



CRIME REPORT
Police investigate homicide

SEE PAGE 4



FEATURES
Rancho cafe changing lives

SEE PAGE 7



HEROES
WWII vet honored on 100th birthday

SEE PAGE 8



ENTERTAINMENT
Jim Brickman's live concert

SEE PAGE 10

Downey won't enforce stay-home orders

Downey mayor Blanca Pacheco is urging residents to observe county mandates but enforcement won't come from police.

By Alex Dominguez
Staff Writer

DOWNEY - Downey Police will not be actively enforcing the newest stay-at-home order, according to officials.

As the nation continues to grapple with the deadly coronavirus, a fresh batch of LA County mandates and restrictions went into effect on Monday.

Included in the latest protocols is the prohibition of all public gatherings with individuals not part of your household (except for religious services and protests, which are covered by constitutional rights) and the closure of in-person dining for restaurants.

However, it is unlikely that Downey residents will be cited by local police for any infractions.

According to Mayor Blanca Pacheco, it is simply too difficult for Downey Police to determine who is part of a single household to effectively enforce the new mandates.

"We're hoping residents will comply on their own," said Pacheco.

Police Chief Dean Milligan said that police would respond to any call received and assess from that point but indicated that citations would come more at the discretion of the county Health Department.

City manager gets pay raise

DOWNEY - Downey City Manager Gilbert Livas will receive a pay raise mid-next year.

Livas's current monthly salary is \$23,470.89. With the raise, he will earn \$23,954.67 per month, effective the pay period that includes July 1, 2021.

The 2% adjustment comes in direct response to a 2% cost of living increase that the Chief of Police position will receive on June 28, 2021.

Livas' contract stipulates that he maintains a 5% total compensation differential over the next highest paid employee.

Personnel costs will increase by approximately \$8,822.57 for fiscal year 2021-22.

The City Council unanimously approved the salary increase last week.

Alex Dominguez, staff writer

Alex Saab thanks the community for 8 years of progress

After two terms and eight years on the Downey City Council, Alex Saab says goodbye.

By Alex Saab
Councilmember

For the past eight years, I have had the honor of serving the residents of Downey on the Downey City Council. I have met countless residents who share the same love and passion for Downey and the desire to make it even better.

As my time on the city council comes to an end, I wanted to share my experiences with you and to hopefully motivate you to get involved in our community. There are many ways to contribute, which collectively, makes our city the special place it is.

As residents, we have a lot to be proud of. We live in a city where our local government is fiscally responsible and a community that greatly values our DUSD schools, Downey Police and Fire department. In my capacity as Council member and as Mayor, I spent many hours advocating for our city, both at the local, state and federal level to continue the momentum started by previous council members.

When first elected, one of the most common complaints by residents was the lack of options of restaurants in Downey. Many indicated that they would have to leave the city to enjoy a meal. This was disappointing to hear. With that in mind, we made an aggressive effort to attract a variety of restaurants. I am proud of the progress we have made and the variety and number of new eateries that have invested in our city and provide alternatives to our residents and businesses.

Our city has continued to articulate and promote local economic priorities which led the City of Downey to be recognized as the 2017 Most Business Friendly City in LA County by the Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation.

Businesses such as Downey Nissan, Kaiser Permanente, Fiat and Champion Dodge just to name a few, have continued to expand and thrive in our city.

Construction of a new hotel on Firestone Blvd. is well underway as well. These are things the entire community should be proud of and celebrate.

When the space industry left many years ago, thousands of jobs were lost. Out of this void, the city has worked hard over the years to facilitate the creation of new jobs. Since we are fortunate to have three major hospitals in Downey (PIH Downey, Kaiser and Rancho), Downey has been a destination city for many. Therefore, when first elected, I felt it was important to capture this opportunity and capitalize on the medical field.

In 2016, when I was Mayor, we created a BioMedical Overlay Zone to continue to be a part of the emerging bioscience hub and to encourage the growth of the biomedical industry in our city. This has resulted in great success and growth.

In addition, a comprehensive audit was conducted of the Community Development Department to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the departments' operations and use of resources. This led to the implementation of cost and time-saving technology alternatives that were put in place and have improved the departments' productivity.

Also, the DowneyLINK buses were replaced with seven Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) buses, which are better for the environment and lower the city's fuel costs, saving hundreds of thousands of dollars. The Transit Center has also optimized transit operations to better serve our residents.

One of the promises I made when elected was to expand the arts in Downey. Public art adds enormous value to the cultural, aesthetic, and economic vitality of a community. We have added six beautiful art sculptures in Downtown Downey, as well the famous Downey Doodle-icious mural (by local artist Don Lamkin) which continues to draw people. The Downey Theatre has undergone a major overhaul, with a new elevator, community art plaza, sound system, and art garden. Rio Hondo Event Center also received a much-needed facelift including new flooring, sound system, furniture, and



Councilman Alex Saab will be termed out of office next week. (Courtesy photos)

restrooms.

I proudly served on the City Council budget subcommittee for almost eight years. During this time, I am proud of our record of having a balanced budget and an almost \$30 million reserve. The residents of Downey should be proud to have a city with strong fiscal sustainability and long-term financial planning.

Furthermore, just this year, I requested that we look closer at our pension obligations and were able to responsibly refinance our CalPERS Liability (UAL) from 7% to 4%, resulting in a huge savings of over \$55 million.

The residents of Downey voted overwhelmingly in 2014 against Measure B, unequivocally stating that we want to maintain our own Downey Police and Fire Department. When first elected, our police department consisted of 111 sworn officers. Thanks to Measure S project funds, we were able to add 10 additional sworn officer positions, bringing our total to 121.

What makes our city unique is our independence; having our own Downey Police and Fire Departments, and our great Downey Unified School District is what sets us apart from neighboring communities. We must always preserve this.

Thanks to Measure S funds, the city has worked diligently to plan and design improvements for all city parks, the Downey Civic Theatre, and the Downey City Library. This is the largest infrastructure improvement in the city's history. \$50 million dollars' worth of upgrades has almost been completed, all on



time and on budget.

The renovation of Apollo Park, Independence Park, Dennis the Menace Park, Discovery Sports Complex, Golden Park, and Furman Park have all received major improvements including new playgrounds, new picnic shelters, ADA upgrades, additional lighting, and much more. Wilderness Park will be completed in the next few weeks with a new pond, bridges and play area.

New much needed fire stations and upgrades to our police station have been done. The Downey City Library has undergone a complete renovation transforming it into a true 21st Century public learning space, furthering its mission "to ignite a community of creative and critical thinkers."

Continued on page 2

Shirley Johnson, traveler and civic leader, dies

A travel enthusiast, Shirley Johnson owned a local transportation business. She died unexpectedly last month.

By Lorine Parks
Society Columnist

DOWNEY - Just a few weeks ago, lamenting the death of her Downey friend Rosalie Sciortino, Shirley Johnson said to me, "I wonder how fully we can prepare for the death of someone who has been one of the main branches of our family tree."

"Lorine, why is it," she said, "we learn more about people and friends after they leave us?" Now

ironically, we get to learn more about Shirley, who died at the end of November.

Shirley was a 30-year member of the Rotary Club of Downey, one of the first women to be invited to join the club.

"The most important to me are always the children," she said. "So many go without the basics. I believe all children should be treated with honesty, humor as is appropriate, and respect. I was raised in England in a very strict way with those values."

"We must all help to keep the world turning and that means helping where and when we can."

These were the values that made Shirley and Rotary so

compatible.

Eccentric, brusque but not rude, and frank to the point of being brutally honest, people loved her for it. Shirley had a big generous heart and boundless optimism under that British reserve.

She was stubborn too. Driving together to a Rotary function, I discovered one night that she did not have a GPS installed.

"I can find my way with my Thomas Brothers maps," she said. We became slightly lost.

Born in England, Shirley was Hertfordshire to the bone.

"It was very rural," she said, "no paved sidewalks, sheep and cows grazing and completely surrounded by thick woods, wild blackberries we picked in season



and crab apples that we would eat on the way home from school as a snack. Very sour."

Continued on page 2

Weekend at a Glance

Friday 76°

Saturday 73°

Sunday 71°

ON THIS DAY DECEMBER 3

1828: Running on a platform to advance the rights of the "common man," former Army general Andrew Jackson was elected the seventh president of the United States.

1927: The first Laurel and Hardy film, "Putting Pants on Philip," was released.

1947: "A Streetcar Named Desire" by Tennessee Williams opened on Broadway.

1964: Police arrested some 800 students at the University of California at Berkeley who had stormed the administration building the previous day and staged a massive sit-in.

1965: The Beatles released their highly successful and influential folk album "Rubber Soul."

1967: Surgeons in Cape Town, South Africa, led by Dr. Christiaan Barnard performed the first human heart transplant.

1967: The 20th Century Limited, the famed luxury train, completed its final run from New York City to Chicago.

1979: Eleven people were killed in a crush of fans at Cincinnati's Riverfront Coliseum before a rock concert by the Who.

1984: More than 4,000 people died after a cloud of gas escaped from a pesticide plant operated by a Union Carbide subsidiary in Bhopal, India.

1999: Scientists failed to make contact with the Mars Polar Lander after it began its fiery descent toward the red planet; the spacecraft was presumed destroyed.

Birthdays

Metal singer **Ozzy Osbourne** (72), actress **Julianne Moore** (61), actor **Brendan Fraser** (52), R&B singer **Montell Jordan** (52), comedian **Tiffany Haddish** (41), actress **Anna Chlumsky** (40), actress **Amanda Seyfried** (35), rapper **Lil Baby** (26) and actor **Jake T. Austin** (26).

Deaths

Scott Weiland, lead singer of the band Stone Temple Pilots, died on this date in 2015 of an accidental drug and alcohol overdose. He was 48.

Glenn Quinn, the actor best known for portraying Mark Healy on "Roseanne," died on this date in 2002 of a heroin overdose. He was 32.

Robert Louis Stevenson, author of the classic adventure novel "Treasure Island" and the psychological thriller "The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde," died on this date in 1894. The cause of death was a suspected cerebral hemorrhage. He was 44.

New Book Release

"**A Time for Mercy**" by John Grisham Clanton, Mississippi. 1990. Jake Brigrance finds himself embroiled in a deeply divisive trial when the court appoints him attorney for Drew Gamble, a timid sixteen-year-old boy accused of murdering a local deputy. Many in Clanton want a swift trial and the death penalty, but Brigrance digs in and discovers that there is more to the story than meets the eye.

Alex Saab thanks Downey

Continued from page 1

The City of Downey budgets approximately \$3 million annually to rehabilitate streets in residential neighborhoods. This is a substantial improvement from the \$1.2 million we previously budgeted when I was first elected. Miles of residential streets and the city's thoroughfare have already been repaved, resurfaced, and beautified. This not only extends the life of our streets and cars, but also increases the city's overall aesthetics.

