

# The Norwalk Patriot

Friday, May 8, 2020

Vol. 14 No. 14

14783 Carmenita Road, Norwalk, CA 90650

## Council approves over 60-unit apartment complex

The project brings over 60 new apartments to the city, albeit at the potential cost of traffic congestion.

By Alex Dominguez  
Staff Writer

**NORWALK** - City council on Tuesday approved plans for a 62-unit apartment complex at the northwest corner of Pioneer Boulevard and Excelsior Drive.

The lot - located at 14815 Pioneer Blvd. - is approximately 1.55 acres.

Of the 62 units in the development, six will be restricted to rental by very low-income households. The remaining 52 will be rented at market-rate.

The units will be split into 10 one-bedroom apartments, 17 two-bedroom apartments, and 35 three-bedroom apartments

Plans also indicate that the project site will feature a three-story building to house the rental units, as well as leasing offices, on-site parking, interior and



exterior common areas, and open-space areas.

The project did receive some pushback and criticism however, mostly due to concerns over traffic and parking.

Councilmember Rick Ramirez said that while he thought the project looked great aesthetically, it would impact an already congested area.

"My concern is the parking will eventually move into the adjacent neighborhood past the second apartment complex, creating another community issue."

Vice Mayor Tony Ayala said that his main concerns were with traffic, however ultimately chalked it up to bad zoning.

"The root of all evil here is the zoning of the property,"

said Ayala. "I apologize ahead of time to the people that live in that neighborhood that they are going to have traffic issues, to have parking issues. We'll do everything we can to mitigate that, but we're trying to make the best of a bad situation."

The project was approved unanimously.

## Cerritos College VP chosen for national fellowship program

**NORWALK** - Dr. Dilcie Perez, vice president of student services at Cerritos College, is one of 40 leaders selected for the 2020-21 class of the Aspen Rising Presidents Fellowship, a highly selected leadership program preparing the next generation of community college presidents to transform institutions to achieve higher and more equitable levels of student success.

The Rising Presidents Fellows will embark on a 10-month fellowship beginning in July 2020. Delivered in collaboration with the Stanford Educational Leadership Initiative, the fellows will be mentored by esteemed current and former community college presidents who have achieved exceptional outcomes for students throughout their careers, and will learn strategies to improve student outcomes in and after college, lead internal change, and create strong external partnerships with K-12

schools, four-year colleges, employers, and other partners.

"Evidence shows that substantial improvements in student success are achieved only when presidents have the commitment and skill needed to lead change within their institutions and through partnerships in the community," said Josh Wyner, executive director of the College Excellence Program. "These fellows have been chosen because they embody that commitment and, we believe, will build their skills even further to become transformational presidents."

"Dr. Perez has a strong passion and an unwavering commitment to serving students. Her ability to stay hyper-focused on delivering excellent service to students, her warm and approachable leadership style, and strategic outlook on big picture matters are exactly the abilities a future president

## 228 COVID-19 cases in Norwalk

**NORWALK** - Norwalk has reached 228 confirmed cases of coronavirus, as of official counts released on Wednesday.

This comes as California gradually begins to reopen some nonessential businesses starting Friday.

These businesses - as suggested by Gov. Gavin Newsom - include bookstores, clothing stores, toy stores, florists, and sporting goods stores, although this is still in a pick-up only capacity.

needs to be transformational. I have no doubt that Dr. Perez will make an excellent contribution to Aspen fellowship and in the future she will make an amazing CEO," Dr. Jose Fierro, President/Superintendent, Cerritos College.

The Aspen Rising Presidents Fellowship responds to the growing need for a new generation of leaders well-equipped to meet the challenges of the future. Nationally, nearly 80 percent of sitting presidents plan to retire in the next decade. While the traditional pathway to the presidency has excluded

women and people of color, the incoming class of Aspen Rising Presidents Fellows is composed of 70 percent women and 61 percent people of color and represents institutions of varying sizes and locations.

Together, the 2020-21 fellows are leaders at colleges that collectively serve more than 500,000 students. As well, 42 Rising Presidents Fellowship alumni have become presidents of community colleges that collectively serve an additional 500,000 students nationwide.



Enrique Martinez, a cadet with the city of Norwalk's Public Safety Department, was recently offered admission into the University of California, Berkeley. Martinez has been a cadet since January 2014 and has completed more than 1,185 volunteer hours. Photo courtesy city of Norwalk

## Perez re-elected to state college board

**NORWALK** - Cerritos College Board President Marisa Perez was re-elected to serve on the California Community College Trustees (CCCT) Board.

Elected first vice president, Perez will serve on the CCCT Board for three years from June 2020 - 2023.

The CCCT Board consists of 21 members representing more than 400 California community college trustees and 73 community college districts. The Board provides input to the Community College League of California to help guide decisions to serve the organization's member colleges that ultimately impact student success.

Perez was elected to the Cerritos College Board of Trustees in November 2012, and was re-elected in November 2016. She currently serves as president of the Board. Perez represents Trustee Area 4, including Hawaiian Gardens and portions of the cities of Lakewood, Bellflower, Cerritos, and Long Beach.

Perez has held all three board

officer positions: President (2012-13 and present), Clerk (2013-15), and Vice President (2015-16 and 2018-19). Perez also serves as a board advisor to a South Coast Air Quality Management District governing board member, and is a former White House advisor to President George W. Bush.

"I am looking forward to serving another term to represent the 115 California community colleges across the state," said Perez. "I am 100% focused on student success, which is why I will be diligently working to ensure that equity dollars are being used to support under-served students with the resources they need to complete a degree or transfer, and that our students know their rights to transfer-level courses through AB 705.

"My colleagues and I will also be championing policies to help our campuses widen their faculty hiring process to include more diverse candidates. We will also be ensuring there is an adequate Cal Grant allocation for California community college students. I'm excited to get to work."

## Norwalk restaurant grades

**Wienerchnitzel**  
11610 Alondra Blvd.  
Date Inspected: 5/5/20  
Grade: **A**

**KFC**  
10937 Alondra Blvd.  
Date Inspected: 5/5/20  
Grade: **A**

**Tam's Super Burgers**  
11700 Rosecrans Ave  
Date Inspected: 4/29/20  
Grade: **A**

**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**

**The Poke Co.**  
12200 Civic Center Dr.  
Date Inspected: 3/12/20  
Grade: **B**

## Weekend at a Glance

Friday 84°

Saturday 81°

Sunday 79°

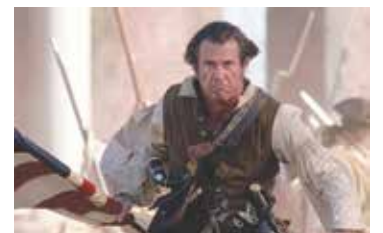
## THINGS TO WATCH



### Back to the Future

Netflix (film)

Eccentric inventor Doc Brown turns a DeLorean into a time machine that inadvertently sends his young friend, Marty McFly, 30 years into the past.



### The Patriot

Netflix (film)

A widower and past war hero just wants to live in peace and farm his land -- until a cruel British officer brings the American Revolution to his door.



### Murder to Mercy: The Cyntoia Brown Story

Netflix (documentary)

After 16-year-old Cyntoia Brown is sentenced to life in prison, questions about her past, physiology and the law itself call her guilt into question.



### Fun With Dick and Jane

Netflix (film)

After losing their high-paying corporate jobs, an upwardly mobile couple turns to robbing banks to maintain their standard of living.



### Hustlers

Hulu (film)

A crew of savvy former strip club employees band together to turn the tables on their Wall Street clients. Starring Jennifer Lopez



### Where'd You Go, Bernadette

Hulu (film)

Cate Blanchett stars as Bernadette, a loving mother and wife who embarks on journey to rediscover herself. Based on the bestselling book.



