca.com)) offers dance classes to children from low-income families to promote physical activity, improve concentration and focus, learn about culture and build balance, coordination and, most importantly, self-esteem. It offers weekly classes and public performances in Baile Folklorico, Aztec, Polynesian and belly dance, and lessons in the associated cultures.



**18th Street Arts Center** ([18thstreet.org](http://18thstreet.org)) is an artists' residency program that provokes public dialogue through contemporary art-making. The residencies, exhibitions, public events, talks, and publications encourage, showcase and support the creation of cutting-edge contemporary art and foster collaboration and interaction between artists locally, nationally and internationally.

**Santa Monica Museum of Art** ([smmoa.org](http://smmoa.org)) is the only *kunsthalle* (non-collecting museum) in Southern California. SMMoA presents exhibitions and programs that reveal the vibrant, untold stories and pivotal moments in the history of contemporary art and culture.

For more on arts and culture events in Santa Monica, sign up for *The Palette*, a weekly e-newsletter. To subscribe, please scan the QR code above, or visit [smgov.net/portals/culture/the\\_palette.aspx](http://smgov.net/portals/culture/the_palette.aspx).

## So You Think You Can Dance?



The late great James Brown once said, "The one thing that can solve most of our problems is dancing." After all, dancing can bring together different cultures and create a bridge between younger and older generations.

The Santa Monica Police Activities League (PAL) is very fortunate to add

Contra-Tiempo to its repertoire of programs. This Los Angeles-based dance company combines Salsa, Afro-Cuban, Hip-Hop and contemporary urban dance to create a unique program that teens will love.

### Contra-Tiempo Dance Program

Starting February 4, 2014

Tuesdays and Wednesdays

4-5 p.m.

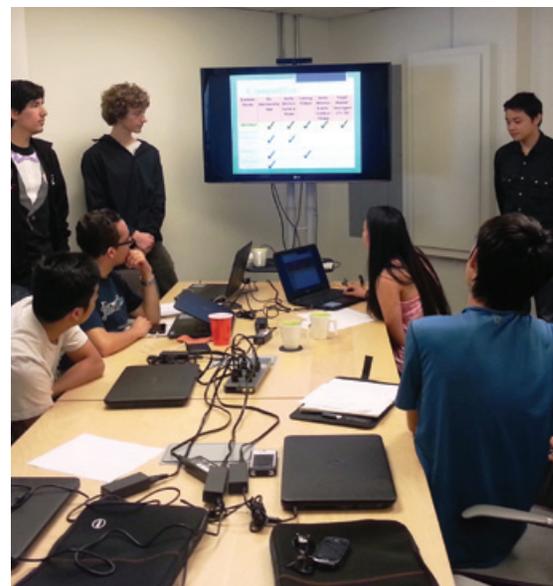
### PAL YOUTH CENTER AT MEMORIAL PARK

1401 Olympic Blvd. | [smgov.net/pal](http://smgov.net/pal) | 310.458.8988

Mon-Fri noon - 10 p.m. • Sat noon - 6 p.m.

## Youth Tech Program 2014

Local high school students with interests in technology and city government are invited to apply for a summer internship with the city through the Youth Tech Program. The program is a six-week, hands-on immersive business and technology experience. Students learn from and work alongside leading industry professionals to launch a civic-oriented start-up company. They'll explore roles and functions within an enterprise IT environment, apply critical thinking skills, learn to code, collaborate, and accept leadership roles within their company.



Participation in the Youth Tech Program is open to 9th through 12th grade students attending any high school in Santa Monica. Online applications for 2014 Youth Tech Program will be accepted until March 15. For more information please visit [smgov.net/youthtech](http://smgov.net/youthtech).

# A Walking Tour of Palisades Park

## Stroll Through Santa Monica's History



You've probably enjoyed the spectacular views high atop the bluffs that stretch 1.6 miles along Ocean Avenue. Picturesque and historic, Palisades Park offers walking trails, places to picnic, scenic lookouts, and a glimpse into the city's past. Next time you stroll through the park, take a closer look at these points of interest:

**1.** Depicting a raven, fish, bear and wolf, the **TOTEM POLE** was made for J. Walter Todd by the Chilkat Thinger Indians during a visit by Todd to Alaska in 1925. Todd donated the totem pole as an expression of his affection for Santa Monica, and a nod to the original Native American inhabitants of the region.

