

Daily Pilot

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, 2023 // dailypilot.com



Photos by James Carbone

ABOUT 50 professional paddlers from all over the world position themselves for the start of a Va'a California Series qualifying race in Newport Harbor on Saturday. The sport originated from Hawaii and other parts of Polynesia and eventually made its way to California in 1959.

Canoes take to the harbor

The three-part Va'a California Series, which had its inaugural race in February, is held by the Newport Aquatic Center.

BY LILLY NGUYEN

Though no sunshine peeked through the clouds, and the fog rolled in, paddlers from all over the world climbed into their canoes early Saturday morning and hit the waters of Newport Harbor for the second in a three-part race series.

The series, which had its inaugural race in February, is held by the Newport Aquatic Center in Newport Beach. The Va'a California Series challenges outrigger paddlers of V1 canoes, which are rudderless and lack conventional foot pedals, to navigate waters with their paddles alone. The sport comes from Hawaii and other parts of Polynesia but made its way to California in 1959.

"It's a small world, but once you get into it;

See **Harbor**, page A2



BRENT CAMPBELL, of Newport Beach, takes the lead during the Va'a California Series qualifying race in the Newport Harbor in Newport Beach on Saturday.

Sex offender charged in attacks during break-in pleads not guilty

BY SARA CARDINE

A registered sex offender recently arrested on suspicion of attacking two women during a Newport Beach burglary pleaded not guilty Monday to a range of felony charges stemming from the March 4 incident.

Navdeep Singh Jhaj, 32, of Orange, was charged Thursday with two counts of assault with the intent to commit a sexual offense in a first-degree burglary, one count of sexual penetration of an unconscious victim and failing to notify law enforcement within

five days of a change of address, according to court documents.

He was taken into custody by Newport Beach police on Thursday, according to City News Service, and an online prison inmate locator maintained by the sheriff's department indicated he was next scheduled to appear court in Newport Beach on March 21.

Jhaj has been listed on the Megan's Law database of registered sex offenders since 2018, where his risk of reoffense is placed as "above average." Court records show he pleaded guilty in 2017 to one count of felony

sexual battery, following an incident on Oct. 4, 2015, and was sentenced to one year in jail and five years probation.

CNS reported that, as part of a plea deal, additional counts of sexual penetration by a foreign object and force and sexual penetration by foreign object under the belief the perpetrator is another person, along with a misdemeanor charge of touching an intimate part of another person, were dismissed.

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N.B. resident Fred Couples ready to tee it up again in Hoag Classic

BY ANDREW TURNER

Fred Couples isn't sure how much golf he has left to give, but with the game in town, he will happily play and the people will watch.

The 63-year-old Newport Beach resident had the eyes and ears of a few hundred in attendance Tuesday morning as he regaled a lively audience with stories from throughout his career.

"I don't know how much longer I'm going to play," said Couples, who was inducted into the World Golf Hall of Fame in 2013. "I keep saying I want to keep playing. If every tournament was in Newport, I'd play 20."

The Hoag Classic has returned to Newport Beach, with the PGA



FRED COUPLES, left, speaks during the Hoag Classic Hall of Fame Community Breakfast on Tuesday.

Scott Smeltzer
Staff
Photographer

Tour Champions tournament running Friday through Sunday at Newport Beach Country Club. Couples, a two-time winner of the event in 2010 and 2014, entertained questions from moderator

Alan Beyer during the tournament's Hall of Fame Community Breakfast on Tuesday.

"I'm not a member here, but I

See **Classic**, page A2

County supes respond to winter storms

Declaration of a state of emergency opens the possibility for county to tap into state funds for storm cleanup efforts.

BY ERIC LICAS

The ground continues to shift near the site of a landslide that consumed the backyard of a home in Dover Shores, prompting the Orange County Board of Supervisors to declare a state of emergency Tuesday with more rain forecast in the region through Wednesday.

On March 1, Gov. Gavin Newsom had announced a state of emergency in 13 counties battered by deadly winter weather. That made relief funds available to impacted communities. However, Orange County was not initially included among those eligible for aid.

The supervisors' declaration opens the possibility for the county to tap into those funds for storm-response efforts.

Winter storms have caused \$1.6 million in damage to Seal Beach Pier and destroyed a life-guard tower in Laguna Beach worth around \$96,000, representatives for Orange County Supervisor Katrina Foley wrote in a statement. The backyard of a Dover Shores home fell into upper Newport Bay days after rain had soaked the bluff in Newport Beach.

"My hope is that there is no further sliding on the shore, but if these three homes fall, a cascading effect may happen to the 50 other homes on the bluff and we must be prepared in case that happens," Foley said in a statement.

So far, the landslide appears to have been a "localized issue," Newport Beach spokesman John Pope said Tuesday. However, geologists continue to monitor the situation, and the ground di-

See **Response**, page A2

ALSO FROM THE DAILY PILOT:

MARINA GIRLS' BASKETBALL SEES RUN TO STATE FINALS END WITH LOSS TO BRET HARTE PAGE A3

PACIFICA CHRISTIAN DENIED BY SAN JOAQUIN MEMORIAL IN CIF STATE DIVISION II TITLE GAME PAGE A4



Matt Szabo

O.C. personnel must scrub TikTok from devices under new ban

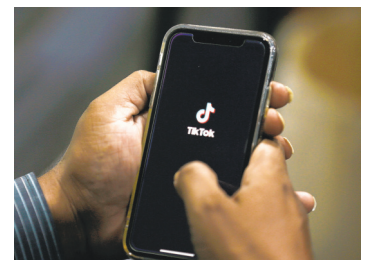
BY SARA CARDINE

Citing heightened concerns about online security and data collection, the Orange County Board of Supervisors declared Tuesday county employees will no longer be able to download, view or use the social media platform TikTok on government-issued devices.

