

CHORUS,
ORCHESTRA
TACKLE
‘REQUIEM’
LIFESTYLES | PAGE B1



DEBATE
OVER FIRE
STATION
IN ROSS
LOCAL | PAGE A3



DRIZZLE High:60 Low:53

Marin Independent Journal

\$3.00 | FRIDAY, JANUARY 2, 2026 | MARINIJ.COM

Agency funding shift will save overcrossing project

Corte Madera plan in line after Novato work completed



Traffic travels on Highway 101 north of Novato. State funding is being reallocated toward a utility relocation and road improvement project in Novato. **ALAN DEP — MARIN INDEPENDENT JOURNAL**

Affordable housing abuses claimed

Marin Housing Authority sues Marin City owner

By Richard Halstead
RHALSTEAD@MARINIJ.COM

The Marin Housing Authority has sued a Marin City man for allegedly violating the terms of a below-market-rate home ownership program agreement.

Warren Duane Jackson twice obtained loans secured by deeds of trust for a house that his mother Shirley Hall purchased in 1997 with a subsidy by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, according to the lawsuit in Marin Superior Court.

The loans violated the terms of the agreement that Hall signed when she bought the home through the county’s below-market-rate homeownership program.

The program, which is administered by the housing authority, is designed to increase the availability of affordable housing options for low- to moderate-income households by offering condominiums and townhomes for sale at below-market prices.

According to a statement that Jackson submitted to the court, his mother paid \$81,000 for the 1,234-square-foot town-

See **FRAUD** on Page A4

Millions facing big insurance hikes in 2026

By Ali Swenson
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK —Enhanced tax credits that have helped reduce the cost of health insurance for the vast majority of Affordable Care Act enrollees expired overnight, cementing higher health costs for millions of Americans at the start of the new year.

Democrats forced a 43-day government shutdown over the issue. Moderate Republicans called for a solution to save their 2026 political aspirations. President Donald Trump floated a way out, only to back off after conservative backlash.

In the end, no one’s efforts were enough to save the subsidies before their expiration date. A House vote expected in January could offer another chance, but success is far from guaranteed.

The change affects a diverse cross-section of Americans who don’t get their health insurance from an employer and don’t qualify for Medicaid or Medicare — a group that includes many self-employed workers, small business

See **INSURANCE** on Page A2

2025 rough for journalists with no sign of improvement

By David Bauder
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — By nearly any measure, 2025 has been a rough year for anyone concerned about freedom of the press.

It’s likely to be the deadliest year on record for journalists and media workers. The number of assaults on reporters in the U.S. nearly equals the last three years combined. The president of the United States berates many who ask him questions, calling one woman “piggy.” And the ranks of those

doing the job continues to thin.

It’s hard to think of a darker time for journalists. So say many, including Tim Richardson, a former Washington Post reporter and now program director for journalism and disinformation at PEN America. “It’s safe to say this assault on the press over the past year has probably been the most aggressive that we’ve seen in modern times.”

KILLINGS, ASSAULTS

Worldwide, the 126 media industry people killed in 2025

by early December matched the number of deaths in all of 2024, according to the Committee to Protect Journalists, and last year was a record-setter. Israel’s bombing of Gaza accounted for 85 of those deaths, 82 of them Palestinians.

“It’s extremely concerning,” said Jodie Ginsberg, CEO of the Committee to Protect Journalists. “Unfortunately, it’s not just, of course, about the sheer numbers of journalists and media workers killed, it’s also about the failure to obtain justice or get accountability for

those killings.

“What we know from decades of doing this work is that impunity breeds impunity,” she said. “So a failure to tackle journalists’ killings creates an environment where those killings continue.”

The committee estimates there are at least 323 journalists imprisoned worldwide.

None of those killed this year were from the United States. But the work on American soil has still been dangerous.

See **REPORTERS** on Page A2



Secretary of Defense Pete Hegseth is in a battle with the press over his restrictive rules for coverage of the Pentagon. **ERIC LEE — THE NEW YORK TIMES, FILE**

SUBSCRIPTION

Subscribe at marinij.com/subscribe. For questions related to advertising, email advertising@marinij.com

ONLINE

Get breaking news updates, videos, photo galleries and more at marinij.com.

INDEX

Obituary A7
Opinion A9
Weather A10

Volume 164, issue 286

TV B4
Sports C1
Classifieds C6

