

NLMUSD announces list of potential appointees to replace Rios on school board

By Raul Samaneigo Contributor

NORWALK – The Norwalk-La Mirada Unified School District Board on Monday selected five finalists to interview for the empty board member seat, vacant since Margarita Rios resigned to take her place on the Norwalk City Council.

In a process created by Board President Sean Reagan, board members reviewed each of the 14 candidate applications and, considering the strength of the application, placed the candidates into three groups of preference.

With each member calling out their list, a tally was made and the five finalist names were presented to the audience during the board's meeting.

The five finalists to be considered include:

- 1) Diego De Lama of La Mirada, assistant vice president of Union Bank, MBA, Biola University, B.S., Cal State Long Beach
- 2) Norma Emezcu of Norwalk, assistant director of a childcare preschool program



- 3) Jude Cazares of Norwalk, a teacher/English language program coordinator for the L.A. Unified School District
- 4) Irene Salazar of La Mirada, vice president of community education and outreach for Planned Parenthood Orange and San Bernardino Counties. M.S., La Verne University, B.S., Cal State Fullerton

- 5) Jorge Tirado of La Mirada, an electrical engineer

According to the Office of the Superintendent Dr. Hasmik Danielian, all candidates currently have children in the district, except for Emezcu and De Lama, who

stated he has a daughter who will start school in the Fall.

Only candidate Cazares listed any association with an educational institution.

No information was released or available as to any teaching experience of any of the candidates.

The format for interviewing includes up to two “info sessions” prior to the actual interviews for candidate familiarization of the duties and responsibilities of the normally voter-elected position.

Those information sessions are scheduled for Monday, May 15 and Thursday May 18 at 5 p.m. in the school board room at 12820 Pioneer Blvd., in Norwalk. These sessions are open to the public.

The interviewing format will consist of a two-minute address by each candidate, followed by several “scripted” questions from any board member. Those questions will be the same for all candidates. To conclude, the candidates will have a chance to present a final one-minute statement to the board.

No candidate shall receive any “help,” from a board member prior to the interviews.

The formal interview session is scheduled on Monday, May 22 during the School Board's regular meeting in the board room at 6:30 p.m.

According to NLMUSD General Counsel Robert Jacobsen, an appointee will be selected after the interviews.

Once the selection is made from the five candidates, the appointee will be deemed an “interim board member,” until him or her can be sworn in 30 days after the process.

Within these 30 days, the public may challenge the appointment and seek a special election with the submission of the appropriate documentation and gathered voter signatures in the two-city school district.

The estimated cost for a special election is \$288,000, as estimated by the Los Angeles Registrar Recorder's office.

When sworn in, the new school board member will serve the approximately 16 months remaining of the open term.



Photo | Christian Brown

Crime and slow business market top list of concerns at City Council town hall

■ Norwalk residents also had complaints about increased traffic spurred by the I-5 expansion.

By Christian Brown Editor

NORWALK – Norwalk City Council members reassured residents of their commitment to safety and quality local businesses during a town hall-style meeting at New River Elementary School on Tuesday night.

“We want you to know that we care about your lives,” said Mayor Luigi Vernola, who addressed the recent rash of deadly shootings in and around Norwalk. “It’s our responsibility to make this city safe for you. Don’t be afraid, this is our city.”

Vernola announced a series of neighborhood watch meetings will take place in the area around the latest shooting of Michael Pina on Horst Avenue near 166th Street.

“Your comments are very important to us, but the people have to be involved,” Vernola said.

Additionally, the council fielded questions from residents on everything from a lack of

sidewalks on Littehen Street and flooded streets after rainstorms to complaints about increased traffic and a slow business market around town.

“When are we going to get good businesses here,” asked Norwalk resident Norma Figueroa. “We constantly have to drive outside of the city for restaurants and grocery stores. What’s it going to take to bring them here?”

Figueroa was just the first of several residents with the same complaint.

City Manager Mike Egan acknowledged the city's problem with slow growth, but ensured city officials have done all possible to attract new business while respecting the rights of local property owners.

“In the United States, property owners have a lot of say,” said Egan, who agreed that he’d like to see less motels and more high-end businesses. “There is no case where we didn’t give someone a permit who when through the process. We are looking for new developers -- and I’m meeting with some next week.”

Kurt Anderson, the city's director of community development, echoed Egan's

statements, adding that large retailers have requirements of their own when looking for cities they want to invest in.

Last month, the city council approved a new “Fitness Village” that will include a Chick-Fil-A, LA Fitness, and Panera Bread, but the council agreed more should be done.

“Have we ever had the conversation about what type of businesses we want in Norwalk,” asked Vice Mayor Leonard Shryock. “Maybe we’re just assuming what we think [the residents] want.”

Both council members Margarita Rios and Jennifer Perez agreed that a longer conversation about what businesses the city should seek was needed in the near future.

“That communication and dialogue needs to take place,” said Rios. “We must engage the residents and ask them what they want to see.”

City Planner Bing Hyun said the city is actively looking to redevelop the Firestone Corridor between Imperial Highway and Rosecrans Avenue and has recently acquired funding to do some visioning. Nonetheless, he agreed that the private market has to show interest.

Norwalk resident Alonso Mendoza also raised concerns about traffic collisions and congestion at the intersection of Rosecrans and Studebaker near the 605 Freeway.

Egan acknowledged that traffic concerns could grow worse as a I-605 expansion is possible in the foreseeable future, but city officials promised to increased patrols along hotspot intersections to cut down on speeding and illegal turns.

