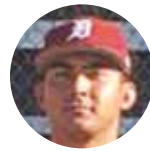




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Latina advocate
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DFCU food packing
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Space Shuttle Challenger disaster relived in Downey play

APRIL 22
City of STEM Science Festival
DATE: Saturday, April 22
TIME: 9 am
LOCATION: Columbia Memorial Space Center

Cops & Kids Day
DATE: Saturday, April 22
TIME: 11 am
LOCATION: Furman Park

Miss Downey Pageant
DATE: Saturday, April 22
TIME: 5 pm
LOCATION: Downey Civic Theatre

APRIL 26
State of the City
DATE: Wednesday, April 26
TIME: 11:30 am
LOCATION: Rio Hondo Event Center

APRIL 27
A discussion with Joel Tator
DATE: Friday, April 27
TIME: 7:30 pm
LOCATION: Barbara J. Riley Community Center

APRIL 28
Defying Gravity
DATE: Friday, April 28
TIME: 8 pm
LOCATION: Columbia Memorial Space Center

APRIL 29
Carnival of Champions
DATE: Saturday, April 29
TIME: 8 am
LOCATION: Warren High School

Electronic waste collection
DATE: Saturday, April 29
TIME: 9 am
LOCATION: Stonewood Center

Prescription drug take-back
DATE: Saturday, April 29
TIME: 10 am
LOCATION: Downey Police Station

MAY 5
Casino Night fundraiser
DATE: Friday, May 5
TIME: 6:30 pm
LOCATION: Rio Hondo Event Center

MAY 7
Downey Ride & Stride
DATE: Sunday, May 7
TIME: 10 am
LOCATION: Various parts of Downey

Downey Street Faire
DATE: Sunday, May 7
TIME: 10 am
LOCATION: Downey Avenue, between Phlox and Stewart & Gray

MAY 12
Family Stone live in concert
DATE: Friday, May 12
TIME: 8 pm
LOCATION: Downey Civic Theatre

MAY 13
GENTRI live in concert
DATE: Saturday, May 13
TIME: 8 pm
LOCATION: Downey Civic Theatre

JUNE 2-4
Downey Greek Festival
DATE: June 2-4
TIME: 10 am
LOCATION: St. George Greek Orthodox Church

"DEFYING GRAVITY"
Director: Lana Wahlquist
Asst. Director: Alistair Hunter
Producer: Andrew Wahlquist
Co-Producer: Rebecca Lane
Cast: Kerry Wieder, Bianca Meiloaica, Daniel Houston-Davila, Peggy Painton, Zach Johnson-Dunlop, Jaime Soria, Forrest Hartl
Running time: 90 minutes
Performances: April 28-30, May 5-6, May 12-14
Tickets: \$20, and \$15 for students, downeyarts.org



Zach Johnson-Dunlop plays a mechanic on the NASA ground crew, Jaime Soria is Donna, a local bartender, and Bianca Meiloaica is daughter Elizabeth in the 2014 production of "Defying Gravity." Photo by Carol Kearns

By Carol Kearns Contributor

DOWNEY – The magic of live theater under the stars returns to Downey with an eight-night run of the Broadway play "Defying Gravity" at the outdoor amphitheater of the Columbia Memorial Space Center. Performances are scheduled over three weekends, from April 28 through May 14.

This sensitive and inspiring drama about the tragic outcome of the 1986 Challenger space shuttle mission is presented as part of the Space Center's City of STEM Science Festival, promoting student interest in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

While the subject of the play is the shuttle explosion after liftoff and the loss of the crew, the message is an affirmation of human courage and the quest for knowledge. Playwright Jane Anderson is an Emmy-winning writer whose themes of exploration, sacrifice, and risk remain relevant as modern society contemplates commercial space travel and sending people to Mars.

The 1986 disaster was a pivotal chapter in U.S. aerospace history. The Challenger mission had sparked renewed interest by the public in space travel because it carried the first civilian crew member, teacher and mother Christa McAuliffe. Schools had organized special science lessons and thousands of students were watching on live TV.

The Downey venue has special relevance for this California production. The Space Center occupies land that was once the site of the former North American/Rockwell plant which played a major role in the development of both the Apollo space program and the space shuttle.

Director Lana Wahlquist, who teaches theater at Cerritos College, recalls being captivated by the Space Center as a possible theater venue when she first visited.

"I knew I wanted to do a play there as soon as I saw the area out back," she explains. "It's a beautiful, small theater." She and her husband Andrew, who is serving as producer, began a search for appropriate plays and found Anderson's "Defying Gravity."

"From the moment we read it," she said, "we thought this is it, we've got to do this play about the Challenger."

With an extremely creative set design and multi-media features, the play was first presented three years ago in Downey to sold-out crowds, with playwright Anderson attending for a special Q&A session on the closing night.

Like many adults their age, the Wahlquists both have similar childhood memories of the day of the disaster.

Andrew, who grew up near the Rockwell aerospace plant and was only eight years old at the time, shares, "I don't recall if I saw it live, but I was aware of it right away. I have the image in my mind of the smoke trail burned on TV."

"I remember it as being very tragic and momentous," says Lana, who was seven at the time. "I heard everyone talking about it."

Downey hosts academy for aspiring firefighters

DOWNEY – The 43rd annual California Fire Exploring Academy, featuring more than 150 aspiring firefighters, is being held in Downey this week.

The academy opened Monday, with fire explorers ranging in age from 16-20, along with 80 firefighter advisors from fire departments throughout California and Nevada, in attendance.

Downey High School is hosting the academy, which is being put on by the fire departments of Downey, Montebello and Santa Fe Springs.

The fire academy is a division of Learning for Life and the Boy Scouts of America. Participating cadets spend their spring break training on firefighting instruction and hands-on training in vehicle extrication, wildland firefighting, fire ground survival, structural firefighting and "old fashioned muster."

After receiving an invitation to make the play part of the STEM Science Festival, Wahlquist said, "I agreed to it pretty quickly, and it turned out the rest of the cast felt like I did. The show was really special when we first did it, so the opportunity to do it again and reach more of the community is something we'd hoped for." He said all but one of the cast will be returning for this repeat presentation.

Gerald Blackburn, retired Rockwell engineer and former president of the Aerospace Legacy Foundation, reports that a post-performance Q&A session is also planned for opening and closing nights.

Blackburn's memories of the tragic day are from the personal perspective of his intimate connection with the space program.

"I was at my office in Downey on my way to a meeting," he recalls. "I stopped by a TV monitor showing the countdown and watched with several other engineers. We knew immediately that the failure was catastrophic and we had lost the crew. I continued to the meeting and spent the next two years making sure it didn't happen again."

"Defying Gravity" is a powerful play because of its subject matter, but producer Wahlquist hopes that people who attend the show will also take away "a feeling of spending an evening in a circle of friends."

Wahlquist sees theater as "a shared cultural language." Even though there is no longer an aerospace plant in Downey, "theater is a way to tell these stories to the next generation, trying to capture for them, and for us, what it felt like on the day the Challenger exploded."

Downey resident Alicia Edquist, who saw the play twice in 2014, shares Wahlquist's view and says she will be bringing her eight-year-old daughter to a performance this time.

Anderson's characters give voice to the hope and dreams guiding mankind's urge to explore. Kerry Wieder returns to play the Teacher, who is modeled after civilian crew member McAuliffe. The daughter Elizabeth (Bianca Meiloaica) is at first frustrated with having to share her mother for astronaut training.

An elderly tourist couple (Daniel Houston-Davila, Peggy Painton) are astronaut fans who drive out to watch the launch live. A NASA engineer (Zach Johnson-Dunlop) blames himself for the explosion, while local bartender Donna (Jaime Soria) tries to keep herself together.

Forrest Hartl will play the artist Monet, a character who muses about art and religion and offers a historical and philosophical perspective on man's desire to see the Earth from on high.

The production company is committed to keeping tickets affordable says Wahlquist - \$20 general seating, and \$15 for students and members of the Space Center.

To purchase tickets, go to ColumbiaSpaceScience.org or call (562) 231-1200. The Columbia Memorial Space Center is at 12300 Columbia Way, Downey, CA 90241.

For more questions, go to DowneyArts.org.

