

Regulations for 4th of July fireworks



Only legally purchased safe and sane fireworks are permitted in Norwalk. (Photo by Alex Dominguez)

- Only safe and sane, legally purchased fireworks are permitted in the City of Norwalk. Fireworks that have an aerial effect or explode are NOT safe and sane.
- Safe and sane fireworks can only be used from 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Use outside of this time period is not permitted.
- If you witness or know about illegal fireworks transactions, please report it.
- Individuals will be held accountable for the discharge, possession, storage, and sales of dangerous (illegal) fireworks on property they own, rent, lease, or are in immediate control of. This means that if illegal fireworks are found upon or used at your residence or property you have control of, you will be considered in violation and subject to fines.
- No one younger than 18 shall possess, fire, set off, discharge or use any firework unless he or she is physically supervised by a person over the age of 21. Minors under 18 in possession of fireworks and not directly supervised by someone 21 years of age or older may have fireworks confiscated by a law enforcement officer, Fire Department employee or any adult. The seized fireworks must be delivered to the Fire Department within one hour after confiscation.
- No one shall possess or discharge fireworks on City property, including City parks, streets, and sidewalks.
- Fines for first offenses will range from \$500 to \$1,500, and subsequent violations can be up to \$3,000.

Reminder

The City of Norwalk has “zero tolerance” for discharging firearms and illegal fireworks, and will seek maximum penalties for any and all violation.

Sarah Orozco is new water polo coach at Biola University

The former Cerritos College and UCLA athlete will lead the newly established women’s water polo team.

By John Sherrard
Contributor

LA MIRADA - Newly named Biola Women’s Water Polo coach Sarah Orozco had a vision 18 years ago about a connection to Biola University.

As her Pastor was speaking, a 12-year-old Sarah was dreaming about someday being at the La Mirada campus.

Fast forward all of those years later and the 30-year-old 2012 UCLA grad was standing next to the pool and conducting her first interview as head coach for the Eagles.

“I was sitting at church and the Pastor (Salvador Delgado), who was a Biola alum, was preaching and I remember thinking, ‘what if Biola had water polo’ and here I am today,” Orozco remembered.

“My passion is my faith and water polo.”

Orozco, who played at Montebello High School and was in two consecutive CIF-Southern Section finals and had a successful four-year career at UCLA. She scored 84 goals, had 23 assists and 38 steals. In the Bruins NCAA 2009 championship season, she scored a season-high three goals in two games (vs. Iona and vs. USC in the NCAA Tournament) and finished with eight goals in three NCAA Tournament matches.

From 2011-14, Orozco represented the Mexican Senior National Water Polo Team in International Tournaments and prior to that she represented the USA Youth National Water Polo Team in overseas tournaments



Sarah Orozco was named as the new Head Women Water Polo Coach at Biola University (Photo by Keith Durlfingler)

from 2005-07.

“It feels nice and exciting and going down in history as the first women’s coach,” Orozco said. “The thoughts I had as a 12-year-old was a desire in me because I had my faith and I was playing water polo and I would have really looked into Biola.”

Biola, of course, didn’t have a team and she eventually ended up at UCLA..

Orozco, who swam for Cerritos during the 2016 season and was a member of the 2009 UCLA National Championship team, will become the first coach for Biola as they are starting up men’s and women’s water polo teams for the 2021-22 season.

The teams will become the 17th and 18th sports for the growing Eagles athletic program as they begin their second year in

NCAA Division II.

The official announcement was made in September of 2019 by Senior Director of Athletics

Bethany Miller.

“There is strong student

Continued on page 8

Norwalk COVID-19 statistics: 1192 cases 28 deaths

Information collected from Los Angeles County Public Health website: <http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/media/coronavirus/locations.htm>.

Updated numbers as of 8 pm on Tuesday, June 30.

Norwalk restaurant grades

Huh Daegam Restaurant
16511 Pioneer Blvd.
Date Inspected: 6/17/20
Grade: **A**

88 Kings Chinese Food
16441 Pioneer Blvd.
Inspected: 6/17/20
Grade: **A**

Coffee Code
13250 Rosecrans Ave.
Date Inspected: 6/15/20
Grade: **A**

RT Kitchen Snacks & More
15714 Pioneer Blvd.
Date Inspected: 6/11/20
Grade: **A**

KFC
12959 Rosecrans Ave.
Date Inspected: 6/11/20
Grade: **A**

ABC Donuts
10620 Imperial Hwy.
Date Inspected: 6/11/20
Grade: **A**

Pizza Hut
12125 Imperial Hwy.
Date Inspected: 6/10/20
Grade: **A**

Jamba Juice
12305 Imperial Hwy.
Date Inspected: 6/10/20
Grade: **A**

Rainbow Donuts
12307 Imperial Hwy.
Date Inspected: 6/10/20
Grade: **A**

Subway
11782 Firestone Blvd.
Date Inspected: 6/10/20
Grade: **A**

In n Out
14330 Pioneer Blvd.
Date Inspected: 6/9/20
Grade: **A**

Subway
13019 Rosecrans
Date Inspected: 6/9/20
Grade: **A**

Candlelight Bakery
10965 Rosecrans Ave.
Date Inspected: 6/9/20
Grade: **A**

Taco Bell
13410 Rosecrans Ave.
Date Inspected: 6/9/20
Grade: **A**

Starbucks
13001 Rosecrans Ave.
Date Inspected: 6/9/20
Grade: **A**

Randy’s Donuts
10989 Rosecrans Ave.
Date Inspected: 6/9/20
Grade: **A**

Spoon Me Latin Delights
14431 Pioneer Blvd.
Date Inspected: 6/9/20
Grade: **A**

Little Caesars
13019 Rosecrans Ave.
Date Inspected: 6/9/20
Grade: **A**

Donut King
12000 Rosecrans Ave.
Date Inspected: 6/9/20
Grade: **A**

Las Aguilas Bakery
12834 1/2 Rosecrans Ave.
Date Inspected: 6/9/20
Grade: **A**

Subway
10995 Rosecrans Ave.
Date Inspected: 6/9/20
Grade: **A**

Jack in the Box
11353 Firestone Blvd.
Date Inspected: 6/8/20
Grade: **A**

Subway
11005 Firestone Blvd.
Date Inspected: 6/8/20
Grade: **A**

Weekend at a Glance

Friday 82° ☀️

Saturday 81° ☀️

Sunday 88° ☀️

ON THIS DAY JULY 3

1767:

Norway’s oldest newspaper still in print, *Adresseavisen*, was founded and the first edition was published. The newspaper still prints today.

1844:

The last pair of great auks were killed, ensuring extinction of the flightless birds most closely related to penguins.

1848:

After a rebellion, slaves were freed in the Danish West Indies (now the U.S. Virgin Islands).

1863:

The Battle of Gettysburg, the largest battle ever fought on the American continent, ends in a major victory for the Union during the US Civil War.

1871:

Notorious outlaw Jesse James robs a Corydon, Iowa, bank of \$45,000 (approximately \$945,000 when adjusted for inflation).

1938:

President Franklin D. Roosevelt lit the eternal flame at Gettysburg Battlefield.

1985:

“Back to the Future” was released in theaters.



Back to the Future

Notable Birthdays

Prolific actor **Tom Cruise** turns 58.

“Full House” actress and Whittier native **Andrea Barber** turns 44.

Actress and TV show host **Olivia Munn** turns 40.

Yardley Smith, the voice behind Lisa Simpson, turns 56.

Pop singer **Elle King** turns 31.

