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Man arrested for running over security guard at Gloria's

DOWNEY – A man accused of intentionally running over a security guard after he was asked to leave a Downey restaurant turned himself in on Friday, police said.

Hector Jonathan Aceves Vallejo was arrested on suspicion of attempted murder in connection with the incident, which occurred last Thursday at Gloria's Cocina Mexicana Restaurant, the Downey Police Department said in a news release.

Officers responded to the Mexican restaurant at 7401 Florence Ave. around 10:20 p.m. on May 17 and found the 49-year-old guard suffering from a head wound, officials said. He was taken to the hospital in critical condition.

Another security guard at Gloria's told KTLA that the victim, who is named Joseph and has children, was in a coma on Friday.

Police learned that the incident began as a "disturbance" inside the restaurant between Vallejo and several women, the release states.

The guard escorted Vallejo out of the premises and asked him to leave, but then the two men became engaged in a verbal dispute in the business' parking lot.

Vallejo then allegedly got in his car, striking the guard as he drove off.

Marvin Vargas, who goes to Gloria's regularly, told KTLA he recognized the victim and expressed sympathy for him.

"He was just doing his job, I guess," Vargas said. "I pray for the family. Hopefully he'll come back and be OK."

"[Gloria's] is a safe place, but sometimes there's just people that they're not in their right mind," Vargas added. "I mean, you can actually be in your own house and something might happen. Somebody might drive by and there's a drive-by shooting."

Although Vallejo has since turned himself in, officers are still looking to speak with two women who were with him Thursday night.

Anyone with additional information can contact Downey police at 562-904-2308 or Detective Ethan Roberts at 562-904-2333.

Anonymous tips can be submitted via Crime Stoppers at 800-222-8477

Cristina Garcia cleared of most serious charges

► The Assemblymember still faces discipline for using vulgar language and making disparaging remarks about her colleagues.

DOWNEY – Assemblymember Cristina Garcia faces discipline for making homophobic slurs and using vulgar language at work, but the most serious allegation of sexual misconduct could not be substantiated, according to the results of an Assembly investigation.

Garcia, a Democratic lawmaker who represents Downey in the state Capitol, was accused of drunkenly groping a former legislative staff member at a 2014 softball game. The staff member, Daniel Fierro, accused Garcia of squeezing his backside and attempting to grab his crotch.

Garcia denied the allegations but took an unpaid leave from the Assembly in February pending results of an investigation.

Last week, officials announced that the investigation could not corroborate Fierro's allegations.

"I look forward to returning to work and getting back to the business of representing my constituents," Garcia said in a statement Thursday declaring that she had been "exonerated." Her spokeswoman said she has not yet decided on a return date to the Capitol.

However, investigators found that Garcia violated the Assembly's sexual harassment and violence prevention policy for her using homophobic and derogatory language, specifically towards Asians.

Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon said Garcia will be removed from her committee memberships and required to attend sensitivity training.

"I sincerely apologize for my past behavior," Garcia said. "Further, I apologize to my staff, my colleagues and my constituents for any disrespect and dishonor I have brought to the institution. I again apologize to the Asian and LGBTQ communities for my past remarks. I take full responsibility for these violations. I vow to take corrective action in addition to what was prescribed by Speaker Rendon."

In a statement, Rendon said the investigation into Garcia was done "strictly by the book."

"This independent review by



Assemblymember Cristina Garcia will be stripped of her committee leadership roles and required to attend sensitivity training.

trained investigators was conducted in exactly the same way as investigations into other members of the Assembly have been," Rendon said. "While this investigation was conducted strictly by the book, I have consistently agreed that the policy needs to be updated."

Meanwhile, Fierro said he is considering an appeal of the investigation's results. He criticized Garcia for publicly commenting on the investigation before Fierro had a chance to appeal.

"I find it incredibly inappropriate that a sitting member of the Assembly would jump ahead of an established appeal process and release information before it was appropriate," Fierro told the Sacramento Bee.

According to the Bee, the Assembly investigation substantiated at least three complaints about inappropriate behavior by Garcia, including that she "disparaged other elected officials," according to a letter sent Thursday to the lawyer for several former employees who submitted a claim against her.

In February, former staffer J. David Kernick filed a complaint with the state, seeking to sue Garcia for allegedly firing him in 2014 after he refused to play spin the bottle with her. Garcia denied the accusation.

Kernick's lawyer, Dan Gilleon of San Diego, had days earlier submitted a claim with the Assembly on behalf of four anonymous former employees describing a "toxic environment" of heavy drinking and graphic sexual discussions in Garcia's office.

"I want to inform you that three

of the complaints you presented on behalf of your clients were substantiated," Debra Gravert, the Assembly's chief administrative officer, wrote in a letter to Gilleon on Thursday. "Based upon those findings, the Assembly has taken appropriate remedial measures with respect to Assemblymember Garcia designed to prevent this or similar behavior in the future."

Gravert said the Assembly found that Garcia had "commonly and pervasively used vulgar language with, to and around staff" and had asked her staff to perform personal errands, in addition to the disparaging remarks about her colleagues.

Garcia previously admitted in a March interview with KQED that she used homophobic slurs against former Assembly Speaker John A. Pérez.

"I would like to sincerely apologize to my colleagues in the Legislature, my staff and most importantly to the residents of the 58th Assembly District for instances where my use of language was less than professional," Garcia said in her statement. "I want to assure everyone that I have learned from this experience and will do everything in my power to make amends for my past."

"Nothing is more important to me than protecting the health and safety of the people I represent," she added. "I know that I can only effectively serve my constituents if staff and my colleagues feel comfortable and respected on the job. That is the climate I pledge to build and sustain."

Garcia is up for re-election this year.

