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After-school music and sports classes drop by 95%

■ Enrollment in after-school classes offered by the Downey Foundation for Educational peaked last year before the pandemic struck.

By Carol Kearns Contributor

DOWNEY — The popular after-school music and activity programs for Downey elementary school students are another casualty of the coronavirus pandemic.

Participation in the extracurricular classes, which had grown to over 2,000 students in just three years, plummeted this fall to only 115 attendees according to Laura Hurtado, Director of Programs for the Downey Foundation for Educational Opportunities (DFEO).

"We went from 13 elementary schools having possibly four to five classes each, to one class [in some subjects] for the entire district," says Hurtado. "So, it's been a very significant cut for us."

DFEO, known for its small-group violin and guitar lessons, was founded in 2017 by PTA parent Linda Saldana, current Executive Director, as a way to make weekly, affordable music lessons available to all students—even first-graders.

"I am passionate about music and the arts," says Saldana, whose three children all play an instrument. "I wanted all children to have this opportunity."

Parents pay a weekly fee for the small group lessons that include child-size violins. Classes are held at school sites, music instructors are college students who follow a set curriculum, and community organizations provide additional financial support.

The response from area parents was so positive that the program expanded to include visual arts and classes for soccer and basketball skills.

The ninety-five percent drop in student participation this fall is not surprising given that Downey Unified School District campuses remain closed for in-person instruction until the health crisis abates.

Rather than suspend its program completely during the pandemic, DFEO chose to resume classes this September in an online format similar to that of the District's.

Aided by a grant from LA County Department of Arts and Education, the non-profit actually added classes designed to meet the needs of families struggling from the circumstances presented by the pandemic.

Hurtado describes a fitness class created with smaller students in mind for parents who "wanted their children to be able to move and exercise while being quarantined and distance learning at home." A ukulele class was also added to the early music program. And instead of SAT classes, DFEO offers tutoring for small groups of three to five students (elementary through high school).

Altogether, there are currently twelve classes covering a wide range of activities listed on the DFEO website. In addition to music and sports, online programs via Zoom include theater, dance, and visual arts.

Saldana, whose eight-year-old participates in a basketball skills class, encourages families to consider some of the after-school classes in their new format.

"It gives them [the students] one more thing to do and look forward to. It's not sitting on your bottom writing," she explains.

"We were able to pilot this during the summer," says Hurtado, "and we received over a hundred students and that has been consistent now in the fall."

Given that DUSD students are currently receiving all of their school instruction via distance-learning, DFEO incorporated some beneficial design changes into its programs.

Smaller Class Sizes

"We were able to cut the classes in half so that the quality of the class remains the same," explains Hurtado, "and all of the students still have an opportunity to ask their questions, talk to the teacher, as well as each other."

Downey sixth-grader Deven Anderson re-enrolled for DFEO's soccer skills class this school year, even though it is now on Zoom. Deven says his goal is to play soccer for Doty Middle School when DUSD campuses reopen.

During school hours, Deven alternates time spent video-conferencing with his teacher and asynchronous learning activities which he does at his own pace. After school, the DFEO soccer program involves more computer time, but Deven is physically moving and he can see other participating students in real time as well as his coach.

"I have to give the kids credit," says his mother Paula Paz, who works at home while also keeping an eye on the distance-learning regimen of her four children. "As adults, we may not always realize that they're doing as much as we are. They are little people with big emotions."

All DFEO programs are operating, says Hurtado, with at least one class for each subject. Some of the older programs such as violin and guitar, which are now entering their fourth year, have multiple classes.

Fees remain the same, but Hurtado says, "We still have limited financial aid for those families who want to participate and could not afford it for any reason."

Hurtado says it is not too late for interested families to register their students. Additional students who sign up are added to a wait-list, and new classes will continue to open when a wait-list reaches a minimum number.

Zooming

Despite widespread business closures and people out of work, Hurtado and Saldana attribute multiple causes to the striking drop in attendance, and not all are related to financial concerns.

Many parents have various questions about the Zoom format. Is it effective? Are the children spending too much total time on the computer already?

Saldana reports conversations with parents who tell her classes are not the same on Zoom; children miss being with their friends, and some parents themselves feel unable to help their child.

Saldana understands their frustration. "I know I'm overwhelmed as a parent of three, trying to coordinate their classes and their Zoom meetings, and did they do their homework, and which programs are they using?"

Nonetheless, Saldana feels the after-school classes which focus on sports and movement are especially valuable to younger children during this time. She said the activities are designed to be done in a variety of spaces, whether it's a backyard or a park, with a minimum of equipment, and she shares the experience of her eight-year-old son.

"Isaac was in the patio," Saldana describes. "We put my laptop there, we plugged into Zoom, with the coach and about seven other kids. And the coach was so engaging! 'Okay, Isaac, let's see you dribble that ball."



Virtual music classes are being offered by the Downey Foundation for Educational Opportunities. (Screenshot via YouTube)

Wow, that's great! Okay, now it's Mario's turn. Mario, let's see you!"

Watching her son from inside, Saldana recounts, "He's bouncing and looking at the computer screen. And you know, he's having a good time. He loved it! He was like, 'I can't wait for next week!'"

Another challenge to rebuilding enrollment in the DFEO programs is the limited connection that the non-profit now has with parents because the campuses are temporarily closed to in-person instruction.

"We are not able to promote directly on school sites," says Hurtado, "so those families who don't have social media, or are not on our newsletter, who are new families to us or to the school district, no longer sign up."

"We've asked the principals to send out messages through their social media or their emails," says Saldana, "but honestly, parents are really inundated with information right now."

Additional Closures

In addition to restricting DFEO's after-school programs, the pandemic also brought a sudden halt to two other programs that were both firsts for Downey students.

Recognizing the deep interest and support among Downey families for music lessons, DFEO organized the first ever Downey Youth String Ensemble that met for additional practice on Monday nights at the Warren High School music room.

"Our Monday night strings program had about twenty-five violinists and three cellos," recounts Saldana. Downey musician and composer Lars Clutterham was the conductor and arranger. The Ensemble first performed publicly in December 2018 at Downey High School.

"There's just no way we can meet in person like that right now," says Saldana. "It's just been put on hold, and it will take a while to rebuild when we do come back."

Also canceled this school year was the first ever science camp trip for all DUSD fifth-graders to local mountains. Science camp is a culminating event for elementary students in many other districts, and it was Saldana's vision that Downey students would have this opportunity as well.

DFEO had successfully piloted the fifth-grade science camp program with some of the schools last year. Cost to each student for the three-day, two-night trip was fixed at \$235. Students would receive information towards



Doty sixth-grader Deven Anderson and his mother Paula Paz Deven participates in the DFEO after-school soccer program to keep up his skills while DUSD campuses are still closed to in-person learning. (Photo by Carol Kearns)

the end of fourth grade so their families could plan; fundraising opportunities and savings accounts would be set up for families who might have trouble meeting the cost.

This school year, 2020-2021, was to be the first year that all DUSD fifth-graders would be able to go, and dates were confirmed for this coming January/February.

But when the pandemic shuttered schools and businesses in March, DFEO was not able to share with parents the description of the science camp, its schedule, and the opportunity for savings accounts.

"Even if schools and businesses reopened by January," Saldana laments, "there's no way we could possibly be ready to go and the kids have saved money, so we just had to completely put everything on the shelf this year."

Lunch Program

While DFEO's efforts have been mainly focused on learning opportunities for students, its mission statement is broadly stated as support for the District.

"Our umbrella is pretty big," says Saldana. "We can say, 'What do you need? How do you need us to pivot or shift?'"

Saldana goes on to explain

that she feels DFEO may help in addressing a serious, unexpected consequence of school closures.

Now that the new school year has started and distance learning is systematically implemented, District personnel are puzzled that eligible families are not signing up for the free and reduced lunch program. If too many families drop out of the program, the District is in danger of losing its eligibility for certain grants from the federal government. This impacts District employees as well as students, and could result in furloughs or layoffs.

Lunches are still available for students, even though students are not on campus. Given the difficult circumstances of distance learning, it may be that no one in the family is available to pick up the food.

"So, families are just opting to not sign up," muses Saldana. She ponders a raffle for a bike or two as a way to promote signing up for the lunch program.

"I just know that they [the District] need our help."

Families wanting to know more about DFEO and its programs can go to their website dfeo.org.

Weekend at a Glance

Friday 90°

Saturday 86°

Sunday 87°

ON THIS DAY SEPTEMBER 10

1509: An estimated 7.2 magnitude earthquake in the Sea of Marmara killed thousands of people in Constantinople, including members of the Ottoman dynasty.

1776: During the Revolutionary War, Nathan Hale volunteered to spy for the Continental Army. He was captured by the British and executed.

1846: Elias Howe is granted a patent for the sewing machine.

1939: Canada declares war on Germany, joining the Allies in World War II.

1960: At the Summer Olympics in Rome, Abebe Bikila became the first African Olympic gold medalist, winning the marathon barefoot.

1961: Fourteen people were killed at the Italian Grand Prix, including driver Wolfgang von Trips, after his Ferrari became airborne and crashed into spectators.

1967: The people of Gibraltar voted to retain their British citizenship rather than become part of Spain.

2002: Switzerland, normally a neutral country, voted to become a full member of the United Nations.

Notable Birthdays

Colin Firth, the Academy Award-winning actor, turns 60.

Ryan Phillippe, star of the thriller "I Know What You Did Last Summer," turns 46.

Rapper **Big Daddy Kane** turns 52.

Ballet dancer and author **Misty Copeland** turns 38.

Hall of Fame pitcher **Randy Johnson** turns 57.

Hall of Fame basketball player **Bob Lanier** turns 72.

Joe Perry, the guitarist and founding member of Aerosmith, turns 70.

Jose Feliciano, the Puerto Rican musician known for his Christmas hit "Feliz Navidad," turns 75.



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Notable Deaths

Ted Stepien, a businessman and former owner of the Cleveland Cavaliers, died on this date in 2007 of a heart attack. He was 82.

Patty Berg, whose 15 major title wins remains the all-time record for most major wins by a female golfer, died in 2006 at age 88.

Cliff Robertson, who won the 1968 Academy Award for Best Actor for his role in the film "Charly," died in 2011 at age 88.

Pete Browning, a baseball player and one of the sport's most accomplished batters of the 1880s, died in 1905 at age 44.

Paging Dr. Frischer...

By Dr. Alan Frischer

It's been six months since the beginning of the pandemic lockdown. Yes, we are indeed getting smarter and more knowledgeable about the virus that caused this upheaval.



However, it is clear that this ordeal won't be over anytime soon. Whenever restrictions are relaxed, a bump in cases occurs. Are you aware that here in California, August was the virus's deadliest month yet?

Facts tend to get muddled by politics, and clear messages can be hard to come by. Let's look at the science behind wearing masks.

