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Downey sues to overturn zero-bail policy

Downey joined 11 other cities in going to court to stop L.A. County's new zero-bail system.

By City News Service

DOWNEY – A dozen Southland cities filed an 11th-hour court action Friday in hopes of halting the implementation of a zero-bail system in Los Angeles County that will eliminate cash bail for most people arrested of non-violent or non-serious crimes, allowing them to be released with a citation to appear in court at a later date.

The zero-bail system was scheduled to take effect Sunday. But in court papers submitted to Los Angeles Superior Court Friday, 12 cities contend that the switch to zero-bail represents a threat to public safety.

"There is and has been grave public concern regarding public safety in light of reduced enforcement and criminal consequences for various categories of 'low-level' offenses that, despite the nomenclature, have profound and significant impacts on the day-to-day life of whole communities of plaintiff cities and others within the county," the municipalities argue in court papers.

With the zero-bail system taking effect Sunday, it was unclear when or if the cities' request for an injunction blocking the move might take place. The zero-bail schedule was announced by the Los Angeles Superior Court in July, with an effective date of Oct. 1. It was unclear why the cities waited until the last minute to file a legal challenge.

"Public safety is our top priority," Downey Mayor Claudia M. Frometa said in a statement. "Downey, like many other cities, continues to be negatively impacted by policies such as the zero-bail schedule that do not hold individuals accountable for their actions. We are taking a proactive measure to help preserve the safety of our residents, businesses and police personnel."

Other cities joining the litigation were Whittier, Artesia, Covina, Glendora, Lakewood, Santa Fe Springs, Palmdale, Arcadia, Industry, Vernon and La Verne.

Superior Court officials could not be reached for comment after hours on the challenge.

The zero-bail system, officially dubbed by the Los Angeles Superior Court as Pre-Arrestment Release Protocols, or PARP, largely eliminates the existing cash bail system for all but the most serious of crimes. Most people arrested on suspicion on non-violent or non-serious offenses will be either cited and released in the field or booked and released at a police or sheriff's station with orders to appear in court on a specific date for arraignment once they are actually charged with a crime.

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

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

People arrested in connection with serious crimes such as murder would not be eligible for zero-bail release.

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

During a hearing before the county Board of Supervisors earlier this week, court officials insisted that the new system does not equate to a lack of accountability for criminal offenders, noting that it applies only to pre-trial detention decisions. People who violate release conditions or commit a new offense while on release will be subject to arrest.

County Supervisor Holly Mitchell said the zero-bail system does not mean criminals are escaping punishment for their offenses.

"It's really dangerous for us to conflate bail with accountability," Mitchell said, adding later: "Bail means I have the resources to pay my way out of jail."

Supporters of the program have lashed out at critics who contend it will lead to heightened crime and reduced public safety.

A report prepared by the county last year analyzing the impacts of a zero-bail system that was implemented during the COVID-19 pandemic concluded that "rates of failure to appear in court and of rearrest or new offenses remained either below or similar to their historical average."

The Judicial Council of California also released a recent report finding that a risk-based zero-bail system actually led to increased public safety, with a 5.8% drop in people being rearrested for misdemeanors and a 2.4% decrease in people being rearrested for felonies.

David Slayton, the CEO of Los Angeles Superior Court, told the Board of Supervisors those percentages may seem small, but they represent an "impactful reduction in re-arrest rate."



Downey's Dia de los Muertos Art Festival, now in its 10th year, returns to the Downey Civic Center on Oct. 29. (PHOTO BY CAROL KEARNS)

Dia de los Muertos festival returns for 10th year

By Carol Kearns Contributor

DOWNEY – This October 29 will mark the tenth anniversary of what has become one of Downey's premier events: a free, public festival celebrating the Mexican tradition of Dia de los Muertos—Day of the Dead.

Decorated altars, ofrendas, are the defining feature of this tradition to celebrate departed family members and loved ones so they are not forgotten. Home altars display pictures of the deceased, often surrounded by favorite food and drinks and other meaningful objects. Additional adornments may include sugar skulls, papel picado, candles, and flowers—especially marigolds.

Public celebrations commemorating this tradition are growing in popularity across the American southwest.

In Downey, this family-friendly event will take up the entire Civic Center, including the Downey Civic Theatre and Library. As in prior years, the venue will be a kaleidoscope of color and sound, with art exhibits, music, dancing, puppet shows, bilingual story hours, classic cars, and visitors in costume.

"This event is all about community involvement," says Kimmi Perkins, Venutech Director for the Downey Civic Theatre.

The months of preparation by city and theater staff "are a labor of love," explains Perkins. "We can watch everyone enjoying themselves and know we had a part in it."

A village is created for the day's festivities, with a Mercado, including vendors and food trucks, and a Zocalo, with live bands and beer gardens. Logistics are handled by the city's Department of Parks and Recreation.

"We try to bring our community together in so many ways," says Jason Chacon, Director of Parks and Rec. "Regionally, this is one of the best shows we have."

Attendance estimates for the one-day celebration range from twenty-five to thirty thousand, matching that of prior years, except for during the pandemic. Chacon says an exact count is not possible because there is no single entry point for the free event. Instead, the city takes a "standing count" at a certain hour.

At the core of the celebration are the big altars on display in the theater lobby and outside on the plaza. This year the giant Community Altar will be created by Latinx With Plants. People wishing to share pictures of their loved ones for the altar can go on the festival's website at www.ddlm.downeytheatre.org.

A Pet Altar, first displayed at the Downey festival last year, will be returning. Pat Gil, President of the Downey Arts Coalition (DAC) that helped organize the altar, said it struck a chord with many people whose pets are part of their family.

"Some people were in tears," she said, "they loved it so much. I was really proud of it." Gil invites people who would like to have a picture of their pet on the altar to contact her by email at patgil1031@gmail.com.

A new feature this year will be a Dodger Altar. Plans are also in the works for an arrangement of individual showbox altars.

In addition to the altars, the Downey festival is notable for the extent and variety of art presented—from fine art for sale in the theater to folk art and crafts throughout the venue, and puppetry and bilingual story hours at the Library.

Local artist Ruben Lopez will be exhibiting the Garden of Catrinas this year with ten oversized figures of female skeletons dressed in assorted finery. Lopez's wife Livier describes the figures as creations of papier-mache and recycled objects.

"He loves doing it," she affirms. "He is always adding to his collection."

La Catrina, first presented as a satirical figure by the late Mexican artist Jose Guadalupe Posada, has become one of the most famous emblems of Dia de los Muertos. She is the inspiration behind the popular face paint and make-up suggesting a skeleton or dead body.

As it has since the festival's inception in 2013, the Downey Arts Coalition (DAC) will again be exhibiting original, themed work by local artists in the lobby and mezzanine of the Downey Civic Theatre. All of the art is for sale. Featured artists include Pinchi Michi and Ronnie Flores.

DAC will also be presenting its third annual student art exhibit on the north side patio of the library.

Continued on page 3

Weekend at a Glance

Friday 95°

Saturday 89°

Sunday 88°

SOMETHING TO DO



WHAT: Get a head start on next week's rivalry game with Crosstown Kickoff, a family-friendly festival featuring food trucks, vendors, live music, games, activities, and more.

WHEN: Saturday, Oct. 7, 3-9 pm

WHERE: Brookshire Avenue, next to Downey High

ON THIS DAY

1892:

The Dalton Brothers—famous American outlaws in the Old West—rode into Coffeyville, Kansas, intent upon robbing the town's two banks, but they were recognized and, coming out of one bank, were met by wild gunfire from vigilantes.

1961:

The romantic comedy "Breakfast at Tiffany's," an adaptation of Truman Capote's novella, had its world premiere; it became especially known for Audrey Hepburn's performance as the free-spirited Holly Golightly.

1962:

The first installment in the James Bond film series, "Dr. No," had its world premiere.

1970:

PBS began broadcasting on American television, and it became known for various programs, notably the children's shows Sesame Street and Mister Rogers' Neighborhood.

2007:

Following years of speculation—and denials—American track star Marion Jones pleaded guilty to steroid use, and several months later she was stripped of her five Olympic medals, three of which were gold.

2011:

Steve Jobs, a pioneer of the personal computer era who cofounded Apple and transformed it into one of the world's most successful companies, died at age 56.

BIRTHDAYS

Astrophysicist **NEIL DEGRASSE TYSON** (65), hockey greats **MARIO LEMIEUX** and **PATRICK ROY** (58), basketball hall of famer **GRANT HILL** (51), "Titanic" star **KATE WINSLET** (48), "Zombieland" star **JESSE EISENBERG** (40), and football player **TRAVIS KELCE** (34).

Works begins on 605 Freeway improvements

■ The massive project got underway Wednesday and is expected to last through 2030.

SANTA FE SPRINGS – State and local transit officials and leaders on Wednesday, Oct. 4, kicked off a major freeway project along Interstate 605, designed to enhance the corridor from Los Alamitos to the San Gabriel Valley.

The \$298.3 million, multi-phased effort — dubbed the Super 605 Freeway Enhancement Project — aims to improve overall ride quality along the route while bolstering safety for drivers and for state highway workers.

The new pavement itself will extend the life of the roadway from Long Beach to the San Gabriel Valley for up to 40 years, officials said.

“I-605 is a major artery for residents of the Gateway cities and the San Gabriel Valley and is a vital resource for commuters and the movement of goods throughout Southern California,” said District 7 Director Gloria Roberts. “Made possible by federal funding and continued support from SB 1, these projects will also lengthen the service life of this key thoroughfare.”

The project is broken in into three segments.

In Segment 1, from Katella Avenue in Los Alamitos/Long Beach to Telegraph Road in Santa Fe Springs, Caltrans crews will replace distressed pavement and concrete slabs, rehab 96 “lane miles” of pavement, upgrade curb ramps, replace signage and stripes and build in an in-roadway warning light system where the off-ramps from southbound I-605 meet the Spring St. bridge bicycle lanes. The project begins this fall and planned completion in early 2028.

In Segment 2, from the I-10 to the I-605 terminus north of I-210, similar improvements will be made, but upgrades will also include pedestrian upgrades at on- and off-ramps, and upgrades to six traffic signals. Construction will also include eight new vehicle maintenance pullouts, more than 12,000 linear feet of guardrail and the replacement of 27 overhead sign structures. It gets going in the fall and anticipated completion is fall 2026.

In Segment 3, Telegraph Road in Santa Fe Springs to I-10 is set to begin in spring 2024, and construction will include 93 lane miles of new pavement, upgrading more than 16,000 linear feet of guardrail and replacing 16 overhead sign structures. The project also

includes 53 acres of landscaping and stormwater improvements to help prevent trash and other pollutants from draining into the San Gabriel River. Anticipated completion in early 2030, according to Caltrans.

The third segment is the most expensive, at \$181.6 million.

But all told, Caltrans officials say the improved corridor is a needed investment.

Funding comes from \$273.2 million in the federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), and more than \$23.2 million from Senate Bill (SB) 1, the Road Repair and Accountability Act of 2017, and \$1.98 million from the state’s State Highway Operation and Protection Program.

