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Strong-armed robberies

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30 years later, Downey police officers recall shooting

DOWNEY — In the early morning hours of Oct. 9, 1990, five heavily-armed gunmen broke into the PACE Warehouse store in Downey. Armed with assault rifles and protected by flak jackets, the gunmen stole \$46,000 in cash from a warehouse safe before the robbery was interrupted by Downey Police

Two Downey police officers were shot and wounded in an ensuing gun battle. Officers Randy Ewing and Joel Willis survived their injuries and eventually returned to patrolling

Thirty years after the shooting, Ewing and Willis — along with responding officer Ralph Bruner — shared their memories of the incident.

really lucky that none of our officers were killed, and that none of the citizens that were being held hostage inside the warehouse were injured badly or were killed. I think a lot of that, we have to thank the Downey Fire Department, because when they got there, we had two officers shot multiple times each. The Fire Department — without hesitation — came running in with stretchers and grabbed our two injured officers...knowing that the scene wasn't secure. They retrieved our officers and took them to the hospital, and quite possibly saved their lives.

I think overall — the way all four of us responded — it's probably what saved our lives in the situation; mine and everybody's there.

Did you ever fear for your life?

Of course. I had a large number of full-automatic rounds shot at me at my police car, and rounds were bouncing all around me. Obviously, it would scare anybody. The training is incredibly important. Downey PD was always amazing...It was incredibly scary for all of us, and incredibly scary for 20 plus people that were being held hostage inside the Pace warehouse.

To say I wasn't scared is crazy, I was definitely scared. But I think just responding in a way you've been trained, and having a plan made it a lot easier to deal with.

Did the incident affect you at all?

I think right after the incident when I got back to work — this is kind of a humorous way of putting it — I was kind of sneaking up on parked cars to write parking tickets because I was a little nervous that something like that may happen again. It does affect you later on the job; not making me crazy, but making me cautious, and maybe overly so at first. Then I kind of toned down and got back to being myself and really enjoying the job again for a lot of years...I don't think it made me cynical or a bad policeman in any way, I think it just made me a little more careful. I already kind of knew that things like this could happen, but it's still a shock when something of this level happens. This was pretty dramatic.

What are you up to today?

I moved up here to Utah. I've been retired now for 15 years; it's unbelievable. It probably feels like longer than that to my wife. Been married for 46 years now, and just doing my best to keep her happy and enjoy our retirement here.

Joel Willis

What was your rank at the time of the shooting?

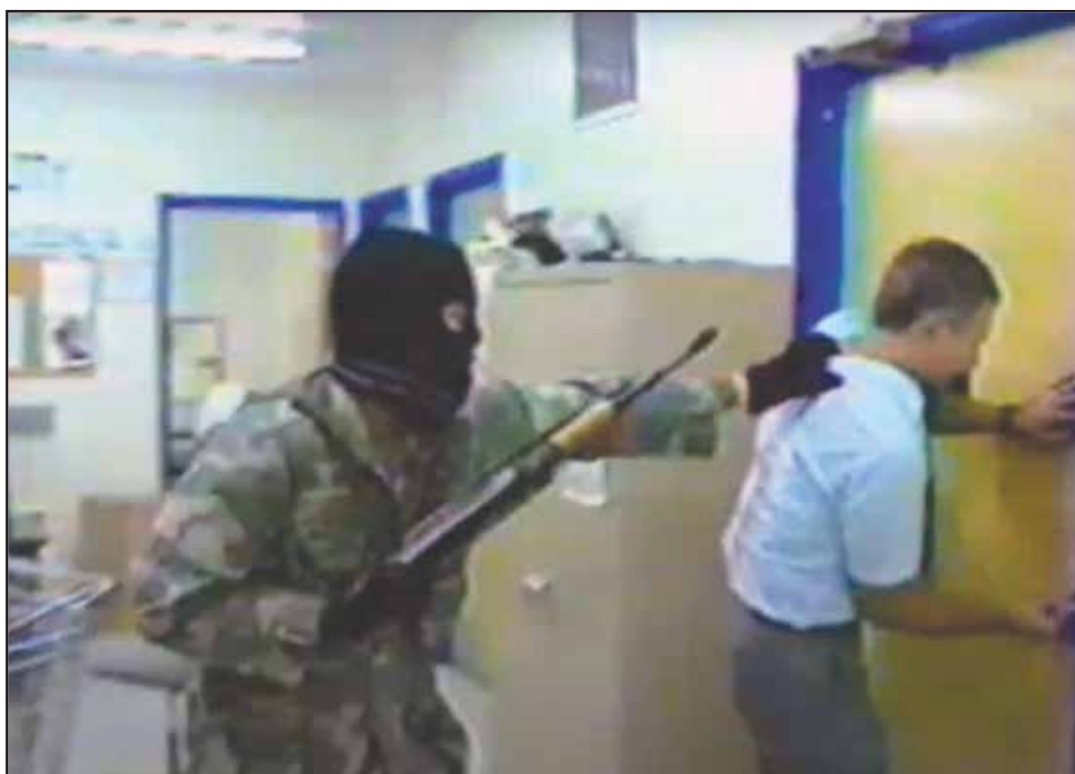
I was just a policeman; I had 8 months out of the academy. I was a rookie.

How old were you at the time?

22.

What are your memories of the incident?

I'm sure you've heard the story. It was an ambush. We didn't know if we were looking at an actual robbery in progress inside the store. There were multiple cars parked out in the parking lot. We didn't even have a clue that there would be anybody hiding in cars to shoot at us. I was hit before I knew what was even going on; the first sound or even idea that there was a shooting going on was the



Five armed men robbed the Pace Warehouse store in Downey on Oct. 9, 1990. This image is taken from a training video recreating the robbery created by Downey Police.

impact of the bullet. It hit my butt, but it came out my knee. That's how I knew I was involved in a shooting, and then it just snowballed from there.

Can you explain what that feels like to be shot? You said it entered your buttock and out your knee.

I didn't feel it go in; the only thing I felt was the exit wound out near my knee there. It felt like somebody hit me with a sledge hammer from behind. Then the second I felt it — the initial sense of being hit with a sledge hammer — it immediately went away; there was zero feeling, zero pain, nothing. I knew I had been shot, but I had zero pain; I couldn't feel a thing. And I was still standing.

You already know that you're injured. Now you realize that you're in a potentially very dire situation. What goes through your mind? What happens at that point? What action do you take?

I turned and I looked...and basically said who the "blank" shot me? I turned, and there's a guy behind me — about 25 feet away, maybe — with a full-auto AK47 just blowing rounds at me. I was just in awe that I wasn't being hit; I didn't think I was, but it turns out I was. I got shot two other times, but I didn't know.

I remember just trying to get to cover, and feeling bullets fly by my head, hitting the ground, hitting the wall behind me, trying to get to the pillar for cover. That was my first objective, was to get out of the line of fire.

Did you ever fear for your life?

I didn't fear the initial barrage, which I really found weird. When I got to safety behind the pillar, then I started getting scared...Everything just went dire, because everything didn't calm down when I was safe...not quite panic, just fear. Then I looked down and I saw in my right hand I had my gun, and when I saw that gun I realized I could fight back. I got extremely angry, like a rage I can't even describe. I just rolled over and started and started engaging the guy again.

He took off running; I hit him once. Kept firing. He got up, and I guess he got into a getaway van, but I never saw the van.

Once I got that rage in, my training kicked in. Then my brain basically took over my body; I had no control over what I did. It was just watching it perform, due to my training; it just went into a reactionary, instinctive mode...my brain just took over. It was weird.

How did the incident affect you? Does it still affect you?

I went back to work five or six months later, and continued seeing a psychology doctor, kind of going through some stuff in my head. I was fine psychologically, just because of that rage that saved me I had some anger issues I had to get through. Got through that, and I was all good; at least I thought I was. Then I left and went to Anaheim PD, and promptly got into another shooting...the combo of them kind of really took a toll on me mentally. But post traumatic stress, you can deal with it. It'll be with me forever, for sure. You just gotta know how to deal with it.

What are you up to today?

I've since retired. Enjoying my retirement...just living life with my family. My kids are all grown up. My youngest is 21, my middle daughter is 23, and my oldest boy is 30. Just kind of hanging with them and my wife.

Randy Ewing

What was your rank at the time of the shooting?

I was just a police officer.

How old were you at the time?

36

What are your memories of the incident?

We got the call about 5 o'clock in the morning. Possible armed robbery, burglary. The Pace location, we knew they were closed, but there was a gas station there that always had problems with people coming in...We parked underneath the — I think it was the 605 — we parked under there and went in on foot. As we were going on foot, Ralph went by and went to the far side of Pace. We'd just cleared the gas station; it was closed, there was nobody there.

There were lots of cars in the parking lot, nothing really stood out to us. We had been briefed that there was a crew working, pulling these robberies but I don't think we really had time to connect all of that. We turned our radios down...we didn't want the dispatchers jumping on the air on us and giving our position away.

We went through there, started clearing the parking lot. About the time we cleared the parking lot — approaching the vehicles in the parking lot — Ralph pointed out that he had suspects inside Pace...He walked towards the front, because there was lights leading from it; you

could see people inside. At that point, we started scrambling to take cover. Unfortunately, I took cover in front of the suspects getaway vehicle. I was behind a light standard there, Joel was to my north, towards the pillars right at the front. I don't know where Keith was at that point...I could see Joel and Ralph, but I wasn't sure where Keith was.

At that point I crouched down — I had a shotgun — I crouched down behind the light standard and I heard the door of the van open up behind me to my right. I rose up, and as I started to stand up to face it and turn, that's when I got shot. Then all hell broke loose after that.

I jumped to the other side of the planter to get away from the knucklehead that was shooting at me, hit the ground and tried to move back towards the planter so at least if he did step across when he came out I'd have a little bit of cover.

I dropped the shotgun, then he stepped through his position through the bushes there; we were in a firefight just right there.

He was shooting at Joel; I'm not sure he knew where I was at right away. But when I sat up and shot back at him, he directed his attention to me. Then he turned and ran.

One of the three of us shot him. I'm not sure which one; it's always in contention between the three of us, but it doesn't matter at this point. He did take a bullet, and he went down. He got up, and ran back in the van.

The van was backing up; he had to run around to get into it. I put a bullet through the rear of the van just hoping to get a lucky shot on somebody...then I put one through the driver's door.

