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Covid shows signs of slowing

■ The rate of infection is slowing, increasing optimism that schools could re-open this year.

DOWNEY — The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health on Tuesday confirmed 51 new deaths and 989 new cases of COVID-19, marking the first time the number of reported new cases has been under 1,000 since the beginning of June.

In mid to late July, the daily reported number of new cases was around 3,200 cases per day.

To date, Public Health identified 233,777 positive cases of COVID-19 across all areas of L.A. County, and a total of 5,605 deaths.

The state is monitoring all counties on six indicators to determine their progress in slowing the spread of COVID-19. These indicators include testing capacity, how much transmission of the virus is happening in the community, how many people are currently hospitalized for COVID-19, and the capacity of hospitals to care for people with COVID-19 with adequate numbers of available Intensive Care Unit beds and ventilators.

LA County is meeting five of the state's six indicators, only missing the mark on the threshold of having less than 100 cases per 100,000 residents. As of Aug. 25, the case rate per 100,000 people is 196 cases per 100,000 residents.

Gov. Gavin Newsom allowed local health officers the discretion to grant waivers to school districts and private schools that would permit schools to reopen for in-classroom instruction for students in grades TK through grade 6 once case rates were under 200 per 100,000 people.

It is too early to tell if the county's 14-day case rate will remain below 200, especially given cases reported on Monday and Tuesday are typically lower than other days of the week, officials said.

Underlying health conditions

Ninety-two percent of the people who died from COVID-19 had underlying health conditions, most notably diabetes and hypertension, according to data compiled by L.A. County health officials.

Hypertension and diabetes are the most common underlying health conditions among people who died from COVID-19; neurologic conditions and cardiovascular disease is also common.

Although people over 65 years old make up the largest portion of people who died with underlying health conditions, younger people with underlying health conditions become seriously ill and die from the virus as well.

"It is important to remember that many people with underlying health conditions go to work, are out shopping for groceries, and enjoy all our beautiful recreational spaces," said public health director Barbara Ferrer. "We can all help protect them from becoming infected by wearing cloth face coverings, distancing, and isolating and quarantining when needed. These actions protect all others, including people who are at increased risk - these actions save lives."

Downey extends outdoor dining program

City Council Roundup

■ Restaurants, salons and other businesses can continue to operate outside for another 180 days.

By Alex Dominguez
Staff Writer

DOWNEY — The City Council gave the green light to a temporary outdoor business activity program on Tuesday, officially setting guidelines for the use of public streets and parking stalls.

Council's official go ahead comes after many businesses - including gyms, fitness centers, salons and barbershops - were forced to re-close their doors in mid-July due to an updated executive order from California Governor Gavin Newsom.

An updated order issued July 21 allows for operation to occur outdoors if able to do so.

Downey developed an outdoor program shortly after the July 21 order.

Business owners and property owners will now be able to designate outdoor walkways, sidewalks, and parking stalls for business activity, provided that they meet health and safety guidelines.

This program will be in effect for 180 days.

Additionally, a separate item extending the city's current temporary outdoor dining program was also passed, stretching the program for an additional 180 days.

Both items were approved as a part of the consent calendar without any additional discussion, with Mayor Blanca Pacheco abstaining.

David Gafin

In a tribute to late community



Joseph's Bar & Grill has built an outdoor dining area on Downey Avenue. On Tuesday, the City Council extended its outdoor dining program an additional 180 days. (Photo by Eric Pierce)

volunteer David Gafin, the Downey City Council on Tuesday unanimously approved renaming the Chamber of Commerce building in his honor.

Gaffin passed away in June at the age of 65 after a battle with cancer.

Known for his civic service, Gafin was elected to the Downey City Council in 2004 and served two terms, including a run as mayor from 2007-08.

He was also a past president of the Chamber of Commerce.

Councilman Rick Rodriguez said that the honor was "the most fitting."

"Dave had a long history," said Rodriguez. "He put his heart and soul into the Chamber to make it what it is today."

Chamber Executive Director Michael Calvert said that Gafin was "very deserving" of the honor.

"He was such a big part of what we did every day," said Calvert. "To see his name every day at the building is going to be amazing; we're very happy about it."

Police chief pay raise

The Downey Council approved a pay raise for the Chief of Police position over the next three years.

As it stood before council's vote, the monthly salary range for the position was \$16,333.84 to \$19,927.29

The Chief of Police - currently Dean Milligan - will now receive three 2% pay raises effective June 29, 2020, June 28, 2021, and June 27, 2022.

This will set the new monthly wage ranges to \$16,660.52 to \$20,325.84, \$16,993.73 to \$20,732.36, and \$17,333.61 to \$21,147.01, respectively.

This, of course, comes during a time of nationwide discussion over police funding.

Notably, City Council District 5 candidate Juan "Joey" Martinez called in to Tuesday's meeting to voice his disapproval.

"While you guys are expanding the police budget and giving a raise in salary, you guys are neglecting the majority part of Downey that is asking for you guys to be in solidarity with Black Lives Matter," said Martinez. "There's been two protests

here... The Downey Council has refused to comment, or to legitimize this movement."

"When you are working out these budgets and you are increasing these salaries, take into account the areas that you are neglecting, and you are neglecting the people."

Council members approved the salary increase unanimously.

DowneyLink

Downey has suspended all fare collection for DowneyLink and Dial-a-Ride users.

The move comes in hopes that it will assist riders who may have been affected by the financial impacts of COVID-19.

DowneyLink occupancy has also been limited to 15 passengers, and Dial-a-Ride to seven to ensure social distancing.

Bus operators and passengers are required to wear masks.

It is unclear what fiscal impact this will have on Downey's budget.

Mariana Pacheco enters race for Cerritos College board



■ A registered nurse, she is also the mother of Downey mayor Blanca Pacheco.

By Alex Dominguez
Staff Writer

DOWNEY — Marianna Pacheco, director of nursing at Downey Adult School, has announced that she will run

for Cerritos College Board of Trustees Area 1.

"I'm already in education...I already try and help the students start off their career after they finish high school so they can pursue something," said Pacheco. "I want to be able to do more for our students, and be able to do more for maybe the high school students, or seeing what other sort of articulation agreements we can do, and how we can partner better."

Pacheco has been a registered nurse for over 40 years. She worked for the county for 34 years, and was the clinical director at LACUSC for its clinics and employee health services.

Pacheco is a familiar face in Downey, having been a former president of Kiwanis. She is also a member of the Elks Club, as well as Downey Community Emergency Response Team.

She currently has the endorsements of State Assembly member Cristina Garcia, Downey council members Mayor Pro Tem Claudia Frometa, Rick Rodriguez

and Alex Saab, and Downey Unified Board member Martha Sodemani, although she says she hasn't finished reaching out to others.

Pacheco - of course - also has the support of her daughter, current Downey Mayor Blanca Pacheco.

She says she brings a "new perspective."

"I really have an interest in, 'How do we create better partnerships,' 'How do we create better industry involvement,'" said Pacheco. "I'm involved in SkillsUSA, so I've learned a lot about how to involve the private sector, and how do we get those students into the private sector and have the skills necessary to - as soon as they get out of school - to be able to get a job and perform."

"I think bringing all those qualities into play and knowing what I know in regards to education, I think would be an important factor as to why I want to run and why it would be important to me."

If elected, she says one of the first challenges she would like to tackle would be recovery from the effects of COVID-19, including bringing students back to campus.

"If elected, [my priority] is looking at what sort of protocols, what sort of things do we need to put in place to safely bring students and staff back onto campus."

Pacheco says that she hopes constituents understand how important it is to her to "give back."

"To me, education is extremely important, and it's pivotal that we are all afforded that ability," said Pacheco. "You can't imagine how your doors will open up just by getting an education and expanding your horizons. I just want to help."

Pacheco can be found on Facebook and Instagram, and has a website in development.

Weekend at a Glance

Friday 87°

Saturday 84°

Sunday 83°

ON THIS DAY AUGUST 27

1859: Edwin Drake drilled the first successful U.S. oil well near Titusville, Pa.

1883: The island volcano Krakatoa erupted and the resulting tidal waves killed an estimated 36,000 people on Indonesian islands.

1928: The Kellogg-Briand Pact was signed in Paris, outlawing war and providing for the peaceful settlement of disputes.

1962: The United States launched the Mariner 2 space probe, which flew past Venus the following December.



Mariner 2

1975: Haile Selassie, the last emperor of Ethiopia's 3,000-year-old monarchy, died almost a year after being overthrown.

2007: NFL quarterback Michael Vick pleaded guilty to a federal dogfighting charge. He was sentenced to 23 months in prison.

2008: Sen. Barack Obama was nominated for president by the Democratic National Convention in Denver.

Notable Birthdays

Actor **Paul Reubens**, known for portraying Pee-wee Herman, turns 68.
Dog whisperer **Cesar Milan** turns 51.
Fashion designer **Tom Ford** turns 59.
R&B singer **Mario** turns 34.
Rapper **Mase** turns 45.
WNBA and Team USA basketball player **Breanna Stewart** turns 26.
Gospel singer **Yolanda Adams** turns 59.



