

The Norwalk Patriot

Friday, Jan. 24, 2020

Vol. 13 No. 51

14783 Carmenita Road, Norwalk, CA 90650

City Council candidates forum set for Feb. 13

NORWALK - Candidates for Norwalk City Council have been invited to participate in a candidates forum Thursday, Feb. 13, from 6-8 p.m. inside council chambers at City Hall.

A 15-minute meet and greet will be followed by a forum with candidate statements and a Q&A.

Question cards will be available at the forum. Questions may also be submitted prior to the forum by emailing info@norwalkchamber.com.

The public is invited and encouraged to attend.

The forum is being organized by the Norwalk Chamber of Commerce.

Wounded sheriff's deputy to speak

NORWALK - Lori Kammer, the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Deputy who was shot and seriously injured in the Las Vegas mass shooting in 2017, will be the keynote speaker at the 50th annual Mayor's Prayer Breakfast scheduled for Wednesday, Feb. 12, at the Norwalk DoubleTree Hotel.

Kammer's presentation is titled "Love is the Bridge Towards Healing: Lead the Path."

The breakfast, which starts at 6:30 a.m., is hosted by the Door of Hope Youth and Family Resource Center.

Event tickets are \$25 and must be purchased in advance. Student and table sponsorships are available.

For tickets and sponsorship information, call Mercedes Quintanilla at (562) 972-1927 or Pastor Arthur McKibben at (310) 809-7679.

After-house mixer at Bruce's Prime Rib

NORWALK - The Norwalk Chamber of Commerce will hold an after-hours mixer Tuesday, Jan. 28, from 4:30-6:30 p.m. at Bruce's Prime Rib.

Mixers are an opportunity for members of the local business community to connect with other professionals. There is no charge to attend.

RSVP by emailing info@norwalkchamber.com or call (562) 404-0909.

Silent auction to raise money for Relay for Life

NORWALK - A silent auction fundraiser to benefit Norwalk's Relay for Life is set for Friday, Jan. 31, from 5-7 p.m. at the Norwalk Arts & Sports Complex.

The second annual event offers an opportunity to bid on various unique items to support Relay for Life.

Cost to attend is \$5, or donate an item valued at \$10 or more for free entry.

For questions, call Recreation and Park Services staff at (562) 929-5702.

Authorities searching for missing Norwalk man

David Vasquez, 57, was last seen Jan. 9. He suffers from schizophrenia.

NORWALK - Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Missing Persons Unit detectives are asking for the public's help locating at-risk missing person David Vasquez.

He is a 57-year-old male Hispanic who was last seen Thursday, Jan. 9, at 4 a.m., on the 14800 block of Dalwood Avenue in Norwalk.

Vasquez is 5'10" tall, 175 lbs with black hair, brown eyes and last seen wearing a black jacket and bright blue shorts and has "Owl" tattooed on the left side of his chest.

Vasquez suffers from schizophrenia.

His loved ones have not seen or heard from him. They are very concerned and asking for the public's help in located him.

Anyone with information about this incident is encouraged



to contact the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department's Missing Persons Unit at (323) 890-5500.

If you prefer to provide information anonymously, you may call "Crime Stoppers" by dialing (800) 222-TIPS (8477).

Cerritos College celebrates Teacher TRAC success

NORWALK - Cerritos College celebrated 20 years of its award-winning Teacher TRAC program Tuesday with a special luncheon for faculty, staff, and current Teacher TRAC students to highlight the program's impact on students.

Roy Juarez, Jr. activist/author, delivered a powerful and passionate speech during the event focusing on the critical role educators play in changing the lives of students.

For two decades, Cerritos College's Teacher TRAC program has prepared students to become highly qualified K-12 teachers. The program provides students with a seamless transition to earning a bachelor's degree and teaching credential at local universities. To date, Teacher TRAC has trained more than 800 teachers who work across Southern California and nationally.

"We are enormously proud that the Teacher TRAC program has served as a groundbreaking model program for our campus and the state, providing guided pathways for students interested in teaching long

before the concept of "Guided Pathways" was a system-wide initiative. Cerritos College is one of very few colleges that has an institutionalized teacher preparation program. I look forward to many more years with Teacher TRAC changing the lives of students," said Dr. Jose Fierro, president/superintendent.

Since its inception, Teacher TRAC has grown to become one of the College's most successful learning communities serving more than 2,000 students, and includes over 115 faculty members who have participated. Teacher TRAC graduates have transferred to four-year colleges and universities and launched careers as teachers, counselors, administrators, college professors, and school board members. The program has been awarded more than 25 grants that total nearly \$5 million, and has given students \$6,000 in scholarships annually. Teacher TRAC has regional partnerships with five districts and 44 schools.

"Everyone should have a quality education and quality teachers. I'm so proud of the work our students have done to impact the lives of young people.

Getting to be part of that [Teacher TRAC] is pretty humbling. When I think about the over 800 graduates that we have in the program, if they teach an average of 25 years and have a classroom of 25 students, that's over half a million student lives that they will touch. It's pretty amazing," said Sue Parsons, founding director of the Teacher TRAC program and retired Cerritos College professor.

"The Teacher TRAC program created a phenomenal foundational experience that embedded collective collaboration between classmates and staff. It incorporated classroom opportunities that allowed me to develop teaching methods early on in my educational journey and started my process of becoming a reflective practitioner," said Tami Frances, vice principal, Lewis Elementary School and alumna of Teacher TRAC's inaugural class.

For more information about Teacher TRAC, visit www.teachertrac.com, or call (562) 860-2451 ext. 2212.

Westboro Church protests outside Whittier College

Approximately 10 members of the controversial church group protested outside the college for just under an hour. No arrests or altercations were reported.

By Eric Pierce
Editor

WHITTIER - A group of protesters from Westboro Baptist Church gathered outside Whittier College on Monday morning where they protested against a student LGBTQ club.

About 8-10 church members arrived at the intersection of Painter Avenue and Philadelphia Street at around 8:50 a.m., holding anti-gay and anti-abortion signs. Some of the signs read "Same-Sex Marriage Dooms Nations" and "You Hate Your Kids."

Westboro Baptist Church is a radical, Kansas-based church notorious for its use of inflammatory hate speech. The church stages protests around the country, including at military funerals.



PHOTO BY KEITH DURELINGER

Whittier College officials advised students not to engage with the Westboro group. Instead, students held a peaceful rally on campus where they preached tolerance and acceptance.

Other community members were more vocal in their counter protest, including Whittier resident Danette Antley.

"I live too close to just stay home and not do anything,"

Antley said. She made up a sign that read "Have a Nice Gay!"

Campus police officers monitored the protest but no arrests or altercations were reported.

The Westboro group left at 9:30 a.m., on their way to East L.A. College for a similar demonstration.

Norwalk restaurant grades

Taco Bell / Pizza Hut Express
11005 Imperial Hwy.
Date Inspected: 1/15/20
Grade: **A**

Hole in One Donut Plus
11702 Imperial Hwy
Date Inspected: 1/15/20
Grade: **A**

Domino's
10948 Imperial Hwy.
Inspected: 1/15/20
Grade: **A**

KFC
10905 Imperial Hwy.
Date Inspected: 1/15/20
Grade: **A**

Del Taco
10644 Alondra Blvd.
Date Inspected: 1/3/20
Grade: **A**

Church's Chicken
15816 s Pioneer Blvd.
Date Inspected: 12/26/19
Grade: **A**

7 Eleven
14835 S Pioneer Blvd.
Date Inspected: 12/20/19
Grade: **A**

McDonalds
11053 Rosecrans Ave.
Date Inspected: 12/17/19
Grade: **A**

Subway
10995 Rosecrans Ave.
Date Inspected: 12/17/19
Grade: **A**

Pizza Hut
11006
Date Inspected: 12/17/19
Grade: **A**

Subway
15925 Pioneer Blvd.
Date Inspected: 12/17/19
Grade: **A**

Randy's Donuts
10989 Rosecrans Ave.
Date Inspected: 12/17/19
Grade: **A**

Target
10600 Firestone Blvd.
Date Inspected: 12/16/19
Grade: **A**

Target Cafe
10600 Firestone Blvd.
Date Inspected: 12/16/19
Grade: **A**

Starbucks (Target)
10600 Firestone Blvd.
Date Inspected: 12/16/19
Grade: **A**

Home Style Donuts
12840 Pioneer Blvd.
Date Inspected: 12/16/19
Grade: **A**

Spoon Me Latin Delights
14431 Pioneer Blvd.
Date Inspected: 12/16/19
Grade: **A**