Unfortunately, it went to a crossbeam in the door there, and it prevented it from hitting the driver. Pretty much, that's it.

Where were you shot?

I was shot in the buttocks and the hip on the right side, and in the side on the left and the buttock on the left.

What are you up to today?

I'm a wildlife photographer now, North Idaho. I got my kids here, and I remarried about 15 years ago.

Alex Dominguez conducted the interviews. Eric Pierce contributed to this report. The Downey Patriot would like to thank the Downey Police Department for its assistance in coordinating the interviews.

Weekend at a Glance

Friday 73°

Saturday 72°

Sunday 68°

ON THIS DAY OCTOBER 22

1797:

French balloonist Andre-Jacques Garnerin made the first parachute descent, landing safely from a height of about 3,000 feet.

1879:

Thomas Edison tested his first incandescent light bulb. It lasted 13 1/2 hours before burning out.

1934:

Bank robber Charles "Pretty Boy" Floyd was shot and killed by federal agents. Floyd was popular in the public because during robberies he would burn mortgage documents, freeing people from their debts.

1962:

President John F. Kennedy announced an air and naval blockade of Cuba following the discovery of Soviet missile bases on the island.

1966:

The Supremes became the first all-female music group to attain a No. 1 selling album.

1968:

Apollo 7 safely splashed down in the Atlantic Ocean after orbiting Earth 163 times.

1981:

The Professional Air Traffic Controllers Organization was decertified by the federal government for its strike the previous August.

2001:

Grand Theft Auto III was released, popularizing a genre of open-world action games as well as spurring controversy about violence in video games.

2002:

A bus driver was shot to death in Maryland in the 13th and final attack by the Washington-area sniper.

2019:

Northern Ireland legalized same-sex marriage and decriminalized abortion.

Notable Birthdays

Jeff Goldblum, the television host and film actor who starred in "Independence Day," turns 68.

"Back to the Future" star **Christopher Lloyd** turns 82.

Heavyweight boxer **Deontay Wilder** turns 35.

Jonathan Lipnicki, the former child actor who had a memorable role in "Jerry Maguire," turns 50.

Pop singer **Shaggy** turns 52.

UK-born rapper **21 Savage** turns 28.

"Modern Family" star **Jesse Tyler-Ferguson** turns 45.

Retired baseball player **Ichiro** turns 47.

Stand-up comic **Carlos Mencia** turns 53.

Author and alternative medicine advocate **Deepak Chopra** turns 74.

Notable Deaths

Soupy Sales, the comedian and radio/television personality who hosted the sketch comedy show "Lunch with Soupy Sales," died of cancer on this date in 2009. He was 83.

Paul Weitz, an American astronaut who served as commander of the maiden flight of the Space Shuttle Challenger, died on this date in 2017. He was 85.

Crime Report

Oct. 7:
 Detectives are investigating an assault with a deadly weapon that occurred around midnight in the 8000 block of Imperial Hwy. Officers responded to Kaiser Permanente regarding a victim with a wound to the back of his head. The adult male victim advised an unknown male suspect approached him. The suspect demanded money from the victim. When the victim stated he did not have any money, the suspect struck the victim on the back of his head with a handgun. The victim then fled the location on foot.

Oct. 8:
 At approximately 7:55 pm, officers responded to 12544 Rives (Apollo Park) regarding an attempted robbery with a firearm. The 20-year-old male victim was at Apollo Park near the restrooms when the suspect, whom he has seen in the area before, approached him. The suspect asked what possessions the victim had while lifting his shirt, exposing a firearm. The victim used his cell phone to call police and the suspect walked eastbound and out of sight. The victim was intoxicated and uncooperative. Detectives are investigating the incident.

Oct. 10:
 At approximately 6 am, officers responded to a domestic violence call in the 8700 block of Imperial Hwy. The victim was awoken in his bedroom when his wife accused him of infidelity. When the

male denied having an affair, the female pointed a firearm at his forehead and threatened to kill him. The male fled the residence and the female followed. As the male was running away, he heard what sounded like a single gunshot. Officers arrested the female when she returned home. The victim was not injured in the incident.

Oct. 11:
 Detectives are investigating a strong-arm robbery that occurred at about 12:55 am in the 12500 block of Paramount Blvd. The male adult suspect entered the store and selected merchandise. The suspect concealed the merchandise in a bag and started walking toward the exit doors. The victim told the suspect to put the merchandise back or pay. The suspect lifted his shirt and made a statement threatening the victim. The victim did not see a weapon however he believed the suspect had a knife. The victim moved away from the suspect and the suspect fled with the merchandise.

Oct. 14:
 At approximately 1:05 pm, officers located a stolen vehicle in the 11400 block of Pruess. Officers observed the vehicle in the area of Firestone Blvd. and Paramount Blvd. but the vehicle fled before officers could catch up. The vehicle was located unoccupied in the 11400 block of Pruess. An area search was conducted but the suspect was not located. The vehicle was recovered.

Oct. 15:
 Detectives are investigating a strong-arm robbery that occurred around 5:05 pm in the 8400 block of Firestone Blvd. The manager noticed a male inside the store possibly concealing items. When the manager contacted the male, he became angry and threatened to assault her. The male left the store without paying for the concealed items. Moments later, the male returned and attempted to punch

the manager and take her cellphone from her hand. The suspect then fled on foot eastbound. Officers checked the area however were unable to locate the suspect.

Oct. 18:
 At approximately 4 pm, officers responded to a robbery call at the Burlington Coat Factory. The adult male suspect began to conceal items within his duffle bags. Promenade security was contacted by the store and upon their arrival, the suspect fled with the loss. The suspect was contacted by security to the rear of Floor and Décor at which time a struggle ensued. During the struggle, the suspect brandished a folding knife and stabbed the security officer multiple times in the back causing moderate injuries. The suspect picked up the duffle bags and fled on foot. Officers received a call at approximately 1830 hours in the area of Lakewood/Meadow regarding a male jumping fences. Officers detained the subject, who matched the suspect description in the earlier stabbing. An officer was able to positively identify the subject as being the suspect.

Police break up gambling operation

DOWNEY — An illegal gambling ring operating out of a Downey liquor store was shut down last week, authorities said.

On Oct. 16, Downey Police served search warrants at a pair of businesses located within a strip mall on the northeast corner of Paramount Boulevard and Imperial Highway.

Police said they found cash, two gambling machines, and “a large quantity” of pre-paid credit cards at Vikum’s 2am Liquor and in a neighboring vacant business.

The owner of the liquor store was arrested and booked for operating an illegal gambling establishment. The owner’s name was not released.

Eric Pierce, editor

Service to Downey	CARRIE UVA	Other Candidates
President Downey Chamber of Commerce	YES	?
Commissioner Downey Public Works	YES	?
Endorsed by 4 of 5 Downey City Council Members	YES	?
Endorsed by all 7 School Board Members	YES	?



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Warren High hosting blood drive

By Mark Fetter Contributor

DOWNEY — Although the start of fall athletics at both Downey and Warren High Schools have been delayed due to COVID-19, other meaningful events are still taking place in Downey.

The Warren High School's girls' cross-country team and Associated Student Body are hosting a Blood Drive in the school library on Thursday, Nov. 5, from 12-7 p.m. The Warren High School address is 8141 De Palma St. and the library is located right in the middle of the campus.

For an appointment, please visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter Sponsor Code: Warren or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

As a new feature this year, all blood donations are now tested for COVID-19 antibodies. You can also streamline your donation experience and save up to 15 minutes by visiting RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass to complete your pre-donation reading and health history questions on the day of your appointment.

Warren High School is in the top five in the nation and second in California in blood donations for the Red Cross. Coach Waldron, his girls' cross-country team and the Warren High School Associated Student Body (ASB) hope to see you donating blood on Nov. 5. Any further questions may be directed to Coach Jay Waldron at (562) 544-3373 or by email at jwaldron@dusd.net.

Dr. Ray Gonzalez of M.V.P. Family Practice & Sports Medicine, Inc. recently traveled to Las Vegas where he worked as the medical advisor for welterweight boxer Arnold Barboza Jr.

Dr. Ray was in the Top Rank boxing bubble at the MGM Grand Hotel for ESPN Fight Night last weekend. Dr. Ray's primary role was to look after all of Barboza's

health care needs from injury to illness applying stitches in the event of a cut.

As a boxing fan (and boxer himself) and fitness advocate, Dr. Ray welcomed the opportunity to be in the corner of Barboza.

Dr. Ray also served as an advocate for stopping the spread of germs while working in Las Vegas, which included COVID-19 counseling and information.

Downey-based M.V.P. Family Practice currently offers COVID-19 rapid in-house or mobile testing with results in minutes. M.V.P. provides a safe testing environment and experienced staff. Gold standard tests such as the PCR Molecular Nasal swab and the new Antigen test are both available.

Dr. Ray wants to see sports return, safely of course, and offers these services to help athletes get on the field or court again. Dr. Ray may be contacted at M.V.P. Family Practice at (562) 928-5700 or seen at 7800 Florence Ave.

Metro may pause freeway expansion plans

City officials are pressuring Metro to scale back its 605 Freeway expansion project.

DOWNEY — State transportation officials may delay plans to pursue an expansion of the 605 Freeway that could have resulted in the demolition of up to 250 Downey homes, city officials said this week.

Metro's Board of Directors was set to consider a motion Thursday to delay a release of its environmental impact report for the freeway expansion "until it includes a more locally supported alternative that will minimize the number of properties that may be taken in Downey as part of the freeway widening," Downey officials said in a news release.

Metro's initial proposal to widen the 605 and 5 freeways would have required up to 250 Downey homes to be purchased by the state and then demolished.

"Our city has been actively pushing for other alternatives that will help minimize negative impacts for our residents," said Mayor Blanca Pacheco.

"We are happy to know Metro's Board of Directors heard our concerns and they agree that we must consider an alternative that will take into consideration

our community's concerns."

City officials said they have been working closely with Santa Fe Springs, the Gateway Cities Council of Governments and the I-5 Joint Powers Authorities to get Metro and Caltrans to revise its expansion plans.

"We as a city have been very proactive and vocal in opposing Metro's proposed alternatives, which would have impacted hundreds of homes in our community," said Mayor Pro Tem Claudia Frometa.

"Our goal is to continue working with all agencies involved to ensure the best possible outcome for our residents."

Metro downplayed the freeway widening proposal two weeks ago, saying the project was in its preliminary stages.