Panelists unanimously approved the ban, proposed jointly by Vice Chair Andrew Do and Sheriff Don Barnes as a means of mitigating security risks associated with the online app.

A similar prohibition was applied at the federal level last month, following guidance provided by a "No TikTok on Government Devices Act," passed by Congress in December.

"The particular platform TikTok has vulnerabilities that exist within it, and those vulnerabilities can be exploited by the parent company in ways that put users and our national security



Anjum Naveed | Associated Press

TIKTOK has been banned on O.C. government-issued devices.

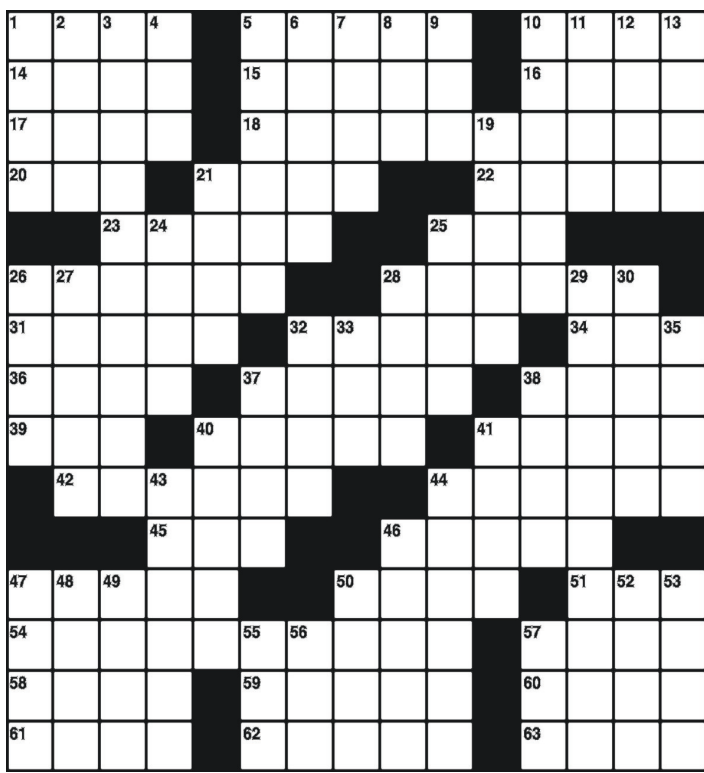
at risk," Barnes said in an interview Tuesday.

Barnes explained how the app's owner, ByteDance Ltd. collects users' personal data, building profiles based on an individual's viewing history, habits and even geographic locations and may tailor or manipulate the content that person sees — a potentially troubling trend, he said, given the company's rela-

See **Ban**, page A2

THE DAILY COMMUTER PUZZLE

By Jacqueline E. Mathews

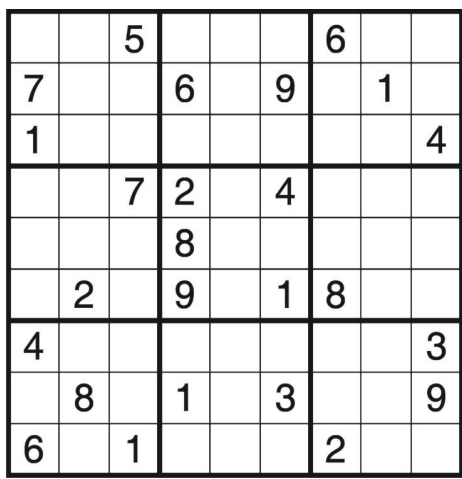


- ACROSS**
 1 Jellystone Park bear
 5 Protection from the sun
 10 Put _ decision; refuse to commit
 14 Lincoln & others
 15 _ Puffs; cold cereal choice
 16 Welcome blessing
 17 Monthly expense
 18 Tailor's job
 20 Prepare Easter eggs
 21 Miseries
 22 Valletta's nation
 23 Quaid or Jackson
 25 Home video game console
 26 Unhappy looks
 28 Brandy
 31 Hemingway's "The Sun Also _"
 32 Traditional Inuit home
 34 Eggy drink
 36 Rara _; unusual person
 37 Expansive
 38 Small night light
 39 Still
 40 Worry persistently
 41 Once and again
 42 Business bigwig
 44 Cheap and tawdry
 45 Uncooked
 46 Snapshot
 47 Church table
 50 Garden intruder
 51 ABC rival
 54 Borders
 57 Place for stored fodder
 58 Hit on the head
 59 Burn soother
 60 Appendicitis symptom
 61 Remain
 62 Alpaca's habitat
 63 Matterhorn's range
- DOWN**
 1 Fabric store

SUDOKU

By the Mepham Group

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit sudoku.org.uk.



- Karenina"
 19 Pamplona pal
 21 Lodges
 24 Astonishes
 25 Late actress Natalie
 26 Become unraveled
 27 Heavy metal bolt
 28 Clothed
 29 Standoffish
 30 Team leader
 32 Make smooth
 33 Moo _ gai pan; stir-fry dish
 35 Zane or Lady Jane
 37 Forehead
 38 Shemar Moore TV series
 40 Two-by-four
 41 _ on; walked all over
 43 In a bad mood
 44 Grad papers
 46 Irritate
 47 Letters
 48 Pillage
 49 Albacore
 50 Out of control
 52 Radar screen image
 53 Henry VIII's desires
 55 As clear _ bell
 56 _ away; fled
 57 Bath with seats

For answers to the crossword and Sudoku puzzles, see page A3.