Weekend at a Glance

Friday 92°

Saturday 88°

Sunday 80°

THINGS TO DO



Science Festival

Saturday - Columbia Memorial Space Center, 10 am

More than two dozen STEM exhibitors, including SpaceX and Natural History Museum. Free admission.



Earth Day Bike Ride

Saturday - Ford Park, 9 am

Roundtrip bicycle ride along the L.A. River with local politicians and community members.



Top Rank Boxing

Saturday - StubHub Center, 8 pm

Pay-per-view boxing featuring Top Rank's stable of fighters. Headlined by unbeaten champ Oscar Valdez.



Freestyle Festival

Saturday - Queen Mary, 2 pm

Live performances by Bell Biv DeVoe, Lisa Lisa, Naughty By Nature, Rob Base, and more.



L.A. Times Festival of Books

All Weekend - USC

The nation's largest literary festival, with 500-plus authors, musicians, chefs, artists and celebrities.

TWEETS OF THE WEEK

@LukeFontana: I wish people would post their Coachella photos.

@CloudiesCano: The first ever @DCPTAColorAthon was so much fun! Hope you joined the fun! #PTA #pta4kids @CaliforniaPTA @DowneyPatriot

Follow us! @DowneyPatriot

KIDS & COPS



Michael Chirco, president of Downey Los Amigos Kiwanis; Mark McDaniel, president of Gangs Out of Downey; and Jason Cierpiszewski, past president Downey Kiwanis Club.

Middle school students and Downey law enforcement will come together this weekend as part of the Downey Kids and Cops Day event.

The event will be held from 10 am to 2:30 pm at Furman Park on Saturday. It is being co-sponsored by Gangs out of Downey and Kiwanis.

Student participants will engage in several activities, such as Frisbee and football toss, alongside Downey Police officers in a hope to create a positive relationship between the community's youth and the officers who patrol their streets.

"What this is doing is just fostering trust and relationships with these young kids and police officers in our community," said officer and GOOD President Lt. Mark McDaniel.

There will also be food, a DJ, and several businesses with information booths set out.

By Alex Dominguez, staff writer

Warren High hosts banquet for students with 4.0 GPAs

DOWNEY – Warren High School and the Academic Boosters Council (ABC) honored students who have a 4.0 or higher cumulative GPA last week.

The event was held at the Embassy Suites.

Of a senior class of around 900 students, 60 students were honored at the reception for their outstanding academic accomplishments during their tenure with the Bears.

"This evening here alone is an example of how your hard work is valued, not only by your parents, ABC, our Board of Education, our Superintendent, and our city administrators," said Assistant Principal Gilberto Rodriguez, addressing students.

Several notable individuals were in attendance, including School Board members Donald LaPlante, Bobbie Samperi, Todd Corrin, Mayor Fernando Vasquez, Superintendent Dr. John Garcia, Assistant Superintendent Roger Brossmer, and recently retired longtime Warren teacher Shirley Stewart.

The evening consisted of several speakers including Board Member LaPlante, Superintendent Dr. Garcia and Mayor Vasquez.

The keynote, however, was delivered by Shirley Stewart.

"Some people would say 'why did you bother?' I don't know if you know, but you can get a high school diploma with a D- average. You look at all the time and energy and everything – you didn't have to make this choice," said Stewart.

"You didn't have to do this; you could have slept your way



Photo courtesy Warren High School Academic Booster Council.

through high school...but you didn't do it, and my guess is you probably couldn't have done that. There's something inside you that drives you that won't let you make that choice. You have a reason you want to achieve. You have a reason you want to excel. That's the essence of who you are."

By Alex Dominguez, staff writer

Rescued Doggie - Looking for a Forever Home



BRANDY Basenji Mix - Female

About 1 year old. Has all vaccinations including rabies, microchipped, spayed.

Brandy's about 17 pounds, 14 inches tall, lovely coat and beautiful eyes.

She's high energy, very active, playful, affectionate and very smart!

Please call Sandy (562) 760-7773 or Sonia (562) 862-4515 if interested in meeting Brandy.

Rescued Doggie - Looking for a Forever Home



TEKILA Adorable Male Chihuahua Mix - 7 pounds

Tekila is about one year old. He has all his vaccinations including rabies. He's neutered and microchipped.

Tekila is very playful and very affectionate. He gets along well with other dogs and would make an excellent companion.

Please call Sandy (562) 760-7773 or Sonia (562) 862-4515 if you would like to meet Tekila.

City of Downey
Metro presents
RIDE & STRIDE
OPEN STREETS MADE POSSIBLE BY Metro

SUNDAY, MAY 7TH • 10:00AM - 3:00PM

Come explore a safe, fun, car-free space for walking, biking, skating, jogging, and strolling through the City of Downey. It's the perfect way to Discovery Downey!

ACTIVITY HUBS

- STAY HEALTHY DOWNEY
- GRUB STOP
- POPI FITNESS
- DUSD
- AIR STATION
- YMCA
- STREET FAIRE
- FUN-TOPIA
- ART ON THE MOVE
- COLUMBIA MEMORIAL SPACE CENTER
- KIDSLAVIA (KIDS DAY)
- SALUTE TO VETERANS

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL (562) 904-7238 OR VISIT WWW.DOWNEYRIDEANDSTRIDE.COM

COLUMBIA MEMORIAL SPACE CENTER
CITY OF DOWNEY

SATURDAY, APRIL 22

COLUMBIA MEMORIAL SPACE CENTER
10AM – 5PM • ALL DAY • FREE!

Celebrate science, technology, engineering and math with hands-on activities, live music, over 2 dozen science organizations, food trucks and more!

CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR DETAILS.
WWW.CITYOFSTEM.ORG

City of Downey
Columbia Memorial Space Center
12400 Columbia Way, Downey CA 90242
(562) 231-1200
www.columbiaspacecenter.org
info@downeyspacecenter.org

CITY OF STEM
SCIENCE FESTIVAL

discoverDowney
@CityofDowney @MetroLosAngeles

Downey councilwoman presented with Latina Advocate Award

DOWNEY – Downey Councilmember Blanca Pacheco, the first Latina elected to Downey's City Council, has been named a 2017 Latina Advocate Award recipient.

The award was presented by Hispanas Organized for Political Equality (HOPE).

HOPE, in partnership with California legislators, annually recognizes a select group of Latinas "making significant contributions to their communities." Pacheco was nominated by Assemblymember Cristina Garcia.

A graduate of Loyola Law School, Pacheco was instrumental in opening a teen court in Downey, where she serves as supervising attorney. She was named "Woman of the Year" by Garcia in 2016.

Pacheco and other award winners will be honored at HOPE's 23rd annual Latina Action Day held in Sacramento on April 25.



Photo by Hans Fritz

Downey City Library's April auction items

DOWNEY – The Friends of the Downey City Library holds monthly silent auctions to raise money for library programs. The April auction items include:

"The Love of Baseball" and **"Something to Write Home About"** (two great books to kick off the season; lots of statistics, pictures and great stories);

"The Complete Arkangel Shakespeare" (a collection of 37 Shakespeare plays on CD; includes a short description of each play);

"The Natural Navigator" (wonderfully detailed and full of fascinating stories combining natural science, myth, folklore and the history of travel to introduce the reader to the means of early travelers in finding their way, using nature's own sign-posts);

"Jesus and His Times" (Reader's Digest brings the everyday world that Jesus knew: the holy places, kings, Apostles, disciples, zealots and sinners);

"Graffiti L.A. – Street Style Art" (includes many examples of this art and interviews with artists; includes a CD and a graffiti "locator" map);

"The Civil War" (Bruce Catton and James McPherson recreate the four years in a new history of the Civil War – will endure as a historical masterpiece);

"Art of Imagination" (an illustrated history of science fiction writing through the works of the artists who drew theater posters and magazine covers);

"Life Magazine-September 1990" (with there-opening of Ellis Island, Life gives us a little history of the place that welcomed more than 12 million immigrants to America);

"12 Comic Books" (The Simpsons, Jessica Jones, Triggerman, Slam, Halloween Comicfest, and Kill or be Killed – geared to adult taste; valued for their art rather than content);

"The Bird Song Anthology" (showcases the sounds of 100 North American birds, along with pictures, habit description and a sample of each bird's call);

"The Secret Language of Birthdays" (366 personality profiles are based on a combination of astrology, the tarot, and many years of observation on more than 14,000 people – each day of the year is covered and famous people from history are included for each day);

"License to Grill" (packed with practical grilling instructions, anecdotes, and inventive recipes).