"Before going any further, we want to be abundantly clear: Metro has made no decisions about this project, which is still in the early planning stages. Nor have any decisions been made about property acquisitions," Metro said in the statement.

"The project's Draft Environmental Impact Statement/Report (DEIS/R) will be released in early 2021 and will provide the communities along this corridor with information about the project's benefits and impacts — as well as ways to potentially avoid or mitigate those impacts."

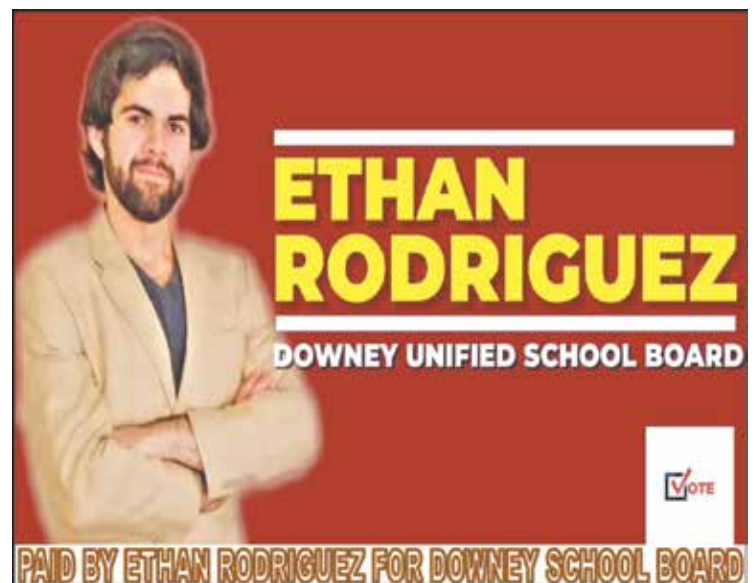
A proposal under consideration by Metro would add two lanes along a 16-mile stretch of the 605 Freeway, from the 105 to the 10.

The 605 and 5 Freeway interchange near the Rio Hondo River would also be widened, which is where many of the Downey homes would be impacted.

No funding has yet to be approved for the project, including for design, right-of-way acquisition, or construction.



Dr. Ray Gonzalez



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Disrespectful candidates

Dear Editor:

Politics is a dirty game, this is not news to any of us. But two candidates in the current race for a City Council seat have brought campaigning in Downey to a new low and it's sickening.

Catherine Alvarez (running in District 3) and Juan Martinez (District 5) have both held loud protests at the homes of City Council members and at fundraising events of other candidates.

As if that were not enough, my wife and I were at home relaxing this past Sunday when we heard several cars outside yelling Catherine Alvarez's name from bullhorns. Three cars all in a row driving down a residential street with "Alvarez" banners on the sides.

Do they actually think this will get them votes? I can't imagine what the people who think that is okay would do when on the council.

I have faith in my city and know that Downey voters will show these people the door. The disrespect they show for the city must not be tolerated.

I posted on Catherine Alvarez's campaign page that I didn't appreciate the noise from her drive-bys. This was her response: "It's just a brief drive and you can go back to sticking your head in a hole like an ostrich."

**John Zander
Downey**

In defense of hats

Dear Editor:

As an elected official for almost 6 years now, I get a lot of complaints about many various issues in the city. If your first complaint is about my choice in hats, I will take that as a win. ("Sean Ashton's Hats," Letters to the Editor, 10/15/20)

If you have any other complaints, please feel free to email me at sashton@downeyca.org.

**Sean Ashton
Downey**

Neighborhood nuisance

Dear Editor:

After the neighborhood behind Stox Restaurant has once again been awakened from the disturbances at Hully Gully nightclub, we awake to find our weekend deposit of urine, human poop, White Claw cans, used condoms, beer bottles, cigarettes, and everyone's favorite, 40's and Four Lokos.

We were even awakened last night by cars colliding with each other, and both drivers discussing how they were both too drunk to report it so they called it good... after 30 mins of yelling.

A drunk girl was so drunk she locked her keys in the car, beating on it, making the alarm go off until the tow truck driver came... oh, and the tow truck driver opened her car and gave her the keys, and we watched her drive off.

Every weekend other neighbors and I walk the streets to pick up four bags' worth of party-related trash. On Monday morning we report this to our City Hall health and code enforcement departments, with nothing to be done. Every weekend, every Monday, same thing. The City of Downey is not doing a thing. No police presence, no nothing.

Thanks, City of Downey, for doing nothing to protect residents' health. Thanks for helping with the spread of this pandemic.

This is shameful, City of Downey. I have pictures as proof if needed.

**Michael Ray
Downey**

Covid-19 vaccine

Dear Editor:

It is a well known fact that investing in the stock market must be long term to be successful. Otherwise it is gambling.

Warren Buffet has stated that if you are not willing to hold a stock for 10 years you shouldn't own it for 10 minutes as a further comment that investing must be long term.

That is why the Trump administration's optimism and push to have a Covid-19 vaccine available in late November is not only irresponsible but actually criminal because we won't know the long term effects of any vaccine at that time since not enough time has elapsed to observe its long term effects and hence we'll be gambling with people's lives.

I am a veteran and receive my medical treatments at the VA hospital in Long Beach. For the last 30 years I have participated in several research programs about medicines and vaccines as a volunteer because I feel it is my duty to help in the development of new medicines, vaccines and treatments that might help my fellow veterans.

I am now in my third year of a research project on a new medicine. I was inoculated with something at the beginning of the program. I don't know if I received the medicine under test or a placebo. I get tested every 6 months and checked on a weekly basis for side effects.

That is truly a long term evaluation of a medicine or vaccine and that is what it should be done with any Covid-19 vaccine before it is handed out to non informed innocent people.

**Jorge Montero
Downey**

Message from Downey Symphony

Dear Editor:

I would like to start by thanking the many individuals who have helped and supported our orchestra through these unique and trying times. Coming in as President of the Board this year was an unusual process, yet the support of our community has been overwhelming.

While we are still working and planning for future concerts, the health and safety of our patrons and performers must come first. For this reason I regret to announce that we will be canceling the rest of our regular scheduled season for 2020 Fall - 2021 Spring.

That being said, we are actively working towards finding new and innovative ways to engage with our community.

One way we have already started to bring Classical Music back into your lives and now your living rooms is with personal interviews. Sharon Lavery, our esteemed Conductor and Music Director, has been interviewing members of our orchestra to bring the symphony back to the city of Downey. These interviews can be viewed on our website, www.downeysymphony.org, and can be found under the virtual content tab.

It is true that these are uncertain times; still we are driven to engage. Though you may not be able to buy a physical ticket to our concerts, you can still show us your support by clicking the support tab on our website and making a tax deductible donation. To all who read this we hope you and your family are well and that these unprecedented circumstances will change and allow us to gather in harmony again soon.

Thank you for your unwavering support.

**Ryan Keene
President
Downey Symphonic Society**

Harold Tseklenis tribute

Dear Editor:

Thanks for printing David Tseklenis's tribute to his father on his 90th birthday. ("Remembering My Dad, Harold Tseklenis, on his 90th Birthday," 10/15/20).

In his comments about the Downey Patriot, as a "forum for its citizens to voice their concerns and sometimes their pleasures about his town," three words stand out: citizen, forum, and town.

They remind me of Harold's adherence to the classical Greek idea that citizenship means sharing in the duties and privileges of membership in the city-state. Citizens were also expected to participate in the political life of the city by voting.

Harold read the forum of the Patriot faithfully, he attended City Council meetings as an ombudsman for all of us.

He served on City Commissions for the Arts. There isn't anyone like him today.

How lucky we still are, to have a Patriot to help us.

**Lorine Parks
Downey**

High vocabulary

Dear Editor:

I am one of your readers who likes to learn the meaning of words. Recently your newspaper provided me that opportunity.

An article about the Downey City Council candidates forum included words like "probity" (quality of having strong moral principles), "coprolalia" (repetitive use of obscene language) and "cognoscente" (well informed).

I would like to acknowledge Lawrence Christon, the author of the article, for his erudition.

**John Lacey
Downey**

How New Zealand beat Covid-19

By Froma Harrop

New Zealand Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern forced a shutdown so strict that no one was allowed to go fishing or golfing, easy pursuits for social distancing. But her super-tough "go hard, go early" policy has virtually stamped out the coronavirus in this country of 5 million.

Not only can New Zealanders again fish and golf but 30,000 of them just packed a stadium to watch a rugby match. They no longer have to wear masks even on public transportation, though that is encouraged. New Zealand is back in business.

The political results are also in. Ardern and her party just won reelection in a landslide, offering a hint of how Donald Trump's failure to manage the pandemic could produce the direct opposite here.

The president's weak polling numbers largely reflect his incapacity — whether as a leader or human being — to treat the coronavirus as the health crisis it was and still is. Ardern, meanwhile, has been hailed as "the anti-Trump."

Some critics of this comparison note that New Zealand is less densely populated than the United States, which makes social distancing easier to do. That sounds plausible, except that North Dakota and South Dakota have far fewer people per square mile than New Zealand, and they are reporting the largest number of new COVID cases per capita in the United States.

Because it contained the virus so rapidly, New Zealand was able to reopen as early as May. Kids were back in class. Office workers returned to their cubicles. Diners filled restaurants. Five months ago!

The one major industry still suffering is tourism. And that's not because tourists fear getting the virus there. It's because New Zealanders fear the tourists will bring it in. Americans are not allowed to enter the country unless they are permanent residents.

How would Americans take to such harsh medicine to combat the virus' spread? Let's just say that governors who instituted serious lockdowns are among the most popular. It happens that Michigan is a swing state Trump won by less than 1 percent in 2016. Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's approval rating is running well ahead of his.

Consider that she had to endure both anti-mask goons waving guns on the statehouse steps (and plotting to kidnap her) and Trump's verbal sniping. At a recent rally in Michigan, Trump watched his crowd chant, "Lock her up!" to which he replied, "Lock 'em all up."

Who "all" is remains unclear. But one can imagine that the jail in Trump's head would happily accommodate another female politician

It's time to reopen Cinemark

Dear Editor:

"Will she or will she not?"

"She won't, or...they won't. Not yet."

My dad says they're keeping them closed for some weird political reasons."

"Who knows."

"I'll bet the price of a ticket that they'll be open by October 1."