Extra Fresh Drinking Water
14507 Pioneer Blvd.
Date Inspected: 12/13/19
Grade: **A**

Del Taco
10644 Alondra Blvd.
Date Inspected: 12/13/19
Grade: **B**

Circle K
11405 Firestone Blvd.
Date Inspected: 12/12/19
Grade: **A**

Keystone Lounge
11459 Imperial Hwy.
Date Inspected: 12/12/19
Grade: **A**

Zury's Raspados
11405 Firestone Blvd.
Date Inspected: 12/11/19
Grade: **A**

Tutti Frutti
12417 Norwalk Blvd.
Date Inspected: 12/11/19
Grade: **A**

Weekend at a Glance

Friday 73°

Saturday 73°

Sunday 67°

THINGS TO DO



Japanese Food Expo

Saturday - Loews Hollywood Hotel, 1-9pm

Endeavor the local tastes and travel destinations of Japan, with food tastings, origami workshops, chopstick competition, and demonstrations by sushi robots. \$40



The Doors Tribute

Friday - Sage Lounge in Whittier, 7 pm

Highly-regarded tribute band Peace Frog pays tribute to Jim Morrison and The Doors. \$25



The Godfather Part II

Sunday - Palace Theatre, 4 pm
A special 35mm screening of the Francis Coppola classic. \$20



Urban Foodie Experience

Saturday - Carson Civic Center, 11 am to 5 pm

The Urban Foodie Experience highlights amazing minority owned businesses, especially those that sell delicious, unique food. Free, family-friendly.



Donut Fest LA

Sunday - Indie Brewing Company, 3-5 pm

Sample a wide array of donuts while also enjoying beer and coffee. \$35 admission includes one sample from each donut station, one beer and option to participate in a donut eating competition.



Pokemon Sword and Shield Prerelease Tournament

Saturday - Unrated Gaming, 12-4 pm
Entry: \$25. This tournament will be in limited format. Each player will receive a special prerelease deck.

Happy birthday to Beethoven from Downey

The Downey Symphony celebrated the composer's 250th birthday with performances of some of his greatest masterpieces.

By Lorine Parks
Society Columnist

DOWNEY - "Beethoven is in the house," announced stage manager Mark Keller, and sure enough he was.

A colorful bust of a scowling man with tousled brown hair and a flamboyant red tie presided on a plinth on stage, as the Downey Symphony Orchestra played its birthday tribute to him on the anniversary of his 250th birthday. Beethoven didn't look a day over 40, which he actually was, when he completed tonight's masterpieces.

Conductor Sharon conducted the audience a capella in singing Happy Birthday to Dear Ludwig to start the concert. And two hours later, spectacular piano soloist Sung Chang gave us an encore of the same melody with a thrilling set of trilling hummingbird variations to conclude it.

In between these impromptu moments, the audience was captivated by Beethoven's Creatures of Prometheus Overture, the romantic Second Symphony, and the piano and orchestra pyrotechnics of the Emperor Piano Concerto #5.

Seen in the lobby at Intermission: former Downey Symphonic Society president Nick Frankart and wife Mary, a Downey native; and contributors Adele Ambruso and Mary Golay. President of the Downey Family YMCA Board of Managers Greg Welch; and long-time patrons Tom and Michele Hutchinson, were enjoying the evening, as were artist Roy Anthony Shabla and poet Clifton Snider.

Glass-worker Terry Walker was busy choosing her favorite item at the art show. As Terry said, "Beethoven under the wonderful leadership of our fantastic conductor is super loud



MARK KELLER. PHOTO BY LORINE PARKS

and to amazingly tranquil."

DSS President Don Marshall encouraged the audience to take pictures with their smartphones and display them on social media. Dorothy Pemberton did just that, with a selfie showing Downey patriarch Bob Brazelton, with Vicky Carnivale and friends in a group selfie which Dorothy promptly put on Facebook, showing everyone what an awesome evening it was.

It's nice to see a nearly full house. Audience numbers are climbing, which makes the orchestra members happy too. They don't really enjoy playing to empty seats. As always, the public is invited to "come on down" and share the evening. Cindy Kovach and family, "her loves," had a great time.

Observant patrons noticed that tonight's was a smaller

orchestra, 42 members. Beethoven obligingly scored the instrumentation for this Second Symphony with less members than, say, his monumental 9th. That allowed Music Director Lavery to keep within DSS guidelines and offer one smaller concert along with two bigger, and costlier, evenings.

Also seen gracing the lobby: Steve and Mary Lorenzetti; long-time patron Bernice Mancebo Stumps; and Barbara and Roy Beard. Katie Hare and a posse of her Downey friends were snug on the patio with its efficient heat lamps. It was a clear and only slightly cool Southern California evening, but the lamps kept off the chill. Many more patrons were there, and I apologize for not knowing all your names, but your presence is appreciated.

Mary Stevens organized the program table as always, assisted

by fellow Board member JoAnne Gronley. Joyce Sherwin, rosy in a vibrant silk jacket, kept an eye on lobby traffic. The Board members of the Society not only love classical music, they all relish their tasks in putting on the evening show.

Crowning moment of the evening was Beethoven's Emperor Concerto Number 5 in E-flat major. From the moment pianist Sung Chang walked on stage, he owned it, and the audience too.

His flourishes and arpeggios showed the orchestra that "the piano was the boss," as Lars Clutterham's elegant program notes said it would.

And as Music Director Lavery had predicted, the audience jumped to its feet for a standing ovation when Chang played his last chord and raised both hands in the air. Why can't male soloists receive flowers from the audience/

After the concert, the audience was invited to a champagne and birthday cupcake reception in the lobby. Eric and Nicole Pierce assisted with the set-up, and Bill Hare and Frank Kearns opened bottle after bottle. Board member Ryan Keene poured. Ryan needs to get a necktie with musical notes on it to match Bill and Mark Keller in thematic opulence.

Principal Bass player Mark Artusio said of the soloist, "When Chang walked into rehearsal, the orchestra knew right away that he was magnetic. And he turned out to be a great performer too. But the main thing we learned is that he is a really nice person.

The orchestra responded by performing brilliantly with him."

Mark has long served as the Orchestra's Personnel Manager, and as a member of the governing Symphonic Society Board.

As always under Maestro Sharon's sure baton, the caliber of the evening's performance was superb. It almost seemed that Beethoven's bust had stopped scowling, and was begrudgingly seen to smile.

Also visible, Pat Gil and Andrew Wahlquist of the Downey Arts Coalition. Andrew's wife, actress Lana Joy, acknowledged by name from the stage each artist who participated in the lobby art show, this one titled "Retro." Contributing artists ranged from Downey to Compton, Long Beach and Van Nuys.

The remodeled Downey Theatre is almost ready for its formal debut. The landscaping is nearly completed on the patio, and only a hand railing needs to be installed on the patio steps leading to the parking lot. Dorothy Pemberton, of the oversight committee for the City of Downey's Measure S, noted that.

Still to be constructed, the elevator which will be available for handicapped patrons, to take them to the second floor. With that improvement, the art show can expand to the mezzanine level.

You can catch the Downey Symphony Orchestra in a free performance at the Downey Theatre's own celebration of 50 years here in Downey on April 18. As part of a day-long Saturday

civic treat, the Orchestra is scheduled to perform at 5 pm in a 40-minute set.

Music Director Lavery has chosen to give the audience a rare sampling of the DSS's Music in the School's program. In the spotlight: Mussorgsky's Pictures from an Exhibition, which the kids learn about and love. Bring the family.

