

Norwalk opens drive-up testing site

■ In response to rising coronavirus cases, a free COVID-19 testing site opened at the Norwalk/Santa Fe Springs Metrolink Station.

By Vincent Medina Contributor

NORWALK – A mega COVID-19 testing site opened at the Norwalk/Santa Fe Springs Metrolink Station on Monday, after Norwalk partnered with the American Safety Group (ASG) to create the free PCR testing site.

Appointments are not needed, but pre-registration is recommended.

Project manager Jacob Perez observed other testing sites and helped organize a system to ensure people could get tested and leave within minutes.

“What we implemented here is the process of getting registered within five minutes, then tested in three minutes. So the whole process should take eight to 10 minutes,” said Perez.

“It’s all about knowing each step of the process.”

Executive director of operations, Zack Barrington, emphasized that half of the testing site employees are military veterans. Still, the center also employs local non-veterans.

Other testing sites, such as Kaiser’s Downey Medical Center, have testing lines that extend down the block with patients waiting for hours in their vehicles. Then, after receiving the test, they have to wait multiple days to find their results.

ASG president Alfredo Valdez explained that they reached out to multiple local laboratories to yield faster results.

“With some of these sites in LA County, people are waiting five to seven days to get their results, but by then they are already over it or can tell they have it,” said Valdez. “We are bringing in other laboratories to get our test results in 24 - 48 hours.”

The testing site only administers PCR tests, which are more reliable than rapid antigen tests.

“As the virus mutates, we are finding more breakthrough cases. So testing is still necessary even though most people are vaccinated,” said the ASG president.

Valdez continued to encourage people to get vaccinated to have more resistance against the virus.

According to the LA County public health department, approximately 69.1% of eligible Norwalk residents are fully vaccinated.

“My City Council colleagues and I are being briefed daily about the surge in COVID-19 positive cases in LA County. We decided to be proactive in making a testing site available for our residents and our neighboring communities,” said Norwalk Mayor Rick Ramirez. “Once the site is fully operational, it will be able to accommodate over 1,000 people every day. The public can get tested as quickly as possible to avoid potentially spreading the virus if they are positive.”

Perez also says there are plans to set up a vaccination station at the site.

The testing center is open every day from 7 am - 7 pm. The site will close on Jan. 31 but can be extended if the city deems it necessary.

Mervin Chantland shares life story to inspire hope

■ After enduring multiple struggles, Mervin Chantland hopes his life story will inspire others to never give up.

By Vincent Medina Contributor

Maybe somebody who is about ready to give up on life might read this and say ‘if he can do it, I can, too,’” said Mervin Chantland.

The 87-year-old Norwalk resident endured a life of struggle but managed to persevere and live a full life with a career and family.

He was diagnosed with tuberculosis as an infant. As walking became a struggle, his father worried that he would need assistance for the rest of his life.

“My dad told my brothers that they would need to take care of me,” said Chantland. “I said ‘No way!’ I just wanted to make him proud.”

As a young boy, he was teased by others for having TB. However, Chantland still made friends.

“I remember at 13 years old, finally walking on crutches to my best friend, Tom’s, ball game,” said the Norwalk resident. “When he hit a home run, I got up and went across the street to tell his mom.”

Unfortunately, the doctors

later told a 19-year-old Chantland that his leg needed to be amputated. However, the young Chantland was still determined to make his father proud.

After coming from a family with a history in the military, Chantland wanted to serve in the armed forces but was unable to enlist because of his handicap.

Instead, he joined the Civil Air Patrol that was stationed in Norwalk.

During his time with the civilian volunteer unit, he took trips to the Mojave Desert to tow Gliders and get them airborne and took trips to conventions. He also assisted in recruiting volunteers for the patrol.

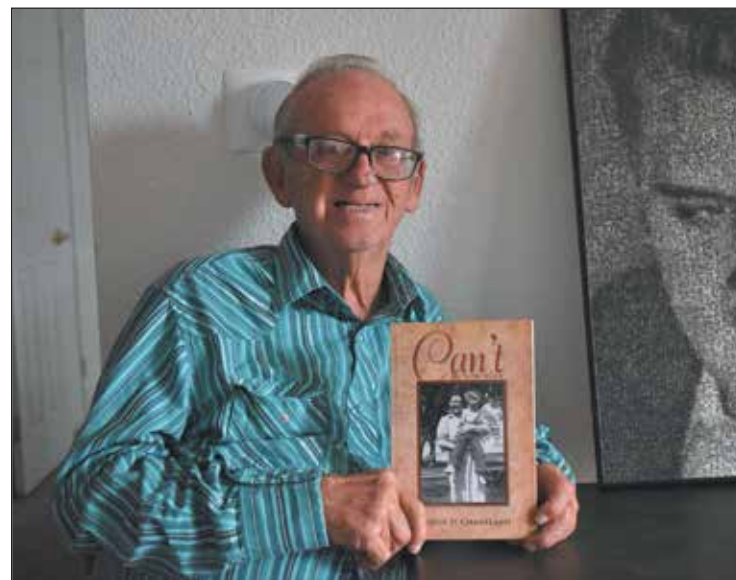
Chantland began taking classes at Cerritos College and earned an Associates’ Degree in General Technology.

It was a challenge to find work that could accommodate his situation, but the officer in charge of the Civil Air Patrol called employers on his behalf.

Chantland was able to get a job at General Motors Advance Technical Division.

“When my boss hired me, he only asked, ‘What won’t you do?’ That was the only question he asked,” said Chantland. “I told him that if I have to sweep the floor to get the job done, I’d do it. He hired me on the spot.”

Chantland and his wife,



Mervin Chantland wrote his memoir “Can’t, No Such Word” in hopes of inspiring strength in people who are ready to give up. Chantland often gives away his books to people he meets. (Photo by Vincent Medina)

Mary Ann, went on to have two kids, six grandkids, and two great-grandkids.

She passed early one morning in May, 2008. Chantland stayed out of the house for the rest of the day. When he returned, he found every light in the house was turned on.

In his book, Chantland recalls people telling her to be careful with him because he was a “cripple” after they were married. Mary Ann turned to them and replied, “I married a man, not a cripple.”

Before his father passed, he asked to speak to his

son. Chantland went to the hospital, where his father took his hand, looked him in the eye, and said, “I’m so proud of you, son.”

“I strive to put effort into everything. I believe in always achieving and getting ahead. I also like being around people,” said Chantland. “I always see the good in people. I try to live by the phrase, ‘Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.’”

“If I could, I would give my book to everyone,” said Chantland. “If I can do this, anyone can, too.”

At candlelight vigil, community demands action from Gascón

■ Norwalk residents expressed their anger for the district attorney after the woman responsible for the deaths of Shannon and Ashley Alvarez was released.

By Vincent Medina Contributor

NORWALK – The Norwalk community mourned Shannon and Ashley Alvarez during a candlelight vigil at Grace Brethren Church on Sunday, a week after the mother and daughter were killed in a violent car collision.

Mayor Rick Ramirez and Vice Mayor Ana Valencia attended the vigil and expressed condolences to the Alvarez family. Earlier last week, city officials were criticized for not responding to petitions to make the Foster and Studebaker Road intersection safer.

“Tonight, I stand with the Alvarez family so that they can have some consolation that justice will be served to those who commit crimes,” said mayor Ramirez. “I am saddened and angry that we have district attorney leadership that has failed in many ways to protect Norwalk, failed to enact justice reform policies, and has failed the Alvarez family.”

Los Angeles County District Attorney, George Gascón, continues to receive scrutiny for refusing to prosecute dangerous criminals.

Due to Gascón’s policies, the woman who caused the crash, Britany Lopez, was released from prison last week while authorities awaited the toxicology report.

Norwalk Detective Ann Ballesteros is leading the case.



Dozens of community members mourned Shannon and Ashley Alvarez during a candlelight vigil Sunday. (Photo by Vincent Medina)

She clarified that the DA is not refusing to prosecute Lopez but is awaiting the toxicology and coroner’s report before charging Lopez.

