

# The Norwalk Patriot

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14783 Carmenita Road, Norwalk, CA 90650

## Norwalk honors Penny Brothers

**NORWALK** – The City of Norwalk proclaimed Feb. 22 to be Penny Brothers' Day in honor of NFL stars Elijah and Rashaad Penny.

Both men are alumni of Norwalk High School. Elijah graduated in 2011 and Rashaad graduated in 2014.

Both were jersey number 22, which was retired last month by Norwalk High School.

"My City Council colleagues and I are very proud to be able to proclaim Feb. 22, 2022 as the Penny Brothers' Day," said Mayor Rick Ramirez in a ceremony held March 15. "It's not often that you get a local resident playing in a sport in a major league, let alone two local residents that happen to be brothers. Having them give back to the community that they grew up in is inspiring for younger residents to strive to make their own dreams a reality."

Beyond their accolades on the football field, the brothers have done a lot for the Norwalk community. They started the Two Cents Family Foundation that provides recreational experiences and educational resources to children in Norwalk.

Through their foundation, the brothers have offered free football camps to teach young players about sportsmanship, teamwork and hard work, while incorporating mentorship. The foundation has also hosted a backpack giveaway.

Norwalk officials said they hope to collaborate with Elijah and Rashaad on more community events.

## Rising gas prices bring additional stress to Cerritos College students

■ Students are being forced to make difficult decisions in order to cope with soaring gas prices.

By Vincent Medina  
Contributor

**NORWALK** – Cerritos College students are feeling the additional stress of rising gas prices, as the average price for a gallon of gas in LA County rose to \$6 according to AAA.

The increase in gas is a result of the U.S. sanctions on Russian oil, which supplied the country with an average of 199,000 barrels per day (bpd) of crude oil in 2021 according to American Fuel & Petrochemical Manufacturers

Students are trying to conserve gas by reducing their trips for self-care or relaxation. However, reducing their time for self-care is contributing to their added stress.

Dave Chow, a second-year economics major at Cerritos College, would usually take time to play sports or take a drive to the park before gas prices increased.

"Normally I just go out and just go to the park, just breathe the fresh air, just go for like a casual stroll, or I'll go to Don Knobe golf course," Chow said. "That's like a stress reliever. Now I just stroll around my home, which I feel is less aesthetically pleasing."

Chow said he usually goes to Costco for gas and would usually



The average price of a gallon of gas reached \$6 in LA County this week. Photo by Vincent Medina

pay \$30, but now he will pay \$45.

"It adds a bit to the stress from school and how I decide my traveling habits," Chow said.

Emily Silva, a second year child development major at Cerritos College, said she is struggling to manage her budget as prices increase at the pump.

"I'm trying to put money in my savings and then move some money aside now for gas. I think I need to start picking up more hours at work in order to keep like a good budget," Silva said. "Normally I would go out with friends, go to the beach. I'm doing a lot of self care activities for myself. I can't do that because of gas prices so I do feel held back

from that."

She said she is hoping to transfer to San Diego State University and is worried about the cost with gas prices.

"I'm trying not to overwhelm myself more," Silva said. "I'll cross that bridge when I get to it."

## 2002 Norwalk Pony World Series Champs honored at Holifield Park

■ The team reunited after 20 years to celebrate their historic victory and remember assistant coach Tony Rivas

By John M. Sherrard  
Contributor

**NORWALK** – A double header sweep of rival Hartwell was the key to a terrific World Series run and eventual championship for the 2002 Norwalk Pony All Star team in 2002.

A 20-year anniversary of the title was held at Holifield Park Saturday (March 19), with many players and coaches appearing at the opening day of the 2022 Pony League season.

On display was the Roy Gillespie Memorial Trophy that the team received in the World series.

Norwalk, which dominated the Series, shutout Levittown, Puerto Rico, 10-0 in five innings to win the championship and became the first area team to win a Pony World Series since the 1965 Long beach team.

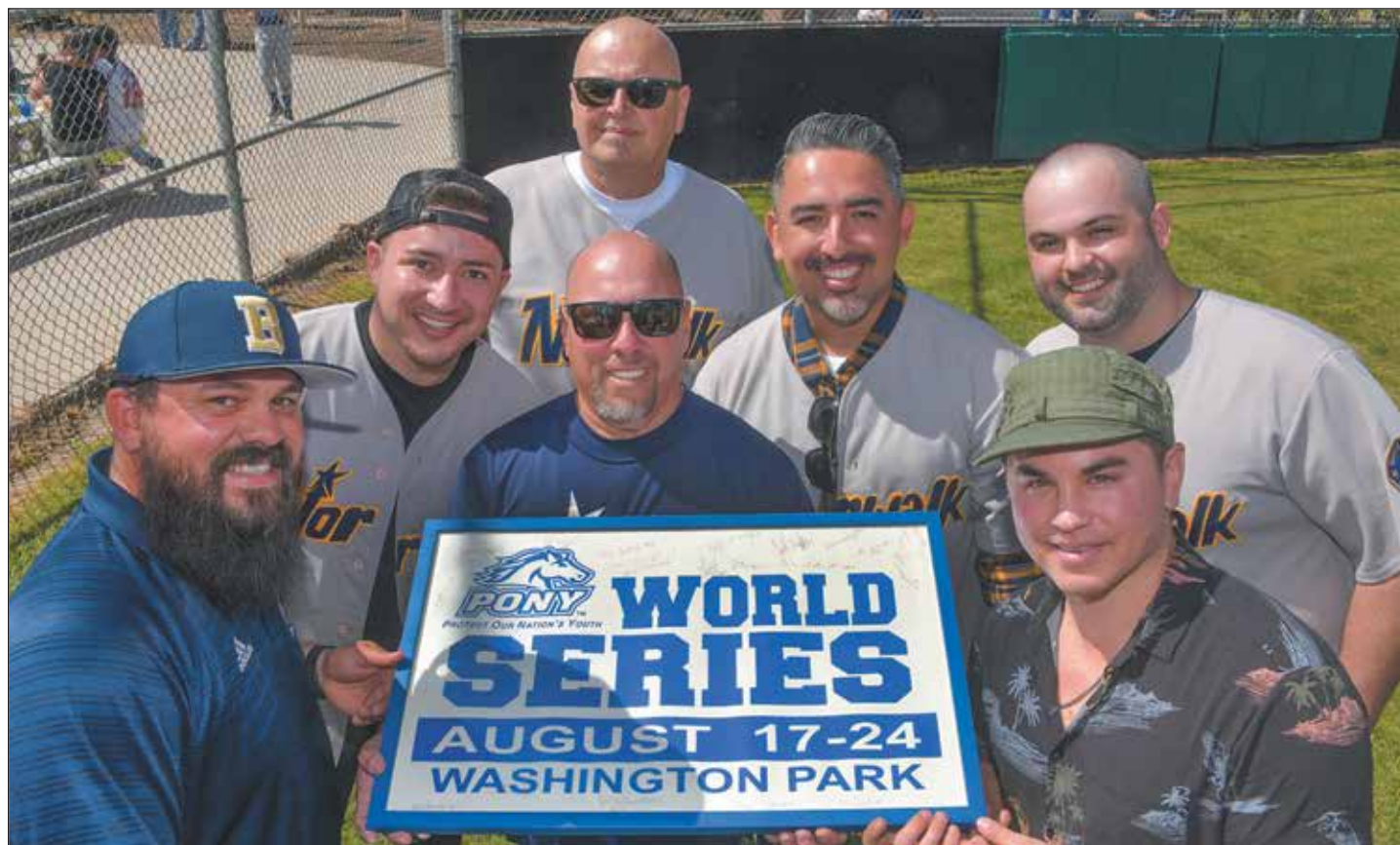
"It was an amazing run," said second baseman Johnny Perez, who was wearing his No. 5 jersey from the 2002 team. "It was unbelievable. Our team was so stacked. It was so hard even to get playing time, because we were so good. We just went on this amazing run where we couldn't lose. I still remember it like it was yesterday."

"Yesterday" was the theme at opening day for the team.

"It feels great, this is home," former Norwalk Pony All Stars coach Ruben Velazquez said. "This has always been home for many of us here. It's always great to come back here and see the league still going."

"Ultimately, that's what it's about. It's about the kids. It's not about us. We're just trying to lay the foundation and hope that things keep running and keep growing, and keep growing. This is happening every year."

Velazquez commented on the players now and how they are just



Members of the 2002 Norwalk Pony World Series Championship team, from left, Anthony Topete, Johnny Perez, Head Coach Ruben Velazquez, Assistant Coach Jorge Sanchez, Richard Melentrez, Eddie Murray and Gabriel Schwulst show the placard they signed 20-years ago as they are honored during the Norwalk Pony Baseball League Opening Day at Holifield Park in Norwalk on Saturday. Photo by Keith Durrflinger

like the 2002 team of young players.

"It's awesome," he said. "All of these kids need something to look up to. If they can see that kids from this area with the success that they are having now, anything is possible for them as well."

Velazquez remembered the run to the title that year.

"It was a memorable one," he said. "It was a total team effort and we had a ton of fun and a bunch of memories. We just completely dominated that World Series run. It's history now."

Velazquez, who looked around at the field and said it still looked the same and talked about how his team bought into what they were coaching that year.

"The total team buy-in to what

we were preaching and what we were about," he added. "These kids really wanted to win and they did anything it took and played the game the right way. We just had some dominating pitching and all-around performances."

The one big hurdle for the 2002 team was the Regional Tournament held at Norwalk, which was the step before Zone.

"Hartwell was our arch-enemy up the street," Velazquez remembered. "We had to beat them in a double header to move on to Zone, before we went to the World Series. By far, that's one of the biggest series that all of these guys will talk about. We're kind of like hated rivals. It's like the Dodger-Giants rivalry and we had to beat them twice to move on and we did."

A nice moment of the ceremony was the displaying of the jersey of coach Tony Rivas, who has since passed. His son, Gabriel Schwulst, was also on the team and was the catcher and said: "We were all just on the same page."

"I'll never forget my dad saying, 'I love it, I love it'. Out of all of the screams, that one stood out the most. It was awesome having my dad as coach, especially since he coached so many years and he never achieved a championship like that before."

Schwulst hit a homerun in the game for Norwalk.

Assistant coach Jorge Sanchez, who was the first base coach, described how he knew that team would go far that season.