# Only 34, Downey man recovers after COVID-19 put him in the ICU

**DOWNEY** — “The hardest part about being in the hospital for three weeks is that my family isn’t able to visit me,” Raul Marin said from his hospital bed.

During the COVID-19 outbreak, the state of California requires hospitals to restrict visitors to help reduce the spread of the disease. Marin, 34, who had a cough and a fever that wouldn’t go away, was being treated for COVID-19 at Kaiser Permanente Downey Medical Center.

“When I first found out I was positive [for COVID-19], I was really scared. I wasn’t the healthiest person at the time, and I knew it wasn’t just a regular flu,” Marin said. “I

told my mom, ‘I am going to the hospital and we’ll see what happens. I told her to keep me in her prayers.’”

Since his early symptoms wouldn’t go away, back in March, Marin called the Kaiser Permanente Advice Nurse phone line and was instructed to go to the Emergency Room where he was tested. At the time, test results took a few days to come back and he was sent home to rest and await results.

He had to return to the Emergency Room the next day because he was experiencing shortness of breath. He was put on oxygen for a couple hours and when he wasn’t producing enough oxygen on his own, he

was told they are going to admit him to the intensive care unit (ICU) and put him on a ventilator.

“Being told I was going to be put on a ventilator was really scary,” Marin said. “But the doctors did not give up on me. They made me feel like I could beat this.”

While he was in the ICU, his care team was nothing but hopeful. When asked what’s been most helpful to help get him through this, Marin doesn’t hesitate.

“I appreciate everything Kaiser Permanente has done. Everyone has been great—from the lab techs, to the nurses, to the security guards. Everyone

pitched in to put me back into one piece.”

Marin formed some bonds with a few nurses in particular and credits them with helping him to recover. “I discovered one nurse [Chris Moreno, RN] shares the same faith as me. He offered to pray for me,” Marin recounts. “When he prayed for me, he told me, ‘This is just like climbing a mountain, you have to take it one step at a time, you can’t jump.’ It was one of the most amazing moments.”

He credits another nurse, William “Willy” Spencer, RN, to being an integral part of his care team.

“Nurse Willy is a great guy and a great nurse, if I could give him an award, I would,” Marin said. “He was one of the nurses who cared for me the first couple nights when I was really struggling to breathe. He went and got the doctor who put everything in motion to get me on the ventilator.”

After being taken off the ventilator last week, the doctor who cared for Marin in the ICU helped set up a video chat so Marin could see his family. “It was great to see my fiancé and my kids. I missed them a lot. I told them ‘I’m still fighting.’”

Marin, who says he usually boasts a very clean-cut, clean



shaven look adds with a laugh, “When I video chatted with my family, I was surprised to see myself—it was the first time I saw myself with a beard.”

Marin is now home and clean-shaven once again, still taking it one step at a time and is grateful for the physicians and staff at Kaiser Permanente Downey who were there for him

and helped him get better. “I am looking forward to getting back to some type of normalcy,” he said before adding, “As I left the ICU, the nurses joked with me saying, ‘Don’t come back here!’ I told them, ‘If I do come back it’ll be with my fiancé and my kids to tell everybody thank you.’”

## Downey’s St. Raymond’s holding food drive

**DOWNEY** - St. Raymond Catholic Church is hosting a food drive Saturday to benefit low-income seniors.

Food such as rice, beans, bread, pasta and canned goods are needed, along with toiletries.

Donations will be distributed to seniors living in low-income housing provided by the Salvation Army. These apartments are located throughout Southern California.

Families are encouraged to

have their children write letters to the seniors to help the seniors cope with isolation.

Donations can be dropped off at St. Raymond Church this Saturday, May 9, from 8 a.m. to noon.

## Norwalk approves two new vehicles for Senior Nutrition program

By Alex Dominguez Staff Writer

**NORWALK** - City Council approved the procurement of two vehicles for the Senior Nutrition Program on Tuesday, thus opening an additional two new routes.

Since 1984, the Los Angeles County Workforce Development, Aging Community Services (WDACS) has provided funding to provide hot meals at the Social Services and Senior Centers, including meals delivered to

home-bound frail, elderly, and disabled residents - also known as the Senior Nutrition Program - to the City’s senior citizen population.

On June 18 of last year, City Council approved a direct contract with the WDACS to have City staff to accept and administer the Elderly Nutrition Program.

The Senior Nutrition Program currently services 130 home-bound seniors amongst three routes, with an additional

61 seniors on a waiting list (reflected before the outbreak of COVID-19).

The two new vehicles - two Ford F150 trucks outfitted with a holding oven and refrigeration system feature - will help alleviate the excess need.

Cost for the trucks amounts to \$105,880, although the City will be reimbursed by WDACS in the amount of \$105,808, per staff reports.

### To Our Dearest Mothers

*On this Mother’s Day, please stay at home if you can during this coronavirus pandemic. Be safe and healthy. You have always been the pillar of our families. We cherish you now and forever. God bless you.*



State Senator **BOB ARCHULETA**  
32nd Senate District

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Our physicians and staff work together to provide quality healthcare close to home. We partner with senior centers, nursing and retirement facilities to ensure the best outcomes for our neighbors.

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- Top 5% for Overall Pulmonary Services (2019)
- Top 10% for GI Medical Treatment (2014–2019)
- Top 5% Patient Safety Excellence (2014–18)

- Healthgrades



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# Op-Ed: A green light doesn't always mean go

By Alex Dominguez

"What do you do at a green light?"

That was the question posed to my driver's education class over 10 years ago.

"You go," the class answered.

Then came the follow-up.

"Immediately?"

We were puzzled.

"Look guys, just because you got the green light, doesn't mean you have to be the first one in the intersection," said the instructor. "What if there's a driver trying to beat the red light? If they're going to hit somebody, I would rather it wasn't me."

Many of us are antsy to get the green light back in our lives, and COVID-19 feels less like a stoplight and more like the endless train cruising by at the railroad tracks.

California's safer-at-home orders (or "quarantine," "lockdown," whatever you want to call it) went into place on March 19. Originally, we were told it would only be a matter of a few weeks.

Of course, we have now entered May.

Words, phrases and slogans such as "social distancing," "flatten the curve," and "essential worker" have become everyday vocabulary. Businesses have shuttered. Schools have closed for the remainder of the school year. Use of video conference platforms like Zoom has skyrocketed, while gas prices have plummeted. Events and festivities have had to be postponed, reimagined, or outright cancelled.

Life itself as we knew it has been completely upended. Meanwhile, many continue to get sick. Hospitals remain warzones.

People continue to die.

The wide-spread frustration is tangible, made obvious by the protests that have occurred in past weeks, and the images of mass gatherings at the beaches during our recent hot summer weather.

There are those among us who have chosen to accelerate into the intersection, because "Dammit, this light has been red for too long."

I'm not a medical expert, nor am I a political leader; I don't have the answer nor the cure to COVID-19.

What I do like to think I have is just a little bit of common sense.

When COVID-19 really began to take hold in the United States, the projected numbers for California weren't pretty: over 6000 dead by August, according to the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME).

That projection has been dramatically shrunk to around 2100, with IHME reports saying that "relaxing social distancing may be possible with containment strategies that include testing, contact tracing, isolation, and limiting gathering size."

I am not insensitive to how people are struggling with the current circumstances, be it mental, financial, or business.

Still, we need to understand that a green light by our government (even a staggered one over time) does not mean the threat is gone and no longer serious.

Some will still get sick. Our healthcare facilities and workers will still need to remain diligent.



And yes, people will still die.

I know we are all frustrated, tired, and ready to move on from this new way of life.