"I'll make that bet -- I don't have that much faith."

"She'll open it up because she loves movies as much as we do."

"But it's not up to Downey's mayor. It's the governor's decisions, based on the Covid-19 statistics. That's what they say."

"Well, I don't know if he likes movies that much."

Such a conversation might have taken place, until recently, in front of the Cinemark Theater at the Downey Promenade. But months have gone by and many people tend to give up hope and disappear, together with their itchy wallets, intact.

So the Cinemark continues worried. They have reason to be. The benches that face their front doors are bare of any customers, except a shopper or two seeking a momentary rest from strolling the half-empty mall. ACross the way, Johnny Rockets has been equally anxious, since all this lockdown happened. Every desperate company or business, in the malls or on Downey Avenue, is waiting for relief.

The powers-that-be in Sacramento have offered no such relief to most counties of California. They know that kids and adults alike are already deluged with a multitude of apps, supplying continuous electronic entertainment on phones, tablets and desktops, so they'll "get by."

No, the population at large doesn't have it so bad. Yes, the virus is real and it isn't going away, or not fast enough. But even though cases are still high, Covid deaths are way down, including in Downey, and are mostly due to underlying illnesses in the aged, who also happen to test positive, a sorry state of affairs.

Meanwhile, the Cinemark, on its website, and with a large dose of sincerity, has been telling its lost audiences that it has a workable plan for reopening. Beyond maintaining the social distancing in each movie auditorium, by taping off a least half of the seats, and requiring the wearing of masks for all its staff and customers, they will be going the extra mile by spraying and wiping down all seats, the snack bars, the lobby, restrooms, and all doors and railing, as often as required, before and after each showing. These procedures will be checked off by observant supervisors, nearly constantly. This is going way beyond what supermarkets and restaurants like Ralph's and La Barca do, or are required to do.

Churches and restaurants can use their parking lots to accommodate people and schools depend on homeschooling through the internet. Dentist offices and beauty salons struggle to get by. But what do the empty movie theaters have to bring back the people in order to survive? And how will we "kids at heart" be able to check out the new James Bond movie, soon to arrive? Maintaining these closures sounds like the making of a new kind of virus, the "Type-15 Severe Stage Frustration," dragging a lot of poor, out-of-work people in its wake.

Mr. Governor, at least he can see by now how nervous we're getting with this Covid-19 and everything that comes with it. But we will follow Cinemark's guidelines, just like we would whenever and wherever we go out.

We want to be spending money and having some old-fashioned fun again, patronizing whom we wish, before they all go broke -- the ones who are depending on us.

**John DeLaney
Downey**



New Zealand Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern was re-elected to a second term last week. New Zealand implemented some of the world's strongest lockdown measures to slow the spread of Covid-19.

enjoying acclaim for competence, namely Ardern.

But no governor seems to arouse more Trumpian anger and envy than New York's Andrew Cuomo. When his state was hit with an explosion of cases early in the year, Cuomo aggressively clamped down on large gatherings, beefed up testing and hectored New Yorkers daily to cocoon. And how did the electorate respond? Back in the dark days of April, Cuomo's approval rating soared to an amazing 81 percent.

New York's transmission rate is now among the lowest, and business is crawling back. Movie theaters in most of the state are about to reopen.

Few societies would curtail activity to the extent New Zealand did. But no advanced country, other than ours, has a leader who mocks wearing masks and ignores over 200,000 deaths.

Interesting contrast here. Political moderates have begun to restore their pre-COVID business conditions, while so-called conservatives oversee economies flailing under the weight of spreading sickness.

In New Zealand, as here, advance voting hit record levels. In its case, the surge pointed to a desire to reelect. Here, the surge strongly suggests the opposite.

Froma Harrop is a nationally syndicated columnist. Follow her on Twitter @FromaHarrop

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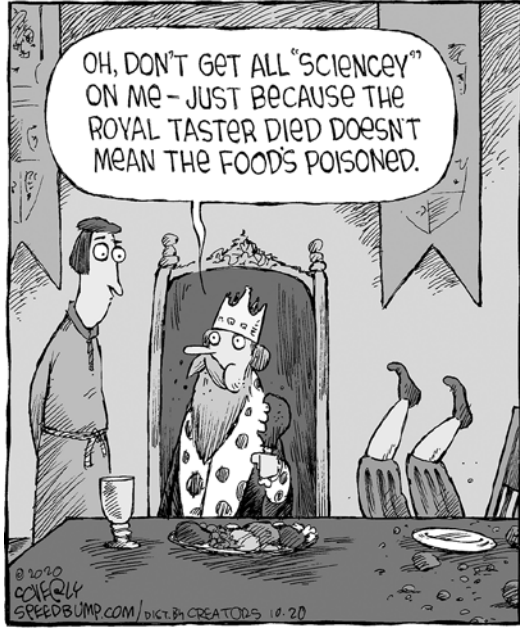
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The Downey Patriot is published weekly by The Downey Patriot, Inc.
Controlled Distribution, 25,000 copies are printed.
Distributed by CIPS Marketing Group, Inc., Los Angeles, CA.

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 William Medina 413-3447.
 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.

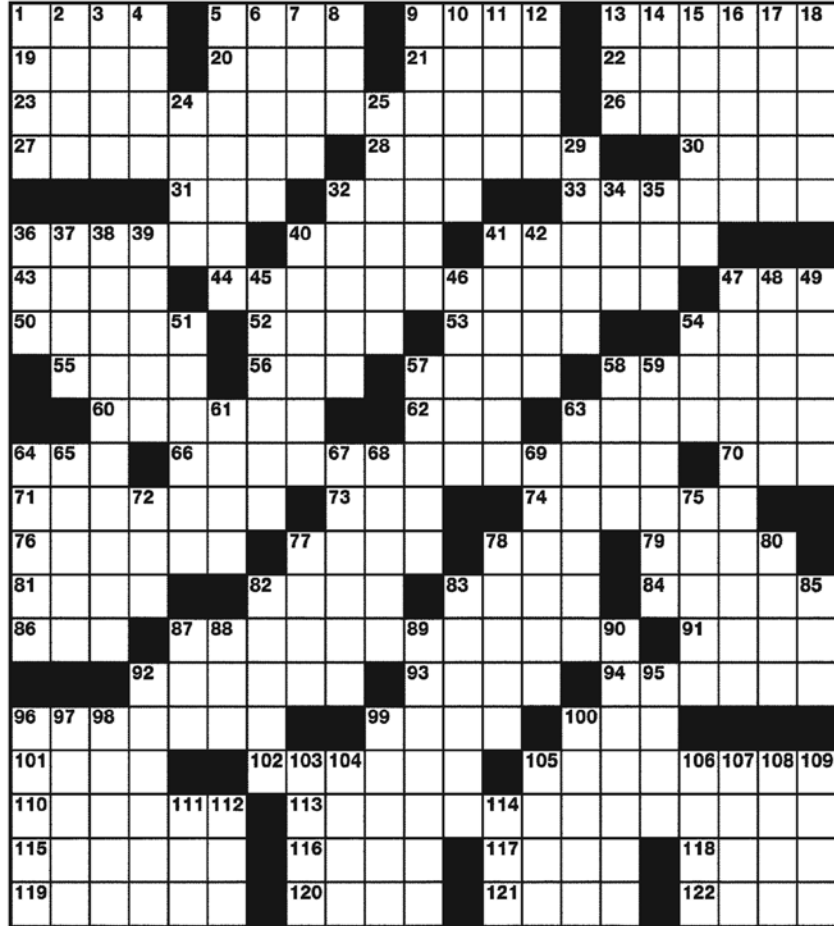
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NEW BEGINNINGS: Exactly where you'd expect them
 by Mark McClain

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Who are these people?

■ In the City Council race between Carrie Uva and Mario Trujillo, neither inspires confidence.

By Lawrence Christon
Contributor

DOWNEY — The great British playwright and Shakespeare contemporary Ben Jonson was the first of a number of classical British writers to insist, “Speak that I may know thee.” Implicit in that request is the idea that the words we choose to speak, the sentences we form, the skill with which we listen and communicate our thoughts and feelings, altogether express us, our sensibility, our general education and even our level of

mental sophistication.

The Downey City Council Candidates Forum that took place in a Zoom meeting on Oct. 1 revealed that, for the most part, the latter quality is in short supply. A number of the candidates didn’t seem to understand that occupying public office, or even running for public office, requires a level of responsibility that precludes slander, which is actionable, or reckless assertions disguised as fact, which is subject to scrutiny and can easily expose the plaintiff as a fool.

This does not speak well for the future of Downey.

What are we to make therefore of the mission statements and claims made by Carrie Uva and

Mario Trujillo to the Patriot’s Alex Dominguez in last week’s edition? Both are running for the Council seat in District 5. Uva ran against Claudia Frometa in the last election cycle. Trujillo has raised a record-breaking \$135,526 in an effort some claim to buy his way into office. Both have notable endorsements, Mayor Blanca Pacheco and Pro Tem Mayor Claudia Frometa, Councilman Alex Saab, former Downey Mayor Fernando Vasquez and Assembly member Cristina Garcia for Trujillo, all city council members save Saab, former mayors Roger Brossmer, Mario Guerra, Joseph Di Loreto and the Downey Unified School board for Uva, among others.

The questions the citizens of Downey should have concerning Uva and Trujillo ought to be the same the as they would have for all the other candidates, and may well have had for some time, particularly concerning the city’s current moment: who are these people? What makes them uniquely qualified to hold office? Do any of them have

advanced degrees or study in relevant fields like economics, public administration, history or political science? Have any of them enjoyed widespread success and prominent reputations in their fields? Are any of them mindful of the developments characteristic of what’s been termed The New Urbanism, which deals with the issues of what constitutes the livable city and the institutional foundations of community? How many of them are conversant with the works of Jane Mayer and Lewis Mumford, who famously wrote about architecture and the look of things, and how that look affects the human spirit

These are not frivolous questions. The history of Downey over the past decade or so has been characterized by the surrender of city leaders to the interests of developers, most notably those of the 77-acre Promenade, former home of the Apollo space program and one of the largest parcels of its kind to become available in the region. The Promenade’s original developer promised that it would not be yet another shopping mall, and our city of magical thinking believed him. Even if the deadly coronavirus hadn’t taken its toll on local businesses, by design it would still resemble a desolate moonscape, with no greenery,

no place to walk or sit, no fountains, public art or park-like amenities, not even a band shell for outdoor summer concerts. It’s anti-human in scale, built to accommodate car traffic, not the ambulatory human being.

