

## Super Tuesday: Mayor wins outright, vice mayor ousted

The current Mayor, current NLMUSD Board member, and a former councilman claim victory on Super Tuesday.

By Alex Dominguez  
Staff Writer

**NORWALK** - Super Tuesday proved to be quite the shake-up for Norwalk's City Council, seeing only one incumbent retain their seat, and beckoning the return of a former, highly-controversial official.

Heading into elections, Mayor Margarita Rios and Vice Mayor Luigi Vernola looked to defend their seats amongst a pool of four challengers vying for one of three spots on the Council. Councilman Leonard Shryock opted to not bid for reelection, guaranteeing at least one new face to the council.

Rios grabbed an early lead and maintained it through the night. As of Thursday morning and with "majority votes cast," she was ahead of the pack with 4,594 (25.71 percent) votes.

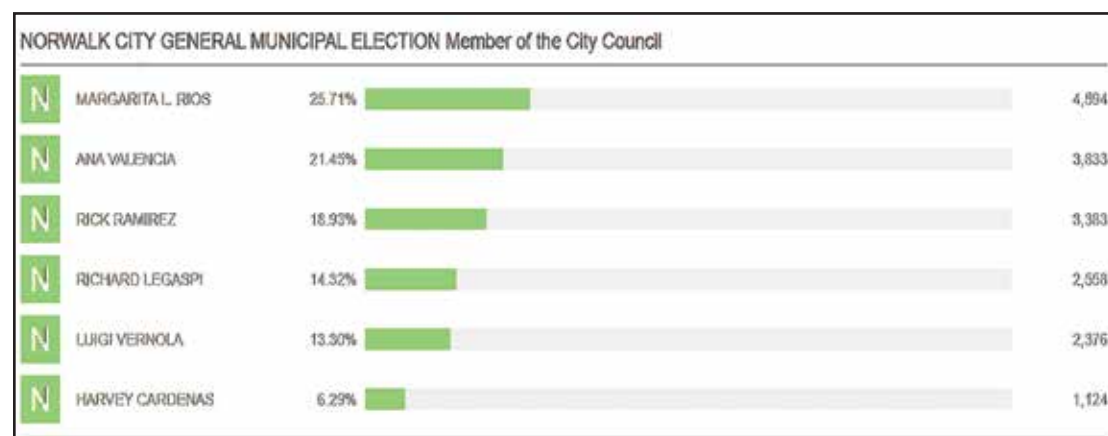
She was closely followed by Ana Valencia, who has served on the Norwalk La Mirada Unified School District since 2001. Valencia collected 3,833 (21.45 percent) votes.

The night was less kind, however, to Vernola, who trailed in the fourth position behind Rick Ramirez for much of the evening. Things only got worse for Norwalk's other running incumbent, when sometime around midnight he fell into the fifth spot behind former NLMUSD Board member Richard Legaspi.

Trailing in the second-to-last position with 2,376 (13.30 percent) votes, this election has spelled the end of Vernola's



Margarita Rios, Ana Valencia, and Rick Ramirez came out victorious in Tuesday's election. Photos courtesy City of Norwalk.



Results as of Thursday morning, as graphed by lavote.net

current run on the council.

Ramirez, instead, will take the final open seat.

His selection is likely one of the more eye-raising to longtime residents of the City.

Ramirez served on the council from 2003-2011, however it was not without controversy.

In October 2009, Ramirez was arrested and booked on suspicion of criminal threats against his wife, later being released after posting \$50,000 bail. Those charges were ultimately dropped for lack of evidence. The following year, he faced a lawsuit after being accused of sexual misconduct

against a female city employee.

He collected 3,383 (18.93 percent) votes.

Norwalk voters also approved Measure P - a three-quarter-cent local sales tax that would generate approximately \$7 million annually to support Norwalk's essential services and community programs - with over 58 percent of the vote.

At the Representative level, Linda Sanchez handily defeated opponent Michael Tolar with over 77 percent of the vote.

Sanchez released a victory statement before 11 pm on Tuesday, saying,

"Thank you to all of the volunteers and supporters who came out today. I'm honored and humbled by the amount of voters who are eager to keep me in Congress. It's my love and dedication to this community that gives me the strength every day to stand against the Trump administration's constant attacks on immigrants' rights, education, health care, and middle-class families. As we head to the general election in November, know that I will continue to be a voice for working people, a voice for women, and a voice for everyone who has felt sidelined."

## Norwalk hopes to carry positive momentum from 2019 to 2020

Residents and business owners were given a comprehensive review of 2019 from the Mayor, Sheriff's Captain, and Executive Director of the Chamber of Commerce.

By Alex Dominguez  
Staff Writer

**NORWALK** - After a busy year in 2019, Norwalk looks to continue its momentum through the next year.

Residents and members of the business community gathered at the DoubleTree hotel last Friday, eager to see how the city fared over the past year.

The first speaker of the afternoon was Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Caren Spilsbury, who described 2019 as "a busy year," highlighting the State of the State, State of the Nation, Annual Business Expo, Paint the Town Pink, Small Business Saturday, and various ribbon cutting / grand opening events.

Spilsbury also encouraged those in attendance to continue to shop and dine locally as opposed to other cities.

"Remember to shop local," said Spilsbury. "When you go to other cities, you're taking those resources somewhere else. Those resources aren't here anymore to support the community, to support the residents, to support the businesses.



Mayor Margarita Rios addresses attendees at the State of the City event held last week. Photo by Alex Dominguez

"Next time you want to eat out, go to Outback. Go to Chick-fil-a. Go to Panera Bread. Go to IHop. Go Somewhere local. When you want to get groceries, go to Grocery Outlet, go to Stater Brothers. Shop local, because that is what is going to continue to allow this city to provide the needs and resources they do, and continue to support local businesses."

LA County Sheriff's Captain James Tatreau followed Spilsbury, giving an update on public safety in Norwalk over the last year.

According to information presented by Tatreau, the Sheriff's Department saw

several improvements over 2019, including a 19 percent increase in arrests and a 33 percent decrease in citizen complaints.

"It takes everyone; it's a group effort. It doesn't happen by accident," said Tatreau. "This has been a great effort between the city. Mayor [Margarita] Rios's priority of public safety being number one, we appreciate that dedication and support."

"Norwalk Public Safety, they've been a great partner to us; they help us a lot and it's nice to have them as a partner."

Norwalk also saw a significant decrease in the number of major crimes, such as homicide, rape,

arson, burglary, robbery, grand theft auto, etc.

"Norwalk station finished this past year with minus 16 plus percent in the down direction; that's huge," said Tatreau.

Tatreau added that this was the second biggest reduction in such crimes out of over 40 patrol stations in the county.

The main event of the afternoon came from Mayor Rios, who gave updates on city dealings as a whole over the last year.

According to Rios, the city focused on public safety, diversifying and improving businesses, improving streets and infrastructure, and expanding community programming.

She also highlighted the city's 2020 census outreach.

"We also made history becoming the first in the state to launch a comprehensive 2020 campaign, said Rios. "This campaign featured bus and vehicle wraps, as well as a robust community outreach."

Rios also gave some peeks into future city infrastructure plans, including completion of the LED streetlight project, traffic street improvement projects on Rosecrans, Studebaker Road, and San Antonio Boulevard, increased engagement to neighborhood block watch meetings, hosting

