



LiveWire: A Podcast by the Downey Patriot

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CRIME REPORT Archuleta subject of lawsuit

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Police officer, firefighter of the year honored

Police corporal Justin Prentice and firefighter Ted Waldrup received the honors Tuesday for their dedication to public service in Downey.

By Alex Dominguez
Staff Writer

DOWNEY - The Downey Police and Fire Foundation named Ted Waldrup and Justin Prentice as Firefighter and Police Officer of the year, respectively.

The annual luncheon returned Tuesday to the Rio Hondo Event Center after a two-year hiatus due to the pandemic.

Downey Fire Department honoree Waldrup has been a Downey firefighter for 27 years. He is credited with the training of at least 25 new paramedic interns and building several station upgrades.

Fire Chief Dan Hurlock said that Waldrup "consistently sets an example for us to follow."

"Ted is dedicated to doing the right things, helping others, being on time all the time, being ready to work when he shows up, and taking responsibility for his actions," said Hurlock. "Ted's leadership is a little bit different, because Ted doesn't carry rank. Ted has to rely on his interpersonal skills, his relationships, and his finesse at navigating through those relationships."

Prentice has been a member of the Downey Police Department since the age of 15, starting as police explorer. After graduating from Downey High School in 1997, Prentice would become a police aide and eventually became a police officer in 2000.

Prentice was elevated to a field training officer and promoted to corporal in 2006. In 2009, Prentice became a gang detective, serving a few years before returning to patrol. He is also a training officer,

an advisor, and part of the honor guard.

Over his career, Prentice has developed an expertise in recovering stolen vehicles, having recovered more than 300 and making more than 100 arrests for auto theft. For his efforts, California Highway Patrol has honored Prentice 25 times, including a lifetime 10851 (auto theft reduction) achievement award.

Chief Leslie Murray described Prentice as a "cop's cop."

"Over the past year, Justin has been a model employee and a steady influence on patrol," said Murray. "Personally, I couldn't ask for a better police officer, friend, and partner in Justin; he's just that kind of guy."

"Due to the number of employees hired over the past few years, Justin has tenured many of them. His influence in the department, including his willingness to mentor, has been invaluable. He's a shining example of what a Downey police officer should be, and we couldn't be more proud of him today for being recognized as Downey Police and Fire Foundation Officer of the Year."

The Downey Police and Fire Foundation was founded as a result of the 1990 PACE Warehouse shooting. The non-profit has supported and provided assistance for police and fire employees and their families who have found themselves facing unexpected financial hardship or medical needs.

Each year at the organization's celebratory luncheon, one firefighter and one police officer are honored. Honorees are selected by their peers.



Justin Prentice and Ted Waldrup with their awards Tuesday. (Photo by Alex Dominguez)

Downey city attorney submits resignation

DOWNEY - Downey city attorney Yvette Abich Garcia is the latest staff member to leave Downey City Hall, turning in her resignation Wednesday, officials confirmed.

Garcia has served as Downey's in-house counsel since 2010.

She previously worked as city attorney for the cities of Barstow and Commerce.

Garcia's departure is the latest at City Hall. Downey deputy city manager Aldo Schindler's last day in Downey was Thursday, and city manager Gilbert Livas is set to depart July 1.

Eric Pierce, editor



Passengers are no longer required to wear face coverings on city-operated buses in Downey and Norwalk. (Photo by Eric Pierce)

Downey, Norwalk drop mask mandates on buses

Face coverings are now only strongly encouraged (but not required) after a federal judge's ruling.

By Eric Pierce
Editor

DOWNEY - Mask-wearing mandates on Southland rail and bus lines — including in Downey — were slowly lifted Tuesday in response to a federal judge's ruling, with face coverings now being deemed a strong recommendation rather than a requirement.

After continuing to enforce the mask requirement on its buses and trains for much of the day, the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority announced late Tuesday afternoon it was scrapping the mandate for passengers and drivers.

"However, it is important to recognize that we still live in a pandemic, thus face masks will continue to be strongly recommended on public transit to keep ourselves and those around us safe," County Supervisor Hilda Solis, who chairs the Metro Board of Directors, said in a statement. "I urge our residents to continue to remain vigilant and look out for one another as we move forward."

Mask-wearing requirements on transit operations were thrown into doubt Monday when U.S. District Judge Kathryn Kimball Mizelle in Florida issued a ruling saying the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention had exceeded its authority by mandating face-coverings on mass transportation.

Downey responded by lifting its mask mandate on local transit, including Downey Link and Downey Dial-a-Ride.

Norwalk dropped its mask requirements as well.

"Norwalk Transit will no longer require face masks to be worn on NTS buses," Norwalk's Executive Director of Regional Transportation James C. Parker said in a statement. "However, based on guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, we are still recommending masks to be worn while riding public transit to help slow the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19)."

Most major airlines — including Southwest, Delta Air Lines, American and United — quickly made mask-wearing optional in response to the ruling. The Transportation Security Administration also announced that it would no longer enforce the mask rule at airports — hence face coverings are now optional at

Uber, Lyft end mask mandates

Uber and Lyft both announced on Tuesday morning that they will no longer require drivers or riders participating in their rideshare company programs to wear masks.

"As of April 19, 2022, riders and drivers are not required to wear masks when using Uber," Uber said. "However, the CDC still recommends wearing a mask if you have certain personal risk factors and/or high transmission levels in your area."

Uber asked drivers and riders with different preferences respect each other's choices.

Lyft issued a similar statement, adding "We know that everyone has different comfort levels, and anyone who wants to continue wearing a mask is encouraged to do so. As always, drivers or riders can decline to accept or cancel any ride they don't wish to take."

Los Angeles International Airport, Hollywood Burbank Airport and John Wayne Airport in Orange County.

The Orange County Transportation Authority also announced Tuesday it will no longer require passengers to wear masks on its buses, although face coverings are still recommended.

MetroLink officials also opted to drop the mandate on its commuter rail lines and stations, making it only a recommendation.

The ride-hailing services Uber and Lyft also dropped its mask mandates for drivers and passengers, saying face coverings are still recommended.

As of late Tuesday afternoon, the Los Angeles city Department of Transportation was still asking passengers to wear masks on its DASH and Commuter Express buses. Some other city transit agencies were also still maintaining the requirements, including Torrance Transit, Culver City Bus and Santa Monica Big Blue Bus.

The CDC first issued an order mandating masks on

public conveyances in January 2021, saying "traveling on public transportation increases a person's risk of getting and spreading COVID-19."

"Air travel often requires spending time in security lines and busy airport terminals," the agency stated. "Travel by bus, train and other conveyances used for international, interstate or intrastate transportation poses similar challenges."

Mask mandates have slowly been lifted in many settings in recent weeks. Los Angeles County and the state have scrapped requirements for masks at outdoor and indoor mega-events, and face coverings are no longer mandatory in most indoor environments.

Mask requirements inside school classrooms have also been lifted, and face coverings are now only strongly recommended at L.A. County campuses. Masks are also "strongly recommended," but not required, on school buses.

The county still requires masks at health-care facilities.



Weekend at a Glance

Friday 67°

Saturday 76°

Sunday 88°

THINGS TO DO



Author Talk Saturday, 1 pm Downey City Library

Poet, author, Navy veteran and OB/GYN Dr. Tiffanie Tate Moore will discuss her latest book of poetry, "FloweTry."

ON THIS DAY

1649: The Maryland Toleration Act, which provided for freedom of worship for all Christians, was passed by the Maryland assembly.

1789: John Adams was sworn in as the first vice president of the United States.

1836: Texans led by Sam Houston defeated the Mexicans at San Jacinto, assuring Texas' independence.

1910: Author Mark Twain died at age 74.

1934: The "Surgeon's Photograph," the most famous photo allegedly showing the Loch Ness Monster, was published in the Daily Mail.



1952: Secretary's Day (now Administrative Professionals Day) was first celebrated.

1958: United Airlines Flight 736 collided with a U.S. Air Force fighter jet outside Las Vegas, killing 49 people.

1977: The musical "Annie," based on the comic strip "Little Orphan Annie," opened on Broadway.

1980: Rosie Ruiz, the first woman to cross the finish line at the Boston Marathon, was disqualified when officials discovered she had jumped into the race about a mile from the finish.



