

## Virus infections on the decline

■ Officials, however, warned that progress could be derailed with public gatherings on Super Bowl Sunday.

By Eric Pierce  
Editor

**NORWALK** – Covid-19 infection rates are dropping in LA County but health officials are cautioning against public gatherings on Super Bowl Sunday.

On Wednesday, LA County confirmed 256 new deaths and 5,189 new cases of Covid-19.

To date, Public Health identified 1,129,503 positive cases of Covid-19 across all areas of L.A. County and a total of 17,308 deaths.

The County continues to make progress in reducing the number of daily new cases and slowing transmission.

However, the number of new cases remains substantially higher than the number of cases we saw in September, which were less than 1,000 new cases a day.

With the Super Bowl scheduled for this Sunday, health officials warned of past tragic consequences of gatherings.

In the weeks following every holiday, and many major sporting events, the county experienced increases in cases, and then hospitalizations and deaths.

Public Health recommended residents enjoy the Super Bowl and cheer for their team from their home with those they live with. Residents should connect virtually with their friends and not gather with people from outside their household to watch the Super Bowl.

Of the 256 new deaths reported Wednesday, 69 people who passed away were over the age of 80, 92 people who died were between the ages of 65 and 79, 51 people who died were between the ages of 50 and 64, 24 people who died were between the ages of 30 and 49.

Thirteen deaths were reported by the City of Long Beach and seven deaths were reported by Pasadena.

Testing results are available for nearly 5,543,000 individuals with 19% of people testing positive. There are 5,165 people with Covid-19 currently hospitalized and 27% of these people are in the ICU.

Fifty-two people are currently hospitalized at PIH Downey with Covid-19.

Along with the majority of the state, Los Angeles County is in the most restrictive purple tier in the state's Blueprint for a Safer Economy.

In order to move into the red tier and have additional opportunities for re-openings, L.A. County's daily case rate must be at or below 7 new cases per 100,000 people and the county's test positivity rate must be at or below 8%.

As of Jan. 23, L.A. County's adjusted case rate is 38.7 new cases per 100,000 people and the test positivity rate is 11.3%.

"It is clear we have quite a way to go before transmission in our county is considered no longer widespread; hopefully, by following all the rules, we can continue to make good progress slowing the spread and moving into a less restrictive tier," said LA County health director Barbara Ferrer.

As of Wednesday, Covid-19 has killed 223 Norwalk residents, up from 205 one week ago.

A total of 14,790 Norwalk residents have tested positive for the virus.

# Frankie Alvarez Jr. just wanted to play football

■ Standout quarterback Frankie Alvarez Jr. traveled to Texas to continue his high school prep career.

By John M. Sherrard  
Contributor

**NORWALK** – Frankie Alvarez, Jr. just wanted to play high school football. It's been a long and somewhat winding road for the recently-turned 18-year-old athlete.

However, rules interfered and the road has taken several turns.

This young quarterback may be only 5-9, 160 pounds, but his heart and love for the game are much bigger than that.

He recently returned from Texas where he played his senior year, because he was denied the opportunity to play in California.

With California shutting down high school football last fall and Alvarez deemed ineligible for his senior year at Santa Fe High School due to an obscure CIF rule not many athletic directors or coaches even know about, he seized an opportunity to play one final time in high school.

He played at Mansfield Legacy High School in Mansfield, Texas, and got to play under the famous "Friday Night Lights" in the Lone Star State.

"I had to flip through three high schools and two different states just to play football," Alvarez said. "It's crazy."

Alvarez was hit with not only one but two separate CIF rules that sent his high school years into a tizzy.

The first was a double transfer rule and the second and final blow to his senior year was the eight-semester rule. Both are stated in the CIF Blue Book (rules and guidelines for sports).

However, they are rules that aren't very well known.

"CIF dropped the ball on this one," said Santa Fe High School football coach Dave Pierson, regarding the eight-semester rule. "For cases like this, they should be an independent panel on a case-by-case situation."

After Alvarez graduated from eighth grade at Los Nietos Middle School, he enrolled at Santa Fe, where he began freshman football.

The CIF rule states that a student can't go past 15 days

in school or it will count as a semester. Unfortunately, he was there more than 15 days, as he participated in freshman football for about a month.

Alvarez would then go back to junior high since he didn't appear ready for high school since he was only 13 at the time. He would enroll at St. John of God in Norwalk.

"When he withdrew from Santa Fe, had the parents been made aware by CIF about the eight-semester rule, I'm sure they wouldn't have withdrawn him," Pierson said.

"Looking at the case as an individual case, they (CIF) didn't look into it in totally," Pierson added. "He played lower level football and every opportunity I would watch him. Clearly, he was the quarterback for our program and should have been since day one."

Pierson continued, "If you look at this case as an outsider, in fifth, sixth and seventh grades, teachers mentioned that he was still immature. The school system failed him."

"You're talking about high school kids just playing the sports, not about the rules in the Blue Book."

"Frankie was thrust into a situation to do whatever he had to do. He's taking it in stride."

Assisting Pierson on the football team is Tony Chavarria and he expressed the sadness of the whole situation for the family on the decision.

"You're talking about parents that wanted to do the best for their boy," Chavarria said. "What's mind blowing is that they had no idea of the eight-semester rule when he was at Santa Fe."

The journey for young Frankie begins in youth football for the Norwalk/Santa Fe Saints and later the 49ers out of Santa Fe Springs. Frankie is still close to his former youth teammates, which includes Matthew Gonzalez.

His parents, Frank and Evelinda Alvarez and their other son, Elias, watched as their young son took on the position of quarterback and ran with it



Frankie Alvarez Jr. enrolled in a Texas high school after CIF deemed him ineligible to play here. (Photo by Keith Durlinger)

from the beginning. And run he did.

Frank Sr. remembers one game when he was very young. "Frankie just took off and broke tackle after tackle and ran nearly the length of the field," said Frank, while showing a video of him.

He's been running ever since. But the running was interrupted several times at various stops when he got into high school.

This is where the first rule had affected the young man, but it wasn't discovered until entering his final year of high school.

After his year at St. John of God Junior High, Frankie got a chance to play at St. Paul and entered the highly successful Swordsmen program.

Frankie played in his freshman year and in his sophomore year he played JV and some varsity.

Therein lies the next ruling.

The family decided to transfer Frankie back to his home school of Santa Fe

entering his junior year, where he was expected to be the starting quarterback for the Chiefs.

"Frankie was so depressed that he couldn't play varsity football," said his mom, Evelinda Alvarez.

Frankie actually didn't get to play until about halfway through the season that year as the family waited on the transfer rule decision.

The CIF transfer rule came about because his first transfer was from Santa Fe to St. Paul, where he saw minimal time on varsity, which became the first varsity appearance.

Santa Fe would have been the second appearance on varsity and thus the transfer rule (two transfers) would not allow him to play.

The summer prior to his senior year at Santa Fe was the most devastating of all as they found out the findings of the eight-semester rule.

Continued on page 16

# Cerritos College lobbies to become vaccination site

■ The college says it is capable of serving as a mass vaccination facility; county supervisors need to give approval.

**NORWALK** – While Covid-19 cases continue to reach record high numbers in Los Angeles County, Cerritos College, in collaboration with seven cities the college serves in its district, is seeking to be designated as an official Los Angeles County vaccination site.

Pending the approval of county supervisors, the college

could serve approximately 480,000 residents across 12 cities.

The Southeast Los Angeles region carries more than 25 percent of the population living below the poverty line, and vaccine access and education are critical factors to ensuring the health and wellness of the communities the college serves.

The effort is supported by the cities of Artesia, Bellflower, Bell Gardens, Cerritos, Lakewood, Norwalk, and South Gate.

Cerritos College continues to serve as a vital lifeline for many families in the region.

Since 2017, the college has been an active partner with the L.A. Regional Food Bank to distribute food to students and the community bimonthly. The College has served more than 21,000 families, distributing 332 tons of food over four years.

Under current public health orders, Cerritos College petitioned the Los Angeles Department of Public Health and County Supervisors to serve as a vaccination site to increase access to residents in the region.

While the College waits for approval, thousands of residents scramble to locate the life-saving

vaccine.

"As an institution of higher education, we play an important role in vaccine education and access. The southeast region is disproportionately impacted by the pandemic, but we are here to serve as a vested community partner to aid the region, and help fill in the gap for the underserved communities," said Dr. Jose Fierro, president and superintendent of Cerritos College.

"We hope the county supervisors will designate our campus to serve as a Covid-19 vaccination site."

## Weekend at a Glance

Friday 71°

Saturday 76°

Sunday 72°

### ON THIS DAY FEBRUARY 5

#### 1917:

Over President Woodrow Wilson's veto, Congress passed a law severely curtailing the immigration of Asians.

#### 1919:

A group of Hollywood performers -- Charlie Chaplin, Mary Pickford, Douglas Fairbanks, and D. W. Griffith -- launch United Artists.