Officials point to major injections of transportation funding as generator of jobs and better transit. According to the state, California has had \$22.5 billion announced in Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act funding. Of that, \$15.57 billion is dedicated to transportation-related projects, \$4.72 billion is meant for clean energy, power, and environment projects, \$2.14 billion is for broadband projects, and \$36.84 million is for other projects.

The total number of jobs created in the state since May, because of the funding is 47,992, according to the state.

“Caltrans is aggressively upgrading and rebuilding our infrastructure in California, including pavement rehabilitation on major interstate routes that transport goods and connect local communities,” said Caltrans Director Tony Tavares. “The department and our federal partners are making a significant investment to rebuild and maintain our state transportation system.”

Most of the repaving on the 605 segments will happen at night, but motorists can expect occasional daytime and weekend closures, officials said Wednesday.

Caltrans will provide updates to the project schedules that affect travel to the public in advance.

As thousands of commuters each day along the 605 know, the corridor runs through dozens of cities from just north of the 405 Freeway and Long Beach to the San Gabriel Valley. Along the way cities nearby include Cerritos, Bellflower, Norwalk, Santa Fe Springs, Downey, Norwalk, Pico Rivera, Whittier, Baldwin Park, Duarte and San Gabriel.

SoFi to host Downey-Warren game

DOWNEY – The Warren and Downey high school football teams will play under the brightest of Friday night lights at SoFi Stadium, home of the NFL’s Los Angeles Rams and Chargers, it was announced last week.

The game between the two Downey schools will be Oct. 13. It will be the first high school football game played in the new stadium in Inglewood. The winner will be invited back and recognized before the college football L.A. Bowl on Dec. 16.

The Warren and Downey football programs have one of the longest rivalries in Los Angeles. Warren won the game, 49-22, against Downey when the two teams met last season. Downey went on to win the CIF Southern Section Division 4 championship.

“As a former Downey Viking player, the Downey vs. Warren game is something I know players look forward to every year. Being able

to compete in this crosstown rivalry game and be the first-ever high school game to be played at SoFi Stadium will be something extra special that will live on with our players forever,” Jack Williams, head coach, Downey High School, said in a statement.

Kevin Pearson, the Warren High head coach, said the rivalry with Downey is one of the best in high school football in Los Angeles.

“Having been a head coach in the Los Angeles area for 28 years, I’m aware of many great rivalries, but I’ve always said that the Warren vs. Downey rivalry was the best kept secret in high school football,” Pearson said in a statement. “I’m excited that the dedication and great work from Downey Unified, administration, teachers, staff, students and families will be showcased at this historic event. I am humbled and honored that our unique and historical rivalry has been chosen for the first high school football game hosted at SoFi Stadium.”

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Left to Right: Former DUSD President Marth Sodeani, Downey Mayor Claudia Frometa, Dorothy Pemberton, DUSD President Giggy Perez-Saab, former Downey Mayor Rick Rodriguez, Councilman Hector Sosa

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Vote Nov 7th

DOROTHY PEMBERTON

Downey City Council 2023

Paid for by Dorothy Pemberton for Downey City Council 2023 Committee ID # 1459910

CELEBRATING 75 DOWNEY FOUNDED 1948 YEARS

Sunday, October 8th
Downey Cemetery Tour
2:00 pm - 3:00 pm
9073 Gardendale St

Tuesday, October 10th
Casa de Parley Johnson Tour
5:00 pm - 8:00 pm
7749 Florence Ave.

Thursday, October 12th
Casa de Parley Johnson Tour
5:00 pm - 8:00 pm
7749 Florence Ave.

Monday, October 9th
Downey Historical Society Tour
5:00 pm - 8:00 pm
12540 Rives Ave

Wednesday, October 11th
Downey Historical Society Tour
5:00 pm - 8:00 pm
12540 Rives Ave

Columbia Memorial Space Center (Aerospace Legacy Speaker)
5:00 pm - 8:00 pm
12400 Columbia Way

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14TH
D150 CELEBRATION
Downey Civic Center
5:00 pm - 8:00 pm
11111 Brookshire Ave

Downey festival has packed lineup

Continued from page 1

"These kids are our future," says curator Eloisa Ball. "It fills me with so much joy to see them." Ball wants the students to feel like "real artists," so even pieces by elementary students get price tags. She said in past years the young ones were thrilled when they saw a Sold sticker on their piece. Occasionally it was a parent would sneak back and buy the piece when their child wasn't looking, but that wasn't always the case she explained.

This year the theater lobby will also feature artwork by students in the Downey Adult Transition program at Downey Adult School—those with autism and special needs. Teacher Tangela Diggs says the curriculum includes community-based instruction such as learning how to use public transportation and purchasing clothes in the correct size. Seeing their art on public display will provide meaningful inclusion for these students.

For classic cars lovers, the "trunk altars" will again be parked outside, along the turn-around lane near City Hall. People enjoy the cars as works of art as well as the very personal altars created by their owners.

Demonstrations and Instruction

Visitors will have several opportunities to learn techniques for creating some of the traditional art forms used with the altars.

Sisters Helen Nieto and Barbara Valenzuela-Almaraz will be providing instruction for the art of making the popular sugar skulls (calaveras). All materials are provided and participants can take home their own calaveras.

"My grandchildren are really into it [building an altar] now," says Barbara. "I put up an altar around the middle of October and leave it up until Thanksgiving."

Aurora Chavez will be

returning to provide instruction in creating the distinctive papel picado—the colored tissue paper with delicate, cut-out designs that are often strung together in garlands. All materials will be provided, and her own work is on exhibit.

For a second year, a unique opportunity exists for visitors to chat with an artist and community organizer who is well-known in the Riverside arts scene, Cosme Cordova, as he demonstrates the art of silk screening.

Cordova embodies the sense of community and connection that is the spirit of Dia de los Muertos. He is an artist and gallery owner who organized the first Dia de los Muertos festival in Riverside 20 years ago and is also a consultant for the Cheech Marin Center for Chicano Art and Culture.

The first Riverside festival in 2003 was a grassroots affair — organized from the bottom up. Cordova called on some friends to gather with him in a parking lot where he had his studio, and they used candles and car lights for lighting.

"We just did it," Cordova said when asked if he asked permission from the city or from the owner of the parking lot.

"We had one dance group and they are still with me," he says. Cordova had two altars, one inside his studio and one out in the hall, and seventeen artists. "My mom did the cooking," he added.

Cordova never had second thoughts about continuing future public celebrations of the holiday. His brother passed away from a hit-and-run accident and Cordova

explains, "One reason why I love Dia de los Muertos is because even though I don't have a chance to create an altar for him, I am thinking about him."

Cordova works with the city of Riverside now to produce the festival, but he retains control because he insists that the event remain family-friendly.

"I want to create an environment that keeps traditions alive," he explains.

Regarding his own artwork, Cordova says that "he seeks to create work that has a conscience."

Cordova will be demonstrating the art of silk screen and giving away "make and take" tote bags with Downey's Dia de los Muertos logo. Even those not interested in silk-screening will enjoy chatting with Cordova about the meaning of the holiday and his first experiences.

Downey's Stay Gallery will again be hosting a free, continual watercolor workshop with everything supplied. There is seating for 20 with instruction from professional artist Polaris Castillo. Participants will be painting a mask designed by Castillo and will take home the finished mask and individual paint set.

Juliana Canty says the Gallery created this workshop in collaboration with Castillo for the South Gate Art Walk and "it is so popular we use it for other community events." The activity is enjoyable for all ages.

Story Hour and Puppet Theater

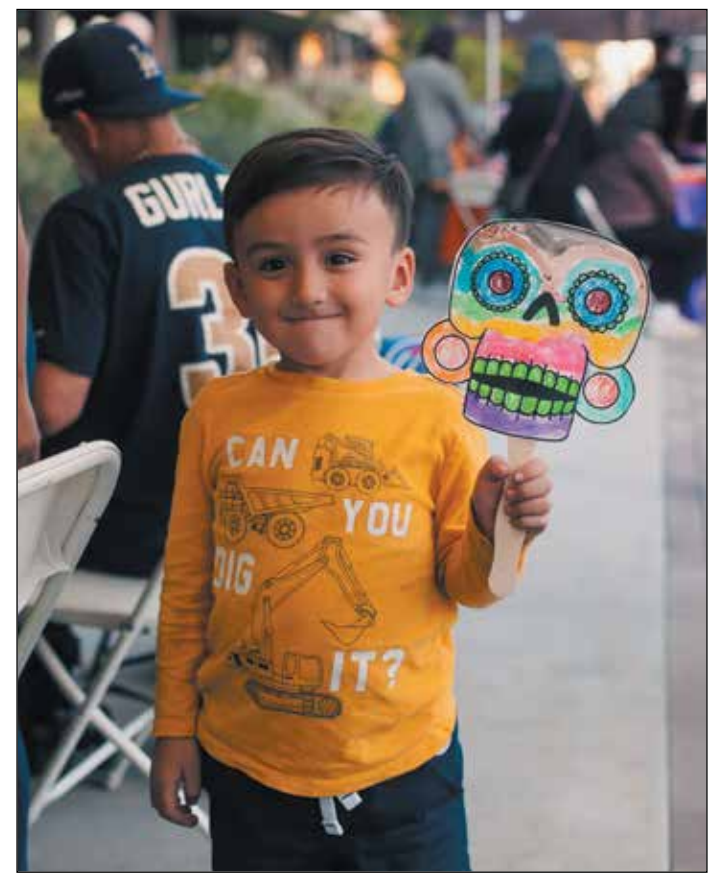
The bilingual story readings at the Downey Library will have an extra special meaning for some people because they are being organized by Downey High graduate (2006) Stephanie Moran Reed.

Reed founded the online indie bookstore MiJa Books which specializes in books for children of different cultures and of color. Reed explains that the idea for a business grew when she began assembling a library for her daughter and wanted books that would reflect the diversity of her daughter's background. Reed is Latina and her husband is Black.

Moran's online business model is expanding to include bookfairs throughout the southland, and she features books from the independent presses as well as the big publishers.

The bilingual story hours are scheduled for 12:30, 1:30, 3:00, and 5:30 pm. Featured books are Skeletina and the Greedy Tooth Fairy by Susie Jaramillo, Where is?/¿Dónde está? Mi Ofrenda by Mariana Galvez, El Cucuy and other Spooky Legends by Naibe Reynosa, and Domingos con Abuelita, by Teresa Verduzco.

Bilingual performances of puppet theater will present the musical Kid Zorro, set against the backdrop of Dia de los Muertos. Kevin Noonchester, who wrote the story and songs in 2017, summarizes the plot as



A child holds his hand-made craft at last year's Dia de los Muertos event. (PHOTO COURTESY STAY GALLERY)

a young Diego discovering that his grandfather was the original Kid Zorro. The young Diego considers his grandfather's legacy and proceeds to save the day from a corrupt politician.

