



By Mia Rotell

An electric holiday chatter filled the crisp December morning air. Families in holiday gear lined up in front of a candy cane arch and wrapped around the building in anticipation. Children buzzed with excitement and clutched their exclusive Grinchmas Party invitations — the key to the special room.

But what's inside the room?

Mountains of Nintendo Switch Lites, PlayStations, Malibu Barbie Dream Houses, electric scooters, Play-Doh sets, and dozens of other treasures — all for their choosing.

One child at a time groggily entered the room, but each left with a big smile on their face and

wished everyone in sight a Merry Christmas — parents were just as grateful.

The Val Verde School Police Department hosted its second annual communitywide gift-giving event on Monday, this one called The Grinchmas Party. The event took place at the Val Verde Unified School District to help families who may have been experiencing hardship this holiday season.

Officer Marcus Hurst, one of the police officers who helped with the event, said that the goal of Grinchmas is to give families an extra smile this Christmas. "It's just to help families in need. It doesn't matter what's in their background; it's just if they need help for this year."

[See Grinchmas Page 10](#)

MAJOR STORM BEARS DOWN ON SOCAL; FLOOD WATCH IN EFFECT FOR RIVCO

CORONA or PERRIS - The biggest punch from a powerful atmospheric river storm has moved through Southern California, but County officials continue to warn of expanding flooding.

"Showers will continue on Thursday with another round of more widespread showers for Thursday night into Friday," according to the National Weather Service, (NWS).

Rain was expected to fall at rates between a half-inch to an inch per hour, with some locally heavier downpours

possible.

Rain falling at such high rates could lead to excessive runoff,

resulting in "flooding of rivers, creeks, streams and other low-lying and

flood-prone locations," forecasters said. "Flooding may occur in poor

drainage and urban areas."

The pouring rain will likely be accompanied by gusty conditions, with wind gusts of up to 40 mph possible in Riverside County valleys.

[See Storm Page 3](#)



'6-7,' DUBAI CHOCOLATE, LABUBU: You Took 2025, Now SCAT!



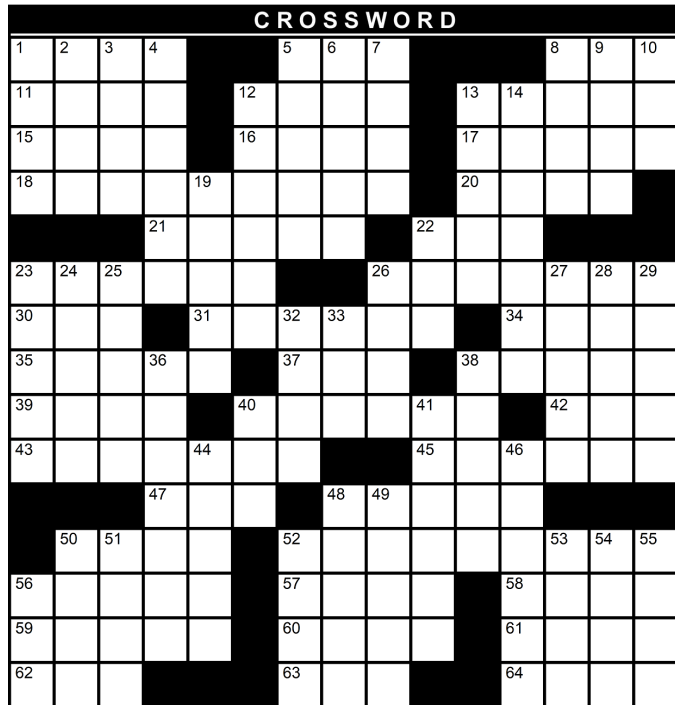
By LEANNE ITALIE AP Lifestyles Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — With Labubus hanging from our bags, Dubai chocolate in our bellies and "6-7" ringing in our ears, it's almost time to bid farewell to a few things that went hard in 2025.

Scat. Don't follow us into the new year. You've had your 15 minutes. We're over you.

[See 2025 Page 12](#)

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ACROSS

- Hot Springs and such
- ____ Bell and ____ Barker
- Wharton degree, acr.
- Artist's inspiration
- *Move head to show attention
- Angry growl
- Shamu, e.g.
- Diva's number
- Put on fancy dress (2 words)
- *Making facial expression showing pain
- Mine passage
- Single-handedly
- Assistance
- Made according to specifications
- Economizes
- Biochemistry acr.
- Aerie baby
- Genesis skipper
- Leaves out
- *Some look up and to the right when telling one
- Watcher
- "The Forsyte ____" by John Galsworthy
- Forty winks
- Fraternity letter T

- *Said "easy peasy" with fingers
- Like a weight lifter, usually
- Weasel-related onomatopoeia
- Undo laces
- Helicopter sound
- *Showing low self-esteem or boredom
- 100 centimes
- Purl partner
- From square one
- Frustration, in a comic book
- "At ____, soldier!"
- Don't go
- Dashboard acr.
- Like Willie Winkie
- Frustrated driver's recourse

DOWN

- Urban haze
- Make like a cat
- Ascus, pl.
- Same as sea moss (2 words)
- Rice wine
- Dress with a flare
- Rudolph, when older
- Famous Christmas

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Trial Date Set for Menifee Felon Accused of Killing Brother

MURRIETA (CNS) - An April 7 trial date was confirmed Friday for a convicted felon accused of fatally stabbing his older brother during a confrontation at their Menifee home.

Abisola Afuwape, now 33, was arrested in 2022 following a Menifee Police Department investigation into the slaying of 33-year-old Abiodun Afuwape.

The defendant is charged with first-degree murder and a sentence-enhancing allegation of using a knife in

the commission of a felony.

During a status hearing at the Southwest Justice Center in Murrieta Friday, Riverside County Superior Court Judge John Molloy conferred with the prosecution and defense, and both sides agreed to make preparations for trial proceedings in early April.

Afuwape is being held in lieu of \$1 million bail at the Smith Correctional Facility.

According to Menifee police Capt. Dave Gutierrez, the defendant allegedly

attacked his older sibling in the predawn hours of Oct. 7, 2022, in the 28200 block of Serenity Falls Way, near Bankside Drive.

Gutierrez said 911 dispatchers received a report of a suicide, with the caller stating that the victim required lifesaving treatment.

Patrol officers and county fire paramedics reached the location in minutes and found Abiodun Afuwape suffering "significant trauma to his upper body, in-

See Felon Page 3

- guests
- Like some champagnes
 - High mountain
 - Toyota truck model
 - Part of flight
 - *Showing agreement
 - Healing plants
 - Be in a cast
 - *Show anger with arms
 - Unnerve
 - Eurasian antelope
 - "____ but not heard"
 - Much, in Italy
 - Song of praise
 - *"I don't know" move
 - *One's smiling because one's ____

- Intoxicated
- *Showing impatience with fingers
- Like retina and brain connecting nerve
- Large edible mushroom
- Keen
- Nice place for a rocking chair
- Reuse ideas
- Forearm bones
- Hustle and bustle sound
- Sandwich alternative
- Stay out of its way!
- Place at angle
- Gung-ho about some-

- thing
- Close by
 - Gwyneth, for short
 - Opposite of #54 Down

SOLUTION TO THIS WEEKS PUZZLE



Want to Read More in 2026? Here's How to Revive Your Love of Books

By ADITHI RAMAKRISHNAN
AP Science Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — People stop reading in adulthood for lots of reasons. But it's never too late to turn the page on old habits and start again.

Curling up with a good book can reduce stress, increase creativity and boost empathy. A recent analysis of U.S. government data found that the percentage of Americans who read for pleasure during an average day has fallen to 16% in 2023 from 28% in 2004. That includes not just books but audiobooks, e-books and periodicals like magazines.

Some people say they're fatigued from years of assigned reading in school. Others don't have the time or would rather zone out by doom-scrolling on social media. And many just got out of the habit.

"It's difficult for people who are really tired and busy to think about getting into reading if it's not something they're used to," said Jacqueline Rammer, director of Menomonee Falls Public Library in Wisconsin.

For those looking to set reading goals or resolutions in 2026, here's how to get back into the habit.

Choose the right book

When picking your next

Felon

Continued from Page 2

consistent with a suicide," according to Gutierrez.

Paramedics attempted to resuscitate him, but the victim died at the residence.

Storm

Continued from Page 1

Snow levels are expect-



AP Photo/Robert F. Bukaty

Andrew Higgins and Savannah Shealy peruse the biography section of the Green Hand Bookstore in Portland, Maine.

book, avoid dense nonfiction or a 500-page doorstop.

"Your first book should be something that you think will be joyful," said Jocelyn Luizzi, a software engineer from Chicago who blogs about books.

Everyone's taste is different, so get recommendations from a variety of places including friends, booksellers and online communities like BookTok.

Rammer and her staff ask library visitors: What was the last book, TV show or movie that you really enjoyed? Then, they look for similar genres or themes.

Many libraries offer access to a service called NoveL-

ist which suggests "read-alikes" for various books and authors.

Set a reading routine

To create a habit that sticks, "start by scheduling reading into your day," said Gloria Mark, an attention span expert with the University of California, Irvine. Read five pages during a lunch break or right before bed.

If you're reading a physical book, Mark said to avoid distractions by keeping phones and laptops out of sight.

But experimenting with other formats can make reading

more convenient. E-books are portable and audiobooks are a good candidate to accompany chores or the morning commute. You can likely access both for free by downloading an app called Libby and signing in with a library card.

Try to read in a quiet setting, but don't be afraid to make it a social activity. Many cities in the U.S. and around the world host silent book clubs where people read their own books together in coffee shops and libraries.

Setting a reading goal for the year or joining a local library's winter reading

challenge can help with motivation — but if it feels like added pressure, don't do it.

Shannon Whitehead Smith, a book blogger from the Atlanta area who also works in marketing, says scrolling through lists of other people's reads on social media and trackers like StoryGraph encourages her to keep the habit.

"Seeing all these other people reading motivates me to put my phone down and pick up this book that's sitting beside me," she said.

Feel free to skip a read

If a book feels particularly sluggish, it's OK to put it down and start another. Reading "shouldn't feel like a burden," said Jess Bone with University College London, who analyzed the survey data about American adults reading for pleasure.

Routine readers say the habit helps them stay curious and release the stress of the day. Rammer, the library director, reads mysteries rife with twists and turns, and romances that cycle through roller coasters of emotions.

Most of all, she likes books that end with a "happily ever after."

"I think the guarantee of knowing that things are going to end up OK is really reassuring," Rammer said.

Homicide detectives were summoned and took over the investigation. They interviewed the defendant and initially arrested him based on a parole revocation warrant.

"Detectives and crime scene

investigators continued their extensive investigation, which included crime scene analysis, evidence analysis, statements and collaboration with the District Attorney's Office," Gutierrez said. "As a result

of their investigative efforts, detectives developed probable cause to arrest (Afuwape) for the murder of his brother."

The defendant was taken into custody without incident three days later.

No other details were provided, including a possible motive.

According to court records, Afuwape has prior convictions for receiving stolen property and illegal possession of a firearm.

ed to increase ``the potential for rock and mudslides along mountain highways, and debris flows in and

below burn scars, especially in the San Bernardino County mountains."