#### 1937:

President Franklin D. Roosevelt proposed increasing the number of Supreme Court justices. Critics charged that he was attempting to "pack" the court.

#### 1958:

The US Air Force lost a 7,600-lb. hydrogen bomb off the coast of Georgia. It was never recovered.

#### 1988:

The Arizona House of Representatives impeached Gov. Evan Mecham, who was later convicted in the state Senate and removed from office. Mecham had been accused of misusing public money and obstruction of justice.

#### 1988:

Panamanian military leader Gen. Manuel Noriega was indicted on bribery and drug trafficking charges in Florida.

#### 1994:

White separatist Byron De La Beckwith was convicted in Jackson, Miss., of murdering civil rights leader Medgar Evers in 1963. He was sentenced to life in prison.

#### 1997:

Investment bank Morgan Stanley announced a \$10 billion merger with Dean Witter.

#### 2002:

A federal grand jury indicted John Walker Lindh, the so-called "American Taliban," alleging that he was trained by Osama bin Laden's network and that he conspired with the Taliban to kill Americans.

#### Birthdays

"Saturday Night Live" cast member **Tim Meadows** (60), film and Broadway actress **Jennifer Jason Leigh** (59), R&B singer **Bobby Brown** (52), country singer **Sara Evans** (50), soccer player **Cristiano Ronaldo** (36), rapper **Kevin Gates** (35), "Glee" actor **Darren Criss** (34), and Brazilian soccer player **Neymar** (29).

#### Deaths

Prolific actor **Kirk Douglas**, a leading box office star throughout the 1950s, died on this date in 2020 at age 103.

His career spanned seven decades and included 90 films, 10 novels and memoirs, three Academy Award nominations, and a Presidential Medal of Freedom.

#### Book Recommendation

"**The Address Book: What Street Addresses Reveal about Identity, Race, Wealth, and Power**" by Deirdre Mask

In this wide-ranging and remarkable book, Deirdre Mask looks at the fate of streets named after Martin Luther King Jr., the wayfinding means of ancient Romans, and how Nazis haunt the streets of modern Germany.

The flipside of having an address is not having one, and we also see what that means for millions of people today, including those who live in the slums of Kolkata and on the streets of London.

Filled with fascinating people and histories, "The Address Book" illuminates the complex and sometimes hidden stories behind street names and their power to name, to hide, to decide who counts, who doesn't—and why.

# Black Leaders that Inspire Us

**Amanda Gorman** was born and raised in Los Angeles. She graduated from Harvard University in 2020.

She is the author of the poetry collection "The Hill We Climb" (Viking, September 2021) and "The One for Whom Food Is Not Enough" (Penmanship Books, 2015).



In 2017, Gorman was named the first-ever National Youth Poet Laureate of the United States. She previously served as the youth poet laureate of Los Angeles, and she is the founder and executive director of One Pen One Page, an organization providing free creative writing programs for underserved youth.

Gorman was selected by President Biden to read an original poem for his inauguration, making her the youngest poet to have served in this role.

At a December event hosted by the National Urban League, Dr. Anthony Fauci had one very

important thing to say about the Moderna Covid-19 vaccine, aka "mRNA-1273," approved by the FDA for emergency use on Dec. 18.

"The first thing you might want to say to my African-American brothers and sisters is that the vaccine that you're going to be taking was developed by an African-American woman," Fauci said. "And that is just a fact."

Indeed, **Dr. Kizzmekia Corbett**, a 35-year-old viral immunologist and research fellow in the Vaccine Research Center of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, is the lead scientist on the team that developed the Moderna Covid-19 vaccine. She built on her six years of experience studying the spike proteins of other coronaviruses like SARS and MERS in order to design the vaccine within two days of the novel coronavirus being discovered. (Spike proteins sit on the surface of coronaviruses and penetrate human cells, causing infection.)

"I like to call it the plug-and-play approach," Corbett, who has a PhD in microbiology and immunology from the University

of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, said in a virtual NIH lecture on Oct. 15.

"Basically the idea [is] that we had so much knowledge based on work from us and from other labs previously that we were able to pull the trigger on vaccine development and start the ball rolling toward a phase 1 clinical trial."

When NASA astronaut **Victor Glover** arrived at the International Space Station — roughly 250 miles above earth — on a SpaceX Crew Dragon Capsule in November, he settled in for a six-month stay to become the first Black astronaut to live and work on ISS for an extended period of time.

"It is bittersweet, because I've had some amazing colleagues before me that really could have done it, and there are some amazing folks that will go behind me," Glover, who is serving as pilot and second-in-command on the crew, told The Christian Chronicle in a November story. "I wish it would have already been done, but I try not to draw too much attention to it."

Before becoming a NASA astronaut, Glover was a commander and test pilot in the U.S. Navy, where he flew 2,000 hours in over 40 aircraft and 24 combat missions. Glover got his bachelors in general engineering from California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo, California and received multiple related graduate school degrees including a masters in flight test engineering from Air University and a masters in Systems Engineering from the Naval Postgraduate School.

It was Glover's fifth grade science teacher at Allison Elementary in Pomona, Mr. Hargrove, who inspired Glover to pursue STEM (an area where Blacks in the U.S. are under-represented, and Black and

Latino students drop out of STEM degrees at higher rates than their white peers).

"My interest in math encouraged him to suggest that I consider engineering. At the time...I didn't know any engineers," Glover told Pittsburgh Steelers quarterback Josh Dobbs during a Jan. 15 interview from aboard the ISS. "[B]ut Mr. Hargrove's belief in me still continues to resonate with me today and is one of the reasons I chose engineering as a profession."

"Journalism is such a complicated industry," **Rashida Jones** said at a 2015 conference at the University of Missouri's School of Journalism. "If you really want to be a next-level journalist that's coloring the history of our world, that's the only reason you should be on this path."

In her eight years at MSNBC and her 21 years in the business, that's exactly what Jones has been doing. On Feb. 1, Jones started her new role as president at MSNBC, making her the first Black executive to lead a major television news network.

Jones was previously senior vice president of news at MSNBC and NBC News, where she oversaw breaking news coverage, like the coronavirus pandemic and 2020 election. Jones set rating records for two town-hall specials and helped oversee the second presidential debate, during which NBC correspondent Kristen Welker became only the second Black woman to moderate a presidential debate solo. (The first was ABC News journalist Carole Simpson in 1992.)

Jones has also helped to bring more diversity to MSNBC's daytime and weekend schedule, like extending Nicolle Wallace's show, "Deadline: White House."

"Rashida fully understands and supports the importance of representation, diversity, and inclusion," said Dorothy Tucker, president of the National Association of Black Journalists (NABJ) in a statement. "Her promotion is bigger than our industry, it's the kind of story Black and Brown children everywhere need to see, so they can know what's possible."

**Rosalind "Roz" Brewer** was recently named as the new

CEO at Walgreens, effective July 2021. She will be the only Black woman CEO leading a Fortune 500 company.

Brewer has served as Chief Operating Officer at Starbucks since 2017 when she also joined the Starbucks board of directors. She was the first Black woman to be COO of Starbucks and to head a division there.

As chief operating officer and group president for Starbucks, Roz Brewer leads the company's operating businesses across the Americas (Canada, U.S. and Latin America), and Starbucks license stores as well as the global functions of marketing, technology, supply chain, product innovation, and store development organizations.

She previously served as CEO of Sam's Club and made history by becoming the first woman and first African American to lead a Walmart division.

She is a current director of Starbucks, Amazon and a former director of Lockheed Martin and Molson Coors Brewing Company. She also chairs the board of trustees at Spelman College.

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**In Memory of**

**Harry Kent Evans**  
**July 16, 1935 - January 20, 2021**

85 years old, resident of Cerritos, passed on January 20, 2021, at St. Mary's Hospital of Long Beach of Covid-19. Harry attended Torrance High school and was proud to have played for the Tartars Varsity football squad. Born July 16, 1935 in Long Beach to Harry C. And Elizabeth Evans. Harry had 4 siblings Jean Phelps, Joan Amsberry, Jane Covey and Thomas Evans who all preceded him in death.

Harry married Theresa Marie Maure on November 24, 1955. They remained together 52 years until her passing in 2007. Harry served in the United States Army from 1955 to 1957, and then served in the Army reserves from 1957 to 1961. Harry was issued "Expert" status with firearms. He was also issued a National Defense Service Medal for his service during the Korean Conflict.

Harry worked for North American Rockwell / Autonetics division, where he found a passion for Union Activism. He followed that passion and grew his career with world class organizations. The United Auto Workers (UAW), American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), The American Society of Cinematographers (ASC), and after 25 years retired from the Director's Guild of America (DGA). Harry worked in an executive capacity in all of the unions he served.

Harry leaves behind 4 children: Harry C. Evans 2nd, Cindy VanLaar, Laura Lynn Coward and Scott Evans. 8 Grandchildren: Jered VanLaar, Angela De La Cerda, Ashley Atkinson, Carl Moore Jr., Sara Evans, Savannah Ortiz, Jordan Ancona and Taylor Ancona. 5 Great Grandchildren: Haley VanLaar, Camron VanLaar, Isabelle VanLaar, Lyric Ma and Symphony Stewart.

