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Mayor's Corner

Reason for optimism going into 2021

■ The pandemic has brought unique challenges, but Downey will persevere.

By Claudia M. Frometa
Mayor

Hello Downey! We are continuing to face and respond to a historic pandemic, and some of the greatest challenges we have faced in our lifetime are before us. Yet, I am encouraged. I am filled with hope, enthusiasm, and grit! It is during great times of adversity that our collective character is revealed.

As the greatest British statesman of the 20th century and leader of the British Army responsible for the victory in WWII, Sir Winston Churchill once said, "The optimist sees opportunity in every difficulty." And here we are Downey, we will tackle the challenges ahead and move our city forward.



Claudia M. Frometa

This week has been historic for the State of California and certainly for LA County as the first shipment of the Pfizer approved COVID-19 vaccine arrived for distribution and inoculation.

And while we are celebrating the vaccine that will eradicate this virus and bring us closer to ending this historic pandemic, my message to our Downey residents is: We must continue to remain vigilant and protect each other by avoiding large gatherings especially with Christmas and the holidays upon us.

Yes, while this virus has over a 90% survival rate in LA County alone, we have seen a 300% increase in hospitalizations over the last two months. Currently, there are over 4,200 people hospitalized in LA County (this number is changing daily) and our hospitals are running out of Intensive Care Unit (ICU) capacity. There are not enough beds for all who may become extremely ill. These are the most critical times we have faced during 2020. Neighboring county hospitals are running out of ICU beds and space.

I say this with the intention NOT to contribute to additional fear-mongering but as someone in the healthcare industry, currently seeing first-hand what is happening in our hospitals across Southern California. As an Emergency Management professional in healthcare for the last 15 years, the surge that our hospitals are experiencing, coupled with the shortage of staff is both alarming and unprecedented.

Healthcare staff is exhausted and hospitals have been on disaster response mode all year.

As we approach the Christmas and New Year holidays, my ask as your Mayor is that we as a community, take responsible steps to safeguard our families and our children. We all desire to get back to normal.

Continued on page 2

Donald LaPlante calls it a career

■ Elected 41 years ago to the Downey Board of Education, Donald LaPlante retired this week.

Contributed by the Downey Unified School District

DOWNEY – Donald LaPlante retired this week after 41 years of service to the students, staff and families of Downey Unified.

This notable moment should have occurred in a venue where LaPlante would have been surrounded by family and those who impacted his career. Yet, due to the pandemic, this once lively ceremony had to be transitioned to a virtual platform where those important to him shared their thoughts and well-wishes via video.

Beginning his career as a Board of Education member in 1979, LaPlante didn't start his journey in Downey as an elected official. He began as a Downey Unified student, attending Old River Elementary School, albeit not the Old River that you see today located on Old River School Road. He attended the original Old River Elementary School that was located on Quill Drive, which closed in 1962.

Another school that LaPlante attended that has also closed, is Meadow Park Elementary School. After attending Meadow Park Elementary, he moved on to West Middle School (now Stauffer Middle School) and then graduated from Warren High School in 1972.

After graduating from Downey Unified, LaPlante found his passion in education where he graduated from USC and ultimately received his Masters in Educational Leadership at Point Loma University.

As a professional, LaPlante taught middle school English and History at Northview Intermediate School in the Duarte Unified School District. He also served as the president of Duarte's teachers union, providing him a vast knowledge and background of the hands-on aspect of being a teacher.

One of the longest serving members on a school board in the state of California, LaPlante faced a challenge during his first term that not many other Board members would ever have to face in their careers... to close one of the schools that he attended in his childhood.

"The first recommendation I received from Superintendent Manuel Gallegos was that it is time to close Meadow Park Elementary. That was fun," LaPlante jokingly shared. Meadow Park Elementary School closed in June of 1981.

During his 41 years on the Board, LaPlante has witnessed a lot of change, both within the school district and in the City of Downey. This not only included the opening and closing of



Donald LaPlante, right, retired from Downey's Board of Education this week. New board president D. Mark Morris is pictured left. (Courtesy photo)

schools, but the ups and downs in student population. "We have gone from having a school district in 1979 that was about 12,000 students and the demographers projected us going down to 8,000, although it didn't," stated LaPlante. "We have now gotten back up to the same 22,000 students we had when I was a student at the beginning of the 60's and I'm proud that we have been able to accommodate all of that student growth."

LaPlante goes on to share his satisfaction of the work done by all members of the Board (both past and present) and the countless district staff that have led the district forward. The changes in funding, the shifts in demographic makeup and the continuous development in technology would have been enough to alter the level of education provided to students in any other school district; however, LaPlante believes that Downey Unified shifted and grew with these changes and is a better school district because of it.

"I think the biggest accomplishment that Downey Unified has had is that we've been able to keep the academic standards of the school district strong throughout these various changes, all while updating our program offerings to reflect the change of the times," LaPlante began to explain. "We have continuously raised our high school graduation rates and we are providing all of our students the opportunity to attend college or learn the skills needed to begin a career once they graduate."

Similar to his fellow retiring Board member Tod Corrin, LaPlante goes on to describe the advancements in Downey Unified's Career Technical Education (CTE) programs that have shifted for the benefit of students. "We've gone from

offering woodshop and metal shop, to offering industry specific rigorous CTE programs because that's what the world needs now."

Since day one, leading the district in a progressive direction with students being the first priority has always been LaPlante's main goal. "I ran to change the direction of the school district," shared LaPlante. "And I am proud that we were able to do that. Along with being elected with Mrs. [Margo] Hoffer and serving with Mrs. [Betty] Kilpatrick and Mrs. [Grace] Horney, we were able to change the direction of the school district to be more focused on the needs of the students."

A student spends approximately 13 years within a school district from the day they first enroll in Kindergarten to the day they receive their high school diploma. Serving on the Board for as long as LaPlante has, he has seen almost four generations of students move through their educational lifespan in Downey Unified. "After you've been on the Board for about 12 years, you realize you are one of the people that is totally responsible for how their education has been... if they spent their whole time within the district," said LaPlante.

Accounting for students who stay within Downey Unified from Kindergarten through 12th grade, and those who transfer in and out of the district at various times, well over 100,000 different students' lives have been affected in some way by Board member LaPlante. "You can blame me, or thank me, one of the two. But I can't say, 'oh it was some other people who were responsible for your experience.'"

LaPlante has served as president seven times, worked with 18 various Board members

and has partnered with four superintendents in his 41 years as a member of the school board. To many, that may seem like a large number; however, school districts tend to have double that many Board members and superintendents in half the time. LaPlante credits this as what makes Downey Unified something special. "The great continuity of administration and Board members has allowed the district to focus on what's important; students, faculty and educational programs... not other side issues."

Always wanting to be knowledgeable in multiple facets to both represent Downey Unified as well as bring back "lessons learned" to help move the district forward, LaPlante served as the President of the Los Angeles County School Trustees Association for two years and was a member of the Delegate Assembly for the California School Board Association for 25 years and serving as the Regional Director for the last eight years.

Not wanting to lose touch with his deep roots in education, LaPlante was elected to the Los Angeles County Committee on School District Organization in November and will continue his involvement with local school districts and the county office of education for years to come.

He closed wanting to share some thoughts with his fellow educators and the Downey Unified families amid these challenging times:

"Keep up the good fight. The children need you. They need your best efforts to help properly fund their education, to provide them the best teachers, the best facilities, and our best efforts to make sure every student has the opportunity to achieve their full potential."

"As we come out of this pandemic in the 2021-2022 school year, the landscape will have changed and everyone will need your best efforts to navigate the new world, but more importantly take the opportunity to take advantage of the way things can be improved amid the change. Be bold, decisive and make sure we are all doing what is needed to help students not only regain what they lost during this time, but to bring them along even farther."

"To our families, thank you for the opportunity I have been given to serve your children over my years on the Board. God bless all of you and may you and your families stay healthy and safe."



Jeff Johnson, senior pastor at Calvary Chapel of Downey. The church has been cited at least 10 times for violating L.A. County health protocols.

Calvary Chapel of Downey cited for pandemic violations

DOWNEY – Calvary Chapel of Downey has been issued nearly a dozen citations for failure to adhere to health officer orders, according to data provided by Los Angeles County.

While no information was given specifically as to what prompted the citations, the county's COVID-19 homepage lists over 10 instances linked to the place of worship and relative school, spanning from Sept. 6 to Nov. 15.

According to officials with the office of Supervisor Janice

Hahn, an attempt was made by the Supervisor to provide the church with a tent – at least temporarily – so that worship services could be held outdoors to align with health protocols.

A call was placed to Calvary Chapel for comment, however, they did not respond in time for publication.

No other Downey schools, organizations, businesses, or places of worship are currently listed as having been cited.

Alex Dominguez, staff writer

Weekend at a Glance

Friday 71°

Saturday 73°

Sunday 78°

ON THIS DAY DECEMBER 17

1903:

Orville and Wilbur Wright made the first successful man-powered airplane flight, near Kitty Hawk, North Carolina.

1933:

The Chicago Bears defeated the New York Giants, 23-21, at Wrigley Field in the NFL's first championship game.

1943:

The Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882 was repealed, which barred Chinese men from becoming U.S. citizens.

1961:

More than 500 spectators were killed when fire broke out inside a circus tent during a performance in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

1969:

The US Air Force closed its Project Blue Book, concluding there was no evidence of extraterrestrial spacecrafts behind thousands of UFO sightings.

1969:

An estimated 50 million people watched singer Tiny Tim marry Miss Vicky on NBC's "Tonight Show."

1975:

Lynette Fromme was sentenced to life in prison for attempting to assassinate President Gerald Ford. (She was released on parole in 2009.)

1989:

"The Simpsons" premiered on FOX.



"The Simpsons" premiered on this date in 1989.

2005:

President George W. Bush admitted he authorized a secret eavesdropping program in the U.S. following the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

2014:

The United States and Cuba re-established diplomatic relations for the first time since 1961.

Birthdays

Pope Francis (84), "Ghostbusters" actor **Ernie Hudson** (75), actor **Eugene Levy** (74), "Independence Day" actor **Bill Pulman** (67), MMA fighter **Chuck Liddell** (51), "American Horror Story" star **Sarah Paulson** (46), "Saving Private Ryan" actor **Giovanni Ribisi** (44), and boxer **Manny Pacquiao** (42).