"That season was memorable,

and we still talk about it today when the guys get together," Sanchez said. "All of these kids could straight out play baseball and just about every kid on the team was a pitcher. We were never worried about pitching and we knew we were going to go far, just the caliber of baseball the kids were playing that year."

Asked about what stressed Sanchez the most during the playoffs, Sanchez knew right away which game it was.

"It must have been the game we were playing in Zone against Los Alamitos," Sanchez remembered. "We were down by one run and I believe it was the bottom of the sixth or the bottom of the seventh."

"continued on page 2

### Weekend at a Glance

Friday	85°	
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Sunday	71°	

### THINGS TO DO



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### ON THIS DAY

**1807:** Britain abolished its slave trade.

**1894:** Jacob S. Coxey began leading an "army" of the unemployed from Massillon, Ohio, to Washington, D.C., to demand help from the federal government.

**1957:** United States Customs seized copies of Allen Ginsberg's poem "Howl" on obscenity grounds.

**1965:** The Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. led 25,000 marchers to the state capitol in Montgomery, Ala., to protest the denial of voting rights to blacks.



**1975:** King Faisal of Saudi Arabia was shot to death by a nephew with a history of mental illness.

**1979:** The first fully functional Space Shuttle orbiter, Columbia, is delivered to the John F. Kennedy Space Center to be prepared for its first launch.

**1992:** Cosmonaut Sergei Krikalev returned to Earth from the Mir space station after a 10-month stay, during which his native country, the Soviet Union, ceased to exist.

**1994:** American troops completed their withdrawal from Somalia.

**1996:** An 81-day standoff by the antigovernment Freemen began at a ranch near Jordan, Mont.

**1996:** The redesigned \$100 bill went into circulation.

**1998:** President Bill Clinton acknowledged during his Africa tour that "we did not act quickly enough" to stop the slaughter of 1 million Rwandans four years earlier.

**2002:** A powerful earthquake rocked Afghanistan and northwestern Pakistan, killing as many as 1,000 people.

### Birthdays

Singer and icon **Elton John** (75), "Sex and the City" star **Sarah Jessica Parker** (57), "Saved by the Bell" actress **Lark Voorhies** (48), race car driver **Danica Patrick** (40), actress and singer **Katherine McPhee** (38), and rapper **Big Sean** (34).

## Norwalk parks due for renovations

**NORWALK** – Norwalk parks are in store for upgrades and renovations over the next several years, according to a presentation to the City Council on Feb. 22.

Among the recommended upgrades are adding block walls in parks that would provide better security and decrease continued maintenance costs for repairs due to cut fences and vandalism.

In addition, new pour-N-Play surfaces for playgrounds will create a safer environment for children and decreased staff time and maintenance, officials said.

The city also recommended the installation and upgrade of ballfield lighting at parks that will increase hours of operation.

The City Council was supportive of the recommendations made by city staff.

"We need to invest the money we have, while at the same time aggressively go after additional resources," said Mayor Rick Ramirez. "We need to upgrade these parks now."

A few highlights of the planned park projects:

**Hermosillo Park** – Norwalk has been awarded an \$8.5 million grant through Prop 68 to rehabilitate the park. Funding includes the

construction of a new community building, restrooms, parking lot, and various amenities throughout the park. The playground was replaced in 2018 and will remain but a new Pour-N-Play surface will be installed.

**Norwalk Park** – Plans include new sports fields, playgrounds, an additional restroom facility, and a variety of amenities.

**Lakeside Park** – Funding of \$14,000 was approved in Norwalk 2021-22 budget for laser leveling of ballfields, which will be completed in the coming months.

**Holifield Park** – One of the playgrounds was recently replaced, funded by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors. A large open space is being considered for a new skate park similar in size to the skate park at Norwalk Park that is being removed.

**Gerdes Park** – Ballfield lighting will be added to the main field. Design work is being completed and the project is due to be bid in late spring. The \$300,000 project will increase play time capacity for the leagues that currently use the field.

**Bob White Park** – Last November, the City Council approved plans for a new restroom building and dog park using Prop 68 funds.

## Pony League Champs celebrate 20th anniversary

*continued from page 1*

"Coach Ruben (Velazquez) called two squeeze plays – one to tie the game and one to win the game to advance into the World Series from there. Yeah, that was awesome."

Prior to the series, the Pony Leaguers all watched the Little League World Series and commented on the way some of them acted up in front of the cameras.

Sanchez' son Victor said of the Little leaguers at the time: "Coach wouldn't let us get away with that stuff," he said. "Showing up the other team. Showboating. That's not right. If we did that, he'd yell at us and we'd be sitting on the bench."

In the championship game, Victor Sanchez had six RBIs and a home run.

Victor Sanchez said later after the game to the local newspaper: "It feels great," he said. "I'm still kind of shocked."

Victor Sanchez' brother, Jorge Sanchez also said of the Little Leaguers: "I wouldn't want anybody to do that to me, if they hit a homer off me."

Pitcher Jorge Sanchez, who gave up only three hits in the championship game and got the win, also hit a three-run homerun in the first inning for Norwalk.

Pony League Board Member, Toni Moreno, was excited to see the reunion of that championship team: "As a board member and parent, seeing these men reuniting after 20 years was such an emotional experience."

"I recently had a group of 12-year-old girls who won District Champs for ASA/USA Softball and remember that feeling of accomplishment."

"I'm definitely honored and grateful as a league we were able to bring the players, coaches and families back together again to reunite and reminisce about their once in a lifetime experience they had as young men."

Later that Fall, Congresswoman Grace Napolitano (D-CA) of the 32nd Congressional District, introduced a Bill congratulating the 2002 Pony League team for winning the World Series.

The following on the Norwalk Pony website says it all about the organization: "Norwalk Pony is in its 62nd year of sharing the love of baseball to the youth of Norwalk. In the Spring of 2019, we officially added Girls Softball to our program. Our



Members of the 2002 Norwalk Pony World Series Championship team, from left, Eddie Murray, Johnny Perez, Jimmy Buentello, Head Coach Ruben Velazquez, Anthony Topete, Gabriel Schwulst, Richard Melendrez and Assistant Coach Jorge Sanchez show their trophies as they are honored during the Norwalk Pony Baseball League Opening Day at Holifield Park in Norwalk on Saturday. (Photo by Keith Durlfingler)

## Residents can soon request speed humps

**NORWALK** – The Norwalk City Council last week authorized a new speed hump policy, giving eligible neighborhoods an option to curb speeding on residential streets.

Under the new policy, neighborhoods can have speed humps installed on their streets if a consensus of residents agree to the plan.

Not all Norwalk streets can qualify for speed humps, which are primarily used to reduce vehicle speed on residential streets with a single travel lane in each direction. Eligible streets should also have a speed limit of 25 MPH or less.

Norwalk is currently testing the speed humps on Dollison Drive between Beaty Avenue and Hercules Street near Sara Mendez Park. The city has received complaints of speeding drivers in this neighborhood and determined the location meets the criteria for speed

humps.

"The approval of the speed hump policy will ensure that residents' neighborhood traffic safety concerns are addressed in a standardized way that fits their unique situations," said Mayor Rick Ramirez. "The city is seeking to be proactive and engaged with city staff in increasing public safety and making this policy suitable to address the needs and concerns of residents."

Speed hump design has evolved over the years as new data emerges from studies performed after installation.

A speed hump is essentially a raised area in the roadway constructed perpendicular to the travel direction.

The speed hump request application process is still being refined and should be made available to residents soon.

league prides itself on teaching basic and competitive baseball knowledge, community partnerships, and a true family atmosphere."

What they said:

Anthony Topete, 2002 center fielder (Current St. John Bosco varsity asst. coach): "I think we averaged about 11 runs in that World Series, playing against some of the top talent in the country. That was probably the best summer of my life, creating memories with the guys on the field and playing in that atmosphere. I remember playing the host team from Washington, PA and you could feel the ground shaking underneath you. That's how crazy it was."

My most memorable moment was hitting a home run off of Port Neches, Texas."

Richard Melendrez, 2002 outfielder: "The whole experience was memorable and it was more than a team. It was family."

It was just like yesterday 20 years later. The final out of winning the whole series was memorable."

Jimmy Buentello, 2002 first baseman: "That season was special. I remember losing in one of the tournaments and then went on a



Newspaper clippings show the 2002 Norwalk Pony World Series Championship team as they are honored during the Norwalk Pony Baseball League Opening Day at Holifield Park in Norwalk on Saturday. (Photo by Keith Durlfingler)

tear. Everybody contributed one way or another.

It was an amazing time with these guys. We ran through Zone and the World Series. It was something special and something I look back at.

We knew we were a good team, but how special we didn't know."

Eddie Murray, 2002 shortstop: "We were just on fire and just smoked everybody."

It was also fun because all the other guys in the tournament were in our hotel on the same floor. We got to know all of the guys and it was nice comradery with everybody."

We were up 5-2 in the first inning or something and it was the most dominant team I had ever been on. We just all clicked and had a great time together."

Aiden Garate, current Pony League player (2B, SS): "It's exciting because I get to see the legacy and history of the players."

I get to see what they (2002 players) did and get to learn new things (from the 2002 players). Seeing these players, it gives me the

chance to do that one day."

Note: Aiden's father, Carlos Garate is the Vice President of the Norwalk Pony League. Aiden has been playing in the league since T-Ball.

Chuck Finder, Columnist, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette (August 25, 2002):

"The boys in this youth baseball world series played the game last night at Washington's Lew Hays Field as it should be played everywhere. Norwalk, Calif., thumped Levittown, Puerto Rico, 10-0, in a Pony League championship abbreviated to five innings, but nobody had to show any mercy, any meanness, any ugliness. They were, at ages 13 and 14, perfect gentlemen. They were, more important, sportsmanlike competitors and true baseball players."

Ruben Velazquez is the manager of the champion Norwalk team, although he stands nearly a head shorter than most of teen-age charges. There is no mistaking that he's the adult in charge. He sets the correct tone and maintains the needed control."

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# While Democrats debate Latinx, Latinos head to the GOP

By Mike Madrid

Democrats working to save their slim majority in the House in November's elections have been sounding alarm bells lately over research showing that Republican attacks on culture-war issues are working, particularly with center-left, Hispanic and independent voters. Hispanic voters, many of us alienated by progressive labels and mottos like "Latinx" and "defund the police," have been drifting rightward as Donald Trump marginally increased the G.O.P. Hispanic vote share in 2016 and again in 2020 — a phenomenon, it should be noted, that goes beyond Mr. Trump or any individual campaign.