- measure
 2 Do as told
 3 Spirit of giving
 4 Suffix for alarm or art
 5 Brings to a near boil
 6 "Deck the halls with boughs of _"
 7 Plays a role
 8 Female animal
 9 Word attached to drops or wig
 10 Acquire
 11 Saran alternative
 12 Place for an arch
 13 Tolstoy's _

Tribune Media Services

HARBOR

Continued from page A1

it really opens up," Kelly Schwartz, race director and outrigger coach over at the Newport Aquatic Center, said, with a laugh. "Where has this been all my life? We've got hundreds of paddlers in SoCal. Here in Newport Harbor alone, we've got three or four outrigger clubs."



James Carbone

That includes the center's own club, which also races internationally.

Schwartz said outrigger canoes require a different kind of training than other aquatic craft such as those used in stand-up paddling or kayaking.

Saturday's race brought more than 50 individual racers. Four of the participants Saturday came from Tahiti, one from Hawaii, three or four from the East Coast, one from Texas and a handful of others from the Pacific Northwest, Schwartz said.

Included was Redondo Beach paddler Danny Ching, who has gained a reputation for both stand-up paddling and outrigger paddling, and who Schwartz considers to be probably the No. 1 paddler in California.

Ching came in first place on Saturday, just one second ahead of Tahitian paddler Hiitua Taerea, with a time of 1 hour, 36 minutes and 54.92 seconds. The two were followed by Newport Beach locals Will Reichenstein and Brent Campbell.

The race was initially meant to extend between the Newport Aquatic Center on Whitecliffs Drive to Newport Pier — a roughly 14-mile stretch of water — but weather conditions

PADDLERS FROM all over the world race in Newport Harbor during a qualifying race on Saturday.

forced Schwartz and the center to change course.

"We had to pivot pretty hard because no one could go outside because the fog was too thick," Schwartz said. "As a race director and the race committee, we couldn't safely put people out there. We had to shift the course to all inside of Newport Harbor."

The race Saturday instead was roughly 13 miles and took paddlers from the center to the harbor mouth, through the harbor's main channel, around Lido Isle twice, and back.

The third race in the series is scheduled for April 29. The outcome of that event will determine who comes out as champion of the Va'a California Series, which is determined through points that are accumulated based off of race rankings.

First place in Saturday's race won 25 points, while second earned 18 points and third was given 15. It continues down to 10th place, which is awarded a single point.

This was true of the first

race too, though it had an added sprint section that awarded some additional points.

Schwartz said Monday she was in the midst of updating participant standings but noted that Ching would not be able to make the third race, which opens up the possibility for Reichenstein and Campbell to take his place if either comes in first in the next race.

Still, that doesn't mean that the third competition won't see potential upsets from other paddlers who may have traveled from afar to participate.

The race Saturday was a qualifying event for the International Va'a Federation's world distance championships that will be held in Samoa in August.

"We're the first place to have a V1, rudderless-only race on the mainland [United States]. Hawaii has races that they do, but we're the first ones to have the series here," Schwartz said.

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RESPONSE

Continued from page A1

rectly beneath the destroyed home and those directly adjacent to it is still shifting.

Crews have drilled eight 20-foot deep wells to pump out groundwater, Pope said. They hope that

will somewhat stabilize the soil by "desaturating the hill from the inside," Pope said.

In the meantime, city officials have been "meeting regularly with the homeowners to discuss options," Pope said.

The latest bout of precipitation to fall on Orange County was expected

to peak overnight Tuesday and taper off by this evening. With between 2.5 and 3.5 inches of rain expected during that period, meteorologists advised people to be prepared for flooded streets, wet roads and other hazards.

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Newport Beach location among those closed as Signature Bank shut down

BY LILLY NGUYEN



THE NEWPORT Beach location of Signature Bank at 100 Bayview Circle.

Don Leach
 Staff
 Photographer

The Newport Beach location of Signature Bank was closed over the weekend, following the New York-based bank's overall closure by the New York State Department of Financial Services on Sunday.

The commercial bank had about 40 branches, including the one in Newport Beach, and about \$110.4 billion in assets and \$88.6 billion in deposits as of December 2022, according to the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp.

All deposits and assets of Signature Bank were transferred to Signature Bridge Bank, N.A., which will functionally operate as a full-service bank under the FDIC as it markets the institution to potential bidders.

Service is expected to remain uninterrupted and customers should be able to continue to access their funds and make loan payments as needed, the federal officials stated.

The transfers were completed under a "systemic risk exemption," which allows for regulators to backstop deposits too large to qualify for federal insurance.

No phone number was listed for the Newport Beach operations of Signature Bank on Bayview Circle on the company's website and other attempts to call lines associated with that location were disconnected as of Tuesday afternoon.

On the Signature Bank

website this week was an announcement of the opening of a bridge bank and new chief executive officer Greg Carmichael, noting that no deposits were at risk due federal intervention, saying, "We want you to know that you are a valued client, we appreciate your business, and look forward to continue serving you."

According to a joint statement issued Sunday by the Federal Reserve, FDIC and Secretary of the Treasury Janet Yellen, officials said, "We are taking decisive actions to protect the U.S. economy by strengthening public confidence in our banking system. This step will ensure that the U.S. banking system continues to perform its vital roles of protecting deposits and providing access to credit to households and businesses in a manner that promotes strong and sustainable economic growth."

