

The Norwalk Patriot

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Man photographing kids near school raises anxieties

■ New River Elementary School students and parents are expressing anxieties after a man continues to allegedly take photos of the children after school in the park.

NORWALK – Reports of a man taking photographs of students leaving New River Elementary School in Norwalk is creating safety concerns among parents, students and city officials.

The man has been observed in his car after school hours with a blanket, laptop and cell phone taking pictures of children in the park, according to Fox11. A student from New River Elementary School alleges to have seen the man “masturbating to kids.”

New River Elementary has covered the school fence with a tarp, although this has not stopped the man from continuing to wait in the area after school.

Norwalk City Council member Rick Ramirez authorized the installation of surveillance cameras around the children’s recreation center at the park in response to the growing number of reports. He expressed his concerns for the parent and student safety, while urging against the community “taking the law into their own hands.”

The man accused denies the allegations and insists he has the right to be there. He is aware members of the community are uncomfortable with him at the park, but expressed he plans to continue parking outside New River Elementary School.

Parents have reported the man to law enforcement and public safety. However the man has not broken any laws, as it is legal to film in public places where privacy is not expected.

Norwalk-La Mirada Unified School District superintendent Dr. John Lopez said the district is aware of the situation and communicated the situation to the community.

Vincent Medina, contributor



Surveillance cameras were installed at new New River park after multiple reports of a man taking photographs of children leaving New River Elementary School. (PHOTO BY VINCENT MEDINA)

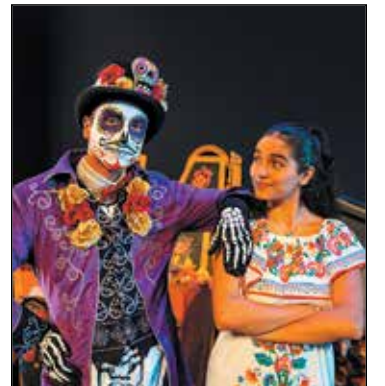
Weekend at a Glance

Friday 82°

Saturday 80°

Sunday 79°

SOMETHING TO DO



WHAT: Sugar Skull is a touring bilingual, bicultural musical appropriate for all ages. It will play one performance in Downey. Limited tickets still available.

WHEN: Saturday, Nov. 4, 4 pm
WHERE: Downey Theatre

ON THIS DAY

1793:

Olympe de Gouges—a French feminist who challenged conventional views on a number of matters, especially the role of women as citizens—was executed by guillotine.

1956:

The Wizard of Oz aired on television for the first time and was seen by an estimated 45 million viewers; its repeated airings on TV helped make the movie an enduring classic.

1957:

The Soviet Union launched Sputnik 2, which carried the dog Laika, the first living creature to be shot into space and orbit Earth.

1992:

Carol Moseley Braun became the first African American woman elected to the U.S. Senate.

1998:

A previously unknown 15.5-mile section of the Great Wall of China was discovered in the Hui Autonomous Region of Ningxia.

2014:

One World Trade Center opened in New York City on the site of the former World Trade Center complex, which had been destroyed in the September 11, 2001, attacks.

2016:

After trailing in the series 3–1, the Chicago Cubs defeated the Cleveland Indians to capture the franchise’s first World Series title in 108 years; the extra-inning game seven—which was interrupted by a rain delay—had started November 2 but went into the early hours of November 3.

BIRTHDAYS

Comedian and actress **ROSEANNE BARR** (71), actor **DOLPH LUNDGREN** (66), comedian **BERT KREISCHER** (50) activist and quarterback **COLIN KAEPERNICK** (36), R&B singer **ELLA MAI** (29) and model **KENDALL JENNER** (28).

L.A. County prepares to launch CARE Court in Norwalk

■ The new court program will give eligible people access to mental health care.

By City News Service

NORWALK – Los Angeles Superior Court officials Wednesday unveiled a website providing information and details on the county’s upcoming start of the Community Assistance, Recovery and Empowerment Act, or CARE Court, program that allows individuals to petition a court to provide treatment for people suffering from mental illness.

The CARE Court program, which is already operating

in seven California counties, including Orange and San Diego, is scheduled to begin in Los Angeles County on Dec. 1, one year earlier than originally planned.

The website, www.lacourt.org/care, provides details of the program and information on how the system works.

Los Angeles Superior Court will initially hold CARE Court proceedings at the Norwalk Courthouse, but the operation is expected to eventually move to a more centralized location.

“By providing residents access to this information early, we hope to empower our communities with knowledge

of how the CARE Court process may provide vulnerable individuals suffering from severe mental health disorders the care they need, and deserve, to stabilize and succeed,” Los Angeles Superior Court Presiding Judge Samantha P. Jessner said in a statement.

The CARE Court program was approved by the state Legislature last year. It allows eligible people -- including relatives, first responders, health care providers and mental health experts -- to petition a court to order care services and housing for individuals suffering from mental health issues.

