



**BOB FERNANDEZ**, 100, who was a 17-year-old sailor when Pearl Harbor was attacked 83 years ago, dances with Elizabeth Chitiva, 74, at Whirlows restaurant in Stockton. He's still light on his feet and likes to twirl the ladies around wherever there's live music playing.

COLUMN ONE

# The memories are receding for one of the last survivors of Pearl Harbor

Bob Fernandez was aboard the USS Curtiss. ‘I wish that they never would have come.’



**FERNANDEZ** has been called a hero, but he's not sure about that. He was doing his job, except he survived when 2,400 other service members didn't.

By THOMAS CURWEN  
REPORTING FROM LODI, CALIF.

Questions about that day come year-round but nothing like November and December. The answers have grown into stories, now briefer than before but still mostly complete. Details sometimes get jumbled, but no one complains. For 100, everyone says, Bob Fernandez is doing great.

“You can tell my story if you want,” he says, “but sometimes I’m not all here.”

As much as Fernandez knows his limitations, he is also aware of his obligation.

On Dec. 7, 1941, he was a sailor and stood at a pivot point of history, a moment never to forget when sudden and extreme violence rendered the past irrelevant and the future an open book hinging on the outcome of war.

On a recent morning, Maria Dominguez pours him a cup of decaf, black, two sugars. He’s just woken up. His steps are wobbly as he makes his way to his chair in the living room, where a TV tray awaits with a cookie and three pills.

“Do you remember my name?” she asks.

“Emily? June?”

Then he remembers. Maria. His wife was named Mary.

“You took care of her when she was sick,” she reminds him. “You were 90 when she passed.”

Now Dominguez is taking care of [See Fernandez, A5]

## USDA to begin testing milk for bird flu

Regulators will screen samples from dairy farms in six states including California.

By SUSANNE RUST

Nearly a year after a wild bird infected with H5N1 avian flu presumably passed its viral baggage to a dairy cow in the Texas panhandle — which has subsequently led to the infection of more than 700 herds nationwide and sickened at least 35 dairy workers — the nation’s Agriculture Department announced Friday that it will sample the nation’s milk supply to test for the virus.

The federal order requires dairy farmers to collect and share raw milk samples for testing — if requested — by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. It also lays out a staged testing strategy that will allow the federal agency to track and monitor the disease.

The new testing regimen, called the National Milk Testing Strategy, “is a critical part of our ongoing efforts to protect the health and safety of individuals and communities nationwide,” according to a statement from Xavier Becerra, the U.S. secretary of Health and Human Services.

The new order will initially apply to six states: California, Colorado, Michigan, Mississippi, Oregon and Pennsylvania.

The goal, according to the statement, is to rid the nation’s dairy herds of the disease — an achievement few infectious-disease researchers or virologists think is possible, at least not anytime soon.

“I very much support efforts to expand bulk milk testing, as it is currently the primary way we are finding outbreaks on farms,” said Jennifer Nuzzo, a professor of epidemiology and director of the Pandemic Center at Brown University School of Public Health. “This is helpful, but not fully adequate to protect farmworkers who [See Milk, A6]

## What Trump’s choices say about his economic policies’ direction

Some Cabinet picks raise hopes for little disruption. Others back a push for tariffs.

By DON LEE

WASHINGTON — Some of President-elect Donald Trump’s Cabinet nominations have raised hopes that his trade and other economic actions will not be wildly disruptive or bring back inflation. But that could turn

out to be wishful thinking.

Based on the record of his first term in the Oval Office and on his current statements of his intent, Trump’s second term may see a break from the largely bipartisan consensus that has shaped U.S. economic policy for more than 50 years.

That consensus has centered on a push for more foreign trade, less government regulation of business, tax cuts and other fiscal stimulus when necessary to sustain steady growth and low unemployment. Though Re-

publicans tended to put more emphasis on one element or another than Democrats, the overall thrust remained pretty much the same.

Supporters of that approach took heart when Trump picked billionaire investor Scott Bessent to be his Treasury secretary. Bessent is a familiar name in the hedge fund world, and for some years he worked under longtime financier and Democratic backer George Soros. Wall Street [See U.S. economy, A8]



**SAN FRANCISCO’S** siren-based Outdoor Public Warning System, offline since 2019, is facing renewed scrutiny since Thursday’s tsunami warning on the coast.

## Tsunami warning is state’s wake-up call

By GRACE TOOHEY,  
KAREN GARCIA  
AND RONG-GONG LIN II

Fear, anxiety and confusion swept across the West Coast early Thursday when a rare tsunami warning was issued for parts of Northern California and southern Oregon after a magnitude 7 earthquake that hit about 55 miles off the shore of Eureka.

Evacuations were ordered. Sirens went off. Service was suspended on the Bay Area’s commuter rail through its underwater Transbay Tube.

But in about an hour, the warning was canceled. Though the circumstances were right, no major tsunami formed — this time.

“It could have moved a lot of water,” said Dave Snider, the tsunami warning coordi-

nator at the National Tsunami Warning Center in Alaska. “We’re glad it didn’t.”

The conditions could have produced a dangerous tsunami, but there’s no way to predict such an event accurately ahead of time, Snider said. So his team errs on the side of caution, especially when the earthquake hits closer to the coast — as this one did — and could [See Tsunami, A6]

**Police say gunman who killed CEO fled NYC on bus**

New details emerge about suspect’s travels before and after slaying of UnitedHealthcare executive. **NATION, A4**

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**TikTok loses bid to stop U.S. ban**

Appeals court rejects the social video app’s request to toss out law forcing ByteDance’s divestiture. **BUSINESS, A7**

**Weather**

Sunny and very warm. L.A. Basin: 80/50. **B8**

**Nothing ruffles Galaxy’s coach**

Vanne’s calming demeanor has team on the verge of sixth MLS Cup title. **SPORTS, B12**

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# Notre Dame architect restarts France’s ‘heart’

Philippe Villeneuve reflects on five years of efforts to restore the Paris landmark after devastating fire.

By Thomas Adamson

PARIS — The day after the inferno struck Notre Dame on April 15, 2019, Philippe Villeneuve walked despondently into the remains of his cathedral.

Smoke choked the spring air, the spire lay in rubble, and charred beams littered the nave. “We had lost the framework, the roof, the spire, and three sections of the vault,” said Villeneuve, its chief architect since 2013.

Yet just hours earlier, French President Emmanuel Macron had issued an extraordinary decree: Notre Dame would rise again — in just five years. There was one big problem, Villeneuve said in an interview — “the deadline.”

It felt impossible. Yet as Villeneuve stepped through the wreckage, he was caught by surprise. Terrifying as it was to see the charred remains of the 861-year-old Gothic treasure, hope emerged.

“All the stained-glass windows were spared, the great organ, the furniture, the paintings — everything was intact,” he said. “It was doable.”

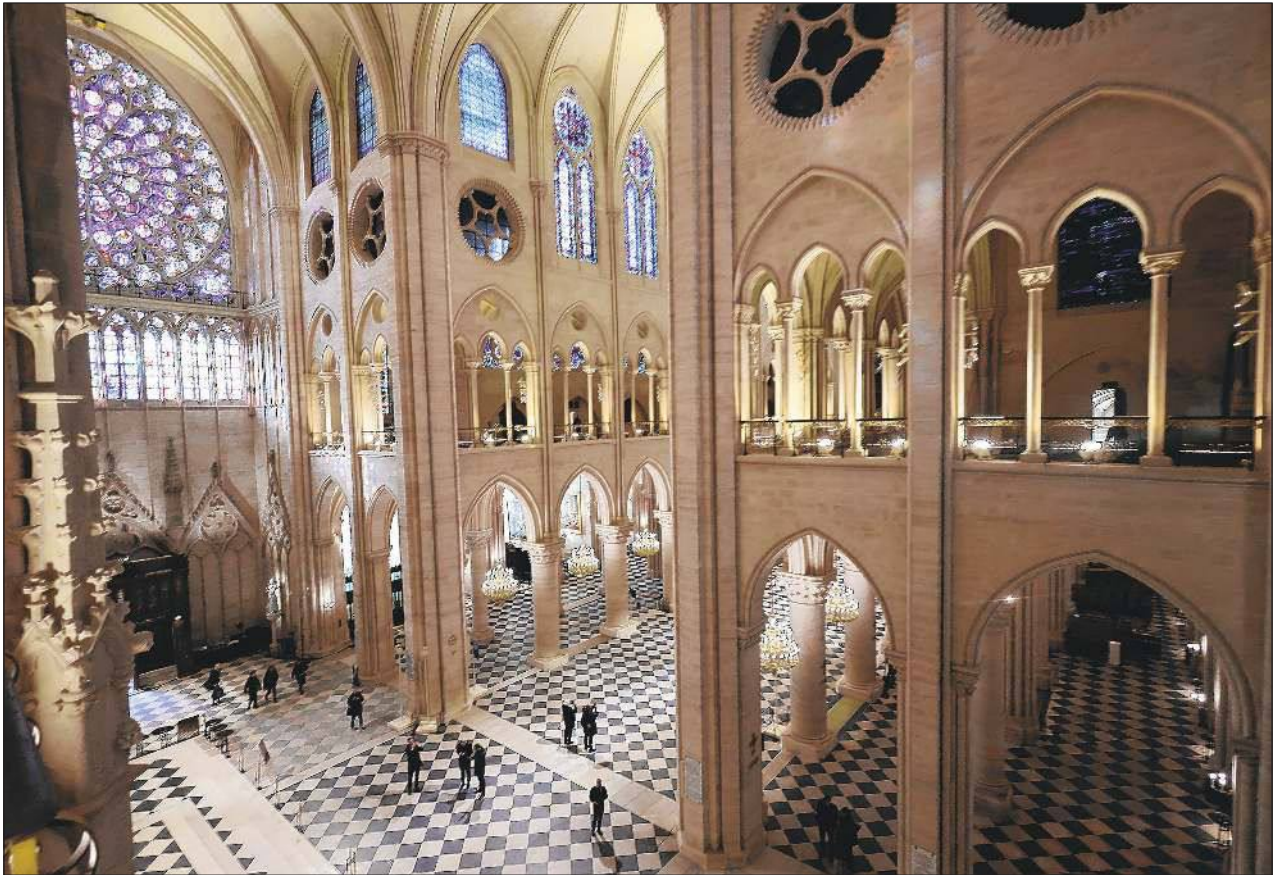
## A historic restoration

Macron’s decree became the driving force behind the most ambitious restoration in modern French history. But obstacles came in waves.

First, a lead contamination crisis halted work for a month. Then came the pandemic, forcing workers off-site. Weather, too, seemed to conspire, with heavy rains delaying the removal of the scorched scaffolding that had fused into a skeletal reminder of the disaster.

But Villeneuve persisted, working with his team to redefine what was possible. He lobbied for the final reopening date to be delayed from April of this year to align with Dec. 8 — a Catholic holy day celebrating the Christian belief of Mary’s conception without sin.

His irreverent sense of humor — delivered amid expletives and with a childlike grin that belies his 61 years —



CHRISTOPHE PETIT TESSON Associated Press

**PEOPLE** stroll through the restored Notre Dame de Paris on Friday. The cathedral overlooking the Seine is reopening this weekend, 5 ½ years after it was ravaged by a fire whose origins remain a captivating mystery.

seems to have carried him through the relentless five years of work.

“This was not just about restoring a building,” he said. “This was about restoring the heart of France.”

## More beautiful than ever

There were positives. The fire badly scarred the cathedral but also revealed its hidden brilliance — with many who glimpsed the restored interiors last week saying they are more majestic than before the catastrophe.

“It’s horrible to say, but every cloud has a silver lining,” Villeneuve said, smiling. “The stone is luminous now. It almost glows.”

Sculptures, walls and organ pipes were painstakingly stripped of grime and soot, exposing a brightness unseen for centuries.

Strolling through the medieval wooden beams of the reconstructed framework, so complicated it is known as the “forest,” or beneath the newly restored spire, Villeneuve felt the work was so seamless it seemed as if the inferno might never have happened, he said.

“That’s success,” Villeneuve said. “If I can make [cathedral visitors] doubt there was ever a fire, then

## A personal show of devotion

While his restoration adhered faithfully to the historical designs of Eugène Viollet-le-Duc, Villeneuve found a deeply personal way to mark his connection to Notre Dame.

He knew he could not etch his name into the stone, so he got a long, bold tattoo on his forearm. It depicts Viollet-le-Duc’s original spire — not the newly restored version crowned with the golden phoenix cum rooster. Complementing it is an-

other tattoo over his chest, inspired by the cathedral’s stained glass, forming a rosary design. “This wasn’t about me,” he said, “but I’ve left my mark in my own way.”

Viollet-le-Duc’s 19th century spire, a meticulous recreation of a medieval aesthetic, remains at the heart of the restoration. “He was a genius,” Villeneuve said of the architect. “My role was to ensure that vision endured.”

## A lingering fire mystery

While Notre Dame’s restoration has proceeded with remarkable precision, one

question still looms over Villeneuve: the cause of the fire, a frustrating investigation into one of the biggest mysteries in France in living memory.

Despite extensive efforts, money and interest, authorities have still not identified the blaze’s origin. Initial theories suggested an electrical short circuit, possibly linked to ongoing renovation work, but no definitive cause has been established. The lingering uncertainty still troubles Villeneuve.

In the wake of the disaster, lessons have been learned and steps taken to ensure Notre Dame’s pro-

tection in the future. Villeneuve and his team have installed cutting-edge fire safety systems in the cathedral to prevent a similar catastrophe.

The attic, now divided into three fire compartments — choir, transept and nave — features advanced thermal cameras, smoke detectors and a revolutionary water-misting system. Unlike traditional sprinklers, this system releases a fine mist of water droplets designed to extinguish flames while minimizing damage to the fragile wood and stone.

“The mist saturates the air, reducing oxygen levels to smother fires without harming the wood or stone,” Villeneuve explained. “These are the most advanced fire safety systems in any French cathedral. We had to learn from what happened. We owe it to the future.”

## Triumph of Notre Dame

Standing on the banks of the Seine, Notre Dame’s spire once again reaching into the Parisian sky, Villeneuve allowed himself a moment of quiet pride as he took questions and compliments from passersby — enjoying his new celebrity status.

For Villeneuve, the journey — his life’s work, shortly before he retires — has been as personal as it was monumental.

“The cathedral burned, she collapsed, and I collapsed the same day,” he said.

“I gradually got back up as she got back up. As the scars began closing, I felt better. Now I feel ready to leave the hospital.”

Adamson writes for the Associated Press.

# A bishop’s door-knock, an organ revived

Notre Dame’s reopening will unfold in a succession of elaborate ceremonies this weekend.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

PARIS — The reopening this weekend of Notre Dame de Paris is a succession of ceremonies to breathe life back into the iconic cathedral and celebrate the recovery from its devastating fire in 2019.

High points will be the ritualized reopening of the cathedral’s massive doors, the reawakening of its thunderous organ and the celebration of the first Mass.

For both France and the Roman Catholic Church, the televised and tightly scripted ceremonies will be an opportunity to display resilience and global influence.

President-elect Donald Trump and dozens of heads of state and government accepted invitations from French President Emman-

uel Macron. During Part 1 of Notre Dame’s rebirth Saturday evening, Archbishop Laurent Ulrich will lead more than 1,500 guests through a reopening service. Part 2, on Sunday, is an inaugural Mass, with special rites to consecrate the main altar.

**Opening the doors**

On Saturday, Ulrich will first reopen Notre Dame’s great doors — by tapping them with his crosier, or bishop’s staff.

The staff was created for the occasion by designer Sylvain Dubuisson. Its wood — bearing visible black traces from the blaze — came from pieces of the cathedral roof that collapsed in the inferno, Dubuisson said.

In response to the archbishop’s door-knocks, the cathedral will erupt into song, its choirs once again filling the cavernous spaces. That back-and-forth will happen three times. The doors will then open so guests can stream inside past their sculptures of biblical figures.

**‘Awaken, organ’**

The voice of Notre Dame’s great organ hasn’t been heard in public since the blaze coated the instrument’s nearly 8,000 pipes with toxic dust released when lead roofing burned.

After the door-opening rites, Ulrich will reawaken the giant instrument. He’ll address it directly with a series of eight incantations, starting with “Awaken, organ, sacred instrument: Sing the praise of God.”

That prompt will launch a conversation, with four organists taking turns playing the instrument’s responses. They’ll be perched high above the congregation, seated at the newly renovated giant console that controls the instrument — through five keyboards of 56 notes each, foot pedals for 30 notes, and 115 stops.

Olivier Latry says he and the other organists will improvise their responses to the archbishop’s prompts — depending on their own and the congregation’s mood. The deepest of the organ’s 7,952 pipes are as large as a

human torso, producing a low rumbling sound. The smallest are no larger than a pen.

**Rich and poor alike**

Some 340,000 people from more than 150 countries donated \$364 million for the restoration of the nearly 900-year-old cathedral, the public body in charge of Notre Dame’s restoration says.

“It’s something which belongs to everybody,” fundraising committee member Michel Picaut told AP.

The nonprofit he leads, Friends of Notre-Dame de Paris, raised \$57 million from 50,000 international donors, most of them Americans.

At the reopening, billionaire donors from France and beyond will rub shoulders with other guests.

Those in attendance will include “the poorest among Parisians ... those who are helped by charitable associations and who will be several hundred inside the cathedral,” said the Rev. Olivier Ribadeau Dumas, Notre Dame’s rector.

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Nutrition pouches are suspected of infecting 19 children with multidrug-resistant *K. oxytoca* bacteria.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

MEXICO CITY — Thirteen children under 14 have died in central Mexico, and authorities say they suspect contaminated IV feeding bags as the culprit.

The federal health department ordered doctors across the country not to use IV nutrition bags made by the company Productos Hospitalarios S.A. de C.V., though the exact source of the infections is still under investigation. Phone calls to numbers listed for the company and emails seeking comment went unanswered.

The outbreak appeared to be from *Klebsiella oxytoca*, a multidrug-resistant bacterium. It was first detected in November at three

government hospitals and one private hospital in the state of Mexico, on the outskirts of Mexico City.

The department said the children appeared to have died from a bloodstream infection.

*K. oxytoca* has been ruled out in one of 20 possible cases. The bacterium is suspected in four cases and has been confirmed in 15. Of the 19 patients, 13 have died and the other six patients are being treated at hospitals.

President Claudia Sheinbaum, when asked about the cluster of cases, said Thursday: “[Health officials] told me about a case yesterday, but let’s say, it’s under control.”

It was the latest public blow to Mexico’s tottering, underfunded healthcare system. Last week, the director of the country’s flagship national cardiology institute said that the hospital didn’t have money to buy essential supplies, calling the situation “critical.”

Dr. Jorge Gaspar, the hospital’s director, wrote an

internal letter saying that budget cuts “have affected the acquisition of supplies necessary for the institution’s functioning.”

In a subsequent public letter the next day, Gaspar clarified that the initial message was intended for an “internal” audience and assured the public that “we are working to solve the situation.”

Mexico has been plagued by contaminated medical supply scandals for years.

In 2023, authorities arrested an anesthesiologist they blamed for an outbreak of meningitis that killed 35 patients and sickened 79.

The doctor, whose name was withheld, apparently carried his own morphine from one private hospital to another, spreading a fungal infection that had contaminated the medication at the first clinic, authorities said.

The drug may not have been stored properly. Some smaller hospitals or maternity clinics in Mexico don’t have their own dispensing

pharmacies or are not authorized to handle controlled medications like opiates, and have long relied on anesthesiologists to bring their own.

In 2020, 14 people died after a hospital run by Mexico’s state-owned oil company gave a drug to dialysis patients that was contaminated with bacteria. More than 69 patients were sickened.

Former President Andrés Manuel López Obrador, who left office Oct. 1, complained frequently that drug supply companies were charging too much, and essentially revamped the medical purchasing system, pledging to provide Mexicans with healthcare that is “better than in Denmark.”

However, the new system of government-run warehouses has foundered, plagued by chronic shortages of supplies and drugs, and a gargantuan government supply depot that López Obrador set up and called the “mega drug store” now sits largely empty.



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Los Angeles Times



## THE WORLD

# S. Korean president's impeachment seems likely

Head of Yoon's party sides with opposition lawmakers as outrage grows over martial law declaration.

By **HYUNG-JIN KIM**  
AND **KIM TONG-HYUNG**

SEOUL — South Korea's governing party chief showed support Friday for suspending the constitutional powers of President Yoon Suk-yeol for imposing martial law this week, a startling reversal that makes Yoon's impeachment more likely.

Opposition parties are pushing for a parliamentary vote on Yoon's impeachment Saturday, calling his short-lived martial law declaration an “unconstitutional, illegal rebellion or coup.” But they need support from some members of the president's People Power Party to get the two-thirds majority required to pass the motion.

The turmoil resulting from Yoon's nighttime martial law decree has frozen South Korean politics and caused worry among neighbors, including Japan, and Seoul's top ally, the United States, as one of the strongest democracies in Asia faces a political crisis that could unseat its leader.

During a People Power Party meeting, leader Han Dong-hun emphasized the need to suspend Yoon's presidential duties and power swiftly, saying he poses a “significant risk of extreme actions, like reattempting to impose martial law, which could potentially put the Republic of Korea and its citizens in great danger.”

Han said he had received intelligence that Yoon had



AHN YOUNG-JOON Associated Press

**PROTESTERS MARCH** through Seoul to seek the resignation of South Korean President Yoon Suk-yeol, who briefly declared martial law. Thousands of union workers have started hourly strikes since Thursday.

ordered the country's defense counterintelligence commander to arrest and detain unspecified key politicians based on accusations of “anti-state activities” during the brief period martial law was in force.

“It's my judgment that an immediate suspension of President Yoon Suk-yeol's official duties is necessary to protect the Republic of Korea and its people,” said Han, who had said earlier he would work to defeat an impeachment motion.

Impeaching Yoon would require support from 200 of the National Assembly's 300 members. The opposition parties who jointly brought the impeachment motion have 192 seats combined. Yoon's People Power Party has 108 lawmakers.

Han leads a minority faction within the ruling party, and 18 lawmakers in his fac-

tion voted with opposition lawmakers to overturn Yoon's martial law decree. Martial law ultimately lasted about six hours, after the quick overrule by the National Assembly forced Yoon's Cabinet to lift it before daybreak Wednesday.

The main liberal opposition Democratic Party leader, Lee Jae-myung, said in a televised speech Friday that it was crucial to suspend Yoon as “quickly as possible.”

Lee said that Yoon's martial law enforcement amounted to “rebellion and also a self-coup” and that it damaged the country's image and paralyzed foreign policy, pointing to criticism from the Biden administration and other foreign leaders canceling visits to South Korea.

Yoon has made no immediate response to Han's com-

ments. He hasn't made public appearances since he made a televised announcement that his martial law decree was lifted.

If Yoon is impeached, he would be suspended until the Constitutional Court rules on whether to remove him from office or restore his presidential powers. Prime Minister Han Duck-soo, the country's No. 2 official, would take over presidential responsibilities.

The Defense Ministry said it had suspended the defense counterintelligence commander, the commander of the capital defense command and the leader of the special warfare command over their involvement in enforcing martial law.

In a closed-door briefing to lawmakers, Hong Jang-won, first deputy director of South Korea's National In-

telligence Service, said Yoon called after imposing martial law and ordered him to help the defense counterintelligence unit detain key politicians.

The spy agency's director, Cho Tae-yong, questioned Hong's account. Cho told reporters that such an order would have come to him, rather than Hong, and that he never received any orders from Yoon to detain politicians.

Thousands of protesters have marched in the streets of Seoul since Wednesday, calling for Yoon to resign and be investigated. Thousands of union workers have started hourly strikes since Thursday.

Vice Defense Minister Kim Seon-ho promised the ministry's “active cooperation” with an investigation by prosecutors into the military's role in Yoon's

martial law enforcement. He said military prosecutors will also be involved in the investigation. He denied media speculation that Yoon and his military confidants might consider imposing martial law a second time.

“Even if there's a demand to enforce martial law, the Defense Ministry and the Joint Chiefs of Staff will absolutely not accept it,” Kim said.

Kim became the acting defense minister after Yoon's office on Thursday accepted the resignation of Defense Minister Kim Yong-hyun, who has been banned from travel while he is investigated over the imposition of martial law. Opposition parties and Han Dong-hun allege that Kim Yong-hyun recommended that Yoon declare martial law.

Prosecutor General Shim Woo-jung told reporters Friday that the prosecution plans to investigate rebellion charges against Yoon following complaints filed by the opposition. While the president mostly enjoys immunity from prosecution while in office, the protection does not extend to allegations of rebellion or treason. It wasn't immediately clear how the prosecution plans to proceed with an investigation of Yoon.

The Biden administration, which has worked closely with Yoon's government while strengthening trilateral security cooperation with Japan to counter North Korean threats and regional instability, has expressed deep concern about Yoon's actions.

Hyung-Jin Kim and Kim Tong-Hyung write for the Associated Press. AP writer Lolita C. Baldor in Washington contributed to this report.

# Insurgents advance to the doorstep of Homs, Syria's third-largest city

By **BASSEM MROUE**

BEIRUT — Thousands of people fled the central Syrian city of Homs, the country's third largest, as insurgents seized two towns on the outskirts Friday, positioning themselves for an assault on a potentially major prize in their march against President Bashar Assad.

The move, reported by pro-government media and an opposition war monitor, was the latest in the stunning advances by opposition fighters over the last week that have so far met little resistance from Assad's forces. A day earlier, fighters captured the central city of Hama, Syria's fourth largest, after the army said it withdrew to avoid fighting inside the city and spare the lives of civilians.

The insurgents, led by the Hayat Tahrir al Sham group, or HTS, have vowed to march to Homs and the capital, Damascus, Assad's

seat of power. Videos circulating online showed a highway jammed with cars full of people fleeing Homs, a city with a large population belonging to Assad's Alawite sect, seen as his core supporters.

If Assad's military loses Homs, it could be a crippling blow. The city, parts of which were controlled by insurgents until 2014, lies on an important intersection between Damascus and Syria's coastal provinces of Latakia and Tartus, where Assad enjoys wide support. Homs province is Syria's largest in size and borders Lebanon, Iraq and Jordan.

Pressure on the government intensified from multiple directions. Opposition protesters stormed security posts and army positions in the southern province of Suwayda, opposition activists said. U.S.-backed Kurdish forces who control eastern and northeastern Syria began to encroach on government-held territory.



OMAR ALBAM Associated Press

**BULLET** holes obscure an image of President Bashar Assad at a government office Friday in Hama, Syria.

After years of largely being bottled up in a northwest corner of the country, the insurgents burst out a week ago, captured the northern city of Aleppo, Syria's largest, and have kept advancing since. Government troops have repeatedly fallen back.

The sudden offensive has flipped the tables on a long-

entrenched stalemate in Syria's nearly 14-year-old civil war. Along with HTS, the fighters include forces of an umbrella group of Turkish-backed Syrian militias called the Syrian National Army. Turkey has denied backing the offensive, though experts say insurgents would not have launched it without the

country's consent.

HTS' leader, Abu Mohammed al Golan, told CNN on Thursday that Assad's government was on the path to falling, propped up only by Russia and Iran.

“The seeds of the regime's defeat have always been within it,” he said. “But the truth remains, this regime is dead.”

A key question about Assad's ability to fight back is how much top ally Russia — whose troops back Assad's forces — will throw support his way at a time when it is tied up in the war in Ukraine.

Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said he planned to discuss the developments in Syria with his Turkish and Iranian counterparts at a meeting Friday in Qatar.

The foreign ministers of Iran, Iraq and Syria gathered Friday in Baghdad to consult on the rapidly changing war. Syrian Foreign Minister Bassam Sab-

bagh said the developments may pose “a serious threat to the security of the region as a whole.”

The insurgent fighters on Friday took over the towns of Rastan and Talbiseh, putting them three miles from Homs, according to the Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, an opposition war monitor.

“The battle of Homs is the mother of all battles and will decide who will rule Syria,” said Rami Abdurrahman, the observatory's chief.

Pro-government radio station Sham FM said the insurgents entered Rastan and Talbiseh without facing any resistance.

The observatory said Syrian troops had left Homs. But the military denied that in comments reported by the state-run Syrian Arab News Agency, or SANA, saying troops were reinforcing their positions in the city and were “ready to repel” any assault.

In eastern Syria, the Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces coalition said it had moved into the government-held half of the city of Dair Alzour, apparently without resistance. The SDF also said it took control of other parts of the border with Iraq.

The opposition assault has struck a blow to Syria's already decrepit economy.

Damascus residents told the Associated Press that people were rushing to markets to buy food, fearing further escalation.

The worsening economy could be undermining the ability of Syria's military to fight, as the value of soldiers' salaries melts away while the insurgents are flush with cash.

Syria's military, which is backed by Russian forces stationed in the country, has not appeared to put up a cohesive counteroffensive against the opposition advances.

Syria's defense minister said in a televised statement late Thursday that government forces withdrew from Hama as “a temporary tactical measure” and vowed to gain back lost areas.

Mroue writes for the Associated Press. AP writers Albert Aji in Damascus and Suzan Fraser in Ankara, Turkey, contributed to this report.

# Romanian court annuls results of presidential election

By **STEPHEN McGRATH**

BUCHAREST, Romania — A top Romanian court on Friday annulled the first round of the country's presidential election, days after allegations that Russia ran an online campaign to promote the far-right outsider who won the first round.

The Constitutional Court's unprecedented decision — which is final — came after President Klaus Iohannis declassified intelligence on Wednesday that alleged Russia ran a campaign comprising thousands of social media accounts to promote Calin Georgescu on platforms such as TikTok and Telegram.

The intelligence files were from the Romanian Intelligence Service, the Foreign Intelligence Service, the Special Telecommunication Service and the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

An outsider who declared zero campaign spending, Georgescu emerged as the front-runner Nov. 24. He was due to face reformist Elena Lasconi of the Save Romania Union

party in a runoff Sunday.

Iohannis said that once a new government is formed, new dates will be set to rerun the vote. Some 951 voting stations had opened abroad on Friday for the runoff for Romania's large diaspora but had to be halted.

Sandwiched in the week in between the scheduled presidential race, Romania also held a parliamentary election that saw pro-Western parties win the most votes but also gains for far-right nationalists.

In a televised statement Friday, Iohannis said he was “deeply concerned” by the contents of the intelligence reports, which indicated one candidate's campaign was “unlawfully supported from outside Romania” and was a matter of national security.

“The same candidate declared zero campaign expenditures, despite running a highly sophisticated campaign,” he said. “Intelligence reports revealed that this candidate's campaign was supported by a foreign state with interests contrary to Romania's. These are serious issues.”

Lasconi condemned the

court's decision, saying it was “illegal, immoral and crushes the very essence of democracy.”

“We should have moved forward with the vote. We should have respected the will of the Romanian people,” she said. “I know I would have won.”

She said the issue of Russian interference should have been tackled sooner. Some 9.4 million people — about 52.5% of eligible voters — cast ballots in the first round.

Prime Minister Marcel Ciolacu said in a statement that the annulment was “the only correct solution” after the intelligence revelation, which showed that the “Romanian people's vote was flagrantly distorted as a result of Russian interference.”

The same court last week ordered a recount of the first-round votes, adding to the controversies that have engulfed a chaotic election. Following a recount, the court validated the first-round results Monday.

Many observers have expressed concerns that annulling the vote could trigger

civil unrest.

George Simion, the leader of the far-right Alliance for the Union of Romanians, said the development was a “coup d'etat in full swing” but urged people not to take to the streets. “We don't let ourselves be provoked. This system has to fall democratically,” he said.

Cristian Andrei, a political consultant based in Bucharest, said the court's decision amounts to a “crisis-mode situation for the Romanian democracy.”

Thirteen candidates ran in the first-round presidential vote in this European Union and NATO member country. The president serves a five-year term and has significant powers in areas such as national security, foreign policy and judicial appointments.

Before the first-round vote, most surveys predicted the top three candidates would be Ciolacu, who came in third place, and Simion and Lasconi in second place. As the surprising results came in with Georgescu on top, and Lasconi narrowly beating Ciolacu, it sent shock waves through the political

establishment.

Many observers attributed his success to his TikTok account, which has 541,000 followers. But some experts suspect Georgescu's online following was artificially inflated, and Romania's top security body alleged he was given preferential treatment by TikTok over other candidates.

In the intelligence release, the secret services alleged that one TikTok user paid more than \$381,000 to other users to promote Georgescu content. Intelligence authorities said information they obtained “revealed an aggressive promotion campaign” to increase and accelerate his popularity.

Georgescu, when asked Wednesday whether he believes the Chinese-owned TikTok poses a threat to democracy, defended social media platforms.

“The most important existing function for promoting free speech and freedom of expression is social media,” he said.

McGrath writes for the Associated Press.



# Biden considers sweeping preemptive pardons

Unprecedented broad protections weighed for those threatened with prosecution for crossing Trump.

By Zeke Miller and Colleen Long

WASHINGTON — President Biden is weighing whether to issue sweeping pardons for officials and allies who the White House fears could be unjustly targeted by President-elect Donald Trump's administration, a preemptive move that would be a novel and risky use of the president's extraordinary constitutional power.

The deliberations so far are largely at the level of White House lawyers. But Biden himself has discussed the topic with some senior aides, according to two people familiar with the matter who spoke on condition of anonymity Thursday to discuss the sensitive subject. No decisions have been made, the sources said, and it is possible Biden will opt not to issue the pardons.

Pardons are historically afforded to those accused of specific crimes — and usually to those who have already been convicted of an offense — but Biden's team is considering issuing them for those who have not even been investigated, let alone charged. They fear that Trump and his allies, who have boasted of enemies lists and exacting “retribution,” could launch investigations that would be reputationally and financially costly for their targets even if



**FORMER** House Republican Liz Cheney is among potential targets of the incoming president for helping investigate Jan. 6 and campaigning for Kamala Harris.

they don't result in prosecutions.

A president's power to issue pardons is absolute, but Biden's potential use of them in this fashion would mark a significant expansion of how they are deployed, and some Biden aides fear such use could lay the groundwork for even more drastic pardons Trump. They also worry that issuing pardons would feed into claims by Trump and his allies that the individuals committed acts that necessitated immunity.

Recipients could include infectious disease specialist Dr. Anthony Fauci, who was

instrumental in combating the COVID-19 pandemic and who has become a pariah to conservatives angry about mask mandates and vaccines. Others include witnesses in Trump's criminal or civil trials and Biden administration officials who have drawn the ire of the incoming president.

Some former officials have reached out to the Biden White House seeking some protection from the future Trump administration, one of the sources said.

The deliberations follow Biden's decision to pardon his son Hunter — not just for convictions on federal gun

and tax violations, but for any potential federal offense committed over an 11-year period, as the president feared that Trump allies would seek to prosecute his son on any accusations of other offenses. That could serve as a model for other pardons Biden might issue to those who could find themselves in legal jeopardy under Trump.

Biden is not the first to consider such pardons — Trump aides considered them for him and his supporters involved in his failed efforts to overturn the 2020 presidential election, including the violent riot at the

Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021. But those potential pardons did not materialize before he left office nearly four years ago, so the Democratic president could be the first to issue such sweeping preemptive pardons.

Gerald Ford granted a “full, free, and absolute pardon” in 1974 to his predecessor, Richard Nixon, over the Watergate scandal. He believed a potential trial would “cause prolonged and divisive debate over the propriety of exposing to further punishment and degradation a man who has already paid the unprecedented penalty of relinquishing the highest elective office of the United States,” as written in the pardon proclamation.

Politico was first to report that Biden was studying the use of preemptive pardons.

On the campaign trail, Trump made no secret of his desire to seek revenge on those who prosecuted or otherwise crossed him.

Trump has talked about “enemies from within” and circulated social media posts that call for locking up Biden; 2024 Democratic nominee Kamala Harris; his own former vice president, Mike Pence; and Senate leaders Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.) and Charles E. Schumer (D-N.Y.). He also zeroed in on former Rep. Liz Cheney, a conservative Wyoming Republican who campaigned for Harris and helped investigate Jan. 6, and he promoted a social media post that suggested he wanted military tribunals for supposed treason.

Kash Patel, whom Trump has chosen to replace the FBI director — before the end of his 10-year

term — has listed dozens of officials he wants to “come after.”

Richard Painter, a Trump critic who served as the top White House ethics lawyer under President George W. Bush, said he was reluctantly in support of having Biden issue sweeping pardons to people who could be targeted by Trump's administration. He said he hoped that would “clean the slate” for the incoming president and encourage him to focus on governing, not on punishing his political opponents.

“It's not an ideal situation at all,” Painter said. “We have a whole lot of bad options confronting us at this point.”

The Supreme Court ruled this year that presidents have broad immunity from prosecution for what could be considered official acts, but presidential aides and allies enjoy no such shield. Some fear that Trump could use the promise of a blanket pardon to encourage his allies to take actions they might otherwise resist for fear of running afoul of the law.

“There could be blatant illegal conduct over the next four years, and he can go out and pardon his people before he leaves office,” Painter said. “But if he's going to do that, he's going to do that anyway regardless of what Biden does.”

More conventional pardons from Biden, such as those for sentencing disparities for people convicted of federal crimes, are expected before the end of the year, the White House said.

Miller and Long write for the Associated Press.

# Healthcare executive's killer fled New York on bus, police believe

New details emerge about suspect's travels before and after the slaying of Brian Thompson this week.

By Michael Balsamo, Jake Offenhartz and Michael R. Sisak

NEW YORK — The gunman who killed the chief executive of the largest U.S. health insurer this week may have quickly left New York City on a bus after escaping on a bicycle and hopping in a cab, police officials said Friday.

Video of the gunman fleeing Wednesday's shooting of UnitedHealthcare's Brian Thompson showed the man riding through Central Park and later taking a taxi to a bus terminal directly across from New Jersey, New York Police Chief of Detectives Joseph Kenny told CNN.

Police have video of the man entering the bus station but no video of him exiting, leading them to believe he left the city, Kenny said. “It's a very busy bus terminal; we want to make sure we have the right bus. But we're

working through that right now. This is all new information,” he said.

Investigators also believe the shooter left his backpack in Central Park, and they are carrying out a massive sweep to find it, Police Commissioner Jessica Tisch said.

The reason for the killing remains unknown. NYPD officials say evidence firmly points to it being a targeted attack.

The gunman made sure to wear a mask during the shooting, yet left a trail of evidence in view of the nation's biggest city and its network of security cameras. A law enforcement official said Friday that surveillance video shows the suspect riding the subway and visiting establishments in Manhattan and provided more clues about his actions before the attack.

Investigators believe the suspect may have traveled to New York last month on a bus that originated in Atlanta, according to the law enforcement official, who was not authorized to discuss details of the ongoing investigation and spoke to the Associated Press on condition of anonymity. Once in New York, the suspect ap-



**SECURITY VIDEO** shows a man wanted in connection with the shooting of UnitedHealthcare's CEO.

peared to pay with cash in establishments where he was captured on camera, the official said.

Investigators have tested a discarded water bottle and protein bar wrapper in a hunt for his DNA. They also were trying to obtain information from a cellphone recovered from a pedestrian plaza where the gunman

fled after shooting Thompson outside his company's annual investor conference at a hotel blocks from Radio City Music Hall and Rockefeller Center.

Police have released photos of a person wanted for questioning in connection with the killing that were taken in the lobby of a hostel on Manhattan's Upper West

Side. The images, showing an unmasked man smiling in the lobby of the HI New York City Hostel, add to a collection of photos and video circulated since the shooting — including video of the attack itself, as well as images of the suspected gunman stopping at a Starbucks before the attack.

Surveillance images from the shooting show the man wearing a hooded jacket and a mask that concealed most of his face — a look that would not have attracted attention on a chilly morning.

Investigators have learned the man lowered his mask at the front desk of the hostel because he was flirting with the woman who checked him in, the law enforcement official told the AP, leading to a photo of his face. The woman told investigators that during that encounter she asked to see his smile and he pulled down his mask, the official said.

Investigators believe the suspect used a fake New Jersey identification card, the official said, when he checked in at the hostel, which has a cafe along with shared and private rooms and is just blocks from Columbia University.

Investigators believe the

shooter had at least some firearms training and experience with guns, the official said.

Security video shows the killer approaching Thompson from behind, firing several shots with a gun equipped with a silencer, barely pausing to clear a jam while the executive fell to the sidewalk.

The words “deny,” “defend” and “depote” were scrawled on the ammunition, two law enforcement officials told the AP on Thursday. The messages mirror the phrase “deny, deny, defend,” which is commonly used by lawyers and critics about insurers that delay payments, deny claims and defend their actions.

Thompson, a father of two sons who lived in a Minneapolis suburb, had been with Minnetonka, Minn.-based UnitedHealthcare since 2004 and served as CEO for more than three years.

The insurer's parent company, UnitedHealth Group Inc., was holding its annual meeting in New York to update investors on its direction and expectations for the coming year. The company ended the conference after Thompson's death.

UnitedHealth Group said it was focused on supporting Thompson's family, ensuring the safety of employees and assisting investigators.

“While our hearts are broken, we have been touched by the huge outpouring,” the company said.

UnitedHealthcare provides coverage for more than 49 million Americans. It manages health insurance coverage for employers and state and federally funded Medicaid programs.

In October, UnitedHealthcare was named along with Humana and CVS in a Senate report detailing how its denial rate for prior authorizations for some Medicare Advantage patients has surged in recent years.

The shooting has shaken corporate America and the health insurance industry in particular, causing companies to reevaluate security plans and delete photos of executives from their websites.

Balsamo, Offenhartz and Sisak write for the Associated Press. Offenhartz and Sisak reported from New York, Balsamo from Washington.

# Trump taps immigration hard-liner to shape border policies

Rodney Scott, a former Border Patrol chief, has been a vocal supporter of tougher enforcement.

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The picture of who will be in charge of executing President-elect Donald Trump's hard-line immigration and border policies has come into sharper focus after he announced his picks to head Customs and Border Protection and also the agency tasked with deporting immigrants who are in the country illegally.

Trump said late Thursday he was tapping Rodney Scott, a former Border Patrol chief who's been a vocal supporter of tougher enforcement measures, for CBP commissioner.

For acting director of Immigration and Customs En-

forcement, Trump said he'd nominate Caleb Vitello, a career ICE official with more than 23 years in the agency who most recently was the assistant director for firearms and tactical programs.

The two are expected to work with an immigration leadership team that includes South Dakota Gov. Kristi Noem as secretary of the Department of Homeland Security, former acting ICE chief Tom Homan as border czar and immigration hard-liner Stephen Miller as deputy chief of staff. Noem's nomination requires Senate approval.

Customs and Border Protection, with its roughly 60,000 employees, falls under the Department of Homeland Security. It includes the Border Patrol, which Scott led during Trump's first term, and is essentially responsible for protecting the country's borders while facilitating trade and travel.

Scott comes to the job firmly from the Border Patrol side of the house. He be-

came an agent in 1992 and spent much of his career in San Diego. When he joined the agency, the city was by far the busiest corridor for illegal crossings. Traffic plummeted after the government increased enforcement there, but critics note the effort pushed people to remote parts of California and Arizona.

San Diego was also where wall construction began in the 1990s, shaping Scott's belief that barriers work. He was named San Diego sector chief in 2017.

When he was appointed head of the border agency in January 2020, he embraced Trump's policies. He left the post in August 2021, under the Biden administration.

“He's well-known. He does know these issues and obviously is trusted by the administration,” said Gil Kerlikowske, the CBP commissioner under the Obama administration.

Kerlikowske took issue with some of Scott's past actions, including his refusal to

fall in line with a Biden administration directive to stop using terms such as “illegal alien” in favor of descriptions such as “migrant,” and his decision as San Diego sector chief to fire tear gas into Mexico to disperse protesters.

“You don't launch projectiles into a foreign country,” Kerlikowske said.

At the time, Scott defended the agents' decisions, saying they were being assaulted by “a hail of rocks.”

Though much of the focus of Trump's administration may be on illegal immigration and security along the U.S.-Mexico border, Kerlikowske also stressed the importance of other parts of Customs and Border Protection's mission.

The agency is responsible for securing trade and international travel at airports, ports and land crossings around the country. Whoever runs the agency has to make sure that billions of dollars' worth of trade and

millions of passengers move swiftly and safely into and out of the country.

And if Trump makes good on promises to ratchet up tariffs on Mexico, China and Canada, CBP will play an integral role in enforcing them.

“There's a huge amount of other responsibility on trade, on tourism, on cyber that take a significant amount of time and have a huge impact on the economy if it's not done right,” Kerlikowske said.

Since being forced out under the Biden administration, Scott has been a strong supporter of Trump's hard-line immigration agenda. He has appeared frequently on Fox News and testified Congress. He's also a senior fellow at the Texas Public Policy Foundation.

In a 2023 interview, he advocated for a return to Trump-era immigration policies and more pressure on Mexico to enforce immigration on its side of the border.





**JOE GUTHRIE**, left, finds Frank Sinatra songs for his uncle, Bob Fernandez, as he puts him to bed. Fernandez has been back to Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7 three times. Photographs by MYUNG J. CHUN Los Angeles Times

# Not thinking of that fateful day as much anymore

[**Fernandez**, from A1] him. It's been just over a year.

He has been called a hero, but he's not sure about that. He was doing his job just like thousands of others, except he survived when 2,400 service members didn't. Today he knows he stands for those who can't — in a brotherhood made more special the smaller it has become.

No one knows how many Pearl Harbor survivors are still alive. Some say fewer than 20. Others say the number is incalculable if civilians are considered. But no matter; soon there will be none, and the memories will recede to the pages of books, entries on the internet and museum exhibits.

On the television, Vincent Price is delivering a monologue about Abraham Lincoln during a rerun of "The Carol Burnett Show." Outside, rain is falling. Fernandez sips his coffee.

Until earlier this year, he had been living on his own. Stubborn independence is, however, a blessing and a curse. After a fall, hospitalization and rehab, he moved in with his nephew, Joe Guthrie, and Joe's wife, Kimberly, her son, three dogs and four cats.

