

Robert Luna begins work as L.A. County sheriff

■ Luna assumed his new position Monday, pledging accountability from the agency.

By City News Service

LOS ANGELES – After the formality of a weekend swearing-in ceremony, Robert Luna Monday officially assumed his duties as the 34th sheriff of Los Angeles County.

The former Long Beach Police chief took the oath of office on Saturday morning during a ceremony at the county Hall of Administration in downtown L.A. -- his wife Celines pinning the gold star on his crisp new tan-and-green uniform while their two adult children stood nearby.

On Monday -- following a hard-fought campaign that led to the ouster of incumbent Alex Villanueva -- Luna officially took command of the nation's largest sheriff's department, with more than 18,000 sworn personnel. Echoing a campaign theme, he said he is committed to ensuring there is "accountability" within the department.

"Accountability is not something to be feared, but rather it is something that needs to be embraced, as it is the cornerstone of any successful law enforcement agency," Luna said outside the Hall of Justice. "All of us starting with me, and I do start with me, will be accountable to the people that we serve."

He also again vowed to work cooperatively with the county Board of Supervisors and other oversight entities, with whom his predecessor often clashed.

He also said he would take a collaborative approach to the growing problem of drug and fentanyl overdoses.

"Our approach won't be that we're going to do this on our own," he said. "We're going to do this with our partners at the federal level, the state level, other law enforcement partners in Los Angeles County, which do include the District Attorney's Office and others we have to work with. I don't know if anybody in this county, which even includes our health

department, doesn't understand this needs to be dealt with. And it's not just a problem here in L.A. County, it's a problem across this country. The consumption of narcotics is outrageous, and that needs to change. And it's not just the enforcement of, it's the prevention of."

During his swearing-in ceremony on Saturday, Luna promised to be open to different approaches to tackle what he acknowledged was a rising tide of crime in the county.

"There can be no sacred cows," Luna said.

He said the sheriff's department has succeeded over the years "because it has never been afraid to innovate. ... So we must look at policies and strategies that have succeeded in other places and not be afraid to bring them here."

Luna also implored the public to defend "good policing," while at the same time recognizing the need to hold law enforcement accountable.

"But even as we make mistakes, we can and we must keep the public trust," he said.

Luna also mentioned the need to eliminate deputy gangs and improve conditions in jails. During the campaign, he accused Villanueva of ignoring the issue of deputy gangs, and of cultivating a hostile relationship with the Board of Supervisors.

Luna spent 36 years with the Long Beach Police Department, becoming chief in 2014. He has a master's degree in public administration from Cal State Long Beach.

His victory in the Nov. 8 election marked only the second time in roughly a century that an incumbent L.A. County sheriff lost a re-election bid. The first time occurred four years ago, when Villanueva defeated then-Sheriff Jim McDonnell.

Luna last week announced the appointment of April Tardy, chief of the sheriff's department's Central Patrol Division, as his interim undersheriff, making her the first woman to hold that position in the agency's history.



Riley Kelly, a graduate and former player from St. Paul High School, has been named the new girls volleyball head coach for the 2023 season. (Photo by Keith Durlinger)

St. Paul hires alum Riley Kelly as new girls volleyball coach

■ Kelly enjoyed a stellar high school and college career before transitioning to coaching.

By John M. Sherrard
Contributor

SANTA FE SPRINGS – Former alum and star player Riley Kelly has returned to become the new St. Paul High School girls volleyball coach, as announced by athletic director Rich Avina recently.

Kelly, who is the Lady Swordsmen All-time kills leader with 1,386 in her four-year varsity career, finished her college playing days at Lourdes University in Sylvania, Ohio and has been coaching club and at the high school level for the past six years.

"St. Paul High School's Administration and Athletic Department are extremely excited to name Riley Kelly as our new Girls Volleyball head coach," Avina said. "Riley is the whole package. Not only is she one of the greatest of all time to play at St. Paul, she was dominate in college, and has many years of coaching experience."

"I believe volleyball players will want to play for her and she will create a competitive program at the highest levels. Not only is she a heck of a volleyball mind, she is a great person and a role model to our young ladies at St. Paul."

Kelly, 25, a 2015 St. Paul graduate, who was an outside hitter and opposite, earned numerous accolades in her four years.

Three of those years the Lady Swordsmen won the Camino Real League championship, qualified all four years for CIF and advanced to the state quarterfinals. In 2013 and '14, St. Paul advanced to the semifinals.

She was also named league Most Valuable Player in her sophomore and senior years. The team MVP and three-year captain was also chosen CIF First Team in 2013-14 and was named to the Maxpreps All-State Team and she was also chosen as Player of the Year.

Longtime Whittier Daily News reporter Mike Sprague, who retired last week, was honored at Tuesday's City Council meeting.

Sprague's journalism career began in 1977 with the Huntington Park Daily Signal. He joined the Whittier Daily News in 1984, covering Whittier, Norwalk and other local cities.

"I'm happy to be here," Kelly said. "I played here, I was a student here and graduated here and I'm happy to be back."

"The first thing I want to do when I come back is meet the girls and get them super excited about the season. I want to bring the winning legacy back to St. Paul. I just want to have a winning culture and have a sisterhood like I did when I went here."

In addition to volleyball, Kelly lettered in varsity Track and Field all four years, specializing in the shot put and discus.

Kelly, who has a degree in criminal justice, talked about her memories at St. Paul.

"Some of my greatest memories here at St. Paul was being in a winning program," Kelly added. "We set records, I hold the kill record here, we made a first-time state appearance with my senior year team, and we also won league three years in a row."

"It was fun being part of a winning program and I will always remember that."

Some of her four-year stats are 378 sets played, averaging 347 kills per season, 101 career blocks, 193 digs and 242 aces. In her senior year, Kelly had 402 kills, which was 13th in CIF-SS in 2014.

While in school, Kelly carried a 3.8 GPA, while taking mostly honors and AP classes.

Former St. Paul coach John Van Deventer said of her about her senior year -- "She took the reins and led the team, not just physically, but with her leadership," he said. "When things got tough, things did not bother her."

Van Deventer was coach for the Swordsmen during those years when they advanced deep into the CIF Playoffs.

After graduating from St. Paul, Kelly started her studies for a semester at Whittier College, then in the Spring of 2016 transferred to Lourdes.

Kelly had mentioned after her senior year that she wanted to attend a small college in Division II

or III. She found it small, as Lourdes has just over 1,100 students and it competes in NAIA.

She played her sophomore and junior years, but due to various ankle injuries in her career, Kelly decided not to play her senior year, but rather concentrate on her studies. She did, however, kept close to the program helping out where needed.

Perhaps one of her shining moments while playing at Lourdes was the playoffs in 2017. Lourdes was on the verge of upsetting then 16th-ranked Madonna University in their conference tournament.

In the fifth and final set in the semifinals, Lourdes was trailing, 6-3, but the 6-1 OH served five consecutive winners and Lourdes eventually upset Madonna.

The Gray Wolves would qualify for their third consecutive NAIA National Championship tournament.

Kelly also coached at Toledo Dynamic Volleyball Club in Ohio for two years, and is now coaching at ICON Volleyball club for the past three years. In 2019 Kelly got her first taste of high school coaching, taking on the head job for the Monrovia JV team.

Current senior St. Paul Volleyball player, Kaylee Leonard, played with Kelly on her ICON Club team and said this about her - "I'm very excited, because I already know her, and I think it's going to be a big change for St. Paul Volleyball," said Leonard, who won't get the opportunity to play under Kelly.

"I know that she is very encouraging, and she likes to push her players to be the best that they can be and that she can be a big motivator."

"She's funny, she knows how to get serious, she can talk to players very easily and she just has a very good energy to her."

Kelly, who has worked in the social service field, now works as an Adolescent Prevention Specialist within schools, where she educates students on positive life skills and substance use prevention.

Weekend at a Glance

Friday	64°	
Saturday	63°	
Sunday	59°	

THINGS TO DO



Mariachi Divas
Saturday, 8 pm
Downey Theatre

The Grammy Award-winning Mariachi Divas perform a special Christmas concert. Tickets start at \$40.

ON THIS DAY

1868: The world's first traffic light was installed near Westminster Bridge in London; however, it was removed a month later after a gas leak caused one of the lights to explode.

1958: The John Birch Society was founded in the United States by Robert H.W. Welch, Jr., to combat communism and promote various ultraconservative causes.

1961: Tanganyika became independent, with Julius Nyerere as its first prime minister, and in 1964 the territory united with the island of Zanzibar to form Tanzania.

1965: The animated special "A Charlie Brown Christmas," featuring characters from Charles Schulz's popular Peanuts comic strip, first aired on American television, and it became a holiday classic.



