12040 Foster Road, Norwalk, CA 90650 Friday, May 6, 2016 Vol. 10 No. 14

### Talon Marks staff wins journalism

awards

NORWALK College's Talon Marks newspaper team recently won awards at the annual Journalism Association of Community Colleges (JACC) state conference at the Burbank Marriott

The conference was attended by nearly 500 students and faculty from colleges throughout community California.

The Talon Marks staff competed in the mail-in and on-the-spot competitions, and attended workshops in various areas of

Karla Enriquez, editor-in-chief, Kristopher Carrasco, online editor, and Briana Velarde, platforms editor took second place in the on-the-spot video journalism category, and Ethan Ortiz, news editor, was an honorable mention in the on-the-spot new story category.

In addition, Talon Marks editors Karla Enriquez, Kristopher Carrasco and Gustavo Lopez presented a panel discussion about its recent breaking news coverage of two shootings across from the college.

college's Mass Communications Department Chair and Talon Marks Faculty Adviser Rich Cameron moderated the panel.

### Norwalk holding Open Mic Night May 20

NORWALK - Norwalk's Cultural Arts Center will pull back the curtain for musicians, poets and comedians during its Open Mic Night on Friday, May 20, starting at 8 p.m.

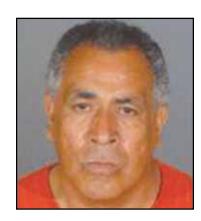
The free event gives local talent a venue to perform original pieces, add new sound to old works or give their experimental material a test drive in front of a live audience.

Performers include veteran band The Image Sharks, who play a unique fusion of blues, dinosaur rock, country and Latin percussion.

A microphone, mic stand, speakers and auxiliary cord will be provided. Performers are asked to bring any additional equipment.

Open Mic night is open to the public and includes free refreshments. Participants are encouraged to come early to sign up.

The Cultural Arts Center is located at 13200 Clarkdale Avenue. For more information, call (562) 929-5521.



### Sex offender arrested for trying to kidnap 10-year-old girl

NORWALK - A registered sex offender was arrested after he attempted to abduct a 10-yearold girl in Norwalk on Sunday, authorities said.

attempted kidnapping The occurred at about 6:40 p.m. at Norwalk Park. The suspect, Armando Hernandez, allegedly tried to pull the girl into his 2000 Toyota Corolla.

Police found a pamphlet for a local church's children ministry inside the car, along with a spare license plate in the trunk, leading detectives to believe there may be additional victims.

Anyone with information is urged to call the Norwalk Sheriff's Station. Hernandez, who lives in Norwalk, is currently being held in

# Norwalk High students win Gates Millennium **Scholarships**

Southeast Academy cadets celebrate commission



Norwalk High School seniors Celeste Larios and Kethzia Higuera celebrate after being named Gates Millennium Scholarship winners. Larios will use the scholarship to attend Stanford, while Higuera will attend UC Irvine. With Larios and Higuera are teacher Un-Soo Wong (left) and counselor Vanessa Iaquinta (right).

NORWALK- Best friends since their freshman year at Norwalk High School, seniors Celeste Larios and Kethzia Higuera will be two of only 1,000 high school students across the nation who will have the entire cost of their undergraduate studies covered through the coveted Gates Millennium

Larios and Higuera have pushed each other academically, earning a 4.99 and 4.6 grade point average respectively. Larios will attend Stanford to study environmental engineering and Higuera, co-valedictorian for Norwalk's Class of '16, will attend UC Irvine and study nursing. The pair can also request funding as Gates Millennium Scholars if they continue to a graduate

"We push each other. When one of us is struggling, the other will be there to offer words of encouragement," said Larios, who admitted that when they are together, it can be a bit awkward for others. "We do finish each other's sentences. Also, we tend to say the same things at the same time."

Larios and Higuera first met the summer before freshman year at tennis camp. When they arrived at Norwalk High for their first day of school, they were seated next to each other in the same first period class and formed a

to West Point, \$180,000 scholarship

fast friendship. They quickly became best friends, bonded by their desire for a safer environment and their dedication to academic excellence.

