

# Congress set to ban the IRS from offering free online tax filing

A bill supported by Democrats and Republicans would make permanent a program that bars the IRS from ever developing its own online tax filing service.

By Justin Elliott  
ProPublica

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Just in time for Tax Day, the for-profit tax preparation industry is about to realize one of its long-sought goals. Congressional Democrats and Republicans are moving to permanently bar the IRS from creating a free electronic tax filing system.

Last week, the House Ways and Means Committee, led by Rep. Richard Neal, D-Mass., passed the Taxpayer First Act, a wide-ranging bill making several administrative changes to the IRS that is sponsored by Reps. John Lewis, D-Ga., and Mike Kelly, R-Pa.

In one of its provisions, the bill makes it illegal for the IRS to create its own online system of tax filing. Companies like Intuit, the maker of TurboTax, and H&R Block have lobbied for years to block the IRS from creating such a system. If the tax agency created its own program, which would be similar to programs other developed countries have, it would threaten the industry’s profits.

“This could be a disaster. It could be the final nail in the coffin of the idea of the IRS ever being able to create its own program,” said Mandi Matlock, a tax attorney who does work for the National Consumer Law Center.

Experts have long argued that the IRS has failed to make filing taxes as easy and cheap as it could be. In addition to a free system of online tax preparation and filing, the agency could provide people with pre-filled tax forms containing the salary data the agency already has, as ProPublica first reported on in 2013.

The Free File Alliance, a private industry group, says 70% of American taxpayers are eligible to file for free. Those taxpayers, who must make less than \$66,000, have access to free tax software provided by the companies. But just 3% of eligible U.S. taxpayers actually use the free program each year. Critics of the program say that companies use it as a cross-marketing tool to upsell paid products, that they have deliberately underpromoted the free option and that it leaves consumer data open to privacy breaches.

The congressional move would codify the status quo. Under an existing memorandum of understanding with the industry group, the IRS pledges not to create its own online filing system and, in exchange, the companies offer their free filing services to those below the income threshold.

One member of the Free File Alliance explicitly told shareholders that the IRS “developing software or other systems to facilitate tax return preparation ... may present a continued competitive threat to our business for the foreseeable future.”

The IRS’ deal with the Free File Alliance is regularly renegotiated and there have been repeated, bipartisan efforts in Congress to put the deal into law.

Those efforts have been fueled by hefty lobbying spending and campaign contributions by the industry. Intuit and H&R Block last year poured a combined \$6.6 million into lobbying related to the IRS filing deal and other issues. Neal, who became Ways and Means chair this year after Democrats took control of the House, received \$16,000 in contributions from Intuit and H&R Block in the last two election cycles.

Neal, who describes himself as a longtime champion of the existing Free File program, has argued that it would “would

Continued on page 2

## Tea Time at the D.D. Johnston – Hargitt House Museum

Photos courtesy city of Norwalk



## Norwalk restaurant grades

**Shave It**  
11005 Firestone Blvd.  
Date Inspected: 4/8/19  
Grade: **A**

**Subway**  
11005 Firestone Blvd.  
Date Inspected: 4/8/19  
Grade: **A**

**Chuck E. Cheese**  
10949 Firestone Blvd.  
Date Inspected: 4/8/19  
Grade: **A**

**Rodger’s Food Service**  
10931 Alondra Blvd.  
Date Inspected: 4/8/19  
Grade: **A**

**Golden Pho**  
10925 Alondra Blvd.  
Date Inspected: 4/8/19  
Grade: **A**

**7-Eleven**  
10965 Firestone Blvd.  
Date Inspected: 4/8/19  
Grade: **A**

**VS Donuts Croissants**  
10959 Firestone Blvd.  
Date Inspected: 4/8/19  
Grade: **A**

**KFC**  
12959 Rosecrans Ave.  
Date Inspected: 4/5/19  
Grade: **B**

**Donut King**  
12000 Rosecrans Ave.  
Date Inspected: 4/4/19  
Grade: **A**

**Jack in the Box**  
12060 Rosecrans Ave.  
Date Inspected: 4/8/19  
Grade: **A**

**Subway**  
10995 Rosecrans Ave.  
Date Inspected: 4/4/19  
Grade: **A**

**Yum Yum Donuts**  
15900 Pioneer Blvd.  
Date Inspected: 4/4/19  
Grade: **A**

**Dollar Tree**  
13913 Pioneer Blvd.  
Date Inspected: 4/3/19  
Grade: **A**

**99 Cent Only Store**  
14029 Pioneer Blvd.  
Date Inspected: 4/3/19  
Grade: **A**

**L&L Hawaiian BBQ**  
12431 Norwalk Blvd.  
Date Inspected: 4/3/19  
Grade: **A**

**Subway**  
12301 Imperial Hwy.  
Date Inspected: 4/3/19  
Grade: **A**

**Subway**  
13019 E Rosecrans Ave. Ste 106  
Date Inspected: 4/2/19  
Grade: **A**

**W.W. Service Inc.**  
12800 E Rosecrans Ave.  
Date Inspected: 4/2/19  
Grade: **A**

**Rancho Grande**  
10935 E Rosecrans Ave.  
Date Inspected: 4/2/19  
Grade: **A**

**Taco Bell**  
13410 E Rosecrans Ave.  
Date Inspected: 4/2/19  
Grade: **A**

**Wingstop**  
11739 Rosecrans Ave  
Date Inspected: 4/2/19  
Grade: **A**

**Las Aguilas Bakery**  
12834 1/2 Rosecrans Ave.  
Date Inspected: 4/2/19  
Grade: **A**

## Weekend at a Glance

Friday 77°

Saturday 79°

Sunday 76°



### L.A. Times Festival of Books

All Weekend - USC

Celebrate literacy culture with panel discussions, autograph signings, live bands, chef demos, and more.



### Long Beach Grand Prix

All Weekend - Long Beach

America’s longest-running street race includes a weekend full of family activities. Go to gplb.com for a full schedule and tickets.



### Eric B. & Rakim

Saturday - The Novo DTLA, 8 pm

The legendary duo recognized as the premier DJ/MC team in hip-hop performs live. Tickets start at \$15.



### Cowboy Festival

All Weekend - William Hart Park in Santa Clarita

Cowboy performances across five festival stages, living history entertainers, food vendors, Western gear shopping and activities for all ages.



### Tamale Festival

Saturday - White Park in Riverside

Live entertainment, best tamale competition, beer garden, kids zone, and vendors. \$10-\$20



### A Night at the Drive-In

Saturday - Conejo Creek South Park in Thousand Oaks, 6 pm

Enjoy food trucks, live music, and raffles before an outdoor screening of “Back to the Future.” Movie starts at 7:45 pm. Admission starts at \$12 for one movie ticket and one parking space.

### TWEET OF THE WEEK

@CityofNorwalkCA:  
The new IHOP building on Norwalk Blvd will be underway! The old building on the same property has been demolished. Stay tuned for more information!

Follow us!  
@NorwalkPatriot



## Probation officers charged with pepper spray attacks

**DOWNEY** – Six Los Angeles County probation officers have been charged with illegally using pepper spray on five teenage girls at Los Padrinos Juvenile Hall in Downey.

Two separate cases were filed for warrant April 5 that allege the defendants, who work as detention services officers, either were unreasonable when using pepper spray or prevented the victims from being decontaminated after they were sprayed.

The six incidents occurred between April and July of 2018.

All six suspects made their initial court appearance last Friday and are scheduled to return for arraignment May 23.

Marlene Rochelle Wilson, 46, faces five felony counts of assault by a public officer and three misdemeanor counts of child abuse. She faces a maximum sentence of eight years and eight months in state prison.

Janeth Vilchez, 48, was charged with one count each of assault by a public officer and child abuse. She faces four years in prison.

LaCour Harrison, 53, faces one count of felony assault by a public officer and two misdemeanor counts of cruelty to a child by endangering her health. He faces up to four years in prison.

Claudette Reynolds, 57, was charged with one count each of assault by a public officer and cruelty to a child by endangering her health. She faces up to 3 1/2 years in prison.

Maria Asuzena Guerrero, 28, and Karnesha Marshall, 28, were charged with one count each of cruelty to a child by endangering her health. They face up to six months in jail.

## IRS barred from offering free tax preparation services

Continued from page 1

help low- and moderate-income taxpayers.”

Free File Alliance Executive Director Tim Hugo called it “a great idea when you can provide a great product — free tax returns — to Americans at no cost to the federal government.”

An H&R Block spokesperson said the company believes “Free File should be the subject of ongoing improvement, and we are committed to working with all parties to strengthen and improve Free File on behalf of the American taxpayer.”

Spokespeople for Neal, Lewis and Kelly did not immediately respond to requests for comment about the provision. A companion Senate bill with the same provision has been introduced by Sens. Chuck Grassley, R-Iowa, and Ron Wyden, D-Ore.

While efforts to make the IRS’ deal with the tax preparation industry permanent have fizzled in the past, critics are particularly worried this year. The Taxpayer First Act also includes a provision that would restrict the IRS’ use of private debt collectors to those above a certain income.

A Wyden spokesperson said the current bill is a “bipartisan, bicameral compromise so it includes priorities of both chairmen and ranking members.” Wyden “supports giving the IRS the resources it needs to offer more services to taxpayers,” the spokesperson added.

## Teen charged with random knife attacks

**SOUTH GATE** – Police arrested a 19-year-old man in connection with a series of random knife attacks in recent weeks.

Lenrey Briones is accused of slashing the faces of nine people. He faces seven counts of aggravated mayhem, two counts of attempted aggravated mayhem, and one count of attempted second-degree robbery, all felonies.