Here is the bottom line, so feel free to stop reading after this: The science shows that face masks work. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) is clear that masks are one of the most important weapons for fighting the coronavirus pandemic. Masks absolutely reduce the transmission of respiratory droplets; an unmasked cough can send droplets some eight feet, and as much as 12 feet.

Most of us have been using six feet as a guideline for physical distancing. Unmasked, that is simply not far enough.

Research does show that some masks are more effective than others. N95 masks appear to be best, but are still in short supply and needed by healthcare workers. Transmission can still be successfully reduced with simple and affordable alternatives. A recent study found that a three-ply surgical mask made of nonwoven material noticeably reduced droplets dispersed while speaking, coughing, and sneezing. As we might expect, a three-ply mask was more effective than one with two layers, and was far more effective than one layer. Homemade masks should ideally be made with three layers.

I am often asked about face

shields. Studies have found that shields can significantly reduce the exposure to larger aerosol particles but are less effective against smaller particles, which tend to remain airborne longer. Therefore, the CDC does not recommend face shields for everyday activities or as a substitute for masks.

What about a neck gaiter (or buff), a stretchy cloth that extends below the chin? One preliminary study out of Duke University tested it and found that it did very little, and even worse, found that it dispersed large droplets into many smaller droplets, consequently increasing the droplet count and potential spread. More research is underway.

The CDC does not recommend facemasks with one-way valves or vents. These masks

do filter incoming air, but allow potentially infected droplets to escape. These masks were not designed for the needs of a pandemic, where every single one of us needs protection.

The good news is that far more Americans are now wearing masks. Studies show that almost everyone, even those with chronic lung disease, is able to wear a non-N95 mask safely, without significant impact on their oxygen or carbon dioxide levels.

It's helpful to know that contracting COVID-19 is dose-dependent; that is, exposure to a smaller dose can prevent the disease or lessen its severity. Facemasks greatly reduce the quantity of virus spread to others, and they do protect the wearer of the mask as well. However, all masks are not

equal in their ability to prevent coronavirus spread. I urge you to wear surgical masks and/or well-fitting homemade triple-layer (or at least double-layer) masks. Of course, any mask is better than nothing.

The data is clear that this virus is very easily transmitted. Infected people without a mask can infect those around them, even those who are wearing a proper mask. Getting through this pandemic is going to require ALL of us to wear a mask. Let's be team players and get through this sooner.

Dr. Alan Frischer is former chief of staff and former chief of medicine at Downey Regional Medical Center. Write to him in care of this newspaper at 8301 E. Florence Ave., Suite 100, Downey, CA 90240.

Trick-or-treating discouraged by health experts

Warning again that holiday gatherings can lead to spikes in coronavirus cases, Los Angeles County's public health director said on Wednesday residents should begin planning safer ways to celebrate upcoming fall holidays, but the county backed down from its previously announced ban on trick-or-treating for Halloween.

"Our guidelines have been slightly revised, so we'd ask that people go back and look at them to distinguish between those activities that are not permitted by the health officer order -- that includes events, gatherings parties -- those are just not allowed," Barbara Ferrer said. "They're not allowed for

anything. ... The only activities you can have a party or gathering for are with those people that are in your household."

On Tuesday, the Department of Public Health posted Halloween guidelines on its website stating that door-to-door trick-or-treating is banned under the county health order, as is "trunk-to-trunk" treat distribution, in which children take candy from trunks of parked cars. By Wednesday, however, the guidelines were changed, with trick-or-treating listed as "not recommended," instead of "not permitted."

Despite that change, Ferrer still insisted that allowing children to go door-to-door

during the coronavirus pandemic isn't safe.

"Trick-or-treating, we're highly recommending that it not happen," she said. "We don't think it's an appropriate activity during a pandemic. ... You know, there's no guarantee when you go trick-or-treating that your child goes up to a house where the person who opens the door is wearing a face covering. And when you don't know the people opening the door, there's no guarantee they're not sick and that the candy they're passing out that they've touched may not be safe for you to want your child to be sharing."

Ferrer again walked through data from the past several months

showing surges in coronavirus cases, hospitalizations and deaths following the spate of public gatherings that occurred over the Fourth of July holiday. She said that as residents prepare for fall holidays -- such as Halloween and Thanksgiving -- the statistics should serve as a warning.

"Increases in cases and hospitalizations that may happen in the future will always be followed by increases in deaths," she said.

It remained too early to tell if the Labor Day holiday will lead to a spike in cases similar to that seen after the Fourth of July. Due to the 14-day incubation period of COVID-19, it generally takes

two weeks to determine if such a surge has occurred.

"I do want to reinforce the need for us to remain cautious as we go about all of our business during the day and evening, remembering that we can be positive and infect others at any point in time, and others can infect us and the people that we love at any point in time," Ferrer said.

She said the county was "extraordinarily successful" in reducing case rates during August because of residents' behaviors and adherence to health orders.

"But I want to note that every time we have seen transmission rates fall, our natural response

is to let up and want to return to greater normalcy," Ferrer said. "This will be especially true as we're going into the fall and winter months, when we have a number of important religious and secular holidays.

"But unfortunately what we have learned over the last seven months is that we cannot return to normal at this time. We actually need to maintain even more our vigilance so we can continue to suppress the spread of the virus and get to a place where we can safely reopen additional sectors, particularly our schools."

Who's most likely to binge eat during the pandemic?

A lot has been made of the so-called "quarantine 15." Now, a new study suggests certain people are more likely to binge eat during the coronavirus pandemic than others.

Most often they are young adults who faced social stigma about being overweight before COVID-19 swept the globe.

The researchers found this group had higher levels of depressive symptoms, stress, eating as a coping strategy and binge-eating behaviors compared to those who hadn't dealt with weight stigma previously.

The risk of binge eating was

nearly three times higher among those who'd been teased or mistreated because of their size compared to those who hadn't, according to the study.

The study included nearly 600 young adults who took part in a previous study on eating and activity, and completed a follow-up survey during the pandemic.

"Understanding whether weight stigma elevates risk for health challenges during the pandemic represents a critical first step for the development of health messaging, responses, and support during outbreaks of COVID-19 and similar public health emergencies," said study

author Rebecca Puhl. She is deputy director of the University of Connecticut's Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity.

"With additional outbreaks and more cases of COVID-19 expected in the coming months, it is important to support individuals who may be prone to worse health and health behaviors exacerbating their risk during these times of pandemic," Puhl said in a center news release.

"Weight stigma warrants attention in research and discourse related to COVID-19, and should be considered in public health messaging," she added.

The study findings held for men and women, regardless of their body weight, during initial stay-at-home restrictions and after restrictions were lifted.

The study was published Sept.

10 in the Annals of Behavioral Medicine.

What is binge eating disorder?

Binge eating disorder is a type of eating disorder. Eating disorders are mental health problems that cause extreme and dangerous eating behaviors. These extreme eating behaviors cause other serious health problems and sometimes death. Some eating disorders also involve extreme exercise.

According to the American Psychiatric Association, women with binge eating disorder feel out of control and eat too much (binge), at least once a week for at least three months.

What is the difference between binge eating disorder and other eating disorders?

People with eating disorders, such as binge eating disorder, bulimia, and anorexia, have a mental health condition that affects how they eat, and sometimes how they exercise. These eating disorders threaten their health.

Unlike people with anorexia or bulimia, people with binge eating disorder do not throw

up their food, exercise a lot, or starve themselves. People with binge eating disorder are often overweight or obese. But not all people with binge eating disorder are overweight, and being overweight does not always mean you have binge eating disorder.

It is possible to have more than one eating disorder in your lifetime. Regardless of what type of eating disorder you may have, you can get better with treatment.

What are the symptoms of binge eating disorder?

It can be difficult to tell whether someone has binge eating disorder. Many women with binge eating disorder hide their behavior because they are embarrassed.

You may have binge eating disorder if, for at least once a week over the past three months, you have binged. Binge eating disorder means you have at least three of these symptoms while binging:

- Eating faster than normal
- Eating until uncomfortably full
- Eating large amounts of food

when not hungry

Eating alone because of embarrassment

Feeling disgusted, depressed, or guilty afterward

People with binge eating disorder may also have other mental health problems, such as depression, anxiety, or substance abuse.

How is binge eating disorder treated?

Your doctor may refer you to a team of doctors, nutritionists, and therapists who will work to help you get better.

Treatment plans may include one or more of the following:

Psychotherapy. Sometimes called "talk therapy," psychotherapy is counseling to help you change any harmful thoughts or behaviors.

Nutritional counseling. A registered dietitian can help you eat in a healthier way.

Medicine, such as appetite suppressants or antidepressants prescribed by a doctor.

U.S. News & World Report

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Crime Report

Aug. 26

Detectives are investigating a commercial burglary that occurred at about 5:50 a.m. in the 12000 block of Woodruff Ave. Officers responded to a call of a broken window at the business and discovered the business was burglarized. Numerous items were stolen but the exact loss was unknown at the time of the report.

Aug. 27

Detectives are investigating a vandalism that occurred at about 10 a.m. at 9125 Arrington Ave (Dennis the Menace Park). Officers discovered the entrance gate to the park was damaged and off the rail. A witness reported she observed an older model pick-up truck with a male driver ram the gate, causing the damage. Public Works was notified of the damage and it was later repaired.

Aug. 28

Detectives are investigating an attempted carjacking that occurred at about 8 a.m. in the 9300 block of Elm Vista Dr. The adult male victim was inside his vehicle to the front of his apartment complex when he was confronted by two male suspects armed with crowbars. The suspects attempted to break the driver's window, while other suspect(s) entered the

passenger side of the truck. The suspects sprayed the victim with pepper spray and struck him several times. The victim sounded his horn, which scared the suspects off. The victim suffered minor injuries. Detectives responded to assist with the investigation.

Aug. 30

At approximately 9:55 a.m., officers responded to a traffic collision in front of the Downey Inn, 11510 Lakewood Boulevard. The adult female driver was exiting the Downey Inn onto Lakewood Boulevard and collided into another vehicle, which resulted in a sheared fire hydrant. The female driver had a complaint of pain and refused medical attention. Downey Fire Department responded to shut off the water and Public Works responded to recover the hydrant. The investigation revealed the female driver was under the influence of drugs and was subsequently arrested.

Aug. 31

Detectives are investigating a residential burglary that occurred in the 11900 block of Old River School Road between 7am and noon. The suspect(s) entered through an unlocked sliding door and stole approximately \$15,000 in electronics and other items.

Sept. 2

Between 5 pm and 7 am, unknown suspects removed three catalytic converters from buses at the Downey Dial-a-Ride lot at 8150 Nance. The loss is estimated at \$5400.

At approximately 12:50 pm, the Downey Gang Unit stopped a vehicle at Paramount Blvd. and Imperial Hwy. that was identified

as "armed and dangerous" out of the City of South Gate. The female adult driver was detained without incident. South Gate PD responded and took custody of the female and the vehicle.

At approximately 6 pm, Downey officers responded to the 7300 block of Stewart & Gray Rd. regarding a subject vandalizing a residence. The adult male suspect from South Gate had broken the front door to his mother's residence. The suspect ran from officers and was detained a short distance away. He was booked on a vandalism charge.