Notable Deaths

Don Drysdale, a Hall of Fame pitcher for the Brooklyn and Los Angeles Dodgers, died of a heart attack in 1993. He was 56.

Stage and television actor **Andy Griffith** died of a heart attack on this day in 2012. He was 86.

Jim Backus, the actor known for his portrayal of Thurston Howell III on “Gilligan’s Island,” died in 1989 aged 76. He had been battling Parkinson’s disease.

Jim Morrison, lead vocalist of The Doors, died in 1971 at age 27. The cause of death is listed as congestive heart failure.



Jim Morrison died 49 years ago today.

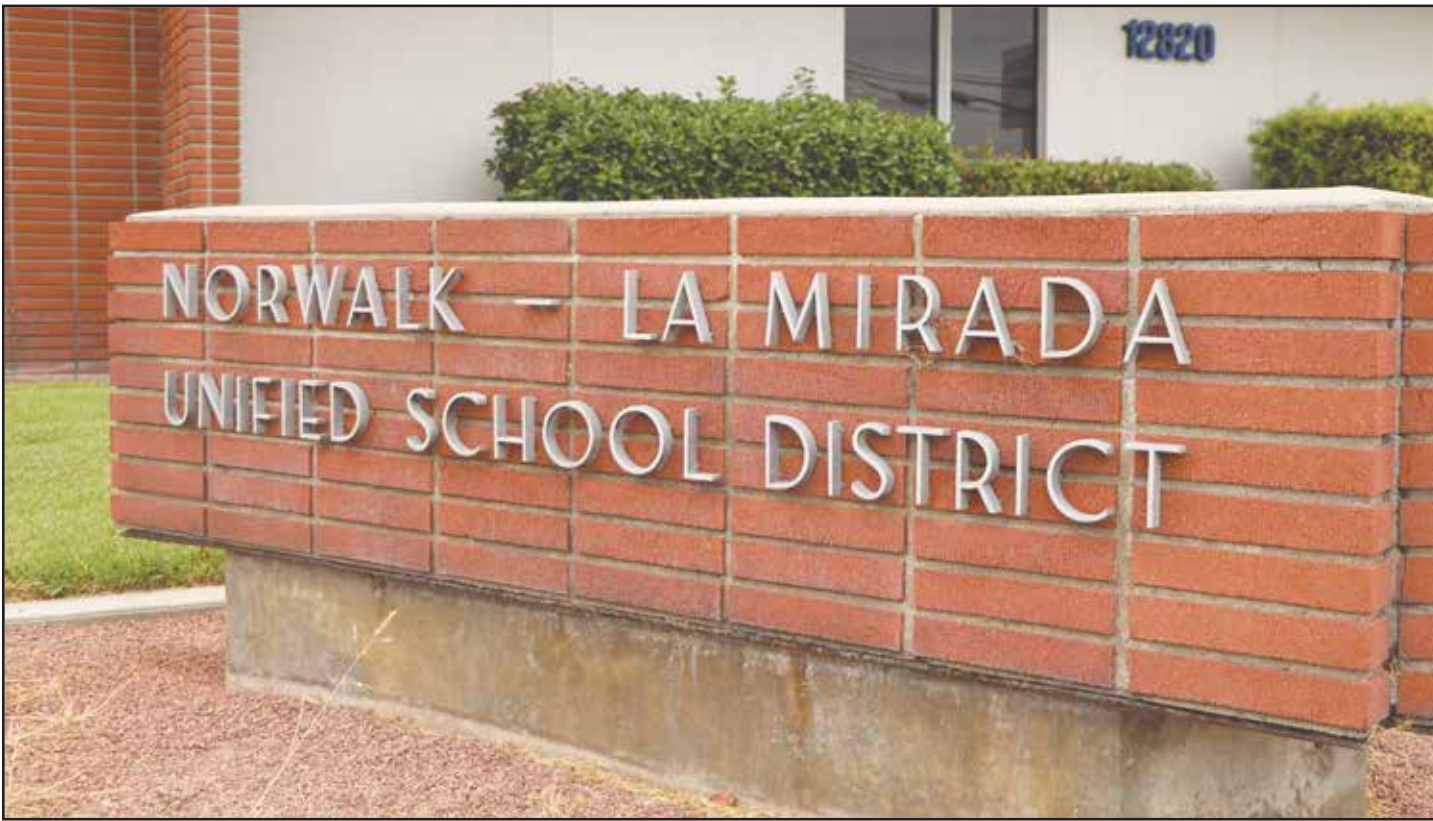
Holidays

Today is the official observance of **Independence Day**, a federal holiday since 1941.

The tradition of Independence Day celebrations goes back to the 18th century and the American Revolution. On July 2, 1776, the Continental Congress voted in favor of independence, and two days later delegates from the 13 colonies adopted the Declaration of Independence, a historic document drafted by Thomas Jefferson.

Norwalk students given priority admission to Cal State Long Beach

Cerritos College Board authorizes bond refund



Qualified NLMUSD students will now have priority admission to CSULB. (Photo by Alex Dominguez)

NORWALK - The Norwalk-La Mirada Unified School District announced Monday that it has gained local admission area status for students seeking to enter California State University, Long Beach.

The designation, starting for the 2021-22 school year, means that qualified NLMUSD graduates seeking entry to CSULB as first-time freshmen or upper-division transfers will be given priority admission as local residents.

"This great achievement is the result of concerted efforts between us and the university," said NLMUSD Supt. Dr. Hasmik Danielian, who will retire on July 1 from her position. "The partnership creates a special legacy for our school community that will allow generations of

students to not only expand their horizons, but also take advantage of unlimited opportunities that lie ahead by attending such a prestigious university. I am beyond elated!"

The change in status, which was recently approved by university and CSU system officials, is the successful culmination of a lobbying campaign that had begun with school counselors then was stepped up last year by district representatives. The process included public hearings with campus officials in February, two of which were attended by district administrators, counselors and other staff, as well as scores of students and parents who had arrived by school buses.

Historically, NLMUSD, The status change,

an 18,600-student Hispanic majority school system with four high schools, had not been included in the local admission areas of any of its three closest CSU campuses: Long Beach, Fullerton and Los Angeles. Without the designation, NLMUSD students, in effect, had only limited access to those nearby campuses, competing with students from across California and beyond.

In addition, the three campuses, because the number of applicants is greater than the number of available spaces, have been considered "impacted" for undergraduate degrees — which means students have had to meet higher, more stringent admission requirements.

In keeping with the CSU Graduation Initiative, removes an administrative barrier for NLMUSD and its annual average of 400-plus graduates who are eligible to attend a CSU or University of California school.

"We are excited to welcome the Norwalk-La Mirada Unified School District as a new partner and its qualified high school graduates to The Beach!," said CSU Long Beach President Dr. Jane Close Conoley. "We can't wait to welcome them to our campus and to the exceptional learning opportunities offered by our faculty and staff inside and outside of our classrooms."

The change will also benefit NLMUSD students who attend community college prior to applying as transfers to CSULB. Traditionally, the district's graduates who have opted for a two-year school have primarily attended Cerritos College and Long Beach City College, with a smaller number attending Compton, Cypress and Rio Hondo colleges.

"It is truly a red-letter day for the students of our distinguished district to be accepted into the CSULB local admission area," said NLMUSD Board of Education President Jude M. Cazares. "I am over the moon with happiness for the students and families, and for the opportunity this will offer them. It is truly wonderful!"

NORWALK - In 2004, voters overwhelmingly approved \$210 million dollars in general obligation bonds to modernize Cerritos College with new facilities and infrastructure upgrades. At its April 15 meeting, the Board approved Resolution 20-0415B to authorize the District to refinance portions of its Measure CC bond at a lower interest rate to generate a savings for District taxpayers.