Breanna Stewart turns 26 today.

Notable Deaths

Darryl Dawkins, known as "Chocolate Thunder" when he played in the NBA, died on this date in 2015. The cause of death was a heart attack; he was 58.
Brian Epstein, the music executive who managed The Beatles to international stardom, died in 1967 of a drug overdose. He was 32.
Gracie Allen, a vaudeville actress and comedian, died in 1964 of a heart attack. She was 69.
Charles Evans Hughes, the 11th Chief Justice of the United States, died in 1866. He was 86.
Douglas Kenny, the comedy writer who created National Lampoon magazine and produced "Caddyshack," died in 1980 after falling off a cliff in Kauai, Hawaii. He was 33.

THE PET SPOT

Hair, Nails, and a Booty Squeeze!

Hello friends,

Let's say that beauty is in the hair...of the beholder! A groomer will trim the hair and mold it into something beautiful. Then cut the nails, manicure, file, even paint the nails! Last but not least, the booty squeeze. Which was just described to me by one of my clients. To clarify, this is another way of saying clean the anal glands. So, what is an anal gland on a dog and why does it need to be cleaned? Basically, an anal gland on a dog was used by wild dogs back in the day in a wild forest setting, they would do a little grunt then squeeze it out onto a bush to mark their territory against other animals. Gross huh? Well that's nature. Domesticated dogs nowadays don't need to do that anymore, being so domesticated, cats however do still do this. Most of the ones that do this are feral, but luckily our dogs have groomers to express it when they come in for grooming because it can lead to problems. If not treated, the anal glands can get impacted and actually burst out of the side of the tail, it's called a busted anal gland. I'm basically writing today to make sure everyone who reads this understands that grooming is essential, your dog needs grooming whether it's a Labradoodle or a Chihuahua. Most of the time I feel the main reason to groom a cat is to make it look pretty for in the house, but they could have fleas, or if they're very fluffy their hair could get very matted up. Most owners don't care to brush them every day, so they could possibly be in need of a haircut, keep in mind that not a lot of groomers will groom cats. If you get a kitten, it is a very good idea to give it a bath every couple of months just to get them used to it so that if you ever do want to go to a groomer they don't freak out! This can be very dangerous for the groomer. I very much worry about the fluffy dogs that don't get a haircut for a year. Their skin can actually get bruised from the moving of the matted coat and there may be serious underlying problems such as

fleas, ticks and other various parasites that could cause a horrible skin problem. Getting the hair off will be a big relief to your pet, especially in this hot weather. So now let me talk about your dog's feet, or as we call them, paws. Pads on a dog's feet are not leather, it is skin, and under that are a lot of tendons, ligaments, blood supply and connective tissue. If you walk your dog in 90-degree weather, you will burn your dog's feet and they probably won't complain. But once the pads crack, they will never heal. So, moral of the story is don't walk your dog in the heat, which is considered 70 degrees or hotter. I know common sense, go in the morning early to walk your dogs. A dog's temperature is naturally at 101 degrees compared to a humans 98 degrees, so they're always warmer than we are. Dogs do not sweat so the only way they cool down is to breathe hard and can you imagine trying to breathe hard when it feels like an oven outside? Most dogs should be inside when it is 90 degrees outside because a dog can die from heat stroke. There are also air-conditioned day-care shops for dogs. I know we all love our pets, but there are some small things that some people don't know. Everyone have a fabulous day, be safe and appreciate how much your pets love you.

Contributed by Anna's Pet Grooming

Before



After

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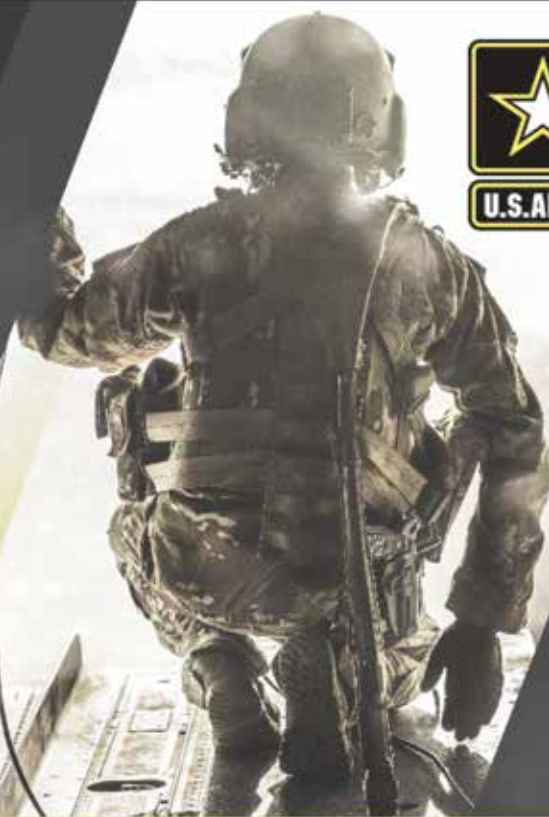
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Paging Dr. Frischer...

By Dr. Alan Frischer

My wife and I had an amazing vacation booked for February. February sure does seem like a long time from now, so of course by then travel will be no problem... right? Well, I had put the odds of taking this trip at a lot less than 50-50, and just this morning the decision was made for me: the tour company cancelled the trip. Next February, you'll find me hanging around the office instead.



Travel increases the chance of contracting COVID-19, and of spreading infection. Staying home is certainly the least risky action at this time. When will it be safe to plan vacations again? It depends on where and how, and the answer is constantly changing.

Of course, not all travel is for exploring new places and having new adventures. What about visiting family or friends? The dangers of travel are multiplied if you or your loved ones have COVID-19 risk factors (including age, obesity, diabetes, and other conditions). Keep in mind that merely because you share blood ties or a long history, even close family or friends are not in your pod. You have not been isolating together. The safest way to form a new pod is for both parties to quarantine for 14 days, and to test negative.

If you do travel, I urge you to practice all of the new-normal pandemic precautions. Wash your hands often with soap and water or hand sanitizer. Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth. Keep at least six feet

between you and others. Wear a face covering in public. Pick up food at drive-throughs or use curbside service.

At this time, many countries with low COVID-19 infection rates are not welcoming Americans. With 177 countries reporting cases (note that Antarctica is the only continent without a single case!), the U.S. Department of State has finally lifted the general do-not-travel warning. Instead, it has issued individual warnings by country. Before you travel, check travel.state.gov for the latest State Department information.

Domestically, each of our 50 states has its own rules and travel restrictions. As with

international travel, this is a rapidly changing, fluid situation. Make sure that you are well versed in the most current rules for your destination.

So, what is the safest way to travel?

The CDC maintains that the risk of air travel is relatively low. However, spending time in security lines and airport terminals makes it very difficult to avoid coming into close contact with other people and with frequently touched surfaces.

The good news is that even with a severe reduction in the number of flights, many are only 50% to 60% filled. (Still, other flights are nearly fully booked and distancing becomes impossible.) In-flight food and drink service has largely been eliminated. Recirculated cabin air appears to be less of a danger. All international jetliners are equipped with High Efficiency Particulate Air (HEPA) filters,

similar to those found in hospital operating rooms. Cabin air is circulated vertically from ceiling to floor, and refreshed every two to three minutes. Between flights, airplane cabins are scrubbed down with antimicrobial disinfectants. (Note that not all domestic flights are HEPA-equipped.)

Those traveling on a bus or train find it very difficult to avoid coming into close contact with other people and with frequently touched surfaces. When possible, avoid busses and trains at this time.

Automobile travel usually requires stops along the way for gas, food, and bathroom breaks, putting the traveller in close contact with other people and surfaces. Any kind of a car service or rideshare exposes us to contact with the driver and surfaces. Renting a car certainly poses fewer risks than taking public transit, but I would advise wiping down and ventilating any

rental.

RV travel has seen a huge increase in demand, and does mitigate some risks. However, there may still be stops for gas, food, and campgrounds, all involving contact with people and surfaces.

Are hotel rooms safe? What about vacation rentals? As states lift their stay-at-home orders, restrictions on hotels are starting to ease. The bigger chains promise heightened safety protocols, including contactless check-in and more rigorous cleaning practices. Nonetheless, some travelers choose to bring their own cleaning supplies.

It is unclear at this point how safe hotel stays are, but practicing all of the usual precautions

— hand washing, face masks and distancing — will increase your level of safety.

Most cruise lines have put operations on hold, although a handful are resuming with amended itineraries and enhanced health protocols.

Travel has never been so complicated. Unfortunately, we will still be living in a pandemic for quite some time. If you do plan to travel, please do so as safely as possible. Bon voyage!

Dr. Alan Frischer is former chief of staff and former chief of medicine at Downey Regional Medical Center. Write to him in care of this newspaper at 8301 E. Florence Ave., Suite 100, Downey, CA 90240.