2014: Flint, Michigan switched its water source to the Flint River, beginning the ongoing Flint water crisis which has caused lead poisoning in up to 12,000 people, and 15 deaths from Legionnaires disease.

Birthdays

Queen Elizabeth II (96), punk singer **Iggy Pop** (75), "Who's the Boss?" star **Tony Danza** (71), comedy actor **Rob Riggle** (52), and football analyst **Tony Romo** (42).

Lawsuit seeks Archuleta records as a police officer

State Sen. Bob Archuleta, a former police officer, is being sued by a former staffer who is accusing him of sexual harassment.

By City News Service

DOWNEY - Lawyers for a female former employee of Sen. Bob Archuleta, D-Norwalk — who is suing the 76-year-old state legislator for sexual harassment — want a judge to allow them to examine any similar complaints filed against the politician when he was a Montebello police officer.

The woman is identified only as Jane Doe in the Los Angeles Superior Court lawsuit, which was filed in March 2021 and also

names as defendants the state of California and the state Senate. She alleges whistleblower retaliation, intentional infliction of emotional distress and various state Labor Code violations, and is seeking unspecified damages.

In new court papers filed Monday with Judge Rupert A. Byrdson, the plaintiff's attorneys are asking the city of Montebello to release information on any complaints made against Archuleta when he was a member of the police department.

"Here, Sen. Archuleta has publicly decreed, 'I would never knowingly mistreat or disrespect a female employee,'" Doe's attorneys state in their court papers. "The information sought would test the credence of such. Certainly, the

allegations in Doe's complaint do just that.

Archuleta, who served on the Pico Rivera City Council before being elected to the state Senate in 2018, previously released a statement calling Doe's allegations "completely and categorically false."

"My entire career, I have supported the right of every Californian to feel safe, valued and protected in the workplace," the statement read. "While I would never knowingly mistreat or disrespect a female employee, I believe in their absolute right to come forward and be heard if and when they believe that standard has been violated."

Doe's lawyers are specifically seeking release from the MPD

records of any sexual harassment, gender-based impropriety or physical contact complaints against Archuleta.

"The requested documents will ... reveal the number of complaints filed against Sen. Archuleta, if any, and why any such complaints were made," Doe's attorneys state in their court papers.

The documents sought can be used to substantiate claims that others have been subjected to similar treatment, Doe's lawyers argue in their court papers.

According to the lawsuit, Archuleta sought out Doe in February 2019 "under the guise of prospective employment" in the senator's office.

"With high hopes of helping the 32nd Senate District ... she jumped at the opportunity to meet with the senator," the suit states.

During her first interactions with Archuleta, she tried to share the positive experience she enjoyed while working for another politician, but the senator replied, "I don't care about that. I am Sen.

Archuleta and we're going to do it my way," the suit alleges.

Archuleta told Doe to keep their meeting confidential and asked her for her resume before subsequently hiring her, according to the plaintiff.

The lawsuit states that Doe openly complained of unwanted sexual advances and touching by Archuleta, including him grabbing her arm in public, as well as the way she was treated in the office because she was a woman.

Archuleta once described to Doe an affair he had with a married flight attendant and how on another occasion he "hit on" a local elected official who turned out to be a part of the LGBTQ community, according to Doe's new court papers.

"After Doe complained of Archuleta's mistreatment of her and rebuffed his unwanted advances, she experienced retaliation," according to the suit, which says her role in the office was vastly minimized and she was warned about "insubordination."

A hearing on the request for the MPD records is scheduled May 5.

Schools creating 'calm rooms' for students

DOWNEY - The Mary R. Stauffer Foundation has donated \$30,300 to purchase materials, tools and resources that promote social emotional learning at all 13 Downey public schools.

The grant will be used to purchase nearly 800 items that will allow students to learn and practice positive and effective coping skills to reduce stress, anxiety and depression, which have impacted many students as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The funds will allow campuses to create "Calm Rooms" that include "kindness benches," sensory tools, stress ball sets, social emotional learning literature, "feeling buddies," weighted lap pads, flexible seating, self-regulation tool boxes, water beads, white noise machines, conflict resolution desks, and more.

Historical society screening short films

DOWNEY - The Downey Historical Society will screen three short documentaries on Thursday, April 28, starting at 6 pm.

The films are "Taco Bell Numero Uno," chronicling Taco Bell's move from Downey to Irvine; "So California Gold," which depicts some Downey then and now; and "Downey and Southern California," a short film by Robert Custance.

The event will be hosted by the Barbara J. Riley Community and Senior Center. Admission is free.



Bob Archuleta, Downey's representative in the state senate, is the subject of a sexual harassment lawsuit.

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May 14th at 7:00 PM

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Nominates Someone Today!

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

- The properties will be judged by a panel of judges.
- All applicants must submit a current colored photograph of the nominated property to qualify.
- The properties will be judged based on their curb appearance, taste, quality, harmony and conformance to code.
- Properties in violation of building, municipal and/or zoning codes will be disqualified.

NOMINATION FORM

CATEGORY:

Attractive Residential Property: This category focuses on a single-family home.
 Attractive Multi-family Property: This category focuses on mobile homes, apartment complexes, and duplexes etc.
 Attractive Non-residential Property: This category focuses on non-residential properties including (restaurants, medical offices, commercial businesses, and shopping centers).

Address Of Nominated Location: _____

Name of Nominee _____

Phone/Cell: _____

Have the property owners/residents improved upon and maintained their front yard recently?

A current colored photograph of the property must be included with the nomination form to be eligible for consideration.

Properties in violation of building, municipal and/or zoning codes will be disqualified.

Please provide your contact information:

Nominator: _____

Phone/Cell Number of Nominator: _____

Nomination forms due by April 30 and can be returned by mail, emailed to crowland@downeyca.org, or in person to the City of Downey - Neighborhood Beautification Awards 11111 Brookshire, Downey, CA 90241

For additional information please call (562) 904-7103

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From playing drums at Doty to a budding career in music

■ After discovering music at Doty Middle School, Anai Hernandez is pursuing a career as a studio musician.

By Bianca Martinez
Contributor

DOWNEY - "For me, it's hard to remember because music has always been something that I've been interested in. I remember that first time I ever picked something up [the tambourine] was at our church, we have live music, so I remember that was the first time I was exposed to that."

Downey native Anai Hernandez has been actively playing music since she attended her first music course at Doty Middle School.

Her entry into percussion, her instrument of choice, was "purely by luck."

"Everyone wants to go into the drums because that's like the cool thing, so they [Doty] literally have a raffle because there's so many students," recounted Hernandez.

It was due to this literal luck of the draw that 19-year-old Hernandez is now pursuing music as a career at Cal Poly Pomona.

Throughout her middle and high school years, Hernandez played percussion in beginning band and marching band.

At Doty, Hernandez said she learned "the basics" of rudimentary instruments, like the snare and bass drum.

It wasn't until another stroke of chance that Hernandez was able to expand her catalog of instrumental knowledge.

Hernandez said, "again it was just luck. My cousin - he's going into music - told me, 'Oh, if you want to learn more, come with me to the LA Music and Arts school.'"

Anai Hernandez began playing drums at Doty Middle School.

Photo by Bianca Martinez



Starting in the eighth grade, Hernandez would go to LAMU after school and learn how to play the xylophone, marimba, tympani and keyboard.

"It was really helpful because when I went into high school, I was able to join as many groups as I wanted because even though I wasn't that advanced in it, I had the foundations so that now I can have the exposure to learn it and then from there I kept playing in as many groups as I could," said Hernandez.

"She has always been a very enthusiastic and diligent student," said LA Music and Arts instructor Michael Basak. "She's the kind who always comes in very prepared and does a really good job of trying to understand why we're doing the things that we're doing, and then going home and applying them and then bringing them into all the different aspects of music that she's doing."

Despite being involved in music throughout her childhood, Hernandez was not a music performance major when she initially started attending Cal Poly Pomona.

"I originally was planning on just doing music as a hobby and I

was going to major in something more math related because that's kind of like what was expected of me, because I am good at math," said Hernandez. "But just going through those classes, it wasn't as fulfilling as the music classes."