Downey restaurant grades

Jack in the Box
9501 Imperial Hwy.
Date Inspected: 5/18/18
Grade: **A**

Pop's Cafe
7840 Florence Ave.
Date Inspected: 5/18/18
Grade: **A**

Bionicos Express
7818 Florence Ave.
Date Inspected: 5/18/18
Grade: **A**

Hully Gully
9559 Imperial Hwy.
Date Inspected: 5/18/18
Grade: **A**

Grocery Outlet
8320 Firestone Blvd.
Date Inspected: 5/9/18
Grade: **A**

Fatima Grill
7840 Firestone Blvd.
Date Inspected: 5/18/18
Grade: **A**

Jamba Juice
12020 Lakewood Blvd.
Date Inspected: 5/16/18
Grade: **A**

Noodle World
8236 Firestone Blvd.
Date Inspected: 5/16/18
Grade: **A**

Jimmy John's
12018 Lakewood Blvd.
Date Inspected: 5/16/18
Grade: **A**

Starbucks
9506 Imperial Hwy.
Date Inspected: 5/15/18
Grade: **A**

El Sushi Loco
11837 Downey Ave.
Date Inspected: 5/15/18
Grade: **A**

McDonalds
7740 Firestone Blvd.
Date Inspected: 5/15/18
Grade: **A**

Anders Juice Bar
7230 Firestone Blvd
Date Inspected: 5/14/18
Grade: **A**

Dollar Tree
8330 Firestone Blvd
Date Inspected: 5/14/18
Grade: **A**

CVS Pharmacy
8400 Firestone Blvd.
Date Inspected: 5/14/18
Grade: **A**

CoCo's Restaurant
7900 Florence Ave.
Date Inspected: 5/10/18
Grade: **A**

Denny's
8350 Firestone Blvd.
Date Inspected: 5/10/18
Grade: **A**

Dickey's BBQ
8855 Apollo Way Ste 208
Date Inspected: 5/10/18
Grade: **A**

Gloria's Cocina Mexicana
7401 E Florence Ave.
Date Inspected: 5/10/18
Grade: **A**

California Fish Grill
8990 Apollo Way
Date Inspected: 5/10/18
Grade: **A**

Marie Callender's Pie Shop
7860 Florence Ave.
Date Inspected: 5/10/18
Grade: **A**

Weekend at a Glance

Friday 70°

Saturday 71°

Sunday 74°

THINGS TO DO



Memorial Day Street Festival

Monday - Bastards Canteen in Downey, 12-10 pm

Live bands, beer garden, military vehicle display, barbecue, playing of Taps, and clothing drive.



Memorial Day Ceremony

Monday - Downey Cemetery, 11 am

A solemn tribute to our country's fallen soldiers. Park in the Metro Green Line station on Lakewood and take the free shuttle service.



Beauty & the Beast

Saturday - Hollywood Bowl, 8:15 pm

Watch the classic Disney film accompanied by a live orchestra and singers. \$42+



Santa Anita Carnival

All Weekend - Santa Anita Park

The Santa Anita infield transforms into a giant carnival with rides, carnival snacks, carnival games, and more. Admission is free; \$20 for unlimited rides.



Crumbs from the Table of Joy
Saturday - Long Beach Playhouse, 8 pm

A powerful tale of a family's struggles in 1950s America. Themes include religious division, racism, and the stresses that come from political, sexual, and social differences. \$24

TWEET OF THE WEEK

@DowneyLibrary: Friendly reminder: The library will be closed for Memorial Day weekend. We will open on Tuesday, May 29th at 10:00am.

Follow us!
 @DowneyPatriot

Plans move forward on downtown improvement district

► Downtown property owners still need to approve the district, which would finance services and programs exclusively for downtown.

By Alex Dominguez
Staff Writer

DOWNEY – Plans for a potential community benefit district (CBD) are now in the hands of property owners, as the City Council gave staff the go-ahead on Tuesday to move forward with efforts that could further revitalize downtown.

According to a staff report presented to council members, there has been an increase in demand of services – including street sweeping, steam cleaning, security, and public art, – due to the

rapid growth of Downtown Downey.

The creation of a CBD would in theory provide downtown property owners with finances to better control and fund special events, marketing, promotional activities, public space development, security, beautification, property enhancements, and a property owner led governance body for the administration of the services.

If approved, the CBD would raise over \$253,000 annually for the downtown.

The district would consist of approximately 10 to 12 square blocks, consisting of 90 parcels and 59 property owners.

Continued on page 8

Downey is considering a community benefit district to raise money for downtown improvements.

Photo by Joan Anderson, DowneyDailyPhotos.com



Warren High senior selected for Gates Scholarship

► The scholarship will cover all of Alejandra Barreto's undergraduate expenses, including tuition, books, housing and health insurance.

DOWNEY – A first-generation college student from a family born in Jalisco, Mexico, Alejandra Barreto moved to Downey from Lynwood when she was in middle school.

Attending West (now Stauffer) Middle School her seventh-grade year, then transitioning as a freshman to Warren High School, Alejandra's parents always encouraged her to strive for success. On Saturday, April 15, while on her way to compete against the best students across California for the SkillsUSA State Competition, Alejandra received an email that would change her life.

"I wish I was with my parents when I read the email, but I was around my friends and SkillsUSA team when I got the news... and all I did was cry," said Alejandra.

Being one of only 300 students across the nation selected out of a pool of 28,700 applicants, Alejandra was made aware that she was chosen to be a Gates Scholar. Attaining this designation meant that she was a member of the Gates Scholarship Inaugural Class of 2018 and joined an elite group of young leaders from across the U.S.

This prestigious scholarship will not only pay for her tuition, but includes all factors that will contribute to her success during her undergraduate years, including fees, housing, books, transportation, health insurance and other various costs.

Alejandra will be attending USC in the fall, double majoring in Human Biology and Spanish, at completely no cost to her or her family. This scholarship will also provide her the opportunity to travel abroad for a semester, have a "Maymester" in Spain (an additional semester in May to study abroad) and a paid internship.

She will be graduating from Warren High on June 1, with a state weighted G.P.A. of 4.92, the second highest in her class. She has competed in the SkillsUSA competitions, making it to the national level three times, and has also been a successful student athlete, playing varsity water polo and swimming all four years at Warren High.

"This scholarship is given to a first-generation college student to support them in advancing their education in STEM [Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics] fields," stated Warren High School principal Laura Rivas. "We are all so extremely proud of Alejandra and can't wait to see what her future

holds."

Alejandra also received additional scholarships at Warren High School's Senior Awards Night Wednesday evening that will also contribute to her education post-graduation. These include scholarships in various denominations from Delta Kappa Gamma, Financial Partners Credit Union, Downey Association of Realtors and others.