On June 25, the Cerritos Community College District successfully issued a financing ("2020 Refunding Bonds") that refinanced \$47 million dollars of the general obligation bonds that voters approved in 2004 for Measure CC to repair and renovate aging facilities as well as construct new facilities. Measure CC funds have covered the costs for an Automotive Partners Building, Physical Science & Technology Building, Science Building, Liberal Arts/Disabled Student Programs and Services Building, Fine Arts Building, Aquatic Center, to name a few.

Through this refinancing, property owners in the district will save \$8.2 million dollars on property taxes. The original general obligation bonds were issued in 2012 with an average interest rate of 4.581% and final

maturity in 2038. The 2020 Refunding Bonds were sold with an average interest rate of 2.927% with the same final maturity of 2038. Through the issuance of general obligation refunding bonds, the District is able to lessen the tax burden to its residents.

Cerritos College's credit quality was confirmed excellent with a rating of "Aa2" from Moody's and "AA" by Standard and Poor's. Since the passage of Measure CC in 2004 (and Measure G in 2012), the District has maintained a long-standing record of excellent audit reports that show strong fiscal management and compliance with local, state, and federal laws.

"The District always strives to be a good steward over the taxpayer dollars that we use to modernize the College," said Marisa Perez, President, Cerritos College Board of Trustees. "We are grateful for the support and trust we have received from our community as we improve our campus environment for student success. With our community facing uncertainty during these unprecedented times, we are pleased that we can refinance bond dollars to save taxpayers money."

Rio Hondo College firefighters dispatched to fight wildfires

WHITTIER - Rio Hondo College's Roadrunner Hand Crew 77 has been activated by the U.S. Forest Service to assist with national wildfire needs, backfilling behind "hot shot" crews normally assigned to the Angeles National Forest.

The crew began its 14-day minimum activation cycle on June 26 and could be assigned almost anywhere needed.

The crew, created by the College's Wildland Fire Academy, is staffed by a team of graduates from recent cadet classes, including Victor Apodaca, Aaron Arraiga, Nicholas Casimiro, Nicolas Demonte, Evan Espenozza, Yulfiano Gerwynaldo, Daniel Ingelmo, Jimenez Jesse, Marcus Ortiz Matney, Ilunga Mulongo, Diego Rodriguez, Alan Perez and Jesus Barbosa.

"We are proud of the young men and women of our Wildland Fire Academy, who deliberately

place themselves on the front lines to assist with one of our state's most critical needs," Superintendent/President Dr. Arturo Reyes said. "Their dedication to community and their craft is an example for all of us."

A Type II hand crew, the team assists with all aspects of fire monitoring, suppression and control, including digging fire containment lines. In past years, the crew has been called up multiple times a year to assist with firefighting across California, but rarely has it been activated this year. The crew has battled fires in Yosemite National Park and helped fight the devastating Ferguson Fire.

Each crew member must meet or exceed U.S. Forest Service requirements for seasonal wildland firefighters. Students also must pass an arduous physical fitness regime. Rio Hondo College, which has fielded the crew since 2002, is well known for its Wildland Fire Academy, which typically places every graduate from every class.

"As with all our California institutions, Rio Hondo College's Fire Academy and Wildland Fire Academy are battling the challenges of COVID-19. But, despite these challenges, our highly trained firefighters continue to step up to support our community," said Chief Andy Grzywa, academy director. "Their actions instill pride in us all."

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Susan Rice is Biden's best option for VP

By Steve Chapman

In the history of political campaigns, no topic has a higher ratio of punditry to significance as the choice of running mates. It provides a refreshing break after the long race for the presidential nomination; it typically features many possible contenders; and it fills airtime on news and talk shows.

For all the attention it gets, the decision usually makes no difference. Paul Ryan was the dream 2012 running mate for Mitt Romney, for all the good it did him. Dick Cheney added zero political value, which didn't stop George W. Bush from winning in 2000. Jack Kemp, Dan Quayle, Geraldine Ferraro — none of them mattered at the polls.

But some vice presidents do matter in office. Mike Pence ran the coronavirus task force with slightly more competence than we have come to expect from this administration. Joe Biden spurred Barack Obama to endorse same-sex marriage. Cheney pushed relentlessly to invade Iraq.

The choice of a running mate is important, though, for what it reveals about the presidential nominee. When John McCain chose the abysmally unqualified Sarah Palin, he contradicted his slogan: Country First. When Bush picked Cheney, it showed that he valued substance more than anything else.

Biden has a harder decision, because his options are more limited. First, recognizing the political and historic importance of ending the male monopoly on our highest offices, he promised to choose a woman. Second, with the sudden national focus on racial equity, he is under

heavy pressure to make it someone of color.

His decision is critical, if only because Biden, who will turn 78 in November, would be the oldest person ever to become president. He carries an outsized risk of dying or becoming incapacitated in office.

He can't have great confidence that his No. 2 would remain in the spare-tire compartment. So Biden ought to give the highest priority to finding someone equipped to take over the presidency at any moment.

There is only one contender who meets that standard: Susan Rice, whose preparation puts her in a different league from anyone else in the running. During the Clinton administration, she worked on the National Security Council and served as assistant secretary of state for African affairs. She was Barack Obama's U.N. ambassador and national security adviser.

Her background is a crucial asset in the area where a president has the greatest power, and where deep knowledge is the best safeguard against catastrophe. Rice would not need an education in dealing with Iran, North Korea, Russia, China, Israel or our NATO allies. She's not only better equipped in foreign and defense affairs than the other vice presidential prospects; she's better equipped than any president since Richard Nixon.

I say this though I often strongly disagree with her — as when she supported the Iraq War and our intervention in Libya. But her high-level experience is some protection against unnecessary risks. Any mistakes she would make would not be mistakes of ignorance or naivete.

Rice's resume is skimpy only on domestic matters, where the

president has both less control and less risk of fatal mistakes. No one can doubt that, with her abundance of brainpower (Phi Beta Kappa at Stanford, Rhodes Scholar), she would soon master that part of the job.

For all their talents, the other contenders look minor league next to her. Sen. Kamala Harris, a former district attorney and California attorney general, has spent most of her career in the narrow world of law and law enforcement. Likewise with Rep. Val Demings, a second-term House member who was chief of the Orlando Police Department.

Stacey Abrams' highest office was as minority leader in the Georgia House of Representatives. Atlanta Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms has worked only at the local level. Rep. Karen Bass of California has 15 years as a state and federal legislator but no executive experience. Any of these women might make a good president eventually — but none is adequately prepared today.

Rice's chief handicap is political: Republicans pilloried her for giving inaccurate answers about the 2012 attack on U.S. facilities in Benghazi, Libya. But her role was minor. Getting voters to elevate that episode above the coronavirus pandemic, the battered economy and Donald Trump's racism would be next to impossible. For Republicans to pound the drum on Benghazi would be advertising their own irrelevance.

Death, Biden knows all too well, can come like a thief in the night. If it comes to him as president, a successor who is ready would be his priceless bequest to the nation.

Steve Chapman is a syndicated columnist and blogs for the Chicago Tribune.

How lawmakers can get thousands back to work

By Bette Grande

With more than 40 million Americans out of a job due to the coronavirus pandemic, states are scrambling to help the unemployed and laying plans to reopen the economy.

Many of the proposed measures could take time to bring relief. In at least two states, though, governors could get thousands of people back to work right away by removing obstacles to existing energy infrastructure projects. Considering the dire economic forecasts, it would be a shame not to let them move forward.