Anderson said the I-5 expansion, which interrupted multiple Norwalk intersections and forced the relocation of dozens of businesses, will wrap up in 2020, according to Caltrans.

“The middle of the freeway will be completed first and then the bookends, the Florence Avenue Bridge and the Valley View Bridge,” he said.

During the nearly two-hour meeting, residents also asked about chronic homelessness around L.A. County, which saw a 5% increase of homeless residents in 2016.

“Norwalk has taken more steps that our neighboring cities on that,” said Egan, who said the city hired a full-time outreach person to tackle homelessness. “It takes time, but Measure H will soon provide \$350 million a year to combat homelessness.”

Weekend at a Glance

Friday76°

Saturday75°

Sunday72°

THINGS TO DO

Wango Tango 2017

Saturday - StubHub Center, 11 a.m.-11 p.m.

Katy Perry, Maroon 5 and more will perform at the 102.7 FM concert.

Family Stone

Friday - Downey Theatre, 8 pm

Jerry Martini and Greg Errico, original members of Sly and the Family Stone, perform the group's chart-topping hits.

Terry McMillan

Friday - California African American Museum, 7 p.m.

Author of “How Stella Got Her Groove Back” talks about her new book.

Billy Joel

Saturday - Dodger Stadium, 8 p.m.

The Grammy Award-winning singer-songwriter brings his #1 hits like “Piano Man” to Los Angeles.

Star Wars: The Force Awakens

Saturday - LA Historic Park, 5:30 p.m.

Food trucks, live music and a screening of the 2015 blockbuster movie.

FROM OUR FACEBOOK

Norwalk Sheriff's Station investigates series of deadly gang shootings

Josh Forsythe: Shootings are happening for these reasons: First, people don't even know their neighbor anymore. Get out, know them, and invite them over for some BBQ and a cold one. Next, we have outsourced our responsibility to law enforcement to be the protectors of person, property, and innocents. This means you need to take back control over your own safety. Lastly...people have been disarmed by not being able to protect themselves. I find this morally disgusting and despicable that politicians have taken this from us.

Join the conversation at: [Facebook.com/NorwalkPatriot](https://www.facebook.com/NorwalkPatriot)

Norwalk High School senior wins \$40K SoCal Edison scholarship, strives to pursue career as NASA engineer

NORWALK – Norwalk High senior Promise Agbo is closer to her dream of becoming a National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) engineer after she was named one of 30 Edison Scholars across Southern California to be awarded a \$40,000 scholarship.

Agbo plans to major in mechanical engineering with a minor in computer science at Stanford University.

“Now I don’t have to worry about financial struggles and I can focus on internships and other opportunities,” Agbo said. “I can focus on getting more experiences in the aerospace engineering industry.”

She interned for a month at NASA in Houston, Texas where, at 16 years old, she conducted astronomy research and learned how to track asteroids by using the stars in the sky. She also worked with engineers and developed an idea on a hybrid spacecraft that would have dual functions as a satellite and a land rover.

“It’s exciting to potentially have



Norwalk High School senior Promise Agbo was named a 2017 Edison Scholars, one of 30 high school seniors across southern California to receive a \$40,000 scholarship. Photo | NLMUSD

my ideas and dreams come to fruition,” Agbo said. “Having the power to be able to explore something we never really knew about makes me happy.”

Agbo became interested in astronomy when her dad took her on midnight walks to discover Venus and constellations in the night sky. She built robots and videos games in seventh grade at Los Alisos

Middle School, and learned about career opportunities in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) fields from Teacher on Special Assignment Project Lead The Way coordinator Kelly Garcia.

“Hopefully, I can come back to Norwalk-La Mirada Unified and tell girls that there are opportunities that let us be involved in STEM,” Agbo said.

“Even if it seems that going to college is difficult, if you push through, you can find opportunities that can make your dreams a reality.”

Agbo continued to study STEM subjects at Norwalk High by pursuing the school's computer science and software engineering pathway.

“Norwalk-La Mirada Unified teachers and administrators help our students discover their true potential and provide them the mentorship to pursue their dreams,” Superintendent Dr. Hasmik Danielian said. “Congratulations to Promise for your hard work, and I look forward to your success with NASA.”

Upcoming Events

RIBBON CUTTING: The Norwalk Chamber of Commerce will host a ribbon cutting ceremony for Active Pest Control on Wednesday, May 17 at 10 a.m. The business is located at 12217 Rosecrans Ave. in Norwalk. For more informations, contact the chamber at (562) 864-7785.

PIZZA FUNDRAISER: In order to raise money for its upcoming projects, Soroptimist International of Norwalk is sponsoring a bingo and pizza fundraiser on Tuesday, May 23 from 6-8 p.m.

The event is being held at So-Cal Pizza, located at 12253 Imperial Highway in Norwalk. For \$5, attendees will receive two slices of cheese or pepperoni pizza and a salad.

So-Cal Pizza is donating the food and all proceeds from the fundraiser will go towards the Soroptimist mission to improve the lives of women and girls through social and economic empowerment programs.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call Lynda Fisher at (714) 204-2381 or visit www.sinorwalk.org.

COFFEE WITH TATREAU: Residents and business owners are invited to meet Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Captain Jim Tatreau, who was recently selected as the new captain of Norwalk Sheriff’s Station, which also serves La Mirada.

