



APRIL 9
Community Promotions Commission meeting
DATE: Monday, April 9
TIME: 6 pm
LOCATION: City Hall

APRIL 10
Special city council meeting
DATE: Tuesday, April 10
TIME: 6 pm
LOCATION: City Hall

APRIL 11
Senior Commission meeting
DATE: Wednesday April 11
TIME: 3 pm
LOCATION: Norwalk Senior Center

Planning Commission meeting
DATE: Wednesday April 11
TIME: 7:30 pm
LOCATION: City Hall

APRIL 12
Parks & Recreation Commission meeting
DATE: Thursday, April 12
TIME: 6 pm
LOCATION: Norwalk Arts & Sports Complex

APRIL 13
Plants in a Glass
DATE: Friday, April 13
TIME: 7-9 pm
LOCATION: Norwalk Cultural Arts Center

APRIL 14
Arte Hispano de Padre y Hija opening reception
DATE: Saturday, April 14
TIME: 5-7 pm
LOCATION: Norwalk Cultural Arts Center

APRIL 21
Father-Daughter Belle 's Ball
DATE: Saturday, April 21
TIME: 4 pm
LOCATION: Norwalk Arts & Sports Complex

MAY 4
Middle school dance
DATE: Friday, May 4
TIME: 6:30-9:30 pm
LOCATION: Norwalk Arts & Sports Complex

MAY 5
Breakfast with Mom
DATE: Saturday, May 5
TIME: 9 am
LOCATION: Norwalk Arts & Sports Complex

MAY 11
Open Mic
DATE: Friday, May 11
TIME: 7-9 pm
LOCATION: Norwalk Cultural Arts Center

MAY 19
Rose Garden celebration
DATE: Saturday, May 19
TIME: 1-3 pm
LOCATION: D.D. Johnston-Hargitt House Museum

Sediment of Elsewhere opening reception
DATE: Friday, May 19
TIME: 5-7 pm
LOCATION: Norwalk Cultural Arts Center

JUNE 2
Kids & Cops Golf Tournament
DATE: Saturday, June 2
TIME: 10 am
LOCATION: Don Knabe Golf Center

Ice Cream social
DATE: Saturday, June 2
TIME: 1-4 pm
LOCATION: D.D. Johnston-Hargitt House Museum

Norwalk selects new mayor, but may have violated open meetings law

► A PowerPoint presentation with Jennifer Perez’s photo was prepared before Tuesday’s vote.

By Raul Samaniego Contributor

NORWALK – Bucking tradition, the Norwalk City Council voted 4-1 on Tuesday to select first term and now sophomore fellow member, Jennifer Perez, as the new mayor of Norwalk, which is home to approximately 110,000 residents.

Vice Mayor Leonard Shryock cast a “No” vote against the nomination but joined the council in unanimously confirming the nomination of Margarita Rios as the new vice mayor.

After Perez took her seat in the center of the five-seat podium area, with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation, she went on to highlight the direction she hoped to see the City of Norwalk move.

The PowerPoint was prepared with Perez’s goals and likeness, prompting questions whether Tuesday’s mayoral vote was decided before the public meeting, which would violate the state’s open meeting laws.

According to Norwalk city staff member Adriana Figueroa, “We (city staff) normally prepare a generic PowerPoint (for the new mayor’s use). We had a hunch that Jennifer was going to be nominated.”

When asked who shared that hunch, Figueroa said that City Manager Jose Gomez “had shared that he had a hunch that there was a likelihood of Jennifer Perez getting the nomination.”

The PowerPoint had Jenifer Perez’s name on it at least 24 hours prior to her actually being selected as the new mayor, city staff members confirmed.

“I speak with the council members on a regular basis,” Gomez told the Patriot in an interview Wednesday night. “I had a council member say that he was going to nominate her (Jennifer Perez).”

When asked if Luigi Vernola was that source, Gomez only reiterated, “I had a council member say he was going to nominate her.”

Additionally, Gomez confirmed that this statement was made to him in “the early afternoon of Monday (April 2),” prior to the closed session 5 p.m. council meeting regarding a solid waste contract.

When asked if he had knowledge



Luigi Vernola and Jennifer Perez after Tuesday’s meeting. Photo courtesy city of Norwalk

of any discussion between council members of the proposed nomination, the city manager said no.

In a phone interview Wednesday, Perez said that she and Shryock “were going in a different direction.”

She confirmed that “my peers and I have been having individual conversations” regarding what she described as “being ready for the new year.”

“I have to be careful not to violate the Brown Act,” Perez added.

According to Assistant City Clerk Marissa Asistin, “In the time in my position with the city of Norwalk [nearly 20 years], I cannot recall a vice mayor not moving up into the position of mayor.”

She went on to confirm that she had also checked internal records to affirm that statement.

Shryock’s family did not attend Tuesday’s meeting, where theoretically he would have been voted mayor of Norwalk. Shyrock declined to attend festivities celebrating Perez’s selection as mayor.

Tuesday’s actions confirmed the first all-female mayor/vice mayor team in Norwalk’s history. With Perez’s selection as mayor, it also represents the first father-daughter pair to have held Norwalk’s mayor chair. Perez’s father, Bob Arthur, held the position 25 years ago.

Resembling a final farewell rather than a transition of power, a video depicting the history and accolades of now former mayor Luigi Vernola was shown with 20 guests offering their congratulations and salutations in a packed council chambers.

In what seemed tantamount to

a farewell address, Vernola cited many strides he has seen in the city. He pointed out the hiring of a new city manager and deputy city manager, saying “You have brought [back] trust to the council and city.”

Vernola sounded proud, if not defiant, in his words to his peers on the city council.

“To my colleagues, thank you for your support,” he said. “We’re on a path and we’re not going to be deterred by anything or anyone.”

A who’s who of local political and business representation lined up to present Vernola with certificates of appreciation and tokens of gratitude.

Those offering their congratulations were: US House Representative Linda Sanchez office, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisor Janice Hahn’s office, Los Angeles Sheriff Department, cities of Santa Fe Springs, Artesia and Downey, Little Lake School District, Norwalk La Mirada Unified School District, Cerritos College, Whittier Union High School District, Norwalk Chamber of Commerce, Norwalk Coordinating Council, Norwalk Lions Club, Soroptimist International, United Parents Club, and the Norwalk Senior Center Bingo Board.

The positions of mayor and vice mayor will be of a one-year duration with no new council election slated until 2020.

After things settled down in the council chamber, the council and guests joined each other in a reception held on the lawn next to the city hall.

Shryock declined to attend.

Eric Pierce contributed to this report

Norwalk restaurant grades

Jack in the Box
12603 S Norwalk Blvd.
Date Inspected: 3/29/18
Grade: **A**

Starbucks
13001 E Rosecrans Ave.
Date Inspected: 3/29/18
Grade: **A**

Golden West Donuts
10948 Imperial Hwy. Ste 106
Date Inspected: 3/28/18
Grade: **A**

Applebee’s Neighborhood Bar and Grill
12129 Imperial Hwy
Date Inspected: 3/28/18
Grade: **A**

BMW Cafe
10856 Firestone Blvd.
Date Inspected: 3/28/18
Grade: **A**

Luisa and Son Bakery
12543 Alondra Blvd.
Date Inspected: 3/28/18
Grade: **A**

Northgate
11660 Firestone Blvd.
Date Inspected: 3/27/18
Grade: **A**

Northgate Supermarket
11660 Firestone Blvd.
Date Inspected: 3/27/18
Grade: **A**

Dennys
12616 Pioneer Blvd.
Date Inspected: 3/22/18
Grade: **A**

Outback Steak House
12850 Norwalk Blvd.
Date Inspected: 3/22/18
Grade: **A**

Juan’s Tacos
8039 Norwalk Blvd.
Date Inspected: 3/22/18
Grade: **A**

Western Sizzlin’s Woodgrill
12241 Imperial Hwy.
Date Inspected: 3/20/18
Grade: **A**

Ihop
12623 Norwalk Blvd.
Date Inspected: 3/20/18
Grade: **A**

KFC
10937 Alondra Blvd.
Date Inspected: 3/21/18
Grade: **A**

Burger Basket
12155 Firestone Blvd.
Date Inspected: 3/20/18
Grade: **B**

Jon Dok Dae
16440 Norwalk Blvd.
Date Inspected: 3/19/18
Grade: **A**

So Cal Pizza
12253 Imperial Hwy.
Date Inspected: 3/19/18
Grade: **B**

The Habit Burger Grill
12401 S Norwalk Blvd.
Date Inspected: 3/15/18
Grade: **A**

Santos Juice Bar
13324 Rosecrans Ave.
Date Inspected: 3/14/18
Grade: **A**

H Mart Grocery
15933 S Pioneer Blvd.
Date Inspected: 3/14/18
Grade: **A**

Sonoma Grill
13111 Sycamore Dr.
Date Inspected: 3/13/18
Grade: **B**

Outback Steakhouse
12850 Norwalk Blvd.
Date Inspected: 3/13/18
Grade: **B**

Weekend at a Glance

Friday 72°

Saturday 69°

Sunday 78°



Hargitt House Tour

Saturday - 12426 Mapledale St. in Norwalk, 1 pm

Take a guided tour of Norwalk’s historic Hargitt House Museum, which once housed one of Norwalk’s pioneering families.