Briones slashed the faces of nine people, including men, women and a 13-year-old boy, between March 20 and April 1, as he rode his bike in South Gate, Lynwood and South Los Angeles, authorities said.

The injuries caused permanent disfigurement to seven of the victims, prosecutors said. In one instance, Briones allegedly tried to take a victim’s purse.

Briones was convicted in September 2018 of attempted arson.

In this case, he faces a maximum sentence of life in prison. Bail was set at \$9 million.

The Los Angeles Police Department is handling the investigation.

## Cerritos leases vacant land to auto dealer

**CERRITOS** – The Cerritos City Council recently approved leasing a property on Studebaker Road to AutoNation.

The city-owned property, located at 17423 Studebaker Road, is currently vacant.

The 1.19-acre land will be leased to Bargain Rent-a-Car doing business as AutoNation Lexus of Cerritos, which will use the property to store surplus automobiles slated for sale at the Cerritos Auto Square pursuant to the issuance of a City of Cerritos Temporary Use Permit.

Under the terms of the 10-year lease, AutoNation will pay the city a monthly rent of \$10,561.25, with annual increases based on the Consumer Price Index of the previous year. AutoNation will also pay all taxes, maintenance and insurance costs during the term of the lease, which features an option to extend for another 10 years.

The agreement is expected to provide the City with more than \$125,000 a year in new revenue.



Norwalk hosted an appreciation lunch recently for local first-responders, including sheriff’s deputies and firefighters.  
Photo courtesy city of Norwalk

## Shooting in Norwalk alley leaves one man dead

**NORWALK** – Homicide detectives are investigating a shooting that left a man dead in Norwalk on Tuesday.

The incident was reported in an alley off Shoemaker Avenue, between the 13000 blocks of Rosecrans Avenue and Liggett Street, shortly before 2 p.m., said Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Sgt. Richard Biddle.

Responding deputies found a Latino man in his 20s suffering from multiple gunshot wounds.

The man was taken to a nearby hospital, where he was pronounced dead, authorities said.

Biddle said he doesn’t believe the victim lived in the area where he was shot.

Detectives were combing the alley for evidence but hadn’t found much, according to Biddle.

Investigators are still working to determine what led up to the fatal gunfire but believe it could be gang-related.

Authorities have yet to compile a suspect description but are working to identify any witnesses and determine whether surveillance cameras could have captured the shooting.

## CHP officer faces 6 years in prison for DUI crash in Norwalk

**NORWALK** – A California Highway Patrol officer has been charged for a DUI crash that injured two people in Norwalk two years ago, the Los Angeles County District Attorney’s Office announced.

William Leary III, 41, was charged with one count each of driving under the influence causing injury and driving with a .08 percent blood alcohol content causing injury.

He pleaded not guilty last week and is scheduled to return on May 22 for a preliminary hearing.

On July 16, 2017, Leary, an off-duty California Highway Patrol officer, was allegedly driving under the influence of alcohol “at a high rate of speed” on Studebaker Road in Norwalk when he crashed his Chevy Camaro into the back of a parked SUV. A woman and her 10-year-old son suffered significant injuries.

If convicted as charged, Leary faces up to six years in state prison.

Deputy District Attorney Kaveh Faturechi of the Justice System Integrity Division is prosecuting the case.

The case remains under investigation by the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department.

## Downey man wanted for Dallas Cowboys ticket scam

**DOWNEY** – Texas authorities have issued an arrest warrant for a Downey man who allegedly sold fake tickets to Dallas Cowboys games.

Police in Irving, Tex., issued a warrant for 26-year-old Marco Aguilar after he allegedly sold four phony tickets at a total price of \$900.

The buyer, Jamie Davila, took video of Aguilar “as insurance” after purchasing the tickets. Davila contacted police after the tickets turned out to be fakes.

Texas radio station K-LUV 98.7 first reported news of the warrant.

# McKenna

<h3>New 2019 Audi A3 2.0T</h3> <p>Lease for</p> <h2>\$299</h2> <p>per month, plus tax for 39 months</p> <p>\$3,289 Customer Cash due at lease signing. 10K mi/yr. MSRP \$36,090.*</p>	<h3>New 2019 Audi A4 2.0T</h3> <p>Lease for</p> <h2>\$389</h2> <p>per month, plus tax for 39 months</p> <p>\$1,889 Customer Cash due at lease signing. 10K mi/yr. MSRP \$41,775.*</p>	<h3>New 2019 Audi A6 Quattro</h3> <p>Lease for</p> <h2>\$599</h2> <p>per month, plus tax for 39 months</p> <p>\$3,599 Customer Cash due at lease signing. 10K mi/yr. MSRP \$62,480.*<sup>1</sup></p>
<h3>New 2019 Audi A7 Quattro</h3> <p>Lease for</p> <h2>\$869</h2> <p>per month, plus tax for 39 months</p> <p>\$3,869 Customer Cash due at lease signing. 10K mi/yr. MSRP \$71,280.*<sup>1</sup></p>	<h3>New 2019 Audi Q5 2.0T Quattro</h3> <p>Lease for</p> <h2>\$499</h2> <p>per month, plus tax for 39 months</p> <p>\$1,499 Customer Cash due at lease signing. 10K mi/yr. MSRP \$48,280.*</p>	<h3>New 2019 Audi Q7 2.0</h3> <p>Lease for</p> <h2>\$599</h2> <p>per month, plus tax for 39 months</p> <p>\$599 Customer Cash due at lease signing. 10K mi/yr. MSRP \$56,440.*</p>

\*Includes Audi Loyalty Must currently own or lease a MY2009 or newer Audi model.  
<sup>1</sup> Includes Audi Acquisition Program is extended to customers that currently own or lease a model year 2009 or newer BMW, Lexus, Mercedes-Benz or Tesla. Ask dealer for details.

# McKenna Audi

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@ McKenna Audi



# NORWALK HAPPENINGS

FRIDAY, APRIL 12

**“You’re a Good Man, Charlie Brown,”** 7 pm. A live production based on the “Peanuts” comic strip and presented by the John Glenn High School Drama Department. John Glenn High School, 13520 Shoemaker Ave.

SATURDAY, APRIL 13

**Tri-Senate Bowling Match,** 11 am. The Southern California Tri-Senates of the National Bowling Association hosts its 13th annual Tri-Senates Match. Keystone Lanes, 11459 Imperial Hwy.

**“You’re a Good Man, Charlie Brown,”** 2 pm. A live production based on the “Peanuts” comic strip and presented by the John Glenn High School Drama Department. John Glenn High School, 13520 Shoemaker Ave.

**Father and Daughter Dance,** 6 pm. Candy Lane Dance for fathers and daughters. \$15 per couple, \$7 each additional child. Norwalk Arts & Sports Complex, 13000 Clarkdale Ave.

**Opening Reception,** 6 pm. Opening reception for “Painting Stories Through the Lens, A Decade of Creative Portrait Photography” by artist Madeline Arenas. Norwalk Cultural Arts Center, 13200 Clarkdale Ave.

TUESDAY, APRIL 16

**Adult 101: Stress Management,** 4 pm. Tired of being stressed out? Take a break and learn healthy ways to effectively reduce stress. You will also create your own stress ball that can help you relax when you find yourself in a tense situation. Ages 12-18. Alondra Library, 11949 Alondra Blvd.

**Makmo Bee Hotel,** 4 pm. Unlike honey bees that live in large hives, mason bees live alone, and need places to shelter and lay their eggs. They also pollinate more plants than honey bees do, and are less likely to sting you! So become a friend to these helpful bees, and learn to build a bee hotel for your garden. Norwalk Library, 12350 Imperial Hwy.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17

**“You’re a Good Man, Charlie Brown,”** 7 pm. A live production based on the “Peanuts” comic strip and presented by the John Glenn High School Drama Department. John Glenn High School, 13520 Shoemaker Ave.

THURSDAY, APRIL 18

**“You’re a Good Man, Charlie Brown,”** 7 pm. A live production based on the “Peanuts” comic strip and presented by the John Glenn High School Drama Department. John Glenn High School, 13520 Shoemaker Ave.

FRIDAY, APRIL 19

**Teen Excursion: Escondido Falls in Malibu,** 11 am to 4 pm. Bring your hiking boots on this adventure to see Malibu’s hidden waterfall. For teens ages 13-18, sign-up at Norwalk Arts & Sports Complex, 13000 Clarkdale Ave.

**“You’re a Good Man, Charlie Brown,”** 7 pm. A live production based on the “Peanuts” comic strip and presented by the John Glenn High School Drama Department. John Glenn High School, 13520 Shoemaker Ave.

SATURDAY, APRIL 20

**Yoga Class,** 10 am. This class offers simple and powerful yoga postures to bring stability and balance.

No physical agility of prior yoga experience needed. Instruction is provided by the ISHA Foundation, a non-profit, non-religious public service organization. For ages 18 and up. Norwalk Library, 12350 Imperial Hwy.

**Medication Disposal,** 10 am to 2 pm. Turn in your used or expired medication for proper disposal. Norwalk Sheriff’s Station, 12335 Civic Center Dr.

**Egg-Stravagant Egg Hunt,** 12:30 pm. Bring the whole family for an afternoon of fun, games, egg hunts, crafts, and entertainment. Pictures with the Easter Bunny available for \$3. Civic Center lawn, 12700 Norwalk Blvd.

MONDAY, APRIL 22

**Teen Excursion: K1 Speed in Torrance,** 4-9 pm. Need an adrenaline rush? Come speed race with your favorite teen center staff and friends. For ages 13-18. Sign-up at the Norwalk Arts & Sports Complex, 13000 Clarkdale Ave.