Hernandez has since changed her major and is currently pursuing a career as a studio musician. She was recently featured as musical accompaniment for Ozomatli, a Los Angeles based fusion group.

Hernandez recounted how Rick Baptist, a studio musician who can be heard playing trumpet on notable movie soundtracks, shared the story of recording the music for "Up" and how people were moved to tears while watching the scene where a couple grows old together being accompanied with music for the first time.

"I want to be a studio musician specifically, since middle school I've always wanted to record for movies because that's something that not a lot of people think about, the impact that music has on movies," said Hernandez. "Almost all great movies have a great score, and I want to be part of that experience of creating that great music."



Downey High School's varsity cheerleaders were recognized by the Downey Unified School District's board of education earlier this month for their win at the inaugural CIF State Championship which was hosted by Downey High School on Feb. 19. The team has two CIF Southern Section titles already, making this their third CIF title and first CIF State Regional title.

Assembly candidate Cancio calls for increased oil and gas production

DOWNEY - State Assembly candidate Dr. Roberto "Rob" Cancio this week called for California leaders to allow increased oil and gas production, citing President Biden's order resuming oil leases on federal land.

"President Biden is taking action on the gas prices that are punishing working families at the pump," said Cancio. "It's time California leaders did the same rather than listening to the elitist, electric car driving environmental lobby."

"Gas prices keep climbing. It is unacceptable for the government regulators in charge of California's

oil production to ignore the needs of everyday Californians. The right thing to do would be to follow President Biden's example and support working families by increasing production immediately."

Cancio, a Democrat and member of the Norwalk-La Mirada Unified School District, is running

for Assembly District 64, which includes Downey, Norwalk, La Mirada, Santa Fe Springs, Cudahy, Bell, Bell Gardens and La Habra.

He is a veteran of the U.S. Navy, serving in Iraq and Somalia. Learn more at votecancio.com

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In Memory of

Robert Timothy Martinez

June 28, 1941 - March 21, 2022



Robert Timothy Martinez of Downey, CA passed away on March 21, 2022 after a battle with idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis .. Robert was born June 28, 1941 in Grand junction CO .. he was very active until the last 6 mo of his life .. he grew up on a farm, which he loved and he continued to embrace his roots .. he raised chickens, rabbits, turkeys, goats, ducks and a pot belly pig named Betsy .. he loved to garden and grew many vegetables, especially tomatoes .. he always shared his crop with family, friends & neighbors .. he worked at General Motors for 23 years .. since the age of 8 he always wanted to become his own boss .. at 38 he bought his first piece of rental property .. he took care of it with such pride .. he continued to buy more rentals and he and his wife, Vivian, became very successful landlords .. this is the life he always dreamed of .. he was very content .. Vivian was at his side for 49 beautiful years .. they were inseparable .. they truly loved each other .. Robert leaves behind his wife, Vivian .. daughters, Gloria Valdez (Donald), Melissa Espinoza (Fernando) & Christina Martinez-Adame (Iliana) .. his mom, Vera Wells, sisters, Lynda (John), Isabelle, Angela (Kevin), and a brother, Jimmy all from Grand Junction, CO. He also leaves behind his 10 Grandchildren, 6 Great Grandchildren and many nieces & nephews who he truly loved .. he is preceded in death by his dad, Ray, his sister, Betty and many others .. Robert was laid to rest at Rose Hills Cemetery .. Robert will truly be missed by so many .. we will always carry your memory in our hearts .. rest easy.

Welcome back from spring break

**By Bobbie Samperi
School Board President**

DOWNEY - Welcome back from Spring Break Downey Unified! I hope everyone was able to enjoy time with friends and family this past week. Our schools have been very busy since my last article, and I know that having some downtime before our final push toward the end of the school year was much needed. As things continue to open and restrictions continue to be lifted by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, our schools have once again been able to host events to showcase our amazing students and all that has been accomplished this year.

I, along with my fellow Board members, have been so happy to visit campuses again to see our students and teachers in action! Since October, most Board members have visited nearly every school within our district, traveling from class to class, to get a better idea of all the great things occurring inside and outside the classroom. One of our Board members even visited a 9th grade Honors Science class and was incredibly impressed by the superior level of learning that is going on at this grade level. Our Superintendent, Dr. Garcia, also loves visiting our schools and interacting with our students. Did you know that he makes a point of visiting every school within our district twice a year? Well he does.

This year was no different, other than the fact that he had to speed up his visits to get them all in these last few months.

Like I said, it's a busy time of year and now I want to share with the community some of the things that have been happening across the district. Our annual Femeiners Gala was held at the end of March where all of our middle and high school female engineers were brought together to showcase their work and all they have learned within the field of engineering since the beginning of the school year. With only approximately 20 percent of all engineering jobs occupied by women, through the Femeiners program, Downey Unified has provided an opportunity for female students to fill this gap and be more successful post-graduation by continuing to expand a female-focused engineering program. In partnership with Cal Poly Pomona's Women in Engineering Program, the Femeiner program has been integrated within Downey Unified for over 10 years to provide better opportunities for these young students to learn firsthand what a career in engineering would encompass.

Next, let's move onto our Apple Distinguished School celebrations! Although they were awarded this designation back in September, we were finally able to honor four of the five Apple Distinguished Schools these past few weeks with the final celebration happening



next Friday. If you remember, Gauldin, Imperial, Lewis, Old River and Rio San Gabriel elementary schools received this international designation for their use of technology to connect students to the world, fuel creativity, deepen collaboration and make learning personal for each student. Although only five were selected this year, this is being done at all 13 of our elementary schools and our goal is to get five more schools designated by next school year, with the final three the following year. Through our

elementary Innovation Labs, all of our TK through 5th grade students are able to get hands-on engineering experiences, learn robotics and even various levels of coding. When this award was first announced back in September, there were only 31 schools in California with this designation; however, globally there were only 546 schools—ranging from elementary to college level—that have earned this designation. We cannot express how proud Downey Unified is to have five of our schools added to this global list, with more to come each year.

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Infants ages 0-3 years old: Downey-Montebello SELPA at (562) 469-6793 or <https://web.dusd.net/selpa/>

Children and students ages 3-21: Downey Unified School District at (562) 469-6500
Montebello Unified School District at (323) 887-7900

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There are so many additional happenings which have occurred that I could share, but I don't want to take up the entire paper, so I will leave you with just two final things. One, I want to share that the Assistant to the Board of Education and Superintendent, Jennifer Boose, officially retired at the end of March after 31 years of service to our Downey Unified family. She has been an absolute pleasure to work with for the past 22 years and she will truly be missed; however, we as a Board are very excited to welcome Martha Machado who will be taking this position. Martha worked as the office manager at Griffiths Middle School for many years and transitioned to the district office to support our Educational Service Department for the last few years. She is a wonderful addition to the Superintendent's office and we look forward to working closely with her moving forward.

Lastly, Open House season is underway and we are grateful that these are finally being held in person this year! Please make sure to check with your child's school to see when they will be holding this event. It's a great opportunity to connect with your child's teacher(s) and see all they have accomplished this year, all while getting to see the school campus. For the full schedule of all of our Open Houses, please find Downey Unified on social media as an extensive list was posted just this week with reminders to be posted in the coming weeks, so don't miss it!

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Opinion

Mario Guerra for city council

By Eric Pierce

The instability in Downey continues.

The latest development is that assistant city manager John Oskoui has been placed on administrative leave for reasons that have yet to be publicly disclosed. In the hierarchy of Downey's executive management team, Oskoui is the No. 3 in command, behind deputy city manager Aldo Schindler and city manager Gilbert Livas.

Schindler leaves this week for a new position in Moreno Valley. He likely saw the writing on the wall when the City Council decided to part ways with Livas, whose last day in Downey is June 30.

City attorney Yvette Abich Garcia turned in her resignation Wednesday. Others are expected to leave as well, dominoes in a mass exodus from City Hall, where morale is said to be at an all-time low.

You can blame the City Council for this mess. Mayor Blanca Pacheco has been MIA as she campaigns for state office; Mayor Pro Tem Catherine Alvarez and Councilman Mario Trujillo were the main antagonists behind Livas's forced retirement; and Sean Ashton voted to kick out Livas before abruptly resigning.