Next subscription concert: April 11, for a program of American composers headlined by Leonard Bernstein's Overture to Candide and his suite of his dances from "West Side Story." Expect also Charles Ives's Variations on America, and Open World from Captain Marvel by Pinar Toprak. Also pieces by Aaron Copeland and Conrad Pope.

The April 11 concert also features the annual bidding war for the privilege of guest-conducting with the Maestro's baton. The experience of a lifetime.

If you're reading this and it sounds like fun, as always the public is invited to become part of the family at a Downey Symphony concert. As Marsha Rodriguez Milner said, "I can never walk through the doors of this beautiful theatre without recalling our performing arts days here. But tonight, it's all about spending time with great friends, hearing some beautiful music and listening to our wonderful hometown orchestra."

A champagne reception will follow the April 11 concert. Tickets are available now at downeysymphony.org.

Sanchez calls on Trump administration to end 'Remain in Mexico' policy

NORWALK - Rep. Linda Sánchez, Whittier's congressional representative, called for the Trump administration to end its "Remain in Mexico" policy in Matamoros, Mexico where a "humanitarian crisis was created because of the policy."

"What I saw today in this tent city was horrific," said Sánchez. "As a mom, my heart breaks seeing sick children lacking access to proper medical care and children playing near open sewage. Families in the camp were drinking, bathing, and washing their clothes in

river water that is known to be contaminated with E. coli. These conditions remind me of refugee camps in a war-torn developing country.

"Let me be clear—the Trump Administration's anti-immigrant policies have not only failed to address the needs of migrants but have actually exacerbated the crisis. When the Administration separated families at the border, the public outcry forced them to change policy. All they have done is move it across the border, hoping that out of sight means out of mind.

"Lawyers do not have proper access to their clients and are unable to witness these dark policies being secretly implemented by the Administration. These are our fellow humans who deserve due process and basic human rights. That is why the American people must not look away from the images we are bringing out of that camp. We need to be vigilant if we want to end the human suffering that is happening there."

Supervisor Hahn asks for increased patrols after armed home invasion

WHITTIER - Los Angeles County Supervisor Janice Hahn has asked the Sheriff's Department for increased patrols in the unincorporated North Whittier/Spyglass neighborhood after an armed home invasion took place Thursday night. Three male suspects held a family at gunpoint in their home on the 4000 Block of Indian Bend Drive while making demands for money. The suspects fled

after one victim was able to get the attention of an Uber driver outside.

Supervisor Hahn has released the following statement:

"I am so grateful that these residents are safe after this terrifying home invasion and I want to thank the Uber driver who realized what was happening and called 9-1-1. The three suspects are still at large and

are believed to be armed. I have asked Sheriff's Captain Phillip Marquez to increase patrols in the unincorporated North Whittier/Spyglass community. If you have any information about this crime please call Detective Avila at (562) 949-2421."

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The gas tax bait and switch

By Jon Coupal

Cassandra of Greek mythology was blessed with the gift of prophecy and doomed by the curse that no one would ever believe her.

Conservatives in California know just how she felt.

California's modern day Cassandras have repeatedly warned about the misuse and diversion of public funds for roads and highways. In no other area have California voters been lied to more frequently and more brazenly than with transportation spending.

Nearly 30 years ago, voters were told that California's roads, freeways and bridges were crumbling and that spending on transportation was so seriously inadequate that a gas tax increase and other taxes were desperately needed to save California from ruin.

Based on the promises from special interests — in a very well-funded political campaign — in 1990 voters approved in Proposition 111, a 9-cents-a-gallon tax increase combined with a 55 percent increase in truck weight fees.

Demonstrating that not much has changed in three decades, promoters of Prop. 111 trotted out long lists of projects that would be completed with the billions of dollars in new revenue. Advertising focused on the benefits of Proposition 111, without ever mentioning taxes.

Sound familiar?

Fast forward to 2017 with the infamous passage of Senate Bill 1, a massive tax increase of another 12 cents per gallon on gasoline, an additional 20 cents per gallon on diesel fuel and a sharp increase in the cost of vehicle registration.

In defense of Iowa

By Mark Shields

We have reached that time in every presidential nominating year when distinguished, national opinion leaders beat up on Iowa and that admirable state's influential role in determining the two major parties' eventual presidential nominees and, therefore, the next president.

The USA Today editorial board indicts Iowa for being "one of the least ethnically diverse states in the country" and its status as the first-in-the-nation presidential test every four years as "un-American," while Paul Waldman writes in The Washington Post that the Iowa caucuses "are a crime against democracy."

It is time someone stood up for Iowa and Iowans. It's true that Iowa is neither very representative of the entire nation nor very average. Scholarly studies have ranked Iowa as tied for first place in percentage of the adult population who are high school graduates. Iowans are fourth highest in access to health care (more "representative" Florida and Texas rank 46th and 47th respectively in citizens' access to health care); first in broadband access; and third highest in public libraries per capita.

True, the Hawkeye State leads the nation in production of corn,

Bernie Sanders' false advertising

By Froma Harrop

It needs pointing out that Bernie Sanders' Medicare for All plan bears little resemblance to Medicare. The Vermont senator undoubtedly exploits the word "Medicare" to obscure the radicalness of his single-payer proposal. Medicare, after all, is very popular.

Those who admire single-payer systems — which do have their virtues — should own up to it and not hide their plans under misleading labels. Medicare isn't single-payer.

Even Canada's single-payer system doesn't offer the range of free services Sanders proposes. For example, it doesn't cover vision and dental. Sanders' plan does, and with no copayments for them or anything else. Many single-payer systems also require that people fish a small bill out of their wallet for certain doctors' visits, a reminder that it's costing somebody.

The cost of the Sanders plan would be a fantastical number of trillions. He evidently thinks it beneath him to talk about money. (Elizabeth Warren did and paid the political price.)

Before we go on, a few good words for single-payer. It easily cuts costs, is simple to administer and guarantees universal coverage. Canadians very much like their system.

But multipayer setups in France, the Netherlands and elsewhere — which, like Medicare, combine government and highly regulated private coverage — do much the same. And they deliver excellent outcomes.

Politically, a single-payer system could not happen in today's United States. Canada's health system forbids people from going elsewhere and paying for a service that's covered by the government. Americans would rebel against that prohibition. It's true that some

Passage was secured in the Legislature through a toxic mix of threats and pork.

There was far more political blowback from the 2017 tax hike than politicians were anticipating.

Nervous legislators responded by swearing up and down that, unlike all the broken promises before, this time the money would actually go to roads and highways.

To show they meant it, the Legislature put Proposition 69 on the June 2018 statewide ballot and claimed it would protect those dollars against the type of diversion that had occurred in the past. But it soon became clear that Prop. 69, mythically named the "Transportation Taxes and Fees Lockbox," was just another smokescreen.

An initiative that would have repealed the gas and vehicle tax hikes, Proposition 6, was defeated in 2018 following a massive political campaign that claimed that without the extra tax money, bridges would be unsafe and people would be killed by poorly maintained infrastructure.

Again, the advertising in opposition to the repeal was highly sophisticated and targeted. Voters in Los Angeles were told that all road projects in the Southland would stop dead in their tracks if Prop. 6 passed. Similar scare tactics were used in San Francisco, Sacramento and the Central Valley.

Once again, a promise in writing to dedicate gas tax dollars for road construction and maintenance was written in disappearing ink.

In September, Gov. Gavin Newsom signed an executive order that has redirected gas tax money to fund railway systems and other projects, rather than repairing and upgrading the state's broken highways and roads. The governor and Caltrans claim that

soybeans and pork, but Iowans are at the top of the nation in literacy, and the state has the U.S.'s 14th lowest murder rate.

