

# The Norwalk Patriot

Friday, Sept. 11, 2020

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14783 Carmenita Road, Norwalk, CA 90650

## California Youth Authority facility may reopen for COVID negative

**NORWALK** - The City of Norwalk has been informed by the Department of State Hospitals (DSH) of its plans to renovate and possibly re-open the California Youth Authority facility located on Bloomfield Avenue. The facility, which has been closed since 2011, is to be utilized by DSH as a temporary satellite facility. This action was initiated to mitigate the effects of "surge space" at local state hospitals.

Norwalk officials were informed of plans to house primarily COVID-negative patients. Currently, the Metropolitan State Hospital in Norwalk houses forensic inmates who are defined as individuals who have been charged with or convicted of criminal behavior related to their mental illness.

Prior plans made by Norwalk officials for the facility have been placed on hold. Metropolitan State Hospital officials have informed the city that their plans will not interfere with any possible future development plans at that location, despite being restricted by the state's "emergency powers" due to the pandemic.

"At this time, there is no legal recourse to prevent the use of this facility by the state, however, the city council has passed an ordinance that requires public agencies to consult with the city prior to placing a homeless or COVID-19 facility in Norwalk," said Mayor Jennifer Perez. "The city council has authorized staff to meet and confer with representatives of the California Department of State Hospitals (DSH) to ensure safety measures are in place, that an exit strategy is clearly outlined and that Norwalk residents are informed prior to the housing of any patients."

"During these unprecedented times, it is important that there be cooperation between local, county, and state government," added Perez. "The safety of our community members is central to the efforts of the city council. We want to ensure to every resident that we are committed to providing optimum security possible to maintain the quality of life for every Norwalk family."

Residents should direct all inquiries to the Metropolitan State Hospital's Public Information Officer, Claudine Hanna, at [Claudine.Hanna@DSH.ca.gov](mailto:Claudine.Hanna@DSH.ca.gov).

## Norwalk census parade this Saturday

**NORWALK** - With three weeks to go before the close of the 2020 Census, the Norwalk Census Parade will make its return this Saturday.

From 9 to 11 a.m., the caravan of decorated vehicles will visit four neighborhoods to share the message that Everyone Counts in Norwalk.

Residents are encouraged to join the festivities by coming out to their front porches and yards. Participating residents are eligible to receive prizes.

In addition, the community is invited to visit the city's Census booths, located throughout the parade route, to obtain information and promotional items, as well as connect with Census Bureau staff for assistance with online forms.

## Excitement surrounds 2021 St. Paul Boys Volleyball



Boys Volleyball players, Esai Adame, left, and Nathaniel Lewis with Coach Rich Avina in the gym at St. Paul High School in Santa Fe Springs. (Photo by Keith Durflinger)

St. Paul Boy's Volleyball Team - led by seniors Nate Lewis and Esai Adame - sees impressive turn around.

By John Sherrard  
Contributor

**SANTA FE SPRINGS** - With a big excitement in boys' volleyball at St. Paul High School, the program is moving on up these days.

Just two years ago, the program couldn't field a full varsity and JV team and had finished well below the .500 level for the previous three seasons at the varsity level. But now it has two full rosters and both teams were off to great starts, with the varsity at 4-2 and JV at 5-1 before the COVID-19 pandemic shut things down last March.

One big reason is the addition of coach, Rich Avina, who has been at the school in various other capacities coaching other sports.

Avina, a 1994 St. Paul graduate, has high hopes for his team in 2021.

"Boys volleyball has changed immensely," Avina said. "Just being that we are normally a spring season and they thrust us into the first season, which is happening right away."

The program must adapt to the movement of the seasons.

"This is my second year and last year we had some excitement with both programs starting off with good records before the season was halted," Avina said. "Heading into this year, we have some quality guys back."

Two of those quality players are seniors Nate Lewis and Esai Adame.

Lewis, a transfer from Lakewood, stands 6-6 and is a middle blocker.

"He is a great young man and humble as can be," Avina said. "He started at PMA (St. Pius X-St. Matthias Academy) and was drawn to us because of basketball. However, he was beginning to flourish in volleyball just before our season got cut short."

"He is very athletic and he obviously changes the game by his height, length, and athleticism. He is a joy to coach because he is respectful, works hard, and is a team guy. We are looking for his leadership to flourish during his senior year."

Lewis has had a series of injuries, including two broken fibulas on the same leg and most recently a rare surgery on his knee cap earlier this summer.

"It actually wasn't bad at

all," Lewis said. "I was walking without crutches after a week."

Lewis, who started playing basketball at the age of five, said of his future, ".....this is just the beginning and it's preparing me more and it's one step towards college. I'm hoping to do as good as I can. Basketball is my main sport."

One thing Lewis is very proud of is his Christian Leadership class, which is open to only 24 St. Paul seniors.