In that statement, federal officials acknowledged the closure of Signature Bank by the state department, adding that it would be completing resolution on Silicon Valley Bank, another commercial bank based

in Santa Clara, on the recommendation of the FDIC and Federal Reserve boards. SVB's collapse is considered the biggest bank failure since 2008.

All depositors will be made whole, according to the department, and no losses will be borne of the taxpayers for either bank.

"The U.S. banking system remains resilient and on a solid foundation, in large part due to reforms that were made after the financial crisis that ensured better safeguards for the banking industry," the joint statement said. "Those reforms combined with today's actions demonstrate our commitment to take the necessary steps to ensure that depositors' savings remain safe."

President Joe Biden offered remarks on the matter Monday, remarking that the closures of both banks did not promise the arrival, or rather return, of the 2008 recession, and blamed the bank collapses on actions taken by former President Donald Trump's administration to loosen banking rules.

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CLASSIC

Continued from page A1

love this course because you've got to be a really good iron player to play at Newport Country Club," Couples said. "I feel like I'm still an above-average iron player, and I'm looking forward to Friday."

A tale that he has no doubt been asked to retell many times, Couples shared with the attendees the story of the tee shot that stayed dry. With a slim lead in the final round at Augusta National, Couples' first shot on the 165-yard hole No. 12 landed short of the green, but it stayed out of Rae's Creek by about a foot. Couples saved par, a defining moment in his win at the Masters Tournament in 1992.

"It just wasn't enough club to go over there, and so it stuck on the bank," Couples said. "It hit so far down the bank that it didn't have any momentum to pick up speed to roll into the water. Then I got up there, and I chipped it up to about a foot and made par. ... That's the luck of a lifetime, and it's one of my favorite holes."

A native of Seattle, Cou-

ples competed at the University of Houston, where he roomed with PGA Tour golfer Blaine McCallister and sports broadcaster Jim Nantz.

Couples went on to enjoy 15 wins on the PGA Tour and he was twice named the Player of the Year in 1991 and 1992. Since joining the PGA Tour Champions in 2010, Couples has won 14 more titles.

At the start of the proceedings, Brian Horn and Beyer were inducted into the Hoag Classic Hall of Fame for their contributions. Beyer, an orthopedic surgeon and a founding physician of Hoag Orthopedic Institute, marveled at Couples' ability to avoid back surgery despite persistent issues.

"You have a swing that you keep your left foot pretty flat, you have a big shoulder turn," Beyer told Couples. "That's asking one's back to do lots of things that it wasn't designed to do, to repetitively go out there and just bang golf balls for 40-something years. ... I'm very comfortable in saying you probably would have had twice the number of wins that you had on the two tours if it wasn't for your back. You

missed a lot of tournaments, you had to withdraw from tournaments because of back issues. You missed this tournament, I remember, a couple of times because of back issues, but you've not succumbed to the menace of back surgery."

"... It took time away from the course, it took time away from practice, it took time away from your vocation, but you were resolute in your desire not to have surgery on your back, which quite frankly, I commend. ... I always say that the indication for the second back surgery is the first back surgery."

A back injury played the culprit in Couples missing the last Hoag Classic, but the fan favorite feels ready to go to take on a redesigned Newport Beach course that was lengthened by 203 yards and added several sand bunkers and trees.

"As we knock on wood today, it's been a year," Couples said. "I've been doing really well. I did win at the end of last year, and I feel like I'm playing well enough."

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BAN

Continued from page A1

relationship with the Chinese government.

"We have recognized the inherent risk of the way the TikTok social media platform operates and how [its] content can be misused by the parent company or the Chinese Communist Party against the best intentions of the American people," Barnes said.

Tuesday's decision amends the county's current information technology and social media use policies to apply the prohibition to company cellphones, laptops and desktop computers used by more than 18,000 Orange County employees, except as necessary for law enforcement purposes.

IT practices employed at the sheriff's department allow for the blocking of new uploads, although it is unclear whether devices on which TikTok has already been installed will be automatically disabled following the policy shift.

Do, who was unable to vote on the proposed amendment Tuesday, due to illness, issued a joint statement with Barnes in which he described the move as an important step in securing county data and information from potential hacking by the Chinese government.

"We are taking proactive steps to ensure the County of Orange is following best security practices to protect our county and the residents we serve," stated Do, who represents District 1.

The statement described how China's government, under the guise of national security, could legally force domestic companies like ByteDance to hand over private user data to authorities without a warrant. That information could then be used "to identify, arrest and persecute political opponents, ethnic minorities and social activists."

Supervisor Katrina Foley, whose 5th District includes Costa Mesa, Newport Beach and Laguna Beach, said Tuesday officials have

become increasingly aware of the risks platforms like TikTok present for government agencies.

"There's a growing concern by our national security adviser about the threat that data is being collected about individuals living in America and is possibly being used by the Chinese government," she said. "[And here], every department uses social media to share information with the public. In this day and age, it's better to err on the side of caution."

Barnes said while the ban approved Tuesday impacts only devices owned and operated by the county, he hopes to spread a wider awareness among residents of the need to be careful about their private data and social media use.

"I also encourage the public, particularly parents, to consider the potential for compromised data and negative influence on users and take action to secure your personal devices," he said.

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GIRLS' BASKETBALL



Andrew Turner

MARINA FIELDS questions following the CIF State Division V championship game against Angels Camp Bret Harte at Golden 1 Center in Sacramento on Saturday.