But Iowa remains a small, rural state in the middle of the country. How representative can its voters be of the nation at large? The answer: amazingly so. In 1992, Democrat Bill Clinton won 43% of the national vote and the White House; in Iowa, Clinton won 43% of the vote. In 1996, winner Clinton carried 49% of the national vote and 50% of the Iowa vote. In 2000, Democrat Al Gore won the national vote by one-half of 1% and Iowa by one-third of 1%. Republican George W. Bush won reelection in 2004 with 51% of the national vote and 50% in Iowa. Democrat Barack Obama, in 2008, got 53% of the national vote and 54% of Iowans. In 2012, Obama was reelected nationally by a margin of 4% and in Iowa by 5%. In 2016, the exception: Donald Trump, who lost the national vote by 2% to Hillary Clinton, carried Iowa by a solid 10%.

Yes, Iowa's 2008 Democratic caucuses were 93% white, and those mid-American Caucasians made history by giving legitimacy and momentum to a freshman senator from Illinois, Barack Obama. In Iowa, the African American underdog won an upset victory over the heavily favored former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and was propelled to the top of the national polls.

Canadians go to the States for certain medical services, but they're very much the exception.

By contrast, some Americans are willing to pay full freight to go to fancy doctors who don't accept the insurance they have, not even Medicare.

Medicare is a wonderful deal for the elderly, but it is not free. Medicare beneficiaries pay on average over \$5,000 a year on health care expenses. For starters, they must often pay deductibles, copays and extra for certain products and services.

Medicare does pick up hospital bills, but beneficiaries have to pay a premium (for Part B) if they want coverage for doctors' visits. And Part B covers only 80 percent of the bill. So a patient with \$100,000 in outpatient charges must come up with \$20,000. That person can buy more insurance, the Medigap policy, to cover that. And, of course, there are extra charges for drug benefits.

Over a third of Medicare beneficiaries have signed up for Medicare Advantage plans sold by private insurers. Medicare Advantage may offer more services and charge less than traditional Medicare, but the insurers usually limit patients to providers within their networks.

Three points in closing:

First, rather than push a Medicare for All plan that bears little resemblance to Medicare, wouldn't it make more sense to advocate letting Americans, say, ages 55 to 64, buy into the existing Medicare program? This would be an uncomplicated and popular first step for expanding Medicare.

Second, it's nuts to think that any president could wave his magic hands and radically transform America's health care system. Recall that President Obama couldn't even get all Democrats on board for a public option, a government-run plan competing with the private insurers.

Thirdly, a public option advocated by other Democratic candidates is the way to go. If it were available to everyone, even for employer-sponsored coverage, it could become a basis for all negotiation. Translation: Boeing could tell Blue Cross that it would go to the public plan if Blue Cross wouldn't offer a better deal.

In the meantime, everyone, kindly stop applying the name Medicare to Sanders' health proposal. It's false advertising, and it hurts the Medicare brand.

Climate change is undeniable

Dear Editor:

This is in response to the letter titled "The Time to Fight Climate Change is Now" (1/16/19).

People write about this issue often coming from polar opposite ends of the spectrum. Either you have the information, you know what's happening now, and what needs to be done or you still think it's something that will happen to another country and never affect you.

Sadly, climate change is too often treated like cancer: "As long as I don't get it, it doesn't affect me."

If there are adults who feel this way, I fear for your children because they emulate what you say and do. Climate change is happening now. It's time.

Lucy Rivero
Downey

the diversion of funds is justified by the need to do something about climate change.

Upon hearing of the cancellation of projects to widen bottlenecks on Highway 99, Fresno Assemblyman Jim Patterson, one of California's responsible legislators, said angrily, "Instead of building capacity on our highways to move people and freight, Gov. Newsom is funding his pet rail projects throughout the state."

Patterson called it a "theft of funds meant to improve our roadways" and warned that it is "a glimpse into the future."

Cassandra couldn't have said it better.

"The Central Valley is just the beginning," Patterson predicted. "Other road projects will likely be next" to be canceled.

Conservative observers in California have, over the last two decades, implored voters not to trust the current political establishment.

Sadly, warnings about corruption, incompetence and misuse of public funds have too often gone unheeded as voters keep electing the same irresponsible politicians. Citizens are now paying the price for their disbelief.

Under the current political regime, Californians are suffering with the worst roads and yet pay the highest transportation taxes.

Cassandra warned of the downfall of Troy. Of course, that's just a myth, unlike the U-haul trucks you see on the road as Californians flee the state. Those are entirely real.

Jon Coupal is president of the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association.

In fact, the rest of us owe Iowa our thanks. Iowans faithfully and earnestly fulfill their civil responsibilities by showing up at campaign town halls and listening and questioning the men and women who seek the White House. They take their responsibility seriously and then, on a cold winter night, hundreds of thousands of Iowans leave their homes and go to the local church hall, firehouse or school gym and spend a couple of hours declaring and defending their presidential preference openly in front of neighbors and friends.

In the caucus, firefighters join shoulder-to-shoulder with nurses, teachers, retirees, students and small businesswomen in truly vibrant democracy. Here in Iowa, because Iowans give them a full and fair chance, the underfinanced, underdog candidate has a real chance. It was in Iowa that Jimmy Carter broke through and where George H.W. Bush's upset win would lead to his being chosen vice president.

Thank you, Iowa, for serving the nation so well.

Mark Shields is a political commentator. Since 1988, he has provided political commentary for PBS NewsHour.

Pet partners

Dear Editor:

Good day everyone, this is Anna from Anna's Pet Grooming. I have been a business owner in Norwalk for 47 years. I have an idea for the senior community.

There is nothing more rewarding than any person caring for a child or pet. It brings an overwhelming feeling of importance and reward.

How about if the city works with SEACA to place a pet with seniors who would love one? I will offer a senior discount for grooming to all, and professional animal care advice to each person who adopts.

For seniors on a fixed income, SEACA could offer a dog or cat for free.

And maybe we could contact Walmart or a local market to donate pet food or at a senior price.

I would be glad to inform all adopters how to certify their pet as an ESA (emotional support animal). This is very important. California law says that once certified, no landlord can charge a fee to have a pet and cannot say they can't have it. It's the best law ever enacted.

The love of a pet gives people worth. For too long establishments have told people they cannot have the pet they love and their pet would end up at the pound. This law enables people to share their lives with an animal who truly needs them. We just have to make this miracle aware to all people.

Please contact me if you would like to hear all my ideas. I am always available to save animals and help people keep them. Let's spread the word to all people who say they can't keep their pet because the landlord says no.

My daughter went on a website called Waggy. They have a veterinarian on staff who will review your information and send you a certificate that says you qualify to have an emotional support animal.

It's a no-brainer. All dogs and cats live for is human love. They can't feed themselves, they can't bathe themselves. They need us and we need them.

Animals have been my life since I was 12, bringing home lost kittens, stray dogs, my mother was so very supportive. I would house them in my backyard; we had a huge walk-in dog house. I would feed them and take them to my mom's grooming shop and groom them. This was 1962.

Unfortunately, my mom died before she knew I actually liked the business. She ran her business 10 years; if she knew I have been in it 47 years, she would be rolling over. (Miss you, mom.)

So, let's hope the city will help seniors with pet partners. Not just for one month, but always.

Anna Berardini
Norwalk

Praise for Lorine Parks

Dear Editor:

I have enjoyed Lorine Parks writing in the Hub Bub, Downey Rotary's weekly newsletter, and in Rotary District 5280 monthly newsletter.

Additionally, I am privileged to read her curated Poetry Matters column and society columns in The Downey Patriot. If a good example of Lorine's writing is needed, her obituary about our fellow Rotarian Harold Tseklenis would suffice.

Good writers can recognize good writing very well. I am not surprised that Lorine has been selected as a judge by Spitalwalk Magazine. They will certainly benefit from her writing talents.