To be eligible for the CARE Court, a person must be:

-- 18 years of age or older;

-- diagnosed with a disorder within the “schizophrenia and other psychotic disorders” class of disorders and currently experiencing symptoms;

-- not clinically stabilized in ongoing treatment; and

-- the individual’s mental health is substantially deteriorating, and they are unlikely to survive safely in the community without supervision and/or they need services and support to prevent relapse and deterioration.

People who enter the CARE

Court system can eventually receive services such as mental health care, housing and other support for a maximum of two years, with periodic review hearings scheduled to go over the case.

The subjects of the petitions will be provided with legal representation. Some critics of the program have suggested that people targeted by the petitions could be unwillingly forced into care or ultimately into conservatorships. But proponents contend the alternative is for people to sink deeper into mental illness and potentially die living on the streets.

NORWALK HALLOWEEN FESTIVAL



Court officials defend zero-bail system

■ Early data suggests public safety has not been negatively impacted, according to Superior Court officials.

By City News Service

NORWALK—Los Angeles County's zero-bail system, which was implemented Oct. 1 amid concerns from some law enforcement and elected officials, has worked "exactly the way it was intended" and has not decreased public safety, Superior Court officials insisted Monday as they released data on the system's first three weeks of operation.

Most notably, the report compiled by the court found that less than 3% of people who have been booked on suspicion of a crime were subsequently re-arrested and booked again during the first three weeks of the Pre-Arrestment Release Protocols, or PARP, system.

"The preliminary PARP Report released today demonstrates the undeniable

public safety benefits of utilizing individualized risk determinations to assess conditions of release, as opposed to basing conditions of release solely on an arrested individual's ability to pay traditional money bail," Presiding Judge Samantha P. Jessner said in a statement.

"This new system is working exactly the way it was intended -- the vast majority of those determined by a magistrate to be a significant risk to public and victim safety, or a significant flight risk, are being temporarily held in jail prior to arraignment, while the vast majority of those who pose little risk to public or victim safety and are likely to return to court are being released with non-financial conditions.

"Under the previous money bail system, these same high-risk individuals would be able to buy their release from jail if they had access to money, and the low-risk individuals would

remain in jail for days, weeks, months, or even years if they did not have access to money to purchase their release."

The zero-bail system largely eliminates the existing cash bail system for all but the most serious of crimes. Most people arrested on suspicion on non-violent or non-serious offenses are either cited and released in the field or booked and released at a police or sheriff's station with orders to appear in court on a specific date for arraignment once they are actually charged with a crime.

Arrestees who are believed to present a heightened threat to the public or be a flight risk are referred to a magistrate judge, who reviews the case and determines whether the person should be held in custody pending arraignment or released under non-financial restrictions such as electronic monitoring.

Once a person is charged and appears in court for arraignment, a judge could change or revoke the defendant's release conditions.

Some law enforcement officials, including Los Angeles County Sheriff Robert Luna, expressed concern about the system before it took effect, saying it would reduce public confidence in the justice system by quickly releasing people arrested for a variety of offenses.

More than a dozen Southland cities — including Downey and Whittier — have filed a lawsuit seeking to overthrow the zero-bail system, saying it would be

detrimental to public safety.

Superior Court officials on Monday, however, said the arrest data from the program's first three weeks belies those concerns. Jessner called claims that the system is harmful to public safety misinformation and "dangerous and negligent rhetoric."

The report released Monday analyzed 5,113 bookings that occurred between Oct. 1, when the new system took effect, and Oct. 21.

According to the report, 40% of those bookings were for more serious offenses that were ineligible for zero-bail consideration. A total 1,213 cases were referred to a magistrate judge for further review, and of those, 64% of the arrestees were ordered to remain in custody pending arraignment.

The report found that 85% of people released under the zero-bail system were considered low-risk offenders, while 71% of the people held in custody pending arraignment were considered medium- to high-risk.

The report found that only 2.5% of people who were booked during the first three weeks of the program were subsequently re-arrested for another offense and re-booked. Of that 2.5%, nearly half of the re-arrestees had been arrested for a serious or violent crime and were free only because they posted cash bail. Only two people who were released after a review by a magistrate judge were re-booked during the first three weeks of the program, according to the report.

"Despite a significant amount of misinformation circulating regarding the new

bail policy's impact on public safety, we are encouraged that the first three weeks of data reveal the new system is actually keeping communities safer," Superior Court Executive Officer/Clerk of Court David W. Slayton.

"By providing individualized risk assessments for many of those arrested in Los Angeles County prior to their release, rather than arbitrarily releasing individuals based on whether they can afford a certain amount of money bail, this new system better ensures that those who present a significant risk are held while those who present little to no risk are released prior to trial."

Los Angeles Police Department Chief Michel Moore, who was among those expressing concern about the zero-bail system before it was implemented, said in a statement Monday he was "comforted" that most of the arrestees who were referred to a magistrate judge were kept in custody pending arraignment.

"However, I remain very concerned that 42 individuals who were arrested for felony crimes after October 1st and subsequently released due to ... zero-bail policies or a cash bailout, were later re-arrested by LAPD officers and booked for committing additional felony crimes," Moore said. "We will continue to work closely with the Los Angeles Judicial Council to find the appropriate balance between the rights of the accused and our duty to protect the city of Los Angeles."