Back in 2018, regulators in Minnesota approved a plan to replace an aging oil pipeline. Line 3, as it is known, carries crude oil from Alberta to Wisconsin, but because of its condition, operates at only half capacity. Last year, Governor Tim Walz renewed a state appeal to stop the project.

A similar delay is playing out in Michigan, where, in 2018, the state approved agreements to create a tunnel under the Straits of Mackinac, the waterway between Lakes Michigan and Huron. The tunnel is designed to house oil and gas pipelines that now sit unprotected on the bottom of the Straits. Governor Gretchen Whitmer ordered state

agencies to halt action on the proposed tunnel last year. A Michigan court reversed her order, but she still faces pressure to block any forward movement on the project.

In both states, environmental concerns have played a role in holding up pipeline upgrades, but they're not well-founded. When we have less pipeline capacity, more crude oil is transported by train, and according to a recent study from the University of Alberta, greenhouse gas emissions from pipeline transportation are as much as 77 percent lower. Pipelines are also the safest way to move oil, according to the U.S. Department of Transportation.

Enbridge, the company slated to build both the Minnesota and Michigan pipelines, had a safe-delivery record of very close to 100 percent for the decade ending in 2017.

Crucially as we head into a major recession, infrastructure projects offer a slew of economic benefits. Minnesota's Line 3 replacement would create about 6,500 local jobs over a two-year period, pay some \$167 million to local workers and generate another \$162 million in purchases at local businesses. In Michigan, Enbridge has committed to spending \$500 million on the Straits of Mackinac tunnel, including \$40

million right away.

There are also up-and-running examples of the potential economic impact, like Louisiana's

Bayou Bridge, a pipeline extension completed last year. That project paid \$71 million to local landowners, plus nearly \$35 million to Louisiana-based companies for materials used in the pipeline's construction. It also created 2,500 construction jobs.

The Dakota Access pipeline, which was similarly stalled by protestors before it was finally completed in 2017, has been a boon for the North Dakota economy. The project produced some 12,000 jobs for North Dakotans during construction, and within its first two years of operation, the pipeline generated more than \$263 million in state tax revenue.

The coronavirus is hammering America's economy. There's no need to make things even worse by stalling perfectly safe infrastructure projects.

Steve Chapman is a syndicated columnist and blogs for the Chicago Tribune.

When in the course of human events

By Judge Andrew P. Napolitano

“Government requires make-believe. Make believe that the king is divine, make believe that he can do no wrong or make believe that the voice of the people is the voice of God. Make believe that the people have a voice or make believe that the representatives of the people are the people. Make believe that governors are the servants of the people. Make believe that all men are created equal or make believe that they are not.” — Edmund S. Morgan (1916–2013)

In the summer of 1776, revolution was in the air. Congress was meeting in Philadelphia, and it was impatient. Bloody skirmishes between colonial militias and British troops were upsetting the countryside. More British troops were on their way. Congress sensed it needed to do something. It wanted to vote for secession from Great Britain, and it needed a compelling document setting forth the reasons for doing so.

Historians have estimated from reading letters, pamphlets, sermons, essays, newspaper editorials and speeches from that era that only about one-third of the colonists favored using force to secede. But that one-third whipped the winds of change.

At hand was the decision to revolt and to make an understandable argument in its support. Congress represented the radicals who wanted the British government gone. Neither the one-third of the public that wanted it to stay nor the one-third that didn't care had a voice in Philadelphia.

In the late spring of the year of revolution, Congress appointed a committee of five to compose a document stating the reasons for leaving the mother country. One was Thomas Jefferson, and he was assigned the task by the other four of drafting the document. He wrote four drafts, the final of which the committee presented to Congress.

Congress adopted the Declaration of Independence on July 2, 1776. It was dated July 4th and not fully signed until later that summer. The vote was unanimous. The word went forth to the 13 colonies that they

were now free and independent.

The word also went forth to the king — whom the British people believed was divinely chosen to rule over them — who interpreted the Declaration as an act of treason and an invitation to war.

The Declaration's essence is that all persons have equal natural rights that no government can take away by legislation or command. Those rights can be used freely to pursue and defend life, liberty and happiness. Those rights can also be used to consent or not to consent to a government. And the only legitimate role of government is to protect the rights of those who consented.

This theory, which Jefferson crafted, was the most radical theory of government at the time. No king, no ruler, no edicts crushing personal freedom — just a popular government born in the consent of the governed and limited to protecting their rights.

The government would not come about, of course, until the bloody war was completed. In reality, the real revolution was completed by July 4, 1776 because it was a revolution of minds more than of government. The colonists were not trying to kill the king — as the French would soon do — they just wanted him gone.

Ah, but the revolution of men's minds — the idea that the government was not legitimate unless consented to and limited, that individual personal freedom, not government power, is the default position; all of this was stirred up by the radicals, articulated by Jefferson, embraced by Congress, achieved by blood and acquiesced by the king — was as much a change for our forbearers as was the violence against the British.

They were free. The revolutionary spirit of maximum individual liberty and minimum government embraced and personified America in July 1776.

Where did it go?

Today, we have government — at the local, state and federal levels —

that claims authority to right any wrong, regulate any behavior, tax any event and transfer any wealth so long as it can find public support.

What once was a government that needed the consent of the governed not only to exist but also to do anything is now one that requires of us its permission to do nearly everything. What once were liberties guaranteed are now liberties mocked.

How is it that men and women take oaths to uphold the liberties that the founders risked all to achieve and then enter office and ignore them? If I can legally refuse health care, why can't I legally take the chance of exercising my rights to travel and assemble whether that exposes me to contagion or not? Is not among the freedoms Jefferson wrote about the freedom to take chances?

Are laws written to preserve liberty or to enforce order? Is the concept of the consent of the governed real or is it make-believe? Does liberty expand in each generation or does it shrink?

Does the government really believe that our liberties are natural and it lacks legitimacy without our individual consent? Has any living person actually consented to the government we now have or is the belief that we have consented to the government merely a myth?

When Jefferson and his buddies revolted from the king, they, too, engaged in a little myth. They coined a popular phrase that they didn't really mean but caught fire with the colonists: “Taxation without representation is tyranny.”

They didn't mean it, because they didn't really want to send representatives to Parliament. They wanted their own small government, and they wanted it here. But the colonists were sick of taxes imposed by London aristocrats.

Are all men created equal or are they not? Does the government have our consent or does it not? Are our liberties natural to our existence or are they not?

The Yankee and the Cavalier still speak on our bittersweet Fourth

By Jamie Stiehm

Pen pals in the sunsets of their lives, they wrote between Massachusetts and Virginia until they both died on the same Fourth of July. It's an extraordinary rhyme in American history, which has extra meaning for our hard times.

“I loved Jefferson, and I have always loved Jefferson,” one wrote about

the other, after a long silence separated the political enemies. Then they were old friends again.

I mean John Adams and Thomas Jefferson, on opposite sides of America's burning divide, which just exploded in street strife over race.

In a sense, the two sowed the seeds of the Civil War — over slavery — which they never lived to see. In casting, it's perfect: the Yankee versus the classic cavalier.

So, let's look at Adams and Jefferson anew — not take down their statues. They have things to teach us.

The lawyers remain leading lights — not only in Philadelphia in 1776 but also in our shared story. Without them, we're not nearly the same. Adams all but assigned writing the Declaration of Independence to the 33-year-old Virginian.

Adams was a fierce editor — “a colossus.” He was, by far, the better speaker; Jefferson was a great writer, yet a shy public speaker. As always, they contrast, from the greatest states, North and South. Jefferson was tall, Adams short.