Sept. 3

At approximately 2 pm, Downey officers responded to the 11000 block of Rio Hondo regarding a suspicious subject and arrested a 35-year-old Bell Gardens resident for possession of narcotics paraphernalia (methamphetamine pipe).

Sept. 5

At 9:30 am, officers responded to a residence in the 8400 block of Priscilla regarding a domestic violence incident. A 46-year-old male from South Gate was arrested at the scene.

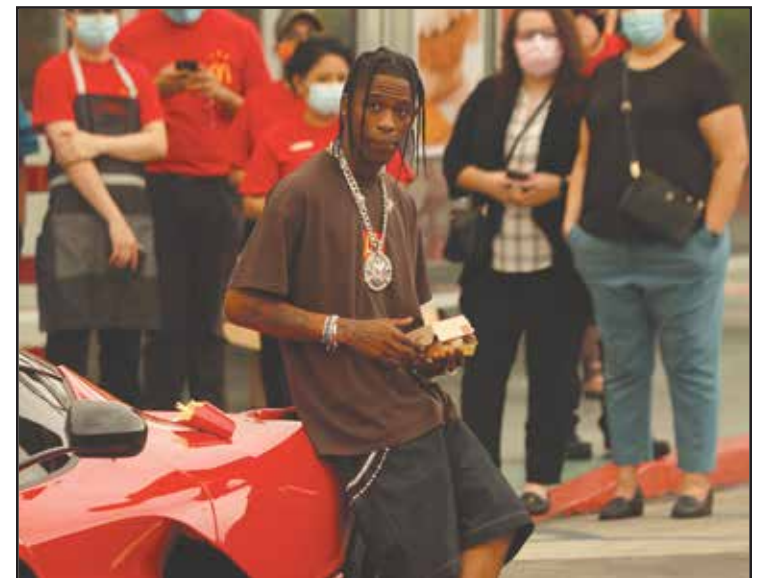
At approximately 7:40 pm, a suspect in a stolen vehicle out of Huntington Park was apprehended in the area of Florence and Tweedy, after a pursuit by officers from the CHP ended with a "PIT" maneuver. There were no injuries or property damage and the incident was handled by CHP and Huntington Park.

Sept. 6

At 2:45 pm, Downey officers arrested a 30-year-old South Gate man for driving a stolen vehicle in the area of Lakewood and Firestone.



The Downey City Council on Tuesday recognized Soroptimist International in celebrating the 100th anniversary of the 19th amendment giving women the right to vote. Receiving the recognition is Soroptimist President Carrie Rios and Downey School Board member and Soroptimist member Giggy Perez-Saab.



Rapper Travis Scott caused a stir in Downey on Tuesday when he arrived at the Speedee McDonalds location to take promotional photos for his collab with the chain restaurant.

A large crowd of fans - many seemingly school aged kids and teenagers - formed around Florence Ave. and Lakewood Blvd. to try to get a glimpse of the celebrity.

Downey PD responded to help control traffic. Later, the department tweeted that Scott's appearance had not been permitted or approved by the city.

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Dementia patients deserve right to die

By **Ralph E. Shaffer**

The recent shooting death in Bell of a dementia victim, killed by her grieving husband, illustrates the urgent need for broadening California's End of Life Options Act, often referred to as the "Death with Dignity" law.

Danny Harber, 76, was arrested and charged with the murder of his wife, Donna, 81, on September 1. Harber, a former Bell city councilman, is in jail, unable to post the \$2 million bail set by the court when he entered a plea of not guilty.

While Harber has not made a public statement, close associates who served with him on the council spoke of his wife's long-term battle with dementia, a ruthless brain disease that cripples the mind and leaves patients unable to care for themselves or to act rationally or, eventually, to recognize family members.

With nearly 700,000 Californians afflicted with some form of dementia, it's not surprising that there have been several instances where murder, manslaughter or assisted suicide have been charged against a husband who killed his wife to end her suffering from dementia or other terminal diseases. In San Diego county, a man was arrested for holding his wife's hand while she took the lethal pills.

I faced a similar situation some years ago when my wife had

terminal cancer. At that time, California had no End of Life Options Law and patients had to live with the pain when the opioids no longer gave relief. She carefully hoarded the pain killers so that when the time came she would have enough to end her life. I would have helped her, if only to hold her hand while she took the pills. Before that time came, she went into a coma and died peacefully in a hospice. I didn't have to face a charge of assisted suicide.

Had the "Death with Dignity" law been in effect and had it covered dementia, these "crimes" would never have occurred. Harber's wife would have joined the nearly one thousand patients who utilize the existing law each year. But dementia is not covered by "Death with Dignity."

That law, enacted in 2015, allows patients with a life expectancy of six months or less to ingest a self-administered, life-ending drug if they are mentally competent at that time. While that gives cancer patients and those with several other diseases the right to die without enduring a lengthy period of pain and costly medical care, those restrictions prevent people suffering from various forms of dementia, particularly Alzheimer's Disease, from taking advantage of the law.

California must eliminate those impossible requirements

for patients with dementia and a few other ailments, such as Parkinson's and Lou Gehrig's disease. The six month life expectancy rule eliminates dementia patients, for the disease works its awful devastation to the brain long before the rest of the body is ready to die.

Dementia patients are also excluded from the current law by the requirement that they must be mentally capable at the time of ingestion of the life-ending drug. The rule should be that they are mentally alert when they tell their doctor that they wish to take the drug when they are no longer mentally competent.

The third factor that excludes them from using the current law is the requirement that they self-administer the drug, which at that time they will be unable to do. While still mentally alert they wish to enjoy their families as long as possible. An advance directive could designate one or more people who could assist the ingestion process.

Let the Harber case be a call to action! It should arouse California legislators to broaden the current law to cover those now excluded, particularly dementia's helpless victims.

Ralph E. Shaffer is professor emeritus of history at Cal Poly Pomona.

Proposed healthcare reforms fall short

By **Rosa Mendoza**

Joe Biden is officially the Democratic presidential nominee, all thanks to his moderate reputation.

It is now perplexing that Biden is embracing many of his defeated opponents' ideas, which Democrat base voters rejected just a few months ago. He established a "unity" task force populated by the most vocal supporters of Bernie Sanders. This advisory group recently recommended two far-left measures that could inadvertently disrupt many working-class Americans' access to health care.

The first measure could weaken patent protections, which prevent generic drug manufacturers from copying and selling brand-name medicines developed by rival companies. Inventing a single new treatment costs around \$2.6 billion, according to a 2014 Tufts University study. In 2019 alone, the world's ten largest pharmaceutical companies spent \$82 billion on research and development.

If American entrepreneurship, ingenuity and innovation are to stay at the forefront of the global economy, there must be strong patent and IP protections in place.

Before firms invest billions of dollars into developing new medications -- the vast majority of which fail in clinical trials -- they need assurances that rivals will not be able to reverse-engineer their formulas and produce copycat versions. Otherwise, manufacturers would have little incentive to spend enormous sums on research.

Weakening patent protections would result in less medical research and development spending, and ultimately fewer new drugs for patients. Without patent protections, researchers may not have the right environment to explore new areas of medical innovation and unearth the findings that will lead to much needed treatments and cures.

As an advocate for the Latinx community, ALLvianza understands the pressing need for new and better medicines. Latinx Americans are more likely to suffer from hypertension, obesity, and diabetes than white Americans. The Latinx community relies on prescriptions to manage their conditions. If the pipeline of new therapies dries up, the consequences would be devastating.

The second proposal from the Biden-Sanders task force could similarly discourage innovation by allowing federal officials to effectively set drug prices. Price setting deters research investments. If a company cannot recoup its research and development costs, it will not make those investments in the first place. Worldwide, price setting reduces investments into biopharmaceutical research and development by up to 16 percent annually, according to the U.S. Department of Commerce.

Vice President Biden and his advisers are not wrong to worry about the high cost of prescriptions. The newest, most advanced drugs are only useful if patients can afford them. But instead of arbitrarily

setting prices and weakening patents, Vice President Biden should continue to improve upon what's already been shown to work.

Consider copay assistance programs, through which drug manufacturers offer steep discounts on prescription medication for eligible patients in the form of coupons. These discounts saved patients a whopping \$13 billion in 2018 alone. If elected, Biden could resist efforts that seek to block patients from using such coupons.

In attempting to bring down the cost of drugs, a Biden administration would be well-served to ensure that its proposed solutions work for patients -- not against them. Any plan that jeopardizes access to new cures should be a non-starter.

Voters are craving pragmatic, competent leadership. Vice President Biden should not embrace impractical proposals that would impede development of lifesaving medicines his supporters, especially his Latinx supporters, need.

Rosa Mendoza is President and CEO of ALLvianza, an organization dedicated to the advancement of the Latinx and other underserved communities through education, advocacy and other tangible actions to ensure success in our technology-driven world. This piece originally ran in the Pittsburgh Tribune-Review.

Return to the America we fought for

By **Jim White**

I am a former Army Ranger. After two tours of Vietnam, I can attest to all that we sacrificed. We lost friends and families. We lost limbs. We lost years of our carefree youth. In many cases, we lost the ability ever again to feel completely safe and whole. We lost our innocence.

And not just in Vietnam but in Lebanon, the Gulf War, Croatia, Afghanistan, and hot spots around the globe, soldiers - rangers, marines, navy men, pilots - did it gladly.

Why? Because we loved America.

But the America of today is not the same place it was. Its very fabric is unravelling. This angry, bitterly torn country is not the nation of ideals we fought for. Its deep polarization has made civil discourse impossible, in the media and in the public.

We fought and risked our lives - and tragically, lost them - to uphold the values of our Constitution that we hold dear: democracy, freedom, tolerance, and more.

Unfortunately, our leadership on both sides of the aisle has failed us by not adhering to these values. We have been pitted against each other along partisan, economic, and even racial, lines. Whoever would have thought that Americans would become our own greatest enemies?

America must return to the principles on which this country was built. These are the principles our leaders should adhere to... and the litmus test voters judge them by in the critical upcoming election.

We must return to wisdom and civility. Thankfully, everything we need to restore our country can be found in the texts and teachings of the Founding Fathers and Mothers.

Regardless of which party we vote for, we should demand that leaders govern with criteria including:

Truth. Right now, there is stupefying dishonesty in Washington, and that dishonesty is eroding the public's trust in government. If we are not told the truth... for instance, about the Coronavirus, then how are we to make informed decisions about whether it is safe to go out, to go to work, or to send our children to school? We must demand transparency.

Accountability. This goes hand in hand with truth-telling. We must hold our leaders, as well as our public servants - such as our police - accountable for their actions. They must be worthy of our trust. Sua sponte, "of their own accord," may be appropriate for army rangers, but not for political leaders.