Antique Street Fair

Saturday - Uptown Whittier, 9 am to 3 pm

More than 100 dealers will be selling vintage clocks, toys, rugs, glassware, jewelry, and more.



Space Center

Saturday - Columbia Memorial Space Center, 9 am to 5 pm

The Downey Space Center is offering free admission to celebrate the start of City of STEM Science Festival. Special activities and meet a real astronaut.



Downey Symphony

Saturday - Downey Theatre, 8 pm

Downey’s symphony orchestra performs a “Russian Spectacular” highlighted by Tchaikovsky’s Symphony No. 5. \$30-\$35



Cruise to Big Bear

Sunday - 7724 Western Ave. in Buena Park, 8 am

All cars, trucks and motorcycles welcome for a Sunday morning drive to Big Bear. Family-friendly.

Spook Show

Saturday - Halloween Club in La Mirada, 12-7 pm

A Halloween festival featuring spook vendors, exhibitors, food trucks and live performances. Free but ticket required via online download.

Shared Stories: The Healing Power of Touch

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 Kay Halsey

Educators try to upgrade the education of teachers with workshops featuring their new findings. One workshop I took was by a psychologist about communicating acceptance with children. A touch on the child’s head or arm or back helps to open up friendly relations with your pupils, the leader said.

I decided to use that technique on my fourth grade class. When they were following the assignment I had given them, I decided to go around the class and touch

each child and say, “You’re doing fine.”

I started up one aisle and down the other tapping each child on his or her head saying, “You’re doing great.”

I was interrupted by the school nurse who came in the door at the back of the class and said she was inspecting for lice. Apparently she had found lice in other classes and thought maybe younger brothers or sisters might also have lice. What a shock!

I had touched many heads, one after the other. My hand might have picked up lice and I might have transferred the insect.

“Yes, indeed,” she said, “I have found several children who are infected and I shall inform their parents that they must treat their children before they can return to class.” So much for the “healing power of touch.”

I had another experience

with touch. I was invited to join a mixed group of men and women for a monthly golf game. I agreed to join the group and was placed in a foursome.

On the third hole, I sat on the bench, watching the others in the group drive. Another male player was sitting there too.

He ran his hand up my thigh and said, “Oh, what beautiful legs. My wife is 92 years old, you know.”

Absolutely shocked, I rose and took my turn driving, but never again did I get near him. I decided not to join the group. I was healed of taking a chance of being touched by strangers.

I am sure the psychologist leading the workshop had not followed through on his idea. And so I went back to my old policy of never touching another person except in a handshake. I don’t even hug others to greet them1

In L.A. County, viewing teenage prostitutes as victims instead of criminals

► Girls arrested for prostitution are often ages 12-14 and come from troubled homes.

At the Compton courthouse, these girls are offered rehabilitation services instead of jail time.

By **Lorine Parks**
Contributor

COMPTON – The number of times a child is sexually exploited is as often as seven times per day. A pimp can make \$100,000 to \$150,000 a year per child because victims of child trafficking are used over and over again.

And the average life expectancy after a child is dragged into that life is just seven years.

What to do with these damaged victims when they are arrested and brought to court on charges of prostitution? In this exclusive interview, one woman, Judge Catherine Pratt of the Los Angeles Superior Court in Compton, tells how she has pioneered a way to connect and build new and better relationships with these girls.

WHERE TO BEGIN?

“One on one,” says Judge Pratt.

“We believe in individual support for these sexually exploited minors,” says the judge. No shackles, no orange jumpsuits when they come into her courtroom.

Do you have trouble, or do they, relating to you as a blond white woman, when 80% of these girls are Afro-American, and most of the rest are Hispanic?

“You have to take time to get to know them, one by one and build their trust,” says Judge Pratt. “They come into the system trusting no one. One day one girl asked me if I had been ‘in the life.’ That’s their way to describe someone who has been involved in prostitution. She said to me, ‘You really seem to get it. You understand us and you get it.’ That made me proud.”

Every day, minor children, girls aged from 9 to 17, are arrested for the act of prostitution. They are taken off the streets and brought into courts, an action which serves to push them into jail and prisons,

victimized by the real criminals, men who want nothing more than to sell their bodies for money, sometimes many times over in one night. These men who control them are treated as child molesters.

Over seven years ago Judge Pratt secured a federal grant for \$350,000 and, at her request, 50 girls were directed to her uniquely dedicated courtroom that works exclusively with victims of child sex trafficking. She named it the STAR court, an acronym that means Succeeding Through Achievement and Resilience.

Resilience means “the maintenance of high levels of positive affect and well-being in the face of adversity.” It is not that resilient individuals never experience negative affect, but rather that the negative effect does not persist.

The largest share of the grant money went toward securing advocacy workers for the team.

“We try to treat them as normal,” the judge says, “and give them normal experiences, like weekend outings. We have some funds, but we could use outside help with this. We take them bowling, horseback riding, remembering their birthday with cupcakes. All this is on time outside the court.” The cost of cupcakes comes out of Judge Pratt’s own pocket.

This new approach to empowering young victims is at the forefront of reducing human trafficking in Los Angeles County. It is a program that works and is model for others to follow. The STAR Court has strong relationships with local law enforcement agencies and community partners.

■ ■ ■

Composite picture of a minor arrested for child prostitution: age 12-14, comes from an abusive home, has looked for sympathy in sexually suggestive online sites. She has run away and been “befriended” by a pimp, who pays for her visits



Judge Catherine Pratt works to rehabilitate girls arrested for prostitution rather than punish them. Courtesy photo

to a nail salon. She has his “brand” tattooed on her face.

The motel room is rented by the pimp: she has no money, and being a minor, couldn’t rent one anyway. The pimp tells her the day’s charges: “He said 80 for sex, 50 for head,” one girl says. Ironically, she is afraid to ask for outside help “for fear of getting into trouble.”

These young “defendants” in STAR Court are vulnerable and fragile. They often come from troubled homes and, in trying to find approval and self-worth, instead find themselves unable to escape virtual sex slavery. Outcome, if there is no intervention: prematurely old, likely to be dead in a few years, of disease or violence.

What drives Judge Pratt? “My older sister, who essentially raised me, was in a very abusive relationship and that man ended up killing her,” Judge Pratt said. When was that? “Twenty-two years ago,” but who’s counting.

Judge Pratt and the County Probation Department create a handpicked team to help each girl embark on the process of recovery. They partner with child advocates and legal advocates from nonprofit organizations, and agencies like the county Department of Children and Family Services and the Public Defender’s Office.

Continuity is important. “I mandate that they come before me at least every month,” says Judge Pratt. “In most juvenile courts, the offenders see the judge twice a year. One really important ingredient is consistency, consistency in seeing the same judge, the same public defenders each time. So they don’t have to tell their stories to new people every time.”

The pronoun “I” does not seem to be a part of Judge Pratt’s vocabulary. Who then is “we”?

“The team: me, the social case worker, the public defender, probation officer, interested

parties from non-profits,” says the judge. “They take them to doctor appointments, see that they get suitable clothes to wear to school or to job interviews.”

As of today, she and her teams have worked with 500 girls ranging in age from 10 to 17. How successful has this been?

“In over seven years, working with 500 girls, we have a 72% success rate.” What is success? “It varies from day to day. In this case it means that they have not been rearrested as juveniles or adults for prostitution or a related crime.

“What we want is for them to become independent young women, staying away from their pimps and becoming capable of thinking and making decisions for themselves. That shows that they have learned self-respect.”

Does she tell them what to do and where to be and go?

Continued on page 10



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Are YOU interested in effecting meaningful change to the Norwalk- La Mirada School Board?


The Teachers Association of the Norwalk-La Mirada Area is looking for interested residents to attend an informational meeting for potential School Board candidates for the November 2018 election. The meeting will be held

Thursday evening, April 26, 2018 at the TANLA Office,

11310 Firestone Boulevard, Norwalk.
from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
A light dinner will be served


If you are interested in attending please call TANLA at (562) 868-6251

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Boycott Ingraham’s advertisers? What about all of Fox News?