But this is a marathon, not a sprint.

Even as our leaders begin to consider waving the yellow flag, we should still be pumping our breaks.

## San Francisco legislators need a lesson in basic economics

By Veronique de Rugy

Have you ever wondered why it seems like some places have a high concentration of elected officials with little to no economic knowledge whatsoever? I have. While I don't have a solution for this deficiency, I'd like to highlight one city in particular where this seems to be the case: San Francisco.

The COVID-19 pandemic now underway in the United States is, of course, wreaking havoc throughout our economy. Fortunately, entrepreneurs and corporate managers have been trying to figure out how to transform their operations in order to keep their businesses afloat. Thank goodness for the profit motive!

One industry has moved impressively fast: food service. It didn't take long for restaurants to shift their energy and resources toward selling food for pickup or delivery. Throughout the country, consumers are now as never before ordering food from their favorite joints — fancy and greasy spoons alike — to enjoy in the comfort of their homes.

This has caused a surge in demand for drivers to deliver the food. Precoronavirus, many restaurants didn't deliver at all, so they had to create home-delivery capacities from scratch. Others have had to step up capacity by adding more drivers. And many restaurants now increasingly rely on delivery services like UberEats and Grubhub. Following this sharp increase in demand for driving services, delivery fees have risen. This increase in fees is exactly what economics predicts will happen and recommends should happen. The higher fees reflect the increased demand for delivery services while simultaneously giving stronger incentives

to more people to become delivery drivers.

However, San Francisco legislators don't get it. On April 10, the city of San Francisco issued an emergency order mandating that delivery companies that wish to continue to operate in the city cap the fees they charge restaurants at 15% of each order's amount. Mayor London Breed explained, "These fees typically range from 10% to 30% and can represent a significant portion of a restaurant's revenue, especially at a time when the vast majority of sales are for delivery. This commission fee can wipe out a restaurant's entire margin."

Yes, these fees will eat up some of the restaurants' profits if restaurants decide not — or are unable — to shift at least some of the higher costs on to their customers. But having too few or no delivery drivers won't help their business either, and this government-imposed cap on fees will reduce the number of drivers. Unable to charge higher fees, delivery services cannot pay drivers higher wages. This results in fewer drivers and longer delivery times.

Capping these fees also reduces incentives for entrepreneurs to start new delivery services — new services that would ensure fees stay as low as possible over time.

Meanwhile, following San Francisco's emergency order, companies like Grubhub and UberEats explained why the fee cap would force them to reduce the scope of their services. UberEats noted that the limit on fees makes it difficult to cover operating costs, so they would need to stop delivering food to Treasure Island, a lower-income neighborhood further away from the city

center. This predictable response triggered an equally predictable but economically ignorant outrage from politicians.

San Francisco Supervisor Matt Haney tweeted, "This is DESPICABLE, outrageous behavior from @UberEats." According to him, "The caps on commissions are to protect small businesses and ensure they can survive during a GLOBAL PANDEMIC." Haney's disregard for the law of supply and demand underscores the fact that when governments make it impossible for companies to cover the costs of supplying some service, they'll stop supplying that service.

San Francisco politicians constantly treat reality as if it's optional. For instance, through strict zoning and other land-use regulations, they have artificially inflated the wealth of single-family homeowners by obstructing the building of multifamily homes. As a result, San Francisco is one of the least affordable cities for younger and lower-income people. Its politicians then double down with rent-control regulations to try to fix the negative impacts of their zoning rules. Yet these regulations only further reduce the supply, and further raise the price, of housing in the city. Yet to this day, elected officials there persist in their misguided policymaking, against the advice of every economist.

If politicians in San Francisco really want to help their citizens, they may want to brush up on basic economics. That would be a treat.

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

## Testing is the key to reopening our economy

By Mona Charen

One of the less helpful aspects of our current quandary is the shrill argument between two closed-minded camps. One condemns those who wish to open up the economy as science-defying ghouls who care nothing for human life. The other depicts the stay-at-homes as economic saboteurs willing to destroy the national economy in the name of unobtainable safety.

Neither reckons with the indispensable bridge — the testing problem. Whatever mayors, governors, or presidents might say, we cannot restart the economy as long as people are too frightened to resume working, shopping, and socializing. An NPR/Marist poll found that 65% of Americans believe that it would be a "bad idea" to have people return to work until further testing is available, and 80% say the same about eating in restaurants. Even larger majorities oppose opening schools or sporting events.

On the other hand, it's simply untenable to keep huge sectors of the economy in what Will Wilkinson of the Niskanen Center calls "soft house arrest" indefinitely, or to open up only to be forced to shut down again in the face of new illness spikes. We are stuck in limbo. We've succeeded in flattening the curve but haven't conceived a way to avoid thousands of more deaths without causing an economic catastrophe.

Fortunately, the Safra Center for Ethics at Harvard has gathered experts from across the political spectrum and prepared a very compelling roadmap for escaping from this trap. It requires shifting focus from quarantining the entire population (with its attendant economic pain) to testing on a massive scale, contact tracing and supported isolation (TTSI). With the proper level of TTSI, we could begin safely to reopen the economy, sector by sector, starting with the most essential.

We are currently testing about 150,000 people a day. That number needs to ramp up fast to 2 million a day and then quickly to 5 million per day, reaching 20 million by August. To accomplish this, Safra calls for a Pandemic Testing Board modeled on World War II's War Production Board to coordinate the innovation, supply chains and regulatory changes necessary to facilitate this. Testing is always a critical part of disease control, but never more than in this case, when so many carriers are asymptomatic.

Once infected people are identified, they need to be supported in isolation — meaning that they should be able to expect sick pay, the guarantee of a job when they return and perhaps temporary housing (hotels may be useful for those who need it). Their contacts must also be informed and urged to self-isolate for the two-week incubation period. Johns Hopkins University has estimated that we will need to hire and train at least 100,000 new

personnel. This will involve the use of apps and other technologies that pose privacy concerns, but experience with other epidemics like HIV has shown that it can be done sensitively. After a negative test, people can safely return to work.

Phase One would focus on essential workers, the 40% of the workforce who are not able to self-quarantine and alarming numbers of whom are falling ill. Doctors and nurses are at high risk. Seventeen percent of the New York City police force is infected, and the outbreak at meat processing plants has prompted the chairman of Tyson Foods to warn that the "food supply chain is breaking."

Phase Two would permit the reopening of many businesses while maintaining social distancing for vulnerable populations. Phase Three would see about 80% of the economy back on track, and Phase Four would see a new normal in which the economy returned to pre-pandemic levels but with testing, careful monitoring and improved decontamination to suppress further outbreaks.

If a vaccine comes along, so much the better. But this roadmap would permit us to cope with a world that contains COVID-19 — or some future pathogen — without letting it wreak devastation on the economy or our health.

How much would it cost? Between \$50 billion and \$300 billion over two years. But compared to what? The current lockdown regime is the costliest emergency of our lifetimes. The price we are paying now, including eye-popping outlays of up to \$350 billion a month from the federal government (spiking our national debt to levels unseen since World War II), lost education for children, bankruptcies, diminishing mental health, overwhelmed soup kitchens, spikes in domestic violence and more, is incalculable.

This roadmap — or something like it — offers a lifeline.

*Mona Charen is a senior fellow at the Ethics and Public Policy Center. Her new book is "Sex Matters: How Modern Feminism Lost Touch with Science, Love, and Common Sense."*

### Potholes in Norwalk

Dear Editor:

Why is it Norwalk's policy on filling in a pothole to first put on a cold patch and then come back later and put on a hot patch? That seems to be counterproductive.