Continued on page 6

### Norwalk restaurant grades

- BMW Cafe**  
10856 Firestone Blvd.  
Date Inspected: 3/3/20  
Grade: **A**
- Seattle Teriyaki**  
13302 Rosecrans Ave.  
Date Inspected: 3/3/20  
Grade: **A**
- Tacos y Mariscos Mi Pueblo**  
12001 Rosecrans Ave.  
Date Inspected: 3/2/20  
Grade: **A**
- RC Burger Cafe**  
10961 Firestone Blvd.  
Date Inspected: 3/2/20  
Grade: **A**
- L&L Hawaiian Barbecue**  
12431 Norwalk Blvd.  
Date Inspected: 3/2/20  
Grade: **A**
- China Bowl Express**  
11031 Firestone Blvd.  
Date Inspected: 3/2/20  
Grade: **A**
- The Burgershop**  
14606 Carmenita Rd.  
Inspected: 3/2/20  
Grade: **A**
- Columbus Club of Norwalk**  
12138 Front St.  
Date Inspected: 2/27/20  
Grade: **A**
- Tropical Juices**  
11813 Alondra Blvd.  
Date Inspected: 2/27/20  
Grade: **A**
- Boba Loca**  
15929 Pioneer Blvd.  
Date Inspected: 2/27/20  
Grade: **A**
- Northgate (Bakery)**  
11660 Firestone Blvd.  
Date Inspected: 2/26/20  
Grade: **A**
- Northgate (Deli)**  
11660 Firestone Blvd.  
Date Inspected: 2/26/20  
Grade: **A**
- Northgate (Tortilleria)**  
11660 Firestone Blvd.  
Date Inspected: 2/26/20  
Grade: **A**
- R&G's Food Basket (Meat)**  
11407 Pioneer Blvd.  
Date Inspected: 2/26/20  
Grade: **A**
- R&G's Food Basket (Bakery)**  
11407 Pioneer Blvd.  
Date Inspected: 2/26/20  
Grade: **A**
- R&G's Food Basket (Camelias)**  
11407 Pioneer Blvd.  
Date Inspected: 2/26/20  
Grade: **A**
- Ana's Bionicos**  
11005 Firestone Blvd.  
Date Inspected: 2/25/20  
Grade: **A**
- Tacos y Mariscos Las Islas**  
14419 Pioneer Blvd.  
Date Inspected: 2/25/20  
Grade: **A**
- R&G's Food Basket - Camelias**  
14407 Pioneer Blvd.  
Date Inspected: 2/25/20  
Grade: **A**
- R&G's Food Basket - Bakery**  
14407 Pioneer Blvd.  
Date Inspected: 2/25/20  
Grade: **A**
- Waba Grill**  
11005 Firestone Blvd.  
Date Inspected: 2/25/20  
Grade: **A**
- Tacos Chihuahua**  
11735 The Plz  
Date Inspected: 2/24/20  
Grade: **A**
- Wingstop**  
11739 Rosecrans Ave.  
Date Inspected: 2/24/20  
Grade: **A**

### Weekend at a Glance

Friday 72° ☁️  
Saturday 65° ☁️  
Sunday 66° ☁️

### THINGS TO DO

### Walk for Water

Saturday - Downey High School, 9 am to 1 pm  
Join Downey High School students as they attempt to raise \$24,000 to build fresh water well in impoverished parts of the world.

### Shin Lim

Saturday - Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts, 7:30 pm  
Winner of season 13 of "America's Got Talent," Shin Lim is a magician and master illusionist. Tickets start at \$55

### Quartermania

Saturday - St. Mary's Catholic Church in Whittier, 10:30 am  
Bring your quarters and bid on a variety of prizes. \$20 admission includes lunch; there will also be a cash bar, 50/50 raffles, silent auction, and vendors.

### Holi Festival of Colors

All Weekend - Whittier Narrows Recreation Park  
Called the "world's greatest chant and dance party" with mantra bands, DJs, yoga, crafts, food, Bollywood dancing, and more. \$6.50 and up

### Derek Fisher

Saturday - WSS in Santa Ana, 10 am  
Meet the former Lakers point guard at this grand opening event for WSS shoe store.

### TWEETS OF THE WEEK

As of 5:59 am, 58% of voters have voted in favor of Measure P. The City thanks Norwalk voters for their support. @CityofNorwalkCA

Pre-purchase a rain barrel for only \$20 and pick up from Norwalk City Hall on Sat, March 14. Two max per household. Find out more! @CityofNorwalkCA

Twitter.com/NorwalkPatriot

# March events at the Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts

**CERRITOS** - March fills up the Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts (CCPA) with music, Motown, magic and many more amazing acts.

Starting off the month is "One Night in Memphis," a tribute to the spontaneous jam session by legends Carl Perkins, Johnny Cash, Jerry Lee Lewis and Elvis Presley. The show delivers 90 minutes of Rockabilly, Country, Gospel and pure 1950s Rock 'n' Roll music performed live. Enjoy good old American hits, including "Blue Suede Shoes," "Folsom Prison Blues," "Great Balls of Fire," "Whole Lotta Shaking Going On," "Shake, Rattle and Roll," "Don't Be Cruel" and "Hound Dog." Tickets start at \$55 for the 8 p.m. Friday, March 6 show.

Grab the kids and check out the dangers and delights of "Dinosaur World - A Brand New Dino-Mite Adventure" on Sunday, March 8 at 1 p.m., 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. The interactive show explores a prehistoric world of astonishing (and remarkably lifelike) dinosaurs and is recommended for children ages 3 and older. Tickets start at \$10.

National Geographic Live! presents "Hilaree Nelson: Point of No Return" at 7 p.m. on Thursday, March 12. Nelson recounts the challenging 2014 journey to the summit of Burma's Hkakabo Razi, which was plagued with mishaps and dangers, including dwindling

food supplies, logistical failures, hypothermia and conflicting personalities. Tickets are \$45.

Don't miss New York Gilbert & Sullivan Players' all-new production of "The Mikado" at 8 p.m. on Friday, March 13. The classic opera about romantic entanglements and comical misadventures pokes fun at the social conventions and norms of 19th-century England as it eventually leads to happiness for the lovesick. Albert Bergeret is the artistic director. Tickets start at \$40.

Enjoy a night of greatest hits from the soft-rock group Air Supply, which soared to the top of the music charts with a succession of No. 1 hits that included "Lost in Love," "The One That You Love," "Here I Am (Just When I Thought I Was Over You)" and "Even the Nights Are Better." The duo performs Sunday, March 15 at 7 p.m. Ticket prices start at \$75.

Composer Rob Kapilow returns to the CCPA with the Cal State Northridge Jazz Band for "What Makes It Great? Swing: The Great Bands of the Swing Era" on Wednesday, March 18 at 7:30 p.m. A celebration of 1930s and 1940s music, the evening is an exploration of works by famous bandleaders of the time - Count Basie, Duke Ellington, Benny Goodman, Glenn Miller, and Artie Shaw. The performance is sponsored by George & Bev Ray/LeFiell. Tickets are \$55.

"A Toast to the Rat Pack & Marilyn" is a high-energy show honoring the 1960s heyday of the Rat Pack's legendary Las Vegas concerts. Experience it on Friday, March 20 at 8 p.m. The lineup features The Rat Pack Orchestra; Sebastian Anzaldo as Frank Sinatra; Andy DiMino as Dean Martin; Lambus Dean as Sammy Davis, Jr.; and Susan Griffiths as Marilyn Monroe. Tickets start at \$35.

Enjoy "The Best of Doo-Wop Vol. VI" when the genre's icons unite! Jam with Kenny Vance & The Planotones ("Looking for an Echo"); the original lead singer of The Crystals, La La Brooks ("Da Doo Run Run"); The Capris ("There's a Moon Out Tonight"); Larry Chance ("I Believe"); and smooth vocals from the a cappella sensation Classic Sounds. Tickets start at \$50 for the 8 p.m. show on Saturday, March 21.

The progressive Rock band KANSAS returns to Cerritos in its "Point of Know Return" tour on Sunday, March 22 at 7 p.m. to showcase the memorable tunes that made it a music legend, including "Carry on Wayward Son" and the iconic acoustic ballad "Dust in the Wind." Ticket prices start at \$75.

Get ready for three original "Motown Legends" in one show! Enjoy all of your favorite hits from the Supremes founding member and Rock and Roll Hall of Famer Mary Wilson ("Stop!

In the Name of Love" and "Baby Love"); two original members of The Vandellas ("Dancing in the Streets" and "Heat Wave"); and The Contours with founder Joe Billingslea ("Do You Love Me?"). Tickets start at \$40 for the 8 p.m. Friday, March 27 show.

Since its 1993 inception, Yamato has mesmerized more than 2 million fans with its mastery of Japanese drums. The ensemble's performances enforce its core belief - that the drumbeat (like the heartbeat) is the very pulse of life. In making Japanese Wadaiko drumming accessible to people of all ages, Yamato has "the power to put an audience on its feet, laughing, clapping and taking part," hailed the "London Times." See what all the commotion is about on Saturday, March 28 at 8 p.m. Tickets start at \$50.

The 63rd edition of "It's Magic!" features an all-new cast of award-winning performers from around the globe, ready to leave audiences speechless and spellbound with sleight-of-hand illusions, stage tricks, comedy and variety acts. It's "the best magic show in town!" cheers the "Los Angeles Times." Ticket prices start at \$55 for the 3 p.m. show on Sunday, March 29.

Visit cerritoscenter.com to purchase tickets and select your seats or call (562) 916-8500.

## Jo Koy, Frankie Valli announced as OC Fair performers

**COSTA MESA** - The OC Fair has announced two more additions to its summer entertainment lineup: comedian Jo Koy and legendary singer Frankie Valli.

Stand-up Jo Koy will help close out the fair when he performs Aug. 16 at 8:15 p.m.

Pulling inspiration from his family, specifically his son, Koy has had several successful stand-up specials, including "Comin' In Hot" on Netflix, and reached No. 1 on the Billboard Charts in 2019 for his comedy album.