TUESDAY, APRIL 23

**The Bubble Chef,** 4 pm. Join Chef Rebecca Martin as she shares her recipe of household ingredients like water and soap to bake up beautiful bubbles. The sweet hook of the bubble theme song incorporated with a side dish of stories will have everyone asking for seconds. Norwalk Library, 12350 Imperial Hwy.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24

**MakMo: Maze - Making,** 3-4:30 pm. Become a maze master by combining precision-engineered Keva planks with a verity of nifty maze-making apparatus to build a 3D puzzle of your design. Ages 5-12. Alondra Library, 11949 Alondra Blvd.

THURSDAY, APRIL 25

**Financial Wellness Workshop,** 10 am. A one-hour workshop that will provide small business owners with financial concepts to make their employees happier and more productive. Norwalk Chamber of Commerce, 14783 Carmenita Rd.

**Alpine Showcase,** 10 am. Alpine will be on-site with the one-of-a-kind X-Perience Toyota Tacoma loaded with an Alpine Halo9 and full X-Series sound system. Soundz Good Custom, 10653 Imperial Hwy.

FRIDAY, APRIL 26

**Teen Excursion: Robert White Park Bonfire,** 4:30-11 pm. Enjoy s’mores, food, drinks, and conversation with your friends around a bonfire. For ages 13-18. Sign-up at the Norwalk Arts & Sports Complex, 13000 Clarkdale Ave.

SATURDAY, APRIL 27

**Breakfast with Mom,** 9 am. Spend a morning with your mom, grandma, or aunt. Enjoy a pancake breakfast, make crafts, and play games. \$15 per couple, \$7 each additional child. Norwalk Arts & Sports Complex, 13000 Clarkdale Ave.

**Teen Excursion: Dodgers vs. Pirates,** 4-11 pm. Cheer on the Dodgers with your friends and Teen Center staff. For teens ages 13-18, sign-up at Norwalk Arts & Sports Complex, 13000 Clarkdale Ave.

**Mother’s Day Dinner & Dance,** 5 pm to midnight. Enjoy a plated dinner and then dance to a mariachi and DJ. Hosted by Vintage Ladies Car Club. \$30 admission. Knights of Columbus, 12138 Front St.

**Comedy Showcase,** 7 pm. Live comedy show with performances

by Manan Desai, Chirayu Mistry, Ojas Rawal and Aariz Saiyed. \$30 early bird tickets. Sanatan Dharma Temple, 15311 Pioneer Blvd.

MONDAY, APRIL 29

**Lit Wits Book Club: The Broken Girls,** 6:30 pm. The Broken Girls by Simone St. James tells a story of a place for the girls whom no one wants—the troublemakers, the illegitimate, the too smart for their own good. As four roommates bond over their fears, one of them mysteriously disappears. For ages 18 and up. Norwalk Library, 12350 Imperial Hwy.

TUESDAY, APRIL 30

**Creating Connections Luncheon,** 11:45 am. A networking lunch sponsored by the Norwalk Chamber of Commerce. No cost to attend, buy your own lunch. Jimmy John’s, 12431 Norwalk Blvd.

**Dr. Electric Takes Over the World,** 4 pm. Join author Annie Banannie, Balloon Storyteller, in a live “Balloon Theater” retelling of this silly mad scientist adventure. Ages 3-12. Alondra Library, 11949 Alondra Blvd.

THURSDAY, MAY 2

**Parent/Child Workshop,** 10:30 am. Join the library for this five week program to play, learn and bond with your child. There will be a resource specialist in attendance to answer your questions. For children ages 0 -3 years old and their parents/caregivers. Alondra Library, 11949 Alondra Blvd.

FRIDAY, MAY 3

**Paint Class & A Glass,** 7-9:30 pm. Artists of all experience levels are invited to an evening of socializing and step-by-step painting instruction. The night will feature a predetermined painting, simple enough for first-time painters or with suggestions and instructions for those with a higher experience level. \$25, ages 21 and up. Norwalk Cultural Arts Center, 13200 Clarkdale Ave.

SATURDAY, MAY 4

**Container Gardening Class,** 11 am. Join Master Gardener Yvonne Savio to learn basic gardening considerations, many successful techniques, and how to choose your own pots and plants. For ages 18 and up. Norwalk Library, 12350 Imperial Hwy.

**Rose Garden Celebration,** 1-3 pm. An annual event showcasing the Hargitt House’s rose garden. Hands-on activities for children. D.D. Johnston-Hargitt House Museum, 12426 Mapledale St.

## Short Stories

### A Second Life

By Maria Zeeman

His name is Gustavo.

He is one of 12 children of a family living in Medellin, Colombia. They were mainly brought up on a farm. Their father died at the age of 42, and the mother not too much later. The family stayed together as much as they could. Most got high school education and some went further. They all chipped in and helped each other.

Gustavo became a flight attendant. He did well, but all of a sudden, they heard nothing from him. There was a plane crash with one of their planes over Venezuela. Many died and some were found. Nobody found or heard anything from Gustavo.

They investigated it for years and the family sent private investigators to find out what happened to him with no result. After 10 years they gave up.

Ten years later (20 years after the crash), a friend from an older brother, Orlando, said that while he was on a gathering in Venezuela, he saw a man that looked identical to Gustavo. One of the family members went down to see and he found him, but Gustavo didn’t remember anything from his life before the accident.

After the accident, Gustavo ended up on a farm to work. He fell in love with the farmer’s daughter, got married and had three children -- never remembering his previous life or what happened to him.

Orlando went to see Gustavo. He immediately recognized him as his brother. They both saw how much they were alike. They looked

SUNDAY, MAY 5

**Autism Awareness Workshop,** 10 am to 2 pm. A community event for children on the autism spectrum and their families. Norwalk Arts & Sports Complex, 13000 Clarkdale Ave.

TUESDAY, MAY 7

**Tie Dye Costers,** 4 pm. Are you trying to spruce up your room or future dorm? Show off your creative skills with your own tie-dye inspired décor. Learn some tips and tricks to make original room decorations. For ages 12-18. Alondra Library, 11949 Alondra Blvd.

THURSDAY, MAY 9

**Parent/Child Workshop,** 10:30 am. Join the library for this five week program to play, learn and bond with your child. There will be a resource specialist in attendance to answer your questions. For children ages 0 -3 years old and their parents/caregivers. Alondra Library, 11949 Alondra Blvd.

**Chamber Mixer,** 4-7 pm. A multi-chamber mixer and silent auction benefiting CAPC. DoubleTree Hotel, 13111 Sycamore Dr.

SATURDAY, MAY 11

**Opening Reception,** 6 pm. Opening reception for “Point of View” by artist Andy Estrella. Norwalk Cultural Arts Center, 13200 Clarkdale Ave.

THURSDAY, MAY 16

**Parent/Child Workshop,** 10:30 am. Join the library for this five week program to play, learn and bond with your child. There will be a resource specialist in attendance to answer your questions. For children ages 0 -3 years old and their parents/caregivers. Alondra Library, 11949 Alondra Blvd.

**Arabian Nights Dance,** 6-9 pm. Enjoy dinner and then dance the night away to your favorite Arabian music. There will also be a dance off. For kids ages 13-plus. Norwalk Arts & Sports Complex, 13000 Clarkdale Ave.

SATURDAY, MAY 18

**Teen Excursion: Museum of Ice Cream,** 11 am to 4 pm. Dive into a pool of sprinkles and enter a room filled with large ice cream pops. For ages 13-18. Sign-up at the Norwalk Arts & Sports Complex, 13000 Clarkdale Ave.

TUESDAY, MAY 21

**Ink Art,** 4 pm. Make abstract art like Jack Pollock and Joan Miró. Use string and spry ink to make vivid art works. For ages 12-18. Alondra Library, 11949 Alondra Blvd.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 22

**Anti-Stress Foods,** 10 am. Learn which foods support brain health and which minerals and nutrients are depleted during times of stress. Coast Plaza Hospital, 13100 Studebaker Rd.

THURSDAY, MAY 23

**Parent/Child Workshop,** 10:30 am. Join the library for this five week program to play, learn and bond with your child. There will be a resource specialist in attendance to answer your questions. For children ages 0 -3 years old and their parents/caregivers. Alondra Library, 11949 Alondra Blvd.

THURSDAY, MAY 30

**Parent/Child Workshop,** 10:30 am. Join the library for this five week program to play, learn and bond with your child. There will be a resource specialist in attendance to answer your questions. For children ages 0 -3 years old and their parents/caregivers. Alondra Library, 11949 Alondra Blvd.

FRIDAY, MAY 31

**‘Spring Fling’ Middle School Dance,** 6-9:30 pm. The dance is open only to Norwalk students in the 6th, 7th, and 8th grades. Students must have a school I.D. to verify current school and grade level. Dress code will be enforced. Norwalk Arts & Sports Complex, 13000 Clarkdale Ave.

SATURDAY, JUNE 1

**Kids & Cops Golf Tournament,** 9 am. Kids ages 8-17 are invited to play a round of golf with local sheriff’s deputies. \$10 includes golf, barbecue lunch, awards and raffle. Don Knabe Golf Center, 13717 Shoemaker Ave.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12

**Concerts on the Lawn,** 7-9 pm. Summer has officially arrived with the opening concert of Norwalk’s Summer Concert Series at the Lawn. Band schedule to be announced later. Civic Center lawn, 12700 Norwalk Blvd.

**Coaches Meeting,** 7 pm. Attend this meeting if you’re interested in coaching baseball in Norwalk’s sports program. At this meeting you will select a team name, choose shirt sizes, and reviews rules and philosophies of the program. Norwalk Arts & Sports Complex, 13000 Clarkdale Ave.

