



LiveWire: A Podcast by the Downey Patriot

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GILBERT LIVAS SAYS GOODBYE

■ Downey city manager Gilbert Livas bids farewell to what he calls his "dream job."

By Alex Dominguez
Staff Writer

DOWNEY - There is just over a week left before City Manager Gilbert Livas makes his exit from the city, but you might not be able to tell just by looking at him; there's still enough going on at City Hall to keep his mind occupied, and off of his impending retirement.

"I think in some ways that's probably a blessing in disguise that I've been so busy, I really haven't had time to think about what I'm going to do next, or what's going to happen after July 1," said Livas. "I've really been extremely busy the last six months trying to complete a budget, get a lot of things off my plate, and make sure the place is in the best shape it possibly can be for the next person who sits in this chair."

It's been an over 14-year run for Livas and the city, who came on board in 2007.

"When I came [to Downey], I still remember thinking, 'This is a great place.' It felt like home, it felt like I had landed my dream job," said Livas. "It was professionally run, it had great council members, I was impressed by the staff that was here."

"My impressions were I was lucky to be here."

Livas first served as the deputy city manager, overseeing community development. After two years, he was promoted to assistant city manager.

Two years later in 2012, Livas would take the reins of the city after then departing City Manager Gerald Caton.

"It was certainly fast, but not too fast," said Livas. "Enough for me to get sort of a handle and get my bearings in terms of what was happening in the city."

It also just might have been one of the most difficult times for someone to take over the city manager position.

As he describes it, "there was no honeymoon period."

"From an organizational standpoint, it was really smooth. Smooth transition is one thing; assuming the job is quite another thing," said Livas. "I took over probably at the worst time you could take over, and probably in the city's history, probably the worst financial time."

Livas took over at a time when the recession had forced the city to spend around \$12 million of its "rainy day" reserves over the course of three years just to keep its budget balanced.

"We had burned through almost half of our reserve in three years," said Livas.

He says it's the reason he is so protective of the city's reserve funds today.

"When I got hired, it was like 'No more deficit spending,'" said Livas. "I'm the new guy, I said 'No more deficit spending, we're done. We gotta balance our budget."

"At the same time, the State in January eliminated redevelopment agencies, so all our redevelopment money that we had was also gone."

The still new and very fresh city manager would have to contend with a near \$14 million deficit budget, forcing him to make extremely difficult decisions.

"It was a very, very difficult



Downey's beloved city manager, Gilbert Livas, retires next week. (Photos by Alex Dominguez)

time," said Livas. "We had to lay people off in the city for the first time in the city's history. We had to right size the ship. We ended up making a lot of improvements in order to make sure that we could save money in a lot of areas."

Though some layoffs did occur, Livas says that he and his staff were able to "earn the trust of employees."

"Even though some folks lost their jobs because of [the recession], we made sure it was a soft landing for those folks," said Livas. "We right sided the ship, and got us into a place that we continued to grow."

And grow the city has.

Over his tenure, Livas is credited with the rebirth of the city's downtown, expanded dining and shopping opportunities, expansion of the medical hub, the completion of Measure S projects and launch of an over \$30 million residential street improvement project, leading the city through the recession and the Covid-19 pandemic, the building up of the city's reserves, and - most recently - the completion of 10 consecutive balanced budgets.

Having worked with several different variations of the city council, Livas has also had to wrangle what potentially are five very different personalities and visions for the city at any given time.

"I think for most city managers, I think that's the job, is trying to balance expectations, personalities," said Livas. "I would say that a lot of my success in that realm was due to talking to folks, listening to them, engaging before problems arose. I think that as difficult as that may be, I also relied on them as well."

"Many of them came with some level of expertise, for example Dave Gafin was an accountant, a CPA. Alex Saab was an attorney, Roger Brossmer worked for the [school] District. On and on. Claudia [Frometa] was in emergency preparedness. You had all these people that brought some level of expertise, it would be silly for me not to be able to tap into that; why let it go to waste?"