Marina sees run to state finals' end with loss to Bret Harte

BY ANDREW TURNER

SACRAMENTO — Marina High girls' basketball coach Daniel Roussel bore witness to the type of program growth that comes from issuing a challenge and it being accepted.

Marked improvement gave the Vikings a season, and an ending, to write home about, even if it was a bittersweet one.

The Vikings fell to Angels Camp Bret Harte 62-39 in the CIF State Division V final Saturday at the Golden 1 Center, capping an exciting and unexpected run for the self-proclaimed "underdog" squad from Huntington Beach.

"We challenged the girls in the offseason to work really hard," Roussel said. "They accepted the challenge, and we spent a lot of time in the weight room, a lot of time in the gym. We definitely improved."

Marina had 10 seniors on the roster, eight of which had spent four years in the program. Over the past three seasons, the Vikings had gone 17-59 with one playoff appearance, a 43-point first-round loss in the Southern Section Division 3A playoffs against eventual champion Long Beach Wilson in 2020.

"We brought them in as freshmen from tryouts," Roussel said. "These are a lot of girls that really didn't have a lot of basketball experience coming into high school. Our coaching staff, over the last four years now, has worked extremely hard with these girls to build skills, to build confidence."

"They're great people. These are all great students in the classroom. I think our grade-point average is somewhere around 4.0. As a team, we represent Marina well, in the classroom, in the community and on the court."

Freshman guard Rylee Bradley scored a game-high 23 points for Marina (21-16), with 16 of those points coming after halftime.

"I just adjusted to the situation, and I feel like I played better in the second half," said Bradley, who admitted to fighting some nerves in the state finals environment.

The Vikings faced a severe rebounding disadvantage, with the Bullfrogs winning that battle 47-30. Ariah Fox, the leading scorer for Bret Harte (26-7), also led her team in that category. She finished with 22 points, 15 rebounds, five steals,

four assists and two blocked shots.

"No," Fox exclaimed when asked if she had allowed herself to think about a state title at any point this season. "That was not a thought in my mind. Not to be like 'Debbie Downer,' but I was not really thinking during [Mother Lode] League [play] that we would be at this point."

Makenna Tutthill scored 10 points to go with six rebounds and three blocks for Bret Harte. Chase Silva had nine points and seven rebounds. Kady Rollieri, another key playmaker for the Bullfrogs, supplied six points, six rebounds, four assists and four steals.

"I hope the town don't burn down," said Bret Harte coach Jeff Eltringham, who returned to his alma mater and won a state title in his first season in charge. "... This is pretty special for our town. We don't do stuff like this very often."

Marina started slow, falling behind 12-1 before Bradley made a floater on the run for the Vikings' first field goal almost five minutes into the game. Tiana To's steal and layup, aided by the perimeter defense of Maria Tejada, cut the deficit to two possessions at 23-17 with 3:35 on the clock in the second quarter.

Bret Harte went on a 9-3 run to end the half, jumping out to a 32-20 lead at the break.

Bradley rattled in another tough runner to answer a

buzzer-beating bank shot by Fox with six minutes left. That made it 48-34 in favor of Bret Harte. At one point, Bradley had scored 19 of the last 21 points for Marina, but not before the Bullfrogs had extended their lead to 54-34 with 4:46 remaining.

To finished with 10 points, five rebounds and two assists. Tejada scored four points, and Sydnie Smith had two steals.

"It's definitely another experience for us, another opportunity to bond as a team," To said. "I think that we prepared for this game, but obviously, it didn't come out the way we would have hoped to end our season. I'm very proud of us."

Roussel said the Vikings set a few goals for this season. Marina accomplished one in beating Huntington Beach for the first time since 2006. The Vikings beat the Oilers twice, which helped them meet their last goal of making the section playoffs. Marina had won 10 of 11 games entering the state championship game.

"It wasn't necessarily to win [the Wave] League, although we thought that was a possibility," Roussel said. "It was to make the playoffs, and we told them all season that if we could get to the playoffs in Division 5 that we had a chance to make a run and win some games, and that proved to be true."

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The street address or other common designation of the real property hereinabove described is purported to be: 121 Turquoise Avenue, Newport Beach, CA 92662. The undersigned disclaims all liability for any incorrectness in said street address or other common designation. Said sale will be made without warranty, express or implied regarding title, possession, or other encumbrances, to satisfy the unpaid obligations secured by said Deed of Trust, with interest and other sums as provided therein; plus advances, if any, thereunder and interest thereon; and plus fees, charges, and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust. The total amount of said obligations at the time of initial publication of this Notice is \$330,793.29. 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You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee's sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call 916-939-0772 or visit this internet website www.nationwideposting.com, using the file number assigned to this case 2022-10553. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not be immediately reflected in the telephone information or on the internet website. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. NOTICE TO TENANT: You may have a right to purchase this property after the trustee auction pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. If you are an "eligible tenant buyer," you can purchase the property if you match the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. There are three steps to exercising this right of purchase. First, 48 hours after the date of the trustee sale, you can call 916-939-0772, or visit this internet website www.nationwideposting.com, using the file number assigned to this case 2022-10553 to find the date on which the trustee's sale was held, the amount of the last and highest bid, and the address of the trustee. Second, you must send a written notice of intent to place a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 15 days after the trustee's sale. Third, you must submit a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 15 days after the trustee's sale. If you think you may qualify as an "eligible tenant buyer" or "eligible bidder," you should consider contacting an attorney or appropriate real estate professional immediately for advice regarding this potential right to purchase. Dated: March 8, 2023 Worldwide Lenders, Inc., a Delaware Corporation, as Trustee By: Ashwood TD Services LLC, its Agent Christopher Loria, Trustee's Sale Officer 179 Niblick Road, #330, CA 93446 (SEAL) Tel.: (805) 296-3176 Fax: (805) 323-9054 Trustee's Sale Information: (916) 939-0772 or www.nationwideposting.com NPP0422346 To: NEWPORT HARBOR NEWS PRESS COMBINED WITH DAILY PILOT 03/15/2023, 03/22/2023, 03/29/2023