THURSDAY, JUNE 13

**Coaches Meeting,** 7 pm. Attend this meeting if you’re interested in coaching volleyball in Norwalk’s sports program. At this meeting you will select a team name, choose shirt sizes, and reviews rules and

philosophies of the program. Norwalk Arts & Sports Complex, 13000 Clarkdale Ave.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19

**Concerts on the Lawn,** 7-9 pm. Band schedule to be announced later. Civic Center lawn, 12700 Norwalk Blvd.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26

**Concerts on the Lawn,** 7-9 pm. Band schedule to be announced later. Civic Center lawn, 12700 Norwalk Blvd.

SATURDAY, JUNE 29

**Band Reunion,** 7 pm. El Rancho High School band members will reunite in this fundraiser to benefit the school band. \$50 for dinner and dancing. DoubleTree Hotel, 13111 Sycamore Dr.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 10

**Concerts on the Lawn,** 7-9 pm. Band schedule to be announced later. Civic Center lawn, 12700 Norwalk Blvd.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 17

**Concerts on the Lawn,** 7-9 pm. Band schedule to be announced later. Civic Center lawn, 12700 Norwalk Blvd.

SATURDAY, JULY 20

**Ice Cream Social,** 1-4 pm. Visit the museum for a trip down memory lane. Afterwards, enjoy an ice cream with your favorite toppings. D.D. Johnston-Hargitt House Museum, 12426 Mapledale St.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 24

**Concerts on the Lawn,** 7-9 pm. Band schedule to be announced later. Civic Center lawn, 12700 Norwalk Blvd.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 31

**Concerts on the Lawn,** 7-9 pm. Band schedule to be announced later. Civic Center lawn, 12700 Norwalk Blvd.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 7

**Concerts on the Lawn,** 7-9 pm. Band schedule to be announced later. Civic Center lawn, 12700 Norwalk Blvd.

*Compiled by Eric Pierce. Email calendar listings to [eric@thedowneypatriot.com](mailto:eric@thedowneypatriot.com)*

# The Norwalk Patriot

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14783 CARMENITA ROAD, NORWALK, CA 90650 | ADJUDICATION #BS154952

The Norwalk Patriot is published weekly by The Downey Patriot, Inc.  
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of finishing college were it not for Miss Heidelberg’s enthusiasm for teaching. She motivated me beyond my own expectations by quickly acknowledging any progress I made. Besides my husband, she was the only other person in my life up to that point to demonstrate faith in me.

She observed my struggle to “Get it right!” I got to class early and was the last to leave. Since it was the last class period before lunch,

I brought my sack lunch to eat in her classroom while I went over the lessons and worked on the assigned homework. She often brought her lunch and joined me. That is how my tutorage began.

At the end of the semester, she gave me an A+ and recommended me for the 1990 First Liberal Arts Award. She attended the ceremony where I was given a certificate by the Liberal Arts faculty for outstanding achievement in liberal arts. To my surprise she gave me a personal gift, a little book-light. Most of all she gave me the template to achieve the rank of Highest Honor Student.

I graduated in 1997 with a 4.0 grade point average and with a newly acquired confidence in myself.

This midlife change was a rewarding journey.

\*\*\*

## 2nd Street Elementary

By Yolanda Adele

One of my first memories is of walking into my kindergarten classroom.

I remember seeing small scale kitchen furniture at the corner of the room and a miniature sink with cabinet doors at the bottom. Right next to that was a stove that

came up to my waist. It was made out of light-colored, polished wood that matched the hardwood floors in the play area.

Little tin pots and pans sat nestled on top ready to be picked up and played with ...by me. The boys played with toy wooden airplanes, trucks, and cars.

There were many windows across the wall that let the sunshine in.

It looked like a happy place to be. I only spoke Spanish and did not understand English very well; still I knew that the teacher must be saying nice things to me because she smiled a lot. Some children were bi-lingual and they helped me to speak English by translating. I remember thinking that English sounded a little like barking dogs.

Once a month my mother tied some coins into a handkerchief for me to bring to school and give to the school nurse for the mandatory vitamins and castor oil.

One day a real cowboy named Monty Montana came to our school with his horse. He performed fancy rope and riding tricks on the playground. That was the highlight of my kindergarten experience.

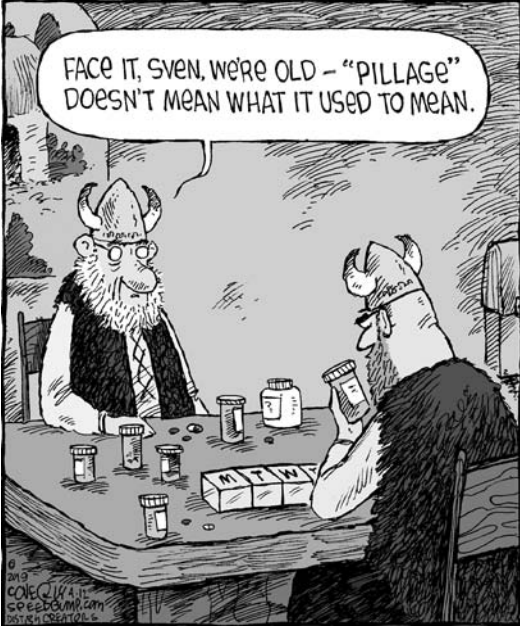
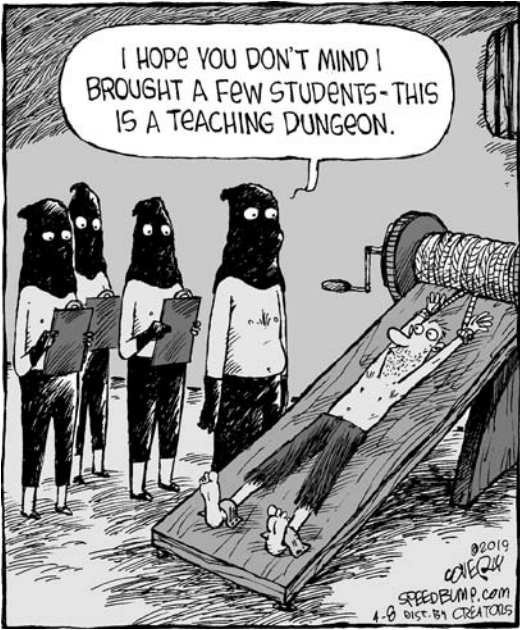
I liked school from the first day. I remember being very disappointed when I was told that there was no school on the weekends. But it did not take long before I fit in and it all became elementary to me.

*The authors of these short stories are members of the writing class offered through the Cerritos College Adult Education Program. It is held off-campus at the Norwalk Senior Center.*



SPEED BUMP

DAVE COVERLY



On This Day...

**April 12, 1861:** Fort Sumter was shelled by Confederacy, starting America's Civil War.

**1877:** A catcher's mask was used in a baseball game for the first time by James Alexander Tyng.

**1945:** U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt died in Warm Spring, GA. He died of a cerebral hemorrhage at the age of 63. Harry S Truman became president.

**1984:** Astronauts aboard the space shuttle Challenger made the first satellite repair in orbit by returning the Solar Max satellite to space.

**2002:** A first edition version of Beatrix Potter's "Peter Rabbit" sold for \$64,780 at Sotheby's. A signed first edition of J.R.R. Tolkien's "The Hobbit" sold for \$66,630. A copy of "Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone," signed by J.K. Rowling sold for \$16,660. A 250-piece collection of rare works by Charles Dickens sold for \$512,650.

To Advertise in

The Norwalk Patriot

Please Call

Michael Robinson

(562) 404-3008

Send us your Letters to the Editor, Press Releases, photos, meeting and club schedules!

Address:

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Norwalk, CA 90650

Email:

news@thedowneypatriot.com

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MONDAYS

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

TUESDAYS

8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. - Farmers Market - Excelsior High School

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

1st & 3rd 6:00 p.m. - Toastmasters Meetings - Registrar Recorder/County Clerks Office

1st & 3rd, 6:00 p.m. - City Council - Council Chambers

3rd, 5:45 p.m. - Housing Authority - Council Chambers

WEDNESDAYS

1st, 12:30 p.m. - Soroptimist International - Soroptimist Village

1st & 3rd, 7:00 p.m. - Lions Club - Bruce's Restaurant

2nd, 10:30 a.m. - Norwalk Woman's Club - Masonic Lodge

2nd & 4th, 1:30 p.m. - Alondra Senior Citizens - Social Services Center

2nd & 4th, 7:30 p.m. - Planning Commission - Council Chambers

4th, 11:30 a.m. - Coordinating Council - Arts & Sports Complex

THURSDAYS

7:00 p.m. - Boy Scouts Troop 924 - Norwalk United Methodist Church

2nd, 7:30 p.m. - Golden Trowel -Norwalk Masonic Lodge

3rd, 8:00 p.m. - American Legion Post No. 359 - 11986 Front St.

