

The Norwalk Patriot

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14783 Carmenita Road, Norwalk, CA 90650

City Hall to get A/V upgrade

NORWALK - The Norwalk City Council approved the upgrade of the city's Council Chamber audio and video equipment, which is more than 20 years old.

Council meetings are currently streamed live on Fios Channel 32 and Charter Channel 3, as well as on the city's website. However, aging equipment has caused poor audio and video quality.

On Tuesday, Council awarded a contract to the EIDIM audio/video firm to upgrade its current equipment at an estimated cost of \$128,568.98.

EIDIM has previously completed similar projects in the City of Menifee, Conejo Valley Unified School District, and Victor Valley.

The total funding - at the amount of \$135,000 - is part of the FY 20/21 budget.

The upgrade is scheduled to begin this month and will require 90 days to complete, with work scheduled to provide minimal impact to meeting schedules.

Alex Dominguez, staff writer

Norwalk buys new bus chargers

NORWALK - The City Council on Tuesday approved the purchase of four charging units for use with its new four zero emission electric busses.

The purchase comes after Council greenlit the purchase of four battery-powered electric buses (BEBs) back in March, made possible by two Federal Transit Administration (FTA) funds in the amount of \$2,193,446 that were awarded to the Norwalk Transit System (NTS).

Additionally, the NTS also received FTA Urban Area Formula Program funding in the amount of \$1,406,290 to support the cost of zero emission BEBs and charging infrastructure.

The BEB's require chargers to re-charge the on-board batteries overnight to power the buses for operation the following day. The cost for the four (4) in-ground inductive charging stations - including three-year warranty - is \$259,779.

The total cost according to staff will be around \$4,057,455, funded through FTA funds and various local match funds with no impact on the General Fund.

Alex Dominguez, staff writer

Covid numbers

NORWALK - Norwalk reached 2,448 confirmed cases of COVID-19 this week, L.A. County health officials said.

The virus has killed 47 Norwalk residents, mostly senior citizens.

Norwalk High students raise over \$21,500 for charity

Almost 500 Norwalk High School students participated in the annual "Giving Charity to Charities" program.

By John Sherrard
Contributor

NORWALK - The year 2020 has led to numerous disappointments due to the Covid-19 pandemic, with Spring high school sports being cancelled, even proms and graduations gone by the wayside.

With numerous end of the year high school ceremonies also cancelled, one won't go forgotten.

The annual "Giving Charity to Charities" ceremony at Norwalk High was held in the gym with almost 500 students on March 5.

Running the ceremony was the student government consisting of: ASB President, Angie Fuentes; ASB Vice President, Eva Ceballos; Senior Class President, Manuel Cisneros; and Senior Class Vice President, Daniela Carvajal.

"To show how much they're raising, it's unbelievable," said new Norwalk La Mirada Unified School District Superintendent John Lopez. "They are giving back to the community."

"I'm so proud of them. We get to hear the stories and sometimes it hits home."

Norwalk football coach and Giving Charity for Charities founder Dean Gray wanted to see that those students, who collected money for 26 charities, got their recognition after all.

"We really want to thank the students of the classes of 2020 and 2021," Norwalk football coach Dean Gray said. "This gives us an opportunity to say thank you. We weren't able to let the students read the thank you letters from all 26 charities."

"Since we closed the schools a week after the assembly, we did not have a chance to share the charities' appreciation and thank our students for all their hard work and dedication to making a difference in people's lives."

The Giving Charity to Charities Program works through the Norwalk High School Social Studies Department and started



Social studies teachers show the letters they have received from the charities they helped this past year. Norwalk High School's social studies classes program, Giving Charity to Charities, raised \$21,500 for 26 different charities. (Photo by Keith Durlinger)

with the Norwalk class of 2013.

"Since then, our seniors and juniors have raised approximately \$120,000 for over 100 charities," Gray added. "This year our seniors and juniors raised the most money for the most charities ever. They raised over \$21,500 for 26 different charities."

\$821.21 went to 25 of the charities, while the CDC received \$1,000

The program started with two teachers and 200 students eight years ago and it's grown extensively, culminating with 10 teachers and over 500 students this year.

The program has gained attention and even had a personal thank you from a charity in Africa.

"Drop in the Bucket", providing clean water for villages in Africa, had a sign by children in the village saying "Thank You Norwalk", Norwalk-La Mirada Unified School District Director of Human Resources Director, Mike Garcia said. "That's incredible. The amount of good that has come out of this is special." Garcia, formerly the Norwalk High Principal, recently was named to the position in the

district.

Personal stories always rise out of most of the charities. Included was that of Angela Castillon. Angela chose "Jonathan Jacques Children's Cancer Institute."

Castillon, who is in AP US History teacher Eric Walter's period two class, chose her charity for her brother, Matthew Castillon. Matthew, who was at the ceremony, was diagnosed with cancer at age two and has been treated extensively at the Jacques Center.

Another came about after a student didn't get his charity chosen to represent the class, said coach Gray. After the class Gray remembers the young man saying, ".....now that's my charity." He sold four boxes of granola bars instead of the one box sold by each student.

"I just remember how it affected me and that tells you how kids are here," Gray said.

Each student sells one box of granola bars, purchased at the Norwalk Costco, which is how the funds are raised.

At the ceremony each class will go down on the floor while the representative is presenting

the check to the charity.

It all culminates with a giant pizza party just for the classes and representatives after the ceremony.

What they said:

Mike Garcia, Norwalk-La Mirada Unified School District - Director Human Resources; Former Norwalk High School Principal

"The actual assembly is run by the students. They are running the show. Dean (Gray) does all of the leg work. For all of these different causes, there's a story for each one. The stories that are there are very emotional."

The kids get so into it by selling these granola bars. They own it!"

Eric Walter, Norwalk High School AP US History teacher

"Each student in the 21 senior government classes will research the charity and they pick one to represent the class. Every year it's bigger and bigger and more

Continued on page 2

My memory of John Lewis

John Alba, a tax consultant in Norwalk, met the late civil rights icon in Washington, D.C.

By John A. Alba
Contributor

NORWALK - I wish to share a personal experience I had with the late Congressman John Lewis.

I was honored by H&R Block to fly to Washington to advocate for taxpayers. Our mission was to have legislation introduced in Congress to require minimum training, background checks and the ability to stop those unscrupulous and predatory tax preparers.

I am a 35-year tax practitioner, enrolled agent and master tax advisor. I own an H&R Block franchise in Norwalk and our family has been in business for 56 years.

I along with five other franchise owners from across the nation went to meet with senators and members of Congress. I was especially pleased when I was informed our team would be meeting with Congressman Lewis.

We arrived at his office in the Capitol and his chief of staff greeted us. She apologized and informed us the Congressman was on the floor voting and would be late or may not be able to attend the meeting. I was disappointed but we continued our advocacy meeting.

We all were in deep discussions when the door opened to the office and I walked Congressman Lewis. A gasp and chatter of "that's him" in disbelief came from us all. A mix of Republicans and Democrats. History was walking in the door!

We all stood and he humbly told us all to relax and have a seat. He thanked us for coming and then asked us to continue. He listened and agreed a minimum licensing standard and background check should exist for tax practitioners. He graciously allowed us all to tell him our clients horror stories regarding the abuse of unlicensed and unethical tax preparers.

Once we concluded our meeting, he invited us to take a picture with him in his office. We were excited to do so. The walls of his office were lined with photographs of Martin Luther King, John F. Kennedy, Robert Kennedy and many other iconic



(Courtesy photo)

and historic persons.

He then made the grand gesture of inviting to take a picture on his balcony. He opened the French doors and the view was breathtaking. The Capitol dome and beautiful trees appeared that did not seem to be real. It was the perfect setting. Our company photographer took pictures of the group and individually with Congressman Lewis. I still have goosebumps writing this and this happened two years ago.

When we were finished, I

heard our photographer, who was African American, say the following to the Congressman: "Congressman Lewis, sir, I wish to thank you for your courage and strength. I would not have had the opportunities in my life if it was not for you and Dr. King."

That drew a tear to my eye and I took a picture of our photographer. The attached photos give you a sense of that magical visit. Rest In Peace. He is free at last. God bless him and his family.

Weekend at a Glance

Friday 80°

Saturday 82°

Sunday 81°

ON THIS DAY AUGUST 7

1912:
The Progressive Party nominated Theodore Roosevelt for president.

1942:
U.S. forces landed at Guadalcanal, marking the start of the first major allied offensive in the Pacific during World War II.

1971:
Apollo 15 returned to Earth after a manned mission to the moon.

1974:
French stuntman Philippe Petit walked a tightrope strung between the twin towers of New York's World Trade Center.

2000:
Democratic presidential candidate Al Gore chose Connecticut Sen. Joseph Lieberman as his running mate, making him the first Jewish candidate on a major party ticket.

2002:
Major league baseball players and owners agreed on the sport's first tests for steroids.

2007:
Barry Bonds became baseball's career home run leader when he hit No. 756 during a home game in San Francisco, passing Hank Aaron's mark.

2010:
Elena Kagan was sworn in as the 112th justice and fourth woman to serve on the U.S. Supreme Court.

Notable Birthdays

Former FBI Director **Robert Mueller** turns 76.

Wayne Knight, best known for his portrayal of Newman on "Seinfeld," turns 65.

"X-Files" actor **David Duchovny** turns 60.

