



NEWS

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Parks & Recreation holding recruitment expo

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California offers down payment assistance

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Stay Arts, city reach funding agreement

Downey will cover Stay Gallery's monthly rent through 2024 under new service contract.

By Alex Dominguez
Staff Writer

DOWNEY – Downey City Council approved a new operating agreement with Stay Arts, conditionally committing to pay one more year of Stay Gallery's lease.

Under the new agreement, the city will spend \$39,372 towards the lease of Stay Gallery's Downtown Downey location for a period of 12 months, beginning Jan 1, 2024. The city will provide the monthly payments (\$3,281) on the 1st of every month to Stay Arts.

The agreement also calls for several conditions placed on Stay Arts (who operates the gallery), including providing the city with a business plan, updated organization bylaws, a five-year fundraising strategic plan, and one year of financial audits, delivered to the city by the end of the current fiscal year (June 30).

Stay Arts will also provide the city with bi-annual financial statements with details on revenue and quarterly reports that provide updates on attendance, programs, donors and fundraising expenditures. The organization must also remain apolitical.

In addition, several measurable outcomes were also imposed on Stay's side of the agreement, including having additional members on the Stay Arts Board who have experience in fundraising and nonprofit financial management, fundraising activities that generate at least 10% of Stay Arts 2024 Operating budget, and a documented increase in grant submissions.

The new agreement extends the life of Stay Gallery in downtown, which was in question as recently as November last year, when city council members tentatively agreed, albeit somewhat begrudgingly, to pay for the gallery's space one more year.

The city has covered the lease for the gallery since 2012, initially planning to do so for five years at \$2,000 a month in exchange for Stay Arts – then known as Downey Art Vibe – running the space and providing programming for the community. Several extensions and over a decade later, the city has provided Stay with a total \$375,838.

The city council approved the new agreement 4-0, with Mayor Mario Trujillo not participating due to a conflict of interest.

Bob Brazelton, former mayor who played key role in Downey's incorporation, dies at 94

By Eric Pierce
Editor

DOWNEY – Bob Brazelton, a former Downey mayor who played an integral role in the incorporation of Downey, has died. He was 94.

An attorney, Brazelton chaired the committee that drafted the original Downey city charter when Downey residents voted to incorporate in 1956.

He was elected to the Downey City Council in 1990 and served as mayor in 1993. He was re-elected to a second and final term in 1994.

Brazelton remained in Downey long after his retirement, volunteering with the Downey YMCA, Downey Los Amigos Kiwanis and Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church.

"It is with deep sadness that we mourn the passing of Bob Brazelton, a stalwart figure in the history of Downey," said Mayor Mario Trujillo. "His enduring impact and contributions to our City will be remembered and cherished by all who had the privilege of knowing him."

"Our heartfelt condolences go out to his family and friends during this difficult time."



Bob Brazelton was instrumental in Downey becoming an incorporated city in 1956. He died last week. (Photo by Eric Pierce)

No final decision on Furman Park field lights

A proposal to install lights at Furman Park's softball and baseball fields has divided residents.

By Alex Dominguez
Staff Writer

DOWNEY – Potential plans for additional lighting at the Furman Park baseball fields moved forward on Tuesday although a final decision on whether or not they will be installed is still months away.

According to a report by city staff, approximately four light poles would be added between the west end of both fields and the existing trees, with approximately five additional lights added between the outfield section of both fields and a new tee ball field, along the third base side of the northernmost field near new trees and along the first base side of the southernmost field.

While supporters of Northwest Downey Little League (which plays at Furman) and youth sports have come out in support of the lights for prolonged field access, residents living near the park and its fields have voiced concerns over privacy, parking and nuisance.

Councilwoman Claudia Frometa acknowledged both sides of the argument, emphasizing the need to "balance the need for safety."

"As we look at our parks, it is incumbent on this city council to listen to our residents, yes, but also to ensure that our parks have the proper lighting needed to ensure that our pedestrians, that our community residents

that are walking the trails feel safe," said Frometa.

She added that local sports teams should be the prioritized over travel ball teams for field use.

"This is our community park, and therefore the priority is going to be our community, and our community residents, and our community children," said Frometa. "There is no reason why they should be having to practice in Santa Fe Springs, or South Gate, or any other community when they are Downey leagues, and Downey residents."

"Furthermore, we will ensure that there is no travel ball teams playing in those fields...No, we won't be opening up for travel ball teams, because that is disruptive to our neighborhoods, where you have [games] January through December every single weekend; that does disrupt the lives of our community."

The lights would be a part of the Furman Park Stormwater Infiltration Project, which was added to the City's Capital Improvement Program (CIP) list as part of the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 budget. Plans for the potential lighting are still in the design phase, and no operational details – such as when the lights would be turned off each night – have been decided. The city is anticipating entering a resident feedback period later this year.

The entire Stormwater Infiltration Project is slated to begin early next year and conclude in 2026.



Trujillo confirms he is running for re-election

In a podcast interview, Mayor Mario Trujillo said he will seek a second term this fall.

By Alex Dominguez
Staff Writer

DOWNEY – Mayor Mario Trujillo has confirmed his intent to run for a second term.

While on the Nacho Said So Podcast this week, Trujillo – who is currently in the last year of his first term – was asked if he would pursue another four years on the city council.

"Yes, I've decided to run," said Trujillo. "I gave it a lot of thought, to be honest, because at first I had a really hard time dealing with all the politics – I'm going to leave it at that – of it all. I was just really disappointed in some areas."

Trujillo said it was "the new team" that swayed him to seek reelection.

"We have an entire new team – department heads across the board from city manager on down – and I'm really excited," said Trujillo. "Change is scary for some people, especially when you're doing well, right? If it's not broke, why fix it? But can you make it better? And I want to make it better."