"They set up our school masses and retreats and set the tone for our school spiritually," Avina said. "He really represents the full philosophy of St. Paul. We call it 360 degrees philosophy. A well-rounded student."

It is an intense process to be accepted

"I was very excited to get in and I was really trying," Lewis said. "I was confident that I would get in and it's good for college."

Lewis and Adame both know their position on the team for the upcoming season.

"We have to lead by example

and I'm getting to know all of the guys and coming in as a senior this year to lead the team," Lewis said.

And part of his leadership also relates to home, as he and his sister, Lailani, both are a great help to their mother, April, who was injured at her job in 2013.

"It's been up to my sister and me," he said.

Going from one practice to another has been his routine and he added, ".....it's not for everyone, but I've been thinking about both seasons and half of it is in the mind and the other half is training."

Lewis remembers some good moments on the court when he would get a spike or big block.

"Former libero, Frankie De Los Santos would yell out, '..... Everyone, he's kind of tall.' The team would then repeat it."

Avina knew of Lewis the day he stepped on campus, as he does admissions for St. Paul.

"The day I got hired is when

Continued on page 11

## Norwalk looking for Census art contest participants

**NORWALK** - Artists of all ages are encouraged to enter the City of Norwalk's 2020 Census Art Contest.

The contest is open to Norwalk residents and the submittal deadline is Thursday, September 17 at 4 p.m. Winners will be announced the week of September 21.

The design must be an original artwork and should include the words "Norwalk Counts" and "Census 2020". Overall, the design should encourage residents to complete

their census forms. Accepted mediums include graphic art, drawings and paintings.

Participants must upload artwork to Facebook or Instagram with the tag @cityofnorwalkca

The 2020 Census Art Contest designs will be featured on the City's social media and the monthly newsletter, the Norwalk NOW. Winners will also receive Census promotional items and a \$50 gift card.

For more information, please call Public Affairs at (562) 929-5735.



This will be the second census parade held by the city. (Photo Courtesy of the City of Norwalk)

The Census Booths will be located at:

14006 Clarkdale Avenue, Ramona Park, 13244 Mapledale Street, and

Vista Verde Park, 11459 Ratcliffe Street.

The Census Parade map is available at [www.norwalk.org/residents/community/2020-census-everyone-counts-todos-cuentan](http://www.norwalk.org/residents/community/2020-census-everyone-counts-todos-cuentan).

For more information, please call Public Affairs at (562) 929-5735.

## Norwalk COVID-19 statistics: 3074 cases 69 deaths

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

Updated numbers as of 8 pm on Tuesday, Sept. 8.

## Weekend at a Glance

Friday 92°

Saturday 88°

Sunday 88°

## ON THIS DAY SEPTEMBER 11

1789:

Alexander Hamilton was appointed the United States' first Secretary of the Treasury.

1792:

The Hope Diamond, one of the most famous pieces of jewelry in the world, was stolen after Louis XVI was imprisoned during the French Revolution.

1973:

A coup in Chile headed by Gen. Augusto Pinochet toppled the democratically elected Salvador Allende. Pinochet exercised dictatorial power until he was finally removed in 1990.

1992:

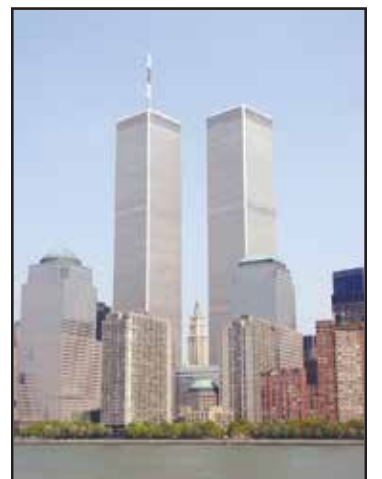
Hurricane Iniki made landfall on the Hawaiian island of Kauai, destroying more than 1,400 homes.

2001:

Nearly 3,000 people were killed in coordinated terrorist attacks on the United States.

Two hijacked aircraft crashed into the World Trade Center in New York City, a third crashed into the Pentagon, and a fourth crashed into a field near Shanksville, Penn.

The United States responded by launching its War on Terror and invading Afghanistan to depose the Taliban, which had failed to comply with U.S. demands to expel al-Qaeda and extradite its leader, Osama bin Laden.



The World Trade Center was destroyed in the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks.

## Notable Birthdays

**Taraji Henson**, the actress who starred as Cookie in the Fox series "Empire," turns 50 today.

Southern rapper **Ludacris** turns 43.

Pop singer **Harry Connick Jr.** turns 53.

Wrestling personality **Paul Heyman** turns 55.

Pop singer **Moby** turns 55.

DJ and record producer **Kygo** turns 29.

Basketball player **Shaun Livingston** turns 35.

Financial reporter **Maria Bartiromo** turns 53.



Taraji Henson turns 50.