Items have opening bids from \$6-\$12 and are on display in the library lobby. Bids can be made through noon, Saturday, April 29th, on cards in the Friend's Bookstore located in the young adult section of the library,

Police collecting unwanted prescription drugs

DOWNEY – The Downey Police Department will be collecting expired, unused and/or unwanted prescription medication at a drive-through take-back event Saturday, April 29.

The collection will take place in the police department's west parking lot from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., rain or shine.

Prescription medications will be properly discarded by the DEA. Liquids must be in fully-sealed, unopened plastic containers. Needles, sharps and glass containers will not be accepted.

For questions or more information, contact Jennifer Burkhardt at (562) 904-2374 or jpreda@downeyca.org.

Police to increase patrols in May

DOWNEY – Extra Downey police officers will be on patrol next Month as the department participates in National Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month special enforcement operations.

A state grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety is paying for the additional patrols.

Officers will be looking for violations made by drivers of motorcycles, cars and other vehicles that can lead to motorcycle crashes.

Police officers also will be searching for drivers who are under the influence of drugs or alcohol, or who are speeding or making illegal turns.

Textbooks opening for public review

DOWNEY – Textbooks under consideration by the Downey school board for use in high school interdisciplinary courses for the 2017-18 school year will soon be available for examination by the public.

The textbooks will be on display in the second floor lobby of the Gallegos Administration Center at 11627 Brookshire Avenue from April 26 through May 15.

Criticism or support for the books may be submitted to the superintendent in writing seven days prior to the May 16 school board meeting, when the books will be considered for adoption.



Dr. Parley presented with Mayor's Healthy Heart Award

DOWNEY – Downey Mayor Fernando Vasquez presented his Healthy Heart Award to a local physician last month. Below are the mayor's comments during the presentation:

In continuing with the Mayor's Healthy Heart Award, I am proud to honor someone who has been very important to the healthcare industry.

As I have mentioned before, healthcare is the largest industry in our city and in our country. At a time when so many changes are occurring in the healthcare industry, it's refreshing to see doctors who still put the patients' above everything else and are there during the challenging medical conditions.

The doctor that I am honoring is Dr. Johnathan Parley who is the top Urologist and Obstetrician in the country.

I've seen his work throughout the years and I commend the respect and compassionate care he shows his patients. He is always on the cutting edge of technology and continues to seek new ways to better the lives of his patients and the healthcare arena.

It truly is my honor to present Dr. Johnathan Parley with the Mayor's Healthy Heart Award for his commitment toward improving the health, well-being and future success for the residents of the City of Downey and the region.



Transitional Kindergarten and Kindergarten Information Night

Thursday, May 4 at 6:30 PM
12320 Paramount Blvd., Downey, CA 90242
(562) 862-3210 (No RSVP Needed)

"A Day in the Life of a Little Knight"

For families who want to learn more about St. Raymond School and for families who are already enrolled.

Meet the teachers, visit the classroom, and learn about the faith development and academic preparation provided at St. Raymond School.



FAITH ACADEMICS CITIZENSHIP

www.straymondschool-downey.org

DOWNEY ARTS COALITION AND
COLUMBIA MEMORIAL SPACE CENTER PRESENT

DEFYING GRAVITY

A PLAY BY JANE ANDERSON

8 PERFORMANCES ONLY

April 28, 29, 30, May 5, 6, 12, 13, 14

Friday/Saturdays 8PM

Sundays 7PM

COLUMBIA MEMORIAL SPACE CENTER
12400 Columbia Way, Downey, CA 90242

\$20 GENERAL \$15 STUDENTS & MEMBERS
Call for Tickets: (562) 231-1200
www.ColombiaSpaceScience.org

**DOWNEY ARTS
COALITION**

Experience the
hopes, dreams and
heartbreak of the
space shuttle
Challenger disaster

"Defying Gravity" is presented by special arrangement with SAMUEL FRENCH, INC.

Firefighting parade includes Downey stop this Saturday

DOWNEY – This Saturday, two parades of fire trucks and engines, escorted by California Highway Patrol, will be stopping at 17 fire stations in the Greater Los Angeles Area -- including in Downey -- in an effort to raise awareness for the mission of the Alisa Ann Ruch Burn Foundation (AARBF), which works to reduce burn injuries and to enhance the quality of life for burn victims.

There will be two routes going through different cities: the inland route and the coast route. Both relays will begin and end at the Los Angeles County Fire Department Headquarters.

The inland route of the Relay will head to Vernon Fire Station #77, Montebello Fire Station #55, Downey Fire Station #1, Santa Fe Springs Fire Station #81, Monrovia Fire Station #101, San Marino Fire Station #91, San Gabriel Fire – ALH Training Center, and finally ending at Los Angeles County Fire Headquarters.

The coast route will head to the Beverly Hills Fire Station, Santa Monica Fire Station #1, El Segundo Fire Station #31, Manhattan Beach Fire Station #21, Torrance Fire Station #93, Los Angeles Fire Station #112, Long Beach Fire Station #1, and Compton Fire Station #41 before returning Los Angeles County Fire Headquarters.

At each fire station stop there will be a check presentation to recognize the contributions that each department has given to the Foundation. CARE Ambulance is also sending a BLS unit on both divisions of the relay.

The public is invited to meet at a fire department stop. The relay is expected to stop at Downey's Fire Station No. 1 at about 9:45 a.m. The fire station is located at 12222 Paramount Blvd.

U.S. Air Force Airman Alberto Padilla, a 2016 graduate of Downey High School, graduated from basic military training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland in San Antonio.

Padilla completed an eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness, and basic warfare principles and skills.

He is the son of Mariela Torres, of Downey.



Downey Police: Keep an eye out for burglars

DOWNEY – The Downey Police Department is asking the public to remain vigilant of any suspicious activity in their neighborhood. This is important because often times this activity can lead to criminal activity.

We are requesting that if you see anything that seems suspicious to you, please call the police immediately. Be prepared to explain why the activity is suspicious or unusual, and to give detailed descriptions of the suspicious persons or vehicles. This information will assist the responding officers as they arrive to investigate.

Many crimes thwarted by the police are a direct result of citizen calls. Usually the public is the first to notice something unusual in the neighborhood and is the best source of information for the police.

A good partnership between the community and the police department is of paramount importance and essential to curtailing criminal activity within our city.

Burglary is one crime that can be greatly affected by citizen participation. These crimes happen everywhere and the city of Downey is not exempt. Burglaries typically leave victims feeling violated and fearful, but can be prevented in many cases.

Criminals tend to be opportunists and often work in groups of two or more. They may also have a look-out to warn them to police or potential witnesses. It is also common for them to arrive in a vehicle which they may park in a driveway or waiting nearby.

Citizens should make their homes more difficult to break into

and less of a target. We can all do a better job of protecting our homes and to continue having a desirable city to live and work in.

Here are some important tips to protect you and your family:

- The most important thing to do is to call the police to report a crime or any suspicious activity. You can also remain an anonymous caller.
- Alarm systems with visible signage are effective deterrents.
- While you are on vacation, have newspapers, mail, and flyers picked up from your home or have these scheduled deliveries stopped until you return.
- Ask a trusted neighbor to keep an eye on your home while you are gone.
- Use interior lighting to show occupancy.
- Exterior light and/or motion activated lights are an excellent way to light the perimeter of your residence.
- Make sure exterior lighting illuminates your walkway and front door.
- Keep shrubbery around buildings/residences trimmed to prevent anyone from hiding on your property.
- Keep residence doors and windows locked whenever you are out, and lock side yard gates to prevent burglars from easily gaining entry to your rear yard.

Doris Patterson, longtime civic leader, passes away

DOWNEY – Doris Patterson, a longtime community volunteer and former president of the Downey Chamber of Commerce, died March 26.

Born Feb. 28, 1926, she moved to Downey in 1951. She married James Patterson in 1946, and the couple remained married until his death in 2013.

Following James' death, Doris moved to Colorado in 2013.

Doris was retired for more than 20 years as a personnel manager for Olympic Fastener Manufacturing.