The Coffee with the Captain event will be held Tuesday, May 23 at 8 a.m. at the Starbucks located at 15010 Imperial Hwy. For additional information, call the La Mirada Community Sheriff’s Station at (562) 902-2960.

Whittier seeks \$120K from property owners in Downey

WHITTIER – The city of Whittier is demanding \$120,000 from a Downey couple who own a Whittier apartment complex that was red-tagged last year.

Hector and Francisca Iribe own the property at 12724 Whittier Blvd., which was red-tagged after the structure was deemed unsafe.

According to the Whittier Daily News, the 24-unit complex was deemed unsafe by a judge who personally visited the property in December. Among the property’s problems were exposed wiring and a “door to nowhere:” a second floor door that led outside with no balcony.

The property was also zoned for commercial, not residential use. Whittier had to pay \$30,000 in relocation benefits to affected families, plus \$70,000 in attorney fees, \$8,000 in staff time, and \$7,100 to board up the property, city officials claim.

Condo project moves forward

DOWNEY – The City Council on Tuesday unanimously approved a zone change for 10361 Foster Rd., paving the way for a 14-unit condominium complex.

The two-story homes will range from 2,431 to 3,122 sq. ft., Each home has its own two-car garage, with an additional 52 off-street parking spaces.

By Eric Pierce, editor



Local high school students tour Downey’s courthouse

DOWNEY – Several Downey and Warren High School students were given the opportunity to tour the Downey Court and converse with many of the professionals who work there.

The tour was a part of Law Day, which the United States acknowledges on May 1 each year.

Approximately 40 students toured a majority of the court building, speaking to judges, lawyers and bailiffs, and sitting in during court proceedings.

“This is the second year I believe they’ve done it,” said Downey High social science teacher Robert Nevarez. “They asked me if there was a handful of 20 to 25 students that would be interested to give them a real first-hand experience with how the court system works, with the different careers that are available within the legal field.”

Deputy District Attorney Mario Coto-Lopez stressed the importance of the hands on opportunity that the tour brought.

“It brings reality to that which hopefully they’ve been learning in the classroom,” said Coto-Lopez.

“A lot of the information that we learn throughout our academic life is premised on books or and occasional video presentation. But when you actually get to walk on to the location, walk in to the court house, you get to see the dynamics in play. You get to see how each individual fills its roll, not just in theory but now in practice.”

Professionals that the students interacted with included Southeast District Members Jesse Arana, Gavril Gabriel, Downey Councilmember Blanca Pacheco, and Dennis Saab, Judges Christopher J. Frisco, Gregorio Roman, and Connie R. Quinones, and Esther Lee of the State Bar of California.

Also in attendance was Deputy Public Defender Joanna Fernandez, Deputy District In Charge Mario Coto-Lopez, and District Representative Aldo Ramirez from the office of Senator Tony Mendoza. - **Alex Dominguez, staff writer**

Three NLMUSD schools win 2017 Gold Ribbon awards

NORWALK – Three Norwalk-La Mirada Unified schools were named California Gold Ribbon Schools for providing outstanding educational programs and practices that prepare students to be competitive in colleges and careers.

The Gold Ribbon is California’s highest academic honor for public schools, created in 2015 as a substitute to the Distinguished School Program as the state transitions to new assessment and accountability systems.

This year, 477 middle and high schools applied for the award; 275 were selected.

La Mirada High students can choose from multiple career pathway programs, from business and education to biomedical and welding. Students are immersed in their chosen pathway all four years of high school, building on their knowledge and experience to carry with them through college and beyond.

Hutchinson Middle School’s STEM magnet program boosts student achievement through intensive technology use in the classroom. Student test scores exceed state and district averages in English and language arts, mathematics and science.

Los Coyotes Middle School increased attendance, student engagement and academic performance, while reducing discipline referrals after launching student leadership programs Where Everybody Belongs (WEB) and Association Student Body (ASB). Students develop a deep sense of connectedness by planning activities that include all grade levels, including charity drives and summer programs for incoming fifth-grade students to meet with upperclassmen.

“This award is an example of the hard work our students, teachers and administrators display across all District schools,” said NLMUSD Board President Sean Reagan.

Norwalk council members visit neighborhood near shooting death on Horst

NORWALK – At the request of residents, Norwalk Mayor Luigi Vernola and Councilman Tony Ayala visited concerned citizens near the site of last week’s shooting death of 47-year-old Norwalk resident Michael Pina.

Pina was shot while in a car between 166th and 165th streets on Horst Avenue at 2:50 a.m. on May 3. He was pronounced dead at the scene by responding paramedics.

During the visit, Vernola and Ayala listened as residents shared their concerns over the increasing sounds of gunfire and other dubious activity in the predominately Hispanic neighborhood.



Vernola shared his desire to host a special town hall meeting of the City Council at either Sanchez Elementary School or Hermosillo Park’s multi-purpose room near the end of May or during the first week of June.

A Neighborhood Watch organizing event is tentatively scheduled for June 17, according to Vernola, who personally invited all residents to make an effort to attend.

The council members suggested residents also keep vigilant and report suspicious persons immediately to the L.A. County Sheriff’s Department.

WHEELS ARE ALL YOU NEED.

May is Bike Month.

Metro Briefs

GATEWAY CITIES

Bike Month 2017
Join Metro in celebrating one of humanity’s greatest inventions: the bicycle. The festivities take place throughout May, and there’s a lot to get excited about. Learn how to repair your bike at informative workshops, participate in Bike to Work Day on May 18th, and check out Bike Night at Union Station on May 26th for food and fun. Learn more at metro.net/bikemonth.

