

Judge's ruling allows homeless to be housed at Norwalk hotel

Norwalk had previously passed a moratorium in an effort to block the move by L.A. County.

By Eric Pierce
Editor

NORWALK - A Los Angeles Superior Court Judge granted a temporary restraining order Tuesday allowing L.A. County to go ahead with plans to house vulnerable homeless residents at a Norwalk hotel.

The plan, called Project Roomkey, is part of the county's efforts to shelter the homeless during the coronavirus pandemic.

The Norwalk City Council voted two weeks ago to block hotels from accepting homeless residents.

However, the ruling by Judge Samantha Jessner overrides the City Council's vote. The restraining order is valid through July 2.



Photo by Eric Pierce

"I think the Judge made the right call," said Supervisor Janice Hahn. "We are in the middle of a health crisis and it is critical that we act quickly to move vulnerable people off the streets and into these empty hotel beds where they can isolate and stay safe."

Free drive-thru meal distribution at Cerritos College today

NORWALK - Cerritos College will host a free drive-thru meal distribution for its students later today.

A local restaurateur Jay Bharat, in collaboration with other community partners, will generously donate 800 free Indian vegetable curry meals to Cerritos College students and

the community from 12:30 pm 2 p.m. at the Cerritos College Lot 10.

No parking on campus. Those driving cannot leave their vehicles. Volunteers will direct vehicles to the pickup location. Limited walk-up service for those without cars.

Former LASD lieutenant named captain at Cerritos

By Sean Davis
Talon Marks

NORWALK - Cerritos College has announced Donald Mueller as the new Cerritos College Police Department captain, effective April 21.

Mueller, a recently retired Los Angeles County Sheriff lieutenant, has 30 years of law enforcement experience including work at the Community College Bureau.

Mueller will take on the role of captain, which according to Cerritos College PD Chief Tom Gallivan, is the "second in command" to the chief and "responsible for the day to day activities" of the department as well as the duties of Patrol Watch Commander.

Mueller will also be a part of the school's C.A.I.R. Team and will be "responsible for the staffing and planning for any special events on campus," Gallivan says.

The captain also plays the role of Chief when they are unavailable.

Mr. Mueller's experience as Operations Lieutenant at the Community College Bureau saw him "overseeing the day to day operations of 175 at nine community colleges."

This community college policing experience also means Mueller has an understanding of the Clery Act, the federal law requiring college's receiving federal funds to report crime statistics in and around campus, as well as Title IX, the federal law prohibiting sex discrimination at federally funded schools.

The now-captain also has experience as a Peace Officer Standards and Training instructor in Cultural Awareness and Sexual Harassment.

Mueller is also, according to Chief Gallivan, a "nationally recognized instructor in Cultural Diversity." Mueller is also a Hate Crimes Investigator instructor.

The Human Resources department carried out the search for candidates for the captain position.

They sought applications with proper experience and a "background [that] includes emergency management and working with students."

All applicants are interviewed by a hiring committee made up of representatives from all sectors of Cerritos College.

The emphasis on emergency management is timely, considering the recent bomb threat made at Cerritos College.

Chief Gallivan laid out Mr. Mueller's experience in emergency management and "disaster preparedness," including his "5 years served as the Operations Chief at LA County's Emergency Operations Center."

Chief Gallivan says Cerritos College PD is "always looking for ways in which we can improve our communication and enhance our service to the campus community" and they are "excited to see what new ideas Captain Mueller brings to the table."

Gallivan highlighted Mueller's experience at the Community College Bureau, stating it "will be a major benefit to Cerritos College."

Cerritos College President Jose Fierro appreciates the experience Mueller is bringing to the Cerritos campus, saying "Mr. Muller was the best-qualified candidate for the position of captain of Police" and that "his experience with community college students, equity, diversity, and inclusion made him the ideal candidate for the job."

With the COVID pandemic forcing students and staff to work off-campus for the foreseeable future, the new captain will seemingly have plenty of time to learn the ins and outs of his position before students return to campus.

Covid-19 cases increase by 50 in a week

NORWALK - The latest tally of coronavirus cases in Los Angeles County revealed 183 positive cases in Norwalk, jumping another 10 cases from the previous tally; up nearly 50 from the previous week.

The increase in Covid-19 patients comes as the state contemplates how and when to start reopening California. The virus has killed 1,000 people in L.A. County, including 315 deaths last week.

Gov. Gavin Newsom said at

a news conference Tuesday that public schools could potentially reopen for a new academic year in late July.

"We recognize there's been a learning loss because of this disruption. We're concerned about that learning loss even into the summer," Newsom said. "Our kids have lost a lot with this disruption... And you can either, you know, roll over and just accept that or you can do something about it. So that's our thinking."

County passes priority testing for nursing home workers and residents

LOS ANGELES - The Board of Supervisors unanimously voted Tuesday to call for comprehensive measures that would strengthen protections for residents and staff at skilled nursing homes who tend to be particularly vulnerable to COVID-19.

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health has found 312 institutional settings throughout the county with at least one confirmed case. As of April 27, 425 residents of skilled nursing homes in LA County have died of COVID-19. They account for about 45 percent of LA County's death toll from the pandemic.

"We cannot underestimate the risk that COVID-19 poses to skilled nursing home residents, given their age, physical condition and health status," said Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas.

"We must also take comprehensive precautions to protect the heroic caregivers who work in these settings and then go home to their families. It is critical that we take comprehensive steps - in partnership with the State - to prevent the spread of infection and avoid a surge of patients that could easily overwhelm our healthcare system."

The board's vote calls for working with Gov. Gavin Newsom and the California Department of Public Health to consider

several orders, guidelines and requirements to support the safe and sustained operation of skilled nursing facilities, including:

Facilitating testing for all staff and residents as quickly as possible;

Issuing standard protocols for skilled nursing homes to follow when they have a positive case of COVID-19;

Requiring adequate staff-to-patient ratios, as well as a sufficient supply of personal protective equipment (PPE) and proper training on COVID-19;

Banning retaliation against staff for working at multiple facilities, for advocating for PPEs as a condition of going to work, and for refusing to go to work;

Expediting pending licenses for certified nursing assistants;

Providing staff with additional pay, including overtime, until the COVID-19 crisis is over, as well as additional paid sick leave days so they can care for themselves or family members who may be infected;

Paying facilities an enhanced rate if they care for residents who have tested positive for COVID-19; and

Requiring skilled nursing homes to readmit patients once they are no longer sick, and

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Norwalk restaurant grades

- Bobos**
12949 Rosecrans Ave.
Date Inspected: 4/22/20
Grade: **A**
- El Marinero**
11025 Alondra Blvd.
Date Inspected: 4/22/20
Grade: **A**
- Rivera's Juice Bar**
11912 Rosecrans Ave.
Date Inspected: 4/22/20
Grade: **A**
- Church's Chicken**
15816 S Pioneer Blvd.
Date Inspected: 4/21/20
Grade: **A**
- Tommy's Original**
15911 S Pioneer Blvd.
Date Inspected: 4/16/20
Grade: **A**
- Antichucheria Peroana**
14351 Pioneer Blvd.
Date Inspected: 4/15/20
Grade: **A**
- Los Compadres**
11600 Alondra Blvd.
Date Inspected: 4/14/20
Grade: **A**
- Toros Taqueria**
15617 Studebaker Rd.
Date Inspected: 4/7/20
Grade: **A**
- DK's**
12549 Alondra Blvd.
Date Inspected: 4/7/20
Grade: **A**
- McDonalds**
12602 Alondra Blvd.
Date Inspected: 4/7/20
Grade: **A**
- Lucian's Pizza**
15008 Pioneer Blvd.
Date Inspected: 4/3/20
Grade: **A**
- Dulce Canella**
15012 Pioneer Blvd.
Date Inspected: 4/3/20
Grade: **A**
- Yum Yum Donuts**
15900 Pioneer Blvd.
Date Inspected: 4/3/20
Grade: **A**
- Top Donuts**
10939 Alondra Blvd.
Date Inspected: 4/3/20
Grade: **A**
- Burger King**
13400 Rosecrans Ave.
Date Inspected: 4/1/20
Grade: **A**
- Dos Amigos**
13310 San Antonio Dr.
Date Inspected: 3/13/20
Grade: **A**
- Hola Pho**
11575 Rosecrans Ave.
Inspected: 3/13/20
Grade: **A**
- Taco Bell**
12503 Alondra Blvd.
Date Inspected: 3/13/20
Grade: **A**
- Noemi's Mexican Restaurant**
14350 Pioneer Blvd.
Date Inspected: 3/13/20
Grade: **A**
- Hibachi Grill Buffet**
14021 Pioneer Blvd.
Date Inspected: 3/12/20
Grade: **A**
- The Poke Co.**
12200 Civic Center Dr.
Date Inspected: 3/12/20
Grade: **B**
- Ana's Bionicos**
10977 Rosecrans Ave.
Date Inspected: 3/12/20
Grade: **A**
- RC Burgers**
14041 Pioneer Blvd.
Date Inspected: 3/12/20
Grade: **A**

Weekend at a Glance

Friday 80°

Saturday 81°

Sunday 80°

THINGS TO WATCH



Coffee & Kareem
Netflix (film)
An inept Detroit cop must team up with his girlfriend's foul-mouthed young son when their first crack at bonding time uncovers a criminal conspiracy. Starring Ed Helms and Taraji P. Henson



Marriage Story
Netflix (film)
Academy Award-nominated filmmaker Noah Baumbach directs this incisive and compassionate look at a marriage coming apart and a family staying together.



Inception
Netflix (series)
In this mind-bending sci-fi thriller, a man runs an espionage business built around entering the subconscious of his targets to mold their thoughts.



Once Upon a Time... In Hollywood
Hulu (film)
In 1969 Los Angeles, a former Western star and his longtime stunt double struggle to find success in a Hollywood that they don't recognize anymore.



The Kitchen
Hulu (film)
Three Irish mob wives take over the family business after their husbands are sent to prison in this tasty crime drama set in 1978 New York.



National Lampoon's Vacation
Hulu (film)
The Griswolds (Chevy Chase, Beverly D'Angelo) and family head by station wagon for the California fun park Walley World.

The game I never meant to play



Despite the cute critters at its forefront, Animal Crossing: New Horizons provides gamers with a sense of structure that may have been lost during the current pandemic.