1968: Engineer and inventor Douglas Engelbart gave a public demonstration of an early computer, including a computer mouse and hypertext.

1979: Some 10 years after the World Health Organization began a global vaccination program against smallpox, the disease was officially declared eradicated.

1998: The United Nations General Assembly declared anti-Semitism a form of racism.

2017: Australia became the 26th country to legalize same-sex marriage.

Top Movies on this Date

- 1992:** "Home Alone 2: Lost in New York"
- 2002:** "Die Another Day"
- 2012:** "Skyfall"

Birthdays

"Shakespeare in Love" actress **Judi Dench** (88), actor **John Malkovich** (69), entertainer **Donny Osmond** (65), hall of fame wrestler **Kurt Angle** (54), entrepreneur **Lori Greiner** (53), "The Big Bang Theory" star **Simon Helberg** (42), Olympic gymnast **McKayla Maroney** (27), and dancer **Kendall Vertes** (20).



Expect to start paying for Paxlovid

■ The pill has helped millions of people infected with Covid-19.

By Hannah Recht
Kaiser Health News

Nearly 6 million Americans have taken Paxlovid for free, courtesy of the federal government. The Pfizer pill has helped prevent many people infected with covid-19 from being hospitalized or dying, and it may even reduce the risk of developing long covid. But the government plans to stop footing the bill within months, and millions of people who are at the highest risk of severe illness and are least able to afford the drug — the uninsured and seniors — may have to pay the full price.

And that means fewer people will get the potentially lifesaving treatments, experts said.

“I think the numbers will go way down,” said Jill Rosenthal, director of public health policy at the Center for American Progress, a left-leaning think tank. A bill for several hundred dollars or more would lead many people to decide the medication isn’t worth the price, she said.

In response to the unprecedented public health crisis caused by covid, the federal government spent billions of dollars on developing new vaccines and treatments, to swift success: Less than a year after the pandemic was declared, medical workers got their first vaccines. But as many people have refused the shots and stopped wearing masks, the virus still rages and mutates. In 2022 alone, 250,000 Americans have died from covid, more than from strokes or diabetes.

But soon the Department of Health and Human Services will stop supplying covid treatments, and pharmacies will purchase and bill for them the same way they do for antibiotic pills or asthma inhalers. Paxlovid is expected to hit the private market in mid-2023, according to HHS plans shared in an October meeting with state health officials and clinicians. Merck’s

Lagevrio, a less-effective covid treatment pill, and AstraZeneca’s Evusheld, a preventive therapy for the immunocompromised, are on track to be commercialized sooner, sometime in the winter.

The U.S. government has so far purchased 20 million courses of Paxlovid, priced at about \$530 each, a discount for buying in bulk that Pfizer CEO Albert Bourla called “really very attractive” to the federal government in a July earnings call. The drug will cost far more on the private market, although in a statement to KHN, Pfizer declined to share the planned price. The government will also stop paying for the company’s covid vaccine next year — those shots will quadruple in price, from the discount rate the government pays of \$30 to about \$120.

Bourla told investors in November that he expects the move will make Paxlovid and its covid vaccine “a multibillion-dollar franchise.”

Nearly 9 in 10 people dying from the virus now are 65 or older. Yet federal law restricts Medicare Part D — the prescription drug program that covers nearly 50 million seniors — from covering the covid treatment pills. The medications are meant for those most at risk of serious illness, including seniors.

Paxlovid and the other treatments are currently available under an emergency use authorization from the FDA, a fast-track review used in extraordinary situations. Although Pfizer applied for full approval in June, the process can take anywhere from several months to years. And Medicare Part D can’t cover any medications without that full stamp of approval.

Paying out-of-pocket would be “a substantial barrier” for seniors on Medicare — the very people who would benefit most from the drug, wrote federal health experts.

“From a public health perspective, and even from a health care capacity and cost perspective, it would just defy reason to not continue to make these drugs readily available,” said Dr. Larry Madoff,

medical director of Massachusetts’ Bureau of Infectious Disease and Laboratory Sciences. He’s hopeful that the federal health agency will find a way to set aside unused doses for seniors and people without insurance.

In mid-November, the White House requested that Congress approve an additional \$2.5 billion for covid therapeutics and vaccines to make sure people can afford the medications when they’re no longer free. But there’s little hope it will be approved — the Senate voted that same day to end the public health emergency and denied similar requests in recent months.

Many Americans have already faced hurdles just getting a prescription for covid treatment. Although the federal government doesn’t track who’s gotten the drug, a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention study using data from 30 medical centers found that Black and Hispanic patients with covid were much less likely to receive Paxlovid than white patients. (Hispanic people can be of any race or combination of races.) And when the government is no longer picking up the tab, experts predict that these gaps by race, income, and geography will widen.

People in Northeastern states used the drug far more often than those in the rest of the country, according to a KHN analysis of Paxlovid use in September and October. But it wasn’t because people in the region were getting sick from covid at much higher rates — instead, many of those states offered better access to health care to begin with and created special programs to get Paxlovid to their residents.

About 10 mostly Democratic states and several large counties in the Northeast and elsewhere created free “test-to-treat” programs that allow their residents to get an immediate doctor visit and prescription for treatment after testing positive for covid. In Massachusetts, more than 20,000 residents have used the state’s video and phone hotline, which is available seven days a week in 13

languages. Massachusetts, which has the highest insurance rate in the country and relatively low travel times to pharmacies, had the second-highest Paxlovid usage rate among states this fall.

States with higher covid death rates, like Florida and Kentucky, where residents must travel farther for health care and are more likely to be uninsured, used the drug less often. Without no-cost test-to-treat options, residents have struggled to get prescriptions even though the drug itself is still free.

“If you look at access to medications for people who are uninsured, I think that there’s no question that will widen those disparities,” Rosenthal said.

People who get insurance through their jobs could face high copays at the register, too, just as they do for insulin and other expensive or brand-name drugs.

Most private insurance companies will end up covering covid therapeutics to some extent, said Sabrina Corlette, a research professor at Georgetown University’s Center on Health Insurance Reforms. After all, the pills are cheaper than a hospital stay. But for most people who get insurance through their jobs, there are “really no rules at all,” she said. Some insurers could take months to add the drugs to their plans or decide not to pay for them.

And the additional cost means many people will go without the medication. “We know from lots of research that when people face cost sharing for these drugs that they need to take, they will often forgo or cut back,” Corlette said.

One group doesn’t need to worry about sticker shock. Medicaid, the public insurance program for low-income adults and children, will cover the treatments in full until at least early 2024.

HHS officials could set aside any leftover taxpayer-funded medication for people who can’t afford to pay the full cost, but they haven’t shared any concrete plans to do so. The government purchased 20 million courses of Paxlovid and 3 million of Lagevrio. Fewer than a third have been used, and usage has fallen in recent months, according to KHN’s analysis of the data from HHS.

Sixty percent of the government’s supply of Evusheld is also still available, although the covid prevention therapy is less effective against new strains of the virus. The health department in one state, New Mexico, has recommended against using it.

HHS did not make officials available for an interview or answer written questions about the commercialization plans.

The government created a potential workaround when they moved bebtelovimab, another covid treatment, to the private market this summer. It now retails for \$2,100 per patient. The agency set aside the remaining 60,000 government-purchased doses that hospitals could use to treat uninsured patients in a convoluted dose-replacement process. But it’s hard to tell how well that setup would work for Paxlovid: Bebtelovimab was already much less popular, and the FDA halted its use on Nov. 30 because it’s less effective against current strains of the virus.

Paging Dr. Frischer...

By Dr. Alan Frischer



What causes cancer? In many cases, we have no idea. However, viruses, which most people think of as causing a nasty cold, have been identified as being responsible for certain cancers. That means that it is actually possible to prevent some of them!

Viruses are tiny organisms that are made up of a small number of genes in the form of DNA and RNA. In order to reproduce, a virus must enter a living cell. Some do this by inserting their own DNA or RNA into the host cell, thereby altering the host cell’s genetic makeup, and stimulating the development of cancer.

Our growing knowledge of this cancer-promoting role of viruses has led to the development of vaccines against them. However, these vaccines can only protect against infections if they are given prior to exposure.

Perhaps the most well-known cancer-causing virus is Human Papillomavirus (HPV). This is a group of more than 150 related viruses, about a dozen of which are known to cause cancer. So, although infections from HPV are extremely common, cancer from HPV is not.

They are spread through skin-to-skin contact. Most sexually active people are infected with one or more of these HPV types at some point in their lives. Some cause papillomas (warts). Some types of HPV only grow on skin, while others grow in the mucous membranes. There are no effective medications or treatments for HPV, other than removing or destroying the cells. Usually, the body’s immune system controls the HPV infection and gets rid of it over time.