Joe and Kim adore him. Fernandez was Joe's best man at their wedding two years ago, and they are eager to help him settle in at their home in Lodi. While they are at work, Dominguez helps fulfill a promise that Joe made 10 years ago when the old man wondered what he'd do when he got old.

As Fernandez tries to remember the events of that bright and sunny morning 83 years ago, the details are fragmented by the passage of time, the reticence of trauma. A few stories he's repeated enough to get right, but what has faded for him is fading for America as well.

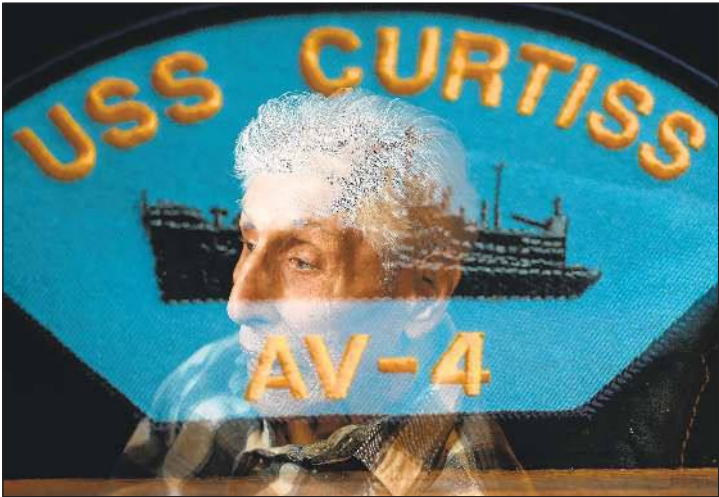
Like the Civil War, the Kennedy assassination and, one day, 9/11, tragedies once indelible in the minds of all Americans are destined to become less so.

Dominguez brings him pancakes, topped by a banana and maple syrup. A young man named Adam pops up on the TV and describes fighting in Afghanistan and getting shot by a sniper. He holds a model of his fractured skull. Disabled American Veterans secured his benefits.

When Fernandez is finished, Maria walks him to the bathroom to brush his teeth and then to change for his morning walk. The tidy three-bedroom home is easy to navigate, and although it is only one story, Fernandez swears his room is upstairs. No one corrects him.

His Cracker Jack navy blue jumper hangs from a hat rack in the entry. Memorabilia are laid out on the dining room table, a memory jog as Dec. 7 approaches: campaign medals, a photo with President Trump, a framed news clipping and a black-and-white of the USS Curtiss.

He first saw the ship in October 1941 resting at anchor in Pearl Harbor, and what a beaut — long and towering, capable of 20 knots, with a complement of 1,200 sailors. Less than two years old, the Cur-



**FERNANDEZ** first saw the USS Curtiss in October 1941 resting at anchor in Pearl Harbor. Twenty sailors were killed and 54 injured when the vessel was attacked two months later.

tiss was described as an aircraft carrier for seaplanes, essential to the front line if war broke out in the Pacific.

Fernandez had enlisted that summer. He'll say that he wanted to make some extra money, see the world, but the story is more complicated. He was 17, living at home in San José. His father was disabled, a leg lost in a train accident, and he took solace in drinking. Fernandez's mother bore the brunt of his unhappiness.

Then there was a girl, a little older than Fernandez and pregnant with his child. Three days after his son was born, he signed up.

His dad had suggested the Marines, but he was too young. Only the Navy would take him, \$21 a month. He trained in San Diego — to fire a machine gun, position a gas mask, prove he could swim — and shipped out to Hawaii.

No sooner had he found his bunk than the Curtiss put to sea, joining a supply convoy to Wake Island, then to Midway. Fernandez recalls the monotony of swabbing decks before getting a job in the mess.

On Dec. 6, the ship returned to Pearl Harbor. Two light cruisers and the USS Utah lay off its starboard bow, and Battleship Row, the famed but vulnerable roadstead for the Navy's mightiest, was on the other side of Ford Island.

After almost two months at sea, Fernandez and his buddies planned to head into Honolulu for beer and dancing, but he had to get through the morning shift on the 7th.

He was serving the officers about a quarter to 8 when he heard the first explosion.

Stooped under an umbrella, Fernandez heads down the driveway with Dominguez beside him. The rain is nothing compared to any disruption in his routine. The more predictable his day, the less agitated he's likely to become. His sundowning spells leave everyone exhausted.

Dominguez cues Frank Sinatra, his favorite, on her phone. Fernandez starts singing to "My Way," and when the horns kick in, he adds a little swing to his step.

Age may have diminished his stature, rendered his gait more lopsided, but he has always been light on his feet, whether as a boxer in his teens or, later, a dancer with

his wife. He still likes to twirl the ladies around wherever there's live music playing.

More than halfway around the block, the rain picks up and Dominguez hurries them home. He settles into his chair. She throws a log on the fire and sets out a lunch of Hawaiian barbecue, rice and macaroni. She puts on a western, and John Wayne rallies the troops.

The first explosion came from the direction of Ford Island, but before Fernandez could look, the ship's alarm started to blare.

"Battle stations, this is no drill!" The distant drone of planes drew near. Suddenly everyone was running like hell, Fernandez says, and as he raced to his post — across the ship and below deck — he saw a low-flying plane with a large red circle on the fuselage so close that he made out the pilot.

"And he didn't even look at me," he says. "He just kept on going."

Then came the concussive tat-tat-tat of the ship being strafed. More explosions. Across the channel, the Utah and Raleigh were hit. Heavy black smoke gushed from the oily infernos.

Once at his post — the magazine room, midships, three decks down — Fernandez and his crewmates got to work, passing one to another the shells for the .50-caliber machine guns and 5-inch cannons above them. By now the firing was continuous, the Curtiss convulsing with each blast.

"We're at war," Fernandez heard someone saying in the confines where they stood.

He saw some of his crewmates overcome with fear, knowing that any moment a bomb could slice through metal and reach them, lights out.

Muscles aching from the weight of each 55-pound projectile, the repetition, the heat, Fernandez lost track of himself, too busy to think, too scared to stop, not unlike his time in the ring up against any other flyweight.

"I just did the work I had to do," he says, "and the good Lord — the good Lord — kept me safe."

While the Curtiss tried to get underway, the ship never made it out of port. A submarine surfaced 700 yards away. The Curtiss' 5-inch guns fired on it, and a passing destroyer took it out with depth charges. Then there was a plane, armed with torpedoes, pulling out of its dive over Ford Island. Gun-

ners on the Curtiss fired.

*Boom! Boom!*

A hit, and its pilot crashed into the ship; the plane's fuel spread fire across the deck.

The attack was intensifying. Farther astern from where Fernandez stood, a 500-pound bomb landed, piercing three decks and detonating another magazine. The blast killed 18 sailors and punctured the hull. The Curtiss started to take on water. The damage would have been worse if the fuel tanks had been refilled after the ship's recent mission.

Fernandez doesn't remember how long he stayed at his station or whether he was enlisted to fight the fires. His memory of that day jumps ahead to night when, exhausted from the battle, he found an empty corner on deck to sleep. When he awoke, he found himself joined by the corpses of crewmates, draped in white linen, beside him. Someone, he thought, must have believed he was dead as well.

Two weeks later, the Curtiss' commanding officer listed 20 dead, 54 injured and one missing.

Of the ruin of Pearl Harbor, Fernandez says nothing; nothing of the tar-black smoke rising into the blue sky, the giant ships listing at ungody angles, the Utah capsized not far away, the fireboats streaming water onto the flames, the bodies in the water, the feelings of shock, of rage, the cries for vengeance.

Of the Japanese attack, his sentiment is simple. "I wish that they never would have come."

By late afternoon, Fernandez is dozing in his chair, mouth agape, hands clasped in his lap. The fire has burned down. Tommy Dorsey orchestrates a soundtrack for his dreams. A biopic about Sinatra — men in tuxedos, young women in bathing suits — plays on TV. Then Fernandez stirs and extends his hand as if in greeting. "Are you dreaming, Bob?" Dominguez asks.

"Must be," he said.

A heavy sleeper in his youth, he was different after the war. He tossed and turned. Any noise woke him, and when he went to talk to someone at the Veterans Administration, he was told he didn't need any help.

That would come later in his life at a restaurant just north of Merced, where Chapter 10 of the Pearl Harbor Survivor Assn. gathered every other Thursday to play music, swap stories and share in the good fortune of being alive.

"You can't explain to someone else what you saw unless he's a Pearl Harbor survivor," one veteran told a reporter in 1998.

Fernandez was the group's youngest member. Now he's the only member and a witness to the irony of remembrance. When he was younger, he was told to move on, probably best not to dwell on what he saw, but the older he got and the more America came to honor the heroism of that day, the more revered he was for what he recalled.

Interviews and invitations followed. Fernandez stood with other veterans on stages. He rode in parades. He spoke to schoolchildren. He told his story on video, which is archived in the Library of Congress, and he has been back to

Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7 three times.

Fernandez stayed with the Curtiss after the attack.

The ship, quickly repaired in San Diego, returned to the Pacific theater and was present at Midway in 1942, Guadalcanal and the Solomon Islands operations in 1943, and the battles of Tarawa, Kwajalein, Eniwetok, Saipan and Guam.

But Fernandez stays quiet about those years. His service record shows that in November 1944, he was assigned to the naval air station in San Francisco. When the war ended, he extended his enlistment, got married, had a daughter, divorced, was promoted to piloting small boats, served in the Philippines, and in 1947 was discharged.

Two years later, he met Mary, and they married and had two children. He worked as a forklift driver in the East Bay, retired and moved to Stockton.

He used to think of Pearl Harbor at least once a day, but not so much anymore.

By 6:30, Dominguez has left, and the Guthries are home from work. Kimberly serves Fernandez a plate of pot roast, lays out his evening pills and keeps him company while he eats. On TV, Sinatra in black-and-white knocks on the door of a speakeasy in "The Joker is Wild."

Early evenings, his mind wanders the most, as if he's awake in a dream. Joe and Kimberly let him ramble, politely try to make sense of what he's saying. Often, it's related to a distant memory.

"I was born upside down," he says, apropos of nothing they might understand.

Kimberly teases him. "Well, that explains everything." He laughs.

They are preparing to take him back to Pearl Harbor for the annual commemoration. Airfare has been arranged, a brief itinerary set. Joe feels it would be meaningful for him to connect with the few remaining veterans and for a divided country to be reminded of its lost unity. Fernandez agrees.

"I just hope there's no more wars like the one we had and that the whole world could be happy and live right," he said early in the day.

In days to come, however, they would change plans. Fernandez would be too weak. Hospice care, they would decide, is more appropriate.

But on this night, as Fernandez finishes his dinner, Joe goes to his room and turns down the bed. A portable heater purrs with a bright orange glow.

When Fernandez shuffles to bed, Joe helps him take off his ring and his watch, unbuttons his shirt and cuffs and sleeves and takes off his shoes.

"How'd I get to be that way?" It's a question he's been asking lately.

"You turned 100, Uncle Bob." He nods and lies down, a Winnie-the-Pooh blanket pulled up close.

Joe cues Ol' Blue Eyes on a tape player.

*Each place I go  
Only the lonely go ...*  
"Love you."

"Love you, too." Joe walks out, closes the door and starts to cry.



# USDA to begin testing milk for H5N1 bird flu virus

[Milk, from A1] are being exposed to the virus. If we were serious about protecting farmworkers, this would be implemented immediately and expanded to include all states.”

Government health officers insist that the virus poses a low risk to the public. However, some experts warn that nearly all of the conditions needed for the virus to develop a threatening mutation are now present on many dairy farms: lax testing protocols; close, unprotected contact between humans and animals; a general failure to take the threat seriously enough; and the approach of human flu season.

California, Colorado and Michigan have all reported positive herds, but the three other states named in the order have not. Testing regimens and investigations have been underway in the infected states — as well as in Pennsylvania, which in late November began what it calls its Precautionary Bulk Milk Testing at Processing Plants program.

In California, the largest dairy-producing state in the nation, the order will have little effect, officials say. “We are already doing this,” said Steve Lyle, a spokesman for the California Department of Food and Agriculture.

The virus has burned through more than half of California’s 900 dairy herds and infected 31 dairy workers



LUIS SINCO Los Angeles Times

**OFFICIALS IN CALIFORNIA**, the nation’s largest dairy producer, say the new federal screening will have little effect because the state has done testing on its own. Above, cows are milked at a farm in Lakeview, Calif.

in the state.

Michael Payne, a researcher and outreach coordinator at the Western Institute for Food Safety and Security at UC Davis, said that he suspects the order “might provide some useful epidemiological data in other states,” but that California’s testing is already “so robust and aggressive.” He doesn’t anticipate that it will substantially change “our un-

derstanding of the disease spread in the state or how to manage it.”

The plan was first announced in October, and was to have been implemented in November; testing will begin the week of Dec. 16, according to the statement.

Although Oregon has not had an H5N1 outbreak in dairy cows, it has reported the disease in commercial poultry, wild birds and, last

month, two pigs. There are about 220 dairy herds in the state.

Mississippi has roughly 50 herds, with each farm averaging 149 cows.

In the plan’s first stage, testing will occur at all dairy processing facilities within a given state, allowing the federal agency to determine where the virus is residing. The next stage will allow the federal agency to drill deeper

by moving the testing to bulk tanks of milk.

If the virus is found, the third stage goes into effect, triggering an even more granular investigation by identifying farms and herds that are positive — allowing for “rapid response measures,” including biosecurity programs such as movement controls and contact tracing.

If, however, no virus is found in a state, bulk tank

testing frequency will progressively decrease — going from weekly to monthly to quarterly, assuming the state’s tests remain negative.

Finally, there is the fifth stage, known as “Demonstrating Freedom from H5 in U.S. Dairy Cattle.”

That’s when, according to the statement, states can begin more periodic sampling and testing “to illustrate long-term absence from the national herd.”

As the virus has continued to spread among the nation’s dairy herds, a number of experts have urged more robust testing, tracking and genetic sequencing of the pathogen.

“Eradication of H5N1 is likely impossible in the short term,” John Korslund, a retired USDA veterinary epidemiologist, wrote in a blog post about the agriculture agency’s plans to begin bulk testing. “The shorter-term goals should be to minimize replication through movement biosecurity and (hopefully) vaccination and then maximize transparency” by sampling and publishing genetic sequencing of infected animals.

He said that although the virus may not economically devastate U.S. dairy production, if left “unmonitored and uncontrolled” it could threaten the nation’s beef, poultry and swine industries.

# Magnitude 7 quake was wake-up call to prepare for tsunami

[Tsunami, from A1] more quickly inundate populated areas.

“We’re completely reactionary to the earthquake event,” Snider said. “Time has to be respected to get people safe.”

Tsunami warnings remain rare for the West Coast, and actual major tsunamis are even more unusual, Snider said. But they do happen, which is why it’s important for residents to be prepared and know how to respond.

He said Thursday’s incident was a good reason to “refresh what it means to live in tsunami country.”

## A brief history of California tsunamis

Here is what we know about past tsunamis in California, from Times reporting and state records:

The last time the West Coast saw a tsunami advisory was in January 2022, Snider said, after the eruption of an underwater volcano in a remote corner of the South Pacific touched off a powerful tsunami.

California experienced relatively minor effects, but at Santa Cruz Harbor, waves flooded streets and a parking lot, where cars floated about like toy boats. Water poured into bathrooms and

electrical transformers onshore. It caused an estimated \$6 million in damage to Santa Cruz alone, officials later said.

In 2011, a tsunami from the devastating Japan earthquake also battered some coastal areas of California, resulting in more than \$100 million in damage at marinas and harbors, state officials estimate.

In Crescent City, residents reported that about three dozen boats were “crushed” in the harbor and that surging waters significantly damaged or destroyed many docks.

One person died after being swept into the sea, reportedly while taking pictures of the tsunami.

The Del Norte County city has experienced two other tsunamis in recent history. In 2006, Crescent City residents were caught off guard by significant seawater surge hours after a tsunami warning expired, causing significant harbor damage.

Most notably, the Alaskan earthquake of 1964 set off a catastrophic tsunami that devastated Crescent City, washing away 29 city blocks and killing at least 11 people. A series of nighttime waves crashed through the coastal city, destroying or damaging 91

houses and 172 businesses.

California officials also have records of tsunamis hitting Northern California in 1960 and 1946, which each left at least one person dead. The 1946 tsunami, triggered by a magnitude 8.6 earthquake near Alaska, flooded parts of Half Moon Bay.

Among the earliest records of a tsunami in California is an event in 1812 when a large earthquake in the Santa Barbara area “was followed by a tsunami that wiped out many coastal villages and destroyed ships in the harbor,” according to the U.S. Geological Survey.

And there was the catastrophic mega-tsunami of 1700, originating from a magnitude 9 earthquake over the Cascadia fault system, which runs offshore from Northern California to Vancouver Island for 700 miles.

That earthquake was so powerful, entire sections of the Pacific coastline dropped by as much as 5 feet. In the Pacific Northwest, Native American stories told of “how the prairie became ocean” and canoes were flung into trees.

Should a similar earthquake happen today, scientists say a giant tsunami would wash away coastal towns, destroy U.S. 101 and cause \$70 billion in damage over a large swath of the Pacific Coast. More than 100 bridges would be lost, power lines toppled and coastal towns isolated. Residents would have as little as 15 minutes’ notice to flee to higher ground, and as many as

10,000 would perish, according to a scenario published more than a decade ago.

## Areas of the state that are most at risk

The entire California coast is considered at risk for tsunamis, according to the state’s Tsunami Hazard Area Map published by the California Geological Survey.

But much of the coast included in the hazard area covers only the immediate shoreline or beach areas — though it does extend farther inland in some areas.

In Northern California, some of the most populated areas that were under warning Thursday and are within the tsunami hazard zone include parts of San Francisco’s Richmond and Sunset districts along with parts of the Financial District, Marina District, along the Embarcadero and the South-of-Market neighborhood. Oakland International Airport is also included.

Other populated regions most at-risk for tsunamis are parts of Crescent City, northern areas of Half Moon Bay, much of Santa Cruz and Capitola, and parts of Monterey.

In Southern California, the most vulnerable spots include areas in or around Ventura, Oxnard, Malibu, Santa Monica, Marina del Rey, Redondo Beach, the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach, Seal Beach, Sunset Beach, Huntington Beach, Newport Beach — including

all of Balboa Island — and in and around Mission Bay and Coronado.

## How to prepare for such a rare event

As Snider indicated, these rare systems are hard to predict, but there are ways to prepare and know what factors can spur such dangerous events.

The natural warning signs include feeling a strong or long earthquake. If you’re by the beach and see a sudden rise or fall of the ocean or hear a loud roar, it’s time to head inland.

“If you are on the beach or in a harbor and feel an earthquake, immediately move inland or go to high ground. If strong shaking lasts for 20 seconds or more, everyone within the tsunami evacuation area should evacuate as soon as it is safe to do so,” the California Geological Survey says.

Be aware if you live or frequently visit a tsunami evacuation zone.

Look out for tsunami hazard maps in your area. If maps or signs are not available, state officials suggest getting to an area 100 feet above sea level or two miles inland.

“If you cannot get this far, go as high as possible. Every foot inland or upwards can make a difference,” state officials say.

The National Weather Service operates two tsunami warning centers, with a goal of monitoring for tsunamis and the earthquakes

that may cause them, to send tsunami alerts.

To get official notifications of a tsunami warning, sign up for text message alerts from your local government, get a battery-powered National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration weather radio, or listen for TV, radio or automated telephone announcements.

## How to respond in case of warning

Evacuate the area by foot and get to higher ground. Don’t get in your car and try to drive away from the hazardous area — evacuating by car could create a traffic jam.

If you feel the earthquake: Drop to the floor, take cover and hold on until the shaking stops.

If you evacuated from a coastal area, stay away until officials permit you to return. Do not go toward the coast to watch a tsunami. Tsunamis move faster than a person can run.

Don’t let your guard down after the first tsunami wave. The first one usually is not the highest one. Large tsunami waves might be more than 50 feet high in some areas close to the coast. Tsunami waves can last for hours.

Do not attempt to surf or watch a tsunami. You cannot surf a tsunami, as there is no face to a tsunami wave. Regular waves flow in a circle without flooding higher areas. Tsunami waves are unpredictable and flood the land like a wall of water.

# DTSC PUBLIC NOTICE

DTSC’s Mission is to protect California’s people, communities, and environment from toxic substances, to enhance economic vitality by restoring contaminated land, and to compel manufacturers to make safer consumer products.

## The California Department of Toxic Substances Control Requests Public Comments on a Proposed De Minimis Settlement for the BKK Class I Landfill, West Covina, California

The California Department of Toxic Substances Control (“DTSC”) has reached a proposed \$1,317,194.10 settlement with 14 small hazardous waste contributors, called de minimis parties, for the BKK Class I Landfill (the “Site”). This notice announces the California Regulatory Notice Register publication of December 07, 2024, requesting public comment on the proposed settlement. This settlement is the sixth in a series of de minimis settlements and is an important step toward completion of necessary response and/or remediation actions at the Site. The public comment period will end on January 06, 2025. Please send written comments postmarked or emailed by that date to: BKK Third Party Initiative, 8800 Cal Center Drive, Sacramento, CA 95826 or BKKPRPsupport@dtsc.ca.gov. Comments should include “BKK Proposed Order and Agreement Docket Number HSA-FY24/25-046” in the subject line of the letter or email. To view a copy of the California Regulatory Notice Register, please visit this link: [https://oal.ca.gov/california\\_regulatory\\_notice\\_online/](https://oal.ca.gov/california_regulatory_notice_online/).

Hearing impaired individuals may use the California Relay Service at 711 or 800-735-2929 TTY/VCO/HCO to voice. Additional information on DTSC sites can be found through our EnviroStor.

President-elect signals he thinks embattled Pentagon nominee can win confirmation.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — President-elect Donald Trump on Friday offered a public show of support for Pete Hegseth, his embattled choice to lead the Defense Department, whose confirmation by the Senate is in doubt as he faces questions over allegations of excessive drinking, sexual assault and his views on women in combat.

Hegseth, a former Fox News host, Army National Guard major and combat veteran, spent much of the week on Capitol Hill trying to salvage his Cabinet nomination.

“Pete Hegseth is doing very well,” Trump posted on his social media site. The president-elect added that “Pete is a WINNER, and there is nothing that can be done to change that!!!”

The battle over Hegseth is emerging not only as a debate about the best person



J. SCOTT APPLEWHITE Associated Press

**PETE HEGSETH**, Trump’s choice as Defense secretary, faces scrutiny over reports of excessive drinking and a sexual assault allegation that he denies.

to lead the Pentagon, but an inflection point for a movement that appears to push for a more masculine military and an end to what it terms “woke-ism.” Trump’s allies are rallying around Hegseth; the conservative Heritage Foundation’s political arm is promising to spend \$1 million to shore up his nomination.

The effort has become a test of Trump’s clout and of how far loyalty for the president-elect goes with Republican senators who have concerns about some of his nominees.

“If you’re a GOP Senator who voted for Lloyd Austin, but criticize @PeteHegseth,

then maybe you’re in the wrong political party!” Donald J. Trump Jr. wrote on X, referring to President Biden’s Defense secretary.

Hegseth has promised not to drink on the job and told lawmakers he never engaged in sexual misconduct, even as his professional views on female troops have also come under intensifying scrutiny. He said as recently as last month that women “straight up” should not serve in combat.

The president-elect and his team have been pleased to see Hegseth putting up a fight and his performance this week reiterates why he was chosen, according to a

person familiar with Trump’s thinking who was not authorized to discuss it publicly. They believe he can still be confirmed.

Still, Trump’s transition team has been looking at potential replacements if Hegseth’s nomination cannot move forward, including former presidential rival Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis.

Despite a weeklong push of private Capitol Hill meetings, Hegseth is facing resistance from senators as reports have emerged about his past, including the revelation that he made a settlement payment after being accused of a sexual assault that he denies.

The New Yorker cited documents about his time leading a veterans advocacy groups that alleged incidents of alcohol intoxication at work events, inappropriate behavior around female staffers and financial mismanagement.

The New York Times obtained an email from his mother, Penelope, from 2018 in which she accused him of mistreating women after he impregnated his current wife while he was married to his previous wife. She went on “Fox & Friends” this week to defend her son.



BUSINESS

TikTok loses major legal bid to avoid U.S. ban

Federal appeals court rejects social video app’s request to toss out a law banning it or forcing its divestiture.

By Wendy Lee and Andrea Chang

TikTok’s future in the U.S. is now in greater jeopardy after the popular social video app lost a major court battle Friday as it tries to prevent its banishment.

TikTok sued the government in May, asking the U.S. Court of Appeals to declare unconstitutional a law that would require its Chinese parent company, ByteDance, to divest TikTok’s U.S. operations or face a ban in the country.

Legislators backing the law said a ban or sale was necessary to address national security concerns posed by the app’s ties to China.

The law, signed by President Biden, is set to go into effect Jan. 19.

TikTok had said in its lawsuit that the law violated its 1st Amendment rights to free speech. The company contended that the law “offers no support for the idea” that its Chinese ownership poses national security risks.

More than 170 million Americans use the video app, on which people share dance routines, cooking tips, funny videos and news stories.

“On the merits, we reject each of the petitioners’ constitutional claims,” Judge Douglas Ginsburg wrote in



MARTIN MEISSNER Associated Press

**TIKTOK**, a social video app with more than 170 million users in the U.S., is expected by legal experts to appeal the appellate court ruling to the Supreme Court.

the court’s decision issued Friday.

“The First Amendment exists to protect free speech in the United States,” Ginsburg wrote. “Here the Government acted solely to protect that freedom from a foreign adversary nation and to limit that adversary’s ability to gather data on people in the United States.”

Legal experts said they expect TikTok will appeal its case to the Supreme Court. It is also possible that Biden could offer ByteDance an extension for divesting, but some experts said that is unlikely.

“The Supreme Court has an established historical record of protecting Ameri-

cans’ right to free speech, and we expect they will do just that on this important constitutional issue,” TikTok spokesman Michael Hughes said in a statement. “Unfortunately, the TikTok ban was conceived and pushed through based upon inaccurate, flawed and hypothetical information, resulting in outright censorship of the American people.”

Carl Tobias, a law professor at the University of Richmond, said TikTok could ask the court to put a hold on the ruling until the Supreme Court hears its case.

“They still have another shot with the Supreme Court,” he said. “It’s an im-

portant issue. It’s a difficult one, and it affects a lot of Americans, foreign policy and national security. If it’s a matter of [the Supreme Court’s] interest in it, I expect that interest would be high.”

U.S. Atty. Gen. Merrick Garland welcomed the ruling, saying the court’s decision affirms that the TikTok legislation is consistent with the Constitution.

“Today’s decision is an important step in blocking the Chinese government from weaponizing TikTok to collect sensitive information about millions of Americans, to covertly manipulate the content delivered to American audiences, and to under-

mine our national security,” Garland said in a statement.

President-elect Donald Trump had campaigned on supporting TikTok, despite having pushed for a ban during his first term.

“We’re not doing anything with TikTok,” he said on a video posted on social media this year.

The Trump transition team did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Trump’s statements in support of TikTok have given creators some hope, though it’s not clear what action his administration will take. The ban would go into effect the day before Trump takes office.

Once Trump is in the White House, he has a couple of options. He could attempt to sway Congress to modify or repeal the law; instruct his administration to not enforce the law; or direct the Department of Justice to not defend the government in TikTok’s lawsuit if it goes to the Supreme Court.

Some legal experts also theorized that Trump could try to grant ByteDance a 90-day extension on its divestiture, even though the law would already be in effect.

“Ultimately, the President’s options may be limited,” said Anthony Rapa, a Washington, D.C.-based partner and co-chair of law firm Blank Rome’s international trade practice.

A ban on TikTok could affect the livelihoods of many Southern California video creators who post content on the platform and make a lot of money doing so. Many of those influencers over the years have diversified where they post their content to

prepare for a potential ban.

Sabrina Mercado, 21, is a full-time content creator from Downey. She created her TikTok in 2019 and today has 459,000 followers on the platform.

About a year ago, Mercado briefly considered creating a press-on nail business and selling on TikTok Shop, the company’s e-commerce platform, but hesitated.

“If TikTok were to be banned, what would happen to business?” she said. “It just makes things riskier.”

Mercado now posts on Instagram, TikTok, YouTube and Snapchat, with Instagram being her main focus.

Since joining TikTok five years ago, Joey Soboleski II has grown his following to more than 403,000 people on the app. The full-time content creator from Glendale posts comedy and lifestyle content, and said he is not concerned about a ban hurting his reach.

“I built a platform on Instagram that’s bigger than TikTok and I think the viewership will go over to Instagram honestly or YouTube or both,” Soboleski, 26, said. “And then the money will go over.”

Los Angeles lifestyle content creator Noelle Hear, 20, said she has grown less attached to TikTok over the last few years as the app’s fate has been up in the air.

“I will definitely miss the app in the sense that I think it’s very informative and it’s a great way for anyone to become a content creator,” she said about a potential TikTok ban. “At the same time, I do think that Instagram Reels will become TikTok.”

U.S. hiring rebounds in November, but jobless rate edges up to 4.2%

Rally after hurricanes is evidence the labor market is healthy despite signs of a slowing economy.

By Don Lee

WASHINGTON — Job growth rebounded in November from the weather-related stall in hiring the previous month, fresh evidence that the U.S. labor market remains healthy despite signs of a slowing economy overall, according to new government data released Friday.

But the nation’s unemployment rate edged up to 4.2% last month from 4.1% as more people reported being unemployed. That is still low by historical standards, although the rate has crept up from 3.7% at the start of the year.

California’s most recent unemployment rate, for October, was 5.4%. And the state has lagged behind the nation in job growth.



NAM Y. HUH Associated Press

**A WORKER** secures sheathing at a building site. Employers nationwide added 227,000 jobs in November, slightly more than what most economists had expected.

The U.S. job gains reported Friday were slightly stronger than what most economists had expected. Still, the pace of hiring nationally has been on a cool-

ing trend from earlier this year. And with the rise in unemployment, financial markets are betting that the Federal Reserve will make another quarter-point rate

cut at its last policy-setting meeting of the year on Dec. 18.

The central bank is striving to strike a balance between maintaining steady

job gains and continuing its efforts to bring inflation down to its 2% target by keeping interest rates higher than usual. A key measure of core inflation was most recently at 2.8%.

Friday’s report showed that employers nationwide added 227,000 jobs in November, led by big gains in healthcare and leisure and hospitality. Government also added a sizable number of jobs. Taken together, these three sectors accounted for 62% of all the jobs added last month.

But the retail industry, which once tended to add a lot of seasonal help in late fall, lost 28,000 jobs in November and its payrolls have barely grown all year, a reflection of continuing difficulties at brick-and-mortar stores and some recent softening in retail sales. Online sales on Black Friday, the day after Thanksgiving, saw strong increases while physical stores showed modest gains.

November’s overall job gains included a reversal of temporary losses in the prior month, when only 36,000

jobs were added, thanks to hurricanes and a strike by Boeing workers, which has since ended.

“Firms continue to manage their workforce carefully,” said Joseph Brusuelas, chief economist at the tax and consulting firm RSM US. He said the recent tally “speaks to a remarkable stability across the labor force even as finding a job is becoming a bit more difficult as firms become far more selective with whom they are hiring.”

California’s employment statistics for November won’t be released until Dec. 20. Some analysts, though, say Friday’s national jobs report and other recent patterns suggest that California probably hasn’t been keeping pace.

In October, employers in California shed 5,500 jobs, even though the state wasn’t affected by the hurricanes. The state has greater exposure to international trade, which has felt the effects of a strong dollar and weaker growth in China, said Sung Won Sohn, professor of economics and finance at Loyola Marymount University.

Hiring in the real estate sector has been sluggish, and it’s been slow in two of the state’s leading industries — technology and film — both of which have gone through hard times. Last month, U.S. jobs in the motion picture business were up a meager 1,900 from October. Manufacturing employment in California has been falling at a faster rate than nationally.

“In a nutshell, it’s too expensive for employees to live and work in California,” Sohn said.

Nationally, the economy is slowing from its robust pace earlier this year. So far in this quarter, the nation’s gross domestic product, the broadest measure of economic activity, looks to be expanding at roughly half the 3% annual rate in prior months.

Job growth, meanwhile, has been more volatile lately, but over the last three months payrolls increased on average by 173,000, which is down from near 200,000 in the prior 12 months.

In November, average hourly earnings for all employees in the private sector rose by 13 cents, to \$35.61. That’s a 4% increase from a year ago, which is about one percentage point above the annual rate of inflation.

200,000 Honda SUVs and 300,000 Ram trucks recalled

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Honda and Stellantis announced vehicle recalls this week.

Honda is recalling nearly 206,000 SUVs in the U.S. because the fuel filler neck can separate from the filler pipe in a crash, allowing gasoline to leak and increasing the risk of a fire.

The recall covers certain 2023 and 2024 Passports and some 2023 through 2025 Pilots.

Honda says in documents posted Thursday by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration that a glitch in the installation process prevented a complete connection between the neck and the pipe.

The company said it has one warranty claim and no reports of injuries from December 2018 through Nov. 20 of this year. The documents did not mention any reports of fires.

Dealers will inspect the SUVs and properly connect the neck tube to the fuel filler pipe if needed. Owners will be notified by mail starting

Jan. 6.

Separately, Stellantis is recalling more than 300,000 Ram Heavy Duty pickup trucks because a faulty part could cause certain braking and tracking systems to fail.

The Netherlands-based automaker said the hydraulic control unit on the trucks is prone to failure, which can cause the antilock brake, electronic stability control and traction control systems to not work properly. Stellantis said that regular braking systems are not affected by the defective part and that it’s unaware of any related injuries.

The trucks in question are all model years 2017 and 2018 and include the Ram 2500, 3500, 4500 and 5500. The recall covers a total of 317,630 trucks, including a small number in Canada, Mexico and elsewhere.

Stellantis said it will advise customers who may be affected as to when they may obtain service, which will be free of charge.

Customers with additional questions or concerns may call (800) 853-1403.

Last month, Stellantis



DAVID ZALUBOWSKI Associated Press

**HONDA** is recalling nearly 206,000 Passports and Pilots in the U.S. because the fuel filler neck can separate from the filler pipe in a crash, allowing gas to leak.

announced a recall of about 207,000 Jeep and Dodge SUVs in the U.S. to fix a computer problem that can disable the antilock brakes and electronic stability control safety features. In September, Stellantis recalled nearly 1.5 million Ram pickup trucks worldwide to fix a software problem that

can disable the electronic stability control system.

Last week, Stellantis announced that Chief Executive Carlos Tavares was stepping down after nearly four years in the top spot.

In addition to the recalls, Stellantis has been struggling a decline in sales that has led to layoffs and con-

tributed to ballooning inventory on dealer lots. Last quarter, Stellantis reported that net revenue plunged 27% from the same period a year earlier.

Stellantis, the world’s fourth-largest automaker, was created by the 2021 merger of PSA Peugeot and Fiat Chrysler Automobiles.



# Where are economic policies headed?

[U.S. economy, from A1] immediately cheered the selection by pushing up stock prices.

But on the very next trading day after naming Bessent, Trump announced plans to slap 25% tariffs on Canada and Mexico, as well as 10% more on Chinese goods that are already taxed heavily thanks to the trade war he launched in his first term. The goal was to press Mexico in particular to curb border inflows of fentanyl and migrants.

On the campaign trail, Trump proposed tariffs of up to 20% on all countries and 60% on China.

And on Wednesday, Trump said he would bring back Peter Navarro as a senior trade and manufacturing advisor. The fiery China hawk and former UC Irvine professor clashed with other, more moderate top officials in Trump's first administration. Navarro was recently released from a four-month prison sentence for defying a congressional subpoena related to the Jan. 6 Capitol attack in 2021. (Navarro didn't respond to text messages seeking comment.)

"If there was any illusion that the choice of Bessent was going to have an ameliorating effect, that got completely blown out of the water," said Christopher Rupkey, chief economist at the Wall Street research firm Fwdbonds, predicting more fireworks inside and outside the White House.

"At some point, companies are going to go down to Mar-a-Lago [Trump's estate] and start to complain loudly," Rupkey said.

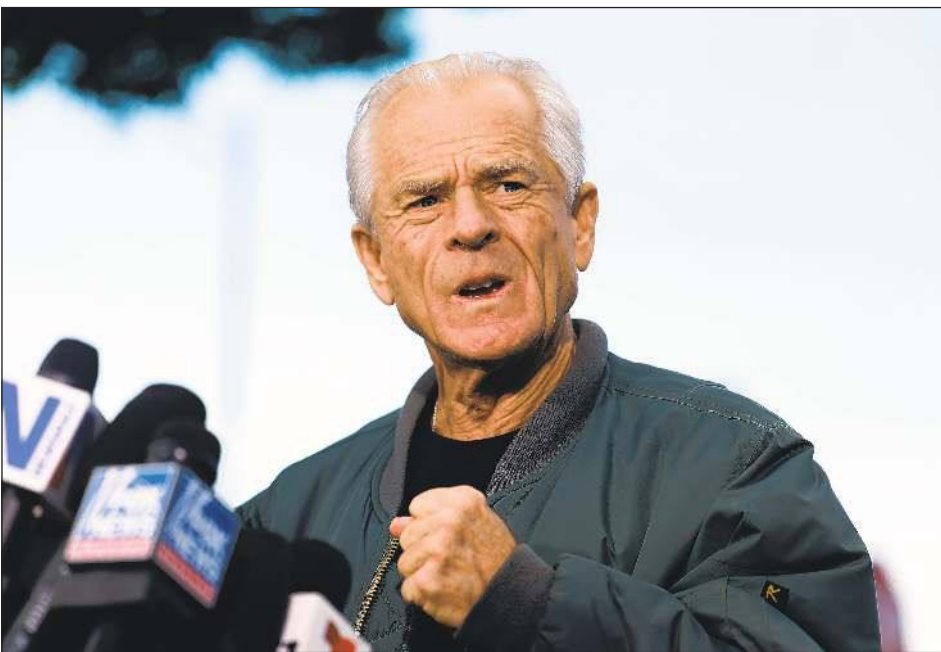
In some respects, Trump's picks for other Cabinet and major economic-related posts in the White House are also a reprise of his past performance.

There are billionaires, notably Elon Musk, named to head a new department on government efficiency; and traditional conservative economists, such as Kevin Hassett, an alumnus of the American Enterprise Institute, who's been tapped as director of the National Economic Council, a key role in helping formulate White House economic policies.

At least some of Trump's nominees are unlikely candidates, particularly Rep. Lori Chavez-DeRemer (R-Ore.), a Latina who has been a rare Republican supporter of greater organizing rights for unions and had the backing of the Teamsters' leader.

Heidi Shierholz, president of the left-leaning Economic Policy Institute, applauded Trump's choice of Chavez-DeRemer as secretary of Labor. Chavez-DeRemer has personal connections to the labor movement.

But Shierholz wondered what difference she would be able to make. As with Trump's Labor secretary in his first term, Alex Acosta, she said Chavez-DeRemer was likely to face significant



**PETER NAVARRO**, a China hawk and former UC Irvine professor, is President-elect Donald Trump's choice for senior trade and manufacturing advisor.

constraints.

"Trump doesn't suffer dissent; I don't have high hopes," Shierholz said.

"Trump's eclectic style is fully on exhibit in his Cabinet selections," said Michael Genovese, author of "The Modern Presidency" and head of the Global Policy Institute at Loyola Marymount University. Even so, he said, "the single common denominator in staff and cabinet selection has been loyalty to Donald Trump. ... Trump likes to break things, and he has a lot of folks around him who are more than willing to do the breaking."

Genovese added: "After his frustrations in the first term where insiders undermined the president's wishes, he will not tolerate such insubordination in term two."

Moreover, if Trump's first term provides a guide, his economic and other policies also may be strongly influenced by a kitchen cabinet of informal advisors and an inner circle of confidantes who share his instincts and views on the economy, particularly his predilection for tariffs as a primary weapon for rebuilding American manufacturing and reducing the U.S. trade deficit.

That impulse toward protectionism and away from the global economy could again set off a major fight inside the GOP as two fundamentally conflicting visions collide.

One focuses on boosting domestic manufacturing, which could be helped by a reversal of trade deficits and a lessening role of the dollar. This "America first" strategy seeks a return to the policies that prevailed early in the last century, when U.S. manufacturing was protected from overseas competition by high tariff walls — that is, high surcharges on imported goods that make them too expensive to compete with U.S. products.

The other approach, more favored by Wall Street, sees an open global market

as offering lower prices for consumers and more opportunities for U.S. companies to tap capital markets and expand abroad.

American multinational companies and their affiliates spent about \$200 billion on plant and equipment in 2022 and employed some 14 million outside the U.S., the latest year for which data were available from the Commerce Department. Their overall foreign sales: more than \$8 trillion, with almost half in Europe and most of the rest in Asia.

Globalists are not convinced that reducing the trade deficit is vital to U.S. interests.

And they note that countries previously responded to high U.S. tariffs by increasing their own taxes on American goods.

Economists say that will almost certainly push up consumer price inflation, which has been receding from nearly double digits in 2022 but remains about a percentage point above policymakers' 2% target for core inflation.

"All tariffs on all products all the time, of 10% to 20%, are pretty alarming to business leaders," said Jeffrey Sonnenfeld, a professor at the Yale School of Management and an expert on leadership and corporate governance.

Sonnenfeld said Trump's appointment of Bessent was "hugely reassuring" and suggested that he could, if confirmed by the Senate as expected, bring a moderating influence.

"Scott Bessent is definitely the adult in the room," Sonnenfeld said, contrasting him with another wealthy Wall Street boss, Howard Lutnick, Trump's choice for Commerce secretary.

"There'll be some natural tension between Lutnick and Bessent as things unfold," he said.

Michael Pettis, an American professor of finance at Peking University in Beijing and a nonresident senior fellow at the Carnegie Endow-

ment for International Peace, agreed that Bessent was an excellent choice.

As in the first term, China is likely to be a key target of Trump's foreign investment and trade battles, including tariffs, which President Biden has kept in place while adding more restrictions on Chinese access to American technologies.

"Scott Bessent understands the economy systematically," Pettis said. "I think he could be a very positive influence. The real question is, to what extent he will determine Treasury and economic policy generally?"

Bessent has talked about tariffs as a negotiating tool, and more recently argued for targeted tariff increases on national security grounds as well as to establish a more level playing field. And he spoke of a need for a "more activist approach internationally."

In recent days, Trump also appointed as the United States trade representative Jamieson Greer, the former chief of staff for Robert Lighthizer, who held that post in Trump's first term and renegotiated the North American Free Trade Agreement and pushed through tough trade measures against China.

What's clear to some who have been following Trump's appointments is that he wants to avoid the interne-

## Wall Street notches more records after a just-right jobs report

ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — U.S. stocks rose to records Friday after data suggested the job market remains solid enough to keep the economy going, but not so strong that it raises immediate worries about inflation.

The Standard & Poor's 500 climbed 0.2%, just enough to top the all-time high set on Wednesday, as it closed a third straight winning week in what looks to be one of its best years since the 2000 dot-com bust. The Dow Jones industrial average dipped 0.3%, and the Nasdaq composite rose 0.8%, setting its own record.

The quiet trading came after the latest jobs report came in mixed enough to strengthen traders' expectations that the Federal Reserve will cut interest rates again at its next meeting in two weeks. The report showed U.S. employers hired more workers than expected last month, but it also said the unemployment rate unexpectedly ticked up to 4.2% from 4.1%.

"This ... doesn't kill the holiday spirit and the Fed remains on track to deliver a cut in December," according to Lindsay Rosner, head of multi-sector investing within Goldman Sachs Asset Management.

For now, the hope is that the job market can help U.S. shoppers continue to spend and keep the U.S. economy out of a recession.

Several retailers offered

encouragement after delivering better-than-expected results for the latest quarter.

Ulta Beauty rallied 9% after topping expectations for both profit and revenue. The opening of new stores helped boost its revenue.

Lululemon stretched 15.9% higher after its own profit report. It said stronger sales outside the United States helped it in particular, and its earnings topped analysts' expectations.

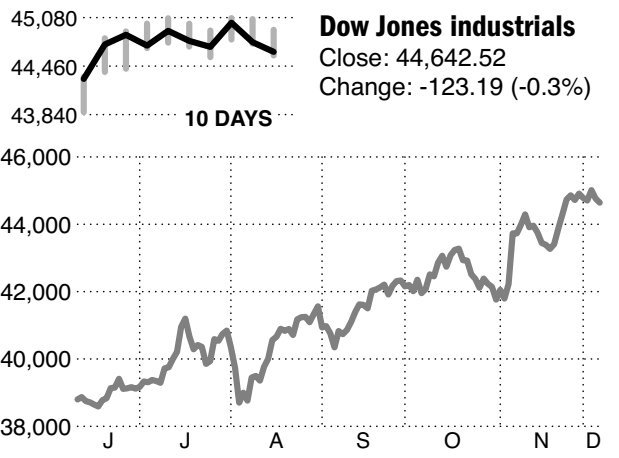
Retailers overall have been offering mixed signals on how resilient U.S. shoppers can remain. Target gave a dour forecast for the holiday shopping season, while Walmart gave a much more encouraging outlook.

A report on Friday suggested that sentiment among U.S. consumers may be improving more than economists expected. The preliminary reading from the University of Michigan's survey hit its highest level in seven months. The survey found a surge in buying for some products as consumers tried to get ahead of possible increases in prices due to higher tariffs that President-elect Donald Trump has threatened.

In tech, Hewlett Packard Enterprise jumped 10.6%, one of the S&P 500's larger gains.

In the bond market, the yield on the 10-year Treasury slipped to 4.15% from 4.18% late Thursday.

Bitcoin was sitting near \$101,500 after briefly bursting above \$103,000 to a record the day before.