Shannon’s boyfriend, Juan Zuniga, and her mother, Linda Seagroves, were furious upon hearing Lopez was released.

“We are still waiting for authorities to formally charge her,” said Zuniga. “At this point, we are waiting for the toxicology report to come in.”

Former LAPD detective Moses Castillo, familiar with investigating traffic laws and crimes against children, shared condolences with the community. He advocated for

justice and criticized Gascón for his lack of action.

Castillo says the video of the crash shows that Lopez is clearly at fault.

It shows that the Alvarez’s vehicle had the green light. Still, Lopez burst into the intersection, slamming into the Alvarez’s and hitting another car.

(The security camera footage of the accident, linked on The Norwalk Patriot’s website, is graphic and violent, viewer discretion is advised.)

“I’m in the opinion that they could’ve charged Lopez, then receive the toxicology report

and amend it,” said Castillo. “Gascón’s philosophy is to advocate more for the criminals than the victims. This is a perfect example of that.”

Residents also called for Mayor Ramirez and the city council to initiate city reform to keep the intersection and dangerous parts of Norwalk safe.

Ramirez encouraged the community to hold community leaders accountable and to speak at the upcoming Norwalk City Council meeting on Jan. 18 at 6 pm.

Zuniga and Seagroves plan to move forward with legal action against Lopez.

Weekend at a Glance

Friday 76°

Saturday 73°

Sunday 75°

THINGS TO DO



Ronald Reagan Museum All Weekend 40 Presidential Drive, Simi Valley

Last chance to see “Christmas Around the World,” an exhibit featuring 26 Christmas trees representing 26 countries. Other exhibits include “FBI - From Al Capone to Al-Qaeda” and “The Secrets of WWII.”

ON THIS DAY JANUARY 14

1784

The United States ratified a peace treaty with England ending the Revolutionary War.

1898

Charles Lutwidge Dodgson, who wrote “Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland” under the pen name Lewis Carroll, died in Guildford, England, at age 65.

1952

NBC’s “Today” show premiered.

1954

Baseball player Joe Dimaggio and actress Marilyn Monroe were married at San Francisco City Hall.



1963

George C. Wallace was sworn in as governor of Alabama with a pledge of “segregation forever.”

1970

Diana Ross and the Supremes performed their last concert together, at the Frontier Hotel in Las Vegas.



1973

Elvis Presley’s concert Aloha from Hawaii was broadcast live via satellite, and set the record as the most watched broadcast by an individual entertainer in television history.

1993

Late-night TV talk show host David Letterman announced he was moving from NBC to CBS.

1994

President Bill Clinton and Russian President Boris Yeltsin signed accords in Moscow to stop aiming missiles at any nation and to dismantle the nuclear arsenal of Ukraine.

2008

Republican Bobby Jindal, the first elected Indian-American governor in the United States, took office in Louisiana.

Birthdays

Jazz singer **Jack Jones** (84), actress **Faye Dunaway** (81), “Rocky” actor **Carl Weathers** (74), rapper **LL Cool J** (54), rock singer **Dave Grohl** (53), actor **Jason Bateman** (53), and actor **Grant Gustin** (32).

Paging Dr. Frischer...

By Dr. Alan Frischer

Taking a daily aspirin may lower the risk of heart attack and stroke, but is it appropriate for everyone? There are days when you just don't want to read this entire column, so here is the answer: NO.

What does an old-fashioned aspirin do for us? Taking an occasional aspirin or two is safe for most adults, and can be useful for treating pain, fever, and headaches. Aspirin affects our body in another very important way.

When we bleed, clotting cells (platelets) collect at the site. Platelets help form a plug that seals the opening in the blood vessel, which stops the bleeding. Clotting can even occur within our heart or brain vessels, and this sometimes leads to a heart attack or stroke. Aspirin reduces this clotting action.

As we age, the risk of heart attack and stroke tends to increase. However, the risk of gastrointestinal bleeding from aspirin rises even more. Those

at higher risk for heart attack or stroke will receive more benefit than harm from a daily aspirin, but taking a daily aspirin does not benefit those who already have a low risk of heart attack or stroke. Here are guidelines to follow:

People who should NOT take a daily aspirin include those:

- without known heart or vascular disease
- without significant risk factors for heart disease or stroke
- with bleeding or clotting disorders
- with an aspirin allergy
- with a history of bleeding ulcers or other gastrointestinal bleeding
- already taking non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs
- already on some blood thinning medication, including NSAIDs, or other blood thinning medications specifically given for atrial fibrillation, deep

vein thrombosis or pulmonary embolism.

People who might benefit from a daily aspirin include those:

- who have heart disease, including those who have had coronary bypass surgery or a stent placed in an artery
 - between 40 and 60 who are at high risk of heart disease due to underlying diseases (such as diabetes), along with another risk factor: high cholesterol, smoking, hypertension, or a family history of heart disease.
- If you have been taking a daily aspirin, is it safe to stop? If you have a heart attack or a stent placed in one or more heart arteries, then it's important to continue taking daily aspirin exactly as directed by your doctor. Stopping daily aspirin therapy can have a rebound effect that could trigger a blood clot and lead to a heart attack.

Coated aspirin was designed to be gentler on the stomach by passing through the stomach and not dissolving until it reaches the small intestine. However, there is no evidence that it actually decreases the chance of developing gastrointestinal bleeding, and due to absorption issues, it may not work as well as plain aspirin.

If you are considering taking a daily aspirin or have started taking it on your own, I urge you to speak with your doctor. Together you can evaluate your own particular set of health issues, and weigh the advantages and disadvantages of aspirin.

Dr. Alan Frischer is former chief of staff and former chief of medicine at Downey Regional Medical Center. Write to him in care of this newspaper at 8301 E. Florence Ave., Suite 100, Downey, CA 90240.

Health director warns against unessential activities to slow COVID

Residents are being urged to avoid non-essential activities as the coronavirus continues its spread across L.A. County.

By City News Service

DOWNEY – Amid a dramatic surge in COVID-19 infections, Los Angeles County's public health director this week urged residents to avoid non-essential activities in the coming weeks, particularly those that are indoors and involve mingling with unvaccinated or higher-risk people.

Fueled by the Omicron variant of COVID-19, the county is experiencing pandemic-high levels of daily infection reports and the highest rate of virus transmission to date. Public Health Director Barbara Ferrer said nearly 35,000 new infections will be reported Tuesday when official numbers are released, along with 15 more deaths.

"While we're in the surge, we do ask that you exercise more caution, even if you're vaccinated and boosted," Ferrer said during Tuesday's Board of Supervisors meeting. "One way to reduce transmission is to wear a high-quality mask whenever you're around non-household members. ... We're also asking that over the next few weeks, we all try to avoid non-essential activities where people are unmasked and in close contact with others.

"We know how important getting together with friends is to our well-being," she said.

"We need to be sure we're able to keep each other safe. The reality is that parties and events -- especially those indoors with unvaccinated individuals or those at high risk for severe illness -- make it very easy for this virus to spread. Limiting our time with others to those more essential work-related or school-related activities is a prudent action for everyone to take whenever possible.

"I know this is not the start to the new year we had all envisioned. With the additional tools we have, particularly easy access to free vaccine, we ought to be able to use different strategies to get us through these challenging times. As always though, it takes the cooperation of all of us to move forward with grace and get through this surge."

Her comments came as state figures showed the number of COVID-positive patients in county hospitals rising to 3,766, up from 3,472 on Monday. The number of those patients in intensive care rose to 513, up from 482 a day earlier.

Dr. Christina Ghaly, the county's health services director, said that despite rising patient numbers, the Omicron-fueled surge is playing out differently in hospitals than earlier surges. She said last fall, about one-third of COVID patients wound up in ICU care, but that number is only about 10-15% this time around, at least in the four county-operated hospitals, which likely reflect conditions in other medical centers.