By Froma Harrop

For Laura Ingraham, the decline came well before the fall. The Parkland teens’ success in pressuring advertisers to flee her Fox News Channel show could cut her career down to tweet size. Ingraham made the mistake of mocking student leader David Hogg’s reaction to being turned down by several colleges.

Ingraham is great at dishing invective, less so at taking it. Often the case with bullies, the minute someone fights back in an effective way, they get scared. Now on “vacation” from the show, Ingraham has been on her belly begging forgiveness. The fall has begun.

The decline of Ingraham, however, started some time back. It was visible in the unenthusiastic response to a nasty speech she gave in February before a Louisiana business group. A handful of attendees jumped to their feet in appreciation, but the great majority sat on their hands. The business leaders afterward issued a disclaimer.

A question remains on the wisdom of boycotting companies that sponsor commentators one detests. Is that a quashing of free speech as a writer for The Hill suggested? It isn’t. No way.

If people have the right to spend their money on political activism, they certainly have the right to withhold it. That’s what shunning funders of toxic views amounts to.

But is it good for democracy? Let me say right off that I believe in a diversity of opinion. My left-leaning biases notwithstanding, I read The American Conservative for its thoughtful arguments. And I value The Wall Street Journal for its excellent reporting and bypass the right-wing boobery on its opinion pages. I subscribe to both publications, which means I support them financially.

But the excretions on Fox News have moved so beyond the bounds of civic decency that one must entertain the idea of snubbing the network’s bankrollers altogether. There’s all that crazy talk, without evidence, of an ongoing FBI “coup” against Donald Trump. One Fox News contributor brooded on an FBI plot to assassinate the president and didn’t get the boot.

This goes beyond slavish devotion to Trump. It’s a frontal assault on the civic culture. As Ralph Peters, a retired Army officer who recently quit as a Fox News analyst, wrote, the network’s “prime-time lineup preaches paranoia, attacking processes and institutions vital to our republic and challenging the rule of law.”

A bunch of advertisers rebelled against Sean Hannity for flogging the nutty conspiracy theory that the Clintons had Democratic Party staffer Seth Rich murdered. His program survived, but its ad revenues are down.

Whether on Fox News Channel or elsewhere, Ingraham remains free to continue vacuuming dollars from receptive audiences. If she truly believes

what she says, she should be willing to persevere at a lower income level.

Advertisers undoubtedly would prefer not being squeezed. But if they are forced to choose customers, most big names are going to prefer the young, the educated and the affluent.

For all the right’s portrayal of the students as left-wing radicals, they come off as decidedly clean-cut products of the American middle class. Therein lies their power. They are so much better at hitting back than the Fox News dinosaurs and, for that matter, the hotheads on the far left.

Ingraham has a right to go after these students, even viciously, despite their age, despite the trauma of a massacre at their school. That’s what free speech is about. And children or not, the students are playing a grown-up game.

What really gets the goat of Ingraham and her defenders is that they play it so well. And should the kids decide to target the entire Fox News enterprise, they must already know this: They’re part of the way there.

Follow Froma Harrop on Twitter @FromaHarrop. She can be reached at tharrop@gmail.com.

Don’t let President Trump betray veterans

By Joe Conason

Whenever Donald Trump fires a member of his administration, the least likely reason is incompetence, corruption, abuse of authority or wasteful extravagance. If those were causes for dismissal in the Trump administration, nearly his entire cabinet would have been replaced by now. That tweet signaling the removal of Veterans Affairs Secretary David Shulkin — an Obama administration holdover widely regarded as one of the few able appointees in the cabinet — wasn’t provoked by any such offense.

The real trouble with Shulkin, as he informed the country on his way out, was his determination to stand up against a scheme fronted by the billionaire Koch brothers to “privatize” the VA health system, a \$200 billion public enterprise that currently serves the needs of nine million veterans. Even worse, Shulkin achieved enough success in providing and improving care to win the approval of 70 percent of the nation’s former service members.

If you ask veterans whether the VA should be privatized, the answer is overwhelmingly no. And if you survey the nation’s many veterans’ organizations, the response is unanimously negative as well, with the single exception of an outfit called “Concerned Veterans of America” — which is financed by the Koch brothers’ political network.

Unfortunately for those who have served the country in uniform, the Koch network has contrived to place political operatives from “Concerned

Veterans” in key positions at the VA. It was those operatives, dedicated to the Koch agenda, who helped to undermine and eventually remove Shulkin.

As for Trump, is anybody still surprised that his campaign pledge to provide the very best medical services for veterans was a fraud? By replacing Shulkin with Dr. Ronny Jackson, his personal physician, who lacks any experience or qualifications to run the VA, the president proved just how little he cares about this vital government program. In effect, he sacrificed veterans to the whims of the Koch brothers.

Known as the country’s biggest financiers of right-wing officials, organizations and think tanks, Charles and David Koch relentlessly promote their ideological and commercial interests (which generally coincide). They’re especially notorious for sponsoring politicians who will allow their continued destruction of the planet in pursuit of oil and coal profits. This is an understandable if despicable approach to politics.

But why are the Kochs so determined to dismantle the VA, one of the most popular and effective federal programs in history? Perhaps they have a secret plan to profit from privatizing veterans’ health care. Or perhaps their urge to destroy the VA is precisely because it has worked well. They openly hate government, which stands in the way of complete corporate domination of democratic society, and that may be reason enough. Whatever their motives, privatization poses a severe threat to veterans and ought to be opposed by every patriotic American.

Historically, the VA has provided both excellent care, as it did when the Clinton administration advanced its technological capacities, and less excellent care, as it did in the turbulent wake of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars. And it is true that some veterans — who live far from VA facilities or confront long delays in obtaining ordinary medical services — could benefit from a system like Medicare that allows them to use nearby private doctors and hospitals. Yet over the decades, the VA has addressed the traumatic injuries, mental illness and substance abuse suffering inflicted by war with dedicated services that the private sector will never match. That is why the VA Commission on Care, a bipartisan panel of top health care experts, issued a report in June 2016 that firmly rejected the privatization option. That is also why privatization has met with tough skepticism among elected officials of both parties.

To disrupt or even destroy those essential services with an ill-conceived ideological notion of “reform” would be to harm millions of veterans irreparably. It is hard to imagine a worse betrayal of their sacrifice.

Joe Conason is a journalist, author and political commentator. He is the founder and editor-in-chief of The National Memo, a daily political newsletter and website that features breaking news and commentary.

Trump’s trade policy could leave the economy in ruins

By Veronique de Rugy

President Donald Trump claimed in a tweet that “trade wars are good, and easy to win.” Unfortunately, the Chinese government’s swift response to his administration’s decision to impose tariffs on 1,300 Chinese goods with its own set of tariffs on U.S. goods sent to China tells us that his claim may be put to the test sooner than we think. The reality, I’m afraid, is that trade wars are always costly, and the pain is magnified when trade wars are waged against authoritarian regimes, such as the one in China.

Tariffs imposed by any government are, first and foremost, penalties on its own citizens who buy imports (or import-competing domestic goods, whose producers can then freely raise their prices to just under the new price levels set by the import tax). President Trump’s tariffs are therefore penalties imposed on Americans. Yes, some Chinese companies will suffer from the imposition of these import taxes. But make no mistake; this policy set by Uncle Sam will force Americans to pay higher prices for goods they choose to buy, and it will also cost American jobs.

Likewise, the Chinese tariffs announced on dozens of categories of American goods (such as pork, fruits, soybeans, nuts and sparkling wine) are penalties imposed on the Chinese people buying U.S. goods, even though the retaliatory taxes are exclusively advertised as a way to hurt American firms. The bottom line is that this tariff fight between China and the United States is the trade version of arm-wrestling, wherein each country demonstrates how much it’s willing to abuse its own citizens.

Yet in this high-stakes game, the Chinese government probably has the upper hand. China will be less likely to flinch than the Trump administration, largely because its officials bear no political costs for the tariffs and the costs they impose on the Chinese people. In fact, I’m sure the Republican legislators who will face American voters in November already understand how much heat they may get thanks to the reckless actions of this administration — actions that are being made worse by the ricocheting effects of Chinese retaliation.

Interestingly, when Beijing made its first announcement Monday, the stock exchange in China went up — signaling that at least for now, investors aren’t worried about tariffs affecting the Chinese economy that much. The same can’t be said of the Dow Jones industrial average, which went down, eliciting headlines like this one from Bloomberg: “Stocks’ Second-Quarter Start Is the Worst Since the Great Depression.” The president, who spent much of last year touting the stock market uptrend, has decided to remain very silent about its recent fall, along with investors’ anxiety over this newfound uncertainty.