Metro Seeks Input on 2018 Fiscal Year Budget
Metro’s annual budget sets transportation priorities across LA County for the coming year. Metro will gather comments on the 2018 fiscal year proposed budget at a public hearing on May 17th, before formal adoption by the Board of Directors. For hearing information or to provide your comments, go to metro.net/budgetcomments.

Go Metro to Santa Anita Park
Before the bell goes off, the smart ponies ride with us to the park. It’s a sure bet you’ll skip the traffic and parking fees, and when you show your TAP card, you’ll save even more once you’re at the track. Visit metro.net/discounts to learn more.

Go Metro to see the Dodgers
Want to reach Dodger Stadium faster this season? Go Metro to Harbor Gateway Transit Center or Union Station and connect with the Dodger Stadium Express. Your Dodger ticket is good for the fare! For more information, visit metro.net/dodgers.

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Class of 2017

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Send a message in The Norwalk Patriot!

The Downey Patriot will publish a special section dedicated to graduates. For only \$25.00, you can honor your graduate or that someone special with a 1.855" by 3" announcement.

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Graduate's Name

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Line 3

Line 4

Line 5

ACTUAL SIZE ABOVE
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Deadline for announcements is May 30th
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– By EMail - photo must be 300 dpi (DowneyPatriot@yahoo.com)
Check payable to The Downey Patriot
or call (562) 904-3668 to pay with Visa or Mastercard

Send to: The Downey Patriot, 8301 E. Florence Ave., Suite 100, Downey, CA 90240

The Norwalk Patriot
8301 E. Florence Avenue, Suite 100
Downey, CA 90240

Line = approximately 20 to 23 characters including spaces and punctuation*
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HAMILTON: The budget process in Washington D.C. remains broken

By Lee H. Hamilton

Think about this for a moment: Two days away from a federal shutdown, Congress comes up with a stopgap measure to keep the government operating... for a week. A few days later it arrives at a bipartisan budget deal lasting a bit over four months. This, in turn, moves the President to take to Twitter with the following statement: “Our country needs a good ‘shutdown’ in September to fix mess!”

With respect to President Trump, this assertion seems more focused on settling political scores than on the good of the country. There is no such thing as a “good” shutdown. The last time it happened, in 2013, it cost the economy \$24 billion, according to Standard & Poor’s at the time. National institutions get shuttered, federal workers are out of a job for an indeterminate period, federal loans and support for veterans are frozen, state and local governments — and all the businesses, non-profits and community organizations that depend on them — face cash shortages, and the country’s most economically vulnerable must shift for themselves. All that and more happens during a shutdown.

Yet this is the state of budget politics in this era. We’re the world’s greatest democracy, and every few months we have to contemplate the very real possibility that the government might close its doors. Is this really the best we can do?

If the non-profit or business you respect most operated in this manner, would you be anything but appalled? Somehow, we’ve allowed ourselves to see this as standard operating procedure for the federal government.

How can it be that the most important document of the federal government — remember, the budget is the national blueprint for what we’ll do and how we’ll do it — gets handled in such a distressing,

irrational, ineffective, uneconomic, and almost nonsensical manner?

I’ll tell you how: We keep electing people who tell us they’re distressed about conducting business in this fashion and then year after year fail to get us back on track.

Because make no mistake, we know how to do it better. Congress did it for many decades. It handled appropriations bills through committee hearings, gathered expert opinions, allowed members to propose improvements, and vetted federal taxing and spending thoroughly in both the House and the Senate before passing it on to the President. We had a steady annual process that may have had

“Congress is still putting the budget together with no accountability, no transparency, and scanty debate.”

its difficulties, but offered the country a democratic and politically rational mechanism for deciding on our priorities and how to fund them.

We haven’t followed it since the middle of the 1990s. Instead, we’ve been forced to live with a process marked by high-stakes fiscal brinksmanship. Every important decision of government is reflected in the budget, but now we operate through omnibus spending bills and continuing resolutions, all of which put the government more or less on automatic pilot. Operations and processes that should

be reviewed annually get no real scrutiny. New initiatives are rarely considered.

The current budget deal, negotiated between Republicans and Democrats, at least has the virtue of having included both parties at the table with give and take on both sides. In Washington these days, that’s what passes for good government.

But let’s not mistake it for good process. Congress is still putting the budget together with no accountability, no transparency, and scanty debate. Most of it is written in secret largely by leadership staff. The process largely excludes ordinary members of Congress, except to vote after very limited debate. It offers little opportunity to consider amendments or expert testimony, or to conduct careful evaluations of proposed improvements and reforms. The ordinary self-corrective mechanisms that should keep government on an even keel are not operating.

And here’s the interesting thing: in all my conversations with public officials familiar with the current state of affairs, I can’t find a single one who defends it. They all know it’s bad process. But they keep using it year after year. This is a real challenge to our representative democracy. The government faces enormous responsibilities at home and abroad, and the budget is the blueprint for how it’s going to deal with them. Isn’t it time we started getting it right?

Lee Hamilton is a senior advisor for the Indiana University Center on Representative Government; a Distinguished Scholar, IU School of Global and International Studies; and a professor of Practice, IU School of Public and Environmental Affairs. He was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives for 34 years.