Jorge Montero
Downey

The Norwalk Patriot STAFF

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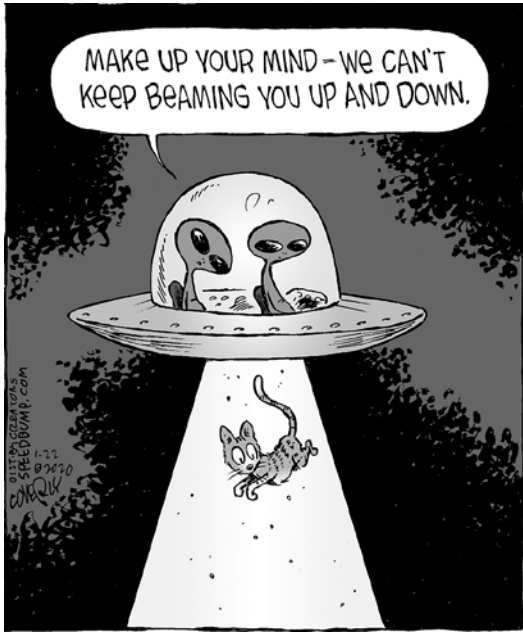
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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MONDAYS

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

TUESDAYS

8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. - Farmers Market - Excelsior High School
12:00 p.m. - Rotary - Doubletree Hotel
1st & 3rd 6:00 p.m. - Toastmasters Meetings - Registrar Recorder/County Clerks Office
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

On This Day...

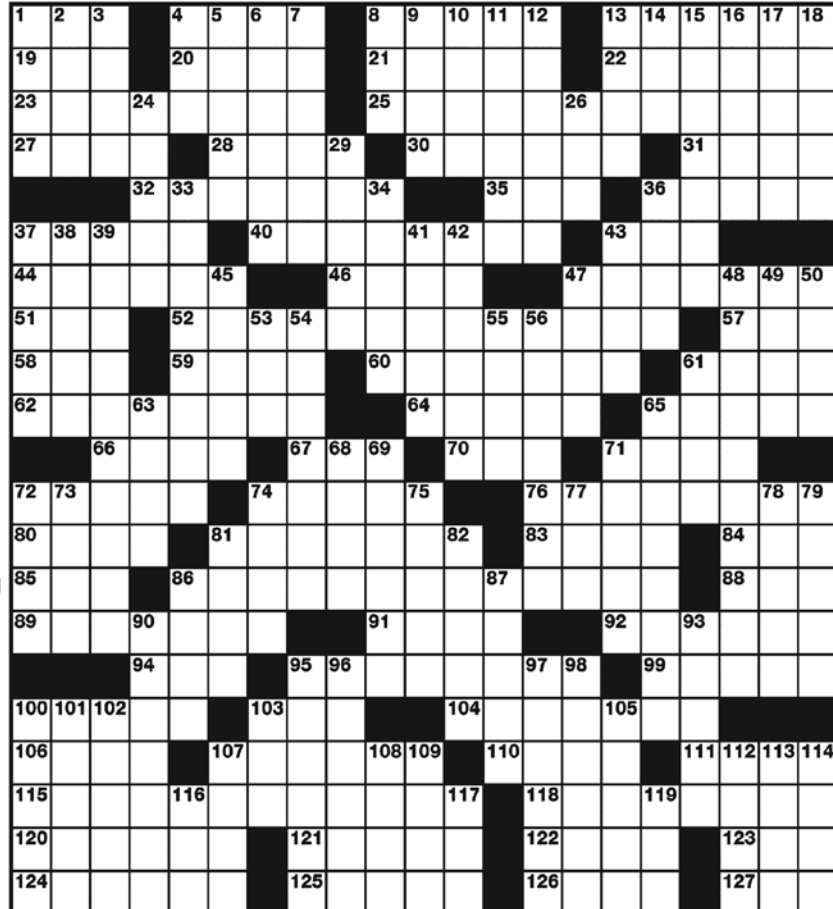
- Jan. 24, 1848: James W. Marshall discovered a gold nugget at Sutter's Mill in northern California. The discovery led to the gold rush of '49.
- 1922: Christian K. Nelson patented the Eskimo Pie.
- 1924: The Russian city of St. Petersburg was renamed Leningrad. The name has since been changed back to St. Petersburg.
- 1955: The rules committee of major league baseball announced a plan to strictly enforce the rule that required a pitcher to release the ball within 20 seconds after taking his position on the mound.

THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com)
GATHERING EVIDENCE: With no legal motives
by Gary M. Larson

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

THE CREATION OF THE BUNNY HOP
(23 Across) is credited to a San Francisco high school in 1952. The brand name DR. DENTON (40 Across) has become generalized for its category of "blanket sleepers," a.k.a. "foote pajamas." Covering some 19,000 miles, the Pan-American Highway (61 Across) runs from Prudhoe Bay in northern Alaska to the port of Quillon in southern Chile.



LEGALSALES

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.

Attorney for petitioner: MARY E MULLIN ESQ SBN 162163 10419 BOGARDUS AVE STE 125 WHITTIER CA 90603 CN967113 LOPEZ Jan 17,24,31, 2020

CN967113 The Norwalk Patriot 1/17/20, 1/24/20, 1/31/20

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF OLIVE BRADY Case No. 20STPB00039

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of OLIVE BRADY A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by Efernia Cabudol in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.

A HEARING on the petition will be held on Feb. 10, 2020 at 8:30 AM in Dept. No. 11 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.

Attorney for petitioner: KEVIN REHWALD ESQ SBN 255334 CHALEFF REHWALD PETERSON

5855 TOPANGA CYN BLVD STE 400 WOODLAND HILLS CA 91367 CN967067 BRADY Jan 10,17,24, 2020

CN967067 The Norwalk Patriot 1/10/20, 1/17/20, 1/24/20

TRUSTEE SALES

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE Trustee Sale No. : 0000008625881 Title Order No.: 191103761 FHA/VA/PMI No.: 1937313684952 255 ATTENTION RECORDER: THE FOLLOWING REFERENCE TO AN ATTACHED SUMMARY APPLIES ONLY TO COPIES PROVIDED TO THE TRUSTOR, NOT TO THIS RECORDED ORIGINAL NOTICE.

NOTE: THERE IS A SUMMARY OF THE INFORMATION IN THIS DOCUMENT ATTACHED YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST, DATED 03/14/2008. 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.

ASAP 4715667 The Norwalk Patriot 1/24/20, 1/31/20, 2/7/20 T.S. No.: 19-23173 A.P.N.: 8025-020-003 NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 4/24/2007.

ASAP 4715667 The Norwalk Patriot 1/24/20, 1/31/20, 2/7/20 T.S. No.: 19-23173 A.P.N.: 8025-020-003 NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 4/24/2007.

The Purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee, or the Mortgagee's Attorney. If you have previously been discharged through bankruptcy, you may have been released of personal liability for this loan in which case this letter is to advise you of the creditor's rights against the real property only.

ASAP 4715667 The Norwalk Patriot 1/24/20, 1/31/20, 2/7/20

T.S. No.: 19-23173 A.P.N.: 8025-020-003 NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 4/24/2007.

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE Trustee Sale No. 1479343 Title No. 190925943 NOTE: THERE IS A SUMMARY OF THE INFORMATION IN THIS DOCUMENT ATTACHED. YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST, DATED 12/02/2005.

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE Trustee Sale No. 1479343 Title No. 190925943 NOTE: THERE IS A SUMMARY OF THE INFORMATION IN THIS DOCUMENT ATTACHED. YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST, DATED 12/02/2005.

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.

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.

ASAP 4714696 The Norwalk Patriot 1/10/20, 1/17/20, 1/24/20

T.S. No. 17-49396 APN: 8070-019-029

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 3/4/2015. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE.

A public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash, cashier's check drawn on a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, or 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.

Trustor: JASMINE PARAS, A SINGLE WOMAN Duly Appointed Trustee: ZBS Law, LLP Ika Zieve, Brodnax & Steele, LLP

Estimated amount of unpaid balance and other charges: \$349,098.90 Note: Because the Beneficiary reserves the right to bid less than the total debt owed, it is possible that at the time of the sale the opening bid may be less than the total debt owed.

Street Address or other common designation of real property: 14335 PONTLAVOY AVENUE NORWALK, California 90650

A.P.N.#: 8070-019-029 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address or other common designation, if any, shown above.