Luna issued a statement Monday in response to the court's data analysis, saying, "We are closely monitoring the progress of the Superior Court new pre-arraignment

policy and the impacts to public safety. The early results of PARP are showing that individuals who don't score high on the risk assessment scale are being released with specific conditions and those who score high are staying in custody through their arraignment.

"I am encouraged by the collaboration between the Superior Court of Los Angeles County, our Department, LAPD, and representatives from the Los Angeles County Police Chiefs as the Superior Court shows a willingness to work with local law enforcement officials. We will continue to closely examine the crime rates, jail population, and any other factors that impacts public safety within Los Angeles County," Luna said.

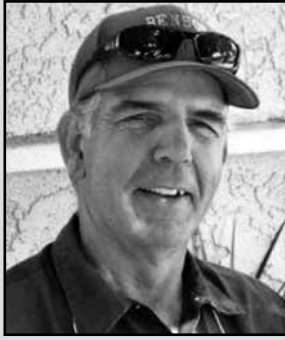
The new system was developed in response to long-held criticism that traditional cash bail favored the rich, meaning well-heeled people arrested for even the most serious of crimes could pay their way out of jail, while low-income people languished behind bars for far lesser offenses. The new system is based not on cash, but on the risk an offender presents to public safety or the possibility the person might fail to appear in court.

The county implemented a zero-bail system during the COVID-19 pandemic in an effort to prevent crowding in jails. Then in May, a Los Angeles judge issued a preliminary injunction essentially reinstating the system by ordering an end to cash bail by the Los Angeles police and sheriff's departments.

The Los Angeles Superior Court in July announced plans for the PARP system, with Jessner saying, "A person's ability to pay a large sum of money should not be the determining factor in deciding whether that person, who is presumed innocent, stays in jail before trial or is released."

But the idea of zero-bail generated public safety questions. Several members of the county Board of Supervisors said last month their offices had been swamped with calls from residents concerned about the system, particularly following a recent wave of mob-style, smash-and-grab burglaries and reports of suspects in those crimes being arrested but then quickly released, only to commit new crimes.


In Memory of
Ray Duddleston
 March 23, 1942 - October 25, 2023



Ray Duddleston—long time Norwalk resident, handy man and community Superman passed away Wednesday, October 25th of colorectal cancer, surrounded by his loving family. Ray was 81 years old. Born in Toledo, OH in 1942, Ray was the youngest amongst 4 children. He joined the Navy when he was 18 years old, which would bring him to his final active station in Long Beach, CA where he would marry and start a family. Ray is survived by 4 daughters, 9 grandchildren and a neighborhood of long time friends. Celebration of life will be held this coming Sunday, November 5th— from 11am-3pm @ Casa Adelita.


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and




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GARDENA ARTESIA TRANSIT CENTER ARTESIA & VERMONT	7:00 AM	11:00 AM
NORWALK TOWN SQUARE PIONEER & VALENCIA	7:30 AM	11:30 AM
FULLERTON BOWLERO 1501 S. Lemon at 91 Fwy	8:00 AM	12:00 NOON

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Republicans drift further from center

By electing Mike Johnson, Republicans reject what's best for the country.

By Susan Estrich

Susan Estrich is an attorney, author and syndicated columnist.

Who is Mike Johnson?

The new speaker of the House is a far right-winger, an election denier and the symbol of the far right's grip on the Republican Party. The center did not hold in the selection of the new speaker. The more centrist Republicans — who represent the majority of the Republican caucus — caved.

Make no mistake. The new speaker is not well-known and not experienced, but he won because he was acceptable to the hard-liners who played chicken. And won.

The candidates who failed were not moderates by any stretch. They were all conservatives — but not conservative enough to win the favor of the far right, which has taken control of the Republican Party.

The Republicans looked like fools. With crises around the world, they could not get their act together. They had to coalesce around someone, and when it became clear

that no one who voted to certify the 2020 election or work with the other side to keep the government running was acceptable to them, they gave in.

Surrounded by hard-right members after his election, the man who will presumably preside over the certification of the next election refused to answer questions about his record as an election denier. One of his supporters actually told the reporter who asked him about it to “shut up.”

The overwhelming majority of Americans want the two parties to work together to do the people's business. That's what Rep. Kevin McCarthy did, and he lost the speaker's chair because of it. It's why Reps. Steve Scalise and Tom Emmer, both of whom had more support than Johnson in the Republican caucus, pulled out of the race, and Trump's choice won.

Then the old-fashioned conservatives who respect the institution caved, coalescing around a lesser-known — though no less of a hard-liner — Rep. Jim Jordan, Johnson's mentor.