## Notable Deaths

**Johnny Unitas**, considered one of the greatest quarterbacks to ever play in the NFL, died of a heart attack on this date in 2002. He was 69.

**Kim Hunter**, the actress who won an Academy Award for her performance in "A Streetcar Named Desire," died in 2002 of a heart attack. She was 79.

Actor and comedian **John Ritter** died of an aortic dissection. He was 54.

# September 11, 2001



United Airlines Flight 175 takes off from Boston for Los Angeles. Nine crew members, 51 passengers, and five hijackers are on board. The flight is loaded with 76,000 pounds of fuel.

8:19 A.M.

Flight 11 Crew Members Contact Ground Personnel

Flight attendant Betty Ann Ong alerts American Airlines ground personnel to a hijacking underway on Flight 11, reporting that the cockpit is unreachable. Using an inflight phone, Ong transmits detailed information about the hijacking on the call, which lasts about 25 minutes.

Shortly before Ong's call, a hijacker, likely Satam al-Suqami, had stabbed the passenger seated directly in front of him in first class. Hijackers Mohamed Atta and Abdul Aziz al-Omari are seated in close proximity as well. The passenger, identified as Daniel M. Lewin by the flight crew, had served four years in the Israeli army. The Final Report of the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States speculates he may have tried to stop the hijackers. Lewin was likely the first person killed in the 9/11 attacks.

At 8:21 a.m., two minutes into Ong's call, the hijackers turn off the plane's transponder—a device that allows air traffic control to identify and monitor an airplane's flight path. Meanwhile, American Airlines authorities relay details from Ong to their operations center in Texas. Five minutes later, Ong provides the hijackers' seat numbers to American Airlines.

After several failed connections, at 8:32 a.m., flight attendant Madeline Amy Sweeney reports the hijacking of Flight 11 to a friend on the ground, a manager at Boston Logan International Airport. Over the course of approximately 12 minutes, Sweeney provides key information about the hijacking, including a description of the perpetrators.

8:20 A.M.

Flight 77 Takes Off

American Airlines Flight 77, en route to Los Angeles, takes off from Washington Dulles International Airport. Six crew members, 53 passengers, and five hijackers are on board. The flight is loaded with 49,900 pounds of fuel.

8:24 A.M.

Flight 11 Hijacker Transmits a Message

Attempting to communicate with passengers and crew inside Flight 11's cabin, hijacker Mohamed Atta presses the wrong button, broadcasting instead to air traffic control and unwittingly alerting controllers to the attacks. Minutes later, Atta again makes an unintended transmission to ground control.

At least one of Atta's transmissions is picked up by the pilot of Flight 175, Victor J. Saracini, who will inform the Federal Aviation Administration of what he has heard minutes before his own plane is hijacked.

8:30 A.M.

The World Trade Center Comes to Life

Morning activities have commenced at the World Trade Center, a commercial building complex in lower Manhattan owned by the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, an interstate agency. In addition to the signature Twin Towers (1 and 2 World Trade Center), the complex included a hotel (3 World Trade Center), four office buildings (4, 5, 6, and 7 World Trade Center), a shopping mall, restaurants, a public plaza, and a major transportation hub.

Around 8:30 a.m., roughly 80 people have gathered to attend the Risk Waters Group financial technology conference on the 106th floor of the North Tower. Seventy-two restaurant staff have arrived in advance of the morning's breakfast service and conference preparation.

Other special events at the World Trade Center planned for September 11 include the annual National Association for Business Economics

(NABE) conference, already underway in the Marriott hotel, an evening dance performance on the World Trade Center's outdoor plaza, and a Peace Corps information session scheduled for 6:00 p.m. in 6 World Trade Center.

8:37 A.M.

Boston Air Traffic Control Alerts the Military

After hearing hijacker Mohamed Atta's transmissions, Boston's air traffic control center alerts the U.S. Air Force's Northeast Air Defense Sector (NEADS), headquartered in Rome, New York. In response, NEADS mobilizes Air National Guard jets at Otis Air Force Base in Falmouth, Massachusetts, to identify and follow hijacked Flight 11.

8:42 A.M.

Flight 93 Takes Off

Scheduled to leave Newark International Airport within minutes of the other hijacked flights, United Airlines Flight 93 takes off after a delay due to routine traffic. Seven crew members, 33 passengers, and four hijackers are on board the San Francisco-bound flight, which is filled with 48,700 pounds of fuel.

8:46 A.M.

North Tower Attack

Five hijackers crash American Airlines Flight 11 into floors 93 through 99 of 1 World Trade Center (North Tower). The 76 passengers and 11 crew members on board and hundreds inside the building are killed instantly. The crash severs all three emergency stairwells and traps hundreds of people above the 91st floor.

8:46 A.M.

Responders Mobilize and North Tower Evacuation Begins

New York City emergency dispatchers send police, paramedics, and firefighters to the North Tower.