**2.** The curving, 200-foot-long **MILLENNIUM WALL** made of layered concrete and natural stones, designed by artist Jody Pinto, echoes the beach shoreline and the sedimentary bluffs below. Honoring the Millennium, each foot represents 10 years, with breaks for 1542, when explorer Juan Cabrillo visited Santa Monica Bay, and for 1875, the year the city was founded.

**3.** With the nostalgic feel of a rose garden from the early 1900s, a circular symmetrical design of fragrant blooms surrounds the bust of **ARCADIA BANDINI**. **THE ROSE GARDEN** tribute recognizes her generous donations of land, including Palisades Park, to the people of Santa Monica.

**4.** Built in 1912, the massive **IDAHO GATE** is constructed from boulders and decorated with tiles featuring a grape-and-bird motif from the renowned Southern California tile-maker, Ernest Batchelder.

**5.** You can't miss the slanted blue pole that points toward the bay where Juan Cabrillo led the first Spanish expedition along the coast in 1542. **THE OVERLOOK BEACON**, designed by artist Jody Pinto, references the ships and boats that have sailed the waters below. A nearby stone and bronze plaque, the **CABRILLO MONUMENT**, was unveiled in 1942 to honor the 400th anniversary of Cabrillo's expedition.

**6.** The **JONES MEMORIAL SEAT**, a curved limestone bench dedicated to city founder John P. Jones, sits right across the street from his former palatial home, which is now the location of the Fairmont Miramar Hotel. The spot was a favorite of Jones, who liked to walk across Ocean Avenue to sit and watch the sunset.

**7.** Facing Wilshire Boulevard, the **SAINT MONICA STATUE**, an Art Moderne statue of the city's namesake, was created by artist Eugene H. Morahan in 1934 for the Works Progress Administration. This economic recovery program created by President Franklin Roosevelt provided, among other things, commissions to artists for beautifying public places.

**8.** Five pillars stand north of Santa Monica Boulevard, a tribute to each branch of the armed forces that serves our country. On every Veterans Day, November 11 (the 11th day of the 11th month), at 11:11 a.m., the shadows from the **VETERANS MEMORIAL** align with marble inlays across the path that incorporate the seals of each branch. The columns also align with the setting sun at the close of Veterans Day.

**9.** In 1908, two **CIVIL WAR CANNONS**, acquired from the Veterans Administration, were placed on a circular bed of grass as a patriotic symbol. At one time they were accompanied by pyramidal stacks of cannon balls, but those have since disappeared.

**10.** The 1450 Ocean Avenue building also houses **CAMERA OBSCURA**, an optic novelty that originally was located on the beach. It consists of a dark room and rotating turret with a periscope, mirror and lens, capturing images from outside and projecting them inside. Such a device was described by Aristotle and used by Renaissance artists.

For more on the history of Palisades Park, visit the Santa Monica Conservancy website at [smconservancy.org](http://smconservancy.org).



**CityTV  
Programming  
Available Over-the-  
Air on Channels  
20.2 and 25.2**

Now everyone in Santa Monica can access CityTV's programming over-the-air on our new digital broadcast channels. From live City Council meeting coverage to local news, CityTV has programming for everyone—just tune-in to broadcast channels 20.2 or 25.2 to see your favorite CityTV shows!

CityTV celebrated its 25th anniversary last year. As one of the country's first and best government access channels, CityTV, with 12 Emmy Awards and hundreds of other accolades, kicks off its 26th year reaching a wider and broader audience than ever before!



## Animal Shelter

CONTINUED FROM COVER

"One hundred percent of animals [at our shelter] that are microchipped are returned to their owners!" Sergeant Graham affirms. "And it's such a disservice to take a stray to a shelter that is not near where it was found. People can't find their pets, and shelters get overloaded with animals from outside their jurisdiction." He adds that it's essential for owners to keep their pets' license and/or microchip information up-to-date to ensure a happy ending for all. Animals



without ID are placed for adoption at the shelter after five days, or after ten days if they have a license or microchip but are not claimed.



