

The Norwalk Patriot

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Norwalk's strong season continues with shutout win over Firebaugh

■ The Lancers continued their dominant season with a 10-0 win Wednesday as the team's seniors are honored.

By John Sherrard
Contributor

NORWALK — Wednesday's high school baseball game between visiting Firebaugh and Norwalk, wasn't all about the score, but the gathering of family honoring the 10 seniors for the Lancers.

Sure, Norwalk (18-4, 12-0) won 10-0 in five innings, but the focus before the game was on a big portion of the current team.

Ten of the 15 Vikings players are seniors and have led them to their best record in many years and are very close to winning their first league title in that same span.

"We kind of knew last year that this would be the year, especially from last year that I have all of my pitching back," said Norwalk coach William Wenrick, who is in his ninth year at Norwalk. Wenrick also won a CIF-SS Championship playing for Norwalk.

"As coaches, when this class of 2023 came in, I'm talking about all the coaches, baseball, football, basketball, and so forth, the football coaches said we have some good athletes, it's going to be a good class and it has been."

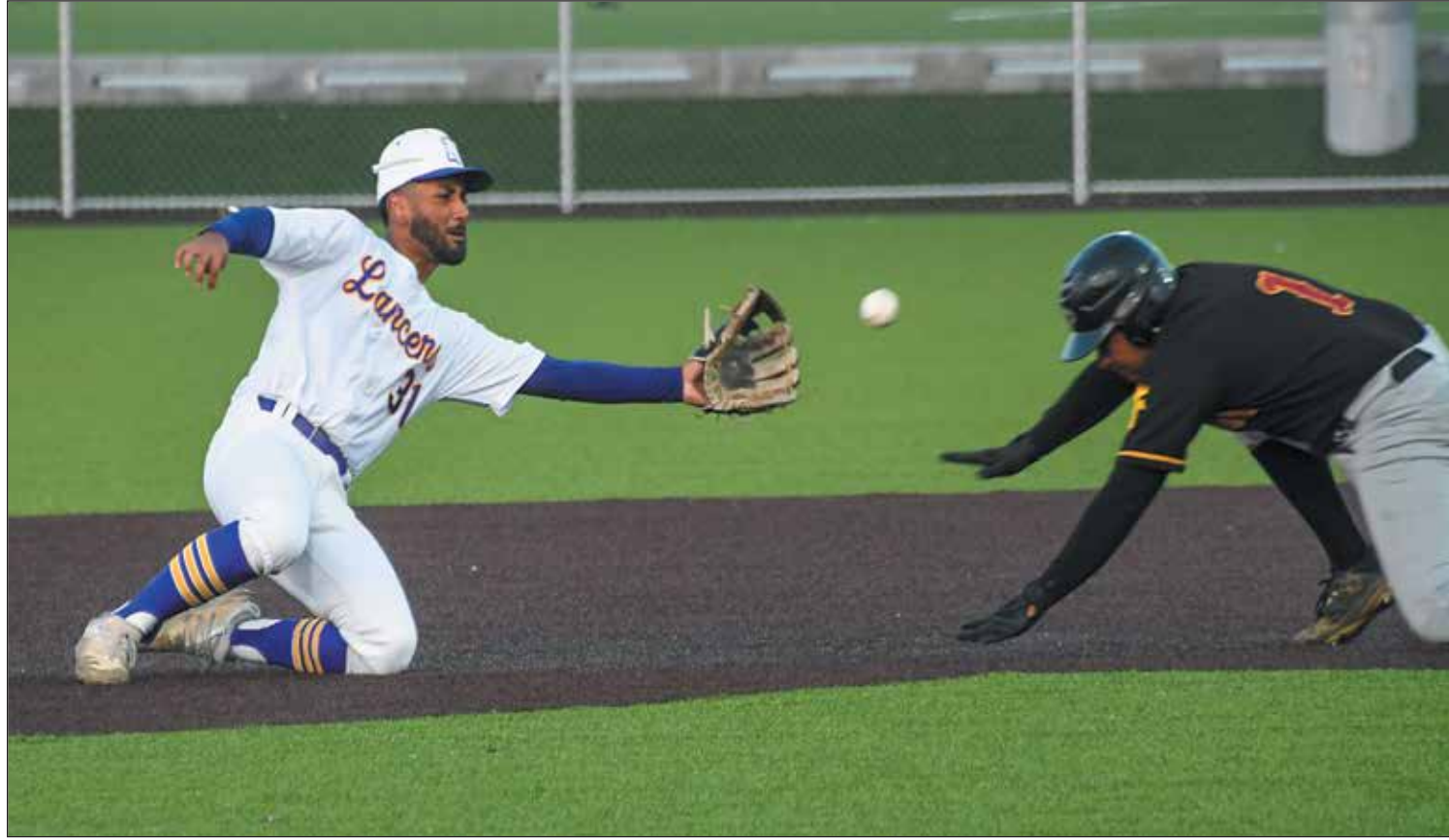
Wenrick added how important community is to his program.

"I just want everyone to know out there it's for the community," Wenrick added. "It's great personally, really fulfilling, but here with our new administration, and the community, we do a lot of stuff for the community. We just want to thank the community for supporting us. We had a great senior night with the parents."

The big side story to the '23 Lancers season had two big possibilities staring them right in the face — an undefeated league title and championship.

The undefeated season and championship, which could coincide with the Norwalk Softball team, also completing the same goal could happen by next week. It would be a first in both programs history if both teams win out in league.

Softball has two league games



Norwalk second baseman Ricardo Guzman (31) tries for the ball as a Firebaugh player steals second base in their Mid Cities League varsity baseball game at Norwalk High School on Wednesday. Norwalk defeated Firebaugh 10-0. (Photo by Keith Durlfingler)

remaining, while baseball still has a big game today (Friday April 21) against Mayfair and another game against them next Wednesday and finally a league season-ending game against Lynwood next Friday.

After all the festivities with the seniors and their families prior to the first pitch, the Lancers wasted little time getting on the scoreboard.

In the home half of the first inning, Norwalk pushed across six runs, as the first six batters all scored.

An all-senior lineup, starting with shortstop/pitcher Caden Barnhill, opened the game with a single. That was followed by center fielder Randy Martinez (walk), first baseman Kaleb Nakano (hbp), left fielder Jonathan Guzman (single), third baseman Gabriel Cancino (Dbl.) and Steven Martinez (walk), all scoring for the Lancers.

"Taking it in (senior night), I love being at Norwalk," Nakano said. "We have 10 seniors and have been a pact for a long time. I really appreciate everyone, and I think that's why we've had a lot of success this year."

Nakano talked about his sister, Kendall, who is a star player on the softball team that also has a chance to win league and go undefeated in league.

"That (softball winning a league title undefeated) would be huge," he said. "I know that our class, when we started in our freshman year, we were really dedicated to our game. We wanted to help get Norwalk back on the map. We found a lot of success already and the job is not finished. We want to take that game on Friday (Mayfair) and again (next Wednesday)."

The Nakano family has one more on the horizon, younger brother Keegan — class of 2030. Father Keith Nakano is also currently the assistant coach for softball.

Norwalk senior starting and winning pitcher, Angel Gonzalez (5 strikeouts), gave up a single in the first and second innings to Firebaugh (2-12, 2-10) shortstop Adrian Hernandez and centerfielder Gio Gonzalez, respectively, and that was it offensively for the Falcons the rest of the way.

Only one base runner, Jaime

Ochoa (walk), in the third inning was the only blemish in the three remaining innings by two Norwalk pitchers.

Senior Kevin Carrillo and Barnhill combined for six Ks between them in the final three innings.

"It was good energy, and we felt the crowd and that made us feel good," said Barnhill, who has been only one of the two seniors, along with Martinez, on varsity for all four years. "It's really big to think that both teams could do that (winning league undefeated). "We're just trying to put on a show and put out our best effort, because at the end of the day, this is our last time ever playing with these guys. I've been playing with my friend Randy Martinez for all four years. He's like my brother."

"It's very blessed to play all of our games here," added Barnhill, of the new all-turf facility for baseball, softball and football. Barnhill was also the quarterback on the football team.

Meanwhile, the Lancers added a pair of runs in the second and fourth innings, to stretch the lead to 10-0,

which led to the shortened game in five innings.

With one out in the second inning, Martinez doubled to left, followed by another two-bagger by Nakano, scoring Martinez and a run-scoring single to left field by Jonathan Guzman, sending Nakano in for the 8-0 lead.

The final two runs came across in the fourth inning, as Nakano connected with his second double of the game and came in on an error by the Firebaugh centerfielder allowing Jonathan Guzman to reach base. Guzman scored on a single to left by Cancino.