Actress **Janice Wheeler**, who played Janice on "Friends," turns 59.

Jimmy Wales, co-founder of Wikipedia, turns 54.

Mexican-American singer **Pepe Aguilar** turns 52.

Actress **Charlize Theron** turns 45.

Hockey player **Sidney Crosby** turns 33.

Mike Trout, the best baseball player in the world, turns 29.

Notable Deaths

Oliver Hardy, the comic actor and one half of Laurel and Hardy, died on this date in 1957. He died of cerebral thrombosis after suffering several strokes. He was 65.

ABC News anchor **Peter Jennings** died of lung cancer in 2005. He was 67.

Mickey Leland, an anti-poverty activist who would later become a Congressman in Texas and chair of the Congressional Black Caucus, died in a plane crash while on a mission trip in Ethiopia in 1989. He was 44.



Oliver Hardy died on this day 63 years ago.

Holidays

Today we celebrate a holiday that truly unites the world: **International Beer Day**, a global celebration of beer that takes place in pubs, breweries, and backyards all over the world.

Over \$120,000 raised in eight years for 100 charities

Continued from page 1

and more kids. The kids did it all. It's taken on a life of its own. It started with just seniors, but this year we had some junior AP US History classes doing it.

It's very emotional at the assembly and some of the parents are there. A representative of the charity is there and a check is presented to them. It's such a cool thing and meaningful."

David Olea, Norwalk High School Principal

"As the newly appointed principal of Norwalk High School, I am extremely proud of "Giving Charity to Charities." In my short time at NHS, I have learned that the school culture is the heart of our campus. It is amazing that our students have raised over \$120,000 since 2013 and have donated to 100 charities. This process is unique and totally student driven. Eleventh and twelfth grade students research a charity and present it to their class. The classes then vote on the charity and begin the process of raising money through selling granola bars. The classes of 2020 and 2021 broke the school record and raised \$21,500 dollars, distributing the funds to 26 charities this past 2019-20 school year. While navigating through the early stages of this pandemic, \$1,000.00 was raised in the month of February to support the CDC COVID-19 foundation's efforts for a cure.

The work of the students and staff at NHS truly exemplifies civic engagement and the process of developing students into global citizens that will make this world a better place. I am thrilled to see what our students accomplish this year and in the years to come."

Angie Fuentes, 2020 Norwalk ASB President

"The amount of students that chose to sell a box was amazing. It's definitely something beautiful.

It truly is our community coming together. Coach Gray organizes it and we get the whole event going. I was lucky to be a representative for a charity. My charity was Acres of Love. My charity was to help kids who don't have a home. They help raise money to help provide a home-like atmosphere. It really caught my attention. Most of us have a home and a lot of us take it for granted. It made my heart feel so sad."

Below is a list of the 21 charities:

- Achilles International
- ACLU
- Acres of Love
- A Sense of Home
- Autism Society of Los Angeles
- Best Friends Animal Society
- Big Brothers Big Sisters
- Camp Erin
- CDC Foundation
- City of Hope
- Didi Hirsch Suicide Prevention
- Epilepsy Foundation
- For the Child
- Gary Sinise Foundation
- JDRF Los Angeles
- Jonathan Jaques Children's Cancer Center
- Last Chance for Animals
- Long Beach Rescue Mission
- My Stuff Bags Foundation
- National Kidney Foundation
- One Legacy
- Operation mend - UCLA
- Peace Over Violence
- Ronald McDonald House
- St. Jude
- UNICEF

First human case of West Nile virus reported in San Fernando Valley

LOS ANGELES - The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (Public Health) has identified the first two cases of human West Nile virus (WNV) infection in Los Angeles County for the 2020 season (excluding Long Beach and Pasadena as cases identified in those cities are reported by their local health departments).

An older adult with no underlying illness was hospitalized with neuroinvasive disease in early July and is recovering. The second case was detected in late July in a healthy blood donor. The positive blood units were discarded. Both are residents of the San Fernando Valley region.

"West Nile virus continues to be a serious health threat to residents in Los Angeles County. We encourage residents to cover, clean or get rid of items that can hold water and breed mosquitoes both inside and outside your home. This is important now more than ever as we spend a majority of our time at home," said Muntu Davis, MD, MPH, Los Angeles County Health Officer.

"We are now in peak mosquito season in Los Angeles County and residents should also protect themselves from mosquito-borne illnesses by using EPA-registered mosquito repellent products."

Mosquito season in Los Angeles County starts in June and ends in November. A mosquito

sample taken in Downey tested positive for WNV.

Humans get WNV through the bite of an infected mosquito. Most mosquitoes do not carry the virus; therefore, most people bitten by a mosquito are not exposed to WNV. Those who do get WNV may experience mild symptoms including fever, muscle aches, and tiredness.

In some cases, especially in persons over 50 years of age and those with chronic medical conditions such as cancer and diabetes, severe WNV infection can occur and affect the brain and spinal cord causing meningitis, encephalitis, and paralysis. There is no specific treatment for WNV disease and no vaccine to prevent infection.

The number of people infected with WNV each year in LA County is estimated to be more than 10,000, because most infected persons do not experience any illness or perhaps only mild illness. These cases are neither reported nor even recognized as WNV. Moreover, Public Health has reported elevated numbers of WNV cases in LA County over the previous 5 years, at an average of 159 cases per year. More than three-quarters of reported cases have had severe disease and approximately 7% of patients with severe WNV have died from complications.

"It's important to remember that West Nile virus is transmitted

by infected mosquitoes," says Truc Dever, General Manager of the Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District. "That's why residents need to take measures to prevent mosquito bites, especially now that most people are staying home and spending time in their yards. Remember to tip and toss anything that can hold water on your property and use insect repellent when mosquitoes are present. Reducing the risk of mosquito-borne disease infection is a shared responsibility for everyone in L.A. County."

Stagnant swimming pools or "green pools" should be reported to the Public Health Environmental Health Bureau at (626) 430-5200, or to a local vector control agency. Dead birds may be reported by calling (877) 968-2473 or online: http://www.westnile.ca.gov/report_wnv.php.

Recovery from WNV can take months or years. One study showed that 12 months after infection, about half of those with this disease continued to have cognitive and physical impairment such as memory loss, difficulty walking and fatigue.

Decrease your risk of exposure:

PROTECT YOURSELF: Mosquito repellents can keep mosquitoes from biting you. EPA-registered repellents containing DEET, picaridin, IR3535, 2-undecanone, and oil of

lemon eucalyptus are the longest lasting and most effective. They are available as sprays, wipes, and lotions. Find the repellent that's right for you here. Consider wearing long-sleeved clothes and pants when outside.

MOSQUITO PROOF YOUR HOME: Make sure that your doors and windows have tight-fitting screens to keep out mosquitoes. Repair or replace screens with tears or holes.

REDUCE MOSQUITOES: Mosquitoes lay their eggs in standing water.

Check for items that hold water inside and outside your home once a week

Cover water storage containers such as buckets and rain barrels. If no lid is available, use wire mesh with holes smaller than an adult mosquito

Clear standing water in flowerpots, saucers, birdbaths and other containers

Clean and maintain swimming pools, spas and drain water from pool covers

Throw away old items in your patio or yard that can hold water, e.g., old car tires and children's toys

Call 2-1-1 or visit socialmosquito.org to report persistent problems to your mosquito control district.

Two men sentenced for loan modification scams

SANTA ANA - Two Orange County residents were sentenced Wednesday afternoon - with one being ordered to serve 12 years in federal prison - for their key roles in businesses that offered bogus modification programs to homeowners struggling to pay their mortgages in the wake of the 2008 financial crisis.

The two defendants who were associated with the Santa Ana-based company U.S. Homeowners Relief and several related businesses participated in a long-running "advance fee" scheme that caused more than 1,600 homeowners to suffer over \$3.5 million in losses.

Many victims lost their homes in subsequent foreclosure

proceedings.

Aminullah "David" Sarpas, 37, of Irvine, was sentenced to 144 months in federal prison after being convicted by a jury in April 2019 of 10 counts of conspiracy and mail fraud.

Samuel Paul Bain, 40, of Tustin, was sentenced to five years in prison after pleading guilty in 2016 to conspiracy and mail fraud.

The two men - who were co-owners of U.S. Homeowners Relief, Greenleaf Modify, Waypoint Law Group, and American Lending Review - were sentenced by United States District Judge Cormac J. Carney.

Sarpas and Bain established U.S. Homeowners Relief in late 2008, using it and the subsequent companies to offer programs that falsely offered to help distressed homeowners obtain modifications of their mortgages.

Sarpas and Bain initially marketed the programs themselves, but they also used TV, radio and internet advertisements, as well as a team of telemarketers to entice victims.

Homeowners who agreed to participate - based on false claims, including that the companies had a 97 percent success rate in obtaining loan modifications that dramatically reduced monthly mortgage payments - were charged an

advance fee ranging between \$1,450 and \$4,200. In short, the scheme "compounded these homeowners' financial woes by inducing them to dig the hole they were in even deeper," prosecutors wrote in court documents.

There were two other defendants named in a 2014 indictment. One man was acquitted at trial after a jury in his first trial was unable to reach a unanimous verdict. The fourth defendant - Louis Saggiani, 70, of Huntington Beach, pleaded guilty and is scheduled to be sentenced in October.