With the funds she will be receiving from these various scholarships combined, Alejandra plans to use the remaining money to establish a college fund for her younger sister.

"I know it takes a village, I've seen it here at Warren. I wouldn't have been able to do this without the help of many of my teachers," expressed Alejandra. "And through this scholarship, I hope to continue to do the same for others and influence them to follow their dreams."

Alejandra plans on attending medical school after graduating from USC and becoming a pediatrician.

"My goal would be to touch the lives of as many people as possible. Through internships, I'd hope to be able to influence my student interns who then move on to have their own interns and so on... the exponential growth



effect, just by being selected for the Gates Scholarship."

The Gates Scholarship will fund 300 students per year, starting with 2018, totaling 3,000 students over the life of the program.

With the launch of this program in 2017, The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation continues its long-standing commitment to helping outstanding minority

students who come from low-income backgrounds realize their maximum potential.

This scholarship program is based on evidence that by eliminating the financial barriers to college, an all-expenses-paid scholarship can enable high-potential, low-income minority students to excel in their course work, graduate college, and continue to be leaders throughout their lives.

In addition to funding, The Gates Scholarship will provide further support to scholars, by engaging with them and their institutions in a variety of ways, to ensure they have access to the resources and services they need, from their first to last day of classes, through graduation and the transition to their chosen careers.

13 Downey schools chosen for national honor roll

DOWNEY – It was announced last week that Downey Unified schools have been selected by the Educational Results Partnership (ERP) as 13 of the 1,798 public schools in California to receive the title of 2017-18 Honor Roll School.

The program, sponsored by the Campaign for Business and Education Excellence (CBEE), is

part of a national effort to identify higher-performing schools and districts that are improving student outcomes.

Along with this distinction, the Downey Unified School District as a whole was selected as one of 24 public school districts to receive the paralleling title of 2017-18 Honor Roll School District.

The schools within Downey Unified that have received the title of 2017-18 Honor Roll School are: Alameda Elementary, Carpenter Elementary, Doty Middle, Downey High, Gallatin Elementary, Griffiths Middle, Lewis Elementary, Old River Elementary, Price Elementary, Rio San Gabriel Elementary, Stauffer Middle, Unsworth Elementary

and Williams Elementary.

The 2017-18 Honor Roll is developed by ERP, a nonprofit organization that applies data science to help improve student outcomes and career readiness.

Schools that receive the ERP Honor Roll distinction have demonstrated consistent high levels of student academic

achievement, improvement in achievement levels over time, and a reduction in achievement gaps among student populations. For high schools, the ERP Honor Roll recognition also includes measures of college readiness.

"We are so proud to be recognized by leaders in the California business community as an Honor Roll District," said

Downey Unified Superintendent, Dr. John Garcia. "Our teachers, staff and administrators work tirelessly to keep the focus on high expectations, student academic achievement and continuously improve our practices. This hard work and dedication is paying off for all of our students."

The doctor will see you now. Really.



Same-day appointments at PIH Health Family Medicine.

Sick and tired of waiting to see a doctor? Now you don't have to. When you need to see a doctor **today**, we're here. With locations throughout the community, including a new office in Downey, PIH Health Family Medicine provides expert, convenient access to meet your family's healthcare needs quickly and compassionately. Call for an appointment today so you can get in, get well and get on with your day.

Call 562.967.2795 or visit PIHHealth.org/Find-A-Doctor



PIH Health Family Medicine with a new office open in Downey.

Graduation 2018

More than 2,000 Downey Unified School District students are expected to finish their high school careers and receive their diplomas next week.

The following is a list of DUSD senior class students, as well as underclassmen eligible to graduate early. Due to finals and other variables, the list is not all-inclusive and may not be entirely accurate by the time of publication. Incomplete names were removed for clarity purposes.

COLUMBUS HIGH SCHOOL

Jazmine Avila
Mayra De Leon
David Hurtado
Biani Molina
Alejandro Ramirez
Gerardo Arevalos
Kiara Hernandez
Cesar Salazar
Daniel Cardona
Edgar Flores Reza
Vanessa Hernandez
Jorge La Farga
Alberto Palafox
Grecia Puente
Ivan Servin Barajas
Samantha Torres
Eriberto Castaneda
Anthony Cruz Ochoa
Brian Dorado
Zerlina Beck
David Garcia
Leonel Leiva
Anthony Macias
Damian Sabina
Christopher Cervantes
Andrew Moreno
Hanson Karnadi
Steve Martinez
Jeffrey Merwin
Jonathan Bostad
Marquita Brack
Joshua Guzman
Mariano Ruano Jr.-Valdez
Freddie Tapia
Juan Acosta
Nelida De Alba
Jaime Flores-Carrasco
Ana Garcia
Anthony Acuna
Rowland Rodriguez
Katherine Zamora Enriquez
Oswaldo Abad
Anthony Chavez
Mitchell Czernek
Fernando Hurtado
Sean Palmer
Christian Chavez

Jared Garcia
Andrew Medel
Ysrael Tolano Moreno
Larry Hernandez
Felicity Pantoja
Jesus Gradilla
Albert Lopez
Carmen Tovar
Jose Preciado
Adriel Rodriguez
Joemassaro Delgado
Luis Medrano
Alberto Figueroa
Benjamyn Lopez
Maria Brito
Brandon Delgado
Jeremy Monrroy
Alex Pena
Yasmin Rosa
Andy Carrera
Adrian Corona
Isaiah Dominski
Isaiah Williams
Octavio Aguirre
Federico Lopez
David Nunez
Jacob Diaz
Danny Urbano
Diana Gamboa
Kimberly Rodarte
Donavin Carreon
Teresa Magana Morando
Elijah Hewitt
Jesse Rubalcava
Diego Villa
Amy Arias
Eduardo Ortiz
Adriana Rivera Cruz
Crystal Argumedo
Andrew Velasquez-Rauda
Esteban Banuelos
Leslie Huerta
Adrian Lemus
Ryan Moore
Karina Juarez Marin
Justin Hansbrough
Leonardo Ayala
Alex Medina
Jose Campos
Lian Caruso