Noonchester, founder of Noteworthy Puppets, said his work with the Tony Award-winning musical Avenue Q

"showed me that I had a knack for puppetry." Performances of Kid Zorro are scheduled for noon, 2:00, 4:00, and 6:00 pm.

More details about the day-long festivities, including music and dance performances, can be found on the website www.ddlm-downeytheatre.org.

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Next stop: new rail to Southeast LA County.

WEST SANTA ANA BRANCH TRANSIT CORRIDOR PROJECT

Help Metro rename the project for a chance to win a \$100 gift card!

Metro's plan for better transit includes a new light rail transit line to southeast LA County, connecting Artesia, Cerritos, Bellflower, Paramount, Downey, South Gate, Cudahy, Bell, Huntington Park, Vernon, unincorporated Florence-Firestone and downtown Los Angeles.

A renaming contest is in progress to identify a project name that reflects the communities' character, culture and experience of the people who live, work and play in the cities this new line will serve.

Submit Your Name Recommendations by **Friday, October 13, 2023**. Visit RenameWSAB.com or call the project helpline at 213.922.6262.

CONTACT US

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Metro

Mural honors memory of late Downey girl

■ Jaelyn Glaz died in 2018 at age 8; a new mural honors her life.

By Alex Dominguez
Staff Writer

DOWNEY – A new mural in Downtown Downey is spreading the message of a special little girl.

Jaelyn Glaz was a “little ball of fire;” a fighter. Most importantly, she was a source of joy, happiness, and inspiration to everyone she met.

“That smile, she could definitely literally melt anyone’s heart,” said Jaelyn’s mom, Jackie Glaz.

From the get-go though, Jaelyn’s life was not easy. She was born with serious health difficulties that required a three-organ transplant at only 16 months old. If anything was certain, it was that nothing was.

“They told us... We don’t know how long you have with her, but you’ll have more time,” said Glaz.

Glaz says her daughter “surpassed everyone’s expectations with a smile and a fighting, little happy attitude.”

“She ended up doing so amazing she started school here at Alameda Elementary for early

education and she ended up starting kindergarten at Rio San Gabriel.”

But Jaelyn would soon find herself fighting again, caught in a catch-22: The medicine that kept her body from rejecting her transplants had also caused her to develop cancer.

“They told us, ‘There was no way she could survive this, I don’t know if you even want to have her try. We don’t know how much time she has, she may have a few months,’” said Glaz. “We sat down as a family with our two boys, Jonah and Jordan, and her, and explained everything that was going on, and we asked her ‘What do you want to do?’

“She was like, ‘I got this, I’m going to kick cancer’s butt.’”

Jaelyn underwent six months of chemotherapy treatments “with a happy attitude,” said Glaz, reaching a point of being considered cancer free. However, the cancer would unfortunately return – this time, more aggressively.

In her final months, Jaelyn was a central piece of the puzzle to the revamping of the Rio San Gabriel Elementary School Library, so much so that the principal at the time – David Cid – asked her to come up with a saying; a message to share with

her friends.

She decided on: “Today be amazing... brave... strong... Be you.”

“She said ‘Everyone can be strong, everyone can be amazing, and everyone can be amazing, but the most important part is to be you,’” said Glaz. “So, she made the banner, and it hangs in the library still.”

Jaelyn died June 12, 2018. She was 8 years old, a week shy from her next birthday.

Looking for a way to both memorialize Jaelyn and spread her message, the Glaz’s turned to street muralist Bumblebeelovesyou.

“They just wanted something that when you look at it, you can’t help but smile,” said Bumblebee. “They said, you know, it was really important to them to see it everyday and, it takes you away to a better place kind of a thing.”

“She did so much amazing things for us: she helped us grow, she helped us be a family and stay united,” added Glaz. “We miss her every day, and she did everything she could to live her best life, and we want to show everyone that they need to live their best life and enjoy it because every day is a gift, and we want a little bit of her to be taken through everybody’s day



The artist known as Bumblebee paints a mural at Downey Avenue and 4th Street, honoring the memory of Jaelyn Glaz. (PHOTO BY ALEX DOMINGUEZ)

just to show it’s worth fighting for.

The mural was put up over the course of several days this week on a wall at the intersection of Downey Avenue and 4th Street. It depicts a rainbow, dinosaur and unicorn, and Jaelyn’s wise-beyond-her-years message.

Father Joshua Glaz says

commissioning the mural was the family’s way of honoring Jaelyn and giving back to the city.

“It’s everything she was,” he said. “From the dinosaur to the unicorn. She loved Jurassic Park, she loved dinosaurs. She loved everything, and she loved unicorns. She was happy; she

was a ballerina and a dinosaur at the same time.”

He hopes those who see the mural heed its message to be amazing, brave and strong, saying “there’s no time not to be.”

Kershaw greets Lynwood elementary students

LYNWOOD – Nearly 75 elementary school students at two Lynwood Unified schools had the experience of a lifetime when they met Los Angeles Dodgers greats, World Series champion Clayton Kershaw and Al “The Bull” Ferrara, as part of the L.A. Reads literacy program.

Over two dozen Rosa Parks Elementary School students met Ferrara – a world champion outfielder who made his MLB debut with the Dodgers in 1963 – on Sept. 12, while over 50 Abbott Elementary School students met Kershaw – a left-handed starting pitcher who made his Dodgers debut in 2008 – and his family on Sept. 22.

The Los Angeles Dodgers Foundation, in partnership with the Dodgers, Think Together and Lynwood Unified School District,

hosted the two L.A. Reads literacy events to promote a lifelong love of reading among the community’s youth.

Abbott students sat excitedly in the school library, pounding the floor while waiting for Kershaw and his family to make their debut. After being welcomed by thundering applause from the young students, Kershaw and his family read “Bigger Than Me” and took questions from the audience.

“Whatever you want to do, whether it’s coloring, running, playing baseball, playing with your friends, you can always impact everyone around for the better and that’s what this story’s about,” said Kershaw, who then distributed copies of the book to students as they returned to class while chanting “Dodgers, Dodgers!”



Downey Residents
Residentes de Downey

Free Paper Shredding and Mulch Event
Evento Gratuito de Trituración de Papel y Abono

Saturday, October 14, 8:00 – 11:00 am
Behind Downey City Hall, 11111 Brookshire Avenue

Sábado 14 de octubre, 8 am a 11 am
Detrás del ayuntamiento de Downey, 11111 Brookshire Avenida

Mulch Collection Details:
Bring one 32-gallon-maximum rigid container per person*

Paper Shredding Details:
Bring up to 3 boxes of shred documents per person*

Detalles de la colección de abono:
Traiga un contenedor rígido de 32 galones como máximo por persona*

Detalles de trituración de papel:
Lleva hasta 3 cajas de documentos triturados por persona*

*Downey Residents only
*Solo residentes de Downey

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AVOID DISRUPTIONS to events and activities

Ask your health care provider which vaccines you need.

PublicHealth.LACounty.gov/Vaccines

EVERYDAY SAFE

Dianne Feinstein's complicated legacy

Feinstein was a trailblazer but her refusal to let others serve tarnishes her legacy.

By Jill Filipovic

Jill Filipovic is a journalist based in New York and author of the book "OK Boomer, Let's Talk: How My Generation Got Left Behind."

Trailblazing Sen. Dianne Feinstein, the longest-serving female senator in US history, died on Thursday night, according to a family member. She was 90 years old, and had been facing calls to step down, given her fragile health and declining memory.

While in the Senate, she became the first female member of the Senate Judiciary Committee. She was also the first woman to chair both the Senate Intelligence Committee and the Senate Rules and Administration Committee. She was the force behind the unfortunately now-lapsed federal assault weapons ban, and the 2014 torture report that revealed the many abuses of the CIA detention and interrogation program that happened during the Bush administration.

Feinstein's legacy is, sadly, now a mixed one. She was an incredible breaker of glass ceilings, a pioneer for women in politics. And had she stepped aside and let someone else fill her shoes at the end of her career, today's obituaries would be talking only about her many firsts and her many accomplishments. Instead, the news about her passing is punctuated with what it means for a looming government shutdown and a slim Democratic majority.

But it's important not to lose sight of what Feinstein accomplished. She graduated from Stanford University in 1955, long before many Ivy League universities even began admitting women. In 1978, she became the first female

mayor of San Francisco, after becoming the first female chair of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors.

During her time leading the Board of Supervisors, Mayor George Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk, the first openly gay man to be elected to public office in California, were assassinated. Feinstein found Milk's body. And it was up on her announce the news to a shocked press. Feinstein, stunned but steady, is widely credited with leading her city out of one of its darkest eras.

The shooting was also politically galvanizing. Feinstein spent her career trying to rein in largely unfettered access to deadly weapons, in an effort to keep Americans safer from gun violence.

After 10 years in the mayor's office, in 1992 Feinstein was one of the first women California sent to the US Senate. Her victory came as part of the "Year of the Woman," galvanized by outrage over an all-male Senate Judiciary Committee's treatment of Anita Hill during Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas's confirmation hearings, as well as the 1992 case Planned Parenthood v. Casey, which had threatened to overturn Roe v. Wade. Feinstein criticized the confirmation hearings, and ran with abortion rights in her platform.

Feinstein forged a path that many other women would follow. When she was elected in 1992, she was one of four new female senators, who brought the total number of women in the chamber to six (two of them from California). Now, nearly a quarter of the Senate is female — still far from parity, but a sea change nonetheless. And all of the women who now represent their states in one of America's most important halls of power owe some credit to the women who paved the way, including Feinstein.

Which is why the flaw in Feinstein's legacy — her refusal to step down — is such a shame. It's easy to see how that refusal came to be. Feinstein was tough — she certainly had to be, blazing as she did into so many mostly-male spaces. She was not a woman who waited her turn or stepped aside. That determination is what makes her obituaries dotted with so many firsts.



But it also kept her in her Senate seat for too long. Luckily, the Democrats have a strong enough majority that Feinstein's death won't throw the whole country into crisis. But she couldn't have known that in 2018, when she chose to run again at age 85. By 2020, she was showing clear signs of health issues. And in her final term, she missed almost 100 votes because of a shingles infection.

Her refusal to step down became a potent symbol of America's political gerontocracy, as aging political leaders largely retain their grip on power and younger people struggle to break through.

There are many lessons from Feinstein's phenomenal life. How to push forward against the odds. How to ignore those who tell you that you can't do something because of who you are. How to lead with integrity. How to persevere through adversity. And, crucially, one lesson that Feinstein's death leaves us with is one that she didn't carry out herself: when to pass the baton to the next generation.

In defense of elders in politics

Older representatives have experience younger electeds lack.

By Jamie Stiehm

Jamie Stiehm is a syndicated columnist and public speaker on national topics.

Public sentiment has turned against old leaders so much that a New Yorker cover art shows President Joe Biden, House Speaker emerita Nancy Pelosi, Senate Republican leader Mitch McConnell and former President Donald Trump hobbling on walkers. Three are in their early 80s; Trump is 77.

Reflecting on aging in politics, perhaps it should not be dismissed so easily. The three octogenarians bring a lot to the table, in wisdom and experience. Trump's age is least of his flaws, charged with crimes of rape, fraud, election interference and more.