The snow level could fall to

about 7,000 feet by Thursday night, then

down to 6,000 feet by late Friday.

Conditions should dry out by the weekend.

Rider Killed in Motorcycle Crash in Menifee

MENIFEE (CNS) - A 69-year-old motorcyclist was killed when he plowed into a center divider on a Menifee street, ejecting him onto the roadway, authorities said Monday.

John Scherer of Winchester was fatally injured at 8:33 p.m. Sunday on Domenigoni Parkway, just east of Laguna Vista Drive, according to the Menifee Police Department.

Agency spokesman Chase Coburn said Scherer was traveling westbound at an unconfirmed speed when "he lost control and struck the center median, resulting in the crash."

The victim was ejected onto the busy four-lane corridor. No other vehicles were involved.

Witnesses called 911, and an ambulance crew reached the location within a few minutes, taking the gravely injured rider to a regional trauma center, where he died a short time later, according to Coburn.

"It is unknown at this time whether alcohol or drugs were factors," he said.

Anyone with information was asked to contact the police department's Traffic Unit at 951-723-1566.

Photo by Jed Villejo on Unsplash



Riverside County's Population Increases in Fiscal Year 2025

RIVERSIDE (CNS) - Riverside, the state's fourth-most populous county, had a population of 2,485,007 persons in fiscal year 2025, an increase of 0.20% over

2024's figures, according to data released Friday by the California Department of Finance.

The county's population

Report: Regional Inflation Creeps Higher During Autumn

RIVERSIDE (CNS) - Inflation throughout the Riverside metropolitan area increased roughly half a percentage point over the previous two months, tracking with trends nationwide, according to data released Thursday by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The agency's bimonthly report, based on metrics for northwestern Riverside County and the cities of Ontario and San Bernardino, indicated that the Inland Empire's Consumer Price Index was up .6%.

BLS officials said that energy expenses were among the main drivers of price hikes in recent months. The energy component, which includes gasoline, electricity and natural gas costs, jumped 4.8%.

Shelter costs, reflected in property rents, were up .2% in the two-month period. The food index increased by the same amount. However, it was tempered by an overall .5% decline in consumers' grocery store outlays, data showed.

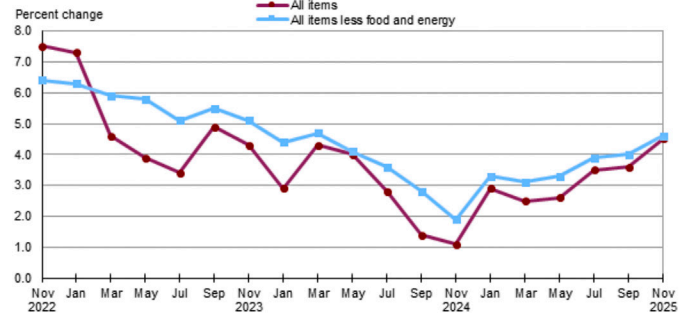
The year-over-year picture contrasted with bimonthly inflationary trends. From November 2024 to November 2025, the regional CPI showed a 4.5% rise, accounting for a range of upward pressures, most notably energy and shelter costs.

of 2,479,957 last year increased by 5,050 in 2025, data showed.

Overall, California's population grew by about 19,200, or 0.05%, in the fiscal year, reaching 39,529,000 people, the department found.

The 0.05% increase marks

Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in CPI-U, Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario, CA, November 2022-November 2025



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The energy index was up 7.9% over the 12-month period, while the shelter component was up 4.4%, according to figures.

Trending lower year-to-year were outlays for educational needs and communications services, such as Internet and mobile phone plans, dropping an aggregate 5.5%, according to the federal government.

The report showed inflation was up .2% nationwide for November, and 2.7% on an annualized basis. Those numbers were largely unchanged since the end of summer, prior to the government shutdown.

"BLS did not collect survey data for October 2025 due to a lapse in appropriations," the agency stated. "BLS is unable to retroactively collect these data."

The current rate of inflation reflects the price trajectory impacting most sectors of the economy.

Accelerating consumer price hikes have been blamed variously on wars

overseas, loose monetary policy and excessive federal spending, applying downward pressure on the dollar.

The national debt is now over \$38 trillion, according to the U.S. Treasury Department. Estimated annualized interest rate payments on the country's debt passed the \$1 trillion mark in November 2023, according to Bloomberg News. That same month, Moody's Investors Service lowered its outlook on the U.S. credit rating from "stable" to "negative." However, last May, the service changed the rating to stable again.

The Federal Reserve's Open Market Committee increased its benchmark, or target, lending rate in spring 2022 to soak up excess liquidity, though the FOMC stopped hikes in fall 2023, and last year initiated gradual cuts, bringing the rate down to roughly 3.75% on the belief that inflation has been tamed.

The committee's most recent cut was announced last week.

the third year of population growth for the state following two consecutive years of declines during the pandemic.

With the Trump administration's immigration policy, and deaths returning to long-term trends, Califor-

nia is likely to experience slower growth over the coming several years, according to the state finance department.

The state's 10 largest counties -- including San Diego, Los Angeles, Orange and

See Population Page 5

FRIDAY, December 26, 2025

Today in History:

Today is the 360th day of 2025.
There are 5 days left in the year.

By The Associated Press

Today is Friday, Dec. 26, the 360th day of 2025. There are five days left in the year.

Today in history:

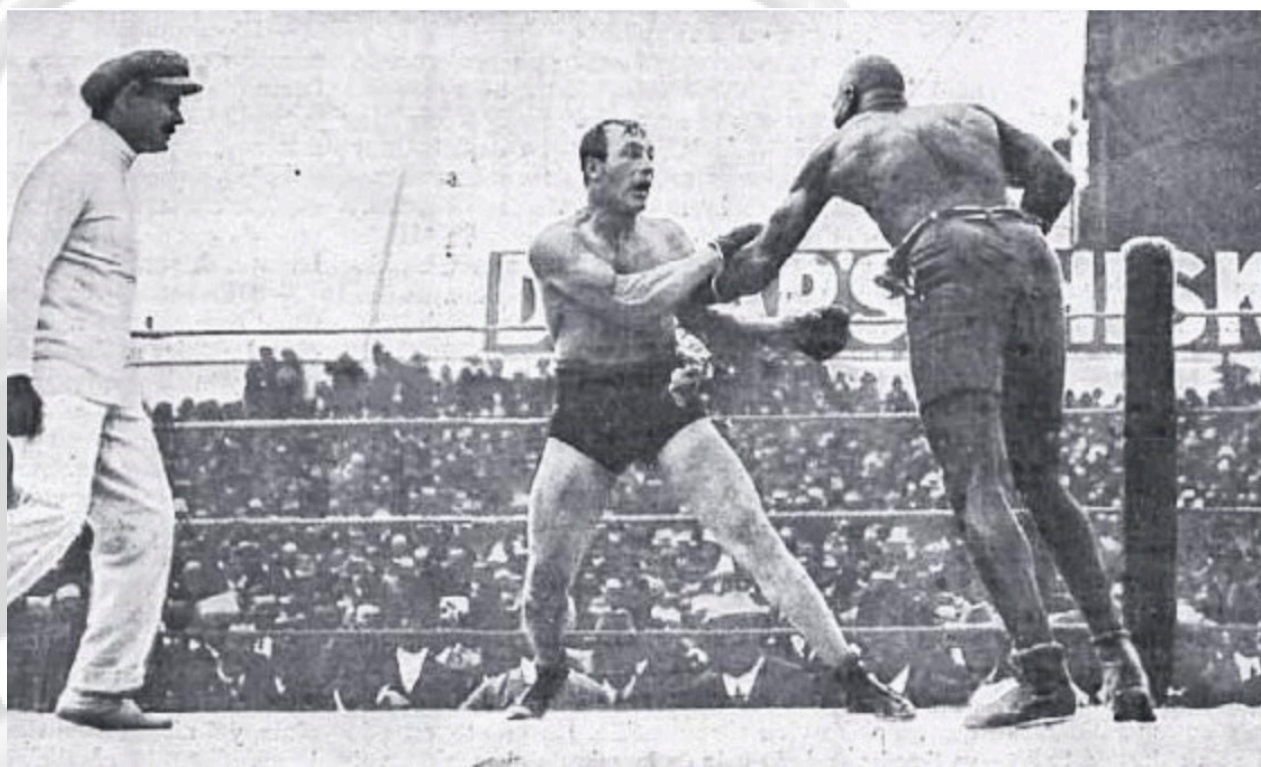
On Dec. 26, 1908, American Jack Johnson became the first Black boxer to win the world heavyweight championship as he defeated Canadian Tommy Burns in Sydney, Australia.

Also on this date:

In 1941, during World War II, Winston Churchill became the first British prime minister to address a joint meeting of the U.S. Congress, just two weeks after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor that plunged the U.S. into the war.

In 1966, Kwanzaa was first celebrated, a seven-day holiday to help African Americans reconnect with their African heritage.

In 1990, Nancy Cruzan, a young



woman in an irreversible vegetative state whose case led to a U.S. Supreme Court decision on the right to die, died at a Missouri hospital.

In 1991, the USSR was formally dissolved through a declaration by the Supreme Soviet.

In 2004, a 9.1-magnitude earthquake beneath the Indian Ocean off the Indonesian island of Sumatra trig-

gered a tsunami with waves up to 100 feet (30 meters) high that killed about 230,000 people across a dozen countries as far as East Africa. The worst-affected countries were Indonesia, Sri Lanka, India and Thailand.

In 2006, former President Gerald R. Ford died in Rancho Mirage, California, at age 93.

Jack Johnson Fights Tommy Burns in the world heavyweight championship fight in Sydney, Australia, 1908.

In 2021, South African Nobel Peace Prize winner Desmond Tutu died at 90; the retired archbishop had been an uncompromising foe of apartheid and a modern-day activist for racial justice and LGBTQ rights.

Singer Barry Manilow Reveals Lung Cancer Diagnosis After Palm Desert Concerts

PALM DESERT - Singer-songwriter Barry Manilow, who just concluded a string of five concerts at McCallum Theatre in Palm Desert that benefited numerous organizations throughout the Coachella Valley, revealed Monday he has been diagnosed with lung cancer.

In a statement posted to social media, Manilow said an MRI "discovered a cancerous spot on my left lung

that needs to be removed. It's pure luck (and a great doctor) that it was found so early. That's the good news.

"The bad news is that now that the Christmas 'A Gift of Love' concerts are over, I'm going into surgery to have the spot removed. The doctors do not believe it has spread and I'm taking tests to confirm their diagnosis."

Manilow's "A Gift of Love VII" concerts were held

Dec. 16-17 and Friday through Sunday at McCallum Theatre. The concerts raised money for 25 Coachella Valley charities, including Animal Samaritans, Boo2Bullying, Dap Health, Guide Dogs of the Desert, Lifestream Blood Bank, Manilow Music Project, Martha's Village and Kitchen, McCallum Theatre and Oswit Land Trust.

"We just finished five great Christmas concerts at the

McCallum Theatre in Palm Desert," Manilow said. "This marks the seventh time we have done these charity concerts and raised millions for nonprofit organizations throughout the Coachella Valley."