The city shelter maintains one of the highest rates of return and adoption of lost and stray animals in the country. Of the 400 dogs taken in last year, more than 95% of them were reunited with owners, adopted or placed with rescue organizations. Sergeant Graham, a 25-year veteran of the Santa Monica Police Department with two years as the shelter's manager, is rightly proud of this achievement, and knows it's due to the efforts of his staff and volunteers, and the loyal support of the community's animal lovers.

Seven animal control officers spend most of their days in the field, enforcing animal control laws and responding to sick, injured and lost animals, both domestic and wild. Two animal care attendants oversee the daily needs of the shelter animals, assisted by some 70 trained volunteers who help with kennel and cage cleaning, feeding, exercising and other enrichment activities for dogs and cats, bunnies and other pets. A staff assistant handles front-desk duties, answering inquiries and licensing pets. Sergeant Graham notes that the volunteers—including a local veterinarian who provides weekly wellness exams and vaccinations, as well as professional dog trainers, pet groomers and photographers—greatly enhance the shelter's ability to make its (mostly) furry wards highly adoptable. "More veterinary help would be a great addition to our volunteer corps," he adds, "but we welcome every kind of help, professional or otherwise."

Shelter volunteers—who must be at least 14 years of age, complete a city volunteer application and undergo a background check and interview process—are trained on-site, and their duties are matched to their skills and interests as much as possible. "Fortunately, some people would rather clean cages and kennels than play in the community cat room or do the dog-walking," Sergeant Graham says with a laugh, "but most everyone will have to do some dirty work sometime."

### Looking for a new pet? THINK ADOPTION FIRST!

Visit the Santa Monica Animal Shelter at 1640 Ninth Street. It's open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday. Phone 310.458.8594 or email [shelter@smgov.net](mailto:shelter@smgov.net) for information and assistance during business hours; after hours, call Police Dispatch at 310.458.8491. To search for lost, found and adoptable animals, be sure to check the [petharbor.com](http://petharbor.com) website.



## The Truth About Tourism

When one lives in a city as breathtakingly beautiful and unique as Santa Monica, it is inevitable that "home" will be shared with visitors. Santa Monica's reputation as an escape for pleasure seekers dates back to the early 1860s when Angelenos would leave the summer heat and dust of the city behind to camp in the cool ocean breeze of Santa Monica Canyon. In 1892, Santa Monica had a resident population of only 2,000, but tourists more than doubled that figure. More recently, in 2010 *National Geographic* named Santa Monica one of the "Top 10 Beach Cities in the World."

In a destination as popular as Santa Monica, tourists can often be perceived as a nuisance, but tourism is a crucial component of the economic and social factors that make our city such a wonderful place to call home. So what is the true story of tourism in Santa Monica? Let's take a closer look at the top three misconceptions:

**Myth #1: Tourism only benefits hotels, airlines and travel agencies.**

Transient Occupancy Tax from hotel stays in Santa Monica generated over \$39 million dollars for the City of Santa Monica's general fund in 2012, providing resources for valuable city services including police, fire, parks, schools and more. Without these revenues, each Santa Monica household would need to pay an additional \$1,039 in taxes each year.

**Myth #2: Tourists bring congestion and parking problems.**

Over 75% of Santa Monica's hotel visitors do NOT use a car once they have arrived. More than half of visitors are from outside of the United States, and international visitors prefer to walk and take public transportation.

**Myth #3: The more tourists, the less our city will be preserved.**

It's important for destinations to provide an authentic experience for both locals and visitors. The greater the city's general fund, the more resources are available to preserve our treasured landmarks.

For more information, visit [santamonica.com/tourismworks](http://santamonica.com/tourismworks) or, if you have any questions or comments, email [media@santamonica.com](mailto:media@santamonica.com).



1890's Beach Day  
Courtesy of the Santa Monica History Museum.