This will be the second consecutive year the Lancers have reached the CIF playoffs, with 2022 being the first time in the last eight years. They lost to Whittier Christian, 2-0 in a wild card game. Currently, the Lancers baseball team is ranked No. 3 in CIF-SS D3.

CIF playoffs begin in two weeks for both softball and baseball.

In State of City speech, Bass declares LA is not 'where it needs to be'

■ Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass said there is increased urgency to take people off the streets and create safer neighborhoods.

By City News Service

LOS ANGELES - Mayor Karen Bass delivered her first State of the City Address Monday, saying, "I am 127 days into my administration, and I cannot declare that the state of our city is where it needs to be."

But at the same time, Bass painted a picture of hope and "increased urgency" as the city grapples with major challenges such as homelessness and public safety and takes aim at what she repeatedly called her vision for a "new L.A."

"I am proud to report that together, we have brought change to the city of Los Angeles," said Bass, standing in the Council Chambers of City Hall before council members and an array of city officials.

"We have increased urgency at City Hall. And we have a clarity of purpose, and have focused our work on the people's most pressing challenges. After years of frustration, tonight, we can see a clearer path to a new Los Angeles ... where the state of our city will be stronger, healthier, happier and safer."

The mayor is required annually to address the council on the state of the city before the release of the proposed city budget. Bass is expected to release her first budget

proposal on Tuesday -- and she gave some hints of its particulars during her Monday address.

Acknowledging the challenges that lay ahead, Bass said, "The state of our city is really about the state of your neighborhood. It's about the state of your household. It's about your state of mind."

"Do you look over your shoulder when walking after dark?" she said. "Do you feel pride in your local park? Do you have peace of mind because you can pay the rent?"

"When the answer is yes, then we can say the state of our city is strong. That's the New L.A. that we're building together."

Not unexpectedly, homelessness -- a major element of her campaign, in which she vowed to house 17,000 people in her first year -- was a major theme of Bass' remarks.

She noted that her administration has brought about 1,000 Angelenos indoors through her Inside Safe Program, and that her proposed budget will aim to build on that.

"Tomorrow, I will release my first budget as mayor," she said. "Building on the success of Inside Safe, my budget includes a \$250 million investment to scale Inside Safe citywide."

"Leaning into the new direction we're charting for L.A., my budget includes an unprecedented \$1.3 billion investment to accelerate our momentum on homelessness. This is a record for the city of Los Angeles."

Bass also declared her "number one job as mayor" is to keep Angelenos safe -- but noted, "the unfortunate reality is that LAPD is down hundreds of officers."

Bolstering the LAPD's ranks will also place high on her priorities in the coming year, she said.

"This has been an ongoing trend here in L.A. and in cities across the country -- and so I'm concerned that the department's recent release of information (of officers' photos and other information) will cause more officers to leave."

"My budget proposal calls for urgent action to hire hundreds of officers next year on the way to restoring the department to full strength," she said.

"The situation we currently face means we could see the number of LAPD officers drop below 9,000 -- and we have not seen numbers that low since 2002."

She said she also wants to reduce the number of officer-involved deaths, revamp the LAPD's disciplinary system and provide enhanced mental health training for officers.

In addition, Bass espoused expanding the city's unarmed mental health crisis teams, which offer alternative responses to certain calls for service now handled by police.

Her proposed budget, she said, will fund a new Mayor's Office of Community Safety, aimed at building a force of community intervention

workers, social workers, clinical psychologists and other experts to respond when law enforcement is not required.

"This office will organize the community services that break the cycle of violence and crime," she said.

Bass said that, in addition to refilling the ranks of the LAPD, she intends to boost staffing in the city's fire department as well.

That includes the hiring of additional paramedics, with the fire department reporting that calls for emergency medical responses account for 81% of LAFD responses.

"My budget breaks new ground by allowing us to hire and immediately deploy qualified paramedics to answer medical calls," she said. "Currently, paramedics must complete the fire academy before taking a seat in an ambulance."

"My plan still requires all paramedics to become firefighters -- but if you are already a qualified paramedic, we will immediately put you to work, and then you can complete your firefighter training."

Climate change will remain on the city's radar as well, she said.

"We must continue to aggressively confront and adapt to climate change, and to make sure that our city is resilient," she said. "And while we cannot rely on record storms to solve our long-term drought, the city's prior investments have allowed us to capture 28 billion gallons of stormwater -- and I'm

committed to doing more, so that this precious rainwater doesn't just wash into the ocean."

Bass said other items she wants to focus on include increasing ridership on Metro, filling potholes, clearing trash from streets and sidewalks and cleaning graffiti.

"I am serious about the physical condition of our city -- because a city that is clean and in good repair is safer, prosperous, and provides Angelenos with a better life," she said.

Timothy O'Reilly, chair of the Los Angeles County Republican Party, gave Bass' remarks a skeptical response.

"Despite her commitments and promises, Los Angeles is not safe or livable for law-abiding, hard-working people who live in many neighborhoods," O'Reilly said in a statement. "In fact, crime and homelessness are getting worse -- much worse."

"What's needed is bold, decisive action to clean the streets and protect our citizens -- not new agencies, more departments, more bureaucracy, more self-congratulations and more spending."

Bass returned time and again to her "new L.A." theme.

"People from all over the world seeking a better life come to L.A.," she said. "I want all of them to experience a new L.A. But more importantly, I want Angelenos to experience a new L.A."

Weekend at a Glance

Friday 89°

Saturday 84°

Sunday 75°

ON THIS DAY

1509: With the death of Henry VII, his eldest surviving son assumed the British throne as Henry VIII, who presided over the beginnings of the English Renaissance and the English Reformation.

1789: John Adams was sworn in as the first vice president of the United States, nine days before George Washington's presidential inauguration.

1836: General Sam Houston led 800 Texans to victory over a Mexican army of 1,500 under General Antonio López de Santa Anna in the Battle of San Jacinto, ensuring the Texans' independence from Mexico.

1838: John Muir—who, as an advocate of U.S. forest conservation, was largely responsible for the establishment of both Sequoia National Park and Yosemite National Park in California—was born in Scotland.

1934: The Daily Mail printed a photograph that reportedly depicted the small head and neck of the Loch Ness monster; the iconic image, widely known as the "surgeon's photograph," sparked an international sensation but was later revealed to be a hoax.



1960: Radio disc jockey Dick Clark testified before Congress that he accepted money and gifts to play records, estimated 27% of his playlist to be paid.

1977: "Annie," a popular musical based on the newspaper comic strip Little Orphan Annie, first opened on Broadway.

1986: In a much-hyped television special, journalist Geraldo Rivera opened a vault that was found in the former headquarters of Chicago gangster Al Capone; however, he and an estimated 30 million TV viewers discovered that it was empty.

2006: Faith Hill and Tim McGraw kicked off their Soul2Soul II tour in Columbus, Ohio, which became the highest-grossing country tour of all time. On some dates, their opening act was a young singer named Taylor Swift.

2016: Prince—who created groundbreaking music that fused funk, rhythm and blues, rock and roll, and pop and was one of the biggest stars of the 1980s and '90s—died at age 57 from an accidental overdose of fentanyl, a powerful opioid.

Birthdays

Punk singer **Iggy Pop** (76), comedian **Rob Riggle** (53), actor **James McAvoy** (44), football analyst **Tony Romo** (43), and former Dodgers outfielder **Joc Pederson** (31).

“Real Men Have Chichis” to start workshop performances in Los Angeles

By Alex Dominguez
Staff Writer

DOWNEY - Ignacio Gonzalez is already known around Downey for his work with the Southern California Resource Center for Independent Living. He has dabbled in stand-up comedy.

Now, he can add playwright to his resume.

Gonzalez's new – and first-play “Real Men Have Chichis” is preparing for a brief workshop stint at the Frida Kahlo Theater in Los Angeles.

The play centers around young Latino man Lazaro, who is looking to become his own independent, healthy person and break free of his family's loving suffocation and intoxicating food.

“His family wants to keep him close by, he wants to move away,” said Gonzalez. “They physically want him to be a part of the family and not leave and be more successful than they are, and they entice him also with all the good-tasting food. He wants to try to be healthy, and the rest of the family eats and drinks and is looking to have a good time.

“He's financially, emotionally, health-wise wants to be an independent guy and he's having a hard time sort of wiggling away

from his family.”

Some of Gonzalez's own personal experiences made it into the play.

“One is trying to get healthy,” said Gonzalez. “If you might've known me, I was a whole lot bigger than I am now. Since my heaviest 10, 12 years ago, I've lost like 140 pounds.