A few strains of HPV are the main cause of cervical cancer, the second most common cancer among women. Cervical cancer rates have fallen, thanks to Pap smears and the HPV vaccine. Vaccination can help prevent more than 90% of HPV cancers. It works best when given early, before any exposure occurs, to boys and girls between ages 9 and 12 (but can be given later).

The Epstein-Barr virus (EBV) is a type of herpes virus, and is best known for causing infectious mononucleosis, also known as “mono” (the kissing disease). It can be spread by kissing, of course, as well as by coughing, sneezing, or sharing drinks or food. EBV infects more than 90% of the human population, increasing the risk of some cancers and some fast-growing lymphomas.

As with other herpes virus infections, EBV infection is life-long, although most symptoms are gone after the first few weeks. There are no medicines or treatments to get rid of EBV, and no vaccines to prevent it.

Certain types of chronic viral hepatitis can increase the odds of liver cancer. In the United States, some 65% of all liver cancer cases are linked to hepatitis B (HBV) or hepatitis C (HCV) infections. HCV infections may also be linked to non-Hodgkin lymphoma.

Both hepatitis B and C can now be treated with drugs, and in many cases cured. There is a vaccine to prevent HBV infection, but none yet for HCV. To see who is eligible for a hepatitis B vaccine, visit the CDC website.

Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) causes acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS). It does not cause cancers directly, but an active infection increases the risk. HIV is spread through semen, vaginal fluids, needles, during birth, breastfeeding, transfusions, organ transplants, and needle or instrument sticks. It is not spread through water, food, insects, or casual contact.

HIV infects and destroys white blood cells (helper T-cells), which weakens the immune system. It has been linked to a higher risk of developing Kaposi sarcoma and cervical cancer, certain kinds of non-Hodgkin lymphoma, anal cancer, lung cancer, cancer of the mouth and throat, some skin cancers, and liver cancer.

There is no vaccine to prevent HIV, but there are ways to lower the risk. Avoid unprotected sex or sharing needles. Those at high risk can use HIV prevention medications. And, while there is no cure, HIV can now be controlled with treatment.

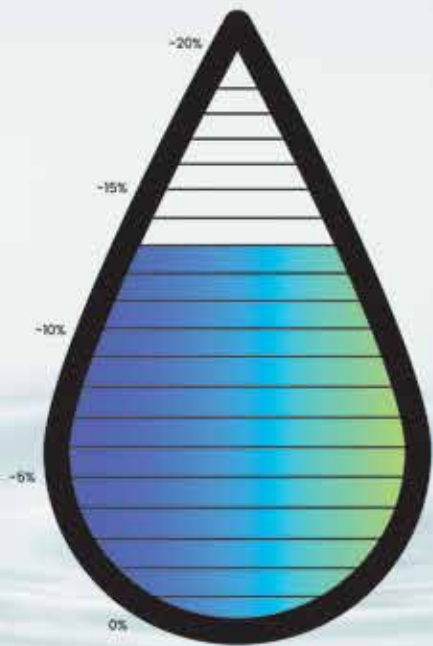
The human herpes virus-8 (HHV-8) is also known as Kaposi sarcoma-associated herpesvirus. It has been found in nearly all tumors in patients with Kaposi sarcoma, a slow growing cancer that often appears as reddish-purple or blue-brown tumors. The HHV-8 virus is transmitted through sex and appears to be spread in other ways as well, including blood and saliva. It also appears in patients already weakened by an HIV infection; in fact, almost all individuals infected with HIV are also infected with HHV-8.

Two other extremely rare viruses that are associated with cancers are the human T-lymphotropic virus-1 (HTLV-1) and Merkel cell polyomavirus (MCV).

So often, we do not understand how and why cancers appear. This makes it even more critical that we take advantage of all possible preventive measures. I urge you to discuss any of these vaccines and/or lifestyle changes with your doctor.

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.

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Protecting the speech we hate

By Andrew Napolitano

“Those who lack the courage to change history are sadly doomed to become its objects.”

— Rev. Fr. Alfred Delp, S.J. (1907–1945)

Not too long ago, it was considered unfashionable to discuss the Nazis in Germany in the 1930s and '40s in terms of anyone's present-day behavior. The Nazis were the most depraved monsters in modern history, the argument went, whose horrors could not rationally be compared to anyone's behavior today.

Well, just last week, the infamous Ye — the rapper formerly known as Kanye West — told Alex Jones that he admired Hitler and liked the Nazis. This was shortly after Ye and his Holocaust-denying friend Nick Fuentes dined with former President Donald Trump. And the Trump/Ye/Fuentes dinner preceded by a week Trump's public call for the “termination” of the Constitution along with its guarantee of the freedom of speech. And all that preceded Ye's posting on Twitter of a Star of David superimposed upon a swastika, and Elon Musk's subsequent suspension of Ye's Twitter account.

What's going on here?

What's going on are variants of hate speech. In Ye's case, it is hatred for the Jewish people and the natural law. In Fuentes' case, it is hatred for the Jewish people and the truths of history. In Musk's case, it is hatred of hatred, but also of the freedom of speech.

Is hate speech protected by the First Amendment? In a word: YES.

Here is the backstory.

Under natural law principles — the belief that our individual rights come from our humanity — all persons can think as they wish and say what they think and publish what they say, without a government permission slip and immune from the interference of anyone else. The signatories of the Declaration of Independence and the framers of the Constitution and the ratifiers of the Bill of Rights fervently believed this.

The Declaration pronounces our rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness as inalienable. The Constitution theoretically separates, divides, checks and balances government so as to deter the accumulation of too much power in one place. We all know how that has worked! And the Bill of Rights openly restrains the government from interfering with fundamental individual liberties, even liberties unarticulated in the Constitution.

So, the First Amendment doesn't grant the freedom of speech; it prohibits Congress from interfering with it. The 14th Amendment and definitive judicial interpretations have imposed the same prohibitions on all levels and all branches of government.

What about speech that hurts by its very utterance? What about

hate speech?

Hate speech articulates an intense or passionate dislike of a person because of a group to which the person belongs. Membership in the group is often immutable, such as race, place of birth or ancestry; and the speech is often so intense as to be immediately intimidating or threatening. Hate speech is also hurled because of personal characteristics, some individually chosen and some chosen by nature.

I am not talking about acceptable hatred — hatred of sin or evil, or hatred of hatred. I am talking about hatred of human beings.

Speech that articulates hatred of human beings is morally repugnant because people change, yet it is still only speech. Thomas Jefferson offered that hate speech didn't bother him because it neither picked his pocket nor broke his legs. Yet, his predecessor in the presidency, John Adams, signed into law and enforced the Alien and Sedition Acts, which punished speech that aroused hatred of the government.

Both swore allegiance to the Bill of Rights. One was faithful, and one was not. That ambiguity from government has persisted to the present day, notwithstanding Supreme Court decisions protecting hate speech.

When Musk acquired Twitter, he claimed that the new Twitter would be the free marketplace of speech, yet he has banned both Ye and Jones based on the content of their speech.

The theory behind protecting hate speech has several levels. One is that speech is a natural extension of thought, which requires no permission slip. Another is because the language of the First Amendment means today that government shall make “no law” infringing upon the freedom of speech, the courts have imposed a “hands off speech” rule upon government.

A third level is the historical truism that once you make an exception to the “no law” command, there will be no end to the rabbit hole down which the exceptions will descend. And a fourth level is the view that the better remedy for hate speech is more speech — speech that challenges and neuters it — rather than futile suppression.

If hate speech became prosecutable criminally or actionable civilly, who would speak out on anything?

Fr. Alfred Delp, a Catholic priest in Munich, Germany, during World War II, was arrested by the Gestapo because his sermons at Mass proclaimed Christian love of, and freedom of religion for, all persons. Before being sentenced to death for the sermons, he was confined to a concentration camp and handcuffed 24/7 purportedly to prevent him from writing more sermons and saying Mass. He did both in Latin, so his captors didn't understand what he was doing. On the scaffold before his hanging, he blessed those about to



Elon Musk and Kanye West

send him to Heaven. They responded by cremating his remains and scattering his ashes on a field of cow manure. That is diabolic depravity worthy of hatred. Yet, if Ye wants to praise that — and it is but the tip of the iceberg of the evil the Nazis perpetrated — he is free to do so.

The value of speech cannot be determined by government because government hates and fears whatever seriously challenges it. All speech — even that which seeks the removal of protections for free speech — is protected; or none will be. Hate speech can only be diminished by challenging the hater by the force of moral opinion, not by the force of law.