The new speaker is as anti-gay as they come. Back in 2003, the supposed constitutional scholar defended laws that provided for criminal penalties for homosexual sex between consenting adults. The next year, he wrote that same-sex marriage was a “dark harbinger of chaos and sexual anarchy that could doom even the strongest republic.” He hasn't changed his mind: He continues to support efforts to overturn the court's ruling legalizing same-sex marriage. He is staunchly anti-abortion

and a supporter of federal legislation to ban abortion in America. And, of course, as a die-hard Trumper, he embraced the crazy conspiracy theories that had Venezuela somehow tampering with voting machines in the 2020 election and wrote a legal brief in support of negating the election results. His style may be more restrained than Jordan's, but in substance, he is no different. And he is now second in line to succeed the president. If that isn't scary, what is?

There was, at least reportedly, some talk of a bipartisan effort by less extreme Republicans to work with Democrats to elect a more responsible, more representative speaker. But Democrats, who effectively joined forces with the extremist Republicans to vote out McCarthy, apparently preferred the devil they didn't know to the one they did. They may be able to use Mike Johnson as an argument to win back control of the House in the 2024 election. But the question is, how much will that cost, between now and then? If Johnson and his allies have their way — and they have shown that they will stop at nothing to do so — the Democrats' strategy may cost them, and the nation, dearly in the interim.

Because in the short run, at least, the lesson is that if you are willing to put everything at risk, if you have no respect for the institution, if you are willing to use the tactics that make your party look like fools, you win. So much for the will of the people. The bullies have taken power. How long Johnson will last is what remains to be seen.

Your rights at stake in Trump trials

Love him or hate him, Donald Trump has a right to speak.

By Betsy McCaughey

Betsy McCaughey is a former lieutenant governor of New York.

When the American Civil Liberties Union goes to bat for Donald Trump, it's a red flag. The ACLU generally fights for far-left causes.

But the ACLU always has championed the rights of the accused. This time, the accused is Trump.

The ACLU is protesting a gag order imposed by U.S. District Court Judge Tanya Chutkan on Oct. 17 to silence Trump, at the request of federal prosecutor Jack Smith. Trump has called Smith a “thug.”

Chutkan's order bars Trump from making any statements “targeting” Smith, the witnesses in the case or the judge herself. Trump's lawyers appealed. Chutkan paused the gag order for several days but reinstated it on Sunday.

The ACLU is backing Trump's right to speak.

Whether you like Trump or hate him, watch this battle. If prosecutors can silence a former president, think what they could do to you.

The ACLU argues the gag order violates Trump's First Amendment rights and the public's right to hear Trump's views so they can decide “whether he deserves to be elected again.”

History and the Bill of Rights are on Trump's side.

In 1987, a trial court attempted to gag Rep. Harold Ford, on trial for selling influence. An appeals court struck down the gag order.

That appeals court ruled that “the defendant, a Democrat, a black congressman who represents a largely black constituency in Memphis, is entitled to attack the alleged political motives of the Republican administration which he claims is persecuting him because of his political views and his race.” The judges added “he has the right to express his outrage.”

So does Trump. The battle over Trump's gag order is a mirror image of the Ford case.

In 1999, another federal appeals court suspended a gag against Louisiana Insurance Commissioner Jim Brown, who was facing criminal charges. The court reasoned that silencing Brown would deprive him of the right to defend himself to the electorate as he ran for reelection.

On Monday, when Chutkan reinstated her gag order, she declared that “the First Amendment rights of participants in criminal proceedings must yield, when necessary, to the orderly administration of justice.”

Sorry, Judge. Not in America. The Bill of Rights was written to protect defendants, not the government or the “orderly administration of justice.”

The Sixth Amendment lists the rights that belong to the “accused.” Only the accused. When Chutkan says she's defending the rights of government, Americans should be fearful.

Chutkan defends her gag order by saying the First Amendment doesn't permit Trump “to launch a pretrial smear campaign” against the people prosecuting him. “No other defendant would be allowed to do so.”

Untrue. Chutkan needs a refresher course on the

history of the Bill of Rights.

First-year law students study John Peter Zenger, a New York printer jailed and hauled into court in 1735, long before the American Revolution, for denouncing the colony's royal governor. While Zenger sat in jail, his wife heroically kept the presses running. At trial, the jury ignored the judge's instructions and refused to convict Zenger — making him an early hero of the resistance to government tyranny.

Four decades later, in 1787, as the Framers wrote the U.S. Constitution, they invoked Zenger's trial, calling it “the germ of American freedom.”

Fast forward to the present. Trump is also on trial in New York, where Judge Arthur Engoron has imposed a gag order barring Trump from denouncing members of the court. On Wednesday, the judge slapped Trump with a \$10,000 fine for allegedly criticizing Engoron's clerk.

Engoron said, “I don't think that it is impinging on someone's First Amendment rights to protect my staff.”

Wrong. Horribly wrong. The First Amendment is not designed to shield government officials from criticism.

The heavy-handed judges presiding over the Trump trials are turning him into a poster boy for freedom of speech and the rights of the accused.

Kudos to the ACLU for separating politics from principles and opposing the gag orders. Every American, including Trump, is guaranteed freedom to speak out against government.

As Trump says, “They're not coming after me. They're coming after you, and I'm just in the way.”

Gun cultures need gun laws, too

Sensible gun laws make sense, even in rural communities.