Legal Notices

Legal Notices

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE TS No. CA-22-926864-SH Order No.: 220314996-CA-VOI YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 8/7/2007. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. A public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash, cashier's check drawn on a state or national bank, check drawn by state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, or savings association, or savings bank specified in Section 5102 to the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state, will be held by duly appointed trustee. The sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by the Deed of Trust, with interest and late charges thereon, as provided in the note(s), advances, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, interest thereon, fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee for the total amount (at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale) reasonably estimated to be set forth below. The amount may be greater on the day of sale.

BENEFICIARY MAY ELECT TO BID LESS THAN THE TOTAL AMOUNT DUE. Trustor(s): GARY GOWERS AND ROBYN GOWERS, HUSBAND AND WIFE, AS JOINT TENANTS Recorded: 8/14/2007 as Instrument No. 2007000504694 and modified as per Modification Agreement recorded 2/13/2015 as Instrument No. 2015000078844 of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of ORANGE County, California; Date of Sale: 5/1/2023 at 3:00 PM Place of Sale: On the front steps to the entrance of the Orange Civic Center, 300 E. Chapman Avenue Orange, CA 92866 Amount of unpaid balance and other charges: \$475,054.73 The purported property address is: 854 JOANN STREET, COSTA MESA, CA 92627 Assessor's Parcel No.: 422-361-08 NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call 619-846-7649 for information regarding the trustee's sale or visit this internet website http://www.qualityloan.com, using the file number assigned to this foreclosure by the Trustee: CA-22-926864-SH. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the internet website. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. NOTICE TO TENANT: You may have a right to purchase this property after the trustee auction pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. If you are an "eligible tenant buyer," you can purchase the property if you match the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. There are three steps to exercising this right of purchase. First, 48 hours after the date of the trustee sale, you can call 619-846-7649, or visit this internet website http://www.qualityloan.com, using the file number assigned to this foreclosure by the Trustee: CA-22-926864-SH to find the date on which the trustee's sale was held, the amount of the last and highest bid, and the address of the trustee. Second, you must send a written notice of intent to place a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 15 days after the trustee's sale. Third, you must submit a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 45 days after the trustee's sale. If you think you may qualify as an "eligible tenant buyer" or "eligible bidder," you should consider contacting an attorney or appropriate real estate professional immediately for advice regarding this potential right to purchase. NOTICE TO PROSPECTIVE OWNER-OCCUPANT: Any prospective owner-occupant as defined in Section 2924m of the California Civil Code who is the last and highest bidder at the trustee's sale shall provide the required affidavit or declaration of eligibility to the auctioneer at the trustee's sale or shall have it delivered to QUALITY LOAN SERVICE CORPORATION by 5 p.m. on the next business day following the trustee's sale at the address set forth in the below signature block. The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the property address or other common designation, if any, shown herein. If no street address or other common designation is shown, directions to the location of the property may be obtained by sending a written request to the beneficiary within 10 days of the date of first publication of this Notice of Sale. If the sale is set aside for any reason, including if the Trustee is unable to convey title, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the monies paid to the Trustee. This shall be the Purchaser's sole and exclusive remedy. The purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Trustor, the Trustee, the Beneficiary, the Beneficiary's Agent, or the Beneficiary's Attorney. If you have previously been discharged through bankruptcy, you may have been released of personal liability for this loan in which case this letter is intended to exercise the note holders right's against the real property only. Date: QUALITY LOAN SERVICE CORPORATION 2763 Camino Del Rio S San Diego, CA 92108 619-645-7711 For NON SALE information only Sale Line: 619-846-7649 Or Login to: http://www.qualityloan.com Reinstatement Line: (866) 645-7711 Ext 5318 QUALITY LOAN SERVICE CORPORATION . TS No.: CA-22-926864-SH IDSPub #0184291 3/8/2023 3/15/2023 3/22/2023

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BOYS' BASKETBALL

Pacifica Christian denied by San Joaquin Memorial in CIF State Division II title game

BY MATT SZABO

SACRAMENTO — The Pacifica Christian Orange County High boys' basketball team had a season to remember, by any metric.

The Tritons won their first outright league title. They were ranked No. 1 in Orange County for the first time. And the season culminated in their first CIF State championship game appearance.

But it was more about the hugs and high-fives along the way. Coach Jeff Berokoff, who has led the program since its first varsity season began in 2016, wasn't talking about strictly talent when he called this the greatest group he's ever been around.

That remained true, even after Pacifica Christian lost 58-47 to Fresno San Joaquin Memorial in the CIF State Division II title game Saturday at Golden 1 Center in Sacramento.

"These guys are more than just basketball players," Berokoff said. "They're just good, good young men, and they're going to make everything around them better with more positivity, regardless of wins or losses. I'm better because of them. I just hope they're better because of me."

