



SYMPHONY
Musical tribute to Beethoven

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CRIME
GameStop robberies

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HEALTH
Downey gets 'F' grade

SEE PAGE 7



OBITUARIES
Residents mourned

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Remembering Kobe Bryant

The loss of Los Angeles' sports icon is being felt internationally, including here in Downey, where so many grew up idolizing him.

By William Odis Martin
Contributor

On Sunday morning, a little bit of greatness personified was snatched away from humanity in a fiery crash in the foggy hills of Calabasas.

Kobe Bean Bryant, 41, and his beautiful 13-year-old daughter, Gianna Marie, were among the nine people who tragically perished after the helicopter they occupied crashed minutes before 10 a.m.

It felt like the sun was even too sad to shine on LA that entire Sunday as Lakernation mourned its fallen star.

Kobe was an inspirational storyteller first and foremost. He encouraged future generations to pursue their passions and do what they love.

He made us all better by letting his undying drive to dominate the competition soak into the fabric of Los Angeles.

He made LA great again by showing us what being the best looks like. The City of Angels was divided in the early 90s, plagued by race wars, police brutality, and gang violence. It was Black versus White, Bloods versus Crips, but no colors were more important than the Purple and Gold once he took the floor.

Kobe was unafraid to be the outsider with a competitive edge. "The Black Mamba", his on-court persona, was unafraid of speaking openly about being fueled by equal parts passion and anger. He was intolerant of laziness which is why he had a reputation of rubbing some of his teammates the wrong way, including "The Diesel," Shaquille O'Neal.

O'Neal is having a particularly difficult time, understandably, after the news of his "little brother's passing." He shared an emotional statement on TNT as he was reflecting on the situation.

All of the adjectives and descriptors that flood my mind whenever I think of Kobe supersedes the scope of sports.

Just a few: tenacious, talented, intelligent, explosive, high-flying, relentless, remorseless, entrepreneurial, forward thinking, life force, and a competitive leader. All qualities of an ideal



PHOTO COURTESY LA LAKERS

Kobe Bryant and his daughter, Gianna, were among nine people killed in a helicopter crash Sunday in Calabasas.

superhero, and he was to many of us.

I loved that he was unashamed to be himself or to express his desires and manifest them into reality. It was this polarizing characteristic which allowed us all to taste what it felt like to be a champion.

He led his teammates, his family and the world by example and showed an entire generation how to harvest its talents with a strict regimen coupled with an unmatched commitment to excellence.

His long list of accolades includes: five NBA championships, two Olympic gold medals, two NBA Finals MVPs, 18 All Star appearances, one league MVP and an Academy Award.

Over his two decades of dedication to the Lakers, he sacrificed his body with his win or die patented "Mamba Mentality" playing through injuries and illnesses.

Lakernation has flooded Figueroa and the surrounding streets of Staples Center, affectionately nicknamed the "House that Kobe Built," to pay their respects ever since the news broke (prematurely) by TMZ.

NBA players paid their respects by taking 8-second and 24-second violations to honor The Mamba. The NFL's Pro Bowl was dominated by Kobe coverage and football fans chanted his name to show their love for the Champion. The Grammy's were held in the Staples Center later that night and it was as if the air was taken away from the entire event in wake of the tragic news.

Everyone is so affected by this major untimely loss. The only other event that could possibly compare was the assassination of President JFK, except this is an international tragedy.

We must remember in this time of deep sadness, he would want us all to continue to push ourselves, to continue to "put one foot in front of the other" and keep doing what we love because nothing should come in between us and our destiny if we pursue our passions with tenacity.

Kobe Bryant's death hits close to home

By Eric Pierce
Editor

DOWNEY - For Downey resident Jason Barquero, the death of Kobe Bryant hit particularly hard and close to home.

They were similar in age. Both worked for the Lakers organization. Both had families composed of all girls.

In fact, when Barquero's daughter was born in 2012, he and his wife named her Gianna.

"My generation, we grew up with Kobe," said Barquero, who works as the PA announcer for the South Bay Lakers, the Lakers' G League affiliate. "We were teenagers when he came into the league. Then I saw him grow as we were growing, saw him form a family as I was having a family."

Barquero never interacted with Bryant directly but his work as a reporter for LakersNation.com brought him in close proximity during Lakers practices, and Bryant's presence was unmistakable.

"When he walked out on the court, you felt the aura. I can't

explain it," said Barquero. "It was a sense of leadership, of power, of commitment that he had. He was humble and kind. There was always a high level of respect for Kobe Bryant as an individual and as a competitor."

Barquero said his co-workers in the Lakers organization held Bryant in high regard, particularly for his off-the-court charity work.

"He would take the time to meet children in hospitals, and he did it without notifying the press and without a publicist," said Barquero. "He did it strictly for the kids."

Like many people in Los Angeles, Barquero is still grieving Bryant's death. And it's given him greater appreciation for what he has.

"It made you want to hug your family," Barquero said. "Nothing in our lives is guaranteed."

Downey cuts public comment time

The City Council votes to roll back the time allotted for public comment from 5 minutes to 3.

By Alex Dominguez
Staff Writer

DOWNEY - The Downey City Council on Tuesday voted to decrease public comment time by two minutes.

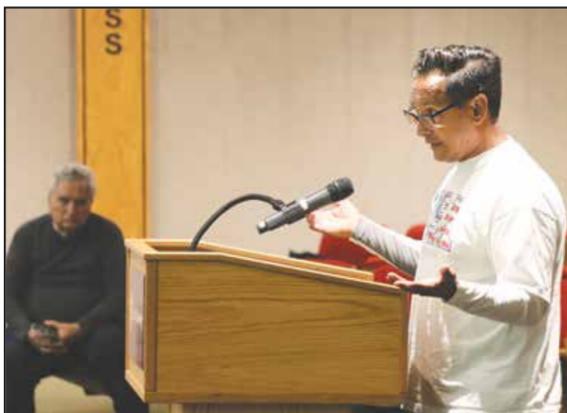
Council meeting attendees will now have three minutes to speak during non-agenda, consent calendar, public hearings, and administrative report periods each, as opposed

to the five minutes speakers were previously allotted.

This is the second change to occur to Downey's public comment policy in less than a year, as the council decided last year to give all speakers one opportunity to speak for the entire consent agenda, as opposed to each item that may be pulled for discussion.

The changes are widely believed to be in direct reaction to Armando Herman, whose rants during council meetings are often profane and include racial and homophobic slurs.

Continued on page 4



Armando Herman speaks at a Downey City Council meeting.

Downey restaurant grades

Jim's Burgers
7322 Firestone Blvd.
Date Inspected: 1/16/20
Grade: **A**

Prinkipia Coffee and Tea Room
251 Stonewood St.
Date Inspected: 1/16/20
Grade: **A**

Godtti's
7931 Firestone Blvd.
Date Inspected: 1/16/20
Grade: **A**

Tacos n Miches
7404 Florence Ave.
Date Inspected: 1/16/20
Grade: **A**

Red Iron Mongolian BBQ
106 Stonewood St.
Date Inspected: 1/16/20
Grade: **A**

Fatima Grill
7840 Firestone Blvd.
Date Inspected: 1/16/20
Grade: **A**

Ralph's Grocery (Bakery)
9200 Lakewood Blvd.
Date Inspected: 1/15/20
Grade: **A**

McDonalds
10207 Lakewood Blvd.
Date Inspected: 1/15/20
Grade: **A**

Downey Pizza Co.
9026 Florence Ave.
Date Inspected: 1/15/20
Grade: **A**

Stater Bro's Meat
7814 Firestone Blvd.
Date Inspected: 1/14/20
Grade: **A**

Stater Bro's Deli
7814 Firestone Blvd.
Date Inspected: 1/14/20
Grade: **A**

In N Out
8767 Firestone Blvd.
Date Inspected: 1/14/20
Grade: **A**

Arco AM/PM
10808 Lakewood Blvd.
Date Inspected: 1/14/20
Grade: **A**

Chick-fil-A
8613 Firestone Blvd.
Date Inspected: 1/14/20
Grade: **A**

Aldi
11215 Lakewood Blvd.
Date Inspected: 1/13/20
Grade: **A**

Lazy Dog
8800 Apollo Way
Date Inspected: 1/13/20
Grade: **A**

The Olive Restobar
8830 Apollo Way
Date Inspected: 1/13/20
Grade: **A**

Taco Bell
9551 Lakewood Blvd.
Date Inspected: 1/9/20
Grade: **A**

USA Donuts and Croissants
8009 Imperial Hwy.
Date Inspected: 1/9/20
Grade: **A**

El Chilito
12812 Paramount Blvd.
Date Inspected: 1/9/20
Grade: **A**

Pastgloria 3 Luceros
12943 Paramount Blvd.
Date Inspected: 1/9/20
Grade: **A**

Weekend at a Glance

Friday 80°

Saturday 82°

Sunday 69°

THINGS TO DO



Painting in Pajamas

Saturday - Norwalk Cultural Arts Center, 5 pm

Enjoy a memorable evening painting with your child, and you can do so in your comfiest pajamas. Fee is \$14 per person and includes instruction, painting materials and pizza.



Cheer & Dance Showcase

Saturday - Downey High, 10 am to 2 pm

Hosted by Downey High cheer, watch as cheer, dance, pep, and flag teams from around Southern California perform.



Journey Tribute

Saturday - Whittier Community Theatre, 7 pm

DSB, described as "the world's greatest tribute" to the music of Journey, performs live. Tickets start at \$25.



Monster Mash Exhibit

Saturday - SugarMynt Gallery in South Pasadena, 7-10 pm

Opening reception for Monster Mash, a classic Hollywood monster exhibition celebrating Frankenstein, Dracula, The Mummy, and other classics.



Engine Fest

Saturday - Camino Center Sports Park in San Juan Capistrano, 7:30-2

The 17th annual Engine Fest car show, featuring more than 400 hot rods, muscle cars, classics, vintage autos, imports, trucks, motorcycles, and "new car row." Plus food, vendors, disc dogs exhibition, and more.

TWEET OF THE WEEK

We are about half way through the construction stages to update the PIH Health Hospital - Downey Emergency Department. When it is finished, it will house 15 new rooms and a larger waiting area for patients and their family members. Expected completion is late 2020.

@PIHHealth

Twitter.com/DowneyPatriot

With help from a symphony, Downey wishes Beethoven a happy birthday

A near-capacity crowd at the Downey Theatre joined the Downey Symphony Orchestra in memorializing Beethoven, with a special concert in his honor.

By Lorine Parks
Society Columnist

DOWNEY - "Beethoven is in the house," announced stage manager Mark Keller, and sure enough he was.

A colorful bust of a scowling man with tousled brown hair and a flamboyant red tie presided on a plinth on stage, as the Downey Symphony Orchestra played its birthday tribute to him on the anniversary of his 250th birthday. Beethoven didn't look a day over 40, which he actually was, when he completed tonight's masterpieces.

Conductor Sharon conducted the audience a capella in singing Happy Birthday to Dear Ludwig to start the concert. And two hours later, spectacular piano soloist Sung Chang gave us an encore of the same melody with a thrilling set of trilling hummingbird variations to conclude it.

In between these impromptu moments, the audience was captivated by Beethoven's Creatures of Prometheus Overture, the romantic Second Symphony, and the piano and orchestra pyrotechnics of the Emperor Piano Concerto #5.

Seen in the lobby at Intermission: former Downey Symphonic Society president Nick Frankart and wife Mary, a Downey native; and contributors Adele Ambruso and Mary Golay. President of the Downey Family YMCA Board of Managers Greg Welch; and long-time patrons Tom and Michele Hutchinson, were enjoying the evening, as were artist Roy Anthony Shabla and poet Clifton Snider.

Glass-worker Terry Walker was busy choosing her favorite item at the art show. As Terry said, "Beethoven under the wonderful leadership of our fantastic conductor is super loud and to amazingly tranquil."

DSS President Don Marshall encouraged the audience to take pictures with their smartphones and display them on social media. Dorothy Pemberton did just that, with a selfie showing Downey patriarch Bob Brazelton, with Vicky Carnivale and friends in a group selfie which Dorothy promptly put on Facebook, showing everyone what an awesome evening it was.

It's nice to see a nearly full house. Audience numbers are climbing, which makes the orchestra members happy too. They don't really enjoy playing to empty seats. As always, the public is invited to "come on down" and share the evening. Cindy Kovach and family, "her loves," had a great time.

Observant patrons noticed that tonight's was a smaller orchestra, 42 members. Beethoven obligingly scored the instrumentation for this Second Symphony with less members than, say, his monumental 9th. That allowed Music Director Lavery to keep within DSS guidelines and offer one smaller concert along with two bigger, and costlier, evenings.

Also seen gracing the lobby: Steve and Mary Lorenzetti; long-time patron Bernice Mancebo Stumps; and Barbara and Roy Beard. Katie Hare and a posse of her Downey friends were snug on the patio with its efficient heat lamps. It was a clear and only slightly cool Southern California evening, but the lamps kept off the chill. Many more patrons were there, and I apologize for not knowing all your names, but your presence is appreciated.

Mary Stevens organized the program table as always, assisted by fellow Board member JoAnne Gronley. Joyce Sherwin, rosy in a vibrant silk jacket, kept an eye on lobby traffic. The Board members of the Society not only love classical music, they all relish their tasks in putting on the evening show.

Crowning moment of the evening was Beethoven's Emperor Concerto Number 5 in E-flat major. From the moment pianist Sung Chang walked on stage, he owned it, and the audience too.

His flourishes and arpeggios showed the orchestra that "the piano was the boss," as Lars Clutterham's elegant program notes said it would.

And as Music Director Lavery had predicted, the audience jumped to its feet for a standing ovation when Chang played his last chord and raised both hands in the air. Why can't male soloists receive flowers from the audience?

After the concert, the audience was invited to a champagne and birthday cupcake reception in the lobby. Eric and Nicole Pierce assisted with the set-up, and Bill Hare and Frank Kearns opened bottle after bottle. Board member Ryan Keene poured. Ryan needs to get a necktie with musical notes on it to match Bill and Mark Keller in thematic opulence.