Andrew Napolitano served as a judge from 1987–1995 before joining Fox News. He is the youngest life-tenured Superior Court judge in the history of the State of New Jersey.

I've seen the unannounced casualties of the Ukraine war

By Yehor Firsov

When we think of the casualties of the Ukraine war, we obviously think of the human cost — the lives lost, the wounded and injured, the families displaced. But there are other, smaller casualties of this war. They're not announced on the television news, but I see them in the war zone every day.

They are the many homeless, abandoned animals that roam the streets of front-line towns and villages leveled by the Russian assault.

Most of these animals, and there are hundreds, even thousands, of them, are former pets — dogs and cats left behind by owners who've fled or died. In many places, they outnumber any remaining human residents. In fact, it seems that the less human life there is in a place, the more animal life there is.

While serving in the Kyiv Territorial Defense Forces, I participated in the mop-up operation in Bucha after the Russians left. I remember that strange feeling of walking along an empty street — it's broad daylight and not a single soul in sight. But suddenly there's a movement: The gate shakes. It's the wind, you think, but then you open it — and there stands a dog or a cat. You reach down to stroke it and ask, “Hey, how're you doing?”

Sometimes, these animals amaze us with their humanity. In one yard, we find the corpses of four people and a pit bull. Nearby lies a haggard German shepherd, still alive. It has stayed with its owners, guarding their decomposing bodies and refusing to leave, even though we can tell they have been dead for some time. It won't abandon those who once gave it their love.

Elsewhere, we come upon a bombed-out high-rise apartment building. There's not a single window left in the facade — the

surrounding ground is completely covered in broken glass. Suddenly, we hear someone quietly stepping on the glass behind us. We turn around — a gray tabby cat. I pick it up, and even though its wounded paws leave traces of blood on my clothes, it immediately starts to purr. I can't leave it there. It's well groomed and clearly someone's pet. I don't know whether its owners are dead or alive, but when I post a picture on social media, they come forward to claim it. I'm sad to give it up, but it's a happy ending for the kitty.

Happy endings, though, are the exception. Walk through the ruined, half-empty cities of Bakhmut or Avdiivka, and you'll come upon scores of wandering cats and dogs. Even Pokrovsk, 25 miles from the front lines, is overflowing with homeless cats. When our unit was at drill there, I saw a dozen or more hanging around the local store. I bought some sausages for them and got to talking with an elderly woman named Lyudmyla. She was also trying to feed the strays huddling near her home. “I made a house for them,” she told me, pointing to a large cardboard box, “but as soon as the snow falls, it will certainly be hard for the animals. I feel so sorry for them. But I can't take all of them into the house — I could only take three kittens.”

There will be more and more kittens and puppies, because many of the animals are not fixed and continue to breed. “Calculate for yourself. A cat is able to breed up to five times a year and can bring several kittens in a litter,” one animal rights activist from the Donetsk region wrote to me on social media. With thousands of homeless cats, there could be tens of thousands of kittens in a few months.

Now our unit is stationed in Bakhmut, on the front line. In one yard, I meet a woman cooking over an open fire, surrounded by at least a dozen cats. “Are they all yours?” I ask her. “No, just one is

mine,” she says. “These are all the cats of my neighbors. They left, and we feed their pets.”

On the very front line, in the trenches, military units often give shelter to one or more dogs. My unit took in one that wandered into our position. We've named him Yur. He's just an ordinary mutt, but when I look into his eyes, it's like looking at a wise old man who deeply understands everything going on around him.

I asked the soldiers whether having him around helped them. “At night it feels safer with the dog,” one said. “He helps the duty officer see if the enemy is approaching.” But really, Yur is more like a therapist. Whenever the soldiers have a minute, they come over and pet him — it seems to relieve their stress and makes them feel better.

The stories of these homeless creatures touch the hearts of people everywhere. The photo of a dog that survived a rocket attack in Dnipro that killed its owners — and destroyed the dog's hearing — went viral on Ukrainian social media when it was posted in memory of the family.

There's obviously no official solution to these animals' plight, but I've come up with a modest solution of my own. I suggested that each member of my brigade adopt one small furry life to take home, and most have agreed.

As for me, I've adopted a cat. You might not be surprised to hear that it looks a lot like the one I had to give up. And that it's just as kind and loving — and reminds me that even in the midst of war, it's possible to experience fleeting moments of grace.

Yehor Firsov is a soldier in the Ukrainian army. This article first appeared in the Washington Post.

Doing nothing about gun violence

By Susan Estrich

A new report out this week has found the gun death rate to be the highest in 40 years. No one is exempt. More men are dying than women — by 86% to 14% — but deaths among women are increasing faster than those of men. Race matters. Gender matters. Age matters.

Young Black men are most likely to die: 142 per 100,000 is the homicide rate for those in their early 20s.

Black women are nine times more likely to die of homicide than white women. The homicide death rate last year was more than 18 per 100,000 for Black women, compared with about 4 per 100,000 for Latino women and 2 per 100,000 for white women. The highest rates of gun suicides are white men in their early 80s, 45 per 100,000 according to the researchers from the University of Michigan, whose work was published this week in the JAMA Open Network. Suicides are more common in rural areas, homicides in urban areas.

It is everything we know, only more so.

The question is whether there will be the political will to address what is clearly a public health emergency. Whether it is guns that

kill people or people with guns who kill people — in the choice offered by sloganeers — the reality is that too many people are dying. Why no declaration of a public health emergency? Why are we not doing the simple things that reasonable people can agree on to increase gun safety and reduce gun violence?

Every time a report like this comes out, public health experts will point out that we treat other inherently dangerous objects like automobiles with comprehensive systems of regulation, including training, licensing and regular inspection to ensure their safe use. You even have to be insured. Imagine that. Protect others against your own missteps.

Why not with guns?

The answer, the one we've settled for, is that any regulation will be the first step to outright bans and the confiscation of hunting rifles and the rest of the parade of horrors that won't happen but has paralyzed the debate in this country for decades and allowed commonsense solutions to be cast as the work of extremists.

A poisonous debate produces no good answers, which has been the pattern for so long that we have come to accept it as inevitable. We have been defined by the extremes.

The overwhelming majority that supports reasonable regulation is not out to confiscate the licensed firearms owned by law-abiding people who know how to use the weapons they store safely any more than we're taking peoples' cars away because we want them to get licenses. The Supreme Court wouldn't let us if we tried. We can stop talking about what is never going to happen. The debate is stuck, which is the point, sadly. And so long as it is, the result is that no one listens, no one hears and nothing happens as more shots get fired.

It is the reality of doing nothing about the crisis that should shock us.

If the death rate among young white men were what it is among young Black men, would we let the National Rifle Association block commonsense solutions? Would we accept as inevitable results that should shock us into action? If white women were dying at the same rate as Black women, would we declare a public health emergency? Would we insist on new programs, new efforts, new solutions?

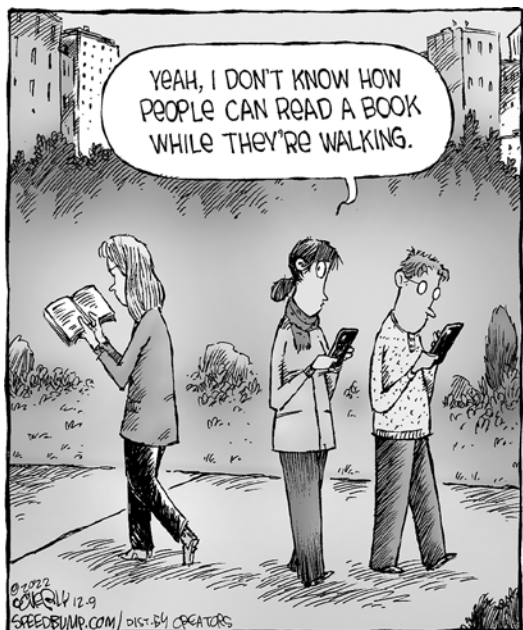
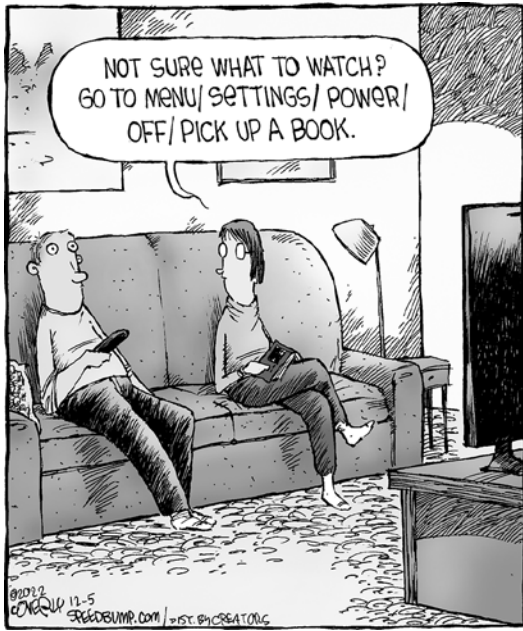
Or would we sit back and do nothing about it, which is what we are doing now?