Manilow, 82, won a Grammy Award for his hit "Copacabana (At the Copa)" and has been nominated 15 times throughout his career. His other songs include "Mandy," "I Write the



Songs," "Can't Smile Without You" and "Weekend in New England."

Population

Continued from Page 4

Riverside -- represent 72% of California's population. Seven of the 10 counties with 1 million or more

people had positive population growth, leaving three, including Los Angeles and Orange counties, with population loss.

L.A. County had the largest numeric decline -- almost

28,500 people in fiscal year 2025. The decrease was driven by higher domestic migration due to impacts of nine destructive wildfires, especially the Palisades and Eaton fires, and a significant decrease in net international

migration, according to the finance department.

Across the state, net international migration reached 126,000 people in the year ending July 1, a significant gain in overall population

growth. However, negative net domestic migration still outweighed the gains, resulting in a net total migration loss of over 89,000 residents, the department stated.

Why Homeownership in California Isn't Nearly the Financial Slam Dunk It Once Was

BY BEN CHRISTOPHER,
CalMatters

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

But what if it's also a little overrated?

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

They'll have their work cut out for them.

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

With borrowing rates still hovering above 6%, those

prices translate to estimated monthly mortgage costs between \$4,000 to \$6,000 or more. Even in all but the toniest neighborhoods of coastal California, that's far above the cost of renting a typical apartment.

In Orange County, the estimated all-in monthly costs on a home (including taxes, insurance, maintenance and any association fees) is four times the average rent, according to a recent analysis by the commercial real estate firm CBRE. In Los Angeles and San Francisco, the "buying premium" is three times greater than renting. Nationally, it's twice as much.

Is the extra cost worth it?

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

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

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

"Homeownership is not the universal panacea, but the financial returns on homeownership have been more beneficial than renting for



A single family home in South Central, Los Angeles

most homeowners and will likely remain so if current patterns continue," Goodman wrote in a corresponding blog post at the time.

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

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

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

Or a combination of all of the above.

A person buying into that

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

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

The case for renting forever

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

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

Remember that yawning "buying premium" between the monthly cost of owning and renting? A wealthy tenant is in a position to save and invest the difference. Though homeownership is often touted as the best way to build wealth, it's not the only

way. It might not even be the best way: On average and over long stretches of time, the stock market regularly outperforms median home prices — albeit, without quite so many tax benefits and other boosts that federal and state governments shower upon homeowners.

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

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

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

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

One Tech Tip: Spend Quality Time With Loved Ones, Not a Screen, Over the Holidays

By **KELVIN CHAN AP**
Business Writer

The Christmas holiday season is a time to step back from the busy pace of modern life and connect with our nearest and dearest instead of screens, apps and chatbots.

Here are some suggestions on how to unplug from the online world for the next few weeks as you sit down for a festive meal, exchange gifts or take time out for some self-reflection.

Do not disturb me

Your phone already has built-in features that can help you stop getting distracted.

To temporarily silence all those attention-seeking notifications, use the Focus setting on your iPhone or Android device. This mode is designed to stop interruptions when you want to concentrate. You can customize it by blocking specific apps or muting only when you're doing certain things, like sleeping or reading.

Android and iOS also have related screen time controls to manage overall device usage. Too much Instagram scrolling? Limit yourself to a daily total of 20 minutes.

There are other tricks you could try, like turning the screen gray to make it less appealing. On iPhones or Android devices, tweak the color filter or adjustment settings. On Android, activating Bedtime Mode also turns the screen gray.

Delete apps

If you need to be more strict with yourself, then delete any or apps you're addicted to. An effective way to stop looking at your phone is by

removing those apps that you spend the most time scrolling through, even if temporarily. You can always reinstall them again if the withdrawal symptoms become too much.

Get outside ...

When the temperature drops, it's tempting to hunker down inside and stay cozy. But don't sit on the couch all day. Head outdoors, away from Wi-Fi signals. If it's been snowing where you are, have a snowball fight or go sledding. To keep your hands warm, don't forget to put on bulky mittens — which your phone's touch screen won't respond to.

Even if there's no snow, take a walk in the woods, a park or along some tree-lined streets. Time spent outdoors, and away from screens, can benefit your mental health and physical well-being. There's even a term for it: forest bathing.

... And touch grass

There's an app you can use to force yourself to — literally — get back in touch with nature. Touch Grass takes its name from a viral catchphrase for when someone has lost their connection to the real world because they're consumed by what's on their screens.

It's similar to other apps designed to restrict screen time by forcing users to take a timeout from scrolling. The difference is that Touch Grass requires users to go outside and take a picture of themselves physically touching some grass.

Touch Grass has a free service level that allows you to block two apps. I found it was quite effective at stop-



ping me from opening two of my favorite time-wasters, Reddit and Instagram, though I ended up spending more time on other apps like Facebook. To block all apps, you'll have to shell out for a subscription — \$6 a month or \$50 annually.

If you can't find grass because it's winter, there's also the option to touch snow or sand. It's only available for iPhones so far, but there are copycat versions for both iOS and Android, though we haven't tested them.

Putting pen to paper

When was the last time you sent a Christmas card? Most digital natives find it easier to type out holiday greetings or send digital cards over chat apps, than to put pen to paper.

The consequence of all the time that we spend tapping, typing or swiping on our devices is that handwriting is becoming something of a dying art. But there are neurological and cognitive benefits of handwriting, research suggests. For example, taking notes by hand

is a better way for students to learn and to remember information.

So use this time of year to write a thoughtful message to someone special, a letter to a long-lost friend, or thank you notes for presents received.

Pick up a book

If you still don't know what you want for Christmas, why not ask for a book? It's easy to find inspiration and ideas at this time of year, when many people like to share the books they've read over the past 12 months, and outlets including The Associated Press compile their list of the year's best books.

Reading long-form literature or non-fiction has many benefits that can't be gained from glancing at short-form bursts of text on your device, including a deeper understanding of a topic, developing empathy, increasing your focus and concentration and more.

Lock your device up

If you're looking for a last-minute gift, how about

a time-lock vault to put your devices out of reach for, say, 15 minutes, a few hours or even weeks?

There are plenty of versions for sale online. For about \$30, I bought a battery-powered gray plastic model that can hold several smartphones. The instruction leaflet says it's intended to "enhance self-discipline."

Punch in the amount of time — up to 30 days — and a digital display will count down until it unlocks. The lid has portholes so you can thread in cables for charging while you wait.

One evening, I locked my phone up for an hour and then grabbed my laptop to do some online Christmas shopping. But my plans were foiled because I forgot that authentication requests for my credit card and Amazon went to my phone.

Not-as-smart phones

For another gift idea, consider putting a brick phone under the tree. Also known as a feature phone, these devices cater to those who want a back-to-basics phone without all the digital stimulation that comes with a smartphone.

Retro devices from Nokia evoke the early days of the cellphone era — no touch screens, numeric keypads and throwback video games like Snake. Most can only make voice calls and send text messages.

If that sounds too primitive, there are so-called digital minimalist phones that serve a similar market niche. Devices from Light, Punkt and Balance offer sleek, modern designs but with a stripped-down experience.

"AVATAR: FIRE AND ASH"

By Bob Garver

All the way back in 2009, director James Cameron introduced the world to the planet Pandora and the Na'vi race in "Avatar." The film soon set the record for all-time highest grossing movie at both the domestic and international box offices (it still holds the record for the latter). Sequel "Avatar: The Way of Water" came out in 2022 and made its way onto the top 10 on both lists. Can three years' worth of inflation help third installment "Fire and Ash" help the franchise reach new heights? I'd be happy if it did.

The film once again follows the Sully family: human-turned-Na'vi Jake (Sam Worthington), native wife Neytiri (Zoe Saldana), impulsive son Lo'ak (Britain Dalton), daughter Tuk (Trinity Jo-Li Bliss), adopted daughter Kiri (Sigourney Weaver), and adopted human son Spider (Jack Champion). Kiri is the biological daughter of ally Grace Augustine (also Weaver) and Spider is the biological son of villainous human-turned-Na'vi Miles Quaritch (Stephen Lang), still tasked with removing the threat the Sullys pose to the human colonization

of Pandora.

The new film sees the family try to send Spider off to live with a tribe of "air traders," as the planet's air is not safe for him at the surface level, though it might be at the traders' altitude. But the traders are attacked, and Spider captured, by the fire-themed Mangkwan tribe, led by the fearsome Varang (Oona Chaplin). The Sullys go to rescue Spider from the Mangkwan, only to be ambushed by the unit led by Quaritch, who prioritizes saving his son. Spider is saved by the Sullys, while Varang and Quaritch come to respect each other in the ensuing battle.

Following the battle, it is discovered that there is a way for Spider to breathe the planet's air after all, if he interacts with certain wildlife. This is great for Spider, but bad for the Na'vi. The breathability of Pandora's air is one of the few advantages they have in the war with the invading humans. If the secret were to fall into the wrong hands, it could doom them all. Jake and Neytiri, who isn't crazy about humans like Spider in the first place, debate bringing a permanent end to the secret

and its host. Meanwhile, Quaritch and Varang form an alliance, the first official one between the colonizing humans and the Na'vi. We get another big showdown between Na'vi and the humans at the movie's end, but this time the villains have some Na'vi on their side that can both ride the planet's wild creatures and use human weapons like guns, courtesy of Quaritch.

The story is a mess, especially as the Sullys splinter off for their own subplots like Lo'ak wanting to save a race of whale-like sea creatures or Kiri having an identity crisis after learning the truth about her parentage (and yes, it is distracting that 70-something Weaver is playing a teenager, a discrepancy that even Cameron's special effects can't hide). The final battle is particularly hard to follow, with characters seemingly killed at every turn only to dust themselves off and throw themselves back into the action minutes later. The only interesting decision the movie makes from a writing perspective is the alliance between Quaritch and Varang, scene-stealing characters whose personalities are sidelined once the action picks up.



But it matters little that "Avatar: Fire and Ash" doesn't have an award-worthy script to justify its obscene price tag. James Cameron is still King of the World when it comes to visual spectacle. Every time I thought I was done being impressed by the look of Pandora, the movie found a way to blow my mind again. That is what this movie offers and that is what these movies have always offered. I can understand if audiences aren't ready to spend another

three heavy-handed hours in this world a mere three years after the last movie, but I was ready and I had a blast.

Grade: B

"Avatar: Fire and Ash" is rated PG-13 for intense sequences of violence and action, bloody images, some strong language, thematic elements and suggestive material. Its running time is 197 minutes.

Contact Bob Garver at rg251@nyu.edu.

'Avatar: Fire and Ash' Opens with \$88 Million

LOS ANGELES (CNS) - "Avatar: Fire and Ash" opened with \$88 million this weekend to lead all films in North America, according to industry estimates released Sunday.

The third film in director James Cameron's science fiction series, which uses cutting-edge motion-capture technology to tell the story of the fictional Na'vi tribe, has a long way to go to match the historic box-office performance of its predecessors. The original "Avatar," released in 2009, remains the highest grossing film of all time with over \$2.9 billion

in worldwide box office receipts. The first sequel, 2022's "Avatar: The Way of Water," is third all-time with over \$2.3 billion.