Immediately after witnessing the crash from 14 blocks north of the World Trade Center, Battalion Chief Joseph Pfeifer directs New York City Fire Department (FDNY) dispatch to issue a second alarm. En route to the scene, he signals a third alarm, which calls for 23 engine and ladder companies, 12 chiefs, and 10 specialized units to respond to a plane crash at "Box 8087," the FDNY's shorthand reference for the World Trade Center. Vehicle drivers are instructed to park adjacent to the North Tower.

The Port Authority Police Department (PAPD), responsible for the safety and security of the World Trade Center in addition to regional bridges, tunnels, airports, and the Port of New York and New Jersey, mobilizes in response to the attack. Additional PAPD units from other posts dispatch to the World Trade Center to aid in evacuation and rescue.

8:50 A.M.

U.S. President Alerted

While visiting an elementary school in Sarasota, Florida, President George W. Bush is informed that a small plane has hit the North Tower. Bush and his advisers assume that the crash is a tragic accident.

8:55 A.M.

South Tower Declared Secure

"Your attention, please, ladies and gentlemen. Building Two is secure. There is no need to evacuate Building Two. If you are in the midst of evacuation, you may use the reentry doors and the elevators to return to your office. Repeat, Building Two is secure."

—Announcement made by a Port Authority fire safety employee, via the South Tower's public address system, at approximately 8:55 a.m.

8:59 A.M.

PAPD Orders Evacuation of Twin Towers

*continued on page 12*

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# Dementia patients deserve right to die

By Ralph E. Shaffer

The recent shooting death in Bell of a dementia victim, killed by her grieving husband, illustrates the urgent need for broadening California's End of Life Options Act, often referred to as the "Death with Dignity" law.

Danny Harber, 76, was arrested and charged with the murder of his wife, Donna, 81, on September 1. Harber, a former Bell city councilman, is in jail, unable to post the \$2 million bail set by the court when he entered a plea of not guilty.

While Harber has not made a public statement, close associates who served with him on the council spoke of his wife's long-term battle with dementia, a ruthless brain disease that cripples the mind and leaves patients unable to care for themselves or to act rationally or, eventually, to recognize family members.

With nearly 700,000 Californians afflicted with some form of dementia, it's not surprising that there have been several instances where murder, manslaughter or assisted suicide have been charged against a husband who killed his wife to end her suffering from dementia or other terminal diseases. In San Diego county, a man was arrested for holding his wife's hand while she took the lethal pills.

I faced a similar situation some years ago when my wife had

terminal cancer. At that time, California had no End of Life Options Law and patients had to live with the pain when the opioids no longer gave relief. She carefully hoarded the pain killers so that when the time came she would have enough to end her life. I would have helped her, if only to hold her hand while she took the pills. Before that time came, she went into a coma and died peacefully in a hospice. I didn't have to face a charge of assisted suicide.

Had the "Death with Dignity" law been in effect and had it covered dementia, these "crimes" would never have occurred. Harber's wife would have joined the nearly one thousand patients who utilize the existing law each year. But dementia is not covered by "Death with Dignity."

That law, enacted in 2015, allows patients with a life expectancy of six months or less to ingest a self-administered, life-ending drug if they are mentally competent at that time. While that gives cancer patients and those with several other diseases the right to die without enduring a lengthy period of pain and costly medical care, those restrictions prevent people suffering from various forms of dementia, particularly Alzheimer's Disease, from taking advantage of the law.

California must eliminate those impossible requirements

for patients with dementia and a few other ailments, such as Parkinson's and Lou Gehrig's disease. The six month life expectancy rule eliminates dementia patients, for the disease works its awful devastation to the brain long before the rest of the body is ready to die.

Dementia patients are also excluded from the current law by the requirement that they must be mentally capable at the time of ingestion of the life-ending drug. The rule should be that they are mentally alert when they tell their doctor that they wish to take the drug when they are no longer mentally competent.

The third factor that excludes them from using the current law is the requirement that they self-administer the drug, which at that time they will be unable to do. While still mentally alert they wish to enjoy their families as long as possible. An advance directive could designate one or more people who could assist the ingestion process.

Let the Harber case be a call to action! It should arouse California legislators to broaden the current law to cover those now excluded, particularly dementia's helpless victims.

Ralph E. Shaffer is professor emeritus of history at Cal Poly Pomona.

# Proposed healthcare reforms fall short

By Rosa Mendoza

Joe Biden is officially the Democratic presidential nominee, all thanks to his moderate reputation.

It is now perplexing that Biden is embracing many of his defeated opponents' ideas, which Democrat base voters rejected just a few months ago. He established a "unity" task force populated by the most vocal supporters of Bernie Sanders. This advisory group recently recommended two far-left measures that could inadvertently disrupt many working-class Americans' access to health care.