It remains to be seen who will be Downey's city manager come July 1. There are no obvious candidates that can be promoted from within and the City Council's dysfunction will hamper Downey's ability to attract a competent city manager.

The best thing the City Council can do now is appoint an experienced leader to serve the remainder of Ashton's term. That person is Mario Guerra.

Of the six people who applied to fill the vacancy, Guerra is the most experienced in municipal government. He previously served two terms on the City Council, so he knows how city government works. He's gone through the complicated process of hiring a city manager, which would be extremely

valuable to the City Council in the coming months. And of the six candidates, Guerra is the only person ineligible to run for that seat in November, meaning he is not using the position for political leverage.

After Guerra, the most logical candidate is Donald La Plante, who spent more than 40 years on the Downey Unified School District school board. But there is a stark difference in the responsibilities of school board members and city council members, and with only six months remaining on Ashton's expiring term, Downey doesn't have the luxury of a prolonged learning curve.

Each of the six candidates should be applauded for offering to sacrifice their time, talents and privacy for the sake of helping Downey at this critical juncture. Downey is better when residents get involved.

But the clear choice to serve on the City Council on an interim basis is Mario Guerra.

Eric Pierce is editor of the Downey Patriot.

Democrats must deliver on promises to avoid disaster in November

By Elizabeth Warren

Democrats are the party of working people. Ahead of the 2020 election, we advanced ideas and plans that we believed would, in ways big and small, make our democracy and our economy work better for all Americans. Across this country, voters agreed with us — and gave us a majority in Washington so that we could deliver on those promises.

Republican senators and broken institutions have blocked much of that promised progress. Now Republicans are betting that a stalled Biden agenda won't give Democrats enough to run on in the midterm elections — and they might be right. Despite pandemic relief, infrastructure investments and the historic Supreme Court confirmation of Ketanji Brown Jackson, we promised more — and voters remember those promises.

Republicans want to frame the upcoming elections to be about “wokeness,” cancel culture and the “militant left wing.” Standing up for the inherent dignity of everyone is a core American value, and Democrats are proud to do that every day. While Republican politicians peddle lies, fear and division, we should use every single one of the next 200 days or so before the election to deliver meaningful improvements for working people.

Democrats win elections when we show we understand the painful economic realities facing American families and convince voters we will deliver meaningful change. To put it bluntly: if we fail to use the months remaining before the elections to deliver on more of our agenda, Democrats are headed toward big losses in the midterms.

Time is running short. We need to finalize a budget reconciliation deal, making giant corporations pay their share to fund vital investments in combating climate change and lowering costs for families, which can advance with only 50 Senate votes. Other priorities can be done with the president's executive authority. It's no secret that I believe we should abolish the filibuster. But if Republicans want to use it to block policies that Americans broadly support, we should also force them to take those votes in plain view.

Let's begin with corruption. For years, Americans have identified corrupt government officials as a top concern. And they're right: to tackle the urgent

challenges we face — climate change, income inequality, systemic injustice — we must root out corruption. To start cleaning up government, members of Congress and their spouses shouldn't be allowed to own or trade individual stocks, which the vast majority of voters support banning, according to multiple polls. Whether you're a Republican senator or the Democratic speaker of the House, it is obvious to the American people that they should not be allowed to trade individual stocks and then vote on laws that affect those companies. I have the strongest plan and the only bipartisan bill in the Senate to get it done.

We can also act quickly to rein in costs for middle-class families. In the very short term, that means stopping companies from jacking up prices to boost their profits. Price increases are driven by many factors, including pandemic disruptions to global supply chains and Vladimir Putin's war in Ukraine. But when the Kroger chief executive, Rodney McMullen, said “a little bit of inflation is always good in our business,” it's no surprise that, by a margin of two-to-one, American voters don't buy the explanation that companies are just passing along costs. Instead, they blame corporations for raising prices to boost their own profits. Even Fed Chair Jerome Powell, a conservative Republican, acknowledged that giant corporations raise prices simply “because they can.”

The president deserves enormous credit for advancing an ambitious agenda to promote competition and appointing effective regulators to enforce our antitrust laws, and it's time for congressional Democrats to have his back. According to Data for Progress surveys, eight in 10 Americans believe Congress should pass laws to reinvigorate competition and three-quarters strongly believe that oil and gas companies should not make gobs of money off this energy crisis. Beefing up regulators' authority to end price-gouging, breaking up monopolies, and passing a windfall profits tax is a good start. Only in Washington, where America's biggest companies spend billions to drown out reality, are these controversial ideas. Across America, these are popular plans.

We can stand up to the armies of lobbyists and P.R. flacks and tackle tax loopholes for the rich and powerful. About two-thirds of likely American voters — including a majority of Republicans — say it's time for billionaires

to pay more in taxes. Nearly three-quarters of Americans want to put an end to wildly profitable corporations paying nothing or little in federal income taxes (yes, Amazon, I'm looking at you) and put into place a global minimum corporate tax. And a majority of Americans would like to use some of those tax revenues to invest in clean energy, affordable child care, and universal pre-K.

That's a big legislative agenda, but it isn't big enough. We also need to use every tool of the presidency to deliver for working people.

For example, by a margin of more than two-to-one, Americans support providing some student loan debt cancellation — an action the president could take entirely on his own. Doing so would lift the economic outlook for too many borrowers who weren't able to get a college diploma, for the millions of women borrowers who shoulder about two-thirds of all student loan debt, and for Black and Hispanic borrowers, a higher percentage of whom take on debt to attend college compared to white students, and have a harder time paying it off after school. With the stroke of a pen, the president could make massive strides to close gender and racial wealth gaps.

And he can do more. Decisive action on everything from lowering prescription drug prices to ensuring that more workers are eligible for overtime pay can be executed by the president alone, using the authority already given to him by existing laws, without rounding up 50 Senate votes.

Like many Americans, I'm frustrated by our failure to get big things done — things that are both badly needed and very popular with all Americans. While Republican politicians obstruct many efforts to improve people's lives and many swear loyalty to the Big Lie, the urgency of the next election bears down on us.

Democrats cannot bow to the wisdom of out-of-touch consultants who recommend we simply tout our accomplishments. Instead, Democrats need to deliver more of the president's agenda — or else we will not be in the majority much longer.

Elizabeth Warren is a U.S. Senator from Massachusetts. She is a Democrat.

The feds versus state election officials

By Josh Blackman & S.B. Tillman

The events of Jan. 6, 2021, are casting a long shadow over the midterm elections. Voters in North Carolina are seeking to bar Representative Madison Cawthorn from running for re-election to his House seat, and those in Georgia are trying to do the same to Representative Marjorie Taylor Greene.

These voters have filed complaints with state elections officials arguing that Section 3 of the 14th Amendment disqualifies members of Congress who engage in insurrection from appearing on the congressional ballot. (Challenges to other elected officials have also begun involving other candidates.)

But these challenges face an intractable problem: Only the federal government — not the states — can disqualify insurrectionists from congressional ballots. States cannot unilaterally create procedures, unless authorized by federal statute, to keep accused insurrectionists off the congressional ballot.

If these members of Congress engaged in insurrection, then the U.S. House of Representatives may exclude them, or federal prosecutors may charge them with the federal crime of insurrection. But in light of an important 1869 judicial decision, the cases against Mr. Cawthorn and Ms. Greene — which are currently mired in both state and federal proceedings — cannot remove the candidates from the congressional ballot.

The 14th Amendment was ratified in 1868 in the wake of the Civil War. Section 3 disqualified many former Confederates from holding certain public offices if they had taken an oath to support the U.S. Constitution but subsequently, as Section 3 declares, “engaged in insurrection or rebellion.” Since 1868, the federal judiciary has had few occasions to interpret Section 3.

As a result, the courts are largely in uncharted territory. Nevertheless, there is some important on-point precedent.

An 1869 case concerning Hugh W. Sheffey is instructive for the Jan. 6 litigation and how courts might see things today. Mr. Sheffey took an oath to support the Constitution but later served as a member of the Confederate Virginia legislature, thereby actively supporting the Confederacy.