The two became heavily involved with Norwalk High's Millennium Club, which focuses on promoting eco-friendliness. Though the Millennium Club is not affiliated with the Gates Millennium Scholarship, it acted as a springboard for their ambitions in higher education.

In addition to a full schedule of Advanced Placement classes, the pair assisted with the Norwalk High Friday recycling program, participated in beach clean-up days, supported the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life with their Key Club peers, baked treats for the Ronald McDonald House and volunteered in the Compton Initiative, a non-profit committed to beautifying and restoring Compton.

"This is a wonderful story of two determined students who share a love for humanity," Norwalk La-Mirada Unified Superintendent Dr. Hasmik Danielian said. "They have touched the hearts of teachers and fellow students alike. Congratulations to Celeste and Kethzia for being Millennium

Inspiration to apply for the scholarship came from different sources. For Larios, her mother urged her to consider it after seeing her PSAT scores. For Higuera, it was Norwalk High counselor Vanessa Iaquinta.

"Ms. Iaquinta called me during summer break, urging me to apply," Higuera said. "I thought, well, there's no harm in trying. I am so thankful Higuera received her Gates acceptance letter before Larios, creating a bit

the best friend, Higuera advised Larios to be patient and think positively. Two days later, Larios received her acceptance letter.

of anxiety for Larios, who was certain her ambitions had been dashed. Ever

"I was more excited than Celeste was!" Higuera said. "It is great to share the experience with someone else. It would be overwhelming to do it alone."

While Higuera will commute from Norwalk to attend UC Irvine, Larios will be miles away at Stanford. However, they plan to reunite during the 2016 Gates Millennium Leadership Development retreat in Santa Clara in

"Celeste and Kethzia epitomize the values and forward critical thinking we seek to instill every day at Norwalk-La Mirada," NLMUSD Board President Karen Morrison said. "They are such a joy. Commendations to Principal Smith and his outstanding faculty and staff for encouraging their academic growth."

### Weekend at a Glance

#### THINGS TO DO



94.7 The Wave

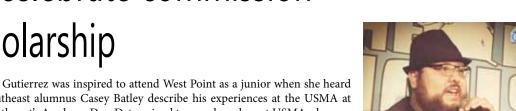
Saturday - Greek Theatre, 7 p.m.

Live concert featuring Bobby Brown, Jagged Edge, Next, SWV and more. \$45 and up



Romeo & Juliet Saturday - Alex Theatre in Glendale, 7:30 p.m.

Opening night of Shakespeare's timeless tragedy. \$29



### Comedy Night

Sunday - Ice House, 8 p.m.

Ten up and coming comedians take the stage on Mothers Day. \$20



**Arbor Day** Saturday - New River Park in Norwalk,

Help celebrate Arbor Day with a community tree-planting. All material is provided.

### FROM OUR FACEBOOK

Man arrested for attempted kidnapping

Monica Sanchez: Right now with youth soccer practices going on for recreation, please keep an eye on your child or their siblings.

Melanie Hampton: Ugh put these guys away for life. These and serial killers are the only ones who need to go away

**Deena Lopez:** Thank God they caught this one! Just know that there's so many sick perverts out there trying to hurt children. We have to teach our kids, watch them closely and pray for them always.

**Tracy Souder:** Castration should be legal.



Facebook.com/NorwalkPatriot

### TWEET OF THE WEEK

@SteveRRamirez: Breanna Vasquez's walk-off double to give Norwalk SB 3-2 win over La Mirada in 15 innings



# Southeast Academy cadets Jose Barajas and Marissa Gutierrez will be taking their

first steps towards careers as officers in the United States Armed Forces. Gutierrez has been accepted into the U.S. Military Academyat West Point, while Barajas received a \$180,000 NROTC scholarship to attend Oregon State University.

NORWALK - Southeast Academy in Norwalk is celebrating two of its highest-achieving cadets, as they head to prestigious national universities, taking their first steps toward careers as officers in the U.S. Armed Forces.