The first measure could weaken patent protections, which prevent generic drug manufacturers from copying and selling brand-name medicines developed by rival companies. Inventing a single new treatment costs around \$2.6 billion, according to a 2014 Tufts University study. In 2019 alone, the world's ten largest pharmaceutical companies spent \$82 billion on research and development.

If American entrepreneurship, ingenuity and innovation are to stay at the forefront of the global economy, there must be strong patent and IP protections in place.

Before firms invest billions of dollars into developing new medications -- the vast majority of which fail in clinical trials -- they need assurances that rivals will not be able to reverse-engineer their formulas and produce copycat versions. Otherwise, manufacturers would have little incentive to spend enormous sums on research.

Weakening patent protections would result in less medical research and development spending, and ultimately fewer new drugs for patients. Without patent protections, researchers may not have the right environment to explore new areas of medical innovation and unearth the findings that will lead to much needed treatments and cures.

As an advocate for the Latinx community, ALLvanza understands the pressing need for new and better medicines. Latinx Americans are more likely to suffer from hypertension, obesity, and diabetes than white Americans. The Latinx community relies on prescriptions to manage their conditions. If the pipeline of new therapies dries up, the consequences would be devastating.

The second proposal from the Biden-Sanders task force could similarly discourage innovation by allowing federal officials to effectively set drug prices. Price setting deters research investments. If a company cannot recuperate its research and development costs, it will not make those investments in the first place. Worldwide, price setting reduces investments into biopharmaceutical research and development by up to 16 percent annually, according to the U.S. Department of Commerce.

Vice President Biden and his advisers are not wrong to worry about the high cost of prescriptions. The newest, most advanced drugs are only useful if patients can afford them. But instead of arbitrarily

setting prices and weakening patents, Vice President Biden should continue to improve upon what's already been shown to work.

Consider copay assistance programs, through which drug manufacturers offer steep discounts on prescription medication for eligible patients in the form of coupons. These discounts saved patients a whopping \$13 billion in 2018 alone. If elected, Biden could resist efforts that seek to block patients from using such coupons.

In attempting to bring down the cost of drugs, a Biden administration would be well-served to ensure that its proposed solutions work for patients -- not against them. Any plan that jeopardizes access to new cures should be a non-starter.

Voters are craving pragmatic, competent leadership. Vice President Biden should not embrace impractical proposals that would impede development of lifesaving medicines his supporters, especially his Latinx supporters, need.

Rosa Mendoza is President and CEO of ALLvanza, an organization dedicated to the advancement of the Latinx and other underserved communities through education, advocacy and other tangible actions to ensure success in our technology-driven world. This piece originally ran in the Pittsburgh Tribune-Review.

# Return to the America we fought for

By Jim White

I am a former Army Ranger. After two tours of Vietnam, I can attest to all that we sacrificed. We lost friends and families. We lost limbs. We lost years of our carefree youth. In many cases, we lost the ability ever again to feel completely safe and whole. We lost our innocence.

And not just in Vietnam but in Lebanon, the Gulf War, Croatia, Afghanistan, and hot spots around the globe, soldiers - rangers, marines, navy men, pilots - did it gladly.

Why? Because we loved America.

But the America of today is not the same place it was. Its very fabric is unravelling. This angry, bitterly torn country is not the nation of ideals we fought for. Its deep polarization has made civil discourse impossible, in the media and in the public.

We fought and risked our lives - and tragically, lost them - to uphold the values of our Constitution that we hold dear: democracy, freedom, tolerance, and more.

Unfortunately, our leadership on both sides of the aisle has failed us by not adhering to these values. We have been pitted against each other along partisan, economic, and even racial, lines. Whoever would have thought that Americans would become our own greatest

enemies?

America must return to the principles on which this country was built. These are the principles our leaders should adhere to... and the litmus test voters judge them by in the critical upcoming election.

We must return to wisdom and civility. Thankfully, everything we need to restore our country can be found in the texts and teachings of the Founding Fathers and Mothers.

Regardless of which party we vote for, we should demand that leaders govern with criteria including:

Truth. Right now, there is stupefying dishonesty in Washington, and that dishonesty is eroding the public's trust in government. If we are not told the truth... for instance, about the Coronavirus, then how are we to make informed decisions about whether it is safe to go out, to go to work, or to send our children to school? We must demand transparency.

Accountability. This goes hand in hand with truth-telling. We must hold our leaders, as well as our public servants - such as our police - accountable for their actions. They must be worthy of our trust. Sua sponte, "of their own accord," may be appropriate for army rangers, but not for political leaders.

Patriotism. We elect politicians to lead and to serve the people.

They must care about all Americans, not just their own electoral base, cronies, or special interest groups. We want to follow a passionate leader who loves this country and puts its interest above themselves, their political party, and winning votes.