### Major stock indexes

Index	Close	Daily change	Daily % change	YTD % change
Dow industrials	44,642.52	-123.19	-0.28	+18.45
S&P 500	6,090.27	+15.16	+0.25	+27.68
Nasdaq composite	19,859.77	+159.05	+0.81	+32.30
S&P 400	3,331.37	+2.52	+0.08	+19.77
Russell 2000	2,408.99	+12.82	+0.54	+18.84
EuroStoxx 50	4,977.78	+26.20	+0.53	+10.09
Nikkei (Japan)	39,091.17	-304.43	-0.77	+16.82
Hang Seng (Hong Kong)	19,865.85	+305.41	+1.56	+16.53

### Interest rates

Treasuries	Yield	Daily change	6 month change	1 year change
T-bill: 1 year	4.19	-0.04	-0.90	-0.95
T-note: 5 year	4.03	-0.04	-0.26	-0.21
T-note: 10 years	4.15	-0.03	-0.14	-0.08
T-bond: 30 years	4.33	-	-0.10	+0.02

Bank & mortgage rates	Rate	Week ago	6 months ago	1 year ago
6 Month CD	2.31	2.31	2.33	2.33
1 Year CD	2.62	2.62	2.65	2.61
2 Year CD	2.56	2.57	2.59	2.53
30 Year Fixed	7.01	7.13	7.20	7.25
15 Year Fixed	6.48	6.49	6.52	6.79
30 Year Jumbo	7.09	7.28	7.30	7.47

### Commodities

Treasuries	Delivery date	Close in \$	Daily change	1 year change
Oil: Barrel	Jan 25	67.20	-1.10	-4.03
Gold Ounce	Dec 24	2,638.60	+12.00	+640.30
Silver Ounce	Dec 24	31.19	+0.06	+8.22

Associated Press (Bank and mortgage rate figures from Bankrate.com)

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OPINION

OP-ED

On Nov. 30, as the college football season reached its rivalry week climax, at least a half dozen games included heated brawls between the contestants. Most prominent was the matchup between Michigan and Ohio State, known as “The Game.” The visiting Wolverines upset their rivals in Columbus, and after they attempted to plant their flag at midfield, an enormous melee broke out that police disturbingly attempted to suppress using pepper spray in an assault on students.

Media coverage of this incident, which focused on player behavior rather than the police response, widely indicted the incident’s “ugliness.” Sporting News said an “ugly scene marred” the game, while CNN almost identically lamented how “an ugly brawl after the final whistle marred” Michigan’s win. The New York Post reported “it got ugly,” while the Detroit Free Press suggested Michigan’s triumph “got a bit of an ugly stain.” A commentator on Fox called it an “incredibly ugly scene for a beautiful rivalry.”

They have a point: Violence in university athletics is ugly and has no legitimate place in institutions with a mission to nurture, develop and educate students. The problem with all this righteous indignation, however, is that it fails to acknowledge that college football is inherently defined by violence, even as it is celebrated by universities, media outlets and millions of American viewers.

In fact, just days before the “ugliness,” a 20-year-old Alabama A&M player died in a hospital following head injuries he suffered during a game in October — a death for which the violence of college football bears responsibility, and which seemed to receive less coverage than the rivalry brawls.

The violent character of football is not limited to cases of immediate fatality. Studying American football players, Boston University researchers have found that every 2.6 years of participation in football doubles the chances of contracting



IAN JOHNSON Icon Sportswire / Getty Images

**ATHLETES FOR** Ohio State and the University of Michigan fight during their matchup last week in Columbus. The brawl drew scolds, but the game itself sells violence and harm as entertainment.

# There’s hypocrisy in the shaming of college football player brawls

## Hand-wringing about the melees during rivalry weekend ignores the violence of the sport itself

By Nathan Kalman-Lamb and Derek Silva

the degenerative brain condition chronic traumatic encephalopathy, and that football players have a 61% higher chance of developing Parkinson’s disease compared to other athletes. These consequences have been and will be suffered by participants in college football. And they are unquestionably a form of violence, even if one we seem all too willing to endorse.

But traditional forms of violence such as those seen in the brawls are also characteristic of college football culture. Before the Michigan game, Ohio State coach Ryan Day said, “This game is a war. And anytime there’s a war, there’s consequences and casualties. And then there’s the plunder and the rewards that come with it.” While that message aged poorly in light of the brawl, raising questions about the coach’s influence on the players’ behavior, it should in no way be viewed as anomalous.

To write our new book about the human costs of the sport, we interviewed 25 former players in the Power Four — the top conferences in college football — about their experiences. Many told us that their coaches frequently exhorted their teams to engage in violence even outside of playing the game. One reported that a strength coach

designated a spot in the locker room for players to fight out their issues with each other; another told us that fighting teammates was so common in his experience that it was perceived to reflect a “good practice” session. Accusations and lawsuits detailing abusive behavior in college football programs routinely emerge.

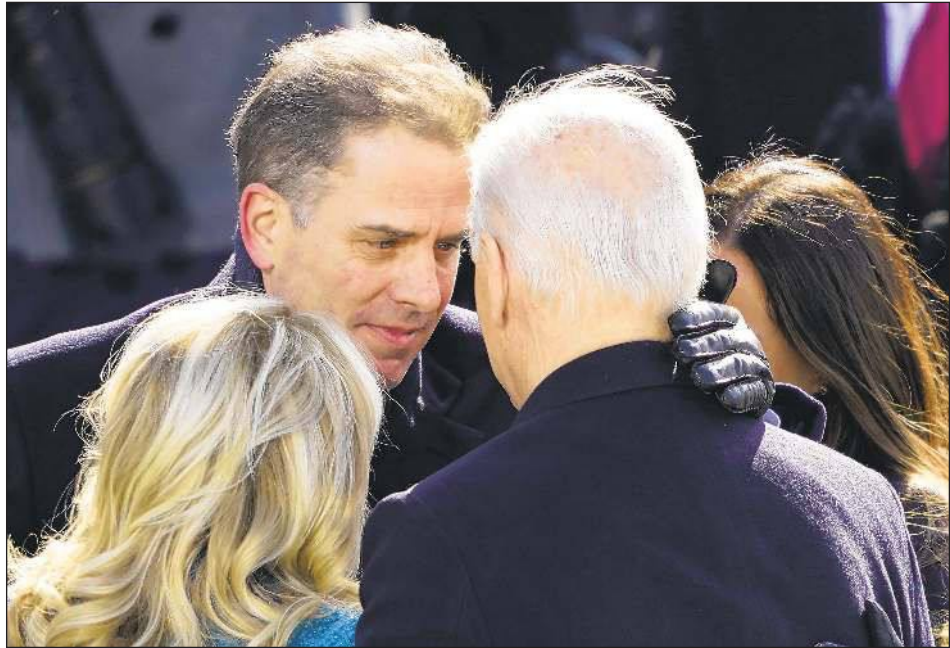
Given this context, it makes no sense for anyone to get on a high horse about public brawling in college football: The sport is already saturated in violence. While it might conceivably be possible to reform the more toxic forms of brutality out of the game — a somewhat Sisyphean task given how pervasive the culture is — at the end of the day, little can be done about the fact that tackle football is, by its very nature, violence and harm that serve as entertainment.

Although some commentators criticized Ohio State’s Day for seeming to justify the brawl after the game, in fact he was saying the quiet part out loud: “I’ll find out exactly what happened, but this is our field. Certainly we’re embarrassed with the fact that we lost the game, but there’s some prideful guys on this team that just weren’t going to let this happen.” Day’s crime appears to be that in rationalizing the fighting, he inadvertently admitted the prevailing ethos of college football: Sometimes, we have to beat each other up.

There was, then, nothing aberrant about the violence we witnessed on the gridiron during The Game. This was simply the truth about a beloved national pastime on full display.

NATHAN KALMAN-LAMB is associate professor of sociology at the University of New Brunswick. DEREK SILVA is associate professor of sociology and criminology at King’s University College at Western University. They are co-authors of “The End of College Football: On the Human Cost of an All-American Game” and co-hosts (with Johanna Mellis) of “The End of Sport” podcast.

LETTERS



CAROLYN KASTER Associated Press

**PRESIDENT BIDEN** hugs members of his family, including his son Hunter Biden, after taking the oath of office at his inauguration on Jan. 20, 2021.

## ‘Biden did what he needed to do’

Re “An understandable, unforgivable pardon,” Opinion, Dec. 4

I AM APPALLED at the attitude of the Democrats who strongly criticize President Biden’s decision to pardon his son Hunter Biden.

First of all, the Democratic Party is attempting to recover from a disastrous defeat. It would be helpful if our elected representatives would stop attacking Biden and show some unity.

In addition, who believes President-elect Donald Trump needs to be emboldened to undermine the rule of law? He has demonstrated in his last presidency that he has no problem using the presidential pardon, and has stated that he intends to do so in his future administration.

Lastly, circumstances have changed since Biden promised to respect the outcome of his son’s cases. Starting Jan. 20, our government will have a “justice” system seeking retribution against those who have been deemed enemies, including the Biden family.

Biden did what he needed to do.

BARBARA DOSS  
Hawthorne

I am surely no expert in criminal procedure or the law regarding presidential pardons, but it seems curious that a president who can offer immunity for crimes not yet charged can’t

also do so while letting stand a seemingly valid conviction that likely would lead to only a few months in prison for Hunter Biden.

This would eliminate the threat of vindictive prosecution by the Trump administration while demonstrating a respect for the rule of law in general.

Biden has apparently lost faith in the fairness of our criminal justice system,

and Trump never saw any value in it to begin with.

Which is worse?

THOMAS BAILEY  
Long Beach

::

If Biden had justified his pardon by saying his son suffered enough, and as his father he wanted to end Hunter’s pain, he would be spared the accusations of utter hypocrisy now being made against him and his fellow Democrats.

There is no more high ground for the Democrats to stand on to criticize Trump.

VICKI RUPASINGHE  
Ojai

::

I was struck by this quote from federal prosecutors: “The Government does not challenge that the defendant has been the recipient of an act of mercy. But that does not mean the grand jury’s decision to charge him, based on a finding of probable cause, should be wiped away as if it never occurred.”

I found myself wondering if they were referring to Biden or Trump.

How quickly we forget Trump’s multiple indictments and his state criminal conviction for actions much more egregious than Hunter Biden ever committed.

How many outraged voices now defended Trump amid his trials and indictments? Do we hear anything about Trump’s lie during the campaign that he did not support Project 2025, when some of the authors are now being hired for administration jobs?

The hypocrisy is pungent.

SUSAN WARD  
Hermosa Beach

Here’s one Democrat who really doesn’t care about Hunter Biden’s pardon.

Sure, “under normal circumstances” it would be unthinkable for a president to intervene in a family member’s legal problems. But these aren’t normal circumstances, we can’t guarantee the legal system will do the right thing, and the future is looking fairly bleak.

Under these circumstances, it would be wise for the president to exercise any scrap of power he still has, because there’s no guarantee we’ll have any power in the future.

We all will have to adjust to new circumstances — and not by futile attempts at “resistance” that are largely self-immolating, but by recognizing the fundamental change in our society and adapting to it.

MARTIN USHER  
Thousand Oaks

::

No, Biden’s pardon of his son is not unforgivable.

The most unforgivable pardon is the one the American people gave to Trump on election day.

ELWOOD RICHARDSON  
Alhambra

::

The reality is that Hunter Biden was about to be treated as a piñata by his father’s enemies who can’t reach their real target, President Biden.

I don’t blame the president one bit.

As for “whataboutism,” Trump pardoned Roger Stone, a political trickster extraordinaire. Politics as usual.

THOMAS D. PENFIELD  
Cardiff, Calif.

## Do the media matter anymore?

Re “The media and their critics tell the same lie,” Opinion, Dec. 4

Jonah Goldberg writes that President-elect Donald Trump won despite the efforts of the monolithic liberal media to tell a narrative about his unworthiness. He describes this outcome as the people writing their own narrative, because the media do not matter.

He does not mention Fox News and MAGA promoters online, which feed a vigorous media ecosystem of MAGA narratives. He also implies that since doctors and plumbers don’t purport to be relevant to the functioning of democracy, journalists shouldn’t either.

The idea that media do not matter much is an odd take for a professional political commentator.

HANS BERGGREN  
Santa Monica

::

Goldberg either fails to point out the difference between journalists and opinion writers, or he willfully misleads.

Journalists conduct research, interview sources, verify information and then produce an article. Not all opinion writers use these safeguards. In our fact-free universe, the death of journalism is frightening.

MELISSA VERDUGO  
Rancho Palos Verdes

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# CALIFORNIA

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2024 :: LATIMES.COM/CALIFORNIA



A CUSTOMER carries a picture frame on his shoulder on Sunday, the last day of operation at the Sky Village Swap Meet in Yucca Valley.

Photographs by GINA FERAZZI Los Angeles Times

## Official quitting as youth hall faces closure

Probation chief plans to leave the agency without making much-needed reforms.

By REBECCA ELLIS AND JAMES QUEALLY

L.A. County's chief probation officer said he plans to depart the troubled agency as a deadline to evacuate Los Padrinos Juvenile Hall approaches, sources said, a move that could potentially leave more than 200 incarcerated youths with no place to go.

Probation chief Guillermo Viera Rosa sent a memo to the county Board of Supervisors Wednesday saying he planned to retire by the end of the year, according to several sources who requested anonymity to discuss the personnel matter.

Viera Rosa's unexpected departure would cap a 20-month stint in which he failed to reform an agency whose juvenile halls again face the threat of closure under mounting scrutiny from oversight agencies and the California attorney general's office. The county Probation Department is responsible for overseeing youths in juvenile camps and halls as well as adult parolees.

"We have a lot of challenges in the Probation Department and I thank him for taking on this job during [See Probation chief, B2]

## Son of killer is arrested in teen's slaying

Zuberi Sharp, 24, is accused of a hacking death similar to his father's crime in 2007.

By NOAH GOLDBERG AND RICHARD WINTON

A naked man arrested at a Ventura County high school and linked to killing a teen at a nearby home is the son of the man who killed a 6-year-old boy with a meat cleaver in 2007, authorities said.

Zuberi Sharp, 24, is being investigated in connection with a death Thursday at a house in the 400 block of Jeanne Court.

Ventura County sheriff's Capt. Ken Truitt said the person who called police was hysterical and said her baby had been murdered, according to the Ventura County Star. Sharp was arrested around 8 p.m.

Sheriff's deputies who were chasing him said that he was armed with an ax, according to recordings of radio communications. They also suggested the ax might be tied to the death on Jeanne Court.

"The item used, which was an ax, is probably still in his possession," a deputy said in the radio communication.

[See Slaying, B2]

## Treasures and tears in the dust

Residents are torn as swap meet near Joshua Tree closes amid ADA lawsuit

By REBECCA PLEVIN

YUCCA VALLEY, Calif. — If there were a Mojave Desert treasure map, it might lead you across the Morongo Basin and behind a shopping center. A sign promising "junk to gems" points the way. The hunt would end at a dusty plot where for decades vendors have gathered to sell everything from vintage western wear to kitchen goods to crystal bowls.

Of course, locals never needed a map to find the Sky Village Swap Meet in this town of 21,700 people. Many recall its days as a drive-in movie theater. They remember eating at the Sky Village Cafe, where Anthony Bourdain once ordered chili, onions and eggs after a te-



A WEATHERWORN organ sits on the last day of the swap meet, which closed amid a lawsuit over disabled access.

quila-infused night at Pappy and Harriet's, a barbecue restaurant and music venue nearby. They light up describing the bargains they've scored over the years.

"The thing you need to know about the swap meet is sometimes you come here and maybe you don't find anything, but you have a good conversation somewhere," said Yucca Valley shop owner Kime Buzzelli. Other times, she said, "Some guy needs to pay rent and he's selling all of his turquoise jewelry."

But the swap meet closed suddenly last weekend after the family that owns the property was sued under the Americans with Disabilities Act. The complaint, filed in September in federal court in the Central Dis-

[See Swap meet, B4]

## Gunman planned 'child executions,' officials say

Attacker is said to have targeted school over ties to Seventh-day Adventist Church.

By CLARA HARTER AND NATHAN SOLIS

Authorities in Butte County have identified the gunman who staged an at-

tack Wednesday on a Christian elementary school that left two children wounded and ended with the attacker dead.

On Thursday afternoon, Sheriff Kory Honea identified the shooter as Glenn Litton, 56. He described Litton as a homeless, mentally ill man with a long criminal record who targeted the school because of its affiliation with the Seventh-day

Adventist Church. He died of a self-inflicted gunshot wound at the scene of the attack.

Authorities found a statement by Litton saying he would impose "child executions" at the school in response to "America's involvements in genocide and oppression of Palestinians" and attacks in Yemen.

Honea identified the two injured kindergartners as 5-

year-old Elias Wolford, who was shot once in the abdomen, and 6-year-old Roman Mendez, who sustained two gunshot wounds resulting in internal injuries. Both boys remained in critical condition Thursday afternoon.

"They have a very long road ahead of them in terms of recovery," Honea said. "It's very likely that they are going to have to have a num-

ber of surgeries going forward, but the fact that they are currently still with us, I think, is a miracle."

Elias' family has started a GoFundMe to cover his medical expenses and his parents' lost wages while they are at the hospital. The family said the bullet went through his chest and abdomen, piercing or nicking multiple organs before exit-

[See School, B5]

## Activists switch tactics in the Aliso Canyon gas battle

By ANDREW J. CAMPA

Ever since a historic, methane-spewing blowout in October 2015, local lawmakers, residents and activists have been pressuring state regulators and officials, including the governor, to close the Aliso Canyon gas storage field.

The leak at the Porter Ranch facility lasted for 121 days and pumped more than 100,000 tons of methane and other chemicals into the sky. It was the largest gas leak in U.S. history, and neighbors

complained of headaches, nausea and other symptoms. Meanwhile, the facility, owned by Southern California Gas Co., remains open.

Now, activists and supporters are changing tactics. Instead of focusing primarily on the facility's closure, they also want residents to adopt green technologies, and they're using a hefty SoCalGas settlement to help make it happen.

At a news conference Wednesday in front of the gas company's regional

[See Aliso Canyon, B4]



GENARO MOLINA Los Angeles Times

A \$71-MILLION settlement for communities affected by the 2015 gas leak will help residents fund green technologies and reduce reliance on natural gas.







## CITY &amp; STATE

# Missing woman's kin critical of LAPD response

Sister of Jahnay Bryan express frustration that her case is not being taken seriously.

By CLARA HARTER

Jahnay Bryan, a recent Cornell University graduate, had a bright future ahead of her before she mysteriously disappeared in Los Angeles this fall, leaving her family desperate for answers and frustrated by the lack of progress in solving her case.

Bryan, a 23-year-old Black woman, was last seen near the 2000 block of West 8th Street on Oct. 16, according to an Ebony Alert issued by the Los Angeles Police Department on Nov. 19. She has black hair and brown eyes, is 5-foot-7 and weighs about 125 pounds.

Ebony Alerts are meant to help police find missing Black youths ages 12 to 25, a group that represents a disproportionate number of the missing people in the state and the country. In 2023, Black youths under 18 made up 40% of all missing-children cases in the United States, despite making up just 15% of American children, according to the National Crime Information Center.

Bryan's sister, Jahque Bryan-Goodman, reported her missing Nov. 13. Three weeks have since passed, and there are no updates available on Bryan's case, according to an LAPD spokesperson.

"I feel like it wasn't taken as seriously as it needed to be," she said, "and I definitely had higher expectations from law enforcement."

It took almost a week to get the Ebony Alert issued, and Bryan-Goodman says she's received little communication from detectives since then, despite having shared several potential leads generated by a missing-persons poster that the family has been circulating. They include a tip that Bryan may be a victim of sex trafficking in L.A., she added.

An LAPD spokesperson did not immediately respond to a request for comment on the criticisms raised by Bryan-Goodman.

Natalie Wilson, co-founder of the Black and Missing Foundation, said it is essential that missing-persons alerts are released as quickly as possible.

"Time is of the essence," she said. "We know that within 24 to 48 hours of being on the street, a child could be propositioned for sex and could possibly be a victim of sex trafficking."

Wilson also said that law enforcement agencies are capable of issuing alerts "almost instantaneously" and that a six-day delay in Bryan's case may have hindered progress in finding her.

"So many clues have been lost over those six days of inactivity, and it's unfair to Jahnay and her family," she said.

Wilson said there are several reasons Black families



Courtesy of Jahque Bryan-Goodman

**CORNELL GRADUATE** Jahnay Bryan, 23, was last seen near the 2000 block of West 8th Street on Oct. 16. It took police six days to issue a missing-person alert.

often struggle to get law enforcement to pay attention to their missing loved ones. Missing minority youths are often classified as runaways, while missing minority adults are often labeled as criminals, she said. In general, cases of missing Black people get less media attention and, consequently, less pressure is put on law enforcement to solve them.

Media attention has slowly been starting to pick

up regarding Bryan's case. The initial Ebony Alert was reported by KTLA on Nov. 23, and this week NBC Dateline ran a story on Bryan's disappearance.

Still, the amount of coverage pales in comparison to that received by other recent missing-persons cases.

"I think the reality is that other cases — regardless of the people's race, but because they are celebrities or they're getting more media

attention — are clearly taking precedence over my sister's case," said Bryan-Goodman.

For example, the recent case of Hannah Kobayashi, a 30-year-old Hawaiian woman flagged as missing by her family, has generated copious media coverage and, seemingly, police attention. Kobayashi was reported missing on Nov. 11, two days before Bryan was reported missing.

On Monday, LAPD Chief Jim McDonnell held a news conference and announced that, after a thorough investigation, police determined Kobayashi had voluntarily crossed the border to Mexico on foot and alone.

Bryan graduated from Cornell in 2023 and moved back home with her mother in East Stroudsburg, Pa., said Bryan-Goodman. In the year leading up to her disappearance, Bryan cut off all communication with her friends and the rest of her family, according to Bryan-Goodman.

Worried for her sister's well-being, Bryan-Goodman had police perform a wellness check at her mother's home in April, which confirmed that the mother and Bryan were both still living there.

Bryan-Goodman said her mother is not talking to her and is not involved in the search for Bryan.

In August, Bryan sent an email to her ex-boyfriend telling him she was moving to a new city. She last contacted him on Oct. 16, by which point Bryan-Goodman believes she was living in Los Angeles.

According to Bryan-Goodman, friends have visited the Westlake neighborhood where Bryan was last reported living and spoke to neighbors who confirmed seeing her and described her accurately.

Anyone with information on Bryan's whereabouts is asked to contact Det. Avalos in the LAPD Missing Persons Unit at (213) 996-1800.



MYUNG J. CHUN Los Angeles Times

## COMFY SHOES AND STOCKINGS

Sweeping views and Christmas spirit greet a hiker Friday at Tom LaBonge Panorama in Griffith Park.

# Measles exposure reported in LAX, O.C.

Unvaccinated people who haven't had the disease are at highest risk, officials say.

By RONG-GONG LIN II

Health officials warned Thursday that people who were at Los Angeles International Airport and Children's Hospital of Orange County in recent days may have been exposed to measles.

A flier infected with the disease was at LAX a day before Thanksgiving, and an infant with measles was at the Orange County hospital after the holiday. It wasn't immediately clear whether this was a single individual.

Those at highest risk of getting sick are unvaccinated people who haven't had measles before. Babies are at high risk from the highly contagious disease.

Others at risk of severe outcomes include pregnant women and people with compromised immune systems.

A person infected with measles arrived at Los Angeles International Airport at 12:35 p.m. on Nov. 27, on Qatar Airways Flight 739. The flight originated out of Doha, the capital of Qatar.

The Los Angeles County

Department of Public Health said that people who were at LAX's Tom Bradley International Terminal — also known as Terminal B — between 12:30 and 6 p.m. that day might be at risk of contracting measles due to exposure to the traveler.

Separately, the Orange County Health Care Agency said a measles patient — an infant returning from international travel — visited the Children's Hospital of Orange County emergency room three times in recent days: On Saturday, between noon and 5 p.m.; on Monday between 2 and 10 p.m.; and on Tuesday between 5:30 and 9 p.m.

The exposure comes as measles is on the upswing nationwide, with 280 cases reported nationally as of Nov. 21, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. That's compared with 59 measles cases reported in all of 2023.

Of the measles cases reported so far nationally this year, 41% have been among children under the age of 5, while 31% of them were among those ages 5 to 19.

Nearly 9 in 10 of those measles cases occurred in unvaccinated people, and 112 people have been hospitalized. Sixty of those who were hospitalized were younger than 5.

"Before the measles vac-

cine was introduced, an estimated 48,000 people were hospitalized and 400-500 people died in the United States each year," according to the CDC.

The CDC recommends children get their first dose of the measles vaccine between 12 and 15 months of age, with a second dose at 4 to 6 years old. Two doses of the vaccines are 97% effective against getting the disease. The vaccine is known as MMR, which not only protects against measles but also mumps and rubella.

"MMR vaccines are very safe. The benefits far outweigh any risks. Side effects are usually mild, such as soreness where the shot was given," the Orange County Health Care Agency said.

Infants under 12 months of age who are traveling internationally should get an early vaccination, sometime between 6 and 11 months of age, the Orange County Health Care Agency said.

People who aren't immunized are at risk of developing measles from seven to 21 days after their exposure. Measles can be spread through the air, and can stay there and on surfaces for many hours, "even after the infected person has left," the L.A. County Department of Public Health said.

"The infected person can spread the disease up to four

days before a measles rash appears and up to four days after the rash appears," the agency said. "If other people breathe the contaminated air or touch the infected surface, then touch their eyes, noses, or mouths, they can become infected."

Symptoms of measles include high fever — possibly exceeding 104 degrees — cough; runny nose; red, watery eyes; and rash, according to the CDC.

Serious health complications are possible, especially in children younger than 5, such as pneumonia — the most common cause of death from measles in young children — and swelling of the brain, which can trigger convulsions and lead to deafness or intellectual disability.

Of every 1,000 children who become infected with measles, about one to three will die, the CDC says.

There can also be long-term complications from measles, such as SSPE, which stands for subacute sclerosing panencephalitis. SSPE is rare but can develop seven to 10 years after a person recovers from measles, and can result in a deadly disease of the central nervous system.

The risk of getting SSPE may be higher for those who get measles when younger than age 2, the CDC says.

# Sailor is laid to rest 83 years later

William Kubinec, who died in the attack on Pearl Harbor, is buried near Redding.

By SANDRA McDONALD

Kathie Svoboda has never met her Uncle William, but a new relationship has been forged 83 years after his death.

The Navy serviceman, killed in the 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor, was identified decades later. Through the military's process of returning lost loved ones to their families, Svoboda said, she'd learned much about him.

"It's such an intimate ritual," said the Redding resident, 74.

William Kubinec was formally buried Friday in a Northern California veterans cemetery.

Kubinec, of Garrettsville, Ohio, a fireman second class, served aboard the USS West Virginia. At the time of his death at 21, government records indicate, Kubinec's remains were unidentifiable and he was buried as an unknown person in the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Hawaii, also known as the Punchbowl.

He was one of about 10 siblings, Svoboda said — her mother, now 96, was the youngest of the family, and just 13 when he died.

Kubinec joined the military as a necessity, Svoboda said, to provide for the family in the last throes of the Great Depression in the late 1930s.

His mother, she said, was upset that he wanted to sign up. But he had hemophilia; he would never get in, they thought.

In 2017, Kubinec's casket was among 35 exhumed that were associated with the West Virginia and sent for DNA testing by the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency, which works to recover and identify unaccounted-for soldiers. Around this time, Svoboda said, the agency reached out to one of her uncles for a cheek-swab DNA sample.

In 2016, the government launched a next-gen DNA testing method for unidentified fallen soldiers from World War II and the Korean War, according to a Department of Defense article in January. The process has become faster and more accurate over time despite the difficulty in identifying older

remains.

Kubinec wasn't formally identified until November 2019, however, and the uncle they'd initially contacted for the DNA sample had died, Svoboda said. It wasn't until last year that Svoboda's mother received a letter explaining what they'd found.

"At first she was a little unsettled, but then she realized he could be put to rest," Svoboda said of her mother's reaction.

"He was smart, caring, the peacekeeper of the family," Svoboda said. One year, her mother had told her, the family did not have enough money for a Christmas tree. The day before their school holiday break, Kubinec asked if he could take the tree from the cafeteria so his family could have one, then carried it home.

The military sent dozens of documents to Svoboda about Kubinec's DNA testing and his service, including his posthumous Purple Heart.

Kubinec, as a fireman, was probably working in the engine room aboard the West Virginia, Svoboda said. During the Pearl Harbor raid, the ship was "hit by two bombs and at least seven torpedoes, which blew huge holes in her port side.

Skillful damage control saved her from capsizing, but she quickly sank to the harbor bottom," according to Navy military history.

Svoboda was told the engineers were crucial in keeping the ship from capsizing by counter-flooding the engine room, essentially sacrificing themselves to save as many shipmates and ships around them as possible.

The Navy offered to place Kubinec in any cemetery of the family's choosing — back home in Ohio or even in Arlington National Cemetery. Because her mother is elderly and unable to travel, they chose Redding, so she could see the awarding of his military honors.

"The military makes great efforts to bring their fallen home," Svoboda said. Several other World War II soldiers who remained unidentified for decades have been returned to relatives across California in recent years, including Pfc. Harry M. Seiff, Cpl. Walter L. Clark, Sgt. Charles E. Young Jr. and 1st Lt. Herman Jerry Sundstad.

Kubinec's funeral was held at the Northern California Veterans Cemetery in Igo, Calif., at 2 p.m. Friday.



# Residents heartbroken as a gathering spot closes

[Swap meet, from B1] trict of California, alleged that the owners failed to comply with federal and state standards related to parking spaces for people with disabilities and that additional barriers to accessibility would be identified after a site inspection.

The plaintiff, Darwin Boggs, has paraplegia and uses a wheelchair when traveling in public, the suit said. He has filed 71 ADA lawsuits this year including against a diner, a vegan restaurant and an animal feed store in the high desert. Boggs is represented by attorney Jason J. Kim of So. Cal. Equal Access Group, who has filed more than 2,300 ADA lawsuits this year.

Neither Boggs nor Kim responded to The Times' request for comment.

Zena Carr, whose family has owned the swap meet for 35 years, said they expect to settle with the plaintiff, but they haven't yet met to discuss the terms. They decided to close right away rather than upgrade the property, she said, because the cost to make the business ADA compliant — more than \$200,000, she estimated — “wasn't feasible.”

Carr said she and her 72-year-old mother had been planning to eventually sell the swap meet property. Her father, Bob Carr, the heart of the business, died in 2018, and Carr didn't see herself running it long term. But the lawsuit early last month put the decision on high speed. Still, she said, the closure was bittersweet.

“Relationships have been made here,” she said. “Memories have been made.”

## How ADA lawsuits can often unfold

Autumn Elliott, litigation counsel for Disability Rights California, said federal and state disability laws are commonly enforced through individual lawsuits, because there is no government agency tasked with evaluating whether public locations are accessible or not.

“So when a lawsuit happens, it may be unwelcome by the business owner, but otherwise the business would just continue to be inaccessible to people with disabilities,” said Elliott, who was unable to comment specifically on the swap meet case.

Boggs visited the swap meet in June and alleged in the complaint that he encountered several barriers that interfered with his ability to access the business, including lack of proper signage marking accessible parking.

While the swap meet has parking for people with disabilities, the suit alleged that the business failed to provide a van-accessible space, including an access aisle for wheelchair drop-off with a level surface.

“These barriers and conditions denied Plaintiff the full and equal access to the Business and caused Plaintiff difficulty and frustration,” the complaint said.

Dan Danet, an attorney with the Karlin Law Firm LLP who is representing the Carr family, said a lack of ac-



RANDY BRILL, who uses a wheelchair, navigates the dirt path to visit vendors on the last day of operation at the Sky Village Swap Meet.



A CHALKBOARD conveys the sentiments of several vendors on the final day of business at the swap meet, which has been a community hub in Yucca Valley.

cessible parking, or accessible parking that doesn't fully comply with the law, is “without a doubt the number one access barrier I see in complaints.”

He said the overwhelming majority of his cases end in early settlement. Under the state Unruh Civil Rights Act, plaintiffs can claim damages of at least \$4,000 per visit to the business, plus attorney's fees. The prospect of a site inspection, and the cost of addressing additional barriers, also incentivize early settlement, he said.

Some defendants have expressed concerns that serial lawyers and plaintiffs are taking advantage of the nearly 35-year-old federal law, seeking out violations and damages. But recently, a state bill failed that sought to alleviate damages for such lawsuits by providing 120-day warning notices to

correct violations.

Elliott, of Disability Rights California, said her organization doesn't support this type of warning, noting business owners have had several decades' notice that they're required to comply with the ADA.

## Heartbreak in the desert community

In this high-desert region where people seek out solitude on five-acre plots of land, the market was a place to find weekly connections. At a time of rapid gentrification in the Joshua Tree area, it also provided a space for everyone to interact.

The swap meet represented “the joining of a few different worlds of people,” said Laurel Yancey, who was trying to sign up vendors for a Facebook page to keep in touch. Despite differences in politics, economics and life experiences, she said the marketplace was “almost that center point of the infinity sign ... where two parts meet.”

When the Carr family bought the swap meet property in 1994, it had already been a drive-in movie theater and open-air market for decades. The Sky Drive-In Theater opened there in 1959, according to the Morongo Basin Historical Soci-

ety. The weekend swap meet started operating in 1971.

In a town with a median household income of about \$54,000, the swap meet has survived, in part, because it's a strong buyer's and seller's market, Zena Carr said.

“It's kind of a business that works in any scenario, as far as the economy goes,” Carr said. During the pandemic, and before that during the Great Recession, she said, “people were pulling stuff out of their garages to make money to pay their rent ... or their car payment.”

For Stephanie Varga, a volunteer archivist with the Morongo Basin Historical Museum, it's this staying power that made the swap meet so endearing. Flea markets these days are typically higher end or dominated by wholesalers, she said.

“It was dusty, and junky, and full of treasures,” she said. “It was a treasure hunt.”

## Saying goodbye to their institution

On Sunday afternoon, Charlotte Burns browsed the swap meet while a man in a cowboy hat serenaded the crowd. She grew up in the high desert and says the market has hardly changed since the 1990s, when she recalls her mom buying her a Cabbage Patch Kids doll.

“I hope it doesn't just turn into some gentrified market or something,” she said.

Randy Brill, who uses a wheelchair, sold goods for nine years at the swap meet, including NASCAR memorabilia, his old bicycles and snowboards, hand-carved

signs and even Chihuahua puppies. He recalled that Bob Carr once built him a concrete ramp so he could vend from one of the permanent structures.

Brill, who now runs a monthly flea market in nearby Landers, predicted the vendors and buyers would survive.

“Everybody will eventually pick up out of the dirt, dust themselves off,” he said. “That's the character of a desert person. You've got to have hard skin to get through out here. Otherwise the desert will chew you up and spit you out.”

With just 30 minutes left in the swap meet last weekend, more than a dozen people gathered around the stand where Hamid Moazzam has sold gems, crystals, handmade rugs and furniture for more than two decades.

As Moazzam lit some incense, his vending partner, Willow Murillo, prepared to perform a farewell sound bath with the crystal and Tibetan bowls that they had sold for many years.

“This is a little way of saying goodbye,” Murillo said.

She began drawing a wand around the circumference of the bowls, and their soothing vibrations sung out across the dusty market.

Then, silence.

Times researcher Scott Willson contributed to this report. This article is part of The Times' equity reporting initiative, funded by the James Irvine Foundation, exploring the challenges facing low-income workers and the efforts being made to address California's economic divide.

# Activists aim to curb gas demand

[Aliso Canyon, from B1] headquarters in Chatsworth, state Sen. Henry Stern (D-Calabasas) and state Assemblywoman Pilar Schiavo (D-Chatsworth) implored community members to hasten Aliso Canyon's closure by consuming less gas and turning to electric appliances.

The duo, along with community activists, announced that funds from the \$71-million settlement between SoCalGas and its regulator, the California Public Utilities Commission, would be used to further those efforts as the commission deliberates on a plan to potentially close Aliso Canyon in the distant future.

“We still believe the facility can be closed,” Stern said, “but this funding is really designed to help average homeowners, people who send their kids to school in the Valley, take the closure of Aliso Canyon into their own hands.”

The funding is expected to be broken up into four chunks: \$40 million to push for replacement of home and water heaters now powered by natural gas, \$15 million to make schoolyards greener; \$14 million to combat extreme heat and aid community resilience programs, and \$2 million for community outreach and decarbonization education.

“This is a significant step

forward on delivering some level of justice and creating healthier and more sustainable communities and futures for the communities that were impacted by the Aliso Canyon disaster,” Schiavo said.

The \$40 million will go toward a statewide program that promotes the use of electric residential heat pumps for space and water heating.

Although every homeowner within SoCalGas is eligible for a \$1,000 rebate, the program will give special priority to those in the Aliso Canyon-impacted communities of Porter Ranch, Granada Hills, Northridge, Chatsworth, North Hills, Canoga Park, Reseda, Winnetka, Lake Balboa, Van Nuys and West Hills.

“Heat pumps can create safer and healthier homes and communities and reduce our reliance on fossil fuels, and the market is increasingly ready to meet the rise in demand,” Robin Tung, associate director of communications for the Building Decarbonization Coalition, said at the news conference.

The group is one of several working with the affected Aliso Canyon community pushing for electric over gas options and appliances.

All other monies will only be available specifically to

Aliso Canyon-impacted communities.

As for green schoolyards, the \$15 million will be aimed at increasing green space, reducing asphalt and blacktops for affected cities, counties, school districts, special districts and nonprofits. The \$14 million in extreme heat aid will support senior community centers with adequate and efficient air conditioning.

The settlement funding these endeavors is separate from a \$18-billion agreement settlement between Aliso Canyon neighbors and SoCalGas in 2021, or other payments and fines paid by SoCalGas and its parent, Sempra Energy.

SoCalGas spokesperson Chris Gilbride, who was at the news conference, did not offer a direct comment on the settlement.

He did note that SoCalGas “share[s] the commission's view that Aliso Canyon is a necessary part of California's energy infrastructure today.”

The news conference comes after the CPUC released a proposal Nov. 13 that could lead to closing Aliso Canyon years from now.

Local activists and politicians criticized the plan, saying it didn't provide a fast enough or clear enough timeline to shut down the site.

The proposal calls for moving ahead with closing the site once Southern California's demand for natural gas declines to a level at which peak demand can be served without Aliso Canyon.

According to the plan, the CPUC would initiate proceedings to review and potentially close the facility only when the peak demand forecast for a date two years in the future is below 4,121 million metric cubic feet per day.

Peak demand, currently forecast at 4,618 million metric cubic feet per day, is expected to drop to 4,197 million in 2030, according to the CPUC.

Stern estimated the earliest the facility could be closed under the proposal would be 2039.

Activists such as Matt Pakucko, president of the advocacy group Save Porter Ranch, which has fought to close the storage facility since shortly after the leak, said SoCalGas and Gov. Gavin Newsom's framing on the issue has always been wrong.

“This isn't an energy issue, it's a health issue,” Pakucko said.

The closure plan will be discussed at the commission's Dec. 19 meeting in San Francisco.

The public can attend in person or virtually.

# Obituaries

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**Tamiko Kawauchi**  
August 18, 1935 -  
October 12, 2024

August 18, 1935, 89 of Huntington Beach CA, born in Seattle, Washington, she passed away peacefully on October 12, 2024. She is survived by her son Mark (Becky); daughter Coleen Kawauchi; grandchildren Matthew and Micah; and brother Mitch (Karen) Teramoto. She is also survived by many nieces, nephews, and other relatives. Preceded in death by her husband Yoshihiro Burt and daughter Janice. A celebration of life service will be held at Green Hills Memorial Cemetery (310) 831-0311.



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# Suspect is arrested in string of violent robberies

By NATHAN SOLIS

In one instance, the robber targeted a woman as she walked to her car in the Hustler Casino parking lot in Gardena, shoving a semiautomatic pistol into the mouth of his victim, breaking her teeth and threatening, “If you yell again, I’ll kill you.” He stole more than \$1,000 from her purse.

In another incident, the masked man approached a driver getting into his vehicle at South Coast Plaza in Costa Mesa and demanded the victim give him his watch, ring and car. When the driver refused, the man repeatedly said, “I’m going to shoot you, I’m going to kill you.”

The assailant then shot the driver in the left hand, pointed the gun at his chest and said, “You’re a dead man.”

The assailant then shot the man in the thigh as he tried to take off his watch. After a brief scuffle, the assailant fled to his car and drove away.

On Wednesday, Oshae Pollard, 21, was arrested in connection with a string of violent parking lot robberies in L.A. and Orange counties, federal prosecutors said in a news release. He was charged with interference with commerce by robbery and use of a firearm in furtherance of a crime of violence.

The first victim was targeted in the Gardena casino’s parking lot about 11:40 p.m. Aug. 25. The suspect grabbed her purse and forced her to the ground, according to a criminal affidavit that detailed his alleged crimes. He ran away with the victim’s money when a witness began to yell, according to the affidavit.

Pollard then drove away in a blue four-door vehicle, wearing a hoodie sweater and still holding onto his handgun, authorities said.

The next morning, two men approached a taxi driver sitting in a parking lot outside a Winchell’s Donut House in Carson around 5:15



**COSTA MESA** police investigate an attempted robbery Sept. 22 at South Coast Plaza. The victim was shot twice but fought off the gunman. A suspect in that and other Southland robberies was arrested Wednesday.

a.m., federal officials said. One of the men pointed a two-toned handgun at the driver and said, “Relax; give me your money and your wallet.”

Paralyzed with fear, the taxi driver did not move. That’s when the two men began to hit him in the face. Then one of them got into the taxi and held the driver up at gunpoint, according to court documents.

The taxi driver gave the men his wallet and phone. One of the robbers was wearing a metal bracelet around his right wrist and had a dark tattoo of a rose on his left wrist. In total, the two men made off with about \$560 worth of stolen items, federal investigators said.

On Aug. 26, just 17 hours after the taxi cab robbery, two men driving in a blue Kia Forte stopped their car at the Fashion Island shopping mall in Newport Beach. The men wore black hoodies, gloves and masks, according to court records.

They parked next to two men standing next to their vehicles — a Rolls-Royce and a Ferrari. The owner of

the Ferrari began to walk back to his car when he saw the masked men park near them. The masked men approached the man standing next to the Rolls-Royce.

“Give me all your cash! Where is the cash at?” one of the masked men said, according to court records.

The victim gave the men an Audemars Piguet Royal Oak watch and a Berluti wallet with the initials “KR” on it, and Rolls-Royce keys, federal agents said.

The man in the Ferrari

started his vehicle and tried to drive away. That’s when one of the masked men ran up to the vehicle, shot into the car and narrowly missed the driver. The Ferrari owner was able to drive to a nearby gas station and asked a clerk to call the police, according to court records.

Both masked men drove away in their Kia with roughly \$44,000 in stolen items. The Newport Beach Police Department recovered a single 9-millimeter shell casing at the scene.

Authorities say on Sept. 22, a man getting into his vehicle at South Coast Plaza was approached by a masked man armed with a gun. He told the driver, “Give me the watch, give me the ring, give me the car.”

But the man did not comply, according to court records.

The gunman then shot the driver in the left hand and thigh. The driver got out of his vehicle and kicked the masked man. The two briefly fought before the as-

saillant ran back to his blue Kia and drove away, according to authorities.

Investigators say that Pollard’s phone was at the scene of all of the crimes. He was arrested Oct. 16 by Inglewood police for allegedly carrying a concealed firearm in a vehicle. He was initially pulled over by police because his vehicle did not have a proper license plate. His vehicle is a blue Kia and the gun found by police was a loaded, two-toned Glock Model 19 Gen5 9mm, according to court records.

Pollard also had a black ski mask in the car, and federal investigators identified a flower tattoo on his wrist. He was released from custody, but the handgun was turned over to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. The gun was linked to the spent shell casings from the Fashion Island and South Coast Plaza incidents, according to authorities.

Federal investigators served a search warrant to look through Pollard’s Instagram account and found images of him wearing a metal bracelet and having a dark tattoo that one of his victims reported. He also posted a photo of himself wearing a victim’s Rolex watch.

Pollard appeared in a federal courtroom Thursday in Santa Ana for his arraignment.

The second suspect, who has not been identified, remains at large, authorities said.

## Gunman planned ‘child executions’

[**School**, from B1] ing. He underwent emergency surgery to stop the bleeding and was on a ventilator in the pediatric intensive care unit awaiting additional surgery, the family said.

Wednesday’s violence started with an appointment at Feather River Adventist School just outside Oroville, a town of around 20,000 about an hour’s drive north of Sacramento.

After being dropped off at the school in an Uber, Litton had a meeting with the principal to discuss enrolling his grandson in the school, which has fewer than 40 students. Honea said this was a ruse to gain access to campus and that Litton has no grandson.

“It was a cordial meeting,” Honea said. “There was nothing that gave rise to concern.”

After the meeting, Litton walked toward the parking lot as if to leave, then turned and headed to the playground, where students were finishing their noon recess and returning to class, Honea said. Litton then pulled out his firearm and initiated the attack, he said.

A California Highway Patrol officer arrived at 1:10 p.m. and was directed by school staff to the area where the gunman had shot himself, Honea said.

Deputies arrived minutes later and found two boys in “extremely critical condition” and rendered aid, according to the sheriff.

About 35 students at the school were taken to the nearby Oroville Church of the Nazarene, where they were reunited with their parents.

Crisis counselors from the Butte County Behavioral Health Department and chaplains and representatives from the Seventh-day Adventist Church were helping address the needs of students and faculty at the school, Honea said.

On Thursday, Honea said that Litton had a four-decade criminal history that included convictions across California, Nevada and Ari-

zona for theft, fraud, identity theft and forgery.