Susan Estrich is an attorney, professor and political commentator.

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

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

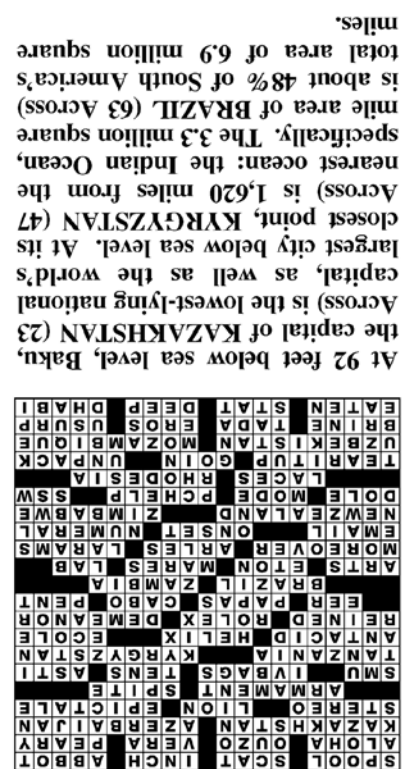
THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com)
COUNTRY CLUB: With something uncommon in common
by Mark McClain

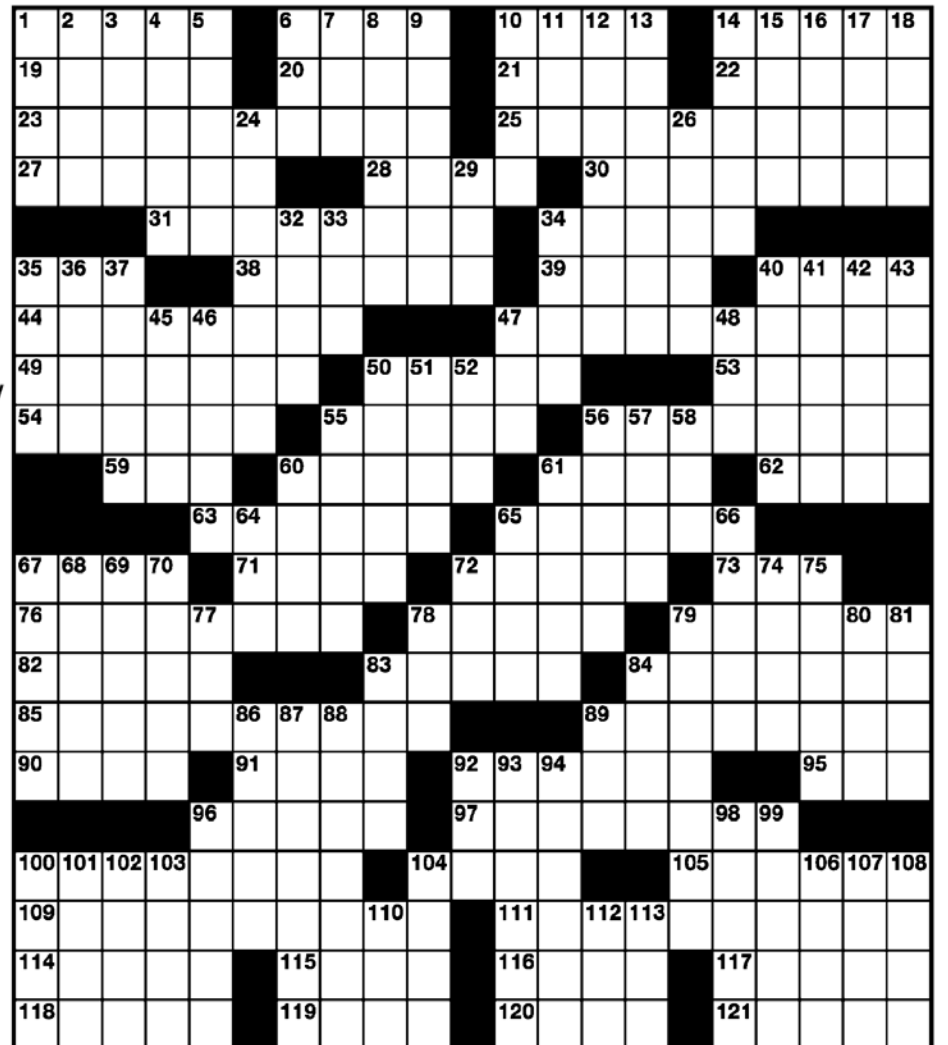
- ACROSS**
- 1 Thread holder
- 6 "Beat it!"
- 10 Part of a foot
- 14 Monastic leader
- 19 Kauai greeting
- 20 Greek liqueur
- 21 Aloe __ (natural balm)
- 22 North Pole explorer
- 23 Nation with the longest shoreline on the Caspian Sea
- 25 Nation whose capital is 92 feet below sea level
- 27 Two-track sound system
- 28 King of Disney cartoons
- 30 Odyssey, for instance
- 31 Military weaponry
- 34 Ill will
- 35 Dallas sch.
- 38 Saline solution containers
- 39 Till section
- 40 Piedmont wine city
- 44 Nation where early human fossils were found by Mary Leakey
- 47 Nation that's farther from an ocean than any other
- 49 Stomach soother
- 50 Corkscrew shape
- 53 School of Paris
- 54 Held back, with "in"
- 55 Upscale timepiece
- 56 How one behaves
- 59 Poetic contraction
- 60 Family guys
- 61 16 Down resort, for short
- 62 Cooped (up)
- 63 Nation with the highest percentage land area on its continent
- 65 Nation that pioneered the walking safari
- 67 Drama and dance
- 71 School Shelley attended
- 72 Former fillies
- 73 "Chocolate" dog
- 76 "Not only that . . ."
- 78 French home for Van Gogh
- 79 NFC West team
- 82 Certain cybermessage
- 83 First phase
- 84 C, for Caesar
- 85 First nation to give women the right to vote (1893)
- 89 Nation with the most official languages (16)
- 90 Parcel (out)
- 91 Type, as of transportation
- 92 Tech support service
- 95 Compass reading
- 96 Neighbors of tongues
- 97 Former name of 89 Across
- 100 Nullify a contract
- 104 Enter
- 105 Fill a hotel closet
- 109 Landlocked nation surrounded by landlocked nations
- 111 Only nation spelled with two 10-point Scrabble letters
- 114 Pickler's need
- 115 "Look what I did!"
- 116 Cupid counterpart
- 117 Seize control of
- 118 Gobbled up
- 119 Internist's imperative
- 120 Thought-provoking
- 121 Abu __, UAE
- DOWN**
- 1 Rival of Macy's
- 2 Real estate map
- 3 Flow slowly
- 4 GWTW surname
- 5 SoCal hoopster
- 6 Plea from the sea
- 7 Director's cry
- 8 Showy flower
- 9 Exerciser's goal
- 10 Lendl of tennis fame
- 11 Pince__ glasses
- 12 Tot, before walking
- 13 Repeating annoyingly
- 14 Rapidly
- 15 "So __" ("Amen")
- 16 Mexican state, informally
- 17 Expressed verbally
- 18 Newcastle's river
- 24 Person, to anthropologists
- 26 Itsy__
- 29 NBA tie-breakers
- 32 Very enthusiastic
- 33 Mgmt. degree
- 34 Mythical river
- 35 Have the lead
- 36 Flowing hair
- 37 Open, as 96 Across
- 40 Music licensing org.
- 41 Cherry pit
- 42 Eagle's weapon
- 43 Not moving
- 45 Novelist Grey
- 46 Bitter-tasting
- 47 Cereal for kids
- 48 Theme of the puzzle
- 50 Offer to a hitchhiker
- 51 Flier to Tel Aviv
- 52 __ Miz
- 55 Grooming appliance
- 56 Some titled Brits
- 57 Fades away
- 58 "Excusez__!"
- 60 Upscale appetizer
- 61 Insertion symbol
- 64 Pastor, to pals
- 65 Jewelry chain founder
- 66 Gentle as __
- 67 Alter formally
- 68 Shakespearean suitor
- 69 Fish with a net
- 70 Commandeer
- 72 Title for Thatcher or Truss
- 74 General vicinity
- 75 Stinging remarks
- 77 Hispanic cheer
- 78 "Not only that . . ."
- 79 Lottery winner's option
- 80 Gaping mouths
- 81 Whole bloom
- 83 Till section
- 84 River in Exodus
- 86 Stradivari's teacher
- 87 Trees named for insects
- 88 Experienced in
- 89 Last part of the OED
- 92 Seasoned vet
- 93 Rang on the hour
- 94 Balzac's first name
- 96 Compare (to)
- 98 About to bloom
- 99 Imitative
- 100 Straw, essentially
- 101 Pound of poetry
- 102 Just slightly
- 103 Descartes' first name
- 104 Pesky fly
- 106 Color close to turquoise
- 107 Cut back on
- 108 Foreign Legion cap
- 110 Orthodontist's org.
- 112 Actress Saldaña
- 113 Hieroglyphics snake