Second place went to "David," Angel Studios' animated faith-based telling of the Old Testament story, which opened with \$22 million, Comscore reported.

"The Housemaid," a horror thriller starring Amanda Seyfried and Sydney Sweeney, opened with \$19 million.

"SpongeBob Movie: Search for Squarepants"

opened with \$16 million, followed by "Zootopia 2," which made another \$14.5 million Friday through Sunday in its fourth weekend in theaters.

Rounding out the top 10 domestic releases were "Five Nights at Freddy's 2" (\$7.2 million), "Wicked: For Good" (\$4.3 million), "Dhurandhar" (\$2.47 million), "Marty Supreme" (\$875,000) and "Hamnet" (\$850,000).

This weekend's overall three-day box office haul was estimated at \$178.7 million. The year-to-date total is \$8.352 billion -- up 1% from the figure at this time last year, according to Comscore.



INDULGE IN LYCHEE-FROSTED SUGAR COOKIES WITH CITRUS NOTES AND BUTTERCREAM

By KAT LIEU Voracious

At first glance, these Lychee-Frosted Sugar Cookies from my cookbook “108 Asian Cookies: Not-Too-Sweet Treats from a Third-Culture Kitchen” appear humble when unfrosted, like any other ordinary sugar cookie, like those you would find at the supermarket.

But don't be fooled.

These charming sugar cookies shine even on their own with their rich buttery base, tender crumb, bright refreshing citrus notes and a slight chew. Then, when topped with a luxurious buttercream infused with lychee extract, a bit of berry compote or jam, and finally crowned with chopped canned lychees, they undergo a bibbidi-bobbidi-boo moment. The more you bite into this layered and regal cookie, the more you'll feel like royalty.

When pressing the dough portions, slightly wet the bottom of a glass or measuring cup, then dip into a shallow bowl of sugar to coat the bottom. For a variation you can skip the jam and add the lychees directly to the frosting. Store the cookies in an airtight container at room temperature, each separated by parchment paper, for up to 3 days.

Lychee-Frosted Sugar Cookies

Makes 9 large cookies

Ingredients

FOR THE COOKIES:

2 1/2 cups (300 g) all-purpose flour
2/3 cup (85 g) cake flour
1/4 teaspoon baking soda
1/4 teaspoon cream of tartar
1/2 cup + 1 stick (113 g) unsalted butter, softened
6 tablespoons (90 g) neutral oil
1/2 cup plus 2 tablespoons (120 g) granulated sugar, plus more for pressing the cookies
About 1/2 cup (60 g) confectioners' sugar
1 teaspoon red miso
1 large egg
1 tablespoon freshly grated lemon zest
1 teaspoon lychee extract

FOR THE FROSTING:

6 tablespoons (85 g) unsalted butter, softened
1 cup plus 2 tablespoons (140 g) confectioners' sugar, divided
4 teaspoons (20 g) heavy cream
1 teaspoon lychee extract
Pink or red food coloring gel (optional, but if you use it, we want light pink, not a hot magenta pink)

FOR DECORATING THE COOKIES (OPTIONAL):

About 1/3 cup (110 g) store-bought strawberry jam
5 to 6 fresh or canned lychees, chopped
Edible pearl sprinkles or gold foil

Directions

1. Make the cookies. Whisk both flours, the baking soda and cream of tartar together in a medium bowl. Using a stand mixer fitted with the paddle attachment (or in a

large bowl with a hand mixer, whisk, or spatula), cream the butter, oil, both sugars and miso together until light and fluffy. Scrape down the sides and bottom of the bowl. Add the egg, lemon zest, and lychee extract and mix until well incorporated. Again, scrape the bowl as needed. Add the flour mixture and mix on low speed just until a dough forms. Cover and chill the dough in the refrigerator for 30 minutes, or up to overnight.

2. About 25 minutes before baking, adjust a rack to the middle position and preheat the oven to 350°F. Line two baking sheets with parchment paper.

3. Use a large cookie scoop to create nine portions of dough, each about 3.2 ounces (1/2 cup, 90 g), placing them 3 inches apart on the prepared baking sheets. Press each ball with the bottom of a sugar-lined glass or measuring cup until the cookie edges begin to crack.

4. Bake the cookies one sheet at a time (while the other sheet chills in the fridge), until the edges are crispy and golden brown, about 12 minutes. Let the cookies set on the baking sheet for a few minutes before transferring to a wire rack to cool completely.

5. Make the frosting. In a stand mixer fitted with the paddle attachment, mix the butter on high speed until fluffy, about 2 minutes. Scrape the bowl as



I like to publish this recipe around this time each year. Birria is the ultimate winter meal and great for family gatherings. If you haven't eaten birria before, make this recipe and enjoy!

Ingredients

- 3 pounds chuck roast or stew beef
- 4 guajillo, 4 morita (optional), and 4 chili negro/pasilla peppers
- 1 white onion, eighthed
- 2 Roma tomatoes, quartered
- 4 cloves garlic whole
- 32-ounce beef stock
- 3 tbsp vegetable oil
- 96-ounce water
- Salt to taste



needed. Add about half of the confectioners' sugar and mix on medium speed until incorporated. Add the remaining confectioners' sugar and mix until incorporated as well. Add the cream, lychee extract and food coloring, if using, and mix until combined and spreadable. Note that you will have just enough frosting for the nine large cook-

BIRRIA DE RES

To Make

In a stock pot or large pasta pot over medium heat, add 1.5 tbsp oil and peppers. Cook for a minute mixing a couple of times and then add onion, tomatoes, garlic, and a bit of salt. Simmer until onions are soft. Pull out of pan and blend smooth with about a cup of stock. In the same pot add the rest of the oil and add the meat. Brown on both sides. When browned, add in the blended peppers, and top off with the rest of the stock, and water. Simmer covered for about 3 hours or until beef is pull apart with fork tender. Pull apart meat and return to pot. Serve with tortillas, rice, or ramen. Or eat as is. Garnish with diced onion and cilantro. ENJOY!

ies. If you love the frosting, I recommend making more for these cookies.

6. Frost and decorate the cookies. Spread the frosting evenly over the cooled cookies. If you like, add about a teaspoon of jam on top and garnish with chopped lychees and edible pearl sprinkles or edible gold foil.

Grinchmas

Continued from Page 1

The police department worked closely with teachers and other administrators at the Val Verde School District to select specific students for this event. Financial situations and personal connections that teachers had with students and their parents guided the selection process. Students were noticed, no matter what sort of hardship they were going through.

But what were recipients told about their invitations?

“They were giving out gifts as some type of reward,” Edgar Mitchell said, whose daughter received an invitation. “It’s to give her motivation to keep on doing good. This is something all of us parents want for our kids.”

Officers administered the tickets, and teachers told students that the recipients were doing exceptionally well in school — behaviorally or academically.

“He was really excited when he got picked,” said Monica

Castruita about her son’s special invitation. “He’s a good kid, and he does really well in school, so we’re really excited they picked him.”

The police department was able to give children a special Christmas because of local residents who donated toys or money. The officers received this support through other community events they put on year-round, which is what made this event possible.

Reserve Officer Loral Hamilton said that the police department gives back to families and their children every year through events like Grinchmas and another event, Shop With a Cop, where a kid and an officer go to Walmart with \$200 and pick out their own Christmas presents.

“We try to do something like this every year,” Hamilton said. “It’s something we all love to do, and really like to meet the parents and the children.”

The next event has yet to be announced, but officers and family members are already looking forward to it.



Photo by Mia Rotell



Photo by Mia Rotell



Photo by Mia Rotell



Photo by Mia Rotell

US Regulators Approve Wegovy Pill for Weight Loss

By JONEL ALECCIA AP Health Writer

U.S. regulators on Monday gave the green light to a pill version of the blockbuster weight-loss drug Wegovy, the first daily oral medication to treat obesity.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration's approval handed drugmaker Novo Nordisk an edge over rival Eli Lilly in the race to market an obesity pill. Lilly's oral drug, orforglipron, is still under review.

Both pills are GLP-1 drugs that work like widely used injectables to mimic a natural hormone that controls appetite and feelings of fullness.

In recent years, Novo Nordisk's injectable Wegovy and Lilly's Zepbound have revolutionized obesity treatment globally and in the U.S., where 100 million people have the chronic disease.

The Wegovy pills are expected to be available within weeks, company officials said. Availability of oral pills to treat obesity could expand the booming market for obesity treatments by broadening access and reducing costs, experts said.

About 1 in 8 Americans have used injectable GLP-1 drugs, according to a survey from KFF, a non-profit health policy research group. But many more have trouble affording the costly shots.

"There's an entire demographic that can benefit from the pills," said Dr. Fatima Cody Stanford, a Massachusetts General Hospital obesity expert.

"For me, it's not just about who gets it across the finish line first. It's about having these options available to patients."

The Novo Nordisk obesity pill contains 25 milligrams of semaglutide. That's the same ingredient in injectables Wegovy and Ozempic and in Rybelsus, a lower-dose pill approved to treat diabetes in 2019.

In a clinical trial, participants who took oral Wegovy lost 13.6% of their total body weight on average over about 15 months, compared with a 2.2% loss if they took a placebo, or dummy pill. That's nearly the same as injectable Wegovy, with an average weight loss of about 15%.

Chris Mertens, 35, a pediatric lung doctor in Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin, joined the Novo

Nordisk trial in 2022 and lost about 40 pounds using the Wegovy pill. The daily medication worked to decrease his appetite and invasive thoughts of food, he said.

"If there were days where I missed a meal, I almost didn't realize it," Mertens said.

Participants in a clinical trial who took the highest dose of Lilly's orforglipron lost 11.2% of their total body weight on average over nearly 17 months, compared with a 2.1% loss in those who took a placebo.

Both pills resulted in less weight loss than the average achieved with Lilly's Zepbound, or tirzepatide, which targets two gut hormones, GLP-1 and GIP, and led to a 21% average weight loss.

All the GLP-1 drugs, oral or injectable, have similar side effects, including nausea and diarrhea.

Both daily pills promise convenience, but the We-

govy pill must be taken with a sip of water in the morning on an empty stomach, with a 30-minute break before eating or drinking.

That's because Novo Nordisk had to design the pill in a way that prevented the drug from being broken down in the stomach before it could be absorbed by the bloodstream. The drugmaker added an ingredient that protects the medication for about 30 minutes in the gut and makes it easier to take effect.

By contrast, Lilly's orforglipron has no dosing restrictions. That drug is being considered under the FDA's new priority voucher program aimed at cutting drug approval times. A decision is expected by spring.

Producing pills is generally cheaper than making drugs delivered via injections, so the cost for the new oral medications could be lower. The Trump administration earlier this year said officials had worked with drugmakers to negotiate lower prices for the GLP-1 drugs, which can cost upwards of \$1,000 a month.

The company said the start-

ing dose would be available for \$149 per month from some providers. Additional information on cost will be available in January.

It's not clear whether daily pills or weekly injections will be preferred by patients. Although some patients dislike needles, others don't seem to mind the weekly injections, obesity experts said. Mertens turned to injectable Zepbound when he regained weight after the end of the Wegovy pill clinical trial.