In March, Litton was arrested in Phoenix on suspicion of stealing more than \$1,000 from a cash register at a CVS. On Nov. 12, he was arrested by San Francisco police on suspicion of being in possession of a stolen U-Haul truck and a forged license as well as having an outstanding warrant in San Bernardino County for alleged burglary.

The forged license had the name Michael Sanders, which is the same name Litton used when scheduling his appointment at Feather River Adventist School.

Litton attended a Seventh-day Adventist school in Paradise, Calif., as a child and might have had a family member who attended the Feather River school years ago, Honea said. Law enforcement, however, does not believe there is any current connection between Litton and the school he attacked, Honea added.

In the statement recovered by law enforcement, Litton said he was attacking the school on behalf of the “International Alliance.” Law enforcement has not found any evidence pointing to the existence of such an organization, Honea said.

“We believe that this was an isolated incident and he was a sole individual who targeted this school based on the beliefs that he held,” said Honea.

The school was closed Thursday as law enforcement continued to investigate the scene. The Sheriff’s Office was in contact with school administrators and the Butte County Office of Education to determine a plan to reopen the school.

“We are experiencing great pain within our school family, within our staff members, and throughout our entire community here in the Northern California conference,” said Laurie Trujillo, director of communications and advancement at the Northern California Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

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M. Garza  
Published in the Los Angeles Times 12/07/24, 12/14/24, 12/21/24, 12/28/24

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**Legal Notices**  
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### THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

Quick! Look! There it is!

Don't blink or you'll miss it!

AS THE CLOUDS BRIEFLY PARTED TO REVEAL THE SUMMIT, THE CLIMBERS GOT A ---

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

THE

(Answers Monday)

(Answers Monday)  
CATTLE AGENCY

Yesterday's Jumbles: BRAVO ICING  
Answer: After inflatable tires were introduced, it didn't take long for them to — GAIN TRACTION

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**The name and address of the court is: (El nombre y direccion de la corte es):**  
LOS ANGELES SUPERIOR COURT  
275 Magnolia Ave.  
Long Beach, CA 90802

**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):**  
DAN A. EVERAKES  
500 North Grand Boulevard, Suite 2200  
Glendale, CA 91203  
8185468686

**Date: (Fecha)** 07/09/2024

David W. Slayton Clerk (Secretario)  
J. Mercer Deputy (Adjunto)



COMICS

SUDOKU

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

Level: Moderate

										4	1
									6		
									2	5	
		2									
			5								
4	3									2	

Level: Moderate

12/7/24

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

3	2	5	1	4	6
1	4	6	3	5	2
4	1	3	6	2	5
6	5	2	4	1	3
5	6	1	2	3	4
2	3	4	5	6	1

12/7/24

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Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 or 2-by-3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 (or 1 to 6 for the smaller grid). For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit [www.sudoku.org.uk](http://www.sudoku.org.uk).

KENKEN

Every box will contain a number; numbers depend on the size of the grid. For a 6x6 puzzle, use Nos. 1-6. Do not repeat a number in any row or column. The numbers in each heavily outlined set of squares must combine to produce the target number found in the top left corner of the cage using the mathematical operation indicated. A number can be repeated within a cage as long as it is not in the same row or column.

EASY

3-				6X	
2÷				3	3-
2		10+		3-	
					2

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CHALLENGING

30X				4	5-	1-
12+			3-			
		5-	2-			2÷
				3+		90X
12X					4-	7+

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PREVIOUS ANSWERS

12X	1	3	2	4
3+	3	4	1	2
2÷	2	1	4	3
4-	4	2	3	1

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12X	4	2	3	5	1	6
3+	6	5	4	2	3	1
2÷	5	4	1	3	6	2
4-	3	1	6	4	2	5
12X	1	3	2	6	5	4
3+	2	6	1	5	4	3

12/7/24

HOROSCOPE

By HOLIDAY MATHIS

**Aries** (March 21-April 19): At first it's just a feeling, like maybe you're meant for something else. Then, out of nowhere, it gets clearer. Stay open to hints and nudges; they'll lead somewhere real.

**Taurus** (April 20-May 20): People show you what matters to them by how they live, not by what they say. So pay attention to actions, and let those be your guide.

**Gemini** (May 21-June 21): You're on the lookout for any excuse to make someone smile, and it shows. Keep it up; it's contagious.

**Cancer** (June 22-July 22): What you get done matters less than how you do it. So go in with good energy, and let that be the real work.

**Leo** (July 23-Aug. 22): You'll be around people who are winging it, clueless, hoping for the best. Watch out for any who claim otherwise.

**Virgo** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):

Use your charm wisely; it's potent. A smile or thoughtful word could set something big in motion today.

**Libra** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23): You won't figure that certain someone out by asking questions; what you need to know shows up in the little things they do. Watch closely and let them reveal themselves.

**Scorpio** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21): Places carry the energy of the events that happened there. Your vitality surges when you go where you feel welcome on all levels.

**Sagittarius** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Love is like music; you don't need to analyze every note. Just soak it in and feel it; talking too much can interrupt the resonance.

**Capricorn** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Some thoughts linger, happy for you to entertain them for days. You are under no obligation to make a decision any time soon.

**Aquarius** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Being preoccupied with thoughts about the past or

future might be a function of an unstimulating current routine. Maybe you just need a moment more interesting than your internal dialogue.

**Pisces** (Feb. 19-March 20): Since last year, you've dispelled a few myths and course-corrected accordingly. Today you'll realize what you missed, and you can go back and pick it up.

**Today's birthday** (Dec. 7): Genuine, thoughtful and supportive connections abound; your admirers will be many and your social life a whirl. You'll dedicate yourself to a project that seems fated; the universe will drop in exactly what you need. A bygone dream gets revitalized. Highlights: a secret wish answered, a fitness goal achieved, family growth. Pisces and Cancer adore you. Lucky numbers: 6, 4, 48, 27, 2.

Mathis writes her column for Creators Syndicate Inc. The horoscope should be read for entertainment.

CROSSWORD

Edited By Patti Varol  
By Rachel Fabi & Lewis Rothlein

- ACROSS
- 1 Account shortcut
- 7 Subatomic particle in the world's largest collider
- 13 [Shrug]
- 14 Mitigate
- 15 Not rare
- 16 Beverage also called Silver Needle
- 17 Michael Jordan's sch.
- 18 \_ wit
- 20 Mouth-squinting
- 21 Observation observation
- 23 Certain guest permits
- 24 Heat from a vent
- 25 Tweaks
- 27 Extra-ordinary mark?
- 29 From both sides, in a way
- 30 Bring up
- 31 Spy glasses?
- 33 Some mats
- 34 Doctors or nurses
- 35 Best Play awards
- 36 Addresses
- 37 Salsa, or a salsa move
- 38 Vales
- 39 "Open at your own risk" indicator
- 43 Protected, in a way
- 45 Like no films released to theaters in 2023
- 47 DeLaria of "Orange Is the New Black"
- 48 Plague in a Poe tale
- 50 "Well, dang!"
- 52 Dramatic
- 53 Thin
- 54 Skippers on a lake
- 55 Youngest, as a family member

- DOWN
- 1 Languor
- 2 Some in a cel block
- 3 Dating convenience
- 4 Percussive genre, for short
- 5 Make the rent?

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1	2	3	4	5	6			7	8	9	10	11	12
13								14					
15								16					
17								18					20
21								22					24
								25	26				27
								29					30
								31					32
33													34
35													36
37								38					39
43								44					46
48								49					51
52													53
54													55

6 Día de los Muertos skulls

7 Whodunit suspects, often

8 \_ text

9 Inflation reduction act?

10 Chain components

11 Surpasses

12 Clearest, as a note

14 Large birds of the pampas

16 Some molars

19 Like the fragrance of many wreaths

22 Thin

26 Kitty litter sound?

27 Ice mass unit

28 Element element

29 Abruptly became alert

30 Triceps exercise

31 In a cell block?

32 Nobel laureate Joliot-Curie

33 "Santaland Diaries" humorist

36 Ticket

38 Rough stuff?

40 Satisfy, as curiosity

41 Honors in a big way

42 " \_ expecting that"

44 Plot with a shameless beginning

46 Shelf-stable butter

49 Not quite 70°, for short

51 Unbridled

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

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

12/7/24

BRIDGE

By FRANK STEWART

The biggest problem some people have is their lips move when they think. They would do better to focus exclusively on thinking.

Today's North-South stopped at three clubs, an accurate contract. West led the K-A of spades. East followed with the seven and deuce. West continued with the jack. Declarer thought it over, then ruffed with dummy's 10 of trumps, commenting that it might be right to ruff with the king instead.

East overruffed with the jack and led a diamond to West's ace. South won the diamond return and drew trumps, but he couldn't avoid losing a heart. Down one. (Ruffing the third spade with the king of

trumps would not have helped.)

All South had to do was discard a heart from dummy on the third spade. If West shifts to, say, a heart, South can win, draw trumps and force out the ace of diamonds. Then he can discard another heart from dummy on a winning diamond and lose only four tricks in all.

You hold: ♠ AKJ865♥ Q 103♦ A 104♣ 7. You open one spade. Partner responds two hearts. The opponents pass. What do you say?

Answer: Partner has at least 10 points — considerably more in a game-forcing 2/1 style. His response makes your hand quite powerful. You may have a slam, and even a grand slam if he holds 32, A K 9 8 4 2, 5 3, A 6 3. You have many reasonable options. Bid three diamonds,

intending to bid four hearts next to suggest heart support, slam interest and club shortness.

North dealer  
E-W vulnerable

NORTH		EAST	
♠ Q 3	♥ 7 2	♠ 10 9 4	♥ 18 6
♦ A 9 4 2	♦ 18 6	♦ J 3	♦ 9 7 6 5 2
♣ K 10 8 5 3	♣ 19 6	♣ A K J 8 6 5	♣ 7

WEST: ♠ AKJ865♥ Q 103♦ A 104♣ 7

EAST: ♠ 1094♥ K75♦ KQ8♣ A Q 4 2

NORTH Pass 3♣

EAST Pass All Pass

SOUTH 1♣

WEST 1♠

Opening lead - ♠ K

Tribune Content Agency

ASKING ERIC

**Dear Eric:** I live with my partner of two years and his family (mother, younger siblings and mother's boyfriend).

Yesterday, his mother confided in me that the abusive and domineering man my partner knows as his semi-estranged father is not his biological father. My partner is not aware of this. I'm also not sure if any of his family knows. The man who helped conceive my partner hasn't been in the picture since before my partner was even born.

While I can appreciate that my partner's mom trusts me enough to confide in me, I didn't want to know this info, and now that I know, I wish I didn't. I'm not planning on sharing this secret with my partner because it isn't mine to share, but it also doesn't feel right to keep it from him.

I'm also worried about the potential fallout of telling him now or having it come out later from someone else. I don't want to hurt him, and I don't want to damage our relationship or the already complicated relationship he has with his mom. I would love to hear your advice.

NOT MY SECRET

**Dear Secret:** Your partner's mother put you in a terrible situation. It wasn't appropriate and in order for you to move forward in any

relationship with her, she needs to address it.

Talk to her privately and share what you shared in your letter: You don't feel comfortable keeping a secret from your partner, particularly this secret. And for the sake of your relationship with your partner, you won't do it. Then ask her how she plans to talk with him about it. She may not feel she had anyone else to talk to about this. You can be sympathetic and loving, while also making it clear that a boundary has been crossed and you need to fix it together.

**Dear Eric:** My nephew has three teens living at home; I gave him money to help with family summer activities. He used the money to buy guns for his kids, including an AR-style rifle, which breaks my heart.

As best I can tell, the guns are only minimally secured. The parents are professionals, and they otherwise take good care of their kids but are heavily into gun culture. I am concerned because one of his kids has significant mental health issues and has been hospitalized. They have had dark fantasies and sometimes post pictures with their face painted to look like blood dripping. I am beside myself with worry that a bad stretch of mental health stress could lead to something devastating. I do not live in the same state. Is

there someone I should alert?

CONCERNED RELATIVE

**Dear Relative:** If you have knowledge of a specific threat, you need to contact the local authorities and your nephew. It's not clear from your letter if the dark fantasies fall into that category, so please exercise judgment and caution.

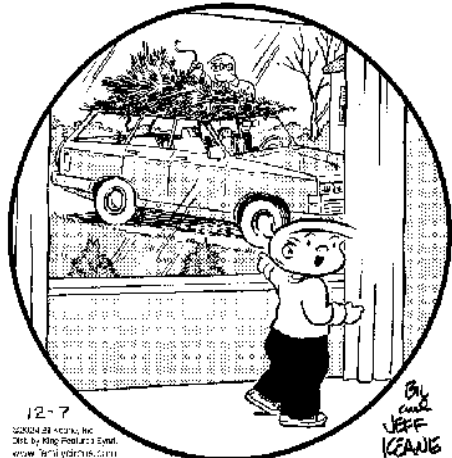
If your concern is mostly related to the child's mental health, you should make sure your nephew is aware of the posts. It's not a crime to have mental health struggles; you'll want to avoid treating it as such. Prioritize ensuring that the child is in a safe environment.

I know it's hard to reconcile the presence of the rifles in the home with your otherwise positive impression of your nephew's parenting, but getting into a debate won't serve anyone right now. It's also not a crime to be a responsible gun owner. Express your concerns and ask specific questions about the storage of the guns.

Many states have Child Access Protection laws, which establish guidelines for storing unattended guns, particularly in homes with minors. Visit [giffords.org](http://giffords.org) to find out if the state your nephew lives in has one and talk it through with him.

Email questions to [eric@askingeric.com](mailto:eric@askingeric.com).

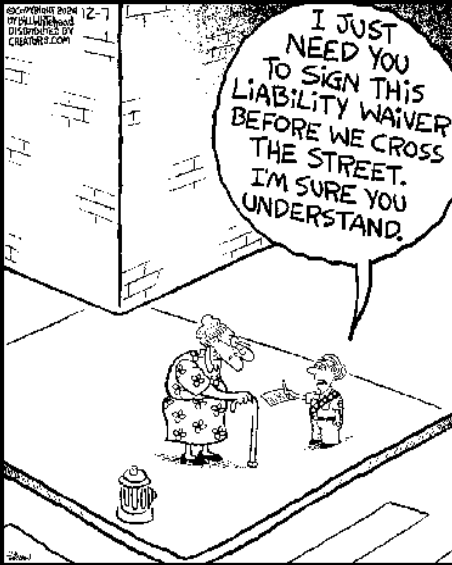
FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



DENNIS THE MENACE By Hank Ketcham



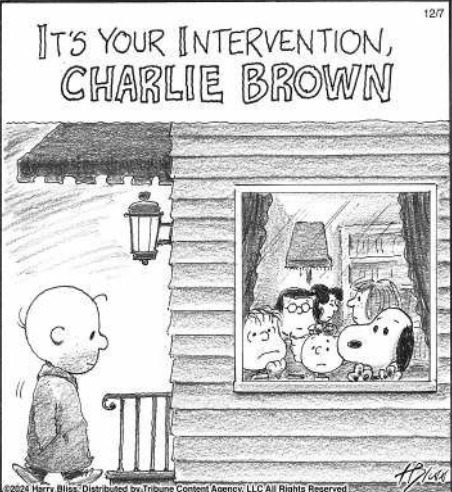
FREE RANGE By Bill Whitehead



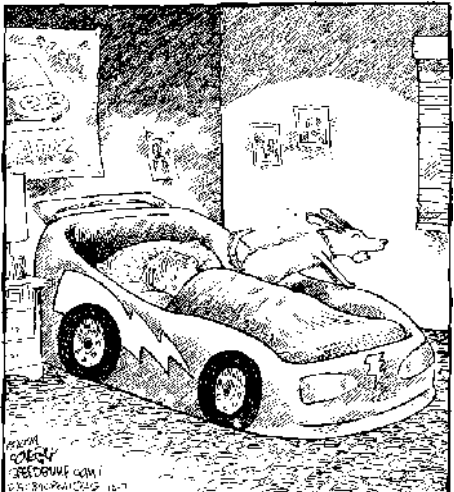
MARMADUKE By Brad & Paul Anderson



BLISS By Harry Bliss

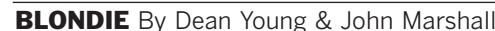
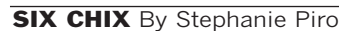


SPEED BUMP By Dave Coverly





## LA CUCARACHA By Lalo Alcaraz





Today in Southern California

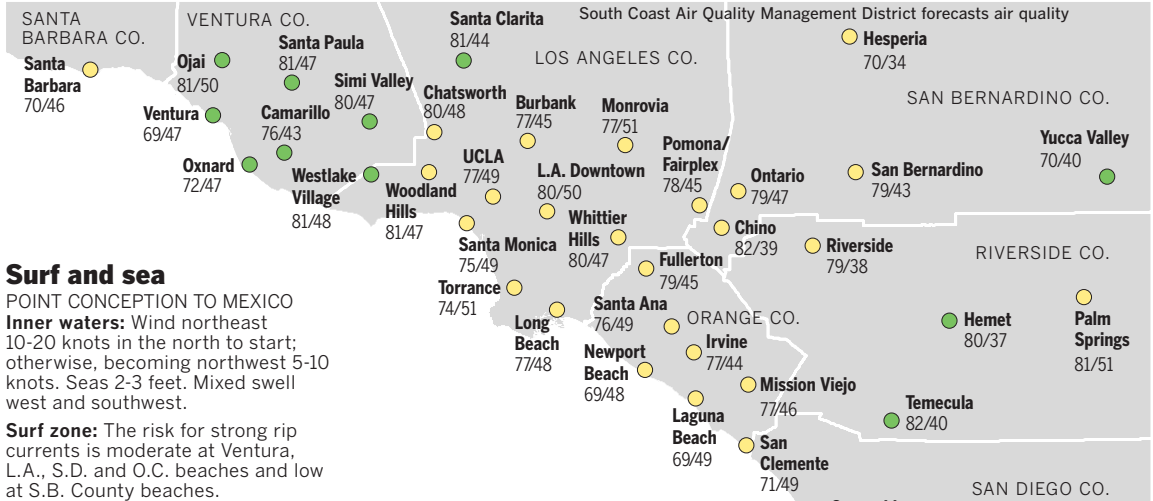
**Warm and sunny:** An offshore flow with high pressure to the north will result in sun Saturday, with temperatures rising to the high side of average. A trough with increasing onshore flow will trim temperatures Sunday. Low clouds and an onshore flow will be widespread to start Monday; a moderate Santa Ana setup Monday night and Tuesday will raise the fire risk.

5-day forecasts

High/low temperatures are average forecasts for entire zone.

	L.A. Basin	Valleys	Beaches	Mountains	Deserts
Today	80 50	78 50	75 49	58 22	81 51
	Sunny and very warm	Sunny and very warm	Sunny and warmer	Lots of sun	Sunny and warm
Sunday	Not as warm 67/51	Sunny 69/47	Cooler 64/49	Mostly sunny 55/23	Mostly sunny 76/49
Monday	Mostly sunny 66/45	Sunny 68/49	Sunny 63/46	Sunny 48/18	Sunny 77/47
Tuesday	Mostly sunny 71/46	Very windy 70/46	Windy 70/49	Chilly 45/20	Sunny 70/44
Wednesday	Some sun 73/51	Some sun 72/47	Partly sunny 72/48	Not as cool 55/20	Partly sunny 72/48

Air quality



Surf and sea

**POINT CONCEPTION TO MEXICO**  
**Inner waters:** Wind northeast 10-20 knots in the north to start; otherwise, becoming northwest 5-10 knots. Seas 2-3 feet. Mixed swell west and southwest.

**Surf zone:** The risk for strong rip currents is moderate at Ventura, L.A., S.D. and O.C. beaches and low at S.B. County beaches.

County	Height	Period	Direction	Temp
Santa Barbara	1-3'	13 sec	W	58
Ventura	2-4'	13 sec	WSW	58
Los Angeles	2-4'	14 sec	SW	58
Orange	2-4'	14 sec	SW	59
San Diego	2-4'	14 sec	SW	61

Tides

L.A. Outer Harbor, in feet.

Day	2:57a	3:9 Hi	7:21a	3:1 Lo
	12:54p	4:6 Hi	8:26p	0:2 Lo
Sun.	3:39a	4:4 Hi	9:11a	2:7 Lo
	2:26p	4:1 Hi	9:18p	0:6 Lo

UV index

Minutes to burn for sensitive people

Las Vegas, 45	Phoenix, 45
Los Angeles, 45	San Francisco, 60

California cities\*

City	Fri.*	Hi	Lo	Prcp.	Today	Hi	Lo	Sun.	Hi	Lo
Anaheim	75	45	Tr		80	42	69	48		
Avalon/Catalina	77	66	--		76	55	62	49		
Bakersfield	64	41	--		65	43	62	40		
Barstow	73	38	--		69	38	69	39		
Big Bear Lake	52	17	--		58	22	55	23		
Bishop	68	25	--		63	29	63	30		
Burbank	79	48	--		77	45	69	48		
Camarillo	86	47	--		76	43	64	47		
Chatsworth	79	52	--		80	48	69	45		
Chino	85	41	--		82	39	72	42		
Compton	70	46	Tr		79	48	67	52		
Dana Point	62	47	--		68	49	63	51		
Death Valley	74	50	--		73	47	70	51		
Del Mar	65	47	Tr		72	48	67	50		
Escondido	75	39	--		83	40	75	41		
Eureka	55	43	--		56	43	53	34		
Fallbrook	77	44	--		81	42	73	41		
Fresno	64	42	--		64	45	61	41		
Fullerton	74	44	--		79	45	69	51		
Hemet	79	39	--		80	37	72	36		
Hesperia	67	31	--		68	41	68	31		
Huntington Beach	64	45	--		70	48	63	54		
Idyllwild	62	42	--		64	40	59	35		
Irvine	71	43	.01		77	44	67	50		

City	Fri.*	Hi	Lo	Prcp.	Today	Hi	Lo	Sun.	Hi	Lo
L.A. D'town/USC	74	52	--		80	50	67	51		
L.A. Int'l. Airport	60	52	--		76	51	65	53		
Laguna Beach	73	46	.01		69	49	62	52		
Lancaster	70	27	--		68	32	68	29		
Long Beach	71	49	--		77	48	65	53		
Mammoth Lakes	53	16	--		50	26	51	13		
Mission Viejo	75	48	--		77	46	68	47		
Monrovia	79	53	--		77	51	70	50		
Monterey	69	43	--		63	45	62	40		
Mt. Wilson	66	45	--		54	45	53	45		
Needles	76	50	--		72	40	69	42		
Newport Beach	60	46	.01		69	48	62	53		
Northridge	83	50	--		81	47	69	46		
Oakland	65	44	--		62	47	61	42		
Oceanside	71	36	--		80	36	70	43		
Ojai	83	52	--		81	50	72	46		
Ontario	82	48	--		79	47	72	46		
Palm Springs	87	54	--		81	51	76	49		
Pasadena	80	51	--		78	50	69	49		
Paso Robles	70	34	--		72	39	67	34		
Redding	72	36	--		60	44	66	47		
Riverside	79	39	--		79	38	71	37		
Sacramento	64	37	--		61	40	65	39		
San Bernardino	81	44	--		79	43	74	44		

City	Fri.*	Hi	Lo	Prcp.	Today	Hi	Lo	Sun.	Hi	Lo
San Diego	65	45	--		74	46	67	51		
San Francisco	64	46	--		61	49	61	46		
San Gabriel	81	50	--		79	48	69	49		
San Jose	72	43	--		68	47	69	42		
San Luis Obispo	80	42	--		71	45	69	44		
Santa Ana	71	47	--		76	49	69	51		
Santa Barbara	73	45	--		70	46	65	44		
Santa Clarita	80	47	--		81	44	70	44		
Santa Monica Pier	64	50	--		75	49	64	49		
Santa Rosa	84	51	--		81	47	71	45		
Simi Valley	70	41	--		63	41	65	36		
Tahoe Valley	51	21	--		54	26	50	17		
Temecula	80	39	--		82	40	72	39		
Thousand Oaks	82	54	--		81	47	70	43		
Torrance	64	50	--		74	51	62	56		
UCLA	68	51	--		77	49	65	48		
Van Nuys	84	50	--		80	47	69	48		
Ventura	74	51	--		69	47	62	49		
Whittier Hills	77	49	--		80	47	69	49		
Woodland Hills	82	51	--		81	47	69	47		
Wrightwood	56	35	--		60	41	59	36		
Yorba Linda	79	46	--		79	43	69	43		
Yosemite Valley	65	33	--		65	39	61	30		

PREP TALK

Hueneme champion gets hero treatment

ERIC SONDHEIMER ON HIGH SCHOOLS

J.R. Leshner of Hueneme was surprised at school this week when a band started playing at lunch time in his honor. He was getting the hero treatment for winning the CIF Division II state cross-country championship.

“He kind of came out of nowhere,” coach Doug Petree said.

You can thank the Navy for his arrival at Hueneme. His father was transferred from Missouri to Port Hueneme after Leshner’s sophomore year.

Leshner didn’t really want to leave but trusted the process and started embracing running around the beach and trails. He won the state title by finishing in 14 minutes 43 seconds in Fresno last weekend.

“We’re really happy the move worked out for him,” Petree said.

“We’re very proud of him.”

...

It’s that time of the year when high school football is ending, basketball has begun and winter baseball is in full swing. Who wants to be a multiple-sport athlete?

Not many. Lots of teenagers have decided to specialize in a single sport, but there are plenty of great multisport athletes from the past to emulate.

The best in Southern California history could be Giancarlo Stanton, who graduated from Sherman Oaks Notre Dame in 2007 as an All-CIF selection in football, basketball and baseball.

He could have played football and baseball at USC but signed a pro con-



PABLO GALLEGOS For The Times

**J.R. LESHER** of Hueneme won the state Division II cross-country championship last weekend in Fresno.

tract with the then-Florida Marlins after being a second-round MLB draft pick.

No. 2 on the list is Tony Gonzalez, a Hall of Fame tight end from Huntington Beach High who also was an All-CIF basketball player.

And don’t forget about John Elway during his days at Granada Hills High.

The Hall of Fame quarterback pitched the Highlanders to a City Section baseball title in 1979 when he was brought in at Dodger Stadium in relief and later was drafted by the New York Yankees. He also briefly played basketball for the Highlanders.

...

Inglewood junior basketball player Jason Crowe Jr. finally was cleared to play Tuesday after moving with his father, Jason Sr., the new coach, and responded with a 43-point performance in an overtime win over St. Bernard.

...

King/Drew coach Joe Torres and Newbury Park coach Joe Smigiel both got a Gatorade chest dumped on them twice after section championship football victories last weekend, then became ill.

They were back working with their teams this week in preparation for Friday’s state playoff games.

...

One of the biggest mys-

teries from Wednesday’s high school football signing day was where standout linebacker Madden Faraimo of JSerra would end up.

Several recruiting organizations started predicting USC as his final destination, but he ended up signing with Notre Dame.

...

Dash Beierly, the quarterback for Mater Dei, signed with Washington and also was able to recruit one of his receivers, Marcus Harris, to the Huskies.

...

Jahmir Torres of King/Drew returned another kickoff for a touchdown last week, his third this season.

He also had five punt returns for touchdowns and 26 touchdowns in 10 games entering Friday’s Southern California Regional Division 6-AA bowl game against Portola at Banning High in Wilmington.

...

All-City guard Alijah Arenas of Chatsworth, the son of former Grant High standout and NBA All-Star Gilbert Arenas, is reclassifying to graduate next year instead of 2026.

This is a daily look at the positive happenings in high school sports. To submit any news, please email eric.sondheimer@latimes.com.

THE DAY IN SPORTS

New offensive coordinator draws QB recruit to UCLA

STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

New UCLA offensive coordinator **Tino Sunseri** already has a recruiting win.

**Robert McDaniel**, a quarterback from Hughson (Calif.) High who committed to Arizona, signed with the Bruins on Thursday after telling reporters that his relationship with Sunseri was a major factor in his decision. Sunseri previously recruited McDaniel to come to Indiana, where Sunseri will remain the Hoosiers’ quarterbacks coach and co-offensive coordinator through the end of the season before leaving for Westwood.

McDaniel’s signing offsets the loss of Long Beach Poly quarterback **Madden Iamaleava**, who signed with Arkansas after committing to UCLA. A four-star prospect in the 247Sports composite rankings, the 6-foot-1, 195-pound McDaniel has thrown for 7,767 yards and 95 touchdowns while leading his teams to three straight Sac-Joaquin Section titles, a Northern California title and a state title. UCLA still is expected to pursue a transfer quarterback after redshirt senior **Ethan Garbers** exhausted his eligibility and redshirt sophomore **Justyn Martin** entered the transfer portal.

— BEN BOLCH

**Bronco Mendenhall** agreed to a six-year deal to coach Utah State.

ETC.

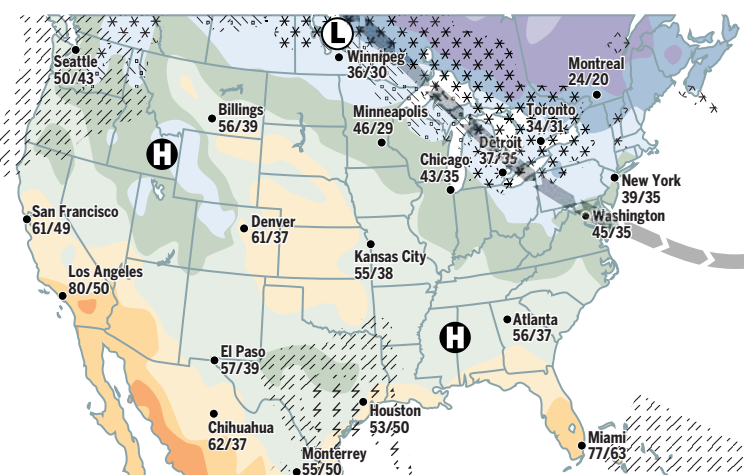
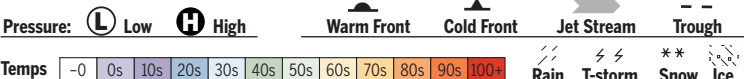
Messi named MVP of MLS

**Lionel Messi** was named Major League Soccer’s most valuable player.

Despite missing 15 of Miami’s 34 regular-season matches because injuries or commitments to Argentina’s national team, Messi

Today in North America

**Storm moves across the Northwest:** A storm system will bring wet weather across the Pacific Northwest, with a wintry mix in places from the Cascades eastward. Snow will spread into western New York toward the end of the day. Showers and thunderstorms will move across Texas.



U.S. cities

FRIDAY’S EXTREMES AS OF 2 P.M. FOR THE 48 CONTIGUOUS STATES

High 87 in Palm Springs, Calif.

Low -14 in Gunnison, Colo.

City	Friday*		Prcp.	Today		Hi	Lo	Sky
	Hi	Lo						
Albany	29	23	Tr	36	29	Cy		
Albuquerque	56	31	--	55	29	Su		
Anchorage	33	29	--	33	26	Cy		
Aspen	37	7	--	39	15	Su		
Atlanta	45	24	--	56	37	Pc		
Austin	52	43	.11	49	46	Ts		
Baltimore	39	27	Tr	43	33	Pc		
Boise	31	24	Tr	41	30	Pc		
Boston	32	30	--	38	32	Su		
Buffalo	29	18	.07	34	31	Sn		
Burlington, Vt.	27	23	Tr	29	25	Cy		
Charleston, S.C.	45	31	--	55	36	Su		
Charlotte	42	23	--	52	32	Pc		
Chicago	31	15	--	43	35	Pc		
Cincinnati	33	11	--	42	33	Pc		
Cleveland	31	17	Tr	37	34	Cy		
Columbia, S.C.	44	29	--	54	33	Pc		
Columbus	34	15	Tr	40	33	Pc		
Dallas/Ft.Worth	51	32	.03	53	46	R		
Denver	58	28	--	61	37	Su		
Detroit	35	19	Tr	37	35	Sn		
El Paso	55	49	.01	57	39	Pc		
Eugene	42	30	.01	53	41	R		
Fort Myers	77	53	.01	76	53	Su		
Hartford	32	28	--	41	30	Pc		
Honolulu	80	72	.09	84	69	Pc		
Houston	59	43	--	53	50	Ts		
Indianapolis	32	12	--	43	33	Su		
Jacksonville, Fla.	57	44	.05	62	33	Su		
Kansas City	42	14	--	55	38	Su		
Knoxville	36	17	--	50	34	Su		
Las Vegas	67	46	--	66	42	Su		
Louisville	35	17	--	48	37	Su		
Medford	52	27	--	50	36	R		
Memphis	40	21	--	54	42	Pc		
Miami	79	59	Tr	77	63	Pc		
Milwaukee	34	17	--	45	33	Pc		
Minneapolis	32	16	--	41	30	Pc		
Nashville	38	17	--	53	37	Pc		
New Orleans	52	40	--	58	52	Cy		
New York	34	30	--	39	35	Su		
Norfolk	40	30	--	46	36	Su		
Oklahoma City	53	22	--	58	42	Pc		
Omaha	45	17	--	57	30	Su		
Orlando	72	54	Tr	71	49	Pc		
Philadelphia	36	28	--	41	35	Pc		
Phoenix	78	57	--	77	50	Su		
Pittsburgh	30	22	.02	35	33	Cy		
Portland, Ore.	46	33	--	48	43	R		
Providence	33	28	--	38	29	Su		
Raleigh/Durham	40	25	--	51	31	Su		
Reno	53	23	--	55	30	Pc		
Richmond	40	26	--	47	33	Su		
St. Louis	41	17	--	56	43	Su		
Salt Lake City	39	23	--	44	31	Pc		


City	Friday*		Prcp.	Today		Hi	Lo	Sky
	Hi	Lo						
Seattle	50	37	--	50	43	R		
Tampa	74	57	--	69	51	R		
Tucson	71	50	--	71	42	Su		
Tulsa	50	21	--	61	44	Pc		
Washington, D.C.	39	29	--	45	35	Pc		
Wichita	46	19	--	58	39	Su		

### World

Acapulco	87	71	--	88	70	R		
Amsterdam	50	47	.114	50	42	R		
Athens	62	55	.42	64	50	Sh		
Bangkok	93	76	--	94	78	H2		
Barcelona	66	50	--	67	47	W		
Berlin	45	35	.54	44	39	R		
Cabo San Lucas	82	59	--	82	62	Cy		
Cairo	72	58	--	73	55	H2		
Dubai	81	67	--	86	67	Cy		
Dublin	55	39	.24	46	40	W		
Havana	79	54	--	82	62	Cy		
Ho Chi Minh City	91	77	.02	91	76	R		
Hong Kong	74	62	--	72	54	Cy		
Istanbul	57	46	.01	60	51	Cy		
Jerusalem	66	49	--	66	44	Cy		
Johnesburg	91	60	--	91	63	Pc		
Kuala Lumpur	92	77	.03	96	77	H2		
Lima	71	64	--	74	64	Pc		
London	50	43	.08	47	43	Sh		
Madrid	61	39	Tr	61	38	Pc		
Mecca	92	66	--	91	67	Cy		
Mexico City	74	50	--	74	44	Cy		
Montreal	19	19	.01	24	20	Cy		
Moscow	25	19	.29	28	26	Cy		
Mumbai	91	80	--	91	67	H2		
New Delhi	75	54	--	75	51	Su		
Paris	52	45	.03	53	42	R		
Prague	43	31	.44	42	35	R		
Rome	55	36	.02	59	51	Pc		
Seoul	93	79	--	93	79	Su		
Singapore	93	79	--	93	79	Ts		
Taipei City	75	66	.02	69	59	Cy		
Tokyo	63	44	--	65	43	Pc		
Vancouver	48	39	.04	51	40	Sh		
Vienna	45	28	.20	45	34	Cy		

**Key:** Su sunny; Pc partly cloudy; Cy cloudy; Fg foggy; Prcp precipitation; Dr drizzle; H2 hazy Sh showers; Ts thunderstorms; R rain; Sn snow; Sf snow flurries; Ic ice; Rn rain/snow; W windy; Tr trace. **Notes:** National exceptions exclude Alaska and Hawaii. \* - data estimated.  
Friday's readings as of 2 p.m.

Forecasts by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2024

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# Coach's calm demeanor refreshes Galaxy

[Vanney, from B12]

maker Riqui Puig sidelined because of a torn anterior cruciate ligament, Delgado figures to play an even bigger role in Saturday's sold-out MLS Cup final with the New York Red Bulls at Dignity Health Sports Park.

And for that he has the coach to thank — not just for the faith in him, but also for the mentoring Vanney has done along the way, taking Delgado from a talented if wild teenager and molding him into a player and person so stable and disciplined that the coach called him “the great balancer.”

“To really talk things out with Greg and really study film, I became more of a thinker, right?” said Delgado, 29. “I guess you can say it's gained his trust. Eventually things worked out.”

Delgado is not the only player who has benefited from a relationship with Vanney. In fact, for all the attention the coach's technical and strategic acumen has received, those personal connections off the field have become an equally important factor in what has been one of the greatest turnarounds in MLS history.

After winning just eight games and finishing 13th in a 14-team conference a year ago, the Galaxy will play for their sixth MLS title. After winning just two playoff games in the last eight seasons, the Galaxy have won twice that many in the last six weeks. A franchise even its own fans had given up on 19 months ago is 90 minutes away from being the best in the world's largest first-division league.

And Vanney is getting much of the credit for that.

“He is the reason why I came here,” said forward Dejan Joveljic, who joined the Galaxy halfway through Vanney's first season in L.A. and leads the team with 20 MLS goals this year. “Of course he's a good coach. But first of all, he's a very real gentleman and I appreciate him.”

“He's really like a father,” added winger Joseph Paintsil, who left Belgium for the Galaxy in January. “We don't need a coach who shouts and makes you angry and mad. He always comes to you as his own son to discuss with you patiently and calmly. That has really given me confidence.”

Vanney said his mother, Jeanette, who taught kindergarten for four decades, instilled those traits in him.

“My mom was super nurturing. She was such a loving person,” Vanney said. “My dad was super intense. Hard-working athletic director, former college football player. He had a fiery personality. My mom was always just very calm.”

Yet despite their conflicting personalities, Bill and Jeanette were married for 53 years before Jeanette died at 69, eight months before her son won his first MLS Cup as a coach with Toronto in 2017.

“I feel like I have both sides of them,” Vanney said.

Which is to say he too can be fiery. But it's not his first option, nor his most successful one. “That my-way-or-the-highway [approach] is gone,” said Dan Calich-



ETIENNE LAURENT Associated Press

**GALAXY PLAYERS** celebrate after beating Seattle to win the Western Conference title. The Galaxy are the first team since 2008 to go from eight victories to the MLS Cup final in one season. “I didn't see this coming this soon. And that's all Greg,” GM Will Kuntz says.

man, a teammate of Vanney's on the inaugural Galaxy roster in 1996 and his top assistant for the last decade in Toronto and Los Angeles. “We motivate and we get on these guys, but it's just so much more respectful, it's so much more valuing their knowledge.”

“When a player feels like he's listened to, you get the buy-in.”

For Vanney, it's not about coaching players. It's about coaching the holy trinity that makes up each player.

“Philosophically, the way I see it, every player is actually three parts,” he said, holding up both hands to tick through the traits he finds significant. “There's the person, there's the player and then there's the competitor. If you can connect with a person, they will trust you and you can drive them as much as you need to get the best out of them. If they don't think you're doing it for the right reasons and for their best interest, at some point they cut you out.”

“If you're a good coach and your vision matters and you care about the person, you can teach them. But I believe the most important part of that is being genuine and connecting with the person. That establishes the trust you need to really coach.”

That approach has worked for Vanney, whose 141 victories in 9½ seasons tied him for fourth among active coaches at the end of this season. Saturday's MLS Cup final will mark his fourth appearance in the championship game; in the last quarter-century, no coach has been there more often. His 69.6% winning percentage in 23 playoffs games in second to L.A.F.C.'s Steven Cherundolo, who has man-

aged half as many games, and if the Galaxy win, Vanney will become the fourth coach in league history to win championships with two different teams. But that success wasn't the only thing that brought him back to the Galaxy.

After taking Toronto to the MLS Cup final three times in four seasons, winning the only treble in league history in 2017, Vanney started to feel the club, which had a new general manager and new president, had no clear vision for the future. So despite agreeing to a contract extension late in the 2020 season, he asked out of the deal.

Conversations quickly began with the Galaxy, who a month earlier had fired Guillermo Barros Schelotto, their fourth coach in as many seasons. For both sides it was a perfect fit: The rudderless Galaxy, once perennial contenders, had made just one playoff appearance in four seasons and needed stability and a proven winner while Vanney would be returning to a club whose culture he understood, having played on the first trophy-winning team in 1998.

“I always wanted to come back here,” said Vanney, who played three years at UCLA before signing with the Galaxy ahead of the club's inaugural season. “This has always kind of been my club, the club [to which] I felt the most attached.”

But the team he returned to wasn't the one he started with.

In his first six seasons with the Galaxy, the team finished first in the conference four times, won Supporters' Shield, U.S. Open Cup and CONCACAF Champions League titles

and played in three MLS Cup finals. In the four seasons before he came back, the Galaxy lost more games than they won, finished in the bottom half of the league table three times and made the playoffs just once.

“I personally have an expectation for what the Galaxy should look like,” Vanney said. “It's hard to me to see the Galaxy struggling. That's not where the Galaxy should be.”

The rebuild, however, was not easy. When Vanney arrived he found the team didn't have much of a sports science staff or scouting department and the academy program had been allowed to wither. Then, at the end of his first season, general manager Dennis te Kloese departed, leaving Vanney to assume his duties as well.

It proved to be too much. When Vanney took the job, he had outlined a three-year plan to return the Galaxy to prominence, yet his third season was one of the worst ever, with the team winning a franchise-low eight games and giving up a franchise-high 67 goals. Along the way there was a fan boycott, the team's longtime president was fired and, for the first time, the Galaxy's leading scorer finished with fewer than eight goals.

“It was embarrassing,” captain Maya Yoshida said.

And Yoshida was with the Galaxy for only the final three months of the turmoil.

Questions were raised about whether Vanney, who was entering the final year of his contract, was still the right man for the job. So after the season mercifully ended, the coach met with Dan Beckerman, the chief executive and president of AEG, the Galaxy's parent company, and asked for

help.

“I said I can't do all of these things,” Vanney recounted of the conversation. “I really like working with a really good GM. It's two completely different sports when you are signing players and working with agents and getting those players across the finish line and then working with those players and making them fit together on the field.”

“I want a GM who's challenging me to be better and asking the right questions and giving me ideas to think about. I don't know everything.”

Beckerman agreed and Will Kuntz, whom Vanney had hired in April as the senior vice president of player personnel, was promoted to general manager in December. When the Galaxy took the field for the first time in February, nine of the 15 players Vanney used in a season-opening draw with Inter Miami had been signed by Kuntz.

Both men say the process has been a collaborative one that begins with Vanney settling on the profile of the players he wants and Kuntz and the scouting department Vanney developed scouring the globe to find them.

“The dialogue always has to be there, or else you end up with pieces that don't fit,” Vanney said. “Will couldn't coach the team. That's not his strength. I couldn't get anyone signed. That's not my strength. The beauty is the collaboration of the different departments. That to me is what a club is.”

But even after providing Vanney with what he wanted — spending a club-record \$20.7 million on transfer fees for Paintsil, Gabriel Pec and Miki Yamane in just seven

weeks — Kuntz figured it would take time to turn those players into a team. Instead, the Galaxy matched modern-era club records with 19 wins and 69 goals this season, were unbeaten at Dignity Health Sports Park and became the first team since 2008 to go from eight victories to the MLS Cup final in one season.

“I didn't see this coming this soon. And that's all Greg,” Kuntz said. “The more pieces you add to a team, the harder it is. The fact that you can do a complete squad transformation and get everyone to jell, it's very rare.”

Rarer still is the way Vanney had been able to use the nurturing skills his kindergarten-teacher mother taught him to get the most out of those new players. Like Pec, 23, who came to MLS from Brazil's Vasco da Gama, where he played as a wide winger in a rigid system that left little room for improvisation.

With the Galaxy, Vanney encouraged him to move closer to the penalty area, take chances and play with the freedom he did on the playground. The result? Sixteen goals and 14 assists, making him the youngest players in club history to record 30 goal contributions in one season.

“Everyone was really trusting, believing that I could do it,” Pec said through a translator. “That gave me so much joy that I could show who I was. What we are seeing, it's Gabriel when I was a kid. It was inside me but it was asleep. [Vanney] has brought this back and suddenly I'm awake.”

And so, after seven seasons in hibernation, are the Galaxy.

## Streaming deal could be a hard pass for MLS fans

[Hernández, from B12]

That wasn't a reflection of my interest.

Some of my friends will make fun of me for publicly acknowledging this, but I like Major League Soccer. I covered the league in my first job out of college and have casually kept up with it since. I take my children to a couple of games a year. My 11-year-old son owns Galaxy and LAFC hats but no Dodgers or Lakers merchandise.

When flipping through channels in the past, if presented with the choice of, say, college football or MLS, I usually watched MLS. But not this year.

While the MLS Cup final between the Galaxy and New York Red Bulls will be shown on Fox and Fox Deportes, the majority of games are now exclusively behind a paywall, courtesy of the league's broadcasting deal with Apple. MLS Season Pass subscriptions were reasonably priced — \$79 for the entire season for Apple TV+ subscribers, \$99 for non-subscribers — but I was already paying for DirecTV Stream, Netflix, Amazon

Prime, PlayStation Plus and who knows what else.

MLS became a casualty in my household, as well as in many others, and the possibility of being out of sight and out of mind should be a concern for a league that is looking to expand its audience.

Which isn't to say the league made a mistake. This was a gamble MLS had to take.

Now in the second year of a 10-year, \$2.5-billion deal with Apple, MLS did what Major League Baseball is talking about doing, which is to centralize its broadcasting rights and sell them to a digital platform. Regional sports networks have been decimated by cord cutting, making traditional economic models unsustainable.