Harry resided in the California City's of Torrance, Paramount, Artesia, LaPuente, Norwalk, Rialto, and Cerritos throughout his life. Harry also called Livonia, Michigan home in the early 70s. He will be laid to rest at Mountain View Cemetery in San Bernardino, Ca.

A beautiful person, a wonderful man, together again with his bride.

## Legislation would require nursing homes to provide virtual visits

**NORWALK** —Norwalk Congresswoman Linda Sánchez this week introduced The Facilitating Virtual Visitation for Nursing Home Residents Act, a bill that would require skilled nursing facilities to provide a means for residents to conduct virtual visits with loved ones during the pandemic.

"It is awful for both families and people in nursing homes not to see each other during the pandemic," Sánchez said.

"Because of Covid-19, families are understandably being told they can't see family members in person — my family included. Social isolation in our nursing home residents is a real concern, so I'm pleased to reintroduce this legislation that would require facilities to provide televisitiation services.

"We've seen the videos of loved ones visiting outside windows, but that cannot be the only

way residents communicate with those most important to them during the pandemic."

The legislation would require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to issue guidance to nursing homes on how to provide residents timely and equitable access to televisitiation during the Covid-19 pandemic. Nursing homes would also be required to tell residents, representatives of residents, and relatives of residents of the rights for these services.

Sánchez has long championed legislation to protect nursing home residents since first elected to Congress, including reintroducing the Fairness in Nursing Home Arbitration Act in 2019, a bill that would prohibit long-term care facilities from requiring or soliciting residents to enter into mandatory, binding arbitration agreements.

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# Economists agree: rent control doesn't work

By Megan McArdle

There aren't that many things you can get economists to agree on. Fiscal stimulus, minimum wages, monetary policy, health care, bank regulation — on almost all the major issues of the day, you can find a respected economist to argue for either side.

But there are a few questions where there's near unanimity, and rent control is one of them. Pretty much every economist agrees that rent controls are bad. And in the last decades of the 20th century, economists had some success persuading state and local governments to curb these policies.

Now the policy appears to be making a comeback. City governments may have to relearn why their predecessors pruned back rent-control policies.

Rent control is supposed to protect poor, deserving tenants from the depredations of greedy landlords. And it does, up to a point. Research on rent control shows that many of the beneficiaries are low-income, and that controlling their rents makes it more likely that they'll stay in their apartments for a good long time.

The problem is that rent control doesn't do anything about the reason that rents are rising, which is that there are more people who want to live in desirable areas than there are homes for them to live in. Housing follows the same basic laws of economics as other goods that consumers need: When the demand for a product consistently exceeds the supply, prices will rise until the quantity demanded is equal to the amount that suppliers have available.

As long as there's no new construction, controlling that natural increase is just a game of musical chairs. You can change which people get to live in a city, but you still leave just as many people out in the cold. Actually, a few more, because rent control also reduces the incentive to supply rental housing.

All this suggests an actual solution to skyrocketing rents: Build more housing, so that the rent controls won't be necessary, and offer subsidies to the smaller number of low-income people who simply can't afford decent housing. To do that, cities would need to ease the costly land-use regulations that make it so difficult for developers to fill the unmet demand. And in many cases, cities would also need to get rid of rent control, both to reassure potential landlords that they can build without fear of new controls and to encourage landlords to

tear down smaller buildings and put up bigger ones, something that rent protections often prevent.

Alas, that's not going to happen, so coastal urbanites should brace for what will. Declining housing stock is just one of the many potential costs of rent controls; others include a deteriorating housing stock as landlords stop investing in their properties, and higher rents. Yes, higher, because rent control creates a two-tier housing market. There are cheap, price-stabilized apartments that rarely turn over, because why would you give up such a great deal? Then there are the uncontrolled apartments, which everyone else in the city has to fight over, bidding up the price.

Perversely, the people paying above-market rent are often worse off than the people enjoying a hefty subsidy from their landlords. There's no means test for rent-stabilized housing, and while the average income of people in New York's rent-stabilized apartments is somewhat lower than that of people in market-rate housing, a recent analysis by the Wall Street Journal showed that the people getting the biggest benefit are white, affluent Manhattanites who presumably landed the apartments decades ago and held on while rents rose around them.

That could be an argument for controlling the rent on all the housing stock. But cities don't do that for a reason: If you force the price of something below market level, people will supply less of it. Since cities tend not to impose rent controls unless they're already experiencing a severe housing shortage, that would be bad. Thus, rent control usually applies only to older buildings, since you can't go back and unbuild an apartment house that was constructed before 1947. It doesn't completely solve the problem, since landlords still withdraw less-profitable units from the market, shrinking the housing stock over time. But it turns what would be a disastrous policy into one that is merely terrible.

"Merely terrible" is a low aspiration for something as important as housing policy, but at this point it's probably the best that New Yorkers and Californians can hope for.

*Megan McArdle writes for the Washington Post, where this article first published.*

# Conservative distress goes way beyond the face on the \$20 bill

By Salena Zito

Drive along U.S. 11 in Pennsylvania, Maryland, and here in West Virginia and you are pretty much roaming through the more conservative enclaves of the region.

The road, one of the first north-south routes in the country, takes the traveler through places such as Chambersburg, Shippensburg, and Carlisle, Hagerstown and Martinsburg.

The offramps wind down to treasures such as those here in Ranson.

Drive too fast and you miss meeting some really great people or seeing some beautiful places, some gorgeous preservation projects that have brought homes and businesses back to life, some of which reflect beauty even in decay.

Fly over the states or use an interstate and you are likely to never know who the people who live along U.S. 11 are and what they care about. That's OK. People really don't like feeling like a specimen, but if you are going to write about them, you should probably have a conversation or two.

And just stop and sit a spell.

Do that and you will probably learn a few things about them that might dispel some assumptions that exist, such as: Not all people who live in rural areas are Republicans. You often find a healthy mix of Democrats, Republicans and independents who believe the most important election day is the one for mayor, sheriff, county commissioner, school board or state legislator.

More often than not, you will find that they are not as obsessed with politics in the way social media would have people believe, and that they are capable of having conversations with people who have different points of view and conduct their lives way outside the boundaries of the stereotypes those who don't know a thing about them imagine.

They have long figured out two things about the people who write about them in a story or reference them on social media: Nuance is dead, and it is much easier to make a monster out of someone you don't understand than to try to make an honest attempt to understand them.

Last week, there was a column in the Washington Post about how conservatives feel in the light of the news that President Joe Biden's administration revived an effort to replace the image of Andrew Jackson on the \$20 bill with Harriet Tubman.

The column declared, "Many conservatives will find the new Tubman bill distressing, even if they could barely tell you the first thing about Jackson."

There is so much to unpack here, beginning with where the "many conservatives" come from, because I was hard-pressed to find "many conservatives" who found the news distressing.

I was also hard-pressed to find "many conservatives" who didn't know about who Jackson was, his presidential failures and successes, his role as a general, and the painful legacies of the Trail of Tears and slave ownership.

All you have to do is ask. All you need to do is listen.

In fact, had the columnist asked what truly distresses them right now, you'd find that it's the coronavirus and the toll it has taken on not just the people who have lost family members but the mental health of children, seniors, mothers and fathers.

So does the uncertainty of their jobs, their small businesses, their shuttered communities.

So does having not hugged someone in nearly a year.

Tubman? Hardly. Talk to a conservative and they will tell you unequivocally that it is hard for them not to admire a gun-toting woman of faith who risked her life to free slaves.

Perhaps the columnist made the "many conservatives" assumption from scrolling through Twitter. But Twitter is not really the place to find a good cross section of everyday people.

In mid-October, the Pew Research Center released a comprehensive study on Twitter use, and in many ways, its conclusion should shake any person who uses the social media platform as a guide to the pulse of what America thinks.

In short, "just 10% of users produced 92% of all tweets from U.S. adults," with an eye-popping 69% of those "highly prolific users" identifying as Democrats.

That pretty much kills the idea that Twitter thought or distress represents public thought or distress.

Going even more granular, the survey found those Democrats who are on Twitter are much further left than Democrats who are not.

It is a reminder for reporters to shy away from using Twitter as an indication for public perspectives.

So, just because everyone on Twitter says conservatives are mad about Tubman and don't know who Jackson is, be a wee bit skeptical, because your words continue a narrative that may not be true.

There is a line in the J.D. Vance book "Hillbilly Elegy" that says, "Where we come from is who we are, but we choose everyday who we become."

All people out here want is to be able to tell the story of where they've come from and who they've become, not for someone to write the story of who they think they've become.

*Salena Zito is a CNN political analyst, and a staff reporter and columnist for the Washington Examiner.*

## Super-spreaders

Dear Editor:

As someone with health issues, I try hard to stay away from situations that could expose me or my family to the virus. Living in a multi-unit apartment building, however, has demonstrated that there is no amount of caution that I can take to protect me from my neighbors.