It appears that all too often the city has been willing to roll over for anyone with a lucrative development or service scheme. The KB townhouse complex that stretches between 5th and 7th Streets on Paramount, has been met with universal derision from the citizens of Downey for its big boxy appearance, which resembles a dockload of international shipping containers, and for the way it crowds off sidewalk traffic.

VenueTech runs the Downey Civic Theater, the city’s largest cultural venue by far, without developing or producing any original shows or, for that matter, local talent, while doing nothing to stand between the theater and a \$600,000 a year price tag for Downey. Yet that contract keeps getting renewed.

Both Uva and Trujillo are running on a platform of economic recovery, but they don’t say how they plan to do it. Partnerships with China? Recruitment of high tech companies or branches of blockbuster outfits like Amazon? We could use infusions of cash.

Downey’s per capita income is a paltry \$22,000. Family income averages a more manageable \$70,000 and median housing prices in an endlessly spiraling market are now \$75,000 below the Southern California average.

Trujillo is a former elementary schoolteacher and L.A. Deputy District Attorney. Uva is an attorney specializing in wills and trusts and has served as president of the Chamber of Commerce. Neither of them has apparently had to manage especially large personnel staffs.

“I know Downey from 55 years to the present,” she says, as if that’s a qualification for the demands of public office, and adds “I feel I have a great deal of experience that will definitely help me as a council member to know what needs to be done.”

Question: experience in what?

Uva comes off as a pleasant figure, if relentlessly ordinary. Trujillo has one potentially serious drawback, which could dampen his effectiveness in office: he owns a business in downtown Downey, and if elected would have to recuse himself from any vote that would have a material bearing on the business of one of the most crucial areas of the city. Who would want to vote in a candidate who has no voice in the future of a vital part of the city, and hence the city as a whole?

Though Downey is rich in civic and community services, one incident sums up my experience in observing Downey city leadership and its disconnect from Downey’s most vulnerable people.

I was having lunch several years ago with a now-retired councilman. The subject of a new residential and commercial development came up, which required an easement from Firestone Blvd. There were several older structures set back which were occupied by lower-income tenants and would be taken over by the new owners.

“What will happen to them?” I asked.

“They’ll be offered a chance to pay rent,” was the reply.

“What if they can’t afford it?”

“Then they’re out of luck.”

In Memory of

Robert “Bob” Udoff

September 25, 1933 - September 26, 2020



Robert “Bob” Udoff, 87, passed away on September 26th, 2020 at his home in Downey, California. He was the widower of Barbara Udoff. They shared over 65 years together.

Bob was born on September 25th, 1933 in Baltimore, Maryland. He served in the United States Navy. He met his wife, Barbara, in 1954 at a Jewish community dance. They married a year later on January 30th, 1955. They had two children, Marc and Mike.

Bob was a member of the Downey United Masonic Lodge No. 220 for 53 years. He was Master of the Lodge 3 times.

When he was not working, he loved to spend his time with Barbara, the absolute love of his life. He was a devoted father to his two sons. He and his wife loved to visit their son, Marc, in Hawaii. They had over 30 trips to the Islands under their belts!

Bob had a quick wit and dry sense of humor that left an indelible mark on everyone he met.

After COVID-19 has passed, a Celebration of Life gathering to honor both Barbara and Bob Udoff will take place.

Bob is survived by his two sons, Marc Udoff and Mike Udoff. He truly will be missed. Rest in Peace.

GRAND REOPENING WEEKEND

October 29, October 30, October 31

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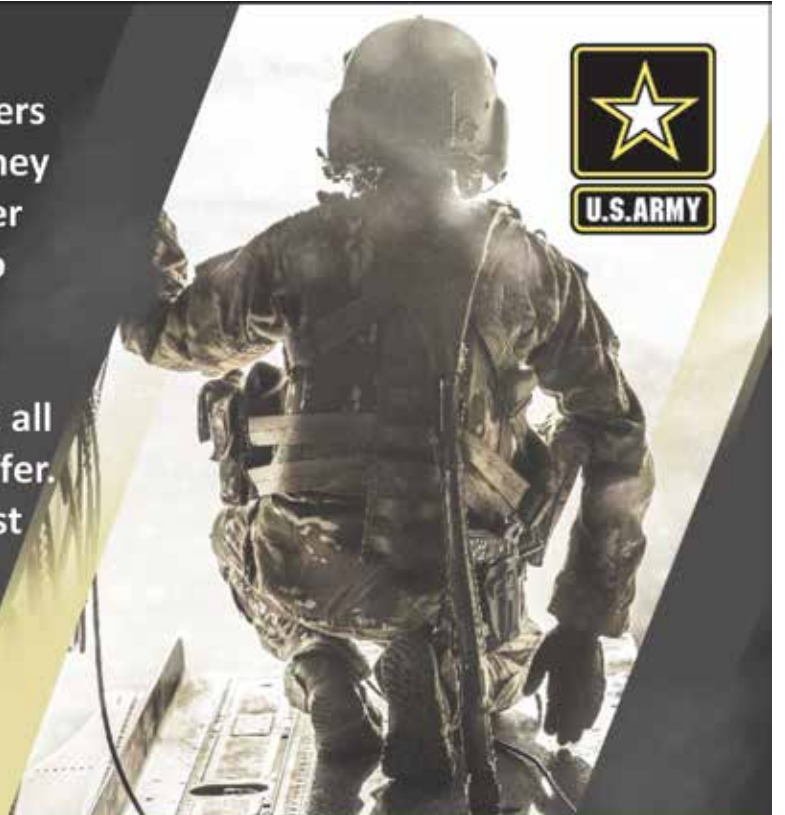
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Short Story: Little Rock

By Sharon Benson Smith

In hopes of seeing a homeless woman while I'm out and about, I keep a bag in my car containing items that I no longer want or need.

After weeks of searching, I went to The Downey Patriot to pick up several copies of my latest published article.

As I was leaving, I saw a woman pushing a shopping cart that was heaping full of her meager belongings. I gave her the bag I had, and she was ever so grateful.

We exchanged hellos and names. She offered, "I'm Little Rock."

I asked, "As in Arkansas?" She responded, "Yes, that's where I'm from, and I've been homeless for 14 years."

When I told her I was there to pick up a few copies of my latest article, she said, "I would like to

write an article on the homeless from my perspective, but I'm not a good speller."

She went on to tell me that her usual hangout was at the Arco Station. I was certain it was the one on Florence and Lakewood since it was close by.

I was in a hurry, and it didn't occur to me until after I left that I should have offered to assist her in writing that article and sending it in.

It has been put on my heart to find her again and help her write her story. With pen and paper added to yet another bag, I returned the following day and combed the area. I even went to the Arco Station to inquire about her. It must not have been the station she was referring to as they didn't recognize the name or description I gave.

I'm not one to give up easily...my quest to find her will continue. Perhaps the next time you hear from me I'll be ghost writing for "Little Rock."

Sharon Benson Smith is a member of the writing class offered through the Cerritos College Adult Education Program. It is normally held off-campus at the Norwalk Senior Center.

Short Story: Watching the Streetcars Go By

By Yolanda Adele

When I think of streetcars, I think of the past, before plastic seats marked with graffiti, aluminum rails; and a time where air conditioning came by opening the windows. Imagine that.

In the summer when my parents and I visited my maternal grandparents in El Paso, Texas, my cousins and I slept out on the little terrace facing Main Street. From our perch we'd see the Red Streetcars pass. It had a sign over the door that read: "Ride a Mile and Smile the While - Only 5 cents." The streetcars were noisy on the rails. The high pitched sound from the horn made it difficult to sleep. My cousins and I amused ourselves by making up stories or making fun of passengers scurrying to get on the streetcar. Sometimes people lost their footing as they disembarked, but there always seemed to be someone there to give them a helping hand.

On Halloween, transportation inspectors watched for pranksters who may try to water down the rails with soap to cause the streetcar to lose traction. Twice we saw automobiles cross the tracks and collide with a streetcar. There never was a shortage of surprises to be witnessed on Main Street., especially on Saturday nights.

We saw a drunk, coming from the cantina nearby fall on the tracks while the approaching streetcar sounded its horn. We yelled, screamed and hollered until some good samaritans ran to pull him to safety. Then we hollered cheers.

Watching the streetcars on Main Street provided "reality"

entertainment for us kids, in lieu of television that my grandparents didn't own. Sometimes in the afternoon our adult relatives sat out on the terrace to visit with each other and often greet friends they saw on the street, as well as watch the streetcars go by.

A horrible experience relating to the streetcar and my family came in the 1950's when my grandfather, Jesus, was working as a maintenance mechanic for the Red Streetcar Company.

Streetcars are propelled by on board electric motors and require a trolley pole to draw power from an overhead wire.

While at the junction just a few blocks from our 'perch' on our grandparents terrace, Jesus had turned off the electricity in order to work on the overhead wire of one of the two streetcars that were not in service.

A new and inexperienced employee saw that the electricity switch was

not turned on. Instead of investigating the reason it was shut off, he simply pulled the switch on. Consequently, my grandfather was electrocuted. Miraculously he survived, though he was so severely burnt that he had to have his right arm amputated up to his elbow. He remained in the hospital for nearly a year.

The streetcar accident changed his life forever. He never returned to work again, he never complained... and he never sat out in the terrace to watch the streetcars go by.

Yolanda Adele is a member of the writing class offered through the Cerritos College Adult Education Program. It is normally held off-campus at the Norwalk Senior Center.