“Part of it, with the family, they do it out of love, they try to feed you and that's how they show you support, by feeding you. Then, you turning food down, its something they might see as a slap in the face, like you're insulting them. You're supposed to take food because in our culture, we don't have much, but we have food; that's what I have to offer you, and if you turn that down, I don't have anything else to offer you other than that, so it's a big insult. Things like that, where I found you're trying to do it in a nice way, be polite and appreciative, and it's difficult.”

Gonzalez was encouraged to write the play by writer Josefina Lopez - known for “Real Women Have Curves” – after he took her script writing class at Casa 0101 in Boyle Heights.

“At one point, she told me, ‘Hey, you should make the male version of Real Women Have Curves,’” said



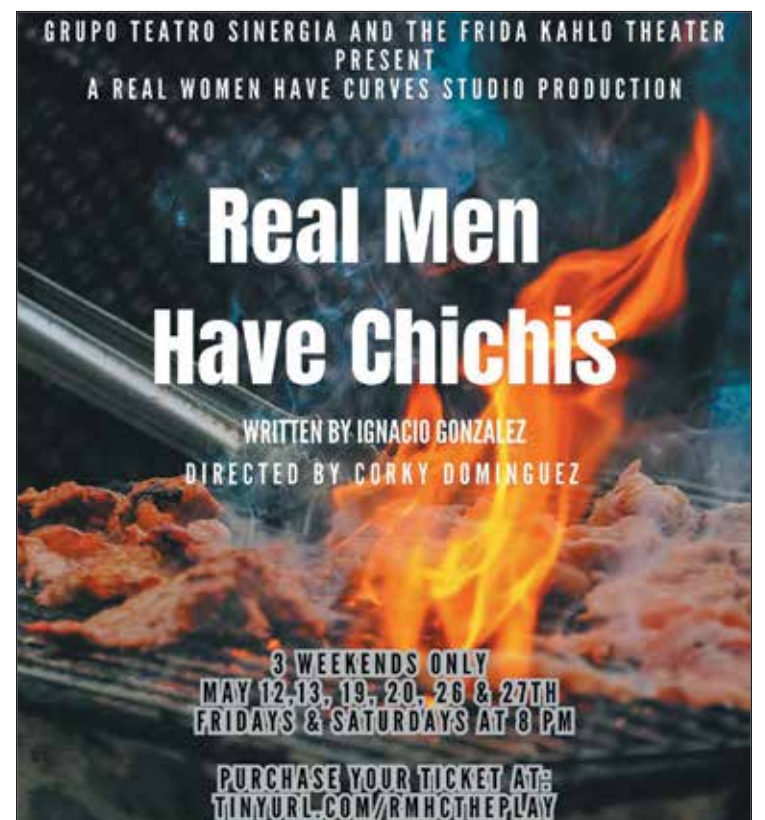
Ignacio Gonzalez wrote “Real Men Have Chichis” as the male version of “Real Women Have Curves.” (Photo by Alex Dominguez)

Gonzalez. “This was four years ago, maybe. So, I said, ‘Okay, I'll give it a shot.’ I did the first 10 pages which she always asked for...and it was good, she liked it. Then, I kind of let it go and it was hard to keep going; I would pick it up, put it back down again.

“At the end of last year, she said ‘Hey, what happened to the play? If you do it now, we'll put it on. I'll look it over, we'll produce it somewhere. I got to work, finished it up, and now here we are.”

Gonzalez hopes audiences walk away entertained.

“We do tackle issues against family, health, current economic conditions,” said Gonzalez. “I want to, this is from the cast, I want people to laugh. You know, the cliched ‘You'll laugh, you'll cry.’ But that's what I see from the cast. They have to pause because they laugh at the jokes, they cry, they relate to the characters and their struggle in their own life and they share their personal experiences...that's what I hope the audience can take away,



they laugh and they cry at the same time.”

Real Men have Chichis runs for about an hour. It will run for six shows over three weekends, Fridays and Saturdays, from May 12 to May 27 at 8 pm.

For tickets, visit www.eventbrite.com. The Frida Kahlo Theater is located at 2332 W. Fourth Street, Los Angeles, CA, 90057.

Rio Hondo president hosting Zoom chat with public

WHITTIER - WHITTIER - Rio Hondo College President Dr. Marilyn Flores will host “Un Cafecito at a Time” or “One Coffee at a time” virtual chat Friday to meet with community members and the public at large.

The audience will help drive the conversation with the questions they ask and the comments, suggestions, and feedback they share over coffee during this open

to the public event.

Flores, who started her tenure as superintendent and president of Rio Hondo College on July 1, 2022, launched “Un Cafecito at a Time” in January 2023 as a monthly conversation with the campus community.

More than 60 students, faculty and staff attended the first Cafecito chat in January before the spring semester started and more than 70

attended each of the February and March events.

The chat starts at 8:30 am. The Zoom link is <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84529566084#success>

Cerritos College expands mental health worker pathway to local school districts

NORWALK – Cerritos College is adding two new cohorts in a dual enrollment Mental Health Worker pathway (MHWP) with the ABC Unified and Norwalk-La Mirada Unified School Districts this summer.

In 2021, the College's Mental Health Worker Program received a \$25,000 grant from the California Department of Education in collaboration with Cal-HOSA to launch a behavioral and mental health pathway for high school students, and since then the program has grown and expanded to four districts.

“Dual enrollment provides an amazing opportunity for students in high school to also obtain college units,” said Laura Tchulluian, senior manager of dual enrollment at the College. “With this Mental Health Worker Pathway, we are seeing dual enrollment students succeed and receive a Mental Health Worker

certificate in as little as 18 months and begin their career preparation.”

Since the COVID-19 pandemic, there has been a significant increase in the demand for social and mental health services. According to the program instructor Melanie Martins, there are several conversations across various systems such as homeless services and mental health about how to increase the workforce.

“Many of our systems are greatly understaffed and are eagerly searching for employees,” said Martins. “The MHWP creates a pathway that benefits both students and employers. It provides opportunities for students and fills a huge gap in social services.”

One of the most valuable aspects of the program, in addition to the classes, is the internship opportunity that students are placed in for their field experience class. According to

the program's internship instructor Andrea Sanserino, mental health agencies are always looking for quality staff, and currently have many positions open.

“Often, I hear how hard it is to find candidates. The education that our students get throughout this program, both the theoretical foundation and the practical application in their internships, puts them in a great position to begin to fill some of these gaps,” said Sanserino. “As we continue to increase the number of students in the program, we are increasing the impact on many levels of the mental health workforce and realizing the vision to expand recovery-oriented mental health services.”

For more information about the Mental Health Worker Program, please contact Psychology Professor Dr. Jaclyn Ronquillo-Adachi at jronquillo@cerritos.edu

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Trump was indicted but who are the victims?

By Jacob Sullum

Jacob Sullum is a senior editor at Reason magazine.

Since the New York indictment of Donald Trump was unsealed last week, critics across the political spectrum have noted the legal problems with transforming one hush payment into 34 felonies. But in assessing the seriousness of this case, it is also relevant to ask who was injured by the former president's actions, a question that poses more of a puzzle than Manhattan District Attorney Alvin Bragg suggests.

Bragg says Trump "violate(d) state and federal election laws" when he instructed attorney Michael Cohen to pay porn star Stormy Daniels \$130,000 shortly before the 2016 presidential election. In exchange, Daniels agreed to refrain from talking to the press about her alleged 2006 affair with Trump.

Federal prosecutors viewed that payment as an illegal campaign contribution, and Cohen accepted that characterization in a 2018 guilty plea. But that plea hardly proves that the Justice Department's interpretation of the law was correct, since Cohen, who ultimately received a three-year sentence, was facing charges that could have sent him to prison for decades.

"The best interpretation of the law," former Federal Election Commission Chairman Bradley Smith wrote after Cohen's guilty plea, "is that it simply is not a campaign expense to pay blackmail for things that happened years before one's candidacy — and thus

nothing Cohen (or, in this case, Trump, too) did is a campaign finance crime." At the very least, Smith said, "it is unclear whether paying blackmail to a mistress is 'for the purpose of influencing an election,' and so must be paid with campaign funds, or a 'personal use,' and so prohibited from being paid with campaign funds."

Even UCLA law professor Richard L. Hasen, who is skeptical of Bragg's case but thought there was enough evidence to federally prosecute Trump for accepting an illegal campaign contribution, concedes that proving he "knowingly and willfully" violated the law "would not have been a slam dunk." In any event, federal prosecutors conspicuously declined to try, even after Trump left office and Merrick Garland replaced William Barr as attorney general.