By Froma Harrop

Froma Harrop is a syndicated columnist.

Rep. Jared Golden's about-face on gun laws is not surprising. He is a Democrat representing Lewiston, Maine, still convulsed by a mass shooting that took 18 lives. Formerly against tightening the laws, Golden now wants a ban on semiautomatic weapons.

One can understand why elected officials in rural areas, even in generally liberal states, would put forth the argument that guns really aren't a problem. Maine, after all, is a low-crime place. Its murder rate is fourth-lowest in the nation, despite a strong gun culture. Many Mainers rely on firearms to hunt for dinner. Vermont, another New England state with little gun violence and lax guns laws, has the second lowest murder rate in the country.

And what's true in northern New England is true throughout much of rural America. What fuels the impression that homicides are high in these areas is that the official statistics for gun deaths include

suicides, which account for just over half of the deaths by firearms. Wyoming had one of the lowest homicides rates in America but the highest gun suicide rate in 2021, according to the latest numbers.

In opposing sensible gun laws, the National Rifle Association summons visions of peaceful gun-owning communities centered on hunting. Of course, the killing machine used in Lewiston was designed not for hunting deer but for mowing down large numbers of humans in seconds.

The massacre in Maine also underscored the insanity of letting anyone with severe mental illness own any firearm. The Lewiston killer, paranoid and hearing voices, was mentally ill enough to be hospitalized during the summer. And less than two weeks after he legally bought a high-powered rifle, he had run-ins with New York State police and his National Guard superiors.

Maine might have seen a stadium of waving red flags regarding this sick man if it had red flag laws. But it doesn't. These laws enable the authorities to take away firearms from someone they believe is dangerous. Maine has a weaker yellow flag law. It requires a family member to first contact law enforcement when they fear someone at home is a threat to himself or to others. After that, police would take the disturbed family member into protective custody.

Many New Englanders harbor the delusion that these shootings are mainly a problem to their south and west,

in places like Texas, Florida or Colorado. But of course, one of the most horrific school shootings took place in Newtown, a leafy Connecticut town where a mentally ill local kid shot dead 26 at an elementary school. And shocking as that event was, it was not enough to bring about a national ban on assault rifles.

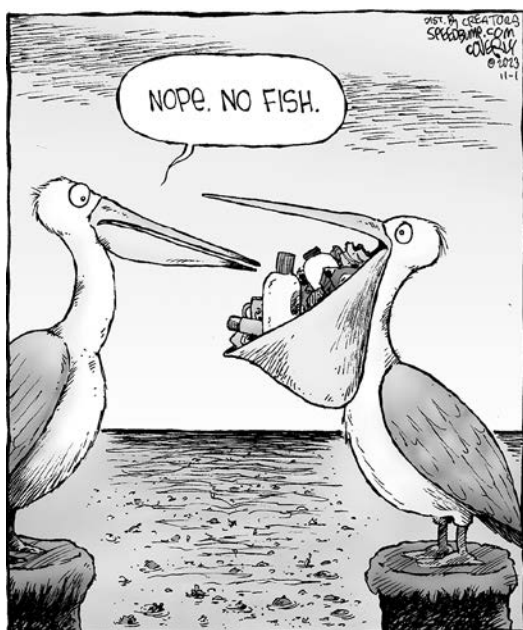
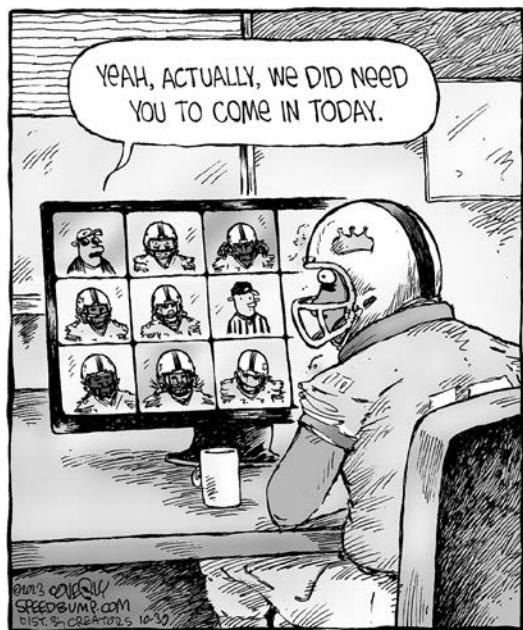
Efforts to merely limit who may buy them are doomed to fail. The 20-year-old Newtown killer simply picked up his mother's assault weapon plus 10 magazines with 30 rounds each.

Maine's two senators, Republican Susan Collins and independent Angus King, won't go the distance to backing a ban on military-style weapons. They've even supported an amendment to a spending bill that would forbid the Department of Veterans Affairs from automatically alerting the federal firearms background check system if a veteran is mentally unable to manage their benefits.

One would like to think that Golden has seen the light and is not proposing tighter gun laws only because his own community is in mass mourning. Whatever the reason, though, he is now in the right place.