He said he liked the discipline of the daily pill.

"It was a little bit of an intentional routine and a reminder of today I'm taking this so that I know my choices are going to be affected for the day," he said.

Dr. Angela Fitch, an obesity expert and chief medical officer of knownwell, a health care company, said whatever the format, the biggest benefit will be in making weight-loss medications more widely accessible and affordable.

"It's all about the price," she said. "Just give me a drug at \$100 a month that is relatively effective."



2025

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Deep six the '6-7' gripes

The young have made up slang for centuries. For Gen Alpha and their juniors, it's skibidi and rizz and, yes, "6-7." The numbers come with a juggling-esque, palms-up hand gesture and serve to annoy lots of teachers and parents (it's the frequency, group pile on and decibel level that really gets 'em).

Just breathe, dear grownies. Your youth-speak also served to annoy. It's just, that was a long time ago and you don't really remember it. But wait. There's a whole 'nother contingent of adults who are all in on "6-7." Please stop. It's not yours. You don't get to say it. You receive zero cool parent points.

Like most memes, there's an origin story: rapper Skrilla's "6-7" lyric in "Doot Doot (6 7)," for starters, along with Charlotte Horner LaMelo Ball's height. The 6-7-ness of it all blew up on TikTok and stayed put throughout 2025.

So what does it actually mean? Nothing, but it serves its purpose: To be random and to confuse the unfamiliar. It also did well as clickbait for Dictionary.com, which made the two numbers its word of the year.

Mission accomplished, "6-7." Farewell.

Positive vibes only?

Maintain a positive mindset. At all times. No matter what.

Sorry, toxic positivity people, but that's not how human emotion works, especially in these divisive times. Emotion shaming, in many ways, was on the march in 2025.

"Good vibes only." "Don't be so negative." "It could be worse." Sounds harmless, or even helpful, with empathy. Often, though, those words

are shot like arrows to quell legit feelings for no good reason.

Optimism in itself is a great thing, with numerous studies over the decades demonstrating a link between a positive outlook and good health outcomes. That said, check your "positive vibes only" demand at the door as we head into a new year. In other words, just let them...

Feel the feels. Get help if you need it. Suppression is oppression.

Protein, protein everywhere

Protein is a fundamental building block. We need protein. But does the average healthy adult need THIS much added protein? Big Food has produced an onslaught of high-protein processed foods, from Starbucks foam for drinks to Pop-Tarts, popcorn, cookies and muffins.

Here's the thing, according to nutritionists: Your body is pretty good at making protein. You do need a small amount from food, unless you're bulking or maxing. In which case, do you.

The amount of protein you need depends on your age, weight and personal nutritional needs. It's especially important to make sure children and older adults get enough protein-rich foods.

That said, let's leave behind the mass commodification of added protein in processed foods that just might not be so healthy to begin with.

Logic.

Say bye-bye to Labubu

The plush toy/charm/collectible famously known as Labubu has been around for a decade, but it's only in the last year or so the thing reached craze level in the U.S.

China's Pop Mart began U.S. sales of the furry

little monsters on key rings back in 2023. Now, they're everywhere. Labubu hashtags on TikTok and Instagram have morphed into numerous search word combinations with millions of hits.

Boomers on down to kids collect Labubu and its pals, all of which sport pointy ears and serrated teeth. Rihanna, Kim Kardashian and Lisa of Blackpink have shown theirs off. So have David Beckham and Dillon Brooks.

Thank you Kasing Lung. Back in 2015, the Hong Kong-born artist and illustrator raised in the Netherlands created the character and a universe of monsters for picture books inspired by the tales of Nordic mythology he enjoyed as a child.

Peak saturation has been achieved. The new year may be just the right time to say labu-bye.

Taking sides to the nth degree

"There is unrest in the Forest. There is trouble with the trees. For the Maples want more sunlight. And the Oaks ignore their pleas."

Consider that a parable, courtesy of a little band called Rush in the 1978 song "The Trees." Sound familiar?

If 2025 was anything, it was about taking sides, as opposed to, oh let's see, meaningful negotiation, civil discourse. How about just plain manners?

We fought over The Cracker Barrel logo. There was a protracted U.S. government shutdown amid the high-stakes schism that is politics and culture war in America.

We're a house haunted by taking sides. We all know the issues. Will it take a generation to get us back to the table? Here's hoping it happens sooner rather than

later. While unlikely, we implore: Do better 2026.

"There is trouble in the Forest. And the creatures all have fled. As the Maples scream, 'Oppression!' And the Oaks, just shake their heads."

You're a barrel and you're a barrel

They hug the hips. They widen at the thighs. They reach peak circumference around the knees. They taper at the ankles.

So wrote Vogue in 2023 about barrel jeans, a puzzling style then and now. The stakes got higher for the divisive look when Alaïa put them on the runway for fall-winter that year. There were others, too, with some saying the look was reminiscent of jodhpurs and 1920s workwear.

As Vogue noted, quite a few fashion editors loved them. So did Gigi Hadid and Blake Lively. Could it have anything to do with the notion that barrel pants look good on exactly one body type: theirs. Tall. Slim. Leggy.

Here in 2025, the rest of us try. We really, really do. Amplified volume is just so, well, troubling, for oh so many.

So where will our pants go in the new year? Somewhere a little less, well, weird would be nice.

Dubai chocolate, oh boy

When we weren't navigating Labubu mania this year, what were we doing? Why, eating, making and procuring Dubai chocolate, of course. Or some variant thereof.

Dubai chocolate is to 2025 what sourdough starter was to pandemic lockdowns. Relentless. And, really, does anybody like/need that much filling in chocolate bars?

What is pistachio cream, tahini and crunchy kataifi



pastry for the original filling has spun off wildly into other flavor profiles and products, including milkshakes and brownies. Amazon, Trader Joe's, Walmart and Costco are in on the bonanza.

How did it all begin? With a pregnancy craving for Sarah Hamouda, the British Egyptian co-founder of FIX Dessert Chocolatier. She wanted creamy, crunchy and familiar, and came up with the "Can't Get Knafeh Of It" chocolate bar in 2022, with help from chef Nouel Catis Omamalin.

Knafeh is a traditional Middle Eastern treat made of noodle-shaped toasted kataifi with a cheese layer, all soaked in a sweet syrup. Kataifi is a type of phyllo dough.

Hamouda and her husband, Yezen Alani, were working full-time corporate jobs in Dubai but left those gigs once their chocolate took over the world. They were helped along in a huge way by ASMR TikToker Maria Vehera, who crunched her way through one of their bars in 2023.

Vehera's video has been viewed more than 140 million times.

Stuff yourselves silly with Dubai chocolate if you must, for now. But let's modulate the craziness when 2026, and the next big thing, rolls around.

Over It runners-up

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2025

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I’m available: Don’t be a 24-hour availability person

Homeownership

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The perks of owning property

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

Space is one: For a host



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in the new year. It’s not good for your health, and it shouldn’t be necessary to get ahead in life. Break the cycle!

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

company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call 833-561-0243 for information regarding the trustee’s sale or visit this Internet Web site WWW.SALES.BDFGROUP.COM for information regarding the sale of this property, using the file number assigned to this case 00000010530194. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. NOTICE TO TENANT: You may have a right to purchase this property after the trustee auction pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. If you are an “eligible tenant buyer,” you can purchase the property if you match the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. If you are an “eligible bidder,” you may be able to purchase the property if you exceed the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. There are three steps to exercising this right of purchase. First, 48 hours after the date of the trustee sale, you can call 833-561-0243, or visit this internet website WWW.SALES.BDFGROUP.COM using the file number assigned to this case 00000010530194 to find the date on which the trustee’s sale was held, the amount of the last and highest bid, and the address of the trustee. Second, you must send a written notice of intent to place a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 15 days after the trustee’s sale. Third, you must submit a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 45 days after the trustee’s sale. If you think you may qualify as an “eligible tenant buyer” or “eligible bidder,” you should consider contacting an attorney or appropriate real estate professional immediately for advice regarding this potential right to purchase. FOR TRUSTEE SALE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL: 833-561-0243 WWW.SALES.BDFGROUP.COM BARRETT DAFFIN FRAPPIER TREDER AND WEISS, LLP IS ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. BARRETT DAFFIN FRAPPIER TREDER AND WEISS, LLP as Trustee 3990 E. Concours Street, Suite 350 Ontario, CA 91764 (866) 795-1852 Dated: 12/02/2025 AFN4859757 12/12/2025, 12/19/2025, 12/26/2025

Schld:97735 Adld:33063 Custld:64

STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT
TAYLOR COUNTY

In Re the Marriage of:
Rick Merle Griesbach

AI slop: There’s no escaping AI, it seems, so get it right. Quality matters. Effort matters. Substance counts. Verbosity. Fabrications. Junk

afford to buy.

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

For some, homeownership also comes with an entirely non-monetary warm and

Petitioner,
Case No: 25FA57
vs. Case Code: 40101

Lorraine Beth Griesbach
Respondent.

PUBLICATION SUMMONS

THE STATE OF WISCONSIN
YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that the Petitioner named above has filed a Petition for divorce or legal separation against you. You must respond with a written demand for a copy of the Petition within 40 days from the day after the first date of publication. The demand must be sent or delivered to the court at Clerk of Court, Taylor County Courthouse, 224 S 2nd St, Medford, WI 54451-1899, and to Petitioner, Rick Griesbach, whose mailing address is 508 W. County Road A, Stetsonville, WI 54480. It is recommended, but not required, that you have an attorney help or represent you. If you do not demand a copy of the Petition within 40 days, the court may grant judgment against you for the award of money or other legal action requested in the Petition, and you may lose your right to object to anything that is or may be incorrect in the Petition. A judgment may be enforced as provided by law. A judgment awarding money may become a lien against any real estate you own now or in the future, and may also be enforced by garnishment or seizure of property. You are further notified that if the parties to this action have minor children, violation of §948.31, Wis. Stats. (Interference with custody by a parent or others) is punishable by fines and/or imprisonment. If you and the petitioner have minor children, documents setting forth the percentage standard for support established by the department under §49.22(9), Wis. Stats. and the factors that a court may consider for modification of that standard under §767.511(1m), Wis. Stats. are available upon your request from the Clerk of Court. §767.105 Information from the Circuit Court Commissioner. (2) Upon the request of a party to the action affecting the family, including a revision of judgment or order under sec. 767.59 or 767.451. (a) The Circuit Court Commissioner shall, with or without charge, provide the party with written information on the following, as appropriate to the action commenced: 1. The procedure for obtaining a judgment or order in the action. 2. The major issues usually addressed in such an action. 3. Community resources and family court counseling services available to assist the parties. 4. The procedure for setting, modifying, and enforcing child support awards, or modifying legal custody or physical placement judgment or orders. (b) The Circuit Court Commissioner shall provide a party, for inspection or purchase, with a copy of the statutory provisions in this chapter generally pertinent to the action. Dated this 4th day of December, 2025.

By: /s/ Rick Merle Griesbach
Petitioner
508 W. County Road A
Stetsonville, WI 54480

Schld:97758 Adld:33075 Custld:2497

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE’S SALE T.S. No. 25-00562-LCCA Title No. 25Q123846-CAVOI A.P.N. 302-351-008 YOU ARE IN

AI no more in 2026.