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS



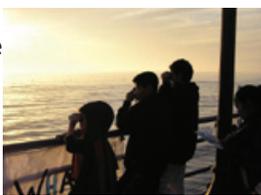
## MEET THE NEW ARTIST IN RESIDENCE AT 1450 OCEAN

This February, welcome Luke Haynes as the

inaugural Studio Artist in Residence at 1450 Ocean. Haynes will focus on his signature photorealistic quilts during the month, and will be making a group quilt on Saturday afternoons—all are welcome to stop by and sew! The finished quilt will be presented to a local charity. For more information, visit [smgov.net/1450ocean](http://smgov.net/1450ocean).

## WHALE OF A WEEKEND Celebrate the

annual migration of the Pacific gray whale during "Whale of a Weekend," February 15-16 at the Pier Aquarium. Visitors



can feel the heft of a whale rib, check out bristly baleen and try on a layer of (simulated) whale blubber for warmth. Please visit [healthebay.org/events](http://healthebay.org/events).

**LA MARATHON** The 2014 ASICS LA Marathon will once again be sprinting toward the finish line in our beautiful city on March 9. The Stadium to the Sea course begins at Dodger Stadium and ends near the Santa Monica Pier. For more information, visit [lamarathon.com](http://lamarathon.com).

## SANTA MONICA AIRPORT ARTWALK

The City of Santa Monica Airport and Cultural Affairs divisions, along with participating tenants, invite you to explore open studios, see art and ceramic demonstrations, participate in art and theater workshops, and enjoy live music and food trucks in the airport's converted airplane hangars, March 15, 12-5 p.m. For details visit [smgov.net/airportartwalk](http://smgov.net/airportartwalk).

## ROSIE'S GIRLS SPRING CHALLENGE

Join in the Rosie's Girls fun with this one week mini-camp, April 7-11 at Virginia Avenue Park. Fifth-grade girls will be partnered with middle school girls to build a "Reflections of Myself" mirror. Limited enrollment; to sign up, visit [smgov.net/rosiesgirls](http://smgov.net/rosiesgirls).

## THE BEACH HOUSE IS TURNING 5!

This April marks the fifth anniversary of the Annenberg Community Beach House opening to the public. In partnership with the Annenberg Foundation, the Beach House will host a celebratory weekend of activities, April 26-27. For more information or to sign up for the Beach House newsletter and get Bonus Pool Day notifications, visit [annenbergbeachhouse.com](http://annenbergbeachhouse.com).

# Award-Winning Year

2013 was another year of excellence for our city departments. We're proud to share this list of accolades, as testament to City Hall's commitment to excellence and professionalism in all facets of municipal government and civic life. And we thank the citizens of Santa Monica for their long-standing support of our efforts—without it, these accomplishments would not be possible.

## INFRASTRUCTURE/PLANNING

**Tongva Park and Ken Genser Square** – Project of the Year, American Public Works Association, Southern California Chapter

**Ocean Park Boulevard Complete Green Street** – Project of the Year, American Public Works Association, Southern California Chapter

**Advanced Traffic Management System** – Project of the Year, American Public Works Association, Southern California Chapter

**Santa Monica Beach Restrooms** – Award of Honor, National Concrete Masonry Association

**Santa Monica Beach Restrooms** – Merit in Public/Civic and Sustainable Design, National Concrete Masonry Association

**Ocean Park Boulevard Complete Green Street** – Green California Leadership Award

**Collections Operations Systems** – Gold Excellence Award, Solid Waste Association of North America

**Marketing: Santa Monica's Interactive Party Truck & Outreach Campaign** – Silver Excellence Award, Solid Waste Association of North America