To sum up: No one who is not in the military or law enforcement should possess a military-style weapon. No one who has been deemed severely mentally ill should own any firearm. Those reforms shouldn't be so hard to support, including in gun country.

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@thedownypatriot.com

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PUZZLE OF THE WEEK

THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

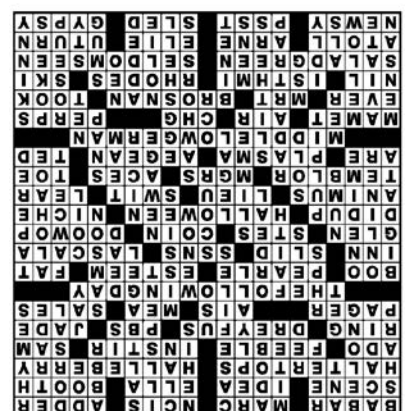
Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com)
TRIPLE TRIO: Reassembled at 71 Across
 by S.N.

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|--|--|
| ACROSS | DOWN |
| 1 Kid-lit elephant king | 1 C substitute |
| 6 Artist Chagall | 2 Easternmost national park |
| 10 Long-running CBS drama | 3 Have membership |
| 14 Sort of snake | 4 Common crawler |
| 19 Postcard picture | 5 Lagoon barrier |
| 20 It's a thought | 6 Bishop's hat |
| 21 Jazz great Fitzgerald | 7 Graphics software brand |
| 22 Voting area | 8 Email button |
| 23 Summer blouses [FIRST PART] | 9 Detective's dossiers |
| 25 <i>Monster's Ball</i> Oscar winner [FIRST PART] | 10 M*A*S*H refreshments |
| 27 Needless fuss | 11 Extended family |
| 28 Ineffective | 12 Squandered |
| 29 Serving a sentence | 13 Certain holey roll |
| 30 Walton of Walmart | 14 Dict. notation |
| 31 Boxing venue | 15 Forest female |
| 33 "J'Accuse..." subject | 16 Fin descriptor |
| 35 <i>Nova</i> broadcaster | 17 Schwab.com alternative |
| 36 Figurine mineral | 18 Go and throw |
| 37 Clip-on communicator | 24 Obviously embarrassed |
| 39 Grafton's ___ for <i>Alibi</i> | 26 Frozen Wasser |
| 40 ___ culpa | 32 Comprehend |
| 41 Merchant's markdowns | 34 Hangout for NCOs |
| 42 November 1, to 71 Across [CENTER PART] | 36 Mr. Gatsby |
| 48 Word heard on 71 Across | 38 MLB hurlers who aren't southpaws |
| 51 LensCrafters rival | 40 Little girls |
| 52 High regard | 41 Biblical strongman |
| 53 Nutrition label listing | 43 Snakelike swimmers |
| 56 Rural lodgings | 44 Proverbial mountain mover |
| 57 Lost traction | 45 Trying time |
| 58 IRS IDs | 46 "___ interrupt this program..." |
| 60 Where <i>Otello</i> premiered | 47 Needing a battery charge |
| 62 Secluded valley | 48 Job for a supercomputer |
| 64 Fr. holy women | 49 Web regular |
| 66 Metal money | 50 Phrase on a 66 Across |
| 68 '50s singing style | |
| 69 Prepared to wear | |
| 71 Tripartite theme of the puzzle | |
| | 74 Small segment of a market |
| | 75 Strong dislike |
| | 77 In ___ of (rather than) |
| | 78 M*A*S*H star (no, not him) |
| | 80 Small plane name |
| | 81 Earthquake |
| | 83 Dept. heads |
| | 85 Hotshot pilots |
| | 87 Slipper tip |
| | 88 "My lips ___ sealed" |
| | 89 Blood blank supply |
| | 91 Water near Olympus |
| | 93 Danson of TV |
| | 94 Language that gave us "bulwark" and "buckwheat" [CENTER PART] |
| | 97 <i>American Buffalo</i> playwright |
| | 100 Telecast |
| | 101 Chk. alternative |
| | 102 Whom cops collar |
| | 106 In any way |
| | 107 Stallone film opponent |
| | 108 007 before Craig |
| | 112 Absconded with |
| | 113 Nothing |
| | 114 Geographical necks |
| | 116 91 Across island |
| | 118 Snowboard cousin |
| | 119 Lettuce or endive [LAST PART] |
| | 121 Rather rare [LAST PART] |
| | 123 Lagoon barrier |
| | 124 "Rule, Britannia!" composer |
| | 125 Author Wiesel |
| | 126 Road reversal |
| | 127 Of current interest |
| | 128 Whisper for attention |
| | 129 Snowboard cousin |
| | 130 <i>Carmen's</i> title character |