She gave back to the Downey community in several ways, including as vice president and president of the Downey Chamber of Commerce. She was also a big supporter of Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center, serving as president of the Rancho Los Amigos Fund.

Doris started weekly bingo games at the Woman's Club of Downey, with half the proceeds going to the Rancho fund and the other half funding local high school scholarships.

Doris was also instrumental in starting the annual Rancho Art Exhibit and establishing the Don Knabe Children's Center wing at Rancho Los Amigos, named after the former L.A. County supervisor.

Other organizations Doris supported included Downey Sister Cities Association, Keep Downey Beautiful, Gangs Out of Downey, and the Woman's Club of Downey, where she helped build a monument in tribute to U.S. military veterans.

Doris received several honors over her lifetime. She was named Woman of the Year by L.A. County Supervisor Don Knabe and Congressman Steve Horn, and was a Volunteer of the Year recipient at Rancho Los Amigos' Amistad Ball.

Doris also rode as grand marshal in the Downey Christmas Parade.

She is survived by brothers Charles, Carl and George Beardsley, of Hesperia; children Michael Patterson and Susan Phillips; son-in-law Jerry Phillips; grandchildren Cambria, Wesley and Bryan; and several nieces and cousins in Nova Scotia.



Celebrate
80 Years
with Us!

FINANCIAL PARTNERS'
80TH ANNIVERSARY
\$8,000 SWEEPSTAKES

Enter for Your
Chance to Win \$8,000!

What would you do with \$8,000?

Put it towards a new car or home down payment? Help your kids save for college? Go on your dream vacation? Whatever your dream is, it might be just around the corner. By completing a variety of activities, you will be entered into the drawing. Visit the Sweepstakes web page for new ways to win each month.

Go to www.fpcu.org/8000-Sweepstakes for details.

No purchase necessary. Unlimited entries.



The "80th Anniversary \$8,000 Sweepstakes" begins 4/3/17 and ends 12/3/17 at 4PM PST. One (1) winner will receive \$8,000 via Cashier's Check or by deposit into an FPCU savings or checking account. Eligible individuals will receive one (1) entry for each activity completed as outlined on the contest landing page www.fpcu.org/8000-Giveaway. All entries must be received no later than 12PM noon PST on 11/30/17 to be eligible. Additional entries may be received on 12/3/17 until 4PM PST at the Downey Christmas Parade. Participants may also enter by legibly hand-printing their name, address, phone number, and the words "Financial Partners Credit Union 80th Anniversary \$8,000 Sweepstakes" on a 3" x 5" card and mailing it (1 per envelope) to 80th Anniversary \$8,000 Sweepstakes, Attention: Marketing Department, Financial Partners Credit Union, 7800 E. Imperial Hwy., Downey CA 90242. Mail-in entries must be received by 11/27/17 by 12pm noon PST. Winner will be chosen by random selection on 12/3/17 at 5PM PST after the Downey Christmas Parade. Please allow up to fifteen (15) business days for Prize to be awarded. Employees, Credit Union officials, and their immediate family not eligible. Promotion subject to change without notice. Odds of winning are estimated at one (1) in 200,000. No purchase necessary.

For full contest disclosures and rules, please visit www.fpcu.org/8000-Sweepstakes.

Congrats, graduates! Here's your diploma and debt

By Chuck Collins

It's that time of year again. Flowers are flowering, spring is springing, and across the country college graduates are graduating with their newly awarded degrees held high.

Also high is the mountain of student debt most of these recent graduates are taking on. All told, 44 million Americans now owe student debt — including 7 in 10 graduating seniors last year, who owe an average of \$37,000.

If you're not one of those tens of millions of people, you might've missed how out of control student debt has become. Total student debt is approaching \$1.4 trillion, surpassing auto loans and credit card debt.

Between job searches and apartment hunting, post-graduate life is already stressful — and student debt makes it worse. The average monthly payment for borrowers in their 20s is \$351.

If you're making minimum wage, that's 48 hours of work for your loans alone — never mind shelter and food. No wonder more than 4 in 10 have either stopped making payments or fallen behind.

There is nothing positive about student debt.

Many indebted graduates begin their work lives with damaged credit histories and greater economic vulnerability. They're less able to start a business or work in public service. And they delay starting families and buying houses, which makes them less wealthy in the long run.

The only winners are the predatory loan servicing agencies.

One reason for the explosion of student debt is that states and the federal government have drastically cut education spending, forcing students and parents to pick up the costs. Public college spending is still \$10 billion below pre-recession levels.

To make things worse, Trump's secretary of education, billionaire

Betsy DeVos, is reversing protections put in place by the Obama administration to protect student loan borrowers by regulating loan servicing companies and capping interest rates at 16 percent (at a time when bank loan rates are below 6 percent).

It shouldn't be this way. And it doesn't have to be.

Ask the millions of people who attended college between 1945 and 1975 and graduated with little or no debt. Millions of baby boomers paid tuition at the great flagship universities of this land just by working summer jobs. That wasn't on a different planet — it was mere decades ago.

Some places are experimenting with new models. At the city level, San Francisco has taken the lead by creating a free tuition program for anyone who's lived in the city for at least a year, regardless of income. It's funded by a voter-approved tax on properties worth over \$5 million.

At the national level, Senator Bernie Sanders and Representative Pramila Jayapal recently introduced the College for All Act, a plan Sanders got into the Democratic platform last summer. It would eliminate tuition and fees at public universities for those with incomes under \$125,000 — all paid for by a small sales tax on Wall Street trades.

These ideas could mean a brighter future for students to come. But what about for those already crushed by debt?

For them, there's a silver lining. When you owe \$50,000, the bank owns you. But when the bank's trying to bleed you for \$1.4 trillion, you own the bank.

It's time for the 44 million student debt households to flex our muscles and demand change.

Chuck Collins is a senior scholar at the Institute for Policy Studies and a co-editor of Inequality.org. He's the author of the recent book Born on Third Base.

Is Trump taking us to war everywhere?

By Olivia Alperstein

No one ever expected Donald Trump to be a peace-loving president. On the campaign trail, he endorsed torture, said he'd bomb the families of alleged terrorists, and spoke gleefully about the president's power to launch nuclear weapons.

But threatening war with multiple countries over a few weeks goes beyond even that. Tough-guy, hit-them-before-they-hit-us foreign policy is back with a vengeance.

Under Trump's orders, earlier in April the military dropped the largest non-nuclear bomb in its arsenal — known as MOAB, or the "Mother of All Bombs" — on Afghanistan. Outside of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, there's simply no precedent for the use of such a large weapon, which carries grave risks of civilian casualties.

Shortly before that, Trump ordered a military strike on Syria, apparently without informing either Congress or the State Department. Meanwhile, the White House is rattling its saber at North Korea and pondering an expanded military role in both Somalia and Yemen.

In all of these situations, Congress has not only the right but the responsibility to carefully review any authorization of military strikes. Yet so far this president, like others before him, has taken pains to keep the people's representatives completely out of the loop about his plans for the wars we're already fighting, as well as for any new ones he might start.

The wars in Iraq and Afghanistan have each lasted upward of a decade and half or more. Like Vietnam before them, they've taught us the risks associated with intervening in a difficult region with no exit strategy.

Recklessly plunging into new wars not only impacts the world stage. It also takes a huge toll on our federal budget.

Trump's budget proposal increases military spending by \$54

billion, at the expense of vital anti-poverty programs like Meals on Wheels, diplomatic resources, food safety, and environmental protections. It "takes money from urgent social needs to feed the already-bloated Pentagon budget," lamented a large group of leaders from diverse movements, from climate justice to immigrant rights.

These aren't programs with extravagant budgets. They represent barely a drop in the ocean of our already ginormous (\$600 billion-plus) military budget, not to mention the \$21.6 billion appropriated to fund Trump's border wall.

These cuts would only make sense if we were still fighting the Second World War, with every family rationing staple food items and planting victory gardens while scraping money together to buy war bonds to support the troops.

We are not — at least not yet — on the verge of World War III. But with recent acts of aggression and military strikes in several diplomatically precarious regions, Trump seems determined to take us close to the ledge.

From backtracking on calling NATO "obsolete" to deciding not to accuse China of currency manipulation, we've already seen Trump completely reverse his policy positions after (presumably) thinking things over a bit more thoroughly. It's time for him to also rethink this more-military-conflicts-than-you-can-shake-a-big-stick-at foreign policy.