It should go without saying that those who serve and sacrifice are treated with the utmost gratitude and respect. To utter words such as "loser" or "sucker" in the same breath as "fallen soldiers" is nothing short of repulsive.

This week we commemorate September 11, one of the most horrific days in American history. We will lower our flags to half-staff to remember all those we lost to evil.

But we should also remember that 9/11 marked a turning point for Americans coming together in mutual support and cooperation. It was a day that helped us recapture Esprit de Corps... the patriotism that characterized us, not just in the military but in society nationwide.

My latest book, "Broken in America: Ten Guiding Principles to Restore America," released September 9. It is a guide for returning us to the civility and patriotism that once made us proud to be American.

Because that America is the one I was honored to fight for.

# New Medicare plan makes insulin affordable

By Kevin Kimble

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services just took a major step towards improving affordability for seniors with diabetes.

Thanks to a newly announced plan, more than 1,750 health plans will soon cap out-of-pocket costs for insulin at just \$35 a month.

This action deserves praise -- by lowering out-of-pocket costs,

the administration can ensure that the most vulnerable Americans have access to the lifesaving drug. Let's hope this is just the first of many likeminded reforms on the horizon.

In the midst of COVID-19 outbreak, it's more important than ever for Americans to stay on top of their health. For those suffering from diabetes, this can prove challenging.

At particular risk are the elderly and communities of color. While roughly one in three Medicare beneficiaries has diabetes, rates run higher among African Americans and Hispanics. Compared to non-Hispanic whites, Hispanics are 66 percent more likely to develop Type 2 diabetes. For African Americans, that number is approximately 77 percent.

More than 3 million of these diabetes patients require insulin treatments to manage blood sugar levels. Failure to manage the condition can lead to catastrophic health outcomes.

Unfortunately, patients battling diabetes often face difficulty accessing medication due to cost. More than 25 percent of patients who had been prescribed insulin said they had either not filled their prescriptions, skimped on doses, or stopped use altogether because of cost, according to the Journal of the American Medical Association.

Medicare Part D has evolved over time and unfortunately, more costs have been shifted to beneficiaries. In order to fix it, the drug pricing system will require fundamental change.

Under Medicare's prescription drug coverage -- Part D -- patients choose from competing plans that offer different benefits, including coverage for various prescription medications.

In exchange for coverage of their drug on a plan's formulary, manufacturers typically offer significant discounts and rebates. In 2018 alone, they doled out \$166 billion in rebates. These rebates reduce a drug's list price 30 percent, on average.

But patients often never see a dime of these savings when purchasing medication at the pharmacy. Insurers use these savings to lower monthly plan premiums for all beneficiaries by a few dollars.

Lower premiums are welcome, of course. But they do nothing to reduce the burden of high out-of-pocket costs -- especially for patients who rely on multiple medications. Since the discounts are kept secret, insurers still peg patients' copays or coinsurance fees to the list price of the drug -- not the post-rebate price.

These costs add up and net insurers billions that should instead be put towards reducing patients' direct, out-of-pocket pharmacy costs.

Under the new program, Americans in participating Part D plans will only responsible for a flat co-pay of \$35 per month for their insulin needs. That will save each beneficiary an average of \$446 a year.

For many, particularly low-income members of America's communities of color, these savings will represent a massive financial lifeline. But this is still just one step toward broader prescription drug affordability. Reducing patients' out-of-pocket spending -- for insulin and other critical medicines -- requires policymakers to shed sunlight on the opaque practices of insurers.

Make no mistake -- this a good first step. But it's important that our leaders build on this momentum, and embrace fundamental changes to the drug supply chain that will lower out-of-pocket costs for all Americans.

Kevin Kimble is a member of the Health Equity Collaborative, a community-based resource center designed to inform, educate, and elevate the voices of America's most vulnerable and underserved communities.

The Norwalk Patriot

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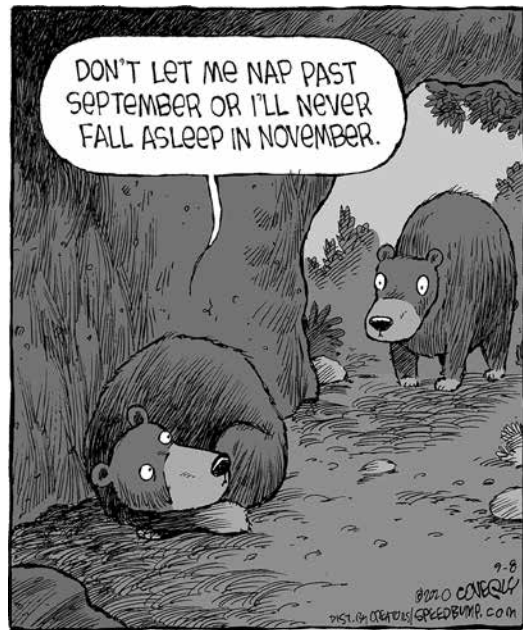
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**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**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  
 1st & 3rd 6:00 p.m. - Toastmasters Meetings - Registrar Recorder/County Clerks Office  
 1st & 3rd, 6:00 p.m. - City Council - Council Chambers  
 3rd, 5:45 p.m. - Housing Authority - Council Chambers