Open letter to Sen. Feinstein

Dear Senator Feinstein:

I implore you to stop the stranglehold against the defunding of Planned Parenthood which members of your party have in Congress. The reason it would be just is that millions of people in California who pay taxes are wounded by the reality that over one million dollars a day goes to Planned Parenthood out of our federal coffers. To many of your constituents, abortion is a deplorable practice and should not be funded by public monies.

It would be just to end this funding because citizens, companies and corporations would step up and increase their contributions to Planned Parenthood, thereby allowing for those who firmly believe in the act of abortion to be the ones to support it.

If PP be defunded from federal funds, millions of taxpayers would be happy, plus private contributors could put their money where their personal beliefs are, and the executives at the top of Planned Parenthood could still keep their huge salaries.

What’s that you say? Yes, according to data from Planned Parenthood’s Federal Form 990, the average compensation of a PP affiliate CEO is now \$237,999. Twenty-three of their CEO’s make well over \$300,000 a year, with the CEO of PP of the Pacific Southwest taking in \$500,972 a year. Then there is PPEA’s President, Cecile Richards, who receives a whopping \$957,952 a year. Really? And they need our tax money?

Contrary to popular indoctrination of the public, Senator Feinstein, Planned Parenthood does not provide prenatal care. However, they do provide the killing of 300,000 pre-born children every year, which is their big money making industry. May your mind be opened to the great worth of human life and to the responsibilities that accompany human freedom.

Patti Sharpe Downey

By Michelle Malkin

Lock your doors. Hide your children. Police officers, be on alert:

Al Sharpton’s cop-bashing circus is back in full swing.

Harlem’s godfather of racial hoax crimes is in Oklahoma this week to stir up trouble as jury selection begins in the manslaughter trial of Tulsa police officer Betty Shelby.

Shelby is white. Terence Crutcher, the man she shot and killed during a tense traffic standoff last fall, was black. That’s all the demagogue demolition team needs to know. Damn the facts. Screw due process. Powder up Showbiz Al and hustle over to the media tent.

Lights, cameras, agitate!

Sharpton’s “prayer vigil” isn’t about expressing faith in God. It’s about stoking the fires of identity politics at the altar of social justice. Sharpton’s no man of peace. He’s the fetid pile of human manure who ruined New York prosecutor Steven Pagnones’ life with the incendiary Tawana Brawley rape hoax. He stoked anti-Semitic hatred in Crown Heights after a tragic car accident — leading to the frenzied mob murder of rabbinical student Yankel Rosenbaum. He has inveighed against “crackers” and cracked jokes about “offing the pigs.”

Also headlining the self-serving service in Tulsa this week: Sharpton’s rabble-rousing heir and fellow race fabulist, Benjamin Crump. He’s the Florida-based celebrity lawyer for the Trayvon Martin and Michael Brown families who gained international notoriety perpetuating the “Hands Up, Don’t Shoot” lie. Crump first parachuted into town last fall to snatch up the Crutcher family as new clients and to instigate protests outside Tulsa police headquarters demanding Officer Shelby’s scalp.

Nearly 200 marchers wielded “Black Lives Matter” signs and screamed “Fire Betty!” before a police investigation was complete. Others waved “white silence is violence” posters or a photo of a police badge labeled “License to Kill.” One protester took to the microphone to declare that “a good white man is a dead white man.”

The agitation worked. Tulsa District Attorney Steve Kunzweiler rushed to file charges before the lead homicide detective in the case had finished his work — an obvious attempt to appease the unappeasables and avoid the next Ferguson.

Make no mistake: When the social justice warriors crusade for “immediate justice,” they’re not asking for proper adjudication in the courts. They’re demanding an immediate guilty verdict, retribution, and a big, fat civil rights

lawsuit settlement.

Until the Shelby case, police under fire remained silent as the social justice mob hijacked the courts of law and public opinion. But



Shelby and her lawyers fought back. She sat down with “60 Minutes” correspondent Bill Whitaker last month to describe her state of mind during the encounter with a noncompliant Crutcher, who had the hallucinogenic drug PCP in his system at the time of his death. She adamantly insisted race was not a factor in the shooting and described the “lynch mob” atmosphere in the days since she was charged and put on administrative leave.

Crump and Sharpton faced no admonitions for their pre-trial antics. But after Shelby’s TV appearance defending herself, the judge in the case issued the police officer and her legal team a reprimand. This is maddening.

Cops are damned if they do

speak up and damned if they don’t.

Two years ago, former Oklahoma City police officer Daniel Holtzclaw was advised by his trial lawyer to stay quiet before and during his chaotic trial on trumped-up sexual assault charges by a parade of shady women who are now clients of Benjamin Crump’s seeking high-dollar civil rights lawsuit awards. Several of these convicted felons gave interviews or testified while high, couldn’t identify Holtzclaw or his patrol car from photo line-ups, misidentified his race, hair color, height, and weight, and changed key details of their stories after being approached and coached by confirmation bias-driven detectives.

Holtzclaw, against his every instinct to defend his character and reputation, was told to keep quiet while accusers lied, prosecutors smeared, and disrupters shouted “Give him life!” and “Racist cop!” and “Racist jury!” Seven phones were confiscated from people taking photos in the courtroom, including images of jury members.

The judge in the case, Timothy Henderson, knew for weeks before trial that the city had granted a permit for protesters to occupy the steps and streets outside the courtroom. He lamely confessed that he didn’t “know really what can be done other than to admonish the jury to disregard” the commotion. He and city officials claimed to be

Letters to the Editor

Have an opinion you’d like to share? Letters to the editor for this newspaper can be mailed to 12040 Foster Road, Norwalk, CA 90650, or e-mailed to christian@thenorwalkpatriot.com.