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27 Easy Fix Up Tips to Give You the Competitive Edge When Selling Your Norwalk Home

Norwalk Home Seller - Because your home may well be your largest asset, selling it is probably one of the most important decisions you will make in your life. And once you have made that decision, you'll want to sell your home for the highest price in the shortest time possible without compromising your sanity. Before you place your home on the market, here's a way to help you to be as prepared as possible.

To assist homesellers, a new industry report has just been released called "27 Valuable Tips That You Should Know to Get Your Home Sold Fast and for Top Dollar." It tackles the important issues you need to know to make your home competitive in today's tough, aggressive marketplace.

Through these 27 tips you will discover how to protect and capitalize on your most important investment, reduce stress,

be in control of your situation, and make the best profit possible. In this report you'll discover how to avoid financial disappointment or worse, a financial disaster when selling your home. Using a common-sense approach, you will get the straight facts about what can make or break the sale of your home.

You owe it to yourself to learn how these important tips will give you the competitive edge to get your home sold fast and for the most amount of money.

Order your free report today. To hear a brief recorded message about how to order your FREE copy of this report call toll-free 833-496-0008 and enter 2423. You can call any time, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

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Just say no to state and local government bailouts

By Veronique de Rugy

State and local governments want more funds from the federal government to patch their budgets. Lack of revenue due to the recession and self-inflicted damage from the COVID-19 shutdowns of their economies, as well as larger-than-ever expenditures on top their regular overextended budgets, mean that many of them are hurting for cash. And while they're asking for \$500 billion in bailout cash, Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi wants to give them \$1 trillion. I, on the other hand, think it's about time state and local governments start fending for themselves.

As I've explained before, there are many reasons to oppose state and local government bailouts. For starters, these jurisdictions have already received large amounts of federal funds to pay for their coronavirus-related expenditures. As part of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act and other relief measures, they've received \$280 billion for various coronavirus-related expenses and another \$150 billion for more flexible needs. The Federal Reserve has also set up a \$500 billion program to facilitate short-term borrowing by state and local governments.

That's on top of the annual handout that the federal government gives to state and local governments. In fiscal year 2020, they received an estimated \$790.7 billion in the form of 181 grants to pay for various expenses. In other words, 30% of their budgets comes from the federal government annually, which is an amount that has increased 27% since 2015.

Then there's the issue of poor planning on the part of many states. My Mercatus Center colleague Tad DeHaven and I have written about this issue. We highlight the moral hazard that comes from systematically bailing out institutions, whether they are state and local governments or private companies. When bailed out, decision-makers have much-reduced incentives to plan better for the next time around. There's also the fact that, contrary to the common refrain from journalists and states themselves, these governments have increased spending quite considerably since the last recession and failed to plan appropriately for the next time they're inevitably in trouble.

But there's another argument against bailing out state and local governments that has surfaced recently. A report from the National League of Cities in May revealed that the states weren't very good at getting the money to local governments. Also, a new dataset collected by the Department of the Treasury Office of Inspector General that looks at how much the state and local governments have spent of their coronavirus relief bill funds as of June 30 shows that they have spent much less than you might think.

Some states have spent virtually none of the money allocated by Uncle Sam.

South Carolina, for example, has yet to use its \$2 billion in relief. Michigan, which is asking for a bailout, spent only 3% of the more than \$3 billion it received. New Jersey is also asking for a bailout, yet it has distributed a measly 2.1% of its federal funds so far.

The states demanding bailouts may likely argue that what they really need is more flexibility in order to be able to use federal funds to address their revenue shortfalls. As matters stand right now, states must use the bailout money on coronavirus-related expenditures. So, when those actual expenditures are lower than the allocated funds, they can't spend them.

The flexibility argument doesn't hold water, in my opinion. It's one thing for state and local governments to ask the federal government for help to cover expenditures they couldn't foresee, such as those related to the pandemic. But they shouldn't be asking federal taxpayers to pay for their routine expenditures, especially when these governments have failed to plan appropriately for revenue shortfalls that inevitably occur, as they're bound to encounter emergencies. Governments should prepare for them. They should cut spending and, if that's not enough, they should turn to their own citizens for the funds needed to cover noncoronavirus expenditures. Those funds could be obtained through higher taxes or spending cuts elsewhere. Their routine spending should come from their taxes.

State and local governments are always eager to have the federal government solve their financial problems for them. But they will continue to have financial difficulties as long as Uncle Sam continues to cave. The first step toward having healthier and more responsible state and local governments would be no bailout.

Veronique de Rugy is a senior research fellow at George Mason University.

Patriotism during chaos

By Jim Hightower

I'm flying a flag these days. The Stars and Stripes, Old Glory, America's flag, OUR flag! I've strapped it to my 2011 made-in-the-USA Ford Fiesta, and I'm zipping around town as proudly as anyone else in the red, white and blue Bubbland of South Austin, like some modern-day Patrick Henry on wheels. As with so many others, I'm flying our flag out of an assertive, perhaps defiant pride. For I am proud, damned proud, to be an American citizen. And in this time of true woe and deep national divide, I'll be damned to hell before I meekly sit by and allow this symbol of our nation's founding ideals... liberty and justice for all... to be captured and defiled by reactionary autocrats, theocrats, xenophobic haters, warmongers, America Firsters, corporatists, militarists, fearmongers, political weasels and other rank opportunists.

Our flag is no piece of sheeting for authoritarians to hide behind as they rend our hard-won liberties in the name of President Donald Trump. Nor is our flag some bloody rag to be waved by politicians hoping to whip us into such an outrage that they can turn our people's republic into a garrisoned state, armed to the teeth and mired in fear and hatred.

We Americans are not that blind. Our flag is the banner of freedom seekers, risk takers, democracy builders, rebels, pioneers, mavericks, barn raisers and hell raisers, a liberty-loving people who are naturally suspicious of authority and able to detect that the real threat to our land of the free comes not from afar but from within. Our flag is made of strong democratic cloth, artfully designed and

painstakingly stitched together over 245 years, liberty by individual liberty, people's movement by people's movement. Our flag embodies a democratic continuum that connects us today to the pamphleteers and Sons of Liberty; the Declaration of Independence and the Bill of Rights; the abolitionists and the suffragists; Sojourner Truth and Frederick Douglass; the populists and Wobblies; Mother Jones and Joe Hill; Martin Luther King Jr. and Cesar Chavez.

Protest is the essence of American democracy, of America itself, and it is especially essential when a muddleheaded guy like Donald Trump sits in the president's chair. Under his watch, militarized police are taking the lives of more than 1,000 people every year (Black Americans are disproportionately killed at the hands of police officers); COVID-19 is ravaging our country while our leaders in Washington refuse to lead; our economy is crashing as corporate CEOs pay themselves and their shareholders millions of dollars looted from our public coffers; and secret police are snatching people off the streets. Then there is the climate crisis, our crumbling infrastructure, our underfunded education system (a la Education Secretary Betsy DeVos), unprecedented homelessness, 27 million Americans with no health care coverage, one of the highest unemployment rates ever recorded and the list goes on. If we don't protest now, when will it matter?

What should we ask our government to do?

We citizens must be forceful in holding Washington accountable. First, instead of aiding corporate looters, Washington should launch a major reinvestment in grassroots America. To stimulate the

economy, put these corporate "relief" funds directly into the hands of working families all across America.

Second, strengthen our national security by making major, long overdue public investments in our infrastructure, schools, hospitals, roads, bridges, parks, etc. Add to this a new nationwide project to reconnect our population corridors with high-speed passenger trains. Help overworked police officers by fully funding housing for the homeless; substance abuse treatment counselors and facilities; mental health care professionals and crisis centers; social workers; etc. This would allow police to focus only on actual crime and not people in crisis.

Third, to deal with the recession, instead of cutting income taxes, cut payroll taxes; raise the minimum wage; extend Medicare to cover all uninsured men, women and children; reinstate pandemic unemployment benefits; and provide monthly stimulus checks. All of this spreads money, like fertilizer, to the grassroots economy, rather than piling it up inside global banks.

The better part of patriotism is for us to raise hard questions, put out inconvenient information and assert our values. In the words of the late Rep. John Lewis: "Ordinary people with extraordinary vision can redeem the soul of America by getting in what I call good trouble, necessary trouble."

The feds are spying on journalists

By Judge Andrew Napolitano

Last week, this column argued that the only constitutional role for armed federal forces in Portland, Oregon, was to assist U.S. marshals in protecting federal property and personnel there — in this case, the federal courthouse and those who come to it. The column also argued that under the U.S. Constitution, the feds have no lawful role in policing streets unless requested to do so by the governor or legislature of any state.

In Portland's case, the governor of Oregon and the mayor of Portland both asked acting Secretary of Homeland Security Chad Wolf to bring his forces home. He agreed to do so when Oregon's governor offered to beef up security at the federal courthouse.

Yet, the federal forces were doing more than just protecting federal property. They were agitating the peaceful demonstrators in Portland's streets by firing an internationally banned variant of tear gas repeatedly and indiscriminately into crowds for hours at a time every night. The feds were also spying on journalists who were in the crowds of protestors reporting on what they observed.

Here is the backstory.

The Supreme Court has held, for many generations, that the Fourth Amendment to the Constitution protects the "right to be let alone." Today, we call this privacy.