Democrats now understand that they are losing support among Hispanics on culture as well as pocketbook issues, leaving little in the message arsenal for the party's candidates to use to stanch what appears to be a long-term bleed.

The Democrats' problems with Hispanics are especially glaring when you consider that Republicans are not exactly flawless when it comes to appealing to these voters. Both parties have committed a mind-boggling form of political malpractice for years: They have consistently failed to understand what motivates Hispanic voters, a crucial and growing part of the electorate.

As the growth of the Hispanic eligible electorate continues to outpace other new eligible voting populations, the caricatures and stereotypes of "Hispanic issues" are proving further and further removed from the experience of most Hispanics. Yet, for all the hype and spin about Republican gains with Hispanic voters, the rightward shift of these voters is happening despite Republicans' best efforts, not because of them.

In the eyes of some on the American right, Hispanics are hyper-religious Catholics or evangelicals, entrepreneurial, anti-communist, social conservatives reminiscent of the ethnic white voters of yesteryear. To some on the left, we're seen as angry, racially oppressed workers of the cultural vanguard who want to upend capitalism while demanding open borders. While none of these caricatures are accurate, in them there are enough grains of truth to lull self-righteous partisans on both sides into believing that they may be on the winning side of the emerging ethnically pluralistic American majority.

In our current era of negative partisanship, voters are as often motivated to oppose the party they dislike or view as extreme as they are to support the party with which they align. Latinos, of course, are no different, and it is at the cultural extremes where Democrats face the greatest threat to losing what they have long viewed as the foundational base of their long-term majority prospects. As "culture" grows as a proxy for "race," the electoral math for Democrats will most likely get bleaker as political campaigns continue as referendums on "critical race theory" and "defunding the police." It will be worse still if Hispanics increasingly do not view themselves as an aggrieved racial minority.

This understanding will help determine which party controls Congress and the White House, beginning with the 2022 midterms. Under newly drawn district lines, four of the most competitive House seats will have Hispanic populations of at least 38 percent and are in California, Texas, New Mexico and Colorado. Additionally, Hispanic voters will be essential components of Senate and other statewide contests in Arizona and Nevada. The Latino voters in these states and districts are important for both parties. As the Democratic Party drifts away from its working-class roots and emphasizes cultural issues, Republicans are well positioned to pick up these politically untethered voters and with them the reins of power.

The recent debate over the term "Latinx" symbolizes the cultural alienation of institutions far removed from the realities of life for an overwhelming number of working-class Hispanics. "Latinx" was created as a gender-neutral alternative term in Spanish, a gendered language, that refers to males as "Latino" and females as "Latina."

Commonly used by media, political and academic elites as a sign of gender

inclusivity, it is virtually nonexistent in the communities it refers to. In 2020 Pew Research revealed that only 3 percent of Latinos use the term, while 9 percent of white liberals think it is the most appropriate term to use. In fact, only 14 percent of Latinos with just a high school degree or less had even heard of it.

This was not a sign of intolerance but rather was emblematic of one class with the luxury of being consumed with such matters trying to impose their values on working-class families trying to keep up with paying the rent on Friday. Members of the Democratic Party don't just live in a distinct cultural bubble removed from the realities of their blue-collar counterparts, they are so removed from the rapidly growing Hispanic working class that many of them are now literally speaking a different language.

The growing cultural divide in America, in which Hispanics appear to be increasingly turned off by progressive mottos and movements, is linked to the education divide in America between college-educated and noncollege-educated voters of all ethnicities. According to Pew Research, Republicans increasingly dominate in party affiliation among white noncollege voters, who make up 57 percent of all G.O.P. voters. This in a country where 64 percent of voters do not have a college degree.

The Democratic Party is losing its brand among white, working-class voters and Hispanics. This is especially pronounced among Hispanic men and Hispanic noncollege-educated voters, who are trending more Republican, just as their white noncollege-educated peers are. Latinos are increasingly voting similarly to noncollege whites, perhaps because they don't view themselves all that differently from them. Pew Research studies on Hispanic identity have shown that fully half of the country's Hispanics view themselves as "a typical American"; fewer responded as identifying as "very different from a typical American."

For all the discussion about diversity within the Latino community, and the now-trite adage that the community is not "monolithic," in fact what unites most Hispanics is that they are an important share of the blue-collar noncollege-educated work force, and their presence in the labor force is only growing. The "essential workers" of the pandemic are disproportionately Black and Latino, and as a decidedly younger demographic, Hispanic workers are filling the roles of manufacturing, agricultural and construction trades in states with large Hispanic populations.

Democrats have increasingly become a party shaped by and reliant upon white voters with college degrees. Compared with 40.1 percent of white adults age 25 and older, only 18.8 percent of Latino adults in this age group have a bachelor's degree. Latinos are, and increasingly will be, a key part of the blue-collar work force of the future and their politics are reflecting that.

From 71 percent support for President Barack Obama in 2012 to 66 percent for Hillary Clinton and 59 percent for Joe Biden in 2020, Democrats find themselves slowly but measurably losing hold of Latinos, the fastest-growing segment of the electorate. As Latino voters grow in number in key battleground states, they are increasingly rejecting the minority construct promulgated by the media, academia and Democratic politicians and consultants.

The party that is able to express the values of a multiethnic working class will be the majority party for the next generation. As we continue to watch the country's culture war increasingly divided by education levels, it is quite likely that Latino voters will continue to trend, even if marginally, into the ranks of Republican voters. The country stands on the precipice of a significant political shift. As President Ronald Reagan once quipped, quoting a Republican sheriff nominee, "I didn't leave the Democratic Party, the Democratic Party left me."

**Mike Madrid is a Republican political consultant and a co-founder of the Lincoln Project.**

## Downey's controversial sports bar

Dear Editor:

We would like to correct some misinformation included in recent news coverage about the new Ojos Locos Sports Cantina opening in Downey.

We are a restaurant and sports bar serving wings, Tex-Mex items, sandwiches, and more, and like similarly positioned sports bar restaurants with female servers, our standard uniform includes skorts and t-shirts. The picture posted with a recent newspaper article was misleading in suggesting that our servers wear lingerie as their uniforms. This is not the case.

In addition, a quote in that article suggested that our restaurants are known for attracting criminal behavior and even biker gangs. This is simply not true and apparently the person who said this must have confused our concept with that of a different brand. Since this will be our first California location, for someone to make such statements that are not factual, puts us in a negative light, one that we do not deserve.

Ojos Locos is proud to support each individual community we serve, and we work collaboratively with members of each community to adhere to local requirements and preferences. This has been the case in Downey and will continue to be as we work to bring our concept to Downey with great food, excellent service, and an exciting atmosphere, all while adding 120 new jobs to the Downey community.

**Rick Van Warner on behalf of Ojos Locos**

Dear Editor:

I'm confused. Is it 1922 or 2022?

Have the anti-Ojos Locos crowd been to the beach in the last decade? Have they seen what young women are wearing? Are they paying attention to what their daughters are wearing every day?

After this censorship campaign, what next? Book-burning bonfire nights in the Downey High parking lot? Banning alcohol sales in Downey?

I understand the publicity seeking politicians. All eager to pose, Trump-like, holding up a bible in front of Denny's. But Downey is not the Twilight Zone. There's no going back to the 1890's.

As long as there's sufficient security, we should give these people a chance to make good.

**John Marinelli  
Downey**

Dear Editor:

As I read the article and opinions about a potential new business hoping to open at the old Denny's site on Firestone and Dolan, the residents of Downey have a right to be upset. This business should've been proposed near an industrial setting, not in the business sector near schools, churches, and a hospital.

Who were the council members deciding Ojos Locos should establish in Downey? Didn't they first evaluate this business? How do council members view women? This isn't West Hollywood.

A clinic, King Taco, a family restaurant like Heritage Family, or anything else would be more fitting for the surrounding community.

Doesn't Downey already have enough liquor businesses to go around? It's up to the council people how they want to run their city and have respect for their residents. These kinds of venues you'll see in the San Fernando Valley. It only takes one business to open up and others will follow.

**Ray Lucero  
Downey**

# The next Covid wave is probably already on its way

By Dr. Tom Frieden

The most important lesson of the Covid pandemic is that the only constant is change. Variants spread, cases surge and abate, treatments change and knowledge expands. This means that we — the public, elected officials and public health leaders — need to learn constantly and adapt quickly, acting on the insight that no one policy response is likely to stay effective for long.

Now is the moment to put that flexibility into practice. Rising Covid cases in Europe, the toll Omicron is taking particularly on unvaccinated elderly people in Hong Kong and slowing vaccinations are warnings that another wave of infections is likely approaching the United States. But we are by no means helpless. We can prepare better, save lives and reduce disruption.

Although the exact reasons for the rapid increase in cases in Europe aren't known, it almost certainly results from a combination of the highly infectious BA.2 Omicron subvariant, changing public behavior and waning immunity.

BA.2 is making up an increasing proportion of new cases, and is extending the Omicron surge. At the same time, countries in Europe are lifting Covid-19 restrictions, including mask mandates and indoor capacity limits, and immunity to infection from vaccines and possibly also from prior infections is waning. Thankfully, although protection against infection through vaccination is something of a flash-in-the-pan phenomenon, the protection vaccines provide against severe infection and death is more durable.

We've also learned more about the nature of the threat. It has been an open question whether Omicron is a much less severe variant of the Covid virus than earlier strains, or if it has caused much less severe disease because it had run into a wall of immunity from vaccination and prior infection in the United States, Europe and parts of Asia with high vaccination rates. The deadly outbreak in Hong Kong answers that question: Covid remains ferocious, and Omicron is lethal in an immunologically naive population, particularly among unvaccinated older people. This has caused the devastating surge in deaths there and helps explain why the United States continues to report around 1,000 deaths per day, the vast majority among people not up-to-date with vaccination.

Unfortunately, in the United States and many other high-income countries, vaccination has slowed to a trickle: It's down in the United States by more than 95 percent from the peak of 4 million vaccinations a day. In some countries

of Africa, where competing health risks are substantial and the health care infrastructure is stretched thin, vaccination rates are very low and are likely to remain so for many months.