We have also removed all the older style street signs and replaced them with the new modern one with our city logo. This is part of the City Branding program to further promote Downey.

One of the things I was most proud of when I was Mayor was the dedication of the Orange Estates area of Downey in 2016. In doing so, we recognized and showcased the historical significance of this neighborhood. It was important for the city to preserve this area as a means for future generations to have a sense of history, to promote civic engagement, and to provide a sense of place. This dedication has helped maintain property values and residents have continued to have a greater sense of pride and enjoy being a part of Downey history.

In 2015, the City was honored to host Ireland for the Special Olympics World Games. Our City came together in an incredible way to welcome our friends from across the pond. To keep the

momentum of serving Downey's special needs residents, in 2016, our city began offering various Special Olympics sport programs to Downey residents. This is something I am most proud of.

As a community, we must continue to come together, especially during these trying times. So many of you have provided suggestions and ideas which turned into valuable projects for our City. I have always said, the best ideas do not come from us on the Council, but from you the residents. I hope reading this will motivate you to get involved because no act is too small, and each of you really can make a difference.

I would like to thank my City Council colleagues, past and present for supporting me during my two terms and for dedicating their time to our city. Also to my commissioners for serving our city. A special thank you to our City Manager Gilbert Livas who has diligently and ethically led our city for the past 10 years through unprecedented growth. We have an amazing city staff at City Hall who serve our community diligently. Our city has prospered as a result of their hard work.

There are so many more people I would like to thank, but most importantly, I would like to thank my wife Giggy, children Dominic, Gianna, and Alexander, and my mother Elsa for their unwavering support.

It has been an honor to serve Downey. I hope you see you around town soon.

Thank you,

Alex Saab
Council Member
District 5

Shirley Johnson: stubborn, honest with a heart of gold

Continued from page 1

Shirley originally intended to emigrate to New Zealand but she stopped in Los Angeles along the way, and fell in love with our climate. She opened her travel agency, Best Travel, in Downey in 1977, and she occasionally led trips she designed herself.

"We try to stay away from the canned tour," she told me in a 2019 interview. "We prefer to stay in the out of the way places, small country villages, in the 17th and 18th century Coach Inns, dining in well-known watering holes such as 'The Pub,' best food in the world."

Shirley branched into a personalized airport taxi service that in later years became a much-needed personal van service to take the elderly to their medical appointments. Her clients became her friends and both sides felt like family.

To shake hands with Shirley, as we do in Rotary, was to feel like you were the handle of a suitcase she had picked off the baggage carousel for a client. She had a firm handshake and you knew you would never be lost luggage.

Lately Shirley organized an informal Lunch Club for as many as 30 people who tried out whatever new restaurants Shirley suggested.

"I don't have any agenda," said Shirley. "I just invite people to come. Originally I started this for the Women's Guild of Our Lady of Perpetual Help. But then I invited clients from my travel agency, and they asked friends."

Shirley was passionate about the Downey Symphony and was a great supporter of Sharon Lavery from day one when Sharon was chosen to be the new Music Director 12 years ago. Shirley never missed a concert if she didn't have to work, and often brought a friend.

Shirley was proud of being a



cancer survivor for over 20 years, and she always advised people to have check-ups. Nevertheless, she had arranged with fellow Rotarian Greg Welch to have him take care of her remains after she passed. Knowing how Greg and Barbara at Risher Mortuary treated the loved one with respect and dignity she felt her very specific wishes would be carried out by them.

Although she was an intensely private person, she had confided to me in a matter of fact way a few weeks ago, "I am having surgery on my neck and back. The back part is to correct something done ages ago that apparently never healed properly. This might be a big operation, and two weeks minimum to recoup. There goes my Thanksgiving business."

Shirley resisted having her picture taken, but here she is last year, arriving at the Rotary Children's Christmas luncheon, with her festive party hat and

suitcase filled with candies. She always sat at Santa's right hand and personally gave each child a treat. Note she is using a cane. As she liked to say about herself, "That Shirley, there she goes again!"

Caring for abused animals, like Tippi Hedren's Shambala Wild Animal Preserve in Acton, mattered to Shirley. Indeed, she identified with them, as she wrote me after one of our club's virtual meetings, "the best part of the Zoom segment was the very cute animals. Being half Dog myself, I enjoyed looking at them more than the other faces gracing my screen."

"When I leave," Shirley liked to say, "I shall be cremated, as Muffin was (she's in my China cabinet), and both of us shall cross the 'pond' landing back in Hertfordshire in the family plot with my sister and three Daffodil bulbs to show the world each Spring, WE'RE BACK!"

In Memory of

Michael Alan Udoff

October 20, 1955 - November 24, 2020



Mike Udoff was part of the Alumni of Warren High School in Downey, class of 1973. He was best known for the #32 football jersey he wore. He was quite an athlete according to those who participated in various sporting activities with him.

He is remembered fondly by his friends as having a wonderful sense of humor and always having a joke to tell! He was thought of as a great high school football player with GOD-Given talents. Classmates also remembered him from wrestling, weightlifting and being the first sophomore to be in the "1500" weightlifting club.

He is survived by his wife Judy Udoff and his brother Marc. Sadly, Mike's mother (Barbara Udoff) passed away on July 27, 2020 and his father (Bob Udoff) passed away on September 26, 2020.

Due to Covid-19, Funeral Services are pending and information about a future Memorial Celebration of Life will be posted on Facebook at a later time.

He will be missed by all whose lives he touched. May He Rest In Peace.



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Things you didn't know about Downey: The electric sign

By **Bobbie Bruce**
Downey Historical Society

DOWNEY – The following story comes from the Downey LiveWire newspaper in July 1924, titled “Downey to Celebrate Lighting of Large Sign.”

The big new “Downey” sign will be illuminated Saturday night for the first time and members of the local chamber of commerce, together with other citizens, are planning to make a celebration of the occasion.

The light will be turned into the electric sign at about eight-thirty o'clock or as soon as it becomes sufficiently dark to make the big letters show up properly.

The Compton Chamber of Commerce band will be here to play from 8:30 to 10 o'clock. There will be an impromptu program and all who come here that night will receive a cordial welcome.

Downey is proud of her new sign and wants everybody to share in the dedication. Because of the power shortage, this will be the only time this sign will be illuminated until the shortage is relieved.

This sign was erected at a cost of \$405, subscribed by the business firms and citizens of Downey. The work was done by B.F. Darnell, of the Darnell Electric Shop, who assisted in the making of the letters by Harry Leonard of the Modern

Plumbing Shop.

A record was set up by the chamber of commerce committee headed by E.A. Stowe in the soliciting and collection of funds for financing the proposition and Mr. Darnell completed the construction work in record time.

The right to use the high water cooler at the Los Nietos Valley Ice Company was granted by C.W. Corkum, proprietor of that institution.

Rives Mansion

It is hard to drive down Paramount Boulevard at 3rd Street and see the Rives Mansion not being used except for political signs being placed on its lawn.

For years the Downey Historical Society had tried to get



the city of Downey to purchase the property but for various reasons it never happened.

Looking at the beautiful old buildings which has contributed to having many articles of historical importance printed about it not being used to tell its story is very sad. What a great place it could be as a learning center to tell the Downey story to students of the community.

Mary Stauffer thought it was very important to purchase the Downey history book done by Larry Latimer so the third grade children in Downey schools could learn about early life.

Imagine this mansion being brought to life as a place that visitors could come to when visiting our city and wanting to see pictures of early life, early pioneers and artifacts used in their lives. We continue to receive calls about pictures and furniture used in the beginning of Downey's history but we have limited space to display items.

We have this fall two new board members: one from Warren High School and one from Downey High School who have the energy and computer knowledge to be of great help to the history center.

We know the Rives Mansion is privately owned but it doesn't hurt to dream that someday it might be owned by Downey and used by the service clubs, Downey schools, and the Downey Historical Society Museum -- a place to continue telling the story of Downey.

much to the city of Downey. In 1994, a tribute to volunteers was printed in the Downey Historical Newsletter:

Volunteers, God Bless 'Em

Many will be shocked to find When the day of judgement nears

That there's a special place in heaven

Set aside for volunteers.

Furnished with big recliners

Satin couches and footstools

Where there's no committee chairman

No group leaders of carpools

No eager team that needs a coach

No bazaar and no bake sale

There will be nothing staple

Not one thing to fold or mail

Telephones will be outlawed

But a finger snap will bring

Cold drinks and gourmet dinners

And treats fit for a king.

You ask, "Who'll serve these privileged few

And work for all they're worth?"

Why, all those who reaped the benefits

And not once volunteered on Earth.

(author unknown)

This is a thank you to all who make living in the City of Downey a better city.

Bobbie Bruce is a docent with the Downey Historical Society.

Volunteer Poem

It is very important to recognize the importance of volunteers who contribute so

Crime Report

On Tuesday, Nov. 24, at approximately 7:45 am, officers responded to the 8300 block of Firestone Blvd. regarding an armed robbery. Officers contacted the adult female victim who had been standing in the area when she was approached by a male that stated he had a gun. The suspect demanded the victim's property. The victim gave the suspect her property and the suspect ran to a waiting vehicle with a second suspect driving. The vehicle fled the area.

A short time later, a second robbery occurred on Lakewood Blvd. where another female was confronted by a suspect armed with a handgun. The suspect demanded her property and fled to a tan colored sedan. The vehicle was last seen northbound on Lakewood Blvd. with a driver and gunman. The description matched that of the first robbery.

Officers and detectives in the area located the vehicle and conducted a traffic stop. Two male adults were detained without incident. Both the driver and passenger were identified and the loss was recovered.

On Friday, Nov. 27, at approximately 1:15 pm, officers responded to the 13500 block of Lakewood Blvd. regarding an attempted bank robbery. An adult male suspect entered the bank, demanded a million dollars with a demand note. The teller did not give the suspect any money. The suspect then fled the bank on foot.

Approximately 45 minutes later, the suspect returned to the bank with a second demand note. Detectives detained the suspect inside the bank without incident. The suspect was arrested and charged with attempted robbery.

On Sunday, Nov. 29, at approximately 7:25 pm, officers located an occupied stolen vehicle in the area of Lakewood Blvd. and Donovan St. Officers conducted a high-risk traffic stop and the vehicle yielded. The driver, an adult male, was arrested for auto theft.

Detectives are investigating a shooting that occurred the same day at about 8 pm in the 9200 block of Ceclia St. The adult female victim was parked when she heard two gunshot rounds strike her vehicle. She then heard additional rounds fired further east of her. She believed the suspect was in a passing vehicle when they fired the shots, but did not see the suspect or vehicle. The victim was not struck or injured in the incident. Detectives responded to the scene and located one spent bullet. No casings were located.