By Alex Dominguez
Staff Writer

I let out an exasperated groan when I read the text from my best friend.

"Emma asked me to tell you that if you haven't bought her birthday gift, she'd for sure like 'Animal Crossing' for her [Nintendo] Switch," it said.

I had bought my niece her Switch last Christmas, in an attempt to give us something else to bond over and - yes - cement myself as the "cool uncle" (sorry Will).

But alas, it seemed my grand scheme had backfired on me; my niece had been

wooded by disgustingly cute humanoid animals and visions of customizable island life.

I begrudgingly added it to my Amazon cart.

I would've bet money that my niece didn't realize what she was asking for, and would be bored with the game within a week; I've had some experience with prior installments of Animal Crossing, and it's usually not my kind of game.

Animal Crossing operates as - at its core - a game of life-simulation

In its most recent release, "Animal Crossing: New Horizons," you take up residence on a deserted island, with your goal simply to build up your new home so that it draws in residents and achieves the coveted "5-star island rating."

Except, it's not that simple.

You need resources and money (called bells) to make all this happen. Furniture and island decorations are not all immediately available to you; they either need to be purchased when they are randomly made available in the island shop, or

crafted with recipes that are - you guessed it - also randomly distributed.

Sure, there are ways around this. There are those players out there who partake in "time travel"; aka altering the consoles internal clock to trick the game into thinking it's a different day and thus trigger in-game events.

But to truly experience the game in its true form, you really need to let it run its natural course and play it at its everyday pace.

It's also a game best played with others.

You probably know where I'm going with this.

Add to cart, again. Animal Crossing: 2, Uncle Al: -\$120.

I was at a little bit of an advantage over my niece that I chose to download my copy of the game digitally, while her physical copy would be shipped to her home and then presented to her by her mother on her birthday; that way, I could get things to a point in my game so that when she was able to play, I would have things established

enough that I could help her along and get her started.

Once I got Em up and running, I could put it away and return to my other games, never to play it again.

Except, it didn't quite happen that way.

New Horizons came out right about the time we all were starting to take shelter in our homes from COVID-19, with the virus effectively throwing a monkey wrench in many of our lives.

It's no secret that the coronavirus has caused many of us to stumble and lose track of any kind of rhythm or routine. Yet in some twisted way, New Horizons has provided me with just that.

Every day when I wake up around 7:30 am, I grab my Switch and begin doing my "chores."

- 1) Check my orchard. Pick any fruit that's bloomed, and sell it.
- 2) Locate the four buried fossils on my island. Dig them up and have "Blathers" assess them. Donate what the museum doesn't have, sell the rest.
- 3) Pick any bloomed coconuts off my palm trees. Craft "coconut juice." Sell it.
- 4) Check my beach for a message in a bottle. Learn the DIY recipe inside.
- 5) Find the resident who is currently crafting. Learn their DIY recipe.
- 6) Water my flowers. Dig up and transfer any hybrids that have bred.
- 7) Buy anything I want / need from the Nook Shop / Tailors. Deposit in home storage.
- 8) Misc. island infrastructure projects.

I know I probably sound like a nut at this point; if nothing

else I'm really letting my nerd flag fly.

But my "daily morning chores" have come to represent more than just in-game progress.

What you might not realize is that by the time my "daily morning chores" are done, it's right around 9 am, when it's officially time for me to get to my real work. In an odd phenomenon, I now find that I am ready to function for the day, having already set my mind in motion with my in-game to-do-list.

There are many of us out there who are feeling the heavy burden - i.e. anxiety, stress, and depression - that self-isolation brings. While many of us - myself included - are able to work / attend school / etc. from home, I'd hazard a guess that most if not all have had those off days where we never made it out of bed (or at very least, our pjs and sweatpants) to do so.

For myself, as well as for a few of my friends who also play the game, Animal Crossing: New Horizons has brought a sense of much-needed routine where routine was previously lost. The ability to visit each other's islands and help collect and trade the in-game furniture and recipes has also built a sense of teamwork and community for a world of individuals holed-up in their living rooms.

And with these seemingly, insignificant virtual accomplishments, another day in quarantine may not seem so daunting as it did before.

Animal Crossing: New Horizons is a game that I never meant to play; it also just happens to be the game I needed when the real world decided to plunk me and my friends on our own deserted islands.

Game developer joins aid effort

LOS ANGELES - Spin Master, a leading children's global entertainment company with offices in Los Angeles, is helping to fill the need for PPE for front-line healthcare workers in California with face shields. While a number of hospitals are set to receive equipment in the coming days, those who are in need in the area are encouraged to send requests directly to the company.

Spin Master is best known for bringing friends and families together with games. Recently, the company used one of their games to help with the fight against COVID-19.

Earlier this month, the Spin Master team decided to put their "hedz" together to come up with a way to give back. After a few brainstorming sessions, they realized the answer was staring right at them, and physically transforming their most successful family game for nearly a decade, Hedbanz, led to a prototype face shield.

Around 20,000 face shields are being produced each day from three different facilities. The shields have been individually packed in a sanitary environment and offer support for those on the front lines.

Hospitals in the L.A. area receiving PPE include Kaiser Permanente - Los Angeles Medical Center, Providence Holy Cross Medical Center and Cedars-Sinai Medical Center.

To date, Spin Master has distributed 107,000 units to 30 healthcare facilities across the continent to Toronto, New York and Mexico. Next steps include shipments to California, the UK, France and Israel.

Hospitals can request PPE from Spin Master by contacting communications@spinmaster.com with the subject line: Face Shield Request. Requests must be for front-line healthcare workers.

Student Emergency Aid Fund

You can be the **difference** that keeps students in school during the COVID-19 crisis. Together, we are #CerritosStrong.

Visit www.cerritos.edu/foundation to give.

Right at Home partners with the Cerritos College Foundation in support of the Falcons Care Student Emergency Aid Fund

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A virus makes the Supreme Court more transparent

By Jacob Sullum

The case that the Supreme Court is scheduled to hear on Monday morning, a trademark dispute involving the travel service Booking.com, is probably of little interest to the general public. But the manner in which the justices will hear oral arguments — via a teleconference with a live audio feed for anyone who wants to listen — is unprecedented and could represent a significant step toward the kind of transparency the Court has long resisted.

While the official justification for the unusual arrangement is “public health guidance in response to COVID-19,” the fact that the Court decided to allow online streaming of the oral arguments in 10 sets of cases it will hear from May 4 to May 13 may signal a new openness. As Gabe Roth of the advocacy group Fix the Court notes, “Supreme Court arguments (are) going live,” and “all it took was a global pandemic.”

The Court publishes transcripts of oral arguments on the day they are held and makes audio recordings available at the end of the week. But because it has always rejected requests for video or live audio coverage, anyone who wanted to watch or hear the proceedings as they happened was out of luck unless he could secure a coveted spot in the Court’s public gallery, which accommodates about 250 people.

That arbitrary restriction has created scenes surpassing the queues for openings of blockbuster movies or sales of must-have toys.

Before the Court heard arguments in the 2012 Obamacare case, Drexel University law professor Lisa McElroy notes, would-be spectators “slept outside (in the rain) for at least three nights (some more), all to see history in the making.”

At a time when Americans can watch gavel-to-gavel coverage of Congress on C-SPAN and cannot turn on the news or go online without seeing the president in action, the camera shyness of the federal government’s third branch is hard to understand and even harder to justify. Over the years, various justices have offered various reasons for banning cameras from their courtroom, none of them persuasive.

Would cameras inhibit members of the Court, as former Justice Anthony Kennedy worried? Since everything the justices say during oral arguments is already heard by people in the gallery and becomes public eventually, that concern is hard to take seriously.

Would cameras encourage lawyers to grandstand? Since they have strong incentives to avoid antagonizing the justices and focus on substantive points in the limited time they have, that seems unlikely.

Would cameras deprive justices of their “anonymity,” as Justice Clarence Thomas has argued? Since the justices go through a highly visible confirmation process, sit for official photographs, and do not shy away from public appearances, that ship has already sailed.

Would cameras “raise additional security concerns,” as Thomas also claimed? That concern likewise seems overblown, since the

justices are protected by their own police force, anyone with an interest already recognizes their faces and violence against public officials is rare.

Would video of oral arguments encourage the news media to feature misleading excerpts, shorn of context, as the late Justice Antonin Scalia warned? That hazard already exists, since we have transcripts and delayed audio recordings, not to mention reporters in the courtroom.

In Canada and the U.K., where the supreme courts have long allowed cameras, citizens see “able public servants with a complete mastery of difficult materials grappling seriously with matters of surpassing consequence,” observes Adam Liptak, who covers the U.S. Supreme Court for The New York Times. Such visibility, he suggests, “probably inspires confidence” and “certainly dispels ignorance.”

The issue is “very simple,” as C-SPAN founder Brian Lamb, who for decades unsuccessfully urged the Court to accept cameras, told my Reason colleague Nick Gillespie in 2010. “It’s a government institution that’s funded by the American taxpayers,” Lamb said. “The oral arguments are a public discussion [that] completes the picture that the public could have of the government they pay money to.”

Jacob Sullum is a senior editor at Reason magazine.

Facebook fails the coronavirus test

By David Harsanyi

A scattering of protests aimed at state lockdowns erupted across the country last week, sparked not by social distancing guidelines but by politicians’ unilaterally dictating what products citizens are permitted to purchase in box stores, attempting to shut down drive-in Masses at churches and closing parks and beaches, among other ill-conceived and gratuitous intrusions.

Like any protest movement, this one is a mixed bag: Some of the protesters are acting in bad faith, some are idealists, and some are merely terrified of losing their livelihoods, their homes and their careers while waiting around for a government check that might never come.

In reality, the economy is going to reopen only when most people either feel safe enough to emerge from isolation or calculate that the risk of emerging is worthwhile. Arbitrary deadlines mean little. I suspect that the best way to temper anger surrounding the lockdowns would be for local leaders to stop acting like a bunch of petty authoritarians when the vast majority of citizens are already voluntarily doing what the government is asking to protect themselves.

Instead, officials are upping their game. The otherwise hapless New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio, who was happy to eschew social distancing measures altogether until much too late in this crisis, has now created a hotline enabling denizens of his beleaguered city to rat out their neighbors to the authorities. Other mayors are deploying Chinese-made drones — fitting, I suppose — to catch those who

violate government orders. “If these drones save one life, it is clearly worth the activity and the information they’re sending,” is a real thing that the mayor of Elizabeth, New Jersey, told MSNBC.