The move to Apple not only increased the league's broadcast revenues — previous deals with ESPN, Fox and Univision were worth a combined \$90 million annually, according to multiple reports — but also introduced a measure of uniformity in the league.

The quality of the broad-



JENNY CHUANG ISI Photos

**THE BROADCASTS** by Apple TV are well liked, but MLS faces a challenge of expanding that audience.

casts are better than they were under regional sports networks.

Viewers know where to watch games and when, as every one of them is on Season Pass and most of them are scheduled to start at 7:30 p.m. local time either on Wednesday or Saturday.

“That's been fueling our growth and driving our fan engagement,” MLS Commissioner Don Garber said Friday at his annual state of

the league address.

Apple and MLS declined to reveal the number of League Pass subscribers, but the league provided polling figures that indicated 94% of viewers offered positive or neutral reviews of League Pass. The average viewing time for a game is about 65 minutes for a 90-minute game, according to Garber.

In other words, the League Pass is well liked —

by the people who have it.

The challenge now is to increase that audience. The launch of League Pass last year coincided with the arrival of Lionel Messi, which presumably resulted in a wave of subscriptions. But the league can't count on the appearance of the next Messi; there is only one of him.

MLS pointed to how its fans watch sports on streaming devices or recorded television than any other U.S. sports league, as well as how 71% of its fans are under the age of 45. The league also pointed to how it effectively drew more viewers to the Apple broadcast of Inter Miami's postseason opener with a livestream of a “Messi Cam” on TikTok, indicating further collaborations with wide-reaching entities could be in its future.

Garber mentioned how Season Pass is available in other countries. The commissioner also made note of how Apple places games every week in front of its paywall.

“What we have, really, is a communication problem,”

Garber said. “This is new, and we've got to work with Apple, we've got to work with our clubs and we've got to work with our partners to get more exposure to what we think is a great product.”

The greatest benefit to the league could be Apple's vested interest in improving the on-field product. MLS insiders said Apple has not only encouraged teams to sign more high-profile players but also pushed the league to switch to a fall-to-spring calendar more commonplace in other parts of the world, reasoning that doing so would simplify the process of buying and selling players.

The on-field product is what matters. The on-field product is why MLS continues to face competition for viewers from overseas leagues. The on-field product is why the league hasn't succeeded in converting every soccer fan into a MLS fan.

And ultimately, if casual viewers such as myself are to pay to watch the Galaxy or LAFC on a screen of some kind, the on-field product will be why.



# Soto sweepstakes headed for homestretch

Coveted free agent may decide soon after meeting with suitors, including the Dodgers.

By RONALD BLUM

NEW YORK — Juan Soto appears on a timetable to decide on where to sign either before or during baseball's winter meetings in Dallas, which start Sunday and run until Dec. 12.

Soto met with the New York Yankees, New York Mets, Dodgers, Boston Red Sox and Toronto Blue Jays, a person familiar with the negotiations has said, speaking to the Associated Press on condition of anonymity because details were not announced.

Soto's agent, Scott Boras, asked teams to submit initial offers by Thanksgiving and says Soto has started to eliminate clubs from consideration.

"He's just got a lot of information to meld through," Boras said Tuesday after the Dodgers' news conference to introduce Blake Snell, another of his clients. "Juan is a very methodical thinker."

Soto is the top player available among this year's free agents. A four-time All-Star, Soto finished third in American League most valuable player voting after hitting .288 with 41 homers, 109 RBIs and 129 walks. He has a .285 career average with 201 homers, 592 RBIs and 769 walks over seven major league seasons.

Soto turned down a \$440 million, 15-year offer from Washington in 2022, prompting the Nationals to trade him to San Diego, which then dealt him to the Yankees last December. Soto then combined with Aaron Judge to lead New York to the World Series, where the Yankees lost to the Dodgers.

In his pitch to teams, Boras highlighted that Soto joined Mickey Mantle as the only players with seven RBIs in a World Series at age 21 or younger when he was with Washington, and at 20 became the youngest player with five postseason homers. Soto's .906 postseason OPS through age 25 topped



GINA FERAZZI Los Angeles Times

**JUAN SOTO** is likely seeking a record contract following a season with the Yankees in which he finished third in voting for AL MVP.

Mantle (.900) and Derek Jeter (.852).

How much money will Soto get? Soto is likely to seek a record contract, topping Shohei Ohtani's \$700-million, 10-year agreement with the Dodgers last December. That might not mean Soto gets more than \$700 million, though. Because Ohtani's deal included \$680 million in deferred money payable through 2043, it can be valued by different methods.

For instance, Ohtani's contract is valued at \$46.1 million per season (\$461 million total) under MLB's luxury tax system, which used a 4.43% discount rate. The players' association uses a 5% rate, which puts Ohtani's contract at \$43.8 million per year. For MLB's regular pay-

roll calculations, a 10% discount rates values Ohtani's deal at just \$28.2 million.

Which means if Soto gets even \$462 million without deferred payments, there's an argument that his deal is the most valuable in MLB history.

By average annual value, pitchers Max Scherzer and Justin Verlander are tied for second in baseball history at \$43.33 million as part of contracts they signed with the New York Mets, deals that expired at the end of the 2024 season.

In terms of total value, Ohtani surpassed outfielder Mike Trout's \$426.5 million, 12-year contract with the Angels through 2030.

MLB's longest contract is outfielder Fernando Tatis Jr.'s 14-year deal with the

San Diego Padres through 2034.

How could MLB's luxury tax factor into team's bids on Soto? The Mets, Yankees, Dodgers and Philadelphia Phillies all are likely to enter 2025 having paid luxury tax for three straight years, putting them at the highest rate: a 50% surcharge on payroll between \$241 million and \$261 million, 62% from \$261 million to \$281 million, 95% from \$281 million to \$301 million and 110% for each dollar above \$301 million.

Toronto may have dropped below the initial tax threshold this year, pending final figures next month. If the Blue Jays did fall under, their rates next year would reset to 20%, 32%, 62.5% and 80% for the four thresholds.

The winter meetings

would be a fitting place for Boras to announce a record deal. If Soto reaches or announces an agreement at the winter meetings in Dallas' Hilton Anatole, it would be a familiar location for a big Boras deal.

Alex Rodriguez's record \$252 million, 10-year contract with the Texas Rangers was announced in December 2000 at what then was called the Wyndham Anatole Hotel. Rodriguez's deal more than doubled MLB's previous high, a \$121-million, eight-year contract between pitcher Mike Hampton and Colorado that was announced just two days earlier.

"In two days, we've doubled a new highest salary," said Sandy Alderson, then an executive vice presi-

dent in the commissioner's office. "I don't like the exponentiality of that."

Rodriguez was 25 at the time of the agreement with Texas, a free agent before entering his likely prime, such as Soto.

Besides Soto, which free agent hitters are available? Third baseman Alex Bregman, first basemen Pete Alonso and Christian Walker, and outfielders Anthony Santander and recent Dodger Teoscar Hernández are among the significant bats available and likely would interest some of the teams who fail to sign Soto.

Bregman and Alonso, like Soto, are represented by Boras.

Blum writes for the Associated Press.

## Ducks landing spot for Trouba

By GREG BEACHAM

Jacob Trouba is finally out of New York after months of public trade rumors and private threats from the Rangers, who were determined to get rid of their captain and his massive contract.

Trouba was not pleased with the way he was run out of town but says he's quite happy to land with the Ducks.

"It's a rite of passage to get fired from MSG," Trouba said Friday after the Ducks acquired the veteran defenseman in exchange for defenseman Urho Vaakanainen and a conditional fourth-round pick next year.

The trade ends the 30-year-old Trouba's five-year tenure with the Rangers. He had been a fixture in trade rumors for months and acknowledged that the uncertainty affected his play.

"Don't like that it was made public necessarily, but I guess that's New York and how it happens," Trouba said. "Made it kind of hard to play, but I'm excited to move forward. In my opinion, things could have been handled better. Not blaming anybody or anything, but it was just kind of an unfortunate end to my time in New York."

Rangers general manager Chris Drury hasn't tried to hide his desire for a roster reboot since the summer, and Trouba is in the sixth season of a seven-year, \$56-million contract. The physical blueliner's hefty deal has been an impediment to the movement New York wanted so desperately, and Trouba also had a robust no-trade clause.

In a conference call set up by the Ducks to welcome



PAMELA SMITH Associated Press

**HARD-HITTING** defenseman Jacob Trouba voiced his displeasure over his departure from the Rangers. But he says he's excited after his trade to the Ducks.

their new defenseman, Trouba essentially confirmed the long-rumored details of his New York saga, including his decision to nix a trade — reportedly to Detroit — last summer. He did it to support his wife, Kelly, who is completing her three-year medical residency at a New York hospital.

"I'll be honest, I was put in a position this summer to make a decision between my career and my family, and I chose my family," Trouba said. "I would choose my family 100 times over again."

Trouba also confirmed the Rangers told him this week to accept a trade or be scratched. He also indicated he was told he eventually would be placed on waivers, removing his ability to control where he landed next.

"Yesterday morning was, 'Accept this trade or we're scratching you,'" Trouba said. "Got to the place where I felt comfortable with Anaheim, and that was the place I wanted to go."

Trouba said his wife is

also excited about moving to Southern California, calling it "a great opportunity for her long term as well." Trouba will join the last-place Ducks in Montreal on Monday for the opener of a four-game trip.

"It's a team that's kind of right on the cusp of taking the next step and being really great, I think," he added. "I can come in there and make an impact in a positive way. It's just a city I was very excited about coming into."

Trouba joined the Rangers in a trade with Winnipeg in 2019 and became New York's captain before the 2022-23 season.

Trouba, at his best, has been one of the NHL's best checking defensemen. He has six assists in 23 games while struggling to produce offensively at the level of his best seasons, including a career-best 50 points with the Jets in 2018-19.

The Ducks can accommodate the final 1½ years of Trouba's deal because they have one of the NHL's lowest

payrolls and ample salary-cap space after general manager Pat Verbeek failed to land any top free agents last summer.

Trouba will become a key contributor on the blue line for the Ducks, who are last in the Pacific Division. He also will play alongside forwards Ryan Strome and Frank Vatrano, his teammates with the Rangers during the club's run to the Eastern Conference finals in 2022.

"Jacob is a highly respected player in this league whose character and leadership qualities on and off the ice are second to none," Verbeek said. "We believe Jacob has many more years in this league, and hope he is a big part of our future success."

Vaakanainen hasn't played since Nov. 13 because of an upper-body injury. The veteran played 68 games and scored one goal last season but has been injured frequently in his career.

Beacham writes for the Associated Press.

## ESPN's Moss is taking leave over 'health challenge'

By CHUCK SCHILKEN

Hall of Fame receiver Randy Moss is taking an extended leave from his role as an analyst on "NFL Sunday Countdown" as he deals with "a personal health challenge," ESPN said in a statement Friday.

In a video recorded and posted on Instagram before he appeared on last Sunday's episode, Moss told fans he "has been battling something internal" and indicated he might have to wear sunglasses while on the air because of it.

The tone was upbeat and lighthearted, but Moss' message was serious.

"I just ask for all the prayer warriors to put their blessing hands on me and my family through these hard times," Moss said. "... Like I said, y'all, I'm battling something, man, and it's something internal. Your boy is going to get through it. I got a great team of doctors and got a great family around me. So all you men, y'all do your checkups, get your bloodwork done and we'll work through it, all right?"

He added in a second video: "There's gonna be

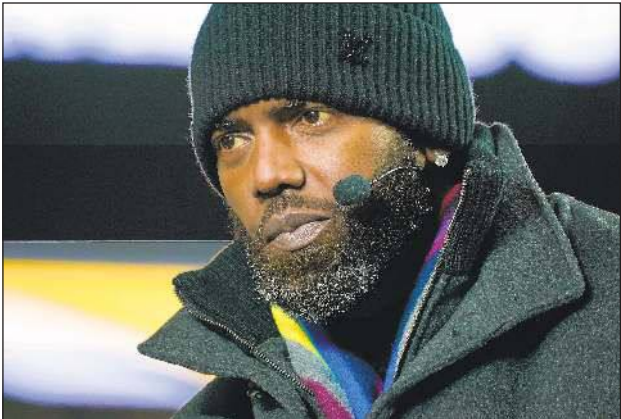
people concerned and asking questions. At this time, just gonna keep a lot of things private and y'all just bear with me. But like I said, I need your prayers."

Moss also briefly addressed the matter at the top of Sunday's show. Host Mike Greenberg responded: "We're all for one and one for all; if he's wearing glasses, we're all wearing glasses," as he and the rest of the studio crew — Rex Ryan, Alex Smith and Teddy Bruschi — donned eyewear in support of their colleague.

Moss played for the Minnesota Vikings, New England Patriots, Oakland Raiders and San Francisco 49ers during his 14-year career. He ranks second in receiving touchdowns (156), fourth in receiving yards (15,292) and 15th in receptions (982).

He joined the "NFL Sunday Countdown" crew in 2016.

"For nearly a decade, Randy has been an invaluable member of the team, consistently elevating 'Countdown' with his insight and passion," ESPN said. "He has ESPN's full support, and we look forward to welcoming him back when he is ready."



GENE J. PUSKAR Associated Press

**RANDY MOSS** had said he was "battling something internal" and might have to wear sunglasses on TV.





SAM CRAFT Associated Press

**TEXAS COACH** Steve Sarkisian, center, along with quarterback Quinn Ewers, left, and the rest of the second-ranked Longhorns are trying to win the Southeastern Conference championship in their debut season.

# SEC newcomer Texas hopes to steal Georgia's thunder

BY PAUL NEWBERRY

ATLANTA — Texas won't have time to make its presence felt in the mighty Southeastern Conference.

In their debut as a member of the powerhouse league, the No. 2 Longhorns posted the best regular-season record and earned a spot in the SEC championship game Saturday.

"Not a lot of teams can go into a league their first year — especially the SEC — and get a chance to play for the championship," running back Jaydon Blue crowed.

In an intriguing matchup between the brash newcomer and a stellar member of the old guard, Texas (11-1, 7-1 SEC) will face No. 5 Georgia (10-2, 6-2) at Mercedes-Benz Stadium in Atlanta.

The Bulldogs are playing in the title game for the seventh time in nine seasons under coach Kirby Smart, who has won a pair of national championships and established Georgia as the dynasty everyone else is chasing.

Adding more fuel to the fire, the Dawgs handed Texas its only loss with a 30-15 drubbing in Austin back in mid-October.

"Georgia and Kirby have

been the standard in college football," said Longhorns coach Steve Sarkisian, who on Friday landed Justus Terry, the elite defensive tackle from Georgia, giving Texas the top recruiting class, according to 247 Sports. Georgia is No. 3.

"Georgia has got the heart of a champion and you see it time and time again."

No matter the outcome in Atlanta, both teams are headed to the College Football Playoff.

But there's still plenty on the line, with the winner claiming both a coveted SEC championship and a trip straight to the Sugar Bowl for the national quarterfinals on New Year's Day.

The loser will be saddled with an extra playoff game, likely hosting a first-round contest on Dec. 20 or 21.

## Longhorns vs. Dawgs, Part II

Texas is eager to atone for its only loss, that ugly performance against Georgia when the Longhorns were ranked No. 1.

"We're going to have to play a better version of football than the first time around," Sarkisian said. "We were out of character, out of sorts."

It was the most lopsided loss for a No. 1 team at home in 42 years.

"They deserve to get our best shot," Sarkisian said. "I know we're going to get their best shot."

## Quarterback duel

Both starting quarterbacks will be looking for better performances than they showed in the first matchup.

Georgia won despite Carson Beck committing three interceptions, while Quinn Ewers of Texas had two fumbles to go along with a pick. Also keep an eye on Texas backup Arch Manning, who came on in last week's win over Texas A&M to run for a touchdown on fourth down.

With Ewers still nursing a sprained ankle, Manning could provide an intriguing change of pace with his arm and his legs. "He's a really good athlete that can take off and run at any time, which is the toughest guy to defend," Smart said.

## Injury report

Trevor Etienne rushed for three touchdowns in the first meeting with Texas, but he's missed three straight games because of a rib injury and was listed as questionable for Saturday.

Georgia also has been

without defensive lineman Christen Miller, who is dealing with a shoulder injury. Without Miller, the Bulldogs surrendered a season-high 260 rushing yards in an eight-overtime win over Georgia Tech.

Texas could be missing Outland Trophy finalist Kelvin Banks Jr., suffered a leg injury last week after just seven plays.

## Georgia in the A-T-L

While Mercedes-Benz Stadium is only about a 75-mile drive from the Georgia campus, making this a de facto home game for the Bulldogs, that hasn't proven to be a big advantage when playing for the SEC title.

The Bulldogs are 2-4 in conference championship games played at the stadium, not to mention an overtime loss to Alabama in the national title game at the end of the 2017 season.

"We're essentially playing a road game," Sarkisian said. "But I do expect a good amount of burnt orange to be there."

Newberry writes for the Associated Press. AP's Jim Vertuno in Austin, Texas contributed to this report.

# Portal could provide backup QB

[USC, from B12] that room has a chance to become," Riley said. "We're going to put a lot of emphasis, a lot of reps, a lot of time into those two guys. On top of their skill sets, I just love the way those two guys are wired. We obviously have to get someone else in some role to fill out a room and make sure we're doing right by the team. But if you told me next year we're going in with those two guys, like I feel like we will, I'm very very excited about it."

Adding a top-flight quarterback transfer isn't just a matter of selling him on Riley or dangling a starting spot. It also means paying top dollar in a competitive market, where the best quarterbacks are commanding name, image and likeness packages that reach seven figures. Any NIL money spent on a quarterback means less to spend on other positions in the portal.

Complicating the situation even further is the fact that Maiava's representation will want to renegotiate his NIL deal after his three-game audition. And considering the coach's public votes of confidence, it's safe to assume Maiava has the leverage to command a sizable raise.

It's not as if the market is bursting with top-line quarterbacks, either. Texas A&M's Connor Weigman and Oklahoma's Jackson Arnold are both former five-star prospects who were replaced after less-than-stellar starts at their respective schools. Others have experience: Fresno State's Mikey Keene started 21 games the last two seasons, while Liberty dual threat Kaidon Salter started 29 after beginning his career as a four-star signee at Tennessee.



PHELAN M. EBENHACK Associated Press

**HUSAN LONGSTREET**, USC's top prize on signing day, is expected to compete for the starting job after starring in passing tournaments and at Centennial High.

More big-name passers could enter the portal between now and the end of December when it closes. So far, though, there are no obvious starting options to pursue. Even as USC fans call for a new quarterback, the shrewd move for Riley may be standing pat with the one he's got while developing the freshman behind him.

After all, Maiava made major strides during his first season at USC. His arm talent and his athleticism never were a question. But since starting work with a private coach, the sophomore's footwork and me-

chanics improved considerably. So has his understanding of protections and other complexities of the position.

Against Notre Dame, the top-rated pass defense in college football, Maiava threw for 360 yards — almost 100 more than any other quarterback who faced the Fighting Irish. Seven of his 27 completions in USC's season finale went for more than 20 yards, as Maiava aired it out fearlessly.

It was "the best offensively we played all year," Riley said afterward. But two late pick-sixes sealed the Trojans' loss and stuck with Maiava, who looked crest-

fallen in the postgame news conference.

"There's a lot to learn from, for sure, within the past three games I played," Maiava said. "I would say, can't turn the ball over in big moments. I let the team down, especially the seniors. But I'm grateful for the opportunity that coach gave me."

It won't be the last chance he gets from Riley, either. And in the moment, the coach leaned over to his quarterback in support.

"You were also a big part of why we were in that game," he told Maiava. "Remember that."

## PRO CALENDAR

	SAT 7	SUN 8	MON 9	TUE 10	WED 11
RAMS		<b>BUFFALO</b> 1:25 Ch. 11			
CHARGERS		<b>at Kansas City</b> 5:20 Ch. 4, Peacock			
LAKERS		<b>PORTLAND</b> 6:30 SpecSN			
CLIPPERS		<b>HOUSTON</b> 6 FDSC			
KINGS	<b>MINNESOTA</b> 5 Ch. 9			<b>at N.Y. Islanders</b> 4:30 FDW	
DUCKS			<b>at Montreal</b> 4:30 Victory+		<b>at Ottawa</b> 4:30 Ch. 13, Victory+
GALAXY	<b>NEW YORK#1</b> Ch. 11, Apple TV+				

Shade denotes home game #MLS Cup championship

## TODAY ON THE AIR

TIME	EVENT	ON THE AIR
<b>AUTO RACING</b>		
4:45 a.m.	Formula One, Abu Dhabi Grand Prix (Sun.)	<b>TV:</b> ESPN2, ESPND
<b>BASKETBALL: G LEAGUE</b>		
5 p.m.	San Diego at South Bay Lakers	<b>TV:</b> SNLA, NBA
<b>COLLEGE BASKETBALL: MEN</b>		
8:30 a.m.	Kansas State at St. John's	<b>TV:</b> 11
9 a.m.	Syracuse at Notre Dame	<b>TV:</b> 5
9 a.m.	Clemson at Miami	<b>TV:</b> ESPN2
9 a.m.	Boston College at Wake Forest	<b>TV:</b> ACC
9 a.m.	Rutgers at Ohio State	<b>TV:</b> FS1
9 a.m.	Nebraska at Michigan State	<b>TV:</b> Big Ten
9 a.m.	Providence at Rhode Island	<b>TV:</b> CBSN
9:30 a.m.	South Florida at Loyola Chicago	<b>TV:</b> USA
10:30 a.m.	Wisconsin at Marquette	<b>TV:</b> 11
11 a.m.	Pittsburgh at Virginia Tech	<b>TV:</b> ESPNU
11 a.m.	Georgia Tech at North Carolina	<b>TV:</b> ACC
11 a.m.	Southern Utah at Arizona	<b>TV:</b> CBSN
11 a.m.	Iowa at Michigan	<b>TV:</b> FS1
11:15 a.m.	Virginia at Southern Methodist	<b>TV:</b> 5
1 p.m.	Florida State at North Carolina State	<b>TV:</b> ESPNU
1 p.m.	Stanford at California	<b>TV:</b> ACC
1 p.m.	Nevada Las Vegas at Creighton	<b>TV:</b> FS1
1 p.m.	Hawaii at Long Beach State	<b>TV:</b> SpecSN, ESPN+
2 p.m.	Washington State at Boise State	<b>TV:</b> 2, Paramount+
2 p.m.	Grambling at Pepperdine	<b>TV:</b> ESPN+
2:30 p.m.	Butler at Houston	<b>TV:</b> ESPN2
3 p.m.	USC at Washington	<b>TV:</b> Big Ten <b>R:</b> 710
5 p.m.	Cal State Fullerton at UC Riverside	<b>TV:</b> ESPN+
5 p.m.	UC Santa Barbara at UC Davis	<b>TV:</b> ESPN+
5 p.m.	Cal State Northridge at Cal Poly	<b>TV:</b> ESPN+
6 p.m.	Nevada at Loyola Marymount	<b>TV:</b> ESPN+
7 p.m.	Kentucky at Gonzaga	<b>TV:</b> ESPN2
<b>COLLEGE BASKETBALL: WOMEN</b>		
1 p.m.	USC at Oregon	<b>TV:</b> Big Ten <b>R:</b> 710
2 p.m.	UC Riverside at Cal State Fullerton	<b>TV:</b> ESPN+
2 p.m.	Cal Poly at Cal State Northridge	<b>TV:</b> ESPN+
2 p.m.	California Baptist at Saint Mary's	<b>TV:</b> ESPN+
4 p.m.	Tennessee at Iowa	<b>TV:</b> 11
4 p.m.	UC Davis at UC Santa Barbara	<b>TV:</b> ESPN+
6 p.m.	Louisville at Connecticut	<b>TV:</b> 11
9 p.m.	Long Beach State at Hawaii	<b>TV:</b> ESPN+
<b>COLLEGE FOOTBALL</b>		
9 a.m.	Big 12 championship, Iowa State vs. Arizona State	<b>TV:</b> 7, ESPN+
9 a.m.	MAC championship, Ohio vs. Miami (Ohio)	<b>TV:</b> ESPN
11 a.m.	SWAC championship, Southern at Jackson State	<b>TV:</b> ESPN2
1 p.m.	SEC championship, Georgia vs. Texas	<b>TV:</b> 7, ESPN+
4:30 p.m.	Sun Belt championship, Marshall vs. Louisiana	<b>TV:</b> ESPN, ESPN+
5 p.m.	Big Ten championship, Penn State vs. Oregon	<b>TV:</b> 2, Paramount+
5 p.m.	ACC championship, Clemson vs. Southern Methodist	<b>TV:</b> 7, ESPN+, ACC Methodist
<b>COLLEGE HOCKEY</b>		
5 p.m.	Michigan State at Wisconsin	<b>TV:</b> Big Ten
<b>GOLF</b>		
11:30 a.m.	PGA Tour, Hero World Challenge, third round	<b>TV:</b> 4, Peacock
1 a.m. (Sun.)	World Tour, Nedbank Golf Challenge, final round	<b>TV:</b> Golf
<b>FIGURE SKATING</b>		
9 a.m.	Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final (delay)	<b>TV:</b> E!
<b>HOCKEY</b>		
10 a.m.	Philadelphia at Boston	<b>TV:</b> NHL
4 p.m.	Toronto at Pittsburgh	<b>TV:</b> NHL
5 p.m.	Minnesota at Kings	<b>TV:</b> 9 <b>R:</b> ESPNLA stream
<b>HORSE RACING</b>		
8:30 a.m.	America's Day at the Races	<b>TV:</b> FS2
10:30 p.m.	Hong Kong International	<b>TV:</b> FS2
<b>MIXED MARTIAL ARTS</b>		
3 p.m.	UFC 310, early prelims	<b>TV:</b> ESPN+, ESPND
5 p.m.	UFC 310, Alexandre Pantoja vs. Kai Asakura, prelims	<b>TV:</b> ESPN2, FX, ESPND
7 p.m.	UFC 310, Alexandre Pantoja vs. Kai Asakura, main card	<b>TV:</b> ESPN+ PPV
<b>PREP FOOTBALL</b>		
Noon	Texas regional final, Allen vs. North Crowley	<b>TV:</b> FDW
7 p.m.	SoCal regional final, Division 1-A, Granite Hills vs. Edison	<b>TV:</b> Spectrum News
<b>SKIING</b>		
2 p.m.	FIS, Beaver Creek, Men's Super G (delay)	<b>TV:</b> 4, Peacock
<b>SOCCER</b>		
7 a.m.	England, Brentford vs. Newcastle	<b>TV:</b> USA, Universo
7 a.m.	England, Aston vs. Southampton	<b>TV:</b> Peacock
7 a.m.	England, Crystal Palace vs. Manchester City	<b>TV:</b> Peacock
7:15 a.m.	Spain, Betis vs. Barcelona	<b>TV:</b> ESPN+, ESPND
8 a.m.	France, Monaco vs. Toulouse	<b>TV:</b> beIN
9 a.m.	Italy, Juventus vs. Bologna	<b>TV:</b> 2, Paramount+, FOXD
9:30 a.m.	England, Manchester United vs. Nottingham	<b>TV:</b> 4, Universo
9:30 a.m.	Germany, Monchengladbach vs. Dortmund	<b>TV:</b> ESPN+
9:30 a.m.	Spain, Valencia vs. Rayo Vallecano	<b>TV:</b> ESPN+, ESPND
10 a.m.	France, Nice vs. Le Havre	<b>TV:</b> beIN
11:45 a.m.	Italy, Rome vs. Lecce	<b>TV:</b> Paramount+
Noon	France, Angers vs. Lyon	<b>TV:</b> beIN
Noon	Spain, Girona vs. Real Madrid	<b>TV:</b> ESPN+, ESPND
1 p.m.	MLS Cup final, Galaxy vs. New York Red Bulls	<b>TV:</b> 11, FOXD
5 p.m.	Mexico, semifinal, Monterrey vs. San Luis	<b>TV:</b> Univision, TUDN
<b>SWIMMING</b>		
9 a.m.	U.S. Open (delay)	<b>TV:</b> CNBC
<b>TENNIS</b>		
10 a.m.	Ultimate Tennis Showdown, Grand Final	<b>TV:</b> Tennis
6:30 a.m. (Sun.)	Ultimate Tennis Showdown, Grand Final	<b>TV:</b> Tennis



# SPORTS

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2024 :: LATIMES.COM/SPORTS

## MLS CUP FINAL | GALAXY VS. NEW YORK

TODAY AT DIGNITY HEALTH SPORTS PARK, 1 P.M. | TV: CHANNEL 11, APPLE TV+

# He's renewing their winning vows



**COACH** Greg Vanney is beloved by his players for his nurturing approach. "He's a very real gentleman," forward Dejan Joveljic says.

### Vanney's calm demeanor has quickly turned Galaxy around

By Kevin Baxter

When Mark Delgado made his MLS debut, he was just 17 and even he acknowledges his approach to soccer was unsophisticated. "Just being a young kid and running around," he said. Fortunately for Delgado, his team, the now-defunct Chivas USA, had a rookie assistant coach named Greg Vanney. And while Vanney could do little for the unfocused teenager in their season together, he remembered Delgado and made him the first player he acquired after taking over as manager of Toronto FC in 2014. Seven years later, after moving to the Galaxy, Vanney spent \$500,000 on another reunion with Delgado, who this season notched career highs for games (32), starts (29) and assists (nine, including two in the playoffs). And with play- [See Vanney, B9]

### MLS deal with Apple TV may take bite out of league's fan base

Dylan Hernández

Until he sustained a season-ending knee injury last week in the Western Conference final, Galaxy playmaker Riqui Puig was having a tremendous season. So I heard. I watched Puig play only twice this year, once in the Galaxy's season-opening 1-1 draw with Inter Miami and a second time in his team's Fourth of July defeat to LAFC at the Rose Bowl. Outside of short highlight clips on social media, I never saw the former Barcelona prospect, not even when he assisted on the goal that sent the Galaxy to the MLS Cup final that will be played Saturday at Dignity Health Sports Park. [See Hernández, B9]



## A LONG TIME AGO IN A GALAXY FAR, FAR AWAY ...

Since Major League Soccer began play in 1996, the Galaxy made the MLS Cup final nine times in the first 19 seasons, but haven't played in the championship match since 2014. Their nine appearances are the most by any franchise (D.C. United is second with five), as are their five championships (D.C. United has four).

 	 	 	 	 	 	 	 	 
1996	1999	2001	2002	2005	2009	2011	2012	2014
LOST TO D.C. UNITED	LOST TO D.C. UNITED	LOST TO SAN JOSÉ	DEFEATED NEW ENGLAND	DEFEATED NEW ENGLAND	LOST TO REAL SALT LAKE	DEFEATED HOUSTON	DEFEATED HOUSTON	DEFEATED NEW ENGLAND
3-2	2-0	2-1	1-0	1-0	1-1 (5-4 in PKs)	1-0	3-1	2-1

# Don't expect Trojans to pocket top passer in portal

By Ryan Kartje

A year ago, with USC's star quarterback off to the NFL, Lincoln Riley made his plans at the position abundantly clear. He would pursue a transfer quarterback to take the reins from Caleb Williams — someone such as Cam Ward or Will Howard or another marquee passer eager for the opportunity. Perhaps he'd add two — one older, one younger. Miller Moss, the longtime backup, had different plans. In his first start, Moss threw for six scores and led the Trojans to a triumphant victory in the Holiday Bowl. So Riley, seeing no other choice, pivoted and put his faith in Moss.

That succession plan ultimately produced mixed results. While Ward and Howard led their new teams to 10-win seasons, Moss was benched by early November, replaced by Jayden Maiava, the Nevada Las Vegas transfer brought in to be his backup. Now Moss is in the transfer portal, Maiava is penciled in as starter and Riley finds himself back in a similar spot, with an uncertain future at football's most important position. Riley is projecting confidence in Maiava, who led the Trojans to two wins over their final three games. "I think he's going to continue to progress and get better and better," Riley said Wednesday. But with the transfer

portal set to open Monday — and given how a similar scenario went last season — might Riley decide to put his trust in a transfer quarterback instead? Riley confirmed Wednesday that USC plans to add a quarterback from the portal, given that two — Moss and third-stringer Jake Jensen — opted to transfer. But the hope, he said, was for a new passer to "provide some depth in that room." Presumably that means behind Maiava and five-star freshman Husan Longstreet, the crown jewel of USC's 2025 recruiting class. "We obviously have a ton of confidence in both [Jayden] and Husan and what [See USC, B11]



**JAYDEN MAIAVA**, who finished the season as USC's quarterback, is expected to compete with incoming freshman Husan Longstreet for the job next season.

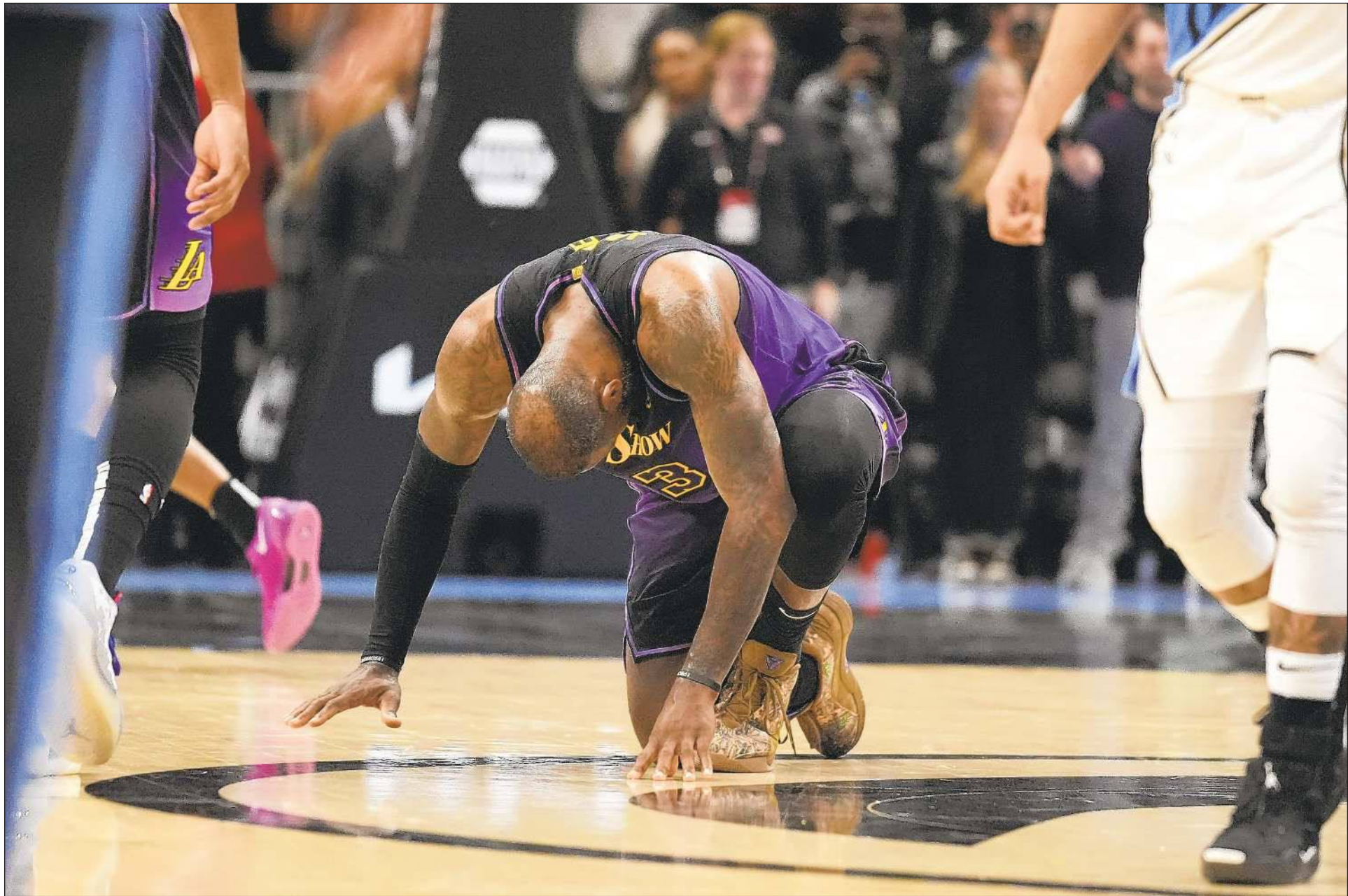
Gina Ferazzi Los Angeles Times



Los Angeles Times

# SPORTS EXTRA

A TIMES E-NEWSPAPER EXCLUSIVE :: SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2024



BRYNN ANDERSON Associated Press

**THE LAKERS'** LeBron James posted a triple-double with 39 points, 11 assists and 10 rebounds, but his final three-point attempt missed at the end of overtime

## Lakers look better but not good enough

STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

The bar for the Lakers to clear Friday night in Atlanta to look functional was remarkably low, a pair of unimaginably bad losses in Minnesota and Miami making “don’t get embarrassed” the main hurdle the Lakers needed to clear.

The Lakers, while technically 70 points worse than the Timberwolves and Heat, have shown they can be a winning team, a team that can share the ball, hit shots and, on occasion, credibly defend.

“The consistency is probably the frustrating part,” Lakers coach JJ Redick said before the game. “It’s the consistency because the group has shown that they can do it. The guys have shown that they can do it.”

“It’s just the consistency for everything.”

Against the suddenly hot Hawks, the Lakers showed that

they could, in fact, do the things required to win.

And they did so many of the things that usually cause teams to lose.

But victory doesn’t require perfection — just an advantage. And the Lakers couldn’t end with one, losing 134-132 in overtime.

With the Lakers up one in overtime, Anthony Davis’ pass to LeBron James was too casual, and Dwyane Wade stepped in front of it for the steal, no defenders between him and a go-ahead basket. But James, like he has so many times, caught up to the play from behind, a game-saving swat of the ball tipping the edge just so slightly back to the Lakers.

The Lakers, though, couldn’t cleanly inbound the ball, and Atlanta forced a tie-up with Davis and got possession after the ball went out of bounds off James.

With the game on the line, the one player on the court whom the

Lakers didn’t want open, Trae Young, got open and hit a three. James’ last-ditch chance to flip the game one final time with a potential winning three clanked off the rim, and the Lakers lost for the seventh time in nine games.

Redick, in an attempt to get more physicality on the court, moved guard D’Angelo Russell back to the bench and started Gabe Vincent. Austin Reaves remained out, back in Los Angeles recovering from the injury to his back/pelvic area that has cost him four games.

Vincent responded with his best game as a Laker, scoring 12 points and playing the kind of defense the Lakers wanted. But he and Davis miscommunicated on a switch at the top of the key leading to Young’s go-ahead three, crushing the Lakers on a night when they played mostly good basketball.

James scored 39 points with 11 assists and 10 rebounds, hitting six

of 11 from three. Davis had 38 points, 10 rebounds and eight assists, bouncing back after a miserable game in Miami.

The Lakers, who have been in a lifeless slump for most of the last two weeks after a heartbreaking loss to Orlando and spirit-snapping one to familiar foe Denver, found an actual rhythm early in the second half. They unleashed a 13-0 run on the Hawks, flying around the court, getting stops while converting on the offensive end.

But as soon as they did that, Atlanta made three straight threes, dashing any hope of rolling to the end.

Leading in the final minutes, the Lakers tried to bleed the clock by inbound the ball with it running, the shot clock not yet triggered. Daniels hustled for the ball and Davis jumped in front of him and got called for an illegal screen.

Daniels scored on the next possession to put the Hawks ahead.

The Lakers scored twice late to tie the score, and Max Christie blocked Young’s potential winner to send the game to overtime.

The Lakers didn’t get embarrassed. But they didn’t win either.

And as they head back to Los Angeles, that’s what matters most.

—DAN WOIKE

### NHL

## Rossi scores twice as Ducks fall to Wild

Marco Rossi scored twice, and Matt Boldy and Kirill Kaprizov each had three points as Minnesota handed the Ducks a 5-1 loss at Honda Center.

Brock McGinn scored for the Ducks, spoiling the shutout late in the third period.

John Gibson made 28 saves for the Ducks.

## Portola pulls off OT win over King/Drew, advances to state final

FOR THE TIMES

Jahmir Torres rolled over on his back, head in his hands as he collapsed at the one-yard line.

Three receiving touchdowns, two interceptions and one fumble recovery to his name — but all of that didn’t matter when the King/Drew senior came up a yard short in overtime to end the CIF Division 6-AA state regional final, ending the Golden Eagles’ season and his high school career.

“Everybody that was supporting King/Drew, I knew that they trusted me to make this play,” Torres said. “It hurts that I didn’t make it.”

Down by a point in overtime, Golden Eagles coach Joe Torres gambled with luck and his do-it-all son — an offensive threat — came up just short, sending Portola (9-6) to the state championship with the 35-34 win over King/Drew at Banning High.

“We knew that was coming,” Portola coach Peter Abe said about the failed two-point conversion. “The ball is going to No. 1. How did you not know it was going to No. 1? Rally around that dude.”

In overtime, Portola junior running back Timothy Grettenberg ran the ball in from five yards to give the Bulldogs a 35-28 lead. It wasn’t his first time, either.

Grettenberg contributed 165 yards to Portola’s rushing attack and entered the end zone four times — keeping the Bulldogs in the game when Jahmir Torres made big play after big play to keep King/Drew (11-4) ahead or tied.

“[Coach Abe] always tells us to strike from adversity,” Grettenberg said. “It’s always about the next play and I feel like that’s really pushed me.”

Portola had to play with adversity throughout the contest. King/Drew quarterback Keenan Jackson tossed touchdown passes of 86 and 78 yards in the first and second quarters, respectively, on his way to a career-high performance of 360 yards on 15-for-20 passing.

Torres picked off Portola quarterback Nash Luper twice in the second half, the second of which led to a field goal attempt as the clock expired. Everything seemed to fall the Golden Eagles’ way.

But in that moment, Portola blocked the 32-yard attempt to send the game to overtime — when the Bulldogs would claim their first lead of the game.

Abe noted the team’s 0-5 start to the season, battling from a low that led to a Division II title and now a spot in the state championship, where Portola will face Arcata (13-1) at Fullerton High next Friday.



CRAIG WESTON For The Times

**SHANE ROSENTHAL** of Newbury Park executes a one-handed catch in the first half of a 34-27 loss to San Diego Lincoln on Friday night in the Southern California Regional Division 1-AA bowl.

“They’ve been fighting all year,” Abe said. “We were the most dangerous 0-5 team in [Orange County], right? And all they know is rally around each other, rally around the Bulldog pedigree values, and just keep playing.”

Portola, however, was able to win without a key Golden Eagles player on the field. King/Drew senior edge rusher Chinedu Onyeagoro was unavailable after he flew back to Nigeria with his

family this morning because of a family emergency, coach Torres said.

King/Drew ended the season with its first championship, winning the City Section Division I title last week and with a program-record 11 wins.

For coach Torres, he wouldn’t change a single thing about the season, as he told his team after the game.

Not even that final play.

“I’d run that play 100 more times,” he said.

—BENJAMIN ROYER

### Etc.

In other late Friday night games, Oxnard Pacifica defeated Narbonne 37-20 in the Southern California Regional Division 2-AA bowl game. ... San Diego Lincoln defeated Newbury Park 34-27 in the Regional Division 1-AA bowl game.

latimes.com/sports

### BONUS COVERAGE

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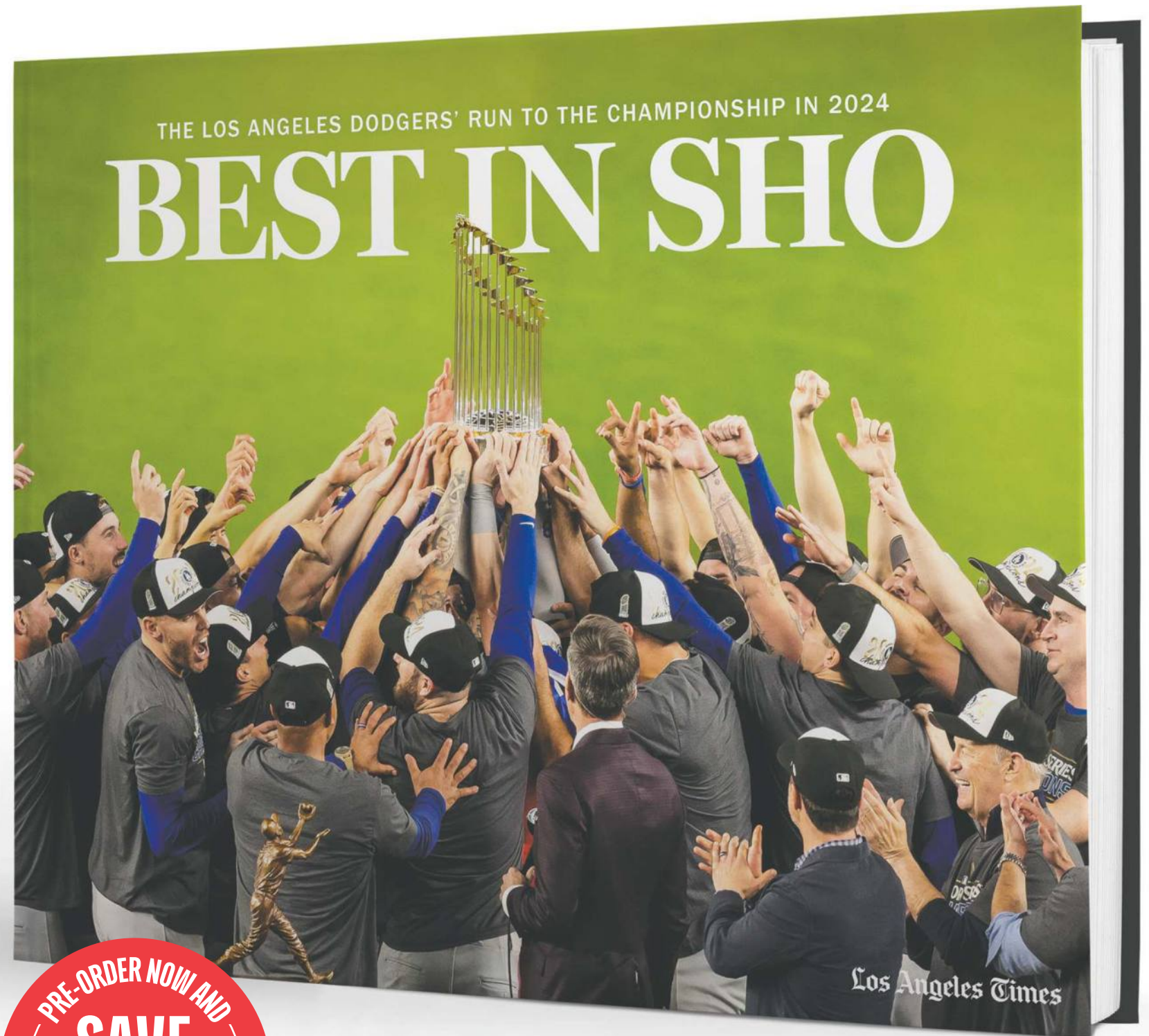
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**Los Angeles Times**



ADVERTISING SUPPLEMENT

Los Angeles Times

# HOT PROPERTY



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SATURDAY | DECEMBER 7, 2024

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA [LATIMES.COM/HOTPROPERTY](https://latimes.com/hotproperty)



**2447 Arbutus Dr.** - James Harris, , David Parnes, Alexis Perry / Carolwood Estates



Open House Sunday 12/8, 12-4 p.m.