## SUSTAINABILITY/TRANSPORTATION

**Tree City USA** – Arbor Day Foundation

**Big Blue Bus Administration Building** – LEED Silver Certification from the U.S. Green Building Council

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

**Most Business-Friendly City** – 2013 Finalist LA County Economic Development Corporation

## TECHNOLOGY

**Santa Monica Youth Tech** – 2013 Public Technology Institute Winner

**Local Voter Information: SMVote.org** – 2013 Public Technology Institute Winner

**Be Excited! Be Prepared** – 2013 Public Technology Institute, Web 2.0 Recognized

**Best of the Web** – 2013 Center for Digital Government

**Citizen-Engaged Community Designation** - 2013 Public Technology Institute

**Top 100 Fiber Leaders** – 2013 Broadband Communities magazine

## FINANCE

**Financial Reporting** – Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association

## PUBLIC SAFETY

**SMFD "Stella the Dog" Rescue** – Compassion Award from PETA

## INNOVATION/COMMUNICATIONS/PUBLIC INFORMATION

**CityTV** – Two Emmy Award Nominations

## COMMUNITY SERVICES

**The Wellbeing Project** – Bloomberg Philanthropies Mayors Challenge

**Santa Monica Public Library** – 5-Star Rating, Library Journal Index

**Annenberg Community Beach House** – Best Beach Club for the People, Time Out Los Angeles

**Annenberg Community Beach House** – Best Place to Swim, Argonaut Best of the Westside 2013

**Outstanding Recreation & Parks** – Award Winner, California Association of Park & Recreation Commissioners and Board Members

**1450 Ocean Camera Obscura Tracing 360°** – Big Draw Inspiration Award 2013

**1450 Ocean Camera Obscura Plein Air Drawing** – Big Draw Inspiration Award 2013



## Help Shape the Future of the Santa Monica Civic Auditorium

Last fall, City Council appointed a nine-member Civic Working Group (CWG) to advise on the future of the Santa Monica Civic Auditorium. Specifically, the CWG will work with staff and consultants to:

- Draft a vision for the future of the Civic as the hub of a cultural campus.
- Explore an appropriate mix of compatible adjacent uses, from open space to additional facilities.
- Evaluate potential financing options, programming and operating models for the Civic.
- Create a community process to gather input and to build consensus regarding the future of the Civic.
- Provide Council with recommendations regarding the vision, renovation options and the preferred long-term operating model for the Civic.

The CWG will hold regular public meetings on the fourth Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. Please plan to attend, listen and share your ideas. More information is available at [santamonicacivic.org](http://santamonicacivic.org).



## Small Bites for Big Change



Far and wide, entrepreneurs, farmers, health advocates and policymakers are laying the groundwork for a sustainable foods revolution—one that promises a healthier and happier community, enhanced environmental protections, and a vibrant economy. The promise of sustainable food policies envisions a system where foods are fresh and wholesome, chemical-free, grown locally, sold to you with the least amount of non-recyclable plastic, and are eventually returned back to the soil in a zero-waste system.

This effort has global implications as food production consumes massive amounts of energy and chemicals, and accounts for half of our greenhouse gas emissions.

It has never been easier for consumers to incorporate sustainable foods into everyday life, and your food choices can have a big economic impact on our local economy as well. For instance, research shows that for every \$100 spent at the Farmers Market, \$62 goes back to our local economy and \$99 of the \$100 stays in the state.



Sustainable food is moving from the margins to the mainstream—take a bite out of the status quo and get involved in the sustainable food movement.

### SMALL BITES FOR BIG CHANGE, THE SUSTAINABLE FOOD COMMITMENT

- Eat organic
- Reduce meat and dairy consumption
- Avoid processed foods
- Eat locally grown
- Reduce packaging and food waste

Food is something that we can all get excited about, one bite at a time. For more information, visit [sustainablesm.org/food](http://sustainablesm.org/food).

## SEASCAPES PAST

## The Bernheimer Gardens

Sandwiched between what is now Sunset Boulevard and Pacific Coast Highway, there once stood on the mountaintop a beautiful Japanese garden with a breathtaking view. The Bernheimer Gardens featured, amongst other things, a waterfall, koi-filled pond, a half-ton bronze sculpture of Tenjin (9th-century patron of scholars and writers), and a tearoom surrounded by beds of roses and fuchsias. Built by millionaire silk importer Adolph Bernheimer in the mid-1920s, the exotic garden attracted some two million visitors in its heyday.

Bernheimer died in March 1944, and six days later, a major landslide covered the highway and created a huge gash in the hillside, obliterating the Bernheimer Gardens.

For more information about Pacific Palisades, see Betty Lou Young's book, *Pacific Palisades: Where the Mountains Meet the Sea*. (Photograph courtesy of the Pacific Palisades Historical Society Collection, Santa Monica Public Library Image Archives).