Meanwhile, Facebook is reportedly removing the posts of those organizing anti-quarantine protests in conjunction with state governments, calling them “harmful misinformation.”

There is some confusion over the exact nature of the social media giant’s policy on self-censoring. This morning, it was reported that the company was removing all posts advertising protests against social distancing regulations, as well as posts deemed to spread “harmful misinformation” about the virus. The head of Facebook communications retweeted a CNN report that the social media company was consulting with governments in California, New Jersey and Nebraska to shut down the organization of “anti-quarantine” protests on its platform. Yet, after pushback, a company spokesperson clarified that Facebook was working with states to delete only posts advertising events that violate government orders and guidelines.

While I’ve long defended the right of social media companies to dictate and enforce their own speech codes without interference from politicians, it’s difficult to give Facebook the benefit of the doubt here. Government has some leeway in protecting public health, but it has no right, not even during an emergency, to work to preemptively prevent Americans from expressing their political beliefs. If

Facebook removed advertisements for protests at the behest of state and local governments — as initial reports suggested it might

have — it would be an clear assault on expression, made all the more appalling by the fact that the protests were aimed at the very public policy that allows the state to undercut the ability of citizens to organize a demonstration in the first place. But even if Facebook was merely working with such governments to decide what millions of Americans can say to each other, that would be a big problem for both philosophical and practical reasons.

For one thing, we can’t trust Facebook to competently weed out “harmful misinformation.” Only last week, the company started deleting hundreds of thousands of “false” coronavirus missives, and then redirecting users to “accurate information” offered by the propagandists at the World Health Organization, which allowed this pandemic to mushroom into a crisis to begin with by wasting precious weeks echoing the deadly misinformation campaign of the Chinese Communist Party.

Instead of touting such a group as a reliable source of information while crippling the ability of largely powerless Americans to voice their concerns over public policy, Facebook would be better served treating political content dispassionately and allowing users to curate their own experiences — even at the risk of upsetting government officials.

David Harsanyi is a senior writer at National Review and the author of the book “First Freedom: A Ride Through America’s Enduring History With the Gun.”

Lessons from the past

By Dr. Thomas Sowell

Seventy-one years ago this month — in January 1948 — a black, 17-year-old high school dropout left home. The last grade he had completed was the 9th grade. He had no skills, little experience, and not a lot of maturity. Yet he was able to find jobs to support himself, to a far greater extent than someone similar can find jobs today.

I know because I was that black 17-year-old. And, decades later, I did research on economic conditions back then.

Back in 1948, the unemployment rate for 17-year-old black males was just under 10 percent, and no higher than the unemployment rate among white male 17-year-olds.

How could that be, when we have for decades gotten used to seeing unemployment rates for teenage males that have been some multiple of what it was then — and with black teenage unemployment often twice as high, or higher, than white teenage unemployment?

Many people automatically assume that racism explains the large difference in unemployment rates between black and white teenagers today. Was there no racism in 1948? No sane person who was alive in 1948 could believe that. Racism was worse — and of course there was no Civil Rights Act of 1964 then.

How then could there be this low unemployment rate, with virtually no racial difference? Racism is despicable. But that tells us nothing about what weight it has — compared to other factors — as a cause of particular social problems such as unemployment.

Perhaps the most widely condemned racism in the second half of the 20th century was that in South Africa under apartheid, when an openly racist government proclaimed white supremacy, and denied blacks basic human rights. Yet, even under such a regime, there were particular occupations in which black workers outnumbered white workers — even though it was illegal to hire any blacks at all in those particular occupations. Economics carried weight, even in South Africa under apartheid.

In the United States, what was unusual about 1948 was that, for all practical purposes, there was no minimum wage law in effect. There was a minimum wage law on the books. But it was passed in 1938, and a decade of high inflation had raised money wages, for even low-level jobs, above that minimum wage.

Among the effects of a minimum wage law, when it is effective, is that many unskilled and inexperienced workers are priced out of a job, when employers do not find them worth what the law specifies. Another effect of a minimum wage law is that it can lead to a chronic surplus of job applicants.

When an employer has 40 qualified applicants for 20 jobs, it costs the employer nothing to refuse to hire 10 qualified black applicants. But if he has no more than 20 qualified applicants, that is a different ball game.

The point here is that economic factors carry weight, and sometimes, under some conditions, those economic factors carry more weight than racism. Even in South Africa under apartheid.

After Covid, will we want what we wanted?

By Froma Harrop

When Germany let smaller stores reopen, the expected didn’t

happen. Officials thought that shoppers would burst out of their five-week lockdown and spend, spend, spend. They were wrong.

As the manager of an espresso machine store in Berlin told the Financial Times, “No one really wants to go shopping right now.”

Same story in the Atlanta suburbs. Georgia gave a green light for restaurants, hair salons, tattoo parlors and other close-and-personal services to open their doors before others. But that thus far has not lit up the local economy. Some places decided not to reopen as a measure to protect workers and customers from the COVID-19 virus, and those that did were underwhelmed.

The owner of a barbershop, for example, told The Wall Street Journal that he saw a rush of business on Friday, the first day back in business. But since then, business has been trailing off.

What’s going on? Are people staying away out of fear of getting the virus? Have they lost their jobs and therefore don’t have money to spend?

There’s another possibility: They may have simply lost the lust for acquiring new things and dining out. They may feel they’ve done fine working from home in sweatpants or a pair of jeans. They may have gotten back into serious home cooking and decided they like it. And they may notice how little they’ve been spending.

This could suggest a rewiring of the consumer brain. If so, societies that depend on consumer spending — in the U.S., it accounts for 70 percent of the economy — had better adjust. If companies and their employees decide to continue working remotely, there goes some of the demand for clothing, lunches out and gasoline, too.

Meanwhile, getting hit in the face with a black-swan event like the pandemic has made some question their previous financial behavior. Before this, one’s paychecks may have covered the bills. Who would have thought in January, when jobs went begging, that something out of the blue would change everything? Financial security is not

just having a job. It requires savings, too.

A Chinese professional in Beijing told The New York Times that her income has fallen off a cliff. A translator of French plays, she had been living the high life. She’d buy \$170 tubes of face cream and spend over \$200 a month in restaurants.

But she’s now wondering what good her designer handbags are doing her. Her financial priorities have undergone a change. “When I find a job,” she said, “I will start saving money, and I can’t live a wasteful life like before.”

China has gone far in reopening its economy. Stores are open and factories humming. But the younger generation of big spenders doesn’t seem to have returned — not yet, anyway. Retail sales remain surprisingly flat, and the thirst for travel has not returned. This will have an impact on the world economy.

Having to wear face masks and maintain distance from others further dims the pleasures of going out. And if we don’t do these things, are we going to get sick?

The new frugality may reflect more than a downturn in income. It may reflect a change in values.

Of course, everything is subject to change. A vaccine may come along that frees us from COVID-19 fears.

Or a new reality may redirect, rather than lock up, consumer dollars. That may mean greater interest in home fitness equipment or new electronics to enhance the video meeting experience. In the meantime, many of us wish we hadn’t given away our sewing machines.

We can rest assured that after COVID, Americans will still have their material wants. But what they want may be different.

The Norwalk Patriot STAFF

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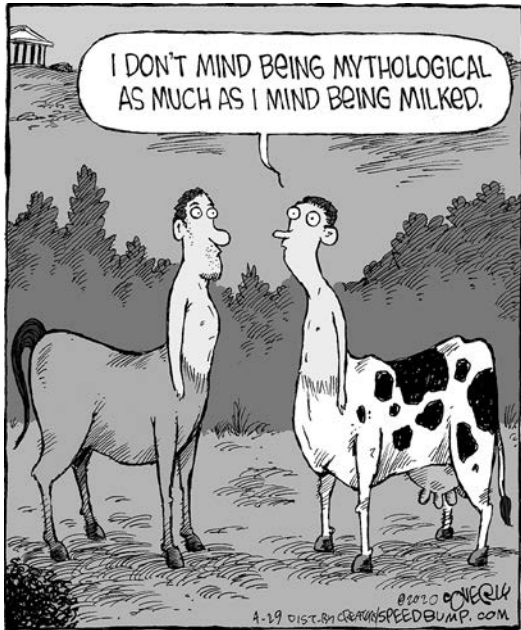
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CALENDAR OF EVENTS MONDAYS 1st, 6:00 p.m. - Public Safety meetings - Council Chambers TUESDAYS 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. - Farmers Market - Excelsior High School 12:00 p.m. - Rotary - Doubletree Hotel 1st & 3rd 6:00 p.m. - Toastmasters Meetings - Registrar 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... May 1, 1751: America's first cricket tournament was held in New York City. 1863: In Virginia, the Battle of Chancellorsville began. General Robert E. Lee's forces began fighting with Union troops under General Joseph Hooker. Confederate General Stonewall Jackson was mortally wounded by his own soldiers in this battle. (May 1-4) 1922: Charlie Robertson of the Chicago White Sox pitched a perfect no-hit, no-run game against the Detroit Tigers. The Sox won 3-0. Another perfect game did not come along until 46 years later. 1989: Disney-MGM Studios opened.

THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com) FAR-FLUNG: Explained at 101 Across by S.N. ACROSS 1 Sealy alternative 6 Jessica of Hitchcock 10 Refuse to obey 14 Wasn't alert 19 Self-evident truth 20 Land surrounded by agua 21 Don't include 22 Novelist Puzo 23 Evil 25 Clipper ship 27 Ship class of old 28 Certain ski lifts 30 Kevin of Shark Tank 31 Prime time hour 32 Steep cliffs 33 Addresses with slashes 34 Moore poem VIP 37 Dreaded task 38 Not necessarily so 42 Battleground 43 Paths across moats 45 Sashimi fish 46 Washington Husky, affectionately 47 Cottillard Oscar role 48 Singer Carly Jepsen 49 Emulated a 45 Across 50 I, to Einstein 51 Camera attachments 55 Easily misled 56 Letter-reading rituals 58 Libation 59 Scream out 60 Lorry drivers 61 Steakhouse serving 62 Was overfond 63 Sentence shortener 65 Frat letter 66 Shoe eyelets, for instance 69 Bad moods 70 Stiletto relative 72 Arabian Nights flier 73 Added conditions 74 Coconutty creation 75 Pool meet practice 76 Mention as a source 77 False account 78 Post-Christmas season 83 Arnold's swordsman 84 Soldier's lunchroom 86 Fire up 87 One-piece bracelet 88 Write with your thumbs 89 Wine and dine 90 Packets for the press 91 Assent on deck 94 Blue toon 95 Not exactly 99 Grenada, Guyana, etc. 101 What the other nine longest answers have in common 103 Partake of eagerly 104 Grimm villain 105 Geographic extent 106 Don't partake of 107 Pumps, for instance 108 "The Goddess of Pop" 109 Perused 110 Peter Pan pal DOWN 1 Logging equipment 2 Sign in cinemas 3 Creole staple 4 Symbolizing 5 Song often sung in grade school 6 Streaming spree 7 "Gotcha now" 8 Right-angle shapes 9 Cheap seat locale 10 Maggie Smith, on Downton Abbey 11 Mideast royalty 12 Scuba equipment 13 Since Jan. 1 14 Threesome from Albuquerque 15 San Diego suburb 16 Writer Bombeck 17 Shore resort "pleasure" place 18 Boris Johnson or Theresa May 24 Musty and moist 26 Novelist Amado 29 Snide remark 32 Wheat waste 33 What the id works on 34 Maugham character 35 Morgan of 30 Rock 36 Vanuatu's former name 37 Birds' crops 38 "It was ___ and stormy night" 39 Enigmatic 40 Military time off 41 "Wabbit Twouble" adversary 43 Tries to reduce 44 Sherlock's female adversary 47 Ski trail 49 Northwestern capital 51 Conceals 52 "In all probability..." 53 Pre-Annapolis campus org. 54 Alice in Wonderland cat 55 Curt denial 57 Paces of some races 59 Crime film characters 61 Crime film character 62 Heavy curtain 63 Biblical song 64 Novelist E. Proulx 65 Suit fabric 66 Forest clearing 67 Amount payable 68 Embarrassing competition 70 Competed in an Eton bee 71 Secondary celebrities 76 Don't be wasteful 78 Athlete's jitters 79 Made of paraffin 80 Pertaining to pants 81 Kilowatt- 82 Gang conflict 83 Person being used 85 Oscar, for instance 87 Predisposition 89 Informal summons 90 Work with, as clay 91 Fills with wonder 92 "Okay with me" 93 This, in Argentina 94 Sound wistful 95 Mental concoction 96 Gas with a "new" name 97 Mentioned 98 Small vortex 100 What Bugs calls 41 Down 102 Steamed state

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

LEGALIS

GOVERNMENT

CITY OF NORWALK URGENCY ORDINANCE NO. 20-1716U

AN URGENCY ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORWALK, CALIFORNIA ENACTING (1) A TEMPORARY EMERGENCY MORATORIUM UPON HOTELS AND MOTELS LOCATED IN THE CITY OF NORWALK FROM CONVERTING OR UTILIZING THEIR BUSINESSES OR PROPERTIES FOR HOMELESS HOUSING PURPOSES OR USES WITHOUT PRIOR CITY APPROVAL, (2) A TEMPORARY EMERGENCY MORATORIUM ON THE USE OF HOTELS AND MOTELS LOCATED IN THE CITY OF NORWALK FOR CONVERTING OR UTILIZING THEIR BUSINESSES OR PROPERTIES FOR COVID-19 HOUSING OR RELATED USES OR PURPOSES WITHOUT PRIOR CITY APPROVAL, AND (3) RESTATING AND REAFFIRMING THE IMPORTANCE OF LOCAL CONTROL OVER LAND USE AND RELATED ACTIVITIES DURING THE CURRENT STATE OF EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, international, national, state, and local health and governmental authorities are responding to a pandemic outbreak of a respiratory disease caused by a novel coronavirus now known as COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, California Governor Gavin Newsom proclaimed a "state of emergency" throughout the State in response to COVID-19, and in furtherance of this proclamation has issued several Executive Orders that include extraordinary measures directed at slowing the spread of COVID-19 and reducing impacts to residents and businesses; and

WHEREAS, since the initial declaration of a "state of emergency" Governor Newsom has issued additional Executive Orders in an effort to address the circumstances surrounding the impacts created by COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, given these conditions, on March 17, 2020, the Norwalk City Council proclaimed the existence of a local emergency to allow prompt response to emergency conditions at the local level, and provide the City access to federal, state, and local resources during the crisis; and

WHEREAS, on March 19, 2020, in an unprecedented step to slow the spread of COVID-19, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order No. 33-20 ordering all California residents and businesses to stay and work at home for an indeterminate period of time, at least through April 19, 2020, with the only exceptions from this order being essential services and industries; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has reconsidered the conditions giving rise to the "local emergency" proclamation made by the City Council on March 17, 2020, and has determined that the conditions giving rise to the local emergency continue to exist, and in fact have become more dire since the original proclamation was made; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to temporarily prohibit and impose a moratorium upon owners and/or operators of hotels and motels located in the City of Norwalk from converting or utilizing their businesses or property for homeless housing purposes or uses, without prior City approval; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to temporarily prohibit and impose a moratorium upon owners and/or operators of hotels and motels located in the City of Norwalk from converting or utilizing their business or property for COVID-19 housing or related uses or purposes, without prior City approval; and

WHEREAS, the City Council further finds and declares, restates and reaffirms the importance of local control during this emergency period of COVID-19, as established in California Government Code Section 8634 and other provisions of law, and in order to protect the public health and safety of the residents and business owners/operators of the City of Norwalk; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds this Ordinance is a temporary moratorium intended to (1) promote safety and well-being for the residents and general public within Norwalk, (2) protect the unlawful use of properties in a manner inconsistent with the City's General Plan, Zoning Codes or other Municipal Code provisions, and (3) avoid unscrupulous and unauthorized uses of hotels and motels from unsanctioned housing or COVID-19 related uses, thereby serving the public peace, health, safety, and public welfare of the residents of the City of Norwalk; and

WHEREAS, all legal prerequisites to the adoption of this Ordinance have occurred, and the City Council has duly considered all evidence presented in connection with its consideration of this Ordinance which justifies adoption of this Ordinance as an emergency measure to be effective immediately upon adoption by a four-fifths vote of the City Council.

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORWALK DOES HEREBY ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The City Council hereby finds and determines that the foregoing recitals are true and correct and are incorporated as part of the City's findings.

Section 2. The City Council finds that this action is exempt under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), because it is an administrative activity of government that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment, and therefore does not constitute a "project" as defined by CEQA Guidelines section 15378.

Section 3. Authority. The City Council hereby adopts this Urgency Ordinance as an emergency measure pursuant to Government Code Section 36934 for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety, and is adopted and justified based on the findings of the City Council in the Recitals of this Ordinance, which are supported by substantial evidence in the record associated with the City Council's consideration hereof.

Section 4. During the period of local public health emergency and/or local emergency declared in response to COVID-19, a temporary moratorium is hereby imposed to prohibit owners and/or operators of hotels and motels located in the City of Norwalk from converting or utilizing their business or property for homeless housing purposes or uses, without prior City approval. Any request for such use must be evaluated by City staff and approved by the City Council prior to such use being put into effect.

Section 5. During the period of local public health emergency and/or local emergency declared in response to COVID-19, a temporary moratorium is hereby imposed to prohibit owners and/or operators of hotels and motels located in the City of Norwalk from converting or utilizing their business or property for COVID-19 housing or related uses or purposes, without prior City approval. Any request for such use must be evaluated by City staff and approved by the City Council prior to such use being put into effect.

Section 6. During the period of local public health emergency and/or local emergency declared in response to COVID-19, the City Council further finds, declares, restates and reaffirms the importance of local control during this emergency period of COVID-19, as established in California Government Code Section 8634 and other provisions of law, in order to protect the public health and safety of the residents and business owners/operators of the City of Norwalk. Specifically, the City Council hereby recognizes and confirms its authority and control as found in California Government Code Section 8634, which states: "During a local emergency the governing body of a political subdivision... may promulgate orders and regulations necessary to provide for the protection of life and property...." (Emphasis added.)

Section 7. Severability. Any section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, clause, phrase, or portion thereof, of this Ordinance is declared by a court of competent jurisdiction to be unconstitutional or otherwise invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance. The City Council declares that it would have

adopted this Ordinance, and each section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, clause, phrase, or portion thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses, phrases, or portions thereof, be declared invalid or unconstitutional. To this end, the provisions of this Ordinance are declared to be severable.

Section 8. The City Council hereby passes this Urgency Ordinance by a four-fifths vote of the City Council.

Section 9. The City Clerk shall attest and certify to the adoption of this Ordinance and shall cause this Ordinance to be published or posted as required by law.

Section 10. This Ordinance shall go into effect and be in full force and effect immediately upon adoption.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 21st day of April 2020.

/S/ JENNIFER PEREZ MAYOR

ATTEST:

I, Theresa Devoy, City Clerk of the City of Norwalk, do hereby certify that the foregoing Urgency Ordinance, being Ordinance No. 20-1716U, was duly passed, approved and adopted by the City Council of the City of Norwalk at a special meeting of the City Council duly held in the City of Norwalk on Tuesday, April 21, 2020, and thereafter adopted at a meeting of said City Council by the following vote:

AYES: Councilmembers Ramirez, Rios, and Valencia, Vice Mayor Ayala, and Mayor Perez
NOES: None
ABSENT: None

/S/ THERESA DEVOY, CMC CITY CLERK

The Norwalk Patriot 5/1/20

CITY OF NORWALK NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

REPORT PREPARED IN CONNECTION WITH THE LEVY OF THE ANNUAL SEWER SERVICE CHARGES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020/21

Date: Tuesday, May 19, 2020
Time: 6:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard
Place: Via Teleconference, Norwalk City Hall, 12700 Norwalk Boulevard, Norwalk, CA 90650

Project Description: The City Council will conduct a public hearing regarding the report prepared in connection with the levy of the annual sewer service charges. The City of Norwalk annually levies sewer service charges pursuant to Chapter 13.14 of the Norwalk Municipal Code. The City collects the sewer service charges on the tax roll in the same manner, by the same persons, and at the same time as, together with and not separately from, the general taxes of the City. The sewer service charges are levied to pay for the operation and maintenance of the City's sewer system, including capital replacement costs.