Marissa Gutierrez has been accepted into the U.S. Military Academy (USMA) at West Point, while Jose Barajas received a \$180,000 Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps (NROTC) scholarship to attend Oregon State

"The whole experience is surreal," said Gutierrez, who plans to major in psychology. "When I first came to Southeast I was very shy. Through the tremendous guidance of my instructors and the observation of the Academy's leadership traits and principles, I am prepared to take the next step in the service of our country."

Southeast alumnus Casey Batley describe his experiences at the USMA at Southwest's Academy Day. Determined to earn her place at USMA, she rose in rank at Southeast from squad leader to battalion commander and obtained a Congressional nomination from U.S. Rep. Linda Sanchez, who interviewed Gutierrez last November.

Upon graduation of West Point, Gutierrez will be commissioned to the United States Army as a second lieutenant.

"Congratulations to Marissa and Jose, who made the commitment to their education and country, and are on their way to being the leaders of tomorrow," NLMUSD Superintendent Dr. Hasmik Danielian said. "With Southeast Academy's culture and high accountability standards, students graduate college- and career-ready, inspired to give back to their

Barajas set a goal to become an officer in the U.S. Marine Corps when he spoke with a selection officer during a visit to a Naval Reserve recruitment center. He began a two-tiered application process, applying separately for the NROTC scholarship and admission to Oregon State.

When Barajas graduates from OSU, he will be commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Marine Corps.

"At Southeast Academy, you have Marines teaching you, and they take great pride in wearing the uniform. They are our role models, they are there to help us succeed," said Barajas, who plans to study kinesiology at OSU. "I will be best served in the Marine Corps, leading Marines."

Southeast Academy prepares students - designated as cadets - for careers in the military and law enforcement. Cadets learn how to become effective leaders through the Academy's 14 Leadership Traits: bearing, courage, decisiveness, dependability, endurance, enthusiasm, initiative, integrity, judgement, justice, knowledge, loyalty, tact and unselfishness.

"I am proud that our students will be contributing to the best and brightest minds in the United States, and will become greater leaders in the future," NLMUSD Board President Karen Morrison said. "Through the leadership of its director, Master Sgt. Marty Schafer, Southeast Academy is doing its part to ensure that America will remain strong and vigilant."

# Thieves break into Warren High, steal band instruments

DOWNEY - The students and staff of the Warren High School Band law. In the meantime, Downey Unified is committed to replacing the items program were shocked to find their music room broken into and several instruments stolen earlier this week.

The break-in occurred sometime between Monday evening and the early morning hours on Tuesday. The instruments stolen varied from District owned, Booster purchased, and personally owned.

Downey Unified School District declined to release too much specific information in order to preserve the integrity of the ongoing investigation, and in an effort to not further disrupt the individuals involved, has also opted not to host on-site interviews of students or staff for media.

Instead, DUSD released an official statement, saying:

"First, we want to thank the community and the media for the outpouring of support....We are working collaboratively with police to apprehend the individual or individuals that perpetrated this awful crime...We are confident that our outstanding police department will soon apprehend these criminals and, as a district, we will support prosecuting them to the full extent of the

stolen and/or damaged. In light of these recent events, the District is taking multiple preventative steps districtwide to curtail any future incidents."

Downey Police also declined to release any information

A GoFundMe page was set up in response to the thefts by one of the music program's senior students. The page has already begun circulating social media thanks to several community members, many of which are Warren alumni who were band and color guard members.

According to the senior's GoFundMe campaign, several school laptops were stolen in addition to the instruments, however this has not been officially confirmed.

The post also noted that eggs had been cracked/thrown at several instruments including a piano and a bass. This was verified by DUSD, however the instruments suffered no serious damage and were wiped clean and are fully functional.