## SANTA MONICA FARMERS MARKET

### Apple, Fennel, and Watermelon Radish Salad

Makes 6 servings

- 1 watermelon radish
- 1 large fennel bulb
- 1 to 2 tart-sweet apples, such as Pink Lady
- 2 large handfuls winter salad greens (spinach, arugula, or mesclun that includes chives, mint, and radicchio)
- 1/3 cup raw fresh walnuts
- 1 tablespoon walnut, avocado, or other mild healthy oil
- 1 Meyer or eureka lemon
- Kosher or sea salt
- Freshly ground pepper, white preferred

Peel or scrub watermelon radish and leave some of stem attached. If radish is large, cut in half lengthwise. Use a mandolin to shave radish into thin slices right into a salad bowl, using the stem as a handle to help you. If you don't have a mandolin, cut into very thin slices.

Cut off fennel stalks, leaving about 1-inch "handle." Remove and discard any tough outer layers of fennel bulb. Cut bulb in half lengthwise and wash well, allowing water to get between layers of the bulb to rinse out any hidden dirt. Pat dry and shave fennel halves into the bowl.

Cut apples in quarters lengthwise. Remove core. Shave apple into bowl. Add salad greens and nuts to the bowl.

Drizzle oil over salad. Give a nice squeeze of lemon over salad. Season with salt and pepper. Toss salad, taste and adjust seasonings to taste.

Used with permission of Amelia Saltsman, author of *The Santa Monica Farmers' Market Cookbook: Seasonal Foods, Simple Recipes, and Stories from the Market and Farm*. For more recipes and cooking tips, visit [ameliasaltsman.com](http://ameliasaltsman.com).



Photo courtesy of Staci Valentine



|                             |                            |                               |                             |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>Wednesday - Downtown</b> | <b>Saturday - Downtown</b> | <b>Saturday - Pico Market</b> | <b>Sunday - Main Street</b> |
| 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.       |

We're also on the web at [smgov.net/farmersmarket](http://smgov.net/farmersmarket).

## Be Part of the Solution to End Homelessness

**VOLUNTEER for the Annual Count • Wed., Jan. 29, 10:30 p.m. - 2:30 a.m.**

Join Police, Fire, the Chamber of Commerce and 200+ community members who will count the individuals living in public spaces!

**New Staging Location: St. Monica Catholic Grand Pavilion**



Homelessness in Our Community

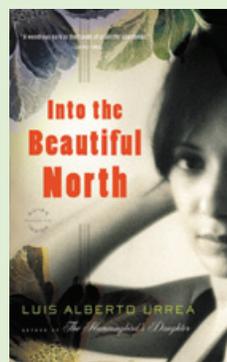
[smgov.net/homelessness](http://smgov.net/homelessness)

**RSVP ONLINE NOW OR CALL 310.458.8701**

# SANTA MONICA PUBLIC LIBRARY

## Be Part of "The Big Read"

This spring the Santa Monica Public Library will host THE BIG READ, a program of the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with Arts Midwest, designed to revitalize the role of literature in American culture and to encourage citizens to read for pleasure and enlightenment. This community-wide reading program encourages everyone to read the same book and then discuss/experience the themes through public events and book groups held throughout the city. Because the events would occur at the same time, THE BIG READ takes the place of Santa Monica's standard annual community reading program, Santa Monica Reads, in 2014. Santa Monica Reads will return in 2015.



The novel Santa Monica will be reading for THE BIG READ is Luis Alberto Urrea's *Into the Beautiful North*, which is the compassionate and humorous coming-of-age story of 19-year old Nayeli, as she and her friends travel from their Mexican home into the United States on a quest to bring back men to defend their village from bandits.

The strong characters, contemporary setting, cross-border issues, and life-changing journey within the book are sure to spark rich discussions in the Santa Monica community.

THE BIG READ program in Santa Monica is scheduled for March 29-May 4, 2014. The series will include author talks, book discussions, arts workshops with the Santa Monica Museum of Art, movie screenings, music programs, and much more. For a schedule and more information, visit [smpl.org](http://smpl.org).