Tickets range from \$45-\$85.

Frankie Vallie will be joined by The Four Seasons when he performs July 16 at 8:15 p.m.

He'll sing a medley of songs including "Big Girls Don't Cry," "Walk Like Man" and "Can't Take My Eyes Off of You."

Tickets to see Vallie and The Four Seasons range from \$50-\$85.

Tickets for both shows go on sale Saturday and include admission to the OC Fair.

## Cerritos discontinues Roundup use

**CERRITOS** - The Cerritos City Council has banned the use of Roundup products by city staff in public places.

Produced by Monsanto Company in the 1970s, Roundup is the most widely used herbicide in the United States. However, reports in recent years have suggested a potential link between certain cancers - specifically non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma - to the long-term use of glyphosate, which is found in Roundup.

City landscape crews previously used Roundup to control weeds in City park landscaping and around trees, sports fields, streets, medians and adjacent freeways. Staff will be testing new products to replace Roundup.

**Free Compost and Workshop Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup>**  
**8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**  
 Norwalk City Hall Parking Lot

- ▶ **NORWALK RESIDENTS ONLY (ID OR BILL REQUIRED)**
- ▶ **BRING SHOVELS, DOLLY, AND STURDY CONTAINER**
- ▶ **NO PLASTIC BAGS ALLOWED**
- ▶ **WHILE SUPPLIES LAST (30 GALLON LIMIT FIRST HOUR)**

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## Short Stories Innocence of children

By Gail Earl Contributor

Today what I saw was innocence.

As I sat with my 4-year-

old granddaughter on my lap, as I stared into her precious little face, I saw innocence and wonder. Her big brown eyes lit with such delight.

As we ate our morning bagel

and shared our morning ritual, I was taken back by the beauty and light that shone from her eyes. As we giggled, we told each other silly stories and let our imagination run wild.

Of course, I know she's brilliant but I just sat there totally mesmerized by her thought process. I sat there wondering how much fun it would be to think like a child but have the experience and wisdom of an adult.

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What it must be like to have your thought come from a place that only a four-year-old could reference. Her thoughts were totally innocent, not jaded or prejudiced.

Imagine a world where all is good and life is nothing but love and all caring things. The innocence of that time period is so special. It's so beautiful. It's really a shame that we lose that innocence.

While I was sitting there enjoying her so much is when she snapped me out of my delicious thoughts.

She sat on my lap and lovingly looked into my eyes, then proceeded to tell me "Nana, you have a very old neck."

She sure can bring a smile to my face!

Gail Earl is a member of the writing class offered through the Cerritos College Adult Education Program. It is held off-campus at the Norwalk Senior Center.

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# Watering Plants Is Actually Good for You

By Froma Harrop

I know this is an outlier story. It's about Brooklyn brownstone couples who pay over \$2,000 for professionals to choose and care for their houseplants. Houseplant designing is actually a service being offered to the urban and suburban gentry. One such "Plant Doctor & Stylist" charges an hourly rate between \$125 and \$175. Those are psychotherapy prices.

What I see, sadly, are busy careerists outsourcing basic acts of living. It's one thing to pay for child care. But indoor-plant care? Is carrying a glass of water to the ficus on the windowsill such a time-wasting, big deal?

It's not like these people have a quarter-acre lawn to mow (for which they'd no doubt hire someone).

"We do all the dirty work for you," Lisa Munoz, one of the houseplant nannies, told The New York Times. In my experience, however, caring for a houseplant rarely ruins a manicure. And there's a fashion item called gardening gloves.

Perhaps a plant will need a bigger pot. Well, go buy a bigger pot and a quart of soil, and move the plant into the larger container. Or leave it outside for a neighbor to take, and go buy another one the right size. Whatever you do is going to cost a heck of a lot less than \$2,000.

Beyond laziness, other factors may be at work here. A certain insecurity stalks many young professionals. With their super-styled homes, some may fear appearing dated and unfashionable in their houseplant choices.

And wouldn't having a houseplant die under one's care be a humiliating sign of failure? It's happened to me, and I know the sting. I recall coming home from a vacation and finding my water-loving peace lily dried to a crisp.

But I dusted myself off, went out and bought a ZZ plant (*Zamioculcas zamiifolia*). The ZZ is a fleshy succulent that, like the peace lily, thrives in low light but needs little water. By the way, it's really fun to go to a store and look over the houseplants.

It's been long known that houseplants enhance your health. They absorb carbon dioxide and release oxygen, which we humans need. A study by NASA found that houseplants remove an enormous amount of toxins in the air. On the psychological side, they have been found to calm us and reportedly improve concentration.

But the act of caring for plants is itself a healthy form of nurturing. Nature-oriented pursuits like gardening are known to relieve stress. True, you're not going to burn off calories and build muscles applying fertilizer to the philodendron — this is not digging potatoes — but you are communing with something exotic. Ferns, after all, came to us from tropical rainforests. And this is wholesome time away from

screens.

Plant amateurs often produce the more interesting, quirky arrangements than people in the business. Drive through a posh neighborhood where full-time landscapers do all the work. The results might be tasteful, but they tend to be conformist and often dull. The same would apply to arrangements of indoor plants. Do you want your home to feel like a law office? (Don't answer, some of you.)

With jobs and workouts and restaurant bookings, professional couples can be very busy. But it seems a shame that so much of their life is being automated, never mind the expense.

Every year, I buy a lineup of amaryllis plants to ensure a bloom from December through early spring. The latest one started out as a bulb already in a container. I simply watered and watched the green leaves emerge inch by inch. The buds just exploded into parrot-red blossoms. Gosh, that felt good — and I never had to give up Twitter.

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

# The best treatment for coronavirus is paid sick leave

The New York Times Editorial Board

The Federal Reserve did what it could Tuesday to offset the growing economic impact of the coronavirus by announcing a supersize reduction in its benchmark interest rate — the first time the Fed has acted between its regularly scheduled meetings since the financial crisis in 2008.

But the Fed is ill equipped to limit the effect of a global pandemic alone. Lower interest rates may eventually soothe the financial markets and help to hold down borrowing costs, but the Fed can't speed the reopening of Chinese factories or reverse Facebook's decision to cancel an annual developers conference that last year brought 5,000 visitors to San Francisco.

"A rate cut will not reduce the rate of infection. It won't fix a broken supply chain. We get that," Jerome H. Powell, the Fed's chairman, conceded at a news conference on Tuesday.

The real work falls on the rest of the government. The first step should have been simple: ensuring that testing for the coronavirus was readily available and, better yet, free. But even after weeks of lead time for the virus's inevitable arrival, access to testing remains woefully inadequate as the domestic death toll rose to nine on Tuesday.

At this point, the crisis also demands unorthodox solutions. To restrict the spread of the coronavirus, the government needs to put limits on commerce. The best way to protect people, and the economy, is to limit economic activity. That is an unfortunate but inescapable truth. Public health officials will need to impose quarantines, businesses will need to cancel meetings. And most of all, the problem now and going forward is making sure that sick workers stay home.

That means not forcing employees to choose between penury and working while coughing.

Congress can help by mandating that workers receive paid time off if they fall ill, or if they need to care for an ailing family member. Such a policy is necessary both to impede the spread of the virus and its economic harm. Roughly one-quarter of workers in the private sector — about 32 million people — are not entitled to any paid sick days. Absent legislation, they face a choice between endangering the health of co-workers and customers and calling in sick and losing their wages and perhaps also their jobs.

The current system is practically devised to spread infectious disease. Among the people least likely to have paid sick days, and therefore most likely to work through illness, are low-wage service workers like restaurant employees and home health care aides. (Those workers also are less likely to have health insurance, which compounds the problem.)

Most developed nations require employers to provide some form of paid sick leave, and the United States should do so, too. Some states already mandate sick leave, and a recent study found that the adoption of such laws reduced cases of influenza by 11 percent in their first year. Whatever the course of the coronavirus, mandatory sick leave for American workers would improve the lives of families and insulate the economy against pandemics.

If Congress cannot bring itself to do the right thing, however, it still could help by mandating sick leave specifically for this coronavirus. A 2013 study of workers in Allegheny County, Pa., estimated that allowing them to take up to two paid "flu days" would have reduced workplace transmission of the flu by roughly 39 percent.

Employers sometimes argue that sick leave policies encourage malingering. But studies show that even accounting for workers who play hooky, society still benefits.

The government could defray the cost of emergency sick leave for employers, for example by allowing businesses to claim a one-time tax credit. There is also a good case for providing broader help, particularly to smaller companies that cannot easily weather a loss of revenue.