**The Farmstead** - Marco Rufo, Craig Knizek & Andrea Korchek / The Agency



**1353 Woodruff Ave. Westwood** - Alexandre Anu / Hilton & Hyland/Forbes Global Properties



**8591 Skyline Drive** - Shen Schulz, Enzo Ricciardelli / Sotheby's International Realty - Beverly Hills

See pages 2 and 3 for more information on these properties



# HOT PROPERTY

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## 2447 ARBUTUS DR. Carolwood Estates

An architectural triumph in Brentwood's exclusive Mandeville Canyon, this newly completed estate rests on a 13,939 square-foot lot, commanding breathtaking, uninterrupted views of the San Gabriel Mountains and the city. Seamlessly harmonizing with its tranquil natural surroundings, this six-bedroom, twelve-bathroom residence has been masterfully curated to balance grand-scale entertaining with intimate tranquility, showcasing bespoke design and unrivaled craftsmanship at every turn. The journey begins with the soothing sounds of a garden water feature, along a stone-paved entry framed by lush tropical greens and the seclusion of gated privacy.

James Harris | 310.733.8038  
james@carolwoodre.com | Carolwoodre.com  
DRE#: 01909801

David Parnes | 925.395.1152  
dparnes@carolwoodre.com  
DRE#: 01905862

Alexis Perry | 973.747.5323  
aperry@carolwoodre.com  
DRE#: 02136205

### The Details

**Location:** 2447 Arbutus Dr., Brentwood 90049  
**Asking price:** \$14,995,000  
**Year built:** 2021  
**Living Area:** 7,700 square feet, six bedrooms, 12 bathrooms

**Features:** A dramatic, ceiling-height pivot door and beautifully wood-paneled floating staircase transcend elegance, as you step into the open floor plan, where floor-to-ceiling windows and expansive pocket doors effortlessly connect the indoors with the outdoors.

Open House: Sunday, 12/8, 12-4 pm



## THE FARMSTEAD The Agency

"The Farmstead"- exquisite design and unparalleled craftsmanship blend to curate a sanctuary for refined family living. Acclaimed designer/builders Shelly and Jeffrey Greenfield of Red Door Homes graciously created this custom residence by blending real and organic materials with sophisticated finishes. Set on a completely flat 18,480 sq ft lot, this bespoke 6-bedroom, 7.5-bathroom gated estate is handcrafted to suit the most discerning buyers. Enter the residence through custom wooden gates to a stone trough fountain, vintage 75-year-old olive trees and hanging lanterns.

Marco Rufo, DRE#: 01362095  
310.488.6914 / marco@theagencyre.com

Craig Knizek, DRE#: 01377932  
818.618.1006 / cknizek@theagencyre.com

Andrea Korchek, DRE#: 01311917  
818.371.0933 / akorchek@theagencyre.com

### The Details

**Location:** 17528 Rancho Street, Encino 91316  
**Asking price:** \$8,995,000  
**Year built:** 2024

**Features:** Lighted pickleball court + detached guest house



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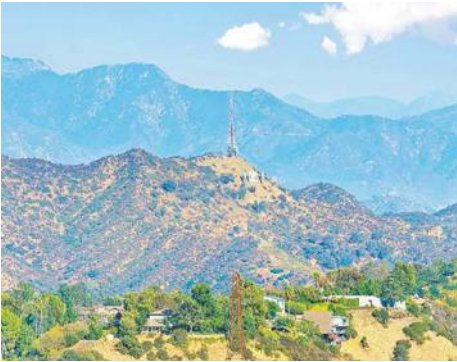
### 1353 WOODRUFF AVE. WESTWOOD

Hilton & Hyland/Forbes Global Properties

Contemporary and exquisite 5,500-square-foot compound in the heart of Westwood. Just minutes from downtown Beverly Hills and Westfield Century City, this extraordinary home offers privacy, seamless flow and uncompromising amenities, topped with a 1,500-square-foot rooftop showcasing stunning 360-degree views from the Pacific to the city skyline. With over 7,000 square feet of total living space, Missoni wall coverings, Farrow and Ball paint, and lavish details throughout, this rare gem is the one you've been waiting for.

Alexandre Anu  
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alexandre@hiltonhyland.com  
hiltonhyland.com  
DRE#: 01852856

The Details	<b>Location:</b> 1353 Woodruff Avenue, Los Angeles 90024	<b>Year built:</b> 2018	<b>Features:</b> Private elevator; high-level security cameras; Control 4 home automation; beauty salon; movie theater; butler's kitchen; gym/pilates area; sauna and an infinity edge pool with waterfall and hot tub; thoughtful outdoor entertaining spaces with motorized awnings and built-in heaters
	<b>Asking price:</b> \$7,250,000	<b>Living area:</b> 5,513 square feet, 5 bedrooms, 7 bathrooms	



### 8591 SKYLINE DRIVE

Sotheby's International Realty - Beverly Hills

Located atop a serene Laurel Canyon cul-de-sac, this warm Mediterranean modern hilltop retreat offers unparalleled seclusion and breathtaking vistas. The home is a gem of contemporary design, featuring a floating staircase that seamlessly connects its three levels. Expansive floor-to-ceiling windows and decks on every floor provide uninterrupted, panoramic views from the first light of dawn to the golden hues of sunset.

Shen Schulz  
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shenrealty.com  
DRE#: 01327630

Enzo Ricciardelli  
310.853.3837  
enzo.ricciardelli@sothebys.realty  
enzorealty.com  
DRE#: 01097604

The Details	<b>Location:</b> 8591 Skyline Drive, Los Angeles 90046	<b>Year Built:</b> 1961	<b>Features:</b> The main residence boasts two bedrooms, including a luxurious primary suite and 2.5 elegantly appointed bathrooms. The formal dining room is perfect for sophisticated gatherings, while the chef's kitchen, complete with a central island, offers stunning views of the valley.
	<b>Asking Price:</b> \$1,995,000	<b>Living Area:</b> 2,990 square feet, 3 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms	





**22368 PACIFIC COAST HIGHWAY**  
\$75,000,000 | \$250,000/month | 9 Bed | 14 Bath



**28026 SEA LANE DRIVE**  
\$67,500,000 | 4 Bed | 5 Bath



**27910 PACIFIC COAST HIGHWAY**  
\$54,950,000 | 4 Bed | 7 Bath



**28926 CLIFFSIDE DRIVE**  
\$37,500,000 | 4 Bed | 5 Bath



**1550 AMALFI DRIVE | PACIFIC PALISADES**  
\$36,995,000 | 8 Bed | 15 Bath



**24834 PACIFIC COAST HIGHWAY**  
\$36,500,000 | \$90,000/month | 5 Bed | 8 Bath



**6825 ZUMIREZ DRIVE**  
\$34,995,000 | 7 Bed | 6 Bath



**23736 MALIBU COLONY ROAD**  
\$32,500,000 | 6 Bed | 5 Bath



**32752 PACIFIC COAST HIGHWAY**  
\$29,950,000 | 8 Bed | 7 Bath | Rendering



**21348 PACIFIC COAST HIGHWAY**  
\$29,850,000 | 7 Bed | 8 Bath



**6856 WILDLIFE ROAD**  
\$26,250,000 | 2 Bed | 3 Bath



**6889 DUME DRIVE**  
\$24,800,000 | 6 Bed | 8 Bath



**31388 BROAD BEACH ROAD**  
\$21,500,000 | 5 Bed | 6 Bath



**6110 MERRITT DRIVE**  
\$21,500,000 | 5 Bed | 9 Bath



**27218 PACIFIC COAST HIGHWAY**  
\$21,500,000 | 3 Bed | 4 Bath



**6220 ZUMIREZ DRIVE**  
\$19,995,000 | 5 Bed | 7 Bath



**5900 BONSALE DRIVE**  
\$19,975,000 | 5 Bed | 6 Bath



**25252 MALIBU ROAD**  
\$14,995,000 | 7 Bed | 8 Bath



**23622 MALIBU COLONY ROAD**  
\$14,995,000 | \$50,000/month | 4 Bed | 4 Bath



**23649 MALIBU COLONY ROAD**  
\$13,250,000 | 4 Bed | 4 Bath



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# CURRENT LISTINGS





**24956 MALIBU ROAD**  
\$11,995,000 | 2 Bed | 3 Bath



**21366 PACIFIC COAST HIGHWAY**  
\$10,800,000 | 3 Bed | 3 Bath



**5924 BONSALE DRIVE**  
\$9,995,000 | 6 Bed | 6 Bath



**22050 PACIFIC COAST HIGHWAY**  
\$9,850,000 | 2 Bed | 2 Bath



**21314 PACIFIC COAST HIGHWAY**  
\$9,800,000 | 4 Bed | 6 Bath



**6361 SEA STAR DRIVE**  
\$8,900,000 | Approx. 22.3 Acres | Rendering



**31840 SEAFIELD DRIVE**  
\$7,850,000 | 4 Bed | 4 Bath



**24216 MALIBU ROAD**  
\$7,750,000 | 3 Bed | 2 Bath



**5944 CAVALLERI ROAD**  
\$7,395,000 | 4 Bed | 6 Bath



**27931 WINDING WAY**  
\$6,995,000 | 6 Bed | 8 Bath



**16647 BIENVENIDA PL | PACIFIC PALISADES**  
\$6,000,000 | \$29,000/month | 4 Bed | 6 Bath



**31727 PACIFIC COAST HIGHWAY**  
\$5,850,000 | 4 Bed | 6 Bath



**6007 TRANCAS CANYON RD**  
\$5,595,000 | 4 Bed | 4 Bath



**27058 SEA VISTA DRIVE**  
\$5,475,000 | 3 Bed | 3 Bath



**31562 BROAD BEACH ROAD**  
\$4,995,000 | 3 Bed | 3 Bath



**6316 BUSCH DRIVE**  
\$4,995,000 | 3 Bed | 2 Bath



**5705 BUSCH DRIVE**  
\$4,850,000 | 4 Bed | 3 Bath



**24800 PIUMA ROAD**  
\$4,750,000 | Approx. 72.829 Acres



**6130 GALAHAD ROAD**  
\$4,450,000 | \$19,000/month | 4 Bed | 5 Bath



**633 SANTA CLARA AVE | VENICE**  
\$4,450,000 | 3 Bed | 2 Bath



**CHRIS CORTAZZO**  
310.457.3995  
CHRIS@CHRISCORTAZZO.COM  
DRE 01190363

**COMPASS LUXURY**





**19136 PACIFIC COAST HWY**  
\$4,250,000 | 3 Bed | 2 Bath



**21488 CALLE DEL BARCO**  
\$2,950,000 | Approx. 1.225 Acres



**29500 HEATHERCLIFF ROAD #211**  
\$2,895,000 | 3 Bed | 2 Bath



**6666 DUME DRIVE**  
\$2,495,000 | Approx. 1.001 Acres



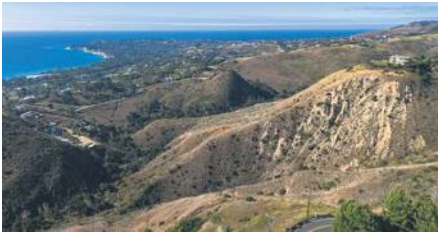
**5942 BUSCH DRIVE**  
\$2,195,000 | Approx. 0.927 Acres



**6435 ZUMIREZ DRIVE #17**  
\$1,850,000 | 2 Bed | 3 Bath



**6457 ZUMA VIEW PLACE #138**  
\$1,849,000 | \$8,900/month | 3 Bed | 3 Bath



**5092 LATIGO CANYON ROAD**  
\$1,475,000 | Approx. 3.001 Acres



**27540 PACIFIC COAST HIGHWAY**  
\$350,000/month | 7 Bed | 10 Bath



**23402 MALIBU COLONY ROAD**  
\$225,000/month | 6 Bed | 7 Bath



**24572 MALIBU ROAD**  
\$180,000/month | 4 Bed | 5 Bath



**21528 PACIFIC COAST HIGHWAY**  
\$115,000/month | 5 Bed | 8 Bath



**30962 BROAD BEACH ROAD**  
\$100,000/month | 7 Bed | 7 Bath



**28827 GRAYFOX SREET**  
\$100,000/month | 6 Bed | 7 Bath



**22435 PACIFIC COAST HIGHWAY**  
\$100,000/month | 5 Bed | 8 Bath



**27348 PACIFIC COAST HIGHWAY**  
\$85,000/month | 4 Bed | 4 Bath



**26820 MALIBU COVE COLONY DR**  
\$80,000/month | 5 Bed | 6 Bath



**31228 BROAD BEACH ROAD**  
\$75,000/month | 5 Bed | 5 Bath



**26714 LATIGO SHORE DRIVE**  
\$75,000/month | 4 Bed | 3 Bath



**23614 MALIBU COLONY ROAD**  
\$75,000/month | 5 Bed | 5 Bath



## CURRENT LISTINGS

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**29020 CLIFFSIDE DRIVE**  
\$65,000/month | 4 Bed | 4 Bath



**32852 PACIFIC COAST HIGHWAY**  
\$65,000/month | 4 Bed | 4 Bath



**28899 CLIFFSIDE DRIVE**  
\$60,000/month | 6 Bed | 5 Bath



**32554 PACIFIC COAST HIGHWAY**  
\$50,000/month | 4 Bed | 5 Bath



**31646 SEA LEVEL DRIVE**  
\$50,000/month | 4 Bed | 4 Bath



**27445 WINDING WAY**  
\$48,500/month | 6 Bed | 8 Bath



**31952 1/2 PACIFIC COAST HWY**  
\$45,000/month | 4 Bed | 3 Bath



**6750 FERNHILL DRIVE**  
\$40,000/month | 4 Bed | 3 Bath



**24230 MALIBU ROAD**  
\$40,000/month | 3 Bed | 4 Bath



**27082 MALIBU COVE COLONY DR**  
\$40,000/month | 4 Bed | 5 Bath



**3000 DECKER CANYON ROAD**  
\$35,000/month | 5 Bed | 6 Bath



**29943 HARVESTER ROAD**  
\$35,000/month | 4 Bed | 6 Bath



**23901 MALIBU KNOLLS ROAD**  
\$35,000/month | 4 Bed | 4 Bath



**23351 MALIBU COLONY ROAD**  
\$30,000/month | 4 Bed | 4 Bath



**27070 MALIBU COVE COLONY DR**  
\$30,000/month | 2 Bed | 2 Bath



**21250 PACIFIC COAST HWY**  
\$30,000/month | 3 Bed | 3 Bath



**26645 LATIGO SHORE DRIVE**  
\$29,000/month | 5 Bed | 6 Bath



**6743 FERNHILL DRIVE**  
\$27,000/month | 4 Bed | 4 Bath



**29517 HARVESTER ROAD**  
\$18,000/month | 4 Bed | 4 Bath



**24600 SKYLINE VIEW DRIVE**  
\$15,900/month | 4 Bed | 5 Bath



**28815 BISON COURT**  
\$9,700/month | 3 Bed | 2 Bath



**5949 RAMIREZ CANYON ROAD**  
\$9,500/month | 1 Bed | 1 Bath



**25119 MALIBU ROAD**  
\$6,500/month | 1 Bed | 1 Bath



**25121 MALIBU ROAD**  
\$5,500/month | 1 Bed | 1 Bath



**CHRIS CORTAZZO**

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CHRIS@CHRISCORTAZZO.COM

DRE 01190363

**COMPASS LUXURY**





BY APPOINTMENT

BEL-AIR  
**982 Stone Canyon Road**  
**\$24,500,000**  
7 Beds | 10 Baths  
982stonecanyon.com

**Sally Forster Jones**  
310.579.2200  
DRE 00558939



OPEN SUNDAY 1-4PM

BEVERLY GROVE  
**6272 Drexel Avenue**  
**\$3,998,000**  
4 Beds | 5 Baths | 4,222± Sq Ft

**Allison Schwarz**  
310.433.0056  
DRE 01878458



BY APPOINTMENT

BEVERLY HILLS  
**1625 Loma Vista Drive**  
**\$7,695,000**  
7 Beds | 7 Baths | 5,654± Sq Ft  
1625lomavista.com

**Sally Forster Jones**  
310.579.2200  
DRE 00558939



OPEN SUNDAY 1-4PM

BEVERLYWOOD VICINITY  
**1467 Cardiff Avenue**  
**\$2,495,000**  
3 Beds | 2.5 Baths | 2,011± Sq Ft

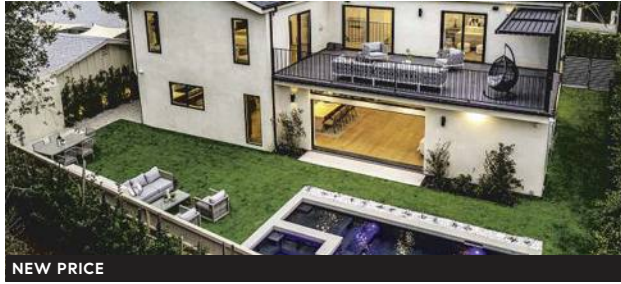
**Jeremy Ives**  
310.770.1202  
DRE 01420214



BY APPOINTMENT

BRENTWOOD  
**11982 Brentridge Lane**  
**\$9,950,000**  
6 Beds | 6 Baths | 6,258± Sq Ft  
11982brentridge.com

**Sally Forster Jones**  
310.579.2200  
DRE 00558939



NEW PRICE

ENCINO  
**16226 Dickens Street**  
**\$3,699,000**  
5 Beds | 6.5 Baths | 4,900± Sq Ft  
16226dickens.com

**Michael Bergin**  
310.600.0715  
DRE 01845572

PROPERTY SPOTLIGHT



NEW PRICE | NEW LOOK

WILSHIRE CORRIDOR  
**10490 Wilshire Blvd #1103**  
**\$2,490,000**  
2 Beds | 2.5 Baths | 2,776± Sq Ft  
Blair House



**Lynn Rogo**  
**Mark Rogo**  
310.890.7738  
DRE 01337553  
DRE 01423795



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3 YEARS IN A ROW





# The Hideaway



**53488 VIA STRADA, LA QUINTA**  
 5 Beds, including casita  
 6 Full + 1 Half Bath | 6,296 Sq Ft  
**\$7,398,000 | Furnished**

**#1**  
 Palm Springs Life  
 2024 Top Realtor  
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**#25**  
 Real Trends Verified  
 2024 Individual by Volume  
 California

**#76**  
 Real Trends The Thousand  
 2024 Individual by Volume  
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**VALERY NEUMAN**



**Valery Neuman**  
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**COMPASS**



## Villa Pedroarena | Henry Grey, 1940



**2464 Micheltorena Avenue, Silver Lake**

Offered at \$1,895,000 | [2464Micheltorena.com](https://2464Micheltorena.com)



**3 Bedrooms | 2 Baths | Detached Garage**  
**Home 2,066 SF | Lot 8,636 SF**



**GEORGE PENNER**

Co-President

Compass Architecture + Design

213.924.1489

[george.penner@compass.com](mailto:george.penner@compass.com)

DRE #01394929



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Mid-Century Traditional, 1969

COMPASS



10561 Lubao Avenue, Chatsworth

Offered at \$1,250,000 | [10561Lubao.com](https://10561Lubao.com)

Open Saturday & Sunday 1-3pm



4 Bedrooms | 2.5 Baths  
Home 2,374 SF | Lot .40 Acres



**NADIA CONROW**

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DRE #02092637

GEORGE  
PENNER  
TEAM



# THE MARKETPLACE

BY MICHAEL J. LIBOW

Beverly Hills



PENDING

9883 Carmelita Avenue \$7,750,000

Stunning, elegant, and charming 2sty 5BD Trad. Tasteful updates. Fab kitch. Sep den and huge fam/media rm. X-deep yrd. Lawns. Pl. Privacy.

Beverly Hills



JUST SOLD

515 N. Roxbury Drive \$5,995,000

Trust Sale. 1st time avail. Cstm Dorman/Munselle 1971 1.5sty Rustic Modern. Primary ste up. 2BD down. Open plan. Hi vaulted clngs. Glass walls. Pl. Endless potential.

Beverly Hills



JUST SOLD

226 S. McCarty Drive \$4,995,000

Charming & spacious (4,750SF) 2sty 5BD 5.5BA Trad. Sep den & great rm. Huge primary w/2BA/walk-ins. Big yrd. Lush landscape. Curb appeal. Paul Williams design.

Beverly Hills



PENDING

256 S. Camden Drive \$4,195,000

Charming spacious Deco-era 2sty 4BD crtyrd Spanish. Cozy Den. Huge liv & dining rms. Fab outdoor dining terrace/pool/patios. Curb appeal. 1st time avail in 49yrs.

Beverly Hills



JUST SOLD

344 S. Bedford Drive \$4,175,000

Beaut updated 2sty 5BD charmer. Redone cook's kitch. Wd flrs. Hi clngs. Lg fam rm w/fp. Big living/dining rms. Resort yrd w/pl/spa/patios. 60ft lot. Intense curb appeal.

Beverly Hills



NEW X | OPEN SUNDAY 1-4

317 S. Oakhurst Drive \$3,850,000

Stunning redone 2sty modern Spanish. 4BD 3.5BA Lg den. Huge liv & dining rms. Fab new kitch/baths. Big primary. Rm-size walk-in. Pl/deck/patios/privacy.

Beverly Hills



NEW X | OPEN SUNDAY 1-4

152 S. Swall Drive \$3,295,000

All redone as-new in 2020. Modern 1sty Spanish. 3BD 3.5BA. Conv den. Open entertainer's plan. Great rm. Fab new rear ADU. Big grass yrd + BBQ. Quiet road.

Beverly Hills



NEW PRICING | BY APPOINTMENT

127 N. Doheny Drive \$3,095,000

1sttimeavail in 57yrs.Unique/spaciousgated2stySpanish. 7,000SF sw crnr lot N. of Wilshire. 5BD main home. 2 guest units. Lite-filled. Wd flrs. Endless potential. Best value in BH!

Beverly Hills



JUST SOLD

312 S. Canon Drive \$3,095,000

Trust Sale. Immac 2sty crtyrd Spanish. 4BD 3BA Sunlit. Hi clngs. Wd flrs. 2 huge BD up. Lg liv, dining, brkfst rms. Central quiet rd. Bonus rm/ba. Pool. Patios. Potential!

Michael J. Libow

310.691.7889 | mjlibow@gmail.com | michaeljlibow.com

COMPASS

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# THE MARKETPLACE

BY MICHAEL J. LIBOW



BHPO



JUST SOLD

**2203 Bowmont Drive \$2,995,000**

Or lease at \$11,800/mo. Chic just redone resort-style sunlit 2-lvl Arch gem. 4BD. Great rm. Hi clngs. Fab open kitch. Stone patio/deck/waterfall pl/spa/BBQ cntr/firepit. Great parking.

Cheviot Hills



JUST SOLD

**3079 Patricia Avenue \$2,995,000**

Updated 2sty 4BD Trad. Huge flat lot. Sunlit rms. Wd flrs. Hi clngs. Great rm. Kitch w/top blt-ins. Big primary ste. Covered patio. Xlg grassy yrd.

Beverly Hills



NEW X | FIRST OPEN SUNDAY 1-4

**304 S. Canon Drive \$2,995,000**

1st time avail in 61yrs. Charming 1sty 3BD Spanish on rare 56ft wide lot (6,800sq ft). Hi clngs. Beaut wd flrs. Open-flow living/dining rms. Huge drought-tolerant grounds. Potential+

Beverly Hills



JUST SOLD

**305 S. Swall Drive \$2,495,000**

Trust Sale - 1st time avail in 54 yrs. Immac 1sty 3BD Trad. 6,715 sq ft x-wide lot! Authentic details. Sunlit. Hi clngs. Wd flrs. Leaded glass. Big yrd w/lawn/patio.

Beverly Hills



JUST SOLD

**300 N. Swall Drive Unit 158 \$2,295,000**

Immac IV Seasons 2,777SF 1-lvl unit. Huge yard/patio (1,650SF). Hi clngs. Glass walls. 2BD Suites 2.5BA. 24 hr valet/concierge. Pl/spa/gym. Endless potential.

Tarzana



NEW X | BY APPOINTMENT

**5320 Otis Avenue \$1,995,000**

Immaculate 1999-bltd 2sty Contemp Med. 5BD 3BA. Hi clngs. Wd flrs. Dramatic 2ty liv rm. Top redone kitch. Primary w/sit rm/fp. Lush priv yrd w/gated pl/spa/turf.

Miracle Mile



JUST SOLD

**806 S. Spaulding Avenue \$1,950,000**

Redone charming 1st Trad. 3BD 2BA. Sunlit rms. Wd flrs. Open flow living/dining rms. Cook's kitch. Lush yrd w/lawn/patio. Curb appeal on coveted cul-de-sac.

Sherman Oaks



NEW X | OPEN SUNDAY 1-4

**14290 Dickens St PH303 \$1,099,000**

Immac sunlit PH. Over 2,600SF. 3BD 3.5BA. 2sty hi vaulted clngs. 2 fp's. Great rm. Huge loft BD + 960SF priv roof deck. 15-unit bldg. Pl/spa/gym/rec rm. Unlimited potential.

Beverly Hills



JUST LEASED

**616 N. Hillcrest Road \$15,900/mo**

Beaut 1sty 5BD 4BA + Great rm Tradit. Huge yard. Lawns/fab tiled pl/patios/cabana. Wd flrs. Beamed clngs. Huge primary w/2 big walk-ins. Quiet rd. Long-term.



Michael J. Libow

310.691.7889 | mjlibow@gmail.com | michaeljlibow.com

DRE 00863172

The Hardest Working  
Man in Real Estate.







BEVERLY HILLS

## 304 SOUTH CANON DRIVE

**New Exclusive | First Open Sunday December 8<sup>th</sup> 1-4 \$2,995,000****3 Bed | 1.25 Bath | ± 1,755 Sq ft**

- Generational opportunity – 1st time available in 61 years
- Rare 56ft wide lot (6,800 sq ft) allows for endless potential
- Charming and immaculate 1sty Spanish
- Light-filled rooms with gleaming wood floors and high ceilings
- Large open flow living and dining rooms
- Dining room/den with doors to a sweet outdoor side patio
- Primary bedroom with a walk-in closet and direct yard access
- Two other sizable bedrooms (one utilized as a great office)
- Immense and bucolic drought-resistant rear gardens with fountain
- Sited on the coveted East side of the upper 300 block of South Canon
- Moments to the Beverly Hills Golden Triangle
- Complemented by intense curb appeal, this is the deal of 2024

The Hardest Working  
Man in Real Estate.

**COMPASS****Michael J. Libow**

310.691.7889 | [mjlibow@gmail.com](mailto:mjlibow@gmail.com)  
[michaeljlibow.com](http://michaeljlibow.com)

DRE 00863172

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# COASTAL ELEGANCE MEETS TIMELESS CRAFTSMANSHIP

DISCOVER UNPARALLELED LUXURY AND SOPHISTICATED LIVING IN THIS METICULOUSLY CRAFTED EMERALD BAY RESIDENCE, WHERE MODERN AESTHETICS BLEND SEAMLESSLY WITH BESPOKE DESIGN AND COASTAL CHARM.

## PRICE IMPROVEMENT

328 Emerald Bay | Laguna Beach

3 Bed • 3.5 Bath

COMPASS

SCAN HERE FOR FULL  
PROPERTY DETAILS!



MAURA SHORT  
949.233.7949  
MAURA@COMPASS.COM  
DRE 01883774



MAURA SHORT

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\$65,000,000 | 1005 N ALPINE DR, BEVERLY HILLS  
DREW FENTON 310.623.3622  
DRE 01317962



\$49,950,000 | 1601 CASALE RD, PACIFIC PALISADES  
DREW FENTON 310.623.3622  
DRE 01317962



\$18,495,000 | 260 S CANYON VIEW DR, BRENTWOOD  
MARCIE HARTLEY 310.980.0141  
DRE 01358268



**OPEN SUNDAY 1-4**  
\$17,779,000 | 1580 SAN REMO DR, PACIFIC PALISADES  
ZAC MOSTAME, DREW FENTON 424.527.8889  
DRE 02110196, 01317962



**NEW PRICE**  
\$15,750,000 | 618 N ARDEN DR, BEVERLY HILLS  
DREW FENTON 310.623.3622  
DRE 01317962



**NEW PRICE**  
\$5,999,999 | 1200 N DOHENY DR, SUNSET STRIP  
M FICARRA, J HARRIS, D PARNES 310.502.4800  
DRE 01064276, 01909801, 01905862



**OPEN SUNDAY 1-4**  
\$5,750,000 | 559 LORING AVE, WESTWOOD  
RICHARD EHRLICH 310.968.8881  
DRE 01267136



**NEW PRICE | OPEN SUNDAY 1-4**  
\$5,678,000 | 10440 WYTON DR, WESTWOOD  
CHAYA VAN ESSEN 310.270.6305  
DRE 01398928



**NEW LISTING | OPEN SUNDAY 1-4**  
\$4,699,000 | 654 ERSKINE DR, PACIFIC PALISADES  
B FARRUGIA, A LASCANO, D SIERRA 818.800.8848  
DRE 01864250, 01723550, 02119045





\$22,995,000 | 13164 BOCA DE CANON LN, BRENTWOOD  
ZAC MOSTAME 424.527.8899  
DRE 02110196

OPEN SUNDAY 1-4



\$15,495,000 | 24685 PACIFIC COAST HWY, MALIBU  
STEPHEN SIGOLOFF 310.804.8180  
DRE 00796057

NEW PRICE



NEW PRICE | OPEN SUNDAY 1-4

\$3,650,000 | 722 MARINE ST, SANTA MONICA  
SOPHIA LEDBETTER, LISA SOCKOLOV 424.382.5162  
DRE 02164581



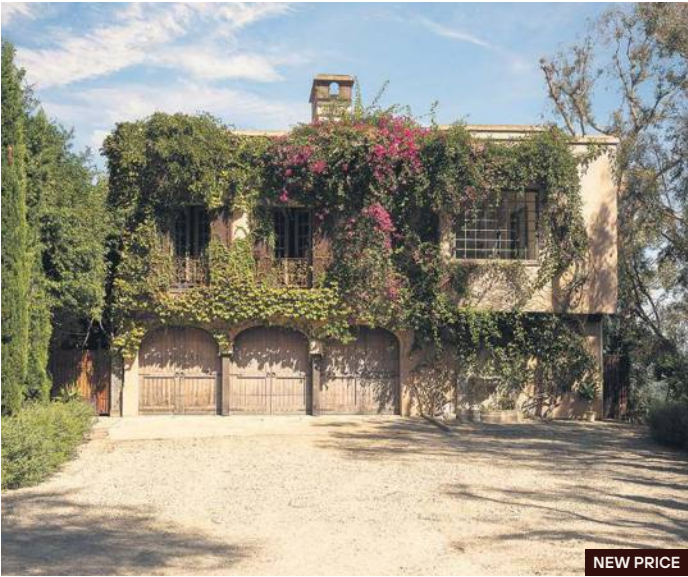
NEW LISTING

\$2,495,000 | 7555 DEVISTA DR, SUNSET STRIP  
DREW FENTON 310.623.3622  
DRE 01317962



NEW LISTING

\$14,995,000 | 2447 ARBUTUS DR, BRENTWOOD  
J HARRIS, A PERRY, D PARNES 310.733.8038  
DRE 01909801, 02136205, 01905862



NEW PRICE

\$9,995,000 | 1410 DAVIES DR, BEVERLY HILLS  
DREW FENTON 310.623.3622  
DRE 01317962



NEW LISTING | OPEN SAT & SUN 1-4

\$2,100,000 | 3720 ALTA MESA DR, STUDIO CITY  
JANE DORIAN, SHAUN ALAN-LEE 310.922.6464  
DRE 01320230, 01955694

# CAROLWOOD

## ESTATES

### OPEN SUNDAY 1-4

\$22,995,000 | 13164 BOCA DE CANON LN, BRENTWOOD  
ZAC MOSTAME 424.527.8899  
DRE 02110196

\$21,000,000 | 1395 N DOHENY DR, SUNSET STRIP  
DAVID PARNES, JAMES HARRIS 310.894.3435  
DRE 01905862, 01909801

\$17,779,000 | 1580 SAN REMO DR, PACIFIC PALISADES  
ZAC MOSTAME, DREW FENTON 424.527.8889  
DRE 02110196, 01317962

\$12,795,000 | 459 21ST ST, SANTA MONICA  
BJORN FARRUGIA 310.998.7175  
DRE 01864250

\$11,700,000 | 1756 CORREA WAY, BRENTWOOD  
ZAC MOSTAME, RUSLAN SHKURENKO 424.527.8889  
DRE 02110196, 02096208

\$11,400,000 | 2331 CHISLEHURST DR, LOS FELIZ  
BRETT LAWYER 310.623.3638  
DRE 00897489

\$6,500,000 | 633 12TH ST, SANTA MONICA  
A LASCANO, BJORN FARRUGIA, J GOODHUE 310.998.7175  
DRE 01864250, 02006693, 02006693

\$5,899,000 | 607 26TH ST, SANTA MONICA  
B FARRUGIA, A LASCANO, S MOW 310.998.7175  
DRE 01864250, 01723550, 02141673

\$5,890,000 | 9820 KINCARDINE AVE, CHEVIOT HILLS  
JAMIE RUDNER 424.333.1535  
DRE 02179260

\$5,750,000 | 559 LORING AVE, WESTWOOD  
RICHARD EHRLICH 310.968.8881  
DRE 01267136

\$5,678,000 | 10440 WYTON DR, WESTWOOD  
CHAYA VAN ESSEN 310.270.6305  
DRE 01398928

\$5,495,000 | 505 MORENO AVE, BRENTWOOD  
BJORN FARRUGIA 310.998.7175  
DRE 01864250

\$5,395,000 | 175 W CHANNEL RD, RUSTIC CANYON  
JONATHAN MOGHARRABI, MARCI KAYS 310.633.1300  
DRE 02009871, 01397539

\$4,995,000 | 2003 EL CERRITO PL, OUTPOST ESTATES  
MARCI KAYS, JONATHAN MOGHARRABI 323.356.2650  
DRE 01397539, 02009871

\$4,699,000 | 654 ERSKINE DR, PACIFIC PALISADES  
B FARRUGIA, A LASCANO, D SIERRA 818.800.8848  
DRE 01864250, 01723550, 02119065

\$4,599,000 | 10453 WHIPPLE ST, TOLUCA LAKE  
KEVIN DEES, SEBASTIAN SPADER 424.281.6848  
DRE 01915567, 02013827

\$4,099,000 | 442 S PECK DR, BEVERLY HILLS  
B FARRUGIA, A LASCANO, J PADILLA 818.800.8848  
DRE 01864250, 01723550, 02159127

\$3,995,000 | 1390 MORNINGSIDE WAY, VENICE  
ZAC MOSTAME 424.527.8889  
DRE 02110196

\$3,795,000 | 3442 COLVILLE PL, ENCINO  
M WAGNER, K EVERETT, J HARRIS 424.302.7205  
DRE 02044304, 02115238, 01909801

\$3,650,000 | 722 MARINE ST, SANTA MONICA  
SOPHIA LEDBETTER, LISA SOCKOLOV 424.382.5162  
DRE 02164581, 01324484

\$3,650,000 | 1942 LEMOYNE ST, SILVER LAKE  
JONAH WILSON 310.623.3616  
DRE 01078809

\$3,495,000 | 4485 WOODLEY AVE, ENCINO  
SAM COLLINS, JAMES HARRIS, DAVID PARNES 424.777.5135  
DRE 02057606, 01905862, 02115238

\$3,250,000 | 459 N CRESCENT HEIGHTS BLVD, BEVERLY CENTER  
SUSAN SMITH, SACHA SMITH 310.415.5175  
DRE 01187140, 02191374 | OPEN SUNDAY 2-4

\$3,132,000 | 15569 MEADOWGATE RD, ENCINO  
A LASCANO, B FARRUGIA, T KIRK 818.800.8848  
DRE 01723550, 01864250, 02150105

\$2,949,000 | 4301 DON ARELLANES DR, BALDWIN HILLS  
MITCH BASSETT 310.266.3286  
DRE 02141643

\$2,675,000 | 5310 BOTHWELL RD, TARZANA  
A LASCANO, B FARRUGIA, T KIRK 818.800.8848  
DRE 01723550, 01864250, 02150392

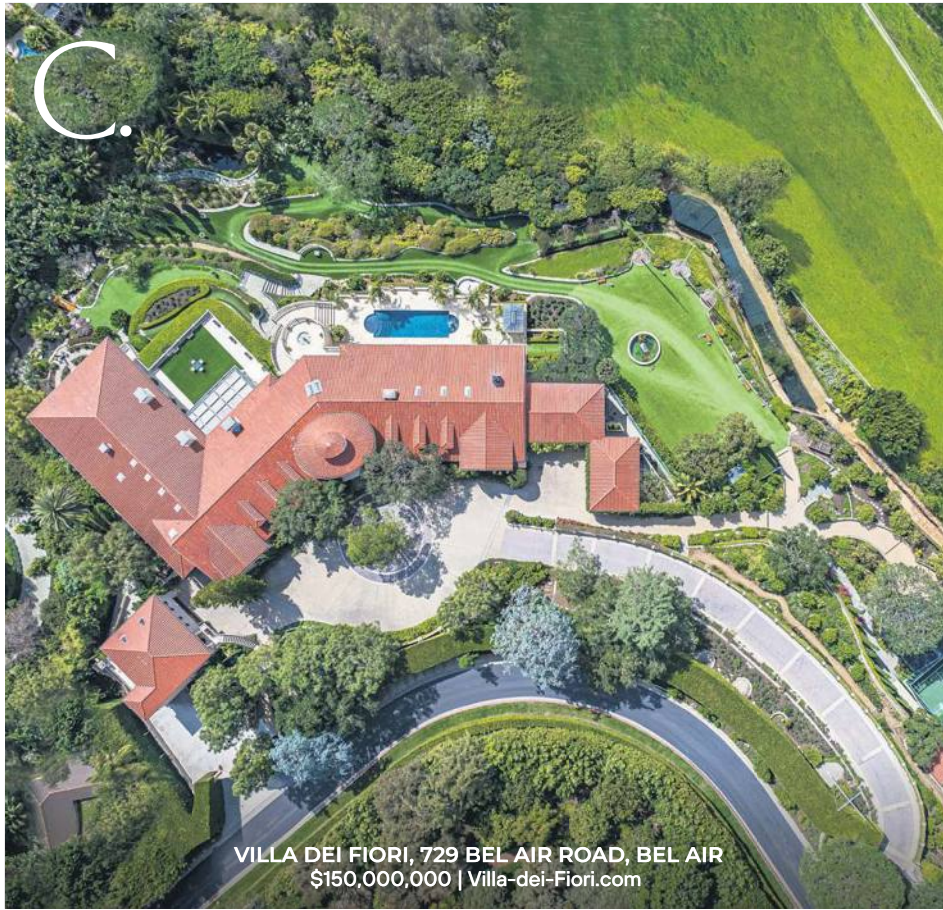
\$2,100,000 | 3720 ALTA MESA DR, STUDIO CITY  
JANE DORIAN, SHAUN ALAN-LEE 310.922.6464  
DRE 01320230, 01955694 | OPEN SATURDAY & SUNDAY 1-4

\$1,625,000 | 2424 PROSPECT AVE, MONTROSE  
HEATHER BOYD 310.994.3140  
DRE 01836830 | OPEN SATURDAY 1-3

\$1,499,000 | 10944 STEVER ST, CULVER CITY  
BENJAMIN RUSSEL, MICHAEL EVANS 818.851.2028  
DRE 02100634, 02177294

THE PENTHOUSE  
9440 SANTA MONICA BLVD | BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90210  
carolwoodre.com | @carolwoodrealestate





VILLA DEI FIORI, 729 BEL AIR ROAD, BEL AIR  
\$150,000,000 | Villa-dei-Fiori.com



VILLA OLIVA, 942 N ALPINE DRIVE, BEVERLY HILLS  
\$62,000,000 | TheAlpineResidence.com



277 ST PIERRE ROAD, BEL AIR  
\$44,950,000 | \$150K/MO (Long Term) | 277StPierreRoad.com



DOUMANI HOUSE, 4 YAWL STREET, MARINA DEL REY  
\$17,500,000 | DoumaniHouse.com



10601 WILSHIRE BLVD PH EAST, WILSHIRE CORRIDOR  
\$10,950,000 | WilshireHousePHE.com | Co-listed w/ Guy Levy



1340 E MOUNTAIN DRIVE, MONTECITO  
\$150,000/MO (Lease)



21250 PACIFIC COAST HWY, MALIBU  
\$30,000/MO (Lease) | Co-listed w/ Guy Levy



909 ORLANDO AVENUE, WEST HOLLYWOOD  
\$6,250/MO (Lease) | Co-listed w/ Jared Page

LINDAMAY.COM  
310.623.3650 | linda@lindamay.com

LINDA MAY  
PROPERTIES GROUP

CAROLWOOD  
ESTATES

LINDAMAY.COM | CAROLWOODRE.COM | LINDA MAY DRE 00475038 | GUY LEVY DRE 01374536 | ALEX SORIANO DRE 02000129 | JARED PAGE DRE 02122416  
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C.

618 N ARDEN DR  
BEVERLY HILLS | BY APPOINTMENT  
NEW PRICE | \$15,750,000

B2B PUBLISHING

ONE OF THE MOST BEAUTIFUL BLOCKS  
IN THE FLATS OF BEVERLY HILLS.

DREW FENTON  
310.623.3622 | DRE 01317962

CAROLWOODRE.COM | SHOWN BY APPOINTMENT

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CAROLWOOD  
ESTATES

HOT PROPERTY LOS ANGELES TIMES SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2024 LA

J19





2331 CHISLEHURST DR  
LOS FELIZ  
OPEN SUNDAY 1-4PM

REDUCED \$1,500,000 | MUST SEE!  
NEW PRICE | \$11,400,000



Beautifully designed ±10,000 sq ft gated home, ±17,000 sf lot.  
7BD | 11BA | ChislehurstDrive.com



BRETT LAWYER  
310.623.3638 | brett@brettlawyer.com

CAROLWOOD  
ESTATES

CAROLWOODRE.COM | BRETTLAWYER.COM | BRETT LAWYER DRE 00897489  
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1942 LEMOYNE ST  
ECHO PARK | OPEN SUNDAY, 1-4PM  
NEW LISTING | \$3,650,000



JONAH WILSON  
310.623.3616 | jonah@jonahwilson.com

CAROLWOOD  
ESTATES

CAROLWOODRE.COM | JONAH WILSON DRE 01078809  
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C.

1100 BEL AIR RD  
BEL AIR | BY APPOINTMENT

\$29,995,000 | BELAIRPROMONTORY.COM

- Rare World-Class Estate Site on Bel Air Road
- Approximately 4.6 Acres
- RTI plans

DREW FENTON  
310.623.3622 | CAROLWOOD ESTATES

JADE MILLS  
310.285.7508 | COLDWELL BANKER

STEVE FRANKEL  
310.508.5008 | COLDWELL BANKER

CAROLWOOD  
ESTATES



COLDWELL BANKER  
REALTY

DREW FENTON DRE 01317962 | COLISTED JADE MILLS DRE 00526877, STEVE FRANKEL DRE 01195571 | SHOWN BY APPOINTMENT

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A bedroom redo can give children the chance to express themselves in a creative way.

Photo courtesy of  
Content That Works

## REINVENTING YOUR CHILD'S BEDROOM

**Y**our young one is growing up before your eyes, far removed from diapers and bottles, no longer toddling around, and capable of tidying and organizing their own space (with a few reminders from mom and dad, of course).

Now may be the perfect time to reimagine their most precious and occupied zone – their bedroom – while also reflecting their changing tastes and preferences.

“Redesigning a child’s bedroom can benefit his or her general well-being and development. A well-designed space can boost creativity, promote organization and create a sense of comfort and ownership,” says Artem Kropovinsky, founder and principal at Arsight. “It can also aid with stress management and relaxation as well as enhance sleep quality.”

“This is your child’s opportunity to express their creativity and self-interests and shape the world around them,” says Morgan Kumpfmler, owner of American Dreamers Renovations in Pittsburgh. “It’s often true that kids

don’t and shouldn’t make big household decisions. But this is their space, so when you’ve committed to a bedroom redesign, make it a place they will feel proud of and safe because they got to dictate the terms of it.”