Deaths

Kim Jong-il, the dictator who served as the supreme leader of North Korea, died on this date in 2011 of a reported heart attack. He was 70. As a result of his death, Jong-il's youngest son, Kim Jong-un, took power.

Actress, director and producer **Penny Marshall** died on this date in 2018 of cardiopulmonary failure. She was 75.

Book Recommendation

"World of Wonders" by Aimee Nezhukumatathil

"World of Wonders" is a work of essays and tender illustrations, meditations on nature, cumulative in effect; nature as memoir, nature as metaphor, nature as simply and joyously itself. Each chapter captures a moment, each centered around a different natural phenomenon and charts the reverberations of the lived experience it evokes, be it family, identity or the notion of belonging.

Message from Downey Mayor Claudia M. Frometa

Continued from page 1

I also want to take this opportunity to address a few important issues of concern many of our residents have placed before me:

1.) Excessive trash all over our city - littering, especially around fast food places. The city is working with the management of these establishments to keep up with the maintenance. We need to work together and all do our part to maintain the cleanliness of our city.

2.) Speaking of trash littering on our streets and the potential for viral infections - As we continue to deal with a public health crisis, our city will continue with its normal street sweeping schedule. This is important as we strive to maintain public safety and the health of our community.

3.) Illegal dumping - We are seeing an excessive amount of bulky items thrown out. Please contact the city's illegal dumping at 562-904-1161 or contact Cal Met to schedule a pick up at 562-259-1239. The city has increased



Code Enforcement surveillance from two times per week to five times per week.

4.) Speeding throughout major intersections - our Police Department will continue to conduct speed enforcement in different areas of our city.

5.) Our parks and playgrounds are open - While we want to avoid large gatherings to minimize the increase in community infection spread, we know our youth and children need the outdoor space. Our youth and children have had a very tough year with distance learning and the elimination of many activities this year. For our mental health, let's utilize our parks and playgrounds responsibly.

This coming year will continue to bring us great challenges but it will also bring tremendous opportunities for collaboration, growth and the strengthening of

our city. I invite you to be involved and be the change you want to see in our city by coming alongside me and working collaboratively to strengthen relationships and unify our community.

As the 47th Mayor of this city, the 11th largest city in LA County, I promise to lead our City of Downey through this great time of adversity with strength, compassion, integrity, and empathy. It is during these uncertain times our collective effort must be focused on our strengths and we must come together in unity.

I am full of hope and optimism that better days are ahead of us, but in the meantime, we must continue to exercise good sense, be kind and take care of each other and our community by avoiding gatherings. We will get through this together. Thank you for allowing me to serve you Downey. God bless our city. Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays!

If you or someone you know needs assistance for mental health and/or are suffering from domestic violence please contact the LA County Resources:

Mental Help 800-854-7771
Domestic Violence 800-978-3600

Please stay safe. We are #DowneyStrong

Downey tops Warren for third annual esports championship

■ It's the first esports title for Downey High, which beat the Bears in a best-of-five finals.

DOWNEY - Downey High School topped Warren High last week to win the third annual Overwatch Downey Unified Esports High School Championship presented by PacificWest.

This is the first time Downey High has won this tournament against rival Warren. Due to COVID-19 restrictions at the campuses, the tournament and championship were held completely virtual.

Members of The Home Slices, the winning team for Downey High School, included: Gio Aguirre (sophomore), Brandon Astudillo (junior), Andrew Escobedo (sophomore), Nathan Ha (senior), David Miranda (senior) and Amado Necochea (sophomore). The coaches were David Krauss and George Beaver.

The winning team was announced after the virtual final match streamed on Twitch.tv on Dec. 7, where the top teams from Downey and Warren faced off for the grand prize.

This final match had more than 1,000 unique views,

one of the highest in the world for a single high school match. A recorded version is available at www.twitch.tv/videos/829710722.

The best-of-five final match was the culmination of a six-week program, managed by HighSchool.GG, where students formed six-member teams and competed against the other teams within each school.

Six teams from Downey High School and seven teams from Warren High School competed in the Downey Unified Esports League (DUEL). Students from Columbus High School were also part of the competing teams at each school.

DUEL is part of Downey Unified's MADE Initiative, a College and Career Readiness program headed by director John Harris. The goal of MADE is to ensure that every student has the opportunity to achieve their post-secondary educational and career goals, all while being supported with the learning environment to do so.

"We are thrilled for Downey High School and I am proud of how our students worked together over the course of this six-week tournament to ultimately triumph during the championship match," stated Harris.

"This tournament embodies everything we are trying to do with our students to align with our district's vision to ensure they are college and career ready, globally competitive, and citizens of strong character. As this is still the first and only

high school esports program in the region with an integrated career exploration and workforce development component, we are proud to provide this innovative program to help our students learn and grow."

The objective of DUEL is to demonstrate to students how their interest in video gaming could turn into prospective career opportunities, all while addressing a positive approach to healthy competition including teamwork, leadership, resilience and problem solving.

All participating students have partaken in a virtual Workforce Development session from educational partners such as Survios, Steel Sports, Orange Coast College as well as leading game designers.

All students who participated in DUEL are also eligible to enroll in two out of three free online Game Design courses, each worth three transferable graded college credits, offered by Orange Coast College.

"Congratulations to Downey High School for showing great teamwork and taking home the coveted district esports trophy," said Alan Zack, President of Carrot Group. "This third annual esports tournament was particularly special this year because it was the one program students could still do during these isolating times when all other programs are on hold due to COVID-19."

The participating students showed tremendous perseverance, collaboration, and digital literacy; all important and needed skills. Now, more than ever, we need programs like this to unite students, build their confidence, and help them explore career opportunities.

Each member of the winning team received a grand prize package which included a customized trophy, a video gaming accessories package from industry leading SteelSeries, a 24" gaming monitor from Lenovo, and a championship ring from Jostens.

These students will also be meeting with top game designers as well as receiving an all-expense paid trip to a one-week Game Design Bootcamp. Additionally, Downey High School received the winner's trophy that will be showcased in the main office and a \$1,000 gift certificate towards computer supplies.

Holiday trash schedule

DOWNEY - There will be no trash pick-up on Christmas Day or New Year's Day.

If your collection day falls on either of these holidays, your services will be delayed by one day for the remainder of the week.

There will be no street sweeping on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day or New Year's Day.

Street sweeping will not be made up.

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Saldaña, Rodriguez join school board

■ The Downey school board adds two new members; D. Mark Morris takes over as president.

DOWNEY – D. Mark Morris took over as president of the Downey Unified School District’s Board of Education on Tuesday, replacing Donald LaPlante, who retired this week after 41 years on the school board.

Other officers include Barbara Samperi as vice president and Martha Sodetani as clerk.

The virtual ceremony also saw the departure of Tod Corrin, who retired after 17 years as a board member.

Meanwhile, Jose Rodriguez and Linda Saldaña, who won election to the Downey school board last month, were administered the oath of office.

Saying Goodbye

Prerecorded presentations and certificates were provided from various elected officials thanking LaPlante and Corrin. Those who submitted certificates as well as kind words to wish them both farewell included Congresswoman Lucille Royball-Allard, Assemblywoman Cristina Garcia, past Downey Mayor Blanca Pacheco, Cerritos College President Dr. Jose Fierro and former superintendents Dr. Ed Sussman and Dr. Wendy Doty.

D. Mark Morris presented both retirees with a commemorative gavel on behalf of the entire Board of Education, thanking both for their leadership and combined 58 years of service.

Included in the evening’s virtual ceremony was a sanctioned Oath of Office reelecting members Giovanna

Perez-Saab and newly elected president Morris, who were voted into their respective trustee areas in November.

New President

Morris is a lifelong resident of Downey and a graduate of Downey High School. He has been a member of the Board of Education since 1982. Morris is a member of the California School Board Association and the Los Angeles County School Boards Association.

He retired from the City of Downey as a housing planner after 28 years, also having worked for six years for the cities of Norwalk, Paramount and Alhambra. He is married to his wife, Pam, who is a Downey Unified teacher. All their children have attended Downey Unified schools as well as their four grandchildren.

Bobbie Samperi, a Downey resident and Warren High School graduate, has served on the Board of Education for 27 years.

A member of the Downey Community Service Commission for 15 years, Samperi has also been an active member of Downey Council PTA, Alameda Elementary, Ward

Elementary, Sussman Middle and Downey High School’s PTA. She is currently a member of Downey Federal Credit Union’s Supervisory Committee.

Sodetani has been a resident of Downey for many years and actively involved within the Downey community.

She is a member of the PTA HELPS Food Distribution Board, Downey Coordinating Council, CHARACTER COUNTS! Coalition, Downey Sister Cities, Gangs Out of Downey and the Assistance League of Downey. Sodetani has served on the Board of Education since 2005.



Jose Rodriguez, center, with family at Tuesday’s swearing-in ceremony. (Courtesy photo)



Linda Saldaña is administered the Oath of Office by outgoing school board president Donald LaPlante. (Courtesy photo)

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Cracks in DUSD’s back-to-school plan

Dear Editor:

Over a month ago, Downey High School posted a video on Instagram detailing their return to school plan. As many comments on the high school’s Instagram express, this plan is problematic.

DUSD’s hybrid learning plan forced parents to make a choice on Nov. 15 that would determine their child’s safety as well as the quality of their child’s education. The frustrated comments highlight the inequities in the hybrid learning plan. Downey High’s and the Downey school district’s responses to these comments relay the district’s ineptness to adapt to parent/ student concerns.

One student asked, “Will we be allowed to switch to online if we are uncomfortable with a hybrid?” The Downey High School account responded, “Hi! Switching back and forth will be based on availability as we have to make sure we are keeping our staff and students safe.”

The Downey High School account gave this pre-generated response to several comments of similar nature. What the school’s response to the concern fails to address is what options are left to families if hybrid learning is not as safe in practice.