The Norwalk Patriot 02 Friday, May 6, 2016

# Shared Stories: Moving to Bellflower a turning point in my life

Mina Anne Chudilowsky shares fond memories of her family's move to semi-friends and on our own. We kids were given free reign and explored the visited the horse in the field and the little café on the corner of Woodruff rural Bellflower in the 1950's, when Rosecrans ended at the Rio San Gabriel River. Shared Stories is a weekly column featuring articles by participants in a writing class at the Norwalk Senior Center. Bonnie Mansell is the instructor for this free class offered through the Cerritos College Adult Education Program. Curated by Carol Kearns

#### By Mina Anne Chudilowsky

A turning point in my life was when we moved from Los Angeles to Bellflower when I was 7 years old.

In Los Angeles we walked a couple of blocks to Exposition Park and the Coliseum, the museums, the rose gardens, picnic areas, and play areas. We spent a lot of time in the park, especially in the museums and the kiddies'

We lived in the bottom half of a large house which was on Figueroa Street which was very busy. We kids would cross the street and walk a block or so to the local movie theater where we would spend the greater part of Saturday afternoons.

We walked three or four blocks to the Catholic school and church. We took a bus or trolley to go on further excursions with our mother. She was a reader, and we became readers by frequent visits to the Los Angeles main

Our backyard was adjacent to the parking lot of the medical building next door. We had abundant room to bike, skate, play ball, etc., after business hours and on weekends. We were allowed to ride our bikes around the block, but no further. Nicky climbed the giant avocado tree and made a tree house up there. When I tried to climb the tree, I got scared and stuck, and our father had to come rescue me.

hills and the zoo on our own.

When we moved to Bellflower, we moved from an urban to a rural area. We were far from most things, although we had dairy farms, a pig farm, a horse in a field, a frog pond, a dry river bed with lizards, and horned toads living there.

We didn't know too many neighbors in L.A. - mostly just the people above us, as we were in a business area. In Bellflower, we got to know most of the people around us as everyone was new to this new tract of homes, which was located in an agricultural area. We even knew the names of our

We rode a school bus to the public school, and later, when we were older, and wanted to, we'd ride our bikes to school. Because they were purchasing a new home, my parents could not afford to send us to a parochial school.

When our mother took us to get registered, the school wanted to promote us all one grade ahead because of our parochial education. Fortunately, our mother wanted us to stay with our own age group.

On my first day of public school in the third grade, the teacher wanted to make me feel welcome, so she asked me to name the vowels. I had no idea what a vowel was. So much for parochial education, and thank goodness that our mother kept us in our age group.

In L.A., we played mostly in our backyard and the adjoining parking lot. In Bellflower, we had the full reign of the tract of homes, and we rode all of the streets. Most of the families had but one car and it was used to take the fathers to work. The cars were parked in garages, so the streets were open and empty and there was not much traffic, so we could play ball there.

We rode our bikes beyond the boundary of the homes and explored the We rode in the car to Griffith Park on many weekends for picnics with orange groves, the dairies, the frog pond, the river, and the pig farm. We

and Rosecrans. We played baseball and kickball in the side street, and it seemed like most the kids flew kites on the front street.

We'd play hide-and-go-seek. It was easy to hide as there were no street lights at that time, and you could just lie down on a lawn and never be discovered. We had some major dirt clod fights along the perimeter of the orange groves, and the riverbed, which was not yet cemented and was dirt, became a good place to play.

The closest store was across the river. Rosecrans ended in a dirt road by the pig farm, and there was no bridge over the river. Helms Bakery trucks, the Good Humor man, the milkman, and a store bus would bring us treats and needed staples.

The Fuller Brush a came by frequently and we were visited by encyclopedia salesmen, aluminum siding salespeople, accordion sales people, and various other people trying to sell these new homeowners something to improve their homes or lives.

We kids had much more freedom in Bellflower than we did in L.A. Unfortunately, most of our friends lived closer to the city center, and we couldn't bike to their houses for a year or two.

Nicky and Barbara joined the Scouts, and I, along with friends my age, created a bike club and enjoyed our outings without any adult supervision, dues, uniforms or rules. We were driven into Bellflower to see a movie, and

Because everyone knew most of the immediate neighbors, the children were watched over and guarded by the community and were kept safe.