We share hallways, doorways, doorknobs, elevators, etc, which are cleaned maybe twice a month (by a pair of workers wearing no masks). Hearing my upstairs neighbors greet dozens of guests upstairs and play games all night, I know that they can't possibly be social distancing.

I also know that the managers/owners will not do anything if I call them, and neither will the police; enforcing covid capacity restrictions in private homes is hardly a priority.

It would be nice if any of these people -- neighbors, landowners, public servants -- would take some responsibility for these actions. Perhaps this virus would not have taken 17,000 of us in LA County alone so far if they did.

**Rhianan Thomas Downey**

## Republican playbook

Dear Editor:

I read Randy Evan's letter about our congresswoman and thought his rant off the mark. ("Roybal-Allard's Hypocrisy," Letters to the Editor, 1/28/21).

I was particularly illuminated when he pronounced that Americans who voted against Clinton and Biden were "capitalists opposed to communists." Really? There was more: Bernie Sanders would be more comfortable in Cuba. The best was his reference that we should come together in "unity and piece." (his miscue of peace, not mine)

For the record, I don't know Roybal-Allard but I would take her any day over Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene (R-GA), that real prize the Republicans will have to deal with. She may not be a communist but she's no American, either - at least not the kind that I'm familiar with.

To my knowledge the Democrats have never had anyone of her ilk in their caucus. If the Republicans in the House weren't so fearful that the Trump base might take offense and toss them out on their ears, they'd do what is right and expel her from Congress. What a pity that they might actually have to go look for jobs again.

As for the business about unity and peace: before that can happen the Republicans in the Senate and the House have to concede that Biden won the election fair and square -- something Trump did not do in 2016. They have to demonstrate their willingness to cooperate with Biden, and that means bypassing both McConnell and McCarthy. Otherwise, there is no basis for unity and peace.

Since January 6, 2021 at least 30,000 Republican voters have left the Republican Party - and that's a partial count. Demographics were already against the GOP increasing its strength; voter defections are just more icing on the cake.

I look forward to Biden's AG taking action against states that engage in voter suppression - the priority in the Republican playbook for winning elections since they can't compete otherwise. None of this is going to please Randy Evans, but it's all in line with what the sane majority of voters want in this country. How do I know? They elected Biden.

**Muriel Schuerman Downey**

## Justice before unity

Dear Editor:

While Mr. Julio Rivera makes some good points in regard to unity, I have to ask how you can have unity without justice. ("Uniting the Country," Letters to the Editor, 1/28/21)

In his statement, he references the quest for justice as vengeful and evil against Donald Trump. Mr. Trump while president incited his supporters to attack our country's Capitol building, a sacred building and homage to our Democracy. To me that is evil and vengeful.

I have to ask Mr. Rivera, after the attacks on Pearl Harbor or 9/11 should we just forget? As Americans should we not seek out justice after attacks on our Country in the future.

Insurrectionists attacked our democracy on January 6, thus committing an act of treason. Trump violated his oath of office by not defending the Constitution or our democratic right to vote, inciting the crowd to storm the Capitol endangering the lives of Congress members, Vice President Mike Pence and resulting in five lives lost.

Trump watched the whole incident on television and did nothing to stop the crowd. American flags were used as weapons against Capitol police.

Trump should be held accountable for the crimes he committed as president. If not, future presidents will do worse without accountability. No one is above the law, not even a former president.

It was a planned insurrection and all based on a lie that the election was stolen. Trump tried to overturn an election voted by the people.

It angers me that some want to just let it go and forget about it. I cannot just sweep the attack on America, the Constitution or the American flag under the rug. Justice comes before unity.

**Joanne Gallo Downey**

## Our Republic

Dear Editor:

I am starting to worry.

I am starting to worry the direction our country is heading.

I am starting to worry when dissent is not acceptable and speech is muted.

I am starting to worry when social platforms are eliminated.

I am starting to worry about the power of "Big Tech" and "Wall Street".

I am starting to wake up and share my thoughts openly.

**John Lacey Downey**

## Cerritos homeless

Dear Editor:

Why is it that there are no homeless people in Cerritos? But there are many in Norwalk and in surrounding cities.

**Larry Arellano Norwalk**

**The Norwalk Patriot** STAFF

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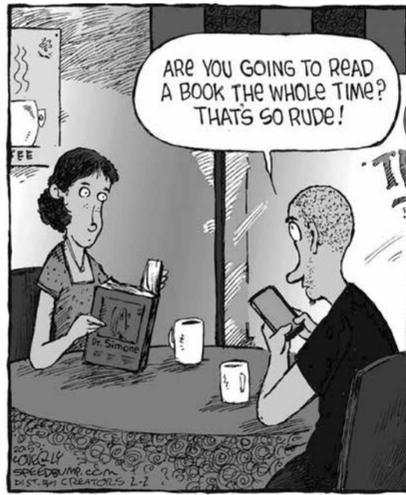
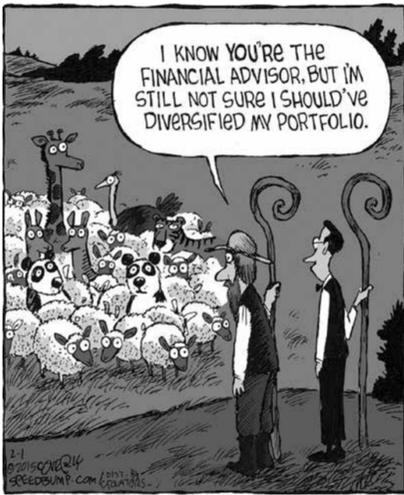
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Send us your Letters to the Editor, Press Releases, photos, meeting and club schedules!  
**Address:**  
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news@thedowneypatriot.com

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**MONDAYS**

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

**TUESDAYS**

9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. - Farmers Market - Norwalk City Hall  
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  
3rd, 7:00 p.m. - Soroptimist International - Via Zoom

**WEDNESDAYS**

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**

9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. - Farmers Market - Norwalk City Hall  
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

**Turn Those UNUSED ITEMS in to CASH!**  
Our Deadline for Classified is Wednesday at 11:00 am  
**(562) 904-3668**  
The Norwalk Patriot

**THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD**  
Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com)  
**MARK MY WORDS: What Mr. Twain had to say**  
by S.N.

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

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

"The Land of 10,000 Lakes."  
When the original Broadway run of *Les Miz* (9 Across) concluded in 2003 after 6,680 performances, it was the second only to *Cats* as the longest-running Broadway musical. On a British Monopoly board, MAYFAIR (63 Across) is the most expensive property, corresponding to Boardwalk in the American version. The NBA's Los Angeles LAKERS (6 Down) got their name from their original home of Minneapolis, Minnesota being "The Land of 10,000 Lakes."

















# Thrills and Spills

By Sharon Benson Smith

“Once upon a time never comes again.” But my memory tells me that it’s yesterday once more; I’m in grammar school, and roller skating is my favorite pastime.

WWII ended on September 2, 1945. It was a chilly, windy day and I was skating in front of Mason’s Drug Store. Suddenly, I could hear passersby yelling out the car windows that: “The war is over.” I was seven years old, and all it meant to me was that tasty “Fleer’s Double Bubble Gum” would be available again at the corner drug store.

I was twelve years old when “Santa” brought me a pair of Chicago Roller Skates. I had been going to the Montebello Roller Drome and renting skates, but now I had my very own! They were white with wood wheels; I made fluffy pom-poms for them and kept them clean and polished; they fast became my pride and joy. They came with a snazzy metal box for storing.

I guess I must have been pretty good at skating as the rink instructor asked if I would like to train to enter an upcoming competition. I was sure willing to take on new skills; learn to skate dance, skate backwards, do the eagle spread, jumps and spins and all the various lifts and turns and combinations. This is where the real “spills and thrills” would be experienced. We were well on our way to the long awaited big competition.

But, as fate would have it, I was hit by a car on my way to school one day; hospitalized for awhile with a broken ankle, and had to have a cast on my leg for what seemed like a lifetime to a kid. The length of the cast was changed two times...high length, then mid-calf length.

I returned to school in a cast and on crutches. The mid-calf cast was so much easier to maneuver around in. I no longer had to totally rely on crutches because a metal “post” was built into the cast at the bottom of my foot, and I could hobble around on it. My friends and other students were so helpful to me. I’d bet that everyone in school autographed that cast!

The positive of this was that we learned I would be restored to absolutely normal condition. However, the negative turned out to be that although I loved roller skating, and had been taking lessons to be groomed for pairs competition, I just could not seem to overcome the fear of re-injuring my ankle. Worse still, I could not regain the confidence needed to put on those Chicago Skates and move forward with any out-of-the-norm skating, let alone any competition.

I recall years later when we lived on Creedmore Drive that I gathered the courage to don those skates late one night and wheeled around our block for awhile. My three kids were surprised but very pleased that I did that!