Trujillo was elected in 2020 and selected as mayor for this year back in December. His first four years have focused primarily on what he calls his "BRASS plan," tackling infrastructure.

He was one of three councilmembers – alongside former councilmembers Sean Ashton and Catherine Alvarez – connected to the attempted dismissal of city manager Gilbert Livas in December 2021. Livas ultimately retired in June the following year.

Weekend at a Glance

Friday	72°	
Saturday	77°	
Sunday	78°	

ON THIS DAY

1858: The Wedding March by Felix Mendelssohn was played at the marriage of Queen Victoria's daughter, Victoria, and Friedrich of Prussia, and became a popular wedding processional.

1915: Alexander Graham Bell, in New York, spoke to Thomas Watson, in San Francisco, in the first transcontinental telephone call.

1924: The first Winter Olympics were held, hosted by Chamonix in the French Alps.

1937: The TV soap opera "The Guiding Light" premiered on NBC; the series would run until 2009.

1945: In an effort to prevent tooth decay, Grand Rapids, Michigan, became the first U.S. city to add fluoride to its water system.

1949: The first Emmy Awards were presented; there were only six categories, and nominated shows were limited to those that aired in the Los Angeles area.

1961: The animated film One Hundred and One Dalmatians was released in the United States, and it became a Disney classic, especially noted for the villainous character Cruella De Vil.

1964: University of Oregon track and field athletes founded apparel company Blue Ribbon Sports, which would later become Nike.

1971: Cult leader Charles Manson and three of his followers were convicted of a series of notorious murders.

1996: Convicted murderer Billy Bailey became the last person lawfully hanged in the United States.

2017: Mary Tyler Moore, who helped redefine the portrayal of women on TV with her roles in the comedies The Dick Van Dyke Show and The Mary Tyler Moore Show, died.

BIRTHDAYS

Actress and singer **JENNIFER LEWIS** (67), hockey hall of famer **CHRIS CHELIOS** (62), R&B singer **ALICIA KEYS** (43) and Brazilian soccer player **ROBINHO** (40).

Metro unveils new name for light rail project in Southeast L.A. County

■ The forthcoming Southeast Gateway Line will have a connection station in south Downey.

By Eric Pierce
Editor

DOWNEY – Following a six-month renaming contest that garnered more than 1,110 submissions and some 4,500 votes from southeast residents of L.A. County, Metro officials Monday unveiled the new name for the future transit line that will connect Vernon to Artesia.

Formerly known as the West Santa Ana Branch, the 14.5-mile light rail project was renamed as the Southeast Gateway Line and it's expected to open in 2035. Metro undertook the task of renaming the project

because the previous one caused confusion, as well as that it did not accurately reflect the people and cities the line will eventually serve.

"For far too long, this project had a terrible name," L.A. County Supervisor Janice Hahn, and a member of Metro's Board of Directors, said during a news conference Monday morning. "The West Santa Ana Branch ... has confused people for years."

The previous name had just stuck, Metro officials noted.

It had originated from an old transit corridor in the 1960's used by the Pacific Electric rail company that provided service from downtown L.A. to Watts, with a line turn southeast to a terminal station in the city of

Santa Ana in Orange County.

Hahn added, "The rail line isn't going to Santa Ana. It's east of most of the county, not even west. I believe this terrible name has held this project back and prevented it from not only getting the attention and support it needs from residents, but the funding that it needs from Sacramento and Washington, D.C."

Hahn said the Southeast Gateway Line will be an economic boon for businesses, create thousands of construction jobs, and change the lives of residents who live and work along the line.

"Nearly half of the residents in these neighborhoods that will be served by this line live below the poverty line, and one in five people are transit dependent," Hahn said. "These people are transit dependent, and they have wanted and hoped, and deserve good transportation alternatives in their communities."

Bellflower Mayor Dan Koops said that as they go about celebrating the new name of the project it's also important to remember the roots and where

it all started -- how the area was a mission outpost, of sorts, and people could commute from Bellflower to work in Los Angeles, or all the way in Santa Ana.

Rep. Robert Garcia, D-Long Beach, whose 42nd Congressional District includes Bellflower and other southeast cities, described the transit line as one of the "most important projects" in the county. The transit line will ensure there's economic stability and growth for the region, he added.

He also agreed with Hahn in that the previous name was doing it an injustice.

"When we were in (Washington) D.C. talking about the line, people would think it was in Orange County," Garcia said. "So, it really was confusing for folks to kind of understand where the line was. Lastly, I'll just say that this project is not going to get built without significant federal funding."

Metro Deputy CEO Sharon Gookin highlighted that the project will be the agency's largest light rail that will serve

more than a million people in the gateway cities. She emphasized a need for the transit agency to continue working with the cities the line will service.

L.A. County voters have contributed to the project about \$4 billion through Measure M, a half-cent sales tax that voters approved in 2016. Gookin added current funding puts Metro in a good position to be competitive for state and federal grants.

In the coming months, the Board of Directors will take steps to certify the project's environmental document to prepare the line for the next phase of engineering. Metro will engage with the state and Biden administration in attempts to secure more funding.

"This project is Metro's top priority for federal funding. It's our board's top priority, and it's a huge priority for the million plus people who call the gateway cities home," Gookin said.

Names for the project that were not chosen include the Esperanza Line, the Tongva Line and the Pioneer Line. Though not selected, Hahn had thrown

out the idea that those names may be used for the stations built across the line.

Ultimately, Metro will partner with cities where stations will be built to select the names for those stations.

Thrift store holding jewelry sale

DOWNEY – Second Tyme Around Thrift Shoppe, owned by Assistance League of Downey, will hold a special jewelry sale beginning at 5 pm on Thursday, Feb. 8.