She also said that about 40% of COVID-positive patients at the county hospitals were admitted specifically because of the virus, while the rest only learned they were infected upon admission for something else. During the last surge, 80-90% of the COVID patients were admitted due to virus-related illness.

Ghaly said that despite the changes and numbers that still dwarf last winter's surge -- when more than 8,000 COVID patients were hospitalized -- current staffing shortages are creating more critical conditions at hospitals. She pointed to a large number of health care workers who have retired or moved into non-front-line positions.

She also noted that the surge in COVID infections has also impacted health care workers, leaving many unavailable to work due to illness or exposure.

The situation has also led to longer ambulance response times, in part due to large numbers of workers at private ambulance companies who have failed to meet COVID vaccination requirements, leaving them unable to work, combined with a high amount of people calling in sick.

The time it takes for ambulance crews to off-load patients at hospitals has also risen, she said, thanks to staffing and space issues.

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Not getting vaccinated can be child abuse

By Froma Harrop

She was only in her 30s when COVID-19 put her in the hospital for three nights. The woman, whom I know well, eventually tested negative, but then “long COVID” took over. Formerly healthy, she now suffers a disabling inflammatory disease. She may need a year to completely recover — and some don’t recover.

Need I add that she was unvaccinated? This acquaintance doesn’t fit the usual profile of people who refuse to get their shots. She’s highly educated and politically on the left, albeit, the far left.

The story doesn’t end there, however. Her 10-month-old baby came down with COVID-19, most likely passed from her. The baby experienced just a short fever, fortunately, but her mother is now unable to nurse him. The father can’t go to work because he’s caring both for the mother and the baby. Their home life is a mess.

“For her not to get vaccinated is child abuse,” a leading science writer told me. She almost took that harsh statement back but didn’t. And I had to agree.

French President Emmanuel Macron recently let loose, announcing that he wanted to “piss off” his citizens who won’t get vaccinated by banning them from public spaces. Macron apparently feels it’s politically safe to join rising public anger at the minority that keeps the pandemic

going.

There’s the story of Canadians on a recent chartered flight to Mexico who misbehaved badly. They passed around booze, didn’t wear masks and, in one case, even vaped onboard. The partygoers included TV personalities, social media influencers and other cultural leaders.

The airlines are leaving most of them in Mexico.

Back in the U.S., rage at the unvaccinated now hogging intensive care unit beds has come out in the open. You can tell from the reporting.

In Iowa, retired school superintendent Dale Weeks waited 15 days to get a bed in a major hospital that could treat his sepsis, a condition demanding immediate treatment. He died.

The media also picked up on Alabama businessman Ray DeMonia, who suffered a cardiac emergency and needed specialized care. DeMonia died after being turned away from 43 hospitals in three states.

Hospitals, meanwhile, are seeing an alarming rise in abuse of their workers by COVID-19 patients and their visitors. Early on, these caregivers were hailed as heroes risking their lives to save others. Many attribute the new violence to the public’s frustration at the ongoing health crisis.

It also undoubtedly reflects a change in the demographics of the seriously ill COVID-19 population. Early on, before vaccines were readily

available, all kinds of infected people fell gravely ill. Now the great majority needing hospitalization are unvaccinated.

This group is highly weighted with self-righteous “conservatives,” trained by the former president and his impersonators to ignore the medical experts, stew with resentment and act out their anger. Some of their visitors throw tantrums when told to wear a mask. Hospital workers have been sustaining broken bones, punches to the chest and racial insults.

The new mother I reference above is very left but shares some of the right wingers’ high dudgeon. She likes to flout authority. (She mocked social distancing.) She probably figured she’d survive COVID-19 without getting seriously ill.

As for the possibility that she would be OK but pass the virus onto the more vulnerable ... well, not her problem. Right? That lack of concern, it would appear, extended to her newborn.

The vaccinated majority is rapidly losing interest in the fate of the unvaccinated — and that’s putting it diplomatically. The latter may be irresponsible, ignorant, selfish, mentally unbalanced or any combination of the above. We just feel sorry for the innocents around them.

Froma Harrop is a nationally syndicated columnist who writes about politics, culture and the economy.

A showdown on voting rights

By Jamie Stiehm

The Capitol candlelight vigil for the mob attack on Congress gave way to a Senate showdown on voting rights — a scene straight from the heart of darkness.

Timed for the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday, it’s a showdown Senate Democrats don’t know they can win. But they have to try, for a fair field in the upcoming midterms. Plus, it’s a great chance for Sen. Joe Manchin, D-W.Va., who plays Hamlet to the hilt, to choose “to be” with his own party.

President Joe Biden gave a speech in Georgia Tuesday, urging the Senate to change its filibuster rules, if necessary, to restore voting rights. That prospect has Senate Republicans breathing fire.

But the heart of darkness is across the street from the Capitol: the Supreme Court. While the Capitol endured a physical brutal assault, the Court often tears down the walls of democracy from inside.

In 2013, the Court struck down a shiny pearl from the civil rights era: the Voting Rights Act. That’s the reason why the Senate is in the crosshairs now. The activist Supreme Court acts in all the wrong ways — with more to come.

Chief Justice John Roberts and other Republicans waged war on a widely praised voting rights law, applied to the South where patterns of racial discrimination persist. The infamous case was brought by Shelby

County, Alabama, and brought the late Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg’s strongest dissent.

Senate Democratic Leader Chuck Schumer declared, “Everyone in this chamber will have a chance to go on record ... on defending democracy.” Since the Jan. 6 siege, he says, voter suppression laws are on the rise.

Senate Republican Leader Mitch McConnell, canny and shrewd, says a rule change on the 60-vote filibuster would “break the Senate.” Why, heavens above, Democrats want to “federalize elections.”

Yes, Mitch. Federal offices should be subject to federal oversight laws, as they were for nearly 50 years. Presidential and congressional elections by right need federal backbone and should not be left to uneven states.

In the darkness of the “big lie” loser former President Donald Trump has spread (that the 2020 election was stolen), the urgency of passing a new Voting Rights Act is here and now. The Supreme Court left democracy with no umbrella in the rain, no winter coat on an arctic day.

Roberts is not even the worst Republican on the high court. Among the three Trump appointees, Brett Kavanaugh himself egged on a “preppie riot” as Florida votes were counted in the deadlocked Bush v. Gore election.

America got by for a cycle or two. The 2020 election was free and fair, by all accounts, with high turnout that looked like nonviolent resistance to me, multitudes standing in long lines. Biden won decisively.

Amazon’s corporate arrogance

By Jim Hightower

In its ranking of business values, corporate America proudly provides a special place for elevated moral behavior. That place is the trash can.

Indeed, several years ago, free-market extremist Milton Friedman actually decreed that the only ethical obligation a corporation has to society is to deliver as much profit as possible to its big investors — everybody else be damned. Any awfulness caused by their self-indulgent policy of profit maximization is excused by claiming that their iniquities “broke no laws.” But — hello — they write the laws, intentionally defining corporate immorality as always technically legal.

America experienced the result of this mentality just before Christmas, when a line of supercell tornadoes ripped through Midwestern states, demolishing homes, businesses and even whole towns, killing more than 90 people. “A tragedy,” wailed CEOs, the media and public officials! But wait: Those deaths were not destiny. No question that a twisting 190-mph vortex comes at us with cataclysmic power, but we’re not helpless in the face of its fury. For years, an effective, comparatively cheap defense against killer tornadoes has been readily available: Safe rooms.

Basically, these are simple, concrete rooms built inside homes, schools, factories, shopping centers and elsewhere. People can shelter safely in them during big blows, surviving even if the building around them is shredded. Emergency management officials report that they provide “near absolute protection” from tornadoes. A decade ago, safety officials, insurance providers, consumer advocates and others

had proposed amending our building codes to require these inexpensive, lifesaving structures in new commercial and public buildings. Such a provision would’ve saved many workers who were crushed in an Amazon warehouse, a candle-making factory and other buildings destroyed in December’s storms.

But they died, because in 2012, members of a little-known industry-controlled group, the International Code Council, had quietly vetoed the proposal, calling it “overly restrictive,” even declaring it “way too soon to do a knee jerk reaction” to tornado deaths.