SATURDAYS

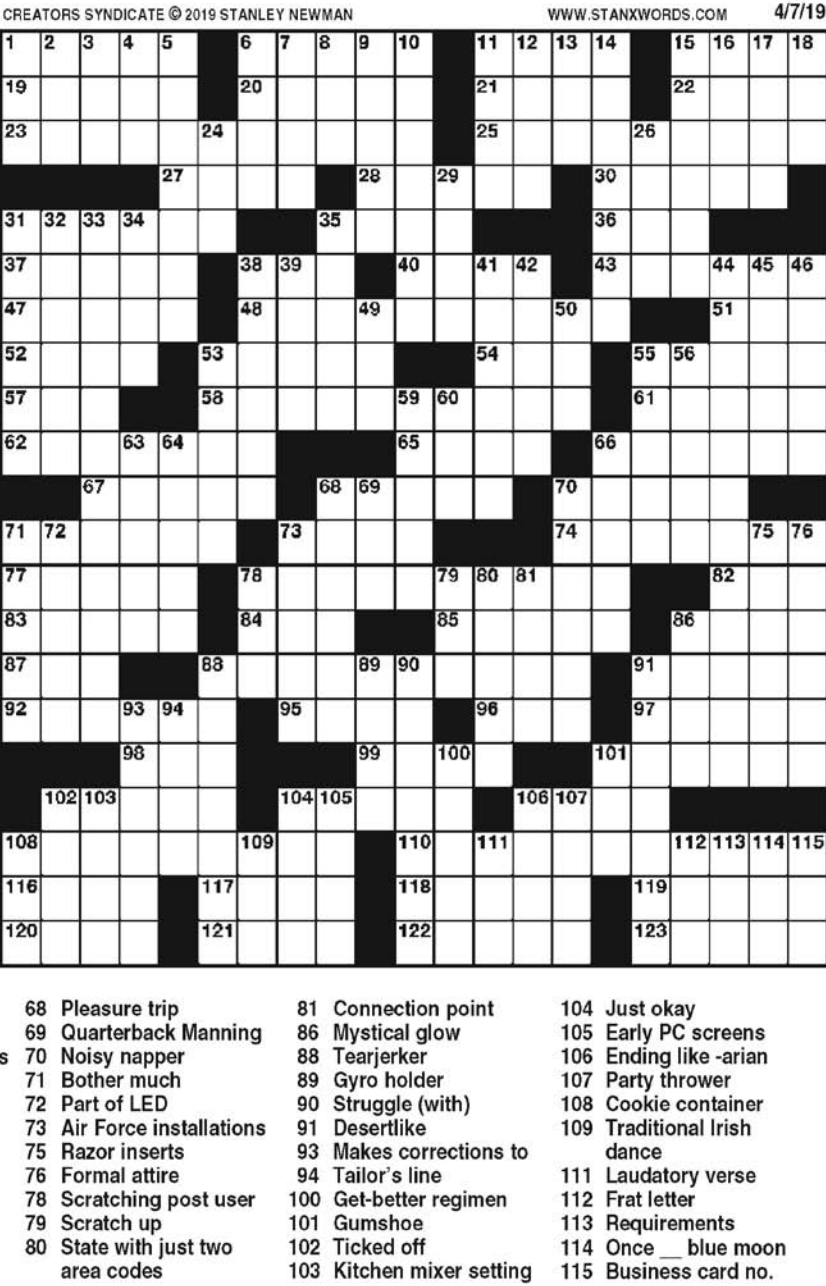
2nd, 8:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. - Pancake Breakfast - First Christian Church of Norwalk

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

THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com)  
SCHOOL DAY: Of the college kind  
by Gail Grabowski

- ACROSS**
- 1 Zero-calorie drink
  - 6 Shortened wds.
  - 11 Rapidly
  - 15 Newspaper essay
  - 19 "It matters to me"
  - 20 Proofreader's mark
  - 21 Tennis great Nastase
  - 22 In \_\_ straits
  - 23 Intense interrogation
  - 25 Rebel Without a Cause star
  - 27 Sound of displeasure
  - 28 Beau
  - 30 Ark group
  - 31 Turn tenants into owners
  - 35 Farina, for instance
  - 36 FBI operative
  - 37 Unsuitable
  - 38 "The light dawns!"
  - 40 Touchdown callers
  - 43 Place for pampering
  - 47 Citrus peels
  - 48 Top-notch
  - 51 Female lobster
  - 52 Hardness scale
  - 53 Title role for Caine and Law
  - 54 Hardwood tree
  - 55 Ivanhoe novelist
  - 57 Lord's Prayer opening
  - 58 Appetizer follower
  - 61 Reads closely (over)
  - 62 Clavicle neighbor
  - 65 Hunter's quarry
  - 66 Military guard
  - 67 False appearance
  - 68 Casual pants
  - 70 Storage structures
  - 71 Fit for food
  - 73 Zodiac beast
  - 74 "For sure!"
  - 77 Supermarket lane
- DOWN**
- 1 Clever one
  - 2 Austrian "Alas!"
  - 3 \_\_ chi (martial art)
  - 4 Miscalculate
  - 5 Franks
  - 6 Sails through
  - 7 Carryalls
  - 8 "Turn up the heat!"
- ACROSS**
- 9 Oscar actress
  - 10 Former Daily Show host
  - 11 Pacific island nation
  - 12 Economist
  - 13 Computer trial, for short
  - 14 Miniature golf starting points
  - 15 Quirk
  - 16 Harbor strolling spot
  - 17 Notable periods
  - 18 Family room
  - 24 Salsa, for instance
  - 26 Elaborate tale
  - 29 Sir \_\_ Guinness
  - 31 Gadgets
  - 32 A third of a half-inning
  - 33 Business machine
  - 34 Chooses, with "for"
  - 35 County at the Golden Gate's north end
  - 38 On fire
  - 39 LP player
  - 41 Roadside emergency signals
  - 42 Full of attitude
  - 44 Feature film precursor of yore
  - 45 Max of pop art
  - 46 Unable to sit still
  - 49 "Hold on a \_\_!"
  - 50 Pronoun for battleships
  - 53 Entertain
  - 55 Radar reading
  - 56 Type of high-rise dwelling
  - 59 Gems from Australia
  - 60 Footed vase
  - 63 Russian money
  - 64 Frasier brother
  - 66 Reinforce, with "up"



ADVERTISING POLICY

The Norwalk Patriot reserves the right to censor, reclassify, revise or reject any ad. The Norwalk Patriot is not responsible for incorrect ads beyond the first business day of an ad scheduled. Please check your ad on the first day of publication and report any errors we have made to the Classified Department at 562-904-3668 at the beginning of the next business day to have it publish correctly for the remainder of the schedule.

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

earth receive HER King."  
the "Joy to the World" lyric "Let  
The reference at 96 Across is to  
the heart and lungs from injury.  
cage, where it helps to protect  
Across) forms the front of the rib  
meaning. The STERNUM (62  
which is derived the "enjoyment"  
"flavor enhancer" meaning, from  
Across); it then took on a general  
French meaning of ZEST (47  
"Fruit peel" was the original









LEGALS

the environment and is listed as a Class 1 Categorical Exemption. Class 1 includes minor alterations of existing building, involving negligible or no expansion. A Notice of Categorical Exemption (Class 1) has been prepared for this project.

**Public Comments:** Interested persons are invited to attend this meeting and be heard regarding this matter. Copies of the agenda report for the above-described project will be available for public review at the Community Development Department, Planning Division, Norwalk City Hall, 12700 Norwalk Boulevard, Norwalk. Written comments may be submitted to the Community Development Department prior to the time set for the hearing. Address written comments: Attention: Community Development Department at the address noted above. Written comments and requests for electronic copies of the agenda report may also be submitted via email to: bchow@norwalkca.gov. If you challenge the proposed project, you may be limited to only those issues raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered prior to the public hearing.

**More Information:** Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Beth Chow, Senior Planner at (562) 929-5953 or bchow@norwalkca.gov.

**Accessibility:** In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in a City meeting or other services offered by this City, please contact the Community Development Department at (562) 929-5744. Notification at least 48 hours prior to the meeting or time when services are needed will assist the City staff in assuring that reasonable arrangements can be made to provide accessibility to the meeting or service. Assisted hearing devices will be available at this hearing without prior notification.

Dated this 12th day of April 2019.

Michael L. Garcia  
Director of Community Development

The Norwalk Patriot  
4/12/19

NOTICES

**SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME**  
**CASE NUMBER: 19NWCPO0113**  
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner POOJA THAKKER filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:  
Present name (1) POOJA THAKKER To Proposed name (1) RADHA THAKKER  
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 29, 2019, Time: 1:30 p.m., 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 25, 2019  
Margaret M. Bernal  
Judge Of The Superior Court  
Petitioner or Attorney, In Pro Per  
**POOJA THAKKER**  
**11847 CHESHIRE ST**  
**NORWALK, CA 90650**  
**POOJATHAKKER63@GMAIL.COM**

The Norwalk Patriot  
3/29/19, 4/5/19, 4/12/19, 4/19/19

**SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME**  
**CASE NUMBER: 19NWCPO0052**  
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner ALFREDO ROJAS JR. filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:  
Present name (1) ALFREDO ROJAS JR. To Proposed name (1) ALFREDO JOY ROJAS JR.  
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 22, 2019, Time: 1:30 p.m., 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 FEBRUARY 15, 2019  
Margaret M. Bernal  
Judge Of The Superior Court  
Petitioner or Attorney, In Pro Per  
**ALFREDO ROJAS JR.**  
**21424 HAWAIIAN AVE.**  
**HAWAIIAN GARDENS, CA 90716**

The Norwalk Patriot  
4/5/19, 4/12/19, 4/19/19, 4/26/19

**SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME**  
**CASE NUMBER: 19NWCPO0102**  
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner EVELYN DEL CARMEN BAEZA filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:  
Present name (1) EVELYN DEL CARMEN BAEZA To Proposed name (1) EVELYN DEL CARMEN RAMIREZ  
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 29, 2019, Time: 1:30 p.m., Department: C**  
**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, NORWALK PATRIOT MARCH 19, 2019  
Margaret M. Bernal  
Judge Of The Superior Court  
Petitioner or Attorney, In Pro Per  
**EVELYN DEL CARMEN BAEZA**  
**8546 FONTANA STREET**  
**DOWNEY, CA 90241**