It seems to me that Norwalk is wasting its time and my money going there twice to fix the problem. Plus I'm sure the workers are not making \$12.50 an hour -- are they all union?

If they were to put on a hot patch the first time, it will save time and money. Plus they would eventually fix twice the amount of potholes.  
**Larry Arellano  
Norwalk**

### California's recovery will be slow

Dear Editor:

Gov. Newsom has set up a taskforce on business and jobs recovery. It is an 80-member group.

That's right -- 80 people are on this committee. It includes the governor's chief of staff, Disney's Bob Iger, and Apple CEO Tim Cook. Tom Styer, the San Francisco billionaire who spent \$250 million to run for president on wealth tax, a carbon free economy, and slavery reparations, will lead it. I doubt if any of the members of this committee are concerned about having a job and where their next paycheck is coming from.

Mr. Styer was quoted as saying that the mission of this committee is to recover as fast as safely possible from the Covid-19 induced recession and to create a fair, green and prosperous future" that "remedies some of the injustices, which this Covid-19 has revealed in our society."

Gov. Newsom said, "We felt he was an ideal candidate to lead the charge and introduce the broader purpose behind this advisory committee."

This is the same Gov. Newsom who, last fall, ordered revenue redirected from the last gas tax hike, which was supposed to fund highway construction, to projects that "reverse the trend of increased fuel consumption and reduce greenhouse gas emissions."

Some 3.1 million Californians filed for unemployment benefits in March, more than in all of 2008, during the nation's last recession. Based on Mr. Styer's and Mr. Newsom's comments, I think we can expect more regulation as this committee puts into place its "fair" and "green" policies. California's recovery will be slow.

**Suzanne Todd  
Downey**

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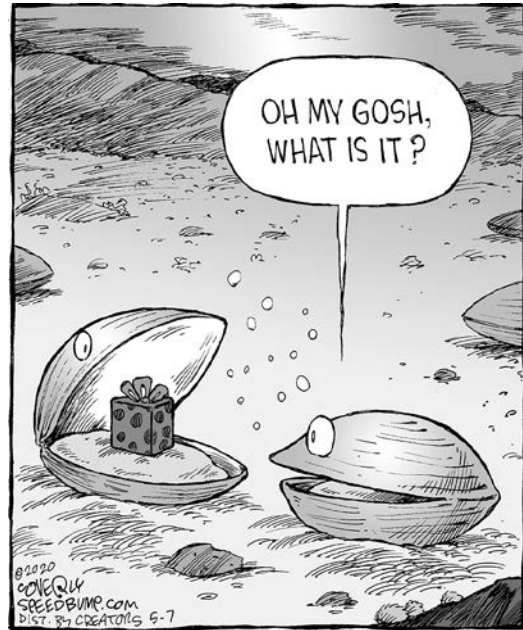
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1st, 6:00 p.m. - Public Safety meetings - Council Chambers

TUESDAYS

8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. - Farmers Market - Excelsior High School
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, 7:00 p.m. - American Legion Post No. 359 - 11986 Front St.
2nd, 7:30 p.m. - Golden Trowel -Norwalk Masonic Lodge

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...

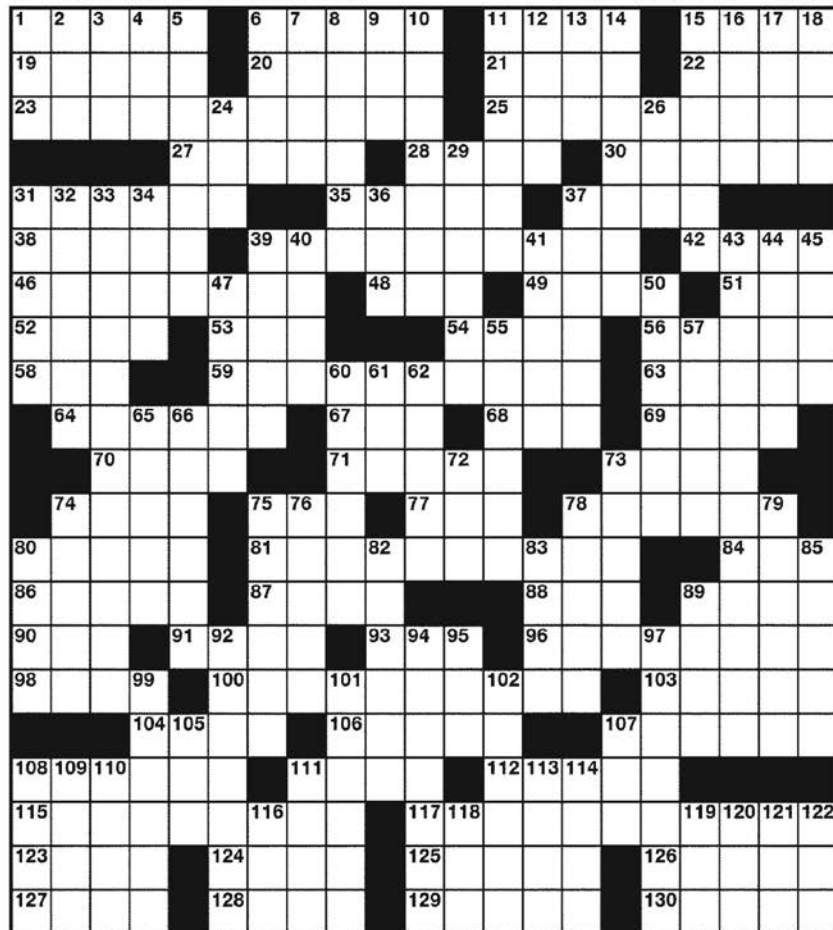
- May 8, 1794: The United States Post Office was established.
1886: Pharmacist Dr. John Styth Pemberton invented what would later be called "Coca-Cola."
1933: Gandhi began a hunger strike to protest British oppression in India.
1945: U.S. President Harry Truman announced that World War II had ended in Europe.
1961: New Yorkers selected a new name for their new National League baseball franchise. They chose the Mets.
1986: Reporters were told that 84,000 people had been evacuated from areas near the Chernobyl nuclear plant in Soviet Ukraine.

THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com)
MY BOY FRIEND'S BACK: At last!
by Gail Grabowski

