

The Norwalk Patriot

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Hospitals hope to avoid fall Covid surge

■ Hospitalizations are slowly increasing across the state; Covid cases have jumped the past two fall seasons.

By City News Service

NORWALK – The number of COVID-19-positive patients in Los Angeles County hospitals rose again Wednesday, with state figures showing the number again rising above 400.

The number of COVID-positive patients has bounced up and down in recent weeks, with health officials closely watching the figures as they hope to avoid another winter surge of virus infections, hospitalizations and deaths.

According to state figures, there were 427 COVID-positive patients in county hospitals as of Wednesday, up from 388 on Tuesday. Of those patients, 48 were being treated in intensive care units.

County officials have said that about 40% of COVID-positive patients were actually admitted to hospitals due to virus-related illness, while the others were admitted for other reasons, and in many cases only learning they were infected when they were tested at the hospital.

On Tuesday, the county reported 868 new COVID infections, giving the county a cumulative total from throughout the pandemic of 3,489,106. The number of cases released by the county each day is an undercount of actual COVID activity, due to the wide-spread use of at-home tests, the results of which are generally not reported to the county.

Another seven virus-related deaths were also reported Tuesday, raising the overall death toll to 33,981.

The seven-day average daily rate of people testing positive for the virus in the county was 4.4% as of Tuesday, according to the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health.

Public Health Director Barbara Ferrer told reporters last week that the county has seen slight upticks over the past week in some virus-tracking metrics, most notably the weekly infection rate, after months of steady declines. She said the increases were not an immediate cause for concern, but officials plan to closely monitor the trends heading into cooler winter months, which have led to surges in cases the past two years.

Downey restaurant hosting Veterans Day party

DOWNEY – Bastards Canteen, in association with the nonprofit Save the Brave, will host the 24th Marine Corps Birthday & Veterans Day Bash in Downtown Downey on Thursday, Nov. 10.

Downey Avenue will be closed between 2nd and 4th Streets for the festival, which is a celebration of Marines, veterans, and their contributions to the country and Downey.

Festivities include live musical performances on a mainstage, a live radio broadcast by 710AM ESPN, beer garden, an "I Love Micheladas" popup, a "Burrito Break" booth, barbecue pit and craft cocktail bar, and a special cake-cutting ceremony featuring a U.S. Marine Corps birthday cake.

The festival runs from 3-10 pm and is for ages 21 and older. Online tickets can be purchased online at bastardscanteen.com/events

This year marks Bastards' 10-year anniversary in Downey.

Norwalk's L.A.D.Y. mentoring program takes flight

■ Young women affected by the pandemic find mentorship in a new program created by Norwalk's Social Services Department.

NORWALK – Butterflies, a symbol of change and transformation. This is the symbol that the Leadership and Advocacy for the Direction of Young Women (L.A.D.Y.) program members chose as their emblem.

It all started back on April 14, 2022 with a simple meet and greet event that offered a safe space for mentees and mentors to chat. The Norwalk Social Services Department, led by Social Services Director Gabriela Regalado, wanted to begin a mentorship program for young women ages 15-23 who have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The focus of the program is to improve self-care, self-growth, and self-love. The participants meet twice a month, the second and fourth Thursday from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., at the Social Services Center located at 11929 Alondra Blvd.

"The idea for the L.A.D.Y. mentoring program came from a need to connect potentially at-risk youth with mentors that could share their own life experiences so that the mentees know firsthand that great things can be achieved," stated Regalado.

The mentorship program is good for participants struggling with financial stability, relationships, mental/health challenges, personal growth, and education in relation to the pandemic. The mentees deal with these issues through a series of workshops, excursions, and one-on-one mentoring.

"The mentees are given the tools to create their own destiny



Norwalk's Leadership and Advocacy for the Direction of Young Women program launched earlier this year.

and have access to their assigned mentor to guide them along the way during these crucially formative years in their lives," stated Jessica Bargas-Jimenez.

Bargas-Jimenez, along with her Social Service Department colleague Denisse Lopez, oversee the mentorship program and plan all the events. Participants are given a personalized notebook and pen to write down their thoughts, feelings, and anything else they would like to express in the notebook.

"We had a large demand for people wanting to be mentors for this program, which was a pleasant

surprise," stated Lopez.

The enthusiastic demand led to the program's expansion from meeting once a month to twice a month. Mentees are encouraged to attend all meetings but are not required to attend every meeting. The purpose is to have the program available when needed rather than making it something that mentees will see as a burden if their schedule doesn't permit them to attend certain days.

The City of Norwalk promoted the first meet and greet event during the return of Artastic back in March 2022 as well as on its

social media pages leading up to the first L.A.D.Y. mentorship program meeting.

The program continues to be promoted on social media as well as the Social Service Department's seasonal brochures. Seven months into the program's inception, it continues to help shape the lives of the mentees in a positive direction and provide an outlet for mentors to donate their time and share their knowledge.

For more information on the L.A.D.Y. mentorship program, call (562) 929-5544.

College receives \$17M for transit, facility projects

■ Cerritos College will use the money to construct a new Student Services Center and expand its student transit program.

NORWALK – Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon and Assemblymember Cristina Garcia presented checks totaling nearly \$17 million in state funding to Cerritos College on October 19.

Speaker Rendon secured a Prop 98 allocation of \$16 million to support the construction of Cerritos College's new Student Services and Administration Center. Assemblymember Garcia was instrumental in securing \$600,000 to support the College's student transit program to help students ride transit without the worry of paying fares.

Cerritos College is the only community college to receive state funding through legislative priorities to support student transit efforts.

The Student Services and Administration Center will become the College's new gateway. The facility is part of the campus's Facilities Master Plan to create the best student learning environment by offering more centralized resources.