## SANTA MONICA PUBLIC LIBRARY 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  
**Coming Soon - Pico Branch:** 2201 Pico Blvd. | 310.458.8606

### 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

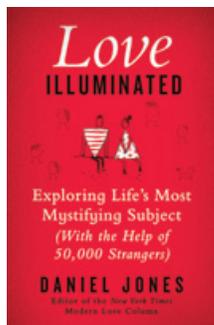
### BIKE PARKING AVAILABLE.

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.

## Adult Library Programs

### MAIN LIBRARY

**Annie Jacobsen presents *Operation Paperclip*** The award-winning Los Angeles Times journalist reveals the government's role in importing Nazi scientists into the U.S. after World War II. Tue, 2/11, 7 p.m.



**Daniel Jones presents *Love Illuminated*** The editor of the New York Times' Modern Love column, and many surprise guests, discuss love in our modern age. Wed, 2/12, 7 p.m.

**Screening: *Rock the Boat*** 2011 documentary on the past, present and potential future of the Los Angeles River. A panel discussion follows the screening. Thu, 2/27, 7 p.m.

**Michelle Waters: *The Orange Line*** Waters suggests a new career path for women, one that incorporates a full and enjoyable career, as well as a robust, integrated life. Thu, 3/6, 7 p.m.

**Women in Nanotechnology** Three women PhDs from the UC Center for Environmental Implications of Nanotechnology (UC-CEIN) discuss their career paths and research. Sat, 3/15, 1 p.m.

**Women's Voices, Women's History** A panel of women writers, including Anne Perry, Barbara Abercrombie, Aviva Layton and Sam Dunn. Sat, 3/22, 3 p.m.

**LA Opera Talk: *Thais*** Community educators provide background and history on beautiful opera. Sat, 4/19, 3 p.m.

### FAIRVIEW LIBRARY

*The Fairview Branch will be temporarily closed for interior improvements, following the opening of the Pico Branch Library, in early spring (firm dates yet to be scheduled at Seascope press time). Check the Library's website ([smpl.org](http://smpl.org)) for more information on closure dates.*

## Library Youth Services

### MAIN LIBRARY

**Brian Waite Band Concert!** Sing and dance with The Brian Waite Band as they dig up a strange world of magical forests, lost oceans and extinct creatures at the Earth's Core! Ages 3 & up. Wed 2/12, 10:30 a.m.

**Creative Kids' Club presents a Valentine's Story Time.** Listen to stories that celebrate the holiday and make a crafty present for that special someone. Ages 4 & up. Thu 2/13, 3:45 p.m.

**Super Seuss--a-bration!** Celebrate the world of Dr. Seuss with crafts and other fun activities. Sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Santa Monica. Sat 3/1.

**Spring Break Family Fun Week!** Spend your spring break enjoying quality family time at the library. Ages 4 & up. Mon 4/7 - Thu 4/10.

**Celebrate National Poetry Month.** Write a poem and get a prize. Grades 1-5. Throughout the month of April.

### FAIRVIEW LIBRARY

**SAT Practice Exam.** Take a free practice SAT test, with score follow-up session. Advance sign-ups required. Grades 10 - 12. Exam: Sat 2/1, 10 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.; Results: Mon 2/10, 7 - 8 p.m.

**Every Child Ready to Read Workshop.** Learn the five early literacy practices that will help your child get ready to read. For teachers, parents and caregivers with their kids ages 0 - 5. Tue 2/4, 10 a.m.

**SCBWI Westside Writers' Schmooze** The Society of Children's Book Writers & Illustrators welcomes all writers and illustrators to share and learn from each other. Wed, 2/12, 7-9 p.m.

### MONTANA AVENUE LIBRARY

**Non-Diet Approach to Weight Management** Learn portion control through mindfulness, the contents of a healthy plate, and differences between emotional and physical hunger. Sat, 2/1, 11 a.m.

**Mystery Book Group** Wednesdays, 7 p.m.

2/12 *Hollywood Station* by Joseph Wambaugh

3/12 *The Sentry* by Robert Crais

4/9 *The Black Echo* by Michael Connelly

**Montana Avenue Branch Book Group**

Wednesdays, 7 p.m.

2/19 *Bring Up the Bodies* by Hilary Mantel

3/19 *What Maisie Knew* by Henry James

4/16 *Into the Beautiful North* by Luis Alberto Urrea

### OCEAN PARK LIBRARY

**History of Film Screening Series** Documentary filmmaker Elaina Archer screens and discusses film classics. Tuesdays, 6 p.m.