The Italian government, for example, announced Sunday that it would issue tax credits to businesses that reported declines in revenue of 25 percent or more — in effect shifting the losses from private balance sheets to the government's balance sheet.

Also seeking to help smaller businesses, the Chinese government has announced that banks can defer the receipt of loan payments from smaller companies that were due during the first half of the year without being required to report such loan payments as overdue. In hard-hit Hubei province, the leniency applies to larger companies, too.

The Trump administration so far has shown little interest in tailored responses. President Trump reacted to the Fed's announcement by demanding further rate cuts. He has insisted that the United States should have the world's lowest interest rates; the European Central Bank's benchmark rate currently sits below zero, at -0.5 percent.

Mr. Trump also has said that Congress should pass a payroll tax cut.

If the federal government fails to contain the spread of the coronavirus, and the economic outlook darkens, such a broad-based stimulus may well become necessary. But targeted policies — like sick days — are likely to remain the most effective form of response.

# Repeal the Patriot Act

By Judge Andrew P. Napolitano

I have been writing for years about the dangers to human freedom that come from government mass surveillance. The United States was born in a defiant reaction to government surveillance. In the decade preceding the signing of the Declaration of Independence, the villains were the Stamp Act and the Writs of Assistance Act. Today, the villain is the Patriot Act.

Here is the backstory.

In 1765, when the British government was looking for creative ways to tax the colonists, Parliament enacted the Stamp Act. That law required all persons in the colonies to purchase stamps from a British government vendor and to affix them to all documents in one's possession. These were not stamps as we use today, rather they bore the seal of the British government. The vendor would apply ink to the seal and for a fee — a tax — impress an image of the seal onto documents.

All documents in one's possession — financial, legal, letters, books, newspapers, pamphlets, even posters destined to be nailed to trees — required the government stamps.

How did the British government, 3,000 miles away, know if one had its stamps on one's documents? Answer: The Writs of Assistance Act. A writ of assistance was a general warrant issued by a secret court in London. A general warrant does not specifically describe the place to be searched or the person or thing to be seized. It merely authorized the bearer — a civilian or military government official — to search where he wished and seize whatever he found.

The use of writs of assistance ostensibly to search colonial homes for stamps produced an avalanche of opposition that often turned to violence against the stamp vendors. The sheer cost of invading private homes fueled fears that the true purpose of the tax was not to generate revenue — though the king always needed cash — rather, it was to remind the colonists that the king was sovereign and his agents and soldiers could enter colonial homes on a whim.

Parliament repealed the Stamp Act in 1766, but it had caused lasting harm to the king. Harvard Professor Bernard Bailyn has estimated that by the late 1760s, one-third of the colonists favored secession from Great Britain, either peaceful or violent.

In 1789, six years after the American Revolution was won, the 13 colonies that had seceded combined into the United States of America under the Constitution. Two years later, the Bill of Rights was ratified, the Fourth Amendment of which was expressly written to prohibit general warrants — to assure that the new government would not and could not do to Americans what the British government had done to the colonists.

That assurance was manifested in the amendment's requirements that only judges can issue search warrants, which must be based on probable cause of crime and which must specifically describe the place to be searched or the person or thing to be seized.

The history of the United States is the history of the growth of government and the loss of personal liberty. Thankfully, we eradicated slavery and recognized the equality of all people, irrespective of race or gender. Yet, in times of crisis, we have supinely permitted the federal government to invade our privacy on a scale never approached by the folks who brought the Stamp Act to our ancestors.

After 9/11, the George W. Bush administration offered the Patriot Act to Congress. It was crafted in secrecy and enacted in infidelity to the Constitution. Members of the House of Representatives had 15 minutes to read is 300+ pages and no time for serious floor debate. The one senator who spoke out against it was driven from office.

Section 505 of the Patriot Act permits federal agents to bypass the requirements of the Fourth Amendment and to issue their own search warrants. Those agent-written warrants are not based on probable cause of crime but rather on a representation by one agent to another of governmental needs — the same lame standard used by the secret London courts that issued writs of assistance.

Since 2001, federal agents have issued more than 300,000 of

these search warrants — which they call National Security Letters — to custodians of financial records. In 2004 alone, 56,507 agent-written search warrants were issued. Those custodians include financial institutions, telecom providers, computer service providers, supermarkets, credit card issuers, health care insurers and providers, legal service providers, local and state governments, and even the Post Office.

The very concept of one federal agent authorizing another to seize records is antithetical to the Fourth Amendment and repugnant to the American Revolution.

I am writing about this now because a section of the Patriot Act will expire on March 15, and many congressional liberals and libertarians — even a few conservatives still bruised at the governmental surveillance of candidate Donald Trump in 2016 — have been contemplating structural changes to this pernicious law.

Section 215 — which is about to expire — is as fatal to freedom as is section 505. It permits designated federal judges to issue general warrants based on the old writs of assistance standard of governmental need. One of those judges signed a search warrant for the telephone records of all Verizon customers in the U.S. — at the time, 115 million of them.

Both 215 and 505 are weapons of mass surveillance and should be repealed. They are instruments of a totalitarian government, not of free people. They defy the Constitution. They presume that our rights are not natural but come from a government that can take them back. Mass surveillance produces a state that knows more about us than we do about it — one that will slowly consume our freedoms in the name of governmental needs. It already has.

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# How hospitals and insurance companies scam us

By Jim Hightower

Lyndon Johnson had a saying about special interests trying to get his support to pass some blatantly self-serving legislation: "They can't make chicken salad out of chicken (bleep)!"

Yet chicken (bleep) is all that the corporate health complex has to work with as it frantically tries to defend its current system of mass malpractice. After all, as most Americans have learned the hard way, profiteering insurance giants, Big Pharma, and hospital chains grossly overcharge us while constantly trying to shortchange — or outright deny — care to millions of our families.

## Same story, different election

Dear Editor:

Have you ever noticed how all these politicians running for office say that they can do a better job than the one in office right now?

And that's what the one in office said when he was running for that office. And the one before him said the same thing, etc., etc., etc.

When does it all stop?

**Larry Arellano**  
Norwalk

So, unable to win public support on their own merit, the corporatists and their hired political hacks are going all out to continue their gouging and keep control of America's dysfunctional system. They're now running a multimillion-dollar PR and lobbying campaign of lies to trash and kill all reforms that would deliver quality, comprehensive care to everyone, at far less cost than they can deliver.

Masquerading as a "Partnership for America's Health Care Future," the profiteers warn ominously that such reforms as Medicare for All or a public option for health insurance would take away people's "choice" and our "control" over health care.

Hello: we presently have no choice or control.

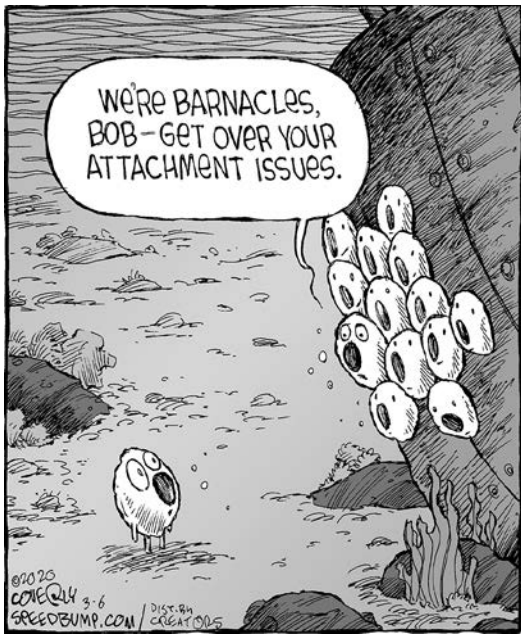
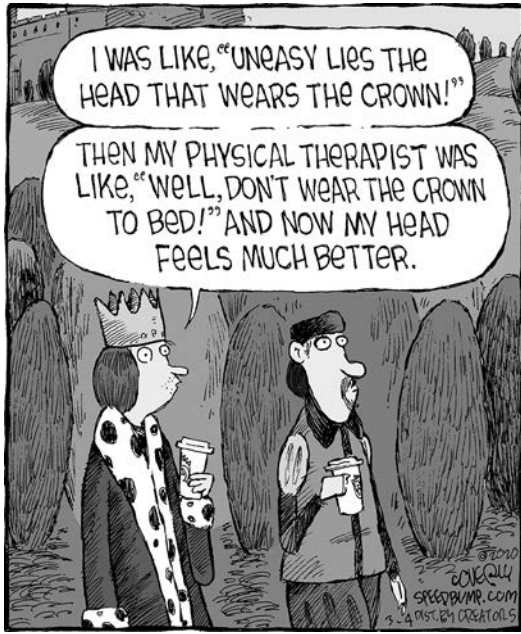
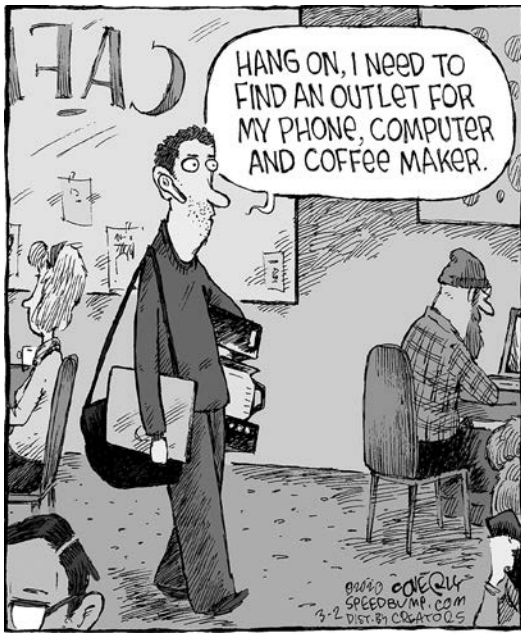
Our "care" is managed by a handful of insurance, drug, and hospital monopolists whose primary objective is not improving our health, but feathering their own cushy nests. And the undeniable, ugly truth is that they can only continue ripping us off by killing real reform.