The sale will feature a large offering of estate jewelry, earrings, rings, and necklaces, including costume, vintage and .925 silver.

Revenue from sales support Assistance League's philanthropic programs in the community, including Operation School Bell which provides school appropriate clothing for children in need in grades K through 8th in the Downey Unified School District.

The thrift store is located at 11026 Downey Ave.

BULLETIN BOARD

Paging Dr. Frischer...

By Dr. Alan Frischer

It will soon be four (long) years since the COVID-19 pandemic began. We have learned a lot since those early days, including what the virus looks like, its method of transmission, how it mutates, and how to prevent its spread. We have a vaccine to help prevent or minimize infection. We even have a medication that is very good at treating it. However, aspects of it remain an enigma – in some patients, it leads to unusual, debilitating, and long-term medical problems: Long COVID.

Has there ever been a medical condition that has become so controversial and so politicized? As a doctor in this wonderful community, my goal here is to clarify just what actions we can take from here, in order to best keep all

of us safe.

Almost one out of four people in Los Angeles County currently has a respiratory infection from COVID, flu, RSV (respiratory syncytial virus) or the usual cold and bronchitis bugs. Yes; right now, there are a number of major viruses affecting a very large percentage of the people you and I interact with every day. Note that, while many assume that COVID is just like the flu, it is very likely that mortality from COVID still far exceeds the flu. In addition, COVID is more contagious than the flu. And, COVID can lead to some unique complications, including blood clots, multisystem inflammatory syndrome (which can affect the heart, lungs, kidneys, brain, skin, eyes and gastrointestinal system), and long-term symptoms.

The number of COVID cases has put us at the "medium" level of hospital admissions. From the start,



the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health has provided guidance. They strongly encourage (but do not mandate) the following recommendations:

1) Keep current on your COVID vaccinations. An updated vaccine was approved in September and is recommended for practically everyone. Any older vaccination has likely worn off, or will not be

effective against the current strains. Vaccinations decrease the risk for infection, and will definitely make your infection milder.

2) Consider masking indoors when you will be within six feet of others.

3) Do not go out in public if you have respiratory symptoms, or at least wear a mask if going out is unavoidable! Whether it is

COVID or one of the other disagreeable germs being passed around, please don't share your illness with others. I urge you to consider that even if your own symptoms are mild, an older or immunosuppressed person could become much sicker from those very same germs.

4) If you develop symptoms, get a COVID test. Reach out to your physician. You may be a good candidate

for Paxlovid, or another appropriate treatment, depending on your diagnosis.

This post-holiday spike in respiratory infections is all over the news. A reminder: flu also has a very effective vaccine (recommended for almost everybody), as does RSV (recommended for those aged 65 and older). Who among us wants to be stuck in bed (or worse) with any of these unpleasant diseases?

Dr. Alan Frischer is former chief of staff and former chief of medicine at Downey Regional Medical Center. Write to him in care of this newspaper at 10927 Downey Ave., Suite C, Downey, CA 90241.

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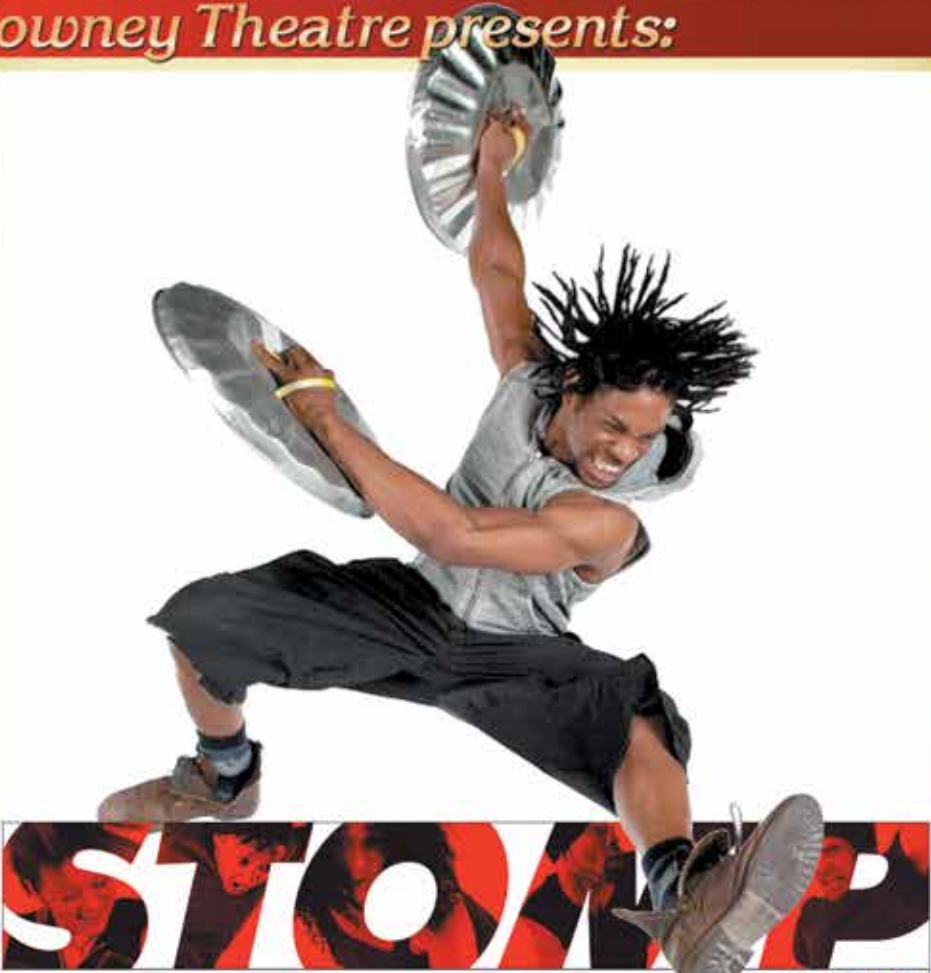
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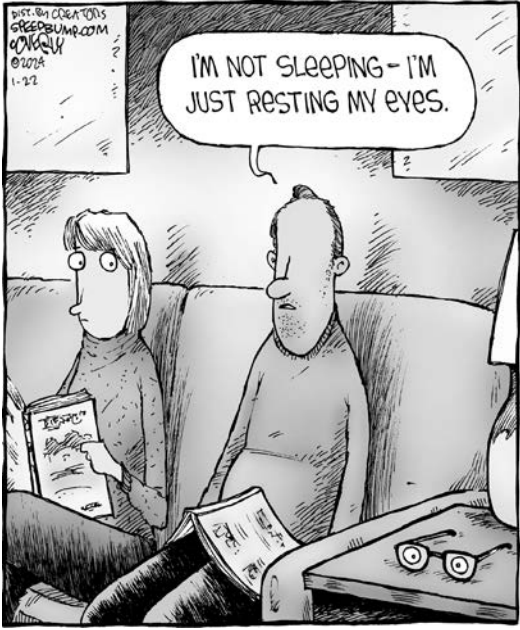
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STOMP
STOMP is explosive, sophisticated, utterly unique and appeals to audiences of all ages. The return of the percussive hit also brings some new surprises, with some sections of the show now updated and restructured and the addition of two new full-scale routines, utilizing props like tractor tire inner tubes and paint cans.
STOMP - See what all the noise is about.
8:00PM Wednesday, February 28th & Thursday, February 29th
 8435 Firestone Blvd., Downey CA 90241
 Box Office (562) 861-8211
 www.downeytheatre.org