Principal Bass player Mark Artusio said of the soloist, "When Chang walked into rehearsal, the orchestra knew right away that he was magnetic. And he turned out to be a great performer too. But the main thing we learned is that he is a really nice person. The orchestra

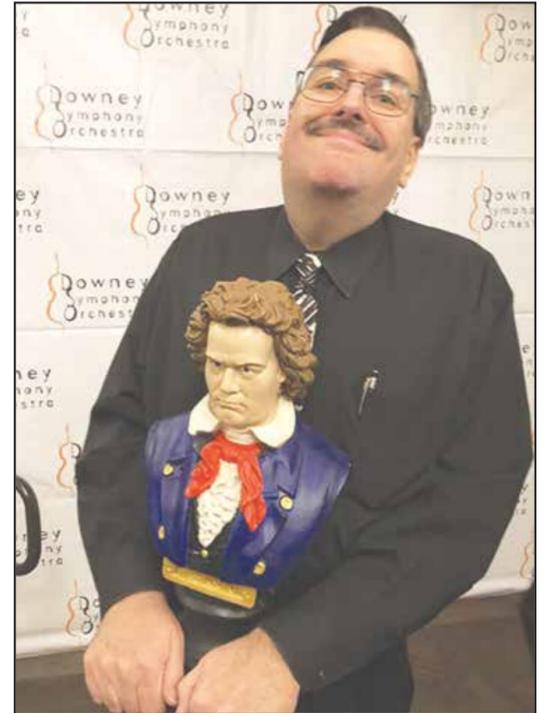


PHOTO BY LORINE PARKS

Mark Keller holds a bust of the birthday boy, Ludwig van Beethoven.

responded by performing brilliantly with him."

Mark has long served as the Orchestra's Personnel Manager, and as a member of the governing Symphonic Society Board.

As always under Maestro Sharon's sure baton, the caliber of the evening's performance was superb. It almost seemed that Beethoven's bust had stopped scowling, and was begrudgingly seen to smile.

Also visible, Pat Gil and Andrew Wahlquist of the Downey Arts Coalition. Andrew's wife, actress Lana Joy, acknowledged by name from the stage each artist who participated in the lobby art show, this one titled "Retro." Contributing artists ranged from Downey to Compton, Long Beach and Van Nuys.

The remodeled Downey Theatre is almost ready for its formal debut. The landscaping is nearly completed on the patio, and only

Continued on page 10

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RESIDENTIAL DESIGN STANDARDS WORKSHOP

The City of Downey is pleased to invite you to share your thoughts about single-family residential design in your neighborhood.

This workshop is the 3rd and final community meeting.

Please take this opportunity to share your ideas before final recommendations are made to the City's Planning Commission and City Council.

Contact:
 Alfonso Hernandez
 ashernandez@downeyca.org
 562-904-7154

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2020
 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
 BARBARA J. RILEY CENTER ROOM: BJR
 7810 QUILL DR., DOWNEY, CA 90242

THE PET SPOT

February 2020 - Pet Dental Health Month

February is National Pet Dental Health Month! To celebrate, we've pulled together some of our best dental-health articles for cats and dogs, which you can page through below, as well as the top reasons caring for your pet's teeth is so important.

Here are our top reasons why dental care is really important!

1. A pet with healthy teeth equals a pet with better breath!
 2. Dental disease can actually lead to problems with your pet's organs, such as the heart.
 3. Retained baby teeth can cause problems in pets too! Did you know that full grown dogs have 42 teeth and full grown cats have 30 teeth? Before their adult teeth grow in, though, their baby teeth have to fall out. Sometimes, not all of the baby teeth want to come out. This can lead to problems like gum irritation and tartar buildup.
 4. Caring for your pet's teeth can prevent other health problems, saving you tons of money over the long term!
 5. You need regular dental care and you brush your teeth everyday - why wouldn't your pets? Your veterinarian and these handy videos can help you learn to brush your dog's teeth and your cat's teeth.
 6. Did you know that 4 out of 5 dogs over the age of 3 years have some sort of periodontal disease? It can be caused by the buildup of plaque, so it's important to go in for regular dental checkups and cleanings. Learn more about the importance of removing plaque from your cat's teeth in our video, Why Is It Important to Remove Plaque On My Cat's Teeth?
 7. Pets that don't get dental care can painfully lose their teeth - this can be terribly painful and cause serious health problems.
 8. Your dog and cat are very good at hiding pain - you might never know that your pet has a serious dental problem until it's very advanced. This is yet another reason it's important to take your pet in for regular dental checkups.
 9. Teeth wear out! Your pets are tough on their teeth. Learn the symptoms to keep your pet from experiencing the pain of severely worn teeth.
 10. Learn more about the importance of dental care by visiting our dog dental-care centers and our cat dental-care centers.
- If you have any questions or concerns, you should always visit or call your veterinarian - they are your best resource to ensure the health and well-being of your pets.

MADAME POMPADOR
 DOG & CAT GROOMING
 All Breeds and Sizes



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CareMore's current contract with PIH Health Hospital allows continued access to PIH Whittier through the beginning of 2022.

We are proud to provide our patients with other quality neighborhood hospitals including Lakewood Regional Medical Center, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Long Beach Memorial Medical Center, and AHMC Whittier Hospital Medical Center. PIH Health Hospital — Downey will no longer be contracted with CareMore after April 1, 2020.

Most importantly, the same CareMore physicians that have always seen our patients in the hospital will continue to care for them at all of these hospitals when our patients need them most.

We partner with strong, independent primary care and specialty physicians to ensure easy access, choice, and short wait times. For the most up-to-date list of available primary care physicians, specialists, and hospitals contracted with CareMore in the Whittier, Downey and surrounding areas, please visit www.caremore.com/Patients/LAOC.

We are also proud to offer extra services to keep our patients healthy, including:

- Access to Nifty after Fifty for fitness, exercise, and community
- The 24/7 CareMore Anytime line so you have a clinician to ask all of your healthcare questions
- The ability to walk-in to any of our CareMore Care Centers when you need help

Our biggest aim is to provide our Medicare patients with the highest quality and affordable healthcare. We look forward to continuing to provide this for our patients in 2020 and beyond.

In good health,



Dr. Sachin Jain, MD, MBA
President & CEO, CareMore Health



Visit us at www.caremore.com

City Council reduces time for public to speak

Continued from page 1

This behavior was no different on Tuesday, with Herman antagonizing and butting heads with both Mayor Blanca Pacheco and City Attorney Yvette M. Abich Garcia multiple times throughout the night, resulting in several warnings but no ejections.

There were a handful of people in attendance Tuesday who spoke against the time cut, describing it as a “slippery slope” and insinuating that it was an infringement on First Amendment rights and freedom of speech.

Herman’s role in the issue is not commonly spoken about candidly or openly by members of the council, especially while in a meeting setting.

However, that changed when Councilmember Sean Ashton – who ultimately voted in opposition of the change – addressed Herman from his

seat, suggesting that Herman “abused” his right to speak.

“I’m okay with people coming here and talking; I want to hear it because I don’t know everything...I think having these moments help,” said Ashton. “I feel bad because we have one person abusing that privilege to waste time.”

“You are wasting our time. When you came the first couple of years, you spoke on ADA issues Mr. Herman... You’ve moved on from that to just kind of using this time to abuse our system, and just to use whatever time you have to say whatever racist, or politically motivated, whatever things that incite people to hate you or to hate us. This is where I think this is all coming from.”

Councilman Alex Saab, who also voted against the time reduction, said he needed to “veer on the side of giving residents more time, than less,” and in response to Ashton’s

comments, warned against “bending over 113,00 residents for one person.”

“As painful as it is sometimes to hear certain people say certain things that we all cringe, the fact is we have to balance the right of the residents’ right to free speech versus efficiency,” said Saab. “I don’t think that limiting or reducing the time is going to make that much difference in efficiency.”

“I think what’s happening is those who support it may be thinking – and understandably so, at times – thinking that this is going to change the type or content of the speech, when in fact it’s going to make no difference.”

Mayor Pacheco, Mayor Pro Tem Claudia Frometa, and Councilman Rick Rodriguez all voted in favor of reducing public comment time.

Frometa disagreed that the council would be encroaching

on residents’ right to speak.

“I don’t think we are limiting [residents]; I think we are being reasonable in our approach,” said Frometa. “I think that we continue to support freedom of speech, and we want to continue to serve our residents by inviting them to be a part of the process.”

Frometa added that the council could allot more time to a speaker if needed.

“It is at the discretion of the council. We can give more time depending on the item,” said Frometa. “We have that liberty.”

“A lot of the people that come here, and they have to sit for two and a half to three hours, and 45 minutes of it is one individual ranting about issues that have absolutely no business being discussed in this council chamber end up having to walk away because they don’t want to have to listen to all of those inflammatory words

that are offensive...I think three minutes is reasonable. We are conducting the peoples’ business.”

Pacheco agreed that the council would not be limiting freedom of speech, noting other surrounding cities that all but three minutes, and that if needed she would be available for further discussion.

“I do appreciate all the comments,” said Pacheco. “I do know that if we need to allow you to have more time, you will be allowed to have more time if necessary. But I believe that three minutes is more than sufficient time to get your point across, and if we need to continue the dialogue afterwards, we can continue the dialogue afterwards.”

“I always have an open-door policy. I’m here at City Hall; my office is on the third floor. So, I always invite people to visit me... we don’t want issues to be brought up only during council meetings...”

“I am very disappointed that the public’s right to speak at City Council meetings was reduced by 40 percent,” he said. “I don’t believe it is good practice to shape public policy around one gadfly’s behavior at the cost of the remaining 113,000 other residents.

“Whenever we are asked to consider and balance efficiency versus the public’s right to speak, I will always stand on the side of the First Amendment and the public’s right to speak. This will not change the content or the words that are spoken, but will simply reduce the sacred right under the First Amendment.

“As elected officials, we signed on the dotted line and agreed to sit there and listen to the residents attentively, even if we disagree with what they are saying or how they are saying it. Democracy comes at a cost, even if it means having to listen a few extra minutes from individuals we may not agree with.”

Councilman Saab issued a statement after the meeting.

In Memory of



Anita Ceresani Irwin

Anita Ceresani Irwin, my mother, was born in Fano, Italy on August 7, 1913 and passed on March 13, 2016 at 102 years of age. At the behest of my grandfather Americo to immediately immigrate to America to avoid the limitations imposed on southern Europeans by the Johnson Act. This the second wave of Italian immigrants after the First World War, the first being in the 1880’s-1890’s. Like other immigrants she passed through Ellis Island in New York city harbor with her older brother Pasquale and mother Maria to reside a short distance from New York city in New Haven, an established Italian cultural heritage city.

There she and her brother Pasquale attended Thompson Grammar and West Haven High School and retained their Italian heritage and daily language until the 1970’s when many of the this second generational wave of Italian immigrants passed on, thus completing my mother’s assimilation into America.

My mother’s career in entertainment as “Cosmo & Anita” in the 1930’s was cut short by her mothers early death and she returned to manage the home of her father and brother. “Cosmo & Anita” was a dance team traveling between Boston and Philadelphia and benefited from the ever so popular Fred Astaire and Ginger Rodgers dance team that swept the nation in the 1930’s as illustrated by their publicist professional marquee photo. There were a host of stories from this era of her life including her friendship with Rudy Vallée, and her partner Tommy Cosmo, from New York city, who would show up at our house from time to time.

My mother gained full citizenship in 1941 where, during the war, Italian aliens were under threat of deportation. Her marriage to Russell Thomas Irwin in 1945 yielded a single son, Robert, a year later, and they lived together with her father, mother, and brother as an extended family. My mother moved to Southern California in 1985 with her son, and his wife Helena, where he completed graduate work at the University of California in physics and his wife Helena in mathematics. In 1988 Anita moved to Downey where her son Robert and wife Helena took positions with Northrop Grumman Corporation until their retirement.

My mother was socially active at the Downey YMCA and attended daily until her late 90’s. There she befriended several other Italian ladies and families, and then, spent her afternoon’s with her boyfriend Earl-it was off to McDonald’s for their afternoon burger and fries (her secret to living to 102 years of age). Often my mother would “walk the wall”, her phrase for walking beside the wall from Brookshire and Cherokee to 5th street and then on to Downey High School and back home to Dolan Avenue. Anita was well into her mid 90’s when she could no longer manage “walking the wall”. As many Italians do we lived as an extended family where my mother lived in the rear house and continued to put together my favorite Italian dishes well into her late 90’s. My wife’s, Helena, family was also, post WWII, from the southern Europe and my father-in-law (Luby) had many a harrowing stories of the partisans combating the Nazi’s in night strike and run gun battles-it was a special selfless generation that rose to the exigencies of the times.

The last few years of my mother’s life were necessarily challenging, that said, each of my mother’s birthdays after her 100th birthday was a celebration. The neighbors in the bag of the cull-de-sac would stop by my mother’s rear house to acknowledge her post centenary birthday-we all raised a glass in her honor, indeed, the then president (Barack Obama) of the United States (and his wife, Michelle) sent my mother a congratulatory letter on her 100th birthday. I hasten to add that with every person who lives to such an extraordinary age there is a sense of isolation that is concomitant with the loss of all of her friends and relatives. My mother, Anita Ceresani Irwin, past on March 16, 2016, at 102 years of age. It has taken me all of just about three years to even write this obituary, and two years to just open the doors to her rear house without Helena or another friend as emotional support. We will be buried together at Rose Hills overlooking the city we have learned to love. Her inscription is an inscription for her and every mother: “A mother’s love knows no depth nor time nor place boundless it’s own star.”



In Memory of

Matthew ‘Matt’ LeRoy

June 20, 1963 - January 1, 2020



Matthew ‘Matt’ LeRoy was born in Inglewood, California on June 20, 1963 and died January 1, 2020 at his home in Bonita, California. He grew up in Downey, California graduating from Downey High School in 1981. He attended college at Point Loma in San Diego later transferring to San Diego State. While at San Diego State,

he and a friend, Deric Haddad, became interested in the McMartin case in Manhattan Beach. They co-authored a book “They Must Be Monsters.”