- ACROSS
1 Ancient Mongol marauder
6 Makeup mishap
11 Flu symptom
15 White lies
19 Prepare (oneself) for a jolt
20 Tyler of Whose Line Is It Anyway?
21 Weaver's apparatus
22 Laudatory verses
23 Kabul's country
25 Nourishment in a hive
27 River mouth formation
28 Arabian Peninsula port
30 Los Angeles hoopsters
31 Corsage flower
35 With 37 Across, alternative to fries
37 See 35 Across
38 Endangerment
39 Is off the mark
42 Rec ctr. for girls
46 Typical guy
48 Starz alternative
49 Frozen snow queen
51 A question of technique
52 Margarita garnish
53 Suffix for percent
54 Box sealer
56 Worth keeping
58 U-turn from NNW
59 Fulfill, as an obligation
63 Dads
64 Audible bouncebacks
67 Be off the mark
68 Summer clock setting: Abbr.
69 Tablet downloads
70 "Lang Syne"
71 Paper packages
73 Venetian's "So long!"
74 Engendered
75 Yale student
77 Elementary actress Lucy
78 Sculpted works
80 Copy machine inserts
81 Far from accord
84 USPS assignment
86 Insistent exclamation
87 Irish New Age singer
88 Kindled
89 Give-and-take transaction
90 Sistine Chapel depiction
91 Take a risk
93 Scoundrel
96 Car trip interrupter
98 Something to read for
100 Window sticker
103 Cut in two
104 Christmas season
106 Soothing thing
107 Sets aside for now
108 Daytona 500 org.
111 West Coast wine valley
112 Prepare to relocate a transplant
115 Green vegetable
117 Certain Jaguar or Genesis
123 Favoritism
124 Cash, so to speak
125 Justice Kagan
126 Vatican surrounder
127 Reasonable
128 Square-corner shapes
129 Smart-alecky
130 City south of Scottsdale
6 Leave port
7 Niagara Falls by-product
8 Sprawling property
9 "Now I get it!"
10 Owed for drinks
11 Camus or Einstein
12 Filmmaker Joel or Ethan
13 Cultivating tool
14 Puts to work
15 Down-home
16 Sit at a light
17 Ballpark beverage
18 S&L IDs
24 Homer's neighbor
26 Granola grain
29 Mississippi River explorer
31 German cars
32 Prepare a new edition of
33 Custard dessert
34 Put to work
36 Shade of gray
37 Special knack
39 Lavish parties
40 Short race distance, for short
41 Some auctioned autos
43 Bird named for its song
44 Brown beverages
45 Leaves speechless
47 Acted without talking
50 Nanny from overseas
55 Makes sense
57 Cantina hors d'oeuvres
60 In a strange way
61 Exam for college srs.
62 Tests with talking
65 Military copters
66 One's native land
72 "Mamma !"
73 Terra \_ pot
74 Exclamation of approval
75 "Bam!" chef
76 Flax fabric
78 Warbler's sound
79 "... a fever"
80 Management level
82 Winter hat feature
83 \_ Romeo (sports car)
85 Parrying weapons
89 Rough guess
92 Bowler's stat
94 Source of radio revenue
95 Fun run souvenir
97 "I've had enough!"
99 Crate up
101 Brewers' buys
102 Main points
105 Large rowing trophy
107 Trifle (with)
108 Runs in
109 About 6% of Egypt
110 Extend across
111 \_ and void
113 Some Catholic school teachers
114 Ask earnestly
116 Insole material
118 "Small" suffix
119 Summer in Saint-Tropez
120 River blocker
121 Austrian peak
122 High-energy TV scientist

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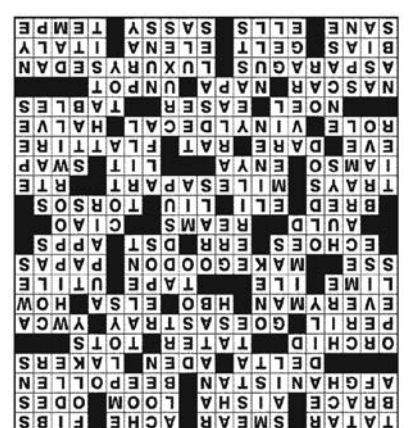


ADVERTISING POLICY

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

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

Former cohost of The Talk, AISHA Tyler (20 Across) has hosted the CW revival of Whose Line Is It Anyway? since its debut in 2013. The word "ODE" (22 Across) is derived from the Greek for "sing." The Asian portion of Egypt (109 Down) makes up about 23,000 square miles of its 390,000 total area.





LEGALS

New Film and TV degree comes to Cerritos this fall

NORWALK - Cerritos College's Mass Communications Department will offer a new transfer degree in Film, Television, and Electronic Media, beginning fall 2020.

media industries and technology, we owe it to our students to offer an academic program that trains a new generation of storytellers who will one day produce high quality entertainment, news and social content on apps and digital-only platforms."

The new Associate in Science for Transfer (AS-T) in Film, Television and Electronic Media keeps abreast of a quickly evolving media landscape, which now combines elements of journalism, social media, radio, and traditional television.

The new AS-T program requires 18 units in the major and 60 transferable units in the general education courses and electives. The AS-T degree allows students to transfer to the California State University system with guaranteed admission.

The new program will prepare students with hands-on skills to produce digital video, podcasts, and webcasts in the era of YouTube, TikTok and other emerging platforms, in addition to film productions, live television, radio programming, and all that pertains to audio and visual content.

"The new degree in film, television, and electronic media gives Cerritos College students an amazing opportunity to learn about the creative industries from our talented faculty," said Dr. Gary Pritchard, dean of Fine Arts and Communications.

"Smartphones have re-wired our world," said Christian Brown, department chair of Mass Communications. "In Los Angeles County, the epicenter of

For more information, please contact Christian Brown at cbrown@cerritos.edu

Norwalk High makes list of nation's top high schools

NORWALK - Norwalk High School has been named one of America's best high schools, according to U.S. News & World Report.

"We have had a district and site level push to increase the use of technology in the classroom, which has paid huge dividends this year as our students and staff were well-prepared for the change to distance learning, thanks to the professional development that was done at the district and site level over the past several years.

The 2020 U.S. News Best High Schools rankings include data on more than 24,000 public high schools in 50 states and the District of Columbia. Schools were ranked on six factors, including student performance on state assessments and how well they prepare students for college.

"Our counselors and administration team have worked hard to make sure that our graduates complete high school being college and career ready. Our students have open access to Advanced Placement classes and pathways. Our counselors have received RAMP certification - a nationally recognized award by the American School Counseling Association (ASCA). They are an amazing group that has worked hard to make sure our students finish their A-G requirements.

"The Best High Schools rankings provide the most comprehensive, data-based information on nearly every public high school in the country," said Anita Narayan, managing editor of Education at U.S. News, in a story published by U.S. News & World Report on April 21, 2020. "Families can use this information to see how their local schools compare on graduation rates and state assessments, as well as academic performance by students who are traditionally underserved."

"At Norwalk, we will continue to work hard to make sure our students have the ability to think critically, gain technological proficiency, and graduate college and career ready. We look forward to the opportunity to continue move up the list next year."

"I am extremely proud of the work that our school district and school has done to promote critical thinking, technology proficiency, and college and career readiness," said Mike Garcia, principal of Norwalk High School. "We have focused the past few years on high level thinking questions to promote critical thinking, and our teachers have developed common assessments that focus on higher-level, depth-of-knowledge questions.

In addition to the national rankings, U.S. News has also published rankings by state, metro area, and school district.

The Best High Schools rankings are available on USNews.com.

GOVERNMENT

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.

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 NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

PROPOSED SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT TO THE 2019/2020 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN AND CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN DUE TO SPREAD OF COVID-19 AND APPLICATION OF CARES ACT FUNDS TO MITIGATE IMPACTS CAUSED BY COVID-19

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

Description: Due to the spread of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), HUD will be granting the City of Norwalk with \$747,572 in additional CDBG-CV funds through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act). Due to the HUD memorandum for CDBG-CV and HOME funds waivers and suspensions, the City must amend their 2019/2020 Annual Action Plan and Citizen Participation Plan in order to utilize CDBG-CV funds and reprogram HOME funds.

The 2019/2020 Annual Action Plan identifies Norwalk's priorities and how the goals established in the Consolidated Plan will be met through allocated funds through community development and housing activities over the Fiscal Year (FY) 2019/2020. The City must amend the approved Annual Action Plan when the City:

- Changes allocation priorities
Expects to carry out a new or existing activity while using funds that have not been covered by the Consolidated Plan or included in the approved Action Plan;
Allocates a substantial change (by \$35,000, except for planning and administration) in funds; or
Modifies the location, scope, purpose, or recipients of an activity.

The City shall amend its 2019/2020 Annual

Action Plan to reprogram activities and its allocated funds to assist residents affected by COVID-19. Such changes will include programming additional CDBG-CV funds for business assistance and administration costs.