That's one reason the American Medical Association and others are dropping out of the Partnership's political front. Honest health care practitioners no longer believe it's in their best interest — or the public's — to be part of its chicken (bleep) PR campaign.

**Jim Hightower is a radio commentator, writer, and public speaker.**

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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...

March 6, 1521: Ferdinand Magellan discovered Guam.  
1820: The Missouri Compromise was enacted by the U.S. Congress and signed by U.S. President James Monroe. The act admitted Missouri into the Union as a slave state, but prohibited slavery in the rest of the northern Louisiana Purchase territory.  
1899: Aspirin was patented by German researchers Felix Hoffman and Hermann Dreser.  
1981: Walter Cronkite appeared on his last episode of "CBS Evening News with Walter Cronkite." He had been on the job 19 years.

### THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com)  
**RETAINERS: Don't let go until you're done**  
by Gail Grabowski

**ACROSS**

- 1 Keenly attentive
- 6 Cop's quarry, informally
- 10 Very impressed
- 15 Worship from
- 19 Split apart
- 20 Savory stimulus
- 21 Prestigious prize
- 22 Bear in constellations
- 23 Prevent misbehavior from
- 25 "Not so loud!"
- 27 Future stallion
- 28 Step in development
- 30 Point toward
- 31 Potpourri pouches
- 35 Low-lying wetland
- 36 Of the pre-Easter season
- 38 Traveling acting company
- 39 Handed-down folk wisdom
- 40 Hot cocoa ingredient
- 41 Where van Gogh did Sunflowers
- 42 Fixed look
- 44 X-Files agent
- 45 Thick carpeting
- 49 Some square dancers
- 50 Wall Street venue
- 52 School corridor
- 53 Pupil's place
- 54 Place for picnicking
- 55 Legendary frontiersman
- 56 Operatic rendition
- 57 Becomes sunny
- 60 Gucci of fashion
- 62 Brings to the dinner table
- 64 Spouses
- 66 Increase for approximation
- 70 Filmmaking brothers
- 71 Regard as true
- 73 Houseplant spot
- 74 Semisynthetic fabrics
- 76 Microwave setting
- 77 Hollows between hills
- 80 Bouquet holder
- 81 QB's successes
- 84 Picnic beverage
- 85 Retailer's refund alternative
- 88 Peter Pan pirate
- 89 Sanctified
- 90 Drags from behind
- 91 Reads closely (over)
- 92 Complained, as cattle
- 93 Brown shades
- 94 Multilayered sandwich
- 95 In abundance
- 96 Literary spoof
- 99 Ruffians
- 100 Perry Mason creator
- 101 Nature photographer
- 102 Dog walker's purchase
- 103 South Park kid
- 104 Remain unused
- 107 Avert misfortune
- 113 Tulsa, for instance
- 114 Erected
- 115 Brainstorming offering
- 116 Be overdramatic
- 117 Chicago star
- 118 "To hazard a guess..."
- 119 Legal wrong
- 120 Desert formations

**DOWN**

- 1 Consult for assistance
- 2 Finch family creator
- 3 Temporal brink
- 4 Account exec
- 5 Upper arm muscle
- 6 Places to vote
- 7 Make revisions to
- 8 Harry Potter's pal
- 9 Chef assistant's activity
- 10 Get some air
- 11 Calf-roping loop
- 12 Having the know-how
- 13 Exchanged rings
- 14 Yale student
- 15 Accounting inspection
- 16 Wharton's Ethan
- 17 Nile dam site
- 18 Deliver a tirade
- 24 Short message
- 26 Fuel holder
- 29 pants (baggy trousers)
- 31 Step in development
- 32 Impressive assortment
- 33 "Reverse the charges" service
- 34 Rainbow display
- 35 Something to pick up
- 36 Flax fabric
- 37 Fills with joy
- 40 Great white shark cousin
- 42 Ringo's All-Band
- 43 Sculpted form
- 44 Hang down
- 45 Actress Stone
- 46 Sign of autumn
- 47 Common sci-fi character
- 48 Toaster's need
- 50 Aromatherapy locale
- 51 Pop singer Paula
- 58 Ringer for error
- 59 Sixth sense, for short
- 60 Licorice-flavored herb
- 61 "Bad" cholesterol, for short
- 63 Earth-friendly prefix
- 64 Fire starter
- 65 Outburst often blessed
- 67 Tech support callers
- 68 Wheel and deal
- 69 Desert refuge
- 72 Any Lead Actress Emmy nominee
- 75 To this day
- 78 Make amends
- 79 Daily temperature stats
- 80 "Hide" and "seek"
- 82 Mower maker
- 83 Passover feast
- 86 Grade around 78
- 87 Goes camping, say
- 88 Talked into
- 92 Kept pace in a drill
- 93 Flooring piece
- 94 Having a lot to say
- 95 Horse's pace
- 96 Treacherous one
- 97 Up and about
- 98 Giggling sound
- 99 Electric car make
- 100 "Wonderful!"
- 101 Obviously eager
- 102 San Obispo, CA
- 103 At any point
- 105 Box score stat
- 106 Fizzled firecracker
- 108 Commotion
- 109 Outback bird
- 110 Slip into
- 111 Picnicked, say
- 112 "Be glad to"

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LEGLALS

NO. 6094. IN THE CITY OF NORWALK, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, AS PER MAP RECORDED IN BOOK 67 PAGE 68, OF MAPS, IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY RECORDER OF SAID COUNTY... The street address and other common designation, if any of the real property described above is purported to be: 11405 Belcher St Norwalk, CA 90650...

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...

CPP 350235 The Norwalk Patriot 2/21/20, 2/28/20, 3/6/20

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IDS 0160483 The Norwalk Patriot 2/21/20, 2/28/20, 3/6/20

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE Trustee's Sale No. CA-RCS-19019058 NOTE: PURSUANT TO 2923.3(C) THERE IS A SUMMARY OF THE INFORMATION IN THIS DOCUMENT ATTACHED. (PURSUANT TO CIVIL CODE SECTION 2923.3(a), THE SUMMARY OF INFORMATION REFERRED TO ABOVE IS NOT ATTACHED TO THE RECORDED COPY OF THIS DOCUMENT BUT ONLY TO THE COPIES PROVIDED TO THE TRUSTOR.) YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 11/7/2006. 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.

DOUBLETREE HOTEL LOS ANGELES-NORWALK, 13111 SYCAMORE DRIVE, IN THE CITY OF NORWALK, County of LOS ANGELES, State of CALIFORNIA, PEAK FORECLOSURE SERVICES, INC., a California corporation, as duly appointed Trustee under that certain Deed of Trust executed by VICTOR MADRID AND FRANCISCA MADRID, HUSBAND AND WIFE AS JOINT TENANTS, as TruStors, recorded on 11/14/2006, as Instrument No. 06 2512065, of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of LOS ANGELES County, State of CALIFORNIA, under the power of sale therein contained, WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER...

ASAP 4718515 The Norwalk Patriot 2/21/20, 2/28/20, 3/6/20

“Norwalk is moving forward” says Mayor Rios

Continued from page 1

more coffee with a cop and block party events, and continuing to work closely with Athens Waste Services to add more waste management trucks and identify hotspots of illegal dumping.

The Parks and Recreation Department will also be on the receiving end of several projects

this year.