Matt was an entrepreneur having a toy manufacturing business, a company for testing liquid penetrants in the ndt industry and an exporting business with his wife, Brenda.

He loved planning and traveling on vacations with his family around the world.

Matt is survived by his wife, Brenda; daughters, Gabriella ‘Gabby’ and Jacqueline ‘Jackie’ LeRoy; mother, Deneen LeRoy and his father, Carl LeRoy who preceded him in death; sister, Whitney and brother-in-law, Gary Johnson. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

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The best way to protect yourself from coronavirus is to wash your hands

By Elisabeth Rosenthal

Americans are watching with alarm as a new coronavirus spreads in China and cases pop up in the United States. They are barraged with information about what kinds of masks are best to prevent viral spread. Students are handing out masks in Seattle. Masks have run out in Brazos County, Tex.

Hang on.

I've worked as an emergency room physician. And as a New York Times correspondent in China, I covered the SARS outbreak in 2002 and 2003 during which a novel coronavirus first detected in Guangdong sickened more than 8,000 people and killed more than 800. My two children attended elementary school in Beijing throughout the outbreak.

Here are my main takeaways from that experience for ordinary people on the ground:

1. Wash your hands frequently.
2. Don't go to the office when you are sick. Don't send your kids to school or day care when they are ill, either.

Notice I didn't say anything about masks. Having a mask with you as a precaution makes sense if you are in the midst of an outbreak, as I was when out reporting in the field during those months. But wearing it constantly is another matter. I donned a mask when visiting hospitals where SARS patients had been housed. I wore it in the markets where wild animals that were the suspected source of the outbreak were being butchered, blood droplets flying. I wore it in crowded enclosed spaces that I couldn't avoid, like airplanes and trains, as I traveled to cities involved in the outbreak, like Guangzhou and Hong Kong. You never know if the guy coughing and sneezing two rows ahead of you is ill or just has an allergy.

But outdoors, infections don't spread well through the air. Those photos of people walking down streets in China wearing masks are dramatic but uninformed. And remember if a mask has, perchance, intercepted viruses that would have otherwise ended up in your body, then the mask is contaminated. So, in theory, to be protected maybe you should use a new one for each outing.

The simple masks are better than nothing, but not all that

effective, since they don't seal well. For anyone tempted to go out and buy the gold standard, N95 respirators, note that they are uncomfortable. Breathing is more work. It's hard to talk to people. On one long flight at the height of the outbreak, on which my few fellow passengers were mostly epidemiologists trying to solve the SARS puzzle, many of us (including me) wore our masks for the first couple of hours on the flight. Then the food and beverage carts came.

Though viruses spread through droplets in the air, a bigger worry to me was always transmission via what doctors call "fomites," infected items. A virus gets on a surface — a shoe or a doorknob or a tissue, for example. You touch the surface and then next touch your face or rub your nose. It's a great way to acquire illness. So after walking in the animal markets, I removed my shoes carefully and did not take them into the hotel room. And of course I washed my hands immediately.

Remember, by all indications SARS, which killed about 10 percent of those infected, was a deadlier virus than the new coronavirus circulating now. So keep things in perspective.

Faced with SARS, many foreigners chose to leave Beijing or at least to send their children back to the United States. Our family stayed, kids included. We wanted them with us and didn't want them to miss school, especially during what would be their final year in China. But equally important in making the decision was that the risk of getting SARS on an airplane or in the airport seemed greater than being smart and careful while staying put in Beijing.

And we were: I stopped taking my kids to indoor playgrounds or crowded malls or delicious but densely packed neighborhood Beijing restaurants. Out of an abundance of caution we canceled a family vacation to Cambodia — though my fear was less about catching SARS on the flight than that one of the kids would have a fever from an ear infection upon our return at a border screening, and would be stuck in a prolonged quarantine in China. We instead took a vacation within China, where we carried masks with us but didn't use them except on a short domestic flight.

In time, during the SARS outbreak, the government shut down theaters and schools in Beijing, as it is doing now in many Chinese cities because these viruses are more easily transmitted in such crowded places.

But there was also a lot of irrational behavior: Entering a village on the way to a hike near the Great Wall, our car was stopped by locals who had set up a roadblock to check the temperature of all passengers. They used an oral thermometer that was only minimally cleaned after each use. What a great way to spread a virus.

The International School of Beijing, where my children were students, was one of the few in the capital — perhaps the only one — that stayed open throughout the SARS outbreak, though the classes were emptier, since so many kids had departed to their home countries. It was a studied but brave move, since a parent at the school had gotten SARS at the very beginning of the outbreak on a flight back from Hong Kong. She recovered fine, but it was close to home and families were scared.

The school instituted a bunch of simple precautionary policies: a stern note to parents reminding them not to send a child to school who was sick and warning them that students would be screened for fevers with ear thermometers at the school door. There was no sharing of food at lunch. The teacher led the kids in frequent hand washing throughout the day at classroom sinks, while singing a prolonged "hand washing song" to ensure they did more than a cursory pass under the faucet with water only.

If a family left Beijing and came back, the child would have to stay at home for an extended period before returning to class to make sure they hadn't caught SARS elsewhere.

With those precautions in place, I observed something of a public health miracle: Not only did no child get SARS, but it seemed no student was sick with anything at all for months on end. No stomach bugs. No common colds. Attendance was more or less perfect.

The World Health Organization declared the SARS outbreak contained in July 2003. But, oh, that those habits persisted. The best first-line defenses against SARS or the new coronavirus or most any virus at all are the ones that Grandma and common sense taught us, after all.

Elisabeth Rosenthal, a former New York Times correspondent, is the editor in chief of Kaiser Health News and the author of "An American Sickness: How Healthcare Became Big Business and How You Can Take It Back."

GOP senators' professed anger phony as can be

By Jeff Robbins

Rep. Adam Schiff, lead House manager of the impeachment case against President Donald Trump, delivered a tour de force last week, painfully, crushingly detailing the president's obvious guilt and decimating his defenses. It's fair to say, however, that this did not go over all that agreeably with Senate Republicans who, determined to sidestep the evidence of Trump's abuse of power and obstruction of Congress, opted for phony professions of outrage at being called to account.

Leading the charge was Sen. Susan Collins, whose depressing forfeiture of a once-meaningful reputation for independence has led former admirers to shake their heads at what fear of a Republican primary can do to a person's conscience. Collins claimed to be appalled at Congressman Jerry Nadler's use of the phrase "cover-up" to describe conduct by Senate Republicans that can't easily be described otherwise.

Trump's "defense" of the mountain of evidence against him is the patently false assertion that none of it is "first-hand." But Republicans have not merely looked the other way at Trump's blanket order that the documents reflecting his conduct be withheld and the aides to whom he gave orders be gagged; presented with a simple request that the documents be turned over and the aides be required

to tell the truth, they made the request impossible. For his part, the president does not hide the fact that he is hiding the facts.

"We're doing very well," Trump boasted about the impeachment proceedings last week. "(H)onestly, we have all the material. They don't have the material."

Collins is upset about the phrase "cover-up." Too bad. That is precisely what it is, and her objection to a phrase that fits the GOP's conduct like a glove makes her look ridiculous. Evidently, in the United States Senate, which Collins claims to revere, it is now permissible to block the truth and impermissible to speak it.

But it wasn't only the apt use of "cover-up" that Collins and colleagues find offensive. It was Schiff's reference to a CBS News report that said Republican senators had been warned, "Vote against the president and your head will be on a pike." "That's not true," shouted Collins, and Alaska Republican Sen. Lisa Murkowski complained, "That's where he lost me." Whether the White House used the word "pike" or "spear," there is no doubt that the message has been delivered — forcefully and repeatedly: If Republicans stand up to Trump, they will sleep with the fishes, politically speaking. "I talk to Republicans all the time, quietly, individually," said Democratic Sen. Sherrod Brown on Friday. "(M)any of them tell me that Trump's a liar ... but they're all afraid of him." Republicans'

professions of outrage at reports that they are afraid of Trump are, quite simply, as phony as a \$3 bill.

Indeed, "phony" is the word that rushes to mind when listening to Trump's defenses, and one hardly knows which among them is the most laughable. One potential prize winner: Trump's contention that he had not demanded a quid pro quo from Ukraine. Knowing that he was guilty of the demand, he uttered the words "no quid pro quo" in a conversation in which he expressly confirmed that he was demanding a quid pro quo. This bit of idiocy would not survive scrutiny by fifth graders. "In other words," observes Brown University constitutional scholar Corey Brettschneider, "if the president is robbing a bank and says, 'I am not robbing a bank,' we should believe him."

Despite the hokum and the fraud served up by the White House's smoke-blowing machine, polls show that most Americans get what is going on here. Two surveys released before Schiff buried Trump found that 51% want Trump removed right now. Republican senators will no doubt succeed in preventing that. They are unlikely, however, to prevent a verdict from being rendered against them by history.

Jeff Robbins, a former assistant United States attorney and United States delegate to the United Nations Human Rights Council in Geneva, was chief counsel for the minority of the United States Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations.

Bloomberg is showing Democrats a good time

By Froma Harrop

Democrats could use some cheering up now that their conventional politicians are locked in fierce ideological battle. The moderate Democratic majority fears that an aggressive left could saddle them with a zombie candidate sure to lose to President Donald Trump. That person could also cost them control of the House by hurting down-ballot Democrats in hard-won swing districts.

Oh, happy day, then, that former New York Mayor Mike Bloomberg is tapping his vast fortune to make defeating Trump central to his mission. Bloomberg is vying for the Democratic nomination, and his candidacy is gaining strength. But he's now focused on getting under Trump's skin.

Watching Bloomberg troll Trump should be a mood lifter for

Democrats, independents and many Republicans desperate to end Trump's reign of incompetence and all-around nastiness. Where do we start?

How about Bloomberg's brilliant decision to buy an ad during "Fox & Friends," Trump's premier safe space? Trump blew his top. He went on a not-entirely-coherent tirade, something about Bloomberg playing the other Democrats for "clowns" and how, in the end, he will "consider himself to be the biggest clown of them all."

After Trump bought a one-minute ad to air during the Super Bowl, Bloomberg purchased his own \$10 million minute. It will undoubtedly call the president corrupt, a danger to national security, an environmental Neanderthal, a killer of the people's health care, a failure in business, mentally unstable or some combination of the above.

That move unleashed another attack tweet from Trump, which Bloomberg met with mockery: "Glad to see you're watching our ads."

Of course, Bloomberg has bought airtime in West Palm Beach, Florida. That way, Trump won't miss his ads while at Mar-a-Lago.

Dropping \$1 billion on the 2020 campaign would hardly make a dent in Bloomberg's net worth of around \$60 billion. The founder of a financial services empire, Bloomberg has recruited thousands of highly professional staffers focused on data. And they're everywhere. Bloomberg has 80 staffers in North Carolina and 60 in Arizona alone.

Bloomberg is not blessed with the arresting speaking style of Trump or Bernie Sanders. Then again, he got himself elected mayor three times in a city of waving arms and yelling. And he did so running first as a Republican, then as an independent and finally as a Democrat. You can call that wide appeal.

Peace Prize for Kobe

Dear Editor:

The sadness over the death of eight people plus Kobe Bryant has been somewhat mitigated because of the accolades he has received posthumously.

If justice was to prevail, Kobe should be nominated and awarded a Nobel Peace Prize to recognize all he did for humanity.

**Jorge Montero
Downey**

Bloomberg is now framing economic inequality as one of the great challenges of our age. He's been a tiger on global warming, having served as United Nations special envoy for climate action. And he's for giving all Americans the option of signing up for government-run health coverage. Good progressive stuff.

While other candidates are focused on a sliver of very liberal voters in Iowa and New Hampshire, Bloomberg is going to Rust Belt Ohio and soybean Minnesota. He's been campaigning in Texas with Judge Judy at his side, thus reaching the regular folks who watch daytime television. He's advertising in Pennsylvania, Utah, Oklahoma and Idaho.

A late entry into the campaign, Bloomberg is placing his bets on the Super Tuesday vote on March 3. That's when 40 percent of the convention delegates will be chosen. But he plans to keep spending whoever the Democrats nominate.

Do I like the idea of a rich person inserting so much money into an election? I do not. I am grateful, however, that unlike another prominent rich New Yorker, Bloomberg is on the side of good. And he has single-handedly canceled Trump's money advantage.

To borrow from my Republican friends in 2016, this will be a Flight 93 election. It is absolutely essential for the survival of the republic we love that Trump be shown the gangplank from the ship of state.

Follow Froma Harrop on Twitter @FromaHarrop. She can be reached at fharrop@gmail.com.

Gas tax

Dear Editor:

Thank you to the intelligent, clueless, blind people who voted for the extra road and bridges gas tax.

So how do you like driving on your smooth, bumpy, pothole-less road? Can you actually see your extra gas tax money at work? Sure you can.

And by the way, I have a nice bridge for you to buy. Just send me your money. Trust me!