After all, no one knows how this will end. So far, the Chinese have been firm but moderate, targeting retaliation toward a small portion of U.S. goods exported to China. But they’re sending a clear message that they won’t hesitate to take further and more punishing action — against U.S. farmers in particular — if the president sets in stone the triggers to impose Section 301 tariffs as he has repeatedly said he wants to do.

It’s true that having a trade bully in the White House who doesn’t seem to care about (or understand) the dire price paid by the American people for his tactics has prompted some needed dialogue between the U.S. and China. However, can we trust this administration to close a deal fast enough to avoid the serious economic consequences of the current trade dispute? Considering its size and its impressive and growing economy, China isn’t so easy to push around as other countries.

Negotiations require a good-faith effort and some discipline. It means that Trump may get only a small fraction of what he wants from the country, in spite of his aggressive tactics. Even if trade negotiators will be the ones leading the process, this president’s tendency to fly off the handle on Twitter without caring about the consequences when he’s not getting his way could jeopardize the efforts.

Time will tell us the answers to this question. But until it does, Americans will be held hostage and pay a heavy price. We should hope that this battle doesn’t actually devolve into a full-fledged trade war with China, because we would then find out how wrong the president really is.

Veronique de Rugy is a senior research fellow at the Mercatus Center at George Mason University

Democrats finally find media bias they dislike

By David Harsanyi

Last month, news anchors at Sinclair Broadcast Group’s TV stations were required to read a script critical of “fake stories” and general bias in the major news networks. Because some of the phrasing mirrored President Donald Trump’s overcooked critique of liberal media outlets, the story triggered widespread and overwrought warnings about authoritarianism and the rise of state-run media.

It’s true that Sinclair, the largest owner of U.S. TV stations, would have

been better off following the lead of the big outlets: hiring and working with people who subscribe to the same worldview and then simply letting them do their thing. But as long as we have a media market and inhibit government meddling in speech — thank you, Citizens United and Federal Communications Commission Chairman Ajit Pai — the idea that we are powerless to turning away from “propaganda” is nothing but alarmism. Every Sinclair market has an alternative local news station for viewers, not to mention other sources of information consumers can read and listen to if they desire.

Then again, having read the panicky coverage before watching the Sinclair videos, I was surprised by the innocuousness of the spots. The anchors were plainly reading a scripted public service announcement that claimed there is a “troubling trend of irresponsible, one-sided news stories” at major news outlets and then offering themselves as an alternative. They then cautioned viewers to avoid the “sharing of biased and false news” on social media, which is, I am often told, a plague on democracy. “But we are human and sometimes our reporting might fall short,” the script goes on to say. “If you believe our coverage is unfair please reach out to us.”

The rhetoric was a less sanctimonious version of CNN’s apples and bananas commercial from a few months ago — another finger wagging aimed at political foes and competitors. One peculiar complaint about the Sinclair spots is that local anchors were being “forced” — a word widely used by those reporting on the incident — to read opinions they do not share. “I felt like a POW recording a message,” one aggrieved newsreader told CNN. As a writer, I can sympathize with people being asked to say things that undermine their beliefs. In truth, though, no one can force you to say or write anything. If you find the words “fake” and “news” morally and professionally objectionable, quit.

The concept of free will has little part in any of our national conversations these days. You’d think that Russian bots, Facebook posts and local news anchors all have the preternatural ability to burrow into your brain and make your choices for you.

CNN senior media correspondent Brian Stelter went as far as to claim that viewers were being “force-fed” the Sinclair viewpoint, which would mean that every time an outlet is “leaning forward” or telling us that “Democracy Dies in Darkness” or lecturing us about “fake news,” it, too, is

force-feeding consumers their partisan talking points.

It’s clear that the oversized reaction to the Sinclair script is occurring because it flaunted the wrong bias. And considering the often sycophantic treatment the previous administration received from major news outlets, it’s difficult to take those acting appalled very seriously. In fact, those who act most disturbed are in part responsible for the rise of openly partisan journalism. That’s because in many ways, politically motivated news is as much a market reaction as an ideological one.

Take CNN’s full-blown push for gun control over the past few weeks. Is the network any less culpable of the supposed manipulation of democracy when it features a virtually unchallenged — and often fact-challenged — opinion that runs in a loop for a week? CNN wasn’t alone. Surely, it’s not surprising that many Americans might seek out alternative coverage, especially in conservative areas, where Sinclair is strongest. If the wealthiest legacy networks — the ones the public relies on because they have the most access — keep treating one party with standards and an intensity they don’t apply to the other, then no one should be surprised by a pushback.

Maybe it’s for the best. After all, advocacy journalism isn’t necessarily propaganda. Politically motivated journalists tend to concentrate on specific targets, but their work can be worthwhile and factually sound. It’s likely that the news coverage of the Sinclair affiliates, most of which are run independently, are just as reliable as that of the majors. But in a broader sense, competing biases keep the other side challenged. Meanwhile, let’s continue reading all news with the appropriate skepticism and filters.

And it shouldn’t be forgotten that there are plenty of conscientious journalists. Most media bias, it seems to me, is an organic byproduct of journalists’ worldview, not some conspiracy to mislead the public. But everyone has a bias. There’s nothing wrong with pointing it out. Sinclair’s real sin, though, is that it was ham-fisted about the wrong kind.

David Harsanyi is a senior editor at The Federalist and the author of the forthcoming “First Freedom: A Ride through America’s Enduring History with the Gun, From the Revolution to Today.”

The Norwalk Patriot

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The Norwalk Patriot is published weekly by The Downey Patriot, Inc.
Controlled Distribution, 22,000 copies are printed.
Distributed by CIPS Marketing Group, Inc., Los Angeles, CA.

FICT. BUS NAME

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File Number 2018053079
THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) IS (ARE) DOING BUSINESS AS: (1) **ORIGINAL PANCHOS TACOS, 10823 HOPLAND ST, NORWALK CA 90650, LA COUNTY**
Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number (if applicable): AI #ON: N/A
REGISTERED OWNERS(S): (1) JESUS S. VALENCIA, 10823 HOPLAND ST, NORWALK CA 90650 (2) JENNIFER L. ONOPA, 10823 HOPLAND ST, NORWALK CA 90650
State of Incorporation: N/A
THIS BUSINESS IS CONDUCTED BY: a Married Couple
The date registrant started to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above: N/A
I declare that all the information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000).)
S/ JESUS S. VALENCIA, HUSBAND
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on MARCH 2, 2018
Notice - In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the County Clerk, except, as provided in Subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to Section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. Effective January 1, 2014, the Fictitious Business Name Statement must be accompanied by the affidavit of identity form.
The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State or Common Law (see Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code).
The Norwalk Patriot 3/23/18, 3/30/18, 4/6/18, 4/13/18

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File Number 2018067879
THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) IS (ARE) DOING BUSINESS AS: (1) **HERENCIA MEXICANA (MEXICAN FOOD)** (2) **DINASTIA MEXICANA (MEXICAN FOOD), 10509 BORSON STREET, NORWALK CA 90650, LA COUNTY**
Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number (if applicable): AI #ON: N/A
REGISTERED OWNERS(S): (1) SAMUEL MAGANA, 10509 BORSON STREET, NORWALK CA 90650
State of Incorporation: N/A
THIS BUSINESS IS CONDUCTED BY: an Individual
The date registrant started to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above: N/A
I declare that all the information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000).)
S/ SAMUEL MAGANA, OWNER
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on MARCH 19, 2018
Notice - In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the County Clerk, except, as provided in Subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to Section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. Effective January 1, 2014, the Fictitious Business Name Statement must be accompanied by the affidavit of identity form.
The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State or Common Law (see Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code).
The Norwalk Patriot 3/23/18, 3/30/18, 4/6/18, 4/13/18

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File Number 2018056906
THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) IS (ARE) DOING BUSINESS AS: (1) **SPEEDY'S TERMITE CONTROL, 16014 CLARKDALE AVE, NORWALK CA 90650, LA COUNTY, 10929 FIRESTONE BLVD STE 154, NORWALK CA 90650**
Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number (if applicable): AI #ON: 201720810595
REGISTERED OWNERS(S): (1) INDY MARKETING SERVICES, LLC, 10929 FIRESTONE BLVD., STE 154, NORWALK CA 90650
State of Incorporation: CA
THIS BUSINESS IS CONDUCTED BY: a Limited Liability Company
The date registrant started to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above: N/A
I declare that all the information in this

statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000).)
S/ INDY MARKETING SERVICES, LLC, CEO, VANESSA RENEE BAEZA
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on MARCH 7, 2018
Notice - In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the County Clerk, except, as provided in Subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to Section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. Effective January 1, 2014, the Fictitious Business Name Statement must be accompanied by the affidavit of identity form.
The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State or Common Law (see Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code).
The Norwalk Patriot 3/16/18, 3/23/18, 3/30/18, 4/6/18