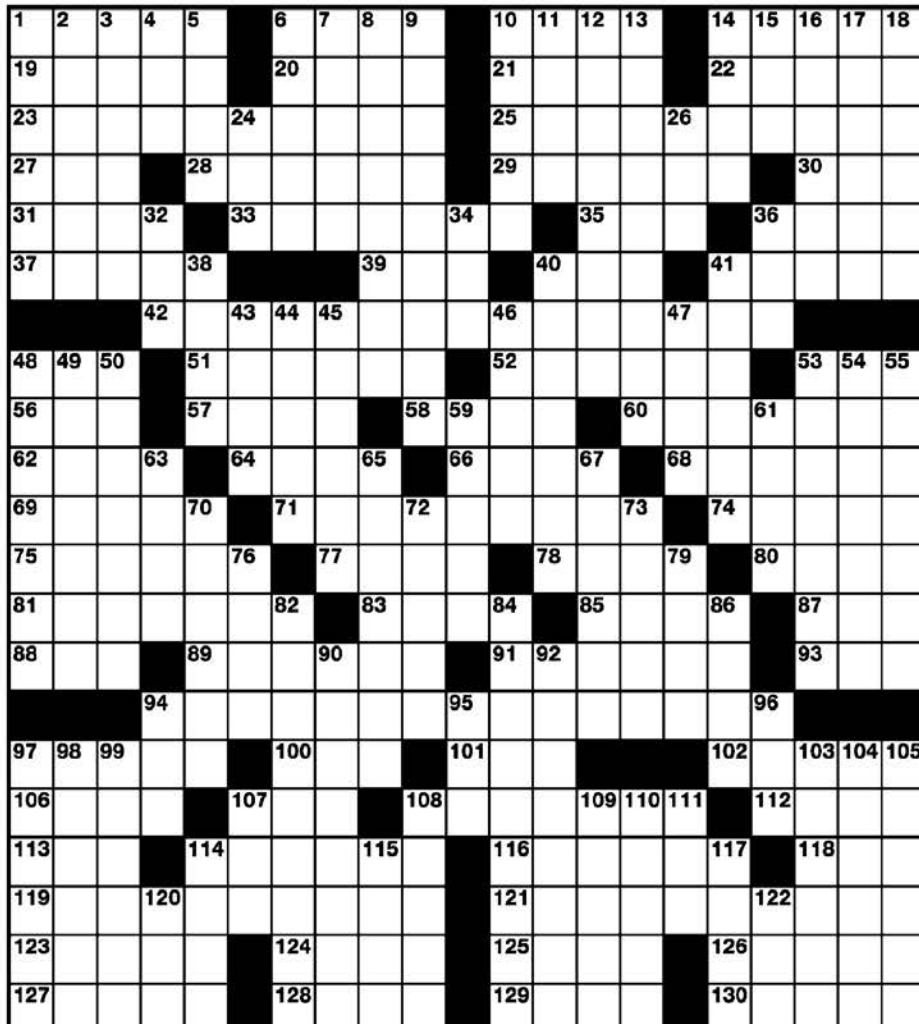
You can contact puzzle editor Stanley Newman at his e-mail address: StanXwords@aol.com. Or write him at P.O. Box 69, Massapequa Park, NY 11762, Please send a self-addressed, stamped envelope if you'd like a reply.

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

Other notable opera that had their premiere at LA SCALA (60 Across) include *Madama Butterfly* and *Turandot*. *Temblor* (81 Across), a Spanish word for "earthquake," is a close relative of "tremble." Pierce Brosnan (108 Across) portrayed James Bond in four films from 1995 to 2002, Daniel Craig taking over for Brosnan in 2005.



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- | | | |
|--------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|
| 53 An original Charlie's Angel | 79 Task force | 103 Rebelled |
| 54 Traditional luau tune | 82 Speeder catcher | 104 Hearth tools |
| 55 Narrowed gradually | 84 Carpentry supports | 105 Willow |
| 59 Scrub well | 86 Break cleanly | 107 NYC hoops arena |
| 61 Corkscrew's shape | 90 Moves like 43 Down | 108 IQ test developer |
| 63 Lacking feeling | 92 Diner discard | 109 "Really!" |
| 65 More willowy | 94 Cousteau's sea | 110 Threw in |
| 67 Grammy category | 95 Text-scanning technology, for short | 111 Prefix for natal |
| 70 Preacher's podium | 96 Take-home | 114 Without purpose |
| 72 Within the rules | 97 Smart set member | 115 Part of YMCA |
| 73 Not as mean | 98 Take flight | 117 Too confident |
| 76 Peddled | 99 Chilled out | 120 Two of the Unser family |
| | | 122 Where swine dine |

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Cerritos College admin honored for leadership in education



Mercedes Gutierrez, Ed.D., was recognized for outstanding achievement by Cal Poly Pomona.

Immediately after her arrival, Gutierrez helped the district successfully reach agreements with the faculty and classified unions by collaborating to seek resolution and building productive partnerships throughout the bargaining process.

She has also led the campus efforts to embrace a culture of diversity, equity, and inclusion through guest speakers and special events. She frequently returns to Cal Poly Pomona to give lectures to first-year students and has taught in the doctoral program.

"My personal and professional journey allows me to ground myself in the mission of helping others," said Gutierrez. "Staying motivated when I felt like giving up was difficult, yet having a support system through mentors, teachers, and loved ones has been important to my pathway at various life stages. The award represents allowing others with similar backgrounds to understand that adversity can be overcome."