As our president, Donald Trump is responsible for our safety. He cannot risk launching us into still more endless wars; the cost is simply too high, and ordinary American families will pay the heavy price.

Olivia Alperstein is the Deputy Director of Communications and Policy at Progressive Congress.

Concerned about climate change? Change where you bank

By Todd Larsen

At the end of April, hundreds of thousands of people will take part in the People's Climate March in DC and around the country. The march will send a clear message that the majority of Americans understand that climate change is all too real — and they'll continue to raise their voices until the government takes action.

The march is also a great way to inspire people to take action for climate solutions in their own communities — whether by calling their elected officials or speaking up at town halls, pushing their local and state governments to act, or working with schools and houses of worship to address the climate crisis without waiting for Washington.

If all that's not for you, there may be an even simpler option: Move your money.

Many people might not realize that their savings may be working directly against efforts to address climate change. If you bank with any of the largest American banks — including Citibank, Bank of America, and Wells Fargo — then every dollar you put in to your checking and savings accounts is funding fossil fuel development across the country.

The Dakota Access Pipeline? Funded by megabanks. Keystone XL Pipeline? Same story.

Megabanks are expanding fracking, oil drilling, pipelines, compressor stations, and export terminals from coast to coast. They're underwriting decades of reliance on fossil fuels, and directly undermining the important work of cutting climate emissions by 80 percent by 2050.

Many big banks claim that they understand the risks of climate change and promise to increase their investments in the clean energy economy. Over the next 10 years, Citibank pledges to invest \$100 billion in clean energy. Bank of America says it'll spend \$125 billion by 2025.

But these are pledges, not actual investments. They can't undo all the harm that these two behemoths are causing through past and current investments in fossil fuels.

Between 2013 and 2015, Citibank bankrolled coal-fired power plants alone to the tune of \$24 billion. Over the same period, Bank

Ride & Stride

Dear Editor:

May 7, 2017 is Downey's Ride and Stride, be prepared for street closures, so plan ahead. I only mention it because of last year's Ride and Stride; Downey residents were writing in the editorial page about how the event inconvenience them, despite the fact that it was advertised way in advance.

I received my water bill in the mail last week, and guess what, there was a pamphlet that was advertising the Ride and Stride that showed the street closures (and other information), a month before it happens. Residents have no excuse to complain about the street closures and how it inconvenienced them; I'll say it again, plan ahead.

I live on a street that will be closed, and my street does not have driveways, so we must park on the street; I already planned ahead of where I will be parking my car for the day (since I cannot have my car parked on the street). If I can deal with it without complaining, so can everyone else.

As for the event itself, I enjoyed the Ride and Stride last year, walking around the city and seeing the events going on, the food trucks and the booths. It's was fun to see other residents out there, walking, jogging, biking, rollerblading and skateboarding.

I am glad Downey has decided to have the event again this year and I look forward to it.

**Guillermo Vazquez
Downey**

Norwalk street

Dear Editor:

I live on a small dead end street, but next to us is a street named Dollison Drive, near the freeway.

Cars race along Dollison Drive at 60 MPH or more late at night.

Not only that, Dollison has six blocks of empty lots where houses used to be, but now people use them for trash of all kinds.

Cars park here at night along the street and the next day they leave trash along the street.

I hope some of the new Norwalk council members drive by to see the weeds along the walls and the graffiti gang members do. It's sad to see what our area has turned into.

**George Lopez
Norwalk**

Protecting Syria

Dear Editor:

President Trump deserves credit for what he did in Syria. Our Congresswoman Lucille Roybal Allard was correct when she said (4/13/17) that it was "the appropriate response to the Assad regime's despicable chemical attack." I agree.

The problem in Syria, however, goes beyond the war. This war is an example of the catastrophic consequences of climate change from global warming.

The costs of the war in Syria are staggering: It has claimed almost half a million lives, wounded close to 2 million people, generated 4.8 million refugees and displaced almost 7 million people within Syria.

As we look deeper into the causes of the Syrian war, one sees global warming as a principal one, perhaps the main one.

Starting in 2006, Syria suffered its worst drought in 900 years; it ruined farms, forced as many as 1.5 million rural people to crowd into cities alongside Iraqi refugees and decimated the country's livestock. Water became scarce and food expensive. The suffering and social chaos caused by the drought were important drivers of the initial unrest.

Climate scientists have stated that global warming very likely exacerbated the historic drought, thanks to potentially permanent changes to wind and rainfall patterns.

So, it is a welcome sign that our President is concerned about Syria and its children.

We hope our President will extend his concern to global warming and begin to act accordingly, for the protection of our country and our planet.

**Guido Rivero
Downey**

The Downey Patriot STAFF

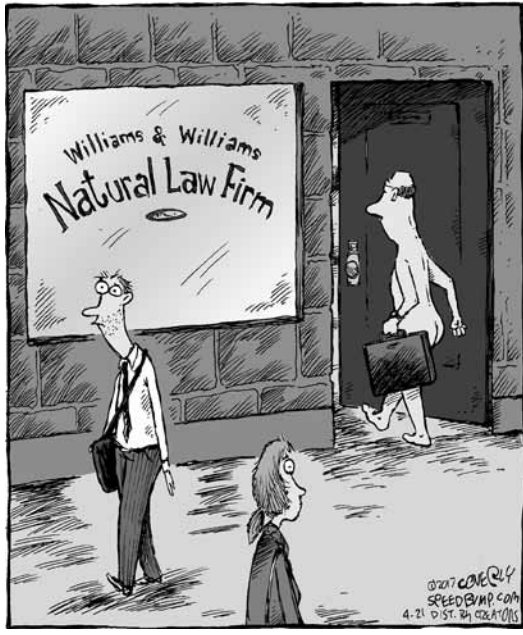
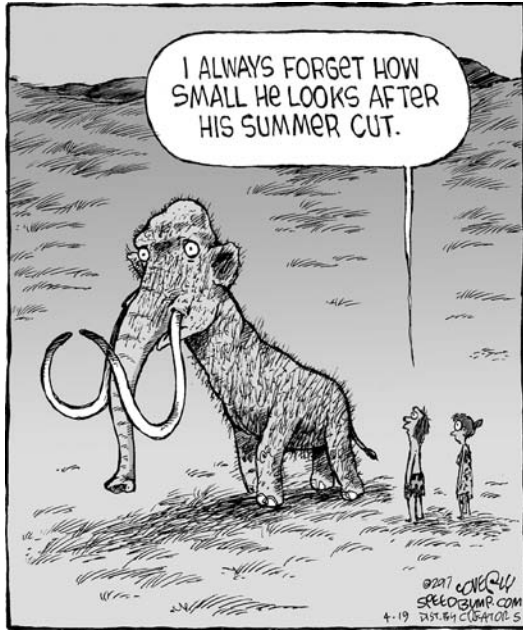
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SPEED BUMP

DAVE COVERLY



Downey Community Calendar

CITY MEETINGS

1st & 3rd Wednesday, 6:30pm: Planning Commission, Council Chamber at City Hall.
 1st Tue., 4:00pm.: Recreation and Community Services Commission, Council Chamber, City Hall.
 1st Tue., 6:00pm: Emergency Preparedness Committee, at Fire Station No. 1, 12222 Paramount Blvd.
 2nd & 4th Tue., 6:30pm: City Council, Council Chamber.
 3rd Tue., 6:30pm: Library Advisory Board, at Downey City Library.
 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.
 2nd Mon., 11 am: American Legion Auxiliary #270, at United Methodist Church, call 304-3439.
 3rd Mon., 11:30 am: Downey Newcomers Club, call Nancy 806-1782.
 4th Mon., 7:30 pm: Downey Numismatists, at Downey Retirement Center, call 862-6666.