Detectives are investigating a homicide that occurred Sunday at about 11:20 pm in the 11600 block of Lakewood Blvd. Officers were dispatched to the area of Lakewood Blvd. and Clea St. regarding an injured female asking for help. Officers arrived and found the female unresponsive to the front of the location. The Downey Fire Department attempted life saving measures, however, they were unable to revive the female and she was pronounced deceased. It appears the victim sustained a head wound. The Detective Bureau and forensics responded for the investigation.

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Covid isn't up for debate

By Alex Dominguez

"I'm letting my boss know that we're in COVID hell, so I might be a little distracted."

That's what my mom just said to me a few moments ago, right before I sat down at my desk to start my usual work routine.

It was around two weeks ago that we found out that my uncle Fred – who lives in Texas – was COVID-19 positive. A day or so after, his wife Nyla began showing symptoms. Their youngest son, Sam, was next.

It's Fred's birthday as I'm writing this; he's 70 years old. He's also currently in the ICU on a ventilator.

Then this morning word came in from Colorado. Bob – husband to Jody, my late-grandmother's sole remaining sibling – was airlifted to the hospital unable to breathe. Bob, too, is COVID-19 positive, and struggling with complications of the disease.

I wish I could say that I was sad, frustrated, or even angry. But in all reality, the spectrum of my current emotional state falls more along the lines of fatigued, tired, and desperate.

It's hard being a reporter in a pandemic.

I've watched as cases steadily rose in Downey. I know some who have ended up with the disease; thankfully, no one that I know of has passed. Friends of mine have lost their jobs in the meantime.

I feel like I've heard it all when it comes to response to the pandemic. Mask or no mask? What should open and when? Outdoor

dining or take-out only? Hybrid or full-distance?

All while I have felt somewhat (if potentially naively so) safe in my little socially distanced bubble, with a mask securely over my nose and mouth.

Yet here I now sit, scared to leave the house, suspicious of my own family and closest friends. Even over 1,000 miles away, suddenly Texas felt like my own backyard.

I don't believe that this pandemic is a hoax; I view the coronavirus as very, very real.

However, as credible a threat as I believe it to be, it pales in comparison to the sad fact that the virus is treated more as an area of contention with one another than a problem to be tackled.

Nearly all year, we have treated the coronavirus as a subject of argument. Instead of collaborating and finding solutions, we choose to point fingers back and forth at one another. COVID-19 isn't just an illness; it's a political bullet point.

We are all hurting, some more than others in different ways. We have all been affected at this point, in some way, shape or form.

I'm not asking everyone to agree overnight; that is simply illogical.

But the time for debating is over. We desperately need unified action.

As cases once again rise and new public health mandates are placed into effect, we need to realize that we are past the window of



what is right and what is wrong; we are simply at the point of what is.

Only together will we be able to turn this around and – hopefully – get our lives back to some form of normalcy.

COVID-19 makes it hard enough to breathe without the rest of us grasping for each other's throats.

Alex Dominguez is a journalist and staff writer for the Downey Patriot.

New Congress needs to get tough on trade

By Erik Paulsen

Now that election day is behind us, new and returning lawmakers in both parties are looking ahead to next year. They're strategizing for what surely will be a momentous legislative session.

Trade enforcement deserves a spot high on my former colleagues' to-do list. Holding our trading partners accountable to existing pacts, and negotiating robust new agreements with our allies, would create jobs and help our economy fully recover from COVID-19.

International trade has long been a boon for the U.S. economy. Last year, the United States traded nearly \$6 trillion worth of goods and services with foreign nations. Nearly 39 million U.S. jobs rely on international trade. At a time when one in 10 Americans who want to work cannot find jobs, it's never been more important to preserve and strengthen these economic opportunities.

Unfortunately, foreign trade barriers threaten many of these economic benefits.

For instance, local content requirements in Canada, Brazil, South Africa, and India limit the amount of U.S. television programming that can be broadcast within their borders. And the world's preeminent form of audio IP theft, "stream ripping" -- illegally downloading an audio file from a legitimate streaming platform onto your own devices -- is a regular occurrence in Canada. These

practices unfairly devalue U.S. creative content and keep our artists from being fairly compensated for their work.

Similarly, unfair and often discriminatory medicine price controls in countries like Canada, Japan, Korea, and the United Kingdom undervalue U.S. biopharmaceuticals. These practices make it difficult for U.S. drug companies to break into foreign markets, sell new medicines at fair market prices, and recoup R&D investments to develop new cures.

Congress has an essential role to play in stopping these trade violations. After all, it funds the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative -- which negotiates and enforces trade treaties on our country's behalf -- and gives the final go-ahead to trade agreements. And, consistent with its constitutional authority to "regulate commerce with foreign nations," lawmakers already have demanded robust U.S. trade negotiating objectives through the 2015 Trade Promotion Authority law. Now, Congress and the administration need to work together to advance their goals and eliminate onerous trade obstacles once and for all.

Policymakers can start by enforcing our existing trade deals, like the U.S.- Korea Free Trade Agreement (KORUS). Since signing the deal in 2018, Korea has continued to undervalue American intellectual property, particularly when it comes to medicines. The United States should hold Korean officials accountable and demand

that they "appropriately recognize the value of . . . patented pharmaceutical product[s]," like they promised.

Members also have a duty to pay close attention to ongoing trade negotiations, such as the phase two U.S.-Japan talks. During phase one discussions -- which produced a limited treaty earlier this year -- U.S. trade officials failed to negotiate robust protections for U.S. intellectual property. Lawmakers can wield their trade authority to ensure that American negotiators don't make the same mistake during their second go-around.

The impending U.S.-UK trade agreement provides Congress with yet another opportunity. The United Kingdom routinely devalues U.S. pharmaceuticals and impedes U.S. agricultural exports. Addressing these trade barriers would create American jobs and set a good precedent for all other future trade deals.

In the next legislative session, lawmakers will inevitably find international trade negotiations on their dockets. Driving a hard bargain is the only way to establish a fair playing field for American companies and ensure a strong economic recovery.

Erik Paulsen represented Minnesota in the U.S. House of Representatives from 2009 to 2019.

Obama's failure in Afghanistan

By Steve Chapman

Shortly before becoming vice president, Joe Biden traveled to Afghanistan in his role as chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. When he returned, he had a succinct assessment of the situation there: "a real mess."

When he takes the presidential oath on Jan. 20, Biden will find not much has changed. He will find himself saddled with a host of serious problems -- a raging pandemic, a struggling economy, a toxic political environment -- that are largely the fault of Donald Trump. But the blame for being stuck in Afghanistan lies mostly with Barack Obama.

The first volume of his presidential memoir, "A Promised Land," is a reminder that when it came to America's longest war, Obama was an unequivocal failure. He expanded the war, sacrificed far more lives, spent hundreds of billions of dollars and departed with the war dragging on and with success as far away as ever.

His book reveals Obama to be a cogent critic of the American effort. When he arrived, his Pentagon officials wanted him to send 30,000 more troops, and Obama was reluctant. The people advising him, he laments, were part of "a U.S. military that prided itself on accomplishing a mission once started, without regard to cost, duration, or whether the mission was the right one to start with."

He understood the scale of the task in Afghanistan. "We needed to drastically improve the (President Hamid) Karzai government's ability to govern and provide basic services," Obama recalls. "We needed to train up the Afghan army and police force so that they

would be competent and large enough to maintain security within the country's borders without help from U.S. forces." And unless Pakistan stopped helping the Taliban, he says, "our efforts at long-term stability in Afghanistan were bound to fail."

Obama should have realized he was buying oats for a dead horse. It dawned on him, he says, "that even in the best-case scenario -- even if Karzai cooperated, Pakistan behaved, and our goals were limited to what (Defense Secretary Robert) Gates liked to call 'Afghan good enough' -- we were still looking at three to five years of intense effort, costing hundreds of billions more dollars and more American lives." Note: That was his best-case scenario.

In the end, he narrowed the strategy proposed by the generals and set a timetable for drawing down. He discarded the idea of nation-building. But he tripled the size of the U.S. force.

The excuse he gives now is that "the alternatives were worse" -- namely, that if we pulled out, the Afghan government would collapse and the Taliban would take over. But that prospect is as real now as it was then.

The ultimate fear was that a Taliban government would once again grant al-Qaida a base to attack America. But if the Taliban have learned nothing else, they have learned that facilitating terrorism on the United States is not a winning strategy.

Today, the Kabul government has control of only a third of the country's districts. The number of civilian deaths attributable to the Taliban has risen steadily this year, despite the peace agreement the U.S. signed in February. In May, the inspector general for the

defense department reported, "Pakistan continues to harbor the Taliban and associated militant groups in Pakistan."

Nothing of importance has changed since 2009. But in the Obama years, more than 1,700 American service personnel gave their lives for this futile enterprise -- triple the death toll under George W. Bush.

Obama would have done well to heed his vice president's counsel. Biden opposed the 2009 troop surge. In 2015, the president had to decide whether to stick to his plan to withdraw entirely before he left office. Biden saw little to be gained from investing more lives and money. Obama, however, elected to stay in Afghanistan (a decision that presumably will be covered in his second volume). Trump has done the same, at least so far.

Obama, who knew all the reasons this war was a waste, lacked the courage of his doubts. So Biden will face the same dismal options Obama did.

The difference is that Biden has long had a better understanding of our mistakes. In the administration's internal 2015 debate, The New York Times reported, he "argued that the country would revert to chaos, regardless of how long the United States stayed there. 'It doesn't matter if we leave tomorrow or 10 years from now.'"

It still doesn't.

Steve Chapman blogs for the Chicago Tribune.

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Appreciation for Rick Rodriguez

Dear Editor:

As I read last week's front page story on Councilman Rick Rodriguez it showed all his many accomplishments during his term as mayor and councilman in just four short years.

I want all to know what a treasure he is. His good character, honesty and integrity is a rare find not only in politics but in today's society. He is a "boots on the ground" politician, ready to work hard and not just talk.

He didn't take this position to further his political or career goals, as we have seen in the past. He is a genuine listener, giver and doer.

I thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve on several committees to also make our fine city better. You will be missed by so many, but your mark will remain on our city for decades. I know you will long be remembered as one of the best.

Thank you, Councilman Rick, for your service!