The risks for the United States are clear. BA.2 is increasing and will likely soon account for most new cases in the country. Masks have come off and approximately 60 percent of Americans, including more than one third of people above age 65 — more than 15 million seniors — are not up-to-date with vaccination. This doesn't mean that BA.2 will inevitably cause a deadly surge. But it does mean that cases may increase soon, and that unvaccinated and under-vaccinated elderly and medically vulnerable people could face a deadly threat.

Leaders need to redouble efforts to get more Americans, particularly older adults, vaccinated and boosted. Also, people who are older or immunocompromised and those around them should consider masking with a more protective N95 or equivalent mask. Increasing access to rapid testing could blunt the case increase by isolating people faster and linking those who test positive to rapid treatment with medications which drastically reduce the risk of severe illness.

Improving vaccination rates may be harder with the rollback of vaccine mandates, which increased vaccine uptake and saved lives. With vaccine mandates politically or legally infeasible in some places, other strategies become increasingly important. These include ensuring that every physician offers Covid-19 vaccination to every patient at every clinical visit. Outreach programs and media campaigns can engage people without a regular doctor or who are otherwise not receiving care. Providers and health systems should reach out to every Medicare patient who may not be up-to-date to schedule vaccination.

Repeated Covid surges have thrown into relief the underlying weaknesses and chronic underfunding of our public health and primary health care systems. Infectious diseases emerge where society fails. Lack of trust limits the ability of governments to protect their people. Weak public health systems mean that new threats are discovered when it's too late to take action. Sustained funding can help ensure Americans are protected from future pandemic threats by allowing permanent budget-cap exemptions for critical health defense functions rather than relying on transient supplemental funding for each health emergency.

Until U.S. primary health care systems are much more robust, diagnosis, treatment and vaccination against Covid and other threats will remain lacking, allowing Covid to spread, and to do so among populations that are far less resilient than they would be if people received good preventive care.

"Follow the science" is a mantra, but science can be painfully slow and decisions inevitably need to be made before perfect information is available. We don't yet know what's driving the emergence of variants or what future variants will bring. Nor do we know the optimal vaccination schedule for different groups, whether a fourth dose will be needed, and, if so, for whom and when. And we don't know whether the highly effective treatments that have been discovered, on which the Biden administration is betting heavily, can reach enough people to greatly reduce hospitalizations and deaths. The struggle to get even half of eligible Americans up to date with vaccination doesn't bode well for widespread treatment; treatment is generally much more difficult to scale than vaccination.

Even so, we must try. Public health, like politics, is the art of the possible. Rigorous epidemiology, meticulous response management and well-communicated science need to be the foundation of public health action. Increasing vaccination, including boosters, among older and vulnerable people is a life-or-death challenge. Scaling up the linkage of testing to treatment can reduce hospitalizations and deaths substantially and protect health care systems. The United States also needs to support faster detection and response systems nationwide and globally. As a supplement to strengthening other tracking systems, monitoring for Covid in wastewater, as is done for polio and other diseases, may identify disease spread before many people become ill. If public health professionals find outbreaks right as they start, leaders can limit spread.

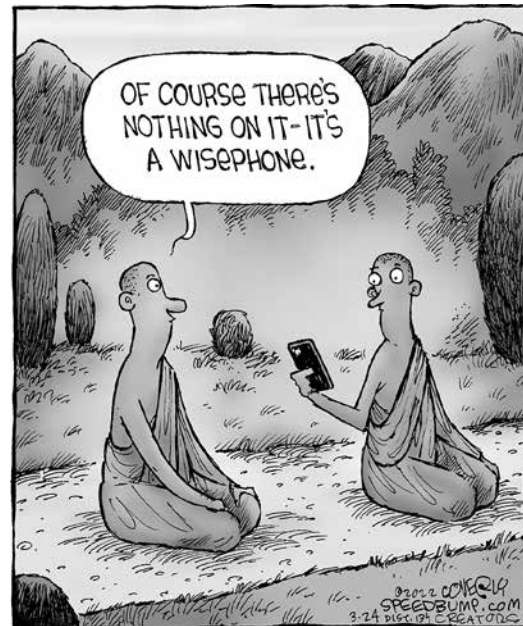
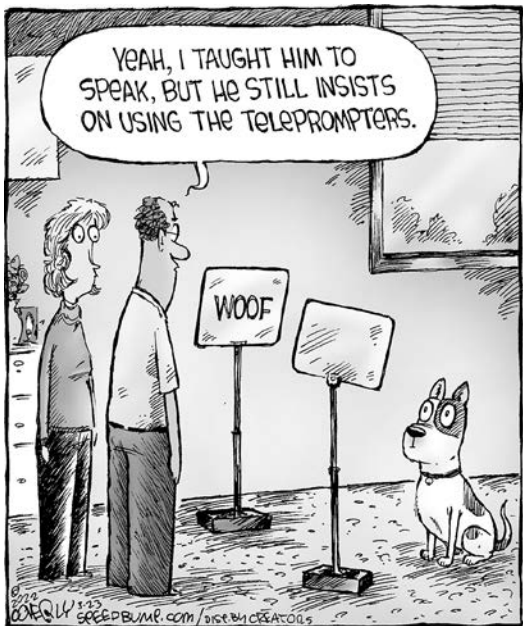
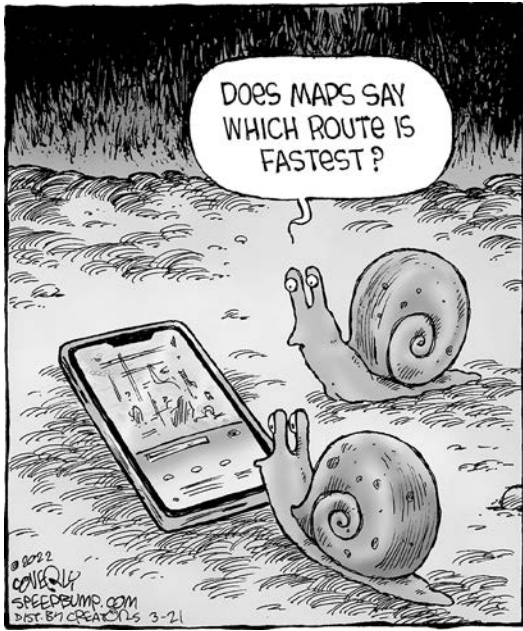
For now, most of us can enjoy the warm spring sun on our unmasked faces. But we can also do a lot more to control Covid. If we learn quickly and act quickly, we can outmaneuver the virus. As Covid continues to adapt, our response needs to adapt along with it. We could be entering the endgame for Covid. How we play it will determine what happens next.

**Dr. Frieden was the director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention from 2009 to 2017.**

## Visit us at:

# www.TheNorwalkPatriot.com

# SPEED BUMP DAVE COVERLY



## Norwalk Community Calendar

### MONDAYS

1st Mon., 6 pm - Public Safety meetings - Council Chambers  
2nd Mon., 7 pm - Relay for Life meetings - Mr. Rosewood Family Restaurant

### 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
- JONATHAN FOX - Production
- VINCENT MEDINA - Contributor
- KEITH DURFLINGER - Photographer
- CAROL KEARNS - Contributor