Crystal Villegas
Juan Barocio Alvarez
Angel Duenas
Kayla Selva-Centeno
Jason Torres
Orlando Anievas
Valo Cervantes
Mathew Ruiz
Annette Paniagua
Jasmine Gallegos
Karla Quintana
Alexandria Gonzalez
Matthew Rodriguez
Thomas Valiente
Daniel Sanchez
Jared Padilla
Nathan Caire
Jonathan Martinez
Kalia Wilson
Matthew Louie
Daniel Mendoza
Anthony Christopher
Michelle Kiana
Ann Jezebel
Faith Jasmine
Andres Javier
Isaiah Cesar
Timothy Mason
Aileen Gisselle
Violeta Karla
David Angel
Rose Denise
M. Amy
Javanna Tiana
Breanna Kaitlin
Monika Martha
Anthony Nicholas
Eduardo Bryan
Anthony Edgar
Mileah Dorean
Da Ron Jovan
Celeste Cecelia
Adriel Victor
Alfonso Alan
Constance Raylene
Miranda Jacqueline
Luis Fernando
Lynn Emely
Rey Dillon
Gabriel Josiah



Aurelia Jasmien
Geselle Esley
E. Hector
Isabel Emily
Latrice Kemoni

DOWNEY HIGH SCHOOL

Aryhanna Abasolo
Mohamad Akram Abuhadba
Angelica Ivonne Aburto
Angel Aceituno
Anna Sophia Aceves
Sarahgezelle Nneka Acholonu
Arlene Anahys Acosta
Prisela Acosta
Catalina Aguado
Evelyn Aguiar
Leslie Aguiar
Damian Dimas Aguilera
Daniel I Aguilera
Elissa Marie Aguilera
Elizabeth Nichole Aguilera
Linda Ivana Aguilera
David Aguilera
Markos Aguilera
Jeremias Noe Aguinada
Breanna Marleni Aguirre
Brianna Nichole Aguirre
Natalie Isabel Aguirre
Richard Aguirre
Jonathan I Ahumada
Karyna Lalade Ajose
Dilan Ricardo Ajtun
Eric I Alamillo
Julia Yanelly Alamillo
Marc Anthony Alaniz
Melenie Alah Alarcon

Joseph Rayvon Alex
Richard Josiah Alfaro
Melissa Alfonso
Manases Alonzo
Miguel Angel Alpizar
Gildardo Alvarado
Rhiannon Alvarado
Anthony Martin Alvarez
Joel Alejandro Alvarez
Melody Alvarez
Vincent Alfred Alvarez
Lauren Mia Amezcua
Veronica Amezcua
Gerardo Freddy Amezcua Flores
Nathan Andrew Anaya
Jose Andres Andrade
Joseph Andrade
Nykolas A Andrade
Ulisses Andrade
Victoria Starr Andres
Andrew Isaac Angon
Ruth Anguiano
Ruby Maldonado
Cynthia Elise Aragon
Matthew Anthony Arana Torres
Jasmine Arana Fletes
Natalie Arancivia
Jordan Anthony Aranda
Angel Arechiga
Gabrielle Munguia Arellano
Bryann Manuel Arellano Campa
Luisa Jimena Arenas
Priscilla Marie Arencibia
Victoria Cristina Arguello
Stephanie Michelle Argueta
Angelene Arias
Jasmine Alexis Arias

Albert Valentin Ariaz
Jared Matthew Arnold
Savanna Arrona
Omar Arteaga
Belen Astorga
Brian Alexis Astudillo
Christopher Kevin Dwain Atkins
Avion Anjolie Auberry
Elijah Miguel Avelar
Briana Marie Avila
Miguel A Avila
Juan De Dios Avila Medina
Dorian Isaac Ayala
Kaleigh S Ayala
Priscilla Rita Ayala
Jessica Christine Ayon
Khowla Azzam
Darian Johnnie Babe
Mary Hazel Babia
Alvaro Baez
Humberto Gustavo Bafuelos
Ana Karen Barcenas
Marcus Barfield
Homero Barragan
Matthias Devyn Barraza
Brian Barrera
Carol Michelle Barreto Martinez
Derrick Anthonio Barrios
Robert Andree Barron
Savannah Bauer
Antoinette Sapiter Baylon
Antonio Becerra
Claudia Becerra Salcido
George Guy Becerra Armitage
Isabella Alessandra Becerril

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Assemblywoman Cristina Garcia faces new controversies in addition to sexual harassment allegations (4/22/18)

ADVOCATE
California Lawmaker Admits Using Slur for Gay Colleague (3/28/18)

#HYPOCRITE #TIMESUP

The Mercury News
Under investigation for sexual harassment, California Assemblywoman Cristina Garcia faces new controversies (4/24/18)

Los Angeles Times
Assemblywoman Cristina Garcia criticized by fellow Democrats for using homophobic slur (3/27/18)

La Opinión
Le sacan más 'trapitos al sol' a la asambleísta Cristina García por comentarios racistas y homofóbicos

POLITICO
#MeToo movement lawmaker investigated for sexual misconduct allegations

StudyBreaks
#MeToo Activist Accused Of Sexual Harassment And Anti-Asian Remarks (4/24/18)

POLITICO
#MeToo movement lawmaker made anti-Asian comments

HMG
ASM. CRISTINA GARCIA TOOK \$7,000 FROM PUBLISHER LARRY FLYNT AND THE HUSTLER EMPIRE

The Washington Post
Lawmaker who led #MeToo push accused of firing aide who wouldn't play spin the bottle (2/20/18)

Los Angeles Times
Assemblywoman Cristina Garcia disciplined for sexual harassment as investigation comes to a close (05/17/2018)

THE DAILY CALLER
'It's Not A Crime:' #MeToo California Leader Admits To Sending Flirty Texts (3/28/18)

THE PRESS DEMOCRAT
California Assemblywoman Cristina Garcia hit with new claims of misconduct (2/15/18)

La Opinión
Asambleísta Cristina García acusada de mala conducta sexual pide licencia temporal

La Opinión
ACUSAN A LA ASAMBLEÍSTA CRISTINA GARCÍA POR MALA CONDUCTA SEXUAL.