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.
 1st Tues., 7:30 pm: Downey Amateur Radio Club, EOC room Downey Fire Station #1, 12222 Paramount Blvd.
 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.
 9 am: Quilters Group, at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, call 803-4459.
 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.
 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.
 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.
 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.
 2nd Sat., 9-11 am: Free pancake breakfast, at Trinity Baptist Church in Downey, 8219 Florence Ave.

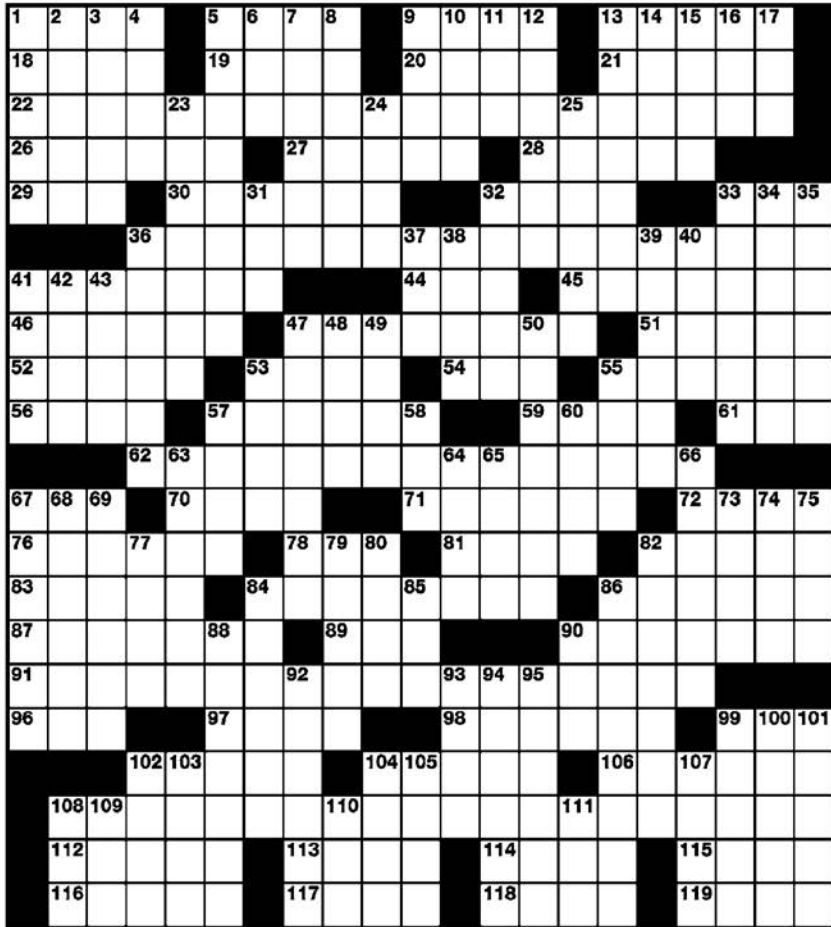
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THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com)
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 by Billie Truitt