The center will provide support programs to help students and the community utilize the College's renowned resources like



Financial Aid, Counseling, and EOPS, among others.

Students will also have access to affordable transportation through the College's free GoPass in partnership with the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority's Fareless System Initiative.

At Cerritos College, 70 percent of students qualify for the California College Promise Grant, which waives enrollment fees to attend school. Fifty percent of students receive a federal Pell grant that is awarded to students with exceptional financial needs – indicating they are low-income and in dire financial straits.

"I was pleased to work with Assemblymember Garcia to secure this much-needed funding to modernize the learning environment at Cerritos Community College," said Speaker Rendon, a proud alumnus of Cerritos College. "These are the types of educational investments that make a difference for our local communities."

"I would like to emphasize the importance of education in our community to develop our future leaders and changemakers. At the state level, I am advocating for bridging gaps and making education accessible and equitable," said Assemblymember

Garcia.

"This allocation will break barriers for Cerritos College students and provide free transportation to school while promoting sustainability."

"We appreciate Speaker Rendon and Assemblymember Garcia's support for our projects to provide quality education and learning environment to our residents as a means to increase social mobility and improve their lives," said Cerritos College President/Superintendent Dr. Jose Fierro.

"We strive to be a good steward of taxpayer money by constantly seeking additional funding opportunities to stretch our bond dollars and resources. Updated instructional facilities are crucial to providing affordable and quality education to students so they can prepare for today's in-demand jobs and competitive global economy.

"The transportation support will ensure our students can travel to campus and their jobs without the burden of paying for transportation and increase their ability to achieve their educational goals on time.

"By providing access to transportation, we are also helping change their life trajectories."

Weekend at a Glance

Friday 71°

Saturday 73°

Sunday 70°

THINGS TO DO



Inglewood Community Market: Día De Los Muertos
Saturday, 11 am to 5 pm
La Feria Restaurant, Inglewood

A fun outdoor market experience with 40 vendors, outdoor games, live music, beer garden, kids play area, giveaways, raffles, and more.

ON THIS DAY

1842: Future U.S. president Abraham Lincoln married Mary Todd.

1922: British archaeologist Howard Carter discovered the tomb of the Egyptian pharaoh Tutankhamen.

1924: American politician Nellie Tayloe Ross became the first woman to be elected governor of a U.S. state (Wyoming).

1960: In Tanzania, Dr. Jane Goodall observed chimpanzees creating tools, the first-ever observation in non-human animals.

1979: A hostage crisis in Iran began as the U.S. embassy in Tehran was seized by Iranian militants in a move sanctioned by Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.

1980: Conservative Republican Ronald Reagan was elected the 40th president of the United States.

1995: Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, recipient of the Nobel Prize for Peace in 1994, was assassinated by a Jewish extremist while attending a peace rally.

2001: The first film adaptation of J.K. Rowling's best-selling Harry Potter series, *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone*, premiered in London.



2008: Democratic politician Barack Obama became the first African American to be elected president of the United States.

Top Songs on this Date

1992: "End of the Road" by Boyz II Men

2002: "Lose Yourself" by Eminem

2012: "One More Night" by Maroon 5

Birthdays

Former First Lady **Laura Bush** (76), comedian **Kathy Griffin** (62), "Karate Kid" star **Ralph Macchio** (61), retired Dodgers first baseman **Eric Karros** (55), rapper **Diddy** (53), actor **Matthew McConaughey** (53), and reality star **Bethenny Frankel** (52).

La Mirada football season ends with loss to Downey

■ Two late touchdowns lifts Downey over La Mirada, 43-21.

By John M. Sherrard
Contributor

NORWALK – With the CIF-Southern Section playoffs set to begin tonight (Friday, Nov. 4), two teams – Downey and La Mirada high schools – are heading in two different directions.

Downey, which defeated La Mirada, 43-21, last Friday (Oct. 28), will take a road trip to Santa Barbara (9-1) for a first-round game in Division 4, while La Mirada (4-6, 2-3) ends its season.

In the final game of the regular season in inaugural Gateway League action, Downey (8-2) finished second to Warren (9-1) and the Matadores finished in fourth place with a 2-3 record. Warren travels to Sierra Canyon in Division 2.

“(La Mirada) really punched us in that first half,” Downey Football coach Jack Williams said. “They controlled the tempo and tried to keep or offense off the field.

“I thought we reacted in the second half and did some things. I love where we are at right now. We got smacked in the mouth a few weeks ago (loss to Warren, 49-22) and responded (Win over Mayfair, 38-15). Getting smacked in the mouth before the end of the year, now you know what your team is about.”

The game, played at Excelsior High School, saw the Matadores tied midway through the third period, 21-21, with Downey. However, two late TDs in the third and one in the fourth by the Vikings led to a Downey win.

“Downey is a really good football program with a lot of speed and physical,” La Mirada Football coach Mike Moschetti said. “In the first half we played with emotion, but Downey is just tougher and more physical and more athletic than us.

“We hung in there for a little bit, but it just wasn’t good enough. Defensively, we were on our heels all night. They were running it, they were throwing it and pretty much could do whatever they wanted.”

Leading the way for Downey was senior quarterback Aidan Chiles (16 of 20, 202 yards, TD). Chiles, who has committed to Oregon State, also ran for 73 yards on five carries and two touchdowns.

Downey senior running back Jaylen Crutchfield carried the ball eight times for 64 yards and a touchdown and also caught one pass for 41 yards. Senior running back Keion Andrew carried the ball five times for 49 yards and a touchdown. He also had seven solo tackles and one assist.