**Larry Arellano
Norwalk**

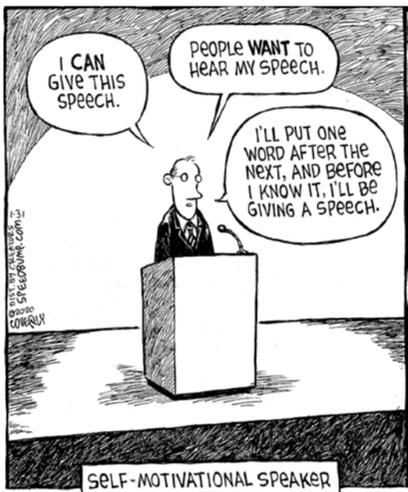
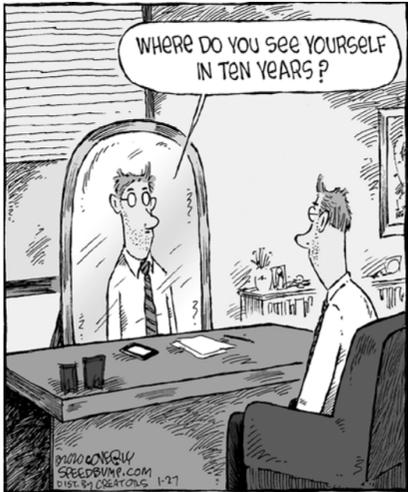
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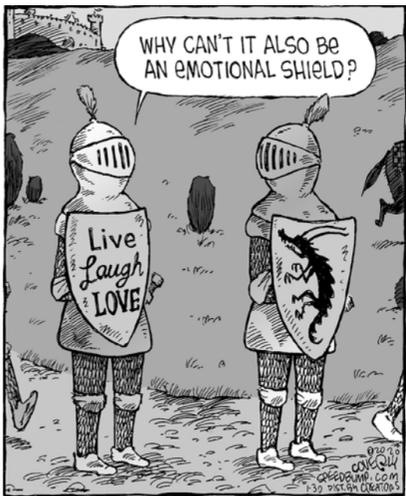
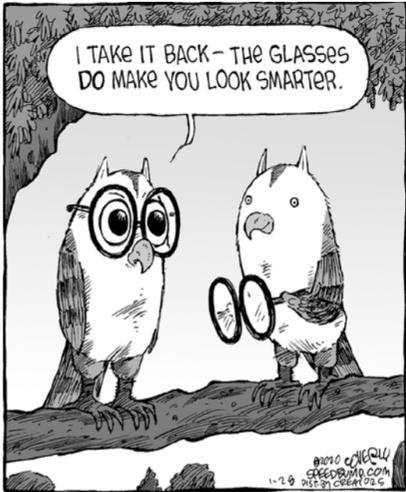
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SPEED BUMP



DAVE COVERLY



Downey Community Calendar

CITY MEETINGS

1st & 3rd Wednesday, 6:30pm: Planning Commission, Council Chamber at City Hall.
 1st Tue., 4:00pm.: Recreation and Community Services Commission, Council Chamber, City Hall.
 2nd & 4th Tue., 6:30pm: City Council, Council Chamber.
 3rd Tue., 6:30pm: Library Advisory Board, at Downey City Library.
 3rd Thurs., 6:30pm: CERT, at Downey City Council Chamber at City Hall, for more info call 299-5462.
 4th Mon., 5 pm: Green Task Force, at City Hall.

Regularly Scheduled Meetings

MONDAYS

7 pm: Boy Scout Troop 2, at Downey United Methodist Church, call 869-6478.
 4:30 pm: Courage Forward Meeting, at 10829 New St, 2nd Floor, call 213-545-6810.
 2nd Mon., 11 am: American Legion Auxiliary #270, at United Methodist Church, call 304-3439.
 3rd Mon., 11:30 am: Downey Newcomers Club, call Marilyn 928-2623.
 4th Mon., 7:30 pm: Downey Numismatists, at Downey Retirement Center, call 862-6666.

TUESDAYS

9 am: Quilters group, at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, call 803-4459.
 9:30 am: Downey Seniors Club, at Apollo Park, call Irene Vallini at 328-7039.
 10 am: Downey Bocce Club, at 7850 Quill Drive, call John Fiorenza at 652-4399.
 12 pm: Rotary Club, at Rio Hondo Events Center, call Nate Mahoney 416-1826.
 6 pm: Toastmasters Club 587, at First Baptist Church, contact Salvador Cervantes: tmsalcpuede@gmail.com.
 7 pm: Downey Knights of Columbus Bingo, at 11231 Rives Ave., call 923-1932.
 7 pm: Healing Room and Prayer, at Desert Reign Church 11610 Lakewood Blvd, call 861-6011.
 7:30 pm: Downey Master Chorale, at Cornerstone Church, contact info@downeymasterchorale.org.
 1st Tues., 7:30 am: Gangs Out of Downey, at City Hall training room.
 2nd Tues., 6 pm: Downey Fly Fishers, at Apollo Park, call 425-7936.
 3rd Tues., 6:30 pm: Community Emergency Response Team meeting, Fire station 1, 12222 Paramount.
 3rd Tues., 6 pm: American Legion #270, at Sizzler Restaurant, call 544-0372.
 Tues., Thurs. & Sat., 10 am: Downey Bocce Club, at 7850 Quill Drive, call John Fiorenza 652-4399

WEDNESDAYS

7 am: Kiwanis Club, at Rio Hondo Events Center, call Steve Roberson at 927-2626.
 1 pm: Women's Bocce Club, at 7850 Quill Drive, call Marie Puch at 869-4366.
 7 pm: Out Post 132 Royal Rangers, at Desert Reign Church, call 928-8000.
 1st Wed., 11 am: Woman's Club of Downey, call Cheryl Olson 833-8954.
 1st Wed., 11:30 am: Downey Coordinating Council, Community Center, call Bobbi Bruce 440-5416.
 1st Wed., 7:30 pm: Downey Stamp Club, at Maude Price School cafeteria, call 928-3028.
 2nd Wed., 11:30 am: Christian Women's Club, call Marilyn 928-2623.
 2nd Wed., 3:30 pm: Keep Downey Beautiful, at City Hall, call 904-7102.
 2nd Wed., 7:30 pm: Downey Model A Club, at Gallatin School Cafeteria, call 928-4132.
 3rd Wed.: Downey Dog Obedience Club, for information please call Gina 869-5213 or Valerie 420-2972.
 3rd Wed., 10 am: Los Angeles County Quilters Guild, at Women's Club, call 860-8821 or 927-3635.
 3rd Wed., 10 am: OLPH Women's Guild, at OLPH School Auditorium, contact Melodie Santana, (562) 806-3102.
 3rd Wed., 6:30 pm: Sister Cities of Downey, at Barabara Riley Senior Center, call Gloria Nezahualcoyotl (562) 776-6136.
 4th Wed., 7:30 pm: US Coast Guard Aux. Flotilla 5-10, First Presbyterian Church, call Brian 419-5420.
 Wed. & Fri., 10:15 am: Senior Bingo, at Apollo Park, call 904-7223

THURSDAYS

7:30 am: Connections Networking, at Bob's Big Boy, for info., call Nick Smith, 861-5222.
 7:30 am.: Sorooptimist Int'l of Downey, for information, call Mia Vasquez, 806-3217.
 9 am: Crafters group, at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, call 803-4459.
 9:30 am: Take off Pounds Sensibly, at Barabara Riley Senior Center, call (800) 932-8677.
 12 pm: Kiwanis Club of Downey, at Rio Hondo Events Center, call Roy Jimenez 923-0971.
 12 pm: Optimist Club of Downey, at Rio Hondo Events Center.
 6:30 pm: Downey United Masonic Lodge # 220, 8244 3rd St., call 862-4176.
 7 pm: Troop 351, Boy Scouts of America, at First Baptist Church, call 776-3388.
 7:30 pm: Downey Elks Lodge #2020, call 803-3557.
 1st Thurs., 12:00 pm: Downey Christian & Professional Luncheon, Sizzler's Restaurant, call James 310-1335.
 1st Thurs., 7:30 pm.: The Downey Amateur Radio Club, at First Baptist Church room 120.
 2nd Thurs., 7:30 pm: Beaming Rebel Foxes Collectors Club, call Carl D. Jones at 923-2400.
 2nd & 4th Thurs., 6:30 pm: Downey Lions Club, at Mimi's, call Lenora (310) 283-9825.
 3rd Thurs., 4 pm: Public Works Committee, at City Hall Training Room.
 3rd Thurs., 6 pm: Downey CIPAC, at Sizzler's Restaurant, call Rich Tuttle 413-6045.
 4th Thurs., 10 am: Assistance League, at Casa De Parley Johnson, call 869-0232.
 4th Thurs., 7:30 pm: Downey Historical Society programs, at Community Center, call 862-2777.

FRIDAYS

7:30 am: Pro Networkers, at Mimi's Cafe, call Barbara Briley Beard at 869-7618.
 3rd Fri., 8:30 am: Women's "In His Glory" Ministry at Los Amigos C. C. 622-3785.

SATURDAYS

9 am: Farmers Market, Downey Avenue at 3rd Street, call 904-7246.
 4th Sat., 12:00 pm: Downey Arts Coalition, email contact@downeyarts.org.

On This Day...

Jan 30, 1948: Indian political and spiritual leader Mahatma Gandhi was murdered by a Hindu extremist. Ghandi was cremated per Hindu tradition and his ashes sent across India for memorial services.

1969: The Beatles performed in public for the last time in a 45-minute gig on the roof of their Apple Records headquarters in London.

1972: Thirteen Roman Catholic civil rights marchers were shot to death by British soldiers in Northern Ireland on what became known as "Bloody Sunday."

2007: Microsoft's Windows Vista operating system went on sale.

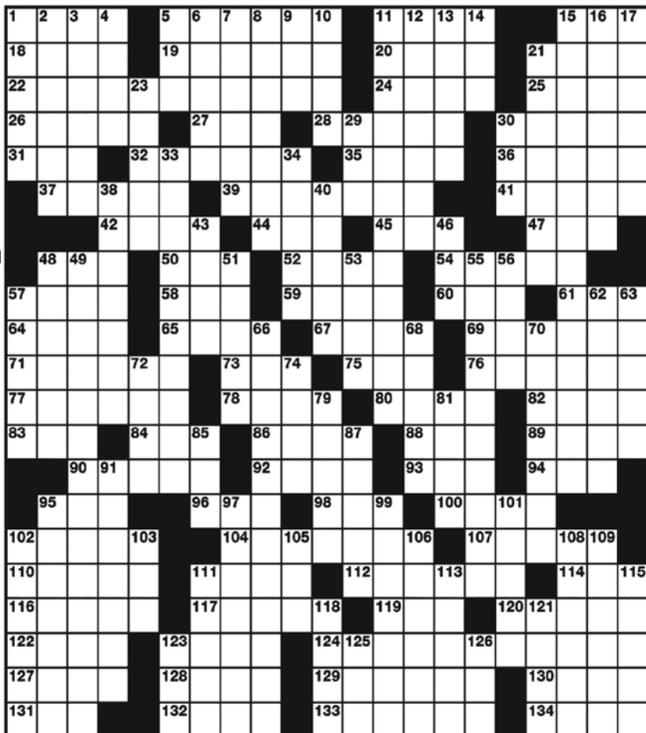
THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com)
STEERING COMMITTEE: Film guys with a shared past
 by Fred Piscop

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Sports Roundup

By Mark Fetter
Contributor

DOWNEY - The Warren High School girls' basketball team currently has an overall record of 7-14 and a San Gabriel Valley League record of 2-4.

The Lady Bears were defeated at Dominguez, 53-40, on Jan. 8, were defeated by Lynwood, 65-28, on Jan. 10 and defeated Paramount, 72-45, on Jan. 15.

Warren defeated Gahr, 57-30, on Jan. 17, was defeated by cross-town rival Downey, 68-46, on Jan. 22 and was defeated by Dominguez, 63-54, in their second round game on Jan. 24.

The Lady Bears traveled to Lynwood on Wednesday night (score unavailable at press time) and will travel to Paramount for their game against the Lady Pirates later today. Warren will host Gahr next Tuesday before traveling to Downey for their rematch next Thursday in their league and regular season finale.

The Lady Bears finished last season with an overall record of 12-15 and a league record of 5-5. Warren was defeated by Rolling Hills Prep 57-26 in the third round of the C.I.F. Division 2AA playoffs.

■ The Warren High School boys' basketball team has an overall record of 14-7 and a San Gabriel Valley League record of 4-2. The Bears defeated Dominguez, 69-67, on Jan. 8, were defeated by Lynwood, 82-77, on Jan. 10, and defeated Paramount, 82-70, on Jan. 15.

Warren defeated Gahr, 69-51, on Jan. 17, defeated cross-town rival Downey, 55-47, on Jan. 22 and was defeated by Dominguez, 69-61, on Jan. 24 in their second round game.

The Bears traveled to Lynwood on Wednesday night to play the Knights (score unavailable) and will travel to Paramount later today for their second game against the Pirates. Warren will host Gahr next Tuesday and will

travel to Downey next Thursday in their league and regular season finale.

Warren is currently in a strong position to qualify for postseason play. The Bears finished last season with an overall record of 20-7 and a league record of 8-2. The Bears were league champions last season but were eliminated by Santa Clarita Christian, 96-63, in the third round of the C.I.F. Division 3AA playoffs.

■ The Downey High School girls' basketball team has an overall record of 13-10 and a San Gabriel Valley League record of 5-1. The Lady Vikings defeated Gahr, 74-18, on Jan. 8, defeated Paramount, 62-21, on Jan. 10 and defeated Dominguez, 58-36, on Jan. 15.

Downey was defeated by Lynwood, 68-40, on Jan. 17, defeated cross-town rival Warren, 68-46, on Jan. 22 and defeated Gahr, 65-19, on Jan. 24.

The Lady Vikings traveled to Paramount on Wednesday night (score unavailable) and will host Dominguez later tonight. Downey will travel to Lynwood next Tuesday and host Warren next Thursday in their league and regular season finale.

Downey will qualify for C.I.F. postseason play this season. The Lady Vikings finished last season with an overall record of 22-7 and a league record of 9-1. The Lady Vikings were league co-champions with Lynwood but were eliminated by Ventura in the first round of the C.I.F. Division One playoffs.

■ The Downey High School boys' basketball team has an overall record of 11-13 and is 1-5 in San Gabriel Valley League play.

The Vikings were defeated by Gahr, 63-59, in their league opener on Jan. 8, defeated Paramount, 70-42, on Jan. 10 and were defeated by Dominguez, 62-52, on Jan. 15.

Downey was defeated by Lynwood, 67-55, on Jan. 17, was

defeated by cross-town rival Warren, 55-47, on Jan. 22 and was defeated by Gahr, 56-51, on Jan. 24 in their second round game.

The Vikings traveled to Paramount on Wednesday (score unavailable), will host Dominguez later today, will travel to Lynwood next Tuesday and host Warren in their league and regular season finale next Thursday night.

Downey needs to finish league play on a strong note in order to qualify for C.I.F. postseason play. Coach Shelton, his staff and players need to finish league play at .500 in order to give themselves a chance for a spot in a Division 2A playoff bracket.

The Vikings finished last season with an overall record of 19-9 and a league record of 5-5.