Recent news brought this point home. The Senate is losing two worthy elders, one from each party: the late Dianne Feinstein of California and Mitt Romney of Utah. The California Democrat was 90 and the Utah Republican is 76. The loss is real, palpable.

Feinstein, who died the day after taking her last floor vote Thursday, was carried home on a military plane, accompanied by her close friend Pelosi, also a champion lawmaker and a San Francisco Democrat. That is sisterhood, "the love that exists," Pelosi said. She led a prayer and moment of silence on the House floor.

On the Senate side, a bouquet of white roses adorned Feinstein's desk.

Speaking strictly for me, I can't imagine the Senate without Feinstein and her regal dignity. There she was, resembling the prow of a tall ship, when I was a rookie reporter and she was a freshman senator causing waves.

Elected after the Clarence Thomas Supreme Court confirmation hearings brought an outcry from women voters, Feinstein set to work on an assault weapons ban. Freshmen senators are meant to be seen but not heard. She took on the National Rifle Association and passed major legislation, earning the respect of every single member of Congress.

As is widely known, Feinstein tried to save the life of her colleague Harvey Milk, an openly gay San Francisco supervisor, when he was fatally shot in City Hall, along with Mayor George Moscone.

These two things are connected. Shattering gun violence was deeply personal and political.

In 1978, Feinstein became mayor of San Francisco and rose to national notice as she faced the AIDS crisis centered there. Her pattern of taking clear stands, based on study and homework, took hold. She lost a campaign for governor a dozen years later but swept into the Senate in 1992.

My favorite thing that she accomplished in later years was winning against the Central Intelligence Agency and a president of her party, Barack Obama.

The Agency didn't want its ugly torture record to become known. Detainees on Guantanamo after the Sept. 11 attacks were subject to sensory deprivation in the dark, hypothermia and waterboarding.

Sen. Feinstein chaired the Intelligence Committee and took oversight of the CIA seriously. She gave floor speeches on the importance of releasing the CIA report

on its own torture practices. Why? Once again, she did her homework and argued torture was no way to find the truth.

More fundamentally, she declared, torture violated "American values." Her ship compass was unwavering.

Yes, Feinstein was frail physically and mentally at the end. That's no secret. A woman who climbs that high in a man's world has an iron will and won't quit, period. Her generation of women was first to overcome professional barriers and discrimination, clearing a path for others.

Pelosi's model of aging leadership stands out. Remaining in the House, she stood down as speaker to great applause, handing the House Democratic Leader reins to Hakeem Jeffries, a Brooklyn Democrat in his 50s. She's still there as a wise elder in an emergency. They happen often in the House.

Romney is stepping away as the only Republican who voted to convict Trump in two impeachment trials. He will retire after the 2024 election. That is too bad, because he is the most decent Republican, friendly to the other side.

On Jan. 6, huddled in the Capitol, Romney furiously turned on Republican Sens. Ted Cruz and Josh Hawley for challenging election results to appease the Trump mob. Scanning younger Senate Republicans, he points to J.D. Vance of Ohio as a hypocritical troublemaker in a forthcoming book, "Romney: A Reckoning."

Like tall ships and shady trees, wise elders deserve respect.

Support for Legaspi

Dear Editor:

I don't understand your recent article about the three candidates for Downey City Council in District 3. ("Valle Says Legaspi, Trujillo Visited Him Days Before Starting Campaign" 9/28/23)

All three candidates, Dorothy Pemberton, Ernesto Valle and Gil Contreras Legaspi, met with each other before filing to run for city council. All three candidates hoped to be the consensus candidate supported by the other two for District 3.

Isn't democracy built on dialogue and consensus? Were these candidates not trying to avoid a costly and potentially negative campaign by trying to select one candidate amongst themselves for this election?

It didn't quite work out for them, as all three stayed in the race for City Council, but your insinuation that something foul was at play is just wrong.

Let's not be naïve, this kind of political maneuvering is commonplace in most elections. None of these candidates violated any laws.

As a Downey resident we should be excited that we have three great candidates running for office.

As for me, I am voting for Gil Contreras Legaspi.

Jesus Torres
Downey

Dear Editor:

I am disappointed to see that our local elections have once again devolved into mudslinging rather than each candidate choosing to focus on the positives of their own campaign.

All District 3 candidates met with each other before the election but it seems the only one being attacked is Gil Legaspi. I find it hypocritical that someone would criticize Gil for doing something every candidate in this race participated in, especially since we all know these meetings happen all the time.

There is nothing wrong with candidates meeting and discussing the election with each other, as it simply makes sense to try and get a potential competitor on your side.

What I do find wrong, however, is people coming to my home and claiming Gil is not a "real" police officer. When Gil is on duty (he takes the same calls as full time officers), bullets do not discriminate. The fact is that he chooses to spend his spare time putting his life on the line to keep people safe. How many people can say they do that?

These attacks are insulting to Downey residents, and an unfortunate reminder of Downey's politics. I will be voting for Gil Legaspi this November because we need someone new on the City Council who is prepared to do the job as an independent thinker.

Daysi Verdeja
Downey

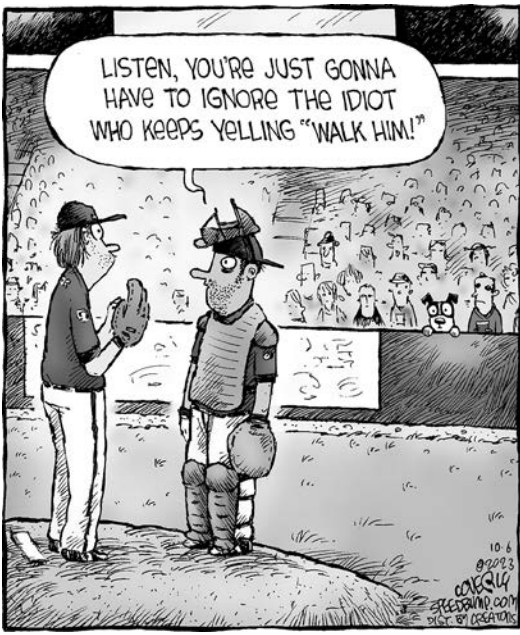
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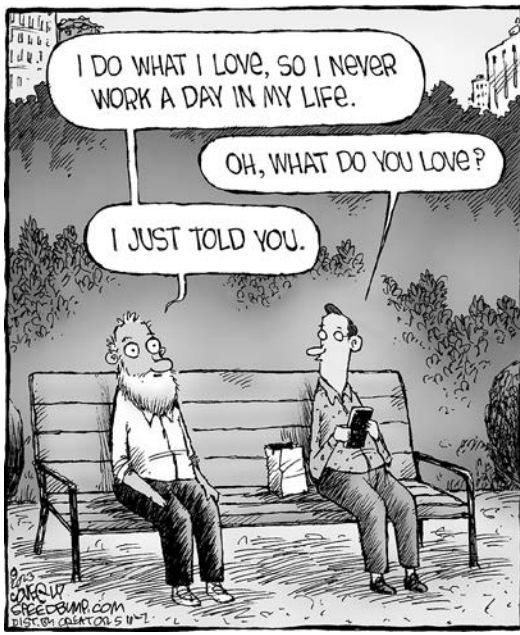
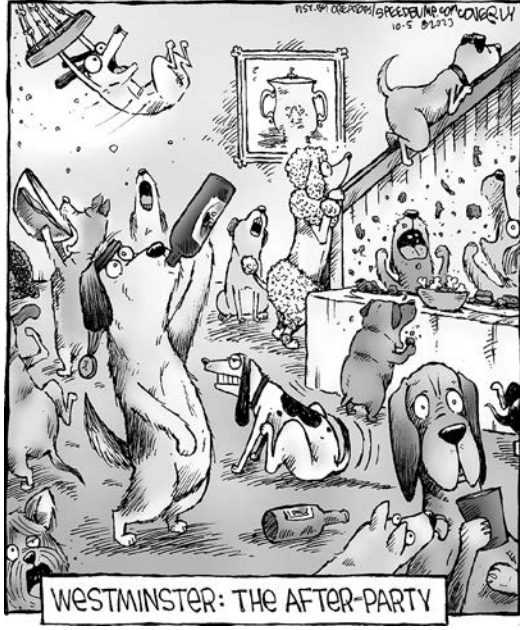
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SPEED BUMP



DAVE COVERLY



Downey Community Calendar

CITY MEETINGS

1st & 3rd Wednesday, 6:30pm: Planning Commission, Council Chamber at City Hall.
 1st Tue., 4:00pm.: Recreation and Community Services Commission, Council Chamber, City Hall.
 2nd & 4th Tue., 6:30pm: City Council, Council Chamber.
 3rd Tue., 6:00pm: 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.
 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 Mel Sanchez 562-665-4125.
 6 pm: Toastmasters Club 587, at First Baptist Church, contact Salvador Cervantes: tmsalcpuede@gmail.com.
 6:30 - 9 pm: Civil Air Patrol - Los Angeles Cadet Squadron 138, at Downey Adult School, Room M104, call 714-402-5157.
 7 pm: Downey Knights of Columbus Bingo, at 11231 Rives Ave., call 923-1932.
 7 pm: Boy Scout Troop 441, at Apollo Park, email scoutmaster@downeyboyscouts.com.
 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., 12 pm: Downey Newcomers Club, call Marilyn 928-2623.
 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.
 10:30 am: Ballroom dance class, at Downey Community Center, call 776 7270.
 1 pm: Women's Bocce Club, at 7850 Quill Drive, call Marie Puch at 869-4366.
 7 pm: Royal Rangers Outpost 132, at Desert Reign Church, call 562-861-6011.
 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 pm: Downey Model A Club, at Gallatin School Cafeteria, call 484-8415.
 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., 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.
 9:30 am: Take off Pounds Sensibly, at Barabara Riley Senior Center, call (800) 932-8677.
 12 pm: Bingo, at Woman's Club of Downey - Proceeds benefit Rancho.
 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.
 7:30 pm: Downey Elks Lodge #2020, call 803-3557.
 1st Thurs., 6 pm, All other Thurs. 12 pm: Kiwanis Club of Downey, at Rio Hondo Events Center, call Roy Jimenez 283-2335.
 1st Thurs., 7:30 pm: Downey Amateur Radio Club, EOC room Downey Fire Station #1, 12222 Paramount Blvd.
 2nd Thurs., 12 pm: Creative Purposes, call Bill Wallace 923-2311.
 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.
 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.

SATURDAYS

9 am: Farmers Market, Downey Avenue at 3rd Street, call 904-7246.