Those who wrote the Constitution were acutely aware of the proclivities of government to monitor the communications and behavior of folks it hates and fears. King George III sent British troops and government agents into the homes of colonists under various pretexts, the most notorious of which was to examine letters, papers and pamphlets to ascertain if the king's tax on them had been paid.

This Stamp Act tax cost more to enforce than it generated in revenue. Was the king dumb or dumb like a fox? Probably the latter; the true purpose of the tax was not to raise money but to remind the colonists that the king could cross the thresholds of their homes — a right he did not have in Great Britain — through the use of his soldiers and agents. And, while inside the home, his agents could discover who was agitating for secession.

With memories of these royal abuses fresh in their minds, the members of the first Congress — led by James Madison — approved and passed the Fourth Amendment. The states ratified it as part of the Bill of Rights. Madison also drafted the Ninth Amendment, which reflects the existence in all people of natural human rights — knowable by the exercise of reason and insulated from government intrusion. Among those rights is privacy.

May the government lawfully invade the right to privacy? Under the Fourth Amendment, it may do so only pursuant to search warrants issued by a judge, and the judge may only issue a search warrant after taking testimony under oath demonstrating that it is more likely than not that the place to be searched will yield evidence of criminal behavior. Plus, the warrant must specify the place to be searched or the person or thing to be seized.

The language and requirements in the Fourth Amendment are the most specific in the Constitution. Madison insisted upon this so it would be both an obstacle to the new American government doing to its citizens what the king and his agents had done to the colonists, and an inducement to the government to focus law enforcement on probable causes of crime rather than spying on political enemies.

Now, back to the feds in Portland.

We know from their admissions that the feds compiled dossiers on numerous journalists covering their activities in Portland. We also know that some data in those dossiers came from public sources and some did not. The governmental acquisition of data from nonpublic,

nongovernment sources without search warrants constitutes spying.

The government spies routinely on Americans today — so much so that the revelation of it ceases to shock.

Why would the feds do this?

For starters, it is far easier to spy unlawfully than it is to obtain a search warrant. As well, the feds have established a vast network of domestic spies — the 60,000-person strong National Security Agency. It captures all electronic data, voice and text, communicated within the United States — without warrants and with few complaints.

All this directly assaults the right to privacy, but the feds do it anyway. The spying is so normal that a deputy DHS secretary ordered it in Portland without seeking approval up his chain of command.

The government also spies to intimidate — and this brings us back to Portland. When the government discovers personal information that it has no right to acquire without a warrant — information devoid of criminal evidence, information that the Fourth Amendment bars the government from obtaining without a warrant — and then tells you it has this information, it chills your freedom.

Chilling can make you pause before exposing or criticizing the government. The Supreme Court has characterized this as a violation of both the Fourth Amendment and the freedom of speech protected by the First Amendment.

To Wolf's credit, he either fired or transferred (it is unclear which) the deputy secretary who ordered DHS agents to spy on journalists in Portland. Yet, when ordered, they readily complied with the order. That's how commonplace federal spying has become — and how easy.

The folks who did this should all lose their jobs. Why? Because it is unlawful to obey an unlawful order.

Or have our constitutional rights been so emasculated that the government doesn't know the difference?

The Norwalk Patriot STAFF

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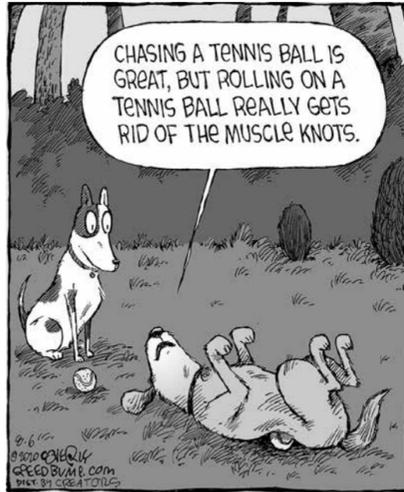
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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MONDAYS

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

TUESDAYS

8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. - Farmers Market - Excelsior High School

12:00 p.m. - Rotary - Doubletree Hotel

1st & 3rd 6:00 p.m. - Toastmasters Meetings - Registrar Recorder/County Clerks Office

1st & 3rd, 6:00 p.m. - City Council - Council Chambers

3rd, 5:45 p.m. - Housing Authority - Council Chambers

WEDNESDAYS

1st, 12:30 p.m. - Soroptimist International - Soroptimist Village

1st & 3rd, 7:00 p.m. - Lions Club - Bruce's Restaurant

2nd, 10:30 a.m. - Norwalk Woman's Club - Masonic Lodge

2nd & 4th, 1:30 p.m. - Alondra Senior Citizens - Social Services Center

2nd & 4th, 7:30 p.m. - Planning Commission - Council Chambers

4th, 11:30 a.m. - Coordinating Council - Arts & Sports Complex

THURSDAYS

7:00 p.m. - Boy Scouts Troop 924 - Norwalk United Methodist Church

2nd, 7:30 p.m. - Golden Trowel - Norwalk Masonic Lodge

3rd, 8:00 p.m. - American Legion Post No. 359 - 11986 Front St.

SATURDAYS

2nd, 8:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. - Pancake Breakfast - First Christian Church of Norwalk

Have an event you want listed? E-mail news@thedowneypatriot.com

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The Norwalk Patriot

THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD
Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com)
DIRECTION FINDER: Four in a row, times nine
by Alex Rosen

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- 7 Top Chef host Lakshmi
- 12 Big formal party
- 16 Paper Mate competitor
- 19 Did some home work
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- 60 Thick-skinned herbivore
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- 73 Hotel for hounds

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- 2 L.A. district, for short
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- 118 Bassoon's concert neighbor
- 119 Consecutive letters in the eight longest answers, eight different ways
- 122 Curator's deg., often
- 123 Squaler

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Hammerstein's Oklahoma; cast album, that of Rodgers and Hammerstein's Oklahoma; released America's first original cast album, that of Rodgers and Hammerstein's Oklahoma; after his use on The Simpsons. In uncertain, the word became popular etymology of MEH (52 Across) is on a book. Although the ultimate after it was published that way but adopted the reversed name Dolphin; he was born O'Dell Scott, the Newbery Medal for his 1961 Scott O'Dell (28 Across) received

LEGALS

GOVERNMENT

CITY OF NORWALK URGENCY ORDINANCE NO. 20-1719U

AN URGENCY ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF NORWALK, CALIFORNIA ESTABLISHING PROCEDURES FOR LOCAL CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION BETWEEN THE CITY OF NORWALK AND STATE, COUNTY AND OTHER PUBLIC AGENCIES DESIRING TO ESTABLISH, IMPLEMENT, OR OPERATE TEMPORARY OR PERMANENT HOUSING FOR PERSONS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS OR PERSONS WHO TEST POSITIVE FOR COVID-19 OR THOSE WHO HAVE HAD HIGH-RISK EXPOSURE TO COVID-19 AT HOTELS, MOTELS, OR OTHER PUBLIC AND PRIVATE FACILITIES

WHEREAS, international, national, state, and local health and governmental authorities are responding to a pandemic outbreak of a respiratory disease caused by a novel coronavirus now known as COVID-19; and **WHEREAS**, on March 4, 2020, California Governor Gavin Newsom proclaimed a "state of emergency" throughout the State in response to COVID-19, and in furtherance of this proclamation has issued several Executive Orders that include extraordinary measures directed at slowing the spread of COVID-19 and reducing impacts to residents and businesses; and **WHEREAS**, since the initial declaration of a "state of emergency" Governor Newsom has issued additional Executive Orders in an effort to address the circumstances surrounding the impacts created by COVID-19; and **WHEREAS**, given these conditions, on March 17, 2020, the City Council of the City of Norwalk proclaimed the existence of a local emergency to allow prompt response to emergency conditions at the local level, and provide the City access to federal, state, and local resources during the crisis; and **WHEREAS**, the City Council has reconsidered the conditions giving rise to the "local emergency" proclamation made by the City Council on March 17, 2020, and has determined that the conditions giving rise to the local emergency continue to exist; and **WHEREAS**, on April 21, 2020, the City Council adopted Urgency Ordinance No. 20-1716U, enacting a temporary moratorium upon hotels, motels, short term rentals, or other residential properties for hire from converting or utilizing their businesses or properties for homeless housing purposes or uses without prior City approval; enacting a temporary moratorium on the use of hotels and motels for converting or utilizing their businesses or properties for COVID-19 housing or related uses without prior City approval, and restating and reaffirming the importance of local control over land use and related activities during the state of emergency; and **WHEREAS**, the Court in the matter titled *County of Los Angeles v. City of Norwalk*, et al. Case No. 20STCP01480, concluded that the County of Los Angeles cannot compel the City to comply with Governor Newsom's Executive Orders by unilaterally implementing Project Roomkey within the City without first consulting the City as required under the Governor's Executive Order No. 25-20 and Project Roomkey guidelines; and **WHEREAS**, the Court further concluded Governor Newsom's Executive Orders do not expressly authorize Project Roomkey facilities to house asymptomatic persons experiencing homelessness who are at risk of serious health consequences if they were to contract COVID-19; and **WHEREAS**, the Court further concluded the County, through the Board of Supervisors, may issue its own order providing authority for it to establish temporary housing to protect high-risk individuals, defined as persons experiencing homelessness who are over 65 years of age or who have underlying health conditions; and **WHEREAS**, on July 23, 2020, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors Chair, Kathryn Barger, issued an executive order under the authority of California Government Code section 8550 et seq. and County Code section 2.68.150, following the proclamation of the existence of a local health emergency regarding COVID-19, which provides "the County of Los Angeles, in order to achieve the goals of Project Roomkey, shall have the authority to establish temporary housing at hotels and motels in local communities to protect high risk individuals, defined as persons experiencing homelessness who are over 65 years of age or who have underlying health conditions, and who require emergency non-congregate shelter as a social-distancing measure;" and **WHEREAS**, the City Council desires to establish reasonable procedures for the meaningful consultation and coordination between public agencies and the City prior to the establishment of temporary and permanent housing at hotels and motels and other public and private facilities within the City in connection with Project Roomkey, Project Homekey, and other similar programs and high risk individuals experiencing homelessness or persons who test positive for COVID-19 or those who have had high-risk exposure to COVID-19, to preserve and protect public peace, health, and safety of the residents of the City of Norwalk consistent with the mandates of applicable executive orders and guidelines promulgated by the Governor and the Court's ruling in *County of Los Angeles v. City of Norwalk*; and **WHEREAS**, all legal prerequisites to the adoption of this Ordinance have occurred, and the City Council has duly considered all evidence presented in connection with its consideration of this Ordinance which justify adoption of this Ordinance as an emergency

measure to be effective immediately upon adoption by a majority vote of the City Council.