■ The third rotation of middle school sports concluded on Wednesday and two more city championships were claimed in baseball and softball.

In baseball, Griffiths began the day at 3-1-1 and Doty and Stauffer began the day at 3-2. Griffiths played at Stauffer while Sussman played at Doty. Doty defeated Sussman, 15-2.

If Griffiths defeated Stauffer on Wednesday, they would be city champs at 4-1-1. If Stauffer defeated Griffiths on Wednesday, Doty and Stauffer would be co-champs at 4-2 and Griffiths would drop to 3-2-1. Results were unavailable at press time.

In softball, Doty finished in first place at 6-0, Griffiths and Sussman finished in a tie for second place at 3-3 and Stauffer finished in fourth place at 0-6. Basketball for 6th, 7th and 8th grade boys and girls as well as junior varsity and varsity boys' soccer teams will be competing in the fourth rotation.

Scheduled basketball and soccer games will begin the first week in March.

Downey gets 'F' for anti-smoking efforts

DOWNEY - Downey has been issued a failing grade by the American Lung Association for its efforts -- or lack thereof -- to curb tobacco use in the community.

The lung association graded every California city as part of its "State of Tobacco Control" annual report, released Wednesday.

Downey received an "F" grade along with other local cities, including Whittier and Norwalk.

Huntington Park, which has extensive regulations on the books that limit where cigarettes can be smoked within city limits, received an "A."

"The purpose of the [report] is to increase public knowledge about local laws that protect residents from the deadly toll of tobacco laws that protect residents from the deadly toll of tobacco and to encourage local leadership to take action where improvement is needed," the association wrote in the report.

"Local elected officials can, and should, take steps to protect residents from tobacco and secondhand smoke."

SEAACA drops adoption prices

DOWNEY - SEAACA is dropping the price of pet adoptions to only \$14 for a one-day adoption event Feb. 8.

The discounted price applies to cats ages 8 weeks and older, and dogs ages 1 year and older.

The \$14 adoption fee includes spay/neuter, microchip, first set of vaccinations, and flea treatment.

SEAACA will be open Feb. 8 from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Police stepping up patrols Sunday

DOWNEY - Downey Police has a message for people attending Super Bowl parties this weekend: don't drink and drive.

The police department says it is beefing up patrols Sunday to flag those suspected of driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

Super Bowl LIV will be played Sunday.

"If you plan on drinking, plan for a ride home with a sober driver," said Downey Police Chief Dean Milligan. "Whether your team wins or loses, you'll always get the 'W' by not drinking and driving."

The police department also will conduct DUI saturation patrols throughout the month, aimed at getting impaired drivers off the road.

Century 21 hosting blood drive

DOWNEY - Century 21 Peak is hosting a community blood drive Feb. 4 to benefit the American Red Cross, which currently has a critical shortage of blood supply.

The blood drive is from 12-6 p.m. at Century 21 Peak's office, located at 7825 Florence Ave.

Currently, the Red Cross has less than a three-day supply of type O blood available for patient emergencies and medical treatments. Type O positive blood is the most transfused blood type and can be given to Rh-positive patients of any blood type.

Donors of all blood types - especially types O positive and O negative - are urged to make an appointment to give blood or platelets.

To schedule an appointment, call Rowena at (562) 927-2626 or go online to redcrossblood.org and use sponsor code CENT21.

Downey man gets 10 years for robberies

DOWNEY - A Downey man was sentenced this week to 120 months in federal prison for committing four armed robberies of GameStop video game stores in Los Angeles and Orange counties that resulted in the theft of more than \$132,000 in merchandise and cash.

Frederick Lopez Jr., 28, was sentenced by United States District Judge Stephen V. Wilson, who also ordered him to pay \$132,300 in restitution.

Lopez pleaded guilty in August 2019.

Between August 2018 and October 2018, Lopez robbed GameStop stores in Lynwood, Rowland Heights, West Covina and Brea. Lopez entered the stores at night, sometimes accompanied by another suspect, pulled a handgun from his waistband and used it to threaten store employees.

Lopez then would order GameStop employees to load game consoles and video games into store bags.

During the West Covina robbery on October 24, 2018, Lopez and his co-conspirator ordered the GameStop store clerks into the store's back room, demanded their cell phones and destroyed the store's telephone. Lopez then ordered one of the store's clerks to help carry stolen items out to a nearby minivan. Lopez used a .40-caliber handgun during this robbery.

In total, Lopez stole \$131,000 in merchandise and \$1,300 in cash during the four robberies. Lopez was arrested in March 2019.

"The serious nature of [Lopez's] offenses can hardly be overstated," prosecutors wrote in their sentencing memorandum. "Armed robberies such as these, where firearms are brandished at victims, also leave lasting substantial stress and trauma that victims remember for years, some for their entire lives."

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DOWNEY HAPPENINGS

FRIDAY, JANUARY 31

Beauty and the Beast, 7 pm. Downey High School's Musical Theatre Department will present Disney's "Beauty and the Beast" at the Downey Theatre. Tickets are available to purchase through the Downey Theatre box office. Downey Theatre, 8435 Firestone Blvd.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1

Cheer and Dance Showcase, 10 am to 2 pm. Cheer, song, dance, pep-flag teams and mascots of all ages are welcome. Free to perform with verbal feedback given after each performance. Hosted by Downey High's cheerleading program. Downey High School, 11040 Brookshire Ave.

Beauty and the Beast, 2 pm. Downey High School's Musical Theatre Department will present Disney's "Beauty and the Beast" at the Downey Theatre. Tickets are available to purchase through the Downey Theatre box office. Downey Theatre, 8435 Firestone Blvd.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4

Blood Drive, 12-6 pm. A community blood drive to benefit the American Red Cross. To schedule an appointment, call Rowena at (562) 927-2626 or go online to redcrossblood.org and use sponsor code CENT21. Century 21 Peak, 7825 Florence Ave.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5

Daddy Daughter Dance, 6:30-8:30 pm. Dads, join your daughters

for a night of dinner, dancing and activities. RSVP required at 2020datenight1.splashthat.com. Chick-fil-A, 8613 Firestone Blvd.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6

Daddy Daughter Dance, 6:30-8:30 pm. Dads, join your daughters for a night of dinner, dancing and activities. RSVP required at 2020datenight1.splashthat.com. Chick-fil-A, 8613 Firestone Blvd.

Whitty Bishop, 9 pm. Whittier rapper Whitty Bishop performs live. Epic Lounge, 8239 2nd St.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7

Dedication Ceremony, 3 pm. A dedication ceremony for two benches honoring the employees of North American Aviation in Downey, who developed and built the spacecraft that enabled man to set foot on the moon. Columbia Memorial Space Center, 12400 Columbia Way

By Women, 7-10 pm. A group exhibition featuring the works of four female artists – Melissa Arevalo, Luna Esparza, Marianna Flores and Josie Marlyn. This exhibition highlights a colorful array of graphic design, illustration and photography that aim to inspire and empower female creators. Stay Gallery, 11140 Downey Ave.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8

Dennis the Menace Park Re-Grand Opening, 9 am. Celebrate the grand re-opening of the recently renovated Dennis the Menace Park. 9125 Arrington Ave.

Galentine's Day, 12-4 pm. Galentine's Day is a celebration of female friendship, so bring a friend and come shop with Glad Glam, Vanity Box Cosmetics and DM Boutique. 11006 New St.

Have a Heart Adoption Event, 10 am to 3 pm. Adopt a dog or cat for only \$14 at this special adoption event. Discounted price applies to cats ages 8 weeks or older and dogs ages 1 year or older. SEAAACA, 97777 Seaca St.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9

Sue Phillips Memorial Fundraiser, 1-4 pm. Quartermania, luncheon and boutique fundraiser to benefit Relay for Life. \$10 in advance, \$15 at the door. Downey Masonic Lodge, 8244 3rd St.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10

Residential Design Standards Workshop, 7 pm. Share your thoughts on residential single-family design standards in Downey. Barbara J. Riley Center, 7810 Quill Dr.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13

Benefit Concert, 7 pm. Join the Downey High School dance team as they perform a benefit concert for the TLC Family Resource Center. Downey Theatre, 8435 Firestone Blvd.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14

Gothic Fest, 8 pm. Live death rock and post punk music, go go dancers, sub-culture artwork, body

art, vendors, DJs, and more. Stardust Club, 7643 Firestone Blvd.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15

Keep Downey Beautiful Clean-Up, 9 am. Join other volunteers in helping clean up the neighborhood. Meet in front of Western Pacific Pulp Paper, 9400 Hall Rd.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22

Jungle Jive Boogie, 9 pm to 1:30 am. Live music by Bebo and the Good Time Boys, plus bands, DJs, cars, and more. Stardust Club, 7643 Firestone Blvd.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25

Bakers in Training, 4:30 pm. In this fun filled culinary class, students will be trying their hand at baking two loaves of French Baguettes. One to take home. One to donate to the food community. Students will also receive their own bakers hat and apron, take a behind the scenes tour. Panera Bread, 8900 Apollo Way

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 29

Downey TLC 5K, 9 am. A 5K run/walk to benefit the TLC Family Resource Center. Apollo Park, 12544 Rives Ave.

OuteRimCon, 10 am. A oneday mini con presented by the Aerospace Legacy Foundation's speakers bureau. Columbia Memorial Space Center, 12400 Columbia Way

THURSDAY, MARCH 5

The Buddy Holly Story, 8 pm. This production features the classic songs, "That'll Be the Day," "Not Fade Away," "Oh Boy," along with Ritchie Valens' "La Bamba" and The Big Bopper's "Chantilly Lace," plus more. Downey Theatre, 8435 Firestone Blvd.

SATURDAY, MARCH 7

Walk for Water, 9 am to 1 pm. Join Downey High School's Thirst Project Club as they raise money and awareness regarding the global water crisis. Downey High football stadium, 11040 Brookshire Ave.

SATURDAY, MARCH 21

Arc Walk for Independence, 8 am.

Choose from a short or long walk and help raise money for The Arc - Los Angeles and Orange Counties, which provides social services to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Stonewood Center, 251 Stonewood St.

Sublime Tribute, 9 pm to 2 am. Doin' Time, a Sublime tribute band based out of Long Beach, performs live. Epic Lounge, 8239 2nd St.

SUNDAY, MARCH 22

Beauty & the Beast Sing-Along, 2 pm. An interactive presentation of the Disney classic, with on-screen lyrics so the audience can sing along. Buy your tickets at the Downey Theatre box office. Downey Theatre, 8435 Firestone Blvd.

FRIDAY, APRIL 3

DFCU Annual Meeting, TBA. Downey Federal Credit Union's annual meeting, where members can hear an overview of what's ahead in the coming year. Warren High School Library, 8141 De Palma St.

SATURDAY, APRIL 4

Willy Chirino in Concert, 8 pm. Cuban-born vocalist and bandleader Willy Chirino helped create the "Miami sound" of salsa music. He's performing live in Downey. Downey Theatre, 8435 Firestone Blvd.

SUNDAY, APRIL 5

Willy Chirino in Concert, 5 pm. Cuban-born vocalist and bandleader Willy Chirino helped create the "Miami sound" of salsa music. He's performing live in Downey. Downey Theatre, 8435 Firestone Blvd.

SATURDAY, APRIL 11

One Day of Service, 9 am. Join other volunteers in a day dedicated to community service in Downey. Kick-off celebration at Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center, 7601 Imperial Hwy.

Downey Symphony Concert, 8 pm. Titled "Sounds of America," this concert features a solo by percussionist Eric Guinivan. Downey Theatre, 8435 Firestone Blvd.

SATURDAY, APRIL 18

Mulch & Shredding, 8:30 am to noon. Bring your own study containers for free mulch (no bags or truck beds). Bring up to four banker-sized boxes for free on-site shredding. City Hall west parking lot, 11111 Brookshire Ave.

Downey Theatre 50th Anniversary Party, 3 pm. A celebratory event and grand re-opening to mark the theater's 50th anniversary. Downey Civic Theatre, 8435 Firestone Blvd.

SATURDAY, MAY 9

Relay for Life, 10 am. Downey Relay for Life celebrates the 20th anniversary of its fight against cancer. This 24-hour event raises money for the American Cancer Society. Warren High School, 8141 De Palma St.

Touch a Truck, 10 am. Downey fire engines, ladder trucks and ambulance vehicles will be on display for kids to jump on, ride on and honk horns. Independence Park, 12334 Bellflower Blvd.

SUNDAY, MAY 10

Mariachi Los Camperos, 3 pm. The two-time Grammy Award winning mariachi performs a special Mother's Day concert. Downey Theatre, 8435 Firestone Blvd.

SUNDAY, MAY 17

Downey Ride & Stride, 10 am to 4 pm. An open-street event held in conjunction with the Downey Street Faire, featuring live music, vendors, food, and family activities. Downey Avenue, between Firestone Boulevard and Stewart & Gray Road.

SUNDAY, JUNE 14

'Grease' Sing-Along, 7 pm. Fall in love with Olivia Newton-John and John Travolta all over again while singing along to all of the film's big hits. Downey Theatre, 8435 Firestone Blvd.

Compiled by Eric Pierce. Some events may charge admission fees. Email calendar listings to eric@thedowneypatriot.com

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Short Stories

A positive place to be

By Yolanda Reyna Contributor

When I arrive to church on a Sunday morning, I feel energized, rejuvenated, and full of adrenaline. Calvary Chapel Downey Church is the place to be for me.

With its red and tan brick structure, it dwells on the corner of Imperial Highway and Woodruff Avenue in Downey. When you enter the foyer, you are immediately greeted with a spiritual smiley face.

Pastor Jeff is an amazing pastor, often adding humor to his lengthy but fulfilling sermons. In addition, many church goers will often blow out an eardrum with their sonorous vocal cords, which is something I've experienced.

Furthermore, Calvary

Chapel offers a variety of activities for all ages such as Bible study, tea time for women, men's prayer, surviving the holidays, even exploring Israel as a yearly traveling opportunity.

Their church bulletin will give you a list full of wonderful and exciting activities. You may also volunteer your time as much volunteer work is needed.