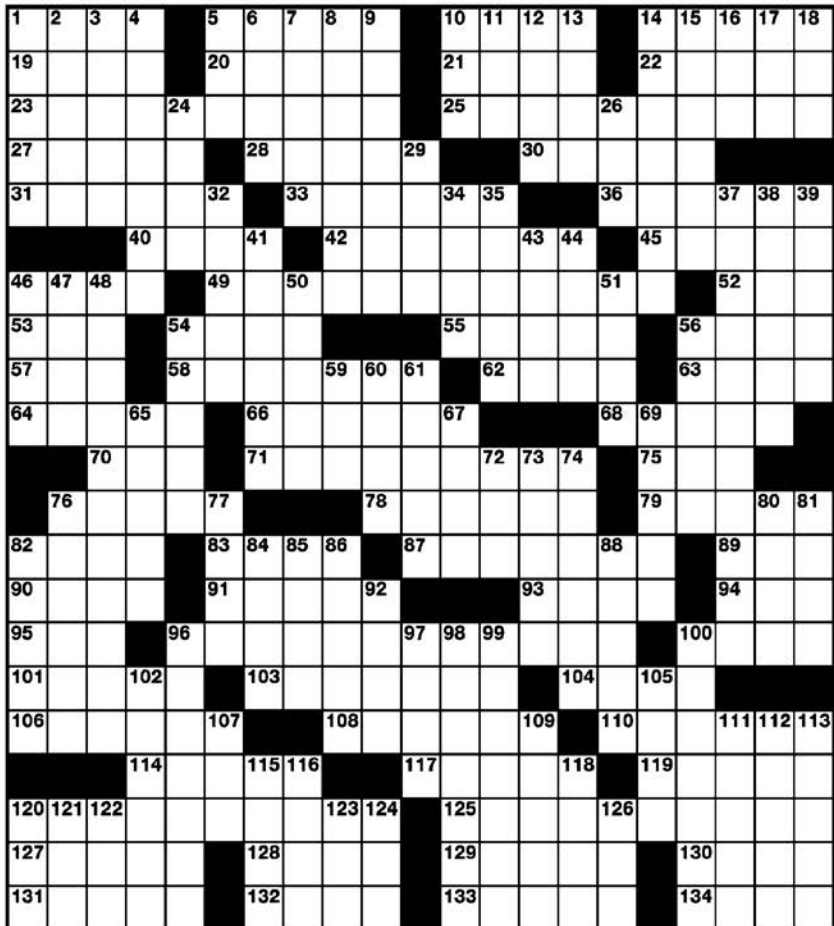
Thursday Afternoon
BINGO
 Games start at Noon
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 ~ Proceeds benefit Rancho ~

THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com)
GOOD LUCK! In other words, break a leg
 by Gail Grabowski

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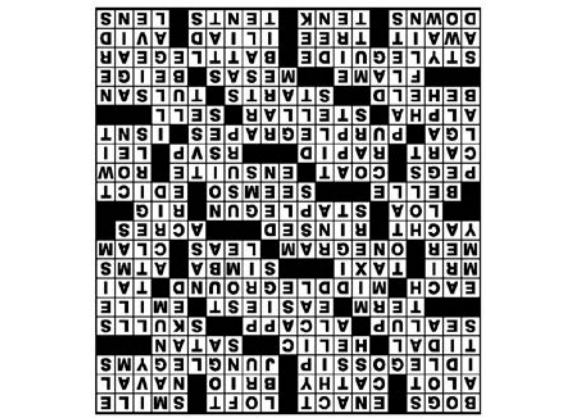
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LGA (95 Across) is the code for New York City's LaGuardia Airport, named for the mayor of New York when the airport was built in the 1930s. TULSA-born county singer Garth Brooks (110 Across) is a graduate of Oklahoma State University. Spectacularly, a MAGNUM of wine (15 Down) has a capacity of 1.5 liters, twice that of standard bottles.



Police officer killed in crash was from Downey

■ Chad Swanson was killed driving to work Wednesday; he was a Downey native.

By City News Service

CARSON – A Manhattan Beach Police Department motorcycle officer was killed Wednesday in a multi-vehicle crash on the northbound San Diego (405) Freeway in the Carson area.

The crash was reported at about 5:15 a.m. at Del Amo Boulevard, according to the California Highway Patrol.

Officer Chad Swanson, 35, a 13-year veteran, died at a hospital, the police department reported. According to Manhattan Beach police Lt. Kelly Benjamin, Swanson was married with three young sons.

Wednesday was his wife's birthday, officials said.

Swanson grew up in Downey and attended Downey schools. He graduated from St. John Bosco in 2006.

"Our heartfelt prayers and condolences are with the family of motor officer Swanson who succumbed to his injuries during the multi-vehicle crash this morning," Mayor Claudia M. Frometa said in a statement.

"Officer Swanson was a native of Downey. We are with the Manhattan Beach Police Department at this time of great loss and grief. Extending our prayers and support."

All northbound lanes were closed in the area while an investigation was conducted into the crash, which prompted a major backup of traffic on the heavily traveled freeway. The freeway remained blocked until about 3:50 p.m., according to Caltrans.

Manhattan Beach officials said Swanson was on his way to work when the crash occurred.

According to the CHP, the officer was in a crash that involved three other vehicles. The driver of one of



those vehicles may have been speeding and made a possibly unsafe lane change, striking another vehicle that careened out of control, according to the CHP.

The officer's motorcycle was struck by one of the vehicles, knocking him to the ground. He was taken to Harbor UCLA Medical Center in Torrance, where he was pronounced dead. One other person suffered minor injuries and was also taken to a hospital.

The other motorists remained at the scene and cooperated with investigators, the CHP reported.

It was unclear which vehicle struck the officer.

Manhattan Beach police Chief Rachel Johnson

said Swanson joined the department 13 years ago and became a motorcycle officer in 2017. He previously worked as a civilian parking enforcement employee at the Hawthorne Police Department, Johnson said.

"Chad lived a life of service to the community," the chief told reporters in a late-afternoon news conference. "... His love for his work was evident each time I saw him. I last spoke with Chad on Sunday at the canine car show, and I watched as he lifted one kid after another kid onto his motorcycle to let them see what it was like to sit astride a police motor. He never tired of it. And I think he would have done it until sunset if that's what it took to make every kid's day.

"Chad was a bright star in a world that wasn't always the same. Chad was what I refer to as a seriously good dude. His infectious smile and laugh lit up every room he entered. To know Chad was to love him. If you weren't laughing when he was in the room, you simply weren't listening."

Johnson thanked the community and fellow law enforcement agencies for the outpouring of support that grew throughout the day. She said neighboring agencies lent the department officers to perform basic duties while Manhattan Beach officers grieved.

Manhattan Beach Mayor Richard Montgomery said in a statement the entire community was mourning "the loss of an officer who dedicated his career to ensuring the safety and well-being of our residents."

"His fearless contributions to our community and beyond were marked by bravery, integrity, and an unwavering commitment to duty," Montgomery said.

"Our beloved officer exemplified courage, and his impact reached far beyond the precinct, touching the lives of those who had the privilege of working alongside him," said

"His absence leaves an indelible void with our tight-knit law enforcement family

and the community he served," Johnson said.

Benjamin fought back tears as she spoke to reporters Wednesday morning about the officer's death, saying he loved being a motorcycle officer.

"We're hurting, we're grieving," Benjamin said.

She noted that Swanson was in the crowd at the 2017 Route 91 Harvest Country Music Festival in Las Vegas when a gunman opened fire on the event from a nearby hotel. Benjamin said Swanson was injured but still helped several concert-goers escape from the gunfire.

"The Manhattan Beach Police Department is working closely with the family to

provide support and assistance in the face of this tragic loss," the city said in a statement.

"In the wake of this loss, our local agency partners will be assisting the Manhattan Beach Police Department and ensuring the continuity of public safety services. Our thoughts and condolences go out to the family, friends, and colleagues of the officer. We ask for respect and understanding during this period of grief and reflection," the statement said.

Late Wednesday morning, Swanson's body was escorted in a somber procession to the county Medical Examiner's Office downtown.

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The Downey Symphonic Society Presents

Tides of Love

Saturday, October 14, 2023 - 8PM
Downey Symphony Orchestra
Sharon Lavery, Conductor

6:30pm - "Bliss" Art Exhibit
Produced by the Downey Arts Coalition
7:15pm - Pre-Concert Talk

Dances in the Canebrakes - Florence Price
Rückert Lieder - Mahler with Anthony Moreno
Symphony No. 5 - Tchaikovsky

Downey Theatre
8435 Firestone Blvd.
Downey, CA 90241
www.downeytheatre.com
Box Office: 562.861.8211

Anthony Moreno
Baritone

\$10 Discount Coupon Code: **DSPC**
www.downeysymphony.org
www.facebook.com/DowneySymphony

Sharon Lavery, Music Director

Downey Theatre is wheelchair accessible. For visual or hearing accommodations, call Box Office two weeks before concert.

Downey Theatre presents:

Upcoming Events ...

October 5th - 8:00pm

Downey Theatre presents:
**Queen of The Night:
Remembering Whitney**

October 7th - 6:00pm

Fiesta de Los Muertos

October 14th - 8:00pm

Downey Symphony Presents:
Tides of Love

October 20th - 8:00pm

Aloha Everywhere Concert Series
The Makaha Sons

October 29th - 11:00am-8:00pm

10th Anniversary
Downey Día de Los Muertos Art Festival

8435 Firestone Blvd.,
Downey CA 90241
Box Office: 562-861-8211
www.downeytheatre.com

DOWNEY HAPPENINGS

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6

State of the Schools, 7 am. Enjoy breakfast while listening to keynote speakers share the Downey Unified School District's achievements and strategic direction. L.A. County Office of Education West Conference Center, 12830 Columbia Way

Holiday Boutique, 8 am to 2 pm. Halloween, fall, Thanksgiving and Christmas decor, rare Sandra Collins dolls, "Wizard of Oz" memorabilia, Fitz and Floyd collectibles, jewelry, and more. Proceeds to benefit Assistance League of Downey. Casa de Parley Johnson, 7749 Florence Ave.

Sensory-Friendly Fall Festival, 6-9 pm. A sensory-friendly festival featuring sensory and speech booths, spooky yoga, coloring station, dance party, Nightmare Before Christmas walk-thru, and an outdoor screening of "It's the Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown." Open to DUSD students with special needs and their families. Warren High School, 8141 De Palma St.

The Local Group Show 5, 5-10 pm. A group show featuring the work and stories of 68 local artists, plus an artisan vendor market, tacos, craft beer, workshops, live painting, raffles, limited edition merch, and more. Stay Gallery, 11140 Downey Ave.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7

Excursion to Apples & Art Orchards, 7:30 am to 5 pm. Take an excursion to the Apples & Art Orchards in Julian, where you will learn about apples as you pick your own 5 lb. bag. You'll also have the opportunity to make your own cider. Cost is \$16 for Downey residents and includes transportation and admission. Sign up at the Barbara J. Riley Community & Senior Center

Embroidery Workshop, 10 am to 12 pm and 2-4 pm. Explore

the basics of embroidery in this free workshop. The class is intended for beginners with no previous experience. Downey City Library, 11121 Brookshire Ave.