POLITICO
'SPIN THE BOTTLE' AND A KEEGERATOR: #METOO MOVEMENT LAWMAKER FACES NEW SEXUAL MISCONDUCT ALLEGATIONS

Los Angeles Daily News
Assemblywoman Cristina Garcia asked staff to play 'spin the bottle,' new complaint says (2/19/18)

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Arnold Adrian Ceballos
Karen Cedillos
Miguel Angel Ceja Jr
Briana Cerda
Angela Cerrillos
Abraham Issac Cervantes
Adrian Isaac Cervantes
Christian Leigh Cervantes
Jahiro R Cervantes
Justin Angel Cervantes
Ivan E Chacon

Jack Thomas Chapman
John Daniel Chapman
Ailynne Chavez
Armani F Chavez
Davina Ileen Chavez
Giancarlo Chavez
Giselle Marie Chavez
Kristina Hermila Chavez
Michael Anthony Chavez
Ramon Chavez
Stefanie Chavez
Isaac Jacobo Chavez Barraza
Giany Joel Chuvac
Angel Cilia
Katheryn Lynnette Cisneros
Steven Cisneros
Ariana Emary Clark
Carlos Francisco Clark
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Ysabelle Briana Canilao
Andy Cantero
Johnny Matthew Canto
Michael Robert Capps
Dorian Israel Cardona
Rene Faustino Cardona Sandoval
Suzannah Laisha Carey
Adrian Carrillo
Nicole Carter Loza
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Jireh Christine Castro
Robert Castro Jr.
Katya Maybeth Castro Ochoa
Stephanie G Cazares
Arnold Adrian Ceballos
Karen Cedillos
Miguel Angel Ceja Jr
Briana Cerda
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Sports betting will complete the gambling revolution

By Steve Chapman

We think of revolutions as sudden, spectacular events, much like earthquakes or erupting volcanoes that transform the landscape overnight. But sometimes they occur so slowly and quietly that it's possible to overlook how much change they bring about.

Over the past generation, the United States has undergone a gambling revolution. A pastime once seen as the sordid province of mobsters, grifters and wastrels has become an all-American form of fun.

Last year, some 81 million people visited casinos — more than the number who attended Major League Baseball games. About half of American adults say they've bought lottery tickets in the past 12 months. Nearly 60 million people in the U.S. and Canada take part in fantasy sports leagues, which often involve money. Gambling is a diversion that effortlessly soars over categories of age, gender, income, race and political party.

Religious objections are not necessarily dispositive. The joke in Utah is: "Catholics don't recognize birth control, Jews don't recognize Jesus, and Mormons don't recognize each other in Nevada."

Evangelical Christians view gambling as an affront to the 10th commandment — "You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his cattle, nor anything that is his." But one of the nation's largest gambling meccas is Biloxi, Mississippi, deep in the Bible Belt. Years ago, former Mississippi Republican Party Chairman Clarke Reed explained, "The attitude is it's really bad but I'm really enjoying it."

The enjoyment endures, and the guilt has been too mild to reverse the growing popularity of various types of wagering. With Monday's Supreme Court decision striking down a federal law that prohibited states from acting to legalize sports betting, the gambling revolution looks close to completion.

No to Frine Medrano

Dear Editor:

As we approach the June 5 primary election, here are some things for my neighbors in Downey and District 58 to consider:

If you support the recent gas tax /price increases, then you should vote for Frine Medrano.

If you support the recent car tab/registration fee increases, then you should vote for Frine Medrano.

If you support the early release of criminals back into our neighborhoods, then you should vote for Frine Medrano.

If you support more homeless camps and homeless people wandering our streets, then you should vote for Frine Medrano.

If you support more increases in our income taxes, then you should vote for Frine Medrano.

If you support the elimination of Proposition 13 (the only thing keeping our property tax rate somewhat reasonable), then you should vote for Frine Medrano.

If you support more government control of your life, then you should vote for Frine Medrano.

If you support our tax dollars, intended for road repairs, diverted to other projects (bullet train), then you should vote for Frine Medrano.

If you support the values of former Senator Tony Mendoza, then you should vote for Frine Medrano.

This is the second time that Ms. Medrano has run for a political position in the last couple of years. In a recent Downey Patriot article dated April 19, 2018, Ms. Medrano implies Councilman Rick Rodriguez only won the 2016 City Council election because Downey's Third District is a "conservative" district. Whether the Third District is, or isn't, a conservative district isn't the reason that Mr. Rodriguez won the election.

Mayor Pro Tem Rodriguez won the election because he was a good candidate, he knows and cares about Downey and offered common sense, effective solutions to the concerns we face in this city. And thankfully Mr. Rodriguez was elected because he has turned out to be an outstanding councilman.

I live in the neighboring city district, District 2, but every time I call Mr. Rodriguez, he answers the phone and does his best to address any concern that I bring to him.

Yes, Ms. Medrano, as a resident of Downey, I would say that not only have you lost touch with District 3, I would say that you've lost touch with the entire city of Downey, having spent several years in Sacramento working for a representative from a different district.

Ron Boren
Downey

CORRECTION

A story in last week's edition, "Downey's Johnny Appleseed," was erroneously published without attribution. The commentary was written by Downey resident Rosalie Sciortino.

We apologize to Ms. Sciortino for the oversight.

The change may not even be apparent to younger Americans, who grew up in a country where casinos, lotteries and racetracks are about as unusual as a Walmart Supercenter. These people may not realize that until 1978, anyone with an urge to patronize a casino had to go to Nevada. In the 1960s, only New Hampshire and New York had state lotteries.

Today, there are casinos (commercial, tribal or both) in 40 states. Lotteries are offered in 44 states and the District of Columbia. We have gone from a strong presumption against legal gambling to a strong presumption in favor of it.

The Supreme Court decision opens the way for states to allow something that has been popular in many places but legal only in Nevada — wagering on actual athletic contests. If this activity were not popular, newspapers and ESPN wouldn't offer betting lines on a raft of professional and college games every day.

This titanic shift didn't occur because Americans abruptly shed their inhibitions. It occurred because states experimented with legal gambling and found the results agreeable, or at least tolerable. Each new venture provided more information — and the more information the public had the more comfortable it became letting people wager with the blessing of the law.

The opponents of legal gambling advised the Supreme Court that if it allowed states to make their own decisions on sports betting, rivers would run red and plagues of locusts would descend upon us. A group of organizations led by Stop Predatory Gambling filed a brief warning that legal sports wagering would "exploit the financially desperate, exacerbate crime, cultivate addiction" and impose "enormous social costs."