Assuming the Justice Department could have made that case but for some reason decided it was not worth the effort, the question remains: Who was victimized by the hush payment? Bragg thinks voters suffered because they were deprived of "damaging information" that might have influenced their choice between Trump and Hillary Clinton.

Yet Trump had a long, widely familiar history of extramarital affairs. It seems unlikely that yet another one would have swayed voters who were otherwise inclined to support him.

Suppose Trump had used campaign money to directly pay off Daniels, as the Justice Department's theory in its case against Cohen suggests he should have, rather than using personal funds

to reimburse Cohen. The result would have been the same: Daniels would have kept quiet for the time being, and any scandal would have been postponed until after the election.

To convert Trump's uncharged and unproven violation of federal law into a state crime, Bragg is relying on a New York statute that makes it a misdemeanor to falsify business records "with intent to defraud." Trump did that, Bragg says, by misrepresenting his reimbursement of Cohen as payment for legal services.

Trump allegedly committed that offense 34 times — once for each invoice, check and ledger entry recording the payments. And because those records were aimed at concealing "another crime," prosecutors say, each qualifies as a distinct felony.

In common parlance, "intent to defraud" implies that Trump was trying to rip someone off. But according to New York appeals courts, it is enough to show that a defendant acted "for the purpose of frustrating the state's power" to "faithfully carry out its own law."

The victim, in other words, was the government, which had an interest in prosecuting debatable violations of state election law that hinge on debatable interpretations of federal law. It is hard to muster much indignation at that injury, let alone enough to support 34 felony charges.

If the U.S. wants to stop Mexican cartels, stop supplying them with guns

By Jonathan Lowy and Luis Moreno

Jonathan Lowy is the president of Global Action on Gun Violence. Luis Moreno is the former U.S. ambassador to Jamaica and former consul general in Monterrey, Mexico.

According to recent reports, former president Donald Trump is preparing battle plans to attack Mexico if he regains the White House. This is only the latest escalation of saber-rattling in the wake of the recent kidnapping and killing of Americans in Mexico. Former U.S. attorney general William P. Barr, Rep. Dan Crenshaw (Tex.) and Sen. Lindsey O. Graham (S.C.) are among those calling for U.S. military action in Mexico to take on drug cartels.

There is no debating the threat the cartels pose. The fentanyl they push is killing thousands on both sides of the border. In Mexico, they torture and kill journalists to silence them, battle law enforcement and the military, and terrorize civilians. Cartels are largely responsible for as many as 100,000 Mexicans who have been "disappeared" — kidnapped and probably killed — and the 20,000 confirmed killed every year. The violence is spurring migration at the U.S. border. And these transnational criminal organizations are spreading to the United States.

The cartels need to be stopped. But this is not a problem Washington can bomb its way out of. Sending in troops won't help stop the violence and drug trafficking. There is, however, something the United States can do that would: Cut off the gun pipeline that arms the cartels.

It's shocking but not surprising that at least one of the guns

used in the recent kidnapping was trafficked from the United States. Seventy to 90 percent of Mexican drug cartels' guns are trafficked from U.S. gun stores, supplied by U.S. manufacturers and distributors.

Why do the cartels' traffickers risk border crossings to get guns? Because Mexico has strong laws regulating gun sales and only one gun store, which restricts criminals from obtaining weapons there. But in the United States, federally licensed firearms dealers can sell dozens of AR-15s and AK-47s and thousands of rounds of ammunition to purchasers without even asking why a buyer would want such an arsenal. Manufacturers continue to supply these dealers despite their dangerous practices, even though the U.S. Justice Department told them to self-police their distribution chain more than 20 years ago.

Money and guns from the United States drive the deadly violence and drug trafficking in Mexico. The money the cartels use to pay for the guns comes largely from their sale of illegal drugs to buyers in the United States. The cartels and the gun industry profit from this deadly trade, while hundreds of thousands suffer.

What has Congress done about it? In 2004, it failed to renew the 10-year ban on assault weapons, which made it possible to recklessly sell them to traffickers. A study found that for both of the two years that followed, there was a 60 percent spike in homicides in Mexico near the border. And mass shootings in the United States have tripled since the ban lapsed.

In 2005, Congress passed a law to shield bad actors in the

gun industry from accountability for the harm they cause. Gun manufacturers Barrett and Browning make and sell to civilians .50-caliber sniper rifles that can pierce armor and shoot down helicopters. U.S. law enforcement focuses on arresting traffickers, who are easily replaced. But it refuses to take on the U.S. gun industry, which is the source of the weapons used by criminals in Mexico and the United States.

If those who call for military intervention in Mexico truly want to stop the cartels, they should support a ban on assault weapons and bulk sales, and greater accountability and enforcement against gun companies that supply cross-border traffickers. The Biden administration should also crack down on dangerous industry practices.

Instead, the "send in the troops" politicians support policies that enable cartels to amass arsenals. After assault-style weapons were used to kill 19 children and two adults in Uvalde, 23 people in El Paso (including eight Mexicans) and 26 in Sutherland Springs — all in his home state of Texas — Crenshaw opposed requiring background checks for all gun sales, even though nearly 90 percent of Americans support them.

There is serious policy, and then there's political bluster. When it comes to the fentanyl crisis and violence in Mexico, there has lately been too much of the latter and not enough of the former. Reforming the gun industry to stop the crime gun pipeline is a serious and necessary solution to this ongoing emergency.

People living with early Alzheimer's need President Biden's help

By Sue Peschin

Sue Peschin is the president & CEO of the Alliance for Aging Research in Washington, DC.

Last year, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) announced that it would refuse to cover an entire class of FDA-approved therapies for the treatment of mild cognitive impairment and early dementia due to Alzheimer's disease. CMS' decision effectively cut off access for the vast majority of beneficiaries living with early Alzheimer's, except those wealthy seniors who could choose to pay out-of-pocket.

The decision, and its aftermath, does not represent what President Biden says he values, which is people. It was a shocking and disheartening illustration of what happens when bureaucrats crunch numbers and forget about the people behind the math.

CMS applied an extralegal tool called "coverage with evidence development" (CED) to all monoclonal antibody therapies for early Alzheimer's. Under a CED, Medicare denies coverage for an FDA-approved item or service, except for treatments provided through a

very narrowly constructed clinical study.

Once CMS places a treatment in CED, it's extraordinarily difficult to reverse the decision.

But, the agency's April 7, 2022, Alzheimer's coverage decision was the first time CMS applied CED to an on-label use of an FDA-approved drug. There are strong signals from CMS that it won't be the last, as gene and stem cell therapies for cancer and rare diseases continue to progress through clinical development.

A report on CED called *Façade of Evidence: How Medicare's Coverage with Evidence Development Rations Care and Exacerbates Inequity*, issued by my organization, found that Medicare beneficiaries of color and those living in rural areas are more likely to be denied access under CEDs because the rigid conditions of coverage primarily direct care to urban medical centers in wealthier areas.

The FDA recently approved a second monoclonal antibody treatment called Leqembi that slowed progression of early Alzheimer's by 27% over an 18-month trial. Many neurologists

who were skeptical of the first drug say Leqembi could be a game-changer.

However, the Alzheimer's community, including the American Academy of Neurology and more than 200 research experts in the space, have had to plead with CMS to revise its extreme Medicare coverage restrictions. So far, CMS has rejected those requests.