I recall the last time I skated was when Steve and Shawna, plus their sons, my grandsons, Cameron and Casey, took me on a surprise Mother’s Day outing at the roller rink that existed then in Cerritos. It was a WOW! surprise, and it really made my day!

Years later, when I lived in the mobile home park and stored

“clinging” and “marching” when we returned from school in the afternoon.

Over time, he learned the names of all the neighborhood kids, and we were greeted by name each morning as we walked by. He even learned to distinguish between our footsteps! He was a real conundrum to our young minds.

We were so ornery. We tried to trick him by disguising our voices or walking in a different manner but, try as hard and often as we did, we could never fool Mr. Carlone. He just intuitively knew. He was blessed with a sense that the rest of us lack.

I guess that’s God’s way of compensating for the less fortunate amongst us.

Sharon Benson Smith is a member of the writing class offered through the Cerritos College Adult Education Program. It is held off-campus at the Norwalk Senior Center.

# The Miraculous Mr. Carlone

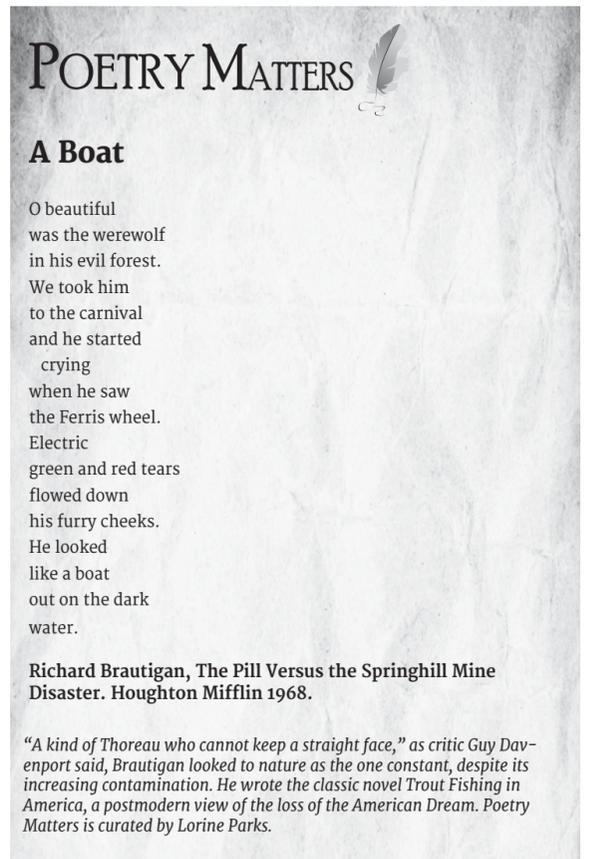
By Sharon Benson Smith

Mr. Carlone was blind and crippled but, despite his many challenges, we Gleason Street, East L.A. kids, were soon to learn that he was smarter than the entire neighborhood.

Early every morning as we walked to school, he would be standing on the sidewalk in front of his house. With his wheelchair at his side, and clinging to the chain-link fence, he exercised his legs in a “marching” motion. And he was there

the skates in their snazzy metal box in the shed, I saw that the metal box was deteriorating. The skates were also showing signs of deterioration; the leather was torn and had discolored spots, some of the eyelets were missing. I made a snap decision to put them in the trash, and have often had second thoughts about it ever since.

Sharon Benson Smith is a member of the writing class offered through the Cerritos College Adult Education Program. It is held off-campus at the Norwalk Senior Center.



# LEGALS

**SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME**  
**CASE NUMBER: 21NWCP00036**  
**TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:** Petitioner RAY MELVIN WOOLMAN filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:  
 Present name (1) RAY MELVIN WOOLMAN to Proposed name (1) MELVIN RAY KNIGHT 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: MARCH 26, 2021, Time: 10:30 a.m., Department: C, Room: 312**  
**The address of the court is 12720 NORWALK BLVD, NORWALK CA 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

**FEBRUARY 1, 2021 JUDGE MARGARET M. BERNAL**  
 Judge of the Superior Court  
 Petitioner or Attorney, In Pro Per  
**RAY MELVIN WOOLMAN**  
**11818 ROSETON AVE.**  
**NORWALK, CA 90650**  
**(562) 868-3669**  
**MKNIGHTGRAYCAR@AOL.COM**

The Norwalk Patriot  
 2/5/21, 2/12/21, 2/18/21, 2/25/21

## SUMMONS

**SUMMONS (Family Law)**  
**NOTICE TO RESPONDENT (Name) AVISO AL DEMANDADO (Nombre): ROSALIA**

**BRavo HERNANDEZ**  
 You have been sued. Read the information below and on the next page. Lo han demandado. Lea la información a continuación y en la página siguiente. Petitioner's name is (Nombre del demandante): MIGUEL GUTIERREZ PERALTA  
**CASE NUMBER (NUMERO DE CASO): 20FL005238N**

You have 30 calendar days after this Summons and Petition are served on you to file a Response (form FL-120) at the court and have a copy served on the petitioner. A letter, phone call, or court appearance will not protect you. If you do not file your Response on time, the court may make orders affecting your marriage or domestic partnership, your property, and custody of your children. You may be ordered to pay support and attorney fees and costs. For legal advice, contact a lawyer immediately. Get help finding a lawyer at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courts.ca.gov/selfhelp), at the California Legal Services website (www.lawhelpca.org), or by contacting your local county bar association. Tiene 30 días de calendario después de haber recibido la entrega legal de esta Petición para presentar una Respuesta (formulario FL-120) ante la corte y efectuar la entrega legal de una copia al demandante. Una carta o llamada telefónica o una audiencia de la corte no basta para protegerlo. Si no presenta su Respuesta a tiempo, la corte puede dar órdenes que afecten su matrimonio o pareja de hecho, sus bienes y la custodia de sus hijos. La corte también le puede ordenar que pague manutención, honorarios y costos legales. Para asesoramiento legal, póngase en contacto de inmediato con un abogado. Puede obtener información para encontrar un abogado en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov), en el sitio web de los Servicios Legales de California (www.lawhelpca.org) o poniéndose en contacto con el colegio de abogados de su condado.

**NOTICE OF RESTRAINING ORDERS ARE ON PAGE 2:** These restraining orders are effective against both spouses or domestic partners until the petition is dismissed, a judgment is entered, or the court makes further orders. They are enforceable anywhere in California by any law enforcement officer who has received or seen a copy of them.

**AVISO – LAS ORDENES DE RESTRICCIÓN SE ENCUENTRAN EN LA PAGINA 2:** Las órdenes de restricción están en vigencia en cuanto a ambos conyuges o miembros de la pareja de hecho hasta que se despidia la petición, se emita un fallo o la corte dé otras órdenes. Cualquiera agencia del orden publico que haya recibido o visto una copia de estas órdenes puede hacerlas acatar en cualquier lugar de California. **FEE WAIVER:** If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the clerk for a fee waiver form. The court may order you to pay back all or part of the fees and costs that the court waived for you or the other party.

**EXCENCIÓN DE CUOTAS:** Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario un formulario de exención de cuotas. La corte puede ordenar que usted pague, ya sea en parte o por completo, las cuotas y costos de la corte previamente exentos a petición de usted o de la otra parte. **1.** The name and address of the court are: (El nombre y dirección de la corte son): SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO – NORTH COUNTY REGIONAL CENTER, 325 S. MELROSE DRIVE, VISTA CA 92081 **2.** The name, address, and telephone number of the petitioner's attorney, or the petitioner without an attorney, are: (El nombre, dirección y número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante si no tiene abogado, son): DAWN M. LUCCHESI, SBN 330759, THOMPSON & BELNAP, 400 S. MELROSE DRIVE, SUITE 111, VISTA, CA 92081

Date (Fecha): JULY 21, 2020 Clerk, by (Secretario, por) R. CORONA, Deputy (Asistente)