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File Number 2018063990
THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) IS (ARE) DOING BUSINESS AS: (1) **LEDBETTER ACCOUNTING SERVICES, 265 SOUTH WESTERN AVENUE 1013, LOS ANGELES CA 90004, LA COUNTY, 2212 MYRTLE AVENUE #11, LONG BEACH CA 90806**
Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number (if applicable): AI #ON: N/A
REGISTERED OWNERS(S): (1) KATTS CREATIONS LLC, 2212 MYRTLE AVENUE #11, LONG BEACH CA 90806
State of Incorporation: CA
THIS BUSINESS IS CONDUCTED BY: a Limited Liability Company
The date registrant started to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above: 02/2018
I declare that all the information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000).)
S/ KATTS CREATIONS LLC, PRESIDENT, KATHERINE LEDBETTER
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on MARCH 14, 2018
Notice - In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the County Clerk, except, as provided in Subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to Section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. Effective January 1, 2014, the Fictitious Business Name Statement must be accompanied by the affidavit of identity form.
The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State or Common Law (see Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code).
The Norwalk Patriot 3/23/18, 3/30/18, 4/6/18, 4/13/18

GOVERNMENT

CITY OF NORWALK SUMMARY
ORDINANCE NO. 18-1701
The Norwalk City Council, at a meeting held April 3, 2018, adopted proposed Ordinance No. 18-1701, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF NORWALK AMENDING TITLE 17 OF THE NORWALK MUNICIPAL CODE TO REGULATE THE CREATION OF ACCESSORY DWELLING UNITS AND FINDING THE ORDINANCE EXEMPT FROM THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT, which will amend the Norwalk Municipal Code to provide specific regulations and development standards for the construction of new accessory dwelling units and the conversion of existing structures into an accessory dwelling unit. This ordinance applies Citywide to all residential zones, by the following roll call vote:
AYES: Councilmembers Ayala, Perez, and Rios, Vice Mayor Shryock, and Mayor Vernola
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
The full text of Ordinance No. 18-1701 is available for review in the Office of the City Clerk during regular business hours.

Marissa J. Asistin, Assistant City Clerk
April 6, 2018

The Norwalk Patriot 4/6/18

LIEN SALES

Extra Space Storage will hold a public auction to sell personal property described below belonging to those individuals listed below at the location indicated:

10950 Firestone Blvd
Norwalk, CA 90650

04/18/18 11:30am

Mario Miranda
Household items

Denise Gutierrez
Household items

Michael Eugene Hicks
Household items

Osiris Encinas
Household Items

Charles Thomas
Household items

Er Edmond
Household items

Avis C Brumfield
Household Items

Sonia Miranda
Household Items

Rafael Urbina
Household items

Hilda Martinez
Household items

Olga Murillo
Household items

Thomas Valdez
Household items

Salvador Garcia
Household items

Otto Rosal
Household items

Crystle Newkirk
Household items

Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the above referenced facility in order to complete the transaction. Extra Space Storage may refuse any bid and may rescind any purchase up until the winning bidder takes possession of the personal property. Please advertise March 30, 2018 & April 6, 2018.

The Norwalk Patriot 3/30/18, 4/6/18

NOTICES

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME
CASE NUMBER: VS030839
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner ANNAMARIA GARCIA-FLORES filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
Present name (1) ANNAMARIA GARCIA-FLORES to Proposed name (1) ANNA MARIE GARCIA-FLORES
THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.
NOTICE OF HEARING
Date: May 30, 2018, Time: 1:30 pm, Department: C, Room: 312
The address of the court is 12720 Norwalk Blvd., Norwalk, 90650
A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once a week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in the county, **THE NORWALK PATRIOT**
March 28, 2018
Judge Margaret M. Bernal
Petitioner or Attorney, In Pro Per **ANNAMARIA GARCIA-FLORES 4302 SNOWDEN AVENUE LAKEWOOD, CA 90713 (310) 415-8994**

The Norwalk Patriot 4/6/18, 4/13/18, 4/20/18, 4/27/18

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME
CASE NUMBER: VS030828
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner Miro Dragich Sr. 13607 Domart Av. Norwalk CA 90650 filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
Present name (1) Miroslav Dragich to Proposed name (1) Miro Dragich Sr.
THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

NOTICE OF HEARING
Date: May 16, 2018, Time: 1:30 pm, Department: C, Room: 312
The address of the court is 12720 Norwalk Bl. Rm. 101, Norwalk, CA 90650
A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once a week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in the county, **Norwalk Patriot 8301 E. Florance Av. St 100 Downey CA 90240**
March 14, 2018
Judge Margaret M. Bernal
Judge Of The Superior Court
Petitioner or Attorney, In Pro Per **Miro Dragich Sr. 13607 Domart Av. Norwalk CA 90650 (562) 716-4369 qualitymatttrans@gmail**

The Norwalk Patriot 3/23/18, 3/30/18, 4/6/18, 4/13/18

PROBATE

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF HAI HO PHAM
Case No. 18STPB02595
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of HAI HO PHAM
A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by Thu Luu Hoang Mai Cao in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that Thu Luu Hoang Mai Cao 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 April 17, 2018 at 10:30 AM in Dept. No. 5 located at 111 N. Hill St., Los Angeles, CA 90012.

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.
Petitioner: Thu Luu Hoang Mai Cao THU LUU HOANG MAI CAO 14027 LONGWORTH AVE NORWALK CA 90650 CN947531 PHAM Mar 30, Apr 6, 13, 2018

CN947531
The Norwalk Patriot 3/30/18, 4/6/18, 4/13/18

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: TRUDY MELINDA SEVILLA CASE NO. 18STPB01202
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of TRUDY MELINDA SEVILLA
A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by UNISIA SEVILLA in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.
THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that UNISIA SEVILLA 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 in this court as follows: 04/27/18 at 8:30AM in Dept. 29 located at 111 N. HILL ST., LOS ANGELES, CA 90012
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 Petitioner **STEFFANIE STELNICK - SBN 290248 LAW OFFICE OF STEFFANIE STELNICK 23890 COPPERHILL DR. STE 405 VALENCIA CA 91354 3/23, 3/30, 4/6/18 CNS-3111136# THE NORWALK PATRIOT**

CNS 3111136
The Norwalk Patriot 3/23/18, 3/30/18, 4/6/18

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF LINDA LEE JONES
Case No. 18STPB02617

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of LINDA LEE JONES
A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by Jaclyn Cleveland in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.
THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that Jaclyn Cleveland 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 April 18, 2018 at 8:30 AM in Dept. No. 79 located at 111 N. Hill St., Los Angeles, CA 90012.

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 petitioner: LAURA WODDIS ESQ LAWRENCE A WIDDIS ESQ 630 E COLORADO ST GLENDALE CA 91205 CN947506 JONES Mar 23, 30, 2018, Apr 6, 2017

CN947506
The Norwalk Patriot 3/23/18, 3/30/18, 4/6/18

TRUSTEE SALES

Trustee Sale No. 17-005519 730-1710205-70 APN. 0802-026-018 NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER DEED OF TRUST DATED 02/23/07, 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 PROCEEDINGS AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. On 04/25/18 at 11:00 am, Aztec Foreclosure Corporation as the duly appointed Trustee under and pursuant to the power of sale contained in that certain Deed of Trust executed by William F. Lacquement & Heather L. Lacquement, husband and wife as joint tenants, as Trustor(s), in favor of Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for Resmae Mortgage Corporation, as Beneficiary,

Recorded on 03/01/07 in Instrument No. 2007044246 of official records in the Office of the county recorder of LOS ANGELES County, California, WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH (payable at time of sale in lawful money of the United States, 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), By the fountain located at 400 Civic Center Plaza, Pomona, CA 91766, all right, title and interest conveyed to and now held by it under said Deed of Trust in the property situated in said County, California described as: 15722 SEAFORTH AVE, NORWALK, CA 90650. The property heretofore described is being sold "as is". The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. Said 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 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 tests created by said Deed of Trust, to-wit: \$312,590.21 (Estimated). Accrued interest and additional advances, if any, will increase this figure prior to sale. The undersigned caused said Notice of Default and Election to Sell to be recorded in the county where the real property is located and more than three months have elapsed since such recordation. DATE: March 23, 2018 AZTEC FORECLOSURE CORPORATION Elaine Malone Assistant Secretary / Assistant Vice President AZtec Foreclosure Corporation, 3636 N. Central Ave., Suite #400, Phoenix, AZ 85012 Phone: (877) 257-0717 or (602) 638-5700; fax: (602) 638-5748 www.aztectrustee.com 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 or visit the Internet Web site, using the file number assigned to this case 17-005519. 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 Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. www.homesearch.com 800-758-8052 or Aztec Foreclosure Corporation (877) 257-0717 www.aztectrustee.com NPP0329168 To: NORWALK PATRIOT 03/30/2018, 04/06/2018, 04/13/2018

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Judge favors rehabilitation over punishment

Continued from page 2

“If I did, I would become their next pimp,” says Judge Pratt.