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



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- 70 Commandeer
- 72 Title for Thatcher or Truss
- 74 General vicinity
- 75 Stinging remarks
- 77 Hispanic cheer
- 78 "Not only that . . ."
- 79 Lottery winner's option
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MORE OF STAN'S CROSSWORDS! Play FREE from Stan's archives of Easy, Hard and Sunday puzzles at: tinyurl.com/stan-newman-crosswords

NORWALK PATRIOT. AAA1073920.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022253567
The following person(s) is/are doing business as: MASTER PRO WINDOWS, 462 S OAKFORD DR, LOS ANGELES, CA 90022 LOS ANGELES. Mailing address if different: N/A. The full name(s) of registrant(s) is/are: JORGE ARMANDO OCHOA PAGE, 462 S OAKFORD DR, LOS ANGELES, CA 90022. This business is conducted by: INDIVIDUAL. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime.) Signed: JORGE ARMANDO OCHOA PAGE, OWNER. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on (date): N/A. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on (Date) 11/21/2022. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code). Publish: 11/25/2022, 12/02/2022, 12/09/2022, 12/16/2022. THE NORWALK PATRIOT. AAA1073922.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022254214
The following person(s) is/are doing business as: CONNEMARA RANCH, 400 KANAN DUME RD, MALIBU, CA 90265 LOS ANGELES. Mailing address if different: PO BOX 53, AGOURA HILLS, CA 91376. The full name(s) of registrant(s) is/are: TALLEY HUTCHERSON, 2800 LYNNVIEW ST, NEWBURY PARK, CA 91320. This business is conducted by: INDIVIDUAL. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime.) Signed: TALLEY HUTCHERSON, OWNER. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on (date): 11/2022. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on (Date) 11/22/2022. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code). Publish: 11/25/2022, 12/02/2022, 12/09/2022, 12/16/2022. THE NORWALK PATRIOT. AAA1074012.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022253794
The following person(s) is/are doing business as: GARAY G LANDSCAPING INC, 17806 BLYTHE ST, RESEDA, CA 91335 LOS ANGELES. Mailing address if different: N/A. Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number: 5271241. The full name(s) of registrant(s) is/are: TALLEY HUTCHERSON, 2800 LYNNVIEW ST, RESEDA, CA 91335 (State of Incorporation/Organization: CA). This business is conducted by: CORPORATION. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime.) Signed: JOSE GABRIEL GARAY GONZALEZ, PRESIDENT. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on (date): N/A. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on (Date) 11/22/2022. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code). Publish: 11/25/2022, 12/02/2022, 12/09/2022, 12/16/2022. THE NORWALK PATRIOT. AAA1074096.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022254039
The following person(s) is/are doing business as: MAYRA MONSERRAT MAKEUP AND BEAUTY STUDIO, 18734 JERSEY AVE, ARTESIA, CA 90701 LOS ANGELES. Mailing address if different: N/A. The full name(s) of registrant(s) is/are: MAYRA MONSERRAT DURAN, 18734 JERSEY AVE, ARTESIA, CA 90701. This business is conducted by: INDIVIDUAL. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime.) Signed: MAYRA MONSERRAT DURAN, OWNER. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on (date): 01/2022. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on (Date) 11/22/2022. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code). Publish: 11/25/2022, 12/02/2022, 12/09/2022, 12/16/2022. THE NORWALK PATRIOT. AAA1074102.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 2022254364
The following person(s) is/are doing business as: SOUTH GATE TATTOOS, 3619 TWEEDEY BLVD, SOUTH GATE, CA 90280 LOS ANGELES. Mailing address if different: N/A. The full name(s) of registrant(s) is/are: MARIA ROMO, 726 W18TH ST APT 726, SAN PEDRO, CA 90731, FERNANDO ROMO, 1045 N AZUSA

AVE, COVINA, CA 91722. This business is conducted by: COPARTNERS. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime.) Signed: MARIA ROMO, GENERAL PARTNER. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on (date): 11/2022. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on (Date) 11/22/2022. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code). Publish: 11/25/2022, 12/02/2022, 12/09/2022, 12/16/2022. THE NORWALK PATRIOT. AAA1074888.

LIEN SALES

Pursuant to the California Self-Service Storage Facility Act, notice is hereby given that SS Santa Fe Springs, LLC d/b/a Simply Self Storage at 13461 Rosecrans Avenue, Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670 will sell at public auction the personal property in the below-listed occupants' leased unit(s) to satisfy the owner's lien. The personal property stored therein by the following tenants may include but is not limited to general household, office and personal items, furniture, boxes, clothes, and appliances. The unit(s) will be sold at public auction through online auction services of www.storage-treasures.com with bids opening at 10:00AM PT on December 13th, 2022 and closing at 10:00AM PT on December 20th, 2022. Bidding may close later than stated to allow all interested bidders to participate and to permit soft closing if needed. Unit 3096- Araceli Acosta; Unit 2001- Samantha Davilla; Unit 3254- Alexis Diaz; Unit 3112- Desire Garcia ; Unit 1075- Mario Vinicio Gonzalez Chavez; Unit 1078- Mario Vinicio Gonzalez Chavez; Unit 3231- Lyanne Guzman; Unit 2238- Dennis Hagewood; Unit 1135- Oscar Herrera; Unit 1035-Jonathan Holguin; Unit 2247- Rene Lopez; Unit 3442- Mark Pontius; Unit 3156-Lashawndra Randle; 2345- Robert Varela; Unit 2334—Kendra Williams

The Norwalk Patriot 12/2/22, 12/9/22

Extra Space Storage will hold a public auction to sell personal property described below belonging to those individuals listed below at the location indicated:

10950 Firestone Blvd Norwalk, CA 90650

12/23/2022 11:00am

Vidal Madera Household items

Victor Segura Household items

Gary Greene Household items

Veronica Hernandez Household items

Elaine Crowell Household items

Christian Herrmann Household items

The auction will be listed and advertised on www.storage-treasures.com. Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the above referenced facility in order to complete the transaction. Extra Space Storage may refuse any bid and may rescind any purchase up until the winning bidder takes possession of the personal property.

Please publish this notice on the following date:

The Norwalk Patriot 12/2/22, 12/9/22

Extra Space Storage will hold a public auction to sell personal property described below belonging to those individuals listed below at the location indicated:

10950 Firestone Blvd Norwalk, CA 90650

12/28/2022 11:00am

Yvette Oropeza Household items

Enrique Mondragon Household items

Natalia Vargas Jimenez Household items

Jorge Barrera Household items

The auction will be listed and advertised on www.storage-treasures.com. Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the above referenced facility in order to complete the transaction. Extra Space Storage may refuse any bid and may rescind any purchase up until the winning bidder takes possession of the personal property.