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

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

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

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

Section 4. Based on the above findings and staff's presentation, the City Council hereby adopts Ordinance No. 20-1719U establishing reasonable procedures for local coordination and consultation between the City of Norwalk and the State of California, County of Los Angeles, or other public agency intending to establish, implement, or operate temporary or permanent housing for persons experiencing homelessness or persons who testing positive for COVID-19 or those who have had high-risk exposure to COVID-19 at hotels, motels or other public or private facilities located in the City of Norwalk as follows:

(A) **Intent and Purpose.** The purpose of this Ordinance is to establish reasonable procedures for the coordination and consultation between the City of Norwalk and the County or State in connection with the establishment of temporary or permanent housing under Project Roomkey, Project Homekey, or such other authorized programs that consistent with the Governor's Executive Orders and the Court's ruling in *County of Los Angeles v. City of Norwalk*, et al. Case No. 20STCP01480. This Ordinance does not grant or authorize the City of Norwalk to approve, deny, or prohibit any Project Roomkey or Project Homekey facility in the City, but is intended to establish parameters and guidelines for the coordination and consultation between any state Public Agencies.

(B) **Definitions.** For purposes of this Ordinance, the following words and phrases shall have the meanings set forth below: *"Coordinator"* shall mean the meaningful and timely process of discussing and considering the views of all parties, and where feasible, seeking agreement, which is conducted in a manner that is mutually respectful of each party.

"County" shall mean the County of Los Angeles of county agency.

"City agency" shall mean any county office, officer, department, division, bureau, board, and commission.

"Facility" shall mean any hotel, motel, or other public or private place, structure, or building used for housing persons experiencing homelessness or persons who testing positive for COVID-19 or those who have had high-risk exposure to COVID-19.

"Local Agency" shall mean a county, school district, special district, political subdivision, city, board, commission, or agency thereof.

"Project Homekey" shall mean the state-wide initiative authorized under Assembly Bill No. 83 and Senate Bill No. 74.

"Project Roomkey" shall mean the state-wide initiative authorized by the Governor's Executive Order N-25-20 issued March 12, 2020.

"Public Agency" shall mean any state or local agency.

"State" shall mean the State of California or any state agency.

"State agency" shall mean any state office, officer, department, division, bureau, board, and commission or other state body or agency.

(C) **Initiation of Coordination with City.** The County and State shall initiate coordination with the City no later than seven (7) business days prior to entering into an agreement with any hotel, motel, or other public or private facility for purposes of establishing or operating temporary or permanent housing under Project Roomkey, Project Homekey, or any other County or State program and submit basic facility information to the City in writing in order to allow the City to provide timely, meaningful feedback and comments as required by Project Roomkey and Project Homekey. Basic facility information shall include the following facility information:

1. Name and address of proposed facility location;
 2. A description of the proposed facility identifying the clients to be served and the services (medical or non-medical) to be offered in association with the proposed facility;
 3. Number of proposed rooms to be used and the maximum occupancy of the proposed facility;
 4. Anticipated length of operation at the proposed facility;
 5. Name and address of entity staffing the proposed facility;
 6. Description of any wrap-around services provided at the proposed facility;
 7. A copy of any house or client rules for proposed facility;
 8. A security plan for the proposed facility, including the name of the company or firm who will provide security for the facility;
 9. Description of exit plan for individuals who receive temporary assistance so that they do not become homeless and return to the streets once the proposed facility concludes; and
 10. Such other information the City Manager deems relevant and reasonably necessary.
- (D) **Written Response from the City.** Within three (3) business days of the City's receipt of the basic facility information, the City shall

provide a written response describing any concerns or comments associated with the proposed facility.

(E) **Meet and Confer.** The parties shall meet and confer within two (2) business days after the City issues its written response. The parties may meet and confer in person, in writing, by telephone, or videoconference.

Section 5. Severability. If any section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, clause, phrase, or portion thereof, of this Ordinance is declared by a court of competent jurisdiction to be unconstitutional or otherwise invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance. The City Council declares that it would have adopted this Ordinance, and each section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, clause, phrase, or portion thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses, phrases, or portions thereof, be declared invalid or unconstitutional. To this end, the provisions of this Ordinance are declared to be severable.

Section 6. The City Council of the City of Norwalk hereby passes this Urgency Ordinance by a four-fifths vote of the City Council.

Section 7. The City Clerk shall attest and certify to the adoption of this Ordinance and shall cause this Ordinance to be published or posted as required by law.

Section 8. This Ordinance shall go into effect and be in full force and effect immediately upon adoption.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this 4th day of August 2020.

/s/ JENNIFER PEREZ MAYOR

ATTEST:

I, Theresa Devoy, City Clerk of the City of Norwalk, do hereby certify that the foregoing Urgency Ordinance, being **Urgency Ordinance No. 20-1719U** was duly passed, approved, and adopted by the City Council of the City of Norwalk at its regular meeting held on August 4, 2020, and said Ordinance has been duly signed by the Mayor and attested by the City Clerk by the following vote to wit:

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

/s/ THERESA DEVOY, CMC CITY CLERK

The Norwalk Patriot 8/7/20

CITY OF NORWALK SUMMARY ORDINANCE NO. 20-1718

The Norwalk City Council, at a meeting held August 4, 2020, adopted proposed **ORDINANCE NO. 20-1718, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF NORWALK APPROVING A DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF NORWALK AND EVERGREEN MEDIA LLC APPROVING A NEW DIGITAL BILLBOARD SIGN ON FIRESTONE BOULEVARD SOUTH OF ROSECRANS AVENUE ADJACENT TO THE I-5 FREEWAY**, by the following roll call vote:

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

The full text of Ordinance No. 20-1718 is available for review in the Office of the City Clerk during regular business hours.

Theresa Devoy, CMC
City Clerk
August 5, 2020

The Norwalk Patriot 8/7/20

CITY OF NORWALK SUMMARY ORDINANCE NO. 20-1717

The Norwalk City Council, at a meeting held August 4, 2020, adopted proposed **Ordinance No. 20-1717, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF NORWALK SETTING FORTH ITS FINDINGS OF FACT AND DECISION APPROVING ZONE CHANGE NO. 361**, which will designate a zoning classification for a portion of the public right of way, approximately 4,700 square feet in size, located on Firestone Boulevard, south of Rosecrans Avenue and adjacent to the I-5 Freeway General Commercial ("C-3") Zone, by the following roll call vote:

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

The full text of Ordinance No. 20-1717 is available for review in the Office of the City Clerk during regular business hours.

Theresa Devoy, CMC
City Clerk
August 5, 2020

The Norwalk Patriot 8/7/20

NOTICES

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME CASE NUMBER: 20NWC00169

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner JANIE LYNN EGGER filed a petition with

this court for a decree changing names as follows:

Present name (1) JANIE LYNN EGGER to Proposed name (1) ABIGAIL READ

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: SEPTEMBER 23, 2020, Time: 10:30 a.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** JULY 24, 2020

Judge Margaret M. Bernal
Judge Of The Superior Court
Petitioner or Attorney, In Pro Per
JANIE LYNN EGGER
10903 ROSECRANS AVE
NORWALK, CA 90650
(562) 304-3849

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** JULY 24, 2020

Judge Margaret M. Bernal
Judge Of The Superior Court
Petitioner or Attorney, In Pro Per
JANIE LYNN EGGER
10903 ROSECRANS AVE
NORWALK, CA 90650
(562) 304-3849

The Norwalk Patriot 7/31/20, 8/7/20, 8/14/20, 8/21/20

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME CASE NUMBER: 20NWC00144

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner ADOLFO DANIEL RODRIGUEZ filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

Present name (1) ADOLFO DANIEL RODRIGUEZ to Proposed name (1) ADOLFO DANIEL ANDRADE

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: SEPTEMBER 9, 2020, Time: 10:30 a.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**, 14783 CARMENITA ROAD, NORWALK, CA 90650