The Norwalk Patriot  
 1/22/21, 1/29/21, 2/5/21, 2/11/21

## TRUSTEE SALES

**T.S. No. 18-0591-11**  
**Notice Of Trustee's Sale**  
 A.P.N.: 8073-019-008 You Are In Default Under A Deed Of Trust Dated 9/26/2001. 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. A public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash, cashier's check

drawn on a state or national bank, check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, or savings association, or savings bank specified in Section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state will be held by the duly appointed trustee as shown below, of all right, title, and interest conveyed to and now held by the trustee in the hereinafter described property under and pursuant to a Deed of Trust described below. The sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by the Deed of Trust, with interest and late charges thereon, as provided in the note(s), advances, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, interest thereon, fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee for the total amount (at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale) reasonably estimated to be set forth below. The amount may be greater on the day of sale. Trustor: Rafael Rico, A Married Man As His Sole And Separate Property Duly Appointed Trustee: The Wolf Firm, A Law Corporation Recorded 10/3/2001 as Instrument No. 011877236 of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of Los Angeles County, California, Street Address or other common designation of real property: 14706 Horst Avenue Norwalk, CA 90650 A.P.N.: 8073-019-008 Date of Sale: 3/11/2021 at 9:00 AM Place of Sale: At the Vineyard Ballroom, Doubletree Hotel Los Angeles-Norwalk, 13111 Sycamore Drive, Norwalk, CA 90650 Amount of unpaid balance and other charges: \$246,305.52, estimated, The undersigned trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address or other common designation, if any, shown above. If no street address or other common designation is shown, directions to the location of the property may be obtained by sending a written request to the beneficiary within 10 days of the date of first publication of this Notice of Sale. Notice To Potential Bidders: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. Notice To Property Owner: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgage, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call (800) 280-2832 or visit this Internet Web site www.auction.com, using the file number assigned to this case 18-0591-11. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. Notice To Tenant: You may have a right to purchase this property after the trustee auction pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. If you are an "eligible tenant buyer," you can purchase the property if you match the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. If you are an "eligible bidder," you may be able to purchase the property if you exceed the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. There are three steps to exercising this right of purchase. First, 48 hours after the date of the trustee sale, you can call (800) 280-2832, or visit this internet website www.auction.com, using the file number assigned to this case 18-0591-11 to find the date on which the trustee's sale was held, the amount of the last and highest bid, and the address of the trustee. Second, you must send a written notice of intent to place a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 15 days after the trustee's sale. Third, you must submit a bid

so that the trustee receives it no more than 45 days after the trustee's sale. If you think you may qualify as an "eligible tenant buyer" or "eligible bidder," you should consider contacting an attorney or appropriate real estate professional immediately for advice regarding this potential right to purchase. The Notice to Tenant pertains to sales occurring after January 1, 2021. Date: 1/27/2021 The Wolf Firm, A Law Corporation 1851 East 1st Street, Suite 100 Santa Ana, California 92705 Foreclosure Department (949) 720-9200 Sale Information Only: (800) 280-2832 www.auction.com /s/Sindy Clements, Foreclosure Officer Please Be Advised That The Wolf Firm May Be Acting As A Debt Collector, Attempting To Collect A Debt. Any Information You Provide May Be Used For That Purpose

**MK 18-0591-11**  
 The Norwalk Patriot  
 2/5/21, 2/12/21, 2/19/21

## BULK SALES

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF BULK SALE (UCC Sec. 6105) Escrow No. 9990-AK**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that a bulk sale is about to be made. The name(s), business address(es) to the Seller(s) are: Y AND G EMPIRE, INC. A CALIFORNIA CORPORATION, 7946 FLORENCE AVE, DOWNEY, CA 90240 Doing Business as: ROYAL TOBACCO All other business name(s) and address(es) used by the Seller(s) within three years, as stated by the Seller(s), is/are: NONE The name(s) and address of the Buyer(s) is/are: NADER ENTERPRISE, INC. A CALIFORNIA CORPORATION, 7946 FLORENCE AVE, DOWNEY, CA 90240 The assets to be sold are described in general as: FURNITURE, FIXTURES, AND EQUIPMENT, GOODWILL, INVENTORY, COVENANT NOT TO COMPETE, LEASE AND LEASEHOLD IMPROVEMENT and are located at: 7946 FLORENCE AVE, DOWNEY, CA 90240 The bulk sale is intended to be consummated at the office of: DETAIL ESCROW, INC. 13737 ARTESIA BLVD. #105 CERRITOS, CA 90703 and the anticipated sale date is FEBRUARY 24, 2021 The bulk sale is subject to California Uniform Commercial Code Section 6106.2. [If the sale is subject to Sec. 6106.2, the following information must be provided.] The name and address of the person with whom claims may be filed is: DETAIL ESCROW, INC. 13737 ARTESIA BLVD #105 - CERRITOS, CA 90703 and the last day for filing claims shall be FEBRUARY 23, 2021, which is the business day before the sale date specified above. Dated: JANUARY 29, 2021 BUYER: NADER ENTERPRISE, A CALIFORNIA CORPORATION 184529 NORWALK PATRIOT 2/5/21

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# What is a VA loan and how does it work?

■ If you're a veteran, a VA loan is a helpful tool to purchase property. Here's what you need to know.

A VA loan is a mortgage loan available through a program established by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (previously the Veterans Administration). The VA sets the qualifying standards, dictates the terms of the mortgages offered and guarantees a portion of the loan, but doesn't actually offer the financing. VA home loans are provided by private lenders, such as banks and mortgage companies, instead.

## How a VA Loan Works

VA loans assist active service members, veterans, and surviving spouses to become homeowners. The individual presents a certificate of eligibility from the VA to the lender in the course of a loan application. Although some of the lender's own underwriting requirements must still be met, in most cases, VA loans are easier to qualify for than

conventional loans.

The Veterans Administration offers a home loan guaranty benefit and other housing-related programs to help qualified veterans or their eligible family members buy, build, repair, retain or adapt a home for personal occupancy. VA loans offer up to 100% financing on the value of a home. VA loan recipients do not have to be first-time home buyers. Also, they may reuse the benefits and assign the loan to another qualifying person.

The terms of VA loans are quite generous, compared to other mortgages and even other federal loan programs. Among the benefits:

- No down payment is mandated unless required by the lender, or if the residence's purchase price is above the established property value.

- There is no private mortgage insurance premium requirement.

- Closing costs are limited and may be paid by the seller.

- The lender may not charge a prepayment penalty if the borrower pays off the loan early.

- Assistance is available from the VA to help borrowers avoid default.

VA loans, FHA loans, and other loans insured by departments of the United States government have securitization through the Government National Mortgage Association (GNMA), which is also known as Ginnie Mae. These securities carry the guarantee of the United States government.

## Types of VA Loans

The VA offers several types of mortgage loans to help veterans and their families.

VA home purchase loans help veterans to buy a home at a competitive interest rate. Often these purchase loans do not require a down payment or private mortgage insurance.

Cash-out refinance loans allow mortgage holders who are veterans to borrow against home equity to pay off debt, fund school or make home



improvements. This refinancing option offers a new mortgage for a larger amount than the existing note and converts home equity into cash.

Interest rate reduction refinance loans (IRRRLs), also known as streamline refinance loans, help borrowers obtain a lower interest rate by refinancing an existing VA loan. This is a VA-loan-to-VA-loan

process that allows homeowners to refinance a fixed loan at a lower interest rate or convert an adjustable-rate mortgage (ARM) into a fixed-rate mortgage.

The Native American Direct Loan Program helps eligible Native American veterans finance the purchase, construction or improvement of homes on federal trust land. Reductions in interest rates also

come with these loans.

Adapted housing grants help veterans with a permanent and total service-connected disability to purchase or build an adapted home or modify an existing home for their disability.

**Investopedia**

# What credit score do I need to buy a house?

Credit scores are crucial to the homebuying process. Not only does your FICO score determine if you can qualify for a loan in the first place, it will also have an impact on your mortgage terms. See whether you've got the credit score to buy a house with the type of loan you'd prefer.

## What credit score is needed to buy a house?

You don't need flawless credit to get a mortgage. In some cases, scores can even be in the 500s. But because credit scores estimate the risk that you won't repay the loan, potential lenders will reward a higher score with more choices and lower interest rates.

For most loan types, the credit score needed to buy a house is at least 620. But higher is better, and borrowers with scores of 740 or more will get the lowest interest rates.

## Credit score minimums by loan type

### Conventional loan: 620

Though you may be able to get a conventional loan with a credit score as low as 620, these mortgages often require higher scores. FICO scores for home buyers using conventional loans averaged 756 for the 6-month period ending June 2020, according to Ellie Mae data.

Borrowers with higher scores also earn a break in the cost of

private mortgage insurance, or PMI, which is required if they make down payments of less than 20% on a conventional loan. With a 10% down payment, a 620 borrower will pay 1.1% in PMI, according to Joe Parsons, a branch manager and senior loan officer in Dublin, California. A 760 FICO borrower would pay just 0.30%, he says.

### FHA loan: 500

If you have a credit score in the 500s, your best chance for a home loan will be one insured by the Federal Housing Administration. FHA loans allow down payments as low as 3.5%, but to qualify, you'll need a FICO score of 580 or better. With a credit rating of 500 to 579, you'll

be required to make a 10% down payment.

That said, lenders can impose their own credit minimums for FHA loans. According to Ellie Mae, the average FICO score for home buyers with FHA loans was 680 for the 6-month period ending June 2020. Even lenders that are willing to take on a borrower with a credit score that's under 600 will want to see that other aspects of your financial situation are secure.

"Someone with a 500 credit score is likely to have some combination of collection accounts, liens and judgments," Parsons says. "Even though FHA will insure a loan with a 500 score, the lender will require

that collections, judgments and most liens be paid off before closing."

### VA loan: 640

Mortgages guaranteed by the Department of Veterans Affairs, better known as VA loans, don't have a government-set minimum credit score to buy a house. Their main qualification is that you be a veteran, an active-duty member of the military or an eligible spouse.