Patriotism. We elect politicians to lead and to serve the people. They must care about all Americans, not just their own electoral base, cronies, or special interest groups. We want to follow a passionate leader who loves this country and puts its interest above themselves, their political party, and winning votes.

It should go without saying that those who serve and sacrifice are treated with the utmost gratitude and respect. To utter words such as "loser" or "sucker" in the same breath as "fallen soldiers" is nothing short of repulsive.

This week we commemorate September 11, one of the most horrific days in American history. We will lower our flags to half-staff to remember all those we lost to evil.

But we should also remember that 9/11 marked a turning point for Americans coming together in mutual support and cooperation. It was a day that helped us recapture Esprit de Corps... the patriotism that characterized us, not just in the military but in society nationwide.

My latest book, "Broken in America: Ten Guiding Principles to Restore America," released September 9. It is a guide for returning us

to the civility and patriotism that once made us proud to be American.

Because that America is the one I was honored to fight for.

Failed leadership

Dear Editor:

This is in response to Dennis Prager's article from 9/3/20, regarding the lockdown and the pandemic.

How much is a life worth?

That is the question that Dennis Prager did not answer in his article about the lockdown because of Covid-19.

Prager failed to mention the real culprit of the spread of the pandemic in this country. Instead he blamed our current State Governor and city leaders. He even blamed the Los Angeles Times newspaper.

Remember our pledge of allegiance?

"I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

Even though we are 50 states, we are one nation and we have one President. He is the leader. He is supposed to represent and to work for all of us.

Our current President has failed to protect the U.S. from the coronavirus. He failed to mount a national response in a timely manner, instead first calling it a hoax, and then claiming it would go away like magic, wasting weeks of valuable time.

Once it was clear the pandemic was not going away, his CDC (Centers for Disease Control which he underfunded) provided a faulty test instead of letting hospitals use the one developed by the WHO which was being used in Europe.

Our President refused to take charge of the Federal government to provide medical protective equipment to first responders. Instead he let the states bid up prices against each other for necessary medical supplies imported from other countries.

He said that everyone who wanted a test could get one, which is still not true to this day.

The Centers for Disease Control put out guidelines which the President said the states should follow in reopening, then the next day he went against his administration's own guidelines, attacking Democratic governors for requiring masks or for shutting down bars and nail salons to protect the public from getting sick. He told states to open up too soon, then the virus cases rose up again.

He has refused to wear a mask because he doesn't like the way it looks, setting a very bad example. (Wearing a mask, washing one's hands and maintaining physical distance from others are the 3 best ways to avoid transmitting or catching the virus).

After over 136,000 deaths in the U.S. from the virus, only on July 11, 2020 did he finally wear a mask in public. As of September 1, 2020, we have had over 186,000 deaths in the U.S.

Prager praises Sweden for never implementing a full-scale lockdown, but Sweden has universal health care and we don't.

The U.S., Brazil and Mexico have been among the countries hardest hit by the pandemic. They are also the three countries whose leaders tried to ignore the pandemic from the start. The U.S. has 4% of the world's population but 25% of the world's cases and over 21% of the deaths. For that reason, Europe and Canada do not allow American tourists to visit.

I am so disappointed with our lack of presidential leadership and the failure to work together to defeat this virus in the U.S.

Anita Rivero Downey

Response to 'Millennial Politicians'

Dear Editor:

Millennial politicians are the future of politics whether you like it or not.

Millennials have had to face a multitude of problems that "The Greatest Generation" did not often have to face. Most millennials live at home with their parents because they can not afford to live on their own. Why? We are having to pay off student debt with the lower-paying jobs.

According to CNBC, millennials earn 20% less than Baby Boomers did - despite being better educated. The entitlement is not there.

We are overworked for little pay and we are sick of it. We have lived through two economic recessions in our lifetimes, leaving us little to no leeway into the middle class suburban homes that older generations were able to afford.

Instead of throwing our hands up and saying, "Oh well, lets leave it to the last generation to fix this mess," I'm proud that we are finally getting politicians with fresher perspectives and better policies that the previous generation was either too afraid or too establishment to even get to.

The President and his opponent are no spring chickens, one being 74 and the other 77. The youngest elected congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio Cortez at 29 years old just won her district with nearly 73% of the vote, beating her Wall Street backed opponent. AOC is an indication of the times. She is making waves and scaring the establishment politicians across both aisles.

The last generation needs to step aside and let the newer generation take over. Step aside and make way for a more progressive and younger America.

Frances Farmer Downey

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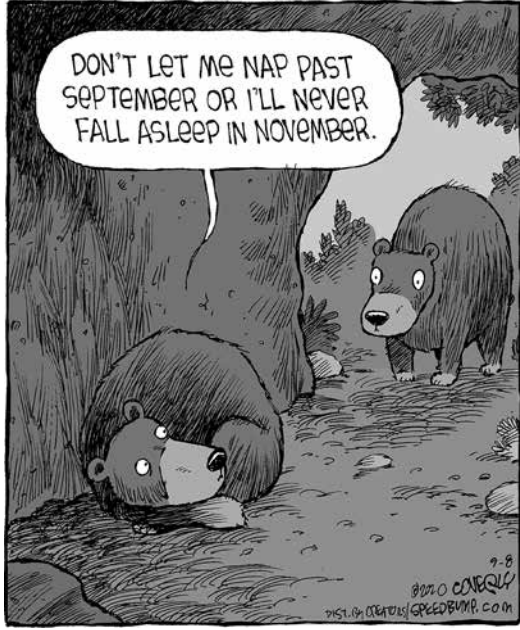
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SPEED BUMP



DAVE COVERLY



Downey Community Calendar

CITY MEETINGS

1st & 3rd Wednesday, 6:30pm: Planning Commission, Council Chamber at City Hall.
1st Tue., 4:00pm.: Recreation and Community Services Commission, Council Chamber, City Hall.
2nd & 4th Tue., 6:30pm: City Council, Council Chamber.
3rd Tue., 6:30pm: Library Advisory Board, at Downey City Library.
3rd Thurs., 6:30pm: CERT, at Downey City Council Chamber at City Hall, for more info call 299-5462.
4th Mon., 5 pm: Green Task Force, at City Hall.

Regularly Scheduled Meetings

MONDAYS

7 pm: Boy Scout Troop 2, at Downey United Methodist Church, call 869-6478.
4:30 pm: Courage Forward Meeting, at 10829 New St, 2nd Floor, call 213-545-6810.
2nd Mon., 11 am: American Legion Auxiliary #270, at United Methodist Church, call 310-386-8112.
3rd Mon., 11:30 am: Downey Newcomers Club, call Marilyn 928-2623.
4th Mon., 7:30 pm: Downey Numismatists, at Downey Retirement Center, call 862-6666.

TUESDAYS

9 am: Quilters group, at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, call 803-4459.
9:30 am: Downey Seniors Club, at Apollo Park, call Irene Vallini at 328-7039.
10 am: Downey Bocce Club, at 7850 Quill Drive, call John Fiorenza at 652-4399.
12 pm: Rotary Club, at Rio Hondo Events Center, call Nate Mahoney 416-1826.
6 pm: Toastmasters Club 587, at First Baptist Church, contact Salvador Cervantes: tmsalcpuede@gmail.com.
7 pm: Downey Knights of Columbus Bingo, at 11231 Rives Ave., call 923-1932.
7 pm: Healing Room and Prayer, at Desert Reign Church 11610 Lakewood Blvd, call 861-6011.
7:30 pm: Downey Master Chorale, at Cornerstone Church, contact info@downeymasterchorale.org.
1st Tues., 7:30 am: Gangs Out of Downey, at City Hall training room.
2nd Tues., 6 pm: Downey Fly Fishers, at Apollo Park, call 425-7936.
3rd Tues., 6:30 pm: Community Emergency Response Team meeting, Fire station 1, 12222 Paramount.
3rd Tues., 6 pm: American Legion #270, at Sizzler Restaurant, call 544-0372.
Tues., Thurs. & Sat., 10 am: Downey Bocce Club, at 7850 Quill Drive, call John Fiorenza 652-4399

WEDNESDAYS

7 am: Kiwanis Club, at Rio Hondo Events Center, call Steve Roberson at 927-2626.
1 pm: Women's Bocce Club, at 7850 Quill Drive, call Marie Puch at 869-4366.
7 pm: Out Post 132 Royal Rangers, at Desert Reign Church, call 928-8000.
1st Wed., 11 am: Woman's Club of Downey, call Cheryl Olson 833-8954.
1st Wed., 11:30 am: Downey Coordinating Council, Community Center, call Bobbi Bruce 440-5416.
1st Wed., 7:30 pm: Downey Stamp Club, at Maude Price School cafeteria, call 928-3028.
2nd Wed., 11:30 am: Christian Women's Club, call Marilyn 928-2623.
2nd Wed., 3:30 pm: Keep Downey Beautiful, at City Hall, call 904-7102.
2nd Wed., 7:30 pm: Downey Model A Club, at Gallatin School Cafeteria, call 928-4132.
3rd Wed.: Downey Dog Obedience Club, for information please call Gina 869-5213 or Valerie 420-2972.
3rd Wed., 10 am: Los Angeles County Quilters Guild, at Women's Club, call 860-8821 or 927-3635.
3rd Wed., 10 am: OLPH Women's Guild, at OLPH School Auditorium, contact Melodie Santana, (562) 806-3102.
3rd Wed., 6:00 pm: Sister Cities of Downey, at Barabara Riley Senior Center, call Gloria Nezahualcoyotl (562) 776-6136.
4th Wed., 7:30 pm: US Coast Guard Aux. Flotilla 5-10, First Presbyterian Church, call Brian 419-5420.
Wed. & Fri., 10:15 am: Senior Bingo, at Apollo Park, call 904-7223

THURSDAYS

7:30 am: Connections Networking, at Bob's Big Boy, for info., call Nick Smith, 861-5222.
7:30 am.: Soroptimist Int'l of Downey, for information, call Mia Vasquez, 806-3217.
9 am: Crafters group, at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, call 803-4459.
9:30 am: Take off Pounds Sensibly, at Barabara Riley Senior Center, call (800) 932-8677.
12 pm: Kiwanis Club of Downey, at Rio Hondo Events Center, call Roy Jimenez 923-0971.
12 pm: Optimist Club of Downey, at Rio Hondo Events Center.
6:30 pm: Downey United Masonic Lodge # 220, 8244 3rd St., call 862-4176.
7 pm: Troop 351, Boy Scouts of America, at First Baptist Church, call 776-3388.
7:30 pm: Downey Elks Lodge #2020, call 803-3557.
1st Thurs, 12 Noon.: People of Faith Ministries, Schroder Piano, call John Veiga 412-7192.
1st Thurs., 7:30 pm.: The Downey Amateur Radio Club, at First Baptist Church room 120.
2nd Thurs., 7:30 pm: Beaming Rebel Foxes Collectors Club, call Carl D. Jones at 923-2400.
2nd & 4th Thurs., 6:30 pm: Downey Lions Club, at Mimi's, call Lenora (310) 283-9825.
3rd Thurs., 4 pm: Public Works Committee, at City Hall Training Room.
3rd Thurs., 6 pm: Downey CIPAC, at Sizzler's Restaurant, call Rich Tuttle 413-6045.
4th Thurs., 10 am: Assistance League, at Casa De Parley Johnson, call 869-0232.
4th Thurs., 7:30 pm: Downey Historical Society programs, at Community Center, call 862-2777.