Judge Margaret M. Bernal
Judge Of The Superior Court
Petitioner or Attorney, In Pro Per
ADOLFO DANIEL RODRIGUEZ
12318 EAST 214TH STREET
HAWAIIAN GARDENS, CA 90716
(714) 292-3936
ADRSKYLINE@GMAIL.COM

The Norwalk Patriot 7/17/20, 7/24/20, 7/31/20, 8/7/20

PROBATE

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF JAMES EDWARD LAMMEY, JR. Case No. 20STPB05099

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of JAMES EDWARD LAMMEY, JR. A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by Veronica Trout in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that Veronica Trout 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. (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 on Nov. 23, 2020 at 8:30 AM in Dept. No. 4 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:
JFFREY D CAVIN ESQ
SBN 164872
LAW OFFICES OF
JEFFREY D CAVIN
251 E IMPERIAL
HIGHWAY STE 471
FULLERTON CA 92835

CN971038 HOMONAI Aug 7, 14, 21, 2020

CN971038
The Norwalk Patriot 8/7/20, 8/14/20, 8/21/20

TRUSTEE SALES

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE NO. FCC 4253.1 YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 08/07/2018. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. On 08/13/2020, at 10:00AM, FOOTHILL CONVEYANCE CORPORATION, a California Corporation, as duly appointed Trustee under and pursuant to Deed of Trust recorded 08/15/2018, as Instrument No. 20180822503, Book , Page , of Official Records, executed by: DENISE SMITH, Trustee, or her successors in Trust of THE DENISE SMITH TRUST, Dated October 20, 2017 as Trustor(s), in the office of the County Recorder of LOS ANGELES County, State of California, WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH, payable at time of sale in lawful money of the United States (in the forms which are lawful tender in the United States) and/or cashier's, certified or other checks specified in Civil Code Section 2924h (payable in full at time of sale) AT: Behind the fountain located in Civic Center Plaza, 400 North Main Plaza, Pomona CA 91766 all right, title and interest conveyed to and now held by it under said Deed of Trust in the property situated in said County and State described as: See Exhibit "A" attached hereto and made a part hereof Exhibit "A" LEGAL DESCRIPTION The Land Referred To Herein Below Is Situated In The City Of Norwalk, County Of Los Angeles, State Of California, And Is Described As Follows: PARCEL A, Lot 122 of Tract No. 20422, In The City Of Norwalk, County Of Los Angeles, State Of California, As Per Map Recorded In Book 532 Page(S) 35 Through 38 Inclusive Of Maps. In The Office Of The County Recorder Of Said County. Except Therefrom All Oil, Gas, Minerals, And Other Hydrocarbon Substances Lying Below The Surface Of Said Land, But With No Right Of Surface Entry As Provided In Deeds Of Record. PARCEL 2: That Portion Of That Part Of The Southeast One-Quarter Of The Northwest One-Quarter Of Section 14, Township 3 South, Range 12 West Of The Rancho Santa Gertrudes, Subdivided For The Santa Gertrudes Land Association, As Shown On A Map Recorded In Book 1 Page 502 Of Miscellaneous Records, In The Office Of Los Angeles, Described In Deed

CN970553
The Norwalk Patriot 7/24/20, 7/31/20, 8/7/20

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF MARIAN D. VEAL Case No. 20STPB05670

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of MARIAN D. VEAL

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by: GARY GREENE in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that GARY GREENE 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. (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 on DECEMBER 9, 2020 at 8:30am in Dept. 5 Room 236 located at SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, 111 NORTH HILL STREET, LOS ANGELES, CA 90012, STANLEY MOSK COURTHOUSE

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:
GARY GREENE, IN PROPER
13623 SILVERBOW AVENUE
NORWALK, CA 90650
(562) 455-7402

The Norwalk Patriot 7/31/20, 8/7/20, 8/14/20

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF FRANK HOMONAI Case No. 20STPB04659

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of FRANK HOMONAI

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by Roberta Kathleen Homonai in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that Roberta Kathleen Homonai be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.

THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (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 on Dec. 7, 2020 at 8:30 AM in Dept. No. 44 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:
JFFREY D CAVIN ESQ
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CN971038 HOMONAI Aug 7, 14, 21, 2020

CN971038
The Norwalk Patriot 8/7/20, 8/14/20, 8/21/20

To The Los Angeles County Flood Control District, Recorded In Book 9665 Page 43 Of Official Records, In The Office Of Said Recorder, Together With That Portion Of That Part Of Said Southeast One Quarter Of The Northwest One-Quarter Of Said Section 14, Described In Deed To The New San Gabriel River Levee District, Recorded In Book 3734 Page 315 Of Deeds, In The Office Of Said Recorder, All Bounded In The North By The Westerly Prolongation Of The Maps, In The Office Of Said Recorder, On The South By Westerly Prolongation Of The Southerly Line Of Said Lot 122, On The East By The Westerly Line Of Said Lot 122, And Bounded By The West By The Following Described Line: Beginning At The Intersection Of The Northerly Line Of Said Section With That Course Described As Having A Bearing And Length Of South 2 Degrees 59'25" East 472.15 Feet In Easement Deed To Los Angeles County Flood Control District, Recorded In Book 10103 Page 285, Of Official Records, In The Office Of Said Recorder, Thence Along Said Course South 2 Degrees 59'25" East 85.12 Feet; Thence South 41 Degrees 46'30" West 102.54 Feet; Thence South 3 Degrees 28'45" East, 460.16 Feet; Thence South 6 Degrees 10'13" East 338.89 Feet; Thence South 10 Degrees 13'12" East 387.91 Feet; Thence South 14 Degrees 11'55" East 504.93 Feet; Thence South 13 Degrees 05'30" East 647.78 Feet; Thence South 16 Degrees 18'11" East 100 Feet. The street address and other common designation if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 13313 Newmire Avenue, NORWALK, CA 90650-2168 APN: 8051-008-008, 8051-008-044 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. Said sale

Black lives and the yellow fever epidemic of 1793

By Carol Kearns
Contributor

The sustained, nationwide demonstrations in response to the horrific murder of George Floyd by Minneapolis police last month briefly knocked the COVID-19 pandemic from top spot in our daily headlines. The raw malevolence of the killing, seen over and over again on video, and the exploding outrage are shaking the foundations of US society.

Millions of people worldwide have marched peacefully in protest, many wearing face masks. The massive gatherings make a statement that ending four hundred years of systemic racism in the United States (which has caused so many deaths already) is a greater priority for the protestors than protecting their own health by avoiding large crowds.

The peaceful demonstrators are demanding that our institutions and government start conforming to our claims of being a truly just and democratic society. How can I not think of people like Martin Luther King, Jr., Rosa Parks, the children who integrated the southern schools, the voting rights activists, the young people who sat in at segregated lunch counters and endured the blasts of high-pressure water from fire hoses? Sixty years later and Floyd's death shows us that the problem of racism is still profound.

I would like to share the story of another moment in time when there was also an intersection of a public health crisis and race relations. The heroism of ordinary people, black and white, will always be relevant, and the event, over two hundred years ago, gives us much to think about today.

The gruesome conditions of the yellow fever epidemic in 1793, when Philadelphia was our capital and George Washington was president, brought the country to the verge of a constitutional crisis. Panic predominated, government officials left town, and the city was a cesspool of filth and disease. All of the work required to restore order and livability—nursing, housing, food distribution, burials, care for orphans—was assumed by volunteers.

The critical role of the Free African Society, a mutual aid society for blacks, most of whom were former slaves, spotlights the compassion and social consciousness of its members as they helped everyone, even while facing their own daily struggles of racism in the new “democracy” built on slavery.

There is much to think about in this story, so many lessons. Let's celebrate these people who felt guided to serve in the name of Christian compassion even though they were brought to this country against their will. And let us remember that today's members of Black Lives Matter are part of a four-hundred-year-long heroic effort urging the United States to meet the ideals of our Declaration of Independence.

Yellow Fever & Urban Life 1793

As an elementary school teacher, I came across an award-winning book for young people about this historic health crisis: *An American Plague: The True and Terrifying Story of the Yellow Fever Epidemic of 1793*, by Jim Murphy, Scholastic Inc. This wonderful book was optional reading for fifth graders, and it is just the thing for adults who want something condensed and super readable, as well as scholarly. Order through your bookstore or online.

Yellow fever comes from a virus transmitted by mosquitoes, which thrive and multiply in stagnant pools of water. Philadelphia's hot, humid weather in the summer was the perfect breeding ground for these insects, but scientists wouldn't know about their role in spreading disease until the early 1900s.

In 1793 people thought yellow fever was contagious—transmitted from person to person. The grisly symptoms cause understandable fear and panic. The skin turns yellow as red blood cells are destroyed, and patients experience spasms of diarrhea and vomit black blood. People who could afford it fled the city, while others were left to die alone, lying in their own blood and excrement. Other towns barricaded roads from Philadelphia, and travelers were sometimes attacked. It truly must have seemed a page from Revelations.

Despite the size of Philadelphia, population 51,000, there was no public sanitation, no garbage collection, no source of clean drinking water, and no plan for emergencies by any level of government. It was estimated that at the worst level of the epidemic, over twenty thousand people fled.

Philadelphia, our nation's first capital, was rescued by volunteers, black and white, who resisted panic and brought control to the most gruesome conditions. One significant result, six years later, was the establishment the nation's first public system for clean drinking water.