That said, VA lenders choose their own minimum credit scores. These vary, but are generally in the low to mid-600s

### Jumbo loan: 700

In order to get a mortgage

that's larger than the conforming loan limit — better known as a jumbo loan — most lenders will want to see a credit score that's north of 700 or even 720. Because lending that much money is inherently risky, lenders look for potential home buyers to have solid financials, including a strong credit score.

With a FICO score of 740 or higher, you're likely to get the best jumbo mortgage rates. Using a mortgage calculator can make clear how even a slightly lower rate can make a big difference.

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### Sophie Xeon

Sophie Xeon, known professionally as Sophie, a Scottish Grammy-nominated musician and producer known for her electronic hyperpop music, died Jan. 30 after a fall. She was 34.

Sophie released her debut single, "Nothing More to Say," in 2013, and a few months later, she received critical acclaim for her follow-up single, "Bipp."



Her 2014 single "Lemonade" was widely considered one of the best singles of the year and was later used in a McDonald's commercial. Her bright, kinetic music became an early example of the hyperpop genre.

Sophie received more notice with the release of the 2018 album "Oil of Every Pearl's Un-Insides." Previously performing anonymously, she came out as a trans woman with the release of the album's lead single, "It's Okay to Cry."

The album received a Grammy nomination for Best Dance/Electronic Album.

Also a producer, Sophie produced Madonna's 2015 single "Bitch, I'm Madonna" and the Charli XCX EP "Vroom Vroom."

### Andrew Brooks

Andrew Brooks, a research professor at Rutgers University and CEO of Infinity Biologix, who developed the first FDA-approved rapid saliva test for COVID-19, died of a heart attack Jan. 23. He was 51.



Brooks joined the faculty at Rutgers in 2004, and in 2009, he began working at the university's Cell and DNA Repository. The company later went private, renamed Infinity Biologix, with Brooks at its helm.

As the Covid-19 pandemic gripped the U.S. in 2020, Brooks began leading the company's effort to develop a saliva test. This test is able to produce faster results than a nasal or throat swab, without requiring a health worker to closely approach a potentially infected person to take a sample.

The person being tested simply spits into a tube, and the saliva can be quickly analyzed.

Since the FDA approved the test in April, it has been administered more than four million times, and it is one of the most reliable Covid-19 tests available. Brooks' test is credited with saving many lives by enabling fast detection of Covid-19.

### Duke Bootee

Duke Bootee, born Edward Fletcher, an early rapper who co-wrote the influential hip-hop song "The Message," performed by Grandmaster Flash and the Furious Five, died Jan. 13 of congestive heart failure. He was 69.



Fletcher was a studio musician at Sugar Hill Records, the seminal label that released early hip-hop classics. There, he performed with bands including the Sugar Hill Gang and the Furious Five.

When Fletcher first wrote "The Message," other artists at Sugar Hill were uninterested in performing it. The song was gritty and serious, worlds apart from the era's light-hearted party hip-hop.

"The Message" told a story of a grim existence in the inner city, featuring the rhythmic refrain:

*Don't push me 'cause I'm close to the edge  
I'm trying not to lose my head  
It's like a jungle sometimes, it makes me wonder  
How I keep from going under*

Sugar Hill Records co-owner Sylvia Robinson liked the song and pushed for it to see the light of day, so the Furious Five recorded it with a verse added by Melle Mel. Fletcher played most of the instruments and shared vocals with Mel, rapping the verses he wrote, though he wasn't included in the video.

The song became an instant hit and an enduring classic, sampled widely and opening up a new direction for rap music to become a tool of social justice, not just the fun and boasting rhymes that were its origins.

It was ranked among the top hip-hop tracks of all time by VH-1, About.com, and Rolling Stone, which ranked it No. 1. "The Message" was the first hip-hop song added to the National Recording Registry by the Library of Congress.

Fletcher worked again with Mel on the singles "Message II (Survival)" and "New York New York." In later years, he became a

lecturer in critical thinking and communications at Savannah State University.

### Dustin Diamond

Dustin Diamond, an actor best known for starring as Samuel "Screech" Powers in "Saved by the Bell" and its spin-offs, died Feb. 1 of a small-cell lung carcinoma at the age of 44.



Diamond joined the "Saved by the Bell" cast in its earliest days in 1988, when the show was still called "Good Morning Miss Bliss" and revolved around a junior high school teacher. When, after a year, the show was retooled into "Saved by the Bell," Diamond remained with it, playing the school nerd who was friends with his popular classmates at Bayside High.

After "Saved by the Bell" ended in 1993, Diamond jumped to its one-season spin-off, "Saved by the Bell: The College Years," attending the fictitious California University with his high school classmates. And when the franchise returned to Bayside for "Saved by the Bell: The New Class," Diamond joined the cast in season two, playing Principal Belding's assistant.

Screech was one of only two characters to remain a regular from the franchise's beginning in 1988 through its end in 2000.

Though Diamond's career largely revolved around "Saved by the Bell," he also made other appearances. He had guest roles on TV shows including "The Wonder Years," "The Munsters Today," and "Duck Dodgers." His movie credits include "Dickie Roberts: Former Child Star" and "Made."

Diamond also appeared on several reality TV shows, joining the casts of "Celebrity Fit Club" in 2007 and "Celebrity Big Brother" in 2013.

His 2009 book, "Behind the Bell," was ghost-written, and it caused rifts between Diamond and other cast members as it included allegations about on-set behavior that they said were untrue.

Diamond also played bass in the band Salty the Pocketknife, and he did stand-up comedy.

### Hilton Valentine

Hilton Valentine, founding guitarist for the popular 1960s British Invasion rock band The Animals, died Jan. 29 at age 77.



Led by lead singer Eric Burdon, Valentine was the band's only guitarist, playing rhythm and lead on classic rock staples "It's My Life" and "We Gotta Get Out of This Place." Valentine may be best known for his arpeggio guitar riff on "House of the Rising Sun," which inspired many to take up guitar.

Valentine left the band in 1966 but would often play The Animals reunion shows. The original lineup of The Animals was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1994.

### Paul Crutzen

Paul Crutzen, a scientist who won the Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 1995 for his study of the damaged ozone layer, died Jan. 28 at age 87.



Crutzen's early research helped us understand the makeup of the ozone layer. He later linked the ongoing thinning of this layer to chlorofluorocarbons, or CFCs, used in aerosol containers, refrigerators, and air conditioners.

Crutzen's warning against the depletion of the ozone layer helped lead to the 1987 treaty that phased out CFCs, allowing the ozone layer to begin to heal.

Later, Crutzen helped advance the concept of nuclear winter, explaining how the atmosphere would be affected by nuclear war. In 2000, Crutzen invented the term Anthropocene to refer to the geological era in which humans have profoundly affected the Earth, typically in destructive ways.

He advocated for man-made solutions to climate change including releasing sulfur into the atmosphere to artificially cool the global climate.

"Imagine our descendants in the year 2200 or 2500. They might liken us to aliens who have treated the Earth as if it were a mere stopover for refueling, or even worse, characterize us as barbarians who would ransack their own home," Crutzen wrote in 2001. "Living up to the Anthropocene means building a culture that grows with Earth's biological wealth instead of depleting it. Remember, in this new era, nature is us."

### Loretta Whitfield

Loretta Whitfield, an entrepreneur and education counselor who created Baby Whitney, a realistic Black baby doll, died Dec. 27 of complications of Alzheimer's disease at the age of 79. Her death was announced this week.

Whitfield was inspired to create a new Black baby doll when she was shopping with her nieces. The few Black baby dolls they found in stores in the 1970s didn't reflect real Black children and weren't relatable to her nieces, and Whitfield was frustrated with the limited options available.

So she and her husband crafted a new Black baby doll with facial features based on a West African fertility doll. Whitfield sewed outfits for Baby Whitney, including traditional African styles as well as American options.



Selling the doll via mail order through their company, Lomel Enterprises, the Whitfields became successful enough to need to outsource Baby Whitney's creation to an overseas supplier.

Baby Whitney was featured on an episode of "The Cosby Show" before being discontinued in the 1990s.

Whitfield also worked as an education counselor for Howard University.

### Hal Holbrook

Hal Holbrook, an actor known for his one-man show, "Mark Twain Tonight!" as well as for roles in movies including "All the President's Men" and "Into the Wild" and in the TV show "Evening Shade," died Jan. 23 at age 95.

Holbrook developed the one-man play "Mark Twain Tonight!" as a young man, first performing it in 1954. The show starred Holbrook as Twain reading from his writings, including "Adventures of Huckleberry Finn" and "The Dangers of Abstinence."



The production made its way to Broadway, where Holbrook won a Tony Award in 1966, and it toured extensively and appeared on TV as an Emmy Award-winning 1967 special.

Holbrook continued to inhabit his greatest character for decades, performing as Twain in thousands of engagements until 2017, when he was 92.