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14783 CARMENITA ROAD, NORWALK, CA 90650 | ADJUDICATION #BS154952

# PUZZLE OF THE WEEK

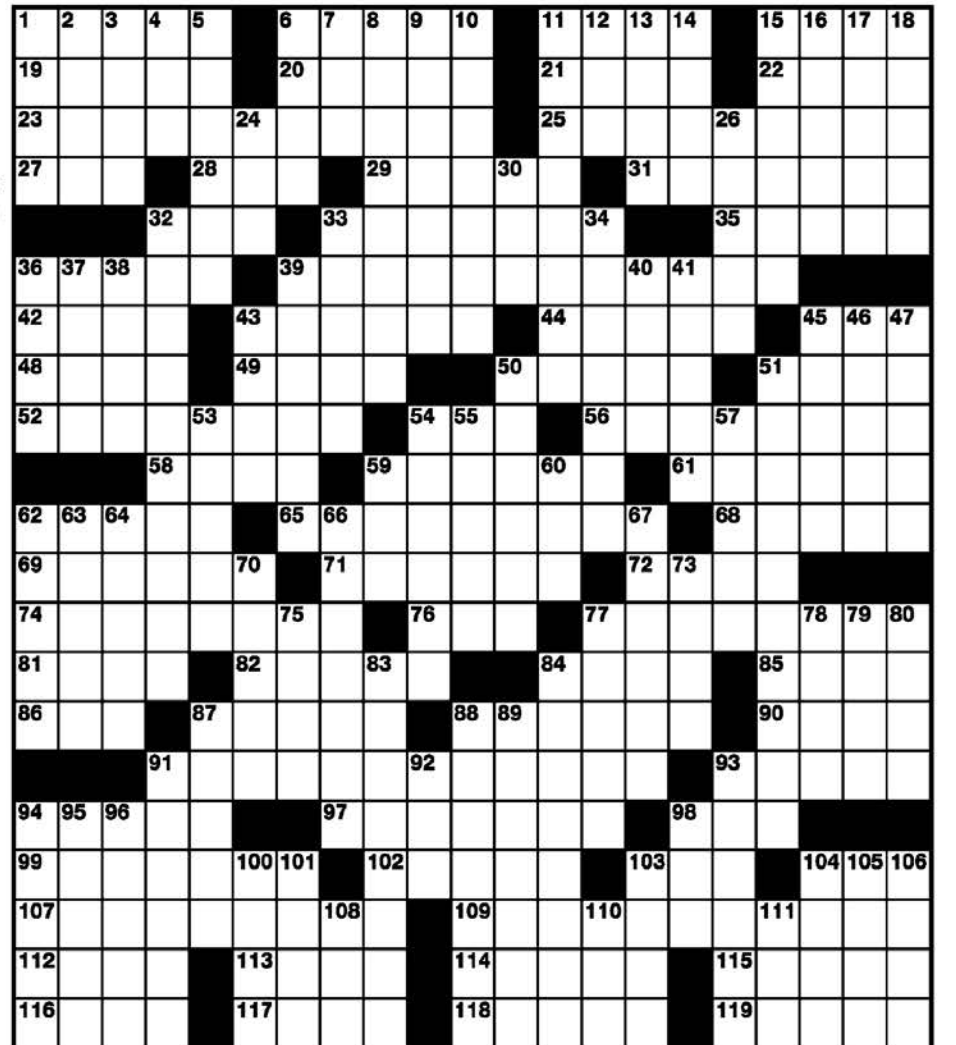
## THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com)  
SPRING IS HERE: Celebrating the seasonal solstice  
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 Iron clothing
  - 6 Phony
  - 11 Mediator's skill
  - 15 Short race
  - 19 Jeweler's gadget
  - 20 "\_\_\_ you done yet?"
  - 21 One who's with you
  - 22 Machu Picchu builder
  - 23 Spring is here
  - 25 Spring is here
  - 27 Anthem contraction
  - 28 Shoe box spec
  - 29 Signs on again
  - 31 Video-sharing site
  - 32 QVC competitor
  - 33 Some horse races
  - 35 Tablelands
  - 36 Invented identity
  - 39 Spring is here
  - 42 Novelist Morrison
  - 43 20th-century author/monk Thomas
  - 44 Flamboyance
  - 45 Poorly lit
  - 48 Nasal appraisal
  - 49 Sailors' patron
  - 50 Parting word
  - 51 \_\_\_ qua non
  - 52 Cubic \_\_\_ (faux diamond)
  - 54 Little, in Lyons
  - 56 Bartender's announcement
  - 58 Pakistani language
  - 59 Greets someone
  - 61 Was worthy of
  - 62 Not in the dark
  - 65 Spring is here
  - 68 Steaks and chops
  - 69 Haifa hello
  - 71 Sporty Chevys
  - 72 Thing to climb
  - 74 Hearth
  - 76 Many moons
  - 77 Nutty dessert
  - 81 "Believe \_\_\_ not..."
  - 82 Wall art
  - 84 Great weight
  - 85 Certain sneeze trigger
  - 86 Lobster's leg count
  - 87 Ties up
  - 88 '70s First Daughter
  - 90 Moons and marbles
  - 91 Spring is here
  - 93 Old-fashioned, as humor
  - 94 Just sits around
  - 97 Contraptions
  - 98 Course benchmark
  - 99 Provide food to
  - 102 Stress reliever
  - 103 On point
  - 104 Has been
  - 107 Spring is here
  - 109 Spring is here
  - 112 Writer Wiesel
  - 113 Northwest Pennsylvania city
  - 114 For the birds
  - 115 Artist Matisse
  - 116 Twosome
  - 117 Fuse metal
  - 118 What flatbreads lack
  - 119 Linked, as oxen
  - 10 Big name in art glass
  - 11 How commencement caps are made
  - 12 Elev.
  - 13 Potter's medium
  - 14 Autocorrect target
  - 15 One with something to lose
  - 16 Premium beef
  - 17 Diving acronym
  - 18 BVD alternative
  - 24 Female lobster
  - 26 Sidney who directed Network
  - 30 Photo, for short
  - 32 Spring is here
  - 33 Skin layer
  - 34 Italia's largest island
  - 36 The gamut
  - 37 California wine city
  - 38 "Are you \_\_\_ out?"
  - 39 Lighter-than-air element
  - 40 Emotional entreaty
  - 41 Hesitate
  - 43 Make whole
  - 45 Artemis alias
  - 46 Arm of the sea
  - 47 Combines
  - 50 Emma novelist
  - 51 Spring is here
  - 53 Layered cookies
  - 54 Soft shade
  - 55 With an \_\_\_ (considering)
  - 57 Gulf Coast city
  - 59 Boy of song with an "awful name"
  - 60 Time sheet nos.
  - 62 Fiddle-comparable
  - 63 Chess side
  - 64 755-homer hitter
  - 66 Took too far
  - 67 Mini- or maxi-
  - 70 Copycat
  - 73 Tetra- doubled
  - 75 Donut maneuver
  - 77 Rio Grande tributary
  - 78 Sound of contentment
  - 79 Book-publishing ID
  - 80 Artisans' selling site
  - 83 Prescription directive
  - 84 The Emerald Isle
  - 87 Groundwork
  - 88 "Follow me"
  - 89 Catch a pass
  - 91 Pulled quickly
  - 92 Southern reservoir mgr.
  - 93 Attention-getting
  - 94 Sporting tattoos
  - 95 Lacy mat
  - 96 St. \_\_\_ (Caribbean island nation)
  - 98 Extremely softly, in music
  - 100 Dinner from a slow cooker
  - 101 Aesopian also-ran
  - 103 Woman with nieces
  - 104 Policy maven
  - 105 Rancher's measure
  - 106 Fishtail on the road
  - 108 Zero
  - 110 Court VIPs
  - 111 DiCaprio, to pals

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Reach Stan Newman at www.StanXwords.com

BULK SALES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF BULK SALE (SECS. 6104, 6105 U.C.C. & B & P 24073 et seq.)

Notice is hereby given to creditors of the within named seller that a sale that may constitute a bulk sale has been or will be made. The individuals, partnership, or corporate names and the business addresses of the seller are: Velavi Heating And Cooling Inc. 13821 San Antonio Dr, Norwalk, CA 90650

CNS-356737# THE NORWALK PATRIOT CNS 356737# The Norwalk Patriot 3/25/22

FICT. BUS NAME

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File Number 2022052538

THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) IS (ARE) DOING BUSINESS AS: (1) F&M MAINTENANCE 15708 MADRIS AV NORWALK CA 90650, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number (if applicable): A1 #0N: N/A REGISTERED OWNERS(S): (1) MARIA ELIZABETH ACOSTA, 15708 MADRIS AV, NORWALK CA 90650

THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) IS (ARE) DOING BUSINESS AS: (1) HELPING HANDS RESIDENTIAL CARE, 10425 NICHOLS STREET, BELLFLOWER CA 90706, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, 2501 E. CHAPMAN AVE. SUITE 180, FULLERTON UNITED ST

Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number (if applicable): A1 #0N: C4290973 REGISTERED OWNERS(S): (1) HELPING HANDS HEALTHCARE CORP., 2501 E. CHAPMAN AVE. SUITE 180, FULLERTON CA 92831

THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) IS (ARE) DOING BUSINESS AS: (1) HELPING HANDS HEALTHCARE CORP., 2501 E. CHAPMAN AVE. SUITE 180, FULLERTON UNITED ST

THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) IS (ARE) DOING BUSINESS AS: (1) EXCELSIORS BARBER, 15929 1/2 PIONEER BLVD, NORWALK CA 90650

The Norwalk Patriot 3/18/22, 3/25/22, 4/1/22, 4/8/22

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File Number 2022055636

THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) IS (ARE) DOING BUSINESS AS: (1) EXCELSIORS BARBER, 15929 1/2 PIONEER BLVD, NORWALK CA 90650

Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number (if applicable): A1 #0N: N/A REGISTERED OWNERS(S): (1) HUNG VAN TRAN, 15929 1/2 PIONEER BLVD, NORWALK CA 90650

Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the County Clerk, except, as provided in Subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to Section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner.

The Norwalk Patriot 3/18/22, 3/25/22, 4/1/22, 4/8/22

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022061920

The following person(s) is/are doing business as: JM SERVICES, 2633 S CATALINA ST APT 3, LOS ANGELES, CA 90007

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022061776

The following person(s) is/are doing business as: HEROS SERVICES, 1222 SPAZIER AVE, GLENDALE, CA 91201

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022061918

The following person(s) is/are doing business as: AMOUR-FOU PETS B&B, 4444 HAZELTINE AVE APT 119, SHERMAN OAKS, CA 91423

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022042840

The following person(s) is/are doing business as: RBM SWEETS, 19119 SHERMAN WAY UNIT 114, RESEDA, CA 91335

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022043876

The following person(s) is/are doing business as: SOL & MAR CANDLES, 10829 VALLEY VIEW AVE, WHITTIER, CA 90604

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022044164

The following person(s) is/are doing business as: CUP OF AFRICA INTERNATIONAL, 89511 DRANES AVE, LOS ANGELES, CA 90008

The following person(s) is/are doing business as: SENG ANG HUI, 4519 NARROT ST., TORRANCE, CA 90503

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.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022044766

The following person(s) is/are doing business as: NASYMS, 7256 MAYNARD AVE, WEST HILLS, CA 91307

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022044904

The following person(s) is/are doing business as: OSMAN AND IVAN PAINTING CONSTRUCTION, 14922 HALLDAL AVE APT B, GARDENA, CA 90247

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022062411

The following person(s) is/are doing business as: GAZELLE, 24705 RIVERCHASE DR #6206, SANTA CLARITA, CA 91355

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022064187

The following person(s) is/are doing business as: SOCIETY, 5302 S CHARITON AVE, LOS ANGELES, CA 90056

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022061916

The following person(s) is/are doing business as: KIOH, 450 S WESTERN AVE SUITE 209, LOS ANGELES, CA 90020

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022047461

The following person(s) is/are doing business as: BEST WORLD DONUT, 23922 S. AVALON BLVD., CARSON, CA 90745

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022052848

The following person(s) is/are doing business as: SEBASTIAN'S SUPPLIES, 11623 EVEREST ST, NORWALK, CA 90650

The following person(s) is/are doing business as: BLUEFISH SYSTEMS, 1800 GRISMER AVE, #311, BURBANK, CA 91504

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022047951

The following person(s) is/are doing business as: GUATEALMA, 10632 CANTARA ST, SUN VALLEY, CA 91352

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022052141

The following person(s) is/are doing business as: ARDON-S MOBILE CAR WASH, 5911 RESEDA BLVD APT 10, TARZANA, CA 91356

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022049413

The following person(s) is/are doing business as: BLUEFISH SYSTEMS, 1800 GRISMER AVE, #311, BURBANK, CA 91504

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022048983

The following person(s) is/are doing business as: THE GROOMING SPOT, 4306 CRENSHAW BLVD, LOS ANGELES, CA 90008

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022062411

The following person(s) is/are doing business as: MAJES OBJECTS, 2444 ABLANO AVE, ROWLAND HEIGHTS, CA 91748

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022050083

The following person(s) is/are doing business as: SKIN BY KAITLAN, 21053 DEVONSHIRE ST UNIT 106-C, CHATSWORTH, CA 91311