In Memory of



William F. Queen

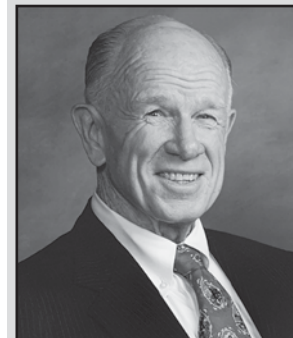
January 18, 1934 - May 12, 2020

William F. Queen was born January 18, 1934 in Franklin, North Carolina and passed away at the age of 86 from a massive stroke on May 12, 2020 in Coronado, California. He was surrounded by his family. The Queen family moved from North Carolina to Bell Gardens, California in the 1940's and bought a home in nearby Downey where Bill graduated from Downey High School. He joined the U.S. Air Force in March 1951 and married Aleene, his high school sweetheart, in December. Bill's basic training was in armament and he served proudly as a gunner on B-29's while stationed in Louisiana, Colorado, New Mexico and Okinawa. Bill played baseball, basketball and track in school and continued to play sports in the Air Force. While stationed in Okinawa his basketball team played in the Far East Championship in Japan. Joe Risser, Ira Pate and Bruce Gifford were good friends in high school. Bill and Aleene's sons, Kevin (Downey High School, Class of 1973) and Jef (Downey High School, Class of 1975) were active in North Downey Little League baseball; Bill was first a coach and very soon President of North Downey Little League in the 1960's. He was very happy to receive emails recently from several team members saying his baseball suggestions had helped them during their lifetime. Bill owned an office machine repair business and repaired special office machines called Robotypers until computers replaced Robotypers. He worked at Santa Fe Railroad until he retired, first as a yard clerk and finally as Train Master. Being a history buff he loved to read about the Revolutionary and Civil Wars so the East Coast was a popular vacation destination. After retirement an RV was home on wheels while visiting all but 11 of the United States. Bill, Aleene, Kev, Jef and Jef's wife Jessa, moved to Coronado in 2001. Survivors are Aleene, his wife of 68 years, sons Kevin, Jef and Jessa. Also grandchildren Matthew, Malia, Tiara, Myca, Olivia and Ela and great-grandchildren, Aiden, Kayla, Danny and Bella. Close family Janice, Vic, Juanita, Sonny, Linda, Beth and many dear friends.

In Memory of

Richard Lee Thompson

August 29, 1927 - August 18, 2020



As part of the Greatest Generation Dr. Richard Lee Thompson was born at the beginning of the Depression in Maryville, Missouri to farmers John and Reah Thompson. They abandoned the farm during the Dust Bowl and moved to California... first to Watts, then Lodi and finally to Downey where Dick and his sister Mary graduated from Downey High School in 1944. He then joined the Navy at the end of World War II. He earned a Bachelors degree in Business from USC before being recalled into the Navy for the Korean War. He trained in the Underwater Demolition Team (UDT), the precursor to the Navy SEALs. Dick was a frogman. After completing his service he returned to USC and the School of Dentistry. Dick practiced dentistry in Laguna Beach. Before leaving for his tour in Korea he married Barbara Lintz Thompson from Long Beach in 1951. Barbara and Dick had two sons, Bobby and Doug. Barbara and Dick loved golf and were among the original members of El Niguel Country Club. Dick earned his small craft pilots license and flew his parents and grandmother back to Missouri as a special trip. After retirement Dick enjoyed his family, his golf and foremost USC football. He rarely missed a game. He was inducted into the Downey High School Hall of Fame in 2005. He fell in love and married Irmgard Barth at the age of 79. Dick is survived by his son, Doug and wife Lisa Mae, grandson, Andrew, granddaughter, Corrina and niece Denise Whitney. We will celebrate his life and 93 birthday on August 29. Fight on!

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Eye on our Schools



By Donald LaPlante
President,
Downey Board of Education

DOWNEY — Our Downey Unified schools have been open in Distance Learning for two weeks now. Students are working hard to learn, and teachers are working hard to make the learning possible.

As a district, we are emphasizing: flexibility, grace and patience with students, parents, and ourselves as we continue this journey together.

Although schools in California went from being open on March 13 to closed for in-person instruction on March 16, reopening our campuses to students will not happen over a weekend. With health department requirements for physical distancing, only about half of our students would be able

to be on campus at any time. For all except possibly the smallest Special Education programs, the Hybrid Model (some at-home, some at-school) of learning will be the plan as we prepare for our students' return.

Make no mistake, teaching in a Distance Learning environment is certainly harder for almost everyone compared to in-person instruction. Imagine trying to teach a young student to read over a computer screen or trying to teach playing a musical instrument via Zoom.

Even student group work over Zoom is not quite the same as being able to turn to the student beside you to talk about a question or problem.

I want to give a big shout out to our Instructional Technology team and subject matter coaches that spent uncounted hours over the summer preparing and training teachers to teach in a virtual environment. There have been workshops where hundreds of teachers have been in attendance.

Every secondary teacher completed 10 hours of course work on how to teach virtually along with training in the new Canvas learning management system.

Is this the best way for students to learn? No. Is it the safest way for students, teachers and aides at this moment in the COVID-19 pandemic? Yes.

Everyone in Downey Unified is looking forward to the day when we will be able to start bringing students back into the school buildings for in-person instruction. And, with each week, we are getting closer based upon the latest information from the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health.

However, to even be considered for the opportunity to get a waiver to open any part of our elementary schools, the county's COVID-19 case rate must be under 200 per 100,000 people. As of Tuesday morning, the 14-day case rate is 210.

Downey Unified is planning on starting consultations in the coming weeks with teachers and parents to discuss various areas in regard to beginning the transition to returning to in-person instruction.

When Downey Unified was planning a year ago for this school year, all elementary and middle school students were going to have an iPad for use at school. For elementary students, the device would have stayed at school. The devices would work on Wi-Fi at school.

That great plan changed in March. No longer could anyone assume that devices could stay at school. Our Technology Department was able to trade, at no extra cost, our new iPads with Apple for newer iPads that are all cellular enabled to support students who don't have access to Wi-Fi.

Our food service heroes also continue to provide meals for student pick-up every day. The federal regulations have changed from the spring and summer in regard to how we provide meals for our students. The rules from the US government have reverted to free breakfast for all students in Downey Unified and lunch at a cost unless eligible under the Free and Reduced Priced Meal program.

Those who have not applied

for this program can get their daily meals for \$2, billed to their student's account, which is still a great deal.

If you have any questions about eligibility or the application process, visit our Food Services website, DUSDeats.net, or contact them by phone at (562) 469-6674.

Applications can also be filled out online through Parent Connect or DUSDeats.net, or by picking up a paper application at your child's school or the district office.

Our summer programs were also run via Distance Learning this year, and although unlike anything we were used to, they were very successful. Although we were unable to provide all of our traditional summer offerings to our students, we were still able to provide summer enrichment for many of our students.

Our TK-8 Extended School Year (ESY) programs serviced 530 students with special needs, with an overall attendance rate of over 90% daily. Our high school summer programs served both students with special needs and students in need of credit recovery, grade repair and certain courses for advancement that would allow students to take more electives during the school year.

There were 2,930 high school students enrolled that earned a total 18,241 credits, which is equivalent to more than one full semester class per student.

I want to close by thanking you for your continuing support of all of our students, teachers and staff. This is an unusual time for us all and to remind everyone of the three key words we are focused on in Downey Unified. Let's all do our best to navigate this new venture with Flexibility, Grace and Patience, for ourselves and each other.



Philanthropist and community advocate Dr. Mary Stauffer turned 103 years old Wednesday.

"The ENTIRE Downey Unified family would like to wish Dr. Stauffer a very happy 103rd birthday!" the Downey Unified School District posted on Facebook.

"We are sad that we are unable to celebrate with you in person this year, so we wanted to at least share photos of the celebrations over the last few years.

We cannot thank you enough for ALL you have done and continue to do for our students!"

(Photo by Eric Pierce)

Credit union has grants for teachers

DOWNEY — California Credit Union is inviting all Los Angeles County teachers who have an innovative class project idea to apply for a credit union grant through its bi-annual Teacher Grant Program.

The California Credit Union grant program is available to full-time teachers in Los Angeles County who are looking to fund a special learning opportunity, either in classroom or virtual, for their students. Ten California Credit Union grants of \$500 each will be awarded to Los Angeles and Orange County teachers in November in the fall program.

The project should have clearly defined learning objectives tied to students' academic needs, display creativity, and benefit a significant number of students. Interested teachers can find more information and apply online at ccu.com/teachergrant. The application deadline is October 2, 2020.

Originally founded to serve the education community, California Credit Union has awarded \$115,000 in teacher grants to benefit students across Southern California since the creation of the program in 2012. The bi-annual program offers up to 20 grants in the spring and fall to teachers across Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, and San Diego counties.