Offering limited availability to switch back to full distance learning presents several issues that the high school, as well as the district, should care to address. If a student does not feel safe in the hybrid environment why must they be forced to choose between their education and their health? Are they expected to continue hybrid learning despite feeling their safety is at risk? If they make the difficult choice to stop attending their in-person classes how will they keep from falling behind?

One concerned parent commented on a Downey Unified Instagram post: “I’m devastated. 4 days a week and half days? What are parents supposed to do while they work?... When is the next school board meeting? I would like to know how to get on the docket to discuss the concerns from working parents.” To which DUSD’s Instagram responded, “... our Board meeting schedule can be found on our website... we apologize that you are unhappy with the schedules that were selected.”

Aside from its cold nature, the response does little to acknowledge the serious concerns brought up in the comment. How are working parents supposed to manage the hybrid schedule that was not built for them? If the district refused to alter its proposed hybrid schedule, which students will be left behind? Students of working parents receive a completely online educational experience because DUSD’s hybrid plan has not expanded to consider them.

It is without question that parents and students alike are anxious to be back at school. Downey parents must not let DUSD’s hybrid plan be one that only provides in-person classes to the families who have the luxury of time and childcare. High-risk households shouldn’t fear being trapped in an in-person plan when the reality of Covid-19 in our schools is unpredictable.

Downey Unified’s hybrid learning plan must expand to provide equal education and opportunities for all families and all situations. Beyond restructuring its hybrid plan, DUSD should acknowledge and reach out to those who are being left behind. They should care to address concerns with respect to the validity they present.

Pre-generated social media responses and redirections present a lack of care for the nuances within all Downey families.

Neysa Moncada
Downey

Parley Johnson estate

Dear Editor:

The residents of Downey have a gem in their midst they may not be aware of. I’m talking about the Assistance League of Downey, located where Rives Avenue intersects Florence, on the north side of the city.

With its many rooms, visible from the outside, its out-buildings in back and its gardens in front (and a parking lot), it puts one in mind of a well-preserved hacienda from the Mission Era. And that is what makes it so appealing.

It would be hard to resist getting to see this veritable historical site on the inside. But that’s the problem. It was built by a Downey pioneer, about a hundred years ago, for his wife, who lived long in it, and, as his heiress, donated the building to the Assistance League, accessible only to members.

Occasionally The Patriot has run an announcement that the Assistance League is open for viewing (selected portions) for a donation/fee. I would be willing to pay, say, \$5 or \$10, for touring the entire site, but such an open house no longer seems forthcoming, which is too bad.

I could see a middle-school teacher taking his or her class on a local field trip to experience this valuable piece of culture -- learning about the colonial adobe architecture and how the layout, including the out buildings, may have included, besides an outdoor kitchen, a candlemaker’s studio and a blacksmith’s shop, among other features.

Yes, this location is that engaging to interested parties -- young people and historical societies, for instance. It’s a shame that Downey and all of Southern California aren’t allowed to see it, except from a distance.

In walking past the back of this walled-off “neverland,” you soon realize how special it is, like nothing else in our city. Only a caretaker’s car in the evening is a sign of any life around -- no residents are sleeping in its many bedrooms or socializing in its salon.

The place remains a frustrating question mark to quizzical passers-by, a learning experience that is lost to the outside world, except for the exceptional few who, hopefully, don’t take it for granted.

John DeLaney
Downey

Mexican Beverly Hills

Dear Editor:

I agree with Lawrence Christon that the New York Times and the Los Angeles Times missed the mark by calling Downey “the Mexican Beverly Hills.” It should have been called “the Latino Beverly Hills.”

My family and I have lived in Downey for 39 years. I am of Mexican ethnicity, but there are also people of diverse Latin ethnicities, Cubans, Peruvians and other Latin American countries living in Downey. We moved to Downey for three reasons: 1. We could afford to own a home here, 2. The school system was good, and 3. Downey furnished a safer environment than the surrounding cities.

Mr. Christon claims there is no fine dining restaurants in Downey. Has he dined at Benihana’s or Gaucho Grill? The average price per person is \$50.

Downey has two Hospitals, the Stonewood mall, the Promenade, Downey landing and various markets where I can find pretty much anything I need. Downey has the space museum and a soon to open state of the art library.

As Latinos have become more economically upwardly mobile, we see Downey as a good place of choice to live.

I believe Mr. Christon takes the term “Beverly Hills” too literally.

So yes, given I grew up in Boyle Heights in Los Angeles, Downey is my “Beverly Hills.”

Art Nevarez
Downey

Protests gone too far

Dear Editor:

For a few months now, I’ve been noticing in many news reports that locally, and across the country, there are protests being held in front of the home of elected officials.

Then I began hearing reports that many of these so-called protests at times included knocking on doors, using bull horns and holding them late at night. And that is when I formed the opinion that they were no longer just a protest but could be considered an act of domestic terrorism.

Elected officials have family, many times children, as well as neighbors. Using late night, loud and intrusive tactics seems to me to be more about terrorizing the family and neighbors than about free speech.

So imagine my dismay when I read in the Patriot that someone who engages in such terroristic tactics has actually been elected to Downey’s City Council. If that report is correct, it is very disturbing.

Public protest is fine, it is part of our democracy. But protesting at someone’s home shows a lack of judgement at the very least. And I would fully support making protests at someone’s home illegal in Downey, as well as in California and nationally.

Gina Grissom
Downey

Presidential election

Dear Editor:

The recent actions from the Supreme Court and the Electoral College prove once again that we live in a democracy with a government of laws and not of men.

President Trump has exhausted all his legal options to try to overturn the election but level heads prevailed and he could not get away with his egregious claims that the election was stolen from him.

If the election was fraudulent it should also deny the results for the Republican congressmen and senators that were elected. President Trump can not have it both ways.

Either the entire election was fraudulent or not. He can not cherry pick which part of the election process is invalid to satisfy his personal goals.

Jorge Montero
Downey

Don’t punish barbers and beauty salons

Dear Editor:

I would like to begin by saying I am a cosmetologist (hair stylist) that has been working and serving our community in Downey for over 35 years. When I attended beauty college there were strict rules and procedures regarding health and diseases.

I decided to go to school full time and on a daily basis the instructors constantly were reminding us: “Has that been cleaned? Has that been sanitized? Has that been sterilized?” etc. Perhaps much like nursing school.

The authorities that be should have considered our profession as more prepared for this pandemic than they have because of our extensive training. Not because we’re special but because we’re trained and prepared in matters of contamination.

I’m not aware of Gov. Newsom or Mayor Garcetti consulting with the barber and cosmetology board before locking down all salons. I am certain that if they would have, the board would have provided professional advice, recommendations and suggestions by educating them as to the best approach to take.

We are professionals and did not obtain our license in a candy store or online. It is state-issued for a reason.

It has not been the first time we have had to deal with a contagion. Back in the 80s, when the AIDS virus was rampant and spreading, we were well aware that it was transmitted through bodily fluids and on rare occasions someone may get nicked by some tool in a salon. Yet we never denied service to anyone with AIDS and not once did we have a problem or incident.

We also have contributed to some sense of normalcy and balance to our community by having frequent contact with our patrons (family). Let’s not forget that when family members get ill and can’t fix their hair, they come to us. Not just for their hair but for moral support and encouragement also.

When our family members (patrons) are being treated with chemotherapy, we’re the ones who tenderly and graciously have to cut their hair very short and, in some cases, shave it. This is not only traumatic for them but it also impacts us especially when you’ve known someone for over 30 years. They’re family.

These lockdown decisions are destroying our professional industry. More importantly, we are at a point of desperation for the survival of our families. People are on the edge, please don’t wait until people start violating the law to feed their families.

As for us, yes, we are the first responders in our profession and well equipped to serve the public as we always have.

Angel Cortes
Downey

Realistic wish list

Dear Editor:

In response to the always-ready-to-repeal reality Elsa Van Leuven (Letters to the Editor, “Conservative Wish List,” 12/10/20), I would like to congratulate our new president Joe Biden and wish him and Kamala Harris the best for 2021 and beyond. Here’s a wish list that is more realistic than what Van Leuven proposed:

We need the government to step in to provide a better healthcare option for all people, not just the privileged and private companies.

We need the government to provide effective financial relief to small businesses and families who are at the brink of losing everything.

We need improved U.S. foreign policy that will effectively assist communities south of the border and recognizes that these spaces are products of our own historic trade and military actions.

We need the passion of Ocasio-Cortez, Bernie Sanders, and others to promote civil rights, trust busting, and a “green” movement for this nation’s future and for the future of our beautiful earth.

We need a government that effectively stands against white supremacy and their political allies and vows to prosecute hate crimes, crooked cops, and white collar crimes.

We need a government to place Dreamer’s on a faster path towards citizenship and do everything to reunite incarcerated immigrant children with their families.

We need to remove Confederate statues and names that are part of a legacy in upholding slavery, Jim Crow laws, and lynching from public display and place them in a museum. This is the history of the Confederate States of America and segregationists living in the vicious United States.

We need to reduce funding and bonuses for police departments in major cities across the nation and use that money to improve public schools and community programs. This is long overdue.

We need to have a leader who isn’t profiting from taxpayers by hosting international meetings at their country club and hotel and literally charging exuberant amounts of money, and spending more time golfing than actually doing his job. The numbers of scandals are rampant, disturbing, and well documented.

We need to have a leader who will stand up for veterans and active members when foreign officials assist in putting bounties on our troops. We also need a president who will not disrespect anyone serving in the military, especially those who were imprisoned, tortured, or killed while on duty.

We need a president who is not a tax cheat.

We need the majority-male dominated government that will not make decisions for a woman’s body.

We are one of the richest nations on the planet and we need to eradicate homelessness.

We need a government that believes in science, not moronic conspiracy theories that have no basis and actually place greater society in real danger.

Van Leuven’s good ‘ol USA and wish list is removed from reality because this country voted for democracy, peace, dialogue, civil rights, science, justice, truth, and not for the truly and openly corrupt, racist, sexist, xeno/trans/homophobic, anti-democratic, anti-intellectual, irresponsible, tax-cheat, serial lying, delusional, inflammatory, narcissistic, bigoted clown and his discredited cronies.