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.

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.

Dated: 1/15/2020 ZBS Law, LLP fka Zieve, Brodnax & Steele, LLP, as Trustee 30 Corporate Park, Suite 450 Irvine, CA 92606

Michael Busby, Trustee Sale Officer This office is enforcing a security interest of your creditor. To the extent that your obligation has been discharged by a bankruptcy court or is subject to an automatic stay of bankruptcy, this notice is for informational purposes only and does not constitute a demand for payment or any attempt to collect such obligation.

EPP 30921 The Norwalk Patriot 1/24/20, 1/31/20, 2/7/20

Trustee Sale No. 17-005519 DS7300-19005706 APN 8082-026-018 NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 02/23/07.

Trustee Sale No. 17-005519 DS7300-19005706 APN 8082-026-018 NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 02/23/07.

Advertisement for The Norwalk Patriot newspaper subscription. Features a large "\$10.00 GUARANTEED DELIVERY SUBSCRIPTION" graphic and a photo of the newspaper's front page with headlines like "School board considers bond measure to renovate schools" and "Council approves CDBG spending plan".

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

14783 Carmenita Road, Norwalk, CA 90650

A subscription form with fields for Name, Address, and Phone. The form is titled "Name:" and "Address:" and includes a "Phone:" field at the bottom.

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).

YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 3/4/2015. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE.

Estimated amount of unpaid balance and other charges: \$349,098.90 Note: Because the Beneficiary reserves the right to bid less than the total debt owed, it is possible that at the time of the sale the opening bid may be less than the total debt owed.

NPP0366258 The Norwalk Patriot 1/17/20, 1/24/20, 1/31/20

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DOWNEY 2 BR 1 BA HOUSE

Excellent condition! Freshly painted. Blinds, wood-looking luxury vinyl floors, like new. Inside laundry hookups. Garage & 2 parking spaces.

12623 Barlin Avenue, Unit J

Before 1pm or Weekends Call Yolanda (562) 256-0871

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NORWALK HAPPENINGS

FRIDAY, JANUARY 24

Smarty Pants Storytime, 10:30 - 11 am. Let's get ready for school! Enjoy books, songs, rhymes, and movement while learning school readiness skills and having fun. Advance registration is required. For ages 2 - 5 with an adult caregiver. Alondra Library, 11949 Alondra Blvd.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 25

Game and Activity Day, 2 - 4 pm. Drop in for board games, card games, puzzles, and play! We'll have activities for children and family members of all ages. Best suited for ages 4 and up. Alondra Library, 11949 Alondra Blvd.

MONDAY, JANUARY 27

Lit Wits Book Club, 6:30 pm. Join us to read and discuss 11/22/63 by Stephen King. High-school teacher Jake Epping travels back in time to prevent the assassination of John F. Kennedy, a mission for which he must befriend troubled loner Lee Harvey Oswald. New members welcomed. Norwalk Library, 12350 Imperial Hwy.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 28

After-Hours Mixer at Bruce's Prime Rib, 4:30-6:30 Mixers are an opportunity for members of the local business community to connect with other professionals. There is no charge to attend RSVP by emailing info@norwalkchamber.com or call (562) 404-0909.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 29

DIY Comic Book, 4-5 pm. Be a writer and illustrator of your own comic book. We have all the materials for this cool project. For ages 12-18. Norwalk Library, 12350 Imperial Hwy.

Painting with Watercolors, 2 - 3 pm. Create your own masterpiece! Learn how to mix colors using watercolor art techniques. Attendance is limited, and advance registration is required. For Adults 18+. Alondra Library, 11949 Alondra Blvd.

MakMo: Rock Cycle Magnet, 4 - 5 pm. Join us to learn about the rock cycle and the various types of rocks then create your own rock magnet! For ages 8 - 12. Alondra Library, 11949 Alondra Blvd.

BurgerIm Grand Opening, 1 pm. Celebrate BurgerIM's grand opening during a ribbon cutting celebration. The restaurant is located at 14133 Pioneer Blvd., inside Norwalk Town Square. RSVP to info@norwalkchamber.com.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 30

Rhythmic L.A. 2020 Rhythmic Gymnastics Invitational, 8:30 am - 9:30 pm. Rhythmic Academy of Los Angeles welcomes the Rhythmic community, families and friends to the Rhythmic LA 2020 Rhythmic Gymnastics Grand Championships. Featuring top Rhythmic Gymnastics programs throughout the United States and many elite clubs around the with

over 400 gymnasts participating, making it one of the largest and most prestigious Rhythmic Gymnastics Regional tournaments in the United States. Guest admission is \$25 for adults and only \$15 for children and seniors. Cerritos College gymnasium, 11110 Alondra Blvd.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 31

Relay for Life Silent Auction, 5-7 pm. Place your bid on a selection of unique donated items. Free entry if you donate an item worth \$10 or more. Proceeds will be donated to the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life. Norwalk Arts & Sports Complex, 13000 Clarkdale Ave.

Smarty Pants Storytime, 10:30 - 11 am. Let's get ready for school! Enjoy books, songs, rhymes, and movement while learning school readiness skills and having fun. Advance registration is required. For ages 2 - 5 with an adult caregiver. Alondra Library, 11949 Alondra Blvd.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1

Painting in Pajamas, 5 pm. Come enjoy an evening with your favorite little painter while enjoying a delicious pizza dinner. There will be an instructor who will provide step by step instruction on painting a beautiful masterpiece on canvas that both you and your little one can enjoy and take home. Norwalk Cultural Arts Center, 13200 Clarkdale Ave.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3

Become a Zinester, 4-5 pm. Create a personal zine, a do-it-yourself mini-magazine reflective of you. We'll supply the materials. You supply the inspiration. For ages 12-18. Norwalk Library, 12350 Imperial Hwy.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4

Legal Research Class: Divorce & Separation 1:30 - 2:15 pm. Learn about the legal process for separation and divorce, including what to expect in court, and resources available to help. For Adults 18+. Norwalk Library, 12350 Imperial Highway.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6

Pet First Aid Class 1 - 2 pm. Do you know how to help your pets during an emergency? Pets are part of our family and being prepared creates confidence and eliminates stress. The Emma Zen Foundation will teach you all about pet first aid. For Adults 18+. Norwalk Library, 12350 Imperial Highway.

Coffee with a Cop, 6-7:30 pm. Share coffee and conversation with the dedicated men and women who patrol our streets. Panera Bread, 12531 Imperial Hwy

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7

Sneaker Giveaway, 12 pm. The first 50 guests will receive sneakers. For those who miss out on the sneaker giveaway, however, there will be a stickers giveaway & discounted shoe services. Norwalk Park, 12201 Sproul St.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8

Mother and Son Dance: To the Moon and Back, 5:30-8:30 p.m. Mother, aunts or grandmothers; share a memorable evening with the special boy in your life. You'll enjoy dancing, finger foods, games and crafts. Any adult child combination is welcome. Tickets must be purchased in advance at www.norwalk.org/city-hall/departments/recreation-park-services

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10

Heart String Art, 4-5 pm. This retro craft requires very few materials to form a beautiful heart-shaped design. Great project for beginners and fun to create. Just in time for Valentine's Day For ages 12-18. Norwalk Library, 12350 Imperial Hwy.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11

Seven Steps to Boost Metabolism, 10 am. Discover which foods and beverages cause you to store weight and which help you lose it. Coast Plaza Hospital, 13100 Studebaker Rd.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14

Street Foods of Hong Kong 12 - 1 pm. Join us for a cooking demonstration by Chef Phoebe Chow. You'll learn about the street foods in Hong Kong and best of all, you'll get to sample the food! For Adults 18+. Norwalk Library, 12350 Imperial Highway.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15

Electronic Waste Collection, 9 am to 2 pm. Safely dispose of unwanted electronic waste and expired medications, as well as up to five boxes of documents for shredding. City Hall, 12700 Norwalk Blvd.

