



KEYLA ARRIAGA and her three children, left, fled violence in Ecuador. Karenis Alvarez and her son escaped dire conditions in Venezuela. They are among the multitudes who live in Mexico City's migrant camps.



Photographs by ALEJANDRA RAJAL For The Times

## State justices weigh tax limits initiative

Measure to require voter approval for any increase pits business interests against labor.

By TARYN LUNA

The battle between business and labor is headed for a high-stakes showdown at the California Supreme Court this week over a ballot measure that would tip the balance of power at the state Capitol.

The court on Wednesday will hear oral arguments on the legality of an initiative backed by business interests that strips the state Legislature and the governor of the ability to increase taxes and requires statewide voter approval.

In an effort to quash the measure, Gov. Gavin Newsom and legislative Democrats petitioned the Supreme Court in September to intervene. They argued that the change revises the California Constitution and, therefore, can be placed on the ballot only if ratified during a Constitutional Convention or by winning a two-thirds vote in the Legislature.

The proposal has alarmed Democrats, unions and their liberal allies. The measure could limit state and local funding, hamstringing the ability to generate new money for programs and make it more challenging for the governor and Legislature to offset a budget deficit in an economic crisis without slashing progressive policy priorities.

"They should be afraid because the people of California are fed up," said Rob Lapsley, president of the California Business Roundtable, a proponent of the measure. "This gives the people of California the right to vote on future taxes, and voters are going to support it if it's on the ballot."

If approved by voters, the proposal would mark a historic win for the business community. Lapsley said establishing new checks and [See **Measure**, A7]

## THE TENTS NEXT DOOR

A migrant camp in Mexico City's gentrifying Juarez neighborhood — Pilates, wine bars, Soho House — is a study in contrasts

By Kate Linthicum

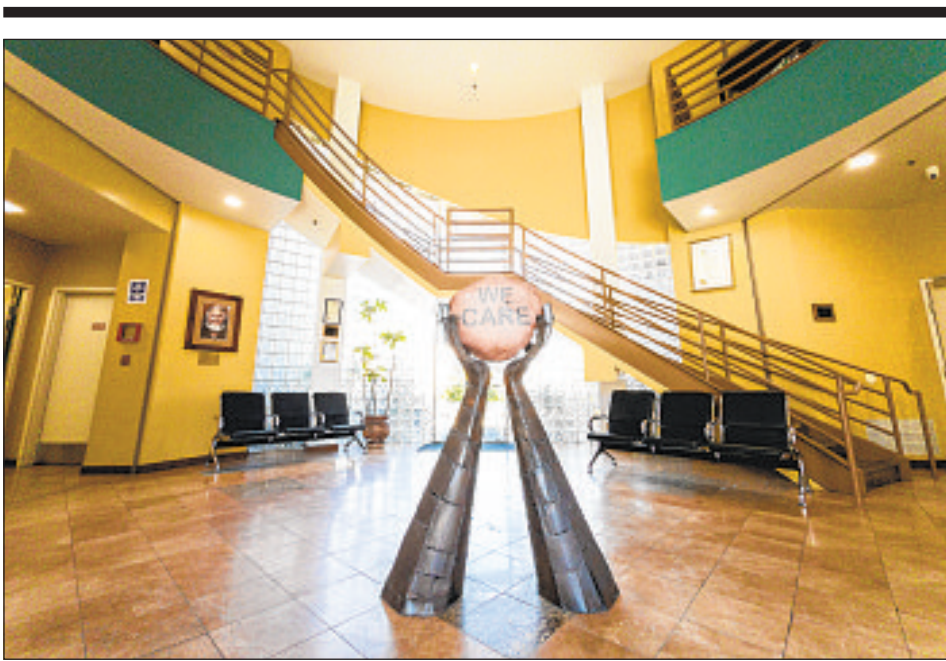
MEXICO CITY — In the rapidly gentrifying Mexico City neighborhood of Juarez, tourists roll suitcases to luxury Airbnbs, and music bumps from pool parties at Soho House, a new members-only club. Shops sell designer underwear. Cafes serve caviar.

And then there are the tents — hundreds of them — that fill the streets.

Here, destitute migrants from around the world bide time as they wait for the opportunity to request asylum at

the U.S. border. Entire families from Haiti, Venezuela and other places in upheaval live exposed to the elements, cooking over open fires, bathing in water pilfered from fountains and finding ways to relieve themselves without public restrooms.