All those buildings smashed by December’s tornadoes were corporate death sites because their shoddy construction “broke no laws.” Let’s ask corporate America if it’s still too soon for Congress to mandate tornado-safe rooms.

The morning after the horrific tornado smashed a huge Amazon warehouse in Illinois, killing six workers on the night shift, corporate CEO Jeff Bezos issued a personal video message.

But instead of expressing distress and sorrow, Boss Bezos was perversely giddy. That’s because the narcissistic gazillionaire had not made the video to mourn the deaths. Rather, ignoring Amazon’s Illinois disaster, he had chosen this hour of tragedy to gloat to the world that his private space tourism business had just rocketed a small group of extremely rich thrill seekers on a 10-minute joyride some 66 miles up to the edge of space. As reported by the “Popular Information” newsletter, Bezos even dressed up in a pretend astronaut costume for this PR video,

grinning proudly as he exclaimed that everyone involved was really “happy.”

Back on Planet Earth, though, the families and co-workers of the employees crushed when Amazon’s cheaply built structure collapsed on them were not happy with him. It took Bezos some 12 hours after his self-congratulatory media event before he finally issued a perfunctory tweet professing to be “heartbroken over the loss of our teammates.”

But they weren’t “lost” to a storm — they were killed by a deliberate corporate culture that routinely cuts corners on worker safety to put more profit in corporate pockets. First, the building itself was thrown up quickly with cheap, preassembled, 40-foot-high concrete walls that collapse inward in a tornado; second, Amazon’s employees were expected to stay on the job that night even though there was a high risk of tornadoes; third, Amazon never bothered to hold tornado drills; and fourth, nearly all of the workers were classified as “contractors,” letting Amazon dodge liability for on-the-job harm.

Oh, and Jeff might also want to reconsider one more bit of the corporate arrogance he revealed in this ugly incident: Those dead workers were not his “teammates,” as he so cynically called them — even a high-flying captain doesn’t treat teammates as throwaway units, carelessly sacrificing their lives for a few more dollars in corporate profit.

Jim Hightower is a syndicated columnist and talk radio host.

A republic of spies

By Judge Andrew Napolitano

Last Friday, the National Counterintelligence and Security Center warned the American public against the dangers of spyware manufactured by one Israeli corporation. Spyware is unwanted software that can expose the entire contents of one’s mobile or laptop device to prying eyes.

This warning from the feds, issued with a straight face, is about as credible as American television executives warning about the dangers of watching too many British period dramas.

Here is the backstory.

Though America has used the services of spies since the Revolutionary War, until the modern era, spying was largely limited to wartime. That changed when America became a surveillance state in 1947 with the public establishment of the Central Intelligence Agency and the secret creation of its counterparts.

The CIA’s stated public task at its inception was to spy on the Soviet Union and its satellite countries so that American officials could prepare for any adverse actions by them. This was the time of the Red Scare, in which both Republicans and Democrats fostered the Orwellian belief that America needed a foreign adversary.

We had just defeated Germany in World War II, and an ally of ours in that war — an ally that suffered horrendous losses — suddenly became so strong it needed to be kept in check. The opening salvo in this absurd argument was fired by President Harry Truman in August 1945 when he used nuclear bombs intentionally to target civilians of an already defeated Japan. One of his targets was a Roman Catholic cathedral.

But his real target — so to speak — was his new friend, Joe Stalin.

When Truman signed the National Security Act into law in 1947, he also had Stalin in mind. That statute, which established the CIA, expressly stated that it shall have no internal intelligence or law enforcement functions and its collections of intelligence shall come from outside the United States.

These limiting clauses were integral to the statute creating the CIA, as

members of Congress who crafted it feared the U.S. was creating the type of internal surveillance monster that we had just defeated in Germany.

Of course, no senior official in presidential administrations from Truman to Joseph R. Biden has taken these limitations seriously. Last week, this column reminded readers that as recently as the Obama administration, the CIA boasted that it had the capability of receiving data from all computer chips in the homes of Americans.

The same column reminded state lawmakers that, contrary to the law that created it, the CIA is physically present in all 50 state houses in America. What is it doing there?

Fast-forward to today and we know that the CIA has rivals in the government for the acquisition of intelligence data. Today, the feds admit to funding and empowering 16 domestic intelligence agencies — spies next door. The most notorious of these is the National Security Agency, which, when it last reported, employs 60,000+ persons, mostly civilians, with military leadership.

What do they do? They spy on Americans. We know this thanks to the personal courage of Edward Snowden and others who chose to honor their oaths to uphold the Constitution. NSA spying has produced so much data that the NSA recently built in Utah the second largest building in the U.S. — after the Pentagon — for use as a storage facility of the data it has collected; and it is running out of room.

What has it collected? Quite simply, everything it can get its hands on. These domestic spies — the CIA, the NSA, even the FBI — all have access to every keystroke and all data on every digital device everywhere in the United States, without a warrant. This is computer hacking, a federal crime, but the feds don’t prosecute the spies they have hired to spy on us.

It also represents an egregious violation of the Fourth Amendment, which guarantees the right to privacy of all persons. The operative language is “the right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated.”

The law defines all searches and seizures conducted without a

warrant as presumptively unreasonable and thus violative of not only this amendment but also the uniquely American value it was enacted to protect — the right to be left alone. Surely the computer chip in every desktop, mobile device, dishwasher and microwave is an “effect” protected by the Constitution.

The spies and, sadly, the presidents for whom they have worked don’t see it that way. They have claimed in federal courts and elsewhere that the Fourth Amendment does not pertain to spies because they are not law enforcement and because they work directly for the president, who, when he is operating as the commander in chief, is free to employ government assets as he wishes.

This argument has been used to justify the CIA’s violent killings of Americans and others in foreign lands using its drones and its agents dressed as military. It has justified the brutal torture of foreign nationals, even those whom the CIA deemed were being truthful during their interrogations. And, of course, it has justified ignoring the Constitution and the rights it protects and the values that underlie it.

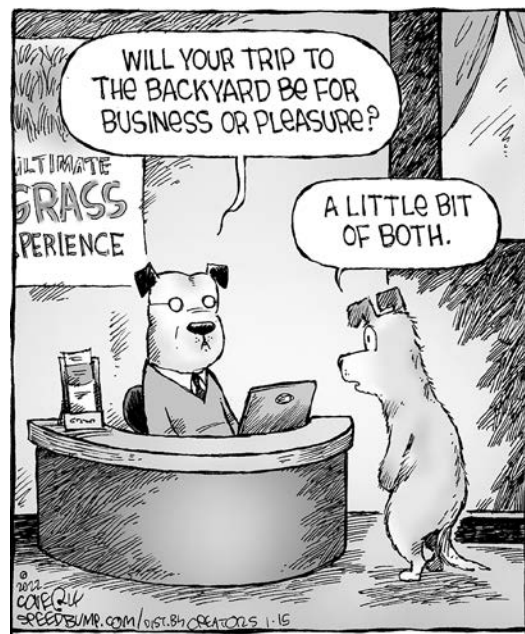
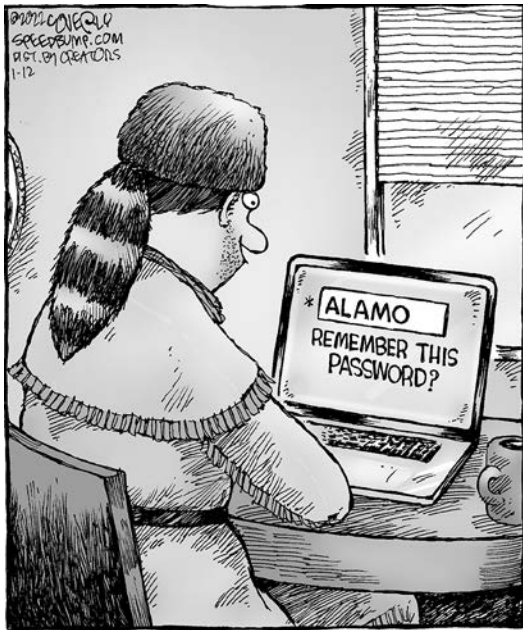
It also belies the very purpose of the Constitution — to keep the government off the people’s backs. Of course, when the late Justice William O. Douglas coined that phrase, there were no computer chips, the CIA was thought to be law-abiding, and the NSA didn’t exist.