Letters may be edited for both space and grammar.

The Norwalk Patriot

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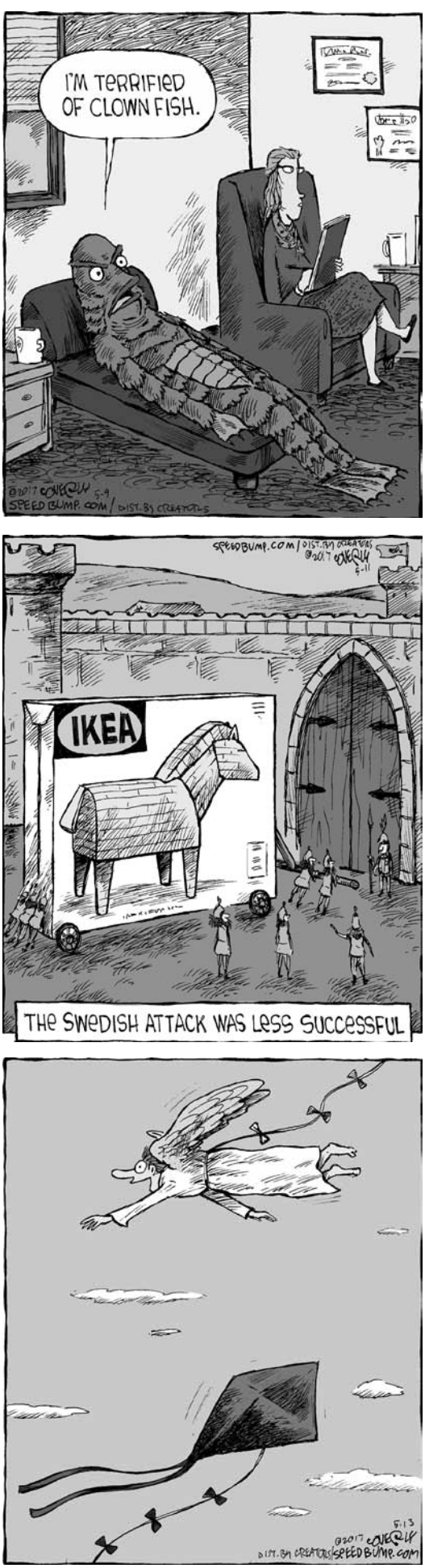
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SPEED BUMP

DAVE COVERLY




On This Day...

May 12, 1847: William Clayton invented the odometer.

1950: The American Bowling Congress abolished its white males-only membership restriction after 34 years.

2002: Former U.S. President Carter arrived in Cuba for a visit with Fidel Castro. It was the first time a U.S. head of state, in or out of office, had gone to the island since Castro's 1959 revolution.

BIRTHDAYS: TV producer Pepper Jay (68); Actor Emilio Estevez (55); TV actress Catherine Tate (49); Skateboarding icon Tony Hawk (49); British swimmer Mark Foster (47); "The Facts of Life" star Kim Fields (47); Rapper Kardinal Offishall (41); Movie actor Jason Biggs (39); NFL wide receiver Steve Smith (38); Actor Rami Malek (36); Movie actor Domhnall Gleeson (34); Reggaeton artist Reykon (34); Actress Emily VanCamp (31); and Actor Luke Benward (22)



Tony Hawk

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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
12:00 p.m. - Rotary - Doubletree Hotel
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
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)

MAY DAY: A few days late
by S.N.

ACROSS

1 Prefix meaning "beyond"

5 Drains of energy

9 Become frantic

14 Scandinavian autos

19 Poet in Augustus' time

20 Nile queen's nickname

21 Whirlpool sister brand

22 Available from a keg

23 Rain repellent

26 Emerson's middle name

27 Downhill race

28 Lowly workers

29 Wasn't colorfast

31 Be decisive

32 DMV rituals

34 Difficulty, informally

36 Pro skaters' org.

37 Routing preposition

40 Mansion worker

41 Superfluous extras

42 Casual top

44 Influence creatively

46 Rosetta Stone symbols

50 Art class accessories

51 Fomented, as flames

52 Investment evaluations

53 Oscar speech verb

54 Arabian Nights mariner

55 Chicago Bears founder

58 Nothing, for instance

59 Four-pedal bike

60 "Ditto"

61 Bummed out

64 Totally

65 Will Smith or Betsy Ross

67 Hotshot performer

68 Bumped into

69 Upscale timepiece

70 Get support from

71 Lee of comic-book fame

72 Timid

73 Stage director's directive

74 Oodles

75 Adjust to change

78 Grey's Anatomy device

79 Pointy-haired thing

80 Pre-wedding ritual

84 Visa acceptor

85 "Till next time"

86 Corporate coach

87 Singular sensation

88 Poodle or parrot

89 __.com (cellular service site)