I am amazed at the parallels in behavior (good and bad) between our present crisis and what happened centuries ago. This fearsome pestilence did not discourage the greedy who valued money above all else and took advantage of people's misfortune. There was immediate price gouging for needed medicines and medical supplies as well as other goods and services. Some landlords were merciless in evicting tenants who lost their jobs and had no savings. Just like today.

Philadelphia 1793

Philadelphia is surrounded by water, and the muggy weather made life unpleasant under the best of circumstances. As with many other cities, refuse collected in open sewers, live animals were brought to market, mosquitos were everywhere, and the city's stench was overpowering.

The first deaths indicating a possible epidemic appeared in early August. Within weeks, conditions grew horrific and the death toll climbed to over twenty per day. People caring for loved ones fell ill and died themselves. Sometimes no one knew that there were several corpses in a seemingly empty house. Orphans were uncared for. Famine spread as fearful farmers refused to bring produce into the city. Delirious paupers roamed the streets and collapsed in gutters. Officials struggled to collect the bodies, but the dead remained unburied when gravediggers could not be found.

When Congress and the president left town, along with state and local officials, a Constitutional crisis loomed. Federal government offices were moved to Germantown, and Washington took Martha back to Mt. Vernon. Washington wanted to convene Congress to provide relief for what was happening to the city, but some argued, including Thomas Jefferson and James Madison, that it wouldn't be Constitutional unless Congress met in Philadelphia (which no one was willing to do). The fledgling government had not anticipated the need to make provisions for such an emergency.

The Heroes

Mayor Matthew Clarkson — Mayor of Philadelphia who lost his wife and youngest son to the disease, but elected to stay, even as other city officials left. His position was mostly honorary, and with no legal authority or funding for the situation, he organized a committee of volunteers to manage the crisis. The committee borrowed funds to pay for medicine, coffins, doctors, nurses, and gravediggers, and Clarkson spearheaded the seizure of an unoccupied mansion outside the city, called Bush Hill, to use as a hospital for the indigent.

Dr. Benjamin Rush — Signer of the Declaration of Independence, a leading physician, compassionate humanitarian, social reformer, and political leader in Philadelphia. Rush identified the disease correctly as yellow fever, and worked fearlessly throughout the epidemic, even after catching the disease himself. However, his recommended treatment of mercury in small quantities, which he took himself, was a huge error and opposed by most physicians. Nonetheless, his leadership throughout the ordeal was invaluable.

Israel Israel — Well-to-do merchant and tavern keeper, and an active member of Clarkson's committee. He found shelter and care for the orphans, whose numbers eventually reached almost two hundred. He also arranged for harvesting the grain at Bush Hill and led efforts to warehouse and hand out food.

Peter Helm — Barrel maker and one of two who volunteered to personally manage Bush Hill. As a devout member of the Moravian congregation who took to heart Christ's teachings to aid the needy, he assumed responsibility for outside activities, setting up a system for receiving new patients and moving the dead taken away for burial. Coffins were made, decent housing was provided for staff and nurses, and the barn was converted to house those recovering from the illness. Helm also repaired the pumps so that fresh water could be provided for the first time to the patients.

Stephen Girard — One of the wealthiest men in Philadelphia, he did not believe the disease was contagious, even though he contracted a mild case in late August. He assumed responsibility for activities inside Bush Hill, cleaning the building from top to bottom and putting patients in separate rooms according to the degree of their illness. As the number of patients increased, a new building, sixty by eighty feet, was erected with two fireplaces. Girard hired a French physician who had experience with the disease. His treatment was cautious, with sweet wine and quinine. Patients improved and the hospital was soon regarded as a place of healing.

The Free African Society, Absalom Jones, and Richard Allen — A mutual aid society, created by blacks in 1789 (the year of our Constitution) to provide support for free blacks in need and widows and orphans. It was a remarkable source of help for the city and Bush Hill in the midst of this scourge. Most of the approximately 3,000 free blacks living in Philadelphia in 1793 were ex-slaves; the two elders, Absalom Jones and Richard Allen, had each purchased their own freedom. More than fifty percent of this population were employed as live-in domestics, and there was little opportunity for professional and economic advancement.

Rush had written to the Society asking for help because he mistakenly believed that blacks had a special immunity to the disease. They did not. Those who had caught yellow fever in Africa and survived had greater resistance. Others suffered and died just as quickly as whites. Leaders Jones and Allen agreed to Rush's request and Society members started visiting homes that no one else would enter.

Society volunteers cleaned and tended the sick, obtained food and medicine, and arranged for burial of the dead. They also provided nursing care at Bush Hill. The volunteers accepted only what money was offered, since many who needed help had no money themselves, but a problem soon developed. Rich people started bidding on their services and blacks were accused of price

gouging. Black nurses were attacked verbally, and a few males were assaulted physically. Mayor Clarkson issued a statement of his complete support for the Society and published an ad in the newspapers. Eventually more blacks also succumbed to the disease.

Isolation and Misinformation

Mail delivery took longer as letters had to first dry after being dipped in vinegar as a “disinfectant” (sounds similar to an early video about how we should disinfect our grocery deliveries). Some cities voted to prevent the arrival of all persons from Philadelphia. Manhattan banned ships and travelers from the city and posted guards at all arrival points, but also donated \$5,000 to the relief effort. Armed patrols scouted the country lanes looking for refugees. One woman was pulled from her carriage and tarred and feathered.

Some newspapers did not write much about the disease, taking the position that to do so would only further denigrate its image (this denial sounds familiar). Much of what is known from this time comes from journals and private correspondence. Other written material blamed “foreigners” and blacks for the presence of the disease (this sounds familiar too).

Printer and Publisher Mathew Carey wrote a best-selling book about the affair when it was over: *A Short Account of the Malignant Fever.....* He made severe accusations vilifying the Free African Society by claiming the black nurses extorted money from the sick and pilfered their houses. Jones and Allen countered with their own narrative of how the black community was invited to become involved.

The Disease Abates

When the weather cooled, and mosquitoes died, there was a marked decline in the number of people who fell ill. Streets and alleys were cleaned up to reduce noxious odors. Homeowners were responsible for cleaning their own property.

A historic improvement was made in the city water supply. In 1793 all water for drinking, cooking, and cleaning came from public and private wells or from the Delaware river, which was quite polluted. In 1799 the city hired Benjamin Latrobe to design and construct waterworks that supplied water from the Schuylkill River. Water from this system had no offensive odor and flowed with enough force to hose off city streets and docks and flush open clogged sewers. It was the first such system in the United States.

The various levels of government never admitted to any failure or cowardice by abandoning the city, but they did enact new procedures based on lessons learned. The Pennsylvania legislature voted to give the governor special authority to make laws and spend money in the event of any other natural disaster. The federal government voted to give the president power to call Congress into session outside of the nation's capital whenever there was a grave hazard to life and health.

Lessons for Us in 2020

1.) Efforts to contain and combat the spread of COVID-19 need to be coordinated among all levels of government. Lack of federal leadership during our current health crisis resulted in a situation where various state governments were competing for the purchase of personal protective items. Federal leadership would have resulted in a more rational distribution. There is still contention among state and local governments about when it is safe to resume economic activity.

2.) It takes unselfish cooperation to defeat a pandemic. We need to make personal decisions based on our social obligations as well as our preferences. We have a responsibility to not harm others. Yes, we are “free” (whatever that means), but mask-wearing is to keep us from spreading germs to others even if we are asymptomatic. It is not right that we should expect nurses and others to risk exposure by caring for us if we get sick by not taking precautions. Over six hundred nurses have died already. We are not entitled to go mask-less.

3.) We need to recognize the fundamental contribution that black Americans have made to the foundation of American strength and wealth. Black Americans have stepped up time and again to contribute more than their share in meeting challenges, despite sustained efforts by others to deny them the opportunity to participate equally in American life.

This June is the anniversary of the shameful race massacre in Tulsa, Oklahoma, 1921, that wiped out the entire middle class black neighborhood of businessmen and professionals. This is only one of the more overt examples of deliberate barriers that include Jim Crow laws, lynchings, segregated schools and restricted housing.

Nonetheless, black Americans continue to contribute to American society, guided by a strong work ethic and the values of conscience, religious faith, and standards of good citizenship.

I am inspired by today's young people who have, once again, bravely come together to demand that it's time the United States end systemic racism and live up to the ideals inscribed in our founding documents. These young people are following in the footsteps of thousands of Civil Rights workers, and in the footsteps of Jones, Allen, and the Free African Society 227 years ago who followed their conscience to make the world a better place.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

NEWS@THEDOWNEYPATRIOT.COM

Letters must contain your full, true name. Submissions may be edited for length and/or clarity.

L.A. councilman charged in wide-ranging corruption case

LOS ANGELES - A federal grand jury last week returned a 34-count indictment against Jose Huizar, an elected member of the Los Angeles City Council, on charges that he led a criminal enterprise where he used his powerful position at City Hall to enrich himself and his close associates, and unlawfully gave favorable treatment to developers who financed and facilitated bribes and other illicit financial benefits.

The indictment incorporates the allegations made in last month's criminal complaint that charged Huizar, 51, of Boyle Heights, with one count of conspiracy to violate the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations (RICO) Act. The indictment specifically alleges 402 overt acts that Huizar and his co-conspirators committed to further their criminal enterprise, including bribery, honest services fraud, and money laundering.