**Dorothy Pemberton
Downey**

How to fix our elections

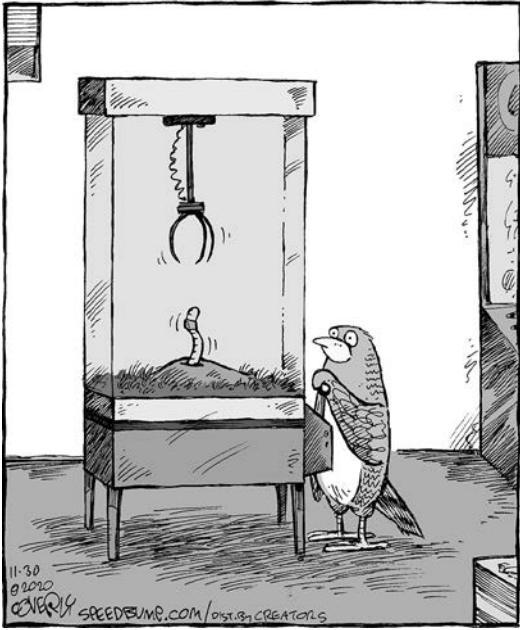
Dear Editor:

1. Voter I.D. must be required in all states. Period.
2. Mail-In-ballots must be utilized by only those elderly, disabled, or out-of-towners who request an absentee ballot. Ballots when returned must have matching signatures and addresses to those registered or with DMV. Period.
3. All ballots - in-person and mail-in, must be turned in no later than closing time on election day. Period.
4. Tabulation of all ballots must take place on the day of election. Period.
5. Observers from all parties must have the opportunity to view the processing of all votes. Period.
6. Paper ballots have served our country well for many years, and for many years we have known the election results on the same day as the day of election. To avoid possibilities of software malfunction, we must not allow these machines to be used in the future. Because of the failure of these machines, they are banned in many states and countries. The United States must ban these machines. Period.

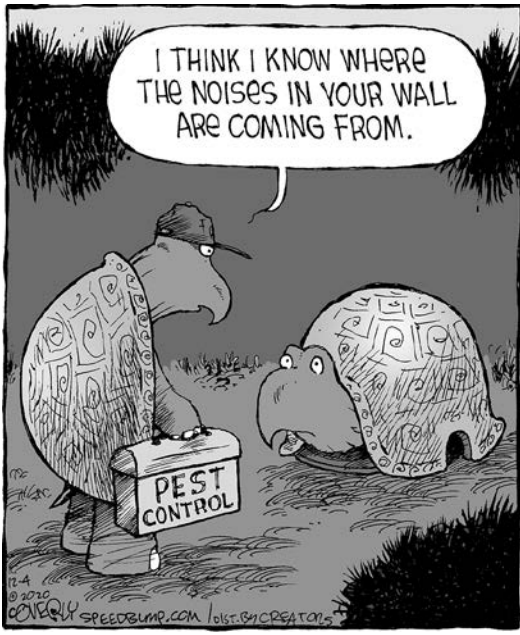
Yes, for our Republic to continue to exist, it is vitally essential that we have a fair election without suspicion of fraud.

**Martha Morrissy
Downey**

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.

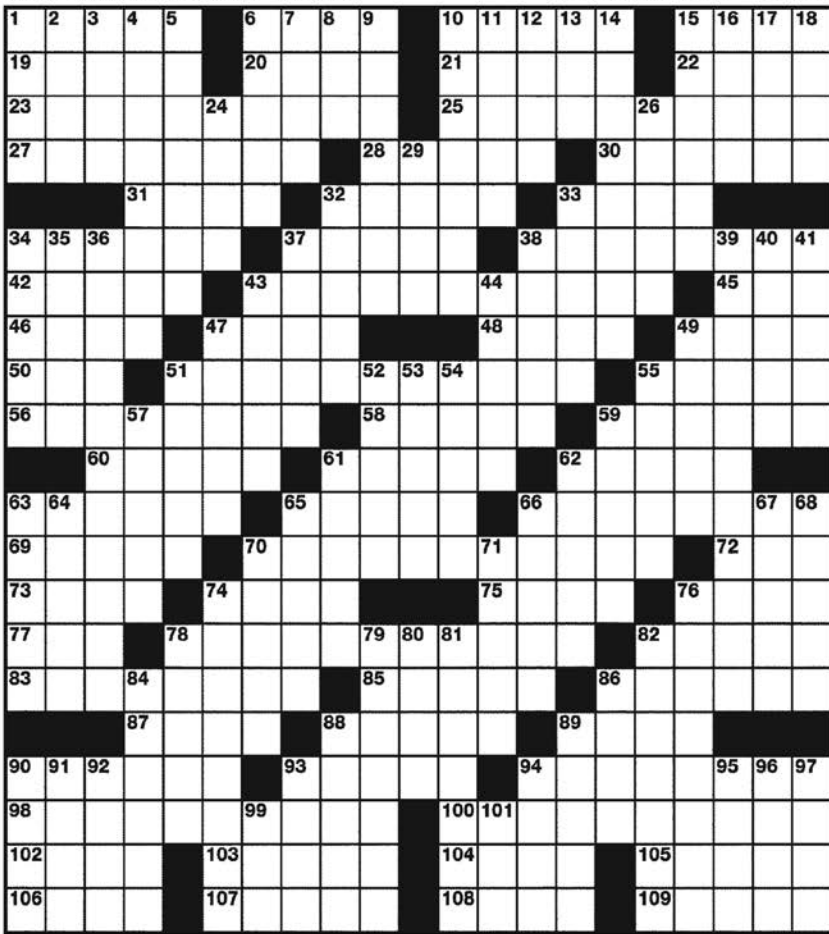
The **DOWNEY GRAFFITI HOTLINE NUMBER** Report graffiti to this number. **923-4484**

THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com)
THE WRIGHT STUFF: As seen in 10 clues
 by S.N.

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| ACROSS | 66 Certain acquired kin | 4 Sitcom family for 30+ years |
| 1 Buggy-riding people | 69 Place to strike | 5 Coming down solidly |
| 6 _butter (moisturizer) | 70 Robin WRIGHT was her aunt in a 2017 superhero film | 6 Potatoey appetizers |
| 10 Tourney stage | 72 Notable time "Vaya con _" | 7 Queen's residence |
| 15 LG product | 73 (Fernando's "Farewell") | 8 Farm female |
| 19 Shire of the Rocky films | 74 Identical | 9 Ship's loud signal |
| 20 Fuzzy fruit | 75 Metrical works | 10 Baby beech |
| 21 BP brand | 76 Oil-drilling equipment | 11 Show one's feelings |
| 22 Lake near Detroit | 77 DJIA, e.g. | 12 Lowers one's lawn |
| 23 Oscar film (1942) for Teresa WRIGHT | 78 Where a playWRIGHT might get her start | 13 Bar supply |
| 25 Workplace for a millWRIGHT | 82 Advantage, so to speak | 14 Where Madame Curie went to school |
| 27 Alaskan mail carrier | 83 Makes a comeback | 15 Abided by |
| 28 Stops marching | 85 Swamplands | 16 No fun at all |
| 30 Moves slightly | 86 Chips, cheeses, etc. | 17 Pitchfork prong |
| 31 Wine samples | 87 Monte Carlo roulette bet | 18 Reviews for accuracy |
| 32 Maleficent in two films | 88 _one's time (was patient) | 24 Breaks of day? |
| 33 Wine variety | 89 Circle of water | 26 Blender setting |
| 34 Falcon's toenails | 90 Corporeal focal point | 29 Burn soother |
| 37 Long-legged wader | 93 How parakeets are kept | 32 Sudden moves |
| 38 Renovated | 94 "How silly of me!" | 33 Metrical works |
| 42 Squeeze to dry | 98 The WRIGHT brothers' hometown | 34 Pipsqueak |
| 43 Pa CartWRIGHT on Bonanza | 99 "Everything is walking distance if you've _": Steven WRIGHT | 35 Disney mermaid |
| 45 Suffix for secret | 102 Square-mile fraction | 36 Construction toy invented by John Lloyd WRIGHT |
| 46 Wolfgang's one | 103 Kit contents | 37 Chinese zodiac beast |
| 47 Cuban sandwich meat | 104 Art Deco illustrator | 38 Casino supply |
| 48 High water mark | 105 Today forecaster | 39 Olivier's wife before Joan PloWRIGHT |
| 49 Common Scandinavian guy's name | 106 Roe source | 40 Makes uniform |
| 50 Remote button | 107 "Can it!" | 41 Actress Zellweger |
| 51 Building materials favored by Frank Lloyd WRIGHT | 108 Account execs | 43 Banking business |
| 55 23rd state | 109 Forked over | 44 Casino shoes, essentially |
| 56 Novel part | | 47 Roman historian |
| 58 Sty cries | | 49 Place to get a perm |
| 59 Honor Thy Father author | | 51 "Battle Hymn" repeated word |
| 60 Rotarians' colleagues | | 52 Management group |
| 61 Gas holders | DOWN | 53 Dentist's instruction |
| 62 Lake near Detroit | 1 S&L conveniences | 54 Cartoonist's 80 Down |
| 63 Had no more ideas | 2 Female zebra | 55 Bay Area county |
| 65 Witch's pronouncement | 3 Casablanca woman | 57 Skipper's concern |

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|--|-------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| 59 Sport fish | 61 Radio knob | 62 Cozy and comfy | 63 "Doppler" device | 64 Vibrant | 65 49 Down supply | 66 Bar supply | 67 Be disputatious | 68 Slender stingers | 70 Crisp cookie | 71 Caused to gape | 74 NL West team |
| 76 Thomas Edison, on the New Jersey Turnpike | 78 University of Maine locale | 79 Dagwood's "Yikes!" | 80 Helper | 81 Canal-digging machine | 82 Dump truck fillers | 84 All in agreement | 86 Webster of dictionaries | 88 Scrams | 89 Doles (out) | 90 Nutritional amts. | 91 For one |
| 92 Banks of fashion | 93 Mao subordinate | 94 URL opener | 95 Teen's conversation filler | 96 Solemn assent | 97 Impudent | 99 Remark after being | 71 Down | 101 Mine extraction | | | |

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



Rancho cafe and gift shop changes the image of disability

■ At the Rancho Works Café & Gift Shop, employees get real-life training.

By Philip S. Requejo

DOWNEY – During this time of societal turmoil and economic uncertainties, we must highlight those things we are thankful for; those that provide us hope, resilience and connection.

Following a devastating life change, adjustment to a disability and community reintegration are serious challenges that our patients face. Returning to work is a goal for many people with a disability. In some cases, being gainfully employed is the last horizon of community living and participation. It provides a means for financial independence and engagement in meaningful, productive activity.

Unfortunately, going back to work for people with a disability is very hard.

The Rancho Works Café & Gift Shop is a program at Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center (Rancho) that supports patients recovering from disabling conditions to gain and practice job skills in a real work environment. The café and gift shop sells a menu of affordably priced, healthy food choices and handcrafted novelty items to serve the needs of patients, staff, visitors and the community.