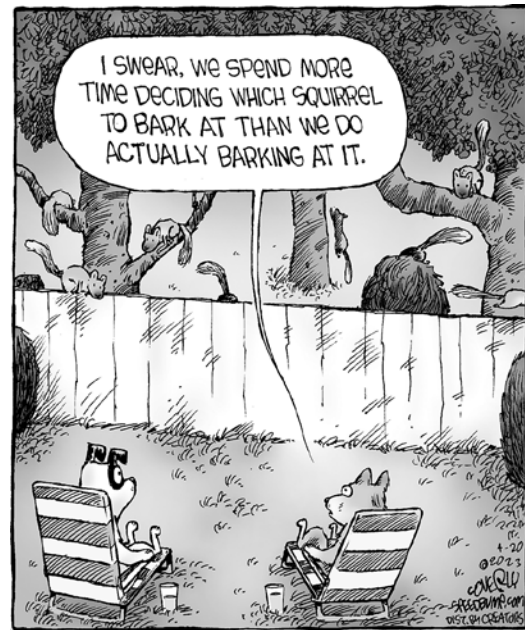
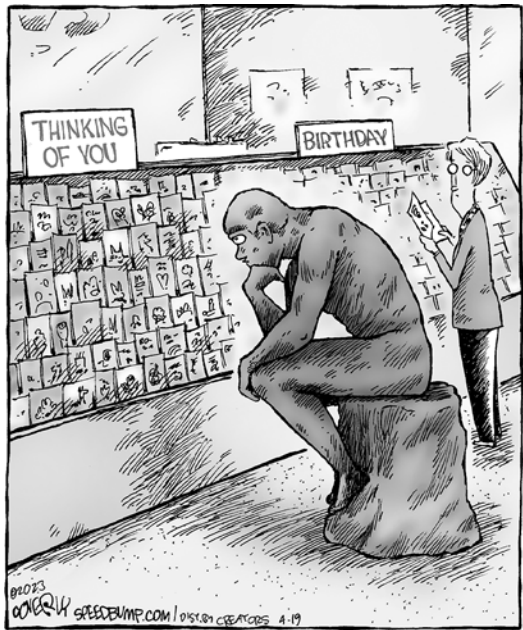
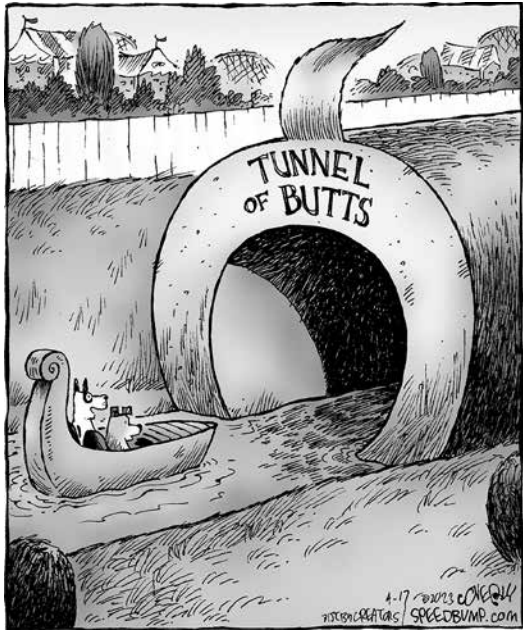
As the president notes in his November 2022 Proclamation on National Alzheimer's Disease Awareness Month, "Alzheimer's is common and especially cruel, robbing people of their memories, thoughts, and identity over many years. Across the Nation, this epidemic is growing: In the next 30 years, the number of Americans with Alzheimer's is expected to reach nearly 14 million, straining families and our health care system. Fortunately, we are on the cusp of life-saving advances that can forever change the course of the disease."

We completely agree. He needs to step in so people living with early Alzheimer's get a fair shot at more time with their families.

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

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@thedownepatriot.com

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PUZZLE OF THE WEEK

THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

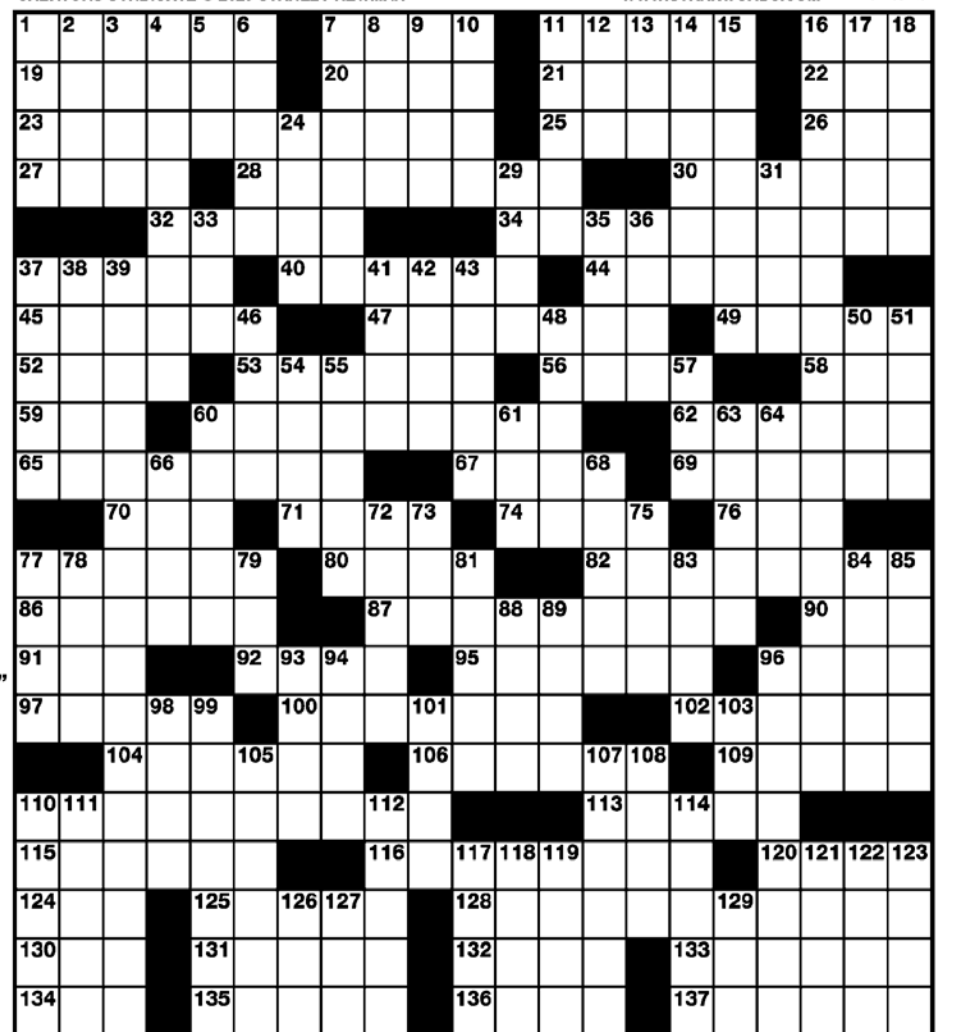
Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com)
OUT OF THIS WORLD: From the world of NASA
by Gary M. Larson

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

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

- ACROSS**
- 1 Melancholy, in Marseille
 - 7 Ticklish Muppet
 - 11 Slow-moving mammal
 - 16 Enraged
 - 19 Temporary occupancy
 - 20 Marine mammal
 - 21 Small crown
 - 22 Gershwin or Glass
 - 23 19 Across for a business
 - 25 Mozart is on Austrian ones
 - 26 Kind of tax
 - 27 Canadian song superstar
 - 28 Name on many libraries
 - 30 Takes a breather
 - 32 Mobster role for Travolta
 - 34 Phrase heard at bail hearings
 - 37 Count at a keyboard
 - 40 Action film activities
 - 44 Make a commitment
 - 45 Old-time anesthetics
 - 47 Whodunit character
 - 49 Chunk light and solid white
 - 52 Quartet count
 - 53 Most recent
 - 56 Memo imperative
 - 58 --no replay
 - 59 Neighbor of MI and MN
 - 60 Post-dessert euphoria
 - 62 Skilled speaker
 - 65 Be dressed very well, in rap speak
 - 67 Liqueur flavor
 - 69 Sense of taste
 - 70 Was in front
 - 71 Way back in time
 - 74 Take unwillingly
 - 76 Clear, as cash
 - 77 Immune system agents
 - 80 Cardinal point
 - 82 Frozen food pioneer
 - 86 Lots (of)
 - 87 Oscar song from *Breakfast at Tiffany's*
 - 90 Dukes and ears
 - 91 "What __, a mind reader?"
 - 92 Plant of the lily family
 - 95 Irreparable
 - 96 Trial period
 - 97 Profundity
 - 100 Posts online
 - 102 Pit-removing tool
 - 104 Apt (to)
 - 106 Poorly made
 - 109 Having the fidgets
 - 110 Publisher's party occasion
 - 113 Cut out
 - 115 Ill will
 - 116 Parliamentary procedure
 - 120 Purina sister brand
 - 124 __ matter of fact
 - 125 Lauder of cosmetics
 - 128 Victor in *Rocky*
 - 130 DVR remote button
 - 131 Former Philippines president
 - 132 Folklore beast
 - 133 Sow or doe
 - 134 Farm structure
 - 135 Tour of duty
 - 136 Bank deposit
 - 137 Throws away, so to speak
 - 9 Spice made from nutmeg
 - 10 Couturier Cassini
 - 11 Girder material
 - 12 Lucy of *Kung Fu Panda*
 - 13 Rafter's implement
 - 14 Bowler's prize
 - 15 Joins a project
 - 16 Summary of corporate goals
 - 17 Pisces follower
 - 18 Language in Copenhagen
 - 24 HS exams
 - 29 "Assuming that's true..."
 - 31 Language in Pakistan
 - 33 "___ the fields we go"
 - 35 Egyptian mother goddess
 - 36 Greek mother goddess
 - 37 Haze over
 - 38 Show remorse
 - 39 Negotiations with much back-and-forth
 - 41 Mouse clicker
 - 42 Airline regulatory agcy.
 - 43 Find the sum of
 - 46 Warm and cozy
 - 48 Hollywood agent Irving "Swiftly" ___
 - 50 Very frequently
 - 51 Irritated
 - 54 Kellogg's brand
 - 55 Batman alias
 - 57 Small explosion
 - 60 Move edgewise
 - 61 Dictionary section in Saskatchewan
 - 63 Goal for a vacay
 - 64 Taproom choices
 - 66 Solidify
 - 68 '90s Israeli leader
 - 72 Llama cousin
- DOWN**
- 1 Walked upon
 - 2 Modified mortgage, for short
 - 3 Enlightening material
 - 4 More Scroogelike
 - 5 Center X or O
 - 6 Vote in
 - 7 Lively wit
 - 8 Gravitate (toward)

CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2023 STANLEY NEWMAN WWW.STANXWORDS.COM 4/16/23



- 73 That: Sp.
- 75 Hand over
- 77 Pond dweller
- 78 Make an appearance
- 79 FICA funds it
- 81 Bar mitzvah reading
- 83 Wine group
- 84 Assents
- 85 Sweepstakes mail-in
- 88 Stocking shade
- 89 Upward movement
- 93 Something amazing
- 94 Unbolt
- 96 Phonographs' moving parts
- 98 Hawaiian restaurant figurine
- 99 Horses' restraints
- 101 *Quatro* doubled
- 103 Aides at USC
- 105 Serenades, as the moon
- 107 Climbed up
- 108 Oral outburst
- 110 Endures
- 111 First phase
- 112 High point
- 114 In the sky
- 117 Vietnam neighbor
- 118 Women's tour grp.
- 119 Grain in grits
- 121 Grassy expanses
- 122 Brazilian soccer great
- 123 Praiseful verses
- 126 Texter's "No more"
- 127 Extremely long time
- 129 Boardroom VIP

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

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: ANGEL PEREZ, PRESIDENT. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on (date): 02/2018. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on (Date): 03/28/2023. 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: 03/31/2023, 04/07/2023, 04/14/2023, 04/21/2023. THE NORWALK PATRIOT. AAA1114112.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
2023067600

The following person(s) is/are doing business as: ROOFING ANGELS, 1104 S. ROBERTSON BLVD., LOS ANGELES, CA 90035 LOS ANGELES. Mailing address if different: N/A. Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number: 418695. The full name(s) of registrant(s) is/are: AAA REMODELING & DEVELOPMENT, INC., 22287 MULHOLLAND HIGHWAY #633, CALABASAS, CA 91302 (State of Incorporation/Organization: CALIFORNIA). This business is conducted by: CORPORATION. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime.) Signed: DANIEL DAVID BENABOU, PRESIDENT. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on (date): 03/2023. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on (Date): 03/28/2023. 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: 03/31/2023, 04/07/2023, 04/14/2023, 04/21/2023. THE NORWALK PATRIOT. AAA1114116.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
2023067405

The following person(s) is/are doing business as: S&S PREMIUM CLOTHING, 1625 S LOS ANGELES STREET, LOS ANGELES, CA 90015 (State of Incorporation/Organization: CALIFORNIA). Mailing address if different: N/A. Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number: 5334155. The full name(s) of registrant(s) is/are: BAM CLOTHING INC, 1625 S LOS ANGELES STREET, LOS ANGELES, CA 90015 (State of Incorporation/Organization: CALIFORNIA). This business is conducted by: CORPORATION. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime.) Signed: ALIALRIDA EL REDA, 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): 03/28/2023. 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: 03/31/2023, 04/07/2023, 04/14/2023, 04/21/2023. THE NORWALK PATRIOT. AAA1114118.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
2023067410

The following person(s) is/are doing business as: TONY'S MULTI SERVICES, 2892 NORTH BELLFLOWER UNIT 2039, LONG BEACH, CA 90815 LOS ANGELES. Mailing address if different: N/A. Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number: 20235531682. The full name(s) of registrant(s) is/are: TONY'S MULTI SERVICES LLC, 2892 NORTH BELLFLOWER UNIT 2039, LONG BEACH, CA 90815 (State of Incorporation/Organization: CALIFORNIA). This business is conducted by: LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime.) Signed: ANTHONY ALLEN, MANAGING MEMBER. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on (date): 02/2023. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on (Date): 03/28/2023. 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: 03/31/2023, 04/07/2023, 04/14/2023, 04/21/2023. THE NORWALK PATRIOT. AAA1114119.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
2023067946

The following person(s) is/are doing business as: N.G. EXPRESS, 9720 FLOWER ST # 221, BELLFLOWER, CA 90706 LOS ANGELES. Mailing address if different: N/A. The full name(s) of registrant(s) is/are: ANGEL GONZALEZ NAVAS, 9720 FLOWER ST # 221, BELLFLOWER, CA 90706. This business is conducted by: INDIVIDUAL. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime.) Signed: VALERIA CHOC, OWNER. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on (date): 02/2018. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on (Date): 03/28/2023. 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: 03/31/2023, 04/07/2023, 04/14/2023, 04/21/2023. THE NORWALK PATRIOT. AAA1114120.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
2023067603

The following person(s) is/are doing business as: YUCCA AUTO REPAIR, 45027 YUCCA AVE, LANCASTER, CA 93534 LOS ANGELES. Mailing address if different: N/A. The full name(s) of registrant(s) is/are: YOLANDA GARCIA ESCOBAR, 45027 YUCCA AVE, LANCASTER, CA 93534. 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: YOLANDA GARCIA ESCOBAR, OWNER. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on (date): 03/2023. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on (Date): 03/28/2023. 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: 03/31/2023, 04/07/2023, 04/14/2023, 04/21/2023. THE NORWALK PATRIOT. AAA1114121.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
2023067944

The following person(s) is/are doing business as: A&L BEST CLEANING SERVICES, 13801 PARAMOUNT BLVD APT 2-207, PARAMOUNT, CA 90723 LOS ANGELES. Mailing address if different: N/A. The full name(s) of registrant(s) is/are: AGUILAR AGUILAR-MARTINEZ, 13801 PARAMOUNT BLVD APT 2-207, PARAMOUNT, CA 90723. 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: SHIRLEY GUAN, OWNER. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on (date): 03/2023. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on (Date): 03/28/2023. 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: 03/31/2023, 04/07/2023, 04/14/2023, 04/21/2023. THE NORWALK PATRIOT. AAA1114123.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
2023067942

The following person(s) is/are doing business as: JUANSTERS MOBIL, 4611 4611 WINDY AVE, LONG BEACH, CA 90805 LOS ANGELES. Mailing address if different: N/A.

The following person(s) is/are doing business as: BUBBLE CLEANER'S, 11317 1/2 ELLIOTT AVE APT B, EL MONTE, CA 91732 LOS ANGELES. Mailing address if different: N/A. The full name(s) of registrant(s) is/are: SAULA MARTINEZ PACHECO, 11317 1/2 ELLIOTT AVE APT B, EL MONTE, CA 91732. 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: SAULA MARTINEZ PACHECO, 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): 03/28/2023. 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: 03/31/2023, 04/07/2023, 04/14/2023, 04/21/2023. THE NORWALK PATRIOT. AAA1114125.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
2023067940

The following person(s) is/are doing business as: TIA RUTH'S MEXICAN FOOD, 607 MARGARET AVE, LOS ANGELES, CA 90022 LOS ANGELES. Mailing address if different: N/A. The full name(s) of registrant(s) is/are: ALMA VENTURA CHICO, 607 MARGARET AVE, 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: ALMA VENTURA CHICO, OWNER. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on (date): 03/2023. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on (Date): 03/28/2023. 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: 03/31/2023, 04/07/2023, 04/14/2023, 04/21/2023. THE NORWALK PATRIOT. AAA1114126.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
2023067598

The following person(s) is/are doing business as: IT'S A WONDERFUL PLACE, 1558 N CYPRESS ST, LA HABRA HEIGHTS, CA 90631 LOS ANGELES. Mailing address if different: N/A. The full name(s) of registrant(s) is/are: RONALD SR, 1558 CYPRESS ST, LA HABRA HEIGHTS, CA 90631. 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: RONALD SR, 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): 03/28/2023. 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: 03/31/2023, 04/07/2023, 04/14/2023, 04/21/2023. THE NORWALK PATRIOT. AAA1114127.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
2023067413