But if this were a poker game, these groups would have to fold. Harvard Medical School researchers Howard Shaffer and Ryan Martin have found that despite the explosion of legal gambling options since the 1970s, the incidence of pathological gambling in the U.S. populace has stayed the same — below 1 percent.



The national proliferation of gambling establishments has been accompanied by a sharp decline in the national rates of violent crime and property crime. In 1999, a government-funded commission said the evidence indicated that "communities with casinos are just as safe as communities that do not have casinos." If casinos begin offering action on NFL or NBA games, that's not likely to change.

Legal gambling is not a magic formula for economic prosperity or fiscal health. Nor is it an instrument to destroy communities. It's just another business that provides consumers with something they want at a price they are willing to pay.

Every claim made by opponents of sports betting has been made before about other types of gambling. By now, we know they're bluffing.

Steve Chapman is a columnist and editorial writer for the Chicago Tribune.

From Russia with love

By Walter E. Williams

Robert Mueller's investigation into whether President Donald Trump and the Russians colluded to rig the 2016 presidential election so far has borne little fruit. The Democrats and their media allies would love to find some Russian collusion and interference. I can help them discover some, but I doubt that they will show much interest. Here it goes.

For years, Russia has been the world's largest oil producer. Within recent times, the U.S. has edged Russia out of the No. 1 spot. Much of the increased U.S. production is attributable to hydraulic fracturing, or fracking, in the shale formations in Texas and North Dakota. Now the U.S. is a net exporter of oil. Exports of oil have exceeded oil imports since 2011. This hasn't sat well with Russia, which has taken measures to hinder our oil productivity.

An American Spectator magazine story points to the kind of Russian collusion and domestic meddling that meets the approval of Democrats, leftists and their media allies. The story is aptly titled "Russian funding of U.S. environmental groups shows how collusion is done" (<http://tinyurl.com/y897kbt3>). A 2014 U.S. Senate Environment and Public Works Committee report identified that the San Francisco-based Sea Change Foundation receives funding from a Bermuda-based shell company known as Klein Ltd. Klein Ltd. was created by attorneys from Wakefield Quin, a law firm that has close ties to Russian President Vladimir Putin. Klein Ltd. operates as a "pass-through" organization for foreign funds going into the U.S.

The IRS requires nonprofit organizations to file 990 forms that report their activities. Those 990s show that Klein Ltd. contributed \$23 million to the Sea Change Foundation in 2010 and again in 2011. That's about half of the contributions Sea Change Foundation received during those years. Those same 990 forms show that the Sea Change Foundation distributed more than \$20 million in grants in 2010 and 2011 to environmental organizations. It gave more than \$40 million in grants to leftist environmental groups, such as the Natural Resources Defense Council, The Sierra Club Foundation, the League of Conservation Voters Education Fund, the Tides Foundation, the Union of Concerned Scientists and the World Wildlife Fund.

In return for the grant money, those leftist environmentalists were "to promote awareness of climate change," "reduce reliance on high carbon energy," "educate the public about climate and clean energy" and "promote climate and clean energy communications." A U.S. House Science, Space and Technology Committee report, titled "Russian Attempts to Influence U.S. Domestic Energy Markets by Exploiting Social Media," details that the environmental groups used the Russian money to protest the process of fracking and fight the building of the Keystone XL pipeline. If environmentalists can thwart U.S. oil production, Russia, which



is a major energy supplier to Europe, stands to gain greater economic and political power.

Rep. Lamar Smith, the chairman of the House Science, Space and Technology Committee, has raised the possibility that those complicit in the scheme to use American environmentalists to advance Russian propaganda and interests could be in violation of federal statutes that apply to foreign agents lobbying in behalf of foreign interests.

Russia is also a major supplier of natural gas to all of Europe. U.S. natural gas producers long wished to export some of their product to Europe and Japan to take advantage of higher prices. But up until 2016, they were blocked by natural gas export restrictions.

In the case of natural gas, the Russians didn't have to bribe environmentalists to do their dirty work. They had willing support from U.S. industrial giants such as Dow, Alcoa, Celanese and Nucor, members of America's Energy Advantage. These U.S. companies lobbied against natural gas exports, saying that it would be unpatriotic to allow unlimited natural gas exports.

Export restrictions kept natural gas prices artificially low and gave U.S. manufacturing companies a raw material advantage. The lifting of export restrictions has raised natural gas prices in the U.S. but lowered them in the recipient countries and weakened Russia's economic and political hold on Europe.

In my book, that's a good thing.

Walter E. Williams is a professor of economics at George Mason University.

When communities rally behind education, everyone wins

By Beatriz Gutierrez

When it comes to education there are a multitude of factors at play in delivering a quality educational experience to our children. As the new Executive Director of the Soleil Academy Charter School in Lynwood, I know community support of our students is paramount to their academic success.

Our kids are challenged with external forces more than ever before including family matters, peer and social issues, technology usage and personal development taking their focus away from their studies.

Therefore, it is important for students to have a support mechanism to steer them back onto the pathway to graduation and a fulfilling academic career.

Communities that value education help establish safer neighborhoods and are better informed and better-connected as citizens. High performing schools also add value to area properties making the community more desirable to live-in, attracting new businesses and community members.

In fact, a recent poll by the Public Policy Institute of California indicates that California voters rank education as a top priority in this year's governor's race. This makes it clear that Californians have education as a top-of-mind issue.

To keep our promise of a better future to our kids, we must invest, in a personal manner, to help motivate their learning process — whether through volunteering at a local school, serving on a school committee or board, or donating in-kind services or supplies to a teacher or classroom — every little bit helps students in their efforts.

Our goal as teachers, administrators, family and community members should be to have every child graduate from high school — a 100 percent graduation rate. This is ambitious and not without its challenges. How we can support this goal is through daily actions that show kids what hard-work, diligence and determination can do to improve their lives.

As an educator with over 10-years of service in the classroom and as an administrator, I have chosen to engage students directly, so they can reach their full potential academically and in their personal goals.

As a former Lynwood Unified School District student myself, it always made me happy to see parents assisting the teaching staff and administrators in the classroom, volunteering at school functions and serving as mentors. As an administrator of a newly opened community public school, I encourage parents and members of the community to learn more about Soleil Academy and every other school in the area to see how you can become a driving force for positive change in a young person's life.