Giovanni Hortua
Downey

Dear Editor:

Elsa Van Leuven, who I notice writes somewhat regularly to the Patriot, published a “conservative wish list” containing 16 items she and other conservatives would like to happen in the United States. I would like to comment on some of these items:

1. Conservatives don’t want government-controlled health care. Fair enough, except that we already have Medicare for seniors, which is government controlled. Is Ms. Van Leuven proposing that Medicare be abolished? What is wrong with having private health care for those that prefer it and can afford it, and a medicare-type system for those that cannot afford it? Why are conservatives so set against making health insurance affordable for everyone?

2. Conservatives don’t want open borders where criminals can enter the country easily. Does she really believe that liberals want open borders where criminals can enter easily? There’s a huge difference between wanting an open border, and wanting Dreamers and asylum seekers to get a fair shot of remaining in the country. And why should we spend billions building a wall that will do nothing to keep out people intent on entering.

3. Conservatives don’t want BLM and Antifa riots in our cities. Gosh, neither do liberals! And from the news I have seen, the riots of 2020 were not committed by BLM demonstrators, but rather by lawless elements taking advantage of a volatile situation. Such rioters should be arrested and held to account. It’s also been reported that some rioting was started by right wing extremists.

4. Complaints about Hunter Biden “ripping off” foreign countries and possibly not paying taxes. Why does Ms. Van Leuven complain about Hunter Biden’s finances, but give Donald Trump, who hasn’t paid taxes in decades and who has profited significantly as president, a free pass? And why is it OK for Trump to pay taxes to China, but not pay taxes to the United States?

5. Conservatives don’t want Democrats to pack the Supreme Court. And what does she think that Republicans have been doing for the last five years? Mitch McConnell denied Barack Obama his constitutional right to fill a vacant supreme court seat, but turned around and changed the rules when Ruth Bader Ginsburg’s seat became vacant.

6. Conservatives want the swamp drained. Yes, please, drain the swamp. Donald Trump promised to do this and then appointed the most corrupt and incompetent administration in recent memory. At least three cabinet members – Ryan Zinke, Scott Pruitt, and Tom Price were forced to resign due to finance-related crimes or corruption. It’s interesting that under Obama’s presidency, there were no indictments of any kind, whereas under Trump there have been dozens.

7. Ms. Van Leuven requests that the constitution be left alone, eg, no changing the second amendment, but then follows with a wish for a uniform honest system of voting for all 50 states. Does she not understand that the constitution grants each state autonomy in how it conducts its elections? To create a uniform voting system nationwide would require the constitution to be changed. She can’t have it both ways.

8. Finally, conservatives want abortion stopped. This is one of those issues on which conservatives and liberals will probably never come together. It is apparent that Ms. Van Leuven considers the rights of an unborn fetus to be more valid than those of the woman who carries that fetus.

Arnold Richards
Downey

Dear Editor:

Apparently Elsa Van Leuven feels that “court packing” is perfectly okay, as long as it is the Republican Party doing the packing.

In 2016, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell blocked President Obama’s nominee of Judge Merrick Garland, saying five months was too close to the election, and it shouldn’t be taken up until after the election.

This year, Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg’s deathbed wish was to not have her replacement decided upon until after the election. Within days of her death, Mitch McConnell in one of the all time chutzpa moves, announced that the Senate would immediately seek her replacement.

Amy Coney Barrett was installed strictly along party line voting in a much shorter time span than was available for Merrick Garland’s hearing.

The Republican Party has now installed six of the nine justices, thus they have succeeded in “packing the court,” but apparently they don’t feel that Democrats should attempt to do likewise.

Jack Russell
Downey

The Downey Patriot STAFF

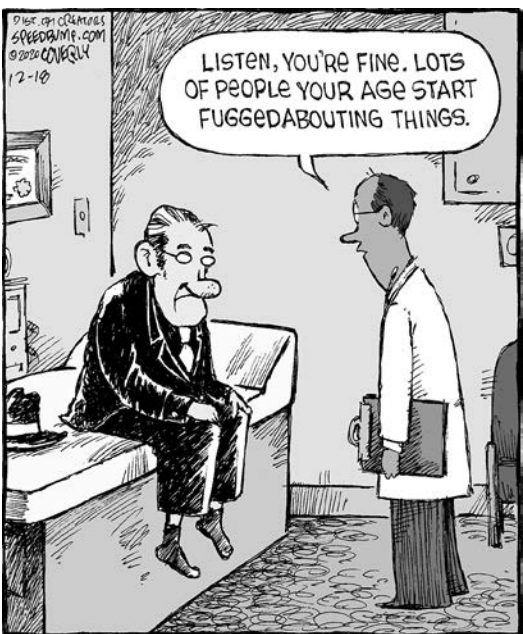
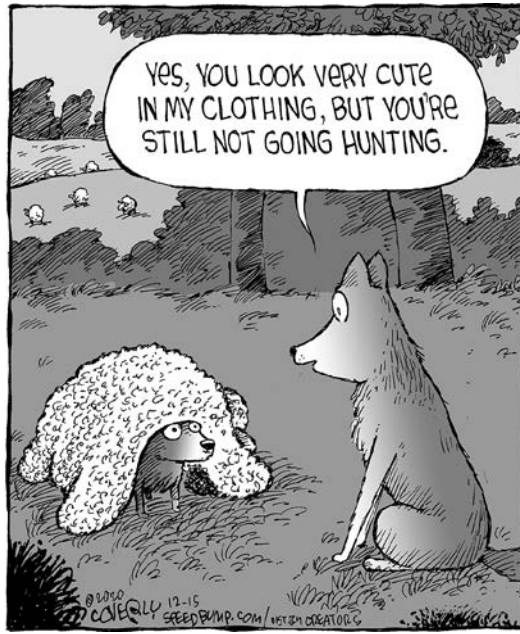
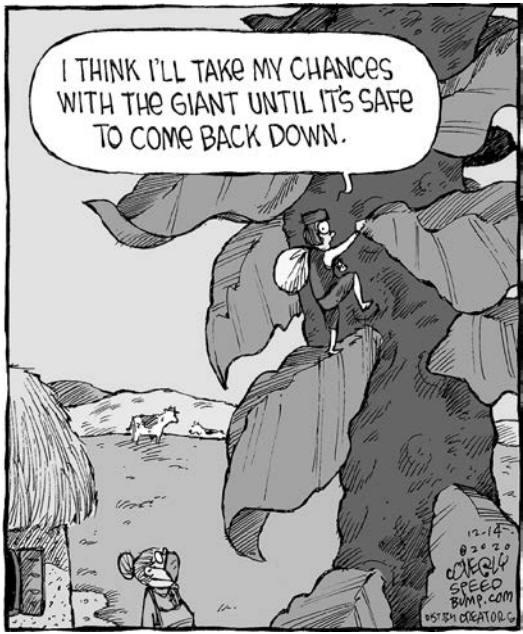
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SPEED BUMP

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 William Medina 413-3447.
 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.: Soroptimist 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, will resume meeting online in January, call 562-500-5093.
 7:30 pm: Downey Elks Lodge #2020, call 803-3557.
 1st Thurs.: People of Faith Ministries, Schroder Piano, call John Veiga 562-412-7192.
 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.

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

THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com)
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 by Gail Grabowski

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Downey Symphony awarded \$44K COVID relief grant

By **Lorine Parks**
Society Columnist

DOWNEY – Thanks to the vision of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, the Downey Symphonic Society will receive the biggest grant in its 60-year history.

The purpose of the county’s award is to provide economic relief to arts nonprofits suffering from COVID-19-related closures, and the Society was given \$44,300, “to cover losses in income.”

The Downey organization was cited “for your vital work sustaining arts and culture in our communities.”

“Good news,” said Ryan Keene, president of the Society. “Our annual budget runs about \$225,000,” said Ryan, “and we haven’t been able to do any in-person fundraising. We have many loyal patrons just waiting for us to start our new season.”

“This is a part of the \$10 million grant,” said treasurer Bill Hare, “that the federal government gave to the county for arts relief, and only to arts organizations that currently receive a Los Angeles County Organizational Grant Program grant, which we have. There were about 550 that qualified, and this grant was given only to 350.”

“Congratulations,” said Kristin Sakoda and Angela Gaspar-Milanovic of the Department of Arts and Culture, “on your grant from the LA County COVID-19 Arts Relief Fund. This program would not be possible without the leadership of the elected LA County Board of Supervisors, who allocated a portion of federal COVID-19 funds for arts and culture.”

In addition to our own Janice Hahn, Supervisor for the Fourth District, that Board includes Hilda Solis, Mark Ridley-Thomas, Sheila Kuehl, and Kathryn Barger.

“This is great news,” said Cindy Kovach, board member. “Since we haven’t been able to gather together, we can’t have parties that reach out to the community, like our 60th anniversary celebration.”

“Or the Guild’s fun-raisers, like our summer BBQ’s,” said Joyce

Sherwin, the board’s liaison to the guild. “This will help us make up for the loss of our fund-raising events like the Board’s fall Garden Party, where guests enjoy gourmet desserts and bid for fabulous silent auction prizes.”

The all-volunteer board of the Symphonic Society presents all the activities of the Downey Symphony Orchestra, including their Music in the Schools Program, originally written exclusively for us by Dr. Thomas Osborn. Now interrupted in what would have been its 20th year, the program brings players and instruments right into the classrooms of every K-5 school.

Music in the Schools also presents the kid’s favorite, the full orchestral concerts in the Downey Theatre. With the cooperation of the Downey Unified School District and the City, via the Downey Theatre, every year a formal morning concert is performed for every third grader, and a separate program, sponsored by Downey Kiwanis Foundation, for all the fifth graders.

“Buses are busy all morning,” said Music Director Sharon Lavery, “bringing youngsters and it takes three consecutive performances each time, to seat them all.”

“We musicians miss playing in Downey,” said Sharon. “But until the county says ok, we’ll just have to wait and be responsible. We care about the health and safety of our patrons, as well as our own.”

Sharon now conducts informal interviews on Facebook, with a different musician and instrument featured each time. It’s curated by Board member Anthony Crespo. Watch for it.

The Downey Symphony Orchestra is considered one of the finest metropolitan ensembles in the Los Angeles basin. The orchestra is made up of the best professional musicians the Board can engage to come to play in Downey, and although none reside in Downey, most of the paid performers are long time regulars in the orchestra.