“This year, residents and stakeholders will also see additional projects such as the replacement of all wood floors inside the Norwalk Arts and Sports Complex, resurfacing of the pool deck at the aquatic pavilion...and the installation of field lights at Gerdes Park,” said Rios.

Rios concluded her comments by saying “Norwalk is ready.”

“I hope you’ll continue to pay attention and learn about our efforts,” said Rios. “I’m really excited about everything that’s going on...We want you to help us spread the message that Norwalk is moving forward.”

L.A. County declares emergency in response to coronavirus

LOS ANGELES - The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and the Department of Public Health (Public Health) on Wednesday declared a local and public health emergency in response to increased spread of coronavirus across the country and six additional cases in LA County.

Public Health stated that none of the new cases are from community spread, and all of these new cases were exposed to COVID-19 through close contacts. None of these cases were linked to the first case reported in LA County in January.

“These declarations are a swift response to this emergent issue and will enhance our ability to effectively manage our response,” said Supervisor Kathryn Barger, Chair of the Board of Supervisors. “These actions will allow us to have even greater coordination to protect our more than 10 million residents and prevent the spread of COVID-19 in our communities,” she added.

“My first priority is, and always will be, to protect the public health of our residents and that means ensuring we have the necessary equipment and resources in place should the threat of COVID-19 escalate in the County,” said Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda L. Solis. “Fear will not drive our response to this virus. Rather, we will prepare and implement our proven prevention strategies to effectively protect the public.”

“We will continue to mobilize county resources, accelerate emergency planning, streamline staffing, coordinate with agencies across the county and state and federal partners, and raise awareness about how everyone can be prepared for more cases and community spread,” said Barbara Ferrer, PhD, MPH, MEd, Director of Public Health.

“As more cases are identified and community spread is detected in numerous areas, the possibility of sustained community spread of this virus in the US will increase,” said Muntu Davis, MD, MPH, Health Officer for Public Health. “Everyone and every organization has to do their part to help slow the spread of this virus.”

Public Health will be enhancing efforts to include the following:

Testing at our Public Health Lab: Public Health is among ten California health labs to receive CDC test kits, with additional kits on the way and we will be able to test locally for COVID-19.

Ensuring that people who are positive for novel coronavirus and their close contacts are quickly identified and closely monitored and supported while they are in isolation and/or quarantined.

Daily radio briefing updates by the Public Health Director and Health Officer.

New guidance for childcare facilities, schools, colleges and universities, employers, hotels, public safety responders, shelters, congregate living facilities and parents on how to prepare for and slow the spread of COVID-19.

Weekly telebriefings with elected officials, city managers, and leaders at businesses, organizations, schools, faith-based communities and healthcare facilities (this includes over 3500 identified contacts).

Site visits to every interim housing facility to assist the implementation of environmental practices and modifications that can reduce transmission of respiratory illness.

Communication and preparation with our first responders, healthcare facility partners and healthcare providers to ensure continued readiness for this dynamic situation, including ensuring adequate PPE supplies for healthcare workers.

Updating our pandemic response plan for COVID-19 in accordance with CDC guidance and local conditions.

“Our local healthcare system is well prepared to treat more cases should the need arise, particularly among vulnerable populations that require significant clinical care,” Ferrer added. “Specific guidance documents allow each of us to take steps to be prepared, including personal actions that can make a difference in disease transmission.”

And although there is no current need for significant social distancing measures in LA County, and the individual risk for contracting COVID-19 remains low for most individuals in the County, all community members should take the opportunity to plan for the possibility of more significant social distancing requirements should there be broad community spread. Personal preparation measures include:

Having an ample supply of essentials at home (including water, food, hygiene, medications, and pet food);

Planning for the possibility of business disruptions, school closures, and modifications/cancellations of select public events;

Practicing simple social distancing strategies that limit your exposure to others who may be ill (verbal salutations in place of handshakes and hugs, not sharing utensils, cups and linens, staying six feet apart from others at public events).

LA County is prepared to manage and investigate suspected and confirmed cases of novel coronavirus. Public Health will continue to work

closely with federal, state, and local partners to provide healthcare providers and the public with accurate information about actions to be taken to reduce the spread of novel coronavirus and to care for those who may become ill with this virus. As with other respiratory infections, there are steps that everyone can take to prevent the spread of novel coronavirus.

The best ways to prevent the spread of respiratory infections, including novel coronavirus, are:

Stay home if you are sick. Sick people make well people sick.

If you have mild symptoms, there may be no need to go to a medical facility to see a doctor.

Certain patients, such as the elderly, those that are immune compromised or have underlying health conditions should call their doctor earlier.

If you have questions, please call the clinic or your doctor before going in. If you do not have a healthcare provider, call 211 for assistance finding support near you.

Wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.

Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.

Get immunized against the flu to protect yourself and your family, and reduce the potential strain on the healthcare system, which may be impacted by COVID-19 concerns.

Public Health is also asking businesses, schools, and community-based organizations to prepare plans that allow people to stay home if they are sick (even mildly) without the risk of being academically or financially penalized. This includes the option to work from home or to complete assignments remotely, where possible. Public Health is requesting organizations do the following:

Make sure you are using a robust, regular cleaning and disinfection schedule for frequently touched surfaces.

Ensure that your continuity of operations (COOP) plans are up to date, so their essential functions can continue.

Not require a doctor’s note for staff returning to work after being sick, when possible. This will reduce the strain on the healthcare system.

These actions will go a long way to protect individuals and healthcare services that may be affected once novel coronavirus begins to spread more widely.

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# NORWALK HAPPENINGS

## 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.

**Finding the Rest of Me: Where do I Start?** 12:00 – 1:30 pm. Ms. Bocage, a genealogy expert, will introduce the basic requirements to connect your family tree. This visually aided genealogy class will facilitate your journey through forms, charts, and records. For Adults 18+. Norwalk Library, 12350 Imperial Highway.

## SATURDAY, MARCH 7

**Teen Empowerment Day, 9 am** Mental Health Coach Ernie G presents "TEEN Empowerment Day 2020" - A Youth Empowerment, Emotional Healing & Family Transformational Day. 11:205 Imperial Hwy.

## TUESDAY, MARCH 17

**Fair Housing Workshop**, 2 pm. This workshop is for tenants, landlords, managers, property owners, attorneys, realtors® and management companies. The workshop covers: Federal and State Fair housing laws, housing discrimination, modifications and accommodation, rental application process, general guidelines, families with children, Notices, evictions process, security deposits, habitability & repairs, rent increases, occupancy standards, and lots more. RSVP required, limited spots left. 11929 Alondra Blvd

## 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.

**Artastic**, 6 pm. free special event that celebrates the arts and highlights the Cultural Arts Center's programs and classes. This community event will feature free art activities and projects,

multiple art exhibits, entertainment, a fundraising dinner, and much more! Stop by to see how you can get involved in the creative process and art appreciation. For more information, please call 929-5521. Norwalk Cultural Arts Center.

## 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

## SUNDAY, MARCH 22

**Walking in the Spirit Anniversary**, 11 am. Norwalk's Walking in the Spirit Ministries will hold its 12th annual church and pastoral anniversary. The public is invited to attend this service which will include free breakfast Pastors Tim and Leshia Brooks are the host pastors. DoubleTree Hotel.

## MONDAY, MARCH 23

**Lit Wits Book Club: A Woman of No Importance by Sonia Purnell** 6:30 – 7:30 pm. Read and discuss the never-before-told story of one woman's heroism that changed the course WWII. Virginia Hall was one of the greatest spies in American history, yet her story remains untold. Author, Sonia Purnell uncovers the captivating story of a powerful, influential, yet shockingly overlooked heroine of WWII. For Adults 18+. Norwalk Library, 12350 Imperial Highway.

## SATURDAY, MARCH 28

**Mulch and Compost Giveaway**, 8 am. Treat your yard or garden to nutrient rich compost or mulch and see the difference these recycled materials make! Bring your own shovel and container as this is a self-service event. While supplies last, with a 30 gallon limit the first hour. Free for Norwalk residents; proof of residency is required. City Hall.

## SATURDAY, APRIL 11

**Egg-stravagan Egg Hunt**,

12:30-3:30 pm. Families are invited to enjoy an afternoon of fun with egg hunts, games and live entertainment. For more info, please call the Recreation Dept at 562-929-5702. City Hall.

## SATURDAY, APRIL 18

**Grind Now, Die Later fest**, 4 pm. Music event held at American Legion Post 359. Tickets are \$10 online, or \$15 at the door.