Participants learn fundamental job skills and can practice work habits in a supportive work environment. The goal for participants is to sharpen their work skills and

increase their confidence before transitioning to competitive employment in the community.

The Rancho Works Café & Gift Shop is located at the main lobby of the new Outpatient Building at Rancho. Rancho began in 1888 as a Los Angeles County Poor Farm, where people of different abilities were given a chance to live and work as contributing members of their community.

The story continues through the Rancho Works Café & Gift Shop. The program, under the Occupational Therapy Vocational Services Department and operated by Rancho Research Institute, builds on that legacy of inclusivity and productivity. It enables participants (patients) of all diagnoses, abilities and backgrounds to regain a sense of self-esteem and well-being through work-related activities.

Michelle Diaz sustained a traumatic brain injury and other bodily injuries from a car accident in 2014, three days before her birthday. She was rehabbed at Rancho then volunteered before being interviewed and accepted as a paid trainee into the Rancho Works Café and Gift Shop.

Michelle said that when she started at Rancho, “I wasn’t all there, but here I am now.” Because Rancho is such a good hospital, she wanted to come back and help other people.

“Making patients happy -- because that was my number one thing that I wanted to feel when I was in the hospital,” Michelle said. “Not for people to do things for me, but to just help me out. Now that I work here, I feel that it’s a blessing. I like helping out other people.”

The Rancho Works Café & Gift Shop is designed to enable

participants of all diagnoses, abilities, and backgrounds to regain a sense of self-worth, well-being, and healthy routines through engagement in physical and cognitive activities in an actual work setting.

As part of this paid training program, participants work 3-6 hours a day, running the day to day operation of the cafe. Participants learn how to stock shelves, monitor inventory, complete sales transactions, and manage bookkeeping.

They learn sanitary procedures for safe food handling under a limited food preparation license, as well as essential work behaviors, ethics, and customer service. They also learn how to write a resume, fill out an application, and practice how to interview so that they are prepared for gainful employment. Participants are able to use their work experience in the Rancho Works Café & Gift Shop as a reference on their resume.

Participants’ recovery is promoted by engaging both the mind and body while practicing learned skills in a supportive work environment. In this real work setting, participants develop core self-management and work skills such as taking responsibility, following a schedule, time management, organization, appropriate work behaviors, and teamwork.

“At first it was very difficult because I did not get along with the other workers, so that was very, very hard,” Michelle said. “Knowing not to flip out or not to just explode and knowing how to be calm and polite was a challenge. I knew I just had to control myself. Learn how to control my temper. I had a really hard time at first. But little by little, I really learned to



Michelle Diaz works the coffee bar at Rancho Works Cafe & Gift Shop, a store that helps rehabilitate Rancho Los Amigos patients. (Courtesy photo)

get along with others.”

The program also fosters a sense of belonging and feelings of purpose while working alongside others toward the common goal of returning to work. It empowers individuals through personalized goal setting and individualized work plans to gain the knowledge, skills, and confidence needed to maximize their work performance and improve their quality of life.

When asked what the difference is from when she started to now, Michelle says, “Before the car accident, I was not as nice, as friendly, and as polite that I am now.”

Continued on page 8



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Rancho workers credit cafe with transformations

Continued from page 7

I would always be using foul language. Being here made me change my whole lifestyle. It made me change the way I dress, the way I talk, the way I greet people. I talk to people now; before I would not talk to anybody. I was very antisocial, like don't talk to me."

She credited her change in attitude to being exposed to Rancho.

When asked what Michelle is thankful for during this Thanksgiving holiday, she happily said "Life! I am truly grateful for my life. It marks six years this year of my car accident, so it is a blessing in disguise, and I love it. I feel like every year, I am becoming a better person, more and more. I really appreciate all the therapists who helped me even though I wasn't very nice to them at the beginning. I needed to apologize to them later. I'm just very grateful for life and the ability to touch, feel, smell."

"I must admit that my huge encouragement was Jorge Orozco and Carlos Benavidez," Michelle continued. "Carlos was my peer mentor and Jorge motivated me to go to school. Jorge used to ask me where I saw myself, even when I was still in a wheelchair. He helped me see what I wanted to do and where I want to work. They helped me think about all the possibilities before I knew there were possibilities. I have my house, but Rancho is my home."

When asked what she sees as most challenging during this time of the pandemic, she said, "Wearing a mask. Because I spent a lot of money for my teeth, and you can't see my smile. My smile is a beautiful smile."

One objective of this

Lorena Rodas says the cafe at Rancho Los Amigos helped her re-enter the workforce after she suffered a stroke.

(Courtesy photo)



employment training program is to actively partner with other local community programs who share similar objectives, visions and missions as a way to assist program graduates with a structured means to become gainfully employed and be productive members of their communities.

By partnering with employers in the community, we can ensure that participants are truly ready for work. The program serves as a bridge for participants to transition back into the community with valuable skills that can be utilized by local businesses such as restaurants, retail stores, farmer's markets and community service programs.

A recent graduate of the program is Lorena Rodas. Lorena was referred to the program to explore her readiness to return to work.

Before her stroke, she worked as a forklift driver for a cosmetics company where she also set up for trade shows. While participating in Rancho Works Café & Gift Shop program, she increased her standing tolerance, improved her ability to use her weak arm, and learned new strategies to effectively

participate in work-related activities.

During this time and despite the ongoing pandemic, she became a valued member and team leader. Her positive attitude and self-confidence, she became an example for her co-workers and a mentor for newly hired trainees. She was recently hired as an employee of Sodexo.

"The program not just provided me with the work skills but gave me the opportunity to build my self-confidence to do what I thought was not possible. For that I am always grateful," said Lorena.

The Rancho Works Café & Gift Shop is open Monday through Friday from 7:30 am to 3:30 pm. All proceeds go to the Rancho Works Café & Gift Shop program, with the goal of providing patients opportunities to go back to work or engage in productive, meaningful activity.

For more information, call the program at (562) 385-8205. The administrative office can be reached at asandoval@dhs.lacounty.gov

Philip S. Requejo, PhD, is chief executive officer of the Rancho Research Institute.

WWII veteran gets city proclamation

DOWNEY – A World War II veteran from Downey received a special proclamation Monday in celebration of his 100th birthday.

Joseph Sapia was visited by Councilman Alex Saab and former mayor Mario Guerra, who currently serves as a Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army. Both thanked Sapia for his service to our country.

Sapia, who has lived in Downey for more than 60 years, was part of the 20th Armored Division during World War II. The 20th Armored Division was one of the three Army divisions to take part in the liberation of the Dachau concentration camp.

In April 1945, the 20th Division moved through Belgium and into Germany. Later that month, the 20th advanced in Bavaria, crossing the Danube River and capturing the city of Munich.

Sapia earned the European-African-Middle Eastern Theater



Councilman Alex Saab, Joseph Sapia and former mayor Mario Guerra. Sapia was presented a proclamation from the City of Downey.

Ribbon with Bronze Battle Star, American Defense Ribbon, and American Campaign Medal along with a Good Conduct Medal.

Saab and Guerra both

expressed deep appreciation to Sapia for his dedicated and faithful service to our country.

Whittier votes to oppose county's health order

WHITTIER – Whittier adopted a resolution last week opposing L.A. County's decision to shut down outdoor dining as a result of a recent surge in positive COVID-19 cases.

Downey took a similar vote last week.

The resolution formally opposes the shutdown citing "the anticipation of a considerable loss of local jobs and permanent business closures as cause for immediate concern."

Like Downey, Whittier restaurants fall under the purview of the L.A. County Department

of Public Health, making the resolution mostly symbolic.

"We are extremely disappointed in the decision made by the County to impose further restrictions on our already struggling local businesses who have suffered through a catastrophic year," said Mayor Joe Vinatieri. "Although we recognize the actions taken are to preserve public health and safety, there has been no data, no science, to support a link between outdoor dining and a surge in COVID transmissions."

"This is especially devastating

to our restaurant owners, to their employees and to their families who are most impacted as we begin the joyous holiday season."

The county health order was modified Nov. 25 to close outdoor dining operations for a minimum of three weeks, while allowing take-out, curbside pick-up and delivery service only.

Additionally, retail and other establishments are required to limit their indoor capacity.

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Thursday, December 3, 2020

6 pm

Guest Speaker: Charles Holzner MD



Charles Holzner MD
Internal Medicine

Webinar on Webex

Event address for attendees:

<https://pihhealth.webex.com/pihhealth/onstage/g.php?MTID=e3f7540b9c23fe4bb4d0716afa8be74a0>

Event number: 146 144 4828

Event password: 1234

Audio conference: United States Toll Free 1.844.621.3956

Access code: 146 144 4828

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Measure S update: what Downey residents should know

Downey has used proceeds from a voter-approved sales tax increase to bolster the police department and make several improvements to the local infrastructure.

By Mario A. Guerra

DOWNEY - My name is Mario A. Guerra and I am Vice Chair of the Measure S Independent Citizens Oversight Committee. Last week I presented to the city council the semi-annual report regarding expenditures and management of Measure S funds. I thought our residents would want to know more about Measure S.

Here is a little background and history to start.

In 2016, the Downey City Council approved to place, Measure S, a 1/2 percent sales tax increase with a 20 year sunset, on the ballot to generate approximately \$9 million dollars in additional tax proceeds with one half of that amount earmarked for directly maintaining and enhancing the police and fire departments' operations and the other half to be utilized for securing funding through bond proceeds to complete the much needed improvements at many of the City parks and facilities.

In November 2016, the citizens of Downey approved Measure S.

The operational enhancements for the Police and Fire Departments started immediately through hiring of 10 additional police officers and augmenting personnel level in both departments. Other than hiring of additional personnel, purchasing state-of-the-art communication equipment and devices was one of the first orders of business to enhance operation of the City's public safety personnel.

In 2017 the City leveraged the additional \$4.5 million a year in revenues set aside for improving City parks, facilities and other infrastructure, and

the City secured \$50 million in bond proceeds. This enabled the City to embark on its most robust capital improvement program ever to address deficiencies and improve its parks and public facilities. In doing so, the City benefited from not losing the value of its annual revenues due to inflation and doing more by utilizing economies of scale in completing the designated capital improvement projects.

In December of 2017, the City secured a little over \$50 million in bond proceeds. This was great news however, the influx of available funds for projects posed a serious challenge to staff, as the bond covenants required that at least 85% of the total funds (about \$40,000,000) be used before the end of December in 2020. This meant that planning, design, and construction of 22 capital projects had to be completed in 2 years. Typically, the planning and design phase of a public works project takes anywhere between 10 to 16 months and the construction phase takes another 8 months to little over a year to complete.