“A letter from you calls up recollections very dear to my mind,” Jefferson wrote to Adams after a friend, Dr. Benjamin Rush, broke the barrier between them.

“It carried me back to the times when, beset with difficulties and dangers, we were fellow laborers in the same cause ... self-government,” Jefferson wrote, recalling the good old Revolutionary days.

Historian David McCullough lays out the lively correspondence between the aged founders in a fine biography, “John Adams.” The letters were written to posterity, he said.

Little is said about the bitter days when they deadlocked in the 1800 election. Jefferson ousted President Adams, making the Federalist a one-term president.

That was not Jefferson's finest hour, laying bare the cunning ambition that throbbled under the charming Southern gentleman who played the violin.

“Then he wished to be President ... and I stood in his way” Adams once said. “And so he did everything that he could to pull me down.”

Adams, staunchly opposed to slavery, championed central government

over the states.

But Adams was on the losing side. “Jeffersonian democracy,” based on landed wealth, slavery and states' governance, reigned for the next 24 years.

Jefferson was succeeded by Virginia slaveholders James Madison and James Monroe, each under his influence.

The tragedy of the nation when it was young: this “Virginian dynasty,” which gave a green light to slavery's expansion. Virginia was the largest slaveholding state, and Jefferson was a wealthy master of human bondage.

His slave mistress, Sally Hemings, had the same white father as his dead wife, Martha — not uncommon in Virginia circles in his era.

“Whether you or I were right, posterity must judge,” Adams wrote about their many differences. Jefferson neglected the navy he built, which seems like nothing now.

Slavery is of greatest moment in the race between the second and third presidents. Two centuries on, posterity is you and me.

We see Adams today on the right shore of history. Don't forget Jefferson's way won the day as long as they lived. Jefferson's tragic flaw — a mirror of the new nation's — got a pass from our very first day and page.

Boston and Philadelphia, cities critical of slavery, organized resistance in the 1830s and 1840s. But not before Jefferson set the stage for slavery to expand.

The two towers of American ideals and aspirations died on the nation's 50th birthday, July 4, 1826. Adams was 90, Jefferson 83.

“Jefferson survives,” were among Adams' last words. Jefferson died hours earlier, calling in “servants” — slaves.

Adams' will left \$100,000. Jefferson died \$100,000 in debt. In a shameful nightmare, 130 enslaved people were auctioned at his mansion, Monticello.

Jefferson's own contradiction of “life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness” haunted him at times and should never be forgotten at his shrines. The true story is now told at Monticello.

Adams on his final Fourth: “It is a great day. It is a good day.”

The Norwalk Patriot STAFF

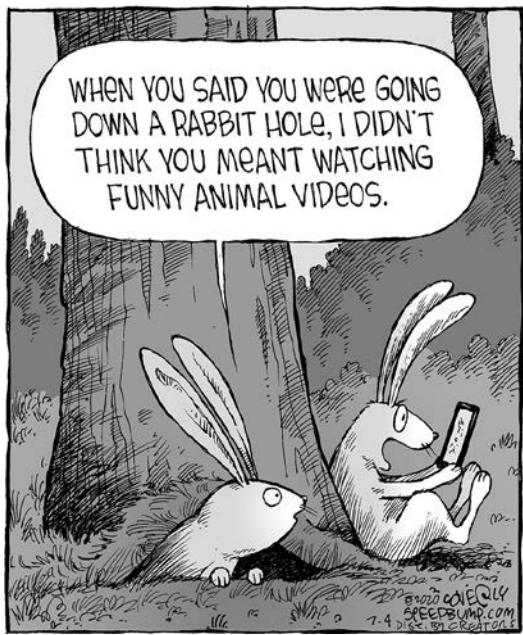
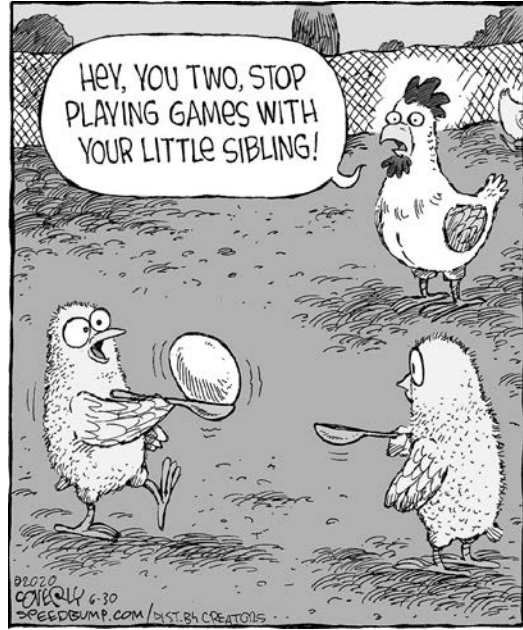
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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

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THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com)
HOW TO SAY IT: Adverbially speaking
by S.N.

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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.

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L.A. County's proposed budget draws criticism

Los Angeles County Supervisor Janice Hahn voiced strong criticism Monday of the LA County CEO's budget proposal which includes cuts to county departments that provide community services but fails to make new investments in a "Care-First, Jail-Last" framework for reforming our criminal justice system.

problems through Board motions, but not at a scale commensurate with the power and resources of the largest County in the United States. And in a lot of ways, the pandemic has forced us to address homelessness with an urgency that I've been calling for some time now. We've also seen more people being released from jail and diverted to services than ever before.

changes -- many of which this board agrees with and has been working towards. Now is the time to put our money where our mouth is. And yet -- I don't see a restorative justice budget in front of us today. In fact, this budget cuts funding for the Public Defender and the Alternate Public Defender -- two agencies that defend the homeless, juveniles, the mentally ill and the indigent-- which will likely result in layoffs that will seriously impact their ability to do their important work.

"The budget we are considering today does not meet this moment," said Hahn in a statement. "It does not meet the needs of struggling families and it misses the opportunity to invest in a care-first, jail-last restorative justice system. It is a status quo budget in unprecedented times."

Why slow this momentum? We take pride as a County for being the "ultimate safety net" for our residents. But at a time where we are needed more than ever, we are voting on a budget that holds back our ability to be that helping hand.

According to the Alternatives to Incarceration framework (that Supervisor Sheila Kuehl initiated and that we all voted for) -- we should be investing more in these positions not cutting them. Plenty of our speakers during public comment brought up the idea of creating an Alternatives to Incarceration Fund. I think that is a good idea and that is something we should absolutely do.

Hahn abstained from a vote taken on the budget proposal and urged county CEO Sachi Hamai to make "substantial changes" to the budget before the supplemental budget comes back to the board this fall.

But as of right now -- \$900 Million of that \$1Billion is still sitting in our county coffers.

This budget's 8% cut in NCC across the board was not strategic. What we need is a surgical scalpel -- that cuts from some but invests in others.

Thank you, Sachi, for your work on this budget.

We need to spend more of this money now on people who need it. That is not in this budget.

I know we call this the "final budget" but, as you like to say, Sachi, -- we actually have three bites at the apple. This is the second bite. Next we will have the supplemental budget. I hope I can vote yes then.

I really consider you a great guardian of Los Angeles County and you always manage to protect our resources and our ability to provide for our residents for decades to come.

I know that we have to be mindful of our bottom line and preserve our financial stability. But the rainy day is here.

It is easy to help people when times are good. It is hard, but it is our responsibility to help people when times are bad.