"Mark Twain is something precious to me," he told NPR in a 2008 interview, having then portrayed the writer for more than 50 years. "It's my side arm through life."

When the Houston Chronicle asked him how his approach had changed over the years, he answered irreverently: "I sure don't have to draw in all the wrinkles as I used to." But Holbrook's portrayal of Twain was born of a deep respect for the man of letters, and he put great thought into which pieces would be included in his show, memorizing many hours' worth of Twain's material and altering the lineup from night to night.

Though thousands watched Holbrook become Twain onstage for decades, perhaps even more saw one of his most recognizable movie roles. In 1976's Oscar-winning "All the President's Men," he played Deep Throat, the then-anonymous tipster who revealed the secrets of the Watergate scandal to reporters Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein.

When Deep Throat was revealed in 2005 to be FBI Associate Director Mark Felt, news outlets across the nation turned to an iconic scene between Holbrook and Robert Redford, playing Woodward, in a shadowy, cryptic meeting in a parking garage. Holbrook's performance won no awards but was critically acclaimed.

The movie role that did win Holbrook major awards – a Screen Actors Guild Award and a Golden Globe, as well as his first Oscar nomination at age 82, setting a record for the oldest actor to be nominated – was another one drawn from real life.

In the 2007 biopic "Into the Wild," Holbrook played Ron Franz, who befriended the movie's subject, Christopher McCandless, as he traveled through California's wilderness. Holbrook brought realism to his performance, even to the point of performing his own stunts, such as climbing a rocky slope.

"They asked me if I wanted to have a stand-in," he later related on an NPR segment. The octogenarian declined: "I said, 'No, of course I don't. My lord, I want to do it myself.'"

Born Feb. 17, 1925, in Cleveland, Ohio, Holbrook was a U.S. Army veteran of World War II. He was married three times, the third to actress Dixie Carter. The couple appeared together in the 2009 movie "That Evening Sun," and Holbrook had a recurring role on Carter's sitcom, "Designing Women," playing her character's boyfriend.

# The Norwalk Patriot



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# Frankie Alvarez Jr. wants to play football

Continued from page 1

"It was very frustrating and heartbreaking to see our son break down and cry after the decision to not allow him any more eligibility," Evelinda said. "The three of us were on a Zoom meeting with CIF officials and it

felt like they had no sympathy. They kept saying, 'well, the rules say, the rules say.' It was really tough to hear that and Frankie's disappointment.

"The CIF rules say it's a case-by-case basis and we felt they didn't acknowledge anything."

The family decided there was one last opportunity for Frankie to play.

"To be honest, it took about two hours to decide what to do," Evelinda said.

Evelinda's parents live in Texas and they made the decision to try and play in their hometown of Mansfield. After some paperwork, it all came to fruition.

"I just wanted to play football," Frankie said at the time. "My grandma (Margarita Moses-Batson) and grandpa (Edgar Moses-Batson) live there. It was cool. I got to spend more time with that side of my family. I really don't get to visit them that much."

Off they went in the car to play at Mansfield Legacy High School.

"He was so excited and just happy he was going to play," Evelinda said. "When Frank and I found out he was cleared to play, we were jumping up and down and hugging each other."

After they got settled into her parents' home, Frank, Sr. was on the plane to the first game.

"He got to be there by my side and watch me do good and cheer me on so I can make him proud," Frankie said.

Frank Sr. added, "He wasn't cleared yet to play in the first game, but I didn't want to miss the opportunity to watch my son play ball. I flew to every game."

Frankie got into parts of the games and was even punting for the team. He later was named to the second team All-District for punting.

But the big moment came later in the season in a game which Mansfield was losing by a big margin, 62-28.

"I was trying to do my best with less than half the fourth quarter remaining," Frankie said. "Once I got in the game everyone was cheering my name and I was hyped."

He did his best all right as he accounted for four TDs, which included three passing and one running touchdown to close the gap and eventually lost, 69-56.

"The team was pumped up when Frankie went in and even the crowd was chanting his nickname, Hollywood, Hollywood," she said.

"I didn't even know how I did it," Frankie said. "I was feeling like it was the greatest of all. It was awesome."

"It was crazy playing in Texas. Everybody wants to go see every game. It's a big event and in a big stadium and almost packed. I got a little nervous and it was the biggest crowd I ever played in. It was a cool experience."

To top it off, Frankie wasn't done with football just yet.

With California high school football still shut down and club football starting to gather steam, Frankie had an opportunity to play once again. He was approached by a team from Fullerton coached by La Habra assistant football coach, Robert Atanay.

He tried out and made the team, which is part of a new organization called the Winners Circle Athletics. Dozens of teams have been playing every weekend for the past five weeks out in Chino in a converted former cow pasture.

"They saw his abilities and gave him an opportunity and saw his highlights on Hudl," Frank Sr. said. "It's a blessing We knew he had nothing. It broke his heart to not play after the CIF ruling."

However, hundreds of high school players from all over Southern California and even from Arizona have been given the opportunity to play the game they have missed.

Asked if he thought he'd still be playing four years later after all that he has been through, he said, "I would have never thought I would have been playing here," Frankie said. "This is so wild."

"The coach reached out to me and asked if I wanted to be on the team. I said, 'Yeah, I have nothing to do and I'll play on the team.' I'm blessed that they reached out to me. This is a great experience with a lot of talent here."



(Photo by Keith Durlinger)

Frankie also plays on another club team, the Long Beach Blackhawks.

"It's more exposure for colleges to see how you're playing with these Club teams."

"Now I have another chance right here. I'm so happy they made this (club football) so you get more exposure."

Frank Sr. summed up the long and winding road his son has taken: "It's been a fun ride," he said. "It's emotional and a lot of stress, but when this is all over, it'll be worth every minute."

Frankie also summed up his long road: "If I don't ever play again, I feel satisfied. My mom and dad have sacrificed everything they can for me to get this experience and opportunity to play. I'm blessed that I have them."

"I would have never thought that I would have gone all through this stuff. There were so many twists and turns and I thought I would play at just one high school (Santa Fe). I'm glad I'm here now playing next to a shooting range. Crazy."

Somehow, Frankie will find a way to keep playing.

**What they said:**

**Evelinda Alvarez, mom:** "Frankie was so happy to see his dad to watch him play in Texas. Frankie's outlook on life

is grateful. He's very humble and has changed for the better.

In the game in Texas, you could see the joy in Frankie."

**Tony Chavarria - Santa Fe Assistant football coach:** "My whole take on this whole thing was his parents were trying to do what was best for their kid. Frankie was always just doing what he was told."

What really gets under my skin is the reason for this eight-semester rule. Unfortunately, the victim is Frankie. They (CIF) just should have made a decision to just let him play.

The crazy thing about that rule after they went through the appeal, they (CIF) said, 'it's the parents responsibility to know the rule.'

He would have been our starting quarterback as a junior. He just has the knack for the game. He plays above his shoulders."

**Nicholas Vargas - Offensive lineman, Downey High:** "I know he wanted to play at home at Santa Fe with everybody. It's rough, CIF, man. I really respect Frankie for going to Texas and playing out here (Club football). Frankie's my boy. I love blocking for him so he can make that run and so some college can see what he can do. Frankie is a great player. He'll get some looks for college if he plays in this league in March."

Note: Vargas has four colleges interested in him: Carthage College (Wisconsin), Lake Erie College (Ohio), Dakota State University (South Dakota) and La Verne University.

**Jonathan Fernandez - Wide receiver, Vista Murrieta and Downey high schools:** "I believe in Frankie 100 percent. Since we've been little he's always had the biggest dreams. I believe he can do it. He's just waiting for the opportunity to showcase his skills. At the end of the day it shows his love for the sport. He's just a dog and a competitor. Just like Pop Warner days, it was me and him. I'm also trying to get to the next level."

**Mando Lopez - Jonathon Fernandez' step father:** "Throughout the years from five years old to now, I've seen (Frankie) grow up. He always had it in him. It's just good to see him pursuing to play on the field. I've been lucky enough to coach him through the years. His dedication to play the game and he has the knowledge of the game."

"It was heartbreaking about the CIF rule. It wasn't fair. All he wants to do is play."

**Frank Alvarez - Dad:** "I always get nervous for my boy. He's not a big guy, but he's competing with monsters out there. That's where he wants to be. There are probably no nerves on his part. The nerves are all on his parents."

**Darryl Burman - Running back, Santa Fe:** "I know he loves the game. He's been playing since he was a baby. I've been playing with him for five years. He did good in Texas. When (Frankie) first told me (about playing in Texas), I said, 'go for it.' It was a good opportunity for him. He's doing great. I love it. He loves the game."

**Robert Atanay, La Habra High Football Asst. coach, Playmakers coach:** "The thing about Frankie is he is so dedicated that he has even played in Arizona. He is very gifted and very talented. This (Club team) could be a huge stepping stone that will hopefully give him an opportunity to play at the next level. Like I've told all of these kids, if you don't have the looks now, junior college (Community College) is still a great road to take."

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