90 Sporting blade

91 Biblical allegories

95 Distinctive period

96 Alias introducer

97 New beginning, so to speak

98 Apt to play tricks

102 Word on the state capitals list

104 Be daringly innovative

108 Skillful

109 Lauder of lipstick

110 Anatomical bender

111 Leaning typeface: Abbr.

112 Snug shelters

113 Cockpit console

114 Principal performer

115 Canvas covering

DOWN

1 Cuts long blades

2 Malevolent

3 Fey of TV

4 Confound

5 Cream-cheese portions

6 Three-time heavyweight champ

7 Snuck a look

8 Footprint producers

9 Half a board game set

10 Brittany buddies

11 Tot's break

12 Suffix for serpent

13 Tweedledum creator

14 Scattered about

15 Santa __ winds

16 Last space shuttle to launch

17 Retailer's annoyance

18 Immaculate

24 Vegan beverage

25 Speck

30 With competence

33 Indecisive outcome

34 Urge to move

35 Oil-field equipment

37 UN member since 1977

38 Owing a lot

39 Military offensive

41 Cartoon caveman

42 Ankle mishap

45 Ivy League school

46 Hatchet

47 Retired for the night

48 Wedgwood worker

49 The dude's

51 Samuel __ Breese Morse

54 Leaves the pier

55 Venerable harmonica brand

56 Lone Ranger's farewell

57 __ arranger (banker, at times)

59 Grand

60 Two-Oscar actor

61 Was perched on

62 Scholarly environment

63 Most compact

65 Parliamentarily impermanent

66 Hurdled

71 "Get lost!"

72 Traffic ticket abbr.

73 Still-life object

74 Insincere "Sorry"

75 Onetime Israeli foreign minister

76 Seek quick stock profits

77 Synthetic fabrics

78 Fraternal org.

79 Fictional mariner/medical man

81 Potato __ soup

82 Hypothetically

83 GPS highlighting

84 Little leopard

87 Veiled

91 Pickled-pepper picker

92 Hardwood tree

93 Offends the nose

94 Bisected

96 Crumb carriers

97 Ostrich cousin

99 Slightest bit

100 Trade barbs

101 Word hidden "across" the five longest answers

103 Quit, with "out"

105 Forever stamp designation

106 Benchmark, in brief

107 Teachers' org.

Reach Stan Newman at P.O. Box 69, Massapequa Park, NY 11762, or at www.StanXwords.com

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You can contact puzzle editor Stanley Newman at his e-mail address: StanXwords@aol.com. Or write him at P.O. Box 69, Massapequa Park, NY 11762, Please send a self-addressed, stamped envelope if you'd like a reply.

Appliance brands owned by the Whirlpool Corporation (21 Across) include AMANA, JennAir, KitchenAid and Maytag. George Halas (55 Across), founder and longtime coach of the Chicago Bears, was given the nickname "Papa Bear." The space shuttle ATLANTIS (16 Down) returned from the last of its 33 missions in July 2011.

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Paging Dr. Frischer...
By Dr. Alan Frischer

Joe, my dear friend from back in my medical school days, was a hemophiliac. He was frequently a recipient of blood transfusions. Many of us know someone who has needed a blood transfusion.



Perhaps they had a disease, like Joe, or were in an accident, or became dangerously anemic.

Perhaps they had the luxury to choose whether or not to have a blood transfusion, or perhaps they faced an emergency life or death situation requiring an immediate transfusion.

What are the benefits and risks?

In 1628, a British physician discovered that blood circulates throughout the body. The first successful blood transfusion occurred in England in 1665 when one dog received the blood from another.

Finally in 1818, a British obstetrician performed the first successful transfusion of human blood to a patient, to treat postpartum hemorrhage.

A patient may receive a blood transfusion when they have lost blood from a trauma, have had surgery with blood loss, lost blood due to an ulcer, or has a disease that causes a shortage of red blood cells.

An *autologous* red blood cell transfusion is when a donor's own blood is used for them at a later date, usually before a planned surgery.

A blood transfusion can save a life. It replenishes the body's red blood cells, which reduces the symptoms of anemia, such as light-headedness, fatigue, weakness, and shortness of breath; and in the case of heart patients, even angina or a heart attack.

New guidelines recommend that red blood cell transfusions be considered when the hemoglobin level drops to about seven or eight, depending on the age and general health of a patient, and depending on whether there is active bleeding.

If it is not an emergency, the blood will be typed and crossed in order to make a proper match and avoid possible serious complications.

In an emergency where time is of the essence, a patient will receive the universal donor blood type, O Negative. Even O Negative blood can lead to serious reactions, but is the best for an emergency.

However, blood transfusions are not completely without risk:

■ Incompatible blood can possibly cause an anaphylactic reaction or hemolytic anemia.

Serious safeguards are in place to prevent this, such as type and cross procedures and multiple staff verification of bags. Medication can be given before a transfusion to reduce risk.

■ It's possible for pathogens to be introduced into the blood stream, leading to infections.

Fortunately, this risk has diminished dramatically over time – for example, the Mayo Clinic lists the odds of developing HIV at around one in every two million transfusions (less likely than being killed by lightning); the risk of hepatitis C at approximately one in 1.5 million transfusions, and the risk of getting hepatitis B at about one in 300,000 transfusions.

■ Bacterial infections are possible but rare.

Jehovah's Witnesses may oppose blood transfusions on religious grounds. Refusing the possibility of a transfusion may lead to the refusal of a surgeon to conduct a surgery.

Today, Jehovah's Witnesses have a Hospital Liaison Committee to address legal or moral conflicts.

My friend and classmate Joe's story ended tragically. Our medical school was in San Francisco, and the time was the early 1980's. AIDS was just being identified, and he became one of its earliest victims.

Had he received those blood products today, they would have been effectively tested for the AIDS virus, and even with hemophilia, he could possibly still be with us today.