Seven players caught passes for Chiles, with senior wide receiver Bryant Carey connecting for seven receptions for a game-high 104 yards and a score. Carey also had six solo tackles and three assists.

Junior wide receiver Manuel Albidrez had four catches for 59 yards.

La Mirada was led by senior running back CJ Zackery with 114 yards on 24 carries and a touchdown, while senior running back Denver Stillman ran for 33 yards on 10 carries and two touchdowns. Defensively, Stillman had five solo tackles and four assists.

Senior quarterback Nehuel Garcia was 12 for 19 for 56 yards for the Matadores.

La Mirada senior wide receiver Xavier Hicks caught eight passes for 41 yards.

Downey got in the scoring column at 7:56 of the opening quarter with a 15-yard TD run by Crutchfield. The score was Crutchfield’s sixth of the season.

Stillman scored the first of his two touchdowns for La Mirada later in the quarter on a two-yard run up the middle to tie the game, 7-7. The score culminated a long drive that ate up clock time.

“We limited big plays by Downey in the first quarter,” Moschetti added.

Downey came right back early in the second quarter to take the lead again with the first of two running TDs by Chiles. Chiles, who has six rushing touchdowns this season, scored on a 30-yard run for the 14-7 lead with 9:12 left in the half.

But La Mirada wouldn’t go away as Stillman scored his second touchdown of the game, another 2-yard run to tie the game at 14-14 just before half.

“It was a great drive by the offense, and we ate up more of the clock,” Moschetti said.

The third quarter changed the game as the Vikings scored the first of three touchdowns, as Chiles ran for an 8-yard score at 7:54 for the 21-14 lead.

However, just two minutes later La Mirada tied the score, 21-21, for the third time in the game on a short field with a 13-yard run by Zackery. The score was his 11th of the season for the Matadores.

The touchdown may be the last for the Matadores at Excelsior High, as they await the completion of their new on-campus stadium. It’s been four years on the “road” for “home” games for La Mirada.

La Mirada had all the momentum going and pulled a surprise inside kick, but the ball didn’t go the distance and ended up in La Mirada territory.

“That was the turning point of the game,” Moschetti said.

In just a few plays after the La Mirada inside kick attempt, the Vikings scored the second of three touchdowns in the quarter on a 27-yard run by Andrew.

Downey added another score near the end of the quarter at 1:16, as sophomore quarterback Logan Bledsoe completed a 52-yard pass to Carey, his 15th touchdown of the season.

A two-point conversion pass from Chiles to Andrew extended the score to 36-21.

Following the Downey score, La Mirada was driving the ball and converted two fourth down plays, but came up just short on a third. They fell just one-yard short.

Chiles added another touchdown pass – his 25th of the season – to Crutchfield. It was a 39-yard score.

On the season for Chiles, who will be throwing passes for the Beavers at Oregon State soon, he totaled 2,217 yards with only three interceptions.

What they said:

Mike Moschetti, La Mirada football coach: “Offensively, we moved the ball a little bit and did some good things. They just wore us down.

It all starts with the head coach. There is a saying that I like to use – ‘When we win games, it’s the players. When we lose games, it’s the coaches.’

I thought we were going to play better (Friday) than what we showed.

Our bright spot is we had three freshmen and six sophomores



La Mirada running back C.J. Zackery (5) runs the ball as they play Downey in their league game at Excelsior High School in Norwalk on Friday. Downey defeated La Mirada 43-21. (Photo by Keith Durlinger)



La Mirada quarterback Nehuel Garcia (6) throws a pass as they play Downey in their league game at Excelsior High School in Norwalk on Friday. Downey defeated La Mirada 43-21. (Photo by Keith Durlinger)

playing. That’s not an excuse. They’ve been playing all year. We really expected to come out and play a lot better than we did and win this game, but they really took it to us in the second half.”

Jack Williams, Downey football coach: “We were missing nine or ten defensive linemen and a lot of those guys were first timers getting their first action in the football game.”

Jaylen Crutchfield, La Mirada

senior running back: “(Friday) we came out with a hard game and fight a lot and fought a lot of adversity in the first half. We came out in the second half and got the job done with hard work and dedication.”

The key to our success was for sure heart. The team came out with a lot of heart in the second half. I feel like we should have come out a lot faster in the first half. But heart finished off the game for sure.

Asked what he thought about his quarterback (Chiles), Crutchfield just said, ‘He’s a dog and I’ll leave it at that. He carried the team and put the team on his back.’

As for coach Williams, Crutchfield said, “I love the guy. Jack Williams is an amazing leader. He pushes us every day.”

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Let's say a permanent goodnight to daylight saving time

By Heather Turgeon and Julie Wright

Earlier this year, the Senate passed a bill to make daylight saving time permanent. The idea of ending clock changes and sticking to one time was met with celebration — until scientists pointed out that such a change could cause a nationwide case of seasonal depression, learning loss and physical health problems.

Now the Sunshine Protection Act sits with the House. But as we prepare to change our clocks this November — and with news of Mexico mostly opting out of daylight saving time, effective this past weekend (the exceptions: towns and cities on the U.S. border) — the idea is sure to be debated again. Popular opinion supports getting rid of clock changes, and for good reason — they're disorienting and disruptive. But eternal daylight saving time is not the answer. Especially if we want to protect young people.

Humans evolved outside, in nature, and our brain clocks are exquisitely attuned to the sun. Standard time is an approximation of the solar day and is more or less in line with the rising and setting sun. Decades of research shows we're at our best when we live harmoniously this way.

Daylight saving time, on the other hand, is essentially mandated jet lag. Permanent daylight time would leave us perpetually out of sync with our powerful internal clocks and would deny us the sun's rays when our brains and bodies need them most: in the mornings.