“That is, if I thought for them and ordered them around, I would become the authority figure, and control them just as pimps do. We want them to think for themselves, make decisions for themselves.”

Do they slip, after meeting her in court? “Of course they do. They violate probation, some try to run away. Sometimes they will tell us, as soon as they get into court, ‘I tested dirty for marijuana.’ But we believe, it’s not how many times you fall down, it’s how many times you get up again.”

If the girls are tempted to go back to the sex trade by their pimps while they are on probation, how can they be stopped? If you don’t believe in locking them up, that is.

“No, but there are ways,” says the judge. “If the ‘home’ gets wind of their plans to leave, they can move them to a remote location. Sometimes it’s just as simple as removing their shoes. They aren’t going far without shoes, 20 miles from a paved road.”

Judge Pratt favors rehabilitation over punishment so she does not immediately dismiss the prostitution-related charges against the girls. Thus, they can remain eligible for wraparound services offered by Los Angeles County’s juvenile justice system. These include placement in a group home or juvenile hall — a safe place away from pimps — gang intervention programs, educational opportunities, job training, and even family reunification services.

“I like to use gift cards,” Judge Pratt said, “so they can get the simple ordinary necessities, like appropriate clothing to wear to school.”

She uses some of the grant money for things the kids wouldn’t normally get, to mark birthdays, the end of probation terms, and other milestones. The money for the cupcakes she buys comes out of her own pocket.

“We asked one girl what restaurant she wanted to go to for her birthday, and she said she had never been to a restaurant, in her life. And she was 18.”

“Most of these kids have experienced betrayal, if not worse, from people in positions of authority throughout their whole lives that skews their view of the world,” Judge Pratt said. “One of our girls even testified before Congress about the matter of foster homes who operate only for the paycheck. The girls become a commodity, and then the foster homes are no better than the pimps who exploit them for the same dollars.

“What we’re trying to do for these kids is to show them there are people in positions of authority who do care. We have 65% of our girls graduating with their peer age group from high school. That is amazing when you consider how much they have moved around.”

Do you remember your successes better or failures? After a long pause, “The failures. There aren’t too many. So far, in our 500 girls there have been no suicides, though there were attempts. Two girls were killed, one by an overdose, another when her pimp ran over her with a car.”

Judge Pratt does everything in her power to ensure these girls have a stable place to live, receive regular counseling and mentorship, and attend school as they work towards graduation.

“For the first time in their lives, our girls feel like they have a personal champion cheering them on every step of the way.”

Norwalk awards trash contract to CR&R

► In a special meeting Monday, council members vote 5-0 to give CR&R its trash contract.

By Raul Samaniego Contributor

NORWALK – After a nearly two-year process, and six years after an official notice of cancellation was given to Norwalk’s two current solid waste vendors, the City Council on Monday awarded its trash contract to CR&R, of Stanton.

“I’m excited to move forward then-Vice Mayor Leonard Shryock said after the special meeting.

The council’s decision came with a stipulation to negotiate the final costs with the apparent winner of the process. “We’re going to sit down with [our] staff team and the leadership of CR&R,” Shryock said. “[This has] been going on for two years.”

Shryock hinted the new agreement could come at a cost, saying, “We haven’t had a rate increase since 2012.”

CR&R already provides trash pick-up services for Norwalk, along with Consolidated Waste. The

current agreements expired this year, February 10, but have been in a month-to-month status since then.

That status expires on July 31 with the new contract slated to begin the following day, August 1.

Asked if the city expected any litigation regarding the awarding of the contract, Shryock replied, “I don’t think so.”

On Monday, project leader and staff member Adriana Figueroa spent about 45 minutes presenting the finding of her team’s efforts in reviewing the three finalists: CR&R, Athens and WRI Disposal companies.

She recommended the council review the findings and come back at a later date with a decision.

Instead, Mayor Luigi Vernola asked if anyone would make a motion regarding the status of the proposals. Shryock moved that the city accept the proposal by CR&R. Councilmember Margarita Rios seconded the motion and it was passed 5-0.

In the end, after six years and a two-year search process, the vote was over in less than a minute’s time.

According to city officials some of the immediate benefits to

Norwalk residents will be:

- Increased no-charge bulky item calls to 52 times a year (with five items per call).
- Allowance for apartment units to call for bulky item pickup, up to 12 times a year (five items per call) at no additional charge.
- New mulch giveaway events twice a year.
- New options for mail-back kits for sharp items (syringes, lancets, etc.) at no additional charge.
- New compost bin program for residents at a \$35 matching price.
- New Norwalk CR&R satellite office with bill payment availability.

After the vote, in an exclusive one on one interview, Norwalk City Manager Jesus Gomez shared what the new agreement means for residents:

“First of all, we had a competitive process for the selection of the solid waste haulers for the city...the vote tonight means we will have the ability to negotiate with one hauler to get the best rates possible for the residents and the commercial [customer] rates.”

Regarding the lengthy process,

Gomez added, “It has taken a long time and one of my goals was to bring it to a conclusion as quickly as possible so that residents could have an idea of who’s going to be their trash hauler and a goal of having rates lower than they currently are.”

As the CR&R residential rate structure stands, a monthly savings of at least .86 cents will be had by each residential customer.

As far as litigation, Gomez stated, “I don’t expect any litigation, but it’s always a possibility. It’s a competitive industry and they’re free to seek that type of remedy, but I don’t think anybody was damaged in the process, as it was an open and competitive process.”

According to Gomez, the city will be meeting with CR&R Wednesday regarding negotiations on the finalized contract numbers.

“We’re looking forward to working with potentially a new hauler,” Gomez said. “The goal is to be able to provide the residents with a really good negotiated rate and also service.”

Rudy Bermudez, Ali Taj join crowded field to replace Tony Mendoza

► The two Democrats are running in the June 5 special election for state Senate.

By Alex Dominguez Staff Writer

NORWALK – Two more candidates have thrown their names into consideration for the 32nd District State Senate race. The election will be held June 5.

Bermudez says community has been left behind

Rudy Bermudez says that “we need leadership in the district.”

“Our district has been negatively

impacted,” said Bermudez. “In some areas we not only not have a senator, but we no longer have an assembly member either. The fact [is] that our community has been left behind by those in leadership, and we are in desperate need of new jobs.”

The 59-year-old La Mirada resident is running on platform surrounding job creation, education, and crime.

“It’s about good paying jobs that enhance the quality of life of all our residents. It’s about improving education, to ensure that our children have every advantage available to them at the K – 12 level all the way to the community college and university systems,” said Bermudez. “It’s about reducing crime. There’s been a number of shootings...the homicide rate is going up. It’s about providing a better quality of life overall.”

Bermudez identifies as a Democrat.

Bermudez is a former school board member for the Norwalk - La Mirada Unified School District, a former Norwalk City Council Member, and a former Assembly member of the 56th District. He is also a retiree from the Department of Corrections, where he spent 30 years. He has two sons.

Bermudez established a long list of accomplishments while serving in each of his previous political capacities.

“I created a code of conduct with procedures for disciplining school board members who breached those codes of conduct. I drafted an anti-nepotism policy that precluded school board members or elected members from hiring their relatives...we increased the salaries of our employees by 18 percent and created a budget reserve over three times the state mandated requirement over 10 percent simultaneously while opening new schools,” said Bermudez. “In the city council we reduced a utility user tax

that enabled families to have more money to spend on groceries and other basic necessities, as well as moving our city to performance-based budgeting to ensure every dollar was utilized to its utmost.

“For State Assembly, I drafted a law that prohibits sex offenders from practicing medicine in California, from being OBGYN’s and pediatricians. Also, I drafted a piece of legislation that helped working families bring their kids to Kindergarten.”

Bermudez says to voters that “experience matters.”

“Having experience and having a track record of providing an impact on their lives daily, to positively enhance their quality of life (matters).”

Candidate Taj looking at bigger picture

Democrat Ali Sajjad Taj says that he had been considering to run for State Senate sometime around 2022, however the seat opened up sooner than expected.