In a lot of ways, it is a commonsense approach you are taking here: make cuts to stay within our means and wait and see if we get additional help from the state and the federal government to restore these cuts.

On top of this -- I say every year that a budget is a statement of our values. I don't think this budget reflects our values.

Over the last several years we have talked A LOT about our aspirations for reforming our criminal justice system and building a restorative justice system.

I respect that. This budget prioritizes the bottom line: it keeps our government whole.

Over the last several years we have talked A LOT about our aspirations for reforming our criminal justice system and building a restorative justice system.

I have thought long and hard about this budget and I have decided to abstain from this vote. In abstaining, I am asking you, Sachi, to approach this budget differently than you ever have before.

But this is a status quo budget in unprecedented times.

I don't think this budget meets the moment.

We have set up the Office of Diversion and Reentry.

This may very well be the worst combination of crises our residents have ever faced.

We voted against replacing Men's Central Jail with another jail.

We passed a historic framework for Alternatives to Incarceration.

We are seeing more people losing their housing, their jobs, their businesses and their health, at a scale I haven't seen before -- and they need our help.

And now -- people are literally taking to the streets demanding

Granted, we've done some modest things to address these

PIH makes nation's top 100 hospitals

WHITTIER - PIH Health Whittier Hospital has been included on the Fortune/IBM Watson Health 100 Top Hospitals list, an award that honors PIH Health Whittier Hospital as one of the top performing hospitals in the U.S.

staff and employees who uphold standards for high-quality patient care every day and demonstrate unwavering dedication to all they serve. Their efforts are the reason that we receive recognitions such as this.

"Hospitals, health systems, and the dedicated clinicians and staff who work at these organizations have emerged as true heroes of the COVID-19 pandemic, and we are grateful to be able to recognize these extraordinary leaders at this time," said Kyu Rhee, vice president and chief health officer, IBM Watson Health.

"PIH Health is proud to provide excellent care for all our patients, having taken significant steps to ensure we are providing safe and outstanding care during the COVID-19 pandemic," said Jim West, PIH Health President and Chief Executive Officer.

"This award is a testament to our core values and exemplifies our continuous commitment to our patients and communities. We especially recognize our medical

to receive her Associate of Arts degree in 2020-21 and transfer to a four-year university. Among her top choices are UCLA and UC Santa Barbara.

Los Altos grad chosen as Rio Hondo student trustee

WHITTIER - Rio Hondo College student Marcela Rodas, who is studying English and psychology, has been chosen as the 2020-21 student trustee by Rio Hondo College.

Rodas has attended Rio Hondo College since fall 2017. In 2019-20, she served as senator at-large for the Associated Students of Rio Hondo College (ASRHC). Her work included assisting with ASRHC events. She is also a member of the College's Extended Opportunity Program & Services, which provides support to students who face economic barriers to their success.

"We are extraordinarily fortunate to have a person of Marcela's caliber joining our Board of Trustees," Superintendent Dr. Arturo Reyes said. "She will bring a voice representing so many of our students who have overcome significant barriers in their pursuit of their education, and ensure we continue to provide them with the support and services they need to succeed."

"My goal is to bring a student voice on the important issues that are facing Rio Hondo College, including equity, the pandemic and our budget-related challenges," Rodas said. "We're all in this together."

Rodas said she was inspired to seek the position by Diana Laureano, who was student trustee in 2018-19. Rodas expects

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Name: Address: Phone:

The Declaration of Independence

The following text is a transcription of the stone engraving of the parchment Declaration of Independence (the document on display in the Rotunda at the National Archives Museum.) The spelling and punctuation reflects the original.

In Congress, July 4, 1776

The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America

When in the Course of human events it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. — That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, — That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shewn that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object evinces a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future security. — Such has been the patient sufferance of these Colonies; and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their former Systems of Government. The history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States. To prove this, let Facts be submitted to a candid world.

He has refused his Assent to Laws, the most wholesome and necessary for the public good.

He has forbidden his Governors to pass Laws of immediate and pressing importance, unless suspended in their operation till his Assent should be obtained; and when so suspended, he has utterly neglected to attend to them.

He has refused to pass other Laws for the accommodation of large districts of people, unless those people would relinquish the right of Representation in the Legislature, a right inestimable to them and formidable to tyrants only.

He has called together legislative bodies at places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the depository of their Public Records, for the sole purpose of fatiguing them into compliance with his measures.

He has dissolved Representative Houses repeatedly, for opposing with manly firmness his invasions on the rights of the people.

He has refused for a long time, after such dissolutions, to cause others to be elected, whereby the Legislative Powers, incapable of Annihilation, have returned to the People at large for their exercise; the State remaining in the mean time exposed to all the dangers of invasion from without, and convulsions within.

He has endeavoured to prevent the population of these States; for that purpose obstructing the Laws for Naturalization of Foreigners; refusing to pass others to encourage their migrations hither, and raising the conditions of new Appropriations of Lands.

He has obstructed the Administration of Justice by refusing his Assent to Laws for establishing Judiciary Powers.

He has made Judges dependent on his Will alone for the tenure of their offices, and the amount and payment of their salaries.

He has erected a multitude of New Offices, and sent hither swarms of Officers to harass our people and eat out their substance.

He has kept among us, in times of peace, Standing Armies without the Consent of our legislatures.

He has affected to render the Military independent of and superior to the Civil Power.

He has combined with others to subject us to a jurisdiction foreign to our constitution, and unacknowledged by our laws; giving his Assent to their Acts of pretended Legislation:

For quartering large bodies of armed troops among us:

For protecting them, by a mock Trial from punishment for any Murders which they should commit on the Inhabitants of these States:

For cutting off our Trade with all parts of the world:

For imposing Taxes on us without our Consent:

For depriving us in many cases, of the benefit of Trial by Jury:

For transporting us beyond Seas to be tried for pretended offences:

For abolishing the free System of English Laws in a neighbouring Province, establishing therein an Arbitrary government, and enlarging its Boundaries so as to render it at once an example and fit instrument for introducing the same absolute rule into these Colonies

For taking away our Charters, abolishing our most valuable Laws and altering fundamentally the Forms of our Governments:

For suspending our own Legislatures, and declaring themselves invested with power to legislate for us in all cases whatsoever.

He has abdicated Government here, by declaring us out of his Protection and waging War against us.

He has plundered our seas, ravaged our coasts, burnt our towns, and destroyed the lives of our people.

He is at this time transporting large Armies of foreign Mercenaries to compleat the works of death, desolation, and tyranny, already begun with circumstances of Cruelty & Perfidy scarcely paralleled in the most barbarous ages, and totally unworthy the Head of a civilized nation.

He has constrained our fellow Citizens taken Captive on the high Seas to bear Arms against their Country, to become the executioners of their friends and Brethren, or to fall themselves by their Hands.

He has excited domestic insurrections amongst us, and has endeavoured to bring on the inhabitants of our frontiers, the merciless Indian Savages whose known rule of warfare, is an undistinguished destruction of all ages, sexes and conditions.

In every stage of these Oppressions We have Petitioned for Redress in the most humble terms: Our repeated Petitions have been answered only by repeated injury. A Prince, whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a Tyrant, is unfit to be the ruler of a free people.

Nor have We been wanting in attentions to our British brethren. We have warned them from time to time of attempts by their legislature to extend an unwarrantable jurisdiction over us. We have reminded them of the circumstances of our emigration and settlement here. We have appealed to their native justice and magnanimity, and we have conjured them by the ties of our common kindred to disavow these usurpations, which would inevitably interrupt our connections and correspondence. They too have been deaf to the voice of justice and of consanguinity. We must, therefore, acquiesce in the necessity, which denounces our Separation, and hold them, as we hold the rest of mankind, Enemies in War, in Peace Friends.