If the House were to pass the Sunshine Protection Act in its current form, then for the first time in 40 years, the United States would experience daylight saving time in winter. The sun would rise unnaturally late, particularly in the northwestern part of every time zone: 9 a.m. in parts of Texas, 9:15 a.m. in Indiana, 9:45 a.m.

in parts of Michigan. Students wouldn't see the sun until well into their school day. This experiment happened in the United States in 1974. People found it so painful, it was abandoned after one winter.

This would all be tremendously bad for kids. Because of the later biological pacing of the teenage brain, waking at 7 a.m. already feels to young people like waking at 5 a.m. With permanent daylight saving time, it would feel like 4 a.m. This would put a serious strain on teen mental health. The result would be, among other things, shortened sleep for a population that is already severely sleep deprived and a potential uptick in rates of depression, when teens are already struggling with elevated levels of depressive symptoms and suicidal thinking.

And let's not forget: A policy that's bad for teens is bad for the rest of us. Sleep-deprived teens are driving next to us on the freeway. Sleep-deprived teens are twice as likely to experience mental health symptoms, which affect families, schools and health-care systems.

In some parts of the United States, teens are getting relief in the form of later high school start times, which California has pioneered and New York is considering. If the country were to impose permanent daylight saving time, the beneficial effects of these policies would be erased.

All of us, children and adults, need morning sun and evening darkness to get enough sleep and to be healthy and happy. Morning sun tells every cell and organ in the body to start its daily work; in our repertoire of daily habits, morning sun is the slam dunk.

Daylight saving time takes this from us. During this period, the majority of people go to bed later, while still having to wake at the

same time for school or work, which leads to accumulated sleep debt. The reason our health hasn't deteriorated further is that this happens in spring and summer, when the day length is long and the sun is already up when we wake. Daylight saving time in winter would make every morning a dark, dreary struggle — and people's health and moods would unravel.

Sens. Marco Rubio (R-Fla.), Kyrsten Sinema (D-Ariz.) and others snuck the Sunshine Protection Act through the Senate without review or deliberation. Under the bill, Sinema's Arizona would get to keep its already permanent year-round standard time, which it has had since 1968. (Why Sinema would rejoice at the rest of the country being forced to spring permanently forward is baffling.)

We all enjoy the sun. But in winter, when sunshine is scarce, we don't have the luxury of tinkering with time. Evening sun is for our entertainment. Morning sun is for our health.

Healthier than permanent daylight saving time would be to stick with what we have, changing times twice a year. But healthiest would be for Congress to change the wording of the Sunshine Protection Act to permanent standard time.

It's rare that we have the chance to elevate youth mental health — everyone's health — in a sweeping and immediate way. Permanent standard time would give us this opportunity.

Heather Turgeon and Julie Wright are the authors of "Generation Sleepless: Why Tweens and Teens Aren't Sleeping Enough and How We Can Help Them."

I wish the jury had not sentenced my family's killer to death

By Sharon Risher

This week, Nikolas Cruz, who killed 17 people in the 2018 shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Fla., will be formally sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole, and the families of those who were killed or injured will again have a chance to speak about the irreparable harm done to them.

I understand the anguish some of those families expressed last month after the jury decided to spare the gunman's life. That's because I have sat in a similar courtroom, under similar circumstances. Dylann Roof, a white supremacist, murdered my mother, two cousins and six others in 2015 at Mother Emanuel A.M.E. Church in Charleston, S.C. For that, he was sentenced to death.

I would never tell anyone how to feel in such a situation. I can only share my own story. And having lived through this awful experience — the loss of my loved ones, followed by a trial in which we had to hear about the terrible details of the murders again and to revisit all of the pain — I can say that Mr. Roof's death sentence did not bring my family closure. It only prolonged our agony.

How can families of victims not want vengeance for what the killer has done? I was very conflicted throughout Mr. Roof's trial. It brought me new misery to see such a young man with so much hate in his heart. But by the time the sentencing phase ended, I felt that

killing him would do nothing to help me heal. After much prayer and asking God to help me, I knew in my heart that killing him would not solve anything.

Because he was sentenced to death, we are still suffering in ways that could have been avoided. Five years ago, Mr. Roof's first appeal was rejected. It was two years after his crime, but just the experience of that appeal being a headline brought back all of the horror of his violence, renewing our wounds. Every time our case is in the news, I am returned to that terrible day and the searing pain of the weeks, months and years that followed. It almost feels as if he gets to continue the terror he intended to create, because the focus is on him, while his victims' families wait for the supposed finality of an execution that may never come.

This is the unintended but very real consequence of the death penalty. Rather than helping my family heal, Dylann Roof's death sentence has done the opposite.

Based on my experience and that of many others whom I know, some of the families of the Parkland victims may discover that Mr. Cruz's sentence of life in prison brings them more peace in the end. After all, life without the possibility of parole might better be understood as death by incarceration. I certainly agree that such killers should never be free.

I hope that Nikolas Cruz's sentence can be a turning point for the families, that it will allow them to move toward healing.

We can never get our loved ones back. But for me, not having the uncertainty of a death sentence hanging over me would make it easier to focus on the positive memories of those I lost.

In the years since Mr. Roof's trial, I have become active in the movement to abolish the death penalty. There are many reasons to oppose it, including that racism and other injustices taint the justice system in the United States. Getting rid of the death penalty also would bring a close to these torturous years of appeals for so many of us.

I pray that God will give the Parkland families comfort, and that God will give Nikolas Cruz the opportunity to understand and accept responsibility for what he has done and that he can find a way to use the remainder of his life for good, even in prison.

For everyone else, I want to say this: Please don't speak for victims and their families or tell us what to think. The most powerful thing that you can do for family members of murder victims is simply to offer authentic and nonjudgmental presence. We just need to know that we have a community around us that is about love.