“My intention has been to serve our communities, and that’s what I’ve done when you look at the tract record,” said Taj. “As an elected official, I’ve always looked after the communities and served the communities in a way where I can make a difference in a very positive way.”

Taj is a current city council member and former mayor in the city of Artesia, elected in 2013. His term will expire later this year in November.

Before he came to Artesia, Taj was born in Lahore, Pakistan. After finishing his high school level schooling at the International British School in the Netherlands, he returned to Pakistan where he completed his Bachelor’s Degree in Economics and Masters in Public Administration.

Taj says he had been coming to the U.S. since he was 16, before moving here permanently in the 60’s and eventually into the district 20 years ago.

Taj has a 20-year-old son who studies school locally at Cerritos College.

Coming from a financial planning background, Taj says that he was able to help pull the City of Artesia from the clutches of financial ruin.

“The City of Artesia at one point was about to be bankrupt,” said Taj. “When I came on board in 2013, (I helped) turn around the city from financial emergency (to) now balancing the budget and having financial reserves...”

He hopes to now use that same expertise to “look at the bigger picture” and benefit the district and State of California.

“My message is that I’ll fight to cut the waste, increase the accountability, and improve the quality of life for our residents and constituent.

My goal is to work with each community individually as well as collectively to improve the quality of life...I’ll be representing not just my district; I’ll be making legislation for the entire state of California.”

Taj added that “the accountability of our elected officials is extremely important.”

“People who vote should not have to worry about their elected official. They elect us because they believe and trust in us to do certain things on their behalf...,” said Taj. “Representation is critical. I want (voters) to know I am a servant of theirs...whatever they are asking me to do, it is my responsibility to do that.”

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School board considers bond measure to renovate schools

Council approves CDBG spending plan

Effective this week, Norwalk residents will see changes in the way the city handles its trash.

The city council has approved a new contract with CR&R, a company that has been handling the city's trash for several years. The new contract will increase the city's trash disposal costs by 10 percent, but it will also provide for a number of new services, including the removal of bulky items and the recycling of certain types of waste.

The city council also approved a new contract with Consolidated Waste, a company that has been handling the city's trash for several years. The new contract will increase the city's trash disposal costs by 10 percent, but it will also provide for a number of new services, including the removal of bulky items and the recycling of certain types of waste.

On the ballot – June 5 and the council's 2013 will be the city's annual election for the city council. The city council will be responsible for making decisions on the city's budget, the city's police and fire departments, and the city's public works department.

The city council will also be responsible for making decisions on the city's parks and recreation department, the city's library, and the city's community development department.

The city council will also be responsible for making decisions on the city's health and human services department, the city's social services department, and the city's housing and community development department.

The city council will also be responsible for making decisions on the city's economic development department, the city's tourism and convention department, and the city's cultural and arts department.

The Norwalk Patriot is offering subscriptions for \$10/year. Subscription guarantees delivery every Friday to single-family homes in Norwalk.

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Rudy Bermudez

Ali Taj

Cal High senior shows resilience after tragedy

WHITTIER – California High School senior April Ramirez was a happy, high-achieving Ceres Elementary School student who enjoyed spending time with her family when the unthinkable happened – her father was diagnosed with cancer and passed away when Ramirez was just 9 years old.

Dedicating herself to a life of great accomplishments, Ramirez enrolled in Cal High's acclaimed college prep and academic support program, Puente, as a freshman, feeling that attending an elite university would be the best way to honor her father's memory.

Set to graduate in June, Ramirez has feverishly applied to several four-year universities, gaining acceptance so far from San Jose State University and earning a full-ride scholarship to Whittier College. For her perseverance, the academic scholar was recognized on March 13 with an Award of Merit from the Whittier Union High School District Board of Trustees.

"Joining Puente has been an enormous help for me," Ramirez said. "I want to thank Cal High for receiving me with open arms and helping me become a competitive student. There have been so many students who have worked so hard this year, so this is a great honor for me."

Ramirez has been self-sufficient since elementary school, often staying home by herself to finish homework assignments while her mom was at work. The discipline fueled Ramirez to be more responsible in her studies and motivated her to take on leadership roles at Cal High.

In 2017, Ramirez was named Cal High's Puentista of the Year.

"April has been a key member of our Puente cabinet, always ready

to offer up ideas for fundraisers or social events, and she always follows through on whatever she says she will do," Cal High English teacher and Puente Program lead Lori Davies said. "April is undaunted in her quest for excellence. It has truly been a privilege to watch her grow up over the past four years, and I know she will continue to thrive in college and beyond."

Cal High's Puente Program is recognized as one of the highest-performing Puente sites in the state, based on the number of students who have applied to and been accepted by four-year colleges.

In addition to taking rigorous honors and Advanced Placement courses, Ramirez has distinguished herself as a campus leader. She is a Link Crew leader, Academic Mentor, two-year member of the National Honor Society, California Scholarship Federation life member, vice president of the Interact Club and on Cal High's Top 100 list for three years. She serves as a volunteer mentor at Ceres Elementary School's Think Together after-school tutoring program.

Ramirez is mulling her college options as she looks toward a sociology or criminology degree.

"It is so great to see a student like April succeed. She is ranked in the top 20 of her class, even with all the challenges that she faced growing up after losing her father," Cal High Principal Bill Schloss said. "She works extremely hard and gets things done. April will be very successful in her future and it feels good to know we've helped her, in some small way, to reach her goals."



California High School senior April Ramirez, who has shown resiliency in her personal and academic life despite the tragedy of losing her father at an early age, was recognized with an Award of Merit from the Whittier Union Board of Trustees on March 13.

IRS advices workers to check their paychecks

WASHINGTON – Launching a special week of activities, the Internal Revenue Service is encouraging taxpayers to do a "paycheck checkup" to make sure they have the right amount of tax taken out of their paychecks for their personal situation.

To help taxpayers understand the implications of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, the IRS unveiled several new features to help people navigate the issues affecting withholding in their paychecks.

The new tax law could affect how much tax someone should have their employer withhold from their paycheck. To help with this, the IRS urged taxpayers to visit the Withholding Calculator on IRS.gov. The Withholding Calculator can help prevent employees from having too little or too much tax withheld from their paycheck. Having too little tax withheld can mean an unexpected tax bill or potentially a penalty at tax time in 2019. And with the average refund topping \$2,800, some taxpayers might prefer to have less tax withheld up front and receive more in their paychecks.

Taxpayers can use the Withholding Calculator to estimate their 2018 income tax. The Withholding Calculator compares that estimate to the taxpayer's current tax withholding and can help them decide if they need to change their withholding with their employer. When using the calculator, it's helpful to have a completed 2017 tax return available.

Taxpayers who need to adjust their withholding will need to submit a new Form W-4, Employee's Withholding Allowance Certificate, to their employer. If an employee needs to adjust their withholding, doing so as quickly as possible means there's more time for tax withholding to take place evenly during the rest of the year. But waiting until later in the year means there are fewer pay periods to make the tax changes – which could have a bigger impact on each paycheck.

Information on "Paycheck Checkup" Available in Several Ways

The IRS is launching a sweeping effort to advise taxpayers about the importance of doing a "paycheck checkup" as soon as possible. In addition to updating the Withholding Calculator and issuing a new Form W-4, the agency is collaborating with tax professionals, partner organizations, employers, community groups and the tax and payroll industries to educate employers and employees about the importance of checking their withholding.

The IRS is also taking additional steps this week:

Launching a series of Tax Reform Tax Tips, an addition to the IRS's Tax Tips email-subscription program. These tips will begin this week and continue through 2018. Written in plain language, they can help taxpayers learn about major tax reform topics in understandable terms. The special series begins this week with daily tips covering withholding topics. The series will highlight other law changes in the weeks and months ahead, and taxpayers can subscribe on IRS.gov.

Issuing a special news release series. During the series, the IRS will focus on some of those groups most likely to be affected by the withholding changes and how the new law may affect their tax situation.

Sharing new YouTube videos to walk taxpayers through what they need to know about withholding, the Withholding Calculator and filling out a new Form W-4, if needed.

Using social media to spread the word about #PaycheckCheckup.

Who Needs a Paycheck Checkup

The IRS always recommends employees check their withholding at the beginning of each year or when their personal circumstances change to make sure they're having the right amount of tax withheld from their paychecks. With the new tax law changes, it's especially important for

certain people to use the Withholding Calculator on IRS.gov to make sure they have the right amount of withholding.

Among the groups who should check their withholding are:

- Two-income families.
- People working two or more jobs or who only work for part of the year.
- People with children who claim credits such as the Child Tax Credit.
- People with older dependents, including children age 17 or older.
- People who itemized deductions in 2017.
- People with high incomes and more complex tax returns.
- People with large tax refunds or large tax bills for 2017.