Throughout the course of last year, starting in November of last year with the ribbon-cutting at Apollo Park, we have celebrated many other accomplishments at Golden Park, Dennis the Menace Park, Independence Park, Furman Park, and grand re-opening of new Fire stations 1 and 3 to name a few. With a number of other projects ready for delivery including the much awaited City Library and the last two major projects which are the modernization and expansion of Fire Stations 2 and 4 which is expected to be completed by May of 2021, the City will complete its Measure S Parks and Infrastructure Improvement Program with a great sense of gratitude to its citizens for making it possible.

The results, 7 park renovations, 4 new fire stations, a new modern library, civic center improvements, theatre renovations and ADA improvements, police station

upgrades and additional new officers, updated public safety equipment and various improvements throughout the city. Our city will benefit from these projects for many years to come. Each one is important, but when combined together, they really are an amazing testament to what was accomplished together as a community.

Although COVID-19 has not allowed us to conduct in person community celebrations for some of the recent completed projects, the City has been innovative in producing various "virtual" grand opening videos to share with residents. The City plans to have a big Measure S Celebration Day in 2021, if the County health order allows for in person gatherings by then.

When Measure S passed it required that an advisory committee be established to review on a quarterly basis, the cities expenditures and revenues generated by Measure S. In June 2017, the Downey City Council established the formation of this committee.

The committee consists of Dorothy Pemberton, Donald LaPlante, Carrie Uva and now Michael Murray was recently added. I am Vice Chairman and our Chairman, elected by us, was former Mayor Dave Gafin. He was a dear friend and recently passed away which broke our hearts but not our spirit to continue this work. I choose not to take the title of Chair in his honor. He will always be the Chair of this committee in our hearts.

Our Oversight Committee shares the passion and dedication with our council and staff to make sure that Measure S funds are distributed appropriately and always for the best interest of our residents.

At our quarterly meetings city staff, (Assistant City Manager John Oskui, Finance



Photo by Claudia Gomez

Director Anil Gandhi and Juddy Montenegro) have provided us updates on expenditures for public safety personnel and equipment, as well as status on the various parks and facilities improvement projects.

The Independent Citizens Oversight Committee has verified that Measure S funds have been used to enhance the quality of services within our community. As of June 30, 2020, the city has expended \$42,197,703 for Measure S projects. By the end of December 2020, staff expects to spend all the bond proceeds. To be able to do this in such a short time is amazing and they are to be commended.

This committee has worked well together and with staff and it has been an honor serving. I personally want to thank Councilman Saab for appointing me to this committee and I am sure I can speak for the others that they appreciate the opportunity to serve also.

Our committee has been very inquisitive and asked a lot of questions. Our city staff has always been able to satisfy the requests for information and verification of the funds used. We have completed a comprehensive review of the financial reports detailing the revenues and expenditures.

We want to commend the City Council for the vision of the projects and what they mean for our community. And we also want to let you know that what our city staff has accomplished, in three years, is nothing short of astonishing. They are to be recognized for their hard and diligent work on behalf of all the residents of Downey.

It's been said that true strength lies in a person's determination. Well, our council, staff, committee, and city have lived up to very high expectations set and we should

be very proud of the results. Future generations will also get to enjoy the transformative results from Measure S. If you have any questions about Measure S feel free to look up on the city website or email me at Mario@Guerrains.com.

Mario A. Guerra is the former mayor of Downey and vice chairman of the Independent Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee.

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Jim Brickman's 'Comfort & Joy' at the Downey Theater: live, virtual and interactive

The Grammy-nominated singer and songwriter is performing a live, virtual show next week just for Downey.

By Lee Wade

DOWNY - Pianist and songwriter Jim Brickman will perform his annual "Comfort & Joy" Christmas show, live, interactive and virtual on Thursday, Dec. 10, at 8 pm at the Downey Theatre.

Nominated twice for a Grammy, and famous for his unique song styling, Brickman has multiple gold and platinum

albums, and has been a staple on the Adult Contemporary and new-age music world for decades. His "Fa La La Ho Ho Ho" is currently #6 on the Adult Contemporary "Holiday Hit Parade."

Tickets start at \$40 and are available www.jimbrickman.com/downey/

Originally scheduled for a live performance at the Downey Theatre, Brickman and other musicians have had to re-think their act, specifically how to best re-create a live experience when the audience is at home, watching in their living room.

Brickman's vision was clear: he wanted his show to be "as

close as humanly possible to the actual theatre experience." In addition, he's keeping intact the itinerary for the "Comfort & Joy Christmas Tour" which has him performing the show live, in a new city and new theatre, every night, virtually, from Nov. 29 to Dec. 23.

"Community is important, especially when it's hard to gather," he said.

Brickman knew he didn't want to do a passive live-stream from one location for the whole country. Localizing the conversation is important; for example, he lived in L.A. for 20-plus years and can relate to the SoCal/Downey experience. Because a live audience was

essential to his vision, Zoom became the logical platform: he can see the audience, just as they can see him

Because a live performance experience often begins with anticipation and excitement, Brickman is sending each ticket buyer a stocking full of gifts, delivered to their door, which includes a ticket to the show, a program, hot chocolate, a Brickman CD, jingle bells, a signed photo, and assorted fun stocking stuffers.

Brickman has created a stage setting for "Comfort & Joy" in his home studio, with theatrical lighting and set design. He feels like he's on stage, where he is happiest, and he wants the audience to experience that, too, and because it's on Zoom, there's audience interaction: "when they applaud, the performer hears you."

Part of Brickman's plan is to activate local theatre, reminding the community to enjoy and appreciate what their theater is offering them.

"In a small way, it reopens the theatre. They make some money (a portion of ticket sales go to the Downey Theatre), plus they stay connected to and visible in the community."

Reflecting on the virtual



entertainment phenomena, and its future, Brickman said, as an artist, he had to get used to the difference between being literally live, with the energy of audience interaction, and being virtually live.

Even though "There's less wear and tear than on a tour" and he "gets to sleep in his own bed at night," Brickman misses live performing.

Observing that there might be a little bit of virtual performance fatigue, he has concern that it's a sustainable platform because of the volume of what's out there.

Brickman is taking the new reality in stride. He studied business in college, and owned his own advertising music and jingle agency when he was

19 years old (he's 58 now); he's a multi-tasker, what his staff calls a "maximizer." He performs concerts and goes on tour, composes and records new music, guest appearances, hosts a long running nationally syndicated radio show, a podcast, and oversees the business aspect of his career.

"I hope that people leave the Downey Theatre experience having had a fun and amazing time, perhaps saying 'Gosh, that was better than I expected,'" he said, adding that he looks forward to coming back and playing at the Downey Theater.

"Live theater will never go away," he said.

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AAA Travel Alert: Many travel destinations have implemented COVID-19 related restrictions. Before making travel plans, check to see if hotels, attractions, cruise lines, tour operators, restaurants and local authorities have issued health and safety-related restrictions or entry requirements. The local tourism board is a good resource for updated information.

Unless otherwise indicated: Rates quoted are accurate at time of publication and are per person, based on double occupancy. Airfare, taxes, fees, surcharges, gratuities, transfers & excursions are additional. Advertised rates do not include any applicable daily resort or facility fees, payable directly to the hotel at check-out; such fees amounts will be advised at the time of booking. Rates, terms, conditions, availability, itinerary, taxes, fees, surcharges, deposit, payment, cancellation terms/conditions & policies subject to change without notice at any time. Cruise rates capacity-controlled. Advance reservations through AAA Travel required to obtain Member Benefits & savings which may vary based on departure date. Rates may be subject to increase after full payment for in-resort government imposed taxes or fees & supplier imposed fees. Blackout dates & other restrictions may apply. Not responsible for errors or omissions. Your local AAA club acts as an agent for Pleasant Holidays®, CST 1096-202-90. To learn how we collect and use your information, visit the privacy link at AAA.com. ©2020 Auto Club Services, LLC. All Rights Reserved.

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PROJECT NO. 20-06 3RD STREET PAVEMENT REHABILITATION PROJECT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that sealed bids will be received at the office of the City Clerk of the City of Downey until 11:00 AM on Thursday, December 17, 2020, which hour the proposed bids will be publicly opened and read in the City Hall at 11111 Brookshire Ave, Downey, California for **Capital Improvement Project No. 20-06 - 3rd Street Pavement Rehabilitation Project.**

The work to be performed under this Contract generally consists of pavement rehabilitation of 3rd Street between Old River School Road and Rives Avenue in the City of Downey. This project includes reconstruction of failed pavement areas, cold milling of asphalt pavement; construction of asphalt concrete (AC) base course and asphalt rubber hot mix (ARHM) overlay. Work also includes repair of uplifted, damaged or substandard concrete curb, gutter, cross gutter spandrels, sidewalk, driveway, and curb ramps; adjustments of manhole and utility valve covers to the new grade, replacement of traffic stripping, pavement markings and signings; traffic control and all appurtenant work thereto necessary for the proper construction of the contemplated improvements, in accordance to Plans and Specification entitled **Capital Improvement Project No. 20-06.**

Plans and Specifications for this project are on file in the office of the City Cashier at 11111 Brookshire Ave, Downey, California, where they may be examined, and copies obtained at a cost of **\$30.00 per set.** The cost of said Plans and Specifications is **non-refundable** and purchased Plans and Specifications need not be returned. Plans and Specifications may be mailed for an additional charge of \$20 via On-Trac Overnight courier.

BIDS MUST BE MADE ON THE PROPOSAL FORM INCLUDED IN THE PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT NO. 20-06. Each bid shall be accompanied by cash, a certified or cashier's check or by a corporate surety bond issued by a surety company, admitted to do business in the State of California, on the form furnished by the City as guarantee that bidder will, if an award is made to him in accordance with the terms of his bid, promptly secure Workers' Compensation insurance, and liability insurance, execute a contract in the required form, and furnish satisfactory bonds for the faithful performance of the Contract ("Performance Bond") and for the payment of claims of materialmen and laborers thereunder (Payment Bond). Bid cash, check or bidder's bond shall be in an amount of not less than ten percent (10%) of the amount of the bid. The Performance and Payment Bond shall be not less than one hundred percent (100%) of the total amount of the bid price named in the contract. Only bids issued by companies admitted to do business in the State of California will be accepted in accordance with the Code of Civil Procedure Section 995.311. Failure to submit acceptable Payment and Performance Bonds as required shall result in a rejection of the bid and a forfeiture of the proposal guarantee.