Three Saturday evening subscription concerts in the Downey Theatre, plus one free summer twilight concert in Furman Park for the entire community, round out the Symphonic Society’s contributions to Downey. Memberships in the society and private donations, plus



Downey Symphony music director Sharon Lavery. (Photo courtesy DowneyArts.org)

foundation and government grants, are the prime means of support.

Superlatives and exclamations points abounded. “WONDERFUL NEWS!!,” said Sharon. “Many, many thanks to both Carol Kearns and Bill Hare for their hard and diligent work on getting this grant submitted!”

“Excellent!!!” said Mark Keller, board member and stage manager at the theatre when the Symphony is in residence. “Job well done!”

Disclosure: The author of this story, Lorine Parks, is a Downey Symphonic Society board member.

Five husbands, 12 children: the story of Downey pioneer Ellen Patton

By **Bobbi Bruce**
Downey Historical Society

DOWNEY – This story is about an early Los Nietos Valley pioneer woman.

Her name was Ellen Patton who was born in Ohio in 1833. She was the daughter of Edward and Nancy (Reardon) Patton. The family moved to Missouri when Ellen was a small child.

Before 1850, she married an ailing dentist. They headed west over the Oregon Trail in hopes of improving his health but he died enroute of tuberculosis.

Her second husband was said to have been a Mr. Bowman. They had twin sons who lived to adulthood but lost their lives while sailing around Cape Horn.

By 1853, Ellen had married

William B. Bramlette -- the year their first-born son, Andrew Jackson, was born in Woodbridge, San Joaquin County, California. Before 1868, the Bramlettes, with their nine children, moved to Downey.

William died in February of 1868 and Ellen entered into marriage for the fourth time with John Parker in September of the same year. He was ten years her junior.

They produced two daughters and an infant who died young. By 1875 the marriage was in trouble, John disappeared and he was declared legally dead.

On June 26, 1876, at the age of 43 with 11 living children, Ellen married her boarder, Nicholas Keating, an Irish immigrant and 14 years her senior. He served

in the U.S. dragoon cavalry during the Indian Wars in the Southwest: in the Civil War and in the quartermaster corps until 1871, when he was wounded by an Apache arrow.

Nicholas and Ellen had two children and lived on a 23-acre ranch in Downey. In 1902, Mr. Keating traveled to Sawtelle, where he died on Aug. 20, 1913. Ellen moved to Lordsburg, New Mexico to be with her son, Will. She died there in 1905.

Both Nicholas and Ellen are buried in Downey Cemetery.

Remember John Parker, the fourth husband who disappeared? He moved to Arizona, found a copper mine, and was returning to Downey in the late 1870s when he heard that his wife had remarried. He

went back to Arizona and died there about 1930.

What a life Ellen had.

The 1930s

Times were tough in the 1930’s, even if you were fortunate enough to have full-time employment -- luxuries were few and far between.

Eating out, going to the movies, and playing miniature golf were some of the activities indulged by the typical family. In 1930, Downey had several establishments which offered an alternative to cooking at home.

The Mint Cafe, Bob’s Bird Nest (formerly the Meralta Sweet Shop), Lily Cafe, and Ted’s Foundation Lunch were all located on Downey Avenue. The Acacia Inn was on 3rd Street,

and between 2nd and 3rd on Paramount was the Golf Course Tavern.

The Mint advertised “turkey dinner with all the trimmings” at 75 cents for Thanksgiving, while the Golf Course Tavern had “Spanish dishes special for Saturday Evening.”

By 1935, there was serious competition in town: Uncle Gabriel’s Log Cabin had opened its doors at 425 S. Paramount Blvd. It was a favorite hangout for test pilots from Vultee Aircraft. All around the restaurant Ameno Bunaguidi and his uncle, Gabriel Ispiki, had fruit trees and raised asparagus, grapes, celery and other vegetables.

Bunaguidi died in 1950 and the farmland was subdivided

for hoes. Ispiki died in 1962 and his family sold the restaurant to Frank and Mary Marr, who continued to operate it for a number of years as Villa D’Marr.

Ralph’s Cafe opened in 1938 at 219 E. Firestone Blvd. They had “women cooks” and offered a “clean, homely, cheery place... absolutely NO liquor.” Prime rib roast beef with soup, salad, vegetables, coffee, tea, milk or buttermilk, and a choice of assorted pies or vanilla ice cream, cost 50 cents.

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In unprecedented times, food bank volunteers come to the rescue

By Jim Wilkinson

DOWNEY – Please let this letter serve as a big, humble THANK YOU for what you are doing to help serve people in our community during the COVID-19 pandemic! Your unwavering commitment helps FoodHelp volunteers face each week with confidence.

As you know, things are a bit chaotic everywhere, and the food bank was seeing 5-600% more neighbors in need than in 2019. Without you, 2020 would have been a disaster for the food bank and for thousands of families throughout our community.

Despite all the chaos around us, the generosity of donors and volunteers have successfully calmed neighbors who were in fear for their family's survival.

People are still lining up to get food in December and the line is still wrapping down the street, but people are much calmer now than they were last spring, even with the current increase in Covid cases. Family upon family thanked us for food and some even became volunteers to help others.

My job for 2020 was to construct a food storage building for the food bank, but the coronavirus pandemic added another challenge – to provide enough food to feed up to 700 families (or 3,000 people) a week because people were unemployed and hungry.

Fortunately, God provided the means by way of individual and corporate donations, government grants and many other sources.

Seeing all the food was definitely a “God Thing” because companies began calling, truckloads of food showed up, funds were given to buy staples (when we could find them), multiple food drives were run throughout the city,

transportation equipment kept running or got fixed quickly, and online giving exploded as our little food bank was recognized on radio and social media.

We had to buy a used forklift to quickly unload truckloads of food on pallets with a limited number of volunteers.

All our regular sources provided food and finances in record amounts, but also new and innovative sources opened up, like, social media, the U.S. Government Farmers to Families program and even a CARES grant. Food was so plentiful that it took over the church café building since people were not meeting there.

We went from a few pallets of food each week to several dozen pallets of food. We have pallets of staples and were able to buy more as the holidays approached with two additional grants just in time to provide for Thanksgiving and Christmas provisions.

Three new food banks are now partnering with us in Huntington Park, South Gate and Lynwood to serve their cities as we mentor their leaders and share food regularly.

Their involvement has reduced the number of neighbors coming to our Downey FoodHelp facility, which is a blessing, because feeding that many people takes so much time and we still fed over 58,000 people this year as of today.

I could take an entire page to acknowledge all the wonderful donors who successfully enabled FoodHelp volunteers to do what we do best – feed and care for people!

If you are one of these wonderful and generous people, we say thank you from all the leaders at the food bank and from the church leaders as well.

Collaborating with people like you, including individuals, grocery stores, food distributors,



Volunteers prepare to unload pallets of food at Downey FoodHelp in 2015. (Photo by Carol Kearns)

businesses, government entities, schools, other non profits, and other churches created success to serve this community of people who come from 72 cities and 129 zip codes around the Los Angeles, Orange and Ventura counties.

We are all amazed at how FoodHelp survived this year and how many people were helped in the process.

Oh, and back to the food storage building project. The concrete foundation was poured Nov. 30, followed by the assembling of a metal building.

As of this writing, the windows and doors are in and the contractors are working on the roof and sidewalls. By Christmas, we should have the shell of our first food storage

building – all paid with your generous donations.

All-in-all, in spite of the coronavirus and the loss of jobs, people are getting back to smiling again and volunteers are managing the food bank in masterful ways.

We couldn't do what we are doing without you doing what you are doing – remember that the crisis isn't over yet, 2021 will be another challenging year.

We wish all of you, your friends, and your families a most wonderful holiday season!

Jim Wilkinson is a board member with FoodHelp, a weekly food bank operated by Downey First Christian Church.



A FoodHelp volunteer fills a donation box in this 2015 photo by Carol Kearns.

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The student artwork above was selected from among 218 environmental artwork entries submitted to the City by local 5th grade students. A new student artwork winner will be featured each month.

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Roybal-Allard calls Becerra's nomination 'truly historic'

DOWNEY - Rep. Lucille Roybal-Allard (CA-40) called the nomination of California Attorney General Xavier Becerra to lead the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services 'truly historic' Monday.

Roybal-Allard, who represents Downey in Congress, issued the following statement after President-elect Joe Biden's transition team announced Becerra's nomination:

"I could not be prouder to see my dear friend Xavier Becerra nominated to lead the Department of Health and Human Services at one of the most pivotal moments in this nation's history. His experience running a large and complex agency, coupled with his relentless pursuit of quality, affordable health care for every person in America, make him uniquely qualified for the position.

"Xavier's nomination is truly historic. A son of immigrants, he will be the first Latino ever to run HHS, which has the largest budget of any cabinet agency and a broad spectrum of responsibilities to ensure our nation's health and wellbeing. They include management of federal health programs, overseeing CDC and FDA, and caring for unaccompanied immigrant children.

"President-elect Biden was wise to choose him for this role. As a Member of the House Ways and Means Health Subcommittee in Congress, Xavier helped craft the ACA and get it signed into law. As our state's attorney general, he has defended the ACA from numerous attempts by Republicans to gut and repeal the law, which would jeopardize health care for tens of millions of Americans.

"Xavier is a fighter for the most vulnerable and underserved among us. He has fought against discrimination and the structural racism that lead to a higher prevalence of chronic health conditions, including heart disease, asthma, and diabetes in communities of color. He has taken on the drug companies responsible for fueling the



Xavier Becerra speaks at the 2019 California Democratic Party State Convention in San Francisco. (Photo by Gage Skidmore)

opioid epidemic. He's sued e-cigarette manufacturers for preying on young people and endangering their health. He's been a champion for seniors by working to strengthen Medicare and he is a defender of women's reproductive freedom.

"We need Xavier's leadership at HHS now more than ever. I urge the Senate to confirm Xavier quickly because he has the fortitude and strength necessary to respond to this pandemic which has killed more than a quarter million Americans and infected 14 million more people in this country."