Sneaky little terms of agreement: Especially the ones that say, in their own

fuzzy factor, whether it’s independence — deciding when and what color to paint your walls, for instance — or a sense of security.

Finally, just because someone can save and invest the extra hundreds or thousands of dollars a month that would have gone to a mortgage payment, that doesn’t mean

DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 08/19/2022. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. A public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash, cashier’s check(s) drawn on a state or national bank must be made payable to National Default Servicing Corporation, a check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, savings association; or savings bank specified in Section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state; will be held by the duly appointed trustee as shown below, of all right, title, and interest conveyed to and how held by the trustee in the hereinafter described property under and pursuant to a Deed of Trust described below. The sale will be made in an “as is” condition, but without covenant of warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by the Deed of Trust, with Interest and late charges thereon, as provided in the note(s), advances, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, interest thereon, fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee for the total amount (at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale) reasonably estimated to be set forth below. The amount may be greater on the day of sale. Trustor: Dennis Campbell Jr., an unmarried man and Yashica Washington, an unmarried woman Duly Appointed Trustee: National Default Servicing Corporation Recorded 08/29/2022 as Instrument No. 2022-0375228 (or Book, Page) of the Official Records of Riverside County, California, Date of Sale: 01/21/2026 at 9:00 AM Place of Sale: in the courtyard, of the Historic Corona Civic Center, 815 W. Sixth Street, Corona CA 92882 Estimated amount of unpaid balance and other charges: \$698,213.89 Street Address or Other common designation of real property: 4780 Albatross Avenue, Perris, CA 92571 A.P.N.: 302-351-008 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address or other common designation, if any, shown above. If no street address or other common designation is shown, directions to the location of the property may be obtained by sending a written request to the beneficiary within 10 days of the date of first publication of this Notice of Sale, If the Trustee is tin able to convey title for any reason, the successful bidder’s sole and exclusive remedy shall be the return of monies paid to the Trustee, and the successful bidder shall have no further recourse. The requirements of California Civil Code Section 2923.5(b)/2923.55(c) were fulfilled when the Notice of Default was recorded. NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should Understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the

words, “We can harass you with texts and emails forever, even if you unsubscribe.” Be gone!

they will. No one likes making a mortgage payment, but by converting part of your paycheck each month into home equity, it acts as a kind of forced savings plan. It’s perpetually tempting not to save.

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

Public Notices

existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder’s office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call 800-280-2832 or visit this internet website www.ndscorp.com/sales, using the file number assigned to this case 25-00562-LCCA. Information on about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close: in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the internet website. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. NOTICE TO TENANT*: You may have a right to purchase this property after the trustee auction pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. If you are a “representative of all eligible tenant buyers” you may be able to purchase the property if you match the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. There are three steps to exercising this right of purchase. First, 48 hours after the date of the trustee sale, you can call 888-264-4010, or visit this internet website www.ndscorp.com, using the file number assigned to this case 25-00562-LCCA to find the date on which the trustee’s sale was held, the amount of the last and highest bid, and the address of the trustee. Second, you must send a written notice of intent to place a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 15 days after the trustee’s sale. Third, you must submit a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 45 days after the trustee’s sale. If you think you may qualify as a “representative of all eligible tenant buyers” or “eligible bidder,” you should consider contacting an attorney or appropriate real estate professional immediately for advice regarding this potential right to purchase. Pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code, the potential rights described herein shall apply only to public auctions taking place on or after January 1, 2021, through December 31, 2025, unless later extended. Date: 12/03/2025 National Default Servicing Corporation c/o Tiffany and Bosco, P.A., its agent, 1455 Frazee Road, Suite 820 San Diego, CA 92108 Toll Free Phone: 888-264-4010 Sales Line 800-280-2832; Sales Website: www.ndscorp.com Connie Hernandez, Trustee Sales Representative AFN4859935 12/12/2025, 12/19/2025, 12/26/2025

Schld:97761 Adld:33076 Custld:64

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF BRANDI JO HIGUERA Case No. PRR12503509 To all heirs, beneficiaries,

creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of BRANDI JO HIGUERA. A PETITION FOR

PROBATE has been filed by JOEY LYNN HACKWORTH AKA JOEY LYNN HICKSON in the Superior Court of California, County of Riverside.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that JOEY LYNN HACKWORTH AKA JOEY LYNN HICKSON be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A HEARING on the petition will be held on 1/5/2026 at 8:30am in Department 8 located at 4050 Main St, Riverside, CA 92501.

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code.

Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

R. Sam Price (SBN 208603)
Price Law Firm, APC
454 Cajon Stree
Redlands CA 92373
Phone: (909)-328-7000 Fax: (909)-475-9500
Email: attorneys@pricelawfirm.com

Schld:97775 Adld:33081 Custld:2399

T.S. No.: 25-33456 A.P.N.: 335-256-014 NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE
YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 1/4/2022. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. A public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash, cashier's check drawn on a state or national bank, check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, or savings association, or savings bank specified in Section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state will be held by the duly appointed trustee as shown below, of all right, title, and interest conveyed to and now held by the trustee in the hereinafter described property under and pursuant to a Deed of Trust described below. The sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by the Deed of Trust, with interest and late charges thereon, as provided in the note(s), advances, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, interest thereon, fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee for the total amount (at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale) reasonably estimated to be set forth below. The amount may be greater on the day of sale.

BENEFICIARY MAY ELECT TO BID LESS THAN THE TOTAL AMOUNT DUE.
Trustor: Ezra Lee Craycraft, a widower
Duly Appointed Trustee: Vylla Solutions, LLC
Recorded 1/5/2022 as Instrument No. 2022-0006804 in book NA, page NA of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of Riverside County, California , Described as follows: As more fully described on said

Deed of Trust.
Date of Sale: 1/20/2026 at 9:00 AM
Place of Sale: At the front entrance of the former Corona Police Department at 849 W. Sixth Street, Corona, CA 92882
Amount of unpaid balance and other charges: \$369,440.23 (Estimated)
Street Address or other common designation of real property: 26409 ALLENTOWN DR MENIFEE, CA 92586
A.P.N.: 335-256-014 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address or other common designation, if any, shown above. If no street address or other common designation is shown, directions to the location of the property may be obtained by sending a written request to the beneficiary within 10 days of the date of first publication of this Notice of Sale. If the Trustee is unable to convey title for any reason, the successful bidder's sole and exclusive remedy shall be the return of monies paid to the Trustee, and the successful bidder shall have no further recourse. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee, or the Mortgagee's Attorney. If you have previously been discharged through bankruptcy, you may have been released of personal liability for this loan in which case this letter is intended to exercise the note holder's rights against the real property only. THIS NOTICE IS SENT FOR THE PURPOSE OF COLLECTING A DEBT. THIS FIRM IS ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT ON BEHALF OF THE HOLDER AND OWNER OF THE NOTE. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED BY OR PROVIDED TO THIS FIRM OR THE CREDITOR WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

As required by law, you are hereby notified that a negative credit report reflecting on your credit record may be submitted to a credit report agency if you fail to fulfill the terms of your credit obligations. NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call (949) 776-4697 or visit this Internet Web site https://prestigepostandpub.com, using the file number assigned to this case 25-33456. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. For sales conducted after January 1, 2021: NOTICE TO TENANT: You may have a right to purchase this property after the trustee auction pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. If you are an "eligible tenant buyer," you can purchase the property if you match the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. If you are an "eligible bidder," you may be able to purchase the property if you exceed the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. There are three steps to exercising this right of purchase. First, 48 hours after the date of the trustee sale, you can call (949) 776-4697, or visit this internet website https://prestigepostandpub.com, using the file number assigned to this case 25-33456 to find the date on which the trustee's sale was held, the amount of the last and highest bid, and the address of the trustee. Second, you must send a written notice of intent to place a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 15 days after the trustee's sale. Third,

you must submit a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 45 days after the trustee's sale. If you think you may qualify as an "eligible tenant buyer" or "eligible bidder," you should consider contacting an attorney or appropriate real estate professional immediately for advice regarding this potential right to purchase. Date: 12/05/2025 Vylla Solutions, LLC
1600 South Douglass Road, Suite 140
Anaheim, CA 92806
Automated Sale Information: (949) 776-4697 or https://prestigepostandpub.com/ for NONSALE information: 888-313-1969
LaTedral Franklin, Trustee Sale Specialist
PPP #25-009192

Schld:97782 Adld:33083 Custld:2415

SUMMONS CASE NO. CVCO2503985. NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: (AVISO AL DEMANDADO): 1. JAMIL EVERETT aka JAMIL U. EVERETT aka JAMIL URAIL EVERETT, an individual; and DOES 1 through 20, inclusive
YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF: (LO ESTA DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE): 1. ARROWHEAD CENTRAL CREDIT UNION, a California corporation. NOTICE! You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below. You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court. There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. NOTE: The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of \$10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case. AVISO! Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 días, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su versión. Lea la informacion a continuacion. Tiene 30 DIAS DE CALENDARIO despues de que le entreguen esta citacion y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefonica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y mas informacion en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov) en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede mas cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentacion, pida al secretario de la corte que le de un formulario de exencion de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podra quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin mas advertencia. Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remision a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services, (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, (www.sucorte.ca.gov) o poniendose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales. AVISO: Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos exentos por imponer un gravamen sobre cualquier recuperacion de \$10,000 o mas de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesion de arbitraje en un caso de

derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desear el caso. The name and address of the court is: (El nombre y direccion de la corte es): SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF Riverside, 505 S. Buena Vista Avenue, Room #201 Corona, CA 92882. The name, address and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney is: (El nombre, la direccion y el numero de telefono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es): KAREL ROCHA 212413, Prenovost, Normandin, Dawe & Rocha 2122 N. BROADWAY, Suite 200 Santa Ana CA 92706 Phone: (714)-547-2444 Date: 5/16/2025 Jason B. Galkin, Clerk

Schld:97813 Adld:33094 Custld:2245

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: CHARLES DANIEL CHANDLER CASE NO. PRR12501704 To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of CHARLES DANIEL CHANDLER. A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by BRENDA TURNER in the Superior Court of California, County of RIVERSIDE. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that BRENDA TURNER be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. THE PETITION requests the decedent's WILL and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The WILL and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court. THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A HEARING on the petition will be held in this court as follows: 01/15/26 at 8:30AM in Dept. 12 located at 4050 MAIN STREET, RIVERSIDE, CA 92501

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law. YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. Attorney for Petitioner MICHAEL E. GODBE, ESQ. - SBN 250858 THE LEGAL LAWYERS, PC 18872 MACARTHUR BLVD., SUITE 300 IRVINE CA 92612 Telephone (714) 963-7543 BSC 227795 12/19, 12/26/25, 1/2/26 CNS-3995020# PERRIS PROGRESS

Schld:97837 Adld:33106 Custld:61

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF Adolph Napoleon White Jr. Case No. PRR12502313 To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of Adolph Napoleon White Jr..