The Norwalk Patriot 12/9/22, 12/16/22

NOTICES

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

CASE NUMBER: 22PSCP00509
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner NATHANIEL JOSIAH DUARTE BY CLAUDIA DUARTE filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Present name (1) NATHANIEL JOSIAH DUARTE to Proposed name (1) NATHANIEL JOSIAH ROBLEDO THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.
NOTICE OF HEARING
Date: DECEMBER 22, 2022. Time: 8:30 a.m., Department: R, Room: 6th Floor. The address of the court is 400 CIVIC CENTER PLAZA POMONA CA 91766 A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once a week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in the county, **TheNorwalkPatriot** OCTOBER 21, 2022 Thomas C. Falls/Judge Judge of the Superior Court Petitioner or Attorney for Petitioner **CLAUDIA DUARTE 2139 LAUREL AVE POMONA CA 91768 (562) 237-6761 c.duarte92@yahoo.com**

The Norwalk Patriot 11/18/22, 11/25/22, 12/2/22, 12/9/22

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

CASE NUMBER: 22NWCP00470
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner JOHNNY DIAZ DE LEON filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Present name (1) JOHNNY DIAZ DE LEON to Proposed name (1) JOHN MICHAEL CASTRO THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.
NOTICE OF HEARING
Date: JANUARY 30, 2023. Time: 10:30 a.m., Department: C, Room: 312. The address of the court is **Norwalk Courthouse, 12720 Norwalk Blvd. Norwalk, CA 90650** A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once a week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in the county, **Norwalk Patriot** DECEMBER 1, 2022 Judge Margaret M. Bernal Judge of the Superior Court Petitioner or Attorney for Petitioner **JOHNNY DIAZ DE LEON 13528 SUNSHINE AVE. WHITTIER, CA 90605 (562) 458-4525 Jomica77@yahoo.com**

The Norwalk Patriot 12/9/22, 12/16/22, 12/23/22, 12/30/22

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

CASE NUMBER: 22STCP04174
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner ETHAN SANDLER AND KATHRYN HAHN filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Present name (1) MAE MARIE SANDLER (2) LEONARD HENRY SANDLER to Proposed name (1) MAE MARIE HAHN SANDLER (2) LEONARD HENRY HAHN SANDLER THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.
NOTICE OF HEARING

The Norwalk Patriot 12/9/22, 12/16/22, 12/23/22, 12/30/22

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NOTICE OF HEARING

Date: JANUARY 23, 2023, Time: 10:00 a.m., Department: 74, Room: 735 The address of the court is 111 N. HILL STREET LOS ANGELES, CA 90012 A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once a week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in the county, **THE NORWALK PATRIOT** NOVEMBER 21, 2022 Michelle Williams Court Judge of the Superior Court Petitioner or Attorney for Petitioner **DANIEL C. LORENZEN, ESQ. (SBN : 227957) VENABLE LLP – 2049 CENTURY PARK EAST, STE. 2300 LOS ANGELES, CA 90067 (310) 229-9900 (310) 229-9901 dclorenzen@venable.com**

The Norwalk Patriot 12/9/22, 12/16/22, 12/23/22, 12/30/22

PROBATE

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: MARYANN MCALLISTER AKA MARYANN ANDERSON AKA MARYANN CESZ CASE NO. 22STPB11491

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of MARYANN MCALLISTER AKA MARYANN ANDERSON AKA MARYANN CESZ. A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by WESLEY BRYAN ANDERSON in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that WESLEY BRYAN ANDERSON 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: 01/06/23 at 8:30AM in Dept. 9 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 **JENIFER A. NAKAMURA - SBN 337144, LAW OFFICES OF DUARTE & MENEZES, LLP 17215 STUDEBAKER RD. STE. 240 CERRITOS CA 90703 11/25, 12/2, 12/9/22 CNS-3646404# THE NORWALK PATRIOT**

CNS 3646404

The Norwalk Patriot 11/25/22, 12/2/22, 12/9/22

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF ROMULO B. BAILLO Case No. 22STPB11234

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of ROMULO B. BAILLO A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by Clarence Baillo in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that Clarence Baillo 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 on Dec. 13, 2022 at 8:30 AM in Dept. No. 29 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: **RODNEY GOULD ESQ SBN 219234 SBN 219234 LAW OFFICE OF RODNEY GOULD 14827 VENTURA BLVD STE 210 SHERMAN OAKS CA 91403 CN992040 BAILLO Nov 25, Dec 2, 9, 2022**

CN992040 The Norwalk Patriot 11/25/22, 12/2/22, 12/9/22

TRUSTEE SALES

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE T.S. No. 20-20068-SP-CA Title No. 200034275-CA VOI A.P.N. 8080-036-032 YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 05/22/2007. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. A public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash, (cashier's check(s) must be made payable to National Default Servicing Corporation), drawn on a state or national bank, a check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, savings association, or savings bank specified in Section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state; will be held by the duly appointed trustee as shown below, of all right, title, and interest conveyed to and now held by the trustee in the hereinafter described property under and pursuant to a Deed of Trust described below. The sale will be made in an "as is" condition, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by the Deed of Trust, with interest and late charges thereon, as provided in the note(s), advances, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, interest thereon, fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee for the total amount (at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale) reasonably estimated to be set forth below. The amount may be greater on the day of sale. Trustor: Alejandro Astudillo, a married man as his sole and separate property Duly Appointed Trustee: National Default Servicing Corporation Recorded 05/30/2007 as Instrument No. 20071296751 (or Book, Page) of the Official Records of Los Angeles County, California. Date of Sale: 11/09/2023 at 11:00 AM Place of Sale: By the for contain located at 400 Civic Center Plaza, Pomona, CA 91766 Estimated amount of unpaid balance and other charges: \$363,856.97 Street Address or other common designation of real property: 12115 Lowmont St, Norwalk, CA 90650 A.P.N.: 8080-036-032 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address or other common designation, if any, shown above. If no street address or other common designation is shown, directions to the location of the property may be obtained by sending a written request to the beneficiary within 10 days of the date of first publication of this Notice of Sale. If the Trustee is unable to convey title for any reason, the successful bidder's sole and exclusive remedy shall be the return of monies paid to the Trustee, and the successful bidder shall have no further recourse. The requirements of California Civil Code Section 2923.5(b)(2)(2)(3.55)(c) were fulfilled when the Notice of Default was recorded. NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can

receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call or visit this internet website www.ndscorp.com/sales, using the file number assigned to this case 20-20068-SP-CA. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the internet website. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. NOTICE TO TENANT: You may have a right to purchase this property after the trustee auction pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. If you are an "eligible tenant buyer," you can purchase the property if you match the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. If you are an "eligible bidder," you may be able to purchase the property if you exceed the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. There are three steps to exercising this right of purchase. First, 48 hours after the date of the trustee sale, you can call 888-264-4010, or visit this internet website www.ndscorp.com, using the file number assigned to this case 20-20068-SP-CA to find the date on which the trustee's sale was held, the amount of the last and highest bid, and the address of the trustee. Second, you must send a written notice of intent to place a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 15 days after the trustee's sale. Third, you must submit a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 45 days after the trustee's sale. If you think you may qualify as an "eligible tenant buyer" or "eligible bidder," you should consider contacting an attorney or appropriate real estate professional immediately for advice regarding this potential right to purchase.

Pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code, the potential rights described herein shall apply only to public auctions taking place on or after January 1, 2021, through December 31, 2025, unless later extended. Date: 11/30/2022 National Default Servicing Corporation c/o Tiffany and Bosco, P.A., its agent, 1455 Frazee Road, Suite 820 San Diego, CA 92108 Toll Free Phone: 888-264-4010 Sales Line ; Sales Website: www.ndscorp.com Connie Hernandez, Trustee Sales Representative. A-4766222 12/09/2022, 12/16/2022, 12/23/2022

ASAP 4766222 The Norwalk Patriot 12/9/22, 12/16/22, 12/23/22

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Success according to Darrell Jackson

■ Now retired, Darrell Jackson reflects on a life well lived.

By Alex Dominguez
Staff Writer

Ask him to reflect on his life and journey and if he was a success, and Darrell Jackson might give it some pause before answering.

Only recently retired, Jackson, 66, is known around Downey for his formation of and subsequent work with the 10-20 Club, a local program aimed at intervention for youth at risk for joining gangs in support of Gangs Out of Downey (GOOD).

Yet for all the good work he did trying to keep kids on the straight and narrow, his own path wasn't always so clear.

Jackson was born and raised in Los Angeles, just outside of the city of Compton. At the age of 12, he began playing baseball, which he describes as his "biggest interest and passion."

"For some reason, even though I was undersized, I developed into a pretty good baseball player," said Jackson. "Then when I went to high school, my baseball team, I was an integral part of that team, that included two future Hall of Famers: Eddie Murray and Ozzie Smith. We all graduated in the

same class in 1973."

Jackson's talent would catch the eye of the Minnesota Twins, who drafted him out of high school in the sixth round at the age of 17. However, Jackson's father would insist that he go to school "in case baseball didn't work out."

"I had a number of scholarships to a couple of HBC's, historic black colleges," said Jackson. "I went to an all-black high school, so I said 'Thank you, but no thank you.' I also turned down UCLA because it was a partial scholarship.

"So, I ended up going to Arizona State University on a full scholarship to play baseball."

Jackson would play at ASU for four years, appearing in the College World Series three times and clinching the title in his senior year.

Despite his senior success, Jackson admits that he "struggled most of the time."

"I struggled in the fact that I drank excessively. Academically, I was not proficient going to class, so I was always on academic probation," said Jackson. "Arizona State is a very passionate school for baseball, they take it very seriously. So, the coach needed players that are going to be dependable, that are going to be academically eligible and perform on the field.