Past projects using grant funding have included robotics and STEAM programs, community garden and environmental science learning, arts programs, and many more.



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¹ APR=Annual Percentage Rate. Payment sample: A \$15,000 auto loan, with a 48-month term, at 2.49% APR, results in 48 monthly payments of \$328.64. Rate quoted includes a 0.25% discount for loan-to-value of <=90% (excluding warranty & GAP). Direct purchases or refinances only. Rates shown are for highly qualified borrowers, rate received may be different based on credit history. Loans subject to borrower qualification; not all applicants will be approved. Fees and charges may apply. 2.49% APR is the lowest auto loan rate FPCU offers including all possible discounts. Rates as of 08/21/2020, and are subject to change without notice. Conditions, restrictions, and terms may apply. Financial Partners Credit Union membership is required.

² 90 days no payments and 120% financing require a minimum credit score of 670. 90 days no payments available only on Tier 3 Credit and better. Interest will continue to accrue during the 90-day deferral period. Speak to a Credit Union representative for complete details. Financial Partners Credit Union membership is required.

³ Unemployment date must be more than 90 days after the effective date/funding date of the vehicle loan. You must be involuntarily unemployed for more than 30 consecutive days. Available for vehicle purchases, not refinances.



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Millennial politicians

Dear Editor:

I want to begin this piece by saying that I am a millennial. I am a first generation Mexican-American millennial who lived through what every millennial has grown up with. The disconnect from a yester-world of telephones with chords on them and disposable cameras to the present day and forevermore state of living on the technological grid.

I have been a news junkie for as long as I could remember and I became incredibly interested with the way our government works since I was a 9 year old sitting in the Huntington Park Council Chamber in my baseball uniform begging them to keep the lights on in the park's baseball field so we could practice after all the other teams had gone.

More importantly I became engaged in our government and local city council when I was in my sophomore year of high school; understanding how the U.S government came to be and works presently, how local ordinances affect our residents, understanding the Brown Act, being a poll worker at 16 for federal and local elections, reading the U.S Constitution and being informed on the diversity in various cultures from cities to counties to states.

In this time of chaos throughout the nation, there is something that continues to irk me everyday and that is millennial politicians. And I know what you may be thinking, "Jim, these young people are going to bring the change that we need. Out with the old ideas and in with the new." But is it? Really?

My issue with these younger politicians really isn't their passion because clearly it is spewing out of every pore for some of these folks. When I first met a peer of mine, she shook my hand, introduced herself and immediately followed that up with, "I'm going to be mayor someday." And kudos to her, she is in that spot a little less than three years later.

What concerns me about millennial politicians is the fact that we are incredibly overconfident with little substance to back that confidence up. According to a Pew research study, millennials are more entitled and confident than previous generations. We really did grow up with trophies for showing up everyday to schools, were taught to believe that our opinions -- no matter how right or wrong -- are valid and moreover we set up the infrastructure that is the current social media sphere in popular culture.

And it's these things that are bleeding into Southeast Los Angeles politicians. They are hyper obsessed with their image, they treat our seniors as challenges to overcome, they treat our communities as victims and they are the sole protectors of the people and they use an entire online sphere of "like-minded" strangers as justifications for their reasoning and actions.

They are incredibly good at this. They are savvy and they work the online crowds by using buzzwords, by sharing images to give the perception of them being "active" at work and they have the young generation at their whim. But I have known enough politicians to know when I am being pandered to or when they give out politically convenient milk-toast responses and I am growing tired of it.

I know a lot of you are excited about the young people getting involved in politics, but frankly, I am not. I would not and do not trust most people my age because I still think they need time to grow and get to know themselves. Let kids be kids, let teens (as annoying as they may be) be teens, let young adults be young adults and find themselves.

And that is exactly what these young adults need time to do -- grow up. Because for a long time we were saying that Twitter, Facebook and Instagram is not the real world but it is now and that is truly an unfortunate turn in history. Most of these people have never been in management or lead positions in a private workplace, most of these people have never worked a budget before, some of them just started paying bills.

No amount of education will amount to real world experience and any adult with a fully formed prefrontal cortex will 100% agree on that. So the combination of entitlement, slight narcissism and inexperience is just a recipe waiting to alienate the very people they were voted in to serve and it has already begun. Just hop onto any city's local Facebook group page.

I have seen some terrible elected officials in my 10 years of active involvement in our local cities. From the Robert Rizzo scandal in the city of Bell, the shady workings of disgraced Mario Beltran in Bell Gardens, the Albert Robles case (fun fact: Robles was California's youngest person to hold public office, his youth was much of his draw) that nearly bankrupted the city of South Gate, former Huntington Park Councilwoman Linda Luz Guevara being charged with perjury to the complete mismanagement and incompetence of the Central Basin Municipal Water District.

Now imagine what kinds of horror stories can come out of this generation and it is all going to unfold on the online public square. Every young generation thinks they will change the world through political and social action. I am sure that is exactly what most of the most ineffective politicians on the national stage thought when they were first elected into office in the 70's or 80's.

I do not think we need young inexperienced, overconfident, self obsessed politicians who use hashtags and TikToks to reach out to constituents. To me, the greatest trait of a leader is that they do not want to be a leader. These folks using our cities as stepping stones to make it all the way to the top is suspect. Call me an old fart but I am very much one of them. I am a millennial, vote us out.

Jim Torres
South Gate

Library renovations

Dear Editor:

About two years ago, the City of Downey was told that our public library was going to close for renovations, or a "make-over," which was projected to last for about a year. Thinking back to those times, little did one suspect that we would lose our library long term.

First of all, the library did not need the millions of dollars worth of work. It was a fine library, having had renovations already. It had a renovated computer room, a spacious auditorium for meetings, and even a bistro-type snack and drink shop right out its back door. Its lively used book store was the only one of its kind in the city. It had everything a civic library needs.

And so work began, though nothing looked different from the outside of the building. There were no updates given as to how the project was progressing. No news at all.

Then the COVID-19 pandemic struck. Some movement was still seen at the construction site, but not much. But the virus seems to have been and remains a good excuse for not finishing the project, even close to the time they told us. It remains closed for seemingly an indefinite time.

Meanwhile, the hundreds of people it assisted week after week have nowhere to go. Especially the handicapped and senior customers it always served so well, have had to find other (or, mostly, no other) substitutions for their needs. The "project" just sits there, as far as anyone knows.

As far as this regular customer is concerned the library has become a non-entity, to be forgotten. What was once a proud asset of the Downey civic scene no longer really cares, as the work - whatever it is - goes on and on. Are they looking for donations? I believe it would be wasted money, when we should rather use the funds to help the homeless, and then could see the results.

What surprises me the most, is that I have seen nothing in the weekly newspaper or on a poster at the City Hall or elsewhere about this "library situation;" has the public simply turned it all to apathy?

John DeLaney
Downey

Lack of social distancing

Dear Editor:

COVID-19 has certainly affected small businesses throughout the country and Downey is no exception. That's why I thought it was a great idea when the city closed down the area between 2nd and 3rd streets on Downey avenue.

Keeping small business afloat is certainly important, however, I think keeping our community healthy is even more important.

I will not single out any business, but certainly you can look at social media posts and see some of these businesses are not adhering to social distancing guidelines. Downey has given the opportunity for these businesses to move seating outside and yet every Sunday morning I see people posting Instagram stories from the night before. People are jammed packed in these outside areas, not a mask in sight.

I understand the risk of transmission in outside areas is lower than inside areas. But when you're placing tables three feet away from each other, enclosing your area, and adding a canopy, you might as well be inside.

The last I checked Downey ranked in the top five of all cities in LA County in terms of COVID-19 cases. If we continue to let these businesses skirt around social distancing guidelines, we will continue to see cases in our community go up.

John Juarez
Downey

Happy birthday, Dr. Stauffer

Dear Editor:

Today [Wednesday] we celebrate the first 103 years of Dr. Mary Stauffer's birthday. To Downey residents, Dr. Stauffer does not need to be introduced. Her philanthropy is legendary (disclosure: both of my children were Stauffer Scholars and 4.0 GPA merit award recipients and received monetary rewards from the Stauffer Foundation).

From financing Project Lead The Way to provide STEM training for teachers, to buying instruments for the band at Stauffer (nee West) Middle School, to funding the Cyberobic Center which won the Golden Bell award for the DUSD, to providing digital printers for the Rocket Lab students,

Dr. Stauffer was heavily involved in the education of our youth. The Stauffer Scholars recognition ignited the way for many elementary and middle school students to think about attending college.

She taught me and other parents how to create 529 accounts to save money for our children's education.

More importantly than money Dr. Stauffer provided moral support to students in their academic competitions. I'll never forget the day when Warren High students were being featured in an early morning TV program when I saw Dr. Stauffer arrive at 6:30 AM to the Columbia Memorial Space Center to show her support for the students featured.

She was also present at the Robotics Competition at the Stay Gallery and demonstrated to the students with her presence how much she appreciated their academic efforts.