After the war, he served as a state court judge. As Judge Sheffey, he presided over the trial and conviction of Caesar Griffin for shooting with an intent to kill. Later, Mr. Griffin challenged his conviction in federal court. He argued that Section 3 should have disqualified Mr. Sheffey from serving as judge. Griffin's case, as it is known, was heard on appeal by the federal circuit court in Virginia. Salmon P. Chase, the chief justice of the United States and an appointee of President Abraham Lincoln, presided over the appeal. Chief Justice Chase ruled against Mr. Griffin, finding that Section 3 did not disqualify Judge Sheffey, despite the fact that he had taken an oath to support the U.S. Constitution and that it was “admitted,” as the case stated, that he later committed a Section 3 disqualifying offense.

Chief Justice Chase reasoned “that legislation by Congress is necessary to give effect to” Section 3 of the 14th Amendment — and that “only” Congress can enact that legislation. Chief Justice Chase added that the exclusion of disqualified office holders “can only be provided for by Congress.” Congress must create the procedure that would determine if a defendant violated Section 3. Section 5 of the 14th Amendment emphasizes this principle: Congress, it states, “shall have the power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article.”

In short, Griffin's case teaches that in legal terms, Section 3 is not self-executing — that is, Congress must establish, or at least authorize, the process that affords accused insurrectionists an opportunity to contest the allegations brought against them.

Mr. Cawthorn and Ms. Greene deny that they engaged in insurrection and oppose any assertion that they violated the law, which would include Section 3 disqualifying offenses. Moreover, in the Cawthorn and Greene cases, the plaintiffs have not pointed to any federal legislation authorizing the states to police Section 3 by disqualifying accused insurrectionists from the congressional ballot. Without federal authorization, state elections boards and even state courts could very well be powerless to make determinations about congressional candidates and Section 3.

There may be another way, based on an existing statute, to disqualify a candidate from congressional ballots: the Insurrection Act of 1862. This legislation, which predated the 14th Amendment, mirrors one of the disqualifying offenses established in Section 3.

The modern Insurrection Act is virtually unchanged from the statute Lincoln signed in 1862. If the Justice Department indicts and succeeds in convicting Mr. Cawthorn, Ms. Greene or others of insurrection under that act, then on that basis, state elections boards and state courts may remove these candidates from the congressional ballot.

But so far, the Justice Department has not charged any congressional candidates with inciting or engaging in an insurrection or with any other disqualifying offenses. Most of the Jan. 6 federal charges have been based on things like property crimes or for obstructing official proceedings or assaulting officers rather than insurrection.

If the Justice Department does not secure a conviction of a Section 3 disqualifying offense before the state ballot is printed (the primary in North Carolina is scheduled for May 17 and the one in Georgia for May 24), then, generally, state boards of election and even state courts will be powerless to remove otherwise eligible congressional candidates from the ballot.

Recently, some scholars and advocates have contested Chief Justice Chase's opinion in Griffin's case as precluding the state challenges against Mr. Cawthorn and Ms. Greene. In their view, even in the absence of a federal statute, state election officials who conclude that a person engaged in insurrection may proceed to remove that candidate from the congressional ballot. There is no Supreme Court precedent that squarely forecloses that position. Moreover, Chief Justice Chase's decision was not rendered by the United States Supreme Court, and so it is not controlling precedent. On Monday, a federal court in Georgia allowed the state court disqualification proceeding to go forward against Representative Greene. The federal judge did so without citing or distinguishing Griffin's case.

Still, we think the chief justice's opinion is persuasive; we expect state and federal courts, including the U.S. Supreme Court, will likely follow this historically entrenched position. Chief Justice Chase's approach is the simplest path. If the courts find that Section 3 is not self-executing, there is no need for state election officials to decide far more politically charged questions about whether Mr. Cawthorn and Ms. Greene — and potentially, looking ahead to 2024, Donald Trump — engaged in insurrection.

Congress has not authorized the states to enforce Section 3 by striking congressional candidates from the ballot. Thus, state courts and elections boards lack jurisdiction to exclude alleged insurrectionists from the congressional ballot. In such circumstances, state governments must let the people decide who will represent them in Congress.

Josh Blackman is a law professor at South Texas College of Law Houston. S.B. Tillman is an associate professor at the Maynooth University School of Law and Criminology.

Candidates lack qualifications

Dear Editor:

Once again The Downey Patriot has relinquished its responsibilities by not pointing out that none of the candidates described meet the requirements to be viable candidates to fill the empty City Council seat. (“Six Residents Apply for City Council Vacancy,” 4/14/22)

Anthony Felix, Donald LaPlante, Mario Guerra, Patrick Owens, Jeremy Shedd and Victoria Valdez are probably good citizens with good intentions but they lack the *sine qua non* attributes to qualify as candidates for the City Council

To the best of my knowledge none of the aforementioned individuals have ever:

1. Had arrest warrants
2. Had criminal record of shoplifting
3. Had committed welfare fraud

So how can they be expected to work well with the current members of the City Council?

I suggest that a prerequisite to be a City Council candidate should be to have a record similar to the one of our current Mayor Pro Tem. That way they would be in good company.

Jorge Montero Downey

The Downey Patriot STAFF

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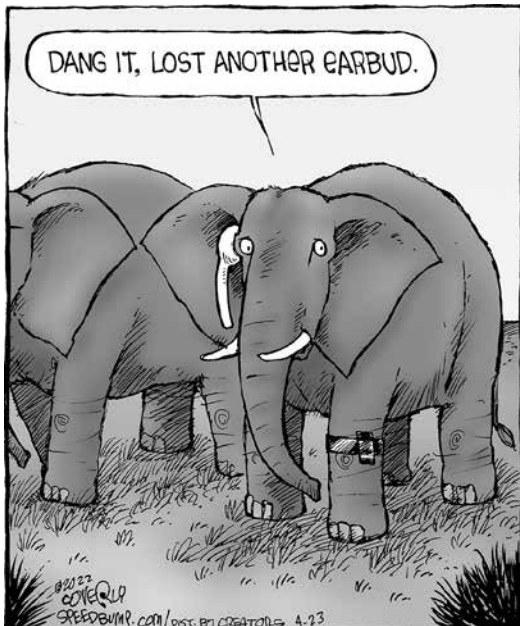
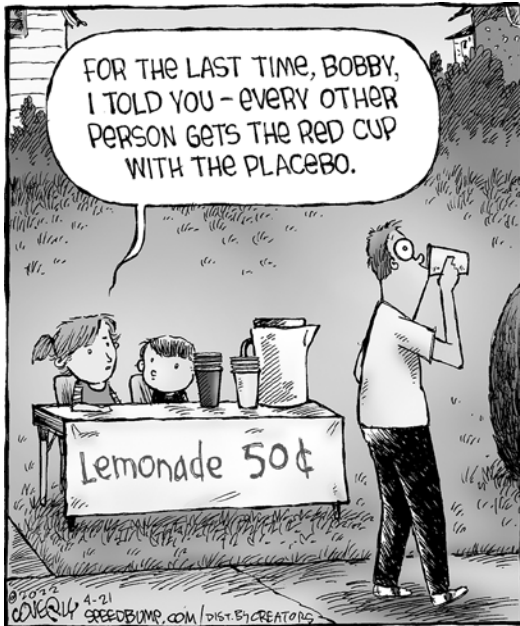
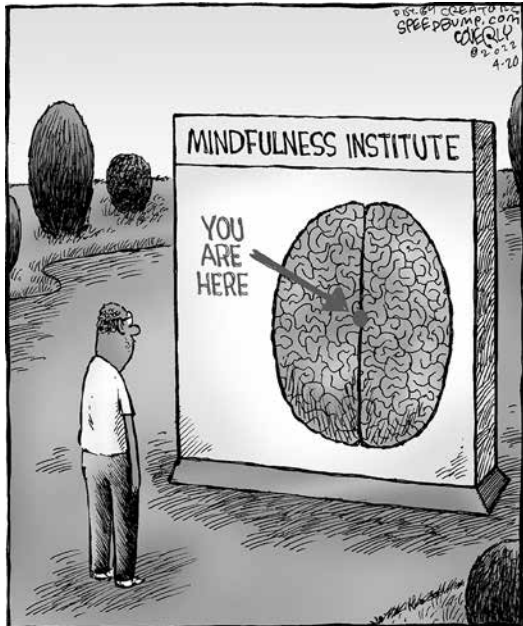
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SPEED BUMP