"Since she joined us last summer, Dr. Gutierrez has demonstrated her depth of experience and knowledge in human resources, including employee relations, professional development, negotiations, and recruitment," said Cerritos College president and superintendent Dr. Jose Fierro. "This award is a testament to her work of empowering every individual on campus to reach their full potential in support of our diverse campus community."

NORWALK - Cerritos College's vice president of human resources and assistant superintendent Mercedes Gutierrez, Ed.D., received the 2023 Distinguished Alumni Award for the College of Education and Integrated Studies from California State Polytechnic University, Pomona on Oct. 21.

Gutierrez was among the first cohort of the doctoral program in educational leadership at Cal Poly Pomona.

The Cal Poly Pomona Alumni Association presents the Distinguished Alumni Award to honor outstanding achievement in a profession, service to the community, or service to Cal Poly Pomona.

Gutierrez joined Cerritos College in 2022 with a wealth of experience in human resources management in the public education sector.

Best Buy opens new "experience store" in Downey



DOWNEY - After 18 years in Downey, Best Buy celebrated the grand opening of its newly renovated "Experience Store" with a ribbon cutting last Tuesday.

More than just a shopping floor, the space has been redesigned to cater to customers

across all walks of life, allowing them to visualize how each product may work into their personal home designs.

"This is our new customer experience concept store, where we basically added a lot more premium assortment...

showcasing the brand[s] and a lot of the product itself," said Jorge Castillo, Experience Manager. "Every department has been expanded twice as much."

This includes a new "premium design center," where customers can see a mock room set up with several different products.

According to Castillo, the store aims to be able to service everyone, from young high schoolers who need varying electronics to retirees who are furnishing their dream home.

"We're able to serve every type of customer, from a condo to a premium house that has great outdoor living and bring that to life for a customer," said Castillo.

Nora Hernandez, Marketplace director, said that the hope is that the store will be "a destination" and "a hub where people come together, learn, explore, and experience the greatest and latest in technology."

"We aim to provide an immersive shopping experience that goes beyond the transaction and makes our customers' lives better," said Hernandez.

Mayor Claudia M. Frometa said the new renovations would "knock your socks off."

"Our community has been all about innovation and creating new things," said Frometa. "Eighteen years ago, this store was the first big store that opened in the Downey Landing, and 18 years later here we are."

She said that Best Buy's investment into the community was appreciated.

"In a time where economic developments continue to grow in different ways, but also there is uncertainty economically, having this grand reopening is certainly incredibly important for our community."

Alex Dominguez, Staff Writer

Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer kicks off tour at Downey Theatre

DOWNEY - A holiday classic cartoon will soon light its way back onto the Downey Theatre stage for a live performance in just over a week's time.

Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer: The Musical will feature on Wednesday, Nov. 15 at 6:30 pm.

The show is a for-stage adaptation of the beloved 1964 stop motion TV special.

According to Bob Penola, who helped develop the show, there was great care put into honoring the source material.

"As you might imagine, given the fact that [the show] was originally a claymation special with puppet figures, doing this was going to take some imagination and some creative ideas in order to translate what you remember -

or those of us who are old enough to remember - that special when it first premiered as something that was unique and very Christmasy, and to bring it to life without losing the things that people love the most about it," said Penola.

In addition to retaining the music from the original show, the show also includes songs from the catalog of Johnny Marks, who wrote the score for the special.

"We found a couple of really great chestnuts that we added into the show in a very natural way to give a little more production value and excitement at different points in the show," said Penola. "We feel, and I think anybody who sees the show, will totally love the addition of these songs."

Talia Gloster, who plays the titular reindeer of the show, said

that Rudolph represents an "open, unadulterated, unassuming curiosity and openness of other people."

"Rudolph just really takes everyone at face value, which is why he meets some really wonderful people," said Gloster. "Because he understands what it is to be sort of shunned, he treats people with the kind of openness that I think he's hoping he'll receive back, and then in putting out that good in the world he receives it from the people around him."

Gloster suggested that Rudolph serves a very unique purpose for many of its young audiences.

"For a lot of kids, and we talk about this as a company, this is a lot of kids' first experience with live theater in general, so I think that is

a really wonderful way, this is the perfect show for them to really be experiencing that for the first time in that it is totally okay that they interact with the characters," said Gloster.

For adults, it strikes a different chord.

"I think for a lot of adults, it's such a representation of so many years of holidays and Christmases, and this movie has been around and continues to be around so I think there's a lot of nostalgia associated for people who see these characters represented so accurately on stage," said Gloster.

Tickets can be purchased at the Downey Theatre box office, or online at www.downeytheatre.org.

Alex Dominguez, Staff Writer

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The Norwalk Patriot newspaper page featuring a 'SUMMER CONCERTS ON THE LAWN' article with photos of musicians, a 'Norwalk restaurant grades' sidebar with a list of establishments and their grades, and a 'Weekend at a Glance' weather forecast. The page also includes a 'Norwalk man charged with murder' article and a 'Freeway off-ramp closed for 3 months' notice.