In May of 1973, Pastor Jeff Johnson became part of what was to become Calvary Chapel of Downey.

Yes, Calvary Chapel Downey is the place to be for me.

Yolanda Reyna is a member of the writing class offered through the Cerritos College Adult Education Program. It is held off-campus at the Norwalk Senior Center.

SOUTH DOWNEY ARTIST OF THE WEEK



Art 1 student Alexey Gonzalez of Downey High School created this drawing using pencils.

Short Stories

Bright Flame and Little Cinder

By Sharon Benson Smith Contributor

My daughter, Tracy, was about seven or eight years old, and I thought we should do something special together.

One of the mothers on her Little League team suggested we join Indian Maidens. The purpose of the program was to promote mother-daughter bonding and to expand our friendship base. I thought it was a great idea, and Tracy was excited about it, so we signed up and committed to meeting with the group on a weekly basis.

Our first meeting assignment was to select our Indian names. One of the mothers brought a list of possible names. After considerable thought, I came up with the names of Bright Flame and Little Cinder, and Tracy liked them too. She was the cutest Little Cinder.

Next, we had to select our group colors, a costume pattern, the fabric, etc. We chose the color of rust and a soft suede-like material.

We met at one of the homes which alternated each week with the mother-daughter hosts providing a snack and a beverage for the tribe.

For the first several meetings we concentrated on getting our costumes and all the accessories completed. The pattern was short-sleeved and had a fringed hem ending mid-calf for the moms. It was "topped off" with a head band and a feather.

The girls had their assignments of stringing the colorful, beaded necklace we wore. The costumes were completely handmade except for the moccasins, and were worn to each meeting.

Later meetings included planning fun tribal activities and weekend getaways. Our first weekend outing was in Big Bear when it had snowed and the girls had a great time making a snowman, having snowball fights, and sliding on

makeshift sleds of cardboard. We slept on bunks in the cabin, kept a fire going in the fireplace, told stories, and we ate all our meals together after saying grace.

As Halloween approached, the tribe decided we would enter the costume contest at the local YWCA in competition with other tribes in the Whittier area. I decided we would go as flappers. So, I got busy with the project at hand.

I had a white dress so all I had to do was add the rows of fringe. Tracy's dress, however, was another story. I had to make it from scratch, and I am not a seamstress by any stretch of the imagination. I'm sure I consulted my seamstress sister, Donna.

I made matching hats and a fringed shawl. I bought white stockings, white shoes, and silver necklaces; voila, we were ready for Halloween. As usual, my mother was invited to come along.

When we arrived at the gym, Mom was asked to be a judge, as one of the volunteers couldn't make it. Mom was happy and willing to help out. They pinned a badge on her blouse, designating her a judge, and the contest was under way.

Lo and behold, Bright Flame and Little Cinder were in the finals. When it came time for Mom to vote, she had to recuse herself saying, "Oh no, it wouldn't be fair because "those flappers are mine." I'll never forget those words, and writing them now, over 45 years later, once again reminds me of how much I miss her in my life. Mom didn't vote, but "her flappers" won the contest.

Speaking of a judge brings Flip Wilson to mind. He was a black comedian having his own variety show, and made guest

appearances on Rowan and Martin's Laugh-In. In addition to his famous "here come da judge" line, he always included a cameo part on "Geraldine."

He was dressed like a sexy female, wore a wig, sauntered with hands on hips, then entered the costume contest at his words accordingly. Other catch phrases attributed to his comedic side are: "the devil made me do it" and "what you see is what you get."

He was so hilarious that we eagerly looked forward to his weekly show. That memory never ceases to bring me a smile, and I think we need more comedy in our lives.

Flip Wilson was a great comedian. My mom was a great mother, and both were taken from this world way too young and much too soon.

Years later, when she was sixteen, Tracy worked at the Show Off Dress Shop in Puente Hills. The manager asked the salesgirls to wear costumes on

Halloween, and Tracy wore my flapper outfit from our Indian Maiden days.

It had me thinking, and not for the first time, that time really does fly. Those were wonderful and memorable days of mother-daughter bonding and for making new friends.

Every now and then, Tracy and I recall the good times we had during the period of Bright Flame and Little Cinder. We also often recall mom/Grandma B and how proud she was to be asked to be a judge then having to recuse herself from voting saying, "Oh no, it wouldn't be fair because "those flappers are mine."

Sharon Benson Smith is a member of the writing class offered through the Cerritos College Adult Education Program. It is held off-campus at the Norwalk Senior Center.

Downey High School Musical Theatre Department Presents

Disney's Beauty and the Beast

Thursday, January 30th at 7:00 PM
Friday, January 31st at 7:00 PM
Saturday, February 1st at 2:00 PM

At the Downey Theatre
8435 Firestone Blvd - Downey, CA 90241

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HAPPY Valentine's Day

Congress members question Delta about fuel dump

DOWNNEY - Congresswomen Lucille Roybal-Allard (CA-40), Maxine Waters (CA-43), Nanette Diaz Barragan (CA-44), and Linda T. Sanchez (CA-38) have sent a letter to Federal Aviation Administration Administrator Steve Dickson asking numerous questions about the January 14 Delta Airlines jet fuel dump in and around their districts, and the circumstances and procedures surrounding that fuel dump.

The text of the letter is presented here:

Dear Administrator Dickson:

We write with deep concern regarding the January 14, 2020 release of jet fuel by Delta flight 89 over our communities in Los Angeles. While we are grateful that flight 89 made a safe landing at Los Angeles International Airport (LAX), we are troubled that this jet fuel was dumped over populated areas, including at least six elementary schools. The impact of this fuel dump on our communities and children has yet to be fully realized. We ask for your assistance in answering fundamental questions regarding the protocol that a pilot and air traffic control must follow in order to dump fuel in anticipation of an emergency landing.

We request that your agency respond to the following questions by January 31, 2020. We also request that your agency keep us apprised of any developments that arise out of the investigation into the January 14, 2020 fuel dump by Delta flight 89.

1. What are the scenarios when a pilot would be expected or justified in dumping fuel?

2. What are the scenarios when a pilot would be expected or justified to dump fuel over a populated area?

3. What are the procedures and regulations for controllers and for pilots regarding dumping fuel? Please include fuel dumping procedures for flight crews, technical information regarding altitude at which fuel dumping should occur, and any information regarding lasting effects of fuel dispersed over a given area.

4. Were those procedures and regulations followed by both the controllers and the pilots regarding the January 14 fuel dump by Delta flight 89?

5. Is there a required or preferred area in the vicinity of LAX for the dumping of fuel in anticipation of an emergency landing?

a. If yes, how are these areas determined?

b. What type of consideration is given to any population density within the areas identified for use for fuel dumping?

6. If an aircraft dumps fuel over a populated area during an emergency, is the pilot required to inform air traffic control?

7. In a situation where air traffic control knows that a fuel dump will occur over a populated area, is air traffic control required to warn the communities that may be impacted in order to allow them to take cover?

a. If yes, why were the communities not warned in this case?

b. Under current law, is FAA authorized to require notification of fuel dumps to communities that could be affected?

8. It is our understanding that the flight crew on flight 89, after declaring an emergency, was asked if they needed to dump fuel before returning to LAX. The flight crew indicated at that time that they did not need to dump



fuel. We now know that during the approach to LAX, the flight crew decided to initiate a fuel dump.

a. Why did the flight crew decide to dump fuel on approach to LAX despite initially declining to dump fuel when asked by air traffic control?

9. If an aircraft dumps fuel over a populated area during an emergency, is that air carrier required to contact any of the communities affected by the release?

a. What action, if any, is the air carrier expected to take to clean up the fuel and assist the affected communities following the fuel dump?

10. What was the flight path of flight 89 during the time period when the fuel was being dumped? Please include the cities and communities above which the fuel was dumped and the approximate altitudes of the plane for various locations along the flight path.

11. What are the lasting health and environmental impacts of the dumping and dispersal of fuel under the conditions in which this fuel dump occurred?

a. What actions can local communities and public health and environmental officials take to minimize these impacts?

12. Are airlines required to

file and/or disclose the chemical composition of the jet fuel used in domestic flights?

a. Please provide the safety data sheet (or equivalent disclosure of chemical composition) for the fuel used on board Delta flight 89, including any additives.

b. If any components of the fuel used by Delta are proprietary, please provide a list of substances and/or chemicals approved for use as jet fuel additives, as well as any substances and/or chemicals specifically banned from use as jet fuel additives.

13. What is the standard FAA procedure and timeline for investigating an incident such as the January 14, 2020 Delta flight 89 fuel dump?

We appreciate your prompt response to this incident which has affected the health and safety of our communities.

Sincerely,
LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD
Member of Congress
MAXINE WATERS
Member of Congress
NANETTE DIAZ BARRAGAN
Member of Congress
LINDA T. SANCHEZ
Member of Congress

Benches honor aerospace workers

DOWNNEY - A pair of benches honoring the employees of North American Aviation in Downey who developed and built the spacecraft that enabled man to set foot on the moon will be dedicated Friday, Feb. 7, at 3 p.m. at the Columbia Memorial Space Center.

The benches were donated by retired employees of North American Aviation and Financial Partners Credit Union.

The dedication ceremony is open to the public. RSVP by contacting Lori Reeves at LoriR@fpcu.org or (562) 904-4216.

Space center honoring fallen astronauts

DOWNNEY - The Columbia Memorial Space Center will host an "Astronaut Commemoration" this Saturday, Feb. 1, where it will celebrate the astronauts of the Challenger, Columbia and Apollo 1, all of whom were lost on our trek to the stars.

"As NASA's official memorial to the Columbia shuttle and crew, [the space center] is the appropriate place for these commemoration events," Downey officials said in a statement.

Each of the NASA tragedies occurred within the same week: Apollo 1 on Jan. 27, 1967; Challenger on Jan. 28, 1986; and Columbia on Feb. 1, 2003.

Saturday's event will include a guest speaker and presentation, starting at 12 p.m.

The space center will be open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday. Regular admission fees apply.

For more information, call the space center at (562) 231-1200 or visit columbiaspacecenter.org.

The space center is located at 12400 Columbia Way in Downey.

Expert on quilting is guest speaker

DOWNNEY - Lyn Mann, a teacher and expert quilter, will present a lecture titled "Head for the Border" at the L.A. County Quilters meeting on Wednesday, Feb. 19, at the Downey Women's Club.

The lecture is devoted to borders and Mann will show various quilts with pieced borders and explain how to choose and construct them.

Spaced borders will be explained as how you make any border fit any quilt. The emphasis is on simple but effective borders.

Mann began quilting in 1981 and started teaching six years later. Ever active in the quilting community, she belongs to two guilds as well as the Northern and Southern Quilt Councils.

She has taught at Road to California, Camp Watch a Patcher, Tahoe Paradise and on at least seven cruises. She has also been published in several quilting magazines.

On Feb. 20, she will teach a workshop titled "Throw Tradition a Curve." She will replace half-square triangles in traditional blocks with a curved two-patch to give a new contemporary look to old favorites.

The Feb. 19 meeting begins at 10 a.m. with social hour starting at 9:30. Visitors are always welcome. For more information, call Nancy at (562) 458-4395 or Ginie at (562) 927-3635.

Symphony pays tribute to Beethoven

Continued from page 2

a hand railing needs to be installed on the patio steps leading to the parking lot. Dorothy Pemberton, of the oversight committee for the City of Downey's Measure S, noted that.

Still to be constructed, the elevator which will be available for handicapped patrons, to take them to the second floor. With that improvement, the art show can expand to the mezzanine level.

You can catch the Downey Symphony Orchestra in a free performance at the Downey Theatre's own celebration of 50 years here in Downey on April 18. As part of a day-long Saturday civic treat, the Orchestra is scheduled to perform at 5 pm in a 40-minute set.

Music Director Lavery has chosen to give the audience a rare sampling of the DSS's Music in the School's program. In the spotlight: Mussorgsky's Pictures from an Exhibition, which the kids learn about and love. Bring the family.

Next subscription concert: April 11, for a program of American composers headlined by Leonard Bernstein's Overture to Candide and his suite of his dances from "West Side Story." Expect also Charles Ives's Variations on America, and Open World from Captain Marvel by Pinar Toprak. Also pieces by Aaron Copeland and Conrad Pope.

The April 11 concert also features the annual bidding war for the privilege of guest-conducting with the Maestro's baton. The experience of a lifetime.

If you're reading this and it sounds like fun, as always the public is invited to become part of the family at a Downey Symphony concert. As Marsha Rodriguez Milner said, "I can never walk through the doors of this beautiful theatre without recalling our performing arts days here. But tonight, it's all about spending time with great friends, hearing some beautiful music and listening to our wonderful hometown orchestra."

A champagne reception will follow the April 11 concert. Tickets are available now at downeysymphony.org.

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SATURDAY
February 1, 2020
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.



*Downey residents may receive up to 2 new filters in exchange for 2 used filters. Restrictions apply. While supplies last.

RESIDENTS WHO BRING IN USED OIL OR FILTERS WILL RECEIVE A FREE OIL RECYCLING CONTAINER! WHILE SUPPLIES LAST.

RESIDENTS MUST BRING AN OLD FILTER TO THE STORE TO RECEIVE A NEW FREE OIL FILTER.

CONTAMINATED MOTOR OIL IS NOT ACCEPTED. TRANSPORT OIL IN CLEAN, LEAK-PROOF CONTAINER. LIMIT - 5 GALLONS.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL 888-HEY-SLICK.

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Cesar Macedo MBA, CFP®
LPL Financial, Member FINRA/SIPC

Cesar Macedo is a financial advisor and member of LPL Financial. His professional career has spanned over 20 years, where he has helped transition hundreds of investment clients into retirement. Cesar joined LPL Financial in 2007.

Cesar is a graduate of the University of California, Santa Cruz, receiving a Bachelors degree in Economics. He received his Personal Financial Planning Certificate from U.C. Irvine and his Certified Financial Planner™ designation from the Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards in 2004. He earned his MBA from Cal State Long Beach. His professional affiliations include the Financial Services Institute.

Call Cesar to establish a complimentary review, whether you are getting ready to retire or if you want a second opinion about your investment portfolio.