"I spent a lot of time with folks, one on one just talking and getting to what we needed to do, and there were times, certainly I was like the referee...I always

came across with my decision making that I would always do what's best for the organization and best for the city, and if I did those things, things would work out. That always clarified my decision making."

Livas has certainly earned the respect of many of the council members, old and current.

"The positive impact Gilbert has had on our city, and the improvements made under his leadership have greatly improved the lives of our residents," said Brossmer. "While these accomplishments are undeniable, the thing that I admire most about Gilbert is who he is as a person; a great husband, dad, and, luckily for me, a true friend."

"I have had the pleasure of serving with City Manager Gilbert Livas since 2016. I have always greatly valued Mr. Livas' unparalleled service to the city, who has led our city through difficult times," said Mayor Blanca Pacheco. "We will all miss him dearly at City Hall, and I wish him well as he heads off to retirement."

Former mayor Alex Saab called Livas's departure "a great loss."

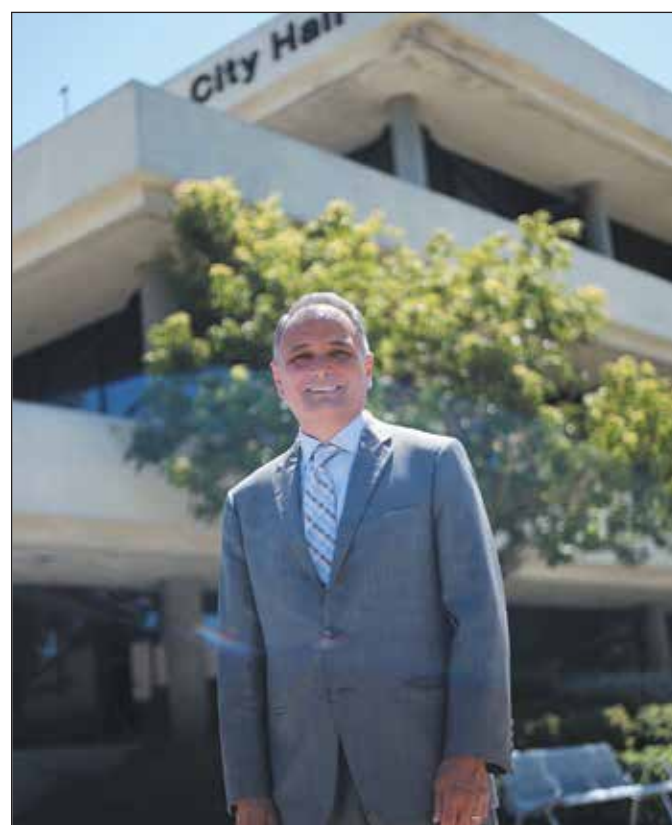
"During my eight years working directly with Gilbert, he always displayed exceptional leadership, professionalism, and knowledge, making our city of Downey a much better place to live and do business in," said Saab. "Gilbert is a person of unparalleled ethical and moral character, and is widely respected by staff, the unions and the citizens of our great city."

"He has always had the best interests of the City of Downey and was instrumental in the financial success and growth during his time."

Councilwoman Claudia Frometa said that Livas leaves "a legacy of integrity and an incomparable commitment to public service and excellence."

"Under his leadership Downey saw countless economic developments come to fruition. He's the ultimate professional, and someone I consider a friend. I will miss him, his steady, unbiased and uncorrupted leadership style."

In the past months since announcing his retirement, Livas



has received similar praise and admiration from city staff and residents alike.

"It's blown me away in terms of the support I've gotten from the community, from the employees. It's just been something that I really had no idea, to be honest with you," said Livas. "I've had people come up to me...and have expressed gratitude."

"I tell you, I'm the one that's grateful. I really am. I am blessed beyond words. If someone would have told me that this kid from Northeast LA would be the city manager of Downey, I've succeeded beyond my wildest dreams, and I owe that to the employees, the residents."

Livas says Downey's biggest asset is its energy.

"The people that have come to live here have come here because they want to be here," said Livas. "When you want to be in a place, you bring a certain energy with you, and you bring a certain involvement, and so I think that's what it brings, and at its core that's what it's always been."