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Prior Year 11th Grade (53)

Priszila Anguiano, Harsh Bhagat, Smit Bhagat, Dominic Bours, Randall Branch, Michelle Campos, Jesse Castillo, Brianna Castro, Jason Castro, Alicia Cazares, Dayanara Cendejas, Karlene Chavarria, Angela Dang, Anna Davila, Anabel Duenas, Natalie Esparza, Mia Garcia, Juan Pablo Giraldo, Priscella Gomez, Xamarion Gordon, Mayalyn Guadarrama, Aracelly Guerra, Emily Guillen, Drew Gutierrez, Skye Gutierrez, Jazlyn Juarez, Axel Kim, Daniela Kodama, Jonathan Kozasky, Lauren Lopes, Jezbell Lopez, Daniela Lopez, Megan Melendez, Paulina Mercado, Jasmine Montanez, Eriana Munoz, Lauren Nevarez, Krystal Nuyen, Alexander Odinstov, Chukwudi Okoli, Ethan Padilla, Philycia Pedroza, Julissa Prieto, Sylvia Quintero, Carisia Raygoza, Linda Rodas, Mia Rodriguez, Mackenzie Sonico, Giovanni Soria, Allannah Soriano, Haile Torres, Pujan Vaghshia, David Velador

Prior Year 10th Grade (45)

Estevan Acosta, Alejandra Alfaro, Brandon Altamirano, David Avila, Leah Avila, Joshlyn Ayala, Yash Bhagat, Rocco Caballero, Rocco Caballero, Reagan Cardoza, Shelby Castillo, Lilian Comee, Jaylon Connish, Nina Cooper, Isaiah Cortez, Daniel Cuadras, Madison Curd, Hauze Fragoso, Luke Freire, Gabriel Galvan, Paola Garcia, Giselle Gin, Jacqueline Gonzalez, Aidan Gonzalez, Melana Goodloe, Isabel Guerra, Juan Guerrero, Irma Guevarra, Alana Haney, Andrew Haro, Annemarie Hernandez, Alexis Hurrea, Katelyn Ibarra, Abndrew Iniguez, Joshua Johnson, Samuel Maiava, Vincent Kobe Malang, Jessica McLennan, Ibrahim Orihuela, Tyler Oviedo, Mercedes Padilla, Stephanie Ramirez, Zayanna Serrano, Ashley Tucker, Abigail Vega



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Giggy Perez-Saab, a member of the Downey Board of Education, speaks to Downey Girl Scouts about women's empowerment.

The Girl Scouts also discussed breast cancer awareness.

Photo courtesy Guadalupe Sarofeem



Paging Dr. Frischer...

By Dr. Alan Frischer

Gluten-free products have become enormously popular. I've seen gluten-free pizza, cookies, breads, candies, and beer. (I've been told that the gluten-free pizza box tastes better than the pizza.) These products originally satisfied the needs of those who suffer from celiac disease, and now are sought out by many others, as well.

There is quite a bit of confusion about gluten. Most Americans are privileged to have access to a huge variety of foods, and it can often be hard to tell which of those foods might be causing undesirable physical symptoms. (Of course, non-food related issues, like sleep, hydration, exercise, mental status, etc. can cause physical symptoms as well.) Nonetheless, many of my patients report that they are gluten sensitive. This means that they do not have celiac disease, but believe that gluten-containing foods cause them various kinds of distress.

So, what is celiac disease? Roughly 1% of people in the United States are diagnosed with it, which comes to about three million people. It is a really



terrible autoimmune disease in which foods with gluten cause inflammation and damage to the small intestine. It can lead to diarrhea, gas, weight loss, weakness and fatigue, severe abdominal pain, headaches, joint aches, and thinning of the bones.

The big question is this: is there a group of people who do not have celiac disease, but nevertheless react negatively to gluten? Very little research has been done about the motives of the many who adopt a gluten-free lifestyle. One survey found that the most common explanation for selecting gluten-free foods was "no reason" (35%), followed by "healthier option" (26%), and "someone in my family has a gluten sensitivity" (10%). The least common rationale cited (8%) was "I have a gluten sensitivity."

Note that gluten sensitivity is entirely different from celiac disease. In a small 2011 study, Australian scientists put gluten sensitivity on the map. Participants who did not have celiac disease were given gluten and monitored for gastrointestinal complaints. The gluten appeared to cause a lot of gas, bloating, and fatigue. Next was a follow-up study a few years later. This time, those who claimed to be gluten sensitive were put on

a high gluten diet, but did not have a corresponding increase in symptoms. (Note that this was a small study.)

It is important to consider that those who believe they have gluten sensitivity might actually have a food intolerance or sensitivity to some other non-gluten food, such as lactose, dairy, sulfites, amines, or caffeine.

The danger in unnecessarily eliminating gluten from the diet is that we may consume too little folate, fiber, and thiamine. Gluten-free foods cost more. Socializing becomes more difficult. Packaged gluten-free foods often contain a greater density of fat and sugar than do their gluten-containing counterparts.

For those who do not have celiac disease, wheat allergies, or this possible non-celiac gluten sensitivity, there is simply no data supporting the health benefits of a gluten-free diet.

These are my recommendations: If you feel that you are gluten sensitive, it is critical to make sure that you do not have celiac disease, which has serious lifelong consequences. Please consult your doctor if you suspect a problem. Approach this together scientifically, in order to reach an accurate diagnosis and arrive at the very best treatment.

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.




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Downey schools planning for January reopening in hybrid/full distance model

By Donald LaPlante
President
Downey Board of Education

DOWNEY — After considering all of the relevant health and safety information, and the regulations and reopening requirements from both the California and Los Angeles County Departments of Public Health, the Downey Unified School District is planning for students to return to an in-person hybrid starting on Monday, January 4, 2021, with the option for a Full Distance Learning Model for those families who wish to have their student continue in that format.

This plan is completely dependent on the County of Los Angeles being in the RED tier in the state's color-coded matrix of a Blueprint for a Safer Economy. As of Tuesday, Los Angeles County remains in the PURPLE (widespread) tier, which is the most restrictive. As shared in our last District Update, for schools to reopen for in-person instruction, it requires a county to be in the RED tier for at least four (4) consecutive weeks or 28 days. Even if next Tuesday Los Angeles County were to have lower metrics to transition to the RED tier, which appears unlikely, the earliest school districts in Los Angeles County would be able to open schools would be in December. Given the trends in Los Angeles County, the Board of Education found the most reasonable option is to aim for in-person instruction, via a Hybrid Model, start the second semester on January 4, while maintaining a Full Distance Learning Model for those who choose.

To be clear, the start of January is a planning date and not a guarantee, as it is all based on the County Department of Public Health's numbers. There is considerable discussion at the national and state level as to the appropriate rules for reopening schools, and the rules could become more or less restrictive at any point.

The Board of Education, district administration, educators and staff have been continuously planning for reopening our schools in

a Hybrid Model, which means students will come to school certain days of the week and remain in Distance Learning the other days. As shared in previous communications, this model of return is due to the stringent health requirements for physical distancing in the classrooms, which limits the number of students in a classroom to approximately 15 at a time. There are a variety of different ways to accomplish this and our staff has been actively working to determine the best option for Downey Unified. Our staff is also actively communicating with districts in surrounding counties that are already in the Red tier to gain insight, explore options and hear the problems that have been encountered.

I want to reiterate that even though the district is planning for a return to a level of in-person instruction, students who wish to remain in a Full Distance Learning Model will be able to do so. Whether due to health and safety concerns or whether your family has found the Full Distance Learning Model better for your student, this option will remain available. While many students and families are desperately waiting for the ability to return to in-person instruction, others have found Distance Learning to be a good fit for their students.

As the district solidifies plans for a return to a modified in-person instruction, more details will be provided to families via the many avenues of communication the district now uses.

Ward School Wins National Honor

E.W. Ward Elementary School has been recognized as a National Blue Ribbon School for 2020. Ward is among only 368 schools in the United States, 36 in California and nine in Los Angeles County to receive this honor. The recognition is based on the school's success in overall academic performance AND exemplary work in closing the achievement gap between student subgroups, which is a significant priority not only in Downey Unified but throughout the country.

This is the first time in the 38 year history of the National Blue

Ribbon Schools program that a Downey Unified school has been honored.

The district is extremely proud of Principal Karen Trejo and the staff at Ward Elementary School for achieving this honor. The school will be honored as part of a virtual ceremony by the United States Department of Education and the Secretary of Education on November 12 and 13. The district will hold a more formal celebration of this accomplishment in the spring, when public events are allowed to resume. Until all of the students, staff and community are able to celebrate in person, Ward will be recognized with raising the National Blue Ribbon School flag and showcasing the new signage on their campus to honor this accomplishment.

Thanks to Our Community

On behalf of the Board of Education, I also want to thank two organizations for stepping up to help during recent weeks.

PIH Health Downey Hospital provided a very generous \$20,000 gift to our district's TLC Family Resource Center. TLC was founded 20 years ago and today supports the health and social service needs of approximately 1,500 Downey Unified students and their families every year. This is a program unique to Downey Unified.

The district is very proud of the work that TLC's Coordinator Luz Perez and our TLC staff have done in supporting thousands of Downey Unified families over the years.

Also this week as part of its grand reopening, "99" has donated \$500 and 500 backpacks that will go directly to TLC to further support our families in need. The District is very thankful for our amazing community partners.

La Mirada film school named one of the country's best

LA MIRADA — Biola University's School of Cinema and Media Arts was named to The Wrap's Top 50 Film Schools list.

Biola ranked 45 out of 50 schools in the nation, and was the only Council for Christian Colleges and Universities full member university on the list.

The list highlights former executive vice president at AMC Networks and new dean of Biola's film school, Tom Halleen, the school's building on the horizon, and internship opportunities as reasons for being included on the list.

"You wouldn't think the executive who made AMC vital by programming Mad Men, Breaking Bad, and the Walking Dead would quit to become the dean of a Christian school's new School of Cinema Media Arts, but that's just what Tom Halleen did," states The Wrap's description of Biola. "And you might think that Biola is puny, but it's got dozens of faculty and Halleen oversees a \$76 million building project for a 50,000-plus square-foot sound stage, theater, classroom and office complex. Internships are required and done at Bad Robot,

Netflix, Amazon, the Television Academy and the DGA."

Earlier this year, Biola welcomed Halleen as the new dean of the School of Cinema and Media Arts. Halleen was a key team member in the transition of AMC into one of the most innovative cable networks on television in part through the launch of groundbreaking and Emmy Award-winning series including Mad Men, Breaking Bad, and The Walking Dead.

"I'm thrilled to see the great work of Biola's School of Cinema and Media Arts staff and faculty recognized in this way. I'm honored to join this amazing team," said Halleen. "At Biola, we're not just a film school. We're more than that. We teach the skills for our graduates to be competitive throughout the media industry — film, tv and game design — while also teaching them character to stand out."

Due to Biola's location in Southern California, film students have access to the heart of Los Angeles just 20 miles from campus, internship opportunities in the city and classes led by industry professionals. Biola film students are given excellent opportunities to learn and grow in the media arts through available equipment, location and outstanding faculty and staff.