DAVE COVERLY



Downey Community Calendar

CITY MEETINGS

1st & 3rd Wednesday, 6:30pm: Planning Commission, Council Chamber at City Hall.
1st Tue., 4:00pm.: Recreation and Community Services Commission, Council Chamber, City Hall.
2nd & 4th Tue., 6:30pm: City Council, Council Chamber.
3rd Tue., 6:00pm: 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.
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: Boy Scout Troop 441, at Apollo Park, email scoutmaster@downeyboyscouts.com.
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., 12 pm: Downey Newcomers Club, call Marilyn 928-2623.
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 pm: Downey Model A Club, at Gallatin School Cafeteria, call 484-8415.
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., 6:00 pm: Sister Cities of Downey, at Barbara 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.
9:30 am: Take off Pounds Sensibly, at Barbara Riley Senior Center, call (800) 932-8677.
12 pm: Bingo, at Woman's Club of Downey - Proceeds benefit Rancho.
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: Boy Scout Troop 351, at Furman Park, contact 562-500-5093 for more information.
7:30 pm: Downey Elks Lodge #2020, call 803-3557.
1st Thurs., 6 pm, All other Thurs. 12 pm: Kiwanis Club of Downey, at Frantone's Downey, call Roy Jimenez 283-2335.
1st Thurs., 7:30 pm: Downey Amateur Radio Club, EOC room Downey Fire Station #1, 12222 Paramount Blvd.
2nd Thurs., 12 pm: Creative Purposes, call Bill Wallace 923-2311.
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

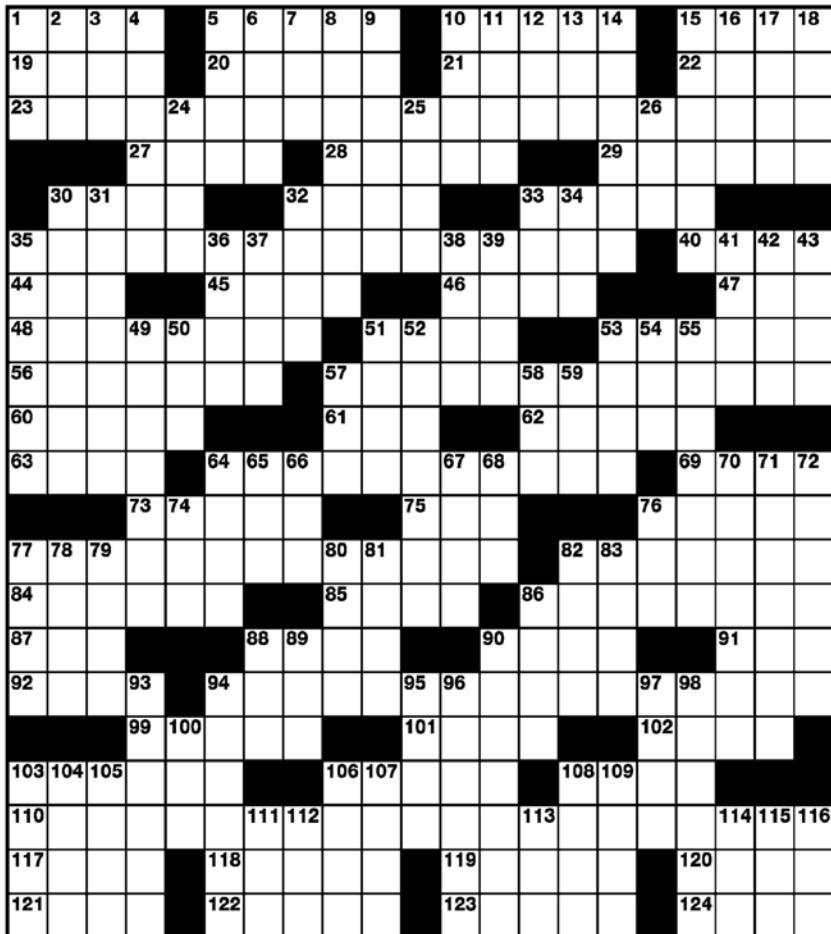
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BACK TO THE BEGINNING: Ending as they start
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The Ibis (13 Across) was venerated in ancient Egypt, associated with the ibis-headed god Thoth. The ANC (44 Across), or African National Congress, was founded in 1912, though not governmentally sanctioned until 1990, a few days before the release of Nelson Mandela. COLIN FIRTH (76 Across) is one of the few performers to have prominent roles in three Best Picture Oscar films, namely *The English Patient*, *Shakespeare in Love* and *The King's Speech*.



Guest conductor shines in leading Downey orchestra

■ Dottie Nadalski brought joy and enthusiasm in her guest conducting duties with the Downey Symphony.

By Lorine Parks
Society Editor

DOWNEY - Said Dottie Nadalski, baton winner of the Downey Symphonic Orchestra:

"I did not have butterflies, just full of energy and so anticipating doing the conducting correctly. It has taken me 2 days to come down from the high I was feeling that night! I will forever remember my night of conducting. Sharon was so gracious, and Carolyn so very helpful. I was taken aback by the positive comments by the people in the orchestra. I have never had so many positive comments in my life! The orchestra was amazing, and as I conducted I was smiling at all of them and they were smiling back. Such a wonderful experience!

"Sharon remarked that people in the orchestra told her I was the best guest conductor they ever had worked with. The evening was the best ever!"

A lively and generous crowd turned out for the April Downey Symphony Orchestra's concert that featured the Three B's of the music world, Bernstein, Bach, and the Baton Auction.

Make that a fourth B, Bernice. Bernice Mancibo Stumps, that is, longtime patron, for the second or was it third time won the prize. Concertmaster Carolyn Osborn, snappy in a black sequined jacket and steep high heels, was the auctioneer, and coaxed the audience up from \$500 to a jump bid of \$1,000 from a member of the orchestra's string section. Then \$2,000 came from a lady in red sitting in the very front row center. After that there were several calls of Going Once, but new bids kept topping the last.

Several people were determined to have the chance to conduct the orchestra, get a tutoring session with the Orchestra's Maestro Sharon Lavery, and receive a picture of herself in action, as well as her very own baton to take home.

Bernice persisted, and no one bid above her \$4,200. The money goes to support the orchestra, and

probably, as she has done before, Bernice will name a budding young musician to take the honors and do the conducting next year.

Neither a heat wave nor Covid can keep lovers of classical music away when the Downey Symphony Orchestra performs. Seen in the audience in the lobby before the show were Hop Morrison, whose wife Karol was a staunch Board member for years, and Adele Alexander Ambruso. Glenn Stephens is making plans for the 2022 Glennfest of Niche Interest Independent Films for this coming October, and he wore a shirt decorated with blue musical notes, large and small.

Larry and Marge Lewis appeared, and Don Marshall, both former presidents of the DSS, Don with his daughter. Don said how glad he was to see the Downey community coming together again.

Board members Joyce Sherwin, in a moss green ensemble, who supervises the production of the concert, and JoAnne Gronley, behind the table where the printed programs lay waiting, were there early, as were Katie and Bill Hare. Katie also had a catchy beige linen jacket with black notes printed over it.

Roy Beard came, and Christina del la Torre with her daughter Eleanor, and Pat Gil, who sees that the artwork for the posters is delivered on time.

Anthony Crespo, president of the Downey Symphonic Society, wore a cream colored jacket with black trousers to welcome the guests at the start of the concert. He introduced Alistair Hunter who thanked the DSS for many years of collaboration with the Downey Arts Coalition, and then Alistair read the names of the participating artists in the Theatre's galleries, "Unleashed." Artist Carolina Estrada del Toro showed several color photographs where she said she was "Playing with water, oil and light."

Anthony then gave special recognition from the stage to longtime secretary of the Symphonic Society Board Ruth Hillecke, who was seated in the audience. DSS Vice President Eric Pierce brought a cheerful pink azalea plant to the front of the stage, to show how Ruth is appreciated by her fellows on the board.

In her opening remarks, Conductor Sharon also gave "thanks from my heart" to Ruth for the many ways she has helped build the Symphony, including the Norbert and Ruth Hillecke Foundation's matching grant on behalf of the DSS's outreach program, Music in the Schools. The printed program gave details, as well as a tribute to the late Gloria Crum, also a treasured board member.