Sharon Risher is the daughter of Ethel Lance, and the cousin of Tywanza Sanders and Susie Jackson, victims in the 2015 massacre at Mother Emanuel A.M.E. Church in Charleston, S.C.

The government operates best when it stays color blind

By Andrew Napolitano

This week, the Supreme Court of the United States is confronting yet again an issue that has bedeviled it for the past 30 years: the use of racial quotas by government-owned universities and private universities that accept government funding.

The last time the court looked at this issue, it punted. As is always the case when the court punts, the issue returned. This time around, the issue comes in an environment hot with racial anxiety and lack of constitutional fidelity.

Here is the backstory.

The 14th Amendment was enacted after the conclusion of the War Between the States. The radical Republicans who controlled the Congress and most Northern state legislatures wanted to punish the Southern states severely. Yet, their debates on the floors of Congress and state legislatures are unilluminating, as they offer contradictory purposes.

But the language of the Amendment — in the Equal Protection Clause — makes it clear that by requiring the laws to be applied equally, the mandate of the amendment is to remove race from the armament of states' tools of governance.

Yet, the Supreme Court ruled in *Plessy v. Ferguson* in 1896 that states could use race as a basis to govern, so long as they did so equally. This is the separate but equal jurisprudence. In 1954, in *Brown v. Board of Education*, that jurisprudence was reversed when the court ruled that separate is inherently unequal.

Without saying so directly, the post-Brown federal jurisprudence has assumed as an underlying principle that the mandate of the amendment is to eradicate race from the states' armaments of governance.

There is no federal Equal Protection Clause. Yet, the Civil Rights Act of 1964 purported to abolish all use of race in government, public accommodations, housing and workplaces, on public and on private property; the latter, a massive assault on property rights, the former, a rational understanding of the 14th Amendment.

Since 1964, most states have enacted their own laws against racial discrimination, which basically mimic the federal laws and continue to prohibit government from using race as a basis for any decisions and continuing the assault on private property rights.

Today, nearly all colleges and universities use race as an admissions factor. According to their own public statements, they believe that they are serving a societal good and advancing the public policy of the United States by assuring a racially diverse makeup of all incoming classes and by compensating for past egregious racial wrongs.

To their point, the Supreme Court, in an absurdly reasoned 2003 opinion, generally accepted these goals and employed them to trump the 14th Amendment, but only until 2028. Why 2028? Because Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, who wrote the opinion, opined that in the 25 years following her opinion, race relations in the United States will have so improved that racial quotas in college admissions will not be a public issue. How wrong she was!

In Supreme Court history, this is the only case in which the court put a time limit on the duration of its ruling. Yet, it is a basic principle of constitutional law that if something was unconstitutional yesterday, it will be unconstitutional tomorrow and thereafter.

Notwithstanding this lamentable history and the contorted judicial lens through which it all comes to us, a group of libertarian-leaning college students and professors have challenged the use of racial quotas in university admission policies by suing Harvard University, the nation's oldest private university, and the University of North Carolina, the nation's oldest public university.

Harvard, though private, accepts federal aid directly and indirectly and thereby has agreed to comply with federal non-discrimination standards. UNC is owned by the state of North Carolina and thus is directly bound by the 14th Amendment.

Earlier this past week, the Supreme Court devoted five hours to oral argument on these two cases, but not before the feds jumped in. Surprisingly, the Biden Department of Justice entered the case in behalf of the plaintiffs, arguing for the purest view of the

14th Amendment — that it prohibits all state-owned or federally assisted institutions from racial discrimination.

One embarrassing moment emerged during the oral argument when the solicitor general, who had just attacked Harvard and UNC, tried to justify the use of racial quotas by West Point, Annapolis, the Air Force Academy and the Coast Guard Academy. She resorted to the feds' favorite shibboleth and claimed that military racial quotas were a matter of national security. The court — even its liberal membership — was unimpressed.

After 150 years of slavery and 150 years of Jim Crow, America can't shake its racial demons. All these problems were caused by governments that treated persons as chattel and enslaved and suppressed the African race. Then the problems were exacerbated when the feds thought they could regulate private property while failing to regulate their own. Throughout all this, countless folks of all races suffered at the hands of government trying to right past wrongs and socially engineer the future.

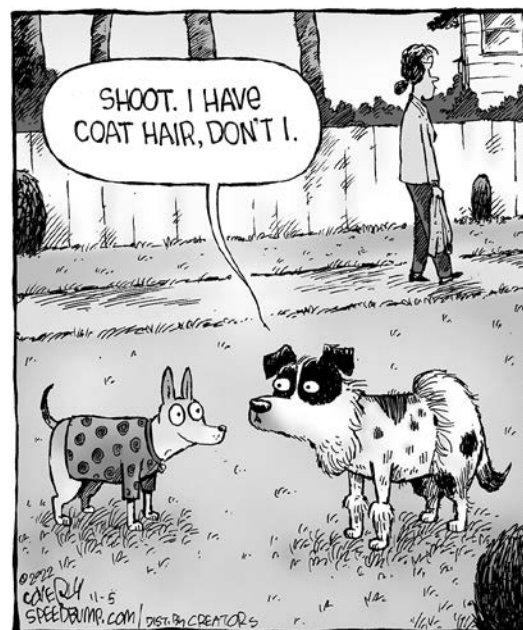
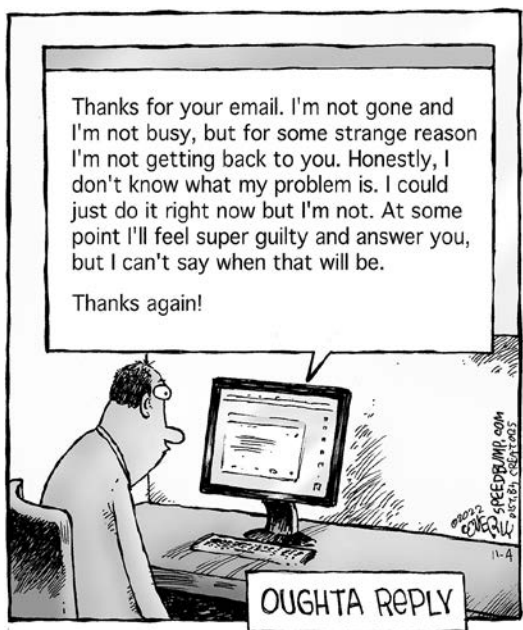
The government needs to stay chained down to the Constitution. That means it must be color-blind, stay off of private property and comply with the legal principles it imposes on the rest of us.