Crosstown Kickoff Festival, 3-9 pm. A family-friendly festival with laser tag, corn maze, pedal car racing, shopping, athletic competitions, and more. Brookshire Avenue between Firestone and 5th Street

Paso de Oro Company Presents: Fiesta de Los Muertos, 6 pm. Paso de Oro Dance Company presents an enchanting evening dedicated to honoring cherished traditions - the harmonious fusion of Dia de Muertos and Halloween. Downey Theatre, 8435 Firestone Blvd.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8

Christian Okoye Meet & Greet, 1-3 pm. Retired NFL running back Christian Okoye will be available for photos and autographs (\$20 with proceeds benefiting his foundation). Downey Brewing Company, 10924 Paramount Blvd.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11

Coffee with the Superintendent, 6 pm. Join Downey Unified School District superintendent Dr. John Garcia for coffee and conversation. Gallatin Elementary, 9513 Brookshire Ave.

"Wake Up" film screening, 6 pm. A free screening of "Wake Up," followed by a panel discussion with human trafficking experts. Ticket donation of \$10 requested to benefit Father-Con. LOOK Dine-In Cinema, 8200 3rd St.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14

Mulch Giveaway, 8-11 am. Downey residents can receive up to 32 gallons of free mulch,

while supplies last. Bring your own containers (no bags and no truck beds). City Hall parking lot, 11111 Brookshire Ave.

Document Shredding, 8-11 am. Downey residents are invited to bring their sensitive documents for free, on-site shredding. Up to three banker-sized boxes per resident. City Hall parking lot, 11111 Brookshire Ave.

Intro to Computers, 10:30 am to 12:30 pm. Learn the basics of using a computer and become familiar with peripherals, programs, files, browsing, emails, and more. Free but registration is required by calling (562) 904-7366. Downey City Library, 11121 Brookshire Ave.

150th Anniversary, 5-8 pm. Join the city of Downey as it celebrates the 150th anniversary of its founding. Festivities include food trucks, arts and crafts, classic car show, live music, performers, historical photos and videos, and more. Civic Center, 11111 Brookshire Ave.

Downey Symphony Concert, 8 pm. Titled "Tides of Love," the concert features performances of "Dances in the Canebrakes" by Florence Price and Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 5, with a special appearance by baritone Anthony Moreno. An art show by the Downey Arts Coalition precedes the concert. Downey Theatre, 8435 Firestone Blvd.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 16

Rancho Golf Classic, 9 am. Now in its 33rd year, the Rancho Golf Classic raises funds for Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center. Sign up online at RanchoFoundation.org. Friendly Hills Country Club, 8500 Villaverde Dr.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18

Managing Your Medication Class, 11 am to 12 pm. Learn

the importance of sticking to your medication regimen and get tips on what to ask your doctor and pharmacist when you get a new prescription. Led by the LA County Department of Mental Health. Barbara J. Riley Community & Senior Center, 7810 Quill Dr.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19

State of the City, 12 pm. Mayor Claudia M. Frometa will deliver Downey's State of the City address at this public event sponsored by the Downey Chamber of Commerce. Rio Hondo Event Center, 10627 Old River School Rd.

Book Club, 12-1 pm. Join other book lovers in a discussion of "When In Rome" by Liam Callanan. New members welcome. Downey City Library, 11121 Brookshire Ave.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20

Job Fair, 10 am to 2 pm. Bring your resume and be prepared for on-the-spot interviews with employers in healthcare, information technology, manufacturing, hospitality, aerospace, trade and logistics, business and professional services, and more. Apollo Park, 12544 Rives Ave.

The Makaha Sons, 8 pm. Boasting an impressive catalog of 22 CDs, The Makaha Sons' melodious Hawaiian symphonies have resonated in concert halls around the globe. See them perform live in Downey. Downey Theatre, 8435 Firestone Blvd.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21

Intro to Computers, 10:30 am to 12:30 pm. Learn the basics of using a computer and become familiar with peripherals, programs, files, browsing, emails, and more. Free but registration is required by calling (562) 904-7366. Downey City Library, 11121 Brookshire Ave.

Fright Carnival, 5-9 pm. Celebrate Halloween early at

Fright Carnival in Downtown Downey, with games, music, vendors, and more

Spooky Science Night, 5-9 pm. Science themed activities, a costume parade, slime zone, creepy robotics lab, and other family fun. Come dressed in your favorite costume. \$5 admission. Columbia Memorial Space Center, 12400 Columbia Way

Miss Downey Pageant, 6 pm. Young ladies will compete for the title of Miss Downey, Miss Teen Downey, Junior Miss Downey and Little Miss Downey. Downey Theatre, 8435 Firestone Blvd.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26

Chamber Anniversary Gala, 5-9 pm. A gala event celebrating the Downey Chamber of Commerce's 120th anniversary. Themed "Taste of Downey," sample cuisine from Downey's finest restaurants. Plus music, a wine garden, dessert table, and more. For details, call (562) 923-2191 or email sarah@downeychamber.com. Casa de Parley Johnson, 7749 Florence Ave.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28

Drug Take-Back, 10 am to 2 pm. Safely dispose of your expired or unwanted prescription medications. (No sharps or needles.) Downey Police Department, 10911 Brookshire Ave.

Harvest Festival, 4-8 pm. Trunk or treat, jumpers, food trucks, costume contests, raffles, craft zone, movie zone, obstacle courses, police cars, fire trucks, maze, pie-eating contest, pop-up vendor fair, face painter, toddler zone, performances by Downey High jazz band and choir, and legacy band, and more. Legacy Church, 8333 2nd St.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29

Excursion to Dia de los Muertos, 10 am to 6 pm. Take an excursion to the Museum

of Latin America Art's Dia de los Muertos Festival, featuring live performances and activities to enjoy. Cost is \$15 for Downey residents and includes transportation and admission. Sign up at the Barbara J. Riley Community & Senior Center

Downey Dia de los Muertos, 11 am to 8 pm. Now in its 10th year, Downey Dia de los Muertos features live music, ballet folklorico, Aztec dancers, car altar displays, papel picado, calaveras, face painting, food trucks, and more. Downey Civic Center, 11111 Brookshire Ave.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31

Pumpkin Patch, 5-8:30 pm. Family-friendly games, activities, costume contests, candy, and more. Downey Adult School, 12340 Woodruff Ave.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4

Crochet Workshop, 10 am to 12 pm and 2-4 pm. Explore the basics of crochet in this free workshop. The class is intended for beginners with no previous experience. Downey City Library, 11121 Brookshire Ave.

Sugar Skull, time tba. Sugar Skull is a touring bilingual, bicultural musical. Using traditional regional music and dance from Mexico, it tells the story of 12-year-old Vita Flores, who things her family has gone loco planning a celebration for deceased loved ones. But when a spirited candy skeleton springs to life, Vita finds herself on a musical journey to unravel the true meaning of Dia de los Muertos. This musical is intended for young audiences and families. Downey Theatre, 8435 Firestone Blvd.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11

Veterans Day Ceremony, 10 am. Join the City of Downey in honoring our nation's military veterans. Columbia Memorial Space Center, 12400 Columbia Way



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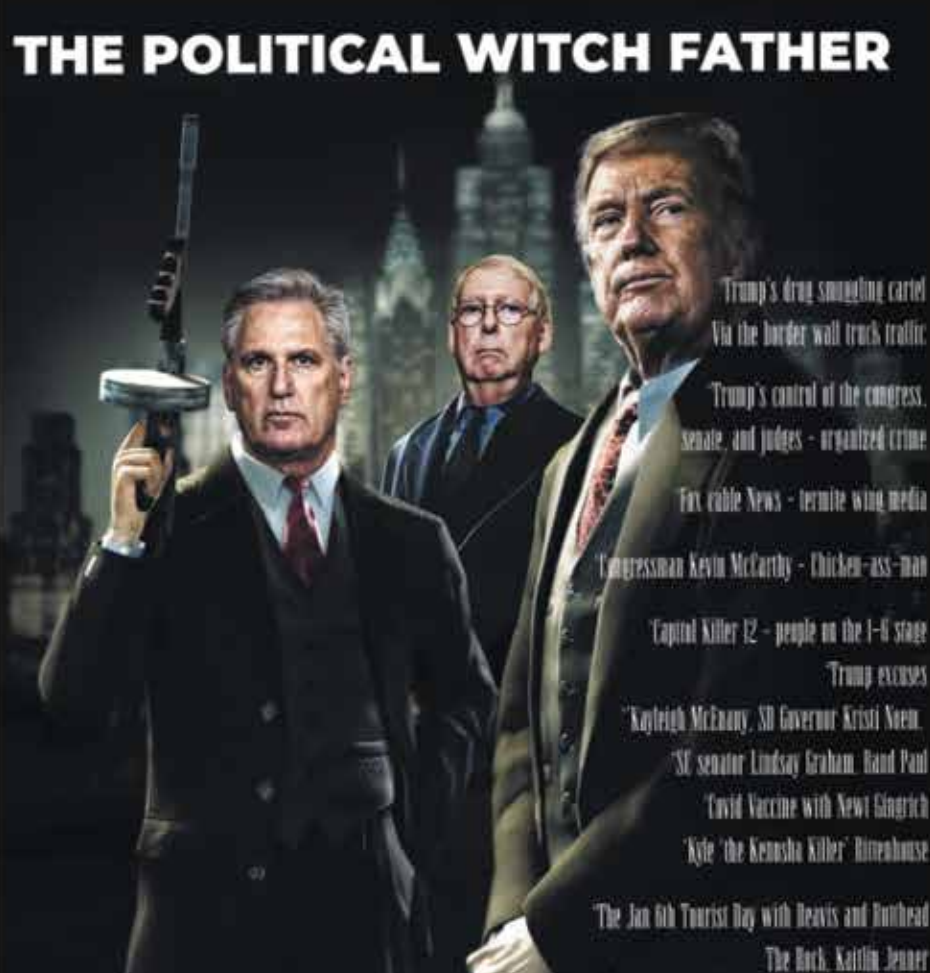
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DOWNEY HAPPENINGS

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12

5K for a 5 King, 7 am. A 5K run/walk organized by the Friends of the Downey Police K9 Foundation. Sign up at downeypoa.org

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15

Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer, 6:30 pm. Get in the Christmas spirit early this year with the beloved TV classic "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer: The Musical" as it soars off the screen and onto the Downey Theatre stage. Downey Theatre, 8435 Firestone Blvd.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16

Book Club, 12-1 pm. Join other book lovers in a discussion of "Our Missing Hearts" by Celeste Ng. New members welcome. Downey City Library, 11121 Brookshire Ave.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25

Small Business Saturday, 3-9 pm. Join Downtown Downey in celebrating and supporting small businesses and all they do for their communities.