The City must amend the Citizen Participation Plan when procedures for notice of availability, public commenting, publications, and public hearings are altered. Thus, the City is amending their Citizen Participation Plan to authorize virtual hearings for proposed substantial amendments; usage of the CARES Act Funds; and implementation of HUD-issued Waivers. The City will implement virtual hearings in order to protect resident's health and to meet HUD's public hearing requirements. The City shall also amend the Citizen Participation Plan to reduce public noticing and notice of availability to 5-days and reduce 30-day public commenting period to 5-days for substantial amendments. The amendments to both the 2019/2020 Annual Action Plan and Citizen Participation Plan may be implemented and reviewed concurrently during the 5-day public commenting timeframe as a response to COVID-19.

The City of Norwalk will be reprogramming HOME funds due to the memorandum for HOME waivers.

Teleconference Meeting Notice: This meeting will be conducted pursuant to the provisions of the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20 issued on March 19, 2020 allowing for deviation of teleconference rules required by the Brown Act and pursuant to the order of the Health Officer of Los Angeles County as this meeting is necessary so that the City can conduct necessary business and is permitted under the order as an essential governmental function. Written comments may be submitted to the City Clerk prior to the time set for the meeting. Address written comments: Attention City Clerk at the address noted above or email to: clerk@norwalkca.gov.

More Information: Public noticing and commenting will occur from May 13, 2020 to May 18, 2020. All written comments should be submitted by 12:00 p.m. on May 23, 2020 to Nicole Amescua, City of Norwalk, P.O. Box 1030, Norwalk, CA 90651-1030 or emailed to: namescua@norwalkca.gov. Questions concerning the virtual council hearing should be directed to Nicole Amescua at (562) 929-5769 or namescua@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 City Clerk's Office 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 8th day of May 2020.

Theresa Devoy, CMC City Clerk

The Norwalk Patriot 5/8/20

NOTICES SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA,

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR THE CHURCH OF NAME

CASE NUMBER: 20NWCPO0104

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner JAZMIN PEREZ filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Present name (1) JAZMIN PEREZ to Proposed name (1) LUNA KIDDO PEREZ THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

NOTICE OF HEARING

Date: MAY 20, 2020, Time: 1:30 p.m., Department: C, Room: 312

The address of the court is 12720 Norwalk Blvd., Norwalk 90650

A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once a week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in the county, The Norwalk Patriot MARCH 16, 2020 Judge Margaret M. Bernal Judge Of The Superior Court Petitioner or Attorney, In Pro Per JAZMIN PEREZ 10438 VALLEY VIEW AVE. WHITTIER, CA 90604 (562) 652-5458 lunabebop91@aim.com

The Norwalk Patriot 5/1/20, 5/8/20, 5/15/20, 5/22/20

PROBATE

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: MATHEW RHODES AKA MATHEW LANCE RHODES CASE NO. 20STPB03170

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of MATHEW RHODES AKA MATHEW LANCE RHODES: A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by JEFFREY RHODES in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that JEFFREY RHODES be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act with limited authority. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A HEARING on the petition will be held in this court as follows: 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. SBN 321601, THE LEGACY LAWYERS, PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION 10221 SLATER AVENUE SUITE 106 FOUNTAIN VALLEY CA 92708 BSC218201 5/1, 5/8, 5/15/20 CNS-3361755X THE NORWALK PATRIOT

CNS 3361755 The Norwalk Patriot 5/1/20, 5/8/20, 5/15/20

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Advertisement for Norwalk Patriot subscription. Features a large '\$10.00' price tag, 'GUARANTEED DELIVERY' text, and 'SUBSCRIPTION' banner. Includes a small image of the newspaper front page with headlines like 'School board considers bond measure to renovate schools' and 'Council approves CDBG spending plan'.

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

14783 Carmenita Road, Norwalk, CA 90650

Subscription form with fields for Name, Address, and Phone.

Need to run a Legal Notice?

The Norwalk Patriot is a newspaper of general circulation - and has been adjudicated in the County and the City. We can take any and all legal ads.



Contact The Norwalk Patriot we can help! Email: legals@thedowneypatriot.com Phone: 562-404-3008 • Fax: 562-904-3124



# Rancho Foundation marches forward

By Lorine Parks  
Society Columnist

**DOWNEY** — What happens when one of Downey’s landmark fundraisers, given on behalf of a beloved institution, is canceled at the last minute?

“Our annual Amistad Gala,” said Deborah Arroyo, “that was scheduled for March 21, 2020, has historically been the foundation’s largest fundraiser of the year with more than 300 guests in attendance, was cancelled this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic.”

Occasions like this are mainly a time for friends to meet, raise philanthropic dollars, and treat themselves to a well-earned celebration of the accomplishments of the past year. One of the secrets to “what makes Downey work,” is that so many local volunteer organizations come together to help. But this year they were not able to.

“While all of our Amistad sponsors were so generous,” said Deb, the executive director of the foundation, “and insisted that we retain their donation, we still find ourselves facing a \$50,000 deficit because we had to cancel the event. The proceeds are entirely in support of patient programs.”

It’s the Foundation’s largest fundraiser of the year, held in the ballroom of the Westin Hotel in Long Beach. The theme of last year’s glamorous festivities was Black and White, and Deborah was resplendent in gauzy black tulle, greeting everyone as hostess.

Also welcoming guests in wheelchair, tux and black tie, was Gilbert Salinas, Chief Clinical Officer at Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center.

To be in a chair at Rancho is to be one of the stars of the show. The Foundation is proud of the mobility in recovering patients, and everyone admires the strength and will power that makes such success possible.

This is the important part: in 1983 when volunteers organized the Rancho Los Amigos Foundation, its purpose was to see that patients receive treatments and programs that are not funded by insurance. And to bring them programs outside of their financial means and not within the county budget.

Now the Rancho Los Amigos Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit with two full-time staff members. Twelve individuals serve on the Foundation’s volunteer board of directors, and its mission is to restore health, rebuild life, and revitalize hope for persons with a life-changing illness, injury, or disability such as stroke or spinal injury.

“We have been attending Amistad since 1991,” said Beverly Mathis, “and we have never missed a year. I first was involved on the planning committee in 2009 and then I chaired the event for several years. As for a ‘most touching’ moment we would have to say that miracles happen every day at Rancho and just being involved becomes a truly inspirational experience.”

Bev is a longtime Soroptimist, married to Sam Mathis, of the Downey Optimists. Optimist Club was the honoree at the 1991 Amistad Gala, and genial table host Sam Mathis has been active with the Foundation for 40 years.

“Sam has said that seeing the smiling faces of the pediatric patients when they receive a balloon is worth a million dollars,” said Bev.

With donors large and small, the foundation for almost four decades has helped provide patient-centered services and programs each fiscal year (July 1st – June 30th); the Rancho Los Amigos Foundation provides more than \$550,000 for patients who have suffered spinal cord injury, stroke, traumatic brain injury, and other neurological disorders.

“Typically, at the ball,” said Deb, “we have a silent auction, and the highlight of the evening is Fund-A-Miracle. Guests offer to fund a miracle from a list of possibilities, and they plan ahead for their bid. Bidders attach small adhesive tabs with their personal bidding number to a fingernail to signal a bid.”

By raising a hand, a runner is summoned to record the offer and solidify the “bid.” Cool.

For \$1,000, one could fund someone in adult arts, robotic work, or help a child with cerebral palsy who has special wheelchair needs. Five hundred dollars sends someone to wheelchair basketball camp, and that is a wickedly rugged game. Players have to be fit. \$250 pays for a Wellness Center scholarship.

There are also sponsorships on all levels and a continual slide show highlights close-ups of the patients’ faces as they get to enjoy much needed recreational experiences.

The Rancho Los Amigos Foundation provides financial support to the Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Hospital, with year-round programs that help the thousands of patients treated at Rancho each year, like free wheelchair New Year’s day parties on the outdoor patio, or art classes for stroke or amputee victims who learn to use the other side of their brain.