We kids gained independence by this turning point in our lives.

# COMMENTARY: Talking Norwalk on Mother's Day week

By Raul Samaniego Contributor

time of the year again. Yard sales, fishing trips, commencements, June weddings and of course, Mother's Day, this Sunday.

After Tuesday's City Council meeting, an impromptu "blacktop discussion" men's group broke out between five heavily testosteroneladen men in the area of the soon to be demolished concourse parking.

Nothing serious, just continuing talk about the shootings plaguing the city, national political issues and whether or not one of the discussion panelists was going to run for the available council seat(s) opening up

My itentions as I walked down

the ramp with one of the groups would be participants, reminded reminded me, my job is to report me of the fear that some of his NORWALK - Ah, it's almost that neighbors were experiencing with the current and recent violence in the city of Norwalk.

> I never want to feel that running gun battles anywhere, employee I've asked with the term especially Norwalk, specifically, my neighborhood is a norm like Sunday barbeques and going to the was No.

Maybe they are.

Standing at the end of the council meeting, I spoke about the shooting event near my residence in South Norwalk which I mentioned

Not being new to hearing gunshots, bullets buzzing over my I asked my friend in the head or having firearms pointing at communication Department for

As one of the audience members the news, not be the news.

Agreeing with her and knowing that I engage in Norwalk's welfare and events, I asked her if she lived in Norwalk. Her answer like every "Manager' or "Director" following their name on a city business card,

So, gun battles, drive by shootings, suspicious packages at the train station are not just the norms of cities like Paris, Bagdad, Tijuana or even Boston USA.

They have been a part of this community for a while.

Before the council meeting,

three "Good things" happening in Norwalk. The friend assured me there were many good things happening.

I'm still waiting for that list.

Being assured that there was at least one good thing currently, the words never came out.

Oh, I did change my contact phone number, so if she was trying my news line, I stand corrected.

My email has remained the same though.

In the parking lot, Mr. "S" and four of Norwalk's finest engaged in discussion of "How to win an election", "Softening a demeanor," and how some of us were going to participate in Mother's Day

Mr. "S" and I have a common

competition

Lynwood students win logo design

LYNWOOD - Lynwood High School seniors Irving Arias and Jose R.

Lozano impressed judges so much with their artwork that both were named

winners of the inaugural Long Beach Region California Student Opportunity

denominator; both our mothers are Norwalk. interred at Like Lake Cemetery.

Having shopped for some great values on flowers, I found a wholesale vendor in Santa Fe Springs where for just twenty five bucks, one can pickup two dozen long stem roses. Not bad.

So, after twenty minutes of sometimes heated "Guy talk," we broke it up and went our separate

Mayor Mendez was almost in his car when I turned and brought him into the men's group. Always the polite politician, he escaped with a smile and no addition to the

As Norwalk's "Star Reporter," I am always interested in "Good things" happening on the streets, schools, and neighborhoods of

If I could only figure out how to use my new "Smart phone," I may be reachable soon.

I like having open dialogue with people. I wish we have input next time from the other 50% of our populous, women.

Happy Mother's Day. Please, drive safely in your travels.

### **CLASSIFIEDS**

#### **EMPLOYMENT** FOOD SERVICE WORKER

F/T & P/T, also F/T CNA - Apply in person 8:30 - 4 pm @ Downey Community Health Center

8425 Iowa St, Downey 90241

### **Coach Operator Trainee** (Part-Time Bus Driver)

\$13.00 per hour The City of Norwalk is offering a six to eight week paid training program in which selected candidates

earn to operate a bus in a safe nanner to transport passengers over an assigned route. Upon successful completion of

program, trainees will be eligible for hire as an at-will/ part-time On-Call Coach Operator. Applicants must be at least 21 years of age at

time of deadline. Possession of or ability to obtain Class A, B or C California Driver's License at time of

appointment is required along with satisfactory driving ecord. Must be able to obtain a Class B Commercial (CDL) Permit with Air Brake and

Passenger Endorsement during the training period. Additional information, application and supplemental questionnaire are available through the

Department of Human Resources, Norwalk City Hall, 12700 Norwalk Blvd., Norwalk, CA 90650, and/or may be downloaded at www. norwalkca.gov.