I am proud to have been the first to propose and promote the naming of a school after Dr. Stauffer.

It is now the time to think about changing the name of the city to Stauffer city since, to paraphrase Winston Churchill, never so many owed so much to one person.

My claim to fame is that I know Dr. Stauffer personally and have enjoyed her fellowship for many years as a member of the Rotary Club of Downey.

Let's hope we can celebrate Dr. Stauffer's birthday for another 103 years.

Jorge Montero
Downey

Bus fares

Dear Editor:

I'd like to thank the City of Downey for waiving its fees to ride the DowneyLink bus system.

Not only will this help riders who have been financially impacted by Covid, it also reduces hand-to-hand contact to minimize the spread of the virus.

However, why was Downey so late to do this? Los Angeles waived Metro bus fares on March 23. Norwalk waived its bus fares a couple of months ago.

It seems Downey is always one step behind other communities in regards to Covid and perhaps that helps explain our high infection rate.

Teresa Blanchard
Downey

How to win the presidency

By Jackie Gingrich Cushman

A little over two months from now, American voters will have a choice to make: Vote for President Donald J. Trump and Vice President Mike Pence, or for former Vice President Joe Biden and California Sen. Kamala Harris for president and vice president of the United States. There are other options: to not vote, or to vote for a third-party candidate. The one certainty: Those who don't vote or who vote for a third-party candidate will not have a chance to vote for the winning team.

Either Trump/Pence or Biden/Harris will be the winning team, even though it might take more than one night to identify the winner if there are challenges in the vote counting. In 2000, the George W. Bush/Al Gore contest was not decided until Dec. 12, when the Supreme Court decided in favor of Bush's team, leading to Gore's concession the next day.

Let's be clear: The Electoral College's 538 electors decide who gets elected. A candidate has to win at least 270 of those votes to win (hence the name of the 270toWin.com website, which tracks the election). Makes you wonder how Democrats can continually win the popular vote and lose the election - until you realize that they typically do so by winning large urban areas but losing rural areas.

Each state has as many electors as it has senators and congressional representatives combined. California has 55, while Delaware has 3. The adoption of the 23rd Constitutional Amendment gave the District of Columbia the same number of electors as the state with the smallest number.

Almost all of the states allocate their electoral votes on a winner-take-all basis. For example, if the California popular vote is a win for the Democratic candidate, he or she would win all 55 electoral votes.

Two states, Nebraska and Maine, allocate their electoral votes differently. Each winner of the congressional district popular vote wins one electoral vote, with the state winner winning the two statewide electoral votes.

The Electoral College process has resulted in five instances of presidents winning the election but losing the popular vote. The first, in 1824, resulted in no one winning the Electoral College. The winner (John Quincy Adams) was decided by the House of Representatives in February of the following year.

The election of 1876 between Rutherford B. Hayes, the Republican governor of Ohio, and Samuel Tilden, the Democratic governor of New York, resulted in Hayes becoming president due to an unwritten 1877 compromise. The compromise? The four states with 20 uncommitted electors pledged them to Hayes on the condition that the Republicans agreed to pull federal troops out of the South. This led to the end of the Reconstruction.

Once the federal troops were removed, many white Republicans fled the South, and control of the Southern state political structure was solidified by Democratic "Reedeemers," who went on to disenfranchise blacks.

In 1888, Republican Benjamin Harrison beat Democratic incumbent Grover Cleveland by winning a majority of the electoral votes despite losing the popular vote.

In 2000, Republican nominee George W. Bush lost the popular vote to Democratic nominee Al Gore. This past election, Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton won the popular vote, but Donald Trump won the presidency by winning 304 Electoral College votes.

While these two elections might be used as examples of why we should change the Electoral College, the fact is, if the process were changed, then the candidates would change their campaign approaches. In the current process, much of the time, energy and money of the campaign is spent on swing states, states that might flip from one party to the other. But these swing states change over time.

If there were only a national popular vote, then every vote would count the same. Metro areas would be more valuable places for candidates to campaign, and small states could simply be ignored.

The founders created a complex system that balances popular votes, the federal system, state size, and an understanding that pure democracy could lead to rule by a simple majority and leave little room for political compromise. As Benjamin Franklin reportedly said, "Democracy is two wolves and a sheep deciding what to have for dinner." You can guess how that would end up.

So next time you hear someone say, "But he lost the popular vote," respond, "Yes, and that's how the system works. The winner of the Electoral College wins."

Jackie Gingrich Cushman is a columnist and author of "Our Broken America."



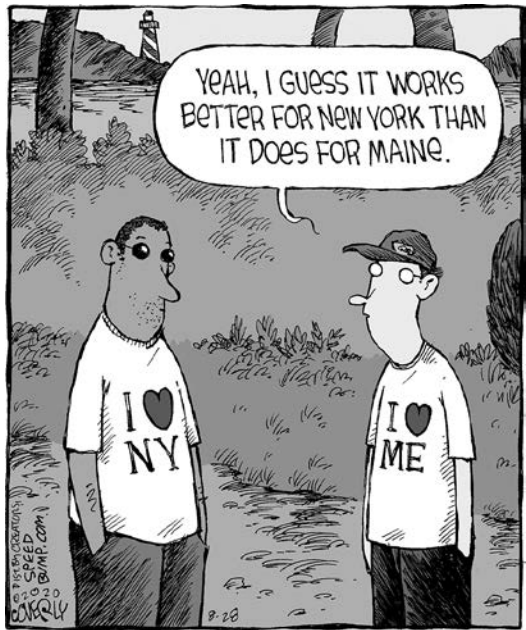
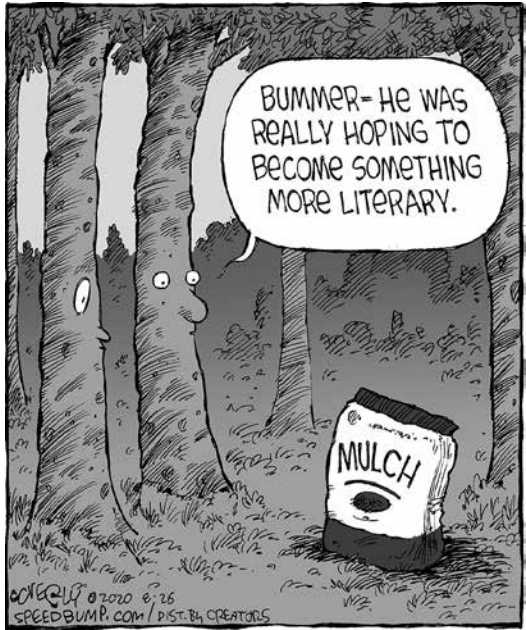
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SPEED BUMP



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 310-386-8112.
 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., 6:00 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.: People of Faith Ministries, Schroder Piano, call John Veiga 412-7192.
 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.

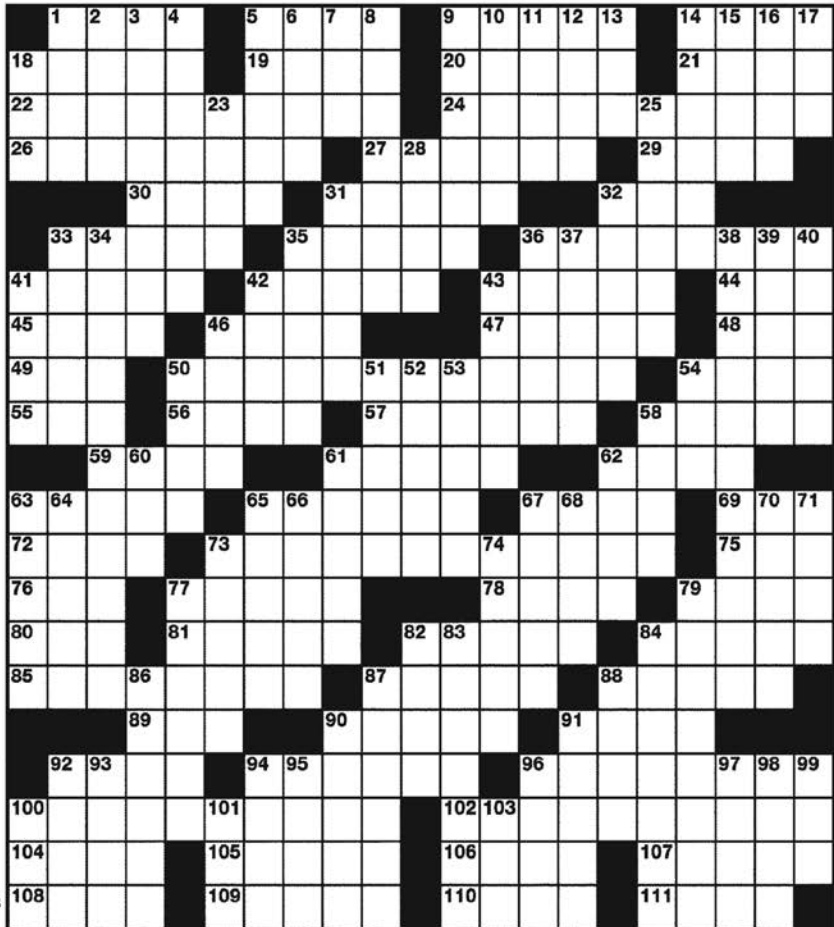
The **DOWNEY GRAFFITI HOTLINE NUMBER** Report graffiti to this number. **923-4484**

THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com)
SPA DAY: Nothing that can't be handled
 by Mark McClain

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| <p>ACROSS</p> <p>1 Netanyahu nickname</p> <p>5 "That's correct!"</p> <p>9 CPA crunch time</p> <p>14 Drive-thru devices</p> <p>18 Alarming feeling</p> <p>19 Nitrogen's lack</p> <p>20 Scrolls through</p> <p>21 Asian cuisine</p> <p>22 Wartime neutral area</p> <p>24 Chance for grade improvement</p> <p>26 Smacks on the mouth</p> <p>27 Performed perfectly</p> <p>29 Common bond</p> <p>30 Cote calls</p> <p>31 Political campaigns</p> <p>32 Social media chuckle</p> <p>33 Graduate school grillings</p> <p>35 Helpful contingent</p> <p>36 Legendary Mohawk leader</p> <p>41 Reprimand</p> <p>42 Porpoise cousins</p> <p>43 Arizona State city</p> <p>44 Slip in some pots</p> <p>45 Besties</p> <p>46 Buy ___ (believe)</p> <p>47 Not anonymous</p> <p>48 Train segment</p> <p>49 Under the weather</p> <p>50 Landscaper's chore</p> <p>54 Gumbo essential</p> <p>55 Menlo Park monogram</p> <p>56 Not challenging</p> <p>57 Left the building</p> <p>58 Blends together</p> <p>59 TV host Seacrest</p> <p>61 Quick and nimble</p> <p>62 Snoozefest</p> <p>63 Church official</p> <p>65 "Deck the Halls" excerpt</p> <p>67 Capital on a fjord</p> | <p>69 ___ paper (fine stationery)</p> <p>72 Tourney round passes</p> <p>73 Brit brat</p> <p>75 Progressive spokesperson</p> <p>76 Scanning technology, for short</p> <p>77 Authoritative source</p> <p>78 Feline line</p> <p>79 Far-ranging</p> <p>80 Poetic sphere</p> <p>81 "Alas, ..."</p> <p>82 Hardly any</p> <p>84 Bulls and toms</p> <p>85 Some Olympic racers</p> <p>87 Shoes for folk dancing</p> <p>88 Provide the food for</p> <p>89 Erstwhile space station</p> <p>90 "Westminster" clock sound</p> <p>91 Don't walk</p> <p>92 Word that can usually be pluralized</p> <p>94 Complex plan</p> <p>96 Sports drink brand</p> <p>100 NBA Pacific Division team</p> <p>102 Letter closer of yore</p> <p>104 Source of discomfort</p> <p>105 Validate the books</p> <p>106 Reveal something</p> <p>107 ___ Laredo, Mexico</p> <p>108 Complex plan</p> <p>109 Don't take no for an answer</p> <p>110 Swell, or so-so</p> <p>111 Murray or Roddick of tennis</p> | <p>5 Drifts off</p> <p>6 Solemn statements</p> <p>7 Negative prefix</p> <p>8 Nation north of Venezuela</p> <p>9 Opposing forces</p> <p>10 Reverberates</p> <p>11 Leaf collector</p> <p>12 Put a name to, informally</p> <p>13 Tulane rival</p> <p>14 Hun honcho</p> <p>15 "That was ___"</p> <p>16 Goalie gear</p> <p>17 Not get used</p> <p>18 Nova network</p> <p>23 Sorority letters</p> <p>25 Turned the soil</p> <p>28 Kings' superiors</p> <p>31 Japanese copier company</p> <p>32 Place for a pin</p> <p>33 City northwest of Orlando</p> <p>34 Skating sport</p> <p>35 Culturally pretentious</p> <p>36 Throw with force</p> <p>37 "That really frosts me!"</p> <p>38 Old-timey office reminder system</p> <p>39 Accumulate to excess</p> <p>40 Paranormal glows</p> <p>41 Rotisserie accessory</p> <p>42 Unpleasant duty</p> <p>43 Govt.-issued security</p> <p>46 Turkey neighbor</p> <p>50 Forest forager</p> <p>51 Fit for a queen</p> <p>52 Emigré, for example</p> <p>53 Italy's second city</p> <p>54 Above, in verse</p> <p>58 Secure at a pier</p> <p>60 "Works for me!"</p> <p>61 Fix for a better fit</p> <p>62 Squandered</p> |
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| <p>63 Digital publication</p> <p>64 Stretchy 65 Down</p> <p>65 Fabric material</p> <p>66 Map collection</p> <p>67 Bids first</p> <p>68 Place to park</p> <p>70 Wetlands tree</p> <p>71 Takes one's leave</p> <p>73 Career soldier</p> <p>74 Anything seen</p> <p>77 Brief beachwear</p> <p>79 Small soaker</p> | <p>82 Pants spec</p> <p>83 Totals</p> <p>84 Yuletide stamp portrait</p> <p>86 Good luck charm</p> <p>87 Holders for toys and teas</p> <p>88 ___ Field (home of the Mets)</p> <p>90 Pratt of Avengers films</p> <p>91 Come-from-behind charge</p> <p>92 Salt formula</p> | <p>93 <i>Figura</i> ___ (Spanish skating pattern)</p> <p>94 Incentive</p> <p>95 Give up via treaty</p> <p>96 Fund-raising dinner teas</p> <p>97 Full of wonder</p> <p>98 Jones of nautical folklore</p> <p>99 "Outside" prefix</p> <p>100 Metaphor for luxury charge</p> <p>101 Baby food</p> <p>103 Cartoon squeal</p> |
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You can contact puzzle editor Stanley Newman at his e-mail address: StanXwords@aol.com. Or write him at P.O. Box 69, Massapequa Park, NY 11762, Please send a self-addressed, stamped envelope if you'd like a reply.

Although (66 Across) RYAN SEACREST (59 Across) began his broadcasting career in a manner similar to his mentor Dick Clark: at a local radio station. KAVAKERS (85 Across) first participated in a Summer Olympics in 1924 as a demonstration sport; it became a permanent event in 1936.

Short story: Calipat

By Sharon Benson Smith

While reading the L.A. Times over breakfast this morning, this headline caught my eye: "Coronavirus Outbreak Infects Inmates at Calipatria Prison." I was so surprised to learn that a prison exists there.

I know Calipatria from my childhood as "Calipat." Dad's

sister, Aunt Jackie McCoy and her children, Joyce, Sonny, Greg, and Sheila lived there. Her husband, Clint, had been cleaning his shotgun after dove hunting when it accidentally went off and he was killed.

Dad and Mom took the four of us kids (George, Cal, Phyllis and I) to visit the McCoy's at their home for the weekend.

They had a swimming pool, so we were all fired up and couldn't wait to be on the road for that long drive from our home in East Los Angeles.

I forget our ages but recall that sister Phyllis was the Benson's toddler. The rest of us must have been of grammar school age.

I'll never forget seeing

cousin Sonny (brother George's age) literally dive off the roof of their house into the swimming pool! It was so dangerous, but awesome, and evidently something that was second nature to him. Aunt Jackie, too, just seemed nonchalant about it and took it in stride while the rest of us held our breath and probably prayed.

This was also the weekend that Phyllis jumped into the pool to be with Mom. Mom reached down to pull her up. It was touch and go for awhile, with mom holding Phyllis

up and the weight of Phyllis pulling her down; they bobbed up and down a few times before "someone" took Phyllis from her hands.

Mom told me she never knew who it was that took Phyllis from her hands to safety. She spoke of the incident quite often over the years.

Aunt Jackie and all her McCoy children are gone now, but in my memory remains that long ago enjoyable weekend with Mom, Dad, my then siblings, the McCoy's,

and our visit to their home in "Calipat."

Sharon Benson Smith is a member of the memoirs writing class at the Norwalk Senior Center, which is currently meeting virtually.

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Crime Report

Detectives are investigating a brandishing of a firearm incident that occurred on Aug. 10 at about 4:20 a.m., near Elm Vista Dr. and Adenmoor Ave. The victim, an adult male, stated he was approached by male suspects in a newer model luxury vehicle. The suspects exited the vehicle and one of the males brandished a firearm. The victim ran from the suspects and hid in a garage while calling police. Officers checked the area and were unable to locate the vehicle.

On 8/12/2020 at approximately 11:45 a.m., two juveniles reported that their father had physically abused them at their residence in the 13000 block of Columbia Way. Both children had injuries including bruising and scars attributed to the abuse. Officers responded to the home and arrested the father without incident. Detectives assisted with the investigation. The father was charged with felony child abuse.