2/4 *Kramer vs. Kramer*

3/4 *Munich*

4/1 *High Society*

**Ocean Park Pulitzer Prize Book Group** Saturdays, 11 a.m.

2/15 *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao* by Junot Diaz

3/15 *The Road* by Cormac McCarthy

4/19 *Empire Falls* by Richard Russo

**Ocean Park Mystery Book Group** Tuesdays, 7 p.m.

2/18 *The Bat* by Jo Nesbo

3/18 *The Case of the Missing Servant* by Tarquin Hall

4/15 *The Moonstone* by Wilkie Collins

### MONTANA AVENUE LIBRARY

**Brian Waite Band Concert!** Sing and dance with The Brian Waite Band as they dig up a strange world of magical forests, lost oceans and extinct creatures at the Earth's Core! Ages 3 & up. Wed 2/12, 3:45 p.m.

**Every Child Ready to Read Workshop.** Learn the five early literacy practices that will help your child get ready to read. For teachers, parents and caregivers with their kids ages 0-5. Wed. 3/19, 3:45 p.m.

**Spring Break Crafts and More.** Join us each afternoon for something fun. Check at the branch for details. Ages 3 & up. Mon 4/14 - Thu 4/17 at 3 p.m.

### OCEAN PARK LIBRARY

**A Heart Full of Laughter!** Valentine fun with puppets. Ages 3-7. Tue 2/11, 3:30 & 4:30 p.m.

**Spring Sprinkles!** Celebrate the season with puppets. Ages 3-7. Tue 3/11, 3:30 & 4:30 p.m.

**April Jollies!** Fun stories and puppets. Ages 3-7. Tue 4/8, 3:30 & 4:30 p.m.

**Every Child Ready to Read Workshop** Learn the five early literacy practices that will help your child get ready to read. For teachers, parents and caregivers with kids ages 0-5. Thu 4/17, 3:45 p.m.





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## SPRING 2014

### HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE

- Don't Fall Victim to Scams ..... 5
- Make Time for Toddlers ..... 6
- The Truth About Tourism ..... 9
- Award-Winning Year for Santa Monica ..... 10

### 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:

- January 28**
- February 11, 25**
- Special Meetings on March 3 and 4**
- March 11, 25**
- April 8**

Visit [smgov.net/council](http://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, over-the-air on new digital broadcast channels 20.2 and 20.5, and streamed at [citytv.org](http://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, email or by fax to:

City Hall, 1685 Main Street, Room 209  
Santa Monica, California 90401  
Phone: 310.458.8201 | Fax: 310.458.1621  
Email all Council members: [council@smgov.net](mailto:council@smgov.net)

## New Rules in Effect for Commercial Fitness Training in City Parks and at the Beach

Santa Monica's parks and the beach are popular spots for passive and active recreation. In order to balance the use of these public spaces, a new permit program regulating commercial fitness or athletic instruction, classes or camps in city parks and at the beach is now in place. Rules were developed following a year of community outreach and input, and include the following highlights:

- A city permit is required in order to conduct commercial fitness or athletic instruction, classes, or camps in city parks and at the beach.
- Permit holders must pay a permit fee and use charge that is based on location and group size.
- Permit holders are required to follow regulations regarding signage and equipment.
- Amplified sound, including whistles and bullhorns, is not allowed.
- Commercial fitness or athletic instruction is prohibited between the hours of 9 p.m. and 6 a.m.
- Permit holders must wear a city-issued photo ID when training, and maintain a valid Santa Monica Business License and general liability insurance coverage.



- Additional restrictions apply for Palisades Park. Training is not allowed on Sundays or north of Marguerita Avenue. Groups with 3-15 participants are restricted to four designated zones.

For information regarding obtaining a permit, additional rules, requirements, and reporting violations, please visit [smgov.net/trainers](http://smgov.net/trainers).

If your goal for 2014 is to get in better shape, check out *Recscape* starting on page 13 for classes and more ways to get active.



### Follow the City of Santa Monica on Social Media



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