The first step, Kumpfmler recommends, is to determine a theme with your child. That means deciding on the right colors for paint/wallpaper, comforters/linens and various décor.

“Ask your kids: How do they want the room to feel? What are some activities they will really want to include in the room? What colors did they like? And can you draw me a picture of your new room? You’ll be pleasantly surprised by the insights they share,” says Leigh Spicher, national director of Design Studios for Ashton Woods Homes in Long-

wood, Florida. “From there, work together to create these zones and include some of their specific desires. If they want a specific theme, borrow from colors inspired by said theme, and layer in accents of some things they shared with you.”

Spicher cautions against going overkill with specific characters or design elements throughout the entire space as “these interests will change faster than their stage of development, and you don’t want the room to look like they are living in an advertisement.”

Don’t pressure yourself into making hasty decisions or finishing the job too quickly.

“A kid’s room remodel doesn’t have to happen overnight. Spend time selecting key items like the bed, bedspread, floor covering and wall art, and set a reasonable budget,” suggests Kumpfmler.

If in doubt, seek expert assistance from an interior designer.

“You can also get ideas from design periodicals, home-improvement TV shows, online sources and social media,” Kropovinsky adds.

CTW Features

Contact us with comments or questions at [hotproperty@latimes.com](mailto:hotproperty@latimes.com).





**73 BEVERLY PARK LN**  
BEVERLY HILLS P.O. **\$89,900,000**  
David Kramer DRE 00996960  
Andrew Buss DRE 01999869 310.691.2400



**23515 MALIBU COLONY RD #81A**  
MALIBU **\$18,450,000**  
Chad Rogers DRE 01204144 424.343.9053



**1901 PASEO DEL SOL**  
PALOS VERDES ESTATES **\$17,900,000**  
Ram Handa DRE 02069586 310.567.6789



**1353 WOODRUFF AVE**  
WESTWOOD **\$7,250,000**  
Alexandre Anu DRE 01852856 310.571.5757



**1143 LINDA FLORA DR**  
BEL-AIR **\$6,999,000**  
David Kramer DRE 00996960 Paul Salazar DRE 01763227  
Christian Hose DRE 02218728 310.691.2400



**5321 OAK PARK AVE**  
ENCINO **\$6,780,000**  
Darlene Kelly DRE 01132595 310.990.5339



**865 S LUCERNE BLVD**  
WINDSOR SQUARE **\$2,499,000**  
Christine Hong DRE 01325115 310.433.5590



**6114 BARROWS DR**  
CARTHAY CIRCLE **\$2,299,000**  
Joel Cooper DRE 01380726 310.968.2401  
Dorit Cooper DRE 01929924



**869 CUMBERLAND RD**  
GLENDALE **\$1,899,000**  
Anita Stephan DRE 01493467 424.333.6824



**320 N MAPLE DR #507**  
BEVERLY HILLS **\$1,695,000**  
Paul Salazar DRE 01763227 310.492.0737



**1318 ROXBURY DR**  
BEVERLYWOOD **\$1,599,000**  
Christine Hong DRE 01325115 310.433.5590



**1645 VINE ST #711**  
HOLLYWOOD **\$1,295,000**  
Neil McDermott DRE 01385176 310.880.2315





**1710 SAN REMO DR**  
PACIFIC PALISADES

Alla Furman DRE 01143901  
David Kramer DRE 00996960

Andrew Buss DRE 01999869  
310.403.5800

**\$8,650,000**



**31823 LOBO CANYON RD**  
AGOURA HILLS

Ruby Fay DRE 02040947  
Laura Kalb DRE 00872948

**\$7,500,000**

818.371.9350



**810 N TIGERTAIL RD**  
BRENTWOOD

David Kramer DRE 00996960

310.691.2400

**\$5,499,000**



**14065 VALLEY VISTA BLVD**  
SHERMAN OAKS

Jenny Birchfield-Eick DRE 02070744  
David Kramer DRE 00996960

**\$3,885,000**

818.601.8663



**816 N CRESCENT HEIGHTS BLVD**  
WEST HOLLYWOOD

Bret Parsons DRE 01418010

310.497.5832

**\$1,895,000**



**216 WESTMINSTER AVE**  
VENICE

Paul Salazar DRE 01763227

**\$1,850,000**

310.492.0737



**900 W OLYMPIC BLVD #31C**  
DTLA

Yoori Park DRE 02047251

424.245.0723

**\$1,150,000**



**1851 BEL AIR RD**  
BEL-AIR

Levik Stephan DRE 01416201  
Anita Stephan DRE 01493467

**\$249,000/MO**

David Kramer DRE 00996960  
424.333.6824

HILTONHYLAND.COM



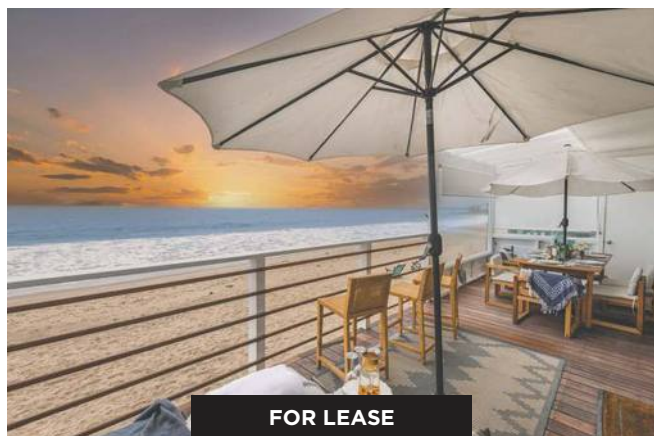
HILTON & HYLAND

Forbes  
GLOBAL PROPERTIES





# Myra Nourmand Luxury Estates



**FOR LEASE**

**21544**  
**Pacific Coast Highway**  
Malibu  
\$40,000/mo. or \$2,700/day

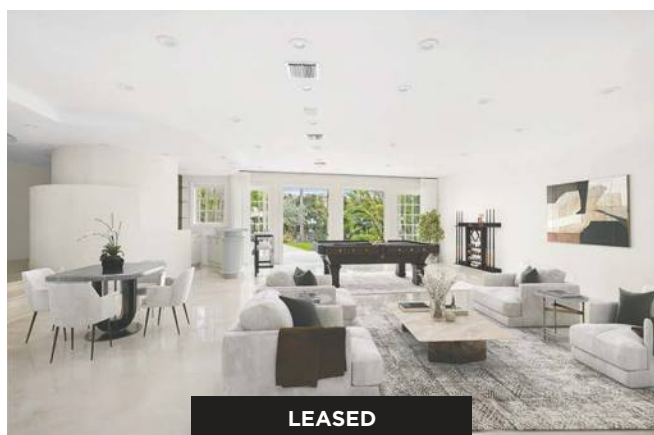
Welcome home to a beachfront dream with 3 beds and 2 baths on the highly coveted La Costa Beach. Large gated deck perfect for outdoor entertaining and watching the sunset. Furnished.



**LEASED IN ONE DAY**

**10372**  
**Strathmore Dr.**  
Westwood  
\$47,500/mo.

Captivating 5BR Traditional home set behind gates with ideal floor plan and hardwood floors throughout. Sumptuous primary suite w/ fireplace, large walk-in closet and luxurious bath with soaking tub and steam shower.

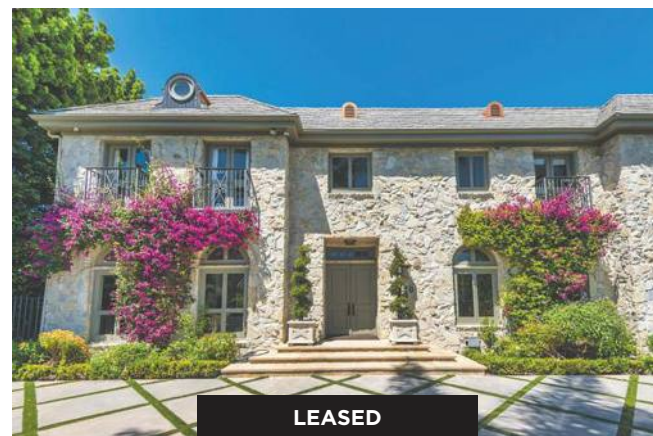


**LEASED**

**713 N.**  
**Linden Dr.**  
Beverly Hills  
\$34,500/mo.

Impeccably remodeled and gated 5BR Mediterranean boasting natural light and high ceilings throughout. Dramatic entry, formal dining, and expansive step-down living room with bar area and French doors leading to grassy yard and pool.

Selling your home  
shouldn't be the topic  
of our therapy sessions.



**LEASED**

**620 N.**  
**Linden Dr.**  
Beverly Hills  
\$34,500/mo.

Stunning French Country Estate behind gates in the desirable Beverly Hills Flats. Formal 2-story entry, stepdown living room w/frplc & den, large kitchen & family room, each w/French doors opening to expansive courtyard w/BBQ & sparkling pool. 5 beds + 7 baths.



**LEASED**

**505**  
**Evelyn Pl.**  
Trousdale  
\$19,999/mo.

Hard-to-find Contemporary boasts 5,695 sq ft of beautiful living space with Control4 features. Enjoy the ultimate California outdoor lifestyle with an enormous patio overlooking lush mountain views with a swimming pool, spa and pergola. 5 beds + 6 baths.

**MYRA NOURMAND**  
Office: 310.274.4000  
Direct: 310.888.3333

dre#:00983509  
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@myranourmandestates

Nourmand & Associates  
421 N. Beverly Dr, Ste 200  
Beverly Hills, CA 90210







Jill Epstein

The Ultimate Real Estate Experience

**NEW LISTING**  
**Open Sunday 1-4pm**  
**1148 Stearns Dr, Carthay Square**

5 Bed / 5 Bath / ±4,265 Sq. Ft. / **\$3,595,000**

Newer Hampton-style home in Carthay Square. 4 beds up and one down. Open floor plan with seamless indoor-outdoor flow, natural light throughout, high ceilings and 3 fireplaces. Elegant primary suite with vaulted ceilings, private deck, two walk-in closets, spa like bath, and fireplace.



**JILL EPSTEIN**

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jillepsteinrealestate.com  
DRE 00472171







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TRUST | DEDICATION | PERSONAL COMMITMENT

18  
YEARS



**400 S. Ocean Boulevard Penthouse B, Palm Beach, Florida**

Stunning and pristine 2BR/2.1BA Penthouse apartment with beautiful ocean views. Gorgeously remodeled with clean lines and generous living spaces. | Exclusive



**130 Sunrise Avenue 212, Palm Beach, Florida**

Gorgeously remodeled 2BR/2.1BA in the sought-after Sun and Surf. | Exclusive



**2000 S. Ocean Boulevard 104S, Palm Beach, Florida**

Pristine 3BR/3.1BA in the full-service, oceanfront Sloan's Curve. | Exclusive

**- Over \$4 Billion Sold and Closed since 2020 -**

**www.AngleRealEstate.com**

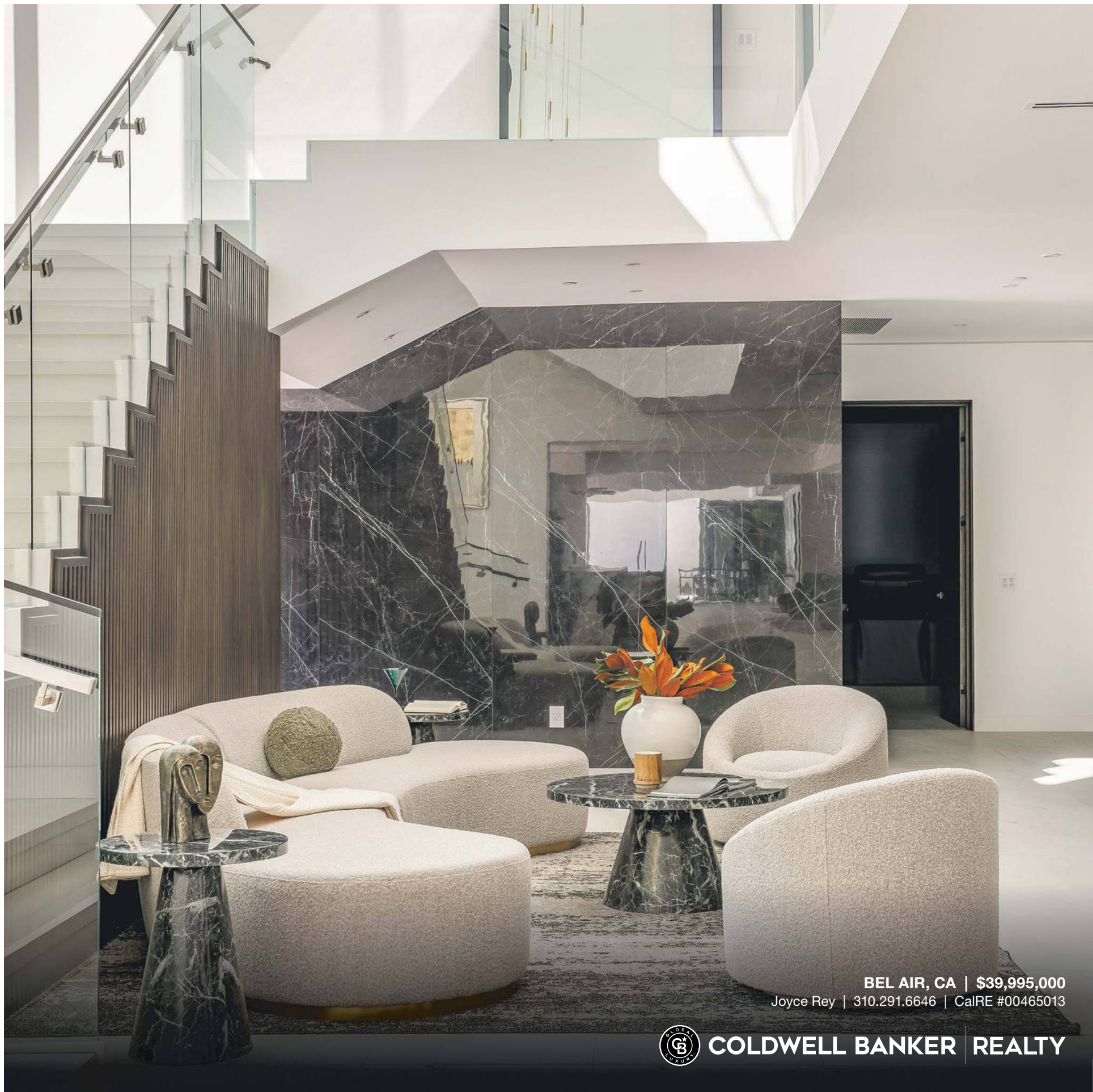
**C 561.629.3015**

**E cjangle@anglerealestate.com**



Though information is assumed to be correct, offerings are subject to verification, errors, omissions, prior sale, and withdrawal without notice. All material herein is intended for informational purposes only and has been compiled from sources deemed reliable. Renderings are for marketing purposes only.





**BEL AIR, CA | \$39,995,000**

Joyce Rey | 310.291.6646 | CalRE #00465013

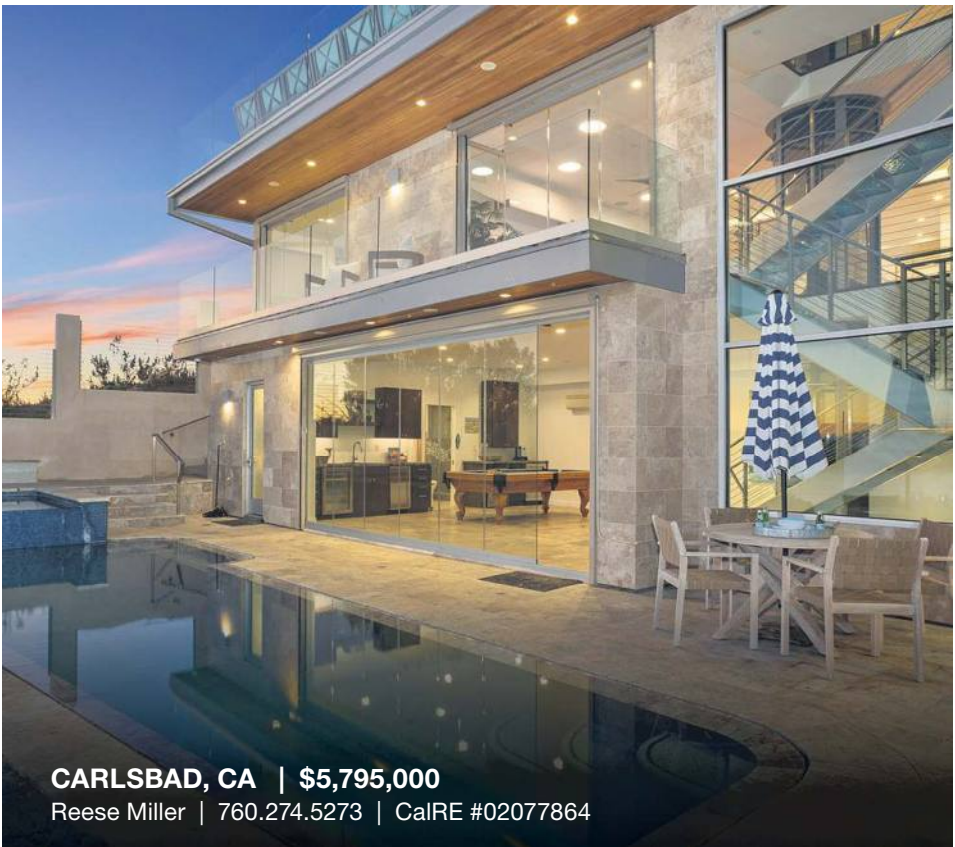


**COLDWELL BANKER REALTY**





**BEVERLY HILLS, CA | \$8,995,000**  
Jade Mills | 310.285.7508 | CalRE #00526877



**CARLSBAD, CA | \$5,795,000**  
Reese Miller | 760.274.5273 | CalRE #02077864



**COLDWELL BANKER | REALTY**



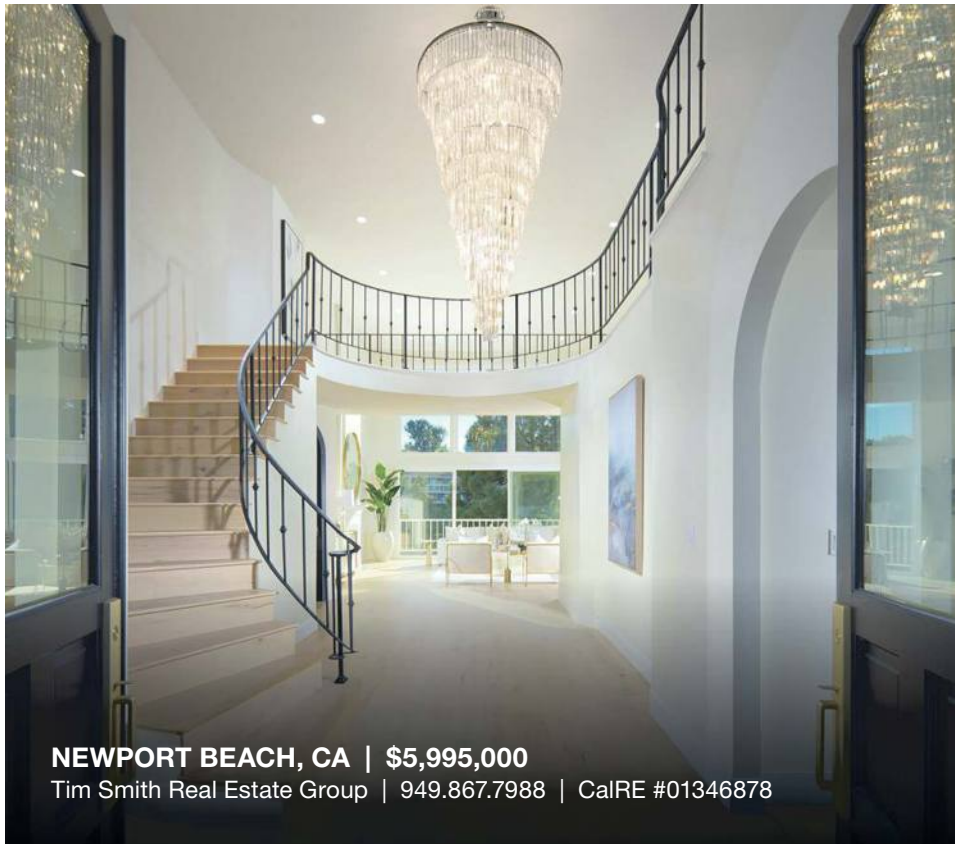
**DANA POINT, CA | \$10,250,000**  
Mary Beth Buckles | 949.230.5887 | CalRE #01165545



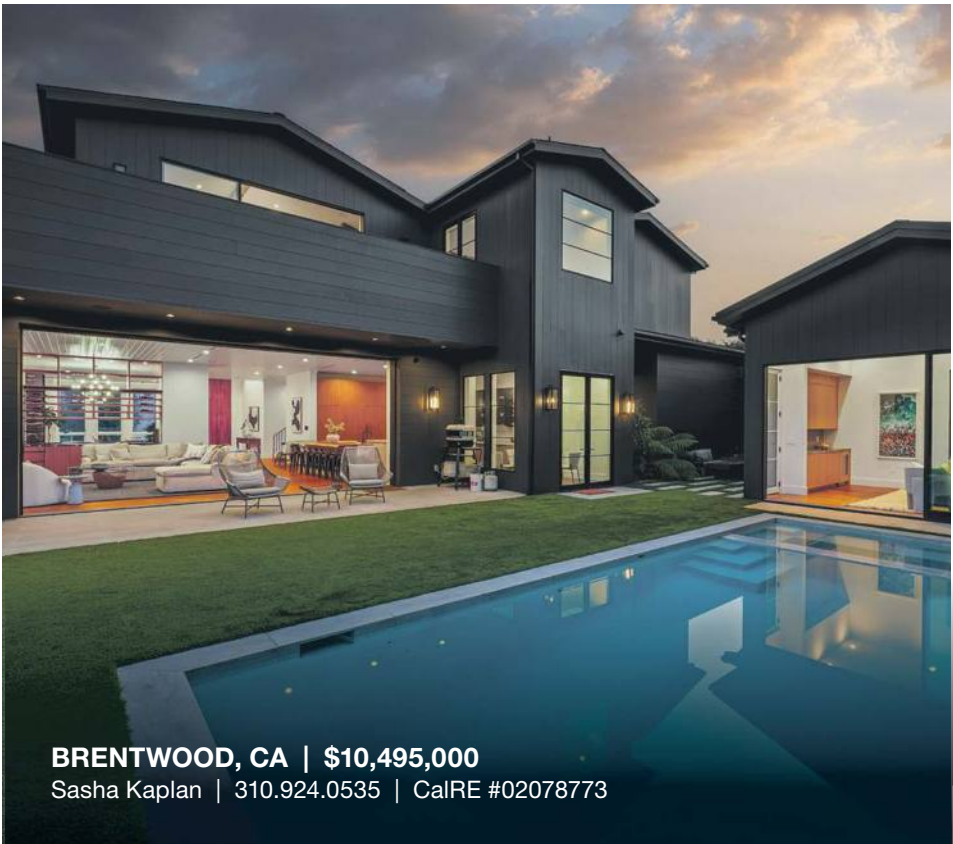


**MALIBU, CA | \$8,750,000**  
Elizabeth Donovan | 213.948.7983 | CalRE # 01930016

**COLDWELLBANKERLUXURY.COM**

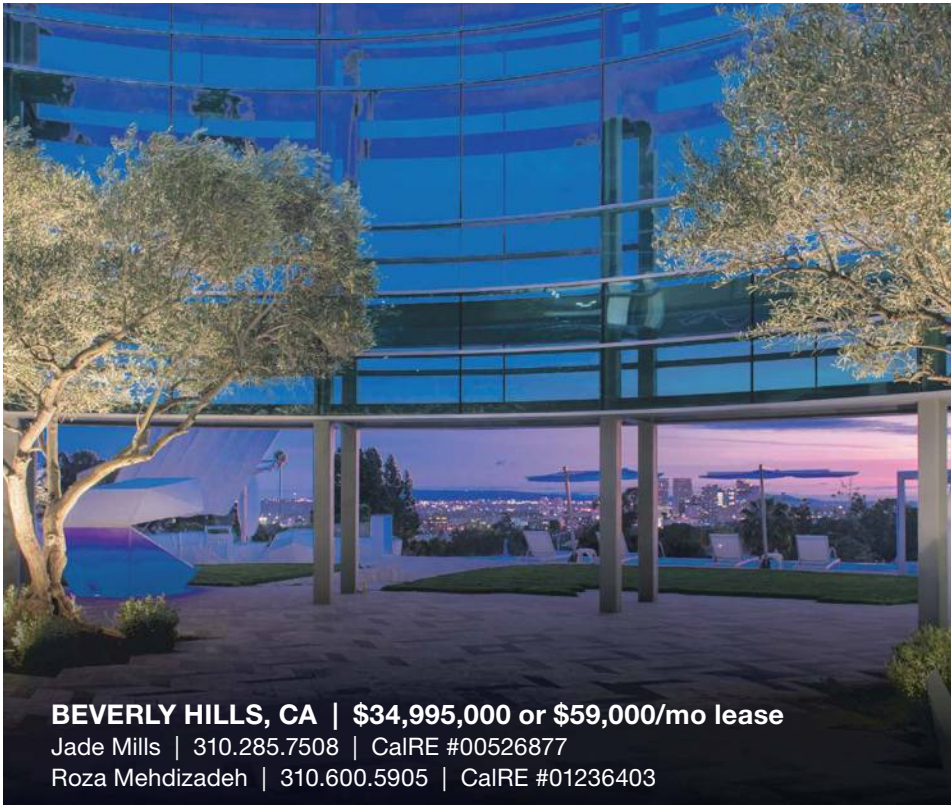
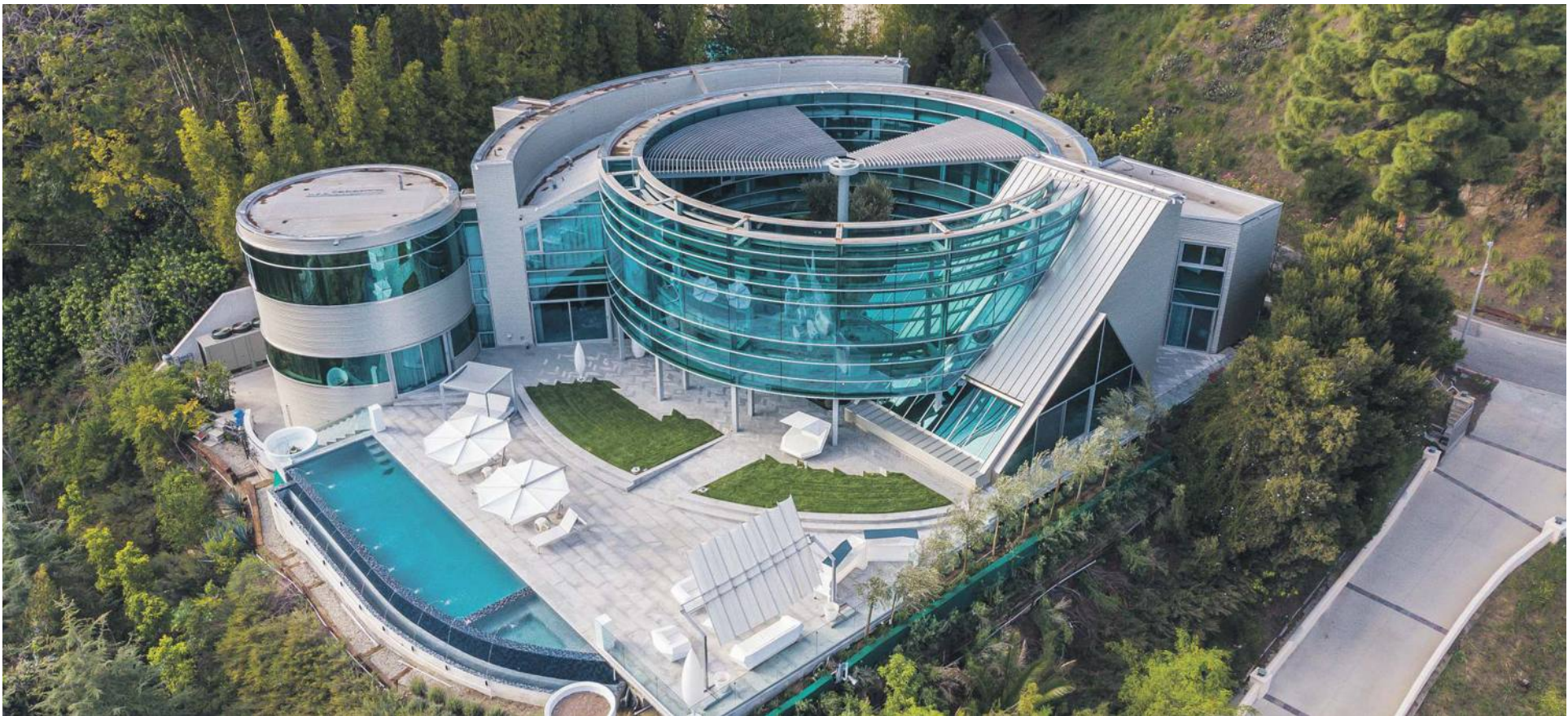


**NEWPORT BEACH, CA | \$5,995,000**  
Tim Smith Real Estate Group | 949.867.7988 | CalRE #01346878



**BRENTWOOD, CA | \$10,495,000**  
Sasha Kaplan | 310.924.0535 | CalRE #02078773





**BEVERLY HILLS, CA | \$34,995,000 or \$59,000/mo lease**  
Jade Mills | 310.285.7508 | CalRE #00526877  
Roza Mehdizadeh | 310.600.5905 | CalRE #01236403



**COLDWELL BANKER | REALTY**

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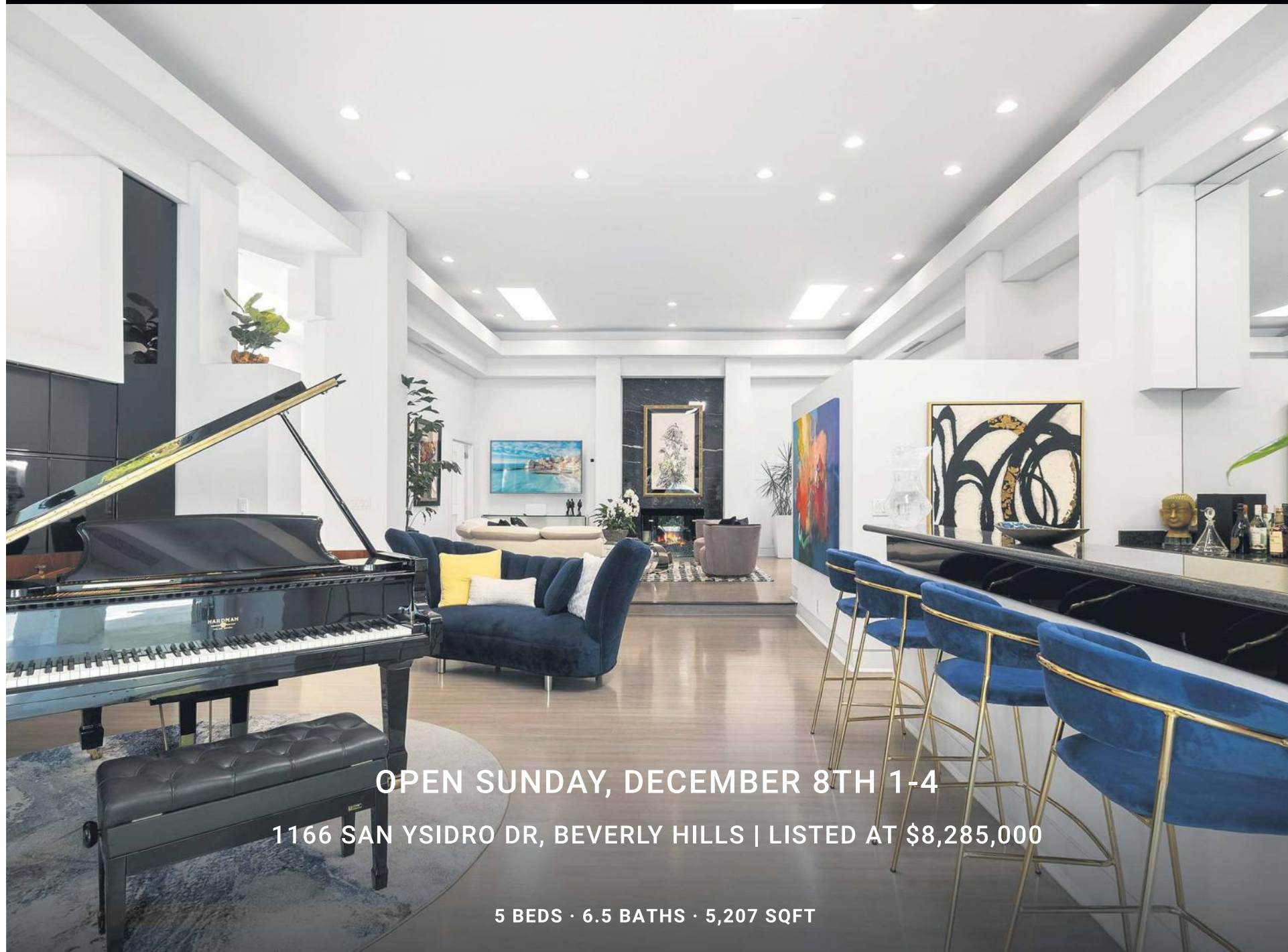


BSG THE BETH STYNE GROUP



COLDWELL BANKER  
REALTY

B2B PUBLISHING



OPEN SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8TH 1-4

1166 SAN YSIDRO DR, BEVERLY HILLS | LISTED AT \$8,285,000

5 BEDS · 6.5 BATHS · 5,207 SQFT

BETH STYNE 310.367.3388 | [beth.styne@camoves.com](mailto:beth.styne@camoves.com) | CalRE #00815705

CO-LISTED WITH VIVIAN ARYEH CALRE #02041542

COLDWELL BANKER REALTY | 301 N. CANON DRIVE, BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90210

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HOT PROPERTY LOS ANGELES TIMES SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2024 LA

J33



BSG THE BETH STYNE GROUP



COLDWELL BANKER  
REALTY

OPEN SATURDAY, DEC. 7TH 12-4 & SUNDAY, DEC. 8TH 1-4

334 ADERNO WAY, PACIFIC PALISADES | LISTED AT \$4,995,000

3 BEDS · 3.0 BATHS · 2,678 SQFT

BETH STYNE 310.367.3388 | [beth.styne@camoves.com](mailto:beth.styne@camoves.com) | CalRE #00815705

CO-LISTED WITH SHANNON AIKMAN CALRE #01444304

COLDWELL BANKER REALTY | 301 N. CANON DRIVE, BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90210

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**COLDWELL BANKER  
REALTY**

**BETH STYNE PRESENTS** **BS/G**



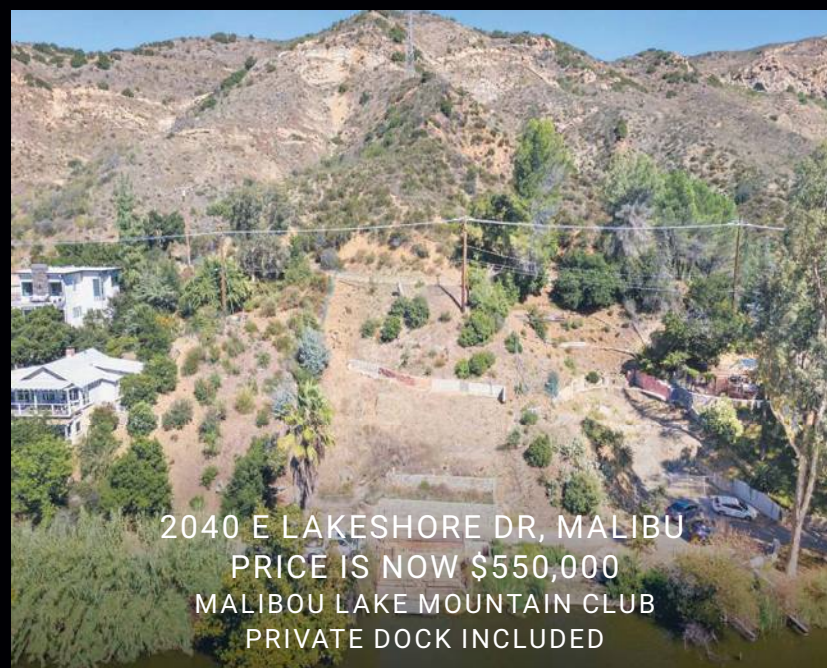
**1166 SAN YSIDRO DR, BEVERLY HILLS**  
**PRICE IS NOW \$8,285,000**  
**5 BED · 8 BATH · 5,200 SQFT APX**  
**CO-LISTED WITH VIVIAN ARYEH CALRE #02041542**



**2186 CENTURY WOODS WAY #44, LOS ANGELES**  
**LISTED AT \$1,795,000**  
**3 BED · 3.5 BATH · 2,850 SQFT APX**  
**CO-LISTED WITH BETTY GRAHAM CALRE #00554683**



**1455 BELFAST DR, LOS ANGELES**  
**NOW PRICED AT: \$13,500/MO**  
**3 BED · 4 BATH**  
**2,450 SQ FT APX**



**2040 E LAKESHORE DR, MALIBU**  
**PRICE IS NOW \$550,000**  
**MALIBOU LAKE MOUNTAIN CLUB**  
**PRIVATE DOCK INCLUDED**

**BETH STYNE 310.367.3388 | beth.styne@camoves.com | CalRE #00815705**

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Not intended as a solicitation if your property is already listed by another broker. The property information herein is derived from various sources that may include, but not be limited to, county records and the Multiple Listing Service, and it may include approximations including but not limited to stated approximate square footage. Although the information is believed to be accurate, it is not warranted, and you should not rely upon it without personal verification. Real estate agents affiliated with Coldwell Banker Realty are independent contractor sales associates, not employees. ©2024 Coldwell Banker. All Rights Reserved. Coldwell Banker, Coldwell Banker logos, Coldwell Banker Global Luxury and the Coldwell Banker Global Luxury logos are trademarks of Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. The Coldwell Banker® System is comprised of company owned offices which are owned by a subsidiary of Anywhere Advisors LLC and franchised offices which are independently owned and operated. The Coldwell Banker System fully supports the principles of the Fair Housing Act and the Equal Opportunity Act. (38461308)





**1451 E LA LOMA AVE., SOMIS**  
42 Acre 5+5 w/ Guest House 10,000+sqft w/ Equestrian Center  
**JENNA KAYE**  
818.307.9679



**4252 HAYVENHURST AVE, ENCINO**  
8 Bed | 8.5 Bath | Approx. 8,204 sqft | 18,553 sqft  
**ADI LIVYATAN**  
818.919.4060



**3701 LONGRIDGE AVE, SHERMAN OAKS**  
Stunning 6BD 8BA Longridge Estates gated Spanish Style Villa  
**JESSICA FELIX**  
818.399.7214



**4700 BALBOA AVE, ENCINO**  
9200 sqft of luxury on 1.2 acres South of Ventura  
**POUPEE & KAREN KOMENKUL**  
818.482.0085



**9171 HAZEN DRIVE, BEVERLY HILLS**  
5+7, 5,935 SF, gated pool home w/lush landscaping  
**JENNIFER WINCHEL**  
818.371.5535



**31008 PINE CANYON RD, LAKE HUGHES**  
Rancho Corona DelValle, 333 acres of pastures  
**JAISA BISHOP/DARLENE HUTTON**  
858.382.6428/310.428.4861



**22930 DOLOROSA ST, WOODLAND HILLS**  
Walnut Acres10+, New, 5Bds, 7ba, 6033 ft. Dream Home!  
**MOE ABOURCHED, EVELYN RUBIO**  
310.402.2258



**17820 CASTELLAMMARE DRIVE**  
Exquisite pied-à-terre perched on rim with panoramic ocean views  
**JAMES RESPONDEK & EVAN CONOVER**  
310.488.4400 / 310.890.8490



**1414 DAWNRIIDGE DR, BEVERLY HILLS**  
5 BD 6 BA, Private contemporary with elevator  
**POUPEE & KAREN KOMENKUL**  
818.482.0085



**5163 VALJEAN AVE, ENCINO**  
6 Bed | 6.5 Bath | approx. 6,153 sqft | 10,188 sqft lot  
**ADI LIVYATAN**  
818.919.4060



**6952 SOLANO VERDE DR., SOMIS**  
5 + 5 5,654sqft - 20+ Acre Lot Citrus Avocado Orchards & Pool  
**JENNA KAYE**  
818.307.9679



**17710 KAREN DR, ENCINO**  
Traditional in Prime Encino. 5BD-5.5BA, Pool & Spa, on cul-de-sac  
**KEN MARKER**  
818.402.6254



**16475 GARVIN DRIVE, ENCINO**  
6BD 6BA Extraordinary compound w/2 guest houses+++  
**JUDSON ROTHSCHILD & GERI SPIRA**  
310.710.3160 / 310.463.4403



**4219 BAKMAN AVE, STUDIO CITY**  
5 Bed | 5.5 Bath | Approx. 3,882 sqft | 6,494 sqft lot  
**ADI LIVYATAN**  
818.919.4060



**20315 HOWARD COURT, WOODLAND HILLS**  
6+7, 6,679 SF Stunning updated So of the Blvd.  
**BOBBY KARAMI**  
818.581.6608



**5018 RHODES AVE, VALLEY VILLAGE**  
Sophisticated brand new 5BD+5.5BA custom home on Cul-de-sac.  
**KEN MARKER**  
818.402.6254



**16050 ROYAL MOUNT DR, ENCINO**  
Rehab this 4+5 home or build your dream home! RTI Plans Approved!  
**NICK TATONE & SAMARA SAFFIAN**  
818.929.6326



**20436 LIVERPOOL WAY, PORTER RANCH**  
4 Bed | 4.5 Bath | Approx. 4,467 sqft | 11,538 sqft lot  
**ADI LIVYATAN**  
818.919.4060



**15721 MORRISON AVE, ENCINO**  
4 Bed | 5.5 Bath | Approx. 3,515 | 6,756 sqft  
**ADI LIVYATAN**  
818.919.4060



**3736 SEAHORN DRIVE, MALIBU**  
4BR & 4BA Mid-Century dream home with ocean views.  
**PAUL BLYUMKIN**  
310.409.9970



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**3653 MALIBU VISTA DRIVE**  
5BR, 3BA | Picturesque tri-level home with ocean views.  
**LOLA ROSS**

**\$2,925,000**  
310.562.5877



**3453 RIDGEFORD DRIVE, WESTLAKE VILLAGE**  
3+3, 3,400 SF Location! Location! Location!  
**MARY KAY DONAHOE**

**\$2,900,000**  
805.402.9115



**NEW PRICE! OPEN SUNDAY 1-4PM**  
**4651 MORSE AVE, SHERMAN OAKS**  
BRAND NEW 4 BR + 4 BA! DETACHED 1 BR ADU! OPEN FLOOR PLAN! POOL!  
**DAN DRANTCH**

**\$2,699,900**  
818.261.0030



**NEW PRICE! OPEN SUNDAY 1-4PM**  
**4647 MORSE AVE, SHERMAN OAKS**  
NEW HOME! 4BR + 4BA! 1BR DETACHED ADU! SOLAR! POOL!  
**DAN DRANTCH**

**\$2,699,900**  
818.261.0030



**7600 EARLDOM, PLAYA DEL REY**  
Ultra-Chic w/ADU! Near beach. 12,000sf lot. 4+3, 2533sf. + pool  
**OREN BARKAN**

**\$2,699,000**  
818.625.6369



**19849 GREENBRIAR DR, TARZANA**  
6BR, 4BA, 3,579 S.F., 25,856 S.F. lot with pool and view  
**MARC TAHLE/KEN ZIETZ**

**\$2,649,000**  
818.970.3000



**9515 LA TUNA CANYON RD, SUN VALLEY**  
An Extraordinary 10 Acres! 4 parcels, SFR, Pool, Barn, Dog Kennel  
**NICK TATONE & SAMARA SAFFIAN**

**\$2,600,000**  
818.929.6326



**1750 N BEVERLY DR, BEVERLY HILLS**  
Amazing home in the center of BHP! 2947 Sq ft. 4 bed/4bath  
**SHOHREH KIAEI**

**\$2,595,000**  
818.943.8304



**3748 SEAHORN DRIVE, MALIBU**  
4 BR | 3 BA Serene, one level mid-century gem in Sunset Mesa  
**LOLA ROSS**

**\$2,510,000**  
310.562.5877



**22205 DARDENNE STREET, CALABASAS**  
5+4, 3,900 SF, prestigious neighborhood of Mulholland Heights  
**CARMIN MORMINO**

**\$2,499,000**  
818.693.2181



**OPEN SATURDAY AND SUNDAY 1-4PM**  
**18039 ROSITA STREET, ENCINO**  
Stunning Encino Home: Modern, Pool, Prime Location!  
**MATTHEW CHARLETO**

**\$2,399,000**  
805.807.2466



**OPEN SUNDAY 1-4PM**  
**3810 RHODES AVE., STUDIO CITY**  
Turnkey Farmhouse in Studio City Hills private w/views  
**TED FLEMING**

**\$2,295,000**  
310.466.2022



**1668 ABBOTSBURY STREET, LAKE SHERWOOD**  
3+3, 2,548 SF gated community Meadows of Lake Sherwood  
**CARMEN MORMINO**

**\$2,199,000**  
818.693.2181



**OPEN SATURDAY AND SUNDAY 1-4PM**  
**4941 HESPERIA AVENUE, ENCINO**  
Fully remodeled Encino home south of the boulevard.  
**DEVON CROMWELL & MATTHEW CHARLETO**

**\$2,199,000**  
310.463.8292



**2231 KELMSCOTT COURT, WESTLAKE VILLAGE**  
6+4, 3,677 SF gated 2 story estate, cul de sac, 3 car, FP  
**DESIREE ZUCKERMAN**

**\$1,998,000**  
818.262.5648



**13337 GALEWOOD STREET, SHERMAN OAKS**  
4+4, 3,094 SF, Gated Mid-Century view home w/bonus room  
**DESIREE ZUCKERMAN**

**\$1,995,000**  
818.262.5648



**SHOWN BY APP'T**  
**580 VENICE BLVD, VENICE**  
Prime location can be purchased with 1702 Abbot Kinney  
**RON WOLOTZKY**

**\$1,995,000**  
323.646.1206



**22755 DALE COURT, CHATSWORTH**  
4+5; 4050sf, 21,752sf lot; Roy Rogers Est. cul de sac loc.  
**SANA SALEH**

**\$1,899,000**  
818.324.8062



**OPEN SUNDAY 1-4PM**  
**6463 ZUMA VIEW PLACE #168, MALIBU**  
3 BR & 3 BA Resort Style Living in Beautiful, Breezy Malibu.  
**CATHY WOOD**

**\$1,895,000**  
310.503.1325



**NEW PRICE! OPEN SUNDAY 1-4PM**  
**4904 MATULA DR, TARZANA**  
Beautiful secluded and private gated residence, 3+4, 2,762 sqft  
**RON MAMAN**

**\$1,875,000**  
818.469.7021



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10580WILSHIRE4NW.COM

**10580 WILSHIRE BLVD #4NW, WESTWOOD**  
Remodeled 2+3. City lights views. Full service building.  
**SHERI WEISBENDER** 310.849.5840



**8830 NEWCASTLE AVENUE, SHERWOOD FOREST**  
4+4, 2,727 SF remodeled single story estate w/ADU  
**CAROL OTERO** 818.606.2694



WWW.6200CAPISTRANO.COM

**6200 CAPISTRANO AVENUE, WOODLAND HILLS**  
Stylish Designer 1 story, 3 bed/3 baths 2,497 sq ft, lot 11,729  
**BERNIE KOZAK** 818.665.5865



**507 S. NORTON AVENUE, LOS ANGELES**  
Fantastic opportunity for investor or owner in Windsor Square  
**SIMON POZIREKIDES** 310.955.7378



SHOWN BY APP'T

**1702 ABBOT KINNEY BL, VENICE**  
Duplex 2BD 1BA ea. Can be sold w/580 Venice Blvd  
**RON WOLOTZKY** 323.646.1206



**16701 MAGNOLIA BLVD, ENCINO**  
3+2, Turn Key Home with a Converted Recreational room  
**DAVID DUNN** 818.489.3333



OPEN SUNDAY 1-4PM

**9028 KEITH AVE, WEST HOLLYWOOD**  
3BR 2BA Home in the Norma Triangle area of WeHo  
**BRIAN MAZURKIEWICZ** 310.386.9086



RITZ CARLTON RESIDENCES

**900 W OLYMPIC BLVD #30H, LOS ANGELES**  
Panoramic views of DTLA in this 2+3 stunning contemporary condo.  
**JESSICA FELIX** 818.399.7214



OPEN SATURDAY AND SUNDAY 1-4PM

**17343 NORDHOFF STREET, NOTHRIDGE**  
Just Listed! Prime NR Gorgeous house! 3bd & 3bath w/18,529 Sq Lot  
**MINA BAVANDPOUR** 818.523.5455



OPEN SUNDAY 1-4PM

**26809 COLD SPRINGS STREET, CALABASAS**  
4+3, 1,866 SF Deer Springs, high ceilings, granite counters  
**IOANNA KAMAR** 818.266.4107



**8142 IRVINE AVE, NORTH HOLLYWOOD**  
3 Brand-New Homes on 1 Lot!  
**POUPEE & KAREN KOMENKUL** 818.482.0085



**7745 STAGG LN, WINNETKA**  
Newer-build 4+4, stylish KIT, 3,047 SqFt, sought-after location!  
**JESSICA FELIX & ANTONY ELLIOTT** 818.399.7214



**24691 CALLE LARGO, CALABASAS**  
3+3, 1,575 SF guard-gated Calabasas Hills community  
**LOIS STONE** 818.251.0260



2131CENTURYPARKUNIT101.COM

**2131 CENTURY PARK LN #101**  
2BR 2BA Century Park Place w/ beautiful enormous patio  
**KRIS MOONEY & DEBRA ZIVEN** 310.714.8401 310.722.8084



QUINTESSENTIAL BEACH HOME!