Dottie Nadolski, smart in a black pants suit, conducted the opening number, "Simple Gifts." Dottie set the record bid with \$3,500 two years ago. In gratitude for her generosity, the entire orchestra stood in tribute to Dottie, who smiled and bowed and waved to the audience after admirably conducting her piece. Conductor Sharon then took over the baton and led the ensemble in a rousing version of Leonard Bernstein's "Overture to Candide."

Bach's Concerto for Harpsichord in D Minor was performed by the string section, and the part of the 17th century harpsichord was taken by two contemporary marimbas, an instrument played not with nimble fingers but soft-tipped wands wielded by two young percussionists who knew their way around the seven-foot long instruments, the largest in the mallet family. The marimbas, each made of different exotic woods, were works of art in themselves, and were moved to from the side stages to enter stage for the performance.

The solo passages were as loud and clear as they would have been on the harpsichord, a forerunner of the piano, on which this piece is usually performed today. The transition to modern times was delightful to hear. The audience applauded vigorously after each movement, and gave the soloists, Soojin Kang and David Riccobono, a standing ovation.

At intermission, Dorothy Pemberton, Carol and Frank Kearns, were seen, enjoying the evening. Alistair and his wife, Barbara, said they recently celebrated their 54th wedding anniversary. Jorge Montero congratulated President Anthony on the concert. Masks were optional, and while several of the audience wore them, most of the orchestra chose to take this

optional precaution while on stage.

After the exhilarating auction that opened the second part of the evening, Music Director Sharon chose to continue on a high note with Open World from Captain Marvel, a piece where all the timpani and drums were kept busy. Composer Pinar Toprak was the first woman to write the score for a top-grossing action figure movie.

The major piece of the evening, Leonard Bernstein's Orchestral Arrangement of Symphonic Dances from West Side Story, used a full orchestra and an unusually large percussion section, seven, if you count the gilded and carved harp and the set of three gleaming copper timpani, or kettle drums. Also, the big bass drum, bells, wooden block, a sort of xylophone, big brassy cymbals, and the snapping fingers of the entire orchestra when the teen-age New York gangs begin to rumble.

Bernstein used every musical genre, from fugue to mambo, in this piece, built around the haunting three notes of the song Maria. It ended solemnly with constant funeral beats on the kettle drums, for Shakespeare's tragic love story of Romeo and his Juliet.

To send us home in a lighter mood, Music Director Sharon chose Charles Ives's "Variations on America." After establishing the melody of "My Country 'Tis of Thee," the orchestra swung into moods that could be called sweet, then stately, bouncy, bandstand, syncopated, majestic, and spritely.

By the end of the evening everyone was on their feet, clapping. As Maestro Sharon said, "We are all so glad you are here to support us, tonight." And did we ever. Sharon and the Orchestra have Downey's deep affection.

The final performance of the subscription season will be in five weeks, May 7. Beethoven's Triple Concerto will be featured, and there was talk of a punch and cupcake reception for the audience and musicians to mingle afterward. Watch this space for details.



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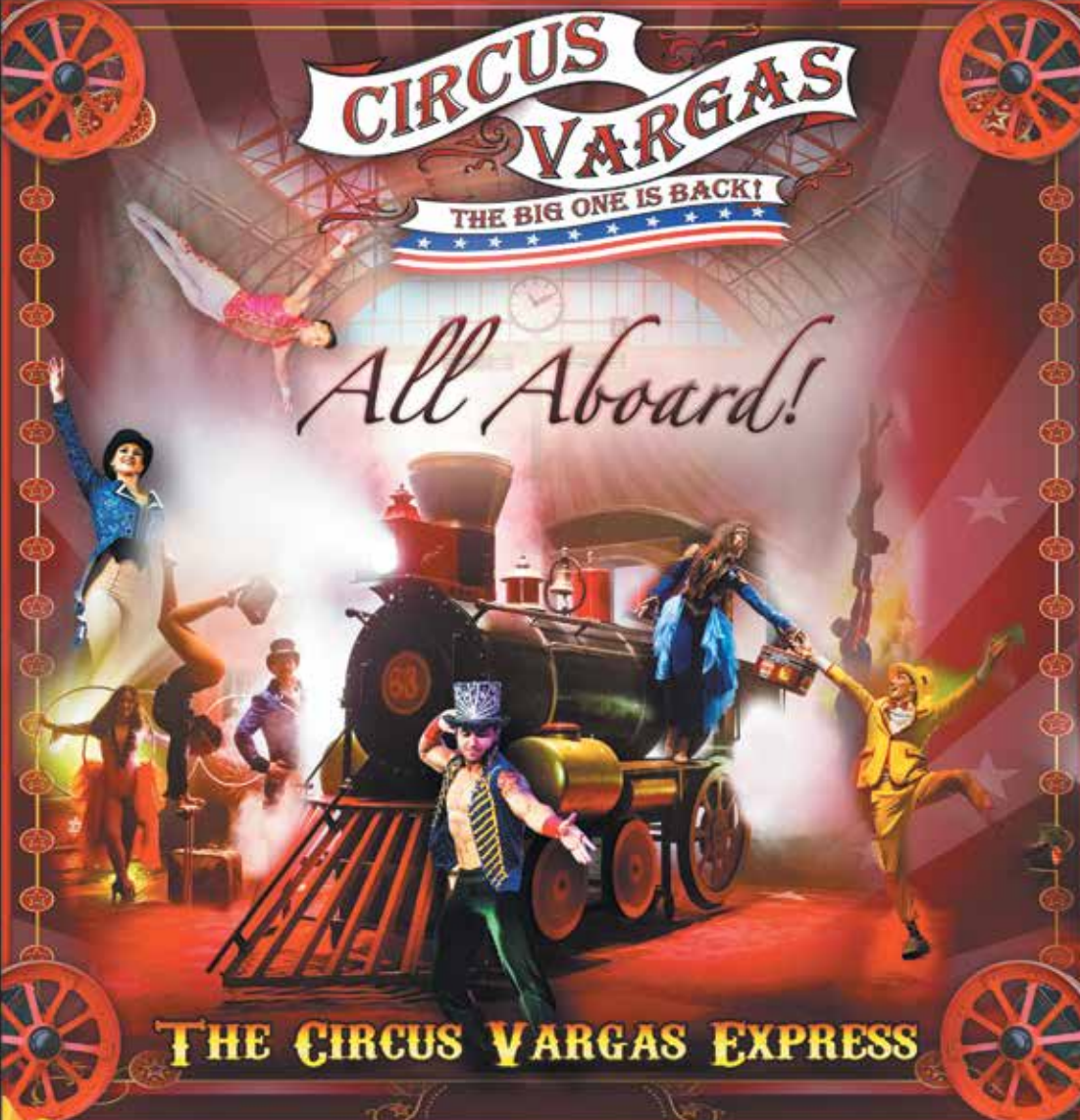
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DOWNEY HAPPENINGS

SATURDAY, APRIL 23

Tree Giveaway, 8-11 am. In honor of Arbor Day, the city of Downey is giving away trees. One free 5-gallon tree per resident (while supplies last). City Hall, 11111 Brookshire Ave.

One Day of Service, 9 am. Join other volunteers for a day of service in Downey. Join a community project or create your own. To suggest a project, email jmontenegro@downeyca.org or call 562-904-7284. Event kicks off with a rally outside City Hall, 11111 Brookshire Ave.

Stay Gallery: Ecuamex Pop-up, 9 am to 2 pm. Enjoy local art while sipping on local coffee. Local vegan coffee bar, Ecuamex, will be popping up for the day at Stay Gallery, 11140 Downey Ave.

Author Discussion, 1 pm. Poet and author Dr. Tiffanie Tate Moore will discuss her latest book of poetry, "FloweTry." Originally from Compton, Dr. Moore graduated from Lynwood High, is a Navy veteran, and an OB/GYN. Copies of her book will be available for sale. Downey City Library, 11121 Brookshire Ave.