The law increased the standard deduction, removed personal exemptions, increased the child tax credit, limited or discontinued certain deductions and changed the tax rates and brackets.

When personal circumstances change that reduce withholding allowances they are entitled to claim, including divorce, starting a second job, or a child no longer being a dependent, an employee has 10 days to submit a new Form W-4 to their employer claiming the proper number of withholding allowances.

Taxpayers can use the results from the Withholding Calculator to determine if they should complete a new Form W-4, Employee's Withholding Allowance Certificate, and, if so, what information to put on it.

If changes to withholding should be made, the Withholding Calculator gives employees the information they need to fill out a new Form W-4. Employees will submit the completed Form W-4 to their employer.

The Norwalk Patriot



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Country music star Sara Evans performing at Downey Theatre



DOWNEY – The Downey Theatre closes its 2017-18 Season with country music singer and songwriter Sara Evans on Sunday, April 22, at 7 p.m. Country band Temecula Road will open the show.

Evans has had five No. 1 singles, sold millions of records, won the Academy of Country Music’s Top Female Vocalist Award, and claimed a Country Music Association trophy for her signature song, “Born To Fly.”

It’s tough to imagine many accomplishments she hasn’t already checked off her bucket list. And yet, with the release of her eighth studio album “Words,” Evans demonstrates that she’s still

willing to leap into the unknown, taking greater control of her career and calling the shots in a way that’s unusual in country music – particularly unusual for a woman in the genre.

“Words” is the first project on Evans’ own label: Born To Fly Records, appropriately named after that CMA-winning signature song, which celebrated risk and adventure. Much is familiar about “Words.” Evans’ voice is warm and strong, the songs are authentic and memorable, and the actual words themselves resonate with the realities of everyday life.

But the album was an eye-opening experience for Evans as a creative force. As the head of her own small, flexible company, she was able to take a streamlined approach to building it.

Instead of subjecting the music to multiple departments, each with their own view of one part of her career, Evans approached it with an instinctual, gut-level focus on making a project that represents the current version of Sara Evans.

“The only thing I had on my mind with this album was just Grammy-level songs and the coolest music that I can find,” she says. “I didn’t really go about it in

any other way. I wasn’t catering to any part of the business. There was never a thought in my head of, ‘Will this work on country radio?’

So what has happened with the music is that it is still very much Sara Evans music. It’s just a little bit deeper than I’ve gone in the past.”

For a woman who always tackled the music her own way, the new album is 100% her own.

“Songs are a combination of words and melodies, and it’s the words that matter most to me,” she says. “When we go into these pitch meetings, people always ask, ‘What are you looking for? Are you OK with doing something that’s a little more pop?’ I always tell them, ‘Just play me great lyrics.’ That’s what I’m looking for.”

Evans co-wrote three of the album’s 14 songs, instinctively picking material along the way that matches her world view. Thirteen additional females racked up writing credits on the project, including Lady Antebellum’s Hillary Scott, Pistol Annies’ Ashley Monroe, The Isaacs’ Sonya Isaacs, Hillary Lindsey (“Blue Ain’t Your Color”), Caitlyn Smith (“Wasting All These Tears”), Heather Morgan (“Beat Of The Music”) and Liz Hengber (“For My Broken Heart”).

“A Little Bit Stronger,” Evans’ pensive, heartbreak anthem that spent two weeks at No. 1, represents a look at the journey thus far, one that’s kept her firmly in the forefront of country music for a solid 20 years. Born and raised in Boonville, Missouri, Evans grew up listening – like much of her audience – to a mix of country, pop, and rock on the radio. She began singing with the family band when she was five and made her first attempts at recording as a teenager, committing to a creative path with her move to Nashville in 1991.

Evans’ résumé now includes 14 Top 20 country hits, ranging from her reassuring first No. 1 – “No Place That Far,” featuring background

vocals by Vince Gill – to the neo-traditional “Suds In The Bucket,” to the elegant, spiky pop feel of “Slow Me Down.”

Evans wants to represent the full panorama of her artistic vision. By handpicking the team around her and making self-expression the priority of her work, she’s found songs that continue to connect her to the emotional core of her audience and that adhere to that Born To Fly embrace of risk and adventure.

“I don’t use the word a lot, resilient, but I would say that’s the best way to define me as a person,” Evans says. “I feel so blessed, but at the same time, there’s blood, sweat, and tears in every single thing that I’ve gotten in this life. I have gone out and just really, really sold it, and I’m still doing that to this day.”

Doing it her way. As a mom. As a record company entrepreneur. And, mostly, as a distinct artist still excited about her unique journey.

Called out by The Huffington Post as one of the top new country artists to watch, and named after the town they grew up in, Temecula Road is comprised of sisters Emma and Maddie Salute, and longtime friend Dawson Anderson. They are known for their trademark harmonies and covers, which have earned praise from Carrie Underwood, Brett Eldredge, Dan + Shay, and RaeLynn.

These days, it’s their original songs that are putting them on the map. Their first two singles “What If I Kissed You” and “Hoping” already have over 1 million streams on Spotify, and the trio just released their new single “Everything Without You.”

On the touring side, Temecula Road has opened for Martina McBride, Josh Turner, Joe Nichols, Easton Corbin, Lee Brice, Sara Evans, Kenny Rogers, and Eli Young Band.

Individual tickets are now on sale for \$69 for orchestra and \$59 for balcony through the box office, or by phone at 562-861-8211. Tickets can also be purchased online at DowneyTheatre.org.

‘Beauty and the Beast’ included in La Mirada Theatre’s 2018-19 schedule

LA MIRADA – Disney’s “Beauty and the Beast” is coming to the La Mirada Theatre for the Performing Arts next year.

The enchanting musical is one of seven performances that highlight the theater’s 2018-19 season, which was revealed Monday.

Single tickets go on sale July 16, with the exception of the Donny and Marie show, which are on sale now.

Below is the full schedule:

“A Night with Janis Joplin”
Sept. 14 – Oct. 7, 2018

Janis Joplin exploded onto the music scene in 1967 and, almost overnight, became the queen of rock and roll. She recorded a slew of hits, including “Me and Bobby McGee,” “Piece of my Heart,” “Mercedes Benz,” “Cry Baby” and “Summertime.” She died of a heroin overdose at age 27.

“A Night with Janis Joplin” is a musical celebration of her life and work. It stars Mary Bridget Davies, who portrayed Janise in the original Tony Award-nominated Broadway production.

“Stormy Weather”
Oct. 19 – Nov. 11, 2018

Tony and Emmy Award-winner Leslie Uggams stars as the legendary Lena Horne in this new bio-musical.

With glamour and grace, Lena Horne took Holly and the music industry by storm, her voice resonating throughout the decades. This production highlights not only her vocal talent, but also her determination to fight for what she believed.

“1776”
Jan. 11 – Feb. 3, 2019

Before “Hamilton,” there was “1776,” the musical about the founding of America.

Featuring a diverse, contemporary cast, the production



begins with a deadlocked Congress (sound familiar?) as its attempts to adopt the Declaration of Independence boil over into heated confrontations.

Remarkably, these contentious Founding Fathers harness their shared determination to do the right thing for a fledgling nation.

“Singin’ in the Rain”
April 19 – May 12, 2019

Dubbed “the greatest musical of all time,” this production of ‘Singin’ in the Rain’ has been faithfully adapted by Broadway legends Betty Comden and Adolph Green from their original award-winning screenplay.

Each classic scene, song and dance is accounted for, including the show-stopping title number, complete with an onstage rainstorm.

“Disney’s Beauty and the Beast”
May 31 – June 23, 2019

Step into the enchanted world of Broadway’s modern classic, “Disney’s Beauty and the Beast,” an international sensation that continues to delight with its story of soaring romance, bright humor and thrilling adventure.

Based on the animated feature, the stage version includes all of the memorable songs from the film, plus new ones.

Donny & Marie
July 25-26, 2019

The beloved sibling entertainers mix the spirit of their early television specials and recordings with a nostalgic look back on their storied career.

In addition to doing concerts across the country, Donny and Marie continue their run at the Flamingo Hotel in Las Vegas, where they were named Best Show by the Las Vegas Review-Journal for three years in a row.

Paul Anka
Nov. 16-17, 2019

The legendary singer/songwriter, and one of the biggest teen idols of the late ‘50s, continues to be a popular performer with a career spanning more than 60 years.

With more than 500 songs to his credit, Anka has cemented his place as one of the prolific and versatile songwriters of any generation. Among his classics are “Put Your Head on My Shoulder,” “Diana,” “My Way” and the famous theme from “The Tonight Show Starring Johnny Carson.”

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