The Norwalk Patriot  
4/5/19, 4/12/19, 4/19/19, 4/26/19

PROBATE

**NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: BENITO NEGRETE CASE NO. 19STPB02927**  
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may

otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of BENITO NEGRETE.  
A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by MONIQUE NEGRETE in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.  
THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that MONIQUE NEGRETE 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: 04/26/19 at 8:30AM in Dept. 4 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.  
In Pro Per Petitioner:  
MONIQUE NEGRETE, IN PRO PER  
77400 FAINTER AVENUE, #207  
WINTHROP, CA 90602  
4/5/19, 4/12/19, 4/19/19  
CNS-3238383#  
THE NORWALK PATRIOT

CNS 3238383  
The Norwalk Patriot  
4/5/19, 4/12/19, 4/19/19

TRUSTEE SALES

T.S. No. 072592-CA APN: 8078-026-091 NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE IMPORTANT NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST, DATED 12/30/2003. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER ON 5/7/2019 at 10:30 AM, CLEAR RECON CORP, as duly appointed trustee under and pursuant to Deed of Trust recorded 2/6/2004, as Instrument No. 04 0276558, , and later modified by a Loan Modification Agreement recorded on 09/25/2006, as Instrument No. 06 2127561, of Official Records in the office of the County Recorder of Los Angeles County, State of CALIFORNIA executed by: TIMOTHY MCGRORY AND MONA M. MCGRORY WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH, CASHIER'S CHECK DRAWN ON 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: BEHIND

THE FOUNTAIN LOCATED IN CIVIC CENTER PLAZA, 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 and State described as: MORE ACCURATELY DESCRIBED IN SAID DEED OF TRUST. The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 11113 BARNWALL ST NORWALK, CA 90650 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 held, but without covenant or warranty, express or implied, regarding title, possession, condition, or encumbrances, including fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust, to pay the remaining principal sums of the note(s) secured by said Deed of Trust. The total amount of the unpaid balance of the obligation secured by the property to be sold and reasonable estimated costs, expenses and advances at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale is: \$259,065.36 If the Trustee is unable to convey title for any reason, the successful bidder's sole and exclusive remedy shall be the return of monies paid to the Trustee, and the successful bidder shall have no further recourse. The beneficiary under said Deed of Trust heretofore executed and delivered to the undersigned a written Declaration of Default and Demand for Sale, and a written Notice of Default and Election to Sell. The undersigned or its predecessor caused said Notice of Default and Election to Sell to be recorded in the county where the real property is located. 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 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 (844) 477-7869 or visit this Internet Web site WWW.STOXPOSTING.COM, using the file number assigned to this case 072592-CA. 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. FOR SALES INFORMATION: (844) 477-7869 CLEAR RECON CORP 4375 Jutland Drive San Diego, California 92117

STOX 917676  
The Norwalk Patriot  
4/12/19, 4/19/19, 4/26/19

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE T.S. No. 18-20454-SP-CA Title No. 180257763-CA-VOI A.P.N. 8072-031-010 ATTENTION RECORDER: THE FOLLOWING REFERENCE TO AN ATTACHED SUMMARY IS AVAILABLE FOR YOUR NOTICE PROVIDED TO THE TRUSTOR ONLY PURSUANT TO CIVIL CODE 2923.3 NOTE: THERE IS A SUMMARY OF THE INFORMATION IN THIS DOCUMENT ATTACHED YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 08/25/2005. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. A public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash, (cashier's check(s) must be made payable to National Default Servicing Corporation), drawn on a state or national bank, 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; will be held by the duly appointed trustee as shown below, of all right, title, and interest conveyed to and now held by the trustee in the hereinafter described property under and pursuant to a Deed of Trust described below. The sale will be made in an "as is" condition, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by the Deed of Trust, with interest and late charges thereon, as provided in the note(s), advances, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, interest thereon, fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee for the total amount (at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale) reasonably estimated to be set forth below. The amount may be greater on the day of sale. Trustor: Theodore Rusk, A Single Man, Duly Appointed Trustee: National Default Servicing Corporation Recorded 09/01/2005 as Instrument No. 05 2114847 (or Book, Page) of the Official Records of Los Angeles County, California. Date of Sale: 05/03/2019 at 11:00 AM Place of Sale: By the fountain located at 400 Civic Center Plaza, Pomona,

CA 91766 Estimated amount of unpaid balance and other charges: \$423,764.63 Street Address or other common designation of real property: 14612 Seaforth Avenue, Norwalk, CA 90650 A.P.N.: 8072-031-010 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address or other common designation, if any, shown above. If no street address or other common designation is shown, directions to the location of the property may be obtained by sending a written request to the beneficiary within 10 days of the date of first publication of this Notice of Sale. If the Trustee is unable to convey title for any reason, the successful bidder's sole and exclusive remedy shall be the return of monies paid to the Trustee, and the successful bidder shall have no further recourse. The requirements of California Civil Code Section 2923.5(b)(2923.55(c) were fulfilled when the Notice of Default was recorded. 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 714-730-2727 or visit this Internet Web site www.ndscorp.com/sales, using the file number assigned to this case 18-20454-SP-CA. 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. Date: 04/01/2019 National Default Servicing Corporation c/o Tiffany and Bosco, P.A., its agent, 1455 Frazer Road, Suite 820 San Diego, CA 92108 Toll Free Phone: 888-264-4010 Sales Line 714-730-2727. Sales Website: www.ndscorp.com Rachel Hamilton, Trustee, Sales Representative A-4689787 04/12/2019, 04/19/2019, 04/26/2019


ASAP 4689787  
The Norwalk Patriot  
4/12/19, 4/19/19, 4/26/19

T.S. No. 073317-CA APN: 8072-001-006 NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE IMPORTANT NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST, DATED 8/25/2017. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER ON 6/7/2019 at 11:00 AM, CLEAR RECON CORP, as duly appointed trustee under and pursuant to Deed of Trust recorded 9/1/2017, as Instrument No. 20171000842, , of Official Records in the office of the County Recorder of Los Angeles County, State of CALIFORNIA executed by: RUTH D. MENDEZ, A SINGLE WOMAN AND JOSE J. CONZALEZ, A SINGLE MAN AND ELSY PAC, A SINGLE WOMAN, ALL AS JOINT TENANTS WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH, CASHIER'S CHECK DRAWN ON 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 and State described as: MORE FULLY DESCRIBED ON SAID DEED OF TRUST The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 14342 DARTMOOR AVE NORWALK, CALIFORNIA 90650 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 held, but without covenant or warranty, express or implied, regarding title, possession, condition, or encumbrances, including fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust, to pay the remaining principal sums of the note(s) secured by said Deed of Trust. The total amount of the unpaid balance of the obligation secured by the property to be sold and reasonable estimated costs, expenses and advances at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale is: \$498,161.24 If the Trustee is unable to convey title for any reason, the successful bidder's sole and exclusive remedy shall be the return of monies paid to the Trustee, and the successful bidder shall have no further recourse. The beneficiary under said Deed of Trust heretofore executed and delivered to the undersigned a written

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 1-866-539-4173 or visit this Internet Web site WWW.SERVICELINKAUCTION.COM, using the file number assigned to this case 073317-CA. 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. FOR SALES INFORMATION: 1-866-539-4173 CLEAR RECON CORP 4375 Jutland Drive San Diego, California 92117


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# MLB needs to do the right thing

BY DOUGLAS GLADSTONE

United States Representative Linda Sanchez, who represents California’s 38th Congressional District, and whose district office is in Norwalk, once remarked, “I’m often reminded that, in baseball, as in diplomacy, you have to know when to hit, when to run and when to show grace.”

The only grace in baseball that I know of is former Chicago Cubs and Arizona Diamondback player Mark Grace.

If I sound jaded, I apologize. Fact is, I love the game of baseball. But the business of baseball, well, that is another matter entirely.

That is because, for the past decade, I have attempted to help the 634 men who are without Major League Baseball (MLB) pensions get the monies I and a lot of others feel they deserve.

These poor unfortunate souls are in this position because, in order to avert a threatened 1980 walkout by the players, MLB made the following offer to the union representing the players, the Major League Baseball Players’ Association (MLBPA): going forward, all a post-1980 player would need to be eligible to buy into the league’s premium health insurance plan was one game day of service; all a post-1980 player would need for a benefit allowance was 43 game days of service. At the time, the threshold was four years to be vested in the pension plan.

The problem was, the union failed to insist on retroactivity for all those players who played prior to 1980 who had more than 43 game days of service but less than four years.

So I wrote an April 2010 book that many credit with shedding a light on this topic. I recently updated the book to tell readers what has been happening since then.

One blogger for CBS.com asked me straight up, “Why do you care about these guys so much?” That’s when you start wondering whether you’re like Cervantes’ mad knight errant, Don Quixote, and you’re tilting at windmills.

These were the boyhood heroes of my youth. Whether it be listening on the radio, watching on television or attending a game in person, they gave me countless hours of entertainment growing up.

In April 2011, the league and union partially remedied this problem. Men like Bob “The Macaroni Pony” Coluccio, of Costa Mesa, began receiving \$625 for every 43 game days they were on an active MLB roster, up to \$10,000.

Considering that, in an \$11.5 billion industry, even a post-1980 player who only has 43 game days of service credit currently receives a minimum pension of \$3,589 at the age of 62, many folks including myself likened the gesture to throwing the guys a bone.

Coluccio summed it up quite nicely: “To me it’s like saying we would like to invite some of our family members to dinner, but unfortunately, you will need to eat in the kitchen.”

But that message isn’t resonating at 12 East 49th Street in midtown Manhattan, where the union’s headquarters are located.