Announcement of Livas's departure was the first in a shocking wave of departures and retirements of city staff.

To those who will lead the city after his departure, he offers some

simple wisdom.

"My advice would be, to those who were here is don't ever lose sight of you have an opportunity to change people's lives and to do something that matters," said Livas.

He added though that he's "not worried about Downey."

And while he may not know what immediately comes next, Livas remains committed to "leaving it all out on the field" until his final day as the city manager of Downey comes.

"I really do believe in public service. I sought out this job because I wanted to give back something to a country, to a state, to a city that's given me so much, and given my family so much," said Livas. "I have everything I have because of public service, and I don't just mean material things; I'm talking about everything I have in terms of a sense of being, a sense of gratitude."

"That's, at the end of the day, what I really mean, is that it's really given me that sense of fulfillment that's hard to replicate. There's not a lot of other jobs where you can have this sense of impact on other people's lives, that your decisions matter that much. I am grateful for that...and I'm proud of that."

Weekend at a Glance

Friday 90°

Saturday 88°

Sunday 89°

THINGS TO DO



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ON THIS DAY

1868: Christopher Latham Sholes received a patent for an invention he called the "Type-Writer".

1914: Pancho Villa took Zacatecas from Victoriano Huerta during the Mexican Revolution.

1917: In a game against the Washington Senators, Boston Red Sox pitcher Ernie Shore retired 26 batters in a row after replacing Babe Ruth, who had been ejected for punching the umpire.

1926: The College Board administered the first SAT exam.

1947: The United States Senate followed the United States House of Representatives in overriding President Harry S. Truman's veto of the Taft-Hartley Act, which restricted the power and activities of labor unions.

1960: The FDA approved Enovid as the first oral contraceptive pill in the world.

1969: IBM announced that it would price its software and services separately from hardware thus creating the modern software industry.

1972: President Richard Nixon and White House Chief of Staff H. R. Haldeman were taped talking about illegally using the Central Intelligence Agency to obstruct the FBI's investigation into the Watergate break-ins.

1985: A bomb exploded aboard Air India Flight 182, bringing the Boeing 747 down off the coast of Ireland and killing all 329 aboard.

1991: "Sonic the Hedgehog" was released on the Sega Genesis video game platform.



2021: "Apple Daily," a pro democracy Chinese newspaper, was forced to close after an asset freeze ordered by the Hong Kong government.

Birthdays

Supreme Court justice **Clarence Thomas** (74), rock singer **Glenn Danzig** (67), "American Idol" judge **Randy Jackson** (66), "Cruel Intentions" star **Selma Blair** (50), pop singer **Jason Mraz** (45), NFL hall of famer **LaDainian Tomlinson** (43), comic book artist **Becky Cloonan** (38), and child dancer **Elliana Walmsley** (15).

Eye on our Schools



**By Bobbi Samperi
Downey Board of Education
President**

As we head officially into summer, I want to share how proud I and our Board of Education are of all of our students for such a successful 2021-22 school year! Although challenging, each and every one of our students finished the year strong and we cannot wait to see what next year brings us.

That being said, we wrapped up the school year with many joyous celebrations and events. We were able to celebrate our graduating and promoting Class of 2022 with in-person ceremonies that honored nearly 2,000 high school students and over 1,600 middle school students.

Being able to see all the smiling faces of not only our students, but

the happiness of all our families and staff in attendance truly touched my heart.

The year was also concluded with many plays and performances that highlighted all of our students' hard work and dedication to the arts. Warren High featured a play called "12 Angry Jurors," Downey High students were showcased in "A Chorus Line" and "Wizard of Oz" was performed at Stauffer Middle School.

I extend an invitation to both our Downey Unified families and the Downey community as a whole to our students' performances. I don't like to brag, but our students are extremely talented, and I urge anyone who has not seen our kids in action to attend a play or musical theatre performance when they come back around next school year!

As our summer enrichment programs lead into the third week,

I have to share a special shout out to our staff.