The Amistad Gala has a long lasting and deep impact on the work that Rancho does to return patients to their family, school or job, and to a dignified quality of life. Downeyites have long



Photo courtesy Rancho Los Amigos Foundation

contributed by attending the annual black-tie Amistad Gala evening.

To help meet the needs of the hospital’s diverse disabled population are small and personalized projects like wooden spoons hand-carved to fit around a patient’s hand and paralyzed fingers. Stroke patients can feed themselves from specially mounted trays mounted like an artist’s palette on a table. On the far end of the rainbow of possibilities, research is being funded for a robotic machine that is able to get in sync with the human brain.

So many activities are going on at the foundation, that interested volunteers can find something to join. The Volunteer Office also welcomes help.

The foundation is supported by events like this; private donations small and large; as well as county grants through Supervisor Janice Hahn’s Office; grants from foundations like Hoag and Annenberg; and the LA County

Department of Arts and Culture.

So, what happens when the Foundation’s major fundraiser is cancelled?

“The Rancho Los Amigos Foundation has found more and more ways to help our Rancho Los Amigos family get through the stress of this pandemic,” said Deb. “During the Covid-19 pandemic the board and the staff have been successfully meeting via conference calls.”

“Through partnerships and donations,” Deb said, “from various local restaurants and our own vendors, the foundation has been arranged food donations for the hospital’s frontline staff, the physicians, nurses, therapists, etc. multiple times a week.”

“The Rancho Foundation continues to work full time,” says Deb, “to make sure that for each and every patient, the programs they rely on go uninterrupted.”

## The Norwalk Patriot



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# Whittier woman wins community service award

WHITTIER - Maria Baltazar from South Whittier was awarded the WASA Community Service Award for South Whittier School District recently.

WASA, or the Whittier Association for School Administrators, recognizes exceptional individuals annually. Their award "recognizes outstanding educational administrators and individuals in other professions who have made extraordinary contributions to K-12 education."

Baltazar has served South Whittier School District in multiple capacities including being a stakeholder, staff member, and parent. She currently serves as Carmela Elementary's Community Liaison. She has coordinated parent workshops and events to assist families with services including nutrition classes, mental health, and ESL classes.

Baltazar has helped countless students and their families within our schools, district-wide, connecting them with resources from outside organization to meet their needs. Students in need have received shoes through the organization Shoes that Fit and families have received weekly food deliveries through the HOPE program because of Maria's efforts.

Baltazar has helped countless students and their families within our schools, district-wide, connecting them with resources from outside organization to meet their needs. Students in need have received shoes through the organization Shoes that Fit and families have received weekly food deliveries through the HOPE program because of Maria's efforts.

When Measure QS was on the ballot Baltazar understood the benefits this would bring to our district's schools and most importantly, our district's students. She, along with her family, covered a large portion of the west side of South Whittier's boundaries and went door to door asking for peoples' vote.

Baltazar has been a strong parent voice and is beloved by students. She volunteers her time at Carmela and Graves Middle school, serves in the School Site Council, DELAC, LCAP, and Think Together.

# Whittier seniors celebrate in virtual signing days

WHITTIER - Whittier Union seniors donned college apparel, held school pennants and posed with colorful balloons as they reminisced about their high school experiences and celebrated their next steps - into college, military or careers - during virtual College Signing Day activities on May 1.

College Signing Day recognizes high school seniors' commitment to continuing their education at four-year universities, community colleges, the military or vocational schools. Although many universities have extended decision day until June 1, many students have already made their choices.

"Senior year is full of important milestones for students, including celebrations of their exceptional academic accomplishments and plans for the future," Superintendent Martin Plourde said. "It is essential to ensure the Class of 2020 is honored for their hard work, and I commend all our dedicated teachers, staff, counselors and administrators who continue to find ways to support our seniors from afar."

In previous years, Whittier Union seniors were treated to schoolwide festivities, where they were cheered on by classmates and teachers as they walked a red carpet, posed for photos and

inspired crowds of underclassmen to work toward similar goals.

This year, Whittier Union's comprehensive high schools shifted the celebrations online, ensuring students were recognized for their accomplishments from the safety of their homes.

College and military announcements dominated California High School's official Instagram page, highlighting students' intentions to pursue degrees, certifications and careers in nursing, criminal justice, aerospace engineering, law enforcement, theater arts, welding and more.

La Serna High School's senior Instagram page features colorful tributes to its seniors, highlighting students' name, college of choice and intended major. La Serna's seniors were accepted to an array of respected colleges and universities, including UC Berkeley, UCLA, USC, Claremont McKenna College, Laguna College of Art and Design and more.

Pioneer High School encouraged students to announce their commitments using a school-branded template; each personalized post was then shared to the school's Class of 2020 Instagram page. In their own words - and using their own embellishments to the school

template - seniors discussed their plans after high school, including attending UCs or CSUs.

Santa Fe High School seniors recapped their high school experiences - and shared what's to come - on the school's College and Career Center Instagram page. Alongside their college acceptances, students reminisced about their favorite high school memories, offered advice to their peers and discussed how they hope to make an impact on the world.

"I really enjoyed my years at Santa Fe, and now that they were cut short, it makes me realize how much I enjoyed simply bonding with my classmates and friends," senior Arisbeth Melendrez said in her post, which also announced her admission to Biola University. "But I am happy to say my new journey awaits."

Whittier High School seniors sported college shirts or posed with signs and pennants for their college announcements, featured on the school's Class of 2020 Instagram page.

Many students seized the opportunity to stage spirited and creative announcements. Whittier High senior Kaitlyn Suarez, who will attend Occidental College and play softball, posed at a table flanked by balloons in the college's colors and filled with Occidental College paraphernalia.

# Man charged with shattering car windows with BB gun

WHITTIER - A 19-year-old man was charged today with vandalism and other criminal counts for the shattering of car windows with a BB gun in Whittier.

Christian Brian Peña, of La Habra, faces 15 misdemeanor counts: 10 counts of vandalism under \$400, four counts of

discharge of a BB device with gross negligence and one count of resisting arrest.

Arraignment is scheduled on May 13 of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Bellflower Branch.

According to the criminal

complaint, Peña is alleged to have aided in shattering 10 car windows within a two-hour timeframe on January 23. Five people were in four of the cars that were allegedly shot by BBs, the prosecutor said.

The defendant faces 11 years in jail if convicted as charged.

# Officials call on Metro to require face coverings

LOS ANGELES - Los Angeles County Supervisor Janice Hahn is asking Metro to require all bus and train passengers wear face coverings to protect the health of bus drivers and their fellow passengers from COVID-19.

In a letter to Metro CEO Phil Washington on Monday, Hahn said "given what we know about the COVID-19 virus, the policy of not requiring face coverings puts both Metro passengers and bus drivers at risk."

Hahn's letter comes after an LA Times article detailed the accounts of Metro bus drivers who fear for their own health and the health of their passengers. While the current Public Health Order requires the public to wear face coverings in essential businesses, Metro has put the onus on bus drivers to determine whether or not to allow passengers on board without face coverings.

"Because so many other

essential workers, from grocery store employees to restaurant workers, rely on Metro to get to and from work, Metro's decision not to require face coverings threatens to compound the spread of this virus across our County," said Hahn.

Due to the urgency of this matter, Hahn is asking Metro to take action immediately and not wait until the next meeting of the Metro Board of Directors.

# Downey Kaiser hospital gets 'A' grade

DOWNEY - Kaiser Permanente Downey Medical Center was awarded an 'A' in the spring 2020 Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade, a national distinction recognizing Kaiser Permanente Downey Medical Center's achievements providing safer health care.