On 8/15/2020 at approximately 10 p.m., officers responded to a house that has received numerous loud party complaints in the 10000 block of Pico Vista Rd. The party was broken up and the homeowner received a citation for a municipal code violation.

Detectives are investigating a strong arm robbery that occurred on 8/15/2020 at about 11:30 p.m. at Downey Ave. and

Alameda St. The female adult victim was in a parking lot and argued briefly with the suspect who then attacked her. Both fell to the ground and the victim dropped her purse. The suspect grabbed the victim's purse and fled. The victim sustained minor injuries from the incident.

On 8/16/2020 at approximately 1:35 p.m., officers were dispatched to the train tracks to the rear of 9800 block of Firestone Blvd. to assist the Downey Fire Department with a fire on the train tracks. Officers were needed for traffic control and because of transients in the area.

On 8/17/2020 at approximately 10:05 p.m., officers responded to the 11500 block of Old River School Rd. regarding a call of shots fired into an apartment. Officers determined the apartment in question was unoccupied. The victim later returned and believed the suspect was her mother's boyfriend due to her mother being in hiding after making a domestic violence report. Detectives responded to assist with the investigation and later discovered the suspect on the roof of his apartment complex. When confronted by officers and detectives, the suspect came down from the roof and was arrested without incident.

On 8/18/2020 at approximately 1 a.m., officers responded to 10200 Paramount Blvd., Chase Bank, regarding a robbery with a firearm. The adult victim was in the parking lot when he was approached by the adult female suspect who demanded his cell phone and money. The suspect raised her shirt and had an exposed firearm in her waistband. The victim drove off and the suspect was detained on Paramount Blvd., north of Florence Ave. Officers located a loaded 9mm handgun in the planter. The suspect was positively identified and arrested for robbery.

Detectives are investigating a robbery that occurred at Aloha Liquor, 11837 Lakewood Blvd., on 8/19/2020 at about 2:55 p.m. An adult male suspect entered the store, made a beer selection and walked out. When the clerk confronted the suspect outside the store and told him he needed to pay for the beer, the suspect brandished a knife then fled in a white truck.

On 8/20/2020 at approximately 6:15 p.m., officers responded to a call of an overdose in the 8400 block of Lexington Dr. The juvenile female was heavily intoxicated with labored breathing. Downey Fire Department transported her to Downey PIH where she recovered.

On 8/21/2020 at approximately 4 p.m., officers responded to the 7400 block of Firestone Blvd. regarding a stabbing call. A male transient approached the victim while holding two knives. For no apparent reason, the suspect stabbed the victim in the thigh and cut his right hand. Officers arrived and detained the suspect without incident. The victim was treated for a minor stab wound and cut, and refused to go to the hospital. The knives were recovered and the suspect was booked for assault with a deadly weapon.

On 8/23/2020 at approximately 9 p.m., Whittier Police Department requested a police canine for a search of a building that was burglarized in the 13100 block of Firestone Blvd. Corporal Rodriguez and his canine partner, Rex, responded and a search was conducted. The suspect was not located during the search.

Chiropractor sentenced for defrauding union

LOS ANGELES — A chiropractor was sentenced Monday to 46 months in federal prison for conspiring to defraud a labor union's health care benefit plan by offering kickbacks to patients for attending the clinic and by submitting approximately \$4.8 million in sham billings.

Mahyar David Yadidi, 38, of West Los Angeles, was sentenced by United States District Judge R. Gary Klausner, who also ordered him to pay \$1,976,832 in restitution.

In November 2019, Yadidi pleaded guilty to one count of conspiracy to commit health care fraud.

Yadidi operated Philips San Pedro Chiropractic — formerly known as Synergy Healthcare and Wellness Center — in San Pedro. From July 2016 to October 2018, Yadidi operated a scheme to defraud the International Longshore and Warehouse Union — Pacific Maritime Association (ILWU-PMA) health care benefit plan.

Yadidi worked with co-conspirators Ivan Semerdjiev, 41, of Irvine, a chiropractor who worked for Yadidi, and Julian Williams, 45, of San Pedro, a personal trainer who also worked for Yadidi.

ILWU-PMA health care plan members were induced by Yadidi to visit his clinic with offers of \$50 in cash for each visit, according to a one-count criminal information filed in this case. Yadidi also paid

plan members to allow him to bill the plan when members did not visit his clinic.

Yadidi offered monetary incentives to Williams, Semerdjiev, and other employees, as well as to patients, to recruit additional plan members to visit his clinic. Williams induced plan members to visit the clinic by falsely informing them that they could receive personal athletic training services from him that the plan would pay for.

Once plan members either visited Yadidi's clinic or agreed to allow him to submit claims to the plan for non-existent visits, Yadidi billed and caused his employees to bill the plan for services that were not rendered, services that were not medically necessary, and chiropractic and physical therapy services that were performed by Williams, who was neither licensed nor otherwise qualified to be performing those services.

At his instruction, Yadidi's employees falsified records, including sign-in sheets that listed the dates plan members purportedly received services from Philips Chiropractic. Yadidi instructed Semerdjiev to falsify patient files to support the clinic's fraudulent billing.

Yadidi and his co-conspirators also created false entries in the name of plan members' relatives, knowing that the union's health care benefit plan allowed them an additional number of covered visits as well.

Yadidi continued to operate his scheme after he was terminated as an authorized provider by the ILWU-PMA plan in August 2017, six months after it conducted an audit of his clinic.

To continue the conspiracy, Yadidi changed the name of his clinic — which previously was called "Synergy" and falsely held out another person as the clinic's primary owner and operator, when in fact, Yadidi continued to own, operate, and financially benefit from the clinic. Yadidi continued to submit claims to the plan in the sham owner's name.

During the conspiracy's duration, Yadidi's clinic submitted \$4,756,284 in fraudulent claims to the ILWU-PMA plan, for which the plan paid \$1,976,832.

Businessman gets prison for exploiting farmworkers

LOS ANGELES — The owner of a Rancho Cucamonga-based farm labor recruiting company was sentenced last week to 12 months in federal prison for his role in an immigration fraud scheme that illegally charged Mexican nationals thousands of dollars to obtain H-2A work visas and additional money for expenses once they arrived in the United States.

Jorge Vasquez, 60, of Fontana, the owner of H-2A Placement Services, was sentenced by United States District Judge Josephine L. Staton, who also ordered Vasquez to pay \$135,389 in restitution.

Vasquez and co-defendant Melquiades Jacinto Lara, 64, of Santa Paula, the owner of J&D Harvesting, which contracted workers to farms in Ventura County, conspired to commit mail fraud, false swearing in immigration matters, and fraud in foreign labor contracting.

As part of the scheme, Vasquez travelled to Mexico to recruit farmworkers, who were charged as much as \$3,000 to obtain their H-2A visas.

Vasquez promised an H-2A visa, in exchange for \$3,500 to \$4,000, to an undercover agent with the Labor Department's Office of Inspector General, who Vasquez believed was an undocumented individual working in the construction industry in Las Vegas and had no interest in working in the agricultural industry.

Vasquez also illegally agreed to provide visas to individuals already present in the United States in exchange for a fee of up to \$4,000.

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Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California Statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California Law.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in

Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

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Estate planning during the age of the virus

"At our estate planning law firm, it occurred to us that more than most, those who are on the frontline to protect us will also need protection," says South Pasadena estate planning attorney William Hayes.

In the ever-growing isolation that we are all experiencing with this pandemic, the day comes for many when we must think about the unthinkable.

For first responders and others on the front line of the battle against COVID-19, it means preparing and gathering essential documents in order to be ready for whatever may come.

As Hayes further explained, "my thoughts of the particular dangers that first responders face really came into focus when one of my clients who works for the fire department urgently called me to have her estate plan done, because there is a concern with first responders, that they are particularly susceptible to catching the virus."

Rather than see this

unfortunate trend as a profitable opportunity, the Hayes Law Firm decided to cut their fees in half for not only first responders, but for all workers classified as "essential".

The fee reduction which the law firm is offering, will be to all "essential workers" without whom society would cease to properly function. Such workers would include grocery store workers, automobile mechanics, bus drivers, highway workers and more.

According to Hayes, there are minimally three documents which you as an essential worker should have in place:

A durable financial power of attorney which would enable a trusted person to access your accounts to continue paying your bills and to sign agreements on your behalf, if you should become physically or mentally unable to handle your own affairs. The fact that you are ill or disabled does not stop your creditors from wanting to be paid. The utility bills, mortgage

and rent are just a few of the ongoing bills which still must be paid, though you are out of commission. You are always able to terminate a power of attorney.

It is also recommended that a healthcare power of attorney be prepared, which would authorize someone to speak on your behalf if you are unable to handle your own affairs. The person you name as your representative would be authorized to speak for you in dealings with doctors and health institutions. Anyone who is named as your power of attorney is only authorized to act in your best interests.