TUESDAYS

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 Russell Skersick 929-3710.
 6 pm: Toastmasters Club 587, at First Baptist Church, contact Salvador Cervantes: tmsalcpuede@gmail.com.
 7 pm: Downey Knights of Columbus Bingo, at 11231 Rives Ave., call 923-1932.
 7 pm: Healing Room and Prayer, at Desert Reign Church 11610 Lakewood Blvd, call 861-6011.
 7:30 pm: Downey Master Chorale, at Cornerstone Church, contact info@downeymasterchorale.org.
 1st Tues., 7:30 am: Gangs Out of Downey, at City Hall training room.
 2nd Tues., 3:30 pm: Keep Downey Beautiful, at City Hall, call 905-7103.
 2nd and 4th Tues., 6 pm: Sertoma Club, at Rio Hondo Event Center, call 927-6438.
 2nd Tues., 6 pm: Downey Fly Fishers, at Apollo Park, call 425-7936.
 3rd Tues., 6:30 pm: Community Emergency Response Team meeting, Fire station 1, 12222 Paramount.
 3rd Tues., 6 pm: American Legion #270, at Sizzler Restaurant, call 544-0372.
 Tues., Thurs. & Sat., 10 am: Downey Bocce Club, at 7850 Quill Drive, call John Fiorenza 652-4399

WEDNESDAYS

7 am: Kiwanis Club, at Rio Hondo Events Center, call Steve Roberson at 927-2626.
 1 pm: Women's Bocce Club, at 7850 Quill Drive, call Marie Puch at 869-4366.
 7 pm: Out Post 132 Royal Rangers, at Desert Reign Church, call 928-8000.
 1st Wed., 11 am: Woman's Club of Downey, call Cheryl Olson 833-8954.
 1st Wed., 11:30 am: Downey Coordinating Council, Community Center, call Bobbi Bruce 440-5416.
 1st Wed., 7:30 pm: Downey Stamp Club, at Maude Price School cafeteria, call 928-3028.
 2nd Wed., 11:30 am: Christian Women's Club, at Los Amigos Country Club, call Helen 864-7319.
 2nd Wed., 7:30 pm: Downey Model A Club, at Gallatin School Cafeteria, call 928-4132.
 3rd Wed.: Downey Dog Obedience Club, for information please call Gina 869-5213 or Valerie 420-2972.
 3rd Wed., 10 am: Los Angeles County Quilters Guild, at Women's Club, call (310) 604-0725.
 3rd Wed., 10 am: OLPH Women's Guild, at OLPH School Auditorium, contact Paula Mayfield, (562) 923-3518.
 3rd Wed., 6 pm: American Business Women's Association, Rio Hondo Country Club, call Barbara 863-2192.
 4th Wed., 12:00 pm: Retired Federal Employees, at Barbara J Riley Center, call 943-5513.
 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: Kiwanis Club of Downey, at Rio Hondo Events Center, call Roy Jimenez 923-0971.
 12 pm: Optimist Club of Downey, at Rio Hondo Events Center.
 6:30 pm: Downey United Masonic Lodge # 220, 8244 3rd St., call 862-4176.
 7 pm: Troop 351, Boy Scouts of America, at First Baptist Church, call 776-3388.
 1st Thurs., 12:00 pm: Downey Christian & Professional Luncheon, Sizzler's Restaurant, call James 310-1335.
 1st Thurs., 7:30 pm.: The Downey Amateur Radio Club, at First Baptist Church room 120.
 2nd Thurs., 7:30 pm: Beaming Rebel Foxes Collectors Club, call Carl D. Jones at 923-2400.
 2nd & 4th Thurs., 6 pm: Lions Club, at Coco's, call Lenora (310) 283-9825.
 3rd Thurs., 4 pm: Public Works Committee, at City Hall Training Room.
 3rd Thurs., 6 pm: Downey CIPAC, at Sizzler's Restaurant, call Rich Tuttle 413-6045.
 4th Thurs., 10 am: Assistance League, at Casa De Parley Johnson, call 869-0232.
 4th Thurs., 7:30 pm: Downey Historical Society programs, at Community Center, call 862-2777.

FRIDAYS

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

SATURDAYS

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

On This Day...

April 20, 1912: Fenway Park in Boston and Tiger Stadium in Detroit opened. Tiger Stadium was demolished in 2009 while Fenway Park remains the oldest operating ballpark in MLB.
1971: The U.S. Supreme Court upheld the use of busing to achieve racial desegregation in schools.
1980: The first Cubans sailing to the United States as part of the massive Mariel boatlift reached Florida.
2008: Danica Patrick became the first female winner in IndyCar history by capturing the Indy Japan 300.

THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com)
CURMUDGEONLY QUOTES: From Bierce's "Devil's Dictionary" by S.N.

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Reach Stan Newman at P.O. Box 69, Massapequa Park, NY 11762, or at www.StanXwords.com

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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 pet-food brands of Nestlé include ALPO (6 Across), Purina and Friskies. The reference at 85 Across is to the farewell speech of Frank Morgan's character in *The Wizard of Oz*. Journalist Ambrose Bierce compiled his *Devil's Dictionary* from three decades of his writings for magazines and newspapers.

Shared Stories: My first experience baking bread

Belle Fluhart recalls a serious baking error that many of us can sympathize with – misreading the recipe. Shared Stories is a weekly column featuring articles by participants in a writing class at the Norwalk Senior Center. Bonnie Mansell is the instructor for this free class offered through the Cerritos College Adult Education Program. Curated by Carol Kearns

By Belle Fluhart

I was 12 years old during the Depression. My three older brothers were 18, 19 ½, and 21 years old.

When I started the 7th grade, I was delighted that I would have a class in sewing and a class in cooking. One semester sewing, the next cooking, every year.

In the cooking class we were making bread. The first day we copied the recipe from the black board, and talked about what we were going to do. The next day, we measured out the liquid and yeast, and mixed the liquid ingredients together and left it for the yeast to do what it's supposed to do. I think it's

called proofing. The third day we mixed in the flour to make a dough.

In no time I realized that something was wrong, because it was not making a dough. I was adding more and more flour.

I had misread the recipe where it said to add ¼ cup of water, and I had actually added 1 ¼ cup of water. The teacher was watching me, but doing nothing. I realized that she was wondering what I was going to do.

I got some more yeast and put in more salt. I don't remember the other ingredients, but I put in whatever was necessary to make up for all of this flour it was taking to make dough.

I mixed the dough, made a round ball, and put the oil on it. Then I found a big bowl and left it to rise overnight. The next day, I had a great, big ball of dough where I was supposed to have a little ball. I put flour on my board and started kneading the dough.

By this time, I was so embarrassed. I was just kneading the dough. I could feel the

enmity of my fellow classmates. Everyone in this room hated me because I had a great, big ball of dough and everyone else had a little ball that could be held in the palm of one hand.

I wished I could crawl under a rock and just disappear. But there was no rock. I started to cry. I wasn't looking up. I just kept kneading and kneading that dough.

Suddenly, the teacher was at my elbow. She said, "I went over to the cafeteria and borrowed a bread pan."

At that, I looked up and the teacher was smiling. I quickly dried my tears and oiled the pan, formed the loaf, and put it in the pan. I put it up to rise and went home.

The next day we all baked our bread. I had to allow extra time for my big loaf. When the bread was baked, and beautifully browned, the teacher wanted me to cut it so she could taste it.

I pleaded with her to let me take it home so I could cut it where my brothers could see it. She said, "All right, if you promise that you will bring me a

piece tomorrow."

When I got home, my brothers grabbed the bread and one was starting to cut it.

I said, "The teacher made me promise to bring her a piece so she could try it." My brother with the knife said, "The teacher gets the first slice."

He cut the first slice and wrapped it up. He said, "Don't forget to take it tomorrow morning." I said, "I'm going to put it with my books."

The first thing I did the next morning was to take the bread to the teacher. She took a bite and said, "That's delicious."

At the end of the semester, the teacher was preparing to

pass around the report cards.

She said, "It has never been my practice to give anyone an A+, but this semester, I'm giving a student an A+. She doesn't always do things right. In fact, she makes some great, big mistakes. But she always is able to compensate for her mistakes

and make an edible product. And in these days, it's so very important to not waste food."

I was very happy, and couldn't wait to take my report card home to show my brothers.

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POETRY MATTERS

"Adlestrop"

Yes, I remember Adlestrop—
The name, because one afternoon
Of heat the express-train drew up there
Unwontedly. It was late June.
The steam hissed. Someone cleared his throat.
No one left and no one came
On the bare platform. What I saw
Was Adlestrop—only the name
And willows, willow-herb, and grass,
And meadowsweet, and haycocks dry,
No whit less still and lonely fair
Than the high cloudlets in the sky.
And for that minute a blackbird sang
Close by, and round him, mistier,
Farther and farther, all the birds
Of Oxfordshire and Gloucestershire.