## SUNDAY, APRIL 19

**Learn How To Play In A Charity Golf Tournament**, 1-4:30 pm. Join the #Latina Golfers for an in-depth, hands-on, Golf 101 Bootcamp that will teach you how to play in a charity golf tournament. You'll never have to say no to that business golf invitation again! You will learn the do's and don'ts of business golf including golf etiquette. You will also learn the fundamentals of the golf swing and putting. And you will be taken to the golf course to put into action what you learned and learn step-by-step what to do from tee box to the green. No golf experience needed and we provide the golf equipment. Refunds will be given up to 7 days before event minus a \$28 administrative fee. \$95 cost plus 7.42 processing fee.

## SATURDAY, APRIL 25

**Kids Fun Zone**, 12 - 3 PM. This month we'll be celebrating Dia de Los Niños aka Children's Day! We'll be hosting several unique kids crafts while teaching about Spanish heritage & culture. Norwalk Civic Center.

## WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24

**90's Rock Show at Concerts in the Park**, 7 pm. Join your community for an all-ages 90s Concert NIGHT in Norwalk.

**Email calendar listings to** [eric@thedowneypatriot.com](mailto:eric@thedowneypatriot.com), or [alex@thedowneypatriot.com](mailto:alex@thedowneypatriot.com).

# Downey students host Walk for Water Challenge this weekend

**DOWNEY** - More than a billion people in the developing world don't have access to clean drinking water, and many have to walk miles to find the nearest clean-water source.

The Downey High School Thirst Project Club, a student-led organization whose aim is to bring safe drinking water to communities around the world where it is not available, is asking students and adults across Downey to walk the same distance -- about three miles -- to help raise enough money to build two fresh water wells in developing countries.

The event is called the Walk for Water and it's happening this Saturday, March 7, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the Downey High School track.

"Our goal is to have the whole city of Downey walking around the high school track, which means we could fund two wells and bring clean drinking water to people in the developing world from that one day," said Diana Mae Baliscao, the club's president and a senior at Downey High School. "Think about it. Three miles is the average women and children walk for water in the developing world just to fetch water that is not even clean, we get to experience walking in their shoes at our walk."

This inspired group of Downey students have been planning and coordinating the Walk for water since the beginning of the school year and have partnered with different schools not only in Downey Unified School District but all over the region. Many parents, teachers, and students will be bused in to attend the Walk for Water.

The Challenge

Downey High School's 2nd annual Walk for Water will be held at Allen Layne Stadium,



**A Downey student shows off one of the Jerry Cans full of water that residents are being challenged to carry 12 laps.** Photo by Alex Dominguez

in Downey High School. Those who attend the event will have the opportunity to walk 12 laps around the track or less carrying water in either water gallons or jerry cans depending on the participant's ability.

All ages young and old will be able to walk in the shoes of women and children who suffer from water scarcity. Most importantly, participants will be part of raising \$24,000 to build two wells in developing countries.

The event will also have fun activities for children, informational booths and water awareness exhibits to bring awareness to the global water crisis.

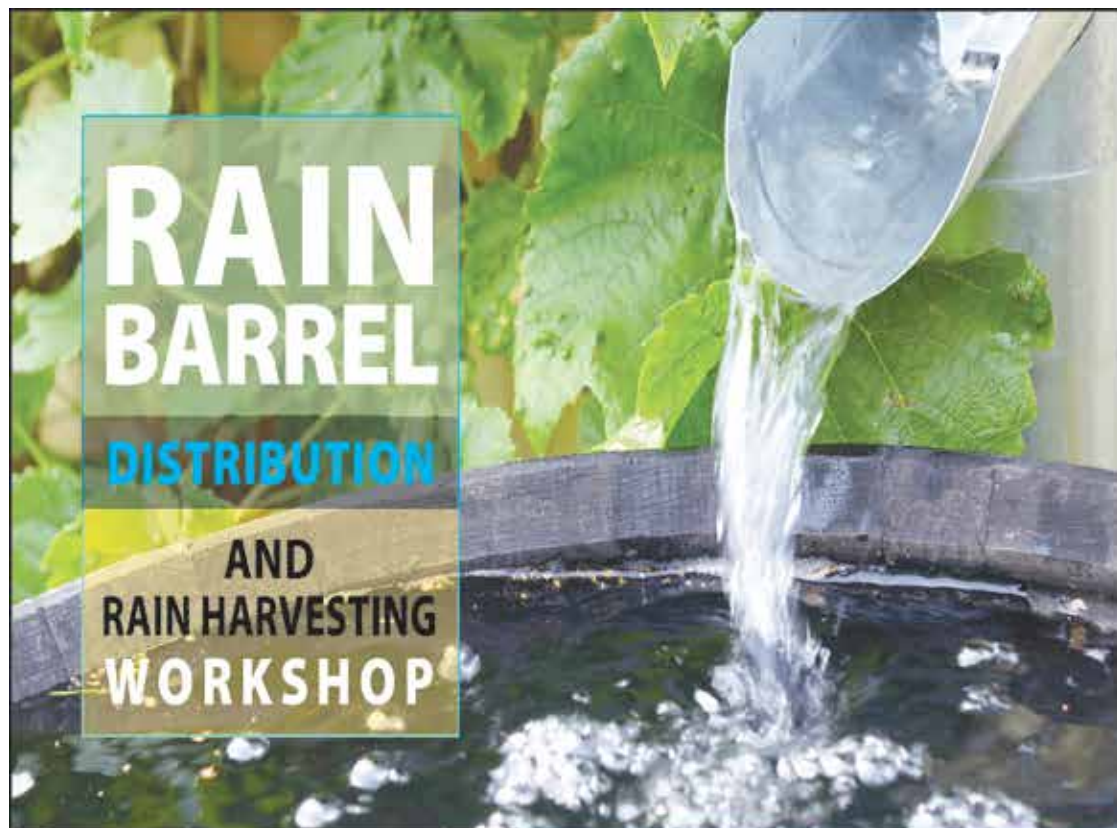
The group aims to bring awareness to how many people around the world don't have clean water. According to a report from the World Health Organization and UNICEF, 844 million people don't have access

to safe water. That's one of the major factors for diarrhea, which kills 801,000 children each year, says the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

"We are inspired to do this walk because of the staggering number of people who lack access to clean water, a resource us in the United States don't think twice about," said Jordan Guerrero, senior at Downey High School.

For more information on how to register, visit the registration page at: <https://my.thirstproject.org/event/downey-walk-for-water/e254594>

Onsite registration will also be available the day of the event.



**RAIN BARREL DISTRIBUTION AND RAIN HARVESTING WORKSHOP**

Rain Barrels have many benefits. They divert water from storm drain systems, conserve a vital natural resource, protect our waterways from runoff pollution and may help you save money by reducing water bills.

The cost of the rain barrel is \$20 plus tax. Maximum 2 rain barrels per household. Must pre-order to receive your rain barrel.

*If you have purchased 2 barrels from us at a previous event, or received a rebate from SoCalWaterSmart for 2 barrels, you will not be eligible to participate.*

Two timeslots to choose from:

- WORKSHOP 1:** 9 a.m. – 10 a.m.  
**DISTRIBUTION 1:** 9 a.m. – 11 a.m.
- WORKSHOP 2:** 12 Noon – 1 p.m.  
**DISTRIBUTION 2:** 12 Noon – 2 p.m.

Workshop discussion topics include:

- Rainwater Harvesting
- Installation of a Rain Barrel
- Water Conservation Techniques
- Benefits of a Rain Barrel



**Date:** Saturday, March 14  
**Location:** Norwalk City Hall 12700 Norwalk Blvd. Norwalk, CA

**FREE WORKSHOP!**

Pre-Order Required:

Visit [RainBarrelsIntl.com](http://RainBarrelsIntl.com), click the "EVENTS" tab and select "City of Norwalk" or call 919-602-6316

For questions or more information contact: [Info@RainBarrelsIntl.com](mailto:Info@RainBarrelsIntl.com) or 919-602-6316



**DISTRIBUCIÓN DE BARRILES DE LLUVIA Y COSECHA DE LLUVIA TALLER**

Los barriles de lluvia tienen muchos beneficios. Desvían el agua de los sistemas de drenaje pluvial, conservan un recurso natural vital, protegen nuestros cursos de agua de la contaminación de la escorrentía y pueden ayudarlo a ahorrar dinero al reducir las facturas de agua.

El costo de barril de lluvia es de \$20 más impuestos. Máximo 2 barriles de lluvia por hogar. Debe pre-ordenar para recibir su barril de lluvia.

*Si compró 2 barriles en un evento anterior, o ha recibido un reembolso de SoCalWaterSmart por 2 barriles, no será elegible para participar.*

Dos horarios de tiempo para elegir:

- TALLER 1:** 9 a.m. - 10 a.m.  
**DISTRIBUCIÓN 1:** 9 a.m. - 11 a.m.
- TALLER 2:** 12 del mediodía 1 p.m.  
**DISTRIBUCIÓN 2:** 12 mediodía - 1 p.m.