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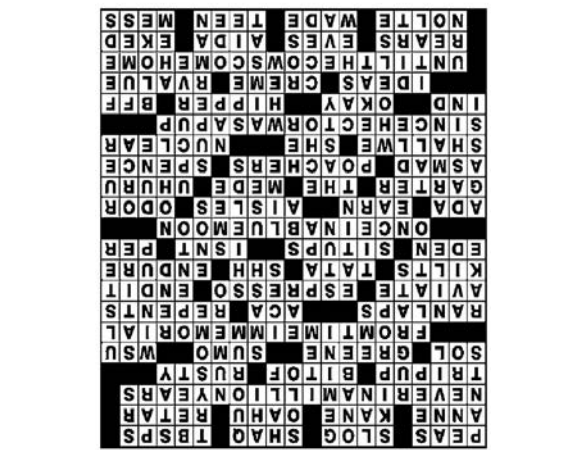
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 82 Graph's rising trend
 84 Glimpse
 85 What to call a catamaran
 86 DC Comics hero
 88 "Didn't it have to be me?"
 90 Short break of a sort
 92 Nut butter variety
 93 "What a relief!"
 94 Points toward
 95 Metallic money
 99 British guy
 100 Is irate
 101 Cooks for
 102 Angled typeface: Abbr.
 103 Garden soil
 104 Looped in via email
 105 Stood up
 107 "If I may interrupt..."
 108 Caterer's coffeepot
 109 Prefix meaning "recent"
 110 Actress Longoria
 111 Poetic homage

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You can contact puzzle editor Stanley Newman at his e-mail address: StanXwords@aol.com. Or write him at P.O. Box 69, Massapequa Park, NY 11762, Please send a self-addressed, stamped envelope if you'd like a reply.

The standard ring in SUMO (32 Across) measures about 15 feet in diameter, with a border of rice straw. HECTOR (91 Across) refers to the hero of the Trojan War, hence many centuries ago. The "R" of R-VALUE in insulation (106 Across) stands for its thermal resistance per unit of area.



Millennials need our help

The cards are stacked against Millennials but there are ways to ease the burden.

By Jill Filipovic

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

Millennials, as you've probably heard, have gotten pretty screwed.

By some accounts, we're the most educated generation in American history, but also underwater with educational debt. We haven't amassed the kind of wealth our parents had at our age, and it's unclear whether we'll ever catch up. We've been slower to purchase homes in part because Baby Boomers won't sell theirs, and so we're throwing our hard-earned cash away on skyrocketing rents, which in turn puts saving for a 20% down payment further out of reach. We're so financially stressed that we can't afford to have kids, and by staying childless we're breaking our Boomer parents' hearts.

I wrote an entire book on the plight of Millennials, on the many advantages Boomers enjoyed and then hoarded for themselves, and what Boomers and Millennials alike don't understand about each other. There is much doom and gloom to be found in nearly all of the reporting about Millennial life, and things aren't looking much better for Gen Z and younger generations. But there are also tremendous opportunities. American Boomers enjoyed unprecedented wealth and opportunity not just out of sheer luck or even sheer numbers, but because the government made unprecedented investments in them: in their education, in their health, in their ability to live independently.

Our country could do the same for Millennials. It may, frankly, be too little, too late for many of us. But it could ensure that the Millennial generation is an unfortunate aberration, and that future generations return to a path of prosperity and upward mobility.

The "how to fix it" list could itself fill an entire book. But here are three priorities:

Make higher education much more affordable

One of the more troubling shifts of the past American decade has been the broad loss of faith in higher education. While 74% of young adults a decade ago agreed that a college degree is very important, only 41% say the same today. Nearly half of Gen Zers say that a high school diploma or GED is sufficient to ensure financial security. And they were the least likely among generations to say that colleges and universities are having a positive effect "on the way things are going in this country today."

Perhaps unsurprisingly, a smaller proportion of high schoolers are continuing on to college. It's a decline not seen around the rest of the developed world, where higher education is expanding. At its core, this uniquely American rejection of higher education seems to be about value: Given all we've heard about how even well-educated Millennials struggle financially, the price tag on a degree in the US just doesn't seem worth it.

The truth is, of course, more complicated. A college degree does mean, on average, significantly better wages, and graduates of elite universities do best of all. Those higher wages, though, can be offset by debt. And people who take out loans to go to college but don't graduate see the worst of both worlds: lower wages and higher debt.

Jobs that require a college degree are also likely to remain higher-paying, while those that do not seem to be in a race to the wage bottom. Life for Americans without a college degree has become more perilous by a range of measures: This is the group most likely to perish from "deaths of despair" and to live in communities rife with alcoholism, substance abuse and financial struggle. And American economic growth and global competitiveness both require a workforce with plenty of college graduates.

This is not a problem that one-time student loan forgiveness is going to solve. We need massive state and federal investment in education: in higher education, to make college much more affordable, and in K-12 education, to ensure that where a child grows up doesn't limit her prospects for college and beyond. The federal government needs to regulate the student loan industry and end the proliferation of predatory and exploitative for-profit



educational institutions. Not every student needs to go to an Ivy League school, but every student should have access to an affordable, high-quality four-year education near their homes.

This is largely a solved problem across Europe. We could make it happen here in the US, too. Doing so would benefit young adults, of course, who could graduate without the weight of five- or six-figure debt weighing them down from the start. But it would also benefit the nation as a whole, equipping us with a more sophisticated workforce better prepared for the technological evolutions of the coming decades.

Provide universal low-cost child care

From my vantage point, the single highest barrier to Millennial economic stability is child care. Millennials are now squarely within childbearing age, and while many of us are forgoing children, most of us are or will be parents - but we're having fewer children than women of previous generations, and we're having them later. The reasons behind that are complex, but cost is certainly among them: The United States has some of the highest child care costs in the world.

And that isn't because American kids are getting better-than-average care; it's because our government simply doesn't invest in it. The US government spends, on average, \$500 per child per year on early childhood care costs. The average spent among OECD countries is \$14,436.

Affordable, high-quality, universal child care helps mothers, and particularly low-income mothers, to stay in the workforce, which pays dividends for their families. Child care programs help to prepare kids for school and may keep them more active and socially engaged. As it stands, screens have become a stopgap measure for poor families, with kids in low-income households spending many more hours looking at them than kids in more affluent ones - something that was exacerbated during the pandemic.