Harvard can do what it wants on its own lands, and the feds should stay off of them. It is richer than the federal government; it doesn't need and shouldn't receive a penny from taxpayers. Even if it were poor, there is simply no constitutional basis for taxpayer funding of private schools. UNC is directly bound by the Constitution, and it must be color-blind.

All this came about by government telling folks how to live, spend their money, use their private property and plan for the future. This is the same government that lies, cheats, steals, kills, can't deliver the mail, stop ro-bo calls or fill potholes. When will we learn that that government is best which governs least?

Andrew Napolitano served as a judge in New Jersey from 1987 to 1995. He has published five books on the U.S. Constitution.

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

SUNDAYS

12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. - Food Pantry - 12201 Firestone Blvd., Norwalk, CA 90650

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

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PUZZLE OF THE WEEK

THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com)
METER READERS: A professional puzzle
 by Fred Piscop

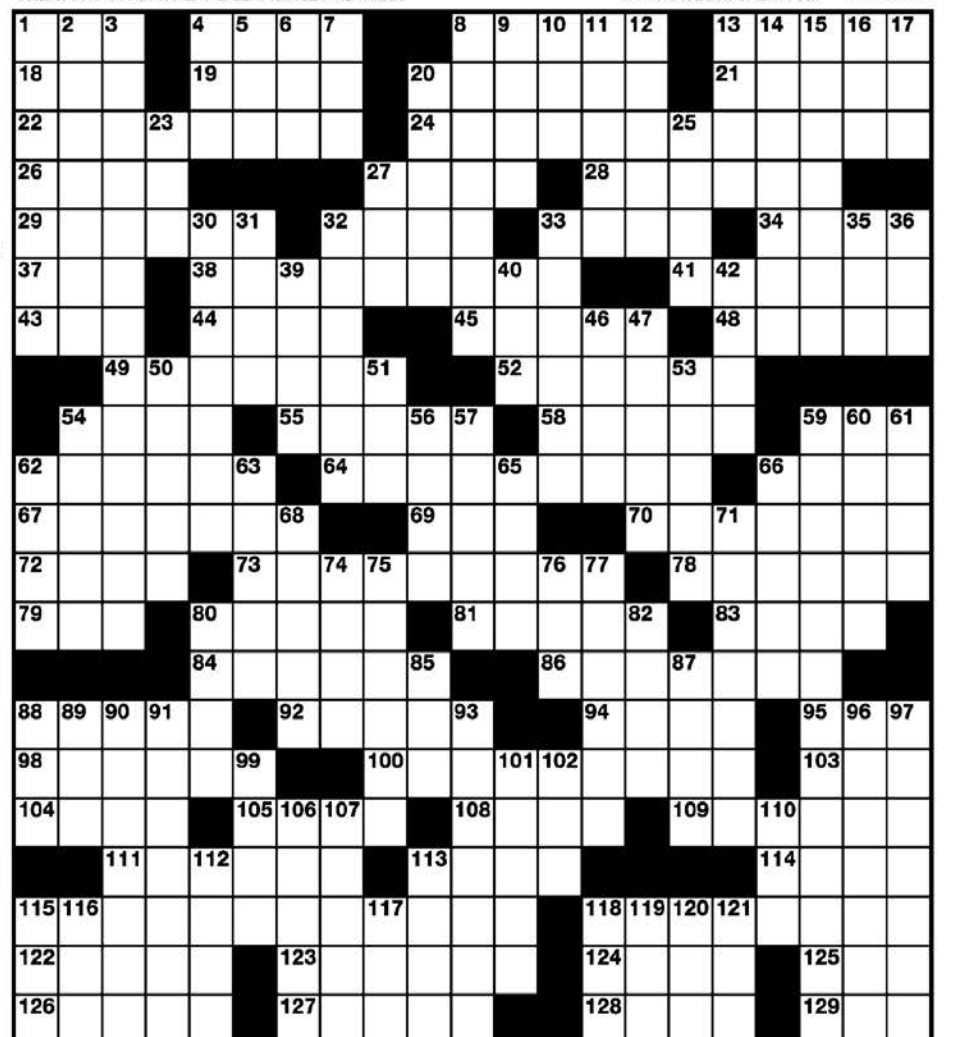
You can contact puzzle editor Stanley Newman at his e-mail address: StanXwords@aol.com. Or write him at P.O. Box 69, Massapequa Park, NY 11762, Please send a self-addressed, stamped envelope if you'd like a reply.

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

Dr. SEUSS (8 Across) was a magazine illustrator and political cartoonist before publishing his first children's book in 1937. A micrometer is used by a MACHINIST (38 Across) to measure thicknesses and short lengths. ERIS (25 Down) was discovered in 2005 by a team at California's Palomar Observatory.

- | | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| ACROSS | 1 Beaver's creation | 79 Hill builder | 11 Stories with saucers |
| 4 Fedora fabric | 80 Float like a helicopter | 12 Mexican mister | 13 Superhero's garment |
| 8 Giant of rhyming kiddie lit | 81 Traditional battlers | 14 "My aim wasn't so good" | 15 Bird of prey |
| 13 Well-mannered | 83 Twosome | 16 Prefix like equi- | 17 Allow |
| 18 Fútbol cheer | 84 About 907 kilos | 20 Gown fabric | 23 " _ seeing things?" |
| 19 Lyft competitor | 86 Minuteman's hat | 25 Dwarf planet beyond Pluto | 27 Do a slalom |
| 20 Far from plentiful | 88 Stop it | 30 Breaks into bits | 31 The O'Hara abode |
| 21 Keep entertained | 92 Tavern servings | 32 Israeli greeting | 33 Leisurely walk |
| 22 Cleric's assistant | 94 Spanish love | 35 Cub Scout group | 36 Sea plea |
| 24 Altimeter reader | 95 Wander (about) | 39 Scot's ancestor | 40 Observed |
| 26 Consider to be | 98 Except if | 42 Hardy title heroine | 46 "That's a fact" |
| 27 Lee of Marvel Comics fame | 100 Spectrometer reader | 47 Frighten | 50 Geographic reference |
| 28 Woodland | 103 Calendar column heading | 51 Period of history | 53 Fists, so to speak |
| 29 Self-centered sort | 104 Dutch cheese | 54 Disney film set in China | 56 Stadium level |
| 32 Short parody | 105 "That's too bad" | 57 "King of Rock and Roll" | 74 Little Women girl |
| 33 Apple's digital voice | 108 Relax in the tub | 59 Audiometer reader | 75 Bends downward |
| 34 Beer, so to speak | 109 Put a value on | 60 Fall flower | 76 Interoffice no. |
| 37 LAX posting | 111 Small silvery fish | 61 Editorial mark | 77 Start over, in pool |
| 38 Micrometer reader | 113 Overwhelm | 62 Ali _ | 80 Weeding implements |
| 41 Two-speaker system | 114 Italian wine region | 63 Scout's mission | 82 _ Valley, CA |
| 43 Liverpool luv | 115 Light meter reader | 65 Underground chamber | 85 Vague degree |
| 44 Carpet's coverage | 118 Offstage aide | 66 Parish priest | 87 Thing: Sp. |
| 45 Magna _ | 122 W.H. of poetry | 68 Doesn't discard | 88 Signal to speak |
| 48 Idyllic spots | 123 Fond aspirations | 69 Phase out | 89 Apple pie order |
| 49 Explorer who named Louisiana | 124 Mystical glow | 70 Conducts (oneself) | 91 Many Middle Easterners |
| 52 Solar system circlers | 125 Homophone for "air" | 107 In the know | 93 Certain analysts' specialties |
| 54 Butterfly cousin | 126 The nearest ones | 110 Drain of energy | 96 Severely simple |
| 55 Rich layer cake | 127 Mails (out) | 112 Nary a soul | 97 Had a yen for |
| 58 Parties with hulas | 128 Shed tears | 113 River herring | 99 Did karaoke |
| 59 Comprises | 129 Signal to stop | 115 Gentle touch | 101 Becomes bitter |
| 62 Reveille player | DOWN | 116 "What was that?" | 102 Jamaica's _ Fleming |
| 64 Postal meter reader | 1 Come to terms | 117 Fenced-in farm spot | 106 December song leapers |
| 66 Sleeveless top | 2 Quick tempo | 118 Fox's foot | 119 Have regrets about |
| 67 Assumed names | 3 Barometer reader | 120 Mine resource | 121 Navigation aid |
| 69 NASA spacewalk | 4 Cat's coat | | |
| 70 Be a go-between | 5 Fall back gradually | | |
| 72 Choral part | 6 Zodiac feline | | |
| 73 Taximeter reader | 7 Test out | | |
| 78 Something confidential | 8 Near the hip | | |
| | 9 Be worthy of | | |
| | 10 Website ID | | |

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|------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 74 Little Women girl | 91 Many Middle Easterners | 107 In the know |
| 75 Bends downward | 93 Certain analysts' specialties | 110 Drain of energy |
| 76 Interoffice no. | 96 Severely simple | 112 Nary a soul |
| 77 Start over, in pool | 97 Had a yen for | 113 River herring |
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| | | 121 Navigation aid |

MORE OF STAN'S CROSSWORDS! Play FREE from Stan's archives of Easy, Hard and Sunday puzzles at: tinyurl.com/stan-newman-crosswords

Magical season by Santa Fe girls volleyball ends in semifinal loss

■ Santa Fe rallied to force a fifth set against Nordhoff but fell short, ending their postseason run.

By John Sherrard
Contributor

OJAI – It took five sets, but the dream season for the Santa Fe High School Girls Volleyball team ended, but not without a big comeback to force a fifth set.

The Chiefs, trailing 2-1 in sets, evened the match at 2-2, but fell in the fifth and final set and ended their season with a 3-2 loss to host Nordhoff Saturday in the CIF-Southern Section Division 7 semifinals.

With a large contingent of fans, who traveled the 2 1/2 hours to Ojai, rooting the team on with every point in the final set, the Chiefs let a 13-11 lead slip away for the eventual, 16-14, loss.

Highlighting the last set were three kills by senior setter Alyjah Castaneda and a kill by sophomore outside hitter Camya Bottorff for a 12-10 lead.

“Being our senior year, I’m glad we made it this far,” Castaneda said. “The fifth set was a roller coaster finish, scoring points, losing points, going back and forth and tied and we had to take it point by point.”