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022061774

The following person(s) is/are doing business as: FLOOR KINGS, 1921 PALMER CT UNIT A, LONG BEACH, CA 90806

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022052848

The following person(s) is/are doing business as: SEBASTIAN'S SUPPLIES, 11623 EVEREST ST, NORWALK, CA 90650

The following person(s) is/are doing business as: BLUEFISH SYSTEMS, 1800 GRISMER AVE, #311, BURBANK, CA 91504

(A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime.) Signed: MARIELA PEREZ HILARIO, OWNER. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on (date): N/A

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022052258

The following person(s) is/are doing business as: RESONANT EARTH PUBLISHING, 4307 PALMERO DRIVE, LOS ANGELES, CA 90065

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022052258

The following person(s) is/are doing business as: WELLDSS COFFEE BOUTIQUE, 405 N. CHAPEL AVENUE, ALHAMBRA, CA 91801

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022053240

The following person(s) is/are doing business as: POTO WELLDSS COFFEE BOUTIQUE, 405 N. CHAPEL AVENUE, ALHAMBRA, CA (State of Incorporation/Organization: CA)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022061778

The following person(s) is/are doing business as: PABLO BARRAGAN SHOTCRETE, 1814 WOODL ST, TORRANCE, CA 90503

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022053370

The following person(s) is/are doing business as: LUXOTIGS CAR RENTALS, 1346 WEST 37TH STREET, LOS ANGELES, CA 90007

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022053678

The following person(s) is/are doing business as: COOKE'S GARAGE DOOR SERVICE, 13521 CROSSDALE AVE, NORWALK, CA 90650

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022052514

The following person(s) is/are doing business as: ARTHUR & JAMES ADVISORS, 9018 BALBOA BLVD., #228, NORTHRIDGE, CA 91325

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

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022054758

The following person(s) is/are doing business as: OTAPIER SERVICES, 918 UCLAN DR, BURBANK, CA 91504

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022054887

The following person(s) is/are doing business as: KESHA KREATOR, 6015 WOODMAN AVE, #203, VAN NUYS, CA 91401

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022055107

The following person(s) is/are doing business as: WORLWIDEBLACK, 2. WORLWIDEBLACKSTORE.COM, 90810 LOS ANGELES, Mailing address if different: N/A

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022055174

The following person(s) is/are doing business as: US ENCLOSURES, 17205 EUCALYPTUS ST #A1, HESPERIA, CA 92345

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022055215

The following person(s) is/are doing business as: ARTHUR & JAMES ADVISORS, 9018 BALBOA BLVD., #228, NORTHRIDGE, CA 91325

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022055658

The following person(s) is/are doing business as: MDS NURSING REGISTRY, 330 N DORAN ST, UNIT 104, HESPERIA, CA 91703

The following person(s) is/are doing business as: DANIEL SANCHEZ, 1346 WEST 37TH STREET, LOS ANGELES, CA 90007













FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022048520
The following person(s) is/are doing business as: GABOR PRODUCTIONS, 3325 PERLITA AVE, LOS ANGELES, CA 90039

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022048910
The following person(s) is/are doing business as: STEVEN ACCOSTA POOLS, 840 9TH, HERMOSA BEACH, CA 90254

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022051849
The following person(s) is/are doing business as: DENOVA'S PRODUCTIONS, 1177 EAST 50TH STREET, LOS ANGELES, CA 90011

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022051849
The following person(s) is/are doing business as: JUNK EMOJOES CRAF PRODUCTS, 8061 ORANGE ST, DOWNEY, CA 90242

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022051849
The following person(s) is/are doing business as: ARMANDO MEDINA GARCIA, 80161 ORANGE ST, DOWNEY, CA 90242

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022049250
The following person(s) is/are doing business as: MORE LIFE CHIROPRACTIC, 716 S. VICTORY BLVD, BURBANK, CA 91502

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022049253
The following person(s) is/are doing business as: GIGIS BODEGA, 20913 ROSETON AVE, LAKEWOOD, CA 90715

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022049789
The following person(s) is/are doing business as: WELL GROUNDED ELECTRIC, 12621 CASWELL AVE APT 5, LOS ANGELES, CA 90066

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022049800
The following person(s) is/are doing business as: DYNAMIC FINDS, 8160 CALIFORNIA AVE., SOUTH GATE, CA 90280

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022049843
The following person(s) is/are doing business as: CONTACT HIGH, 16335 TUBA ST., NORTH HILLS, CA 91343

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022049843
The following person(s) is/are doing business as: CONTACT HIGH, 16335 TUBA ST., NORTH HILLS, CA 91343

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022049564
The following person(s) is/are doing business as: WHITTIER HOME GOODS, 12339 SPRINGVIEW DR, WHITTIER, CA 90604

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022049564
The following person(s) is/are doing business as: WHITTIER HOME GOODS, 12339 SPRINGVIEW DR, WHITTIER, CA 90604

true and correct. (A registrant who declares as false information which he or she knows to be true is guilty of a crime). Signed: JENNIFER MARIE HERNANDEZ, OWNER.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022049581
The following person(s) is/are doing business as: POST LENDO, 15847 JANINE DRIVE, WHITTIER, CA 90603

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022049676
The following person(s) is/are doing business as: REVIEWS 363 ELFAIR AVENUE, PACOIMA, CA 91331

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022051605
The following person(s) is/are doing business as: THE BUSY BEES, 4122 HORN BROOK AVE, BALDWIN PARK, CA 91706

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022051605
The following person(s) is/are doing business as: THE BUSY BEES, 4122 HORN BROOK AVE, BALDWIN PARK, CA 91706

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022049789
The following person(s) is/are doing business as: WELL GROUNDED ELECTRIC, 12621 CASWELL AVE APT 5, LOS ANGELES, CA 90066

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022049800
The following person(s) is/are doing business as: DYNAMIC FINDS, 8160 CALIFORNIA AVE., SOUTH GATE, CA 90280

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022049843
The following person(s) is/are doing business as: CONTACT HIGH, 16335 TUBA ST., NORTH HILLS, CA 91343

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022049843
The following person(s) is/are doing business as: CONTACT HIGH, 16335 TUBA ST., NORTH HILLS, CA 91343

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022049564
The following person(s) is/are doing business as: WHITTIER HOME GOODS, 12339 SPRINGVIEW DR, WHITTIER, CA 90604

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: 03/11/2022, 03/18/2022, 03/25/2022, 04/01/2022.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022050013
The following person(s) is/are doing business as: TAKING A BREAK TRAVEL SERVICES, 7380 EMILY LANE APT T, DOWNEY, CA 90242

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022051843
The following person(s) is/are doing business as: DENOVA'S PRODUCTIONS, 1177 EAST 50TH STREET, LOS ANGELES, CA 90011

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022051847
The following person(s) is/are doing business as: TRES GENERACIONES ENTERTAINMENT, 15750 TEXACO AVE., PARAMOUNT, CA 90723

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022051847
The following person(s) is/are doing business as: SMART RENTALS, 9231 WHITE OAK AVE, NORTH RIDGE, CA 91325

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022050293
The following person(s) is/are doing business as: SMART RENTALS, 9231 WHITE OAK AVE, NORTH RIDGE, CA 91325

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022037697
The following person(s) is/are doing business as: LILA, 2 LILA HANDMADE, 3 LILA PET BEDS, 3119 CAZADOR STREET, LOS ANGELES, CA 90065

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022048184
The following person(s) is/are doing business as: VALDI HOME SERVICES, 522 CEDAR AVE #2, LONG BEACH, CA 90208

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022048184
The following person(s) is/are doing business as: VALDI HOME SERVICES, 522 CEDAR AVE #2, LONG BEACH, CA 90208

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022051489
The following person(s) is/are doing business as: FATIMAS GRILL MONTEBELLO, 477 WASHINGTON BLVD UNIT A, MONTEBELLO, CA 90640

The following person(s) is/are doing business as: G&S FAMILY CONSTRUCTION S, 11312 PINE AVE, LYNNWOOD, CA 90262

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022051683
The following person(s) is/are doing business as: LOPEZ INSULATION SERVICES, LOPEZ INSULATION SERVICES, BALDWIN PARK, CA 91706

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022051308
The following person(s) is/are doing business as: YIO TUNE, 10239 BELLMAN AVENUE, DOWNEY, CA 90241

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022051272
The following person(s) is/are doing business as: YIO TUNE, 10239 BELLMAN AVENUE, DOWNEY, CA 90241

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022051295
The following person(s) is/are doing business as: CANCIONES MELISHER, 10239 WASHINGTON BLVD UNIT A, MONTEBELLO, CA 90640

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022053828
The following person(s) is/are doing business as: FATIMAS GRILL MONTEBELLO, 477 WASHINGTON BLVD UNIT A, MONTEBELLO, CA 90640

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022053828
The following person(s) is/are doing business as: FATIMAS GRILL MONTEBELLO, 477 WASHINGTON BLVD UNIT A, MONTEBELLO, CA 90640

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022039101
The following person(s) is/are doing business as: VENTURA ELECTRICAL SERVICES, 4754 IVY ST., PICO RIVERA, CA 90660

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022039194
The following person(s) is/are doing business as: 1. SOMMELIERS OF BEVERLY HILLS, 2. BEVERLY HILLS WINE CLUB, 8950 WEST OLYMPIC BLVD #596, BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90211

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022051489
The following person(s) is/are doing business as: FATIMAS GRILL MONTEBELLO, 477 WASHINGTON BLVD UNIT A, MONTEBELLO, CA 90640

File Number 2022060448
THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) IS (ARE) DOING BUSINESS AS: (1) WESTPORT EXPRESS INC, 10617 MCCLAREN ST, NORWALK CA 90650

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022039482
The following person(s) is/are doing business as: THE LIGHTHOUSE PERSPECTIVE, 12307 S. NEWGATE AVE., WHITTIER, CA 90605

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022039974
The following person(s) is/are doing business as: 1. KICKASSERY, 2. HOUSE OF KNOUSE, 600 MOULTON AVE APT 404, LOS ANGELES, CA 90031

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022041168
The following person(s) is/are doing business as: ROK'S CREATIONS, 1217 MEADOWBROOK AVENUE, LOS ANGELES, CA 90019

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022039074
The following person(s) is/are doing business as: CLARITY DECODED, 319 N. CURTIS AVENUE UNIT B, ALHAMBRA, CA 91801

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022039076
The following person(s) is/are doing business as: METAFUNTINE, 319 N. CURTIS AVENUE UNIT B, ALHAMBRA, CA 91801

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022051295
The following person(s) is/are doing business as: CANCIONES MELISHER, 10239 WASHINGTON BLVD UNIT A, MONTEBELLO, CA 90640

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022039101
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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022051489
The following person(s) is/are doing business as: FATIMAS GRILL MONTEBELLO, 477 WASHINGTON BLVD UNIT A, MONTEBELLO, CA 90640

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: 03/18/2022, 03/25/2022, 04/01/2022, 04/08/2022.