The following person(s) is/are doing business as: 1. SPEED AUTO SALES, 2. MM AUTO SALES, 3. MORALES AUTO SALES, 1307 GOODRICH BLVD, COMMERCE, CA 90022 LOS ANGELES. Mailing address if different: N/A. The full name(s) of registrant(s) is/are: JEFFREY AARON ROGERS, 1307 GOODRICH BLVD, COMMERCE, 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: JEFFREY AARON ROGERS, 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): 03/28/2023. 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: 03/31/2023, 04/07/2023, 04/14/2023, 04/21/2023. THE NORWALK PATRIOT. AAA1114129.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
2023067377

The following person(s) is/are doing business as: 1. LIVE SCAN IN LOS ANGELES, 2. LOS ANGELES LIVE SCAN, 714 W OLYMPIC BLVD 902, LOS ANGELES, CA 90015 LOS ANGELES. Mailing address if different: N/A. The full name(s) of registrant(s) is/are: VALERIA INC, 820 S WILLOW ST, LOS ANGELES, CA 90057. 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: VALERIA INC, 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): 03/28/2023. 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: 03/31/2023, 04/07/2023, 04/14/2023, 04/21/2023. THE NORWALK PATRIOT. AAA1114275.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
2023067596

The following person(s) is/are doing business as: CALI SERVICE CO, 1252 EAST 49TH ST, LOS ANGELES, CA 90011 LOS ANGELES. Mailing address if different: N/A. The full name(s) of registrant(s) is/are: EDDIN WILANDER GONZALEZ, 1252 EAST 49TH ST, LOS ANGELES, CA 90011. 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: EDDIN WILANDER GONZALEZ, OWNER. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on (date): 03/2023. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on (Date): 03/28/2023. 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: 03/31/2023, 04/07/2023, 04/14/2023, 04/21/2023. THE NORWALK PATRIOT. AAA1114276.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
2023067834

The following person(s) is/are doing business as: FAITH TCM, 580 W MAIN ST STE C-22, ALHAMBRA, CA 91801 LOS ANGELES. Mailing address if different: N/A. The full name(s) of registrant(s) is/are: SHIRLEY GUAN, 560 W MAIN ST STE C-22, ALHAMBRA, CA 91801. 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: SHIRLEY GUAN, OWNER. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on (date): 03/2023. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on (Date): 03/28/2023. 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: 03/31/2023, 04/07/2023, 04/14/2023, 04/21/2023. THE NORWALK PATRIOT. AAA1115585.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
2023067948

The following person(s) is/are doing business as: JUANSTERS MOBIL, 4611 4611 WINDY AVE, LONG BEACH, CA 90805 LOS ANGELES. Mailing address if different: N/A.

The full name(s) of registrant(s) is/are: JUAN GONZALEZ TURCIOS, 1401 GUNDRY AVE, LONG BEACH, CA 90813. 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: JUAN GONZALEZ TURCIOS, OWNER. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on (date): 03/2020. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on (Date): 03/28/2023. 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: 03/31/2023, 04/07/2023, 04/14/2023, 04/21/2023. THE NORWALK PATRIOT. AAA115586.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
2023067911

The following person(s) is/are doing business as: MG EXPRESS, 12633 DUNTON DRIVE, WHITTIER, CA 90602 LOS ANGELES. Mailing address if different: N/A. The full name(s) of registrant(s) is/are: GERARDO MARMOLEJO, 12633 DUNTON DRIVE, WHITTIER, CA 90602. 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: GERARDO MARMOLEJO, OWNER. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on (date): 01/2009. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on (Date): 03/28/2023. 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: 03/31/2023, 04/07/2023, 04/14/2023, 04/21/2023. THE NORWALK PATRIOT. AAA115587.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
2023068066

The following person(s) is/are doing business as: XTREMEINFLOORING, 11413 HALLWOOD DR, EL MONTE, CA 91732 LOS ANGELES. Mailing address if different: N/A. The full name(s) of registrant(s) is/are: EPON PRODUCTS INC, 11413 HALLWOOD DR, EL MONTE, CA 91732 (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: LESLIE FUNG, CEO. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on (date): 03/2023. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on (Date): 03/28/2023. 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: 03/31/2023, 04/07/2023, 04/14/2023, 04/21/2023. THE NORWALK PATRIOT. AAA115588.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
2023068788

The following person(s) is/are doing business as: LAKEWOOD CARPET AND UPHOLSTERY, 5838 YEARLING STREET, LAKEWOOD, CA 90713 LOS ANGELES. Mailing address if different: N/A. The full name(s) of registrant(s) is/are: JEFFREY AARON ROGERS, 5838 YEARLING STREET, LAKEWOOD, CA 90713. 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: JEFFREY AARON ROGERS, 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): 03/29/2023. 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: 03/31/2023, 04/07/2023, 04/14/2023, 04/21/2023. THE NORWALK PATRIOT. AAA1155817.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File Number 2023068099

THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) IS (ARE) DOING BUSINESS AS: (1) NORTHON (2) P X, 6817 E. ACCO ST, COMMERCE CA 90400, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES. Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number (if applicable): #I #ON: N/A REGISTERED OWNERS(S): (1) BENIKO INC., 6817 E. ACCO ST, COMMERCE CA 90400 State of Incorporation: CA THIS BUSINESS IS CONDUCTED BY: a Corporation

The date registrant started to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above: 07/2006

I declare that all the information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code) that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000).

(SIGNED) INC., PRESIDENT, ALBERT KHODARI

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on MARCH 28, 2023 Notice - In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the County Clerk, except, as provided in Subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to Section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. Effective January 1, 2014, the Fictitious Business Name Statement must be accompanied by the affidavit of identity form.

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).

The Norwalk Patriot 3/31/23, 4/7/23, 4/14/23, 4/21/23

GOVERNMENT

CITY OF NORWALK SUMMARY ORDINANCE NO. 23-1739

The Norwalk City Council, at a meeting held on April 18, 2023, adopted proposed Ordinance No. 23-1739, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF NORWALK APPROVING DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT NO. 2022-02 BETWEEN THE CITY OF NORWALK AND NORWALK SELF STORAGE PARTNERS, LLC FOR A NEW DIGITAL BILLBOARD SIGN AT 14879 CARMIGNA ROAD, by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Councilmembers Ayala and Perez, and Mayor Valencia

NOES: None

ABSENT: Councilmember Ramirez and Vice Mayor Rios

The full text of Ordinance No. 23-1739 is available for review in the Office of the City Clerk during regular business hours and on the City's website with the April 18, 2023 Council agenda, Item No. 8.

Theresa Devoey, CMC, City Clerk April 19, 2023

The Norwalk Patriot 4/21/23

LIEN SALES

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

05/09/2023 11:00am

Maria Elena Urbano Household items

Katrina Shelton Household items

Chidinma Gold Onyeador Household items

Crystal Robles Household items

Nicole C. Paredes Palma Household items

Gabriela Arriaga Household items

Laura Alicia Rodriguez Household items

Cecilia Monzon Olmedo Household items

Evvinn Diane Cantos Household items

Samantha Shenoda Household items

Robert Wells Household Items

Robert Wells 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 bid until the winning bidder takes possession of the personal property.

The Norwalk Patriot 4/21/23, 4/28/23

NOTICES

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

CASE NUMBER: 23NWCP00098

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner ALEXIS LUIS DE AVILA MUNOZ filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

Present name ALEXIS LUIS DE AVILA MUNOZ to proposed name ISRAEL LUIS DE AVILA MUNOZ

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: MAY 22, 2023, Time: 9:30 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 before the date set for hearing on the petition in a newspaper of general circulation: **NORWALK PATRIOT** MARCH 23, 2023

JUDGE OLIVIA ROSALES Judge of the Superior Court

ATTORNEY OR PARTY WITHOUT ATTORNEY

ALEXIS LUIS DE AVILA MUÑOZ 11530 CHESIRE STREET NORWALK CA 90650 (562) 991-7207 deavilaalexis@gmail.com

The Norwalk Patriot 4/7/23, 4/14/23, 4/21/23, 4/28/23

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

CASE NUMBER: 23NWCP00096

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner MELISSA ARVIZU AND ANDREW VARGAS filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

MELISSA ARVIZU AND ANDREW VARGAS II (2) SEBASTIAN VARGAS to Proposed name (1) ANDREW ARVIZU (2) SEBASTIAN ARVIZU

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

Smoking, lung cancer heavily impact Asian Americans

Contributed by Kaiser Permanente

As the nation recognizes April as National Minority Health Awareness Month, it's important to consider the health disparities affecting racial and ethnic minorities, including why lung cancer is so prevalent among Asian Americans, and claims thousands of lives each year within that community.