The league – which I concede does not have to address this matter unless the union broaches it in collective bargaining negotiations -- recently announced that its revenue was up 325 percent from 1992, and that it has made \$500 million since 2015. What’s more, the average value of the each of the 30 clubs is up 19 percent from 2016, to \$1.54 billion. And the 30 club owners recently wrote a \$10 million check to the National Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown.

The owners chose museum relics rather than flesh and blood

retirees.

To date, the MLBPA has been loath to divvy up anymore of the collective pie. Even though the players’ welfare and benefits fund is worth more than \$3.5 billion, MLBPA Executive Director Tony Clark has never commented about these non-vested retirees, many of whom are filing for bankruptcy at advanced ages, having banks foreclose on their homes and are so sickly and poor that they cannot afford adequate health care coverage.

Why do I keep at it? This might sound a bit hokey, but I was a huge fan of the television series, The Fugitive, growing up. All David Janssen, who portrayed Dr. Richard Kimble, wanted was to prove that he was the victim of a terrible error of our judicial system. As the narrator, William Conrad, reminded us week after week, the protagonist was a victim of blind justice.

All I have ever wanted to do was tip the scales of justice back into a level playing field so that these men could get the compensation I and a lot of other folks believe they are deserving of. After all, as Ralph Waldo Emerson once observed, “You cannot do a kindness too soon, because you never know how soon it will be too late.”

**Douglas J. Gladstone is the author of two books and multiple newspaper, magazine and webzine articles. His website is at [www.gladstonewriter.com](http://www.gladstonewriter.com)**



# California must champion the working class

BY ANGEL GUTIERREZ

As the president of a vocational college, I interact with many people who are working hard for their dreams. Recent high school graduates, single moms, even grandparents – all working to get an education so they can achieve better employment opportunities and take care of themselves and their families.

Right now, many students in our state, like many people across California, are currently working in low-paying jobs just to scrape out a living. Oftentimes, workers like these have little voice or recognition in our government – and unfortunately, many policies coming out of Sacramento are only further limiting the voices of the hard-working people of our state.

Instead of supporting policies that champion the working class, far too many lawmakers are actively disregarding the needs of the working people of our state.

A good example of this can be seen in the historic 6-year legal fight between thousands of Latino immigrant farm workers and the United Farm Workers (UFW) union. In that case, farm workers voted by a margin of 1,098 to 197 in favor of ousting the UFW back in 2013. The workers were appalled that the UFW had abandoned them for decades and refused to do their representative job in collective bargaining.

Rather than supporting these workers, the state Agricultural Labor Relations Board (ALRB) impounded the votes, causing the workers to mount the largest farm worker protest in California history.

Thankfully, the courts forced the ALRB to count the votes and certify the election, and the farm workers’ wishes were upheld.

Following this event, three bills (AB 3092, AB 3093, and AB 3094) were introduced in the Standing Committee on Labor and Employment that would have prevented such an egregious violation of farm workers’ rights from happening again.

However, unfortunately, those bills were killed in committee under the leadership of chairman Tony Thurmond. To make matters worse, the same committee passed AB 2751, authored by Assemblymember Marc Stone, that forces farmworkers into non-negotiated contracts they did not choose or want. This, despite the fact that Stone claimed otherwise when this issue was being debated in Sacramento.

What’s astounding about AB 2751 is it gives even more authority to the same ALRB, which violated workers’ rights to choose their own representation. It’s not unlike a 2014 bill from then-Senate President Darrell Steinberg, SB 25, which would have forced workers to accept contracts that lower their take-home pay. Thankfully, that bill was vetoed, but one of its supporters, Isadore Hall, now sits on the ALRB, and can potentially make more troubling decisions for workers across our state.

There is no question that the actions by these and other lawmakers were unhelpful to working-class Californians. Unfortunately, many disastrous labor policies are still on the books today.

In addition to hindering the rights of the working people of

California, far too many of our state policies are making it increasingly more difficult to afford to live in our great state. In fact, 43% of voters in California claim they cannot afford to live in California, and many middle-class residents are considering leaving the state.

Aside from major expenses, such as the skyrocketing cost of housing, exacerbating the problem is California’s high regressive taxes, such as those on sales and gasoline. Lower-income workers pay a disproportionately higher amount of their income on regressive taxes – hurting their ability to support themselves in expensive areas across the state.

According to the Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy, the lowest income bracket in California pays over 7% of their total income on sales and excise taxes alone, whereas top earners pay only .8%.

Yet lawmakers seem to be making little effort to ease the tax burden on anyone in California, especially those at the bottom of the income scale.

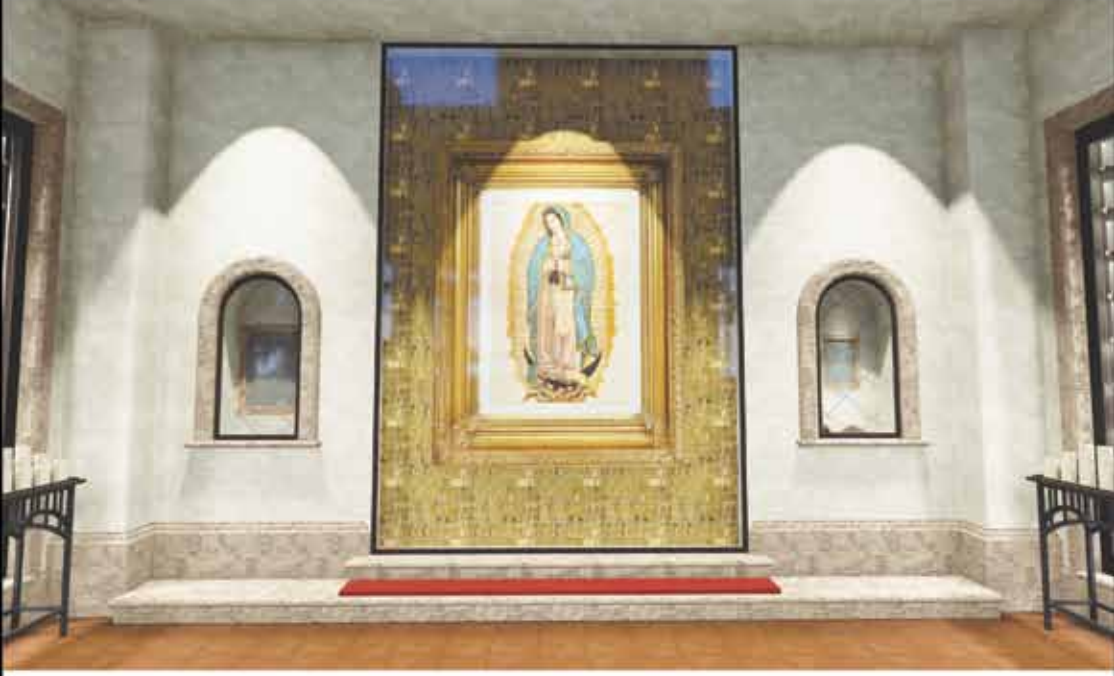
California is a state filled with hardworking and amazing people. However, many state policies are placing unnecessary burdens on citizens who are already struggling to make ends meet. State lawmakers must take greater measures to support members of the working class.

**Angel Gutierrez is President and CEO of Crescent College.**

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## Sidewalks

Dear Editor:

Why do people walk in the street and not on the sidewalks?

Cities spend lots of money to make sidewalks for people. They also spend lots of money for streets for cars.

So if people walk in the street, am I supposed to drive on the sidewalk?

I walk on the sidewalks and drive on the street. If the rules have been changed, someone please inform me.

**Larry Arellano**  
**Norwalk**

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# Paging Dr. Frischer...

By Dr. Alan Frischer

If you have had a pregnancy that ended in miscarriage, you are not alone. Some 20% to 25% of pregnancies end prematurely. The question I hear most frequently: What could I have been done differently?

The term miscarriage refers to a spontaneous abortion, or natural death of the embryo. 80% occur in the first trimester of pregnancy, and many occur so early on that a woman might not have even been aware that she was pregnant.

The symptoms of miscarriage could include severe abdominal pain, cramps, vaginal bleeding, discharge of tissue with clots, fever, lower back pain, and weakness.

There are so many misconceptions around the causes of miscarriage. Some common beliefs are that they are caused by a stressful event, lifting a heavy object, having an STD, past use of an IUD, or oral contraception.

Ultimately, the most common cause of miscarriage is simpler. The embryo doesn't form properly and the body eventually rejects it. Researchers are learning more about the process that cells undergo



following conception, and how things go wrong. In the very beginning, embryonic stem cells can turn into any cell in the body. At about two weeks, when the embryo should implant in the uterine wall, the cells begin to adopt particular functions. If there is a glitch along the way, the embryo will not become viable.

There are different types of miscarriages. The most common is referred to as a "blighted ovum," when a fertilized egg is attached to the uterine wall but does not develop into an embryo. A "chemical" miscarriage occurs when the egg is fertilized but unable to survive any further, and occurs very early on in a pregnancy. An "ectopic" miscarriage happens when the embryo is implanted outside the uterus, where an embryo cannot survive.