-Edward Thomas (1878-1917)

Thomas's poem is utterly casual, the platform ordinary, bare. Then, simply, in all this stillness, a blackbird sings, and "there is a sudden perception of all the other birds, almost all the other birds in the universe, singing," as the poet Dick Allen says. "A moment of epiphany (as the Western world would put it) or a coming closer (as the Eastern world might say) to the experience of nirvana or satori," that shows what poetry can do: reveal the ordinary as extraordinary. Philip Edward Thomas was killed in April, 1917 during the Battle of Arras in World War I, exactly one hundred years ago, Poetry Matters is curated by Lorine Parks

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Business Spotlight:



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KILFIT's Director of Strength and Conditioning, Arna Kilicarslan, holds a Masters Degree in Kinesiology with an emphasis on human performance-enhancement.

KILFIT's Director of Athletic Development, Ekenemchukwu "KC" Asiodu, is a retired professional-athlete and Outside-Linebacker with the NFL.

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The Downey Vikings Baseball team went 5-0 in the St. Paul Easter Tournament to win the championship. They defeated Crean Lutheran 11-0.

Jorge Arellano, Andy Hurtado, Adrian Valtierra and Kyle Vasquez were named to the "All-Tournament" team. Jorge Arellano gave up 2 hits and struck out 11 over 5 innings to secure the victory.

The Downey High School baseball team currently has an overall record of 11-8 and are 4-0 in S.G.V.L. play.

The Vikings swept a home and away series against Dominguez. Downey defeated Dominguez at Downey 13-0 on 4/4 and defeated Dominguez at Dominguez 14-2 on 4/7.

Downey also swept an away and home series against Lynwood. The Vikings defeated Lynwood at Lynwood 6-5 in eight innings on 4/11 and defeated Lynwood at Downey 10-0 on 4/13.

The Vikings have been competing in the St Paul Tournament over Spring Break where they currently have a record of 3-0. Downey defeated Schurr 10-7 on 4/15, defeated Mary Star of the Sea 7-4 on 4/17, defeated St. Francis 2-0 on 4/18 and beat Crean Lutheran on Wednesday, 11-0.

Downey will resume their league schedule when they return from Spring Break. The Vikings will host cross-town rival Warren next Tuesday and will then travel to Warren on Friday to complete their home and away season series.

After the Warren series the Vikings will play two games against Gahr and will then conclude their regular season schedule with two games against Paramount. Downey has gotten off to a solid league start and will now begin the more challenging part of their schedule.

Coach Gonzalez, his staff and players are all looking forward to finishing the league schedule strong and making a playoff run. Four league teams are all competing for a line on the C.I.F. postseason bracket.

The Downey High School boys' swim team currently has an overall record of 9-1 and is currently 1-0 in San Gabriel Valley League competition.

Downey defeated cross-town rival Warren 89-81 in their first league contest at the Downey Aquatics Center. This dual meet was the closest competition between the two schools in the last five years. Downey has dominated league competition the last several years and this year Warren pushed Downey until the end.

Downey was led individually by seniors Marcus Powell, Dominik Del Carpio and John Choi. Powell placed first in the 100 yard breaststroke and Del Carpio and Choi placed first and second in the 50 yard freestyle, respectively.

Junior Nathan Lopez placed first in the 200 Individual Medley. The 200 freestyle relay also took first place. Coach Delhousay is very proud of the way his team responded to such a close meet. According to Coach Delhousay, "league prelims and finals will be very competitive this year."

Coach Delhousay, his staff and swimmers are all looking forward to finishing up league competition, prelims and finals on a strong note. As it appears now, Downey and Warren will both be well represented in C.I.F. postseason competition.

With volleyball title on the line, Downey-Warren set for showdown

By Mark Fetter
Contributor

DOWNEY – The Warren High School boys' volleyball team currently has an overall record of 11-6 and are 6-1 in S.G.V.L. play.

The Bears defeated Dominguez at Warren 3-0 on 4/4, defeated Lynwood at Lynwood 3-0 on 4/6, defeated Paramount at Warren 3-1 on 4/11 and were defeated by Gahr at Gahr 3-1 on 4/13. The loss to Gahr at Gahr has been the only league loss for the Bears.

Warren will host cross-town rival Downey next Tuesday, will travel to Dominguez next Thursday and will host Lynwood on May 2 in their regular season finale. Warren is currently in first place in the most recent S.G.V.L. standings. Downey is currently in second place with an overall record of 14-8 and a league record of 5-1 and Paramount is currently in third place with an overall record of 12-4 and a league record of 3-1.

Gahr is currently in fourth place with an overall record of 6-12 and a league record of 3-3, Lynwood is currently in fifth place with an overall record of 6-8 and a league record of 1-6 and Dominguez is currently in sixth place with an overall record of 1-6 and a league record of 0-5.

Coach Scott Lane, his staff and players are all looking forward to clinching a league title. Warren must defeat Downey at home next Tuesday in order to do that. The "cave" will certainly be loud next Tuesday night as city rivals will clash for bragging rights and a league title.

The Warren High School baseball team currently has an overall record of 11-9 and a S.G.V.L. record of 1-3.

The Bears were defeated by Paramount at Paramount 5-4 on 4/4 and defeated Paramount at Warren 7-4 on 4/7. Warren was defeated by Gahr at Warren 8-0 on 4/11 and were defeated by Gahr at Gahr 2-0 on 4/13.

The Bears have been competing in the St. Paul Tournament over Spring Break. The Bears are currently 1-2 in that tournament. Warren defeated John Glenn 4-3 on 4/15, were defeated by Long Beach Poly 8-0 on 4/17, were defeated by St. Paul 6-5 in nine innings on 4/18 and were scheduled to play Serra at Downey on 4/19 (score unavailable at press time).

The Bears will continue league play when school resumes next week. Warren will travel to cross-town rival Downey next Tuesday and will host the Vikings next Friday in their away and home series.

Coach Pearson, his staff and players are all looking forward to finishing league play on a strong note. After the away and home series against Downey next week the Bears will play two games against Dominguez and two games against Lynwood. The Bears will also mix in a non-league double header against Hemet at Warren on May 6.

The playoffs are just around the corner and four teams are looking to secure a line on the C.I.F. postseason bracket.

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Downey Federal Credit Union hosted its fourth annual DFCU Cares Food Packing Event last week. With help from nearly 400 volunteers, the credit union helped pack 60,012 meals in just under 1 hour and 15 minutes.

All the food packaged that evening was donated to local food banks PTA H.E.L.P.S. and FoodHelp, a food bank ministry hosted by Downey First Christian Church



APRIL 20 BIRTHDAYS



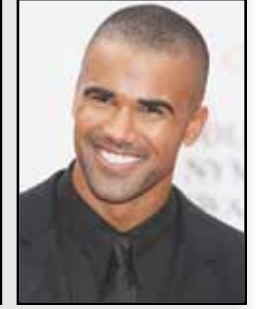
George Takei, the actor and activist who gained fame on 'Star Trek,' turns 80 today.



Don Mattingly
baseball manager
56



Crispin Glover
actor
53



Shemar Moore
actor
47



Carmen Electra
model
45



Joey Lawrence
actor
41



Miranda Kerr
actress
34

Del Rio Lanes launches summer program for kids

DOWNEY – Del Rio Lanes is taking sign-ups for a new youth program starting this summer.

For \$10 a week, children can participate in a ten week long program, where they will bowl and eventually be presented with their very own ball.

A similar program had been offered by the bowling alley for adults in the past to great success.

"The concept was that if people bowl better or if they have their own equipment they're likely to bowl more," said Center Manager Mike Cammarata. "...If you have your own ball, maybe you'll bowl more often. "If you bowl better - if you're better at it - maybe you'll do it more."

"We had the 10 for 10 program for adults, and it was a success. We signed about 80 people up, and of those 80, when it ended, 80 people now are bowling better and have their own equipment, and about 20 of them joined an additional league."

According to Cammarata, the alley doesn't really see any instant profit from the concept, as the cost of the ball that is given away is barely covered by the fees. It is the hope of the alley that the program will cultivate a love of the activity in each individual, eventually leading to more regular bowlers and league sign-ups.