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# LEGALS

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  
RANDAL P. HANNAH - SBN 138778  
LAW OFFICE OF RANDAL P. HANNAH  
489 N CENTRAL AVENUE  
UPLAND, CA 91786  
3/18/22, 3/25/22, 4/1/22  
CNS-3565164#  
THE NORWALK PATRIOT

CNS 3565164  
The Norwalk Patriot  
3/18/22, 3/25/22, 4/1/22

## NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: DORTHY E. WELLS AKA DOROTHY E. WELLS AKA ESSIE AGNES WELLS CASE NO. 22STPB02597

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of DORTHY E. WELLS AKA DOROTHY E. WELLS AKA ESSIE AGNES WELLS.

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by RENEE DENISE FULTON in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that RENEE DENISE FULTON be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons, unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A HEARING on the petition will be held in this court as follows: 04/22/22 at 8:30AM in Dept. 2D located at 111 N. HILL ST., LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

Attorney for Petitioner  
PAUL HORN, ESQ. - SBN 243227  
PAUL HORN LAW GROUP, PC  
11404 SOUTH STREET  
CERRITOS CA 90703  
3/25, 4/1, 4/8/22  
CNS-3567720#  
THE NORWALK PATRIOT

CNS 3567720

The Norwalk Patriot  
3/25/22, 4/1/22, 4/8/22

## SUMMONS

### SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL) CASE NUMBER: (Numero del Caso): 21STCV14252

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT (AVISO AL DEMANDADO): JUAN GOMEZ, DOES 1 TO 10 INCLUSIVE  
YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF (LO ESTA DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE): SOPHONNA NONG  
NOTICE: You have been sued. The court may decide you against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below.

You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money and property may be taken without further warning from the court.

There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. NOTE: The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of \$10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case. AVISO: Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 días, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su versión. Lea la información a continuación.

Tiene 30 DÍAS DE CALENDARIO después de que le entreguen esta citación y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefónica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y más información en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede más cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario de la corte que le dé un formulario de exención de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podrá quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin más advertencia.

Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en sitio web de California Legal Services, (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, (www.sucorte.ca.gov) o poniéndose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales. AVISO: Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a relamar las cuotas y los costos exentos pro imponer un gravamen sobre cualquier recuperación de \$10,000 ó más de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesión de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desahar el caso.

The name and address of the court is: (El nombre y dirección de la corte es): SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES STANLEY MOSK COURTHOUSE 111 N. HILL STREET LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

The name, address and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is: (El nombre, la dirección y el número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es): FRANK G. PIAZZA, JR. 103782 (562) 437-8955

(562) 472-2365  
THE PIAZZA LAW FIRM  
444 W. OCEAN BLVD, SUITE 777  
LONG BEACH, CA 90802

Date (Fecha): 4/14/2021  
SHERRI R. CARTER, EXECUTIVE OFFICER/CLERK OF COURT, Clerk, by (Secretario), C. MONROE Deputy (Adjunto)

The Norwalk Patriot  
3/11/22, 3/18/22, 3/25/22, 4/1/22

CAUSE NO. 2021- 16784  
RECEIPT NO. 916877 TR # 83009654  
EML. \$00, WAP 1-13-2022  
PLAINTIFF:  
GONZALEZ, EMILIANO vs.  
DEFENDANT:  
MENDOZA, ANIUSKA YELLENA SARA  
In the 257th Judicial District Court of Harris County, Texas  
CITATION BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF TEXAS  
COUNTY OF HARRIS  
TO: ANIUSKA YELLENA SARA MENDOZA AND TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN; WHOSE RESIDENCE AND WHEREABOUTS ARE UNKNOWN, RESPONDENT(S);  
YOU have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the Clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 a.m. on the Monday next following the expiration of 20 days after you were served this citation and ORIGINAL PETITION FOR DIVORCE Petition, a default judgment may be taken against you. The Petition of EMILIANO GONZALEZ Petitioner, was filed in the 257TH Court of Harris County, Texas, on the 23RD day of MARCH 2021, against ANIUSKA YELLENA SARA MENDOZA, Respondent(s), and the said suit being numbered 2021-16784 on the docket of said Court, and entitled "In the Matter of the Marriage of EMILIANO GONZALEZ and ANIUSKA YELLENA SARA MENDOZA, nature of which suit is a request to ORIGINAL PETITION FOR DIVORCE." The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment or decree dissolving the marriage and providing for the division of property, which will be binding on you." ISSUED AND GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF SAID COURT AT HOUSTON TEXAS ON THIS THE 4TH day of FEBRUARY, 2022.

NEWSPAPER: THE NORWALK PATRIOT issued at request of:  
ROBERTO A. SALAZAR  
Address: 3734 GULF ST HOUSTON, TX 77017  
Bar No. 24052902  
MARILYN BURGESS, District Clerk Harris County, Texas  
BY: Deputy Michelle Arredondo

The Norwalk Patriot  
3/18/22, 3/25/22, 4/1/22, 4/8/22

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# Paging Dr. Frischer...

By Dr. Alan Frischer

Last weekend my wife and I planned to stream a movie, and I offered to microwave some popcorn. The popcorn was delicious, but was that actually a good idea?



Air-popped popcorn is whole grain, high in fiber, low in calories, and linked to a lower risk of heart disease, diabetes, some cancers, and several other diseases. It's a good snack, inexpensive, and tasty. This sounds just great.

However, before you start eating it by the handful, let's ensure that your popcorn is a truly healthful snack. We see a completely different product in a movie theater: A tub of old-fashioned movie theater popcorn can contain 2,650 milligrams of sodium. Sodium is one of the leading risk factors for hypertension and stroke. That same tub can also pack over a thousand calories of saturated fat. Saturated fats contribute to atherosclerosis, which leads

to vascular disease, stroke and heart attack. (Of course, not all movie theater popcorn is the same. Some is popped in canola oil, which certainly has calories, but is heart healthy.)

It certainly is simple, clean, and fast to make popcorn in prepared microwave packets. But ingredients vary widely. Select one with the fewest ingredients, and avoid those with additives, artificial ingredients, processed oils and saturated fats, and high amounts of salt or sugar.

Some of the most healthful microwave popcorn options that you might wish to try include Quinn White Cheddar and Sea Salt; Black Jewell; Whole Foods' 365 Organic Popcorn; Orville Redenbacher's Skinnygirl; and Newman's Own Touch of Butter.

Many of the larger, popular microwave popcorn brands now offer more healthful alternatives alongside their more traditional offerings. Jolly Time, Pop-Secret, and Act II now have options that are not loaded with palm oil, butter, and salt. The

secret is to avoid the ones that do!

It's clear that popcorn can be a fantastic, unprocessed, whole-grain, and healthful snack. It is simply an entire corn kernel, which pops when heated. However, movie theater-style popcorn, loaded with butter and salt, is an entirely different matter. I urge you to limit your saturated ("bad") fats, and to limit your sodium. Be vigilant in reading microwave popcorn labels. They are not all created the same.

Of course, the best way to be in control of the oil, butter, salt and sugar that you put into your body is to make your snacking popcorn at home with an air popper.

Enjoy healthy snacking with your next movie!

*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.*

# Columbia Memorial Space Center expands Girls in STEM program

**NORWALK** – Norwalk parks are in store for upgrades and renovations over the next several years, according to a presentation to the City Council on Feb. 22.

Among the recommended upgrades are adding block walls in parks that would provide better security and decrease continued maintenance costs for repairs due to cut fences and vandalism.

In addition, new pour-N-Play surfaces for playgrounds will create a safer environment for children and decreased staff time and maintenance, officials said.

The city also recommended the installation and upgrade of ballfield lighting at parks that will increase hours of operation.

The City Council was supportive of the recommendations made by city staff.

"We need to invest the money we have, while at the same time aggressively go after additional resources," said Mayor Rick Ramirez. "We need to upgrade these parks now."

A few highlights of the planned park projects:

**Hermosillo Park** – Norwalk has been awarded an \$8.5 million grant through Prop 68 to rehabilitate the park. Funding includes the construction of a new community building, restrooms, parking lot, and various amenities throughout the park. The playground was replaced in 2018 and will remain but a new Pour-N-Play surface will be installed.

**Norwalk Park** – Plans include new sports fields, playgrounds, an additional restroom facility, and a variety of amenities.

**Lakeside Park** – Funding of

\$14,000 was approved in Norwalk 2021-22 budget for laser leveling of ballfields, which will be completed in the coming months.

**Holifield Park** – One of the playgrounds was recently replaced, funded by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors. A large open space is being considered for a new skate park similar in size to the skate park at Norwalk Park that is being removed.

**Gerdes Park** – Ballfield lighting will be added to the main field. Design work is being completed and the project is due to be bid in late spring. The \$300,000 project will increase play time capacity for the leagues that currently use the field.

**Bob White Park** – Last November, the City Council approved plans for a new restroom building and dog park using Prop 68 funds.

# Report: LA has most polluted air in United States

By City News Service

**LOS ANGELES** - Los Angeles has the most polluted air out of more than 2,400 U.S. cities analyzed in a report released Tuesday by an air-quality monitoring firm, despite the city showing 6% pollution decrease in 2021 compared to the previous year.

Air pollution globally degraded to unhealthy levels in 2021, according to the report by IQAir, a company that tracks global air quality and markets air-purification systems. The report found that pollution in every country, and in 97% of cities, exceeded the World Health Organization's air quality guidelines.

"It is a shocking fact that no major city or country is providing safe and healthy air to their citizens according to the latest World Health Organization air quality guidelines," Frank Hammes, CEO of IQAir, said in a statement. "This report underscores just how much work remains to be done to ensure

that everyone has safe, clean and healthy air to breathe. The time for action is now."