As we rally together we can create bonds of support bringing knowledge to our students and making education a primary focus — creating a win-win for all.

Beatriz Gutierrez is an educator who attended the Lynwood Unified School District as a child and later was accepted to become a Corps Member with Teach for America and a Fellow with Building Excellent Schools. She currently serves as the executive director of the Soleil Academy Charter, a public school open to all students.

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Downtown property owners voting this summer

Continued from page 1

It would be generally bounded within parcels on the north side of Burns Avenue, parcels on the west side of La Reina Avenue, parcels on the west side of Brookshire Avenue, and parcels on the north side of 3rd Street / New Street / 4th Street and the parcels fronting the east side of Downey Avenue between 3rd and 4th Street, excluding the undeveloped parcels east of US Bank, but including City Hall.

The city owns property within the new district, which spurred concerns from Mayor Sean Ashton as to how the CBD might be perceived amongst other business owners within the area.

"We're 18 percent of it technically, but I don't think we're doing this for us to control it," said Ashton. "I want to make sure that if these people are volunteering to be part of this, they're the ones that have the say as to how the money is spent. That's my big concern...They're going to have the say since it's their money; they're gonna have the say as to how it's spent."

Council member Alex Saab tried to quell the mayor's worries by clarifying the intent of the CBD.

"The idea is not for the city to control this, because it defeats the whole purpose," said Saab. "The idea of this is, who knows more about the downtown district than the businesses themselves?"

In an interview Wednesday, former mayor and business owner Kirk Cartozian said that he "tends to trust" the process, saying that "it's worked very well in a lot of cities."

However, he emphasized that it must be done right. Cartozian is one of the owners of the former Avenue Theater property, which falls within the boundaries of the potential CBD.

"It has to be implemented properly," said Cartozian. "You need a board or body to make decisions for the benefit of the businesses."

Council members voted unanimously in favor of the district at Tuesday's meeting, with Councilmember Fernando Vasquez abstaining. Vasquez owns property within the projected new district.

Staff will now mail out ballots to each property owner within the district, with votes cast returned to the City Clerk.

Votes will be tabulated at a public hearing that is scheduled for July 24.

Carlos Avalos enters race for Downey school board

► The Downey resident and father of two is currently employed at another school district as director of facilities and maintenance.

By Eric Pierce
Editor

DOWNEY – A second candidate has emerged for the vacant Downey school board seat.

Carlos Avalos announced this week his intention to pursue the Area 3 seat left vacant by the resignation of longtime board member Willie Gutierrez. The district covers northeast Downey.

Community leader Giggy Saab announced her candidacy two weeks ago.

Avalos is director of facilities and maintenance for the Lennox School District. According to his biography, Avalos grew up in Downey, attending Alameda Elementary, South Middle School (now Sussman), Downey High and Columbus High.

He earned an AA degree in Business Administration from Cerritos College before transferring to Cal State Dominguez Hills to pursue his degree in Public Administration. He's currently enrolled at the University of La Verne to complete that degree, he said.

"I've decided to run for the vacant seat in Area 3 because I know the value of public education," Avalos said. "Being a product of the Downey Unified

School District, I understand what this community is about and I'm ready to support the success of every single student.

"I've been a school employee for about 12 years now and I understand the difficulties we all face."

Avalos is past president of the Classified School Employees Association and has served on several district committees, including the School Safety Committee and Classified Management Negotiations Team.

As a board member, Avalos said his priorities would be "school safety, strengthening our STEAM curriculum, and providing opportunities for parent involvement to help



Carlos Avalos

students achieve success."

Avalos has been married for 11 years. The couple has two daughters.

Downey Patriot nominated for 4 L.A. Press Club awards

DOWNEY – The Downey Patriot has been named finalists for four journalism awards by the Los Angeles Press Club.

"The 60th SoCal Journalism Awards Contest is the largest and most impressive in our club's recent history," the L.A. Press Club said in a statement. "Our judges sorted through nearly 1,400 entries. Our finalists represent the most talented and hardworking journalists in Southern California."

Downey Patriot staff writer Alex Dominguez is a finalist in the Personality Profile category for his story "Don Herlinger, an Original Employee of the World's Oldest McDonald's, Loves to Reminisce."

The story profiled a man, Don Herlinger, who helped open the historic McDonald's at Lakewood Boulevard and Florence Avenue. He re-visited

the restaurant last year to share memories with guests and current workers.

In the same category, Downey Patriot contributor Carol Kearns was nominated for a profile she wrote on Tropicana Bakery.

The story, titled "Tastes Like Home at Tropicana Café," profiled the Madrazo family, which opened the Cuban bakery in 1999.

Downey Patriot editor Eric Pierce was nominated for two awards.

In the Business category, he is a finalist for his coverage of the Rives Mansion, the historic Downey estate that fell into such disrepair last year the city went

to court to initiate abatement efforts.

Pierce was also nominated in the Commentary category for an op-ed titled "Opening a Temporary Homeless Shelter in Norwalk is the Right Thing to Do." The article argued that the Norwalk City Council should have allowed a temporary homeless shelter to operate during the winter months on abandoned state property.

Winners will be announced June 24 at an awards ceremony at the Millennium Biltmore Hotel in downtown L.A. The event will honor longtime NBC news anchor Lester Holt with a lifetime achievement award.

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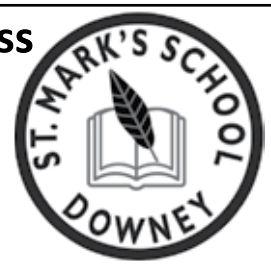
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Despite youth, Bosco lacrosse team wins CIF title



► Only in its second year, St. John Bosco's lacrosse team has proven to be a force. They won the CIF LA Invitational in dramatic fashion two weeks ago, despite having only one senior on the team.

By Mark Fetter
Contributor

DOWNEY – The St. John Bosco boys' lacrosse team finished their season with an overall record of 13-5. The Braves competed in the Freelance League this season and qualified for postseason play. St. John Bosco traveled to Newbury Park Friday night, May 11, to compete against the Panthers in the C.I.F. LA Invitational Lacrosse Final.