Pacifica Christian (27-10) had that underdog mindset, and few people actually seemed to believe besides the Triton faithful. After senior standout Parker Strauss was injured during the team's run to the CIF Southern Section Division 2A semifinals, Pacifica Christian was seeded just No. 9 in the Southern California Regional Division II playoffs.

In five state playoff games, the Tritons had just one home game. And so they became road warriors. Their motto — "just us" — became a reality.



Scott Smeltzer | Staff Photographer

PACIFICA CHRISTIAN'S Parker Strauss, shown against Fairmont Prep on Jan. 27, had 11 points in the CIF State Division II title game Saturday.

"I'm going to remember my teammate next to me," senior Tanner "Sarge" Deal said. "We were always the underdogs, and we've always fought back. I think we're the toughest team in California, and I'm just going to miss them. I just want one more practice, one more game, one more eating out together. I'm going to

really miss them." Deal, Strauss and sophomore guard EJ Spillman each scored 11 points to lead the Tritons in the state championship game against San Joaquin Memorial (26-9). San Joaquin Memorial, which won its first state title in program history, was led by its two senior standouts, 6-foot-7 forward Mike



PACIFICA CHRISTIAN'S EJ Spillman (32), shown scoring against Orange Lutheran on March 7, had 11 points for the Tritons in the CIF State Division II title game Saturday.

Don Leach Staff Photographer

Davis Jr. (17 points and 14 rebounds) and guard Armari Carraway (13 points).

After a first half that had seven lead changes, Pacifica Christian took a 25-23 halftime lead. San Joaquin Memorial coach Brad Roznovsky, whose team lost to CIF State Open Division finalist Santa Maria St. Joseph's in the Central Section Division 1 quarterfinals before making its state run, joked afterward that his team set basketball back 50 years in Saturday's first half.

"I think the thing that really carried us in this game, and throughout our state run, is that we really do a good job defensively," Roznovsky said. "We stress it in practice. I think we do a pretty good job of mixing up our zone and our man, and that really kept us in the game. We were bad offensively in the first half, but we were down two [at halftime] because we really guarded."

Pacifica Christian couldn't buy a bucket for a stretch of the second half. Senior Salim Semaan's reverse layup early in the third quarter gave the Tritons a 29-25 lead. From there, they would go more than nine minutes before their next field goal, a floater in the lane by Spillman with 4:37 left in the game.

San Joaquin Memorial had gone on a 24-5 run to take a double-digit lead.

"I think we missed nine 'chippies' in the third and fourth quarter, but the guys were fighting on the glass," Berokoff said. "You've just got to make a few of those."

The Tritons cut their deficit to nine points a couple of times late, but couldn't get closer. After battling with a bigger team for four quarters, they took the loss hard.

Spillman, who along with Davis Jr. was honored with the CIF's "Pursuit of Victory with Honor" sportsmanship award following the game, paused for a moment in the tunnel headed to the team's post-game interviews. He was consoled by Pacifica Christian Orange County head of school David O'Neil, who wrapped his arm around Spillman's shoulder.

When the team got to the interview room, the Northwestern University-bound Strauss was asked how it felt to play at the home of the NBA's Sacramento Kings in his final high school game.

Through a tear-soaked face, he answered confidently.

"We loved it," Strauss said. "It was one more team trip."

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Legal Notices

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: Mark David Payne (a.k.a. Mark D. Payne)
Case No.: 30-2023-01307822-PR-LA-CJC
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of: **Mark David Payne (a.k.a. Mark D. Payne)**. A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by **Charlotte L. Panattoni** in the Superior Court of California, County of **ORANGE**. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that **Charlotte L. Panattoni** be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A HEARING on the petition will be held on: **March 29, 2023 at 1:30 p.m. in Dept. C10** located at: 700 CIVIC CENTER DRIVE WEST, SANTA ANA, CA 92701. The court is providing the convenience to appear for hearing by video using the court's designated video platform. This is a no cost service to the public. Go to the Court's website at The Superior Court of California - County of Orange (occourts.org) to appear remotely for Probate hearings and for remote hearing instructions. If you have difficulty connecting or are unable to connect to your remote hearing, call 657-622-8278 for assistance. If you prefer to appear in-person, you can appear in the department on the day/time set for your hearing. IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law. YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. Attorney for the Petitioner: James P. Casey, IV, (ISBN: 254823) 24 Corporate Plaza, Suite 200 Newport Beach, CA 92660
Published in the DAILY PILOT on: 3/8, 3/10 & 3/15/2023

Legal Notices

PUBLIC NOTICE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING MESA WATER DISTRICT REGARDING POTENTIAL CHANGE IN DIRECTOR COMPENSATION WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22, 2023 4:30 p.m. or as soon thereafter as the agenda permits Mesa Water District Boardroom 1965 Placentia Avenue Costa Mesa, CA 92627

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Directors (Board) of Mesa Water District invites the community to attend a public hearing for the purpose of receiving public comments regarding proposed changes in Board of Director's fees/compensation.

This item will be discussed and comments will be received at such time and place. Comments may be presented verbally or in writing. Any comments must be received not later than the conclusion of the public hearing in order to be considered. Attendance at meetings of the Board is open to the public. For more information, or if you would like assistance in presenting your comments to the Board at the public hearing, please contact Denise Garcia, District Secretary, at (949) 631-1205.

Published Daily Pilot on March 8 and 15, 2023.

Legal Notices

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

The mini storage facility, according to provisions of Division 8 of the Business and Professions Code, Chapter 10, Section 21707 (a) California Self-Service Storage Facility Act, hereby gives NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE.