Short story: Pizza and tears

By Yolanda Adele

I thought that my precious grandson, Moises, would die in my arms after he suffered a seizure at just two years old. He had an ear infection and was asleep on the living room floor when I stopped by with my mother to see my daughter, Tina, and her newborn baby girl, Hannah.

At the end of our visit, I told Tina we'd let ourselves out. She was in her bedroom feeding the baby.

We walked into the living room and saw Mosey on the floor shaking violently. His eyes were open wide with fear and confusion. I yelled to my daughter to call 911. Mosey's lips were becoming a bluish-grey color. I knelt on the floor at his feet and held his flailing arms down over his head as I lowered my body over his. The force of Mosey's seizure caused his small body to thrust against me as I struggled to hold him still.

Tina bolted from her room to phone for help. She related the instructions the emergency operator was giving to her. "Strip his clothes off, roll him over to his side so he doesn't choke on his vomit and apply cold water with towels to his body!"

I was going through the motions, all the time saying to myself... This can't really be happening! This can't really be happening!!!

I desperately wanted Tina to trade places with me. I was afraid I may not perform the life-saving tasks perfectly. I soon changed my mind at the sound of the panic cries in Tina's voice that singe my heart. I somehow contained my terror while I witnessed this precious little boy's body convulsing. All the while I pleaded with God to release us from this nightmare.

Suddenly, the back door opened and five firemen came in with military-like precision. I got up and reluctantly left Mosey's side to let the rescue workers take his vital signs and work to get him stable.

I found my mother in a corner of the room looking pale and crying hysterically. As much as I wanted to go in the ambulance with Mosey and Tina, I had to stay with my mother. I told Tina that I'd care for the baby until my son-in-law got home. I felt terror grip every fiber of my being. I had to get my mother home and give her sedatives. Soon my son-in-law arrived and he took the baby with him to the hospital. It was time for her feeding and she needed her mother and my son-in-law needed to be with his wife and his son.

I hurriedly drove my mother to her house before I went home to get my husband, so we could drive to the E.R. together. He looked stoic. I was feeling an odd emotional numbness. We drove in eerie silence.

At the hospital we learned that Mosey had a febrile or heat-induced seizure brought on by a rapid rising body temperature. It caused the electrical activity of the brain to become irregular, resulting in loss of body control.

Amazingly, several hours later Mosey was back home with his mom, dad, baby sister, his Papa and me. His fever was remarkably lower. He was a little weak but plenty happy and wanted pizza. So, of course, we ordered pizza. When the pizza arrived we sat around the coffee table to eat. I was overcome by a deluge of tears as I let myself remember my deepest fear... that this evening would be about making funeral arrangements for our two-year-old grandson. Instead, here we were eating pizza. Tears of relief and gratitude flowed as I looked at Mosey's pepperoni and marinara sauce stained face. Then, I became hungry for pizza too. Though mine was sprinkled with salty tears, pizza never tasted so good to me.

Yolanda Adele 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.

Crime Report

Nov. 30:

Detectives are investigating a strong arm robbery that occurred at about 2:30 am in the 9400 block of Firestone. The two suspects knocked on the adult male victim's door and the victim answered. Once the victim opened the door, the suspects forced their way into the room. One suspect restrained the victim while the other suspect ransacked the victim's property. The suspects fled with some of the victim's property.

Dec. 1:

At approximately 12 am, the adult male victim responded to the police station and advised his vehicle was taken from him at gunpoint in the area of Imperial Hwy. and Paramount Blvd. The victim parked and was confronted by three male adult suspects. One suspect told the victim, while showing a gun, that the vehicle belonged to him. In fear for his safety, the victim gave the suspect the vehicle. The victim recognized one of the suspects from past contacts. A few hours later, officers located the victim's vehicle near Imperial Hwy. and Old River School Rd. A high-risk traffic stop was conducted and the suspect was arrested for carjacking.

Dec. 4:

At approximately 12:15 am, a witness reported two male

suspects and one female suspect were breaking into a parked car at the intersection of Paramount Blvd. and Birchcrest Rd. The suspects fled the scene in a stolen vehicle but were immediately located in the area by officers. They fled into the San Gabriel Riverbed, abandoned the vehicle and fled on foot. Officers located the driver hiding in Treasure Island Park and took him into custody.

Dec. 5:

At approximately 11:10 pm, officers responded to a robbery in progress with a possibly armed suspect. Officers arrived on scene and ordered the suspect to get on the ground. The suspect refused and remained standing. While attempting to handcuff the uncooperative suspect, the suspect turned towards officers in an aggressive manner. To prevent being assaulted, officers assisted the suspect to the

ground. The involved officer and suspect were not injured. The suspect was arrested and transported to jail.

Dec. 6:

At approximately 3:15 pm, officers responded to 400 Stonewood regarding a possible overdose. Officers arrived on scene and found an adult male subject unconscious with shallow breathing. Officers administered one dose of Narcan. The subject's breathing improved and upon arrival, Downey Fire Department administered a second dose of Narcan. The subject's condition improved and he was transported by Downey Fire Department to the hospital.

Dec. 8:

At approximately 12:45 am, officers located a stolen vehicle at Paramount Blvd. and 3rd St. and conducted a high-risk traffic stop. The driver was taken into custody without incident. The suspect was booked for vehicle theft.

Dec. 9:

At approximately 10:30 am, officers responded to the 10300 block of Lakewood Blvd. regarding an attempted strong arm robbery. The adult male victim was confronted by another adult male who struck the victim twice and demanded money. The suspect fled without any of the victim's property. The suspect was located a short distance away and arrested without incident.

Dec. 10:

Detectives are investigating a possible arson that occurred at about 10 pm in the 9600 block of Lakewood Blvd. Officers responded to a possible structure fire at a car dealership. Officers arrived and observed three high-end vehicles on fire (a McLaren and two Lamborghinis) and the building was also on fire. Downey Fire Department responded and took over the arson investigation. Arson Investigators found several pour patterns of possible accelerants.

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Charley Pride

Charley Pride

Charley Pride, the pioneering country music superstar who had 30 number one hits on the country music charts, died Dec. 12 at the age of 86 in Dallas from complications of COVID-19.

Pride was not the first Black musician in country music, but he was the genre's first big star, with 30 No. 1 songs on the country charts during a legendary career.

He was a great athlete growing up and was a star pitcher and two-time All-Star for Memphis in the Negro Leagues. Injuries ended his baseball dreams and he turned to a career in country music.

The baritone went to Nashville, and after a while he was signed to RCA and first hit the charts in 1966 with "Just Between Me and You." Pride would become a top-selling star whose hits include the enduring 1971 song "Kiss an Angel Good Morning."

He won three Grammys and was inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame in 2000. Pride had just received a lifetime achievement award November 11 on live television at the CMA awards and performed on that show.

John Le Carré

John Le Carré, a British novelist known for bestselling spy novels including "The Spy Who Came in from the Cold" and "Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy," died Dec. 12 of pneumonia in Cornwall, England at the age of 89.

Le Carré's novels drew in part from his own experiences in the 1950s and '60s working for British intelligence in both MI5 and MI6, the British equivalents of the FBI and CIA.

His early novels focus on the Cold War that raged as they were being written, and several featured the Le Carré hero George Smiley, a retired spy whose everyman qualities endeared him to British readers as an anti-James Bond.

Le Carré's works were frequently adapted for film, TV, and radio, with popular Hollywood adaptations including a 1965 "The Spy Who Came in from the Cold" starring Richard Burton, a 2005 "The Constant Gardener" starring Ralph Fiennes, and a 2011 "Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy" starring Gary Oldman.

Le Carré didn't talk much about the details of his time with MI5 and MI6; he told the Paris Review in 1997 that it was "some residual sense of loyalty" that prompted him to keep those years close to the vest, even decades after he left to pursue his writing career.

Jeannie Morris

Jeannie Morris, a pioneering sportscaster who became the first woman to report live from a Super Bowl, at 1975's Super Bowl IX, died Dec. 14 in Chicago at age 85.

Morris began working in sports journalism in the 1960s, writing for the Chicago Daily News and Chicago's American. The then-wife of Chicago Bears wide receiver Johnny Morris, she wrote her early columns under the byline "Mrs. Johnny Morris."

She moved to sports broadcasting at Chicago's WMAQ and WBBM TV stations, continuing for decades. Morris often found she had to argue with men to get the access she needed, in press boxes, on the field, and in locker rooms.

On one memorable occasion, as she covered a Bears-Vikings game with a press box that explicitly barred women and children from entering, she reported from the box's roof in a blizzard.

Morris was honored with 11 Emmy Awards, and in 2014, she became the first woman to win the Ring Lardner Award for Excellence in Sports Journalism.

"Athletes generally are closer to their mothers," she told the Chicago Sun-Times. "They'll tell me things they'd never dream of telling a man."

Doug Scott

Doug Scott, an English mountain climber who was part of the first team to summit Mount Everest via its challenging southwest face, died Dec. 7 of cerebral lymphoma at the age of 79.

Scott joined Chris Bonington's famed Everest expedition in 1975. It was the first British team to summit Everest, as well as the first to use the southwest face to get there, and Scott himself became the first Englishman to reach Everest's summit.

The night after he achieved the summit, Scott and his climbing partner, Dougal Haston, were caught away from camp and without oxygen for the night. They lived through brutal cold and low oxygen that night, surviving to continue their descent.

Two years later, climbing Pakistan's The Ogre, Scott broke both legs and crawled to base camp, again surviving a near-impossible situation.

Scott made first ascents of many mountains, and he climbed the highest peak on all seven continents.

In 1989, Scott founded Community Action Nepal, a nonprofit that works to improve working and living conditions in Everest's country.

Carol Sutton

Carol Sutton, an actress known for roles in movies and TV shows including "Steel Magnolias" and "Queen Sugar," died Dec. 10 of complications of COVID-19 in New Orleans at the age of 76.

One of Sutton's most recognizable roles was as Nurse Pam in "Steel Magnolias." Her other movies include "Ray," "Monster's Ball," "The Pelican Brief," and "Dawn of the Planet of the Apes."

She was frequently seen on TV, appearing in shows including "Lovecraft Country," "Queen Sugar," "American Horror Story: Coven," "Treme," "Claws," and "True Detective."