Income Tax Services

\$50 Short Form and \$100 Long Form

(Includes Fed/State and e-file & No Additional Fees)

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Office 562-862-4900

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 Excellent condition! Freshly painted. Blinds, wood-looking luxury vinyl floors, like new. Inside laundry hookups. Garage & 2 parking spaces. Small patio. No Pets. \$1,700/mo.
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Before 1pm or Weekends
 Call Yolanda (562) 256-0871

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A. The base bid amount only.

The Board reserves the right to reject any and all bids and/or waive any irregularity in any bid received. If the District awards the Contract, the security of unsuccessful bidder(s) shall be returned within sixty (60) days from the time the award is made. Unless otherwise required by law, no bidder may withdraw its bid for ninety (90) days after the date of the bid opening.

Darren Purselglove, C.P.M.
 Darren Purselglove
 Director, Purchasing and Warehouse
 Downey Unified School District
 Los Angeles County, State of California

The Downey Patriot
 1/23/20, 1/30/20

INVITATION FOR BID

BID Number 011420-KW

DISTRICT WI-FI NETWORK UPGRADE (E-RATE)

Lynwood Unified School District is requesting Qualified Vendors to submit a BID in compliance with E-rate funding program

BID DUE: February 27, 2020 at 10:00 AM

Location:
 Lynwood Unified School District
 Purchasing Department, 2nd Floor 11321
 Bullis Road
 Lynwood, CA 90262

To receive a BID package, go to:
 Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) website and/or Lynwood Unified School District website to download documents.

Any communications regarding this BID shall be in writing by Email to smclucas@myluisd.org and cc: pmora@myluisd.org

Phone calls for information concerning this BID will not be accepted

It is improper for any potential respondent to contact any employee of LUSD other than the Purchasing Department during the solicitation process, related to the BID.

The Downey Patriot
 1/30/20, 2/6/20

NOTICE OF BID

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Education for the DOWNEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, Downey, CA (Los Angeles County), will receive Bid Number 19/20-06 for the procurement of the following:

Basic Maintenance of Internal Connections

Sealed bids must be delivered to the Downey Unified School District, Purchasing Department, 11627 Brookshire Avenue, Room 169, Downey, CA 90241 no later than 1:00 PM on February 21, 2020.

Companies interested in bidding should request appropriate bid documents from the Purchasing Department, (562) 469-6535.

The Board of Education reserves the right to reject any and all bids. No bidder may withdraw their bid for a period of ninety

(90) days after the date set for the opening of bids. Refer to the formal bid documents and specifications for additional information, terms, and conditions.

PLEASE NOTE that the Project is funded in part by the Schools and Libraries Division (SLD) of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) as part of "E-Rate" Universal Service Fund (USF) (the "E-Rate Program"). Therefore, all Proposers must be knowledgeable of, and comply with, all E-Rate requirements including those applicable to Technology Equipment and work provided by service providers including any and all reporting requirements and compliance with all applicable federal laws. Proposers must provide a permanent SLD Service Provider Identification Number (SPIN) and FCC Registration Number with their proposal.

Darren Purselglove, C.P.M.
 Darren Purselglove
 Director of Purchasing and Warehouse

The Downey Patriot
 1/23/20, 1/30/20

NOTICE OF BID

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Education for the DOWNEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, Downey, CA (Los Angeles County), will receive Bid Number 19/20-07 for the procurement of the following:

Rack Mount Lithium Ion UPS

Sealed bids must be delivered to the Downey Unified School District, Purchasing Department, 11627 Brookshire Avenue, Room 169, Downey, CA 90241 no later than 1:00 PM on February 21, 2020.

Companies interested in bidding should request appropriate bid documents from the Purchasing Department, (562) 469-6535.

The Board of Education reserves the right to reject any and all bids. No bidder may withdraw their bid for a period of ninety (90) days after the date set for the opening of bids. Refer to the formal bid documents and specifications for additional information, terms, and conditions.

PLEASE NOTE that the Project is funded in part by the Schools and Libraries Division (SLD) of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) as part of "E-Rate" Universal Service Fund (USF) (the "E-Rate Program"). Therefore, all Proposers must be knowledgeable of, and comply with, all E-Rate requirements including those applicable to Technology Equipment and work provided by service providers including any and all reporting requirements and compliance with all applicable federal laws. Proposers must provide a permanent SLD Service Provider Identification Number (SPIN) and FCC Registration Number with their proposal.

Darren Purselglove, C.P.M.
 Darren Purselglove
 Director of Purchasing and Warehouse

The Downey Patriot
 1/23/20, 1/30/20

LIEN SALES

NOTICE OF LIEN SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the undersigned intends to sell the personal

property described below to enforce a lien imposed on said property pursuant to Sections 21700-21716 of the CA Business and Professions Code, Section 2328 of CA Commercial Code, Sections 1812.600 -1812.609, Section 1988 of CA Civil Code and Section 535 of the CA Penal Code.

The undersigned will sell at public sale by competitive bidding on Wednesday, the 19th day of February, 2020, at 10:00 AM, on the premises where said property including: household goods, tools, electronics and personal effects, have been stored and which are located at: Paramount Self Storage, 8160 E. Rosecrans Ave., Paramount, 90723, County of Los Angeles, State of California, the following:

Name	Unit #
Oscar Cervantes	1518
Lauren Griffin	1302
Pedro Gutierrez	1125
Barbara Harris	1341
Jesse Hope	2702
Mary Horton	2316
Jose A Jimenez	1140
Vivian Lopez	2944
Crystal Montijo	3037
Martin Murguia	1215
Maribel Nunez	2491
Jimmie C. Pinedo III	2634
Starr Richardson	2648
Silvano Serrano	2723
Edith Soden	1102

Purchases must be paid for at the time of purchase in CASH ONLY. All purchased items sold as is, where is and must be removed at the time of sale. Sale subject to cancellation in the event of settlement between Owner and obligated party.

Dated this 30th Day of January 2020 and 6th Day of February 2020.
 Self Storage Management Company
 Bond #: WLI1254152

The Downey Patriot
 1/30/20, 2/6/20

NOTICES

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

CASE NUMBER: 20NWCP00005
 TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner FRANCISCO JOSEPH GONZALEZ filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
 Present name (1) FRANCISCO JOSEPH GONZALEZ to Proposed name (1) FRANKIE JOSEPH GRIFFITHS
 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: MARCH 11, 2020, Time: 1:30 p.m., Department: C, Room: 312
 The address of the court is 12720 Norwalk Blvd., Norwalk, CA 90650

A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once a week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in the county, **The Downey Patriot** 8301 Florence Ave Downey 90240
 JANUARY 02, 2020
 Just Margaret M. Bernal
 Judge Of The Superior Court
 Petitioner or Attorney, In Pro Per
Marvin Jose Sandoval
 11752 Coldbrook Ave.
 Apt D., Downey CA 90241
 562-441-8009

The Downey Patriot
 1/30/20, 2/6/20, 2/13/20, 2/20/20

the county, **The Downey Patriot** JANUARY 02, 2020
 Judge Margaret M. Bernal
 Judge Of The Superior Court
 Petitioner or Attorney, In Pro Per
Francisco Joseph Gonzalez
 10615 Garnish Drive
 Downey, CA 90241
 (562) 353-0481
 Frankiegonzalez27@yahoo.com

The Downey Patriot
 1/16/20, 1/23/20, 1/30/20, 2/6/20

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

CASE NUMBER: 20NWCP00033
 TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner LATICIA YVETTE BALLARD filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
 Present name (1) LATICIA YVETTE BALLARD to Proposed name (1) RYNELL LATICIA BALLARD
 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: APRIL 1, 2020, Time: 1:30 p.m., Department: C, Room: 312
 The address of the court is 12720 Norwalk Blvd. Norwalk, CA 90650

A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once a week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in the county, **Downey Patriots** JANUARY 24, 2020
 Judge Margaret M. Bernal
 Judge Of The Superior Court
 Petitioner or Attorney, In Pro Per
Laticia Yvette Ballard
 9448 Nance St #9
 Downey, CA 90241
 562-310-9697

The Downey Patriot
 1/30/20, 2/6/20, 2/13/20, 2/20/20

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

CASE NUMBER: 19NWCP00406
 TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner MARVIN JOSE SANDOVAL filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
 Present name (1) MARVIN JOSE SANDOVAL to Proposed name (1) MARVIN JOSE SANDOVAL JR
 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: MARCH 18, 2020, Time: 1:30 p.m., Department: C, Room: 312
 The address of the court is 12720 Norwalk Blvd. Norwalk, CA 90650 Norwalk, 90650
 A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once a week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in the county, **The Downey Patriot** 8301 Florence Ave Downey 90240
 JANUARY 02, 2020
 Just Margaret M. Bernal
 Judge Of The Superior Court
 Petitioner or Attorney, In Pro Per
Steven Michael Turnbull Jr.
 9535 Stoakes Ave
 Downey CA, 90240
 562-334-6140
 Steven.turnbull901@gmail.com
 Petitioner Steven Michael Turnbull Jr.

The Downey Patriot
 1/9/20, 1/16/20, 1/23/20, 1/30/20

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

CASE NUMBER: 19NWCP00493
 TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner STEVEN MICHAEL TURNBULL JR. filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
 Present name (1) STEVEN MICHAEL TURNBULL JR. to Proposed name (1) STEVEN MICHAEL PITTER
 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: MARCH 4, 2020, Time: 1:30 p.m., Department: C, Room: 312
 The address of the court is 12720 Norwalk Blvd, Norwalk, CA 90650

A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once a week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in the county, **The Downey Patriot** December 31, 2019
 Judge Margaret M. Bernal
 Judge Of The Superior Court
 Petitioner or Attorney, In Pro Per
Steven Michael Turnbull Jr.
 In Pro Per
 9535 Stoakes Ave
 Downey CA, 90240
 562-334-6140
 Steven.turnbull901@gmail.com
 Petitioner Steven Michael Turnbull Jr.

The Downey Patriot
 1/9/20, 1/16/20, 1/23/20, 1/30/20

Interested persons are invited to comment on the following wireless telecommunications facility named "LA02260A" located at 11231 River, Downey, Los Angeles County, CA, and specifically on potential effects to historic properties located at or near this facility, if any. The site consists of a proposed fiber addition to an existing telecommunications facility. Comments regarding potential effects to historic properties should be submitted by email to KerryWilloughby@AceEnvironmentalLLC.com. Address: 9976

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

CASE NUMBER: 20BBCP00022
 TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner RAUL ARYSTAN AKTANOV-DOMINGO filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
 Present name (1) RAUL ARYSTAN AKTANOV-DOMINGO to Proposed name (1) RAUL ARYSTAN AKTAN DOMINGO
 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: FEBRUARY 28, 2020, Time: 8:30 a.m., Department: B, Room: 312
 The address of the court is 300 EAST OLIVE AVENUE, BURBANK, CA 91502

A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once a week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in the county, **The Downey Patriot** JANUARY 21, 2020
 Judge Darrel Mavis
 Judge Of The Superior Court
 Petitioner or Attorney, In Pro Per
Raul Arystan Aktanov-Domingo
 401 S. Glenoaks Blvd., #205
 Burbank, CA 91502
 (818) 754-6370

The Downey Patriot
 1/23/20, 1/30/20, 2/6/20, 2/13/20

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

CASE NUMBER: 19NWCP00493
 TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner STEVEN MICHAEL TURNBULL JR. filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
 Present name (1) STEVEN MICHAEL TURNBULL JR. to Proposed name (1) STEVEN MICHAEL PITTER
 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: MARCH 4, 2020, Time: 1:30 p.m., Department: C, Room: 312
 The address of the court is 12720 Norwalk Blvd, Norwalk, CA 90650

A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once a week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in the county, **The Downey Patriot** JANUARY 03, 2020

Judge Margaret M. Bernal
 Judge Of The Superior Court
 Petitioner or Attorney, In Pro Per
JOSE LUIZ DIAZ RAMIREZ
 17550 HAYFORD STREET
 LA MIRADA CA 90638
 (714) 873-5503
 Diazs1995@gmail.com

The Downey Patriot
 1/9/20, 1/16/20, 1/23/20, 1/30/20

Peak Lookout St., Las Vegas, NV 89178, (702) 614-4431. This notice is provided in accordance with the regulations of the FCC 47 CFR Part 1, Subpart I and Appendices B and C.

ACE LA02260A
 The Downey Patriot
 1/30/20

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

CASE NUMBER: 20NWCP00007
 TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner JOSE LUIZ DIAZ RAMIREZ filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
 Present name (1) JOSE LUIZ DIAZ RAMIREZ to Proposed name (1) JOSE LUIS DIAZ
 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: MARCH 11, 2020, Time: 1:30 p.m., Department: C, Room: 312
 The address of the court is 12720 Norwalk Blvd, Norwalk, CA 90650

A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once a week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in the county, **Downey Patriot** JANUARY 03, 2020
 Judge Margaret M. Bernal
 Judge Of The Superior Court
 Petitioner or Attorney, In Pro Per
JOSE LUIZ DIAZ RAMIREZ
 17550 HAYFORD STREET
 LA MIRADA CA 90638
 (714) 873-5503
 Diazs1995@gmail.com

The Downey Patriot
 1/9/20, 1/16/20, 1/23/20, 1/30/20

Turn Those UNUSED ITEMS in to CASH!



Our Deadline for Classified is Wednesday at 11:00 am
(562) 904-3668
 The Downey Patriot

The Downey Patriot
 1/9/20, 1/16/20, 1/23/20, 1/30/20

CITY OF DOWNEY NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR A MUNICIPAL CODE AMENDMENT TO REFLECT ADOPTION OF NEW 2019 CALIFORNIA CODES, ALONG WITH A NEW ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING AND HOUSING CODE

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held before the DOWNEY CITY COUNCIL on the 11th day of February, 2020, at 6:30 p.m., in the Council Chambers of the Downey City Hall, 11111 Brookshire Avenue, Downey, California. At that time and place, consideration will be given to the following:

A request to amend various sections of Article VIII of the Downey Municipal Code to reflect adoption of the new 2019 California Codes, along with a new Administrative Building and Housing Code. These changes are proposed to comply with the State of California's requirements to reflect 2019 building, residential, electrical, mechanical, plumbing, energy, historical building, existing building, referenced standards, Green Building Standards Code update and new administration Building and Housing Code.