Los temas de discusión del taller incluyen:

- Colecta de Agua de Lluvia
- Instalación de un Barril de Lluvia
- Técnicas de Conservación de Agua
- Beneficios de un Barril de Lluvia



**Fecha:** Sábado 14 de Marzo.  
**Ubicación:** Norwalk City Hall 12700 Norwalk Blvd. Norwalk, CA

**GRATUITO TALLER!**

Pre-Pedido Requerido:

Visite [RainBarrelsIntl.com](http://RainBarrelsIntl.com), haga clic en la etiqueta "EVENTOS" y seleccione "Ciudad de Norwalk" o llame al 919-602-6316

Para preguntas o más información, póngase en contacto con: [Info@RainBarrelsIntl.com](mailto:Info@RainBarrelsIntl.com) o 919-602-6316



# Church hosting anniversary service

**NORWALK** - Norwalk's Walking in the Spirit Ministries will hold its 12th annual church and pastoral anniversary service on Sunday, March 22, at 11 a.m. The celebration service will be held at the DoubleTree Hotel. The public is invited to attend this service which will include free breakfast. Pastors Tim and Leshia Brooks are the host pastors.

# Senator Archuleta named Legislator of the Year for veterans work

**NORWALK** - State Sen. Bob Archuleta has been named Legislator of the Year for 2019 by the California State Commanders Veterans Council.

members, upon receiving orders to transfer out of state, to maintain their eligibility status or their place on the waiting list for services.

the Disabled Veterans Business Enterprise program."

Archuleta served as a Presidential Appointee under then-President Barack Obama as the first Mexican American to be appointed to the Board of Visitors to the United States Military Academy at West Point, which inquiries into the morale, discipline, curriculum, and other matters relating to the academy, and he was immediately elected as co-chair. He also served on the Los Angeles County Military Veteran Affairs Commission and the United States Army Advisory Board for Military Recruitment.

This bill would also allow military personnel and their families to apply for the Medicaid HCBS waiver program when they receive notification of their pending transfer into the state.

Elected in 2018, Archuleta is an Army veteran and was a combat paratrooper with the 82nd Airborne Division. He is the current Chair of the Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs.

The California State Commanders Veterans Council is a group of 20 veterans service organizations and other military service-related organizations, whose mission is to evaluate pending state legislation affecting California's veterans, whether active, reserve, National Guard, or retired. The Council was founded in 1966 and meets regularly to coordinate legislative strategies to advance veterans issues at the state level.

"When Senator Archuleta was appointed as the Chairman of Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs, we instinctively knew he would be the right person for the job," said Frederick Romero, chairman of the California State Commanders Veterans Council. "He has captivated us with his intimate knowledge, and unique ability to understand and relate to the active duty military and California veterans. He has also shown, through action in his first year, his desire to tackle the tough issues such as the California Veterans Homes and

The award is given in recognition for leadership and efforts on behalf of California's veterans, active duty military, reserves, and the California National Guard.

Archuleta, who represents Norwalk in the state legislature, will be presented the award at the state Capitol on April 22.

"It is an honor for me to receive this recognition from the California State Commanders Veterans Council. I will continue to work with all veterans and active military in the state of California to represent them to the best of my ability," Archuleta said. "I will continue working with my colleagues and the governor's office on veterans' homelessness, as well as issues pertaining to our active military and our 22 armed force bases in California."

Archuleta authored Senate Bill 289 in 2019, which was signed by Gov. Gavin Newsom. SB 289 allows active duty service

War II, is in its final weekend of performances at the Burnight Studio Theatre at Cerritos College.

The fruit-growing commune and the goat farmer has a dispute over who is to own and manage the valley after the Nazis have retreated and left it abandoned.


The goat farmers used the valley before the war but the fruit growers propose more productive use of the land. To support their claim, the fruit growers prepare a play about a peasant girl who rescues a baby and becomes a better mother than the wealthy natural parents.

Should the land go to those who will use it most productively, not those who had previous ownership?

Performances of "The Caucasian Chalk Circle" are scheduled for March 6-7 at 8 p.m. with a 2 p.m. matinee on Sunday.

Tickets are \$17 at the door for adults and \$13 for children ages 5-12.

**In Memory of**



**Sheldon "Bill" Richmond Shearer**  
**September 24, 1925 - February 18, 2020**  
 94 year old, life long resident of Norwalk, Sheldon "Bill" Shearer passes away.  
 Sheldon "Bill" Richmond Shearer passed away peacefully in his sleep on February 18, 2020 in Santa Barbara, CA where he resided for the past 9 months to be close to his son, Glenn, who was his loving caregiver. Bill was born on September 24, 1925 in Santa Ana, California to Lester Walter Shearer and Anna Mae Keins. Bill was married to Kathryn Bottema in Anaheim, California on June 17, 1949 for 58 years until she passed away on June 15, 2007. Bill and Kathryn had two sons, Glenn and Garry Shearer. Bill is survived by his son, Glenn Shearer and his wife, Sandy Shearer; Granddaughter, Suzanne Shearer, great-grandchildren Luke and Lucy; Granddaughter, Stacy Shearer, great-granddaughter, Amora; Granddaughter, Mandy Smith and her husband, Tim Smith, great-grandchildren, Corey, Collin, and Madeline; Grandson, Christian Herbst, great-grandchildren, Logan and Adri; Grandson Matt Hayes and wife Rio Hayes, great-grandchildren, Owen, Henson, and Hazel; Grandson Jacob Shearer; and many nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews.  
 Bill is preceded in death by his second son, Garry Shearer and his wife Kathy Shearer.  
 Bill served in the United States Navy from May 04, 1943 to December 13, 1945 and was stationed in the Solomon Islands during WWII. Bill loved sharing stories and one story he loved telling is when he was in the 6th grade. He and his friends would spin a globe and whatever location they pointed to is where they would go. Bill spun the globe and it landed on New Caledonia. He had never heard of New Caledonia, but years later when he joined the military his first stop was in New Caledonia.  
 Bill also served in the United States Air Force from August 10, 1950 to November 07, 1951. He was stationed in Japan during the Korean War.  
 Bill was a mail carrier for the post office in Norwalk, California from the late 1940's to 1958. He retired from Laura Scudder's, where he was a route driver from 1958 to 1980.  
 If you knew Bill, you knew he was a prankster. He loved telling jokes and one of his favorite things to say were that his initials were "B.S." Bill enjoyed socializing with his friends. You could find him every morning riding his scooter down to the Donut King where he enjoyed a donut and coffee or at the bingo hall shouting "BINGO" any chance he had. Bill had a passion for birds. He had aviaries in his backyard filled with finch, cockatiels, lovebirds, and parakeets. His favorite birds were his parrots.  
 Bill loved to help people and his biggest accomplishment in life was working for the Angel Tree in Norwalk. He loved seeing the children's smiles on their faces when they got a gift. Bill received many awards including Citizen of the Year for Norwalk, Lifetime Achievement Award, and an award from the County of Los Angeles for his work with Angel Tree.  
 Bill's greatest piece of advice, "To live a long happy life, treat people the way you want them to treat you and BE NICE, BE NICE, BE NICE!"  
 Services will be held at Lakewood Village Community Church located at 4515 Sunfield Avenue, Long Beach, California, 90808 on March 20, 2020 at 1:00 PM.

# Student play 'The Caucasian Chalk Circle' closes Sunday

**NORWALK** - "The Caucasian Chalk Circle," a play by German modernist playwright Bertolt Brecht and set in the Soviet Union around the end of World

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**Breakfast & Lunch Buffet**  
**Now Available!**

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 Saturday 7:30 PM - 12 AM  
 Sunday 3:00 PM - 9 PM

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# Cerritos College to host forum on corner lot

**CERRITOS** - Cerritos College will host its first forum of the year to update residents about changes to its property located at the 166th Street and Studebaker Road corner lot on Monday, March 16 at 5:30 pm in the Fine Arts building.

On Sept. 18, 2017, the Cerritos City Council approved the College's Temporary Use Permit (TUP) for four years. The TUP authorizes the College to convert the property at 166th Street and Studebaker Road into an automobile storage facility. The Cerritos College Board of Trustees passed a resolution on Sept. 6, 2017, to address issues raised by residents and the City, including dust and light mitigation, hours of operation, loading of vehicles, security, and landscaping.

The College continues to work closely with the City of Cerritos to meet the requirements outlined in the TUP.

For more information, contact the President's Office at (562) 860-2451 ext. 2204.

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