Sutton was also a well-known stage actress in New Orleans, widely considered one of the bright lights of the city's theater scene.

Ann Reinking

Ann Reinking, a choreographer, dancer, and actress known for productions including "Chicago" – both the original Broadway show and the 1996 revival, died Dec. 12 at age 71.

Reinking became a star when she took over for Gwen Verdon as Roxie Hart in the original Broadway production of "Chicago" in 1977.

She had previously worked with the show's legendary choreographer, Bob Fosse, in "Pippin," and she became his muse as well as beginning a romantic relationship with him that lasted for several years.

She later worked with Fosse on Broadway in "Dancin'" and "Sweet Charity," as well as in the movie "All That Jazz."

Influenced by Fosse's work but drawing on her own creativity as well, Reinking became an acclaimed choreographer, and when "Chicago" was revived on Broadway in 1996, she both choreographed the production and returned to the role of Roxie Hart, winning a Tony Award for Best Choreography.

She co-created, co-directed, and co-choreographed the 1998 revue "Fosse," receiving an Olivier Award for Best Theatre Choreographer when she brought the production to London's West End.

Reinking also starred in the movies "Annie" and "Micki & Maude."

Tommy Lister

Tommy "Tiny" Lister, an actor known for his roles in "Friday" and "The Dark Knight," died Dec. 10 at the age of 62. He reportedly had been experiencing Covid-19 symptoms but the cause of death has not been determined.

Lister started acting in the 1980s appearing in "Beverly Hills Cop II" and "Runaway Train."

He played a wrestler in the 1989 Hulk Hogan movie "No Hold Barred" and then briefly wrestled in the WCW.

His most popular role was playing the neighborhood bully in the popular comedy movie "Friday" and the sequel "Next Friday."

Lister appeared in the movies "Dark Knight" and "Austin Powers in Goldmember" and on television he guest starred on "The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air."

POETRY MATTERS

Pelicans in December

One can't help admiring
their rickety grace
and old-world feathers
like seasoned boardwalk planks.
They pass in silent pairs,
as if a long time ago
they had wearied of calling out.
The wind tips them, their
ungainly, light-brown weight,
into a prehistoric wobble,
wings'-end fingers stretching
from fingerless gloves,
necks slightly tucked and stiff,
peering forward and down,
like old couples arm in arm
on icy sidewalks, careful,
careful, mildly surprised
by how difficult it has become
to stay dignified and keep moving
even after the yelping gulls have gone;
even after the scattered sand,
and the quietly lodged complaints.

J. Allyn Rosser, Mimi's Trapeze, U. of Pittsburgh 2014

Rosser's birds parallel the dying year, but in an affectionate way. "Poetry is the nearest thing we have to a cure for loneliness," she says. Poetry Matters is curated by Lorine Parks.

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The Downey Patriot
Thursday, May 25, 2017
Vol. 16 No. 7

HEALTH Taking tetanus seriously
FEATURES Perfect attendance
NEWS Commencement speaker
NEWS Gang member sentenced

City Council agrees to continue Stay Gallery financial support
The city of Downey agreed to continue funding the Stay Gallery, a downtown art space, for another year. The council voted 5-0 to approve the funding, which will cover the gallery's rent and other expenses. The gallery has been a popular destination for art lovers and tourists alike. The council also approved a new ordinance that will allow the city to regulate electronic cigarettes in public places.

Downey Patriot wins 5 journalism awards
The Downey Patriot newspaper has been recognized for its outstanding journalism. The awards were presented to the paper's staff members for their hard work and dedication to providing the community with accurate and timely news.

Weekend of a Glance
Friday 70°
Saturday 71°
Sunday 76°

Memorial Day Ceremony
Monday, Downey Cemetery, 10 am
Downey pays tribute to those who served in World War I, II, Korea, Vietnam, and the Persian Gulf.

FROM OUR FACEBOOK
City continues financial support of Stay Gallery
The Stay Gallery is a downtown art space that has become a popular destination for art lovers and tourists alike. The city of Downey has committed to providing financial support for the gallery, ensuring that it can continue to operate and provide a valuable cultural resource for the community.

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Call Chris at (562) 822-6380

MISCELLANEOUS

COUPLES NEEDED FOR RESEARCH STUDY: ROMANTIC RELATIONSHIPS DURING COVID-19
I am a Downey High Alumna Class of 2014, currently working on a PhD at USC. I'm doing an interview-based study about how the COVID-19 pandemic is affecting relationships & dating. If you & your partner are 18+, you are eligible! Participation is easy - you & your partner will fill out a 2-minute survey & each sit down for a 1-hour interview. As a thank you for participating, you will each receive a \$10 Amazon Gift Card. **If you're interested, please contact covid19relationshipsstudy@gmail.com**

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Classified Section
Deadline is Wednesday at 11:00 am
(562) 904-3668

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 10, 2021, Time: 10:30 a.m., Department: C, Room: 312
The address of the court is 12720 NORWALK BOULEVARD, 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 8, 2020
Judge Margaret M. Bernal
Judge Of The Superior Court
Petitioner or Attorney for Petitioner
TANGELA D. TERRY, SBN 224117
5777 W. CENTURY BLVD., SUITE 750
LOS ANGELES, CA 90045
PHONE (310) 641-7800
FAX (310) 641-7800
EMAIL: TANGELA@TANGELATERRY.COM
ATTORNEY FOR DEE DEE ALVARADO

The Downey Patriot
12/17/20, 12/24/20, 12/31/20, 1/7/21

estate of the decedent.

A HEARING on the petition will be held on JANUARY 29, 2021 at 8:30am, in Dept. 2D Room N/A located at SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, 111 NORTH HILL STREET, LOS ANGELES, 90012, CENTRAL - STANLEY MOSK COURTHOUSE

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate 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.

Attorney for petitioner:
BRUCE GRIDLEY
KANE, BALLMER & BERKMAN
515 S. FIGUEROA ST., #780
LOS ANGELES, CA 90071
(213) 452-0151
BGRIDLEY@KBBLAW.COM

The Downey Patriot
12/17/20, 12/24/20, 12/31/20

Alexandra A. Arrospe, Plaintiff, vs. Daniel E. Johns, Defendant.
TO: Daniel E. Johns, the Defendant above named:
YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to answer the Amended Complaint in this action, of which a copy is herewith served upon you, and to serve a copy of your answer to the said Amended Complaint on the subscribers at their offices at One Lafayette Court, Lafayette Avenue, Camden, South Carolina, within thirty (30) days after service thereof, exclusive of the day of such service, and if you fail to answer the Amended Complaint within the time aforesaid, the Plaintiff in this action will apply to the Court for the relief demanded in the Amended Complaint.
Camden, South Carolina
September 24, 2020
SPEEDY, TANNER & ATKINSON, LLC
Carrie H. Tanner
Attorneys for the Plaintiff
Post Office Drawer 100
Camden, South Carolina 29021
(803) 432-6034

The Downey Patriot
11/26/20, 12/3/20, 12/10/20, 12/17/20

TRUSTEE SALES

Title Order No. 95524225 Trustee Sale No. 85081 Loan No. 399212961 APN: 6313-016-009 NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 8/30/2018. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDINGS AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. On 12/30/2020 at 10:30 AM, CALIFORNIA TD SPECIALISTS, AS TRUSTEE as the duly appointed Trustee under and pursuant to Deed of Trust Recorded on 9/7/2018 as Instrument No. 20180913354 in book N/A, page N/A of official records in the Office of the Recorder of Los Angeles County, California, executed by: LUXURY INVESTMENTS LLC, A CALIFORNIA LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY, as Trustor MASTER DESIGN LOS ANGELES, AS TO AN UNDIVIDED 52.20% INTEREST Yael Lir, AN UNMARRIED WOMAN, AS TO AN UNDIVIDED 47.80% INTEREST

as Beneficiary WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH (payable at time of sale in lawful money of the United States, by cash, a cashier's check drawn by a state or national bank, a check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, savings association, or savings bank specified in section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state). At: Behind the fountain located in Civic Center Plaza located at 400 Civic Center Plaza, Pomona, CA 91766, NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE - continued all right, title and interest conveyed to and now held by it under said Deed of Trust in the property situated in said County, California described the land therein: THE WESTERLY 42 FEET OF LOT 1301, OF TRACT NO. 3648, IN THE CITY OF MAYWOOD, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, AS PER MAP RECORDED IN BOOK 40 PAGE(S) 60 AND 61 OF MAPS, IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY RECORDER OF SAID COUNTY. The property heretofore described is being sold "as is". The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 4416 E. 57TH STREET MAYWOOD, CA 90270. The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. Said sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by said Deed of Trust, with

advances if any, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, estimated fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of trusts created by said Deed of Trust, to-wit \$133,695.08 (Estimated). Accrued interest and additional advances, if any, will increase this figure prior to sale. The beneficiary under said Deed of Trust heretofore executed and delivered to the undersigned a written Declaration of Default and Demand for Sale, and a written Notice of Default and Election to Sell. The undersigned caused said Notice of Default and Election of Sell to be recorded in the county where the real property is located and more than three months have elapsed since such recordation. DATE: 12/1/2020 CALIFORNIA TD SPECIALISTS, AS TRUSTEE, as Trustee 8190 EAST KAISER BLVD, ANAHEIM HILLS, CA 92808 PHONE: 714-283-2180 FOR TRUSTEE SALE INFORMATION LOG ON TO: www.stoxposting.com CALL: 844-477-7869 PATRICIO S. INCE, VICE PRESIDENT CALIFORNIA TD SPECIALIST IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. "NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or

may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgage, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call 844-477-7869, or visit this internet Web site www.stoxposting.com, using the file number assigned to this case T.S.# 85081. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale."

STOX 927030
The Downey Patriot
12/10/20, 12/17/20, 12/24/20

PROBATE

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF JAMES WILLIAM OWENS
Case No. 20STPB08989

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both,
A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by: **ANDREW LILLY** in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.
THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that **ANDREW LILLY** be appointed as personal representative to administer the

SUMMONS

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF SUMTER
IN THE FAMILY COURT OF THE THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
CASE NO. 2020-DR-43-00120
AMENDED SUMMONS

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GIFT SUBSCRIPTION

To give The Downey Patriot as a gift, fill out the information form below and send it along with a check for \$15 to The Downey Patriot, or you can always come into the office and drop off your subscription form.