Blood transfusions are an extremely valuable, life-saving, and safe treatment. The Red Cross provides about 40% of the blood used for transfusions, and I urge everyone to donate blood.

Dr. Alan Frischer is former chief of staff and former chief of medicine at Downey Regional Medical Center. Write to him in care of this newspaper at 8301 E. Florence Ave., Suite 100, Downey, CA 90240.

CERRITOS COLLEGE
TALON MARKS

51 Cerritos track and field athletes qualify for SoCal Regional Finals

By Monique Nethington

NORWALK – The women's track team is well on its way to defending its two-time state championship title advancing 38 athletes into the Southern California Regional Finals.

If the Falcons do come out on top at regionals, this will be the third time in three years that the team will have hoisted the trophy.

The women totaled nine first place finishes that earned them 23 team points, leaving them in first place at SoCal Preliminaries last Saturday.

Crystal Rodriguez, who currently holds the fourth mark overall in the hammer throw for Cerritos, took first place in shot put

She also got fourth place in javelin, second place in the hammer throw and second in the discus.

With these performances she said that she was not satisfied with them and knew there were things that she could improve on for the coming meet this weekend.

"I want to get into a repetitive routine this week," she said, "so I can be confident in my next meet."

However, she added the team has to keep doing what it has been doing all season.

Juanita Webster (high jump, 110 HH.) Skylin Harbin



Freshman Sela Lotulelei competing in the hammer toss event at the SoCal Regional Playoffs Saturday held at Cerritos College. Lotulelei took 11th place in the event with a distance on 40.23 meters. Photo | Max Perez

(400-meter IH.) Breanna Curry (high jump, 4x100 relay, 4x400 relay.) Amber Hart (discus.) and Mystasia Alexander (javelin) also claimed first place finishes.

The men only advanced 13 of 34 athletes that competed at regionals, which earned them only six team points holding them at a seventh place spot going into finals.

Sophomore Stacy Chukwumezie said, "It was a tough week, with a few unfortunate performances."

Despite this, Director of Track and Field Christopher Richardson said that regardless of the caliber of athletes, mistakes will be made

and, "that is part of the humbling experience of Track and Field."

The men's team only had two first place finishes on the day– each came from the 1,600-meter relay team and from sophomore Blair Robinson.

Chukwumezie commented that Robinson's performances was "top-notch," as he got first in the triple jump posting a distance of 14.96 meters. This distance would also mark a new personal best for him.

The 1,600-meter relay team was able to grab the top spot in the event by clocking a time of 3:16.8 minutes.

Sophomore Clay Green ran the third leg for the team and said the team works really well together.

"The team has been doing really good, there is still a lot we can do."

He said the team is still trying to take a few seconds off its time because it is trying to go for the school record.

The men's relay team was not the only relay team to snag a top spot, as both women's relay teams placed first in their respective events. The 400-meter relay team finished first with a time of 47.34 seconds, while the 1,600-meter relay team clocked a time of 3:53.35 minutes.

Richardson commented, "Our relay success simply shows the commitment these athletes have to one another and the program as a whole."

Now both teams look to the finals which will take place Saturday.

"I could not ask for a better group to go into battle with. It has worked tirelessly to prepare for this moment," Richardson finished.

This story was originally published in Talon Marks , the student-ran newspaper at Cerritos College. To read the original, visit www.talonmarks.com/sports/2017/05/09/track-and-field-qualify-51-athletes-for-socal-regional-finals.

Norwalk officials call spring 'Coffee with a Cop' gathering a success as sheriff's continue investigating local shootings

By Raul Samaneigo Contributor

NORWALK – Norwalk council members labeled the spring Coffee with a Cop event a success after dozens of community members joined local law enforcement on May 4 at the McDonald's on the corner of Imperial Highway and Norwalk Boulevard.

"It was a huge success," said Norwalk Vice Mayor Leonard Shryock.

The morning occasion was intended to give the public the opportunity to meet some of the people who are responsible for the safety of the city, including officers from Norwalk's Public Safety



Department as well as deputies from the Norwalk Sheriff's Station.

All uniformed officers walked amongst the nearly 70 attendees, introducing themselves and

familiarizing themselves with community concerns.

In the midst of the Sheriff's representation was lifetime Norwalk resident and 30-year plus

deputy, Stephen Duoma.

Little Lake School Board Member and Norwalk resident Dora Sandoval, Norwalk Council Member Tony Ayala and Mayor Luigi Vernola were also in attendance.

When asked about the previous day's homicide in the South Norwalk area, Vernola's response was shaken.

This was especially true after a week where two homicides occurred within city limits and a third involving a Norwalk resident in neighboring La Mirada.

"I'm fed up with this," Vernola responded when asked about his thoughts on the shooting death of 47-year-old Norwalk resident Michael Pina near 166th Street and Horst Avenue.

When further asked about what it would take to establish another roving sheriff substation, Vernola responded, "I want that."

He was referring to the old "Silver Bullet" mobile trailer, which used to be parked in troubled areas as a deterrent to unwanted behavior.

"It's currently being used by Public Safety, somewhere, I think," Vernola added.

The City Council held a community roundtable style meeting Tuesday night, May 9th at New River School for the community to voice their concerns.

"I want another [Council] meeting down there at Hermosillo Park or at Sanchez Elementary School," said Vernola, who spearheaded the new Council's first town hall-style meeting at New River Elementary on May 9.

The mayor suggested a meeting could take place as early as the last week of May or the first week of June.

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