The Contractor shall abide by the provisions of the California Labor Code § 1770-1781, et seq. In accordance with the provisions of the California Labor Code § 1773, the general prevailing rates of per diem wages and holiday and overtime work in the locality in which the work is to be performed has been obtained from the Director of the Department of Industrial Relations, a copy of which is on file in the office of the City Clerk of the City of Downey and will be made available to any interested party upon request. The Contractor shall post a copy of the prevailing rate of per diem wages at the job site. The Contractor, and any Subcontractor under him, shall pay not less than the specified prevailing rates of wages to all workers employed in the execution of the contract.

All projects require the successful bidder to possess a valid State of California Contractor's License at the time of Contract Award, in accordance with Section 20103.5 of the Public Contract Code. Pursuant to Section 3300 of the Public Contract Code, the City has determined that the Contractor to whom the subject contract is awarded shall possess a valid State of California Contractor's License in the Classification of A, "General Engineering Contractor".

In accordance with California Labor Code Section 1771.1, no Contractor or Subcontractor shall be qualified to (a) bid on or be listed in a bid proposal on or after March 1, 2015, or (b) engage in the performance of this Work after April 1, 2015, unless registered and qualified to perform the Work pursuant to Labor Code Section 1725.5.

Contractor's performance of the Work described in this Notice Inviting Bids is subject to compliance monitoring and enforcement by the California Department of Industrial Relations.

Each Contractor submitting a proposal or bid for his work shall complete and submit with the proposal all of the forms included therein, including the Bidder's Qualifications Statement, Designation of Subcontractors, the Non-Collusion Affidavit, the Pre-Bid Site Inspection Certification and the Signature Page. Failure to include any of these documents with the proposal may disqualify the proposal.

The City of Downey reserves the right, after opening bids, to reject any or all bids, to waive any informality in any bid received, and to be the sole judge of the merits of the respective bids received. The award of the Contract, if it is awarded, will be to the lowest responsible Bidder whose bid complies with all the requirements prescribed.

Pursuant to California Public Contract

Code § 22300, the Contractor at his sole cost and expense, may substitute authorized securities for any monies withheld by the City to ensure performance under the Contract.

All requests for information (RFI) shall be in written form and shall be directed to:

Mr. Desi Gutierrez, Principal Engineer
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Fax: (562) 904-7296

No inquiries will be accepted later than five (5) business days prior to the bid opening date as this would not allow time to respond to all plan holders. Phone inquiries will not be accepted.

NO LATE BIDS WILL BE ACCEPTED.

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Maria Alicia Duarte, CMC
City Clerk

The Downey Patriot
11/26/20, 12/3/20

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NOTICE OF LIEN SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned intends to sell the personal property described below to enforce a lien imposed on said property pursuant to Sections 21700-21716 of the CA Business and Professions Code, Section 2328 of CA Commercial Code, Sections 1812.600-1812.609, Section 1988 of CA Civil Code and Section 535 of the CA Penal Code.

The undersigned will be sold at public auction conducted on www.storagevenues.com on December 16, 2020 ending at 10:00am. The personal property including: general household goods, tools, electronics, and personal effects, have been stored and which are located at: Paramount Self Storage, 8160 E. Rosecrans Ave, Paramount, CA 90723, County of Los Angeles, State of California, the following:

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Jimmie C. Pinedo III	2634
Karina Pulido	1127
Katherine Roberson	1236
Julie P. Sierra	2624

Purchases must be made in CASH ONLY and paid at the above referenced facility in order to complete the transaction. Sale is subject to cancellation in the event of settlement between owner and obligated party.

Dated this 26th day of November 2020 and 3rd day of December 2020.
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The Downey Patriot
11/26/20, 12/3/20

NOTICES

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME
CASE NUMBER: 20CMCP00284
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner CRYSTAL AILEEN INIGUEZ filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
Present name (1) CRYSTAL AILEEN INIGUEZ to Proposed name (1) CRYSTAL AILEEN WILLIS
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: JANUARY 25, 2021, Time: 10:30 a.m., Department: C, Room: 904
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, **DOWNEY PATRIOT** NOVEMBER 23, 2020
Judge Margaret M. Bernal
Judge Of The Superior Court
Petitioner or Attorney, In Pro Per
CRYSTAL AILEEN INIGUEZ
8903 Calmosa Ave
Whittier, CA, 90605
(909) 336-8718
Crystaliniguez1@yahoo.com

The Downey Patriot
11/26/20, 12/3/20, 12/10/20, 12/17/20

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME
CASE NUMBER: 20CMCP00122
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner ADYAN MURAD KABIR BY AND THROUGH MOTHER HUDA ABDURAHMAN filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
Present name (1) ADYAN MURAD KABIR to Proposed name (1) AYMAN MURAD KABIR
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: JANUARY 19, 2021, Time: 8:30 a.m., Department: A, Room: 904
The address of the court is 200 WEST COMPTON BLVD, RM 902, COMPTON, CA 90220

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** NOVEMBER 9, 2020
Judge Maurice A. Leiter
Judge Of The Superior Court
Petitioner or Attorney, In Pro Per
ADYAN MURAD KABIR BY AND THROUGH MOTHER HUDA ABDURAHMAN
1163 E. 223RD STREET
CARSON, CA 90745
(323) 342-3829
Huda.abdulwahab@yahoo.com

The Downey Patriot
11/12/20, 11/19/20, 11/26/20, 12/3/20

SUMMONS

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF SUMTER IN THE FAMILY COURT OF THE THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
CASE NO. 2020-DR-43-00120
AMENDED SUMMONS
Alexandra A. Arrospide, Plaintiff, vs. Daniel E. Johns, Defendant.
D. Daniel E. Johns, the Defendant above named, is hereby summoned to appear before the Court for the relief demanded in the Amended Complaint.

Camden, South Carolina
September 24, 2020
SPEEDY, TANNER & ATKINSON, LLC
Carrie H. Tanner
Attorneys for the Plaintiff
Post Office Drawer 100
Camden, South Carolina 29021
(803) 432-6034

The Downey Patriot
11/26/20, 12/3/20, 12/10/20, 12/17/20

SUMMONS (Family Law)
NOTICE TO RESPONDENT (Name) AVISO AL DEMANDADO (Nombre): MARIO MEDINA
You have been sued. Read the information below and on the next page. Lo han demandado. Lea la información a continuación y en la página siguiente.
Petitioner's name is (Nombre del demandante): PATRICIA GODA
CASE NUMBER (NUMERO DE CASO): 17PSFL00719
You have 30 calendar days after this Summons and Petition are served on you to file a Response (form FL-120) at the court and have a copy served on the petitioner. A letter, phone call, or court appearance will not protect you. If you do not file your Response on time, the court may make orders affecting your marriage or domestic partnership, your property, and custody of your children. You may be ordered to pay support and attorney fees and costs. For legal advice, contact a lawyer immediately. Get help finding a lawyer at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courts.ca.gov/selfhelp), at the California Legal Services website (www.lawhelpca.org), or by contacting your local county bar association. Tiene 30 días de calendario después de haber recibido la entrega legal de esta Citación y Petición para presentar una Respuesta (formulario FL-120) ante la corte y efectuar la entrega legal de una copia al demandante. Una carta o llamada telefónica o una audiencia de la corte no basta para protegerlo. Si no presenta su Respuesta a tiempo, la corte puede dar órdenes que afecten su matrimonio o pareja de hecho, sus bienes y la custodia de sus hijos. La corte también le puede ordenar que pague manutención, y honorarios y costos legales. Para asesoramiento legal, póngase en contacto de inmediato con un abogado. Puede obtener información para encontrar un abogado en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov/), en el sitio web de los Servicios Legales de California (www.lawhelpca.org) o poniéndose en contacto con el colegio de abogados de su condado. NOTICIA - RESTRANING ORDERS ARE ON PAGE 2: These restraining orders are effective against both spouses or domestic partners until the petition is dismissed, a judgment is entered, or the court makes further orders. They are enforceable anywhere in California by any law enforcement officer who has received or seen a copy of them. AVISO - LAS ORDENES DE RESTRICCIÓN SE ENCUENTRAN EN LA PAGINA 2: Las órdenes de restricción están en vigencia en cuanto a ambos conyuges o miembros de la pareja de hecho hasta que se despidia la petición, se emita un fallo o la corte de otras órdenes. Cualquier agencia del orden publico que haya recibido o visto una copia de estas órdenes puede hacerlas acatar en cualquier lugar de California. FEE WAIVER: If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the clerk for a fee waiver form. The court may order you to pay back all or part of the fees and costs that the court waived for you or the other party. EXENCIÓN DE CUOTAS: Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario un formulario de exención de cuotas. La corte puede ordenar que usted pague, ya sea en parte o por completo, las cuotas y costos de la corte previamente exentos a petición de usted o de la otra parte. 1. The name and address of the court are (El nombre y dirección de la corte son): LOS ANGELES SUPERIOR COURT, 400 CIVIC CENTER PLAZA, POMONA, CA 91766, EAST DISTRICT
2. The name, address, and telephone number of the petitioner's attorney, or the petitioner without an attorney, are: (El nombre, dirección y número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante si no tiene abogado, son): PATRICIA GODA, 2926 E. VIRGINIA AVE, APT #14, WEST COVINA, CA 91791
SHERRI R. CARTER
Date (Fecha): AUGUST 17, 2017 Clerk, by (Secretario, por) ALMA CARDENAS, Deputy (Asistente)

The Downey Patriot
11/12/20, 11/19/20, 11/26/20, 12/3/20

The Downey Patriot
11/12/20, 11/19/20, 11/26/20, 12/3/20

TRUSTEE SALES

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE Trustee Sale No.: 0000008637001 Title Order No.: 19118666 FHA/VA/PMI No.: ATTENTION RECORDER: THE FOLLOWING REFERENCE TO AN ATTACHED SUMMARY APPLIES ONLY TO COPIES PROVIDED TO THE TRUSTOR, NOT TO THIS RECORDED ORIGINAL NOTICE. NOTE: THERE IS A SUMMARY OF THE INFORMATION IN THIS DOCUMENT ATTACHED YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 09/01/2006, UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. BARRETT DAFFIN FRAPPIER TREDER and WEISS, LLP, as duly appointed Trustee under and pursuant to Deed of Trust Recorded on 09/13/2006 as Instrument No. 06 2034535 of official records in the office of the County Recorder of LOS ANGELES County, State of CALIFORNIA. EXECUTED BY: CLEMENTINA SALGADO, AN UNMARRIED WOMAN, WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH, CASHIER'S CHECK/CASH EQUIVALENT or other form of payment authorized by California Civil Code 2924(h)(b), (payable at time of sale in lawful money of the United States), DATE OF SALE: 12/11/2020 TIME OF SALE: 11:00 AM PLACE OF SALE: BY THE FOUNTAIN LOCATED AT 400 CIVIC CENTER PLAZA, POMONA, CA 91766. STREET ADDRESS and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 8544 PURITAN STREET, DOWNEY,

CALIFORNIA 90242 APN#: 6263-018-011 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. Said sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by said Deed of Trust, with interest thereon, as provided in said note(s), advances, under the terms of said Deed of Trust, fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust. The total amount of the unpaid balance of the obligation secured by the property to be sold and reasonable estimated costs, expenses and advances at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale is \$205,253.83. The beneficiary under said Deed of Trust heretofore executed and delivered to the undersigned a written Declaration of Default and Demand for Sale, and a written Notice of Default and Election to Sell. The undersigned caused said Notice of Default and Election to Sell to be recorded in the county where the real property is located, NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult

either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgage, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924.g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call 714-730-2727 for information regarding the trustee's sale or visit this Internet Web site www.servicelinkASAP.com for information regarding the sale of this property, using the file number assigned to this case 0000008637001. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. FOR TRUSTEE SALE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL: AGENCY SALES and POSTING 714-730-2727 www.servicelinkASAP.com BARRETT DAFFIN FRAPPIER TREDER and WEISS, LLP IS ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. BARRETT DAFFIN FRAPPIER TREDER and WEISS, LLP as Trustee 3390 E. Concourse Street Suite 350 Ontario, CA 91764 (866) 795-1852 Dated: 10/30/2020A-4727593 11/19/2020, 11/26/2020, 12/03/2020

ASAP 4727593
The Downey Patriot
11/19/20, 11/26/20, 12/3/20



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CIF cancels fall championships

Fall competition in a holding pattern as virus cases surge.