5 signs you need a new water heater

An Old Unit: If your water heater is older, you can find its exact age by looking for the serial number on the manufacturer's sticker near its top. The first two numbers usually represent the year, but these stickers can vary. You should check your manufacturer's website for more information and have your water heater replaced if you find out that it's more than 10 years old.

Flush your water heater every year so that it lasts as long as possible.

Rusty Water: If your hot water is rusty, your water heater could be rusting on the inside, and it might start leaking soon. To see if your hot water is rusty, fill three or four five-gallon buckets or other containers. If rust comes from hot water only, you probably need a new water heater.

You can prevent rust by adding a magnesium, aluminum, or zinc anode rod to your water heater. For more protection, use a large anode rod or two regular-sized rods. If you use two, make sure both rods are made of the same metal so that they won't react chemically with each other and cause more wear.

Not Enough Hot Water: If your shower keeps turning cold before you get done, you should get a new water heater. The most common sign that your water heater will fail is a lack of hot water. Sediment often builds up over time in hot water heaters, which separates water from heat sources and takes up space.

Rumbling and Noise: As water heaters get older, sediment builds up on the bottom of the tanks. As the sediment is heated and reheated, it eventually hardens, wasting energy and using a lot of your water heater's capacity. You could notice

banging or rumbling noises from your unit. You'll also run out of hot water sooner. The extra time required to heat water leads to cracks or holes in your water heater, so you should look for leaks if you hear banging or rumbling.

Leaks: As metal heats, it expands, and if there are slight fractures, water may leak from your tank. A leak could damage your basement or utility closet, but your water heater's inner tank will stop leaking when its metal cools down.

Before you replace your water heater, make sure there are no other leaks coming from the fittings or connections to the tank. You should also check your heater's temperature and pressure overflow pipe for leaks.

If you find a leak, have your tank replaced right away by an experienced professional.



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This year, I especially want to thank you for your continued business, referrals and most importantly, your trust. I will miss being able to visit many of you in person this year but look forward to catching up with you soon.

Until then, best wishes to you and yours for a healthy and happy 2021!


DALE JERVIS

To Dale Jervis, the phrase "treating people like family" means simply that you do the best you possibly can to take care of that person.

Dale's own family instilled these values in him, and as a third generation real estate professional, it's something that people have come to expect when they deal with Dale Jervis of Century 21 & Associates.

562.743.2121
dale.jervis@century21.com
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10841 Paramount Blvd, Suite 300
Downey, CA 90240



Hi my name is **Maria** and I am the Office Manager of the Downey branch with over 20 years of experience. I love helping fellow realtors grow their business.

I owned a real estate office and closed it to join Berkshire Hathaway Home Services California Properties. I fell in love with the forever brand and joined Mr. Bruce Mulhearn, our founder, 5 years ago. I love the family-oriented feeling our company offers and have been managing ever since.


My knowledge and expertise will be shared with my associates and clients by offering motivational speeches, continuing education and always training staff and agents with all of my skills and tools through Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices California Properties. As a manager, mentor, and coach I work closely with agents.

I believe in God and practice my positive affirmations daily which keep me strong, with good energy and a positive mindset. Being a good listener makes me very empathetic and understanding to bring out the best in people. I believe in providing world class customer service and serving my community while practicing good ethics, integrity and discipline.

I am a wife, mother, daughter, sister and friend. I love to travel and visit antique shops. I enjoy staging homes for sale and have fun in the real estate business. I am very passionate about real estate and believe in helping agents and clients build their wealth through real estate.

I am willing and able to help you and my community in any way possible.

Office: (562) 419-7531 Cell: (562) 500-1376



Freddy Gamboa is the branch manager at the Downey and South Gate branches of Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices California Properties. He has been in the Real Estate business for over two decades.

Although Real Estate was never part of his original plans, it happened on a day that his brother asked him join him to work in real estate sales. It was there where he quickly found a passion and talent for helping people to accomplish the goal of owning their dream home.

Freddy started working for his brother in 1999 at the Mulhearn Realtors, Norwalk branch office. He has exhibited pride and dedication for his business and client satisfaction over the years. Freddy's other passion has been helping elevate his fellow agents.

He developed a need to do more, but it was in 2014 when the first opportunity knocked at his door when he was offered a position as assistant manager for Coldwell Banker in the City of Industry. He accepted the additional role and help build a strong successful office culture, raise office production and establishing rapport with the agents in his office. His efficiency, eagerness and devotion to grow and develop his real estate administrative skills became his top priority.

In 2015, Freddy attended Realogy Ascend - The Executive Leadership Experience at Realogy Headquarters in New Jersey where he learned that you need to lead yourself before trying to lead others. In addition, Freddy became a California Association of Realtors Zipform Certified Trainer.

When Freddy is not spending time with his family or engaged in outdoor activities, he enjoys flying and this has made his next life goal to get his private flying license so he can fly cross country.

Office: (323) 563-8813 Cell: (562) 310-3628

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"Lilian Lopez provided great service!!!" - **Carlos Alvarado**

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Comfortable floor plan with separate living room and family rooms. Vaulted ceilings in lower level, shutters and corry fireplace. Tile, carpet, and wood laminate flooring. Upgraded kitchen includes granite counters, stainless appliances, composite sink, can lights, and remodeled cabinets. Master bedroom has a vaulted ceiling with walk in closet. Remaining bedrooms have vaulted ceilings and walk-in closets and are joined by a common full bathroom. Garage has storage cabinets and a work bench. Backyard has a nice, covered patio. **CALL TODAY!!!**

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Rare find!!!
Over 1 acre (52,621 sq ft) with a home nestled in the middle of your estate or opportunity for developer to build 2 homes on the property. The 2,965 sq ft home has 3 beds, 3 baths, open kitchen and a pool. There is so much potential in updating. It is zoned "Farm Animal Allowance" and (2) horses allowed for each 10,000 sq ft with proper setbacks. Seller has preliminary approval from city for lot to be split into 3 parcels. **CALL TODAY!!!**



Great Opportunity!!
Beautiful single-story home that features 5 bedrooms and 2 baths with a 2,200 sq. ft. lot. The kitchen has plenty of storage and appliances are included, also open to the family room. There is a fireplace in the family room with granite mantel. The master bedroom with vaulted ceiling, a walk-in closet, and a beautiful bathroom with double sink and custom-made marble flooring. The other rooms have new laminate flooring. This move in ready home has an inside laundry area, 1 car garage attached, and up to 10 car parking spaces. **CALL TODAY!!!**



Mobile Home!!
Mobile home in the City of Santa Ana. House features 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, master bedroom with walk in closet, kitchen with center island, spacious living room. Park features swimming pool, party salon, and much more. Close to schools and shopping. House interior and exterior is in excellent condition. **CALL TODAY!!!**



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Jimmy Spathos
REALTOR®
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Vicki Spearman
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lcare4dow@aol.com
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- C. Garcia

"Very experienced. Respects any decision you make towards the purchase of your home and presents it confidently. Carrie makes herself available anytime and works with you directly. She makes you feel her only customer. Thank you Carrie Uva. Anthony and I are loving our new home."
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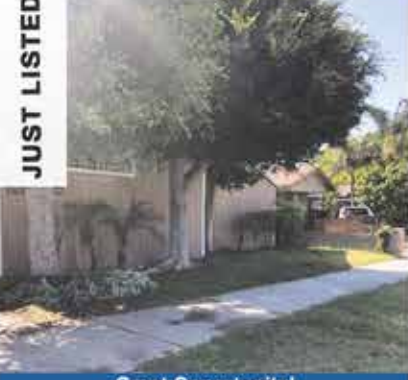


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Great Opportunity!

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IN ESCROW!



Downey Tropical Paradise!

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- Sparkling pool

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- Plus, info on your next career



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

SOLD! 7149 NADA ST. DOWNEY

SOLD! 11849 HARO AVE. DOWNEY

SOLD! 9915 TECUM RD. DOWNEY

SOLD! 10711 RICHSON AVE. DOWNEY

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- Grand staircase

PRICED AT: \$1,199,999

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Close to the Beach!

- 3 bedrooms
- 1+ 3/4 bathrooms
- Large updated kitchen
- Living room w/fireplace
- Spacious family room

PRICED AT: \$759,000

PamLeeRealtor@gmail.com

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Downey Home Sold!

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- 3 bedrooms | 2 bathrooms
- Oversized garage

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FOR SALE

BY THE MICHAEL BERDELIS TEAM



\$400,000 IN UPGRADES

Newly Rebuilt Home in NE Downey

- 3 Bedrooms | 3 Bathrooms
- Approx. 2,400 sq. ft. | 10,201 sq. ft. lot
- Formal living room & family room
- Large master bedroom
- New electrical, plumbing, & HVAC
- New insulation, roof & windows
- \$400,000 in upgrades

CALL FOR MORE INFO



LARGEST FAMILY ROOM EVER!

A Grand Estate with a Huge Lot

- 5 bedrooms
- 4 bathrooms
- 6,402 sq. ft. | 15,639 sq ft lot
- Largest family room EVER
- Grand master suite
- Gourmet kitchen
- Spacious backyard


LIST PRICE \$1,495,000



Terrific Townhome Near Downey Landing

- 3 bedrooms
- 2.5 bathrooms
- 1,506 sq. ft. living space
- Large master bedroom
- New carpet & laminate hardwood floors
- Laundry room


LIST PRICE: \$499,950



Fantastic Home In Norwalk

- 2 bedrooms | 1 bathroom
- Remodeled kitchen
- New copper plumbing
- Newer water heater (2018)
- New sprinkler system
- 5,171 sq. ft. lot

LIST PRICE: \$525,000



Perfect for 2 Families!

- 4 bedrooms
- 2 bathrooms
- 2 Story Home
- 2,315 sq ft living space
- 6,036 sq ft lot
- 2 car attached garage

LIST PRICE: \$725,000

Call Today for a FREE Virtual Market Analysis or FREE Virtual Tour of these listings!
562-818-6111 or visit www.MichaelBerdelis.com