The City Council has caused a written report to be prepared and filed in the office of the City Clerk regarding the City's sewer service charges for Fiscal Year 2020/21. Such report contains a description of each parcel of real property receiving sewer services furnished by the City and the amount of the charges for each parcel for Fiscal Year 2020/21 computed in conformity with the charges prescribed in the adopted ordinance. The report is available for public inspection in Room 10 at the address noted above.

At the public hearing, the City Council will hear and consider all objections or protests to the report. If protests are filed and not withdrawn by the owners of a majority of the properties subject to the sewer service charges, the City Council still may order the charges to be collected, but the charges shall not be collected on the tax roll for Fiscal Year 2020/21. In such case, the City Council will consider the adoption of a resolution at a subsequent City Council meeting providing for an alternative method of collection.

Public Comment: Interested persons may review the agenda report for the above-described project at the City's webpage at: <https://www.norwalk.org/city-hall/meeting-agendas-393>. Until further notice, City Council meetings will be conducted pursuant to the provisions of the Governor's Executive Orders N-25-20 and N-35-20, which does allow for Councilmembers and/or staff to teleconference. As a precaution to protect both staff, our constituents, and Councilmembers, public access to the meeting in person is not allowed due to the Governor's Executive Orders. You may watch the meeting from home on Charter Channel 3, Verizon Fios Channel 32, or livestream through the City's website. Additionally, as City Council meetings are now closed to the public, if you wish to make a comment on an agenda item or provide oral communications (during the meeting), you may provide input either by phone or electronically through the following procedures: 1) By emailing publiccomments@norwalkca.gov. Please identify the specific item or whether your comment is for oral communications (items not on the agenda) and limit your comments to three (3) minutes maximum, which is the same time allotted at meetings. Emails will be read during the meeting; or 2) By calling the City Clerk Department at (562) 929-5720, by 6:00 p.m. on meeting day to let staff know that you would like to make a comment during the meeting. You will be asked for contact information and the item number so that staff may call you during the meeting at the appropriate time; or 3) in writing that must be received prior to the meeting.

More Information: Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Glen Kau, Director of Public Services at (562) 929-5511.

Accessibility: In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in a City meeting or other services offered by this City, please contact the City Clerk Department at (562) 929-5720. Notification at least 48 hours prior to the meeting or time when services are needed will assist the City staff in assuring that reasonable arrangements can be made to provide accessibility to the meeting or service.

Dated this 1st day of May, 2020

Theresa Devoy, CMC City Clerk

The Norwalk Patriot 5/1/20, 5/8/20

CITY OF NORWALK SPECIAL PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

TENTATIVE PARCEL MAP NO. 082711 NOTICE OF CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION (CLASS 15)

Date: Wednesday, May 13, 2020
Time: 11:00 a.m. or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard
Place: Via Teleconference, Norwalk City Hall, 12700 Norwalk Boulevard, Norwalk, CA 90650

Project Description: A request to subdivide a lot into two lots. The property is located on the south side of Downey-Norwalk Road between Curtis and King Road and Piuna Avenue in the (R-1), Single-Family Residential zone (10624 Downey-Norwalk Road).

Environmental Review Information: Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the local CEQA Guidelines of the City of Norwalk, this project will not have a significant effect on

the environment and is listed as a Class 15 Categorical Exemption. Class 15 consists of the division of property in urbanized areas zoned for residential, commercial or industrial use into four or fewer parcels when the division is in conformance with the General Plan and zoning. A Notice of Categorical Exemption (Class 15) has been prepared for this project.

Public Comment: Interested persons may review the agenda report for the above-described project at the City's webpage at: <https://www.norwalk.org/city-hall/meeting-agendas-393>. Until further notice, the Planning Commission meetings will be conducted pursuant to the provisions of the Governor's Executive Order N-25-20, which does allow for Planning Commission and/or staff to teleconference. As a precaution to protect both staff, our constituents, and commissioners, public access to the meeting in person will not be allowed due to the Governor's Executive Order. You may watch the meeting from home on Charter Channel 3, Verizon Fios Channel 32, or livestream through the City's website. Additionally, as Planning Commission meetings are now closed to the public, if you wish to make a comment on an agenda item or provide oral communications (during the meeting), you may provide input either by phone or electronically through the following procedures: 1) By emailing planning@norwalkca.gov. Please identify the specific item or whether your comment is for oral communications (items not on the agenda) and limit your comments to 3 minutes maximum, which is the same time allotted at meetings. Emails will be read during the meeting; or 2) By calling the Community Development Department at (562) 929-5744 before 10 A.M. on meeting day to let staff know that you would like to make a comment during the meeting. You will be asked for your name, phone number, and the item number so that staff may call you during the meeting at the appropriate time. If you challenge the proposed project, you may be limited to only those issues raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered prior to the public hearing.

More Information: Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Monica Rodriguez, Senior Planner, at (562) 929-5710; mrodriguez@norwalkca.gov.

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

Dated this 30th day of April, 2020

John P. Ramirez, AICP Director of Community Development

The Norwalk Patriot 5/1/20

CITY OF NORWALK SPECIAL PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. 1023 NOTICE OF CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION (CLASS 1)

Date: Wednesday, May 13, 2020
Time: 11:00 a.m. or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard
Place: Via Teleconference, Norwalk City Hall, 12700 Norwalk Boulevard, Norwalk, CA 90650

Project Description: A request for the sale of beer and wine (Alcohol Beverage Control (ABC) Type "41" License) for on-site consumption at a bonafide restaurant (Tacos 3 Amigos). The property is located on the west side of Pioneer Blvd., north of its intersection with 166th Street, in the M-1-Light Manufacturing zone (16441 Pioneer Boulevard).

Environmental Review Information: Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the local CEQA Guidelines of the City of Norwalk, this project will not have a significant effect on the environment and is listed as a Class 1 Categorical Exemption. Class 1 consists of minor alterations to existing buildings involving negligible or no expansion. A Notice of Categorical Exemption (Class 1) has been prepared for this project.

Public Comment: Interested persons may review the agenda report for the above-described project at the City's webpage at: <https://www.norwalk.org/city-hall/meeting-agendas-393>. Until further notice, the Planning Commission meetings will be conducted pursuant to the provisions of the Governor's Executive Order N-25-20, which does allow for Planning Commission and/or staff to teleconference. As a precaution to protect both staff, our constituents, and commissioners, public access to the meeting in person will not be allowed due to the Governor's Executive Order. You may watch the meeting from home on Charter Channel 3, Verizon Fios Channel 32, or livestream through the City's website. Additionally, as City Council meetings are now closed to the public, if you wish to make a comment on an agenda item or provide oral communications (during the meeting), you may provide input either by phone or electronically through the following procedures: 1) By emailing planning@norwalkca.gov. Please identify the specific item or whether your comment is for oral communications (items not on the agenda) and limit your comments to 3 minutes maximum, which is the same time allotted at meetings. Emails will be read during the meeting; or 2) By calling the Community Development Department at (562) 929-5744 before 10 A.M. on meeting day to let staff know that you would like to make a comment during the meeting. You will be asked for your name, phone number, and the item number so that staff may call you during the meeting at the appropriate time. If you challenge the proposed project, you may be limited to only those issues raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered prior to the public hearing.

More Information: Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Kate Kazama, Assistant Planner, at (562) 929-5955; kkazama@norwalkca.gov.

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

Dated this 30th day of April, 2020

John P. Ramirez, AICP Director of Community Development

NOTICE OF CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION (CLASS 1)

Date: Wednesday, May 13, 2020
Time: 11 a.m. or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard
Place: Via Teleconference, Norwalk City Hall, 12700 Norwalk Boulevard, Norwalk, CA 90650

Project Description: For the Planning Commission to consider the following application filed by Parham Sage, 9561 Van Nuys, LLC; a request to obtain an adjustment of the parking requirements through the approval of a parking study in order to convert existing general office uses to medical office uses. The subject property is generally known as 12052 Imperial Highway, located at the southwest corner of Imperial Highway and Kalnor Avenue (also known as Assessor's Parcel Number ("APN") 8047-003-034), in the Commercial and Office (C&O) and Public Facilities Overlay (P-F) zones.

Environmental Review Information: Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the local CEQA Guidelines of the City of Norwalk, this project will not have a significant effect on the environment and is listed as Class 1 Categorical Exemptions. Class 1 consists of the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond that existing at the time of the lead agency's determination.

Public Comment: Interested persons may review the agenda report for the above-described project at the City's webpage at: <https://www.norwalk.org/city-hall/meeting-agendas-393>. Until further notice, the Planning Commission meetings will be conducted pursuant to the provisions of the Governor's Executive Order N-25-20, which does allow for Planning Commission and/or staff to teleconference. As a precaution to protect both staff, our constituents, and commissioners, public access to the meeting in person will not be allowed due to the Governor's Executive Order. You may watch the meeting from home on Charter Channel 3, Verizon Fios Channel 32, or livestream through the City's website. Additionally, as Planning Commission meetings are now closed to the public, if you wish to make a comment on an agenda item or provide oral communications (during the meeting), you may provide input either by phone or electronically through the following procedures: 1) By emailing planning@norwalkca.gov. Please identify the specific item or whether your comment is for oral communications (items not on the agenda) and limit your comments to 3 minutes maximum, which is the same time allotted at meetings. Emails will be read during the meeting; or 2) By calling the Community Development Department at (562) 929-5744 before 10 A.M. on meeting day to let staff know that you would like to make a comment during the meeting. You will be asked for your name, phone number, and the item number so that staff may call you during the meeting at the appropriate time. If you challenge the proposed project, you may be limited to only those issues raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered prior to the public hearing.

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Dated this 30th day of April, 2020

John P. Ramirez, AICP Director of Community Development

The Norwalk Patriot 5/1/20

CITY OF NORWALK SPECIAL PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. 1023 NOTICE OF CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION (CLASS 1)

Date: Wednesday, May 13, 2020
Time: 11:00 a.m. or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard
Place: Via Teleconference, Norwalk City Hall, 12700 Norwalk Boulevard, Norwalk, CA 90650

Project Description: A request for the sale of beer and wine (Alcohol Beverage Control (ABC) Type "41" License) for on-site consumption at a bonafide restaurant (Tacos 3 Amigos). The property is located on the west side of Pioneer Blvd., north of its intersection with 166th Street, in the M-1-Light Manufacturing zone (16441 Pioneer Boulevard).