FRIDAYS

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

SATURDAYS

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

The DOWNEY GRAFFITI HOTLINE NUMBER

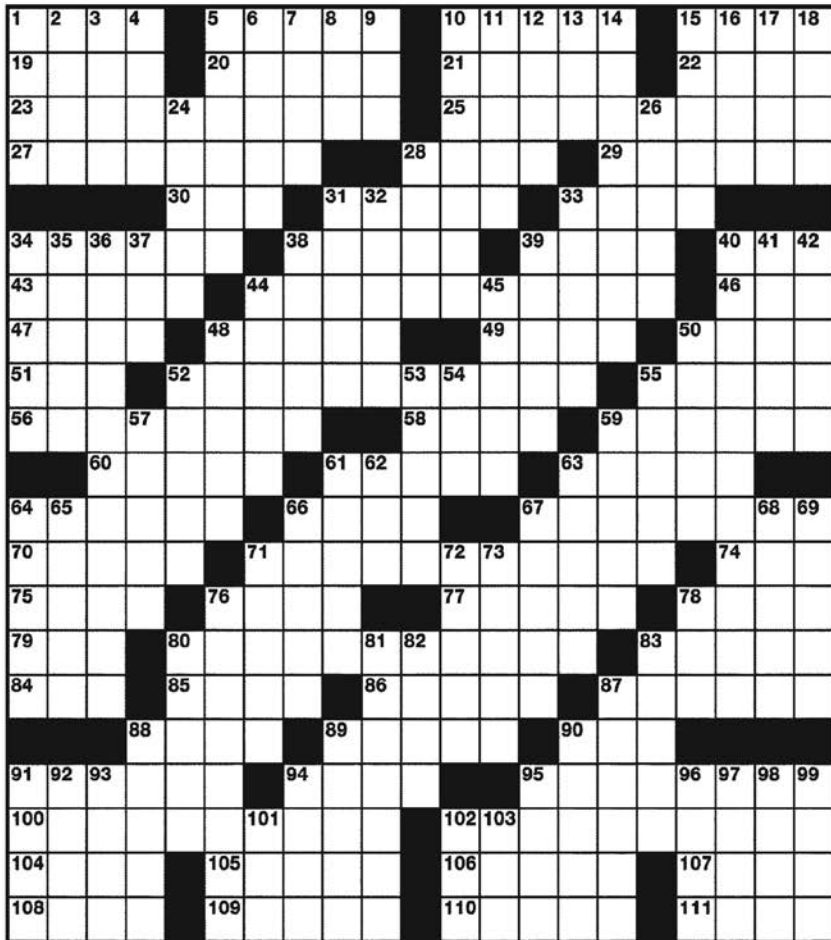
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THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

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

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fungus.
circa 1955, specifically to resist U.S. Department of Agriculture tomatoes, were developed by the (3 Down), also known as Italian Milwaukeee, ROMA tomatoes which opened a grocery store in when Polish immigrant Maxwell stores (39 Across) began in 1927. The KOHL's chain of department cattle, sheep and goats, which include hoofed ruminants, which include of the Bovidae family of cloven-GINGS (15 Across) are members



OG Collectibles fills gaming void in Downey

■ Oscar and Carlos Gonzales opened the video game and collectibles store last weekend and business is already booming.

By Alex Dominguez Staff Writer

DOWNEY — Two brothers have recently opened up shop, looking to bring Downey into the gaming world.

It's no secret — Oscar and Carlos Gonzales know their video games.

Carlos, 23, said that he and his brother loved video games from a young age.

"We always had a fascination about it growing up in a lower middle-class household with a single mother," said Carlos. "She had to entertain us one way or another. She got us a lot of video games back in the day."

According to Oscar, also 23, the gaming passion became lucrative in high school.

"Ever since I was a kid, I was into gaming," said Oscar. "For the last five years, we've been [selling] nonstop, or full-time."

The St. John Bosco alumni began selling online and through other outlets.

"I would go to school in the day, and when I got home, I would go put things for sale online, or find stuff," said Carlos.

Oscar says he got his entrepreneurial spirit from his mother.

"My mom, she's been selling at a swap meet for 25 years," said Oscar. "She always taught me a lot... She has her own business, she's been doing it for over 30 years, and she's raised three kids by herself. She always just finds a way to make ends meet, and I always wanted to be like her."

According to Carlos, the business has been a combination of both brothers' skills.

"He was more the entrepreneur," said Carlos. "I was more the person who'd be in the analytics... basically run some data, like what works, what doesn't work."

Now, the brothers have moved from virtual sales into a storefront.

Located at the former site of Art's Camera on Firestone Blvd, OG Collectibles opened its doors on Labor Day Weekend.

"It has a little bit of everything," said Oscar. "Old video games, modern video games, Funko Pops, toys, plushes... anything really collectible."

Both brothers agreed that prior to their opening, there really wasn't a dedicated "game store" in the city of Downey, save for the usual retail chain suspects which just aren't the same.

"When we were younger, my mom used to always go to GameStop," said Oscar. "Our store is kind of modeled by it, but it's independent."

"I definitely felt there was a need and a demand for it," added Carlos. "One mantra I live in is if 'someone else can't do it do it yourself.'"

"Since it's family-run, we can tailor our sales and everything to our audience. The difference between a GameStop and something like a mom-and-pop shop is its more specific to the people; it's more formulaic at GameStop, where you go to one, you go to all."

Oscar says that OG Collectibles brings a nostalgia factor to the city.

"There are some parents who say, 'Hey, we had this when we were a kid,' when they're buying things for their sons or daughters, their kids," said Oscar. "They're buying things for them so that they could know what their parents played. They're trying to show how [gaming] has gone a long way."



Though they moved from Downey several years ago, the shop gives Carlos and Oscar an opportunity for a homecoming to a city that they have always admired.

"I always just loved the city of Downey," said Oscar. "There was a little bit of everything here, but

there wasn't a shop like this. So, I was like, 'Hey, Downey needs this, and I'm going to be the one that brings a shop like this to the city of Downey.'"

"Growing up, we had a lot of fond memories," added Carlos. "We've always had this attachment to the city of Downey;

we wanted to leave our mark here."

OG Collectibles is located at 8124 Firestone Blvd. and is open every day from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Who's minding the 401(k)?

With the majority of working Americans behind in retirement savings, managing and growing money reserves is a concern in many households.

While 401(k) plans offered through employers remain popular investment vehicles toward retirement, experts note that several factors are out of the employee's control.

Perhaps the biggest questions regard the human factors: who is calling the shots for your company 401(k) plan, and are they making good choices with your money, says Brian Allen, author of "Rewarding Retirement: How Fiduciary Committees Can Elevate Workers, Companies, And Communities," and founder of Pension Consultants, Inc.

"Workers are not being put on track to retire on time with dignity, and this issue must be addressed," says Allen. "Plan committee members often lack training and knowledge, and committees usually judge the efficacy of their advisers on personality or brand, not objective performance."

"Fund selection decisions often amount to getting in high, pulling out low, and repeating. That's common among retirement plan advisers and the fiduciary committees that hire them. It's not exactly an effective way to enhance the performance for the plan participants. Most advisers simply aren't very good at fund selection."

Allen says that for 401(k) plans to prepare workers to retire on time, company retirement plan committees need to get up to speed in these areas:

Know how to judge the investment lineup and advisers. "The return made on an investment compounds powerfully over time, and helping the participants accumulate enough money for a secure retirement is the ultimate objective of the plan," Allen says. "Investment performance must be addressed. You can be confident that your plan's investment menu is performing well when it outperforms an all-index lineup. Knowing this empowers committees to judge the performance of those who advise in this important area."


Select a fund for each asset class. An asset class is a grouping of investments like equities, bonds, commodities, real estate, etc. "After selecting the asset classes, you need a benchmark for each in order to provide a basis to judge their performance," Allen says. "The committee selects a manager — not a person, but rather, a fund — that will outperform the benchmark over time. When selecting a fund manager, the committee should choose a company with these

characteristics: a deep research staff, a concentration of portfolio holdings, and relatively low expenses. They will rely heavily on the plan adviser, who should use various metrics, attributes and experience."

Track the performance of all funds ever in the plan. Poor performance can be concealed by a newly added fund with stronger results. Allen says that when the plan adviser changes one of the funds in the lineup, or suggests

a change, it's often the result of poor fund performance relative to its benchmark. "The old fund's performance cannot simply be disregarded," Allen says. "It influenced the performance of the fund lineup for the time it was there. Therefore, you must keep track of how well the fund did during the time that your plan offered it. That's essential information for evaluating how well your plan adviser performed for you."

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Candidates talk housing at forum

■ Four city council candidates participated in a forum hosted by the Downey Tenants Union, the controversial group that has protested against evictions.

By Alex Dominguez
Staff Writer

DOWNEY — The Downey Tenants Union hosted a virtual candidates forum on Wednesday evening, hoping to gain some insight on potential council members' views on housing issues.

Of the nine candidates currently engaged in the city's three electoral races, four participated.

Alexandria Contreras — Mayor Blanca Pacheco's sole opponent — represented District 1. Catherine Alvarez — the founder of the Tenants' Union — stood as the lone District 3 candidate during the event. District 5 saw

candidate Juan "Joey" Martinez and Arturo Gonzalez take part.

The event was moderated by Leslie Hernandez and Rodolpho Cortes.

Candidates were asked three questions before fielding comments from viewers.

Those questions were:

- 1) "What their stance was on affordable housing,"
- 2) "If elected, what they would do to address the affordable housing issue," and
- 3) "Did they support eminent domain."

The subject of affordable housing was almost unilaterally supported by each candidate, though Gonzalez never specifically gave a yes or no, instead saying that "there are negatives, there are positives," before falling back on an anecdote of previous council decisions on the issue.

When addressing the matter, Contreras spent time speaking of zoning and land use.

"Back in the 1920's and 30's the City of LA was zoned to accommodate over 4 million people to live in the city, but instead what happened was with suburbia being built, it was then zoned for what we call single-family housing, which was then used to segregate neighborhoods...Downey being one of them. Downey," said Contreras. "Downey is what I call a suburb city. A lot of times the affordable housing we want to build, we simply can't do it because of how the city is zoned."

"For example, in my district there is a lot of commercial property that is vacant; it's empty, there's nothing happening there's nothing being done with it. But we can't build affordable housing there because it's only zoned for the purpose of commercial property, which then makes it very difficult to bring the kind of affordable multi-family development that we need to the city."

Martinez's answer took not-so-subtle jabs at the City Council,

for which she has been openly critical in previous months.