So, we can see how tongue in cheek the Biden administration was last Friday afternoon when it announced the need to be careful of commercial spyware. We can avoid commercial spyware, but how can we avoid a totalitarian government that spies on everyone?

According to the Declaration of Independence, we can do so by peacefully altering or abolishing it.

Judge Andrew Napolitano is a distinguished visiting professor of law at Brooklyn Law School.

SPEED BUMP DAVE COVERLY



Norwalk Community Calendar

MONDAYS

1st Mon., 6 pm - Public Safety meetings - Council Chambers

TUESDAYS

9:00 a.m. - 1 pm - Farmers Market - Norwalk City Hall
1st & 3rd Tues., 6 pm - Toastmasters Meetings - Registrar Recorder/County Clerks Office
1st & 3rd Tues., 6 pm - City Council - Council Chambers
3rd Tues., 5:45 pm - Housing Authority - Council Chambers

WEDNESDAYS

1st & 3rd Wed., 7 pm - Lions Club - Bruce's Restaurant
2nd Wed., 10:30 am - Norwalk Woman's Club - Faith Church
2nd & 4th Wed., 1:30 pm - Alondra Senior Citizens - Social Services Center
2nd & 4th Wed., 6 pm - Soroptimist International - Via Zoom
2nd & 4th Wed., 7:30 pm - Planning Commission - Council Chambers
4th Wed., 11:30 am - Coordinating Council - Arts & Sports Complex

THURSDAYS

7 pm - Boy Scouts Troop 924 - Norwalk United Methodist Church
2nd Thurs., 6 pm - 605 Kiwanis Club - Mr. Rosewood Family Restaurant
2nd Thurs., 7 pm - American Legion Post No. 359 - 11986 Front St.
2nd Thurs., 7:30 pm - Golden Trowel - Norwalk Masonic Lodge

SATURDAYS

9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. - Farmers Market - Norwalk City Hall
2nd Sat., 8:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. - Pancake Breakfast - 1st Christian Church of Norwalk

Would you like an event listed in the community calendar?
E-mail news@thedowneypatriot.com

The Norwalk Patriot STAFF

- JENNIFER DEKAY - Publisher
- ERIC PIERCE - Editor
- JULIE LEDESMA - Display Advertising
- ALEX DOMINGUEZ - Staff Writer
- LINDA LARSON - Classified Advertising
- JOHN M. SHERRARD - Contributor
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ADVERTISING POLICY
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14783 CARMENITA ROAD, NORWALK, CA 90650 | ADJUDICATION #BS154952

PUZZLE OF THE WEEK

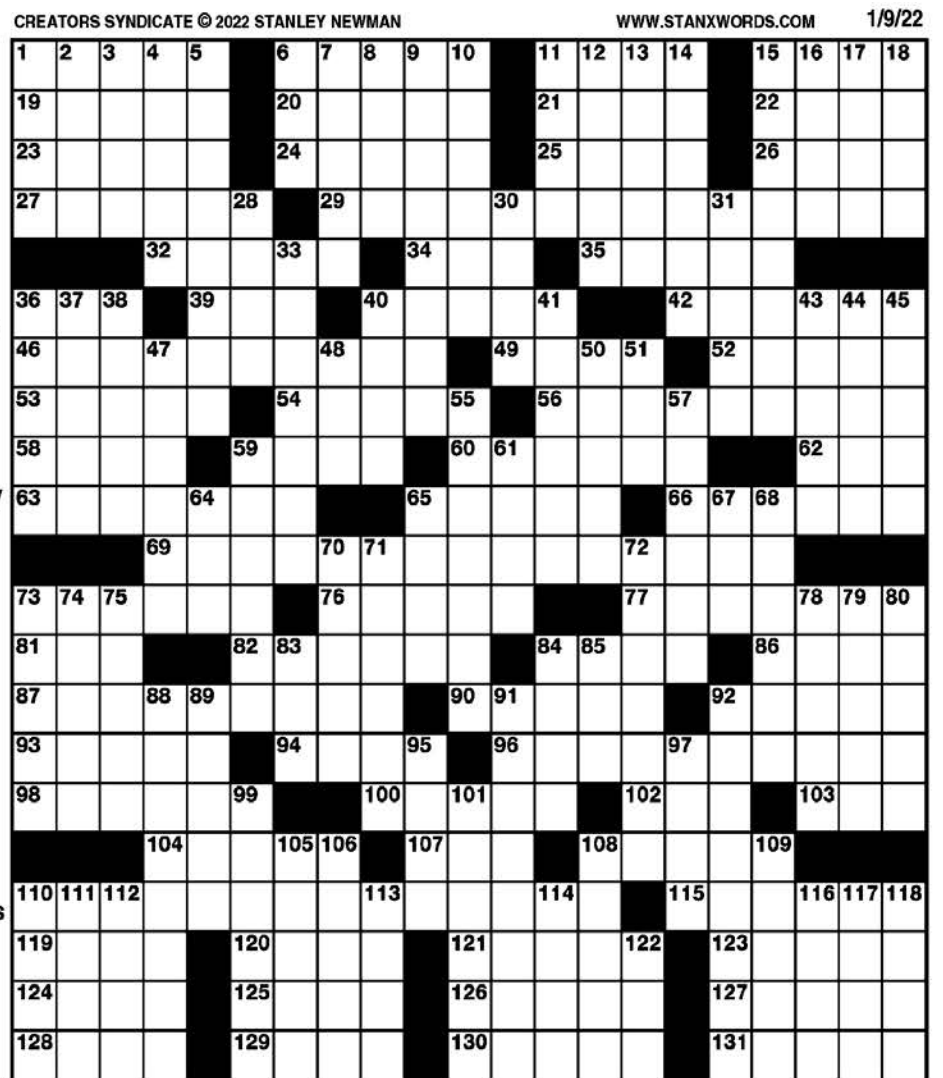
THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com)
STATES OF THE UNION: Time to get it together
by Billie Truitt

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.