Carpenters Legacy: A Christmas Portrait, 8 pm. Direct from Las Vegas, "Carpenters Legacy: A Christmas Portrait," starring Sally Olson as Karen Carpenter and Ned Mills as Richard Carpenter, takes the audience back in time to an old fashioned Christmas. Downey Theatre, 8435 Firestone Blvd.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2

Crochet Workshop, 10 am to 12 pm and 2-4 pm. Explore the basics of crochet in this free workshop. The class is intended for beginners with no previous experience. Downey City Library, 11121 Brookshire Ave.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3

Downey Christmas Parade, 1 pm. Downey's annual Christmas parade returns with floats, marching bands, classic cars and, of course, Santa Claus.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 4

Tree Lighting Ceremony, 6-8:30 pm. This free event features entertainment from local schools, a snow play area, arts & crafts, photos with Santa Claus, and more. Downey Civic Center, 11111 Brookshire Ave.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9

Intro to Computers, 10:30 am to 12:30 pm. Learn the basics of using a computer and become familiar with peripherals, programs, files, browsing, emails, and more. Free but registration is required by calling (562) 904-7366. Downey City Library, 11121 Brookshire Ave.

Downey Posadas, 5-9 pm. Celebrate Las Posadas at this free, outdoor festival in Downtown Downey, featuring shopping, food trucks, family activities, and more.

Apollo Lighting, 6-8 pm. The Downey space center's annual Christmas tradition returns with the

lighting of its Apollo capsule. Plus an appearance by TubeChristmas. Columbia Memorial Space Center, 12400 Columbia Way

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10

Excursion to LA Zoo Lights, 4-9 pm. LA Zoo Lights brings you a winter wonderland, featuring seasonal magic, wildlife-inspired displays, fantastic photo ops, immersive interactive experiences, and dynamic projections and lights. Cost is \$40 for Downey residents and includes transportation and admission. Sign up at the Barbara J. Riley Community & Senior Center

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13

Jose Feliciano, 7:30 pm. Jose Feliciano takes the stage to perform "Feliz Navidad" and his array of hits from an iconic six-decade career. Downey Theatre, 8435 Firestone Blvd.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 28

Robert Cazimero in Concert, 3 pm. Robert Cazimero is a Grammy-nominated recording artist who has performed from the stage of Carnegie Hall in New York to stages in Japan, Australia, Hong Kong, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Portland, and Seattle. See him live at the Downey Theatre, 8435 Firestone Blvd.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20

Coffee with the Superintendent, 6 pm. Join Downey Unified School District superintendent Dr. John Garcia for coffee and conversation. Sussman Middle School, 12500 Birchdale Ave.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24

TLC 5K, 8 am. Save the date: the TLC 5K run/walk returns with proceeds benefiting Downey Unified School District's TLC Family Resource Center.

SATURDAY, APRIL 6

Downey Symphony Concert, 8 pm. Titled "Springtime," the concert features performances of Beethoven's Coriolan Overture, Mendelssohn's Symphony No. 4 "Italian," and Mozart's Piano Concert No. 20 in D minor with Cameron Akioka on piano. Downey Theatre, 8435 Firestone Blvd.

SUNDAY, APRIL 7

The Dennis Kamakahi Music Festival, 3 pm. The Rev. Dennis Kamakahi is considered one of the most prolific Hawaiian songwriters of all time. Watch him perform live at the Downey Theatre, joined by special guests. Downey Theatre, 8435 Firestone Blvd.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10

Coffee with the Superintendent, 6 pm. Join Downey Unified School District superintendent Dr. John Garcia for coffee and conversation. Lewis Elementary, 13220 Bellflower Blvd.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24

Carpenters Legacy, 8 pm. Direct from Las Vegas, Carpenters Legacy is the definitive show celebrating the music and legacy of the famed brother-sister duo. Downey Theatre, 8435 Firestone Blvd.

SATURDAY, MAY 18

Mark Yamanaka, Kupaoa, Hoku Zuttermeister in concert, 7 pm. An authentic Hawaiian concert featuring three talented, award-winning recording artists. Downey Theatre, 8435 Firestone Blvd.

Drop off unwanted medicine

DOWNEY – Residents can safely dispose of expired or unwanted prescription drugs at a collection event Saturday, Oct. 28, from 10 am to 2 pm outside the Downey Police Department.

Over-the-counter medications will also be accepted but sharps and needles will not.

For questions, contact Stephanie Arroyo at (562) 904-2374 or sarroyo@downeyca.org.

OLPH Guild honoring late loved ones

DOWNEY – The OLPH Women's Guild is having a Dia de los Muertos themed general meeting Wednesday, Oct. 18, starting at 10 am at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 11231 Rives Ave.

Dia de los Muertos will be celebrated as participants honor their deceased friends and family.

Cost of the luncheon is \$15 if reservations are made before Oct. 13; after that date, the price increases to \$20.

To make a reservation, call Linda Malme at (562) 869-6491.

Artesia Cemetery hosting movie night

ARTESIA – Artesia Cemetery is hosting a Dia de los Muertos movie night Saturday, Oct. 28, from 5-9 pm.

The free event features kids art activities, food by Mr. Rosewood, and a screening of the Pixar film "Onward." The movie begins at 6:30 pm.

Free parking is available at Amberwood Business Park, which is located next door to the cemetery. Artesia Cemetery is located at 11142 Artesia Blvd.

Downey Symphony opens new season next week

DOWNEY – The Downey Symphony will open its new season Saturday, Oct. 14, with a concert titled "Tides of Love" at the Downey Theatre.

The concert will feature a performance by baritone Anthony Moreno singing Mahler lieder, said music director Sharon Lavery.

There will also be a performance of "Dances in the Canebrake" and Tchaikovsky's Fifth Symphony.

Brickstone's restaurant at the Embassy Suites will stay open for an after-concert gathering for musicians, artists and concertgoers.

Tickets for the concert are on sale now at the Downey Theatre box office, online and by calling (562) 861-8211.

In Memory of

Louise Niewiarowski

August 16, 1923 - September 3, 2023



On September 3, 2023 Our Heavenly Father called Louise Niewiarowski, our dear mother, grandmother, great grandmother, auntie and dear friend, home to eternal life. Surrounded by family in prayer and song, Louise took her last breath peacefully, leaving a 100 year legacy behind.

The eldest of six children, she was born in Lwow, Poland on August 16, 1923, to parents Joseph and Josephine Jablonski, immigrated to Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada at the age of 3. At age 26 married Mitchell Niewiarowski at Holy Ghost Catholic Church. Ten years later they moved to South Gate, California with their three children Jim, Christine and Susan. Working for the telephone company, Louise juggled her schedule to always be home with their children. Very active at St. Helen's parish and later at Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Downey, she was an active member of The Legion of Mary, OLPH Choir, Catholic Women's Guild, Rosary Prayer Group, and most recently the religious home book club. All who knew Louise will miss her sweet smile and her most positive and gentle manner. Proceeded to heaven by her husband Mitchell in 1977, she leaves 3 sisters Frances, Jean and Joan. She will be missed by her 11 grandchildren and 19 great grandchildren from the Niewiarowski, Pohlen, Schrader, Spittell, Crothers, Petropulos, Conway, and Picarelli Families. Rosary and Funeral Service were held on September 14th and 15th at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Downey, California. Graveside burial was held at Calvary Cemetery on September 16th 2023.

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YARD SALE

RUMMAGE SALE ON SATURDAY OCTOBER 14
When: 8am-2pm
Where: Light and Life Church Downey
9245 E. Florence Ave. Downey 90240

FOR CHANGE OF NAME CASE NUMBER: 23NWCP00362
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner LESLIE MACHADO FOR ZIDAN FAYAZ MACHADO filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Present name (1) ZIDAN FAYAZ MACHADO to Proposed name (1) ZIDAN MACHADO FAYAZ
THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.
NOTICE OF HEARING
Date: **NOVEMBER 3, 2023, Time: 9:30 a.m., Department: C, Room: 312**
The address of the court is **12720 NORWALK BLVD., NORWALK, CA 90650**
A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once a week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in the county, **The Downey Patriot** SEPTEMBER 11, 2023
JUDGE OLIVIA ROSALES
Judge of the Superior Court
Petitioner or Attorney for Petitioner **LESLIE MACHADO FOR ZIDAN FAYAZ**

MACHADO
11448 BERTHA ST.
CERRITOS CA 90703
(562) 577-1802
lesliejmachado@gmail.com
The Downey Patriot
9/14/23, 9/21/23, 9/28/23, 10/5/23

TRUSTEE SALES

T.S. No. 100556-CA APN: 6245-002-009 NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE IMPORTANT NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST, DATED 9/19/2007. 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 PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER On 11/1/2023 at 10:30 AM, CLEAR RECON CORP, as duly appointed trustee under and pursuant to Deed of Trust recorded 9/27/2007 as Instrument No. 20072228415 of Official Records in the office of the County Recorder of Los Angeles County, State of CALIFORNIA executed by: ERIC HERRERA, A SINGLE MAN AND MODESTO AVILA AND GRISELDA VIRGEN, HUSBAND AND WIFE, ALL AS JOINT TENANTS. WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH. CASHIER'S CHECK DRAWN ON 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; BEHIND THE FOUNTAIN LOCATED IN CIVIC CENTER PLAZA, 400 CIVIC CENTER PLAZA, POMONA, CA 91766 all right, title and interest conveyed to and now held by it under said Deed of Trust in the property situated in said County and State described as: LOT 9 OF TRACT NO. 13091, IN THE CITY OF DOWNEY, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, AS PER MAP RECORDED IN BOOK 309 PAGE(S) 14, 15, AND 16 OF MAPS, IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY RECORDER OF SAID COUNTY. The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 7866 MELVA STREET, DOWNEY, CA 90242 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 held, but without covenant or warranty, express or implied, regarding title, possession, condition, or encumbrances, including fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust, to pay the remaining principal sums of the note(s) secured by said Deed of Trust. The total amount of the unpaid balance of the obligation secured by the property to be sold and reasonable estimated costs, expenses and advances at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale is:

\$1,448,971.80 If the Trustee is unable to convey title for any reason, the successful bidder's sole and exclusive remedy shall be the return of monies paid to the Trustee, and the successful bidder shall have no further recourse. 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 or its predecessor caused said Notice of Default and Election to Sell to be recorded in the county where the real property is located. 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 mortgagee, 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 100556-CA. 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. NOTICE TO TENANT: Effective January 1, 2021, you may have a right to purchase this property after the trustee auction pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. If you are an "eligible tenant buyer," you can purchase the property if you match the last and highest

bid placed at the trustee auction. If you are an "eligible bidder," you may be able to purchase the property if you exceed the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. There are three steps to exercising this right of purchase. First, 48 hours after the date of the trustee sale, you can call (855) 313-3319, or visit this internet website www.clearreconcorp.com, using the file number assigned to this case 100556-CA to find the date on which the trustee's sale was held, the amount of the last and highest bid, and the address of the trustee. Second, you must send a written notice of intent to place a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 15 days after the trustee's sale. Third, you must submit a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 45 days after the trustee's sale. If you think you may qualify as an "eligible tenant buyer" or "eligible bidder," you should consider contacting an attorney or appropriate real estate professional immediately for advice regarding this potential right to purchase. FOR SALES INFORMATION: (844) 477-7869 CLEAR RECON CORP 8880 Rio San Diego Drive, Suite 725 San Diego, California 92108
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The Downey Patriot
9/21/23, 9/28/23, 10/5/23

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MAYOR'S CORNER: Public safety priority No. 1

By Claudia M. Frometa
Mayor of Downey

Hello Downey, as you may have heard last Friday, our city joined eleven other cities in a lawsuit against LA County's new zero-bail schedule that went into effect October 1. I was interviewed and appeared in several news media outlets and radio regarding this concerning new law.