In addition to the RICO conspiracy charge, the indictment charges Huizar with the following criminal charges: 12 counts of honest services wire fraud; two counts of honest services mail fraud; four counts of traveling interstate in aid of racketeering; six counts of bribery; five counts of money laundering; one count of structuring cash deposits to conceal bribes; one count of making a false statement to a financial institution; one count of making false statements to federal law enforcement; and one count of tax evasion.

Huizar appeared via videoconference for his arraignment Wednesday in United States District Court.

Huizar has represented Council District 14 (CD-14), which includes downtown Los Angeles and its surrounding communities, since 2005. Huizar for several years was chair of the city's influential Planning and Land Use Management Committee, a position he lost after the FBI executed search warrants at his city offices and personal residence in November 2018.

During the search of his home, agents seized approximately

\$129,000 cash that was stashed in Huizar's closet and which, according to the indictment, he received from a Chinese billionaire and another businessperson seeking favors from him.

The indictment alleges that Huizar operated the "CD-14 Enterprise," along with co-conspirator members, including "Individual 1," a former general manager of the Los Angeles Department of Building and Safety and former deputy mayor; George Esparza, Huizar's former special assistant; and real estate development consultant George Chiang. Members and associates of the criminal enterprise referred to Huizar as their "boss," operated as a criminal organization, and worked together for common purposes, the indictment alleges.

The CD-14 Enterprise allegedly had several objectives, including enriching its members and associates through means that included bribery, extortion, and honest services fraud; advancing its political goals and maintaining its control and authority; concealing the enterprise's financial activities; and protecting the enterprise by concealing its activities and shielding the enterprise from detection by law enforcement, the city, and the public.

Among the multitude of corruption allegations, the indictment alleges that Huizar illegally accepted more than \$800,000 in benefits from Chairman E, a Chinese billionaire who runs a multinational development firm and who owns a hotel in Huizar's district. Chairman E provided \$600,000 in collateral to fund a settlement of a sexual harassment lawsuit filed against Huizar by a former CD-14 staffer, allegations that threatened his 2015 re-election campaign, according to the indictment.

The indictment outlines Huizar's concealment of illicit benefits, including by instructing his special assistant on how to avoid bank reporting requirements, using his family members to launder hundreds of thousands of dollars in bribes, making false statements on a bank loan application and failing to report his illicit benefits on tax returns and ethics disclosure forms. Huizar allegedly engaged

in obstructionist conduct, including attempting to influence other witnesses and lying to federal prosecutors and the FBI.

In total, Huizar allegedly agreed to accept at least \$1.5 million in illicit financial benefits.

An indictment contains allegations that a defendant has committed a crime. Every defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

The charges of RICO conspiracy, honest services fraud, and money laundering each carry a statutory maximum sentence of 20 years in federal prison. The charge of making false statements to a financial institution has a statutory maximum sentence of 30 years' imprisonment. The bribery charges each carry a statutory maximum sentence of 10 years in federal prison. The charges of tax evasion, structuring, making false statements to law enforcement, and interstate travel in aid of racketeering have a five-year maximum prison sentence.

Huizar is the fifth person to be charged in the ongoing corruption investigation being conducted by the FBI and the U.S. Attorney's Office. The other four defendants have pleaded guilty.

Esparza, Chiang, and Justin Jangwoo Kim, a Huizar fundraiser who admitted to facilitating bribes, are scheduled to be sentenced by United States District Judge John F. Walter in February 2021. Esparza, Chiang, and Kim are cooperating with the ongoing investigation.

Former Los Angeles City Councilman Mitchell Englander pleaded guilty on July 7 to charges of scheming to falsify material facts related to trips he took to Las Vegas and Palm Springs that were funded by a businessperson. Englander's sentencing hearing is scheduled for December 7, also before Judge Walter.

Judge strikes rent control measure from November ballot

SACRAMENTO - A Sacramento Superior Court judge ruled Friday to pull a citizen's initiative charter amendment from the ballot after the City of Sacramento sued to remove it.

The ballot measure, which would have enacted rent control in Sacramento if approved by voters, was validated by over 50,000 signatures from Sacramento residents.

The measure was supported by a coalition of grassroots labor and tenant groups including Tenants Together, the Sacramento Tenants Union, Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Local 1021, Public Advocates, Alliance of Californians for Community Empowerment (ACCE), and the Sacramento Democratic Socialists of America chapter.

In 2019, this coalition gathered signatures and submitted a measure to cap rent increases at 5% and set up a rent review board modeled after other cities with rent control, like San Francisco. In response, the Sacramento City Council passed a weaker, temporary measure which capped rent increases at 6% plus inflation, to expire in 5 years, with no rent review board.

The city then moved to strike the citizens' measure from the ballot, despite it having legally qualified.

The legal strategy pursued by the City of Sacramento's attorneys, who argued that a city charter should not be changeable by citizens' initiative, Friday's ruling could have serious repercussions for other citizens' initiatives in charter cities across California.

"This ruling denies the people of Sacramento their right to enact legislation via the ballot, as many other cities around the state have done for over 40 years," said Lupe Arreola, executive director of Tenants Together. "It is disappointing that the Court and the Sacramento City Council sided with real estate interests, but it is unacceptable for them to support the disenfranchisement of Sacramento voters, especially during an election year."

"Tenants Together is proud of the grassroots coalition that brought this measure forward. We will keep working with our coalition partners and the people of Sacramento to win permanent tenant protections."

The Norwalk Patriot



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Grand jury indicts UK man on cyberstalking charges

LOS ANGELES - A federal grand jury on Tuesday returned a 26-count indictment that charges a Pasadena man with making a series of detailed threats to harm, rape and kill 10 victims he met in various social and business settings.

Samuel Trelawney Hughes, 31, who is a citizen of the United Kingdom, was charged with seven counts of stalking, nine counts of making online threats, three counts of mailing threatening communications, and seven counts of witness tampering.

The indictment alleges that Hughes - sometimes using his real name, and other times using aliases or social media accounts designed to conceal his true identity - sent his victims

communications in which he expressed hope they would die or in which he made specific threats to harm them.

For example, in October 2019, after one victim reported prior threats from Hughes to law enforcement authorities, Hughes allegedly sent the victim an email stating in part: "someone I can guarantee will come out and first bash you head in, rape you slash your throat and burn your car and house."

Hughes allegedly sent another threat that read in part: "I will rip your f***** throat out and stab you in the eyes and put gasoline over your half mutilated body."

Court documents state that Hughes used online aliases and handles that included xavier.

herrera666, parsonstheo38, theoparsons4, tony.hawk, exskater, tony.flavelle450, byword.photography, julius.caesar411, charlotte.massey400, and a.total.wanker400.

The FBI began investigating Hughes in May 2019 after one victim filed a complaint with the Internet Crimes Complaint Center.

"After being contacted by both the FBI and state law enforcement officers on multiple occasions regarding the threatening communications, Hughes continued to send electronic communications and letters threatening to injure, rape, or kill at least three of the victims who had reported his threats to the police," according to a criminal complaint previously filed in this case.

"In his communications to some victims, Hughes threatened that contacting the police would lead to the injury or death of the victim or the victims' loved ones."

As a result of separate investigations, Hughes was arrested by the Los Angeles Police Department and the Pasadena Police Department on two occasions in June, which resulted in charges being filed by the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office and the Pasadena City Attorney's Office.

Federal prosecutors filed a criminal complaint against Hughes on July 10, and he was taken into custody from state authorities on July 24. Hughes has been in federal custody since that time.

The stalking counts and the charges stemming from the alleged threats all carry a statutory maximum penalty of five years in federal prison. The witness tampering counts each carry a maximum possible penalty of 20 years in prison.

Hughes is scheduled to be arraigned on the indictment in United States District Court on August 13.

Soroptimists of Norwalk / Santa Fe Springs honor "Live Your Dream" recipients

NORWALK - Soroptimist International of Norwalk/Santa Fe Springs honored five women with Live Your Dream financial awards despite being unable to host an awards event during the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Live Your Dream Award provides women who serve as the primary wage earners for their families with the financial resources to offset costs associated with their efforts to attain higher education or additional skills and training.

The award can be used for tuition, books, childcare, carfare or any other education-related expense.

Makaela Perkins received a Live Your Dream award of \$1,500. Ms. Perkins is a Sociology major at Cerritos College. Perkins, a

mother of two children, plans a future career advising foster youth.

Ashley Dubai, a Nursing student at Cerritos College, received \$1000 Live Your Dream award. Her goal is to receive a Bachelor's Degree in Nursing, work in a doctor's office, and provide a good example for her son.

Tami Le received a \$1000 Live Your Dream award which she will use towards her degree in Communications at Cal State University, Fullerton. Her goal is to become a Cosmetology Instructor at Fullerton, and an advocate for survivors of domestic violence. Tami has one son.

Linda Rivera, a \$1000 Live Your Dream honoree, attends Cerritos College Nursing program.

Her goal is to become a Registered Nurse working in an NICU because she was inspired by the nurses who cared for her daughter born prematurely.

Patricia Kebelis, a Psychology major at Cal State University, Long Beach, received a \$1000 Live Your Dream award. Kebelis plans to earn a graduate degree so she can work as a school psychologist to help adolescents gain the skills to become successful adults. She has one child.

Alexis Satterwhite received a financial award honoring her military service. Alexis received her Associate's Degree from Cerritos College in May 2020, and will transfer to USC this fall. She has two sons, and served in the Marine Corps.

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