Staff has reviewed the proposed Municipal Code Amendment for compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Upon completion of this review, staff has determined that the proposed Municipal Code Amendment is statutorily exempt from CEQA pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21080.17 and CEQA Guidelines Section 15282(h), which exempts adoption of ordinances that set rules and procedures.

If you challenge the proposed actions in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City Council at, or prior to, the public hearing.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, contact the City Clerk's Department at 562-904-7280 or the California Relay Service at 711. Notification at least 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make arrangements to assure accessibility. The City of Downey does not discriminate on the basis of disability in admission to, access to, or operations of its programs, services or activities. Questions, concerns, complaints or requests for additional information regarding the Americans with Disabilities Act may be forwarded to the City's ADA/Section 504 Coordinator at 11111 Brookshire Avenue, Downey, CA 90241, ADACoordinator@downeyca.org, Phone: 562-299-6619, Fax: 562-923-6388, and California Relay 711.

For more information contact the Building Official, Richard Hicks, at 562-904-7142, or at rhicks@downeyca.org.

Maria Alicia Duarte, CMC
 Published 01/23/2020

The Downey Patriot
 1/23/20, 1/30/20

CITY OF DOWNEY NOTICE OF A RESIDENTIAL DESIGN STANDARDS WORKSHOP

"The City of Downey is pleased to invite you to share your thoughts about single-family residential design in your neighborhood.

This workshop is the 3rd and final Community Meeting.

Please take this opportunity to share your ideas before final recommendations are made to the City's Planning Commission and City Council. The workshop will be held on Monday, February 10, 2020 from 7:0 PM - 9:00 PM at the Barbara J. Riley Center in the BJR room at 7810 Quill Dr., Downey, CA 90242.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, contact the City Clerk's Department at 562-904-7280 or the California Relay Service at 711. Notification at least 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make arrangements to assure accessibility. The City of Downey does not discriminate on the basis of disability in admission to, access to, or operations of its programs, services or activities. Questions, concerns, complaints or requests for additional information regarding the Americans with Disabilities Act may be forwarded to the City's ADA/Section 504 Coordinator at 11111 Brookshire Avenue, Downey, CA 90241, ADACoordinator@downeyca.org, Phone: 562-299-6619, Fax: 562-923-6388, and California Relay 711.

For more information contact the Senior Planner Alfonso Hernandez, at 562-904-7154, or at ashernandez@downeyca.org.

The Downey Patriot
 1/30/20

7 'upgrades' don't necessarily increase property values

Homeowners often assume that upgrades and renovations always make their place more valuable and sellable. But many home improvements do not, in fact, add value to the home — and in some cases, could even act as a detriment if and when the property goes on the market. Here are the seven of the most common.

Extensive Professional Landscaping

You can build an entire amusement park in your backyard and it won't bring you big bucks upon resale. If you want to put in a waterfall that cascades down into a Koi pond, for example, do it because you enjoy the water feature, not because you're hoping to recoup the investment. Landscaping choices are a personal preference, and all the hand-crafted bridges and unique pergolas in the world won't dramatically boost your bottom line.

Upgrading the Utilities

Although you may have paid thousands to install copper plumbing or replace the sewer or upgrade the electrical wiring from aluminum to Romex, it's unlikely to bring you more dollars. These types of improvements are considered maintenance — and your neighbors probably made them years before you. Of course, getting everything state-of-the-art isn't a bad idea: In certain quarters, that's considered standard, and without it, you could take a hit when selling time comes. Just don't think these upgrades let you mark up the price tag.

New Roof or HVAC

Some buyers in the marketplace appreciate a home that features a brand-new furnace or HVAC system, but they won't pay extra for it. Ditto regarding a new roof: Replacing a roof past its average life expectancy of 30 years is considered a maintenance issue. It's like expecting to get paid more because you swept off the front steps.

Swimming Pool or Personal Spa

The TV commercials for water-related improvements depict nonstop frolicking among kids in the pool (zero focus on drownings) or late-evening soirées in the hot tub sipping adult beverages. Sadly, though, the cost and expense of aquatic amenities never find their way back into your pocket. Many people won't buy a home with a swimming pool; they don't want to deal with the upkeep or safety issues. In fact, as part of negotiations, a buyer might insist that you tear out the pool or whirlpool. If you want to install a pool or spa, do it because you will enjoy it.

Making Dated Decor Changes

You might like white appliances or white ceramic counters, for example, but young home buyers do not. Those are no longer "in." Same thing with carpeting, unless it's exotic and high-end — and

don't even go down the road of gold-toned bathroom fixtures and door hardware. Even 12-inch-by-12-inch ceramic flooring has lost its appeal. The point is, don't deliberately decorate in the latest style for resale reasons. Fashion just changes too fast.

Painting Your House

Although painting is the single most cost-effective improvement you can make before selling your home, it won't return any bang for your buck unless you do the painting yourself. Fresh coats on the exterior or interior certainly make any home more saleable, but appraisers don't boost your value because of them.

Solar Panels

Sure, the salespeople at the solar panel company tell you that installing solar panels will enhance your home's value, but that's just not true. It may be an admirable thing for the environment, but solar panels do nothing for the residence's selling price. Moreover, if you have financed the solar panels, you probably can't sell the home without paying off the balance at closing, something that often is not disclosed.

The Bottom Line

Some folks are devastated to find out that the improvements they invested in and perhaps borrowed money for not only do not improve the value of the property but might actually detract from it. Fortunately, while most of these enhancements won't help you turn a bigger profit, they won't hurt, either — and they might make it easier to sell your home by giving the buyer peace of mind. Just don't confuse peace of mind with an elevated price tag.

TheBalance.com

POETRY MATTERS

The Eve of St. Agnes

The owl, for all his feathers, was a-cold;
The hare limp'd trembling through the frozen grass,
And silent was the flock in woolly fold:
Numb were the Beadsman's fingers, while he told
His rosary, and while his frosted breath,
Like pious incense from a censer old,
Seem'd taking flight for heaven, without a death,
Past the sweet Virgin's picture, while his prayer he saith....

John Keats, 1820, stanza 1

The homeless count took place here one night last week, close to St. Agnes Eve. Keats's genius lies in making us feel sensations like the cold of that January night. Rome's St. Agnes is the martyred patron of maidens and rape victims. Poetry Matters is curated by Lorine Parks.



Dorothy Pemberton

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Report graffiti
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Changing Times, Changing Markets

2005 vs. 2020:

Many people are approaching this year anticipating another recession. However, times have changed, and there are quite a few differences between the years that led up to 2008 and today that may ease these concerns.



- At the end of 2019, the U.S. jobless claims were at a 50-year-low.¹
- Stricter lending standards reduce the likelihood of borrowers defaulting on their mortgages.⁴
- When adjusted for inflation, today's home prices are lower than those in 2006 that contributed to the crash.²
- Homeowners are more cautious, choosing to retain equity in their homes instead of borrowing against them.³
- Subprime or nonprime loans (granted to borrowers unable to qualify for conventional mortgages) only made up a small percentage of loans in the past five years compared to 20% in 2005.⁵

Source: 1 U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2019; 2 Seeking Alpha, "We're Definitely Not in a Housing Bubble," August 2017; Invest Four More, "When Will There Be Another Housing Market Crash?" September 2019; 3 U.S. News, "Your Guide to the Housing Market," September 2019; 4 The Mortgage Reports, "Report: Home Equity Increases, but Borrowing Down"; 5 July 2005.



Don't hesitate to call me with your questions on the real estate market! I'm honored to share more market updates and serve all of your buying and selling needs in the new year. Call or Text me TODAY! 562-743-2121 Visit www.dalejervis.com/smarthomeprice.com and see how your home compares to others selling in your neighborhood.



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I am a real estate broker and office manager

Martha Neri
Neri Group

Roger Vingino
Realtor
BRE #01125262
(562) 472-8767
Call Roger

8141 E. 2nd Street, Suite 110, Downey, CA 90241

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"Dorothy Pemberton did better than anybody could. She was wonderful!" - **Maurie Thomas**

"Araceli Tacuba was wonderful, very responsive, kind, polite & professional." - **Victoria Torres**

"Joanna Torrico was excellent. She went over & above & we would recommend her to anyone!" - **Tina Boyle**

FEATURED PROPERTY

Won't Last!

Cute starter home in very good condition. Nice street and area. Large bedrooms. Eating area in kitchen plus formal dining room. Utility room. Carpet is older but good condition. Large backyard with decking. Large avocado tree. 2 car detached garage with auto door opener. **Call Today!!!**

TOP PRODUCERS

TOP LISTING
David Rodriguez

TOP PRODUCTION
Esperanza Barajas

TOP SALES
Eric Pierce

Life's A Beach!

Beautiful recently remodeled 3 bedroom, 2 bath condo on the beach. Great ocean view. Balcony access from 2 bedrooms and living room. Great floor plan. Includes shared amenities with 1900 building: pool, sauna, tennis court, and a pet spa. **Call Today!!!**

Magnificent!

This gorgeous custom estate home features 4,529 square feet of living space and close to an acre of usable land. This home is elevated from the street with a private wrought iron fence and electric gate. It features 4 bedrooms and 4.5 bathrooms. This home also features 3 fireplaces, walk in pantry, complete laundry room, and two water heaters. For entertaining friends and family, custom patio, fully loaded, BBQ grill, and TV. **Call Today!!!**

Your Search Is Over!

Beautiful, updated 3 bedroom 2 bath home in the Hacienda Village in La Habra. Perfect backyard with pool, bar and built in BBQ for entertaining your family and friends. Updated kitchen, all lighting in the home are led energy efficient. Cooper piping and new 50-Gal water heater. Central AC and central heating. RV Parking. **Call Today!!!**

Move In Ready!

This beautifully updated NE Downey home on a large corner lot is perfect for entertaining friends and family with a large open kitchen and spacious family room. Use the backyard swimming pool to cool down on hot summer days and the inside sauna to warm up in the winter. The three-car garage and huge driveway offer plenty of parking. **Call Today!!!**

Turnkey!

Newly remodeled, new kitchen, granite counters, open concept floor plan. Master bedroom has private bath. Fireplace in living room and large pool and backyard for entertaining. 2 car garage with alley access. Close to Historical District with tree lined street. Don't miss this beautiful home. Your clients will love it and ready for move in. RV access. **Call Today!!!**

This Is The One!

Move in ready home. Perfect for entertaining. This spacious home features pool, spa, dining room, and family room. Close to freeways and schools. **Call Today!!!**

Perfect For Entertaining!

Welcome to your beautiful remodeled 4 bedroom, 2 bathroom home located in a quiet secluded, desirable area of Downey. Double doors open to gorgeous wood tile floors. Enjoy the comfort of 4 bedrooms. Home features master bedroom with attached bath. 3 other bedrooms share a large bathroom with large enclosed shower. Sliding glass doors welcome you to the cozy backyard and patio area. Private front yard features complete sprinkler system and security system gate.

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Vicki Spearman
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"I Care for Downey"
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lcare4dow@aol.com
DRE #00542721



Mario Persico
REALTOR®
"Mario DID IT Again!"
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Mario@MarioPersico.com
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JUST LISTED!

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2 BD, 1 BA South Gate home. 882 sq. ft. living space with spacious living room, dining room & nice backyard. \$430,000.

NEW LISTING!

Downey Fixer!
Tons of potential! Living room, dining room, 3 spacious bedrooms with walk-in closets, 1,844 sq. ft. of living space all on a large lot size.
\$629,000! Call us today for a private showing of this property at 562-618-0033.

Cherokee Estates Area
New listing in the City of Downey that features 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms with 2,225 sq. ft. of living space. Remodeled in 1990.
List Price: \$830,000.
Call Jimmy for a private showing today! 562-400-2148

COMING SOON

FOR SALE
Coming Soon!
This Downey charmer features 3 bedrooms, 1 3/4 bathrooms, and a family room with fireplace.
Call Vicki to be one of the first to see this beauty - 562-367-9520.
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EXCLUSIVE!

COMING SOON
Downey! Downey! Downey!
3 BD, 3 BA, 2,255 sq. ft. living space, 2-story, formal living room, dining room, family room, cul-de-sac. Call for more info at 562-533-7433.

JUST LISTED!

Smart Buy!
Boyle Heights home with 2 BD, 1 BA, living room with fireplace & detached garage. Call for more info! \$399,900.

Downey Fixer!
Tons of potential! Living room, dining room, 3 spacious bedrooms with walk-in closets, 1,844 sq. ft. of living space all on a large lot size.
\$629,000! Call us today for a private showing of this property at 562-618-0033.

Cherokee Estates Area
New listing in the City of Downey that features 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms with 2,225 sq. ft. of living space. Remodeled in 1990.
List Price: \$830,000.
Call Jimmy for a private showing today! 562-400-2148

COMING SOON!
This Downey charmer features 3 bedrooms, 1 3/4 bathrooms, and a family room with fireplace.
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Downstairs 2 BD, 1 BA apartment. Inside laundry hook up & completely remodeled interior. 2 car carport. \$1,900 per month.

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Downey Investment Property!
2 separate homes on one lot! Separate yards. Both homes have 2 bedrooms, 1 bathroom. In nice Downey neighborhood! Priced to sell at only \$689,000! Call us today for a private showing of this property at 562-618-0033.

Julio Garcia
REALTOR®
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2 separate homes on one lot! Separate yards. Both homes have 2 bedrooms, 1 bathroom. In nice Downey neighborhood! Priced to sell at only \$689,000! Call us today for a private showing of this property at 562-618-0033.

SOLD!

SOLD in Moreno Valley
4 BD | 2 BA | 1,576 sq. ft. living space
I can sell yours, too! Call Julio today at 562-533-3359.

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Easy Condo Living
1 bedroom, 1 bath condo. Master Suite with updated bath. Living room with fireplace and sliding glass doors to the patio. \$325,000.
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