According to the report, the five most polluted countries in 2021 were Bangladesh, Chad, Pakistan, Tajikistan and India. The United States ranked 90th on the list.

The report noted that U.S. air quality has generally improved over the past 50 years, fine-particle pollution actually increased nationally by 7% between 2020 and 2021.

"The country's reliance on fossil fuels, increasing severity of wildfires as well as varying enforcement of the Clean Air Act from administration to administration have all added to U.S. air pollution," according to the report. "Nationally, 264 million people lived in areas where pollution levels were above the WHO annual guideline for PM2.5 concentrations in 2021."

The report found that worldwide, only 222 cities of the 6,475 analyzed met the WHO standards for fine-particle

pollution. The French territory of New Caledonia, and the U.S. territories of Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands met the guidelines.

"We understand better than ever before how air pollution damages our health and economies," Greenpeace India Campaign manager Avinash Chanchal said in a statement released with the report. "This report is a wakeup call, revealing how people worldwide are denied access to clean air. Particulate matter air pollution is produced through burning fuels including coal, oil and fossil gas, unsustainable development, and agricultural activities. Addressing the air pollution crisis requires the development of renewable energy resources and clean-powered, accessible public transport. Moreover, solutions to air pollution are also solutions to the climate crisis. Breathing clean air should be a basic human right, not a privilege."

# Church hosting spring craft sale

**NORWALK** – Faith Church of Norwalk is holding a two-day craft sale with proceeds benefiting its Women of Faith ministry and local veterans groups.

Available for purchase will be

arts and crafts, collectibles, office supplies, Christmas decorations, home goods, books, beauty supplies, and more. Most items are new in packaging.

The sale is Friday, March 25,

from 4-7 pm and Saturday, March 26, from 9 am to 3 pm.

Faith Church is at 11232 Excelsior Dr.

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# Reflecting on a legacy of service in the Army: Women's History Month

By Mario A. Guerra  
Contributor

During the celebration of Women's History Month, I wanted to reflect on a few amazing women soldiers that have helped change our country.

The national 2022 Women's History Month theme is "Women Providing Healing, Promoting Hope." This theme pays tribute to the ceaseless work of caregivers and recognizes the thousands of ways that women of all cultures have provided both healing and hope throughout history.

Throughout history, women have made our Army stronger, from the vital roles they played in the Revolutionary War to their service today as Soldiers, nurses, operators, secretaries, codebreakers, military intelligence, troop leaders and maintenance and supply workers. Female Soldiers, Army Civilians, Veterans, and family members are critical members of our Army team.

The strength of the Army comes from its diversity. Developing and maintaining qualified and demographically diverse leadership is critical for mission effectiveness and is essential to national security. Army leaders across the department continue to set the conditions for all Soldiers and civilians to reach their full potential and assign tasks and jobs throughout the force based on ability, not gender.

Making up 16% of the total force, by the end of 2021, the Army had assessed and integrated more than 9,400 women into Infantry, Armor, Field Artillery, Air Defense, Engineer, Field Artillery and Aviation specialties.

In 2021, Secretary Christine Wormuth was sworn in as the 25th Secretary of the Army and the first woman named to the service's highest position. I proudly serve under her leadership.

Later that year, Lt. Gen. Donna

Martin became the first woman to be appointed Inspector General of the Army. The Army had its first all-woman changing of the guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery.

And while women continue to take advantage of the opportunities finally open to them through elite training and schools, they are also able to see women in leadership roles previously held only by men.

Gen. Laura Richardson became the second woman in Army history promoted to the rank of four-star general and only the second woman in history to lead a combatant command in October 2021. I've been able to meet with her several times and you can see her leadership instantly.

These women embody the Army's virtues of loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity, and personal courage. I want to share with you the stories of some women who made our diverse nation what it is today.

During the Revolutionary War, women served the U.S. Army in traditional roles as nurses, seamstresses and cooks for troops in camp.

Some courageous women served in combat either alongside their husbands or disguised as men, while others operated as spies for the cause. Though not in uniform, women shared Soldiers' hardships, including inadequate housing and little compensation.

Deborah Sampson, a descendant of preeminent Pilgrims Myles Standish and William Bradford, disguised herself as a man and used the name Robert Shurtleff in order to fight in the Revolutionary War. Assigned duties as a scout, even leading a raid on a Tory house that led to the capture of 15 men, she evaded detection for a year and a half, despite being wounded twice.

When she was shot, she pulled

out the ball herself rather than have a physician discover she was a woman. Later, when she was admitted to the hospital for a fever, physicians learned – and kept – her secret. She received an honorable discharge in 1783 and became the first woman to receive a full military pension when a court ruled that she had performed the duties of a Soldier.

Women continued to distinguish themselves with selfless service during the Civil War as well. For example, Harriet Tubman, born into slavery and best known for her work guiding dozens of slaves to freedom on the Underground Railroad, was also a scout and a spy for the Union Army. She helped John Brown plan and recruit for his 1859 raid on Harpers Ferry, and organized and led a group of freed slaves who sought out information about Confederate troops in the Beaufort, South Carolina area.

Her work enabled Union troops to conduct a series of raids to acquire supplies and destroy enemy torpedoes, railroads and bridges.

Tubman is also the first woman to lead an armed expedition in the Civil War, guiding the raid at Combahee Ferry and liberating more than 700 enslaved people. Following the war, she remained active in the Women's Suffrage movement until being overcome by illness. In 2021, Tubman was posthumously inducted into the Military Intelligence Hall of Fame in a ceremony at Fort Huachuca.

Also during the Civil War, Dr. Mary Edwards Walker served as a surgeon with the Union Army. She was captured and imprisoned as a spy, and when released returned to work as a surgeon at a prisoner-of-war hospital. Dr. Walker was awarded the Medal of Honor by President Andrew Johnson, and is still the only woman to receive this highest military honor.

Dr. Walker knew well the importance of women in the



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military, once stating, "Let the generations know that women in uniform also guaranteed their freedom." More than 35 thousand American women volunteered for military service during World War I. The Navy and the Marine Corps were the first military services to recruit women for non-combat positions such as radio electricians, telephone operators, accountants and clerks.

More than half of the women who served in the military during World War I were part of the Army Nurse Corps, and most of the switchboard operators were women. They worked close to or at the front lines, living in bunkers and makeshift tents. Grace Banker, a switchboard operator who served as the chief operator of mobile for the American Expeditionary Forces in the Signal Corps, was awarded the Distinguished 4 Service Medal for her extraordinary service assuring the success of the telephone service during the operations of the 1st Army during the Meuse Argonne offensive in 1918.

Women had been fighting for the right to vote for decades, without much real success. But with women serving overseas, it was hard to ignore the call for equality. The service of these women inspired change across the nation and helped to propel the ratification of the 19th Amendment in August 1920, guaranteeing women the vote.

During World War II, approximately 140 thousand women served as members of the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps and the Women's Army Corps.

They provided critical services, such as military intelligence, cryptography, parachute rigging, maintenance and supply. More than a thousand women flew aircraft for the Women's Air Force Service Pilots and more than 60 thousand Army Nurses served, often in harsh conditions.

Mary Roberts Wilson was the first woman awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in combat for her action during the battle of Anzio. With her Army evacuation hospital under fire, Wilson continued to supervise her nursing staff of 50, allowing the hospital to continue

functioning. Anna May McCabe Hays worked as an Army nurse overseas during World War II and Korea. She led the Army Nurse Corps at the height of the Vietnam War and in 1970, became the first woman promoted to General Officer in the U.S. Armed Forces. She pushed to expand scholarship opportunities and education for Army nurses. She also supported policy changes, so married nurses who became pregnant were not automatically discharged.

Due to the exceptional service of women in the military during World War II, President Harry S. Truman signed the Women's Armed Service Integration Act into law on June 12, 1948. This bill authorized a permanent presence of women in the military. Women continued to prove themselves over and over during the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan.

In 2005, Sergeant Leigh Ann Hester, a military police officer in the Kentucky National Guard, became the first woman awarded the Silver Star since Mary Roberts Wilson in World War II. When her convoy was attacked near Baghdad, Hester maneuvered her team through an enemy kill zone, where she assaulted a trench line with grenades and M-203 rounds, then engaged three enemy soldiers while clearing two more trenches, thus saving numerous American lives.

Specialist Monica Brown, a medic, was the first woman to receive the Silver Star during the War in Afghanistan, and the second to earn the Silver Star since World War II. Brown was riding in a convoy on a routine security patrol when the trail vehicle struck a pressure plate improvised explosive device – commonly referred to as an IED – the initiating event for a planned ambush. As enemy fighters engaged the patrol, Brown ran through gunfire to provide medical care to wounded Soldiers, at one point throwing herself over the wounded to shield them from mortar fire. Approximately 15 mortars impacted within close range as Brown continued to help her fellow Soldiers. As the platoon continued to return fire, Brown once again shielded the wounded from enemy fire and falling brass,

ensuring all the wounded were stabilized and ready for MEDEVAC.

There are common threads that run through the stories of these women and our veterans. These individuals are willing to put the needs of their country above their own. They fight for equality and fairness. And it is this self-sacrifice and determination that ensures that our country not only survives, but thrives.

Today, women have more opportunities than ever in the Armed Forces. About 16% of the Total Army is female and all positions in the Army are open to women. Women are serving in positions that provide full and challenging career and promotion opportunities. We know from history and experience that the contributions and achievements of women make our Army stronger. I said before that the theme this year is: "Women Providing Healing; Promoting Hope."

We honor the hard work of the women who paved the way for today's Soldiers. And we honor today's Soldiers for securing our future – a future for women with more opportunities than ever before. Right now, in a recruiting station, or Basic Training class, or ROTC program are young women, eager to serve, whose energy, talent and leadership will shape our future military.

We know that when women succeed, America succeeds. The strength of our economy rests on whether we make it possible for every citizen to contribute to our growth and prosperity. As we honor the many patriots who have shaped not only the destinies of other women, but also the direction of our history, let us resolve to build on their efforts in our own time. Thank You for reading this and allowing me to honor just a few amazing women in our country.

**Mario A. Guerra is a two-time former mayor of Downey and currently serves as the Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army. He is also co host of "Talking Downey with Mario and Eric" and can be reached at [www.marioaguerra.com](http://www.marioaguerra.com)**



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