He also says that this is a good way to give back to the kids in community.

"Junior bowling isn't a profitable thing most of the time," said Cammarata. "But if kids like bowling, that's your league-bowler of the future, your tournament bowler of the future."

Kids ages 17 and under are now able to be signed up for the program, which will run on Saturdays starting June 10.

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Is getting pre-approved for a home loan the same as getting pre-qualified?

When you want to make an offer on a house, chances are the seller will want to know whether you're pre-approved or pre-qualified for a loan. What difference does it make? It depends on you who ask. We'll explain.

WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

Many say that pre-qualification is the preliminary step in the mortgage process, where a lender runs your credit and talks to you about your goals, and pre-approval takes it one step further by requiring verification of your pay stubs and tax returns. But in reality, these two terms are often used interchangeably.

According to the Consumer Finance Protection Bureau, there is often not much difference between pre-approval and pre-qualification. Sometimes, different lenders may even have different definitions for each. Confusing, right?

SO WHICH ONE DO YOU NEED?

The end goal is the same: to give sellers the confidence to accept your offer. So make sure you understand what you're getting, and find out exactly how your lender defines "pre-approval" or "pre-qualification." Talk to your real estate agent to determine which is more credible in your market.

Regardless of what your lender calls it, you'll receive a letter that states they are willing to let you borrow a specific amount of money. But remember, neither pre-approval nor pre-qualification (we'll stick with "pre-approval" from here on out to

make it simple) is a guarantee that you'll get a home loan. Neither is an offer to lend, a commitment to make a loan or a guarantee of specific rates or terms. The lender may want additional documentation and will need to do an appraisal of your new home before actually extending a loan.

That means even though you have the pre-approval letter in your hands, this is NOT the time to go buy a new car, quit your job or run up credit card debt. Any big changes to your finances or debt load are likely to be picked up once you actually apply for a mortgage loan. Lenders aren't committed.

But on the flip side, neither are you. A lot of buyers think once they've got a pre-approval letter they have to use that lender. You don't.

WHY YOU SHOULD SEEK PRE-APPROVAL

At this point, you may be thinking that the right time to get pre-approved is right when you find the home you want to buy. But getting a pre-approval letter at the beginning of your home search has many advantages.

First, you'll know upfront what kind of loan you will be approved for. That can help set your price range. You can also get pre-approval from multiple lenders. Remember, just as the lenders haven't fully committed to give you a loan, you don't have to fully commit to getting your loan from them. Even if you use the letter as part of an offer, you are still free to get your loan elsewhere if you find a better deal. Use the pre-approval process to compare rates and lenders. And

don't worry about multiple credit pulls damaging your credit score. Within a two-week period, all mortgage inquiries only count as a single pull.

Second, you'll be able to move fast. Pre-approval letters are good for a specific period of time, usually 60 to 90 days. Getting pre-approved early can help you be ready to send in an offer ASAP because you won't have to wait a couple of days for the lender to issue you a pre-approval letter.

Pre-approval also signals to everyone else, from real estate agents to sellers, that you are serious. In a competitive market this is particularly important.

Let's say you find a home you love and put in an offer saying you're pre-qualified. Someone else makes an offer on the same home but they are pre-approved. Guess which offer is likely to be accepted? In a very hot market, sellers may not even want to bother looking at your offer until you are pre-approved. If you're looking at bank-owned homes, they require that you submit a pre-approval letter before accepting your offer.

So once you are serious about this whole house-buying thing, how do you get a pre-approval? Start with Zillow's pre-approval tool. Fill it out online to find a local lender in minutes who can help you get pre-approved. The lender will conduct a preliminary review to determine your loan qualifications based on their guidelines.

WHAT YOU'LL NEED

To get pre-approved you will likely need to provide the following documentation:

- Your W-2 from the past two years
- Your pay stubs for the past three months
- Your tax returns from the past two years
- Your checking or savings bank statements for the past three months (this will likely show your down payment funds as well)
- Statements for all your other assets (stocks, bonds, retirement accounts) for the last two months
- The name and phone number of your landlord (if you are renting) or your current mortgage documents
- Your divorce decree, if applicable
- If you are self-employed: Your business tax returns for the past two years in addition to your year-to-date profit-and-loss statement and year-to-date balance sheet
- Your Social Security number

and permission to pull a credit report. (Many lenders will pass on a \$30 fee to pull your credit.)

You don't need to wait to gather all of that before checking out the tool. In fact, depending on your circumstances and if your credit score is especially stellar, you may not need some of the documentation at this stage, but it's good to have an idea of what you'll need. Once you've provided the required documentation, a pre-approval letter should be in your hands within 24 to 48 hours.

GULP. WHAT IF YOU CAN'T GET PRE-APPROVED?

Work to improve your credit score, pay down debt and make sure you pay your bills on time. Check your credit score for any

errors and correct them. Ask your lender what the roadblock was and work to remove it for next time.

Zillow.com

Church undergoes remodeling

NORWALK - Apostolic Lighthouse in Norwalk is temporarily holding church services in the fellowship hall while the church is being remodeled.

Sunday services are at 11 a.m., with a Spanish service at 3 p.m.

For a complete list of service and bible study times, visit alighthouse4ur.org or call (562) 863-6727.

Downey Real Estate Market

In March, 2017 Downey had 63 new listings (up 11% from 2016) and 48 closed listings, (up 41% from 2016). The average sales price was \$554,413 which is up 14% from March of 2016. There is currently an inventory of 122 Downey homes for sale. Year to date, 109 homes averaging a selling price of \$582,177 have sold in the city of Downey. Report Provided by the Downey Association of REALTORS (DAOR)

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www.zillow.com/profile/mariepicarelli/#reviews

FOR AN INSTANT HOME QUOTE

Spacious Condo Living
2 bedroom and 2 baths. Large master suite. Kitchen open to family area w/ fireplace. 1,700+ square feet of living space.
Call 562-537-1134 for more info.
PamLeeRealtor@gmail.com

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"THE 24 HOUR AGENT!"

562.818.6111

DOWNEY'S #1 AGENT, 2002-PRESENT WITH OVER 1,100 HOMES SOLD SINCE 1999

OPEN HOUSE SUNDAY

JUST LISTED
A Hidden Gem!

3 BD, 3 BA POOL home in NE Downey! Large living room w/ fireplace & family room, formal dining room, master BD w/ private BA, updated kitchen, tile roof, & 2 car detached garage.
LIST PRICE: \$849,900

BACK ON THE MARKET

This One Won't Last!

3 BD, 2 BA home featuring living room & dining area, master BD, & family room with fireplace and vaulted ceilings, central A/C, inside laundry room, and spacious yard.
LIST PRICE: \$549,950

OPEN HOUSE SAT & SUN

The Right House For YOU!

This 3 BD, 2 BA home featuring a den with fireplace, bonus room could be 4th BD, approx 1,800 sq ft. Pristine condition!
LIST PRICE: \$649,950

OPEN HOUSE SAT & SUN

Your Might Have Struck Gold!

3 BD, 2 BA, remodeled kitchen, master bathroom, step-down den, corner house near cul-de-sac location in NW Downey.
REDUCED PRICE \$614,950

9 New Townhomes
ONLY 1 TOWNHOME LEFT!
Each condo is 4 BD, 2.5 BA, kitchen comes with new appliances, hardwood floors, large master BD & BA.
LIST PRICE: \$499,000

Northeast Downey Delight!
4 BD, 3 BA home with approx 2,600 sq ft, 11,000 sq ft lot, large sparkling pool. Freshly painted exterior, newer roof, central A/C, and attached garage.
LIST PRICE: \$849,950

OPEN HOUSE SAT & SUN

Near Downey Landing
3 BD, 2 BA, open floorplan with bright kitchen, one bedroom has its own bathroom, eating area, covered patio & kids play area. Combo of hardwood floors & tile in interior.
LIST PRICE: \$514,900

NE Downey Townhome
This 3 BD, 2 BA townhome has a master BD with large bathroom & access to the upstairs balcony, 2 car attached garage, situated in a small gated community.
LIST PRICE: \$475,000

FOR SALE

24 HOUR Real Estate
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MICHAEL BERDELIS
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Text Michael at 562-818-6111 for a PROPERTY VIDEO of any of these homes to be sent directly to you!