- What *do* we know?
- \*Miscarriage is most common in women over 35, and when the partner is over 40, the risk is even higher. Women 20 to 24 years old have a miscarriage risk of 9%, compared to 35 year olds, who have a risk of 20%. This rises to 54% by age 42, and about 75% by age 45 or older.
  - \*Certain behaviors put a pregnancy at risk, including smoking, drug use, and extremely high amounts of caffeine.
  - \*Some medications could be a factor when used around the time of conception. These include non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (aspirin and ibuprofen).
  - \*Certain health conditions, including obesity, diabetes, thyroid

- disease, infections, hormonal issues, autoimmune disease, and uterine abnormalities increase the risk of miscarriage.
- \*Environmental factors include natural or man-made chemicals that may interfere with the endocrine system. This impacts hormones and the course of a pregnancy.
  - \*Genetics may play a role. When a woman has had multiple miscarriages, tests are run to look at both partners' chromosomes.
- Whether the cause of the miscarriage is known or not, there is usually little that can be done to prevent it. Feelings of grief and loss are normal, and counseling and support are more available then ever before.
- Sadly, one post-miscarriage study showed that 47% of women felt guilt, 41% felt they had done something wrong, 41% felt alone, and 28% felt ashamed. 45% of women did not feel they had enough emotional support.
- Even though a woman may have little control over whether a pregnancy is carried to term, she (and her partner) can decide how to handle the grieving process, whether emotional help is sought out, and how to approach future pregnancies. For those of you who are pregnant or working on getting pregnant, I urge you to keep in mind that the odds of carrying a healthy baby to full term are on your side.
- Dr. Alan Frischer is former chief of staff and former chief of medicine at Downey Regional Medical Center. Write to him in care of this newspaper at 8301 E. Florence Ave., Suite 100, Downey, CA 90240.**

## Short Stories

### A Peace Corps Odyssey

By Anthony R. Kingsley

After returning from Armenia in 1997, I obtained a position as the accounting manager at a construction company. It was a good job but not very interesting.

I thought my volunteer experience in Armenia, combined with a regular job, would be good -- so I applied for a staff position with Peace Corps. They offered me the position of Associate Director in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. I declined. They then offered me the same position in Kazakhstan and I accepted.

When I arrived, a driver met me and drove me to a temporary residence. He picked me up the next morning and took me to the office to meet the country director and my staff.

I needed a place to live so I assigned that job to Yerkin, my general services officer. He showed me three places and I selected one that was half a block from the office with electricity and running water 24 hours a day -- and a piano.

My duties included all administrative duties supporting 200-300 volunteers. Because the cashier reported to me, I had to become a State Department cashier.

I set up an intern program for college students. My first hire was my landlord's daughter, Assel. When she got married, I was the guest of honor at the wedding. Being the guest of honor, I was presented with the eye of a sheep. Discretely I slid it to Yerkin.

One day I compared the clock at the railroad station to my watch. They did not agree. I asked why the difference and was told that in the former Soviet Union, all trains ran on Moscow time. And they still do.

I had to attend a conference in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan. I selected Misha as my driver and took three of my staff with me. We drove thru Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan. When we were close to Ashgabat, my gout flared up. Misha called ahead and told them I was in pain. When we

got to the office, two medical personnel were waiting for us.

A party had been scheduled for the evening but the doctor said no party for me. I had to stay in my room, drink lots of water and take medication.

Later, there was a knock on my room. I hobbled over and there stood Misha. He came back because it was not fair that I had to be alone when everybody else was enjoying the party.

The next day I felt a little better so Misha and I went sightseeing. In the main square of Ashgabat was a gold-plated statue of the president of Turkmenistan that rotated so that the sun always shone on his face. Then it was back to Almaty. A short time later, I said goodbye to Kazakhstan and returned home.

I was looking for a job and came across Norwalk Adult School where I had taken some computer classes in the past. I went in and asked to see the school director about a job. She came out and asked if I had passed CBEST and if I had a resume with me. My answer to both was yes. She looked at my resume and said, "Oh, you just came back from Kazakhstan. Come into my office."

And what happened after that is the subject of a separate story that led to many more adventures.

\*\*\*

### One Stray After Another

By Sharon Benson Smith

Like all young kids, the six of us wanted a pet to call our own. But that wasn't to be because Dad would not allow it.

He said: "A pet is too much responsibility and too costly as they require licensing, necessary shots, special food, etc." And, all of our "please, please, please"s didn't work with Dad.

So, being in this together, we would befriend one stray dog after another, trying to hide them from Dad by keeping them in our bedroom and even in our beds under the covers. That went well until Dad came home from his semi-trucking job in the middle of the

night, and the dog began barking at the "intruder."

We learned in short order that meant Dad would take the dog to work with him the very next day and drop it off somewhere in the boondocks...never to be seen again.

"Gypsy", a sleek boxer breed, was the next stray to come along. Barking at the night "intruder" got her into trouble too, and Dad took her away the very next day on his semi-trucking travels.

We were so happy to see Gypsy show up again several days later. It was back to the bedroom and under-the-covers-routine. At this point, we even tried to muffle her from barking...to no avail.

Off Gypsy would go again the next day; taken by Dad even farther away than the time before. We were six very unhappy kids...until many days later when she showed up again.

That did it for Dad! After the third time of him hauling her off, and farther each time, and she'd be back on our doorstep, he said Gypsy was so determined that she could stay. That is how she got her "Gypsy" name.

Years down the line when we were teenagers, very busy with school and jobs and going in six different directions, Dad decided that he wanted a dog. He was a tan Dachshund, "cute as a bug", and dad named him "Bo."

Bo and dad were inseparable companions. We all loved that dog and he ruled our household. He lived with us for several years until that momentous day he got out of the yard and was fatally hit by a car. It saddened the entire household for the longest time.

That was to be the first time we saw our dad cry.

Quote: "To be followed home by a stray dog is a sign of impending wealth."

"Dogs have a way of finding the people who need them, filling an emptiness we don't even know we have."

Amen!

\*\*\*

# Sanchez proposes to name post office after Vietnam veteran

**WHITTIER** – U.S. Representative Linda Sánchez (CA-38) announced she will introduce legislation to designate the U.S. Postal Service facility at 8520 Michigan Ave in Whittier the "Jose Ramos Post Office."

"Jose Ramos was a powerful advocate for veterans in our community, in our state, and across the country," said Rep. Sánchez.

"He served in the Vietnam War as an Army Combat Medic and received the Purple Heart for his bravery. He returned home from the war, and like his fellow service members, Jose quietly tried to live a normal life with his beautiful family. But he never forgot about his fellow veterans and their struggles.

"His personal experience motivated his push for a national day

of recognition to give Vietnam veterans the welcome home they never received," continued Rep. Sánchez.

"Jose Ramos inspired so many across our country to give Vietnam veterans the recognition they deserve. Today, states and cities across the country celebrate Welcome Home Vietnam Veteran's Day because of Jose Ramos. That is why I am grateful for the opportunity to recognize his legacy in our community and our country by introducing this bill to name the Whittier Post Office in honor of Jose Ramos."

Jose Ramos was born in 1948 to Augustine and Herminia Ramos. He attended Garfield High School but enlisted in the Army when he was in 10th grade. He worked as an Army Combat Medic, and in 1968 he received the Purple Heart.

After returning home, Jose worked at Los Angeles County USC Medical Center and Martin Luther King Jr. Community Hospital. He retired in 1999.

Like his fellow Vietnam veterans, Jose Ramos returned home from an unpopular war only to face hostility and resentment. Jose

quietly went back to his normal life, built a family and stayed in touch with his veteran friends.

He became a powerful advocate for veterans in our community and across the country. It was his personal experiences, and those of his fellow GIs, that motivated him to work toward establishing a national day of recognition. He inspired many to help give Vietnam veterans their long overdue welcome home.

"His legacy lives on as several states and cities across the nation, including California, have adopted Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day," Sanchez said.

"It is long past time for our country to give Vietnam veterans the welcome home they should have received decades ago. Congresswoman Sánchez continues to introduce and advocate for legislation to establish a national 'Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day' on behalf of Jose Ramos and all the veterans who fought bravely in the Vietnam War."

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## He's Alive!

**Good Friday - Communion**  
Friday, April 19th at 12:00pm (Noon)  
Special Message and Communion  
No Child Care Available - Habra traducción en Español

**Servicio de Viernes Santo**  
Viernes, 19 de Abril a las 7:00pm en el Santuario Principal  
Mensaje especial por el Pastor Danny Gamez

**He's Alive Jubilation for Kids**  
Saturday, April 20th at 10:00am at Calvary Chapel Downey  
Straight-Up Puppet Team, Glad Scientist, and a Drama.  
A Celebration Just For Kids! (3yrs - 6th grade)

**He Is Risen Easter "Sonrise" Service**  
Sunday, April 21st, gates open at 5:30am, Cerritos College Stadium  
Message by Pastor Jeff Johnson, with Special Music by CCD Worship Band  
Habra traducción en Español. Solo traiga radio portatil 88.9 F.M.  
(If it rains, meet at the church)

**Sunday Services**  
Sunday, April 21st at 8:30 & 10:30am at Calvary Chapel Downey  
Message by Pastor Jeff Johnson, Special Music by CCD Worship Band  
Habra traducción en Español - Children's and Youth Ministries available,  
Nursery through 12th Grade

Servicio En Español, Domingo, 21 de Abril a la 1:30pm  
en el Santuario Principal  
Alabanza especial por Jose Lopez y un Mensaje Especial  
por el Pastor Danny Gamez



**calvarychapel downey**  
12808 Woodruff Ave. Downey, CA 90808 [www.ccdowney.com](http://www.ccdowney.com)

# Spring Worship Guide

Come Celebrate Easter Sunday @ **Desert Reign CHURCH** AG

*Easter SUNDAY*  
- HE IS RISEN -

Come early for lite refreshments  
**APRIL 21ST**  
**9:45 AM**

For More Information call:  
**(562) 861-6011**

[www.DesertReign.org](http://www.DesertReign.org)

**Desert Reign Church**  
11610 Lakewood Boulevard, Downey

.....  
**Special Activities for Children**  
.....

**Spanish Services Available**  
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