Biola's School of Cinema and Media Arts has been ranked as one of the top film schools in the world by multiple industry-leading sources in the past including Variety, MovieMaker, Filmmaker and Backstage.

The building mentioned by The Wrap will be a 50,000-plus square-

foot facility that will house a 300-seat theater, sound stage, scoring stage, motion capture stage, Foley stage, color correction, mixing, recording and editing rooms, computer labs, three classrooms and faculty and staff offices. A hallmark of Biola's film school is the access students in the program have immediately upon entering Biola, which currently includes almost \$4 million worth of state-of-the-art equipment.

The school recently launched the new bachelor's degree in Game Design and Interactive Media and concentrations in production, editing, cinematography, sound design, visual effects, directing, entertainment business and entertainment producing.

Downey residents enroll at Biola

DOWNEY — Five Downey residents have enrolled as new students at Biola University, according to an announcement from the private Christian university.

Those students include Janelle Fuentes, Nikolas Hernandez, Tony Kam, Emely Guerra, and Natalie Villegas.

Students began classes remotely on Aug. 31.

Downey's Tech Builders hosting Halloween drive-by party

DOWNEY — Tech Builders in Downey is hosting a free Halloween drive-by party, with the first 20 participants receiving a free tech-themed goodie bag.

The drive-by is taking place Friday, Oct. 30, from 4-6 p.m.

Tech Builders is located at 11852 Paramount Blvd., across from Warren High School.

Message from Friends of the Downey Library

DOWNEY — Hello friends of the Downey City Library. While the library is closed for remodeling, the Friends are busy meeting and making plans for when we open again.

We are asking you to keep your good used books for us and after we reopen we will sell them at our new bookstore.

Your donated books will be sold and the funds will be used to continue providing fun and educational events for our children. Thank you in advance.

We will keep you updated!

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File Number 2020141796
THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) IS (ARE) DOING BUSINESS AS: (1) VANITY FX, 10043 ASPEN CIRCLE, SANTA FE SPRINGS CA 90670, LA COUNTY
Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number (if applicable): AI #ON: N/A
REGISTERED OWNERS(S): (1) TABITHA KEY, 10043 ASPEN CIRCLE, SANTA FE SPRINGS CA 90670
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: 08/2020
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/ TABITHA KEY, OWNER
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on SEPTEMBER 18, 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 the 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
10/15/20, 10/22/20, 10/29/20, 11/5/20

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File Number 2020159321
THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) IS (ARE) DOING BUSINESS AS: (1) IT'S FOAM TIME CALIFORNIA, 173 NIETO AVE #A, LONG BEACH CA 90803, LA COUNTY
Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number (if applicable): AI #ON: N/A
REGISTERED OWNERS(S): (1) RYAN TOOMIRE, 173 NIETO AVE A, LONG BEACH CA 90803
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/RYAN TOOMIRE, OWNER, RYAN TOOMIRE
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on OCTOBER 8, 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 the 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
10/22/20, 10/29/20, 11/5/20, 11/12/20

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File Number 2020158893
THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) IS (ARE) DOING BUSINESS AS: (1) MAMA WANG'S PANTRY, 16238 HEATHFIELD DR., WHITTIER CA 90603, LA COUNTY
Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number (if applicable): AI #ON: N/A
REGISTERED OWNERS(S): (1) TERESA L WANG, 16238 HEATHFIELD DR., WHITTIER CA 90603
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/TERESA L WANG, OWNER
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on OCTOBER 8, 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 the 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
10/15/20, 10/22/20, 10/29/20, 11/5/20

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS

NAME STATEMENT

File Number 2020139626
THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) IS (ARE) DOING BUSINESS AS: (1) ULTIMATE DRAFTING SERVICES, 12950 PARAMOUNT BLVD SUITE 201, DOWNEY CA 90242, LA COUNTY
Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number (if applicable): AI #ON: N/A
REGISTERED OWNERS(S): (1) RICARDO MACIEL, 424 DIANA PLACE, FULLERTON CA 92833 (2) KATERINA DOVENA, 424 DIANA PLACE, FULLERTON CA 92833
State of Incorporation: CA
THIS BUSINESS IS CONDUCTED BY: a Married Couple
The date registrant started to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above: 10/2014
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/ RICARDO MACIEL, OWNER
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on SEPTEMBER 15, 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 the 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
10/15/20, 10/22/20, 10/29/20, 11/5/20

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File Number 2020158010
THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) IS (ARE) DOING BUSINESS AS: (1) PARAMOUNT BUILDERS, 11801 GARFIELD AVE, SOUTH GATE CA 90280, LA COUNTY
Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number (if applicable): AI #ON: N/A
REGISTERED OWNERS(S): (1) LUIS PARTIDA, 11801 GARFIELD AVE, SOUTH GATE CA 90280
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/ LUIS PARTIDA, OWNER
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on OCTOBER 7, 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 the 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
10/22/20, 10/29/20, 11/5/20, 11/12/20

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File Number 2020148711
THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) IS (ARE) DOING BUSINESS AS: (1) ALL IN TRUCKING, 11931 ORIZABA AVE., DOWNEY CA 90242, LA COUNTY
Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number (if applicable): AI #ON: N/A
REGISTERED OWNERS(S): (1) DAVID ESPINDOLA, 11931 ORIZABA AVE, 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/DAVID ESPINDOLA, OWNER, DAVID ESPINDOLA
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on SEPTEMBER 28, 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 the 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
10/22/20, 10/29/20, 11/5/20, 11/12/20

GOVERNMENT

DOWNEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT MEASURE O BOND PROGRAM CITIZENS' BOND OVERSITE COMMITTEE

Downey Unified is seeking qualified, interested individuals to join a committee of community leaders which will serve as the independent Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee (CBOC) for the continued implementation of the Downey Unified School District, Measure O, school facilities bond program. The CBOC currently has openings for two members, an at-large community member and a business representative. If interested, please visit www.dusd.net/cboc. All applications are due no later than 4:30 p.m. on November 13, 2020.

The Downey Patriot
10/22/20, 10/30/20, 11/5/20, 11/12/20

CITY OF DOWNEY NOTICE OF NOMINEES FOR PUBLIC OFFICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the following persons have been nominated for the offices designated to be filled at the General Municipal Election, consolidated with the Statewide General Election, to be held in the City of Downey on Tuesday, November 3, 2020.

FOR MEMBER OF THE CITY COUNCIL - DISTRICT #1 VOTE FOR ONE

Blanca Pacheco
Alexandria Contreras

FOR MEMBER OF THE CITY COUNCIL - DISTRICT #3 VOTE FOR ONE

Catherine Alvarez*
Dolejan Peevy*
Eric Fernando Pierce

FOR MEMBER OF THE CITY COUNCIL - DISTRICT #5 VOTE FOR ONE

Mario Trujillo
Arturo Gonzalez
Juan Martinez, Jr.*
Carmela "Carrie Uva"

*Accepted the City's Campaign Expenditure Limits

Maria Alicia Duarte, CMC
City Clerk
October 22, 2020

The Downey Patriot
10/22/20

NOTICES

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

CASE NUMBER: 20NWCP00230
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner ANA E. VASQUEZ AND GERARDO A. VASQUEZ ON BEHALF OF GERARDO VASQUEZ, JR. filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Present name (1) GERARDO VASQUEZ, JR. to Proposed name (1) LIAM GERARDO VASQUEZ
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 18, 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 21, 2020

The Downey Patriot
10/15/20, 10/22/20, 10/29/20, 11/5/20

Judge Margaret M. Bernal
Judge Of The Superior Court
Petitioner or Attorney, In Pro Per
ANA E. VASQUEZ
9228 SAN LUIS AVE, APT. D
SOUTH GATE, CA 90280
(923) 637-6546
GRACE.EMERALD@ICLOUD.COM

The Downey Patriot
10/1/20, 10/8/20, 10/15/20, 10/22/20

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

CASE NUMBER: VS030781
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner EILEEN COLINA MOSELY filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Present name (1) EILEEN C. MOSELY to Proposed name (1) COBAIN COLINA MOSELY
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: DECEMBER 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 OCTOBER 13, 2020
Judge Margaret M. Bernal
Judge Of The Superior Court
Petitioner or Attorney, In Pro Per
EILEEN COLINA MOSELY
3839 AMANDA ST. APT 124
WEST COVINA, CA 91792
(562) 841-2005
EILEENMOSELY@GMAIL.COM

The Downey Patriot
10/22/20, 10/29/20, 11/5/20, 11/12/20

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

CASE NUMBER: 20NWCP00238
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner BETSY DEL CARMEN HERNANDEZ filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Present name (1) BETSY DEL CARMEN HERNANDEZ to Proposed name (1) BETSY HERNANDEZ
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 30, 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 OCTOBER 6, 2020
Judge Margaret M. Bernal
Judge Of The Superior Court
Petitioner or Attorney, In Pro Per
BETSY DEL CARMEN HERNANDEZ
7015 PAINTER AVE
WHITTIER, CA 90602
(562) 325-3357
BETSYH208@GMAIL.COM

The Downey Patriot
10/15/20, 10/22/20, 10/29/20, 11/5/20

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

CASE NUMBER: 20STPB08255
TO ALL HEIRS, BENEFICIARIES, CREDITORS, CONTINGENT CREDITORS, AND PERSONS WHO MAY OTHERWISE BE INTERESTED IN THE WILL OR ESTATE, OR BOTH, OF DALLAL BERTY GHATTAS
A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by Monica Ghattas and Christine Hedge in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.
THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that Monica Ghattas and Christine Hedge be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.
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 Feb. 23, 2021 at 8:30 AM in Dept. No. 79 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:
RONALD BERMAN ESQ
SBN 079775
BERMAN & BERMAN APLC
16633 VENTURA BLVD
SUITE 940
ENCINO CA 91436
CN972260 SCANLON Oct 15,22,29, 2020

CN972260
The Downey Patriot
10/15/20, 10/22/20, 10/29/20

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF DALLAL BERTY GHATTAS

CASE No. 20STPB08255
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of DALLAL BERTY GHATTAS
A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by Monica Ghattas and Christine Hedge in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.
THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that Monica Ghattas and Christine Hedge be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.
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 Feb. 23, 2021 at 8:30 AM in Dept. No. 79 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

PROBATE NOTICE OF AMENDED PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF

CARLYLE JOSEPH SCANLON Case No. 18STPB09353

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of CARLYLE JOSEPH SCANLON
AN AMENDED PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by Kani Nicolls in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.
THE AMENDED PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that Kani Nicolls be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.
The decedent's will and codicils were admitted to Probate (SEP008986) on 11/21/1977.
The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.
THE AMENDED 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 amended petition will be held on Nov. 2, 2020 at 8:30 AM in Dept. No. 44 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:
MATTHEW YU ESQ
SBN 256235
LAW OFFICE OF
MATTHEW C YU
3620 PACIFIC COAST HWY
STE 200
TORRANCE CA 90505
CN972920 GHATTAS Oct 22,29, Nov 5, 2020

CN972920
The Downey Patriot
10/22/20, 10/29/20, 11/5/20

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF NANCY LOPEZ

CASE No. 20STPB07956
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of NANCY LOPEZ
A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by Alfredo Velez in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.
THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that Alfredo Velez be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.
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 Feb. 17, 2021 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:
RONALD BERMAN ESQ
SBN 079775
BERMAN & BERMAN APLC
16633 VENTURA BLVD
SUITE 940
ENCINO CA 91436
CN972260 SCANLON Oct 15,22,29, 2020

CN972260
The Downey Patriot
10/15/20, 10/22/20, 10/29/20

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF DALLAL BERTY GHATTAS

CASE No. 20STPB08255
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of DALLAL BERTY GHATTAS
A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by Monica Ghattas and Christine Hedge in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.
THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that Monica Ghattas and Christine Hedge be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.
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 Feb. 23, 2021 at 8:30 AM in Dept. No. 79 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:
RICHARD A LEHN ESQ
SBN 147571
ARDIS & LEHN APC
9530 E IMPERIAL HWY
STE J
DOWNEY CA 90242-3041
CN972579 LOPEZ Oct 15,22,29, 2020

CN972579
The Downey Patriot
10/15/20, 10/22/2

How much does it cost to sell a house?

A shortage of homes for sale in the U.S. gives sellers the advantage in most housing markets. But many sellers don't realize that this transaction likely will cost them thousands of dollars.

How much does it cost to sell a house?

Real estate commissions and other fees can consume up to 10 percent of the sale price of the home. Some expenses are negotiable and fluctuate with the real estate market. But sellers should expect to foot all or part of the bill for numerous costs to sell a house.

Here's an overview of the various costs to sell a house.

Realtor's commission fees

The real estate commission is usually the biggest fee a seller pays — 5 percent to 6 percent of the sale price. So, if you sell your house for \$250,000, you could end up paying \$15,000 in commissions. The commission is split between the seller's real estate agent and the buyer's agent. In the majority (77 percent) of cases, the seller bears this cost, according to a 2018 report from the National Association of Realtors.

You may be able to negotiate a lower commission. Real estate agents are more likely to accept a lower rate when the home is expected to sell quickly, the local market is strong or the home price is relatively high.

Many homeowners try to avoid these high fees by listing their home as for-sale-by-owner (FSBO). If you do that, be prepared to assume the duties of a real estate agent, including showing the place to prospective buyers, negotiating, hiring a lawyer to draw up the contract, and taking care of the transfer of title. Just 7 percent of home sales in 2018 were FSBO sales, according to NAR.

Home repairs

If you're thinking about selling your home, it's likely there are things you could do to enhance the appeal of your place and potentially raise its value. If you've been putting off sprucing up the exterior of your property, painting the inside, or repairing a staircase or a leaky faucet, now's the time to make those changes.

"Getting the home ready to be sold can require minor cosmetic work, like painting and decluttering, or major upgrades," says Jorge Guerra, chairman-elect of the Miami Association of Realtors in Florida. "Sometimes a new kitchen and bathroom can raise the value a significant amount."

Also, if the buyer's home inspector finds problems, such as a damaged roof or bad plumbing, you might have to pay to fix those issues in order to close the deal.

Big repairs can set you back financially, so be prepared for them before you decide to sell, especially if you expect problems will be revealed during a home inspection.

Pre-sale home inspection

A presale home inspection is strictly optional, and it could cost around \$400 or more. So why would you pay for one? Some sellers make the investment because they want to find out about any structural or mechanical problems with the house before a potential buyer comes in with his or her home inspector.

Getting a pre-sale inspection allows you to make major repairs ahead of time, removing any possibility of a buyer demanding them later or asking you to lower the price. Discuss with your real estate agent whether a pre-sale home inspection is recommended. Keep in mind that if your inspection reveals material defects with your home, you'll have a responsibility to disclose them to a buyer, depending on your state's laws for disclosure requirements.

Home staging

Buyers like to envision what a house could look like after they move in. If you're a seller, it's worthwhile to spring for cosmetic repairs, like fresh, neutral paint and new flooring. Improving curb appeal with fresh plants or flowers can really appeal to buyers without costing too much, says Grant Lopez, chairman of the San

Antonio Board of Realtors in Texas.

Twenty-eight percent of seller's agents said they staged all homes before listing, spending a median amount of \$400, according to a 2019 NAR report.

"Staging is usually helpful when the home is vacant. Realtors use the furniture to show the possibility of what that space can be," Guerra says. "Depending on the furniture and the price of the house, (staging) can be very costly."

Hiring a professional to stage your home might pay off. Stagers do what's necessary to enhance a home's best features while minimizing its worst attributes, and help prospective buyers imagine themselves living there. They rearrange furniture and accessories, declutter and depersonalize the home. They may even repurpose a room in a way you wouldn't have imagined.

The cost of a professional stager varies according to the size of the home, the extent of the work, the length of time the house is on the market and other factors. Expect to spend several hundred dollars, at minimum, and possibly thousands if you need a professional stager.

Utilities

If you plan to move out before you sell your home, you'll want to continue to pay for water and electricity. A home without air conditioning/heat and lighting can be difficult to show to buyers.

Your current bills will give you an idea how much it will cost each month to leave on the utilities until a new buyer moves in.

Mortgage payoff

The proceeds of your home sale will be used to pay off your mortgage, but it's likely that the payoff amount on your mortgage statement is a little less than what you actually owe.

You'll likely have to add prorated interest you've accrued to the total balance. Additionally, you might have to pay a fee if there's a prepayment penalty associated with your mortgage. Check your loan documents or contact your current lender to find out if your loan includes this condition.

Selling one house and buying another? Use a calculator to determine how much house you can afford.

Closing costs and additional fees

While the closing costs to sell a house are typically the responsibility of the buyer, don't be surprised if you are asked to foot the bill, especially if you are trying to sell your home in a buyer's market (one which has a lot of homes for sale).

Some of these costs may include homeowners association fees, property taxes, attorney fees, transfer taxes and title insurance. You also may be asked to pay an escrow fee, a brokerage fee and a courier fee. Altogether, closing costs can range from 2 to 4 percent of the home's sales price.

"Sellers sometimes forget to budget for a title policy, which ensures that the title is free and clear," Lopez says. It is usually included in the closing costs, but you may be able to negotiate who pays it.

In fact, many of these fees are negotiable, and it's unlikely that a seller will be responsible for all of them. Still, it helps to be prepared.

Capital gains tax

Don't forget to consider taxes. When you sell a home for more than you paid for it, that counts as a capital gain and might need to be reported on your federal tax return.

The good news is, many homeowners are eligible to exclude up to \$250,000 of profit (\$500,000 for married couples filing jointly) of their main

home from tax, as long as they haven't used the tax break on another home sale within the past two years. The tax break applies if it was your primary home for at least two out of the previous five years.

Property tax

Sellers also need to remember property taxes, which are dependent on if they are escrowing into their mortgage, Lopez says. Property taxes are usually paid in advance. The seller should pay the prorated share of property tax up to the closing date, with the money placed in escrow.

However, if you're selling your home and have already paid taxes for the year, you may actually get a rebate at closing. The buyer will reimburse the seller for the portion of taxes already paid that apply after the closing date.

Courtesy Bankrate.com



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FEATURED PROPERTY

Don't Miss Out!!!
Location, location, location! Great investment opportunity. This Ranch style home offers 3 bedroom, 2 baths, and 1,593 sq. ft. of living space. A spacious living room with kitchen and separate dining room. Large family room with fireplace and french door that lead to outdoor patio, great for family gatherings. Property sold as is condition. **CALL TODAY!!!**

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Charming 3 bed, 2 bath, 1,658 sq. ft. home with lots of character. It features a spacious living room with decorative fireplace, separate dining room, a cozy kitchen with breakfast nook, and beautiful hardwood floors throughout. A large family room that opens to an outdoor patio. 2 car detached garage. Turnkey condition. **CALL TODAY!!!**

Turnkey!
Tis-level condo features 2 beds and 3 baths. The fully updated kitchen includes quartz countertops, tile flooring, new five burner gas cooking & stainless vented hood, built in stainless oven and microwave. Upper level includes an ensuite master bedroom with large walk in closet. Inside laundry & 2 car garage. The home is Smart Home compatible throughout. **CALL TODAY!!!**

Will Go Fast!!!
Adorable 2 bed home in a wonderful and safe community. Very private home. No HOA, but prices as a condominium. Built from the ground up in 2012. Upgraded fixtures and automatic gate opener. Prestigious schools. Close to everything, shopping, freeways, 87 walk score! Don't miss this one. **CALL TODAY!!!**

Immaculate!!!
This beautiful home features an open floor plan. The open entry way leads to the living room, kitchen with island, and dining area. The kitchen includes upgraded countertops, plenty of cabinet space, stainless steel appliances. This home has over \$40,000 in upgrades. Upstairs you will find 3 bedrooms, including a spacious master retreat with walk in closet and upgraded master bath with dual sinks. Convenient laundry room on the second floor. **CALL TODAY!!!**

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Beautiful!!!
This newly painted 2 story house with an open concept 3-bedroom, 2.5 baths with a loft that can easily be converted into a fourth bedroom. It's a smart home outfitted with solar panels, new water heater, smart lights, wi-fi sprinkler system, nest thermostat, and google doorbell. Kitchen has French pane doors & stainless-steel appliances. Backyard has gorgeous saltwater pool and spa. Perfect for entertaining. **CALL TODAY!!!**

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3 bedroom, 2 bathrooms, 1,072 sq ft of living space + 306 sq. ft. enclosed patio, nearly 6,000 sq ft lot, newer central air, newer copper plumbing (including main line)

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