The Leapfrog Group is an independent national watchdog organization committed to health care quality and safety. The Safety Grade is a letter grade assigned to all general hospitals across the country and updated every six months, assessing how well the hospital prevents medical errors and other harms to patients.

"This recognition is a testament to our staff and physicians who spend every day working to ensure our patients are safe while under our care and we're extremely proud of that," said Jim Branchick, senior vice

president and area manager, Kaiser Permanente Downey Medical Center. "Physicians and staff here at our medical center hold the highest safety standards while delivering on the mission to provide the exceptional health care for which Kaiser Permanente is known."

"Members gain more confidence in Kaiser Permanente's patient-centered, physician-led system knowing that they're receiving care at one of the nation's safest hospitals," said James T. Lee, MD, area medical director, Kaiser Permanente Downey Medical Center. "Receiving high marks from the Leapfrog Group is a testament to Kaiser

Permanente's commitment to quality health care and patient safety."

"As the nation copes with a challenging pandemic, our gratitude extends to hospital leadership and health care workers everywhere for their tremendous dedication," said Leah Binder, president and CEO of The Leapfrog Group. "We hope this 'A' helps to thank the people who work and volunteer for Kaiser Permanente Downey Medical Center. They are role models in putting patients first, and their service has been extraordinary in our country's time of need."

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# Rose Hills reopens with limited hours during the pandemic

**WHITTIER** - Rose Hills Memorial Park, closed for a month during the coronavirus pandemic, has started the process of a gradual reopening.

The cemetery is now open from 4:30 p.m. to dusk, Monday through Saturday, and from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday.

"We appreciate our families and our community members for your patience and understanding during the past weeks while

we do our part to mitigate any further spread of the coronavirus," the cemetery said in a statement.

"For the safety and well-being of our community and associates, we have temporarily modified our lawn and mausoleum visitation hours to open once services and burial activities have concluded."

The California Dental Hygienists' Association (CDHA) has some tips to help you stay healthy and prevent oral disease during the COVID-19 pandemic. Aside from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommendations on social distancing and handwashing, here are some tips to help keep your teeth and gums healthy until your next dental hygiene appointment. Some medical conditions (ie Diabetes, Heart Disease, Auto-immune disorders, and pregnancy) can lower your body's ability to fight off bacteria in the mouth, which is why it is important to maintain good oral hygiene habits at home!

1. Brush! 2x per day for 2 minutes - an electric or manual toothbrush with soft bristles

is recommended. Click here to learn more about proper brushing techniques and Click here to learn how to keep your toothbrushes clean.

2. Clean in between! Flossing 1x/day (or your preferred interdental cleaners ie: Waterpik, Soft Picks, Proxy Brushes) - night time is the best time of the day. Click here to learn more about proper flossing techniques.

3. Don't forget your Tongue! - A location that can trap bacteria and put you and others at risk. Use a tongue scraper, your toothbrush or the side of a spoon every night.

4. Rinse! - Alcohol-Free

and Fluoride mouthwashes are best (ie: ACT, Listerine Zero, Crest Pro-Health

Antigingivitis)

5. Nutrition! - a balanced diet is ideal. Don't forget, carbohydrates and healthy foods still contain sugars!

(Moderation is key!) Click here for more information on good nutrition.

6. Choose water! Avoid sugary drinks, energy drinks, and alcohol (Moderation is key!)

7. Manage dry mouth! - Biotene, ACT: rinses, lozenges, gum are all great products. Xylitol sweetened products to

stimulate and prevent saliva cavities.

8. Protect your teeth! During these highly stressful times, it is important to use those mouth/night guards! Don't

forget to clean them properly!

9. Don't smoke or vape! This includes all tobacco products, marijuana, and other vaping products! Click here for

resources about quitting smoking.

10. Physical Activity! (fresh air & vitamin D) - 30 min/day, 5x/week per CDC recommendations

**DENTAL EMERGENCIES:** If you are experiencing any pain or swelling, contact your Dentist! During this time, dental offices are available for dental emergencies.

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## Warren students tackle financial literacy curriculum despite COVID-19

By Alex Dominguez  
Staff Writer

**DOWNEY** - It's one thing to be prepared for education beyond high school; it's an entirely different scenario to be prepared for the simultaneous arrival of adult life.

Over its 19-year span, Senior Avid class teacher David Cha says that Warren's AVID program has brought a 97% success rate of sending its students to four-year universities.

Unfortunately, that curriculum often does not include other important life tools and skills.

"We're all about getting kids ready for success at the next level," said Cha. "Most of our students for the AVID program, they're first-gen kids; many of them are getting ready for

college and life after college."

"A lot of times, there's what's called 'hidden curriculum;' A lot of our kids don't necessarily know how to manage finances, how to get ready for life after high school."

However, Cha was soon made aware of radio host, author, and businessman Dave Ramsey, who's company - as fate would have it - offers a financial literacy curriculum geared for high school students.

Unfortunately, it came at a steep cost.

"I was just very honest with them," said Cha. "I teach at a Title 1 District; it's not like my school could afford what you guys teach."

Luckily for Cha and his students, a sponsor was found to cover costs.

"This curriculum is

amazing," said Cha. "It breaks down the very essential things they need to know... Second semester, we devoted a good three or four months to cover those seven chapters."

With the curriculum in hand, it was decided that seven chapters would be selected to cover, and that students would split into groups and peer teach through presentations.

Unfortunately, with only three chapters covered, the coronavirus pandemic broke out and schools were forced to close.

Still, this didn't stop the students from pushing on.

"With a pass / no pass, the seniors could have easily folded and said, 'I'm done'...especially when it's a big project like this. This was a huge project for them; this was pretty much the entire second semester grade, and my seniors were pretty much passing," said Cha. "But my

kids took it upon themselves, and they understood the value of what they were learning..."

Students have now simply shifted strategy, conducting their presentations over Zoom.

"By having digital access and this curriculum with them, and understanding the value of what this would mean for others, the AVID seniors took it upon themselves to not let this go," said Cha. "They took it upon themselves to finish well."

Cha said that he wished he had this time of lesson when he was a student, as it has made students think about things they otherwise may not worry about at this time.

"It prepares them for the future," said Cha. "I think a lot of this - what they're learning right now - is kind of preventative for the future. I think a lot of what this is kind of setting them up for future success."

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## Downey "takes a chance" on ABBA show

**DOWNEY** - Like many local small business owners, Infinity Residential's Billy Rosenberg bears the burden of keeping his business afloat and maintaining the livelihoods of his employees during the economic downturn amidst the COVID-19 pandemic.

The residential property management firm has seen a significant impact between tenants unable to pay rent along with a complete shutdown of short-term vacation travelers. After the first round of stimulus funds were quickly exhausted, they weren't expecting to see the relief they desperately needed.

Rosenberg's credit union,

Financial Partners Credit Union headquartered in Downey, kept trying to secure a PPP loan for Infinity. To Billy's surprise, earlier last week, FPCU shared that they had received approval for the PPP loan and to expect funding in a few days.

"To be honest, when we got the news that our loan was approved, my wife and I were screaming and jumping up and down in our kitchen, followed by tears of happiness," said Rosenberg. "It was one of the best nights I can remember in a long time. This loan will give us the resources we need to keep our employees and push through until business ramps up again

on the other side of Covid."

"These are the kinds of stories that make everything we do during these challenging times worthwhile," said Nader Moghaddam, President & CEO of Financial Partners. "We have been helping truly small business owners and independent contractors, get the relief they need to survive and ideally have one less concern on their minds."

With loans to small businesses averaging \$50,000 or lower, FPCU has helped many local companies keep more than 600 employees on staff and manage business expenses during the downturn.

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