I'm not sure if many are aware, but close to 40% of our students are enrolled in this year's summer school programs! That's close to 9,000 students which is the largest number of students in Downey Unified history to attend summer programs and, with that, the largest number of staff needed to support them by having successful programs successful and making sure things run smoothly....

So with that, I want to share how grateful and appreciative I am to all our staff who made the decision to support our students this summer. I, along with my fellow Board members, would like to thank them for their dedication to our students!

Extending the appreciation, I would also like to thank our amazing Food Services staff for continuing to provide meals to anyone in the community under the age of 18, at no cost, throughout the summer.

Our Food Services staff continues to prove their dedication to our students and families. Since the beginning of the pandemic, they provided meals at no cost to anyone who needed it with countless drive-throughs at our schools with multiple meals in bags and even grocery box sets for our families. For that, we cannot thank them enough!

In closing, I want to wish all of our students, families and staff a safe and happy Fourth of July! Enjoy the time safely spent with friends and loved ones!

Please remember that our schools will be closed on Monday, July 4th and that week of school will be on a Tuesday through Friday schedule.

Sincerely,
**Bobbi Samperi
President, Board of Education**

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GO SKATE DAY: Downey hosted Go Skate Day at Meredith H. Perkins Skate Park on Tuesday, hosting free skate and various competitions for all ages. (Photo by Alex Dominguez)

School board votes to prohibit gum on campuses

■ Gum was previously prohibited only on select middle school campuses.

**By Alex Dominguez
Staff Writer**

DOWNEY - The Downey Unified School District voted on Tuesday to prohibit chewing gum at its middle and high schools.

There was previously no official policy surrounding gum, though Warren and Columbus High and Sussman Middle schools prohibit the selling of gum, and Doty, Griffiths, and Stauffer Middle Schools prohibited it on campus.

The main concern over gum is mostly comes from the residue and stains it leaves on the concrete pathways, even after having been power washed by district maintenance crews.

"After all the construction that we've done on the campus sites, particularly at the middle schools and the high schools, when we go and other folks go, we see, depending on our maintenance crew has last been through, evidence of gum that has been dropped off on the concrete," said Board Member D. Mark Morris.

Morris went on to say that prohibiting gum outright would help campuses "look better," and "save our maintenance staff the time and trouble it takes to take that stuff off the concrete."

President Bobbi Samperi later made similar remarks.

"All this money we put into the schools, and then you walk around and see black spot, black spot, black spot, black spot," said Samperi.

Maintenance crews power wash campus grounds "primarily during

the summer," and during other breaks when time allows.

While most of the council seemed in favor of or willing to go along with the ban, Board member Linda Salomon Saldana raised some concerns that students chew gum as a coping mechanism to stress, especially after the effects of the pandemic.

"It is a clean, sane, common thing for some kids to be able to chew that gum," said Salomon Saldana. "I just want to make sure that we outright ban something that is safe and okay for them to do, what is the alternative?"

The Board ultimately voted 5-2 in favor of prohibiting gum, with Board members Salomon Saldana and Jose Rodriguez opposed.

New Dress Code Policy

Downey Unified School District will form a committee to research updating its dress code to reflect current day social issues surrounding gender identity.

As it stands now, the district's current dress code for staff and students is fairly specific, identifying protocols for both male and female clothing.

Board member Nancy Swenson initiated the conversation, suggesting that the code's language should be updated to not be "gender specific."

Due to the policy's broad and sensitive nature, Board member D Mark Morris suggested that a committee be created to explore the issue and come back with a recommendation.

"We could be sitting here and do it and get down in the weeds, and it's still not covered, what we think is good and what isn't," said Morris. "It could be putting the district in a place where we can't defend it."

The dress code was last updated in 1994.

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Stay Arts offers half million-dollar proposal to keep gallery open

■ Stay Arts, the non-profit that operates Stay Gallery and its related programs, is asking the City of Downey for a \$519,055 investment over three years or risk losing the gallery.