Downey is urging the courts to reexamine its zero-bail schedule and develop protocols that consider the safety of our communities. In fact, in the 48hrs since the law took effect, Downey PD made two felony arrests: one for vandalism and the other for bringing narcotics into a jail facility. Both suspects were released on a citation on accordance with the new bail policy.

Downey, like many other cities across LA County, has seen an increase in lower-level crime including assault, organized retail theft and other property related crimes such as auto thefts. Under this new law, individuals arrested for a variety of misdemeanor and non-violent felonies including car thefts, car burglaries, thefts of property of any value, retail and commercial theft and burglaries, possession of stolen property, forgery and drug sales may now be cited in the filed and released with a notice to appear in court with zero individual assessment of the risk to public safety. The appearance in court could take weeks or months.

Offenses considered "greater risk to the public" but still listed as non-serious /non-violent crimes include offenses involving guns, sexual battery, crimes against children, contact with minors with intent to commit a sexual offense, taking a firearm from a peace officer,

assault of a peace officer and conspiracy to commit murder fall under what are termed as MR crimes meaning they go out for "Magistrate Review". I find this law alarming and troubling.

Downey, I want you to know public safety is my top priority. I will continue to be an outspoken and fierce advocate on behalf of our 114,000 residents, and a firm supporter of our Downey Police Department. Policies like this zero-bail, demoralize our law enforcement agencies, embolden criminals as there are no consequences for their brazen crimes sending a message of impunity, and further erode the public's trust in those voted to represent their best interests. Stay tuned on new developments regarding this lawsuit.

Community Engagement in October:

As I always say, engaged communities are strong communities. There are many activities this month for our community residents and their families to enjoy.

First, we are commemorating Downey's 150th Birthday! We have week-long activities planned starting this Sunday, October 8th, culminating with a community-wide celebration on Saturday, October 14th at our civic center from 5pm-8pm, join us for music, food trucks, children's activities and more. Do not miss this once-in-a-lifetime event as we celebrate our Downey! For more information and detail of activities, please visit www.downeyca.org/d150

Small Business Assistance Workshops continue: Visit the Downey Library on Wednesday, Oct. 18th from 6pm-8pm and learn how to look for capital and tax incentives, develop, start,

market, and write a business plan. For more information, contact Jessica Flores at jflores@downeyca.org or Benigno Sandoval with SELACO at benigno.sandoval@selaco.com

Thanks to our Downey Chamber of Commerce, I will be providing the annual State of The City report on Thursday, October 19 starting at 11am with a luncheon program following at 12noon at the Rio Hondo Event Center. Do not miss it! Tickets are \$60 and this event sells out. Please contact the chamber to reserve your spot at 562-923-2191 or email Sarah@downeychamber.com

Regional Job Fair in Downey: The SELACO (Southeast LA County) Workforce Development Board (WDB) will be hosting a regional job fair in Downey on Friday, October 20th from 10am-2pm at Apollo Park. Bring your resumes and dress for onsite interviews. For more information and/or to pre-register call (562) 273-9919 ext. 1402

We are also looking forward to celebrating the 10th Annual Dia De Los Muertos festival scheduled for Sunday October 29th outside our Civic Center, our library and theatre. This is the largest festival in Southeast LA County. If you would like to participate in the Community Altar, please visit www.ddlm.downeytheatre.org or call 562-861-8211.

Transient Activity, Public Safety & Quality of Life:

Clean ups will continue in coordination with LA County Dept., of Mental Health, LA Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA), PATH and Downey PD. Downey continues to be proactive and aggressive in its efforts to curtail homelessness

activity and its impacts on the quality of life for our residents and impacts to our businesses. To assist us, please visit www.lahsa.org to dispatch a homeless services outreach team to your area and, if you know of someone that needs shelter, visit www.lahsa.org/get-help

As I mentioned in my previous column, I am continuing to discuss efforts to open a Homeless Navigation Center with Services in Downey. We can no longer stay idle and hope the 'clean' up efforts work. As we look at alternatives and common-sense approaches to address this growing concern, my goal is to protect the quality of life for our residents and tackle the safety concerns.

On Speed Enforcement:

Downey PD continues with speed enforcement activities throughout our city including illegal street racing, along with individuals utilizing empty parking lots/areas to do donuts. There have been two vehicle impounds between July-September.

Community/Economic Development and Citations for RVs

A special thank you to our Public Works for their continued work throughout our city. Year-to-date, approximately 14 miles of streets have been paved.

Public Works staff picked up approximately 200 tons of illegally dumped items from July - September. Let us continue doing our part to keep our city clean.

Our city IS an aspirational city where residents take pride in their homes, home values and neighborhoods. Code enforcement will continue respond and monitor vacant and unkept properties, issue

citations for unkept yards/lawns, cars on lawns, tents or structures erected on front lawns (this is against city code).

There are bi-weekly clean-ups of the San Gabriel River and Rio Hondo bike paths.

I have received emails and calls regarding illegally parked RVs in neighborhoods and other areas in our city. Code enforcement and PD are aware, will continue to monitor and enforce our city ordinance. Please be patient as there is an enforcement process with citations.

On Business Development:

The Honda World expansion on Studebaker and Florence continues, some of the permits are ready to be issued.

A new location for Raising Canes at 9000 Telegraph was submitted for review.

Shake Shack on 8300 Firestone Blvd., the demolition permits are ready to be issued to get the site ready for construction.

In-N-Out, new location at 9454 Imperial, concept plans were submitted for review.

A new Coffee Bean at Kaiser Hospital at 9333 Imperial is coming. Permits have been issued for the site work.

Still working on other exciting new business developments in our city and hope to unveil these very soon.

Downey's anti-litter campaign #BINIT, Residents may call CalMet/Athens services at 562.259.1239 to arrange a

bulky item pick up. Additional important numbers to save on your phones:

- Graffiti Hotline: (562) 923-4484
- Abandoned Shopping Carts: (800) 252-4613
- Illegal Dumping: (562) 904-1161

Keep Downey Beautiful Monthly Cleanups

Neighborhood Watch group in your neighborhood. This is a wonderful way to connect with neighbors and watch for suspicious activities. If you see something, please, say something. Currently, we have over 230+ groups throughout our city. To find out more information or to apply, please contact Neighborhood Watch Coordinator Stephanie Arroyo at (562) 904-2374 or sarroyo@downeyca.org

I welcome appointments for in-person visits. You can also follow my Facebook page for regular updates at Claudia M. Frometa Mayor, City of Downey, along with our City's Facebook page, City of Downey Government Agency, for regular updates. Please also download the Downey App on your mobile device. Through this App, you can immediately report illegally dumped items, street repairs, trash, graffiti removal, neighborhood light repairs, etc.

- #DowneyStrong
- #ThisIsDowney,
- #CityofDowney,
- #OperationRestoreOrder
- #MayorFrometa

Claudia M. Frometa
Mayor

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3 Types of Real Estate Goals

BUY

You're looking to buy a home for yourself in the next few months.

SELL

You're looking to sell a home you own for profit.

INVEST

You're looking to buy property to generate long term profit.

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- EASTVALE
- FULLERTON
- HUNTINGTON BEACH
- LA HABRA
- LAKE FOREST
- LOS ANGELES
- LONG BEACH
- MISSION VIEJO
- LAKELWOOD
- NORWALK
- PICO RIVERA
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- SANTA ANA
- SANTA MONICA
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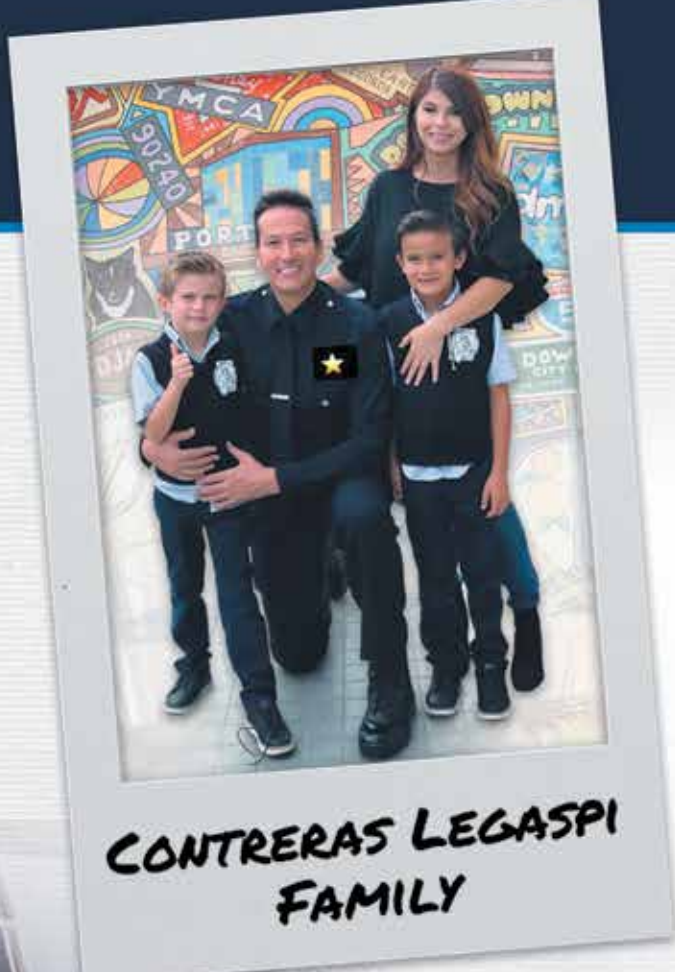
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Downey City Council District 3



FACTS

 **Gil** is a sworn reserve police officer with the 3rd Largest Police Department in the nation.



LOS ANGELES POLICE PROTECTIVE LEAGUE

MESSAGE FROM THE POLICE PROTECTIVE LEAGUE ABOUT GIL:
"Your experience and long ties to the community enable you to best understand California's unique law enforcement needs. Because of your commitment to effective law enforcement and meaningful criminal justice reform, the members and supporters of the LAPPL strongly endorse your candidacy for City Council."

GIL'S PLATFORM FOR DOWNEY DISTRICT 3:

- Hire more Downey Police Officers to keep us safe.
- Expand City initiatives to address homelessness.
- ZERO tolerance for "smash and grab" crimes and drug use and drug sales.
- Govern with transparency and fiscal responsibility.

ENDORSED BY:

- California State Assembly member and Former Downey Mayor, Blanca Pacheco
- California State Senator Bob Archuleta
- Los Angeles County Supervisor Janice Hahn
- Downey Council member Timothy Horn
- Former Downey Mayor Kirk Cartozian
- Former Downey Mayor Fernando Vasquez
- Police Protective League

LEARN MORE AT:
Call or text: 562.360.4367
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Vote by Mail for Gil starting October 9th. Election day is November 7th.