Nordhoff, which is ranked fourth in the division, won 22-25, 25-18, 26-24, 21-25, 16-14.

With the loss, the Chiefs finish with a 23-13 record, while Nordhoff improved to 18-2 and will advance to the CIF finals Saturday against No. 10 Pacifica Christian/Orange County (21-5).

“It’s a labor of love,” Santa Fe Girls Volleyball coach Gay Brokenbough said. “I love this game and my passion for teaching this game has always been my number one focus.

“Knowing I had kids that would buy into it, made it worth it all. The wins come with it and that’s just the icing on the cake for me. It hurts right now, but I feel good.”

Leading the way for the Chiefs was Bottorff with 16 kills, three digs and one block.

Senior libero Monique Cardona had a match-high 25 digs and four assists. Senior setter Alyjah Castaneda (6 digs, 5 kills) and sophomore setter Abigail Cetina (5 digs, 3 aces) had 20 and 19 assists,

respectively.

“It was all a team and just wasn’t just one person,” Cardona said. “We had it, but just fell short.

“For a libero, you have to do what you can to help the team. It’s very important. We were just so in it in the fourth set. I’m going to give props to coach (Brokenbough). She motivated us and was always there for us.”

Cardona, who had a match-high six service aces, kept Santa Fe in many rallies with her diving saves and multiple digs.

The Chiefs were in their first semifinal in years, maybe as far back as their three championships.

Former coach Mollie Kavanaugh, who led her team in the 70’s to eight league titles, won three consecutive CIF titles from 1975-77.

The Chiefs finished the season tied with La Serna in the Del Rio League, with a 5-3 record.

In the CIF Division 7 playoffs, Santa Fe won the opening match, 3-0 over Jurupa Valley. The second round was a 3-1 win over Westminster, followed by another 3-1 win over Trinity Classical Academy in the quarterfinals.

Santa Fe took a first set win after a big save by Cardona on the winning point for the 25-22 win.

She started the first set serving five winners, with three of them aces.

In the second set, the Chiefs led early, 7-6, but the Rangers reeled off seven consecutive winners and took a 13-7 lead. Santa Fe trailed the rest of the way as the set was even at 1-1.

The Chiefs trailed in the third set by as much as seven points, 17-10, but came all the way back, highlighted by five consecutive points with the serving of Cetina and trailed by a point, 23-22, but eventually lost and the Rangers took a 2-1 lead in the match.

Bottorff had four of her 16 kills in the set.

In the fourth set, Santa Fe trailed late, 21-20, but outscored Nordhoff, 4-1 and Castaneda helped with the final point win after she hit a hard shot over the net that the Rangers couldn’t return.

“Getting those points back brought back so much energy,” said Castaneda, of the fourth-set win.



Santa Fe High School senior libero Monique Cardona (center No. 5) and teammates celebrate after a winning point in their CIF-SS Division 7 Semifinal match Saturday against Nordhoff. Nordhoff won, 3-2, to advance to the CIF Championship (Photo by Paul Wise)



Judge reduces award for female deputy who was harassed

■ A jury had awarded a female sheriff’s deputy \$850,000 after she was sexually harassed by superiors. A judge said it was excessive.

By City News Service

LOS ANGELES – A judge has approved an amended judgment granting \$250,000 to a female Los Angeles County sheriff’s deputy who alleged her training deputy sexually harassed her on the job, less than half the \$850,000 awarded by a jury in May.

Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Curtis A. Kin had given lawyers for Deputy Concepcion Hernandez Garcia the option of taking the lower sum or face a new trial on damages.

The judge found the \$850,000 awarded by a jury on May 18 was excessive, saying it appeared it was less about compensating Garcia for her emotional distress than “impermissibly punishing the county for the actions of its sheriff’s deputies.”

Garcia’s dealings with her harasser lasted about two weeks before she was transferred to the Century Station, where she was treated with dignity and respect, according to the judge, who signed the revised judgment Monday.

In their court papers, Garcia’s lawyers stated their client was “reluctantly” accepting the reduced award.

In their court papers, attorneys for the county

argued that Garcia’s version of the alleged harassment changed multiple times and was repeatedly contradicted by her own testimony.

Garcia started her training as a deputy in March 2018 at the East Los Angeles station, the suit stated. A deputy who is not a defendant in the case was assigned to train her, according to the complaint.

In July 2018, Garcia entered a home with her gun drawn looking for a suspect, the suit stated. The training deputy walked up behind her and put one hand on her buttocks, the suit alleged.

“Not only did (the trainer) grope plaintiff’s buttock, he thrust her forward at the very same time into an unsafe situation, effectively placing her life in danger,” the suit stated.

The trainer’s action made Garcia more vulnerable in an already hazardous situation, causing plaintiff to further experience fear and confusion, the suit states.

During subsequent interactions, the trainer went out of his way to brush against Garcia without justification, sometimes making insulting remarks when he realized she was offended, the suit stated.

The trainer embarrassed Garcia with remarks in front of four people arrested during a traffic stop, prompting the arrestees to laugh at her, the suit stated.

“In some instances, (the trainer) was joined by other deputies closely associated with him in these actions,” according to the suit.

Garcia filed an internal complaint against the trainer in mid-July 2018 and was immediately put on administrative leave, making it appear she did something wrong, the suit states.

The trainer and the other deputies were not put on leave, the suit stated.

The LASD did not investigate Garcia’s complaints or interview her, the suit alleged.

Garcia, not wanting to continue being allegedly victimized by the trainer, was forced to seek a transfer to another station even though she would have preferred to remain in East Los Angeles because she grew up in the area and still lived nearby, the suit stated.

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