Rock & Roll Show, 8 pm. The Stardust Club hosts live rock performances by Johnny Majestic, Gil T., Tryptamine, Megladon, Light Dazed, Kill for Kickz, and Splitting of the Atom. \$5 entry fee. Stardust Club, 7643 Firestone Blvd.

THURSDAY, APRIL 28

Student Government Day, 8:30 am. High school students who live or go to school in Downey are invited to visit City Hall to learn about local government, meet civic leaders, and share their ideas for Downey. Interested students should sign up with their school ASB coordinator. City Hall, 11111 Brookshire Ave.

Town Hall Meeting, 6 pm. Councilwoman Claudia M. Frometa leads a town hall meeting to discuss local issues. Columbia Memorial Space Center, 12400 Columbia Way

SATURDAY, APRIL 30

Drug Take-Back, 10 am to 2 pm. Bring your expired or unwanted prescription medication for safe disposal. No sharps or needles. Downey Police Department, 10911 Brookshire Ave.

Meet and Greet, 10 am. Meet anime voice actors Griffin Burns, Keith Silverstein and Kaylie Mills. Selfies and autographs are available, with prices set by the actors. OG Collectibles, 8124 Firestone Blvd.

Stay Gallery: Visioning Self Care Workshop, 12-1:30 pm. Create your own personalized self care booklet with guidance from local artist cindy "cindita" macias. Free admission. Register: staygallery.org/selfcare

Amistad Gala, 5:30 pm. Annual black-tie fundraiser benefiting Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center. For tickets and sponsorships, visit http://ranchofoundation.org/amistad/

SATURDAY, MAY 7

Touch-A-Truck, 10 am to 1 pm. Get up close with emergency rescue demonstrations, Public Works trucks, police patrol vehicles, K9 unit, fire engines, construction equipment, and more. 10-11 am is "quiet hour" with no sirens, horns or lights for people with sensitive eyes or ears. A vehicle extraction demonstration is at 11 am and a vehicle fire demonstration at noon.

Downey Symphony Concert, 8 pm. The Downey Symphony Orchestra performs Mozart's Overture to Don Giovanni, George Walker's Lyric for Strings, and Respighi's Ancient Airs and Dances, plus a special performance of Beethoven's Concerto for Violin, Cello and Piano in C Major with Carolyn Osborn on violin, Dane Little on cello, and Kevin Fitz-Gerald on piano. Downey Theatre, 8435 Firestone Blvd.

SUNDAY, MAY 8

Mariachi Los Camperos, 4 pm. Two-Time Grammy award winner Mariachi Los

Camperos originated in 1961 and played a fundamental role in the development of Mariachi music in the United States and was the first to take the Mariachi performances out of customary locations such as cantinas and into concert halls. Downey Theatre, 8435 Firestone Blvd.

SATURDAY, MAY 14

Keep Downey Beautiful, 9 am. Join other volunteers in a one-hour neighborhood cleanup. Gloves, safety vests, litter sticks and trash bags are provided. Wear closed-toe shoes and old clothes. Independence Park, 12334 Bellflower Blvd.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 18

Active Shooter Training, 9 am. Downey Police officers will lead this seminar open to the Downey business community. For details, call (562) 904-7284. City Hall council chambers, 11111 Brookshire Ave.

SATURDAY, MAY 21

Carpenters Legacy Concert, 8 pm. A recreation of The Carpenters' 1976 UK tour, starring Sally Olson and Ned Mills. Plus a special tribute to Herb Alpert & the Tijuana Brass. Downey Theatre, 8435 Firestone Blvd.

MONDAY, MAY 23

10-20 Club Golf Tournament, 10 am. Annual golf fundraiser benefiting the 10-20 Club, a Downey non-profit that works with at-risk youth. For details, call Darrell Jackson at (562) 618-2550. Rio Hondo Golf Club, 10627 Old River School Rd.

FRIDAY, MAY 27

Blood Drive, 11 am to 5 pm. Sign up at redcrossblood.org and use sponsor code "Downey" Barbara J. Riley Community & Senior Center, 7810 Quill Dr.

MONDAY, MAY 30

Memorial Day Block Party, 12-10 pm. Live music, beer garden, smoked barbecue, vendors, and more. Bastards Canteen, 11045 Downey Ave.

TUESDAY, MAY 31

Fair Housing Workshop, 1:30 pm. This workshop will cover new state housing laws, housing discrimination, security deposits, the eviction process, rent increases, and more. Workshop will be held via Zoom. RSVP at bit.ly/3gB65SI or call (800) 446-3247.

FRIDAY, JUNE 17

Chamber of Commerce Golf Tournament, 10 am. The Downey Chamber of Commerce's 30th annual golf tournament. For details, call the chamber at (562) 923-2191. Rio Hondo Golf Club, 10627 Old River School Rd.

SATURDAY, JUNE 18

Keep Downey Beautiful, 9 am. Join other volunteers in a one-hour neighborhood cleanup. Gloves, safety vests, litter sticks and trash bags are provided. Wear closed-toe shoes and old clothes. Big Lots, 9020 Firestone Blvd.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 31

Blood Drive, 11 am to 5 pm. Sign up at redcrossblood.org and use sponsor code "Downey" Barbara J. Riley Community & Senior Center, 7810 Quill Dr.



Century 21 Peak ranked No. 1

DOWNEY - Century 21 Peak was ranked No. 1 in California and No. 19 nationwide in the Century 21 system for fundraising, according to the results of a recent analysis.

Before joining Century 21 Peak, the Downey office was Century 21 My Real Estate and since 1994, Century 21/My Real Estate has raised nearly \$600,000 for charitable organizations.

The Downey office is pictured donating \$27,686.75 to Easterseals.

"We are incredibly grateful for the opportunity to serve," Century 21 Peak said in a statement.

POET'S CORNER

Art Morris

Feb. 8, 1919 - April 21, 2012

Art Morris O is he dead then
I saw him Tuesday
at home home-housed but that home
only a half-way habitat He was preparing
to leave body-mindful knowing
that body was failing blue-bruised
where bed-bordered he had lain too long

*He sees and speaks
but where he is entering
he does not speak of that
yet that is all he thinks of now*

Yet he knew me raise my head he said
take my hand and pull me toward you
he who with lucid blue eyes once sailed
the South China Sea now seeing
luster beyond lucidity

Lorine Parks

Art Morris, wonderful friend, world traveler, benefactor of Downey, joined the Merchant Marine at 16, and died just ten years ago this week, at 93. Art had a splendid Celebration of Life service and we all ended up back at Rio Hondo where he had arranged to have a shot of vodka at every place. His son Jim raised his glass in a toast, "To trail's end." Poetry Matters is curated by Lorine Parks.

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The Downey Symphonic Society Presents

Third Time's the Charm

Saturday, May 7, 2022 – 8 PM
Downey Symphony Orchestra
Sharon Lavery, Conductor
6:30pm – "Reflections of Love" Art Exhibit
Produced by the Downey Arts Coalition
7:15pm – Pre-Concert Talk

Overture to Don Giovanni – Mozart
Lyric for Strings – George Walker
Ancient Airs and Dances – Respighi
Triple Concerto - Beethoven
Carolyn Osborn, Violin
Dane Little, Cello
Kevin Fitz-Gerald, Piano

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Sharon Lavery
Music Director

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Downey Theatre is wheelchair accessible. For visual or hearing accommodations, call Box Office two weeks before concert.

Downey Symphony Orchestra
Sharon Lavery, Music Director



DOWNEY ONE DAY OF SERVICE

April 23, 2022

9:00 a.m.
Kick-off Rally
Downey Civic Center
1111 Brookshire Ave., Downey, CA 90241

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Volunteer Projects Take Place

Join us for the **Downey One Day of Service** event taking place Saturday, April 23rd!

Downey One Day is a community service day in which volunteers give back to their community by participating in various projects throughout the City. Residents, community organizations, businesses, and churches are encouraged to take ownership of a specific project and give back to their community.

Deadline to submit a volunteer project for consideration is Friday, April 15th.
Please email jmontenegro@downeyca.org or call 562-904-7284.



The City of Downey prohibits discrimination of any person in any of its programs and services. For accommodation requests, contact the City's ADA Coordinator at least 48 hours prior to the event/service/program at (562) 299-6619 or ADACoordinator@downeyca.org. TTY 711.