"One of the things I need to do if I get elected is do my job, and that's not only listen to the tenants and the renters, and the homeowners here, but work with the Downey Tenants Union and work with organizations that are focusing on ensuring that people aren't losing their homes or aren't struggling to live in their homes."

"With that said, I definitely am for individuals expanding parts of their homes to accommodate for other people to live there. I am definitely on board with that."

Alvarez said she would work with community members to "move rent costs."

"We've got to understand that our families are suffering a lot," said Alvarez. "We cannot build our way out of the housing crisis; we need to use all the tools available to the city to ensure that low-income workers stay in Downey. We cannot make

them leave. Low income families deserve to be in this city."

Eminent domain provided the biggest riff of opinion between the candidates.

"I'm weary to use it, because how it has been used and been weaponized against lower-income communities of color," said Contreras. "For me, I'm not so much of a fan of using eminent domain mainly because it's typically wielded by people who are politically in power, and typically it's not the people who are representing those neighborhoods."

Gonzalez expressed opinions that the city would not have the resources to buy buildings without dipping into reserves, and would therefore allow other individuals looking to be investors in the city to purchase them.

Both Martinez and Alvarez spoke in favor of eminent domain.

"I think a lot of Republicans are not going to be a fan of this,

but considering variables like budgets, and respecting property and individuals who support that property, I honestly believe that eminent domain is a worthy tool that can be used to improve the lives of people," said Martinez.

"If the tenants, the people are struggling, if individuals are suffering and there is a way for us to use eminent domain to improve the situation — which I know we've seen here in Downey with our water in the past — then yes, eminent domain is a fair act to take. Definitely, I would consider it if it is beneficial to everyone, to the majority."

"Eminent domain is a tool that is needed," said Alvarez. "It should be used to rehabilitate buildings that aren't being kept up, and then ensure that the housing is then affordable by either selling it to nonprofit housing developers or organizations."

The forum can be watched via the Downey Tenants Union Facebook page.

Library renovation finishing this month, officials say

By Alex Dominguez
Staff Writer

DOWNEY — After a two month delay due to COVID-19, construction on the city library is due for completion this month.

In March of last year, Downey's library temporarily closed its doors for what was initially anticipated to be a 15-month period to undergo extensive renovation thanks to Measure S.

However, the onset of the

coronavirus pandemic delayed plans for a few months.

Assistant City Manager John Oskoui — answering an email inquiring about the library's progress — said that the City has been providing updates regularly, citing the city's Measure S website.

"We began construction in July of 2019. Our original completion date was end of June 2020," wrote Oskoui. "Due to COVID-19's impact on delivery and availability of construction material and services, the

completion date has been pushed back by two months."

According to the website, completion of construction is planned for this month, with move in and set up following in October.

Oskoui added that he had "no doubt that the finished product is going to be very impressive."

Before it's closure, the library had not seen any renovations or updates since 1979-80.

However, the city would likely still not open the library at

this time even if the remodel had been completed on schedule, due to county restrictions during the current crisis.

"Let's keep in mind that even if the Downey Library was not closed as a result of construction, it would have remained closed because of County Health guidelines," wrote Oskoui. "We will open the Downey Library once the County allows re-opening of public spaces such as libraries."

In the meantime, the library continues to be operational in a

virtual capacity.

According to Ben Dickow — who took over daily management of the library in 2017 — the library has not only continued to provide virtual programming and materials throughout both construction and COVID-19, it has — in fact — expanded.

"When the library went under construction, we made a very concerted, intentional effort to keep library operations open, but obviously without a headquarters," said Dickow. "We've been running programs

like story time, bilingual story time, things like that.... We've been absolutely running programming services during closure."

"We've also increased by tens of thousands the amount of online materials that are available for free to people. I think our E-book library is over 160,000 titles now, [and] over 30,000 movies you can rent through the library; a ton of online resources that people can still take advantage of."

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Obituaries

Hal Singer

Hal Singer, a hit-making jazz saxophonist and R&B performer known for his 1940s No. 1 hit song "Corn Bread," died Aug. 18 at age 100.

Singer played saxophone in various bands in Kansas City and New York City before forming his own band in the late 1940s. His band recorded the fast-paced instrumental song "Corn Bread" for the Savory label in 1948.

The song was popular on the dance floor and reached number one on the R&B charts.

He continued to record music and worked as a session musician playing with Coleman Hawkins and Earl "Fatha" Hines.

Singer moved to France in 1965 and continued to record and perform mostly in Europe. He toured and recorded in the early 1980s with "Rocket 88," a swing and boogie-woogie band that featured drummer Charlie Watts and pianist Ian Stewart of the Rolling Stones.

He was born in Tulsa in 1919 and he and his family survived the Tulsa race massacre in 1921.

Shanna Hogan

Shanna Hogan, a New York Times bestselling author of true crime books including "Picture Perfect: The Jodi Arias Story," died Sept. 1 after drowning at her home in Phoenix. She was 37.

Hogan published her first true crime book in 2011. "Dancing with Death: The True Story of a Glamorous Showgirl, Her Wealthy Husband, and a Horrifying Murder" told the story of the 2004 murder of art dealer Jay Orbin by his wife, Marjorie Orbin.

Hogan's next book, 2013's "Picture Perfect," was a New York Times bestseller, covering the widely publicized case of Travis Alexander's murder by his ex-girlfriend, Jodi Arias.

Hogan went on to publish "The Stranger She Loved" in 2015 and "Secrets of a Marine's Wife" in 2019. She appeared on TV shows including "The View," "Dateline NBC," and "20/20," and she cohosted the podcast "Case Closed."

Hogan was also an adjunct professor at the Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication at Arizona State University.

University.

Lou Brock

Lou Brock, a legendary outfielder for the St. Louis Cardinals known for his base stealing that led the Cardinals to two World Series victories, died Sept. 6 at age 81.

Brock played most of his illustrious career with the Cardinals. His first few years in the Major Leagues were with the Cubs, where he had potential but under-performed.

In June 1964 Chicago famously traded him to St. Louis for pitcher Ernie Broglio. Brock would go on to a 15-season career with the Cardinals.

He had over 3,000 hits, was a six-time All-Star, and won the World Series with the Cardinals in 1964 and 1967.

The speedy Brock, who has the second most career stolen bases behind Ricky Henderson, was elected to the Hall of Fame in 1985.

"First base is useless. And most of the time it is useless to stay there," Brock said in a 1974 interview. "On the other hand, second base is really the safest place on the field. When I steal second, I practically eliminate the double play. And I can score on any ball hit past the infield."

David Gaines

David "Smooky" Gaines, a basketball player with the Harlem Globetrotters before going on to coach at Detroit Mercy, died Sept. 8 of cancer. He was 78.

After attending LeMoyné-Owen College, Gaines was drafted by the Detroit Pistons. But he also had a chance to play for the Harlem Globetrotters, and he took that offer, joining the team in 1963.

Gaines stayed with the Globetrotters until 1967. He later played briefly for the Kentucky Colonels before joining the coaching staff at University of Detroit under head coach Dick Vitale.

When Vitale left the team, Gaines was promoted to head coach, becoming the team's first Black head coach. He went on to become head coach at San Diego State University.

In later years, Gaines became athletic director for Memphis

City Schools.

"Basketball meant a lot to me. The competition was tough. Hey, in Detroit, everything's tough, to tell you the truth," Gaines said in a 1983 interview. "But [playing basketball] taught me to deal with competition, with the elements around me. And when I was able to deal with the elements around me, I was able to deal with everything else when I left. Because it was tougher being in the ghetto."

Kevin Dobson

Kevin Dobson, an actor best known for his roles in "Kojak" and "Knots Landing," died Sept. 6 at age 77.

Dobson got his start on TV in daytime soap operas - first in a brief role in "One Life to Live" in 1968, and then in a variety of roles in "The Doctors."

He landed his first major role in 1973, playing Detective Bobby Crocker in "Kojak" for the show's entire five-season run.

Later, Dobson joined the cast of "Knots Landing" as Mack MacKenzie. He won five Soap Opera Digest Awards for his performance over 11 years, including Outstanding Hero and Favorite Super Couple, with Michele Lee.

Dobson later had a recurring role in "Days of Our Lives," where he was the fourth and final actor to play Mickey Horton, as well as in "The Bold and the Beautiful."

Dobson frequently guest starred on TV shows including "The Mod Squad," "Touched by an Angel," "Nash Bridges," and "CSI." He appeared in movies including "Midway" (1976), "1408" (2007), and an uncredited appearance in

"Klute" (1971).

Tom Seaver

Tom Seaver, a legendary Hall of Fame pitcher who won three Cy Young Awards and led the 1969 "Miracle Mets" to a World Series championship win, died Aug. 31 at age 75 from Lewy body dementia and complications of Covid-19.

Seaver made the Mets as a starting pitcher in 1967, winning 16 games and the National League Rookie of the Year award.

In 1969, he helped lead the underdog "Miracle Mets" to a World Series win over the Baltimore Orioles. In Game 4 of the Series, Seaver pitched a 10-inning complete game win.

After a dispute in contract negotiations before the 1977 season, Seaver was traded to the Cincinnati Reds in a trade called the "Midnight Massacre."

He returned to the Mets in a trade for the 1983 season and then pitched for the White Sox from 1984 until the middle of 1986, finishing the season and his career that year with the Red Sox.

Seaver won three Cy Young Awards, 311 games, and had 3,640 strikeouts. He was elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1992 with almost a 100% "yes" vote.

Sue Maciorowski

Sue Nichols Maciorowski, an animation artist who worked on beloved Disney films including "The Lion King," "Mulan," and "Hercules," died Sept. 1 of metastatic breast cancer at the

age of 55.

Maciorowski began her career in animation while she was still in college, working as a model designer for Jim Henson's "Muppet Babies" as part of a team that won an Emmy Award.

She got her start with Disney in 1991 with "Beauty and the Beast," for which she was a visual development artist. Maciorowski went on to work on many of the classics of the 1990s Disney renaissance, and her art and concepts were key influences on the movies' style and character development.

One of her unique talents for Disney was working with a variety of animators to teach them to use the animation style that was chosen for a film.

Maciorowski worked on Disney animated films including "Aladdin" (1992), "The Lion King" (1994), "Hercules" (1997), "Mulan" (1998), "The Emperor's New Groove" (2000), "Lilo & Stitch" (2002), "The Princess and the Frog" (2009), and "Moana" (2016).

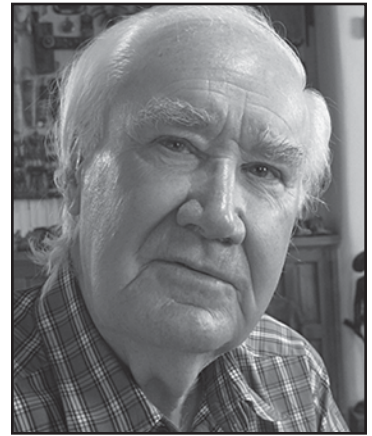
and included it in his 2010 self-published memoir, "The Thrill of the Chase."