FILING DEADLINE **EXTENDED:** 

**Completed applications** must be returned with supplemental questionnaire no later than Friday, May 27, 2016 at 5 p.m.

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### and Access Program (Cal-SOAP) College Prep Summer Camp logo design As a result, this year's official summer camp T-shirts will boast two logos - Lozano's circular seal with a blazing sun, rays and graduation mortar board on the front pocket, and Arias' drawing of the state boundaries with the words Cal across the top and SOAP vertically in front of sun rays on the back. The logos will appear on all summer camp program documents and fliers. Cal-SOAP is a state program established in 1978 that helps students

"I would like to congratulate Irving Arias and Jose Lozano for this great recognition of their talent," Lynwood Unified Superintendent Paul Gothold said. "This contest provided a great forum for them to express their artistic

improve their academic performance and prepare for higher education. Arias and Lozano were each presented with a \$150 VISA gift card by program

Arias plans to attend either UC Irvine or Cal Tech next fall to major in mechanical engineering. Lozano intends on studying electrical and mechanical engineering at either Cal Poly Pomona or Cal State L.A.

Both Lozano and Arias were surprised and excited to win and said they plan to put the prize money toward their future ventures.

"I'm very grateful to receive the prize," said Lozano, who draws logos for the MESA and engineering clubs at Lynwood. "It'll help with my college

The competition was open to students from across the Cal-SOAP Region, a four-district area that includes Compton Unified, Long Beach Unified and Whittier Union High School District.

"The talent and creativity of our students is truly amazing," Lynwood Unified Board of Education President Alma-Delia Renteria said. "We are very proud of Irving and Jose for their outstanding representation of our District at the Cal-SOAP contest."



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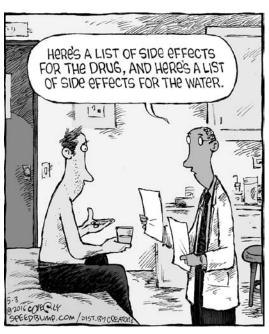
Hablo Español

The Norwalk Patriot 03 Friday, May 6, 2016

### SPEED BUMP



### DAVE COVERLY











### On This Day...

May 6, 1882: Congress passed the Chinese Exclusion Act, which barred Chinese immigrants from the United States for 10 years.

1915: Babe Ruth of the Boston Red Sox hit the first of his 714 major league home runs in a 4-3 loss to the New York Yankees at the Polo Grounds.

2004: The final episode of "Friends" aired.

Birthdays: Baseball hall of famer Willie Mays (85), rocker Bob Seger (71), British politican Tony Blair (63), TV show host Tom Bergeron (61), actor George Clooney (55), actress Gabourey Sidibe (33), Clippers guard Chris Paul (31) and rapper Meek Mill (29).

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**GREG WASKUL** 

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### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**JONATHAN FOX** 

### SATURDAY, MAY 7

8 a.m. - Arbor Day - New River Park

### **MONDAYS**

1st, 6:00 p.m. - Public Safety meetings - Council Chambers

#### **TUESDAYS**

8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. - Farmers Market - Excelsior High School 1st & 3rd 6:00 p.m. - Toastmasters Meetings - Registrar Recorder/County Clerks Office 2nd & 4th, - Toastmasters Meetings - Norwalk Library 1st & 3rd, 6:00 p.m. - City Council - Council Chambers 3rd, 5:45 p.m. - Housing Authority - Council Chambers

#### WEDNESDAYS 10:30 a.m. - Woman's Club - Masonic Lodge

12:00 p.m. - Rotary - Doubletree Hotel 1st, 12:30 p.m. - Soroptimist International - Soroptimist Village 1st & 3rd, 7:00 p.m. - Lions Club - Bruce's Restaurant 2nd & 4th, 1:30 p.m. - Alondra Senior Citizens - Social Services Center 2nd & 4th, 7:30 p.m. - Planning Commission - Council Chambers 4th, 11:30 a.m. - Coordinating Council - Arts & Sports Complex