AIRPORT SELF STORAGE will conduct a public sale of the contents of the storage space(s) named below, with the contents being sold to the highest bidder, for lawful money of the United States of America (cash). Owner reserves the right to bid.

The sale is being held to satisfy a landlord's lien and will be held at:

AIRPORT SELF STORAGE, 3760 Campus Drive, Newport Beach, CA 92660

On **March 31, 2023**, at 10:00 AM

The public is invited to attend. Terms are cash only.

A general description of the property being sold, along with the identity of the Occupant renting the space is as follows:

SPACE NO.	OCCUPANT	PROPERTY DESCRIPTION
2125	Ronald Stockmani	Tools
1048	Todd Willardson	Surf Boards, Sports Equipment, Weights, Board games
2198	Anthony Wright	Boxes, household items
2063	Joshua Farmer	Bike Parts, Bags
1070	Babak Samini	Salon Equipment, Chairs, Cabinets

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Legal Notices

BSC 223011 NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: WALTER SKIBICKI 30-2023-01310599-PR-PW-CJC

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of: **WALTER SKIBICKI**. A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by **TREVOR MURPHY** in the Superior Court of California, County of **ORANGE**. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that **TREVOR MURPHY** be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. THE PETITION requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court. THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A HEARING on the petition will be held on: **April 12, 2023 at 1:30 p.m. in Dept. C10** located at: 700 CIVIC CENTER DRIVE WEST, SANTA ANA, CA 92701. The court is providing the convenience to appear for hearing by video using the court's designated video platform. This is a no cost service to the public. Go to the Court's website at The Superior Court of California - County of Orange (occourts.org) to appear remotely for Probate hearings and for remote hearing instructions. If you have difficulty connecting or are unable to connect to your remote hearing, call 657-622-8278 for assistance. If you prefer to appear in-person, you can appear in the department on the day/time set for your hearing. IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law. YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. Attorney for the Petitioner: NICOLE Y. NEWMAN, ESQ. NEWMAN LAW GROUP, APC 242 WEST MAIN STREET, STE 101 TUSTIN, CA 92780
Published in the NEWPORT HARBOR NEWS PRESS combined with the DAILY PILOT on: 3/15, 3/17 & 3/22/2023

Legal Notices

APN: 591-381-21 TS No.: 22-04724CA TSG Order No.: DEF2250545CA NOTICE OF TRUSTEE SALE UNDER DEED OF TRUST DATED APRIL 15, 2019, UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDINGS AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. Affinia Default Services, LLC, as the duly appointed Trustee, under and pursuant to the power of sale contained in that certain Deed of Trust Recorded April 30, 2019 as Document No.: 2019000140846 of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of Orange County, California, executed by: Shauna Carlin, as the grantor, as Trustee, will be sold AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER for cash (payable in full at time of sale by cash, a cashier's check drawn by a state or national bank, a check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, savings association, or savings bank specified in section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state). All right, title and interest conveyed to and now held by it under said deed of trust in the property situated in said county and state and as more fully described in the above referenced deed of trust. Sale Time: 1:30 PM Sale Location: At the North front entrance to the County Courthouse at 700 Civic Center Drive West, Santa Ana, CA 92701. File No.: 22-04724CA. The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 71 Ray, Irvine, CA 92618. The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any inaccuracy of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. Said sale will be made in an "AS IS" condition but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by said Deed of Trust, with interest thereon, as provided in said note(s), advances, if any, under the terms of the deed of trust, estimated fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust, to-wit: \$1,232,103.09 (Estimated) as of Accrued interest and additional advances, if any, will increase this figure prior to sale. It is possible that at the time of sale the opening bid may be less than the total indebtedness due. NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of existing liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. Second, you must send a written notice of your intention to purchase the property at the trustee auction, pursuant to Section 2924d of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call, (916) 939-0772 for information regarding the trustee's sale or visit this internet website, www.nationwideposting.com using the file number assigned to this case, T.S.# 22-04724CA. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the internet website. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. NOTICE TO TENANT: You may have right to purchase this property after the trustee auction pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. If you are an "eligible tenant" who has received a notice of sale, you may match the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. If you are an "eligible bidder," you may be able to purchase the property if you exceed the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. There are three steps to exercising this right of purchase. First, 48 hours after the date of the trustee sale, you can call (916) 939-0772, or visit this internet website www.nationwideposting.com using the file number assigned to this case 22-04724CA to find the date on which the trustee's sale was held, the amount of the last and highest bid, and the address of the trustee. Second, you must send a written notice of intent to place a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 15 days after the trustee's sale. Third, you must submit a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 45 days after the trustee's sale. If you think you may qualify as an "eligible tenant buyer" or "eligible bidder," you should immediately contact an attorney or appropriate real estate professional immediately for advice regarding this potential right to purchase. File No.: 22-04724CA. If the Trustee is unable to convey title for any reason, the successful bidder's sole and exclusive remedy shall be the return of monies paid to the Trustee and the successful bidder shall have no further recourse. For Trustee Sale Information Log On To: www.nationwideposting.com Call: (916) 939-0772 Dated: February 17, 2023 By: Omar Solorzano, Foreclosure Associate, Affinia Default Services, LLC 301 Ocean Blvd., Suite 720 Long Beach, CA 90801 833-900-2152 TO: NEWPORT HARBOR NEWS PRESS COMBINED WITH DAILY PILOT 03/08/2023, 03/15/2023, 03/22/2023

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