By Alex Dominguez
Staff Writer

DOWNEY - Stay Arts has submitted a new three-year, over half million-dollar proposal to the city of Downey that would see the city stop subsidizing Stay Gallery's rent and instead pay for programming outright.

Stay's newest proposal includes six admission-free art exhibits, one month-long residency for the Downey Arts Coalition, and 12 Stay Young: Family Paint Days per year, as well as the Stay Public arts incubator program (eight micro-grant projects per year awarded to creative professionals and community partners for the production of workshops and events in the gallery space), at the cost of \$167,930, or \$519,055 for three years.

They're hoping the city will agree to front that bill in lieu of the rent.

The city of Downey has covered the cost of Stay Gallery's downtown space since 2012, in exchange for Stay's community programming. The original two-year agreement has been extended several times over the years, most recently with the city agreeing in March to provide the gallery with \$28,000 to operate through July.

In total, Downey has invested over \$313,400 in Stay Gallery over 10 years.

Still, the gallery has struggled to make ends meet.

"That money goes directly towards the lease payment; no money comes to the people who run it, and those programs and those



costs," said Gabriel Enamorado, executive director of Stay Arts. "In 2017, that agreement from 2017 to 2020 did provide for \$4,000 per quarter for those overhead costs. In 2020 to now, this current agreement that goes to 2023, from the previous agreement it was cut by over 52%, meaning no operating funds, and we are now, for the first time in the history of Stay, responsible for about \$12,000-\$13,000 per year for the lease, during the pandemic when there's almost no revenue."

Enamorado said that the around \$31,400 per year investment doesn't cover a lease, people, and "costs to curate." Stay has even gone as far as reallocating funds from grants - originally intended for their administrative stipend - towards paying their end of the lease.

He described it as "living at a loss, permanently."

It is Stay's hope that their newest proposal - which Enamorado said was a "completely new approach" to the relationship between Stay and the city - will help solidify things at the gallery.

"In our proposal, it essentially says we want to rethink our agreement with the city, and we no longer want the lease to be subsidized in exchange for our services," said Enamorado. "Rather, we would like that to end, and here's a proposal with our programs we already do - our exhibitions, workshops, even a micro-grant opportunity for creative professionals - to be funded by the city so we can continue our services here."

Programs Director Juliana Canty added the city would be funding "exhibitions for local

artists that are accessible and free for the public to come see," and "art workshops for families at a very low cost."

"Our whole mission as an organization is to provide accessible arts programming at low-cost, free admission," said Canty. "That's really what this funding with the city would allow us to do, is to keep our programs as accessible as possible for the community."

Should the city accept its proposal, Stay would still continue to apply for grants and create its own streams of revenue.

"The funding that we're asking for doesn't cover 100% of our annual budget, it would only be a portion of it," said Canty. "We're still bringing in our own streams of revenue in different ways, it's just now it's focusing more on the mission rather than us trying to make the space a rental space, or focusing on things that aren't really mission driven."

"This will allow us to really propel our mission forward and provide that accessibility and professional development for artists and really propel that economic development in the downtown."

Stay would also be able to pay for their space themselves.

While no official decisions have been made at the city level, Enamorado remains confident that he will have the support he needs to push the proposal through.

"There's a value being provided back. There is something that can be measured; there is a measured outcome," said Enamorado. "It's

in our proposal: If this funding is approved, this is what you get and there's all these metrics."

Stay is hoping that official discussions may begin as early as next month.

"We are between a rock and a hard place; I think that's the reality for us," said Enamorado. "We do face a really hard decision if it doesn't go through, a really difficult decision. As an organization, we might have to make a very difficult decision to close this space permanently."

"Even though we have technically a year left in our agreement with the city where they're funding the space, it kind of leaves us in the same position that we've been in since 2012, of not knowing where the next steady source of revenue to continue operations [is coming from]."

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Why Watergate-era campaign finance laws haven't stopped corruption

By Ellen L. Weintraub

The burglars who broke into the Democratic National Committee's headquarters at the Watergate office complex 50 years ago sparked coverups, investigations, constitutional crises, a presidential resignation, deep damage to Americans' faith in government and a raft of bipartisan legislation aimed at restoring that faith. One of those laws created a small federal agency to "follow the money," the Federal Election Commission, where I serve.