Environmental Review Information: Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the local CEQA Guidelines of the City of Norwalk, this project will not have a significant effect on the environment and is listed as a Class 1 Categorical Exemption. Class 1 consists of minor alterations to existing buildings involving negligible or no expansion. A Notice of Categorical Exemption (Class 1) has been prepared for this project.

Public Comment: Interested persons may review the agenda report for the above-described project at the City's webpage at: <https://www.norwalk.org/city-hall/meeting-agendas-393>. Until further notice, the Planning Commission meetings will be conducted pursuant to the provisions of the Governor's Executive Order N-25-20, which does allow for Planning Commission and/or staff to teleconference. As a precaution to protect both staff, our constituents, and commissioners, public access to the meeting in person will not be allowed due to the Governor's Executive Order. You may watch the meeting from home on Charter Channel 3, Verizon Fios Channel 32, or livestream through the City's website. Additionally, as City Council meetings are now closed to the public, if you wish to make a comment on an agenda item or provide oral communications (during the meeting), you may provide input either by phone or electronically through the following procedures: 1) By emailing planning@norwalkca.gov. Please identify the specific item or whether your comment is for oral communications (items not on the agenda) and limit your comments to 3 minutes maximum, which is the same time allotted at meetings. Emails will be read during the meeting; or 2) By calling the Community Development Department at (562) 929-5744 before 10 A.M. on meeting day to let staff know that you would like to make a comment during the meeting. You will be asked for your name, phone number, and the item number so that staff may call you during the meeting at the appropriate time. If you challenge the proposed project, you may be limited to only those issues raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered prior to the public hearing.

More Information: Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Kate Kazama, Assistant Planner, at (562) 929-5955; kkazama@norwalkca.gov.

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

Dated this 30th day of April, 2020

John P. Ramirez, AICP Director of Community Development

The Norwalk Patriot 5/1/20

CITY OF NORWALK SPECIAL PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. 1023 NOTICE OF CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION (CLASS 1)

Date: Wednesday, May 13, 2020
Time: 11:00 a.m. or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard
Place: Via Teleconference, Norwalk City Hall, 12700 Norwalk Boulevard, Norwalk, CA 90650

Project Description: A request for the sale of beer and wine (Alcohol Beverage Control (ABC) Type "41" License) for on-site consumption at a bonafide restaurant (Tacos 3 Amigos). The property is located on the west side of Pioneer Blvd., north of its intersection with 166th Street, in the M-1-Light Manufacturing zone (16441 Pioneer Boulevard).

Environmental Review Information: Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the local CEQA Guidelines of the City of Norwalk, this project will not have a significant effect on the environment and is listed as a Class 1 Categorical Exemption. Class 1 consists of minor alterations to existing buildings involving negligible or no expansion. A Notice of Categorical Exemption (Class 1) has been prepared for this project.

Public Comment: Interested persons may review the agenda report for the above-described project at the City's webpage at: <https://www.norwalk.org/city-hall/meeting-agendas-393>. Until further notice, the Planning Commission meetings will be conducted pursuant to the provisions of the Governor's Executive Order N-25-20, which does allow for Planning Commission and/or staff to teleconference. As a precaution to protect both staff, our constituents, and commissioners, public access to the meeting in person will not be allowed due to the Governor's Executive Order. You may watch the meeting from home on Charter Channel 3, Verizon Fios Channel 32, or livestream through the City's website. Additionally, as City Council meetings are now closed to the public, if you wish to make a comment on an agenda item or provide oral communications (during the meeting), you may provide input either by phone or electronically through the following procedures: 1) By emailing planning@norwalkca.gov. Please identify the specific item or whether your comment is for oral communications (items not on the agenda) and limit your comments to 3 minutes maximum, which is the same time allotted at meetings. Emails will be read during the meeting; or 2) By calling the Community Development Department at (562) 929-5744 before 10 A.M. on meeting day to let staff know that you would like to make a comment during the meeting. You will be asked for your name, phone number, and the item number so that staff may call you during the meeting at the appropriate time. If you challenge the proposed project, you may be limited to only those issues raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered prior to the public hearing.

More Information: Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Monica Rodriguez, Senior Planner, at (562) 929-5710; mrodriguez@norwalkca.gov.

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

Dated this 30th day of April, 2020

John P. Ramirez, AICP Director of Community Development

The Norwalk Patriot 5/1/20

CITY OF NORWALK SPECIAL PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

PRECISE DEVELOPMENT PLAN NO. 2022

this court as follows: 09/14/20 at 8:30AM in Dept. 9 located at 111 N. HILL ST., LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

Attorney for Petitioner
SOPHIA R. TRICHE, ESQ.
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10221 SLATER AVENUE
SUITE 106
FOUNTAIN VALLEY CA 92708
BSC218201
5/1, 5/8, 5/15/20
5/1, 5/8, 5/15/20
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Q&A: Is it safe to visit your doctor right now? Have you ever walked a labyrinth?

A Q&A with Dr. Jaime Diaz of PIH Health.

Is it safe right now to visit your doctor?

Visiting your doctor's office is safe. PIH Health has taken many measures to assure the safety of our patients and staff.

Primary care and specialty physicians are available for telephone and video visits so that the community can continue to receive care. If people need medical care, they should reach out to their physician's office.

If I visit my physician, am I taking away resources that would otherwise go towards coronavirus patients?

Definitely not. While battling the current COVID-19 pandemic is a high priority, PIH Health is also able to safely care for other medical needs.

What precautions should I take before going to the doctor's office?

Follow CDC guidelines and protect yourself and others by wearing a face mask. Also, wash your hands thoroughly and frequently and of course, practice social distancing.

Can I still have my regularly scheduled surgery?

Yes, PIH Health continues to provide needed surgical and procedural services. It is recommended that you call your doctor's office to help in the coordination of your procedure and to receive detailed instructions on any special measures needed.

What has PIH Health done to make its doctors' offices safe for patients?

PIH Health has taken extra precautionary measures to ensure the safety and well-being of our patients. PIH Health Emergency Departments, Urgent Care Centers and Medical Offices are screening patients prior to entering the building and anyone with a fever, or respiratory or flu-like symptoms is escorted to separate spaces for care, away from other patients, to minimize risk of infection. Anyone entering our facilities is screened (not tested), has their temperature taken, uses hand sanitizer and wears a mask.

I'm thinking of taking a break from my doctor until the fall, when things calm down. Is that a bad idea?

People should not let COVID-19 delay needed medical care. Many members of our community have health issues that are unrelated to COVID-19, and yet they are ignoring symptoms, canceling follow-up imaging tests, or delaying care due to a fear of seeking medical treatments at a physician office, urgent care center or Emergency Department. Delaying needed medical attention can potentially be detrimental to your health.

We encourage patients to call their doctor's offices to schedule video visits or in-person visits. Video visits, also known as telehealth appointments, can be utilized for PIH Health patients via our PIH Health patient portal. Patients can visit PIHHealth.org/MyPIHHealth to learn more.

By Lorine Parks
Society Editor

Have you ever tried walking a single-track path, a labyrinth laid out between low shrubs, or one outlined in mosaic on a medieval cathedral floor?

I have, and what a mind-wonder it was. A labyrinth is different from a maze. A maze is an exasperating puzzle with blind alleys and dead ends, but in a labyrinth there is only one way in to the center and one way out.

Mazes include choices of path and direction, and may have multiple entrances and exits, and dead ends, like Henry VIII's high hedges in the garden at Hampton Court Palace, that used to dismay courtiers, to Henry's delight. Harry Potter gets attacked by a morphing and menacing maze of towering shrubs in the final trial in the Goblet of Fire.

A true labyrinth has only a single, non-branching path, that leads to the center and then back out. It represents a journey to our own center and back again out into the world. Daedalus the legendary inventor was said to have created the first one for Minos, King of Crete, to imprison the Minotaur at the palace at Knossos.

Maze or labyrinth - the two words are often interchanged - both are ancient designs that have been revived today and can be found all over the world, from Japan, where Labyrinth Techno Festivals are celebrated at misty mountain retreats, to India where a 2,000-year old one cut into stone was discovered along an ancient trade route.

Labyrinths are ancient symbols that relate to wholeness. They combine the imagery of the circle and the spiral into a meandering but purposeful path. Labyrinths have long been used as meditation and prayer tools, walking a spiritual journey.

Why not a labyrinth in Downey? After this virus tragedy concludes, we will need so many ways to heal.

Building a labyrinth in the natural setting of a park in Downey would add a meditative quality to one's exercise, to say the least.

I saw such a labyrinth from my hotel window in, of all places, Cancun, at the Aventura Spa Palace Hotel, a romantic adults-only resort. Walking it was part of the spa experience, to cleanse the mind as well as the body, so I tried it.

To follow a labyrinth, I found, you have to give up the right to make choices, because there are none. The path is so intricately plotted that you cannot guess how long or short the arc you are on will be. You take it on faith that you will arrive at the center.

Imagine knowing that those sparkling turquoise Caribbean waters, warmed by the Gulf Stream are just a soft sandy beach away. But you don't look up and enjoy the scenery, because the path has a design of its own which you cannot see when you're on it. Walking it takes the paradoxical combination of concentration and relaxation.

Parts of the path sweep around the perimeter and others turn abruptly after only a few paces and return in the opposite direction. For how long? One never knows. One is mindful only of one's steps on the path.

To follow it sets the mind entirely free and at the end of the 15-minute stroll, problems seem to have sorted themselves out. What seemed important no longer matters. Trivial details become beautiful.

There is only one way in, but you cannot see where the pattern goes, beyond the entry, even with the bird's eye view from above. You have to experience it to get to the center, and the journey itself is the goal. Such a labyrinth offers the great gift of making it easier to set aside the time to look inward.

Contrary to any preconception, a labyrinth is not just a decorative feature, but one that is meant to be walked on and experienced, first with the feet and then with the mind and spirit.

The labyrinth that is one of

the landscape features of my resort hotel in Cancun is only available to those staying at the resort. It's a modified version of the labyrinth at Chartres Cathedral, made of brick pavers and stone inlay.

The prototype of many of these is a little over 42 feet in diameter and embedded in the mosaic floor of Chartres Cathedral in France, where it was probably laid early in the first decade of the 13th century, c.1201-1205. Travel tip: when chairs are set up for services, it is hidden. Go when the floor is cleared and pilgrims arrive. Open every Friday from 10am to 5pm, from Lent until All Saints' Day.