Fenn described filling the chest with gold nuggets and coins, antique jewelry with rubies and emeralds, and ancient Chinese jade carvings. It was a tantalizing mystery, and some were unable to ignore the urge to search for it.

Treasure hunters quit their jobs and depleted their life savings to search for Fenn's treasure. Several people died in the hunt, prompting some authorities to ask Fenn to call it off.

He insisted that the chest was findable by a single person, hidden in a location that wasn't dangerous to access.

Earlier in 2020, Fenn announced that a treasure hunter from the east coast had retrieved the chest in Wyoming, though he didn't reveal the chest's specific location.



Forrest Fenn

Forrest Fenn

Forrest Fenn, an antiques dealer and author who hid a treasure chest and inspired a 10-year public hunt for its secret location, died Sept. 7 at the age of 90.

Fenn, a U.S. Air Force veteran who retired with the rank of Major, hid a treasure chest in the wilderness after a 1988 cancer diagnosis. He wrote a poem with clues to its location

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POETRY MATTERS Monarchs, Viceroy, Swallowtails For years they came tacking in, full sail, Riding the light down through the trees, Over the rooftops, and not just monarchs, But viceroy, swallowtails, so many They became unremarkable, showing up As they did whether we noticed them or not, Swooping and fanning out at the bright Margins of the day. So how did we know Until it was too late, until they quit coming, That the flowers in the flower beds Would close their shutters, and the birds Grow so dull they'd lose the power to sing, And how later, after the river died, Others would follow, admirals, buckeyes, All going off like some lavish parade Into the great overcrowded silence. And no one bothered to tell the trees They wouldn't be coming back any more, The huge shade trees where they used To gather, every last branch and leaf sagging Under the bright freight of their wings. Robert Hedin, Alaska Quarterly Review, Vol. 36, No. 3 & 4. Hedin was born and raised in Red Wing, Minnesota. Much of his poetry is set in the landscape of the Midwest, and he has also translated the work of several Norwegian poets. Poetry Matters is curated by Lorine Parks

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FICT. BUS NAME

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File Number 202012179 THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) IS (ARE) DOING BUSINESS AS: (1) THE SHOP FORWARD, 1856 CARNEGIE, SANTA ANA CA 92705, LA COUNTY Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number (if applicable): AI #ON: 4559806 REGISTERED OWNERS(S): (1) KONA JOY, INC, 1856 CARNEGIE, SANTA ANA CA 92705 State of Incorporation: CA THIS BUSINESS IS CONDUCTED BY: a Corporation The date registrant started to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above: 07/2020 I declare that all the information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000). S/ KONA JOY, INC., SECRETARY, DONALD STEVEN GRIER This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on AUGUST 10, 2020 Notice - In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the County Clerk, except, as provided in Subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in this statement pursuant to Section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. Effective January 1, 2014, the Fictitious Business Name Statement must be accompanied by the affidavit of identity form. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State or Common Law (see Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code).

The Downey Patriot 8/20/20, 8/27/20, 9/3/20, 9/10/20

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File Number 2020128746 THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) IS (ARE) DOING BUSINESS AS: (1) THE CUTTING EDGE HAIR STUDIO, 306 STONEWOOD ST STE 32, DOWNEY CA 90241-3909, LA COUNTY, 8120 4TH STREET, DOWNEY CA 90241 Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number (if applicable): AI #ON: N/A REGISTERED OWNERS(S): (1) MARILOLY MARTINEZ, 8120 4TH ST, DOWNEY CA 90241 State of Incorporation: CA THIS BUSINESS IS CONDUCTED BY: an Individual The date registrant started to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above: 11/2011 I declare that all the information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000). S/ MARILOLY MARTINEZ, OWNER This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on AUGUST 25, 2020 Notice - In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the County Clerk, except, as provided in Subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in this statement pursuant to Section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. Effective January 1, 2014, the Fictitious Business Name Statement must be accompanied by the affidavit of identity form. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State or Common Law (see Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code).

The Downey Patriot 9/3/20, 9/10/20, 9/17/20, 9/24/20

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File Number 2020114966 THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) IS (ARE) DOING BUSINESS AS: (1) LA HOUSE PARTNERS (2) SOCIAL HOUSE PARTNERS, 2550 HONOLULU AVE, SUITE 101, MONTROSE CA 91020, LA COUNTY, 3300 FOTHOILL BLVD #12512, GLENDALE CA 91214 Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number (if applicable): AI #ON: N/A REGISTERED OWNERS(S): (1) R M NEDD, INC, 2550 HONOLULU AVE, SUITE 101, MONTROSE CA 91020 State of Incorporation: CA THIS BUSINESS IS CONDUCTED BY: a Corporation The date registrant started to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above: 06/2020 I declare that all the information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000). S/ R M NEDD, INC., PRESIDENT, RONALD MICHAEL NEDD This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on July 30, 2020 Notice - In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the County Clerk, except, as provided in Subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in this statement pursuant to Section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. Effective January 1, 2014, the Fictitious Business Name Statement must be accompanied by the affidavit of identity form. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious

Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State or Common Law (see Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code).

The Downey Patriot 8/27/20, 9/3/20, 9/10/20, 9/17/20

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File Number 2020108404 THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) IS (ARE) DOING BUSINESS AS: (1) NATURE SPEEDWAY, 8524 ELBURG ST #C, PARAMOUNT CA 90723, LA COUNTY Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number (if applicable): AI #ON: N/A REGISTERED OWNERS(S): (1) JUAN PEDRO ROSALES JR, 8524 ELBURG ST. #C, PARAMOUNT CA, 90723 State of Incorporation: CA THIS BUSINESS IS CONDUCTED BY: an Individual The date registrant started to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above: N/A I declare that all the information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000). S/ JUAN PEDRO ROSALES JR, OWNER This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on JULY 20, 2020 Notice - In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the County Clerk, except, as provided in Subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in this statement pursuant to Section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. Effective January 1, 2014, the Fictitious Business Name Statement must be accompanied by the affidavit of identity form. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State or Common Law (see Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code).

The Downey Patriot 8/20/20, 8/27/20, 9/3/20, 9/10/20

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File Number 2020123782 THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) IS (ARE) DOING BUSINESS AS: (1) CREATIONS FLOWER SHOP, 9321 TELEGRAPH RD STE A, PICO RIVERA CA 90660, LA COUNTY, 9321 TELEGRAPH RD STE A, PICO RIVERA CA 90660 Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number (if applicable): AI #ON: N/A REGISTERED OWNERS(S): (1) LETICIA GOMEZ BENITO, 9321 TELEGRAPH RD STE A, PICO RIVERA CA 90660 State of Incorporation: N/A THIS BUSINESS IS CONDUCTED BY: an Individual The date registrant started to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above: N/A I declare that all the information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000). S/ LETICIA GOMEZ BENITO, OWNER, LETICIA GOMEZ BENITO This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on AUGUST 14, 2020 Notice - In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the County Clerk, except, as provided in Subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in this statement pursuant to Section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. Effective January 1, 2014, the Fictitious Business Name Statement must be accompanied by the affidavit of identity form. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State or Common Law (see Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code).

The Downey Patriot 9/3/20, 9/10/20, 9/17/20, 9/24/20

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File Number 2020121111 THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) IS (ARE) DOING BUSINESS AS: (1) SUNSET JWJL, 13044 RUTGERS AVE, DOWNEY CA 90242, LA COUNTY Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number (if applicable): AI #ON: N/A REGISTERED OWNERS(S): (1) ADRIANNA MARIE VIESCA, 13040 RUTGERS AVE, DOWNEY CA 90242 State of Incorporation: N/A THIS BUSINESS IS CONDUCTED BY: an Individual The date registrant started to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above: 07/2020 I declare that all the information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000). S/ ADRIANNA MARIE VIESCA, OWNER This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on AUGUST 10, 2020 Notice - In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the County Clerk, except, as provided in Subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in this statement pursuant to Section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. Effective January 1, 2014, the Fictitious Business Name Statement must be accompanied by the affidavit of identity form. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious

Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State or Common Law (see Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code).

The Downey Patriot 9/3/20, 9/10/20, 9/17/20, 9/24/20

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File Number 2020110360 THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) IS (ARE) DOING BUSINESS AS: (1) MUDESA CLEANING SERVICE, 8142 CHEYENNE AVENUE, DOWNEY CA 90242, LA COUNTY Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number (if applicable): AI #ON: N/A REGISTERED OWNERS(S): (1) URSULA ANDREA MONTERROS O, 8142 CHEYENNE AVENUE, DOWNEY CA 90242 State of Incorporation: CA THIS BUSINESS IS CONDUCTED BY: an Individual The date registrant started to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above: N/A I declare that all the information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000). S/ URSULA ANDREA MONTERROS O, OWNER This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on JULY 22, 2020 Notice - In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the County Clerk, except, as provided in Subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in this statement pursuant to Section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. Effective January 1, 2014, the Fictitious Business Name Statement must be accompanied by the affidavit of identity form. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State or Common Law (see Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code).

The Downey Patriot 8/20/20, 8/27/20, 9/3/20, 9/10/20

NOTICES

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

CASE NUMBER: 20WVCP00120 TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner HELIODORO BECERRA filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Present name (1) HELIODORO BECERRA to Proposed name (1) SAMUEL CASTILLO THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing. NOTICE OF HEARING Date: OCTOBER 14, 2020, Time: 10:30 a.m., Department: C. Room: N/A The address of the court is 12720 NORWALK BLVD NORWALK, CA 90650 A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once a week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in the county, THE DOWNEY PATRIOT MAY 19, 2020 Judge Margaret M. Bernal Judge Of The Superior Court Petitioner or Attorney, In Pro Per HELIODORO BECERRA 3225 WASTY AVE DOWNEY CA 90240 (562) 923-7453 SAMJAZZ@ATT.NET

The Downey Patriot 9/10/20, 9/17/20, 9/24/20, 10/1/20

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

CASE NUMBER: 20WVCP00194 TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner LAWRENCE THOMAS BODDIE filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Present name (1) LAWRENCE THOMAS BODDIE to Proposed name (1) NASSI WATERS THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing. NOTICE OF HEARING Date: OCTOBER 14, 2020, Time: 10:30 a.m., Department: C. Room: 312 The address of the court is 12720 NORWALK BLVD NORWALK, CA 90650 A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once a week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in the county, THE DOWNEY PATRIOT AUGUST 14, 2020 Judge Margaret M. Bernal Judge Of The Superior Court Petitioner or Attorney, In Pro Per LAWRENCE THOMAS BODDIE 11725 RINCON DRIVE WHITTIER, CA 90606 (818) 694-1148