By Mark Fetter
Contributor

DOWNEY - The CIF met Tuesday to discuss the current state of high school sports and released a statement afterwards.

Tuesday's official CIF statement reads, "Due to the continued surge in COVID-19 infections, the California Department of Public Health has postponed the issuance of its updated youth sports guidance.

"The California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) does not expect the CDPH will issue any guidance allowing for schools to return to full practice and competition until after January 1, 2021, at the earliest. Thus, all full practice and competition start dates are officially on hold until updated guidance is issued."

The CIF state office

announced that "all CIF and/or CIF Regional Championships for fall sports have been cancelled." CIF also said that "CIF Boys Volleyball Regional Championships have been moved to the Spring season and the specific dates for the CIF Boys Regional Volleyball Championships will be announced in January."

The update stated that "fall sports and spring sports for the 2020-21 school year is in place and will remain in place."

The update continued by saying "If schools are not able to begin practice/competition for fall sports in mid-December, as originally planned, then the hope would be you can begin at

a time in the future that would allow you to do so."

Further, the update said, "in that instance, unfortunately, there would have to be postponements/cancellations of athletic contests at the start of the fall sports season, but league play and post-season play would remain as scheduled."

The update continued by saying, "If regular seasons are shortened, it would be at the front end of the season, keeping the back end of the season unchanged."

The update concluded by saying, "It is the CIF's intention for post season play to be a

destination for schools who are able to play this fall, even more so if regular seasons are being reduced at the beginning."

CIF will continue to meet every two weeks with meetings scheduled for December 15 and January 4.

CIF Commissioner of Athletics Rob Wigod also said that on Tuesday, January 19, "when we have a better sense of the overall situation at that time, CIF will update on the status of Southern Section championships for fall sports."




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My name is Maria E. Cervantes and I am a real estate broker with over 20 years of experience. I love helping fellow realtors grow their business.


I owned a real estate office and closed it to join Berkshire Hathaway Home Services California Properties. I fell in love with the forever brand and joined Mr. Bruce Mulhearn, our founder, 5 years ago. I love the family-oriented feeling our company offers and have been managing ever since.

My knowledge and expertise will be shared with my associates and clients by offering motivational speeches, continuing education and always training staff and agents with all of my skills and tools through Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices California Properties. As a manager, mentor, and coach I work closely with agents.

I believe in God and practice my positive affirmations daily which keep me strong, with good energy and a positive mindset. Being a good listener makes me very empathetic and understanding to bring out the best in people. I believe in providing world class customer service and serving my community while practicing good ethics, integrity and discipline.

I am a wife, mother, daughter, sister and friend. I love to travel and visit go to antique shops. I enjoy staging homes for sale and have fun in the real estate business. *I am* very passionate about real estate and believe in helping agents and clients build their wealth through real estate.

I am willing and able to help you and my community in any way possible.



Freddy Gamboa is the branch manager at the Downey and South Gate branches of Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices California Properties. He has been in the Real Estate business for over two decades.

Although Real Estate was never part of his original plans, it happened on a day that his brother asked him join him to work in real estate sales. It was there where he quickly found a passion and talent for helping people to accomplish the goal of owning their dream home.

Freddy started working for his brother in 1999 at the Mulhearn Realtors, Norwalk branch office. He has exhibited pride and dedication for his business and client satisfaction over the years. Freddy's other passion has been helping elevate his fellow agents.

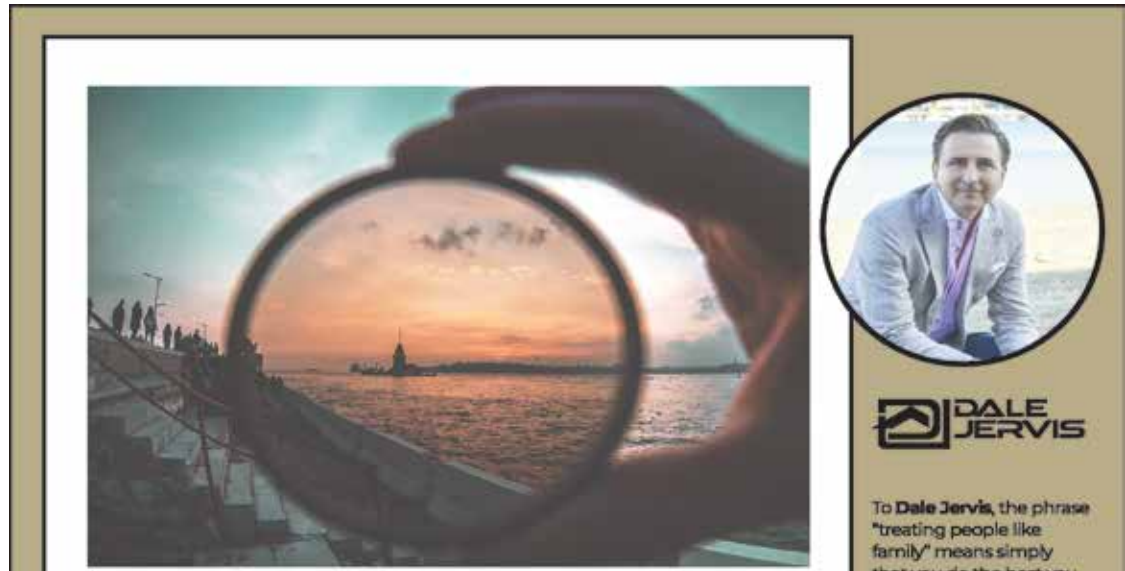
He developed a need to do more, but it was in 2014 when the first opportunity knocked at his door when he was offered a position as assistant manager for Coldwell Banker in the City of Industry. He accepted the additional role and help build a strong successful office culture, raise office production and establishing rapport with the agents in his office. His efficiency, eagerness and devotion to grow and develop his real estate administrative skills became his top priority.

In 2015, Freddy attended Realogy Ascend - The Executive Leadership Experience at Realogy Headquarters in New Jersey where he learned that you need to lead yourself before trying to lead others. In addition, Freddy became a California Association of Realtors Zipform Certified Trainer.

When Freddy is not spending time with his family or engaged in outdoor activities, he enjoys flying and this has made his next life goal to get his private flying license so he can fly cross country.

8141 E. 2nd Street, Suite 110, Downey, CA 90241

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This year, I especially want to thank you for your continued business, referrals and most importantly, your trust. I will miss being able to visit many of you in person this year but look forward to catching up with you soon.

Until then, best wishes to you and yours for a healthy and happy 2021!

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"Adriana Valadez was patient and terrific and we are very thankful for her!" - **Jaime Aguilar**

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Vicki Spearman
REALTOR®
562-367-9520
lcare4dow@aol.com
DRE #00542721



Mario Persico
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- Front: 2 bedrooms | 1 bath
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Pam Lee
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PamLeeRealtor@gmail.com
DRE #01750256

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RECENT REVIEW

"Michael and his team were very responsive and helpful throughout the process. Michael quickly set up showings and found houses that might interest me, some before they were listed. He listened to me and was more interested in helping me find the right house than making a sale. Michael's knowledge of the area helped me make good offers and his personal relationships with other agents helped me get my home. During the escrow process he was great, answering many questions & guiding me. I highly recommend Michael Berdelis and 24 Hour Real Estate!"

- G. Fabian
(Sold in Downey in November 2020)



FOR SALE BY THE MICHAEL BERDELIS TEAM



Newly Rebuilt Home In NE Downey

- 3 Bedrooms | 3 Bathrooms
- Approx. 2,400 sq. ft. | 10,201 sq. ft. lot
- Formal living room & family room
- Large master bedroom
- New electrical, plumbing, & HVAC
- New insulation, roof & windows
- \$400,000 in upgrades

CALL FOR MORE INFO



A Grand Estate with a Huge Lot

- 5 bedrooms
- 4 bathrooms
- 6,402 sq. ft. | 15,639 sq ft lot
- Largest family room EVER
- Grand master suite
- Gourmet kitchen
- Spacious backyard

LIST PRICE: \$1,599,950



Perfect for 2 Families!

- 2 Story Home
- 4 bedrooms (2 up & 2 down)
- 2 bathrooms
- 2,315 sq ft living space
- 6,036 sq ft lot
- Corner lot
- 2 car attached garage

LIST PRICE: \$725,000



Terrific Townhome Near Downey Landing

- 3 Bedrooms | 2.5 bathrooms
- 1,506 sq. ft. living space
- New carpet & laminate hardwood floor:
- Laundry room
- Private patio off kitchen

LIST PRICE \$499,950

COMPTON



Great Investment Opportunity

- 2 UNITS
- FRONT UNIT: 1 BD, 1 BA
- BACK UNIT: 2 BD, 1 BA
- 4,887 sq. ft. lot
- 3 car garage

LIST PRICE: \$529,950

FOR RENT



North Downey Pool Home

- 3 Bedrooms
- 2 Bathrooms
- 1,470 sq. ft. living space
- 8,266 sq. ft. corner lot
- Large pool

RENTING FOR \$3,200 PER MONTH

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Call Today for a FREE Virtual Market Analysis or FREE Virtual Tour of these listings!
562-818-6111 or visit www.MichaelBerdelis.com

DRE #01234589