Notre Dame de Chartres is one of my favorite churches in France, with its massive green copper roof, and famous mismatched bell towers, one Romanesque, one lacy Gothic. It dominates the wheat fields of the plains. About 65 miles southwest of Paris, Chartres is also one of those points on the globe where magnetic forces are said to converge.

Worth a visit from Paris, and gateway to the Loire. Chartres is the most important market town in the Beauce, the breadbasket of France. Once a Celtic stronghold, the city was burned by the Normans in 858, and later was held by the counts of Blois. On Sunday, 27 February 1594, the cathedral of Chartres was the site of the coronation of Henry IV after he converted to the Catholic faith, the only king of France whose coronation ceremony was not performed in Reims.

Notre Dame de Chartres is also known for its 13th century stained glass windows and the famous and unique blue, bleu de Chartres of the glass, matched today only by Sainte-Chapelle in Paris. In World War II, the city suffered heavy damage by bombing and during the battle of Chartres in August 1944, its cathedral was spared by an American Army officer who challenged the order to destroy it.

In Amiens, in Picardy, the labyrinth of Notre Dame d'Amiens Cathedral is the second largest in France, being slightly smaller than its cousin in Chartres. The labyrinth dates from 1288 and occupies the entire width of the fourth and fifth bays of the nave. It has the same path arrangement, but Chartres is round and Amiens is octagonal.

Here in Laguna Niguel, California, there is an oval brick labyrinth atop the municipal park, that features intertwined branches, and red bougainvillea at the center. There is a Labyrinth at Emmanuel Episcopal Church in Fullerton, and a Peace Garden and Labyrinth at Unity Church in Tustin. One made of stone stands by the ocean at the Neighborhood Church, 415 Paseo del Mar in Palos Verdes Estates.

Mexico is rich in labyrinths, and her foremost writer, Octavio Paz, is famous for "The Labyrinth of Solitude," a beautifully written and deeply felt discourse on Mexico's quest for identity.

At the Ecoparque San Pedro, 65 kilometers from Mexico City, stands an enormous labyrinth planted with 38,000 evergreen cedar bushes, covering an area of 10,000 m. It's in a private garden seen only by appointment. Designed by Edgardo Pinon Garcia, admission is 100 Mexican pesos.

At the Buscadores de Sabiduria, a Conference Center in Zapopan, is an indoor replica of the Chartres pattern on canvas, a pocket labyrinth only 11 meters by 11 meters. Local churches here too, from Pasadena to San Gabriel, have canvas-painted labyrinths.

Smaller still is an installation in Puebla, a 3-Circuit Heart Design made of rocks only 12 by 12 feet: "Puebla se conoce como el Ciudad de Angels y el Labyrinth es un laberinto del Angel de los ninos es clasico de siete circuitos con un angel en el diseno." Puebla is known as the City of Angels and the labyrinth has an angel in the design.

There's one in Mexico that takes up only 30 feet, and is painted on concrete and landscaped, at the Montessori de Lantinoamerica. By contrast, Christ the King Church here in Torrance has a beautiful outdoor labyrinth and prayer garden open daily dawn to dusk, and a Himalayan Slate indoor labyrinth open Monday through Friday by appointment.

Downey could build a labyrinth, in stone and shrubbery, in one of our beautiful green parks. As a project, it's inexpensive and doable. Would it catch on? As the mysterious voice whispers in Field of Dreams, "If you build it, they will come."

Trash hauler launches program to benefit employees and local restaurants

WHITTIER — Republic Services has launched "Committed to Serve," a national initiative to recognize its frontline employees in the field, their families, and small business customers across the country.

Republic Services provides solid waste collection services for the eastern side of Whittier.

Republic Services' 28,000 frontline employees will receive a weekly meal, a weekly dinner for employees and their families, and bi-weekly \$100 gift cards (\$400 per employee) to be spent locally to help stimulate the economy of municipalities they provide solid waste collection services to.

All meals will be purchased

from local, small businesses to help support Republic Services' customers and the communities it serves.

In the Whittier and Santa Fe Springs area, Republic Services is providing meals for 160 employees per week. To date, over 1,880 meals have been purchased from local restaurants in the area, including City of Whittier restaurants such as Lascari's Restaurants, Original Roadhouse Grill, Crepes and Grapes Café, and City of Santa Fe Springs restaurants such as Casa Gazcon, Baja 2000 and Chipotle.

"Small businesses are often hit the hardest during times of uncertainty. The 'Committed to Serve' initiative

is a gesture of support for both our employees and our local small businesses, many of whom are our customers," said Tania Castaneda, Municipal Relationship Manager with Republic Services and Board Member of the Whittier Area Chamber of Commerce. "The reaction from small business owners and employees has been pure appreciation. Additionally, our employees feel a sense of pride being able to give back to the local community they serve."

For more information visit RepublicServices.com/CommittedToServe and join the social conversation by using #CommittedToServe.

Stay Gallery's first virtual exhibit opens Friday

DOWNY — Stay Gallery's first virtual exhibition, "human," opens Friday, May 1, at 6 p.m.

The month-long exhibition features artworks from 26 artists, ranging from artists in Downey to across the nation.

"This exhibition can be enjoyed from the comfort of your phone or computer," said Juliana Canty, programs coordinator and lead curator for Stay Gallery. "You will have the ability to navigate through a 3D exhibition room that works similar to an

augmented reality video game.

"Get up close to artwork, learn more about each piece and even support the artists by purchasing an original work or prints."

The explores the concept of human connection in a time when social distancing is the new normal. Each artist offers a unique perspective on how our current collective experience impacts and reshapes our connection with nature, the people we love and ourselves.

"Despite our doors being closed, we're adapting to the circumstances to continue bringing the community together through the power of art," said Gabriel Enamorado, executive director of Stay Gallery. "In light of this, we created a way to make the arts virtually accessible to all."

"Human" opens May 1 and will be accessible at staygallery.org through May 31.

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Millennials are canceling dairy milk

By Sabrina Picou Contributor

First came the soymilk trend, then almond milk became popular, and now oat milk is all the roar. Rice and soy milk have also gained increased popularity amongst the plant-based milks. The steady trajectory is consistent in one thing - all of these "milks" are dairy-free. In today's cancel culture it seems that one thing might be permanently canceled and that is dairy milk. Plant-based milks have become increasingly popular due to nutrition value, climate change awareness, and the concerns surrounding the treatment of cows in the dairy industry.

The 1980s was when soymilk began to gain its popularity. Almond milk began looking to rule the industry in the early 2000s but became increasingly popular in 2011. Although oat

milk is seeing a surge, almond milk continues to be America's go-to for non-dairy drinking options. In 2018, almond milk was bringing in \$1 billion a year, per Nielson data.

As veganism and vegetarianism have gained popularity in the U.S. more people are turning to nuts, oats, and even rice for their milk substitutes. As the dairy industry has become increasingly exposed to the way they treat cows this has led people to question if their glass of 2% is all the essential. Especially when non-dairy milks offer just as much if not more calcium than a standard glass of dairy milk.

Since I was in grade school I could not stand the smell of dairy milk much less keep it down. My father, a boomer, always told us how his parents told him he needed to drink milk to grow strong bones. However,

now studies show that regular milk might not be as essential as previous generations may have believed.

In a one-cup serving (8 oz/240mL) of Organic Valley 2% Reduced Fat Milk there is 335mg of calcium, 25% of the daily value. In one cup of Simple Truth unsweetened Almond Milk there is 390mg of calcium, 30% of the daily value. Oat milk is not as high in calcium. In one cup of Califia Farms oat milk, there is 245mg of calcium, at 20% of the daily value.

Almond milk has the highest amount of calcium of these three milks. So if growing strong bones is of concern, it's clear why many are swapping their traditional glass of 2% for the plant-based alternative.

Millennials' main concern may not be the nutritional value in their glass as we tend to be more concerned with climate change and the unfair treatment of animals. As the dairy industry has been exposed in more recent years for how they treat their cows, younger generations now choose to have vegan or vegetarian diets.

Unlike boomers, millennials tend to also be more concerned with climate change and their carbon footprint. Drinking dairy milk is not popular amongst this generation. In a study amongst my own Instagram followers, 68 participants voted, and 72% of them do not drink dairy milk while 28% do.

The environmental impact of milk is something people may not have been concerned about back in the baby boomer days. However, now with climate change being a global concern the dairy industry's impact on the environment has now impacted shoppers choices. Even almond milk is not better in this case.

As traditional milk produces greenhouse gasses into the environment, almond milk farms use a substantial amount of water to grow the almonds. It seems like consumers are left to choose with the lesser of two evils with these options. However, oat milk uses one eighth the amount of water almond milk uses and produces fewer greenhouse gasses than both. Out of the three milks, oat milk is superior when it comes to impacting the environment less.

The dairy industry is in decline and as they struggle to compete with plant-based milks, the dairy industry seems to be canceled.

As almost all the people I know drink plant-based milks and the only person I know who continues to buy 2% reduced-fat milk is my boomer 64-year-old father. As baby boomers become older and millennials begin to populate more of the country and the planet, it appears that the dairy industry is reaching its expiration date.

In light of the coronavirus

pandemic and shoppers bulk buying the dairy industry has faced another challenge - they are dumping their surplus of milk. There is not a milk shortage in the industry, however, due to quantity limits in grocery stores and the increase of cow's milk during the spring season processors are asking farmers to dump their milk.

In an article posted by farmanddairy.com Rachel Wagoner writes that as schools and restaurants closed, many dairy processors have lost revenue due to the crisis.

"While milk can be diverted over to be put in half gallons and gallons - which seem to be in demand with lots of families stuck at home - making that switch takes time. Some processors can't take on anymore, so they're asking farmers to dump some of their milk," Wagoner wrote.

In the article, Wagoner also notes that as milk is highly a perishable product it is not feasible for the milk and other dairy items to sit on the shelves in the stores until the markets reopen.

Although the dairy industry may be in decline, it is clear that the production of milk has not slowed as these farmers are asked to dump their surplus supply. Even with the quantity limits at the store, it is still possible that the milk would still be getting dumped during this surplus season as dairy milk

is not the preferred option for the largest generation.