Social conservatives often prefer that mothers leave the labor force and stay home with their children, which is one reason there has been such broad resistance to universal child care on the American right. The demand that women stay home seems to be based more on nostalgia and gender traditionalism than evidence, of which there's plenty, that working mothers bring significant benefits to their children, to themselves and to national economies.

The reality, for many American families, isn't a well-paid dad who can support a family on a single income and a mom whose primary aspiration is to dedicate herself to raising children, were it not for manipulative feminists and scheming liberals who pressure her into the workforce. Much more often, reality is a complicated mix of mothers who want many sources of purpose and gratification, as well as the freedom and pride that financial independence brings; couples who need two incomes in order to raise their children in financial stability; and single moms who are the only person bringing home the bacon.

All of these groups would benefit hugely from free or affordable child care. It would radically decrease the stress American parents live under, it would enable parents to provide a higher standard of living for their children and it would give children a leg up.

It might also make having a child, or having an additional child, feel possible for a greater number of young people.

End the housing shortage

America's housing system is broken, and not just because so many Millennials can't afford homes. Millennials drove re-urbanization as many of us graduated college and moved to cities instead of returning to the small towns or suburban enclaves in which we were raised. But those cities simply don't have enough housing units, especially affordable rentals for low-income people or starter homes (and even starter apartments) for those taking a big step into adult life. This housing shortage has expanded out into the suburbs and even rural areas.

This wasn't the case for Boomers, in large part because the government invested in a massive expansion of housing stock during their early years. The federal government could do the same now, expanding tax credits and voucher programs. Cities could embrace growth and build, and tax homeowners who do not live in or rent out their units. States could expand aid to first-time homebuyers, ideally lowering closing costs for real estate purchases and making that so-hard-to-amass 20% down payment more doable.

And this is very pie-in-the-sky, but the US is far overdue for a total overhaul in property taxation. We are vastly over-reliant on property taxes for government revenue, which poses a big problem for homeowners who are just scraping by, as well as for retirees who may have paid off their homes but still owe a hefty tax bill every year. Property tax costs are inevitably passed down to renters, who also wind up paying more. And local property taxes, in turn, contribute to wildly unequal funding schemes for public schools, the outcome of which is that the kids in the richest enclaves also enjoy the best public educations - better-paid teachers, nicer facilities, smaller classes, updated textbooks, advanced science equipment, college and mental health counselors - while kids in poorer areas receive far less investment and far fewer educational resources.

This, too, hurts young families, who may spend beyond their means to get their kids in to a decent school district, or who see their children's opportunities drastically diminished simply because a parent doesn't make enough to move to a tony neighborhood. And it hurts children, who are, after all, future adults, keeping those who already come from challenging backgrounds at an even greater disadvantage, while giving the best-off an additional leg up. That's fuel for growing inequality, and a compounding of the problems Millennials face for future generations.

There is much more than should be - could be, must be - done to help Millennials and the generations after us achieve the American dream (or at least financial stability). But there's no time to waste. The oldest Millennials are in our early 40s, and the window to improve our future is rapidly narrowing. We may indeed wind up left behind. But the US can also refuse to repeat these mistakes and instead choose to invest in something better for the generations that come next.

Why student loan forgiveness is immoral

Dear Editor:

The recent President Biden approval of additional \$4.8 billion in student debt relief for 80,300 borrowers in offensive and immoral.

It is immoral because it is telling young people that it is OK to get into debt and not to have to pay it. What kind of morals values are we teaching these young people?

It is offensive to those of us who made many sacrifices and worked very hard so that our children could graduate from college debt-free.

The relief amounts to about \$60,000 per student. My two children attended private universities, Florida Tech my son and St John's University in New York my daughter, and graduated debt-free.

If justice is to prevail, I have more merits than the student debt borrowers, and should also benefit from President Biden's generosity and receive a refund of \$120,000. That would only be fair and reasonable.

Jorge Montero
Downey

Homophobic comments

Dear Editor:

I usually hold my breath before opening the Downey Patriot opinion section. While I am proud of having a local newspaper and I appreciate the hard work that goes into this effort, I also wonder who or how the comments are vetted.

In a few sentences Mr. Jorge Montero was able to offend all women by calling their bodies "women's charms." He also managed to spout homophobic offenses, calling displays of gay love as "harmful to children" and "not normal."

A simple phone call asking him to tone down the hate and misogyny would not have taken more than five minutes.

And for the record, I'd like to answer his question asking if he is "normal." I'd say that is impossible to answer and entirely subjective. I will say, based on his comments, that he is certainly not kind.

M. Padilla
Downey

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is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.
NOTICE OF HEARING
Date: FEBRUARY 5, 2024, Time: 9:30 a.m., Department: 26, Room: 316
The address of the court is 111 NORTH HILL STREET, LOS ANGELES, CA 90012
A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once a week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in the county, **The Downey Patriot** DECEMBER 28, 2023
ELAINE LU
Judge of the Superior Court
Petitioner or Attorney for Petitioner
ROSARIA MINOZZI
11410 DOLAN AV. #328
DOWNEY CA 90241
(562) 972-4792
smminoZZi@outlook.com

newspaper of general circulation, printed in the county, **Downey Patriot** JANUARY 8, 2024
JUDGE OLIVIA ROSALES
Judge of the Superior Court
Petitioner or Attorney for Petitioner
ANTONIO PORTILLO LOPEZ JR
10216 LAKEWOOD LN
DOWNEY CA 90242
(310) 877-1399
tlopez@lawa.org