The two teams exchanged the ball and possession for 48 minutes. The Panthers tied the score at 8 with only 20 seconds left to play. The Braves and Panthers needed sudden death overtime to determine a winner. The Braves won the game in dramatic fashion when Mitchell Myers scored the winning goal on an assist from Sean Park.

Several St. John Bosco players contributed to the win. Freshman goalie Jake Snider, junior Luke Hill, freshman Anthony Carieri, junior

brothers Miles and Isiah Dolphin, junior Alek Wilson, freshman Braden Woomer, junior Jake Lomas and freshman Thomas Southerly also took part in the win.

The remarkable part of this title is that the Braves have only been competing in lacrosse for two years. Further, there is only one senior on the team (Trevor Henshaw). St. John Bosco had eight juniors, five sophomores and nine freshmen on this year's squad.

Things certainly look bright for the St. John Bosco lacrosse program. Coach Jewett and his staff are extremely proud of this year's players and what they have accomplished. With so many returning players the Braves will look to defend their C.I.F. championship next season.

WARREN SIGNINGS: Warren High School hosted its annual scholar athlete-signing recognition day yesterday in the gymnasium at 1:45 p.m. The Bears honored 15 student-athletes in seven different sports that will be competing at the next level this fall.

John Herrin will be attending Idaho State University, Steven Miranda will be attending Dixie State University, Mikel Trujillo will be attending Whittier College and Joseph Vargas will be attending the University of San Diego for football.

Caesar Angulo will be attending Fresno Pacific University and Giovanni Passarelli will be attending Biola University for soccer. Jonathan Villa will be attending Biola University for swim.

Brooklyn Araujo will be attending Long Island University, Lesley Bojorquez will be attending the University of North Dakota, Karly Colenzo will be attending Vanguard University and Melena Gebur will be attending Coppin State University for softball.

Kaeani Berry will be attending Alabama State University and Renisha Billups will be attending California Miramar University for basketball. Cassidy Arias will be attending U.C. Irvine for cross country and track and Cyrena Chavers will be attending Northern Arizona University for track and field.

The Warren High School administration, faculty and staff are extremely proud of these talented student-athletes and wish them the best of luck in their respective sports.

DOWNEY BASEBALL: The Downey High School baseball team saw its season come to an end last Friday when they were defeated by Santa Fe, 8-4, in the first round of the C.I.F. Division 3 playoffs.

The Vikings finished their season with an overall record of 17-13 and a San Gabriel Valley League record of 8-2. Downey finished league play in second place behind league champion Gahr, respectively.

DOWNEY SOFTBALL: The Downey High School girls' softball team saw its season come to an end at San Dimas on Tuesday, 2-1, in the second round of the C.I.F. Division 4 playoffs.

The Lady Vikings finished their season with an overall record of 24-7 and a San Gabriel Valley League record of 9-1. Downey is the 2018 S.G.V.L. co-champion with Gahr, respectively.

DOWNEY BOYS VOLLEYBALL: The Downey High School boys' volleyball team defeated Tustin at Cerritos College last Saturday in the C.I.F. Division 3 championship game 3-1 (25-23, 22-25, 25-17 and 25-23).

The Vikings were then defeated on Tuesday at Downey by Classical Academy 3-1 (25-22, 20-25, 25-23 and 25-21) in the first round of the 2018 C.I.F. SoCal boys' volleyball championships-Division 2.

Downey finished its season with an overall record of 26-5-1 and was 10-0 in San Gabriel Valley League play. The Vikings are the 2018 S.G.V.L. champions.

DOWNEY SWIMMING: Last week there was an article written about the Downey swim team competing in Riverside at C.I.F. Finals. There was a mistake in information in regards to the 400 freestyle relay team. The team of Christian Gonzalez, Nathan Lopez, Tomas Marquez and Andrew Cabrera took fifth place.

MIDDLE SCHOOL TRACK AND FIELD: The middle school all-city track and field meet took place last Friday afternoon at Downey High School. Six team championships were up for grabs and the Doty Knights claimed five.

The best runners, jumpers and throwers were on display and several individual athletes from all four middle schools competed against each other.

Sussman was the champion for 8th grade boys. The Pioneers finished first with 49 points, the Knights finished second with 44 points, the Indians finished third with 32 points and the Spartans finished fourth with 25 points.

Doty was the champion for 7th grade boys. The Knights finished first with 85 points, the Indians finished second with 40 points, the Spartans finished third with 23 points and the Pioneers finished fourth with six points.

Doty was the champion for 6th grade boys. The Knights finished first with 67 points, the Spartans finished second with 54 points, the Indians finished third with 18 points and the Pioneers finished fourth with 11 points.

Doty was the champion for 8th grade girls. The Lady Knights finished first with 58 points, the Lady Spartans finished second with 42 points, the Lady Pioneers finished third with 29 points and the Lady Indians finished fourth with 25 points.

Doty was the champion for 7th grade girls. The Lady Knights finished first with 63 points, the Lady Pioneers finished second with 41 points, the Lady Indians finished third with 31 points and the Lady Spartans finished fourth with 19 points.

Doty was the champion for 6th grade girls. The Lady Knights finished first with 83 points, the Lady Pioneers finished second with 36 points, the Lady Spartans finished third with 32 points and the Lady Indians finished fourth with two points.

The champions trophy will stay at Doty for another year. This championship marks the fifth consecutive year Doty has won the city champions trophy. The Knights finished first with 12.8 championships, Griffiths finished second with 7.8 championships, Sussman finished third with 5.5 championships and Stauffer finished fourth with 2.8 championships, respectively.



The Cal South Soccer State championship finals were livestreamed this past weekend at Galway Downs in Temecula. Hundreds of California teams competed with only the top team advancing to play for a Regional Championship next month in Honolulu, HI.

Three of Downey's own represented the two top teams at the U15 boys division. Downey High students Jordan Galindo and Mathew Guerrero with LA United Futbol Academy and Warren High student Christian Briseno with Total Futbol Academy all participated in the event.

It was both a physical and competitive match with TFA winning 3-1 in overtime and advancing to the regional championship. Both Jordan Galindo and Christian Briseno were also invited to the Olympic Development program summer pool play in Ojai, CA.

If selected, these players will compete nationally against the very best in their age group.

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1

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3

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5

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