Spiritual Block Party, 10 am to 10 pm. A wellness festival with three focus areas: movement, meditative and nourishment. Featuring vendors, dance, music, vegan food trucks, and more. Free and open to the public. Sanatan Dharma Temple and Community Cultural Center, 15311 Pioneer Blvd.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24

Lit Wits Book Club: I Am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter by Erika Sanchez 6:30 - 7:30 pm. Perfect Mexican daughters never abandon their family. But Julia is not your perfect Mexican daughter. That was Olga's role. A tragic accident leaves Olga dead and Julia left behind to reassemble the shattered pieces of her family. For Adults 18+. Norwalk Library, 12350 Imperial Highway

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27

Jewelry Making Class 4:30 - 5:30 pm. Learn about the subject of beading and create your own personalized piece of jewelry! Advance registration is required. Please visit or call the library to sign up: 562.868.0775. For Adults 18+. Norwalk Library, 12350 Imperial Highway.

SATURDAY, MARCH 7

25-Year Anniversary, 7 pm. Rockabilly band Three Bad Jacks celebrates its 25-year anniversary. With special guests The Knockout Kings, No Que No, The Ripkatz and Los Paka Lolos. \$15 cover. American Legion Post 359, 11986 Front St.

FRIDAY, MARCH 20

Diabolic Lounge, 7 pm to 1:30 am. Live music by The Psychlocks, The Peabrains, Uptown Psychos, Johnny Dahmer, The Syndicates, Six Silver Bullets and Lost Boys. \$15 presale, \$20 at the door. American Legion Post 359, 11986 Front St.

SATURDAY, MARCH 21

Quartermania, 11 am to 3 pm. Support Norwalk Woman's Club scholarships while you shop, and bid on items for 1, 2, or 3 quarters. Join us for a fast-paced and fun afternoon where everyone is a winner! \$20 ticket price includes lunch. Norwalk Arts & Sports Complex

Email calendar listings to eric@thedowneypatriot.com or alex@thedowneypatriot.com

County receives \$760K grant to help families reach self-sufficiency

LOS ANGELES - Los Angeles County has received a \$760,394 federal grant to help residents of public housing and vouchers increase their earned income and reduce their dependency on public assistance and rental subsidies.

The grant received by the Los Angeles County Development Authority (LACDA) was part of \$79 million in funding awarded to nearly 700 public housing authorities across the country.

County officials said the grant will enable them to collaborate with social service agencies, community colleges, businesses and other partners to help participants further their education, gain marketable skills, and otherwise increase their earning potential.

Participants in the program sign a five-year contract requiring the family head to obtain employment. In addition, no member of the family may have received cash welfare assistance for 12 months prior to program graduation.

An interest-bearing escrow account is also established; the amount credited to the family's escrow account is based on increases in the family's earned income during the term of the contract through new employment or by advancing in their current workplace.

Program participants who successfully complete the requirements of their contract receive the escrow funds upon completion. They are able to apply those funds to improve their personal circumstances including, for example, paying educational expenses or making a down payment on a home.

LACDA currently has 448 families enrolled. OUt of those 448 families, 239 families have escrow accounts.

Last year, the program graduated 44 participants with a total of \$439,380 in escrow funds disbursed.

Six participants transitioned out of housing subsidy and one graduate purchased a home.

Downey band playing final performance Saturday

By William Odis Martin
Staff Writer

With two EPs under their belt, the young but popular band built a growing fanbase. Band members say they will continue to perform together.

DOWNEY - Downey's own three-piece garageband revivalists, New American, will return to perform its last performance ever this Saturday at Stay Gallery.

Although the band says it will be the last time they jam together live as New American, there is a lot to look forward to as far as new music from the trio as they embark on a fresh start under a new name.

The founding members of New American united in the halls of Downey High and have been playing together since the 2016 with Jonny Strang on vocals and guitar, alongside bassist Karim Badran and drummer Alex Mendez.

"We haven't played in Downey in about a year and a half. I used to be the music curator at Stay Gallery when I was in college so I've been putting on shows and going to the gallery for years," says lead singer and guitarist Jonny Strang. "So I talked to Gabe at Stay and we just booked the date."

This Saturday's event, "Into the Chaos Gate", is projected to be "an immersive art experience" that will intermingle the sonic ambiance of New American and Thot Chamber with the psychedelic visions and ethereal free dance of multimedia artist The Contaminator.



"The artist, The Contaminator, has had the idea for her event 'Into the Chaos Gate' and she decided that we would be the musical accompaniment," says Strang. "She hand picked our songs and put them in a set for us. While we perform, the Contaminator will be doing live painting and interpretive dancing as well as interacting with the crowd."

The event promises to be a cerebral glimpse behind the veil, into the mind of a true artist and visionary who welcomes all to come heal in a baptism by

pigment, dance, sound and light. The Contaminator oozes creativity and ceases to amaze and shock the world with her expressive collection of work. She is a living and breathing piece of art. It is liberating to witness a fully actualized creator relentlessly push the envelope and make, paint, dance their way into our hearts and psyches.

Presale tickets are on sale now for \$5 and \$10 at the door. The doors will open at 8pm and UV cosmic clothing highly encouraged by The Contaminator.

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Homeless at the post office: another Julie

By Lorine Parks
Society Columnist

DOWNEY - Call her Julie A. "Don't use my last name," she says. "My father is still living in Downey." Another Julie, Julie Sizemore, whom I have profiled here before, also comes to stand here at the Downey main post office for charity. But this Julie has to sit.

Julie A. has a lot to say. "I was born in the original Downey Hospital," she says. "I'm homeless because my fiancé had a massive heart attack, and the nurse kicked me out."

"I have five fused vertebrae," Julie A. says. She wears a neck collar.

Does she have a social worker to help her? Apparently not. She has a CRV and CRMS ID cards from Cal Recup Care, which she asked me to photograph.

Cal Recup Care is a short-term charitable organization where the homeless can recover from acute hospital stays. Support for social services is available.

But one day Julie found her records and belongings placed on the curb in two large black trash bags at Recup, an 18-place shelter space in Lynwood. Her time there was up.

Julie A. has also used up

her allotted time at hospitals in Lynwood and at Kaiser Permanente in Downey. She knows the first name of the doctor at Kaiser who treated her diabetes, Dr. Aram. But she can't afford to go to him anymore.

Julie is 56 and says she suffers from type 2 diabetes and has COPD. She wears a neck brace for a degenerative disease.

"They say I'm not disabled enough for SSI," Julie says. "But it's a degenerative bone disease. They don't know what to do about me."

"I've got all my test results in my bag. But I can't find my glasses. And my inhalers," Julie says.

Julie grew up here in Downey, near the present location of the Barbara Riley Senior Center. Her children went to Warren High, and her father still lives here.

"I could work helping with the homeless," she says. "I trained as an administrative assistant."

Many municipalities seem paralyzed by controversy, even by formulating regulations, in planning to provide for the homeless. For example, how many inches apart should each car be, in a night-time car-park for families who live in their cars? Should a night watch-person be mandatory? Lights?

Instead of choosing "housing" as a first priority, could Downey do something as simple as what a south Orange County town does? Laguna Beach provides a shelter that offers a daytime drop-in program, giving homeless people a place to take a shower, do laundry and send mail, eat, and apply for housing and other social services.

Julie sits on the edge of the asphalt parking lot at the Downey main post office and gratefully accepts the currency placed in her hand by the post office traffic. "Thank you, sir," she calls. "Merry Christmas." It's a cool clear day in January.

"Shhh," Julie says, "this is a secret, but there are nice people, and they let me sleep in the 'park' at night."

Martha, another homeless woman is also standing here today, on the other side of the cement walkway into the post office. Martha is Hispanic and doesn't speak or understand much English. She is smiling.

Julie says she is also a certified nurse, an LVN, but she loves best working with animals, for their unconditional love.

"Here's my Teddy," Julie said. "When I wake up in the morning, he makes me smile."

L.A. County deploying 30 trailers to house homeless families in South L.A.