Despite the hardships, Karenis Alvarez, 36, said the three months she has spent camped here haven't been worse than life back in Venezuela, where food and [See **Migrants**, A4]



MYUNG J. CHUN Los Angeles Times

**THE CRI-HELP** center is a residential addiction rehab site in North Hollywood. An initiative called Reaching the 95% aims to change how help is provided.

## County rethinks addiction treatment to widen service

By Emily Albert Reyes

Gary Horejsi wrestled with the decision before him, knowing a life could be in his hands.

It was the third time that the woman had used drugs or alcohol since coming to CRI-Help, which runs a 135-bed residential facility in North Hollywood where people are treated for substance use disorder.

CRI-Help needed to be a safe place for people grap-

pling with their addictions. In the past, others had been removed for less. Horejsi, the clinical director, had the final say on whether she should be discharged.

He perused her file on his computer. The woman was still trying, CRI-Help staffers told him. She hadn't shared drugs with anyone. And if she were to leave, the risks of an overdose were graver than before.

Horejsi decided to let her stay.

"Things can't be business

as usual anymore," the chief executive, Brandon Fernandez, later said at a CRI-Help staff meeting. If someone leaves treatment and resumes using drugs the same way they were before, "that could very well look like them dying."

"So are we going to be willing to do something different?"

Fernandez had gathered CRI-Help staff in their North Hollywood conference room to talk about a [See **Addiction**, A12]

## Stormy Daniels takes the stand in Trump's trial

Her testimony, at times graphic, is an anticipated moment in the hush money case.

By MICHAEL R. SISAK, JENNIFER PELTZ, ERIC TUCKER AND JAKE OFFENHARTZ

NEW YORK — Stormy Daniels took the witness stand Tuesday at former President Trump's hush money trial, describing for jurors a sexual encounter the porn actor says she had with him in 2006 that resulted in her being paid off to keep silent during the presidential race 10 years later.

Jurors appeared riveted as Daniels offered a detailed and at times graphic account of an encounter Trump has denied. Trump stared straight ahead as Daniels entered the courtroom, later shaking his head and whispering to his lawyers as she testified.

The testimony was the most-awaited spectacle in a trial that has toggled between tabloid-esque el-

ements and dry record-keeping explanation. A courtroom appearance by a porn actor who says she had an intimate encounter with a former American president adds to the long line of historic firsts in the case, which was already laden with tawdry claims of sex, payoffs and cover-ups. It is unfolding as the presumptive Republican nominee makes another bid for the White House.

Daniels was allowed to testify despite the repeated objections of defense lawyers, who demanded for the first time a mistrial over what they said were prejudicial and irrelevant comments.

"This is the kind of testimony that makes it impossible to come back from," defense lawyer Todd Blanche said. "How can we come back from this in a way that's fair to President Trump?"

Judge Juan M. Merchan rejected the request and said defense lawyers should have raised more objections during the testimony.

The Trump team later in the day used its opportunity [See **Daniels**, A7]



WALLY SKALIJ Los Angeles Times

**A COUNTERPROTESTER** runs away during last week's attack on a pro-Palestinian camp at UCLA.

## High-tech search for campus mob

UCLA police use facial-recognition software to help identify attackers.

By RICHARD WINTON

It is shaping up to be perhaps the biggest case in the history of the UCLA Police Department: how to identify dozens of people who attacked a pro-Palestinian camp at the center of campus last week.

The mob violence was captured on live television, but it took three hours for police to bring it to an end. Those involved left, and no arrests were made.

But the trail is not cold. UCLA detectives are now scanning hundreds of images in an attempt to iden-

tify the attackers. They intend to use technology that captures facial images and compares them to other photos on the internet and social media to put names to faces, according to law enforcement sources.

The same technology has enabled police to identify suspects in smash-and-grab retail burglaries. It also was the heart of the Jan. 6 investigation, in which videos of those storming the U.S. Capitol helped the FBI identify many of the assailants and led federal prosecutors to charge more than 1,300 people. In those cases, investigators often were able to find social media images of assailants wearing the same clothing as during the attack.

"Technology has made the entire community into [See **Violence**, A9]

### Rafah crossing under Israeli control

Military's capture of the Gaza entry point does not signal a full invasion, White House says. **WORLD, A3**

### Lamar looks like rap feud winner

What his diss track battle with Drake says about the state of hip-hop. **CALENDAR, E1**

### Weather

Turning sunny. L.A. Basin: 75/56. **B6**

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### TikTok lawsuit against U.S.

Chinese-owned app says legislation that could mean a ban violates free speech. **BUSINESS, A8**

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