The Downey Patriot 8/20/20, 8/27/20, 9/3/20, 9/10/20

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

CASE NUMBER: 20WVCP00201 TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner ANGELA CHRISTINE HOLCOMB filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Present name (1) ANGELA CHRISTINE HOLCOMB to Proposed name (1) ANGELA CREA DRAGAN THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing. NOTICE OF HEARING Date: OCTOBER 9, 2020, Time: 10:30 a.m., Department: C. Room: N/A The address of the court is 12720 NORWALK BLVD NORWALK, CA 90650 A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once a week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in the county, THE DOWNEY PATRIOT AUGUST 20, 2020 Judge Margaret M. Bernal Judge Of The Superior Court Petitioner or Attorney, In Pro Per ANGELA CHRISTINE HOLCOMB 14062 ADOREE STREET LA MIRADA, CA 90638 (562) 250-4968 ANGELADRAGAN@GMX.COM

The Downey Patriot 8/27/20, 9/3/20, 9/10/20, 9/17/20

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

CASE NUMBER: 20WVCP00199 TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner SOKMONA LISA TOCH filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Present name (1) SOKMONA LISA TOCH to Proposed name (1) MONA LISA SOTELLO THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing. NOTICE OF HEARING Date: OCTOBER 9, 2020, Time: 10:30 a.m., Department: C. Room: N/A The address of the court is 12720 NORWALK BLVD NORWALK, CA 90650 A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once a week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in the county, THE DOWNEY PATRIOT AUGUST 19, 2020 Judge Olivia Rosaes Judge Of The Superior Court Petitioner or Attorney, In Pro Per SOKMONA LISA TOCH 13624 RAMSEY DRIVE LA MIRADA, CA 90638 562-348-9666

The Downey Patriot 8/27/20, 9/3/20, 9/10/20, 9/17/20

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

CASE NUMBER: 20WVCP00217 TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner LARA TORREDA SERRANO filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Present name (1) LARA TORREDA SERRANO to Proposed name (1) LARA TORREDA ESPINOZA THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing. NOTICE OF HEARING Date: NOVEMBER 4, 2020, Time: 10:30 a.m., Department: C. Room: 312 The address of the court is 12720 NORWALK BLVD NORWALK, CA 90650 A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once a week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in the county, THE DOWNEY PATRIOT SEPTEMBER 8, 2020 Judge Margaret M. Bernal Judge Of The Superior Court Petitioner or Attorney, In Pro Per LARA TORREDA SERRANO 11711 LAKEWOOD BLVD., #203 DOWNEY, CA 90241 (213) 292-2973

The Downey Patriot 9/10/20, 9/17/20, 9/24/20, 10/1/20

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

CASE NUMBER: 20WVCP00212 TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner SHERRY MARTINEZ filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Present name (1) SHERRY MARTINEZ to Proposed name (1) SHERRY GO MARTINEZ SAGASY THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person

objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing. NOTICE OF HEARING Date: OCTOBER 21, 2020, Time: 10:30 a.m., Department: C. Room: N/A The address of the court is 12720 NORWALK BLVD NORWALK, CA 90650 A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once a week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in the county, THE DOWNEY PATRIOT AUGUST 31, 2020 Judge Margaret M. Bernal Judge Of The Superior Court Petitioner or Attorney, In Pro Per SHERRY MARTINEZ 10143 SHADYPOINT DRIVE WHITTIER, CA 90603 (562) 631-1868 SMARTINEZ562@GMAIL.COM

The Downey Patriot 9/10/20, 9/17/20, 9/24/20, 10/1/20

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

CASE NUMBER: 20WVCP00047 TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner ROSA ALBINA GALLEGOS (AKA: ALBINITA GALLEGOS RAE) filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Present name (1) ROSA ALBINA GALLEGOS (AKA: ALBINITA GALLEGOS RAE) to Proposed name (1) ALBINITA GALLEGOS RAE THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing. NOTICE OF HEARING Date: OCTOBER 7, 2020, Time: 10:30 a.m., Department: C. Room: N/A The address of the court is 12720 NORWALK BLVD NORWALK, CA 90650 A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once a week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in the county, THE DOWNEY PATRIOT AUGUST 24, 2020 Judge Margaret M. Bernal Judge Of The Superior Court Petitioner or Attorney, In Pro Per ROSA ALBINA GALLEGOS (AKA: ALBINITA GALLEGOS RAE) 9817 SAN VICENTE AVE SOUTH GATE, CA 90280 (323) 569-1115 RAEALBINITA@GMAIL.COM

The Downey Patriot 9/3/20, 9/10/20, 9/17/20, 9/24/20

PROBATE

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF ELISE M. GUTIERREZ Case No. 20STPB06204 To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of ELISE M. GUTIERREZ A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by Pierre Manuel Gutierrez in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that Pierre Manuel Gutierrez be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. THE PETITION requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court. THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A HEARING on the petition will be held on Dec. 22, 2020 at 8:30 AM in Dept. No. 2D located at 111 N. Hill St., Los Angeles, CA 90012. IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law. YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. Attorney for petitioner: G MARK SANTA ANNA ESQ SBN 165416 GMSA LEGAL

TRUSTEE SALES

T.S. No.: 19-23479 A.P.N.: 6281-001-034 NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 9/23/2005. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. A public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash, cashier's check drawn on a state or national bank, check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, or savings association, or savings bank specified in Section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state will be held by the duly appointed trustee as shown below, of all right, title, and interest conveyed to and now held by the trustee in the hereinafter described property under and pursuant to a Deed of Trust described below. The sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by the Deed of Trust, with interest and late charges thereon, as provided in the note(s), advances, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, interest thereon, fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee for the total amount (at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale) reasonably estimated to be set forth below. The amount may be greater on the day of sale. BENEFICIARY MAY ELECT TO BID LESS THAN THE TOTAL AMOUNT DUE. Trustor: JOE DIAZ, AND ALICIA DIAZ, HUSBAND AND WIFE AS JOINT TENANTS Duly Appointed Trustee: Carrington Foreclosure Services, LLC Regainst You: AS INSTRUMENT NO. 05 2388770 in book, page of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of Los Angeles County, California. Described as follows: AS FULLY DESCRIBED IN SAID DEED OF TRUST DATE of Sale: 10/6/2020 at 10:30 AM Place of Sale: Behind the fountain located in Civic Center Plaza located at 400 Civic Center Plaza, Pomona, CA 91766 Amount of unpaid balance and other charges: \$379,392.69 (Estimated) Street Address or other common designation of real property: 13112 IBBETSON AVENUE DOWNEY CA 90242 A.P.N.: 6281-001-034 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address or other common designation, if any, shown above. If no street address or other common designation is shown, directions to the location of the property may be obtained by sending a written request to the beneficiary within 10 days of the date of first publication of this Notice. IF THE TRUSTEE IS UNABLE TO CONVEY TITLE for any reason, the successful bidder's sole and exclusive remedy shall be the return of monies paid to the Trustee, and the successful bidder shall have no further recourse. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee, or the Mortgagee's Attorney. If you have previously been discharged through bankruptcy, you may not have been released of personal liability for this loan in which case this letter is intended to exercise the note holder's rights against the real property only. THIS NOTICE IS SENT FOR THE PURPOSE OF COLLECTING A DEBT. THIS FIRM IS ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT ON BEHALF OF THE HOLDER AND OWNER OF THE NOTE. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED BY OR PROVIDED TO THIS FIRM OR THE CREDITORS WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. As required by law, you are hereby notified that a negative credit report reflecting on your credit record may be submitted to a credit report agency if you fail to fulfill the terms of your credit obligations. 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If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call (844) 477-7869 or visit this Internet Web site www.STOXPOSTING.com, using the file number assigned to this case 19-23479. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. Date: 8/31/2020 Carrington Foreclosure Services, LLC 1500 South Douglas Road, Suite 150 Anaheim, CA 92806 Automated Sale Information: (844) 477-7869 or www.STOXPOSTING.com for NON-SALE information: 888-313-1969 Tai Alailima, Director

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CN971868 The Downey Patriot 9/3/

Climate change will decimate Palm Springs, Coachella Valley tourism, study says

A new UC Riverside study finds that climate change will have a devastating effect on the greater Palm Springs area's dominant industry — tourism.

Thousands known as "snowbirds" flock to the region annually from elsewhere in the country to escape freezing winters. However, due to climate change, the number of days above 85 degrees between November and April is projected to increase by up to 150% by the end of the century.

These changes are enough to prevent many from patronizing the area's famous outdoor attractions and events such as the annual Coachella Valley Music Festival, according to the study published this week in the journal Climatic Change.

Many businesses in the Palm Springs area already close due to lack of customers during the hot summer months, when daytime high temperatures average up to 108 degrees in July and August. Employment follows these patterns, with regional employment declining by 7.2 percent between April

and October in 2017.

The researchers modeled two different future climate scenarios — one in which heat-trapping gases are significantly reduced, resulting in slowed warming, and one in which emissions are not mitigated at all.

"The two scenarios differed a little by mid-century, but were very different by 2100," said Francesca Hopkins, assistant professor of climate change and sustainability. "In both cases we saw big declines in the number of days suitable for snowbirds, but this was much more pronounced in the scenario with no emissions reductions."

In order to assess future effects of increased heat, the researchers analyzed two key components of the local tourism industry in addition to the winter weather: the number of visitors to The Living Desert, a popular outdoor zoo, and the likelihood of extreme heat at the Coachella music festival.

The Living Desert Zoo and Gardens, established 50 years

ago, is a nonprofit zoo visited by more than 510,000 people last year. The research team found that it stands to lose up to \$1.44 million annually in tourism in today's dollars with 18 percent fewer visitors at the end of the century.

Similarly, heat is also projected to impact the annual Coachella music festival, which began in 1999, and attracts roughly 250,000 concertgoers. The researchers did not assume that increased heat will necessarily affect attendance. However, they did find that probability of attendee exposure to extreme heat — if it continues to be held in April — could increase six-fold by end of century if climate change goes unmitigated.

"Though other studies have focused on the impact that climate change will have on cold winter destinations popular for sports like skiing, this is one of the first to focus on a warm winter destination, and its impact on such a specific region," Hopkins said.

Places like the Coachella



Sunset during the Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival, 2014. (Photo courtesy UC Riverside)

Valley are especially vulnerable to the impacts of climate change because they cannot shift snowbird season to cooler times of year, since those don't exist, Hopkins explained.

Cindy Yañez, a UCR physics graduate and first author of the study, was born in the Coachella Valley, and has lived there most of her life. Many people in the area have jobs that require

them to work outdoors, either in agriculture or tourism. She wonders whether there will be a climate breaking point that might cause locals like these to move away.

"Weather is a resource that draws in money just like other resources do. If that gets redistributed it could have severe impacts on peoples' lives both physically and

economically," Yañez said. "I am hoping this research will start a conversation in the community. We still have time to avoid the worst of these predictions if we can reduce our greenhouse gas emissions today."

Resident Bonnie Bowater celebrated her 98th birthday over the weekend with a special car parade put together by her family, friends and neighbors.

Photo by Alex Dominuez



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