**305 HIGHLAND DR, OXNARD**  
Silver Strand Beach-walk to beach! Double lot! Completely redone!  
**POUPEE & KAREN KOMENKUL** 818.482.0085



OPEN SATURDAY & SUNDAY 2-4PM

**5210 ETIWANDA AVE., TARZANA**  
3 bed 2 baths great features visit: 5210etiwanda.com  
**ALFREDO VILLAGRAN** 323.804.6582



**818 6TH STREET #101, SANTA MONICA**  
Coastal living at its best, just blocks from the beach!  
**CINDY FESTA & ELANA FULLMER** 310.704.7152 / 310.200.4890



OPEN SUNDAY 1-4PM

**3422 SCHOONER AVE., MARINA DEL REY**  
2bed 2bath remodeled condo with patio 1 blk from beach  
**SUSIE DELAVA** 213.700.8709



**2309 PANAMA DRIVE, OXNARD**  
Silver Strand 4+3 Tristroy w/ Rooftop Deck & Separate Studio  
**JENNA KAYE** 818.307.9679



**2397 LAUREL PARK COURT, THOUSAND OAKS**  
4+3, 2,050SF charming two-story home!  
**SUE RANDOLPH** 805.402.9247



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STANDARDS SINCE 1986

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**2875 CALLE QUEBRACHO, THOUSAND OAKS**  
4BR, 2BA, 1,803 S.F., 9,583 S.F. lot  
**STEVEN SMITH**  
818.632.0068



**30675 LAKEFRONT DRIVE, AGOURA HILLS**  
3+2 single-story home boasts a fabulous walk-in wine cellar  
**LEO MCHALE**  
818.621.4940



**22125 COSTANSO STREET, WOODLAND HILLS**  
3+2, 1,332 SF, South of the Blvd.  
**LEO MCHALE**  
818.621.4940



**REXFORD103.COM**  
**1101 REXFORD DR #103, PICO-ROBERTSON**  
Remodeled condo across the street to Beverly Hills  
**PETER MAURICE TREGG RUSTAD**  
310.623.8825



**COMPLETE REMODEL W/ADU POSSIBILITY**  
**23830 VANOWEN ST, WEST HILLS**  
Gated 4+3 remodel. Ideal investment or longtime fam home-W. Platt  
**TEAM SORRENTINO**  
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818.201.4224



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Townhome in Encino 3BD/2.5BA, 2075 sq.ft. of living space  
**LAILA AJABI**  
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**5305 WHITE OAK UNIT J, ENCINO**  
Townhome in Encino 3BD/2.5BA, 2075 sq.ft. of living space  
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**14038 BESSEMER, VAN NUYS**  
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**14144 DICKENS ST #122, SHERMAN OAKS**  
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Following some simple gardening tips will help ensure a bountiful harvest.

*Photo courtesy of  
Content That Works*

# HOW TO NOT KILL YOUR VEGETABLE GARDEN

**W**atering too much or fertilizing too little could be detrimental to your plants.

What's for dinner? Eggplant, squash, green beans and everything else you planted in the spring. Stepping into your backyard to pick out ripe vegetables for a meal is one of the greatest joys of summer. Your favorite veggies don't come any fresher.

If you've never had a vegetable garden, now's the time to do it. Start out with a small plot; as your confidence grows, you can plant more and more every year. There are certain tricks – well not tricks, exactly, but smart ideas – that farmers big and small use to have a healthy and productive garden. Check out a few top tips below:

## **Don't overwater plants**

Watering too much is the number one reason plants die. You'll know when enough is enough when you stick your finger in the soil about two inches deep. If your finger comes out moist, don't water plants; if it comes out

dry, it's time to do some watering.

## **Let them spend the day in the sun**

Be strategic about where you plant your garden. Ideally, you'd find a spot in your yard that gets six to 12 hours of full sun every day. Plants will soak up the rays and produce a bountiful harvest.

## **Treat plants to great soil**

Healthy plants get their start with healthy soil. According to the Farmer's Almanac, maintaining a pest-free garden will help the soil stay rich in nutrients. Feeding it compost or another organic matter just a quarter inch over the course of a season will enrich the soil's water retention.

## **Do your watering when temperatures are lowest**

Another hydration tip: Water plants in the morning, not midday when the sun is

at its harshest, which could cause water to evaporate quickly. Mornings are best because the temperatures are their lowest. Watering in the late evening when the sun isn't shining brightly is okay, too.

## **Avoid putting plants too close together**

People don't like to live in a crowded space and neither do vegetable plants. Seeds and seedlings (young plants) require enough space to grow without feeling confined. Overcrowding also attracts pests and can be harmful to a plant and stunt its growth.

## **Pay attention to changes in appearance**

If your zucchini plants suddenly look like they were sprinkled with talcum powder, they might have a disease called powdery mildew. It happens when plants don't have enough air circulation; pruning leaves will help prevent the problem, so be sure to chop off leaves as the plants grow bigger. Vegetable plants' maladies are often visible: Look for growth slowdowns, yellow leaves, or mushy stems.

*CTW Features*

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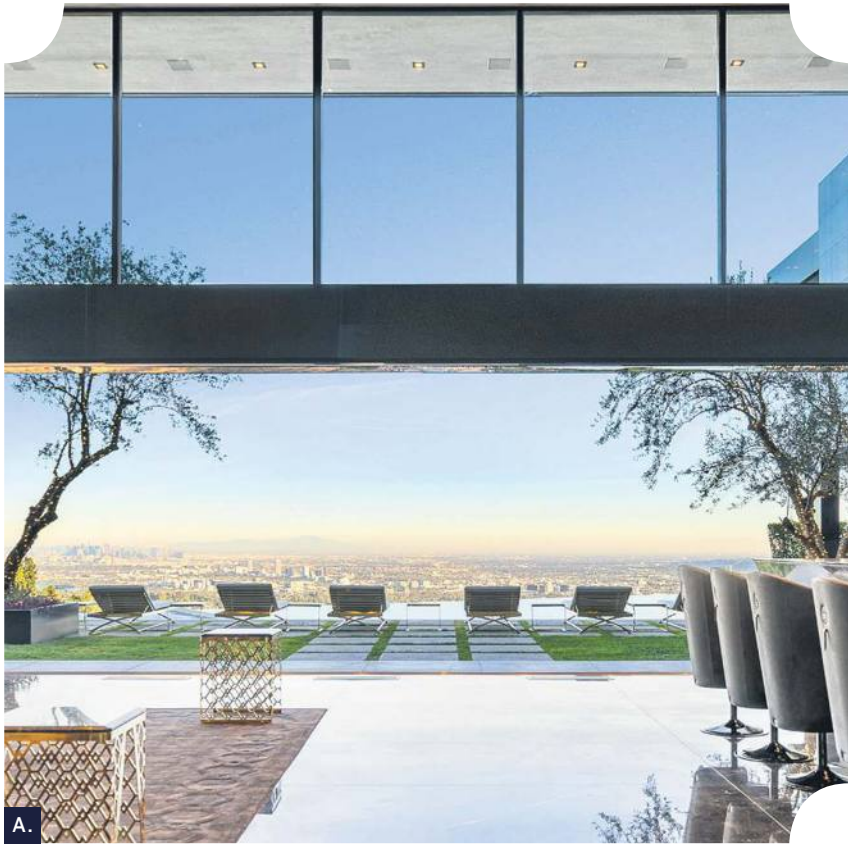
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J41 HOT PROPERTY LOS ANGELES TIMES SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2024 LA



1 of 1



**A.** 1200 BEL AIR ROAD  
BEL AIR | \$119,950,000  
Marc Noah | 310.968.9212

**B.** 6353 BUSCH DRIVE  
MALIBU | \$5,450,000  
Neyshia Go | 310.882.8357

**C.** 1201 STONE CANYON ROAD  
BEL AIR | \$13,500,000  
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Ernie Stone | 818.730.7622

**D.** 15427 MILLDALE DRIVE  
BEL AIR | \$12,985,000  
Steven Moritz | 310.871.3636

**E.** 1535 UMEO ROAD  
PACIFIC PALISADES | \$13,799,000  
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Shen Schulz | 310.980.8809

**G.** 27314 PACIFIC COAST HWY  
MALIBU | \$19,995,000

Sandeep Dhariwal | 310.721.5787

**H.** 19534 BOWERS DRIVE  
TOPANGA | \$4,195,000

John Galich | 310.367.6780

**I.** 5601 KANAN DUME ROAD  
MALIBU | \$16,995,000

Robert Radcliffe | 310.317.9900

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J43 HOT PROPERTY LOS ANGELES TIMES SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2024 LA



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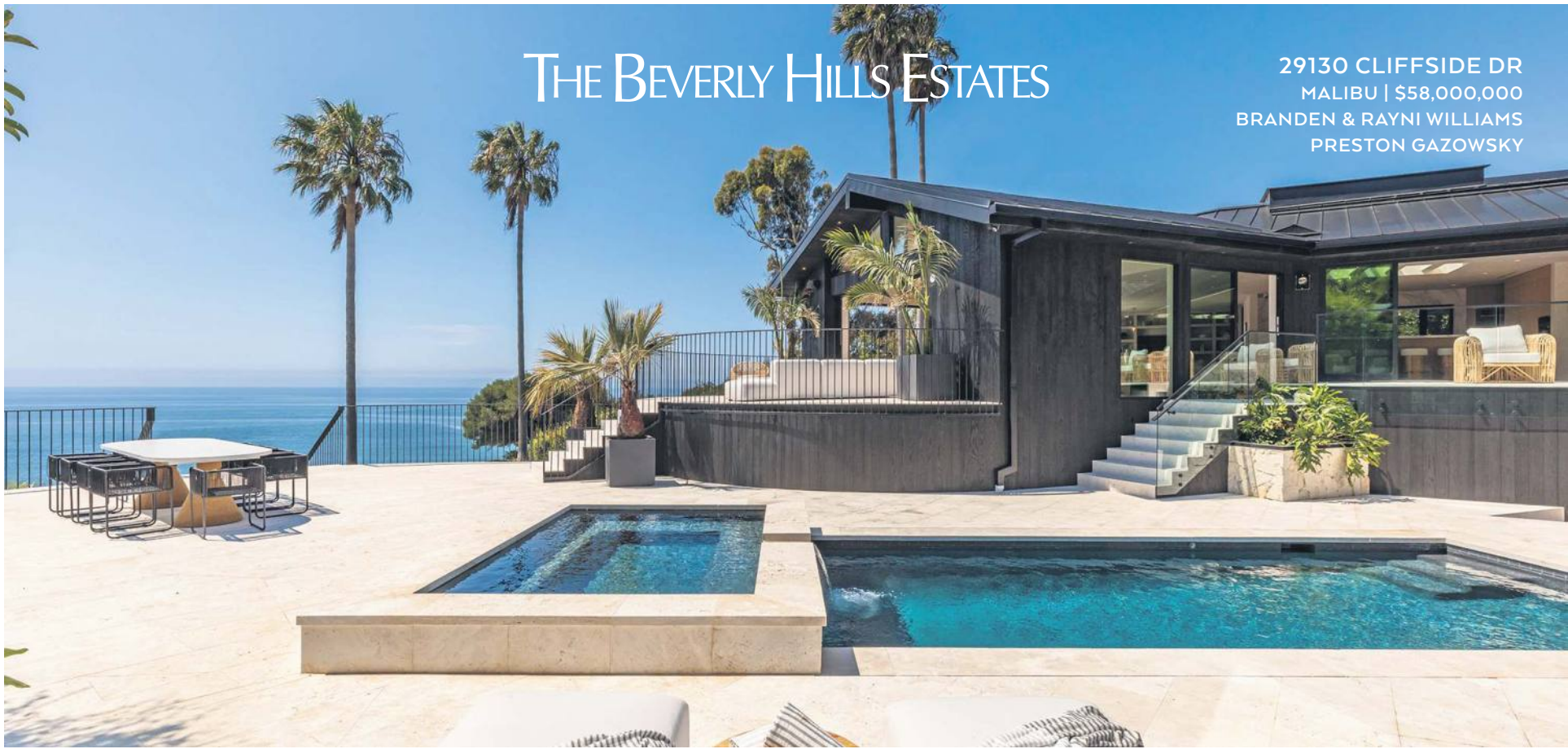
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# THE BEVERLY HILLS ESTATES

29130 CLIFFSIDE DR  
MALIBU | \$58,000,000  
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ANDREAS ELSSENHANS | 310.625.4593 DRE 02007689  
\$8,985,000



1070 N HILLCREST RD | TROUSDALE  
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BRENT WATSON & MARCO SALARI | 310.600.9119 DRE 01183125 | DRE | DRE 01496786  
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SHAUNA WALTERS | 310.775.1106 DRE 01728600  
NICOLE PLAXEN | 310.710.7167 DRE 01772151  
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OPEN SAT & SUN 1PM-4PM

20423 VIA MANTUA | PORTER RANCH  
GREGORY LAPLANT & RACHEL SALGADO | 323.992.8166 DRE 01774287 | DRE 01496786  
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LAURENT MAMANN | 310.780.9971 DRE 01348767  
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J45 HOT PROPERTY LOS ANGELES TIMES SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2024 LA





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4177 KESTER AVE | SHERMAN OAKS | **\$4,195,000**  
HUGE FLAT YARD + GUEST HOUSE | 5,347 SQ. FT. | 21,109 SQ. FT. LOT



**OPEN SATURDAY & SUNDAY 1PM - 4PM**  
4525 COMBER AVE | ENCINO | \$3,450,000  
SINGLE-STORY TRADITIONAL | 3,868 SQ. FT. | 32,698 SQ. FT. LOT



**OPEN SATURDAY & SUNDAY 1PM - 4PM**  
3250 COLDWATER CANYON AVE | STUDIO CITY | \$3,595,000  
INCREDIBLE VALUE, STUNNING DESIGN | 4,815 SQ. FT. | 7,576 SQ. FT. LOT



**OPEN SATURDAY & SUNDAY 1PM - 4PM**  
4259 CLEAR VALLEY DR | ENCINO | \$2,999,999  
VIEWS, VIEWS, VIEWS | 4,186 SQ. FT. | 25,063 SQ. FT. LOT



**OPEN SUNDAY 12PM - 4PM** | 17528 RANCHO ST | ENCINO | \$8,995,000 | NEW CONSTRUCTION, GUEST HOUSE + SPORTS COURT | 18,480 SQ. FT. LOT

CRAIG KNIZEK | CKNIZEK@THEAGENCYRE.COM | 818.618.1006 | LIC. #01377932





OPEN SUNDAY, 1-4 PM

414 S CLIFFWOOD AVE | LOS ANGELES | \$25.5M OR \$80K/MONTH  
7 BEDS | 13 BATHS | 9,690 SQ. FT. | 26,017 SQ. FT. LOT



8927 ST. IVES DRIVE | LOS ANGELES | \$19,995,000  
4 BEDS | 6 BATHS | 7,500 SQ. FT. | 25,250 SQ. FT. LOT



4733 BONVUE AVENUE | LOS FELIZ | \$10,900,000  
7 BEDS | 12 BATHS | 12,650 SQ. FT. | 17,466 SQ. FT. LOT



9361 FARRALONE AVENUE | CHATSWORTH | \$7,995,000  
7 BEDS | 9 BATHS | 8,161 SQ. FT. | 13 ACRE LOT



OPEN SUNDAY, 1-4 PM

1460 N DOHENY DRIVE | LOS ANGELES | \$6,699,000  
5 BEDS | 7 BATHS | 4,656 SQ. FT. | 8,448 SQ. FT. LOT



2137 SUNSET PLAZA DRIVE | LOS ANGELES | \$2,995,000  
2 BEDS | 2 BATHS | 6,146 SQ. FT. LOT

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**10104 EMPYREAN WY #203, CENTURY CITY**  
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David Offer, 310.820.9341  
LIC# 01150357



OPEN SUN 1-3

**11725 HESBY ST, VALLEY VILLAGE**  
5BD/7BA • \$3,995,000  
V. San Filippo / A. Manning, 818.437.4369  
LIC# 01969452 / 00941825



OPEN SUN 1-4

**544 ARBRAMAR AVE, PACIFIC PALISADES**  
3BD/2BA • \$3,250,000  
Karen Parcell, 310.230.3766  
LIC# 01723411



**5437 NOBLE AVE, SHERMAN OAKS**  
4BD/3½BA • \$2,695,000  
Dayna Campbell (co-listed), 818.634.9404  
LIC# 01969328



OPEN SUN 1-4

**926 NOWITA PL, VENICE**  
3BD/2BA • \$2,650,000  
C. Sharp / D. Adelpour, 310.415.7341  
LIC# 02013938 / 01773733



**21015 MULHOLLAND DR, WDLND HLS**  
4BD/3BA • \$2,499,000  
Jimmy Rashid, 424.209.9129  
LIC# 02130355



OPEN SUN 1-4

**5181 FRANKLIN AVE, LOS FELIZ**  
4BD/4BA • \$2,399,000  
Andrew Manning, 818.380.2147  
LIC# 00941825



**5151 GAYNOR AVE, ENCINO**  
5BD/5BA • \$2,375,000  
Dan & Charlee Nessel, 310.365.0195  
LIC# 01349526 / 01309674



OPEN SAT/SUN 1-3

**150 N MYRTLE AVE, MONROVIA**  
7BD/4¼BA • \$2,185,000  
Don Hillier, 626.685.1163  
LIC# 00982713



OPEN SAT/SUN 1-4

**3506 WRIGHTWOOD CT, STUDIO CITY**  
3BD/2BA • \$1,995,000  
Tom O'Rourke, 310.770.0221  
LIC# 00931753



**11724 CULVER BL #10, CULVER CITY**  
4BD/4BA • \$1,595,000  
Dan & Charlee Nessel, 310.365.0195  
LIC# 01349526 / 01309674



OPEN SUN 12-3

**8406½ BLACKBURN AVE, MIRACLE MILE**  
3BD/3½BA • \$1,575,000  
St. James + Canter, 310.704.4248  
LIC# 00949711 / 01810156



**10959 VENICE BL, PALMS**  
2BD/2BA • \$1,520,000  
Jimmy Rashid, 424.209.9129  
LIC# 02130355



OPEN SAT/SUN 2-4

**1249 SONOMA DR, ALTADENA**  
3BD/2BA • \$1,314,000  
Matt McIntyre, 626.437.3643  
LIC# 01844466



**7223 ZELZAH AVE, RESEDA**  
4BD/3BA • \$1,100,000  
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LIC# 01096047

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562.739.6528



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949.795.2222



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**\$1,800,000**  
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949.584.6237



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949.315.1718



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Larry Young, 310.777.2879  
LIC# 00999537



**1101 CASIANO RD, BEL AIR**  
4BD/4BA • \$2,495,000  
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LIC# 00999537



**5933 VILLAGE TERRACE DR, GOLETA**  
2BD/2BA • \$1,029,000  
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Designers recommend timelessness over trends by focusing on classic design elements and neutral colors.

*Photo courtesy of Content That Works*

# INTERIOR DESIGN MISTAKES TO AVOID

**T**hey say to err is human but to forgive is divine. Only it's not so easy to forgive yourself if you make a major home design blunder as a DIYer.

Choosing the wrong furnishings, decor, colors or overall theme can lead to serious homeowner's remorse.

"Homeowners should carefully consider interior design elements, themes and harmonization before embarking on any home improvement project," says Julio Arco, an interior designer with Bark and Chase. "Our senses are constantly bombarded by information from the built environment, and every detail in our homes can impact our lifestyles and health. Not carefully contemplating interior design risks creating an environment that might not be conducive to your well-being."

Exhibit A: You paint an accent wall in a bright and bold color. It may look snazzy at first, but it could quickly become overwhelming and stressful to look at, Arco notes.

"Or, if you choose a color that's too bland or neutral, it might create a sense of monotony and boredom," he adds.

Andre Kazimierski, CEO of Improovy in Chicago, says the most common interior design mistake he observes is "people taking shortcuts to save money, which can result in poor quality and shoddy appearance."

Attempting to redesign a home shortly after moving in can also lead to regret, according to Melanie Thomas, an interior stylist in Los Angeles.

"Before you pick up a paintbrush or hammer, get to know your new home – its favorite spots, where the light comes in, and what you can and cannot live without. You might find you really don't need that soaker tub, gigantic island, or new fixtures," Thomas suggests.

Rooms that particularly fall culprit to design errors include the kitchen and primary bathroom.

"In the bath, for example, faucets that are not widespread or simple things like not choosing the best mirror size stand out like a sore thumb. In the kitchen, be aware of the depth of the refrigerator and freezer. Ranges that are too small often are mistakes, too," advises Eddie Rider, an interior designer and host of the Designers Lane Podcast.

If you succumb to one or more of these gaffes, don't persecute yourself. Nobody's perfect and there are no perfect spaces, either.

"The good news is that fixing mistakes can often be quick and inexpensive. For instance, if you choose a paint color you don't like, you can often repaint the room relatively easily without spending too much money," Arco explains. "Or if you pick the wrong furniture that doesn't fit the space, perhaps the furnishings can be repurposed in another room or sold."

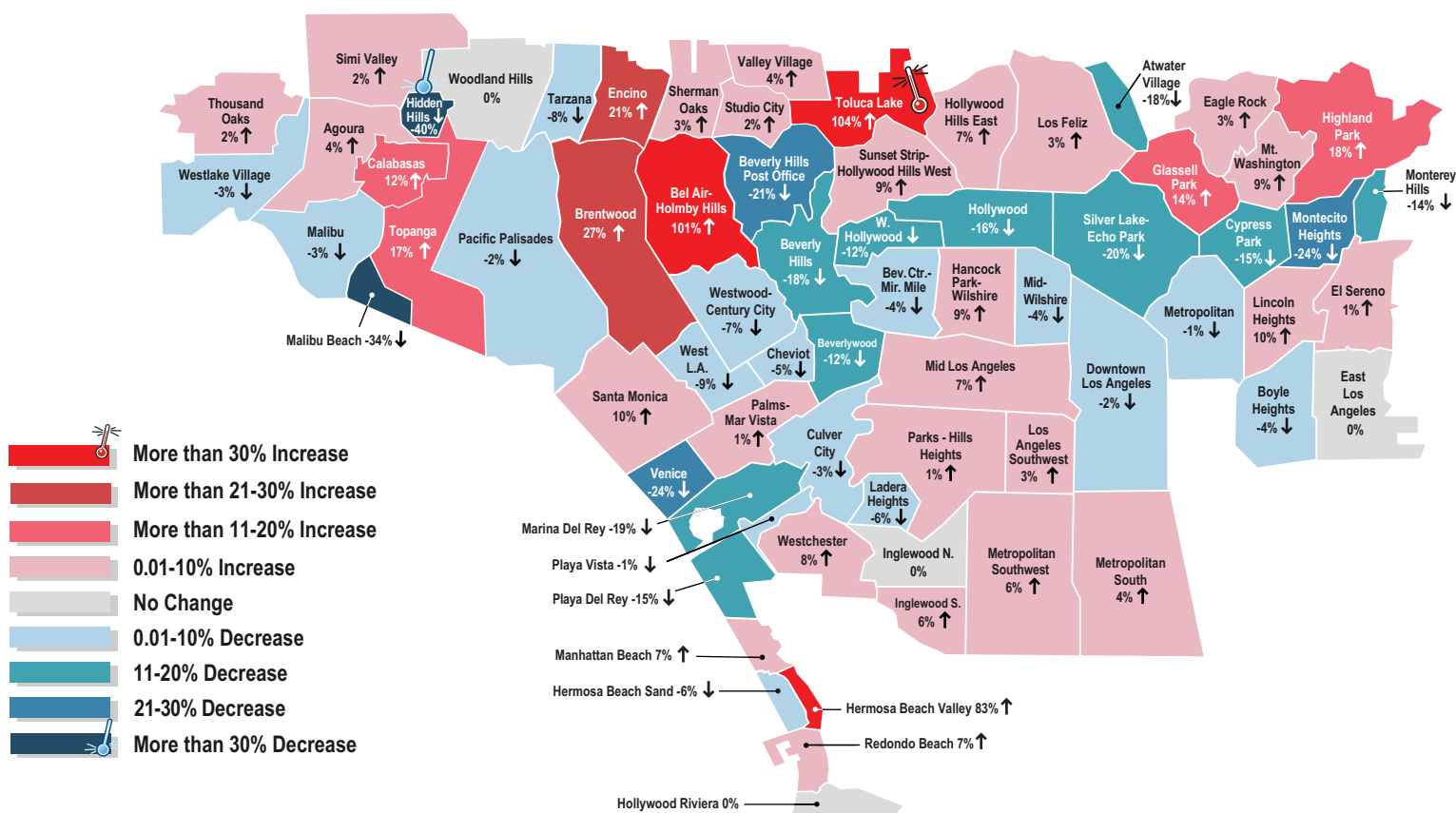
*CTW Features*

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## MARKET CLIMATE MAP

### Sales Volume 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2024 vs. 2023



SINGLE-FAMILY HOMES - SALES VOLUME & # OF SOLD LISTINGS					
AREA	Q3 - 2024 SALES VOLUME	Q3 - 2024 # SOLD LISTINGS	Q3 - 2023 SALES VOLUME	Q3 - 2023 # SOLD LISTINGS	% CHANGE
TOLUCA LAKE	\$39,832,250	15	\$15,223,905	9	104%
BEL AIR - HOLMBY HILLS	\$145,112,600	27	\$105,769,221	26	101%
HERMOSA BEACH VALLEY	\$8,200,000	2	\$4,475,000	2	83%
BRENTWOOD	\$239,351,194	40	\$176,417,461	41	27%
ENCINO	\$258,258,639	94	\$170,784,432	74	21%
HIGHLAND PARK	\$91,072,167	70	\$49,507,612	44	18%
TOPANGA	\$44,555,348	22	\$34,386,500	19	17%
GLASSELL PARK	\$35,228,281	30	\$26,068,955	24	14%
CALABASAS	\$150,665,968	54	\$101,129,908	39	12%
LINCOLN HEIGHTS	\$2,581,000	4	\$4,067,000	6	10%
SANTA MONICA	\$183,293,835	43	\$198,135,212	49	10%
SUNSET STRIP - HOLLYWOOD HILLS WEST	\$255,398,388	72	\$248,922,907	86	9%
HANCOCK PARK-WILSHIRE	\$131,231,927	40	\$83,534,452	34	9%
MOUNT WASHINGTON	\$26,666,000	19	\$23,289,000	19	9%
WESTCHESTER	\$154,839,068	80	\$113,354,755	64	8%
HOLLYWOOD HILLS EAST	\$46,520,263	22	\$52,055,000	27	7%
REDONDO BEACH	\$84,937,282	50	\$100,686,730	55	7%
MID LOS ANGELES	\$71,900,200	64	\$64,956,525	59	7%
MANHATTAN BEACH	\$273,533,175	62	\$291,137,249	71	7%
METROPOLITAN SOUTHWEST	\$38,909,700	54	\$44,957,300	65	6%
INGLEWOOD SOUTH	\$15,027,500	19	\$14,492,000	18	6%
METROPOLITAN SOUTH	\$47,105,900	77	\$43,185,026	75	4%
AGOURA	\$121,081,784	72	\$90,707,079	57	4%
VALLEY VILLAGE	\$73,647,170	34	\$42,426,999	24	4%
EAGLE ROCK	\$53,768,816	38	\$65,094,600	46	3%
LOS ANGELES SOUTHWEST	\$58,663,278	84	\$79,365,999	113	3%
SHERMAN OAKS	\$224,154,929	110	\$232,299,427	111	3%
LOS FELIZ	\$120,132,915	41	\$111,310,260	37	3%
STUDIO CITY	\$172,488,810	66	\$150,255,412	62	2%
SIMI VALLEY	\$135,107,850	147	\$131,649,750	141	2%
THOUSAND OAKS	\$152,840,430	128	\$174,739,408	144	2%
PARKS - HILLS - HEIGHTS	\$118,070,113	106	\$91,994,841	81	1%
PALMS - MAR VISTA	\$17,964,375	52	\$17,403,969	55	1%
EL SERENO	\$36,050,390	41	\$30,721,943	35	1%

SINGLE-FAMILY HOMES - SALES VOLUME & # OF SOLD LISTINGS						
AREA	Q3 - 2024 \$ SOLD VOLUME	Q3 - 2024 # SOLD LISTINGS	Q3 - 2023 SALES VOLUME	Q3 - 2023 # SOLD LISTINGS	% CHANGE	
EAST LOS ANGELES	\$16,290,000	25	\$19,139,500	29	0%	
HOLLYWOOD RIVIERA	\$28,141,880	15	\$62,253,407	20	0%	
WOODLAND HILLS	\$275,163,129	174	\$192,869,715	126	0%	
INGLEWOOD NORTH	\$24,700,828	29	\$21,395,120	26	0%	
PLAYA VISTA	\$11,900,000	4	\$11,955,000	4	-1%	
METROPOLITAN	\$3,858,000	6	\$2,510,000	4	-1%	
DOWNTOWN L.A.	\$21,902,288	33	\$8,667,750	14	-2%	
PACIFIC PALISADES	\$297,819,966	57	\$303,061,235	56	-2%	
WESTLAKE VILLAGE	\$241,489,204	89	\$163,640,775	66	-3%	
CULVER CITY	\$70,106,550	42	\$86,050,759	48	-3%	
MALIBU	\$324,786,687	38	\$164,317,567	26	-3%	
MID-WILSHIRE	\$7,545,000	7	\$12,198,000	10	-4%	
BEVERLY CENTER-MIRACLE MILE	\$74,368,500	29	\$100,092,487	41	-4%	
BOYLE HEIGHTS	\$16,878,299	25	\$10,050,050	15	-4%	
CHEVIOT HILLS - RANCHO PARK	\$32,894,000	12	\$55,817,943	20	-5%	
LADERA HEIGHTS	\$14,380,999	8	\$12,608,000	7	-6%	
HERMOSA BEACH SAND	\$81,047,486	21	\$68,691,000	16	-6%	
WESTWOOD - CENTURY CITY	\$106,620,741	39	\$126,304,808	45	-7%	
TARZANA	\$93,422,993	48	\$84,903,199	46	-8%	
WEST L.A.	\$42,066,060	25	\$35,151,426	18	-9%	
WEST HOLLYWOOD VICINITY	\$64,023,800	27	\$58,618,457	24	-12%	
BEVERLYWOOD VICINITY	\$75,228,700	39	\$55,847,000	25	-12%	
MONTEREY HILLS	\$1,470,000	1	\$3,450,000	2	-14%	
PLAYA DEL REY	\$23,604,248	9	\$23,216,450	9	-15%	
CYPRESS PARK	\$6,598,000	7	\$4,590,000	4	-15%	
HOLLYWOOD	\$29,304,000	21	\$33,113,156	21	-16%	
ATWATER VILLAGE	\$18,425,500	14	\$29,006,500	18	-18%	
BEVERLY HILLS	\$221,601,330	30	\$146,982,000	20	-18%	
MARINA DEL REY	\$30,567,479	19	\$43,160,339	20	-19%	
SILVER LAKE - ECHO PARK	\$114,127,522	74	\$137,290,363	81	-20%	
BEVERLY HILLS POST OFFICE	\$170,263,088	35	\$185,705,380	25	-21%	
VENICE	\$113,506,040	48	\$107,764,249	39	-24%	
MONTECITO HEIGHTS	\$8,953,000	10	\$7,130,000	7	-24%	
MALIBU BEACH	\$119,945,000	10	\$142,171,900	11	-34%	
HIDDEN HILLS	\$55,695,000	7	\$35,250,000	3	-40%	

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## HOT PROPERTY

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Harmless to humans, garter snakes eat the pests that wreak havoc in your garden.

*Photos courtesy of*

*Content That Works*

# BACKYARD SNAKES: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

**T**he most feared animals in the United States? Not lions or tigers or bears, oh my – it's snakes! Most are harmless and surprisingly good for your garden.

These slithery creatures get a bad rap, yet very few are hazardous to your health, according to Alderleaf Wilderness College in Seattle. Venomous snakes are rare in most North American backyards. The typical snake that you'll probably discover on your property or in the nearby woods is a garter (also known as a garden) snake.

They find a yard so appealing because it has an abundant supply of everything they need to survive – water, shade, shelter and food. If you're curious about your local snakes, here's what you need to know:

## **They won't harm you**

If you're concerned a backyard snake will come after you and your little dog too, stop worrying. Garter snakes are shy and just want to be left alone.

**If you get too close or provoke them, however, they may bite you**

Even if the snake is nonvenomous, it could bite you if you don't give it enough space or if it feels threatened. Since they're cold-blooded, they can often be found lying on flat rocks enjoying the summer sun so let them be.

## **They have a varied diet**

Snakes like to munch on frogs, lizards, mice, snails, earthworms and insects. What makes them so valuable in a backyard is their fondness for snacking on slugs and beetles, which can wreak havoc with your plants.

## **They come in many colors**

One of the best ways to identify a snake is to look for its coloration, which varies,

depending on which part of the country they're in. They could be green, red, brown, black, orange, gray, yellow or a combination of hues.

## **Their bodies are striped**

Another way to identify a garter snake is by a pattern of three light stripes on a dark body, although the pattern can vary. One narrow stripe runs down the center of the snake's back, with a broad stripe on each side. They also have round eyes and double belly scales, which vary in shape and size. Most are two to three feet in length, but some species can grow even bigger to four feet. The Farmer's Almanac says that it takes two years for garter snakes to reach maturity, and they can live to be 10 years old in the wild.

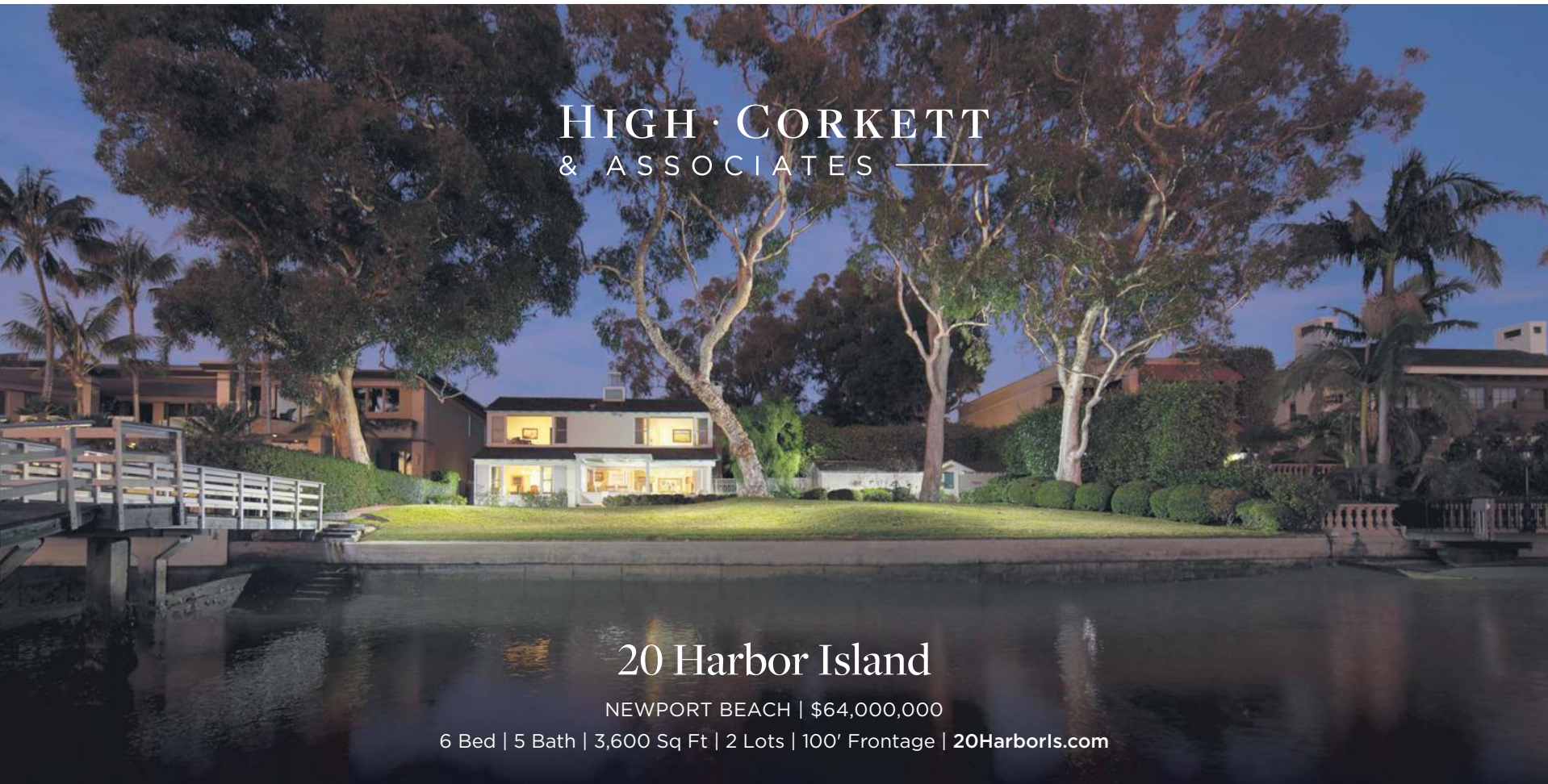
## **They dislike well-maintained gardens**

Garter snakes enjoy hiding out in tall grasses and shrubs. If you'd rather they not inhabit your yard, keep the grass low (one inch or less). Keep your flower beds well maintained too and snakes won't be dropping by for a visit. If there's standing water on your property, get rid of it and you'll cut out a source of the snakes' water supply.

*CTW Features*

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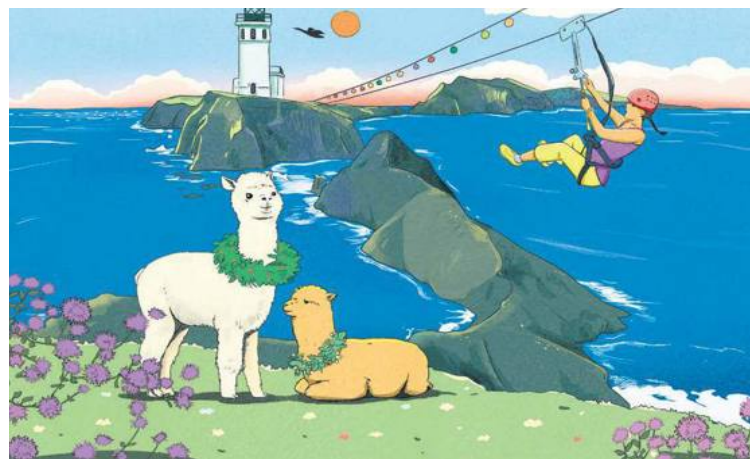


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Los Angeles Times

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New X - Open Sunday 1-4



**Beverly Hills** **152 S. Swall Dr**  
\$3,295,000 Tasteful all redone 1sty 3BD 3.5BA + fab rear ADU. Great rm. Wide-plank wd flrs. Sep den/conv 4th BD. Each BD w/priv ba. Kitch w/top stainless blt-ins. Lg yrd w/lawns/patios/BBQ. ADU w/grt rm/kitch/ba. Quiet road.  
Compass / Michael J. Libow | DRE#:00863172 310.691.7889

New Pricing - By Appointment



**Beverly Hills** **127 N. Doheny Dr**  
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**Beverly Hills** **272 S CLARK DRIVE**  
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New X - 1st Open Sunday 1-4



**Beverly Hills** **304 S. Canon Dr**  
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Los Angeles Times

HOT PROPERTY LOS ANGELES TIMES SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2024 LA

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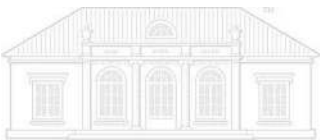
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chris@chris cortazzo.com

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# THE CURRENT | BLUFF-TOP CALIFORNIA HACIENDA

32752 Pacific Coast Highway

\$29,500,000, 8 Bedrooms, 7 Bathrooms, Approximately 2.6 Acres



A picture-perfect California hacienda on Encinal Bluff, this stunning estate commands majestic views and undisturbed privacy.

More than 2.6 acres of mature trees and manicured lawn, most beautiful views that take in Point Dume, Palos Verdes, islands, ocean, and sunsets galore. Designed and updated for luxurious living and expansive indoor-outdoor entertaining, the home combines materials and construction of unique quality and character: Panoramic ocean views from every room and terrace. The perfect beach house features 5 bedrooms, expansive living room, 2 offices, media room, pool, sauna, and gym. It comes with an additional guest house with 4 bedrooms for staff or for additional families and guests.



Big living room with extra-large terrace, barbecue and gorgeous views. This unique beach property has 200 feet ocean front and stairs to the beach.



The property is in the direct neighborhood of the 120-million sale on Encinal bluffs this summer, making it one of the best investments in Malibu.

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CHRIS  
CORTAZZO

COMPASS



# THE REIMAGINED | APPROVED LUXURY VILLA PLANS

32752 Pacific Coast Highway

7,200 Square Feet, 5 Bedroom, 7 Bathroom Estate by Richard Landry



This property is the only new building permit on desirable Encinal Bluff. This is a rare opportunity to build an approved 2-story villa. You can adjust the plans to meet your desires.



The living spaces are cultivated to provide unparalleled luxury and modern convenience. Each room, sophisticated in home design, is methodically appointed to maximize ocean and coastline views.

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Most beautiful Beach Property in Malibu for only \$ 29,950.000.  
2.6 acres, 200 feet ocean front with private stairs to the Beach.



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