interest thereon, as provided in said note(s), advances, under the terms of said Deed of Trust, fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created 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 \$495,855.89. The beneficiary under said Deed of Trust heretofore executed and delivered to the undersigned a written Declaration of Default and Demand for Sale, and a written Notice of Default and Election to Sell. The undersigned caused said Notice of Default and Election 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 833-561-0243 for information regarding the trustee's sale or visit this Internet Web site WWW.SALES.BDFGROUP.COM for information regarding the sale of this property, using the file number assigned to this case 0000009880766. 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: 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 833-561-0243, or visit this internet website WWW.SALES.BDFGROUP.COM using the file number assigned to this case 0000009880766 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 TRUSTEE SALE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL: 833-561-0243 WWW.SALES.BDFGROUP.COM BARRETT DAFIN FRAPPIER TREDER and WEISS, LLP IS ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. BARRETT DAFIN FRAPPIER TREDER and WEISS, LLP as Trustee 3990 E. Concourse Street, Suite 350 Ontario, CA 91764 (866) 795-1852 Dated: 01/22/2024 A-4807549 01/25/2024, 02/01/2024, 02/08/2024

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TRUSTEE SALES

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE Trustee Sale No. : 0000009880766 Title Order No.: 230392172 FHA/VA/PMI No.: 197-8971441-703 YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST, DATED 03/10/2020. 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. BARRETT DAFIN FRAPPIER TREDER and WEISS, LLP, as duly appointed Trustee under and pursuant to Deed of Trust Recorded on 03/17/2020 as Instrument No. 20200310833 of official records in the office of the County Recorder of LOS ANGELES County, State of CALIFORNIA. EXECUTED BY: RAUL CRUZ, A SINGLE MAN, WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH, CASHIER'S CHECK/ CASH EQUIVALENT or other form of payment authorized by California Civil Code 2924h(b), (payable at time of sale in lawful money of the United States). DATE OF SALE: 03/01/2024 TIME OF SALE: 11:00 AM PLACE OF SALE: BY THE FOUNTAIN LOCATED AT 400 CIVIC CENTER PLAZA, POMONA, CA 91766. STREET ADDRESS and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 10431 LESTERFORD AVENUE, DOWNEY, CALIFORNIA 90241 APNE, 6287-004-007 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. Said sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by said Deed of Trust, with

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THE DOWNEY PATRIOT
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SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME
CASE NUMBER: 24NWCP00009
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner ANTONIO PORTILLO LOPEZ JR filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
Present name (1) ANTONIO PORTILLO LOPEZ JR to Proposed name (1) TONY LOPEZ JR.
THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.
NOTICE OF HEARING
Date: MARCH 4, 2024, 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



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California offers down payment help to first time homebuyers

■ State assistance up to \$150,000 is available for qualifying first-time homebuyers.

By Eric Pierce
Editor

DOWNEY – California will give out \$250 million in down payment assistance this spring as it relaunches its widely popular program aimed at helping first-time homebuyers.

Last year, the Dream for All program started with \$300 million and it all ran out in just 11 days.

This year, the California Housing Finance Agency made changes aimed at reaching a more diverse group of borrowers across the state. This time, instead of the program launching on a first-come, first-serve basis, there will be a lottery.

How does the down payment assistance lottery work?

“The next round of the California Dream For All shared appreciation loan program will be focused on first-generation homebuyers and use a lottery system to ensure an equitable distribution of loans,” read a statement from the department. “Interested homebuyers can get started working with an approved loan officer or approved lender now in preparation to submit applications in April for the lottery.”

The state will give up to 20% of the purchase price, or \$150,000, whichever is lower. The loan will then be paid back, plus a share of the home’s appreciation whenever it sells in the future.

Officials estimate is between 1,700 and 2,000 lottery winners will receive vouchers and will then have 60 days to spend on a home.

Chris Aziz, a Downey-based



loan officer who assists with Dream For All applications, urged interested homebuyers to apply quickly.

“Get pre-qualified as soon as possible because the program only lasted two weeks last time,” Aziz said. “You really need to be ready to buy something and submit all necessary documentation immediately to reserve funds.”

It’s unclear if the state will allocate more funds after the \$250 million is depleted. Even so, Aziz said there are other programs available to help with down payments, including CalHFA, Chenoa and FHA, which requires only a 3.5% down payment.

“Depending on the area you are looking or living in, there are grants available to promote homeownership,” Aziz said.

For questions about the Dream For All program, call Chris Aziz at (562) 846-6986.

Library silent auction ends Saturday

DOWNEY – The Friends of the Downey City Library hold a silent auction fundraiser each month and bids close at 12 p.m. on the last Saturday of the month. This month’s auction will close on Saturday, January 27.

In addition to in-person bids, they also accept telephonic bids at (562) 299-6790. Winner need not be present to win. All proceeds pay for library programs and services.

1. 30-Second Philosophies: The 50 Most Thought-Provoking Philosophies, Each Explained in Half a Minute, edited by Barry Loewer. A little philosophy is a good idea. With these pages you’ll find some of the most intriguing, clever, and astonishing ideas ever entertained by mankind. Dip in and find out! Minimum bid: \$10

2. 30-Second Math: The 50 Most Mind-Expanding Theories in Mathematics, Each Explained in Half a Minute, edited by Richard Brow. It is said that mathematics is the art of pure reason. It is the fundamentally logical structure of all that exists, and all that doesn’t exist, in this reality of ours. Read at your own pace, and discover that math can be more fascinating than you ever imagined. Minimum bid: \$10

3. 30-Second Politics: The 50 Most Thought-Provoking Theories in Politics, edited by Steven L. Taylor. This book challenges political theorists of all colors to come up with no-frill, no-spin, tell-it-like-it-is explanations of the 50 most important political -isms, -archies, and -ocracies that have pertained since the time of Periclean Athens. Minimum bid: \$10