### **THURSDAYS**

1:00 p.m. - Adult color club "Color Us Happy" - Norwalk Library 7:00 p.m. - Boy Scouts Troop 924 - Norwalk United Methodist Church **2nd, 7:30 p.m.** - Golden Trowel -Norwalk Masonic Lodge 3rd, 8:00 p.m. - American Legion Post No. 359 - 11986 Front St.

### **SATURDAYS**

2nd, 8:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. - Pancake Breakfast - First Christian Church of Norwalk

Have an event you want listed? E-mail news@thedowneypatriot.com

### THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com) CALLING RICHARD: With a hint at 109 Across by Fred Piscop

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CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2016 STANLEY NEWMAN

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The Norwalk Patriot 04 Friday, May 6, 2016

# Bellflower High School praised for emphasizing civics lessons

BELLFLOWER - Bellflower Middle/High School has earned recognition as a California Democracy School from the Los Angeles County Office of school, but also to create models for other schools to replicate. Education (LACOE) for creating and institutionalizing a highly effective civic-learning program.

Bellflower Middle/High's program teaches students to frame an inquiry into a public problem or issue, research the issue, engage in dialogue about perspectives on the issue, communicate their conclusions and take direct civic action on those findings.

toiletry care bags, urged Bellflower to install better lighting on crosswalks to shield pedestrians at night, studied efforts to adopt a district-based voting system and cleaned up a community park.

Bellflower Unified created the program as part of the three-year California Democracy School Civic Learning Initiative led by LACOE and funded by a grant from the S.D. Bechtel, Jr. Foundation. Eleven other high schools in Los Angeles and Orange counties also were selected for the program.

"Bellflower has accomplished something rarely seen in American schools," said Initiative Director Michelle M. Herczog, Ed.D. "They have fully integrated civic learning across every grade level in all social science classrooms. By doing so, civic learning is not seen as an 'add-on' or burden on the curriculum but a way to enhance the teaching of social science to be rigorous, relevant and engaging for students."

DOWNEY - Several Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation

Center Administration and staff gathered along with Los Angeles County

Supervisor Don Knabe on Friday to commemorate the "topping out" of the

were invited to sign the final steel beam of the developing structure.

Supervisor Knabe also signed the beam before it was raised and set into place.

which is currently on schedule and expected to conclude in the year 2020.

During Friday's small ceremony, multiple Rancho Los Amigos leaders

The new Outpatient Building is a part of the five year, two phase, \$418

Rancho COO Benjamin Ovando described Friday as a "big milestone" in

"In this building we'll actually be able to provide outpatient services to

all of our patients in one building, whereas right now we're kinda spread

out among five buildings that were built anywhere from the early 1900's

to about the 1960's," said Ovando. "So it's going to be a lot easier for our

patients because they won't have to go from building to building for their

appointments. Now they'll be able to go to just one building and get all of

Ovando also cited getting into seismic compliance as one of the major

Along with the added convenience of the single outpatient building,

million Rancho Rising 2020 campus renovation and beautification project, great day."

put into place

the process of the campus's construction.

future Outpatient Building.

their outpatient services."

Rancho hospital celebrates as final beam

The Initiative sought not only to seed civic-learning programs at each

Bellflower High's program was recognized earlier this spring by California's Civic Learning Award program, an effort led by State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson and state Supreme Court Chief Justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye. Bellflower won one of just three Awards of Excellence, recognizing it as a state leader in civic education.

"We are exceedingly proud of our team of educators at Bellflower Middle As part of their studies, students have provided homeless residents with and High School for going far beyond expectations to craft a truly inspiring experience for all of our students," Bellflower Unified Superintendent Dr. Brian Jacobs said. "Our civic-learning program has become one of the highlights of our academic program."