**WEDNESDAYS**

1st, 12:30 p.m. - Soroptimist International - Soroptimist Village  
 1st & 3rd, 7:00 p.m. - Lions Club - Bruce's Restaurant  
 2nd, 10:30 a.m. - Norwalk Woman's Club - Masonic Lodge  
 2nd & 4th, 1:30 p.m. - Alondra Senior Citizens - Social Services Center  
 2nd & 4th, 7:30 p.m. - Planning Commission - Council Chambers  
 4th, 11:30 a.m. - Coordinating Council - Arts & Sports Complex

**THURSDAYS**

7:00 p.m. - Boy Scouts Troop 924 - Norwalk United Methodist Church  
 2nd, 7:00 p.m. - American Legion Post No. 359 - 11986 Front St.  
 2nd, 7:30 p.m. - Golden Trowel -Norwalk Masonic Lodge

**SATURDAYS**

2nd, 8:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. - Pancake Breakfast - First Christian Church of Norwalk  
 Have an event you want listed? E-mail [news@thedowneypatriot.com](mailto:news@thedowneypatriot.com)

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**THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD**

Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com)  
**WATER LOG: With liquid and solid varieties**  
 by Gail Grabowski

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

















# September 11, 2001

Port Authority Police Department (PAPD) Sgt. Al DeVona issues orders to commence the evacuation of both towers. One minute later, PAPD Captain Anthony Whitaker expands the order to include all civilians in the World Trade Center complex.

9:00 A.M.

On Board Flight 175

Earlier, at 8:52 a.m., a flight attendant, likely Robert John Fangman, had reached a United Airlines operator in San Francisco, California, and reported a hijacking underway. By 9:00 a.m., passengers Garnet Ace Bailey, Peter Burton Hanson, and Brian David Sweeney have called family members.

9:02 A.M.

Evacuation Order Broadcast in the South Tower

"May I have your attention, please. Repeating this message. The situation occurred in Building One. If the conditions warrant on your floor, you may wish to start an orderly evacuation."

—Announcement made by a Port Authority fire safety employee, via the South Tower's public address system.

9:03 A.M.

South Tower Attack

Five hijackers crash United Airlines Flight 175 into floors 77 through 85 of 2 World Trade Center (South Tower), killing the 51 passengers and nine crew members onboard the aircraft and an unknown number of people inside the building. The impact renders two of the three emergency stairwells impassable and severs a majority of the elevator cables in this area, trapping many above the impact zone and inside elevator cars.

Shortly after hijacked Flight 175 strikes the South Tower, some workers in the building jump or fall to their deaths, a phenomenon already witnessed after the attack on the North Tower. Estimates of the number of people who die as a result of falling from the Twin Towers range from 50 to more than 200.

9:03 A.M.

Increasing Response

In addition to requesting the shutdown of airspace over New York City, the New York City Police Department (NYPD) calls for a second Level 4 mobilization, bringing its total deployment to nearly 2,000 officers.

The New York City Fire Department (FDNY) issues a fifth alarm for the South Tower, deploying several hundred additional firefighters to the disaster. Additional companies and off-duty personnel from across the metropolitan area travel to the scene.

9:05 A.M.

Informing the U.S. President

President Bush learns from White House Chief of Staff Andrew Card that a second plane has crashed into the World Trade Center.

Twenty-five minutes later, before departing the elementary school, President Bush delivers remarks, calling the attacks a "national tragedy." "Terrorism against our nation will not stand," he said.

The President and his staff leave the school at 9:35 A.M. and drove to Sarasota Bradenton International Airport to board Air Force One. The plane departs at about 9:54 A.M. without a clear destination. Although the President prefers to return to Washington, D.C., his staff recommends Barksdale Air Force Base in Louisiana as a secure location for landing.

9:12 A.M.

On Board Flight 77

Flight attendant Renee A. May calls her mother, Nancy May, and tells her that hijackers have seized control of the plane, forcing passengers and crew members to the rear.

Minutes later, passenger Barbara Olson calls her husband, U.S. Solicitor General Theodore Olson, who is at his desk at the Department

of Justice. She tells him that hijackers have taken over the plane using knives and box cutters.

9:36 A.M.

Evacuation of U.S. Vice President

U.S. Secret Service agents evacuate Vice President Dick Cheney to the Presidential Emergency Operations Center beneath the White House.

9:37 A.M.

Attack at the Pentagon

Five hijackers crash American Airlines Flight 77 into the Pentagon. The 53 passengers and six crew members on board perish. The crash and ensuing fire kill 125 military and civilian personnel on the ground.