Lung cancer is the second most prevalent disease among all cancers and is the leading cause of cancer deaths within the Asian American community. According to the Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results (SEER) Program at the National Cancer Institute, there were 25,608 cases of lung and bronchus cancers that contributed to 11.2% of all diagnosed cancers in non-Hispanic Asians and Pacific Islanders from 2015 to 2019.

SEER added there were 19,406 reported deaths from lung and bronchus cancers, contributing to 20.7% of all cancer deaths within

the same racial group from 2016 to 2020.

The Association of Community Cancer Centers reports that:

Lung cancer is 18% higher among Southeast Asians than White Americans.

Chinese individuals have the highest mortality rates of lung cancer among all Asian subgroups.

Smoking rates are significantly higher among Southeast Asians.

Smoking is the primary risk factor driving lung cancer rates in the Asian American community. However, developing lung cancer and mortality can be prevented, and quitting smoking as soon as possible can lead to a significant reduction in lung cancer risk.

Additionally, the U.S. Preventative Services Task Force recommends annual lung cancer screening for current and former smokers who meet certain criteria.

"If you smoke or have smoked in the past, it's a good idea for you to ask your doctor if you qualify for

an annual lung cancer screening," said Dr. Adriel A. Fajilan, a pulmonologist with Kaiser Permanente Orange County. "This is especially true for those who are at the highest risk level for lung cancer – people who are

50- to 80-years-old who are, or were, heavy smokers."

Anh. T. Dinh, who immigrated to the United States from Vietnam, is a survivor of stage 2 lung cancer and a former smoker, starting the nicotine habit at age 14. Dinh, 69, said he did not have any second thoughts about quitting smoking after his lung cancer diagnosis.

Today, the Orange County resident and lung cancer survivor says he has a simple message for fellow Asian Americans, and everyone else.

"If they smoke, they should stop. Smoking is not good for your health, your lungs, and you can get cancer, just like I did," he said. "Parents should also teach their kids about the dangers of smoking because of how children are influenced and often fall to peer pressure. Parents

must make every effort to protect their children's health."

How does lung cancer begin?

Lung cancer starts when abnormal cells grow out of control in the lung. Lung cancer can develop anywhere in the lungs, affect any part of the respiratory system, and if left untreated, can spread to organs outside the lungs.

What are the symptoms?

The first signs of lung cancer may include:

- Coughing
- Wheezing
- Shortness of breath
- Chest pain
- Coughing up blood
- Fatigue
- Unintentional weight loss

If you are experiencing any of these symptoms, it's recommended that you consult with your health care provider, Dr. Fajilan advised. It's important to know, however, that lung cancer (especially early-



Getty Images

stage lung cancer) may present no symptoms at all.

"If you smoke, quitting has many health benefits, can significantly lower your lifetime risk of acquiring lung cancer, and can significantly extend your lifespan,"

Dr. Fajilan said. "It's never too late to quit the nicotine habit, and there are many programs out there that will help you do so."

OPINION: People living with early Alzheimer's need President Biden's help

By Sue Peschin

Sue Peschin is the president & CEO of the Alliance for Aging Research in Washington, DC.

Last year, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) announced that it would refuse to cover an entire class of FDA-approved therapies for the treatment of mild cognitive impairment and early dementia due to Alzheimer's disease. CMS' decision effectively cut off access for the vast majority of beneficiaries living with early Alzheimer's, except those wealthy seniors who could choose to pay out-of-pocket.

The decision, and its aftermath, does not represent what President Biden says he values, which is people. It was a shocking and

disheartening illustration of what happens when bureaucrats crunch numbers and forget about the people behind the math.

CMS applied an extralegal tool called "coverage with evidence development" (CED) to all monoclonal antibody therapies for early Alzheimer's. Under a CED, Medicare denies coverage for an FDA-approved item or service, except for treatments provided through a very narrowly constructed clinical study.

Once CMS places a treatment in CED, it's extraordinarily difficult to reverse the decision.

But, the agency's April 7, 2022, Alzheimer's coverage decision was the first time CMS applied CED to an on-label use of an FDA-approved drug. There are strong signals from CMS that

it won't be the last, as gene and stem cell therapies for cancer and rare diseases continue to progress through clinical development.

A report on CED called Façade of Evidence: How Medicare's Coverage with Evidence Development Rations Care and Exacerbates Inequity, issued by my organization, found that Medicare beneficiaries of color and those living in rural areas are more likely to be denied access under CEDs because the rigid conditions of coverage primarily direct care to

urban medical centers in wealthier areas.

The FDA recently approved a second monoclonal antibody treatment called Leqembi that slowed progression of early Alzheimer's by 27% over an 18-month trial. Many neurologists who were skeptical of the first drug say Leqembi could be a game-changer.

However, the Alzheimer's community, including the American Academy of Neurology and more than 200 research

experts in the space, have had to plead with CMS to revise its extreme Medicare coverage restrictions. So far, CMS has rejected those requests.

As the president notes in his November 2022 Proclamation on National Alzheimer's Disease Awareness Month, "Alzheimer's is common and especially cruel, robbing people of their memories, thoughts, and identity over many years. Across the Nation, this epidemic is growing: In the next 30 years, the number of Americans

with Alzheimer's is expected to reach nearly 14 million, straining families and our health care system. Fortunately, we are on the cusp of life-saving advances that can forever change the course of the disease."

We completely agree. He needs to step in so people living with early Alzheimer's get a fair shot at more time with their families.

Former doctor behind 1-800-GET-THIN gets 7 years in prison

LOS ANGELES (CNS) - The former operator of the now-defunct 1-800-GET-THIN ad campaign was sentenced Monday to seven years behind bars for using fabricated sleep studies to persuade insurance companies to pay out tens of millions of dollars for Lap-Band surgery.

Julian Omidi, 54, of West Hollywood, and one of his companies, Beverly Hills-based Surgery Center Management, were found guilty in December 2021 of multiple wire and mail fraud counts.

Omidi, a former doctor, also was found guilty of two counts of making false statements relating to health care matters and one count each of aggravated identity theft and money laundering. Additionally, Omidi and SCM were found guilty of one count of conspiracy to commit money laundering, according to the U.S. Attorney's Office.

SCM was sentenced to five years probation. Fines and restitution are to be determined at a hearing in June.

The Lap-Band is a silicone ring that is surgically implanted around the stomach to discourage overeating. The weight-loss-surgery business was widely advertised on Southern California freeway billboards, radio and television, attracting people desperate to shed excess pounds.

However, before insurance companies would pre-approve the \$100,000 surgery, prospective patients had to show they suffered from certain afflictions, including sleep apnea.

Prosecutors told the Los Angeles federal court jury that Omidi created a process that turned "patients into profits" by directing employees to "falsely diagnose patients with a sleep disorder they

didn't have."

The defense argued that Omidi was a victim of a sleep-study con man named Charles Klasky, who "posed as an expert in sleep medicine" and tricked Omidi into allowing him to oversee the sleep-study program.

Klasky pleaded guilty to a federal conspiracy charge and was placed on probation last year.

Prosecutors told the jury that patients were harmed as a result of the scheme when they were subjected to unnecessary medical procedures, and that insurance providers were conned out of millions of dollars after receiving fraudulent bills.

Omidi, whose medical license was revoked in 2009, established procedures requiring prospective patients -- even those covered by insurance plans he knew would never cover Lap-Band surgery --

to have at least one sleep study, and employees were offered commissions to make sure the studies occurred.

According to federal prosecutors, Omidi decided every patient would get a sleep study, and the scheme "got the patients in the door with false promises, gave them false hope, and billed their insurance companies with false claims."

After patients underwent sleep studies -- often with little indication that any doctor had determined the study was necessary -- GET THIN employees, acting at Omidi's direction, falsified the results to reflect that the patient had moderate or severe sleep apnea, and that they suffered from severe daytime sleepiness, the jury found.

Omidi then caused those falsified reports to be used in support of GET THIN's pre-authorization requests for Lap-Band surgery, evidence showed.

Relying on the falsified studies, as well as other bogus information, including patients' heights and weights, insurance companies authorized payment for many of the proposed Lap-Band surgeries. Prosecutors said GET THIN received at least \$38 million for the Lap-Band procedures.

Even if the insurance company did not authorize the surgery, GET THIN still was able to submit bills for an average of \$15,000 for each sleep study, the jury was told during the 48-day trial in downtown Los Angeles. The insurance payments were deposited into bank accounts associated with the GET THIN entities.

Benefit programs victimized by the billing scam include TriCare -- the health care program for uniformed service members, retirees and their families around the world -- and various private insurance companies.

Omidi's mother, Cindy, was sentenced to probation in 2015 after she was convicted of violating laws designed to prevent money laundering.



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