The third document is an Authorization to Disclose Health Information. "These forms are important because they will enable the person you appointed to receive copies of your medical records. It's very important that the person acting on your behalf have a written authorization so that they cannot be refused access to your medical records if they have concerns about the type of medical treatment that

you have received.

Without your written authorization, any doctor or medical institution can easily refuse to release your medical records. Even if a person is a family member, a doctor or hospital could easily refuse your family access to your medical records. "Let's say there's a mother who's in the hospital and her child says, 'I want to get copies of my mom's records because I think you've not done certain things that you should have done for her.'" The hospital can say, "No, we're not providing you any records, because you don't have any written authorizations from your mother."

Attorney Hayes also points out that, aside from essential workers, anyone and especially single people should have well-crafted powers of attorney in place. "If an adult single person should become ill or disabled, there would be no one with the legal authority to act on their behalf. If you should find yourself in that position without having proper documents in place, you could easily find yourself being the subject of a court conservatorship and that is truly a position that you would not want to be in, but that's a discussion for another day."

Estate planning is one of those important tasks that some people are always intending to accomplish and often do not get done in time.

As attorney Hayes says, "If you're not motivated by a pandemic to get your planning done, what is the likelihood that

it will ever get done?"

William K. Hayes is a member of the American Academy of Estate Planning Attorneys. The Hayes Law Firm specializes in trusts, probate and Medi-Cal planning. To attend an upcoming free seminar, you may call (626) 403-2292 or visit The Hayes Law Firm website at LosAngelesTrustLaw.com.

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Gas Co. awards \$232K in scholarships

Southern California Gas Co. (SoCalGas) this week announced the company will award 60 students from Southern and Central California scholarships totaling \$232,000.

Recipients were evaluated on academic achievement, community engagement, and an essay about California's clean energy future. This year, 86 percent of scholarship recipients were minority students.

SoCalGas partnered with more than 30 community and non-profit organizations to identify this year's recipients. Graduating high school students attending a vocational school, technical school or community college will receive \$1,000, while transferring community college students and high school graduates attending an accredited four-year college or university will receive \$5,000.

Yolanda Carrion, a graduate from South East High School in South Gate who will attend the University of Southern California this fall said, "I am a first-generation student planning to major in Public Policy at the University of Southern California. I am eager to begin to help address the social justice issues that plague my community. For now, it is as a student and in the future I hope as a community organizer."

"At SoCalGas, we believe that a well-educated workforce is essential for a vital and economically healthy community. That's why we are proud to contribute to the education of students pursuing higher education through our annual scholarship program,"

said Andy Carrasco, vice president of strategy and engagement, and chief environmental officer at SoCalGas. "Helping students prepare for their

professional careers is part of our commitment toward supporting the communities we serve."


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Where the Housing Market Stands
 Two Months into Coronavirus

Buyers Are Tricking Back into the Market
 When the pandemic first hit in March, sales dropped 8% from the previous month. Now, buyers are slowly getting back into the game, since mortgage rates are at historic lows and nearly 70% of the workforce is still holding secure employment.

Home Prices Will Remain Steady
 Low housing inventory levels before the COVID-19 crisis mean that it is unlikely home prices will drop. It's still a good time for sellers to consider making their moves.

Real Estate Transactions Are Safer Than Ever
 Trying to purchase a home and get the deal done is far safer than visiting grocery stores. Real estate professionals are going above and beyond with social distancing practices and sanitary measures to keep clients and colleagues safe during transactions.

This Is a Pause, Not a Stop
 The COVID-19 pandemic has paused real estate activity, not stopped it completely. People's homes have become even more valued during this time. Real estate will continue to be in high demand once the coronavirus subsides.

I'm here to help you in any way I can during these tough times. If there is anything I can do to help you and your family, please do not hesitate to reach out - 562-743-2121

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Mario Persico
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"Mario DID IT Again!"
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PREPARE YOUR LIVING TRUST!

CALL FOR MORE INFO
562-382-1252

\$50 DISCOUNT

- NEW CLIENTS ONLY
- EXPIRES 08-31-2020
- ONE COUPON PER FAMILY

DOWNEY'S ADVOCATE....
Carrie Uva
ATTORNEY AT LAW

SERVING THE DOWNEY COMMUNITY
FOR OVER 25 YEARS

DOWNEY DUPLEX!

Two House on One Lot!
2 separate homes with their own yards!
Best price in Downey!
LIST PRICE: \$695,000.

JUST LISTED!

Great Opportunity!
4 separate 3 bedroom, 1 bath homes on large lot. Great Long Beach location. Collecting great rents with more upside potential. Recently painted. 1 home was completely remodeled 6 months ago. Long term tenants. Seller may consider financing. \$1,625,000. Call Jimmy for more info today at 562-400-2148

JIMSPATHOS@AOL.COM

JUST LISTED!

YOUR HOME CAN BE HERE

Call Vicki today! 562-367-9520

MARIO IS NOW TAKING LISTINGS!

LOTS OF BUYERS MEANS TOP DOLLAR FOR YOUR HOME!

SOLD!

5123 Duncan Way, South Gate
3 units sold for full price \$688,900
I can sell yours, too!
Call Carrie today at 562-382-1252.

SOLD!

Whittier Starter Home!
12 offers and sold \$26,000 over list!
Call us to help you sell your home!
LISTED FOR \$499,000 SOLD FOR \$525,000

It's official!
Our NEW WEBSITE has been launched!

NEW UPDATES INCLUDE:

- Detailed market analysis sent to you in less than 24 min
- Innovative home search features
- Access to our office's newest listings
- Quick links to utilities and local Downey & surrounding city info
- Plus, info on your next career

Find what you need faster!
Visit our website today...
www.24Hour-RealEstate.com

Pam Lee
REALTOR®
562-537-1134
PamLeeRealtor@gmail.com
DRE #01750256

AVAILABLE!

Long Beach Gated Community
2 BD, 2 BA. Spacious living room. Kitchen that opens to the family room. Master suite with lots of closet space. Carport parking. Community pool plus great amenities. Mobil home listing price is \$165,000. Space rent \$1,485. Call Pam for more info! 562-537-1134.
PamLeeRealtor@gmail.com

Mario DID IT Again!

30 SOLD IN NEARLY 30 CITIES!

ADELANTO	EASTVALE	PICO RIVERA
ANAHEIM	FULLERTON	SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO
ARTESIA	HUNTINGTON BEACH	SANTA MARIA
BELL	LA HABRA	SOUTH GATE
BELLFLOWER	LAKE FOREST	WESTMINSTER
BREA	LAKEWOOD	WATTER
CERRITOS	LONG BEACH	YORBA LINDA
CLAREMONT	LOS ANGELES	
COMPTON	MISSION VIEJO	
	NORWALK	

MARIO PERSICO
BORN | EDUCATED | LIVES | WORSHIPS
- SERVING SINCE 2002 -
562-533-7433
#ItsNeverJustBusinessItsAlwaysPersonal

SOLD!

10228 Blumont Rd., South Gate
Sold for \$560,000
I can sell your home too!
Call Carrie today at 562-382-1252.

SOLD!

In the Heart of Downey!
3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 1,800 sq. ft.
Fixer! sold for \$619,000! Call us to get the MOST for your Property!

CARMELA "CARRIE" UVA
Downey Born, Raised & Educated!
Selling Downey Homes for 27 Years!
EXPERIENCE YOU CAN TRUST!

CHECK OUT
our 94 REVIEWS on www.Zillow.com

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EXPERIENCE, INTEGRITY, & TEAMWORK



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DOWNEY'S #1 AGENT FROM 2002 TO TODAY

NEW Real Estate License Classes Are Starting NOW!

Sign up today!

ONLINE CLASSES ARE NOW GOING LIVE VIA ZOOM!



CALL/TEXT TO SIGN UP AND REGISTER TODAY!

562-818-6111

Feature of the Week!

Home Sweet Home
IN THE CITY OF LYNWOOD

- 3 Bedrooms, 2 Bathrooms
- 1,508 sq. ft. | 6,187 sq. ft. lot
- Updated kitchen
- Large family room
- Spacious backyard w/covered patio

List price: \$569,950

GUEST HOUSE

NW Downey Pool Home

- 3 bedrooms + office
- 2 bathrooms
- 1,706 sq ft | 7,669 sq ft lot
- Guest house
- Pool with newer stucco and tile

List price: \$785,000

POOL VIEW

NE Downey Condo

- 2 bedrooms | 2.5 bathrooms
- 1,409 sq ft living space
- End unit
- Association pool and spa
- Subterranean parking

List price: \$449,950

POOL HOME

Beat The Heat! (Pool, Spa, & AC)

- 4 bedrooms | 3 bathrooms
- 2,290 sq. ft. | 6,953 sq. ft. lot
- Formal living room w/fireplace
- 2 master bedrooms
- Large pool & spa

LIST PRICE \$825,000

www.MICHAELBERDELIS.COM