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by Jonathan Duval White in the Superior Court of California, County of Riverside.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that Jonathan Duval White be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A HEARING on the petition will be held on 1/9/2026 at 8:30am in Department 8 located at 4050 Main St, Riverside, CA 92501.

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code.

Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

Jonathan Duval White
4795 Palmilla Drive
Perris CA 92571
Phone: (951)-464-2091
Email: jonwhite084@gmail.com

Schld:97866 Adld:33115 Custld:2500

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: JOHN RICHARD CASTORENA AKA JOHN R. CASTORENA CASE NO. PRR12503649 To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of JOHN RICHARD CASTORENA AKA JOHN R. CASTORENA. A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by CESAR ARTURO CASTORENA in the Superior Court of California, County of RIVERSIDE.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that CESAR ARTURO CASTORENA be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A HEARING on the petition will be held in this court as follows: 01/21/26 at 8:30AM in Dept. 11 located at 4050 MAIN STREET, RIVERSIDE, CA 92501

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority

may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law. YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. Attorney for Petitioner STEVEN F. BLISS, ESQ. - SBN 147856 LAW OFFICE OF STEVEN F. BLISS 43920 MARGARITA ROAD SUITE F TEMECULA CA 92592 Telephone (951) 223-7000 12/26/25, 1/2, 1/9/26 CNS-3996708# PERRIS PROGRESS

Schld:97868 AdId:33116 CustId:61

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE’S SALE T.S. No. 25-Q2242-SMCA Title No. 2 504674 84-CAVOI A.P.N. 285-230-016 YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 10/24/2023. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. A public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash, cashier’s check(s) drawn on a state or national bank must be made payable to National Default Servicing Corporation, a check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, savings association, or savings bank specified in Section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state; will be held by the duly appointed trustee as shown below, of all right, title, and interest conveyed to and now held by the trustee in the hereinafter described property under and pursuant to a Deed of Trust described below. The sale will be made in an i:as is” condition, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by the Deed of Trust, with interest and late charges thereon, as provided in the note(s), advances, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, interest thereon, fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee for the total amount (at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale) reasonably estimated to be set forth below. The amount may be greater on the day of sale. Trustor: Luis A Kudo and Monica Patricia Guanild, husband and wife, as community property with right of survivorship Duly Appointed Trustee; National Default Servicing Corporation Recorded 10/26/2023 as Instrument No. 2023-0317794(or Book, Page) of the Official Records of Riverside County, California. Date of Sale: : 01/20/2026 at 9:00 AM Place of Sale: In front of the (Historic) Corona Civic Center, 815 W. Sixth Street, Corona, CA 92882 Estimated amount of unpaid balance and other charges: \$617,856.17 Street Address or other common designation of real property: 19808 Gustin Rd, Perris, CA 92570 A.P.N.: 285-230-016 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address or other common designation, if any, shown above. If no street address or other common designation is shown, directions to the location of the property may be obtained by sending a written request to the beneficiary within 10 days of the date of first publication of this Notice of Sale. If the Trustee is unable to convey title for any reason, the successful bidder’s sole and exclusive remedy shall be the return of monies: paid to the Trustee, and the successful bidder shall have no further recourse. The requirements of California Civil Code Section 2923.5(b)/(2923.55(c) were fulfilled when the Notice of Default was recorded, NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS’ If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks: involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that die lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder’s office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge: you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust On the

property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, of a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee, sale postponements be: made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call 714-730-2727 or visit this internet website www.ndscorp.com/sales, using the file number assigned to this case 25-02242-SMCA. Information about postponements that arc very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the internet website. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. NOTICE TO TENANT”: You may have a right to purchase this property after the trustee auction pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. If you arc a “representative of all eligible tenant buyers” you may be able to purchase the property if you match the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. If you are on “eligible bidder,” you may be able to purchase the property if you exceed the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. There are three steps to exercising this right of purchase. First, 48 hours after the date of the trustee sale, you can call 888-264-4010, or visit this internet website www.ndscorp.com, using the file number assigned to this case 25-02242-SMCA to find the date on which the trustee’s sale was held, the amount of the last and highest bid, and the address of the trustee. Second, you must send a written notice of intent to place a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 15 days after the trustee’s sale. Third, you must submit a bid so that the trustee receives it ho more than 45 days after the trustee’s sale. If you think you may qualify as a “representative of all eligible tenant buyers” Or “eligible bidder,” you should consider contacting an attorney or appropriate real estate professional immediately for advice regarding this potential right to purchase. Pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code, the potential rights described herein shall apply only the public auctions taking place on or after January 1, 2021, through December 31, 2025, unless later extended. Date: 12/18/2025 National Default Servicing Corporation c/o Tiffany and Bosco, P.A., its agent, 1455 Frazee Road, Suite 820 San Diego, CA 92108 Toll Free Phone: 888-264-4010 Sales Line 714-730-2727; Sales Website: www.ndscorp.com Deandre Garland, Trustee Sales Representative A-4861330 12/26/2025, 01/02/2026, 01/09/2026

Schld:97878 AdId:33119 CustId:64

Trustee Sale No. 186198 Title No. 250453755 NOTICE OF TRUSTEE’S SALE YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST, DATED 01/12/2006. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. On 02/03/2026 at 9:00 AM, PRIME RECON LLC, as duly appointed Trustee under and pursuant to Deed of Trust recorded 01/27/2006, as Instrument No. 2006-0068200, in book xx, page xx, of Official Records in the office of the County Recorder of RIVERSIDE County, State of California, executed by ARTHURLENE LARRY, AN UNMARRIED WOMAN, WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH, CASHIER’S CHECK/CASH EQUIVALENT or other form of payment authorized by 2924h(b), (payable at time of sale in lawful money of the United States), AT THE BOTTOM OF THE STAIRWAY TO THE BUILDING LOCATED AT 849 W. SIXTH STREET, CORONA, CA 92882. All right, title and interest conveyed to and now held by it under said Deed of Trust in the property situated in said County and State, described as: FULLY DESCRIBED IN THE ABOVE DEED OF TRUST. APN 311-285-003 The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 558 CHERRY VISTA DR, PERRIS, CA 92571. The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. Said sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by said Deed of Trust, with interest thereon, as provided in said note(s), advances, if any, under the terms of said Deed of Trust, fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust.

The total amount of the unpaid balance of the obligation secured by the property to be sold and reasonable estimated costs, expenses and advances at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale is: \$187,039.64 If the Trustee is unable to convey title for any reason, the successful bidder’s sole and exclusive remedy shall be the return of monies paid to the Trustee, and the successful bidder shall have no further recourse. The beneficiary under said Deed of Trust heretofore executed and delivered to the undersigned a written Declaration of Default and Demand for Sale, and written Notice of Default and Election to Sell. The undersigned caused a Notice of Default and Election to Sell to be recorded in the county where the real property is located. Dated: 12/15/2025 Prime Recon LLC By: Jorge RiosJimenez, Authorized Signer Prime Recon LLC 27368 Via Industria, Ste 201 Temecula, CA 92590 (888) 725-4142 Prime Recon LLC may be attempting to collect a debt. Any information obtained may be used for that purpose. FOR TRUSTEE’S SALE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL: (844) 901-0998 OR VIEW OUR WEBSITE: https://salesinformation.primerecon.com NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder’s office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call (844) 901-0998 for information regarding the trustee’s sale or visit this internet website - https://salesinformation.primerecon.com - for information regarding the sale of this property, using the file number assigned to this case: TS#186198. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the internet website. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. NOTICE TO TENANT: You may have a right to purchase this property after the trustee auction pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. If you are an “eligible tenant buyer,” you can purchase the property if you match the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. If you are an “eligible bidder,” you may be able to purchase the property if you exceed the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. There are three steps to exercising this right of purchase. First, 48 hours after the date of the trustee sale, you can call (844) 901-0998 for information regarding the trustee’s sale, or visit this internet website https://salesinformation.primerecon.com for information regarding the sale of this property, using the file number assigned to this case TS#186198 to find the date on which the trustee’s sale was held, the amount of the last and highest bid, and the address of the trustee. Second, you must send a written notice of intent to place a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 15 days after the trustee’s sale. Third, you must submit a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 45 days after the trustee’s sale. If you think you may qualify as an “eligible tenant buyer” or “eligible bidder,” you should consider contacting an attorney or appropriate real estate professional immediately for advice regarding this potential right to purchase. NPP0482434 To: PERRIS PROGRESS 12/26/2025, 01/02/2026, 01/09/2026

Schld:97885 AdId:33121 CustId:2221

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE’S SALE Trustee Sale No. 25-00248-2CTT Loan No: Koy Builders. APN 321-210-052, 321-210-053, 321-210-054 and 321-190-003 YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST,

ASSIGNMENT OF RENTS, SECURITY AGREEMENT AND FIXTURE FILING DATED JANUARY 7, 2025. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDINGS AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. On January 16, 2028, at 09:00 AM, at the Historic Corona Civic Center 815 W Sixth St. Corona CA, CHICAGO TITLE COMPANY, as the duly appointed Trustee (the “Trustee”), under and pursuant for the power of sale contained in that certain DEED OF TRUST, ASSIGNMENT OF RENTS, SECURITY AGREEMENT AND FIXTURE FILING recorded on January 10, 2025, as Instrument No. 2025-0009692 of official records in the office of the Recorder of Riverside County, CA, executed by: Koy Builders, Inc., a California Company, as Trustor (the “Trustor”), in favor of Farm Holdings, LP, its successors and/ or assignees, as Beneficiary, and any modifications thereto are collectively referred to herein from time to time as the “Deed of Trust”, WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER, in lawful money of the United States, all payable at the time of sale, that certain property situated in said County, California describing the land therein as: As more particularly described in Exhibit “A” attached hereto and made a part hereof EXHIBIT “A” THE LAND REFERRED TO HEREIN BELOW IS SITUATED IN THE UNINCORPORATED AREA IN COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND IS DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: TRACT ONE: (APN: 321-210-052 (PARCEL 1), 321-210-053 (PARCEL 2) AND. 321-210-054 (PARCEL 3)) PARCELS 1, 2 AND 3 OF PARCEL MAP NO. 8598, IN THE COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, FRANCHISE TAX BOARD, AS PER PARCEL MAP ON FILE IN BOOK 46 OF PARCEL MAPS, PAGES 95 AND 96, IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY RECORDER OF SAID COUNTY. EXCEPTING THEREFROM 50 PERCENT OF ALL PETROLEUM, OIL, GAS CASINGHAM GASOLINE AND OTHER HYDROCARBON SUBSTANCES AND MINERALS, AS RESERVED IN DEED FROM WALTER V. EMPIE, A MARRIED MAN AND PAULINE R. EMPIE, HIS WIFE, TO DONNAN P. GOODGER, A WIDOWER, DATED AUGUST 18, 1954 AND RECORDED SEPTEMBER 22, 1954 AS INSTRUMENT NO. 48718, IN BOOK 1632, PAGE 490, OFFICIAL RECORDS.. TRACT TWO: PARCEL 1: (APN: PORTION 321-190-003) THE EAST 1/2 OF THE SOUTH 1/2 OF THE NORTH 1/2 OF THE SOUTH 1/2 OF THE NORTHWEST 1/4 OF SECTION 29, TOWNSHIP 4 SOUTH, RANGE 4 WEST, SAN BERNARDINO BASE AND MERIDIAN, IN THE COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, CALIFORNIA, ACCORDING TO THE OFFICIAL PLAT THEREOF. PARCEL 2: (APN: PORTION 321-190-003) THE EAST 1/2 OF THE SOUTH 1/2 OF THE SOUTH 1/2 OF THE NORTHWEST 1/4 OF SECTION 29, TOWNSHIP 4 SOUTH, RANGE 4 WEST, SAN BERNARDINO BASE AND MERIDIAN, IN THE COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, CALIFORNIA, ACCORDING TO THE OFFICIAL PLAT THEREOF. NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the Property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the Property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the Property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this Property by contacting the county recorder’s office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the Property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 292449 of the California &lscquo;Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, there scheduled time and date for the sale of this Property, you may call 1.866.684.2727 or visit this Internet Website www.servicelinkasap.com, using the file number assigned to this case 25-00249-2CTT. Information about postponements that are very short in

duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Website. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. The real Property heretofore described is being sold “as is”. The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real Property described above is purported to be: No common designation. Directions may be obtained pursuant to a written request submitted to Farm Holdings, LP, its successors and/or assignees, PO Box 1178, Temecula, CA 92593 within 10 days from the first publication of the notice. The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. Said sale will be made without covenant or warranty, express or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining unpaid balance of the obligations secured by and pursuant to the power of sale contained in that certain Deed of Trust (together with any modifications thereto).The total amount of the unpaid balance of the obligations secured by the Property to be sold and reasonable estimated costs, expenses and advances at the time of the initial publication of this Notice of Trustee’s Sale is estimated to be \$1,853,595.40 (Estimated), provided, however, prepayment premiums, accrued interest and advances will increase this figure prior to sale. Beneficiary’s bid at said sale may include all or part of said amount. In addition to cash, the Trustee will accept a cashier’s check drawn on a state or national bank, a check drawn by a state or federal credit union or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, savings association or savings bank specified in Section 5102 of the California Financial Code and authorized to do business in California, or other such funds as may be acceptable to the trustee. In the event tender other than cash is accepted, the Trustee may withhold the issuance of the Trustee’s Deed Upon Sale until funds become available to the payee or endorsee as a matter of right. The Property offered for sale excludes all funds held on account by the Property receiver, if applicable, DATE: December 18, 2025 CHICAGO TITLE COMPANY, TRUSTEE 25-00249-2CTT 5170 Golden Foothill Parkway, Suite 130 El Dorado Hills, CA 95762 916-636-0114 Lindsay Lopez, Authorized Signor SALE INFORMATION CAN BE OBTAINED ONLINE AT www.servicelinkasap.com AUTOMATED SALES INFORMATION PLEASE CALL 1.866.684.2727 A-4861522 12/26/2025, 01/02/2026, 01/09/2026

Schld:97888 AdId:33122 CustId:64

File No.: R-202513806 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) IS (ARE) DOING BUSINESS AS: 1. ID FLEET PORTATION 25455 KAMRAN CIRCLE, MENIFEE, CA 92586 Riverside County. Full Name of Registrant: 1. IVORY PRINCE DAVIS 25455 KAMRAN CIRCLE MENIFEE, CA 92586 This Business is conducted by: INDIVIDUAL. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/A. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares information as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of Business and Professions Code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000).) /S/IVORY PRINCE DAVIS NOTICE - In accordance with subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a fictitious name statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except, as provided in subdivision section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in residence address or registered owner. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before the expiration. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or Common Law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code). THIS STATEMENT WAS FILED WITH THE COUNTY CLERK OF Riverside ON 11/19/2025. PETER ALDANA

Schld:97895 AdId:33124 CustId:2054

As Job Market Tightens, More Californians Are Heading Back to College

BY ADAM ECHELMAN, CalMatters

If you want to gauge the health of California’s economy, start with its community colleges.

“When the economy is doing well, our enrollments are down, and when the economy is in a tough stretch or in a recession, we see our enrollments go up,” said Chris Ferguson, an executive vice chancellor with the California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office, which oversees all of the state’s 116 community colleges.

Ferguson said the state has yet to release authoritative data on fall enrollment, but early data shows upward trends. In interviews with CalMatters, some college presidents said they’re seeing over 10% more students compared to last fall. But they say the state hasn’t provided enough funding to keep up with their growth.

California is not in a recession, but some economic indicators are grim. Unemployment is rising, and it’s getting harder to find a job. The cost of consumer goods, such as toilet paper and cosmetics, is going up, and economists say tariffs and President Donald Trump’s increased deportations could lead to further economic declines in the state.

“Typically when the economy gets a little crazy, like it is right now, people need to upskill or find new work,” and workers look to colleges for help, said Nicole Albo-Lopez, deputy chancellor for the Los Angeles Community College District. In the Los Angeles district, students between the ages of 35 and 54 are coming back to school in droves — up 28% compared to last year, she said.

Other factors may also be bringing students back to school. The COVID-19 pandemic created a sudden and historic drop in college enrollment, and some schools say the influx of students this year is just a return to pre-pandemic levels. A large portion of recent enrollment growth comes from high school students taking college courses, which has exploded in popularity in the past few years.

But most college officials agree that uncertainty about the economy is at least one of the driving forces for new students this semester.

At the Los Rios Community College District, which represents four campuses in the Sacramento metro area, enrollment is up by more than 5% compared to last fall. Part of that is due to “the gap between Wall Street and Main Street,” said Mario Rodriguez, an executive vice chancellor for the system. The stock market has performed well in the past few years, even as job seekers see fewer opportunities and families struggle with inflation. Enrollments in career technical classes are up 10% this semester at the district, the equivalent of almost 4,000 new students.

These job-ready programs, such as medical assisting, welding, and automotive, have always been popular, and some cap enrollment. School officials say waitlists are growing.

Quitting a job, starting school

Carla Gruhn, 29, has worked as a medical assistant in San Jose for 10 years. At one point she was making roughly \$50,000 a year, but it wasn’t enough.

“In the last year, eggs started becoming super expensive,” she said. “That’s when I started paying more attention to gas and groceries.” Together with her husband, she started planning ways to scale back — fewer coffee runs, less travel with their truck, cheaper gifts this Christmas. But they needed a long-term solution, too.

In July, she quit her job and enrolled in a two-year radiologic technology program at Foothill College, in the south Bay Area, which will teach her how to read X-rays, CT scans, and MRIs. Her salary will double, maybe even triple, once she graduates with the new credential.

The pay raise could be “life-changing,” she said. At the moment, Gruhn said her family is small, just her husband and her dog, so their costs are lower, but they know it’s going to get more expensive, since they want to buy a house and have kids. “We’re trying to plan for the future too.”

At Foothill College, enrollment is up, especially in science and technology classes, said Simon Pennington, the school’s associate vice president of community relations. Many of these students are looking to fulfill prerequisites to enter careers in the health care sector, he added. Health care is one of the largest and fastest-growing job

sectors in the state, according to a recent report from the Public Policy Institute of California.

In Merced, hours away from major urban centers like the Bay Area, Sacramento, or Los Angeles, students are clamoring for classes in electronics, where the fall waitlist numbers have nearly doubled compared to three years ago. Demand is also up for classes in criminal justice and mechanized agriculture, according to James Leonard, a spokesperson for the school.

“When the economy goes bad, enrollment skyrockets,” said Dee Sigismond, Merced College’s vice president of instruction, though she wasn’t certain that a recession would have the same impact it did 15 years ago. Staring during the pandemic, Merced College, like most community colleges, now offers many of its classes online, which can make it easier for students to juggle school with a full- or part-time job. She added that Merced is also experimenting with new, more flexible kinds of instruction, such as competency-based education, which allows students to pass a class by showing they already have the requisite skills.

Colleges call for more funding

California’s community colleges receive most of their funding based on the number of students they serve. When enrollment declined during the pandemic, colleges were set to lose funding, but the governor and the Legislature granted the community college system a special exemption, delaying many funding cuts.

Now that enrollment is ticking up, many colleges say they have the opposite problem — they aren’t getting enough money to serve the influx of new students. That’s largely because the state’s funding formula is based on the college’s average enrollment over the past three years, so sudden changes this year are slow to have an effect. Rodriguez said his Sacramento area district is serving about 5,000 more students than the system is funded to support, representing about \$20 million in lost revenue.

This summer, the state agreed to send more money to California’s community colleges to account for recent enrollment growth, but Ferguson said it isn’t enough to fully fund all the new

SCOREBOARD

HOME

00:00

GUEST

☐ POSS ☐

Basketball - Boys

Centennial	65	Atascocita (TX)	49
Timpview (UT)	67	Centennial	56
Centennial	71	Bishop Gorman (NV)	59
Lone Peak (UT)	58	Roosevelt	41
Roosevelt	80	Bishop O' Dowd	65
Roosevelt	81	Mater Lakes Academy	71
Corona	70	Buena Park	39
King	61	Chaparral	52
King	71	Sierra Vista	40
Norco	77	Lagacy Christian Academy	38
Norco	84	Burbank	63
Norco	75	Redlands	56
Santiago (BC)	70	SGHS	44
Santiago (CO)	77	Cherokee Trail	56
Santiago (TX)	66	Prestonwood Christian	32
Elsinore	82	Temecula Valley	69
Chaparral	63	Paloma Valley	45
Bishop Amat	76	Murrieta Mesa	54
Hesperia	65	Vista Murrieta	46
Elsinore	72	Vista Murrieta	60
Great Oak	68	Bishop Amat	63
Perris	63	JW North	62
Victor Valley	77	Perris	74
Norte Vista	99	JW North	45
Lawndale	48	JW North	42
Moreno Valley	52	Arlington	42
Poly	54	Liberty	43
Moreno Valley	52	Arlington	42
Hillcrest	57	Orange Vista	56
Hemet	56	Valley View	55 (OT)
Vista del Lago	57	Heritage	51
Citrus Hill	67	Paloma Valley	55
Lakeside	54	Canyon Springs	50
Temescal Canyon	57	Lakeside	56
Arrowhead Christian	70	Canyon Springs	32
Elsinore	82	West Valley	35
Tahquitz	67	San Jacinto	41
Beaumont	76	San Jacinto	36

students.

Last month, presidents and chancellors from 10 different community colleges or community college districts, including representatives from Los Angeles and Sacramento, sent a letter to the governor, asking him to change state policy and allow colleges to get more funding in next year’s budget. Though he did not sign the letter, Ferguson said the state chancellor’s office is asking the governor for similar changes.

In 2008, colleges had to cut back on services or classes, even as new students poured in because the state didn’t provide proportionate funding for each new enrollment.

Next year, California is expected to face an \$18 billion budget deficit, according to a November analysis by the Legislative Analyst’s Office. For comparison, the state had a deficit of about \$24 billion in 2008, worth about \$36 billion in today’s dollars.

In Chula Vista, Southwestern College President Mark Sanchez said his district is already saying no to potential college classes in high schools and prisons because of a lack of state funding.

His district had over 32,000 students in the last academic year — the highest enrollment rate since the Great Recession.