We, therefore, the Representatives of the united States of America, in General Congress, Assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the Name, and by Authority of the good People of these Colonies, solemnly publish and declare, That these united Colonies are, and of Right ought to be Free and Independent States, that they are Absolved from all Allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain, is and ought to be totally dissolved; and that as Free and Independent States, they have full Power to levy War, conclude Peace, contract Alliances, establish Commerce, and to do all other Acts and Things which Independent States may of right do. — And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes, and our sacred Honor.

New Hampshire:

Josiah Bartlett, William Whipple, Matthew Thornton

Massachusetts:

John Hancock, Samuel Adams, John Adams, Robert Treat Paine, Elbridge Gerry

Rhode Island:

Stephen Hopkins, William Ellery

Connecticut:

Roger Sherman, Samuel Huntington, William Williams, Oliver Wolcott

New York:

William Floyd, Philip Livingston, Francis Lewis, Lewis Morris

New Jersey:

Richard Stockton, John Witherspoon, Francis Hopkinson, John Hart, Abraham Clark

Pennsylvania:

Robert Morris, Benjamin Rush, Benjamin Franklin, John Morton, George Clymer, James Smith, George Taylor, James Wilson, George Ross

Delaware:

Caesar Rodney, George Read, Thomas McKean

Maryland:

Samuel Chase, William Paca, Thomas Stone, Charles Carroll of Carrollton

Virginia:

George Wythe, Richard Henry Lee, Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Harrison, Thomas Nelson, Jr., Francis Lightfoot Lee, Carter Braxton

North Carolina:

William Hooper, Joseph Hewes, John Penn

South Carolina:

Edward Rutledge, Thomas Heyward, Jr., Thomas Lynch, Jr., Arthur Middleton

Georgia:

Button Gwinnett, Lyman Hall, George Walton

Chinese national sentenced for birth, immigration scam

SANTA ANA - A Chinese national was sentenced in absentia Tuesday to 37 months in federal prison for participating in a large-scale birth tourism scheme that engaged in visa fraud that allowed foreign nationals to come to the United States and give birth so their children would receive U.S. birthright citizenship.

Chao "Edwin" Chen, 35, was sentenced by United States District Judge James V. Selna. Chen pleaded guilty in June 2016 to visa fraud, marriage fraud and filing a false tax return. Soon after pleading guilty, Chen fled to China and remains a fugitive.

Along with Dongyuan Li, 42, of Irvine, and Li's husband, Qiang Yan, 44, Chen was charged in the nation's first cases alleging organized birth tourism operations.

Chen operated an Orange County-based business named You Win USA, which they marketed to pregnant foreign nationals - mostly from China - who wanted to come to the United States to obtain U.S. citizenship for their children. As part of the scheme, Chen, Li and Yan coached the foreign nationals to misrepresent the true intentions of their visits to the United States at ports of entry.

You Win USA advertised that its "100-person team" in China and the U.S. had served more than 500 Chinese birth tourism customers. Chen and Li used 20 apartments in Irvine, charged each customer \$40,000 to \$80,000, and received \$3 million in international wire transfers from China in just two years.

You Win USA promoted the benefits of giving birth in the United States rather than in China, which included "13 years of free education from grade school to high school," "Less pollution" than China, "An easier way for the whole family to immigrate to the United States," and "Priority for jobs in U.S. government, public companies,

and large corporations." When he pleaded guilty, Chen admitted that he had served at least 60 customers, including People's Republic of China government employees. For example, one of You Win USA's customers, Xiao Yan Liu, was indicted in November 2018 for two counts of visa fraud and one count of lying to federal law enforcement.

According to her visa application, she was the "Chief Physician" at the Henan Shangqiu Power Supply Company Staff Hospital.

Chen admitted in his plea agreement that in June 2014, he met with an undercover agent (UCA) posing as a birth tourism customer, which resulted in a co-conspirator uploading a visa application in China that contained false information about the UCA's length of travel, location of stay, and personal information.

After that fake visa application was uploaded, Chen put the UCA in touch with his "trainer" in China to teach the pregnant customer how to trick U.S. customs and enter the United States without her pregnancy being detected.

Chen admitted that in addition to the birth tourism scheme, he also engaged in marriage fraud for himself.

According to his plea agreement, Chen entered into a sham marriage to a U.S. citizen and paid the woman \$25,000 so he could obtain a green card. In February 2014, Chen also filed a false 2013 federal income tax return in order to prove the legitimacy of his sham marriage, which falsely claimed his gross receipts were \$227,453.

Li was sentenced in December 2019 to 10 months in federal prison for her role in the scheme.

Yan, who is a fugitive believed to be in China, was indicted in December 2018 on three counts of visa fraud for

filing an application for an "O" visa premised upon being an "alien of extraordinary ability," which falsely claimed that he had co-authored two books. According to Yan's indictment, when federal agents search his and Li's home in 2015, he claimed to have more than \$10 million in his Chinese bank accounts.

At least 10 other defendants charged in these birth tourism indictments have fled to China, including Jun Xiao and Longjing Yi, who were indicted in February 2018 on charges of conspiracy, visa fraud, obstruction of justice, and criminal contempt.

According to court documents in their case, Xiao and Yi paid only \$4,600 of the \$32,291 in hospital charges related to the birth of their baby in Orange County. The indictments also detail communications from Xiao after he had fled to China, where he continued to denigrate a federal court order requiring him to stay in the United States: "U.S. can't do anything to me."

In January 2020, the U.S. Department of State cited these birth tourism cases when changing the official rules for issuing visas for travel to the United States for the purpose of giving birth.

Census extends deadline

The U.S. Census Bureau has adjusted its timeline for the 2020 Census due to the COVID-19 crisis.

The census count began in late March and more than half of the households across the country have so far responded.

The deadline for online, phone and mailed self-responses to the Census has been extended to Saturday, October 31. It is anticipated that Census staff will follow-up with non-responsive households Tuesday, August 11 through Saturday, October 31.

Appropriate safety precautions, including use of personal protective equipment (PPE) and social distancing practices, will be followed to ensure the safety of residents and Census staff. During these door-to-door visits, Census representatives will be equipped with devices that can digitally accept Census responses.

The U.S. Constitution mandates that the federal government conduct a population count of all individuals residing in the United States every 10 years.

Data obtained by the U.S. Census Bureau is used to determine the distribution of Congressional seats to states; make planning decisions related to the allocation of resources for community services and infrastructure; distribute more than \$675 billion annually in federal funds to local, state and tribal governments and serve as the nation's primary demographic resource.

For more information about the U.S. Census 2020, visit 2020census.gov.

Inactive water wells to be destroyed

LAKEWOOD - The Water Replenishment District (WRD) has received a \$844,240 grant from the California State Water Resources Control Board to remove inactive water wells from production.

This grant was made possible by California's Proposition 1 which authorized \$7.545 billion in funds for water supply infrastructure projects and was approved by voters in 2014.

The goal of the well destruction program is to eliminate the potential threat of contaminants entering an inactive well and moving into and impacting the water quality in aquifers. These wells are primarily located in industrial areas.

By properly destroying inactive water supply wells that have the potential to spread contamination to deeper aquifers in the Central Basin and West Coast Basin, WRD will help ensure

the protection of those aquifers, which is one of the district's key missions.

"For over 60 years, The Water Replenishment District has been responsible for managing two of the most utilized groundwater basins in the country," said Director Vera Robles DeWitt, President of the WRD Board of Directors. "This grant will allow us to continue the vital work

necessary to ensure safe and clean groundwater resources."