9:42 A.M.

Federal Aviation Authority (FAA) Grounds All Flights

The FAA orders all civilian planes in the U.S. to land and prohibits departures.

9:45 A.M.

Evacuations begin at the White House and U.S. Capitol, where the House of Representatives and Senate are in session.

Throughout the morning, officials across the country are in the process of closing buildings, bridges and public spaces.

9:58 A.M.

9-1-1 Call from Flight 93

Thirty-seven telephone calls are known to have been made from hijacked Flight 93, most placed from the rear of the plane. One of the last calls is made by passenger Edward P. Felt, who uses his cell phone to dial 9-1-1 after closing himself in a restroom to avoid detection. By 9:58 a.m., Flight 93 is flying so low that he succeeds in reaching an emergency operator in nearby Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania.

9:59 A.M.

Collapse of the South Tower

After burning for 56 minutes, the South Tower collapses in 10 seconds. More than 800 civilians and first responders inside the building and in the surrounding area are killed.

9:59 A.M.

Continuity of Government Procedures

Continuity-of-government procedures, established to protect high-level government officials during national emergencies, are implemented for the first known time in United States history.

"We have a plan, we have trained people, we exercise it regularly, that if Washington isn't around, the U.S. government continues," says Richard A. Clarke, National Security Council counterterrorism coordinator.

10:03 A.M.

Crash of Flight 93

Four hijackers crash Flight 93 in a field near the town of Shanksville in Somerset County, Pennsylvania, after passengers and crew storm the cockpit. The 33 passengers and seven crew members on board perish. The crash site is approximately 20 minutes' flying time from Washington, D.C.

10:28 A.M.

Collapse of the North Tower

The North Tower collapses after burning for 102 minutes. More than 1,600 people are killed as a result of the attack on the North Tower.

11:02 A.M.

New York City Mayor Orders Evacuation of Lower Manhattan

Near the World Trade Center when the South Tower collapses,

Mayor Rudolph Giuliani and senior members of his administration find temporary shelter inside an office building close by. As the dust begins to settle, they walk north, intent on establishing a new base of operations for city government. Reporters catch up with the mayor, who urges the public at 11:02 a.m. to evacuate lower Manhattan. He will continue to address the public in briefings at temporary headquarters at the New York City Police Academy throughout the day.

12:16 P.M.

U.S. Airspace Closed

The last flight still in the air above the continental United States lands. In two and a half hours, U.S. airspace has been cleared of an estimated 4,500 commercial and general aviation planes.

Plane passengers become stranded as flights are canceled. Others attempting to travel nationally by train, bus, or rental car find most options canceled or sold out within hours of the attacks.

Air Force One, carrying U.S. President George W. Bush and members of his staff, travels throughout the day in search of secure locations, landing at Barksdale Air Force Base in Louisiana around 11:45 a.m. and later landing at Offutt Air Force Base in Nebraska at 2:50 p.m. President Bush will return to the Washington, D.C., area that evening, landing at Andrews Air Force Base and taking a helicopter to the White House.

12:30 P.M.

Group of 14 Survivors Located in Ruins of North Tower's Stairwell B

A lower section of the North Tower's stairwell B survives the building's collapse, protecting a group of 13 first responders and one civilian who had been attempting to evacuate down the stairs. Within hours of the tower's collapse, the first responders emerge from the debris and direct rescuers to the civilians.

Early Afternoon

Rescue Efforts Continue at the World Trade Center Site

Within hours of the attacks, some rescue workers and journalists begin referring to the scene of mass destruction at the World Trade Center site as Ground Zero, a term typically used to describe devastation caused by an atomic bomb.

First responders, search and rescue teams, and volunteers continue to converge on Ground Zero throughout the day. Rescuers use special tools to peer into voids and search for remnants of stairwells and elevators that might shelter survivors. The last successful rescue will occur midday on September 12.

5:20 P.M.

Collapse of 7 World Trade Center

After burning for hours, 7 World Trade Center collapses. The 47-story tower had been evacuated earlier. There are no casualties.

8:30 P.M.

U.S. President Addresses the Nation from the White House

"The search is under way for those who are behind these evil acts. I've directed the full resources of our intelligence and law enforcement communities to find those responsible and to bring them to justice. We will make no distinction between the terrorists who committed these acts and those who harbor them."

—U.S. President George W. Bush

10:30 P.M.

Rescue Workers Locate Trapped PAPD Officers

Around this time, rescuers locate PAPD Officer William Jimeno and PAPD Sergeant John McLoughlin, injured but alive in the debris of the World Trade Center. They free Officer Jimeno after three hours of dangerous tunneling work. Sergeant McLoughlin's rescue will take another eight hours.

Workers will extricate the 18th survivor, Genelle Guzman, on the afternoon of September 12. She will be the last person rescued.



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