When looking at well-known milk brands like Horizon Organic, Organic Valley, and Clover Organic one will not find a plant-based drinking milk option in their line of milks. These milks offer 2% milk, vitamin D, 1% milk, and fat-free options but no plant-based substitutes.

My friends and I do not drink dairy milk. Some for diet reasons, some of us think about the effects on the environment, and for others the treatment of the animals. Some like myself prefer the taste of plant-based milk over traditional dairy milk. I drink almond milk and oat milk, oat milk being my favorite. The subtle taste of oats and the hint of sweetness to the milk is what makes my tastebuds crave more. The almond milk is also light and more water based, it doesn't have a thick texture like most dairy milks have. Plant-based milks are smooth and flavorful. Dairy milk tastes rotten to me and the smell is something I cannot stand. Plant-based milks also smell sweet, like a candle you would want to light. The reason for each individual may be different, but most of us have canceled dairy.

Boomers should think about pouring their final glass of 2% and make the switch to the more environmentally conscious, more humane and healthier options that are available in plant-based milks.

College foundation asks for donations to help struggling students

WHITTIER - The Rio Hondo College Foundation is seeking immediate community support to help Rio Hondo students during this unprecedented health crisis.

The foundation is seeking donations for the Rio Cares Student Relief Fund, established to assist students facing extraordinary challenges with housing, food scarcity, digital connections and stress as they juggle family, work and school during the COVID-19 stay-at-home orders.

Donations will be used to assist students with such needs as medicine, groceries, education needs and temporary housing. One-hundred percent of all donations will go to the students.

"Our students are facing tremendous obstacles and challenges in pursuing their education," Superintendent/President Dr. Arturo Reyes said. "Those challenges have all been magnified by the current health crisis."

Rio Hondo College moved

to remote instruction in mid-March and will continue to provide off-campus instruction through its summer session. The College is providing food support to students with a drive-through pantry, has provided students with hundreds of Chromebooks and hotspots, and has expanded the availability of student services through online portals.

"We've taken key steps to ensure our students receive every support possible as they pursue their education," said Vice President of Student Services Henry Gee, who also serves as interim executive director of the Rio Hondo College Foundation. "Now, we need to take extra steps to help meet these other, critical needs."

Gifts can be made via www.riohondo.edu/foundation/riocares or mailed to the Foundation at RIO CARES, 3600 Workman Mill Road, Whittier, Calif., 90601. For more information, call (562) 908-3476.

All voters will receive vote-by-mail ballots this fall

LOS ANGELES - With the coronavirus pandemic threatening to linger through the fall, officials are proposing a plan to send vote-by-mail ballots to all eligible L.A. County voters for November's general election.

The current "Safer At Home" public health order is set to expire May 15 but health officials have acknowledged that some form of social distancing will be needed for an extended period of time.

These issues could present challenges for the General Election, including possibly

hampering the recruitment of election workers or making it difficult for in-person voting locations to meet capacity demands while ensuring social distancing, officials said.

A proposal by county Supervisors Janice Hahn and Sheila Kuehl would send mail-in-ballots to every eligible voter in all county elections starting with the Nov. 3 General Election. It would also instruct the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk to align in-person voting options for the General Election to ensure the safety of voters and election workers.

Hahn and Kuehl have also proposed sending letters to both the Los Angeles County Congressional Delegation and the Los Angeles County State Legislative Delegation urging that funding be allocated to support the implementation of expanded vote-by-mail model.

"No one should have to choose between their health and their right to vote," said Hahn, who authored the motion. "We don't know what challenges we will be facing in this pandemic this November, but by sending every voter a mail-in-ballot we can ensure that everyone can cast their ballot safely, no matter

what the future holds."

"Nothing, including all the challenges related to COVID19, should be allowed to prevent voters from casting their ballots in November," added Sheila Kuehl, the motion's co-author. "This motion takes necessary steps to ensure that all LA County voters could vote by mail in November."

County makes moves to protect those in nursing homes

Continued from page 1

keep them when they are mildly or moderately ill but do not require hospitalization to avoid overwhelming hospitals.

The LA County Department of Public Health issued its own health order that includes:

Restricting access to such facilities;

Requiring diagnostic testing, symptom screenings and temperature checks for staff and residents;

Banning visitors and suspending communal dining and other activities;

Requiring staff to wear masks and PPEs and follow infection control guidelines;

Preventing staff from returning to the facilities if they have tested positive for COVID-19 or are symptomatic; and

Offering additional shifts to their own employees and maintaining consistent staff to the extent possible.

"Nursing home residents are among our most vulnerable, and we must take every step to protect their health and safety, and the health of the dedicated providers who are caring for them during this pandemic," LA County Department of Health Services director Christina Ghaly, MD, said.

"It's critically important that we support these institutions

and ensure they are staffed, resourced and equipped to prevent the spread of COVID-19 infection and able to conduct the necessary testing to protect those under their care. Without such measures in place, the potential for outbreaks that can overwhelm the county health system remains high. During this period marked by so much

uncertainty, we are firm in our commitment to assist our health partners across the continuum of care as we all work together to confront and battle this terrible illness."

"During this crisis, nursing home workers continue to risk their health, well-being and livelihood," said April Verrett, president of SEIU Local 2015,

which represents over 400,000 California long term care workers including 20,000 nursing home workers.

"We want to assure that these vital workers have the necessary resources to perform their jobs, and continue the fight on the frontlines safely. This motion can provide the adequate protections that essential workers in our

skilled nursing facilities deserve throughout this pandemic."

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Mike Beltran: Downey's biggest tough guy

By William Odis Martin
Contributor

You might very well recognize Mike Beltrán from his many years of being one of the most respected referees in Mixed Martial Arts. But the proud Downey resident has recently started venturing into another arena, Hollywood.

The casting directors for FX's Mayans M.C. hit gold with Beltran, as I couldn't imagine a better motorcycle gang boss. Beltran checks all the boxes of being a bona fide badass. He is big, bald, sports a trademark yard-long braided mustache,

boasts tattooed arms, and has hands that could crush a gorilla's.

Beltran's appearance is a bit intimidating, so he understands being typecast early on. He will invariably be hired to play the bad guy on the big screen but, in real life, Beltran is a genuinely good guy with a big heart.

Ever since joining the Marine Corps at the age of 18, Beltran decided to dedicate his life to serving his country and his local community. The proud, first-generation, Mexican-American patriot was kind enough to grant me a phone interview. We spoke

for the better part of an hour.

When we began the interview, he started off by expressing how proud he was of his family's devotion to the community. He was quick to boast about his son Michael's accolades as an All-American wrestler at St. John Bosco High School. Even more impressive was Michael being granted a Presidential nomination and admission to the United States Military Academy West Point, where he is currently enrolled and hoping to one day earn the title of Army Ranger.

As a single parent, Beltran credits his parents for instilling in him the immeasurable values of hard work, integrity, and loyalty. He was eager to share some family stories and to highlight their familial ethos of giving back.

"Like many Mexican immigrants, my parents came from Sinaloa and Durango, Mexico directly to East LA. They did this to give us hope for a better life, while adapting and



thriving into their new roles in American society," said Beltran. "We are proud Mexicans. We are proud Americans."

Beltran is a busy guy but occasionally enjoys a beer at Bastards, a cocktail at Lock & Key, or a few sips of Tequila Mandala in the pool at his home. "I love supporting everything local," he said.

Keep up with our local hero on his Instagram feed @Referee_Mike_Beltran

Whittier teacher 3D prints ear guards for healthcare workers

WHITTIER - Whittier High School engineering teacher Steve Swanson is bringing a little comfort to the medical workers at PIH Health Whittier as they support the community during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Using 3D printers, Swanson, who is in his fifth year teaching at Whittier High, created over 300 ear guards for surgical masks and donated them to the hospital's health care professionals this month.

"The technology we have for our engineering pathway provided the opportunity to create essential equipment for those on the front lines and I'm glad to contribute in any way I can," Swanson said. "I hope this gives our students a glimpse into just how powerful engineering and 3D printing can be to the lives of others."

Upon hearing that hospitals were seeking ear guards - which allow surgical face masks to wrap completely around the head and alleviate ear pain for health care professionals working long hours in full personal protective equipment (PPE) - Swanson sprang into action.

Equipped with two 3D printers, which Swanson was testing for classroom use prior to school dismissals, he found instructions online and began producing PPE equipment, including shields, masks and ear guards.

Swanson switched exclusively to producing ear guards - printed in Whittier High colors of red and white - after PIH expressed they would be useful.

Swanson has also turned his 3D-printed projects into a learning opportunity for students. Each week, he completes a project on functional household items, using the printers, and then shares them with students on YouTube and Google Classroom.

"During these uncertain times, Whittier Union teachers, staff and administrators have gone above and beyond to support the needs of our students and the greater Whittier community," Superintendent Martin Plourde said. "We are proud to have educators like Steve Swanson, whose ingenuity and generous spirit provides inspiration to us all."

Downtown LA mask maker asking for donations

LOS ANGELES - Another mask maker is asking for donations of fabric.

Bebe Aguirre worked in the entertainment industry, making custom clothing for music videos, commercials, and other projects.

Then COVID-19 landed. "Of course, when this whole quarantine / coronavirus thing happened, it went completely dead," said Aguirre.

While sitting at home and "trying to figure out my next move," Aguirre was struck with the desire to put her time into

helping others. She - like others with sewing experience - decided to make protective masks.

"I posted one on Instagram, and it kind of blew up," said Aguirre. "That night, I had my fiancé make me a website."

"I've had hundreds of orders, and I have donated hundreds of masks."

In total, Aguirre says she's sold or donated a total of 800 cloth masks.

While she does list masks on her website for \$5, she has also given masks freely to those who

have reached out and were in need.

She has also donated to charities and hospitals.

A self-proclaimed "hoarder of fabric," Aguirre originally used what materials she had on hand to manufacture each mask. When that supply ran out, she purchased more material from neighbor, but that supply is already running low.

Now, she's asking for help to resupply, and is more than willing to make any donations as seamless as possible.

"My mom lives in Downey, so I can make it easier for everyone and just have them drop off in Downey...or if they want to drop it off to my studio that would be cool."

"If they couldn't drop it off, I could definitely arrange for someone to pick it up from them."

Aguirre can be reached at bebe@Baafstudio.com or 562-745-7269. She also can be followed on Instagram under the username bebeaguirre_.

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