LOS ANGELES - The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors on Tuesday ordered the development of a road map for implementing a comprehensive crisis response strategy in Los Angeles County that would rapidly provide housing or shelter for people currently living on the streets who are ready and willing to come indoors.

Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas immediately followed up with a separate motion, also approved by the board, identifying specific locations for 30 trailers that Governor Gavin Newsom has committed to deploying to Los Angeles County as part of his executive order, issued on Jan. 8.

The motion calls for

deploying the trailers in public and privately owned parking lots in South LA within days to serve as interim housing for families.

"The Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority tells us that, right now, there are 30,000 people across Los Angeles County who have been assessed and are ready and willing to be housed," Ridley-Thomas said. "We need a framework that makes sure each of them has a safe place to go -- and soon. This means getting rid of any red tape and other unnecessary impediments so that we can expedite housing and services."

The Comprehensive Crisis Response motion complements Gov. Newsom's executive order, his proposal to invest \$1.4 billion next year to address homelessness, and the recommendations of the governor's Council of Regional Homeless Advisors, co-chaired by Ridley-Thomas and Sacramento Mayor Darrell Steinberg. Elements of the governor's plan had been inspired by programs in Los Angeles County.

U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein, in a letter to the Board of Supervisors, expressed "strong support" for the motion, saying it "would provide Los Angeles County with the framework it needs to effectively implement priority elements of the Council's recommendations and create greater capacity to ensure housing or shelter for people ready and willing to move indoors."

Senator Feinstein added, "I pledge to continue working

Dude. Be Nice. surprises beloved Whittier High faculty member

Walter Scott is popular with students and staff alike at Whittier High School.

By Alex Dominguez
Staff Writer

WHITTIER - Longtime Whittier High School faculty member Walter Scott was summoned into the school auditorium, where an emergency was supposedly in progress. Little did he know, however, that students and staff were lying in wait to celebrate his over 30 years of dedication to their high school.

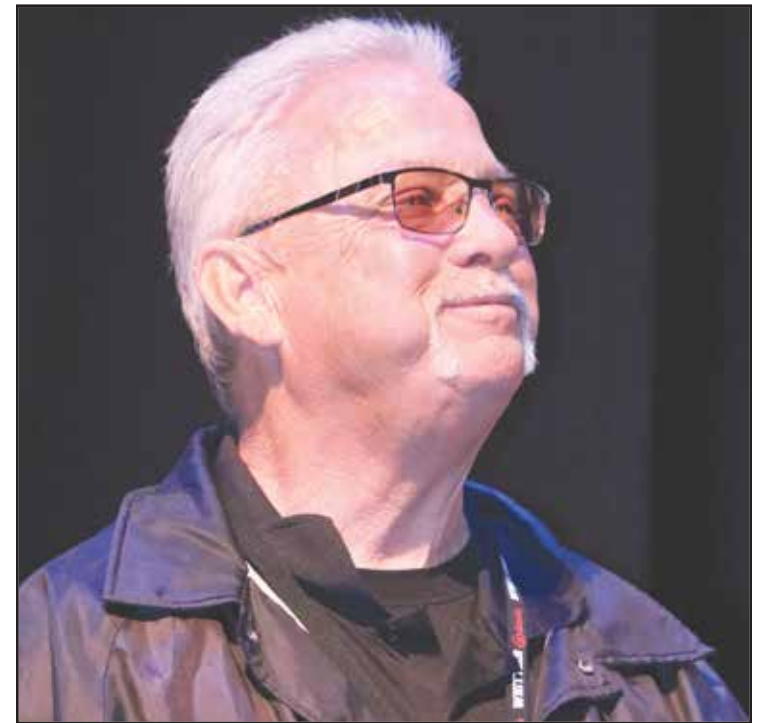
Scott - affectionately known as "Coach Scott" by most, if not all Cardinal students - has a long and enduring history at Whittier High.

"I've been here a long time... went to school here, graduated in 1973," said Scott. "I've been really fortunate to be in this community all my life."

After graduating, Scott would later return as head football coach, which occupied his time for 18 years. Now serving as part of the security team, Scott treats his role extremely personally.

"I was always told that school was an extension of the family, and that's my philosophy," said Scott. "I've had kids here that I knew their great-grandparents... I tell them, 'my job is to make sure you're safe, and we're going to make sure you're successful.'"

"I feel like every single [student] is extremely important... We're still helping them learn, and if I can't reach



"COACH" WALTER SCOTT. PHOTO BY ALEX DOMINGUEZ

them, I want somebody else to reach them."

It was this attitude that drew the attention of the Dude. Be Nice brand.

Brent Camalich, founder of Dude. Be Nice., said that the brand comes alive through "highlighting people that have incredible stories and that are making a positive impact in their communities."

"When we first started, we were just looking for stories anywhere we could find them," said Camalich. "Now a lot of stories come to us because of the popularity. Really what it is is finding someone on the ground in the community to be

the biggest supporter of what we're doing, because we need the community to make these things happen."

In addition to a bounty of cheers, tears, and hugs, Scott was also surprised with memorabilia from his favorite football team, the Notre Dame Fighting Irish.

Allison Huntley, Assistant Principal of Guidance and Counseling, said that it was "not hard to decide" to put Scott up for the recognition.

"Every kid on campus knows him," said Huntley. "Every person on staff likes him; he might be the only person that every single student and staff member loves unequivocally."

for additional federal resources to help provide housing and additional services for those experiencing homelessness. As Californians, we must continue to work together and invest in solutions that ensure we have the resources to fight this epidemic."

"We have to treat the homeless crisis with the urgency that it demands," said Supervisor Janice Hahn. "I don't want to continue to rely on the same old policies and practices that are working too slowly. We need our own Marshall Plan here in LA County so that we can provide shelter and housing to anyone and everyone who is willing to come inside, and we need the flexibility to do it as quickly and as efficiently as possible."

"As a member of the Governor's Council of Regional Homeless Advisors, I support Supervisor Ridley-Thomas' and Supervisor Hahn's motion to act on the Council's recommendations," said Sharon Rapport, associate director of the Corporation for Supportive Housing. "The Council's recommendations would put California on a path to become a national leader in solving homelessness. It would treat the over 151,000 Californians experiencing homelessness as if their lives are at risk, because they are. This motion signals to our State leaders and to other jurisdictions that Los Angeles County continues to lead on

this issue and to be accountable for results. I appreciate the Board's strong action to promote local and state commitment and investment toward ending homelessness."

"As a board member of A Community of Friends, a nonprofit organization that builds affordable housing, we applaud the Supervisors' effort to end homelessness," said Philip Feder, partner at Paul Hastings law firm. "More needs to be done to provide for the right of all individuals to permanent housing and the obligation of the state and federal governments to provide the funding and to end bureaucratic hurdles to building that housing."

"This is the right approach: creativity and flexibility in approach, but focus and accountability on the bottom line - helping all our friends outside have a place to call home," said Chris Ko, managing director for homelessness and strategic initiatives at the nonprofit United Way of Greater Los Angeles.

The Comprehensive Crisis Response motion:

Instructs County departments, led by the County CEO's Homeless Initiative and Office of Emergency Management, to study the Governor's Council recommendations to create a framework for prioritizing and implementing strategies that

would build greater capacity and accountability to ensure housing and services for Los Angeles County's homeless population who are ready and willing to move indoors.

Asks for 60-day report-back on an accountability framework related to a legal mandate for Los Angeles County to increase its capacity to provide housing and services;

Supports the governor's executive order and his \$1.4-billion budget proposal for addressing homelessness, and explores additional legislation.

More than 1,000 homeless people died on Los Angeles County streets last year, a trend that is likely to continue unless solutions for more immediate shelter and housing can be found. In their recommendations, the 13-member Governor's Council emphasized that "urgency should drive our response" and that homelessness must be viewed as "a humanitarian crisis tantamount to any sustained natural disaster." Council members also endorsed many recommendations to guide specific budget and policy actions for the beginning of the 2020 legislative session and called for appointing a "single point of authority for homelessness in state government."

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