Groundwater provides 50% of the water used in Southern Los Angeles County and WRD is the only dedicated groundwater replenishment district in California. The district's projects and programs ensure over 4 million residents have access to groundwater resources.

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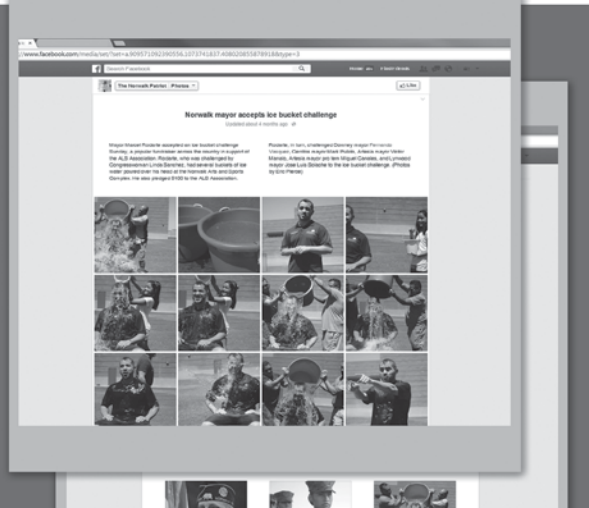
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Coaches named for new Biola water polo teams

Continued from page 1

interest that has been shared from within our student body as well as great local high school and community college competition in the region," said Miller, on the Biola website. "With our upcoming facility renovations, this is an exciting time to expand our student-athlete population and invest in two new teams."

Along with Orozco, Rick Nordell of Visalia was named the men's coach.

"It's very exciting," said Nordell of the challenge to start up a college program. "I'm looking forward to it. It's exciting and it's scary. All in one."

"We (Nordell and Orozco) will definitely be able to team up. It's exciting."

Orozco started swimming at the age of five and began playing the sport at 12 and competed in the well-known Commerce Club team, along with her sister Priscella. Both are in the Commerce Hall of Champions.

Priscella, a year older than Sarah, graduated in 2011 and became the assistant coach at Cal Baptist. She then played one year in Spain and soon after was on the list for the USA National team and was one of the final five players to be cut.

Sarah, who played three years in Brazil, Barcelona and professionally in Australia, was in the mix to make the National team but didn't make it as high as Priscella.

Priscilla was an attacker and Sarah was a hole set.

Sarah has been an assistant coach for the last four years at Azusa Pacific University under coach Julie Hale Snodgrass, until the recent Covid-19 that ended the season in March.

"She is a large reason why I'm actually here at Biola," Sarah Orozco said. "I told Julie I wouldn't leave APU unless there was another Christian school that had something available."

"She wanted me to move on and saw the potential in me. I just wanted to make sure I was living on purpose and helping others come along."

Julie mentored me into this coaching and coming back to water polo and faith caught my attention."

Sarah originally didn't want to go into coaching, but Snodgrass, although, had urged her to pursue a career.

"Because of the pandemic, it gave me a chance at this opportunity to coach," Sarah Orozco said.

"I'm excited for what's going to happen (at Biola)," Sarah Orozco said. "I have those connections (locally) and I'm known in the network."

"I hope we can do some great things and break records here like we did at APU. It'll take awhile for us to get really competitive but I'm confident with the skills that I'm bringing and the experience I've had and the connections and people that I know will help this program."

Orozco continued on the schools' support for her.

"The school is super backing me on my mission statement for the team and for their mission statement, which is developing women academically, spiritually and physically. Spiritually is most important, but all three aligned and I think that is my forte being that I've grown up Christian and had that thought of Biola."

And who knew after that thought as a 12-year-old what could have been if Biola would have had a team years ago.

Rep. Sánchez votes to rebuild America's infrastructure

Rep. Linda T. Sánchez (CA-38), member of the House Ways and Means Committee, voted to pass the Moving Forward Act. This legislation invests more than \$1.5 trillion in modern, sustainable infrastructure while creating millions of good-paying jobs, combating the climate crisis, and addressing disparities in communities across California and throughout the country.

"For too long in Southern California we have had to foot

the bill on investments in our infrastructure," said Rep. Sánchez. "True to its name, this legislation would not only invest in repairing our rundown roads but also equip our region with the infrastructure it needs for the 21st Century. Importantly, it would create thousands of good-paying jobs, helping families and our local economy."

"I'm proud that the final bill included my provision to incentivize the installation of

mechanical insulation using skilled-labor. Making sure our schools, offices, and other buildings are energy efficient is critical to our future. It represents ones of the many commonsense wins for the American people in this legislation."

Whittier woman who acted as secretary to Mexican Mafia gets prison time

WHITTIER- A Whittier woman who was convicted earlier this year on several charges related to her role as a "secretary" to an imprisoned Mexican Mafia member who controlled a street gang was sentenced Monday to 151 months in federal prison.

Sylvia Olivas, 73, was sentenced by United States District Judge Dale S. Fischer for playing an active role in the affairs of the Canta Ranas street gang.

Following a 2½-week trial in February, a federal jury found Olivas guilty of participating in three separate conspiracies - one to violate the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organization (RICO) Act, a second involving the trafficking of methamphetamine and heroin, and a third centered on money laundering.

For at least a decade, Olivas served as the secretary to her brother, David Gavaldon, a long-time member of the Canta Ranas street gang who was not charged in this case as he is serving a life-without-parole sentence in Pelican Bay State Prison. From prison, Gavaldon exerted

control over Canta Ranas and other gangs, and he received compensation in the form of "rent" or "taxes" generated by drug trafficking and other offenses committed in gang territory.

Olivas regularly visited Gavaldon to discuss gang business and obtain orders that she brought back to the gang.

Olivas "was a Mexican Mafia secretary in a large-scale racketeering enterprise - a powerful and highly respected role within this criminal organization," prosecutors wrote in a sentencing memorandum. "Despite her false and misleading statements in trial to cover up her involvement in the CRO [Canta Ranas Organization], the evidence overwhelmingly showed that defendant knew exactly what happened in the CRO and participated in it by passing messages from Mexican Mafia leader David Gavaldon to two generations of shot callers, delivering edicts on extortionate taxes, secretly meeting with CRO members to collect taxes and launder them through her accounts to distribute them to David Gavaldon and his chosen recipients, and using code

and other measures to cover her criminal activity from law enforcement."

When she imposed the sentence this morning, Judge Fischer disputed Olivas' contention that she should receive leniency because she had no prior criminal convictions. "She has been in trouble every day of her life helping the CRO, she was just never caught," the judge said.

Olivas was among 51 defendants charged in a 2016 federal grand jury indictment targeting Canta Ranas members and associates. Nearly all of those defendants have been convicted, including Jose Loza, the "shot caller" of the Santa Fe Springs and Whittier-based Canta Ranas gang, who was sentenced in March to life plus an additional 30 years in federal prison.

The RICO indictment targeting the Canta Ranas gang was the result of Operation Frog Legs, which was an investigation by the Southern California Drug Task Force, which is led by the Drug Enforcement Administration as part of the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) initiative. The Task Force members that participated in Operation Frog Legs were Homeland Security Investigations, the Whittier Police Department, the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, IRS Criminal Investigation, and the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, Office of Correctional Safety, Special Service Unit. The investigation was conducted with the support of the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force (OCDEF).

The case against Olivas was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys Chelsea Norell, MiRi Song and Jehan Pernas of the International Narcotics, Money Laundering, and Racketeering Section.

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