You can contact puzzle editor Stanley Newman at www.StanXwords.com

- ACROSS**
- 1 Fashions into shape
 - 6 Informal attempts
 - 11 Preceder of dash and happy
 - 15 Brief moment, briefly
 - 19 Common wedding gown shade
 - 20 Charged
 - 21 Name on the cover of *Beloved*
 - 22 Cold-climate capital
 - 23 Ricochet
 - 24 Very unconventional
 - 25 Small speck
 - 26 Spent frivolously
 - 27 Syrian city
 - 29 Carnival barker
 - 32 Weasel cousin
 - 34 Mt. Kilimanjaro's locale
 - 35 Dress down
 - 36 Hoodwink
 - 39 Boot tip
 - 40 Keeping in the loop with a memo
 - 42 Occult practice
 - 46 No longer a suspect
 - 49 Cookie with creme
 - 52 Coral ring
 - 53 Southeast Asian peninsula
 - 54 Needing combing
 - 56 Have a no-win situation
 - 58 "And this is the thanks ___?"
 - 59 Angler's enticement
 - 60 Literary contract provision
 - 62 Part of the UK
 - 63 Positive or particular
 - 65 "___ sera" (Genoese "good evening")
 - 66 Pleasantly warm
 - 69 Voluntarily
 - 73 Medicinal hemp product
 - 76 Bona fide
 - 77 Author Laura ___ Wilder
 - 81 In imitation of
 - 82 Anticipates
 - 84 Enjoy privileged status
 - 86 River near Yuma
 - 87 Daniel Craig portrayal
 - 90 Supermodel Klum
 - 92 Backless sofa
 - 93 ___ Pending (product label)
 - 94 Latin being
 - 96 Place to buy a pie
 - 98 Trojan War sage
 - 100 Desert haven
 - 102 Freudian concept
 - 103 Female rabbit
 - 104 Madonna musical role
 - 107 Firms, for short
 - 108 Twisting
 - 110 "Except, we have a little problem..."
 - 115 Drives rudely (out)
 - 119 Bavarian automaker
 - 120 Hole in a plank
 - 121 Rub it in
 - 123 TV blocking device
 - 124 Merriment
 - 125 ___European languages
 - 126 Post-makeover self
 - 127 Less welcoming
 - 128 Stars large and small
 - 129 Older youngster
 - 130 Suburban London county
 - 131 Altima alternative
- DOWN**
- 1 Glittery mineral
 - 2 Not quite circular
 - 3 Traditional tales
 - 4 Discontinues
 - 5 Sincere compassion
 - 6 It means "No seats today"
 - 7 Shade of gray
 - 8 Poker hand precursor
 - 9 Boot camp quarters
 - 10 Tennis great Graf
 - 11 Blend in a bowl
 - 12 Rises on the horizon
 - 13 Bit of mischief
 - 14 Concert hall inventory
 - 15 Employment figures
 - 16 Land in the ocean
 - 17 Pet's pest
 - 18 Barnyard bird
 - 28 Concert hall instrument
 - 30 Of little ___ use
 - 31 Gather bit by bit
 - 33 German soprano
 - 36 Nightclub performer
 - 37 Old enough
 - 38 Viking or Raider
 - 40 Outlay
 - 41 City near New Orleans
 - 43 Short scribbles
 - 44 Meryl's... *Madison County* costar
 - 45 Somber poem
 - 47 Epidermal art
 - 48 Arles affirmative
 - 50 Pioneering computer
 - 51 Dash device
 - 55 "Dream on!"
 - 57 Chant
 - 59 DNA test locale
 - 61 Watering hole
 - 64 Movie list grp.
 - 65 Run away
 - 67 Assn.
 - 68 Slow tempo
 - 70 Chris who portrayed Captain America
 - 71 Stated with authority
 - 72 Potential juror
 - 73 Crawdad cuisine
 - 74 Apathetic
 - 75 Deadens acoustically
 - 78 Beside oneself
 - 79 Ranchero's plain
 - 80 French toast portion
 - 83 Hardship
 - 84 Urban reformer Jacob
 - 85 Wood-shaping tool
 - 88 Casual restaurants
 - 89 Back burner's place
 - 91 Letters of the Apostles
 - 92 Tennis star Novak
 - 95 A head
 - 97 Ice cream thickener
 - 99 Take the chance
 - 101 Elegantly groomed
 - 105 1000 kilograms
 - 106 Battery part
 - 108 Much more than regret
 - 109 Southwestern desert plant
 - 110 License plates
 - 111 Video streaming site
 - 112 Abode for Adam
 - 113 School on the Thames
 - 114 Dairy herd
 - 116 Leveling wedge
 - 117 Grandstand section
 - 118 Nimble
 - 122 ___-Mex food



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Reach Stan Newman at www.StanXwords.com

not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code). Publish: 01/14/2022, 01/21/2022, 01/28/2022, 02/04/2022. THE NORWALK PATRIOT. AAA968097.

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME 2022004657 The following person(s) has abandoned the use of the fictitious business name(s): SHARON KANG INTERPRETING, 3075 FOOTHILL BLVD., UNIT 114, LA CRESCENTA, CA 91214 LA COUNTY. The fictitious business name(s) referred to above was filed on: 02/26/2020 in the County of Los Angeles. Original File No. 2020047149. Full name of Registrant(s): SHARON KANG, 3075 FOOTHILL BLVD., UNIT 114, LA CRESCENTA, CA 91214. This business is conducted by: INDIVIDUAL. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime.) Signed: SHARON KANG, MANAGER. This statement was filed with the Los Angeles County Clerk on 01/07/2022. Publish: 01/14/2022, 01/21/2022, 02/04/2022. THE NORWALK PATRIOT. AAA968155.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022006021 The following person(s) is/are doing business as: PINE CREST CONSTRUCTION, 11721 WHITTIER BLVD, WHITTIER, CA 90601 LOS ANGELES. Mailing address if different: N/A. Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number: C4819588. The full name(s) of registrant(s) is/are: XACTBUILT CONSTRUCTION, INC., 11721 WHITTIER BLVD, WHITTIER, CA 90601 (State of Incorporation/Organization: CALIFORNIA). This business is conducted by: CORPORATION. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime.) Signed: SERGIO MURILLO SR., PRESIDENT. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on (date): 01/2017. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on (Date) 01/10/2022. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code). Publish: 01/14/2022, 01/21/2022, 01/28/2022, 02/04/2022. THE NORWALK PATRIOT. AAA968247.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022006024 The following person(s) is/are doing business as: MJ PERFECTION, 12613 213TH ST, LAKEWOOD, CA 90715 LOS ANGELES. Mailing address if different: N/A. The full name(s) of registrant(s) is/are: MARCOS JIMENEZ ALONSO, 12613 213TH ST., LAKEWOOD, CA 90715. This business is conducted by: INDIVIDUAL. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime.) Signed: MARCOS JIMENEZ ALONSO, OWNER. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on (date): 01/2022. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on (Date) 01/10/2022. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code). Publish: 01/14/2022, 01/21/2022, 01/28/2022, 02/04/2022. THE NORWALK PATRIOT. AAA968249.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022006019 The following person(s) is/are doing business as: KIKI'S TREATS, 1304 CAROB WAY, MONTEBELLO, CA 90640 LOS ANGELES. Mailing address if different: N/A. The full name(s) of registrant(s) is/are: ROCIO GALLARDO, 1304 CAROB WAY, MONTEBELLO, CA 90640. This business is conducted by: INDIVIDUAL. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime.) Signed: ROCIO GALLARDO, OWNER. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on (date): 01/2022. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on (Date) 01/10/2022. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code). Publish: 01/14/2022, 01/21/2022, 01/28/2022, 02/04/2022. THE NORWALK PATRIOT. AAA968249.

NORWALK PATRIOT. AAA968251. FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022006364 The following person(s) is/are doing business as: JESSES R PALLETES, 18559 ALTARIS ST, LOS ANGELES, CA 91744. This business is conducted by: INDIVIDUAL. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime.) Signed: JESUS E RODRIGUEZ, OWNER. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on (date): 07/2013. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on (Date) 01/11/2022. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code). Publish: 01/14/2022, 01/21/2022, 01/28/2022, 02/04/2022. THE NORWALK PATRIOT. AAA968906.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022005898 The following person(s) is/are doing business as: LATIN SERVICES, 127 S. BRAND BLVD, SAN FERNANDO, CA 91340-LOS ANGELES. Mailing address if different: N/A. The full name(s) of registrant(s) is/are: LATIN SERVICES, 127 S. BRAND BLVD., SAN FERNANDO, CA 91340 (State of Incorporation/Organization: CALIFORNIA). This business is conducted by: INDIVIDUAL. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime.) Signed: LILY RODRIGUEZ, PRESIDENT. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on (date): 01/2007. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on (Date) 01/10/2022. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code). Publish: 01/14/2022, 01/21/2022, 01/28/2022, 02/04/2022. THE NORWALK PATRIOT. AAA969055.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022006815 The following person(s) is/are doing business as: 1. KALA MOBILE TRUCK WASH, 2. KALA TRUCK WASH, 329 N INDIANA ST, LOS ANGELES, CA 90063 LA. Mailing address if different: N/A. The full name(s) of registrant(s) is/are: EMILIO VARGAS-CEDILLO, 329 N INDIANA ST, LOS ANGELES, CA 90063. This business is conducted by: INDIVIDUAL. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime.) Signed: EMILIO VARGAS-CEDILLO, OWNER. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business names listed above on (date): N/A. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on (Date) 01/11/2022. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code). Publish: 01/14/2022, 01/21/2022, 01/28/2022, 02/04/2022. THE NORWALK PATRIOT. AAA969108.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022006412 The following person(s) is/are doing business as: INFINITE CONSTRUCTION COMPANY LLC, 17705 S. WESTERN AVE, SPACE 45, GARDENA, CA 90248 LOS ANGELES. Mailing address if different: N/A. Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number: 202129810560. The full name(s) of registrant(s) is/are: INFINITE CONSTRUCTION COMPANY LLC, 17705 S. WESTERN AVE SPACE 45, GARDENA, CA 90248 (State of Incorporation/Organization: CA). This business is conducted by: LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime.) Signed: OMAR ESAI HUERTA VERA, CEO. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on (date): 10/2021. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on (Date) 01/11/2022. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code). Publish: 01/14/2022, 01/21/2022, 01/28/2022, 02/04/2022. THE NORWALK PATRIOT. AAA969329.

filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code). Publish: 01/14/2022, 01/21/2022, 01/28/2022, 02/04/2022. THE NORWALK PATRIOT. AAA969194.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022007103 The following person(s) is/are doing business as: LEFT COAST CONCRETE AND PAVERS, 2411 N EARL AVE, LONG BEACH, CA 90806 LOS ANGELES. Mailing address if different: N/A. The full name(s) of registrant(s) is/are: DARRELL SILVERTHORN, 2411 N EARL AVE, LONG BEACH, CA 90806. This business is conducted by: INDIVIDUAL. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime.) Signed: DARRELL SILVERTHORN, OWNER. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on (date): 01/2022. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on (Date) 01/11/2022. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code). Publish: 01/14/2022, 01/21/2022, 01/28/2022, 02/04/2022. THE NORWALK PATRIOT. AAA969293.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022007525 The following person(s) is/are doing business as: BUTTERCUP BABY STORE, 300 E COLORADO BLVD SUITE 157, PASADENA, CA 91101 LOS ANGELES. Mailing address if different: N/A. The full name(s) of registrant(s) is/are: HERMAN SURJANA, 9428 LINDEN ST, BELLFLOWER, CA 90706. This business is conducted by: INDIVIDUAL. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime.) Signed: HERMAN SURJANA, OWNER. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on (date): N/A. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on (Date) 01/12/2022. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code). Publish: 01/14/2022, 01/21/2022, 01/28/2022, 02/04/2022. THE NORWALK PATRIOT. AAA969328.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022007536 The following person(s) is/are doing business as: CALI X RENTAL, 11809 SPINNING AVE, HAWTHORNE, CA 90250 LOS ANGELES. Mailing address if different: N/A. The full name(s) of registrant(s) is/are: CALDORIAN LLC, 11809 SPINNING AVE, HAWTHORNE, CA 90250 (State of Incorporation/Organization: CA). This business is conducted by: LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime.) Signed: ORLANDO AVALOS, MEMBER. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on (date): N/A. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on (Date) 01/12/2022. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code). Publish: 01/14/2022, 01/21/2022, 01/28/2022, 02/04/2022. THE NORWALK PATRIOT. AAA969329.

GOVERNMENT

CITY OF NORWALK SPECIAL PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING REVOKE NONCONFORMING USE OF ALCOHOL SALES AT MIKE'S LIQUOR 14408 PIONEER BOULEVARD NOTICE OF CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION (CLASS 21)

Date: Wednesday, January 26, 2022 Time: 6:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard Place: City Council Chambers, Norwalk City Hall, 12700 Norwalk Boulevard,

Norwalk, CA 90650 and Via Teleconference

Project Description: For the Planning Commission to hear and consider all relevant evidence, including, but not limited to, applicable staff reports relative to any conditions, incidents, or other facts supporting any grounds for revocation of the nonconforming use of 14408 Pioneer Boulevard Norwalk, California 90650 for the sale of alcoholic beverages (specifically, Mike's Liquor) (also known as Assessor's Parcel Number ("APN") 8073-010-021). The subject property is located on the southeast corner of Pioneer Boulevard and Lindale Street, in the General Commercial (C-3) zone.

Environmental Review Information: Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the local CEQA Guidelines of the City of Norwalk, this project will not have significant effect on the environment and is listed as a Class 21 Categorical Exemption. Class 21 consists of actions by regulatory agencies to enforce or revoke a lease, permit license, certificate, or other entitlement for use issued, adopted, or prescribed by the regulatory agency or enforcement of a law, general rule, standard, or objective, administered or adopted by the regulatory agency. A Notice of Categorical Exemption (Class 21) has been prepared for this project.

Public Comment: Interested persons may review the agenda report for the above-described project at the City's webpage at: https://www.norwalk.org/city-hall/meeting-agendas-393. Until further notice, Planning Commission meetings will be conducted pursuant to the provisions of the Governor's Executive Order N-15-21, which allows Planning Commissioners and/or staff to participate from a remote location without listing a physical location. You may watch the meeting from home on Charter Channel 3, Verizon Fios Channel 32, or livestream through the City's website. If you wish to make a comment on the item during the meeting, you may provide input by attending the meeting, by phone, or electronically through the following procedures: 1) by emailing Amoreno@norwalkca.gov - emails will be read during the meeting up to three minutes; or 2) by dialing into the Zoom Meeting at (669) 900-6833. Meeting ID: 895 8662 1054 to speak on the matter. Please limit your comments to three minutes maximum, which is the same time allotted in person. If you challenge the proposed matter, you may be limited to only those issues raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered prior to the public hearing.

More Information: Questions concerning the public hearing matter, should be directed to Amanda Moreno, Management Analyst at (562) 929-5962; Amoreno@norwalkca.gov.

Accessibility: In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in a City meeting or other services offered by this City, please contact the Community Development Department at (562) 929-5744. Notification at least 48 hours prior to the meeting or time when services are needed will assist the City staff in assuring that reasonable arrangements can be made to provide participation in the meeting or service.

Dated this 14th day of January, 2022.

John P. Ramirez, AICP Director of Community Development

The Norwalk Patriot 1/14/22

NOTICES

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME CASE NUMBER: 21CHCP00447 TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner BRITNEY SHYKEYA DIXON filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Present name (1) BRITNEY SHYKEYA DIXON to proposed name (1) BARBIE BRITNEY SHYKEYA DIXON 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 hearing 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: FEBRUARY 10, 2022, Time: 8:30 a.m., Department: F47, Room: N/A The address of the court is 9425

PENFIELD AVE CHATSWORTH, CA 91311 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 DECEMBER 16, 2021 DAVID B. GELFOUND Judge of the Superior Court Petitioner or Attorney for Petitioner BRITNEY SHYKEYA DIXON 12127 EL DORADO AVE APT 318 SYLMAR, CA 91342 (949) 591-0891 DIXON.BRITNEY.BD@GMAIL.COM

The Norwalk Patriot 1/7/22, 1/14/22, 1/21/22, 1/28/22

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME CASE NUMBER: 21NWCP00447 TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner RENE RAYNALDO ORTIZ filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Present name (1) RENE RAYNALDO ORTIZ to Proposed name (1) RAY ORTIZ 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: FEBRUARY 18, 2022, 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 DECEMBER 17, 2021 Honorable Margaret M. Bernal Judge of the Superior Court Petitioner or Attorney for Petitioner RENE RAYNALDO ORTIZ 11012 BOMBARDIER AVE NORWALK, CA 90650 (562) 665-4374

The Norwalk Patriot 12/24/21, 12/31/21, 1/7/22, 1/14/22

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME CASE NUMBER: 22CMCP00002 TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner EBERECHUKWU NWOCHA AGU filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Present name (1) EBERECHUKWU NWOCHA AGU to Proposed name (1) EBERECHUKWU EBY NWOCHA AGU 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 29, 2022, Time: 8:30 a.m., Department: A, Room: 904 The address of the court is 200 WEST COMPTON BOULEVARD, COMPTON CA 90220 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 JANUARY 3, 2022 Honorable Thomas D. Long Judge of the Superior Court Petitioner or Attorney for Petitioner EBERECHUKWU NWOCHA AGU 17634 MAPLE DRIVE CARSON, CA 90746 818-620-3692 EBYAGU2012@GMAIL.COM

The Norwalk Patriot 1/14/22, 1/21/22, 1/28/22, 2/4/22

PROBATE

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF DOLORES ZAPATA Case No. 21STPB1571 To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may be interested in the will or estate, or both, of DOLORES ZAPATA A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by: JUANITA ZAPATA in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that JUANITA ZAPATA be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. The Petition requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.

THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A HEARING on the petition will be held on March 8, 2022 at 8:30 a.m. in Dept. 9 Room N/A located at SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, 111 NORTH HILL STREET, LOS ANGELES, CA 90012, CENTRAL DISTRICT - STANLEY MOSK

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California Statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California Law.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. Attorney for Petitioner: KRISTINA T. TRAN, ESQ. - TRAN & TANG LLP 1701 S BEACH BLVD., SUITE 830 HUNTINGTON BEACH, CA 92647 (949) 797-9050

The Norwalk Patriot 1/7/22, 1/14/22, 1/21/22

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St. Paul girls basketball off to hottest start in years

■ Lady Swordsmen now 14-1 as Del Rey League action gets underway.

By John M. Sherrard
Contributor

SANTA FE SPRINGS – The St. Paul girls basketball team is off to one of its best starts to a season in years.

They hit their first bump in the road to perfection, with their first loss of the season after a 13-0 start.

No St. Paul team has come close to that streak to start the season in years.

St. Paul did have a 13-game winning streak in 2019, which started in the third game of the season. The Swordsmen finished up with an overall record of 23-5 and won the Camino Real League title with a perfect 8-0 record. That would be their last season in the Camino Real as they moved into the Del Rey League in 2020.

Interim coach Rich Avina, who is also the athletic director for St. Paul, has his team ranked No. 13 in the latest CIF-Southern Section Division 1 Poll (Jan. 10).

Prior to their first loss to No. 7 (D1) Orangewood Academy in

the Northview Girls Basketball Tournament on Saturday (Jan. 8), the Lady Swordsmen were off to their best start in 17 years.

“Their length was a factor and it looked like we were a little sluggish with the ball in our hands,” Avina said. “Part of the protocols, in terms of practice, has put us back.”

“One of our strengths has always been the energy that we play with in being in shape. You lose all of those legs in that time frame. Everyone was chomping at the bit to play. Our approach is just finding ourselves and playing hard.”

St. Paul (14-1) returns all of its players from last season.

Avina was referring to the layoff over the Christmas break, mainly due to game cancellations.

The Swordsmen started the season with three tournaments (12 wins) and won them all – which included the Mark Keppel, Rosemead and Marina tournaments.

It was the first time ever that St. Paul Girls Basketball has won three tournaments in one season.

“We have a real good squad,” Avina added. “We beat a very good Redondo team and Palos Verdes team, with a short-handed team.”

Included in that team is newcomer and freshman guard Gloria Barrera.

“She plays inside the paint and can handle the ball,” Avina said. “She is a stud.”

Barrera was named All-Tournament for all three tournaments that St. Paul played in during the preseason.

A valuable player for Avina is sophomore guard Loretta Aguirre-Colmenero, who has been a big part of coming off the bench as the sixth man this season. “She brings energy off the bench,” Avina added.

A transfer from Mayfair, sophomore guard Syri Prevo, and newcomer, sophomore center Sara Guajardo-Rivera, have added to the scoring punch for the Swordsmen.

Guajardo-Rivera who is a sophomore transfer from Nuevo Leon, Monterrey, Mexico commented on the speed of the American game of basketball.

“I think here is a lot faster and more aggressive,” she said. “We have a pretty good team and a full team. I didn’t know that we were going to play real good teams when I came here. They are really good, Division 1 teams. I didn’t expect that when I came here and saw that we were playing the big teams. I got real excited.”

The St. Paul girls have the luxury of really having two coaches to guide them.

Robert Miller, who has been the St. Paul Principal for the last two years, has headed up the program for years, but has Avina taking charge on a daily basis.

Miller, with his busy schedule, comes to practice as much as he can and provides a different angle than Avina.

Guajardo-Rivera noted how important it was to have two different types of coaches.

“I think they are different, but compliment each other pretty good,” she added.

Miller has guided the program for many successful years, which included six trips to the CIF finals. The team won its first title in 2016 and advanced to the CIF State Regional semifinals.

Avina started coaching with Miller in 2006 through 2009 on the boys side, when he was coaching both boys and girls at the same time.

Avina was heavily involved with the football program with Marijon Ancich at the time. Miller then gave up the boys side and he stayed strictly with the girls again. Avina was involved with strength and conditioning, as well as behind the scenes basketball talks (very informal) from 2010-2016. Starting in 2019 until now, he has been coaching full time for the girls team.

Avina made it a point that all of his coaching comes from Miller, saying, “I learned everything from Robert. There’s not one thing that I draw up that I haven’t seen him draw up.”

“When Robert comes to practice, he’s missed it, because this is his world. He loves basketball. I 100% step back. Everything that Mike (Mercado) and I do is not one thing that Robert hasn’t discussed with us.”

Mercado is assisting Avina and Miller and pointed out the importance of coming to St. Paul.

“The way we do things here at St. Paul is what drew me to come back to the program,” said Mercado, of his returning from a previous stint at the school. “It’s the expectation and you expect the girls to come up to this level. Coach Robert (Miller) created this culture and it’s the developing of young women to work hard and see the benefits.”

As for the 54-47 loss to Orangewood, the Lady Swordsmen were led by Barrera with 15 points, followed by Prevo with 12 points, including two, 3-pointers and 10 points from Guajardo-Rivera. Junior guard Frida Cadena-Hernandez had six points and Aguirre-Colmenero added four points.

Leading the way for Orangewood Academy was junior Jayionne Brown with a game-high 24 points, followed by 18 from University of Washington-bound Amaya Lacy.

St. Paul opened the game with a 7-0 run, five of which came from Barrera. Their biggest lead of the game, 9-5, came after Barrera



St. Paul's Loretta Aguirre-Colmenero (21) looks to pass the ball as they play Orangewood Academy in their girls basketball tournament at Northview High School in Covina on Saturday. (Photo by Keith Durlfingler)

scored on a layup with 1:43 left in the opening quarter.

“I thought we had it with that 7-0 lead, but it was a tougher game,” Barrera said. “I think we could have done better.”

Orangewood, with a 10-2 run, took its first lead of the game, 10-9, with 20 seconds left in the quarter on a 3-pointer by Lacy.

The second quarter saw both teams score 10 points each. The Swordsmen again started the quarter with a small, 5-0 run and the 14-10 lead. Guajardo-Rivera had four of those points.

The Spartans outscored St. Paul the rest of the period with a 10-5 run to end the half, leading 20-19.

Barrera talked of her early years and hopes to play for St. Paul when she was young.

“I always wanted to go to St. Paul because of coach Miller,” she said. “I’ve known him and because I would practice with them in the summer when I was 10 or 11.”

After the intermission, it was

all Spartans as they doubled St. Paul’s total points in the third quarter, 25-12. Orangewood led, 45-31 heading into the fourth quarter.

“I think we just got tired,” said Barrera, of the third quarter outburst by Orangewood. “It was tough because we didn’t have practices and we were out of shape because of the Covid situation. We only practiced for three days.”

Barrera added six more points in the final quarter, as the Swordsmen outscored Orangewood, 16-9, but fell by seven points in the game.

Barrera said of her hopes for the team in the upcoming years, “It’s a lot of pressure, but I feel we can win (Del Rey) league. That’s one of my goals.”

Avina concluded with a comment on what the team has gone through this past year.

“These girls overcame adversity, protocol issues and quarantining and still did a great job so far,” Avina concluded.

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