> Bellflower High received its California Democracy Award on April 30 at the conclusion of a daylong showcase of civic-learning programs by the 12 partner schools at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum in Simi Valley.

Bellflower students staffed three of the showcase's 15 sessions.

First, students led a panel discussion on epidemic diseases, immigration, genocide and civil rights. Next, Bellflower seniors Stephanie Yanez and Natalie Soto presented a documentary on their local city's redistricting efforts and voter turnout. Finally, Bellflower sophomores gave a series of soapbox speeches that included commentary on voting and local politics.



Santa Fe High School senior art student Alyssa Hernandez displays her sculpture called "Restraint" at the school's 13th annual Art and Fashion Show on April 21. Hernandez was one of hundreds of students who showcased their artistic creations at the annual

April 21 showcased artistic creations, drawings and sculptures, modeled fashionable works of art on a lit runway and put their individualism on display during the Visual and Performing Arts Department's 13th annual

The Santa Fe High gym teemed with artistic displays encompassing the pluralism of the arts, ethnicity, gender, politics and contemporary society.

The event inspired students' imaginations to erupt in a creative flow of paintings, dress designs, dance performances and much more during the day's three shows, including an evening extravaganza open to the community.

The event featured works of art from students in Santa Fe's 15 art classes

themselves to be vulnerable while exploring their individualism," said Jessica Guiragossian, VAPA department leader. "It's really magical. This is their time to shine and be themselves and they've worked incredibly hard to make this

go to the school art club and art students.

"The Art and Fashion Show has grown to be a unifying school community event that allows our students to explore their feelings and come out of their

of clear packing tape called "Restraint," symbolizing feelings of anxiety

said Hernandez, who plans to attend Otis College of Art and Design in Los

# talents at Santa Fe High's art and fashion show

Art and Fashion Show.

event's theme, "American Volcano," which celebrated diversity and cultural

"I feel like this gives students the freedom of expression that they can't get out of other subjects," said senior Alyssa Hernandez, who has participated in the event all four years. "I love it so much and I love coming to class."

who have worked since the beginning of the school year to prepare for the end-of-year project. All school students were invited to participate in the event, which was held in the gymnasium. "I'm so proud of all of the students who participated and allowed

The event also featured projects funded through a Santa Fe Springs Heritage Arts Education grant, which is awarded to schools to continue student learning through the arts. Proceeds from the event's ticket sales will

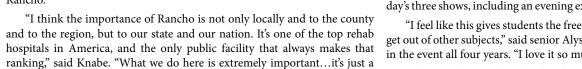
shells in a way they never have before," Santa Fe High School Principal Kevin Jamero said. "It's a great creative outlet and it's inspiring to see their projects develop over the year and see the final product." Hernandez, who helped set up props on stage, created a sculpture made

among students. "Art has been an outlet for my creativity and is a safe haven for me,"

Angeles. "My project this year brought me out of my comfort zone, but it has really helped me overcome a lot."



SANTA FE SPRINGS - Hundreds of Santa Fe High School students on



### GM donates Corvette to Cerritos College

parameters in going forward with the construction.

NORWALK - General Motors donated a 2014 Chevrolet Corvette to the Cerritos College Automotive Technology Program.

Supervisor Knabe, who has been one of the driving forces and biggest

supporters of the Rancho Rising project, described Friday as a "great day for

The vehicle came from Win Chevrolet in Carson and will be part of Cerritos College's General Motors Automotive Service Educational Program (ASEP) program, a two-year automotive program designed to upgrade the technical competency and professionalism of the dealership technician.

The curriculum is designed by GM and Cerritos College, and leads to an

"The 2014 Corvette is not only a head turner but also features the latest technology that students in our GM ASEP program need to master in the lab," said Joe Mulleary, automotive mechanical repair instructor.

The next GM ASEP program starts on October 17 and is still accepting applications. Apply online athttp://cms.cerritos.edu/auto/asep.htm, or call (562) 860-2451 ext. 3084 for more information.











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