"I wasn't performing on the field, I wasn't performing off the field, I was drinking excessively.

Just for some reason, the coach, he just knew I was from a good Christian upbringing, and he was a Christian, and for some reason he just saw something good in me."

Still, the Twins would come calling again, this time drafting him in the ninth round of the 1977 amateur draft.

Jackson made his professional debut shortly after in 1978 in the minor leagues for the Orlando Twins, pitching nine innings of no-hit baseball. Less than six weeks later, he was called up to the majors.

"[The newspapers] used adjectives like 'phenom' when they talked about me...I had no idea what that meant, how impressive. I know now today it was a pretty impressive performance by me."

A left-handed pitcher, Jackson says he could throw hard and "challenge" hitters. He found early success, winning his first career start, and a three-hit shutout against the Oakland Athletics in his third start.

However, the same demons from his past still plagued him.

"Off the field, I was still drinking excessively. There were other things I was doing...I was a womanizer; you can use your imagination with that one," said Jackson. "And then of course, when we got to the major leagues... in that era we were all heavy cocaine users."

Jackson says he lacked discipline.

"A young kid with all that money, and that limelight, I didn't handle it very well," said Jackson. "But when the umpire says 'Play ball,' all that stuff is set aside and we basically just had a knack for focusing on the game at that moment."

At the time, he counted his lifestyle as "success."

"When I got to the big leagues, it was I defined as success: the drugs, the women, the money," said Jackson. "That's not success, that's all a façade.

"The disciplines that Eddie Murray and Ozzie Smith had, their abilities were not superior to mine, but their focus and disciplines were; they didn't get caught up in that lifestyle."

Despite his early promise, Jackson "lacked composure" and was inevitably sent back to the minor leagues.

"To be honest, I wasn't ready for the big leagues; I was rushed to the big leagues," said Jackson. "After going back to Triple A and coming back, I had developed composure, I was settling in as a major league pitcher."

Things would take a turn for the worse a few years later, however, when Jackson says his pitching arm was injured while being arrested after a drunken night out with a teammate that he declined to name. Officers would also find cocaine in the apartment where the arrest took place.

"My agent bailed me out of jail, and then they did what they call an intervention," said Jackson. "This famous pitcher for the Dodgers, rest in peace, Don Newcombe, was the person that handled [it] because of his alcoholism. Bobby Welch, the pitcher for the Dodgers, had just gone through rehab. Some other guys, Darrell Porter, the catcher for Kansas City and St. Louis.

"They sent me out to this place called The Nettles, but little did I know when I got out, when I got



Darrell Jackson pitched professionally for the Minnesota Twins. He later discovered a new career as a youth interventionist with the Downey Unified School District. (Photo by Alex Dominguez)

arrested, I didn't realize that my arm problem was based on the arrest."

Jackson's arm would be hit or miss, progressively getting worse. In 1982, the bottom would fall out on his career.

"Eventually I couldn't pitch to the level, I started losing my desire because guys I could get out became a challenge," said Jackson.

When the Twins desired to send Jackson back to the minor leagues, he would decline.

"I had enough time in the major leagues where they either had to release me or keep me in the major leagues; I had to give them my permission," said Jackson.

Jackson would be released. Despite receiving a few other offers from other teams (including to come play with and mentor up-and-coming future eight-time All Star Darryl Strawberry), he would eventually find himself pitching in Mexico.

"I really made some bad mistakes; I turned down those opportunities and wound up in Aguas Calientes, Mexico," said Jackson. "What a difference from being in the major leagues and playing in Mexico. I was drinking, I was married, it was a mess."

His career would officially end in 1983. Describing himself as "dysfunctional," Jackson says he was "surviving" as opposed to living.

"There was also a part of me that had the knack, the will to be somebody," said Jackson. "I sold cars, and did well at that. I even was assistant manager at a Vans tennis shoe store at West Covina Mall. We always worked, we always tried to be productive married, but the marriage was really bad."

Jackson won't talk badly about his former wife, but he does admit to marrying "a woman I shouldn't have married, a woman I thought I could change, fix."

The marriage lasted from 1979 to "by the grace of God" 1986.

"That's when my life changed; when I chose to end that marriage and change my lifestyle and got away from that life, is when I got sober and my life got better," said Jackson.

Jackson would enter rehab again after a chance encounter with Pittsburgh Pirates pitcher Doc Ellis, an acquaintance of his and former drug user himself.

"He had gotten sober and clean, and he was a wealth of information," said Jackson. "He ran into me at my worst state at Dodger Stadium... They introduced me to rehab."

Rehab would give Jackson a "30-day reprieve."

"Through those 30 days they kind of nurture you back to health in a holistic way; we're talking about... physical, mental, emotional health," said Jackson. "You sort of gather your bearings; you stop the bleeding so to speak. It halts it, so it gives you a chance to really step back and take a look."

Recovery would not be easy for Jackson, as he admits relapsing "right away." However, he would continue going to meetings. In 1986, things would finally stick, and Jackson would say "enough is enough."

"I embraced what was taught to me, and I haven't had a drink

since," said Jackson. "It's been 36 years."

Jackson would eventually move to Orange County, where through support groups, mentorships, and volunteer groups, he would eventually establish the 12-18 Club, a youth recreational program in Santa Ana.

"It really didn't work out, I was clueless," said Jackson.

As those in Downey know, it wouldn't be the first "Club" Jackson would start.

"I was also a father. I had a daughter born in Arizona State that I didn't know. Her mother was with somebody else," said Jackson. "When I got sober, part of getting sober is making amends and taking care of your responsibilities, so I reached out to my daughter. She was 10 years old, but at the age of 13 she wanted to come live with me."

They moved to Downey to be closer to Jackson's brother and his children in Paramount. In the meantime, Jackson would be recruited by hospitals to speak about drug use and prevention.

"What I did, I would do Red Ribbon speeches and stuff. As a result, I worked for Charter Hospital in Long Beach, then I worked for other places," said Jackson. "We'd come to Downey and we'd do speeches, and then if a kid had a drug problem the counselors would call up Charter Hospital, and we'd try and get some referrals."

There was just one problem.

"I thought I was just doing some good work, but the business part of it, if you had a problem and your parents called up as a result of my speech and you didn't have insurance, they wouldn't help you," said Jackson. "I'm like, 'Wait a minute.' They only wanted people who could afford to pay for their services, and I didn't really like it."

Jackson would move on to work for Bellwood Health Center.

"The administrator gave me beds for scholarships for kids who couldn't afford it," said Jackson. "I started working in Downey and started working with this district, and then when kids didn't have the money I would give them scholarships, beds; they would get \$45,000 worth of drug and alcohol treatment at no cost."

When HMO's took over, things would become complicated again. However, the school district would approach Jackson and offer him a contract to open the program in Downey in 1995. Unable to use the 12-18 Club name, Jackson made a slight adjustment, creating the 10-20 Club.

Jackson describes the 10-20 Club as "an early intervention [program] through Gangs Out of Downey" that provided suppression, education, and prevention.

Over 27 years, Jackson



estimates that the 10-20 Club provided support to thousands of kids, many of which were referred through Downey Unified.

Still, he says "volume isn't good."

"We're personal," said Jackson.

"If you have a problem, you pick up the phone you can call me directly; you don't speak to some surrogate... We offered all those services, but when you get so big you can't be as personal."

Jackson says his success comes from when he sees those he helped "doing good things."

"There's no real track record," said Jackson. "If I say I help kids, and I take credit for that, then I have to take credit for the ones that wound up going to prison and everything else, and I'm not willing to do that. We just do the best we can."

Jackson, now married to second wife Veronica with daughters Yuko and Aiko, retired earlier this year and is now a stay-at-home dad.

"I don't have much time left on this earth, so I'm doing things backwards. Being an older parent, I have to enjoy every moment I can with my girls," said Jackson. "Because sooner or later, 20, 10, 15 years, who knows how much longer I have to live."

He added that "people like me are dinosaurs."

"I'm not a licensed therapist, so we brought Ronnie Fernandez in, a licensed therapist," said Jackson. "Most districts are looking for; they call it mental wellness now. Everybody wants therapists and stuff. So, if you don't have that LCSW, or MSW, or licensed psychologist and stuff, the new way of doing business don't recognize guys like me anymore...but the main thing is I get to spend quality time with my daughters."

And does he consider himself a success?

"My obituary will hopefully define that success, but today, as we talk right now, I'm a success," said Jackson. "I have to live by principles in order to stay sober. We try to do the right thing when nobody is looking."

"My success is based on one, not picking up a drink and not getting drunk...I'm more successful now than when I was a pitcher in Minnesota."

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