4. The Nature Companions Practical Skywatching, edited by David H. Levy, et al. The perfect guide to observing the night sky from your own backyard. It also serves a comprehensive source of reference of the planets, using telescopes, solar eclipses, constellations, meteors & comets, and moon maps. Minimum bid: \$10

5. The History of American Graffiti, by Roger Gastman and Caleb Neelon. Here is the definitive story behind the most influential art form of the last 100 years. Tracing its evolution from its early freight-train days, to its big-city boom, and its modern-day influences. With more than 1,000 photographs, this book captures the look and feel of a genuine American art form with exceptional clarity and detail. Minimum bid: \$75

6. Roadside America: The Automobile and the American Dream, by Lucinda Lewis. A photographic survey of American cars takes a nostalgic look at the nation’s history and folklore as seen from the perspective of its automobiles, from neon-lit diners and drive-in movie theaters to last-stop gas stations and Route 66 attractions. Minimum bid: \$20

7. The Flight of Dragons, by Peter Dickinson. 1979 copy.

Recreates the dragons of ancient myth and legend, showing how they flew, breathed fire, mated, hatched their young, hoarded gold and precious stones, and defended themselves. Note: book shows slight age-related foxing on page edges. Minimum bid: \$20

8. 100 Years of American Newspaper Comics, by Maurice Horn. An extraordinary celebration of one of America’s great popular art forms. In this definitive volume, the alphabetical sections include individual listings for every important strip in the history of newspaper comics. The ultimate reference book! Minimum bid: \$12

Parks & Recreation hiring part-time workers

DOWNEY – Downey’s Parks and Recreation Department is hosting a recruitment expo as it looks to hire part-time workers for year-round and seasonal positions.

The hiring expo is scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 3, at the Barbara J. Riley Community Center from 1-3:30 pm for walk-ins.

Positions are available in aquatics, facilities, office/front counter, camps and youth programs.

For more information, visit downeyca.org/pr or call Parks and Recreation at (562) 904-7223.

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SOLD FOR \$732,000




SOLD IN 7 DAYS!

- 3 BD | 2 BA
- 1,471 sq ft living space
- 7,572 sq ft lot
- Large living room
- Spacious den with fireplace
- Bonus room attached to garage

LIST PRICE \$699,900

COMING SOON



DOWNY POOL HOME!

- 3 beds | 1.75 bath
- Den
- Pool + lots of grassy area!

CALL ME FOR DEATILS!

JUST LISTED



NEAR DOWNY PIH

- 2 BD | 1 BA
- 959 sq ft | 5,683 sq ft lot
- New kitchen and bath
- Medical and office use allowed

LIST PRICE: \$674,950

WHO'S YOUR REALTOR?



I CAN LIST AND SELL YOUR HOME TOO. CALL ME TODAY!

562 367-9520

MARIO DID IT AGAIN!



MARIO DID IT AGAIN!

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ADELANTO ANAHEIM ANAHEIM HILLS ARTESIA BELL BELLFLOWER BREA CERRITOS CLAREMONT COMPTON EASTVALE FULLERTON HUNTINGTON BEACH LA HABRA LAKE FOREST LOS ANGELES LONG BEACH 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MISSION VIEJO LAKEWOOD NORWALK PICO RIVERA SANTA ANA SANTA MARIA SOUTH GATE WESTMINSTER WHITTIER YORBA LINDA BELL GARDENS FONTANA LAGUNA HILLS MAYWOOD MONTEBELLO SANTA FE SPRINGS TUSTIN
--	---

SOLD IN OVER 30 CITIES

IN ESCROW





SOLD IN 6 DAYS!

- 3 bedrooms
- 2 bathrooms
- 2,394 sq ft living space
- 8,325 sq ft lot
- Formal living room
- Den with wet bar
- Spacious bedrooms

LIST PRICE \$799,000

IN ESCROW



DOWNY INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY!

- Industrial site in the heart of Downey!
- 2 buildings 4700+ sq ft
- 38,000+ lot

LIST PRICE: \$2,399,999

FOR SALE



WOW, WHAT A VALUE?!

- 2 BD | 2.5 BA
- 1,239 sq ft living space
- Living room w/fireplace
- 2 car attached garage

LIST PRICE: \$585,000

LIVE REAL ESTATE CLASSES

SIGN UP TODAY!

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NOW IS A GOOD TIME TO SELL!

LOTS OF BUYERS + LOW INVENTORY = TOP DOLLAR FOR YOUR HOME!

CARMELA "CARRIE" UVA
 Downey Born, Raised & Educated!
 Selling Downey Homes for 30 years!

125 REVIEWS

 Angelo & Marie Picarelli
PICARELLI

FOR SALE



CUSTOM BUILT N.E. DOWNY

- 4 beds | 5 baths
- 4,610 sq ft living space
- 10,729 sq ft lot
- Backyard with pool/spa
- Covered patio & BBQ

LIST PRICE: \$2,399,950

THE MICHAEL BERDELIS TEAM
562-818-6111

JUST LISTED



A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO OWN A CHARMING MONTICELLO TOWNHOME!

- 2 BD | 2 BA
- 1,244 sq. ft.
- Spacious living room
- 2 car attached garage

LIST PRICE \$780,000

PAMLEEALTOR@GMAIL.COM

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DOWNY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT'S

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION EXPO

When: February 7, 2024
 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Where: Doty Middle School
 10301 Woodruff Avenue



FREE EVENT

LIVE STUDENT-LED DEMONSTRATIONS

ROBOTICS, CODING, TECH SQUADS, MUSIC, INNOVATION LABS, ART GALLERY, STEAM AND MORE!

RSVP TODAY | WEB.DUSD.NET/EDUEXPO