Those laws also triggered an almost immediate backlash at the Supreme Court, beginning with its Buckley v. Valeo decision in 1976 and accelerating in recent years. The court's decision last month in *FEC v. Ted Cruz* for Senate, which allows donors to slip money directly into an elected official's pocket, is the latest outrage but likely not the last.

The Watergate players' actions were brazenly corrupt. When President Richard M. Nixon's White House counsel, John Dean, told him that money would be needed to pay off the Watergate burglars' blackmail demands, Nixon replied, "You could get a million dollars. And you could get it in cash. I know where it could be gotten. I mean, it's not easy, but it could be done."

It is still shocking to hear a president plotting to raise hush money to cover up political crimes. But the amounts involved seem almost quaint compared with the mammoth sums now flowing into American politics, much of it either legalized or enabled by the Supreme Court.

The court has equated money with speech, struck down political spending limits and empowered corporations. It seems determined to entrench, and frankly celebrate, the might of big donors. That is stunningly out of sync with public opinion — a 2018 Pew Research Center poll found that 77 percent of Americans support limits on political

donations.

The Watergate scandal featured large sums of money, much of it in cash, clandestinely raised from individuals, corporate donors and foreign sources, and delivered to Nixon's political operation. People and corporations were successfully prosecuted for providing these illegal funds.

Today? The delivery of bags of cash to political campaigns remains illegal, as do direct corporate donations to candidates' campaigns. But in the past dozen years, there has been a proliferation of super PACs so closely associated with candidates that giving to the super PACs affords virtually the same benefits.

Thanks to the court's 2010 ruling in *Citizens United v. FEC*, corporations can legally give to these PACs. Individual donors who would be barred from giving \$3,000 directly to a candidate's campaign can legally give millions to a supportive super PAC. And the court insists that this is fine because "independent expenditures, including those made by corporations, do not give rise to corruption or the appearance of corruption."

In the 2020 election season, federal fundraising totaled more than \$14 billion. While substantial sums were raised from small donors, it is now also routine to see individual donors give millions of dollars. And those are just the ones we know about. Contributions to super PACs are required to be disclosed, but sophisticated and secretive donors know they can give to ideologically aligned nonprofit corporations that will pass along their money to the super PACs without revealing the donors to the public. (Politicians presumably know who their benefactors are.) This has contributed to more than \$1 billion in dark money flooding America's politics in 2020 alone.

The FEC has had some success in going after foreign donors, but I

remain concerned that foreign money can seep into the system through entities that are domestically incorporated but owned and influenced by foreign nationals.

The FEC bears some responsibility for this sad state of affairs. Lax enforcement and failure to update our regulations to deal with changing political practices have left the law disrespected and riddled with loopholes. The FEC's bipartisan structure (six commissioners, with no more than three of any political party) and increased polarization have often stymied efforts merely to investigate serious alleged violations.

What can be done? The Supreme Court is unlikely to revise its views on corruption, but solutions are still out there, if we can summon the political will to adopt them.

Congress should revive languishing bills intended to strengthen disclosure, which would help ensure the transparency that the Supreme Court has (so far) robustly endorsed, and enhance barriers against foreign spending in our elections. And the FEC must update its regulations (unchanged since before *Citizens United*) to meaningfully address the porous relationships between candidates and big-money super PACs. Stricter enforcement — by the FEC in civil matters and the Justice Department in criminal ones — is essential.

Watergate is not just a story about a bungled burglary. The corruption it revealed delivered a shock to the political system that brought government officials together across party lines to find the truth and try to restore trust. In these polarized times, a similar coming-together seems unimaginable. The template is there — but it would require Republicans to work with Democrats, as they did 50 years ago.

Ellen L. Weintraub is a commissioner on the Federal Election Commission.

The U.S. door swings open to Ukrainians

By the Washington Post Editorial Board

The Biden administration has embarked on a sizable experiment in admitting Ukrainians who have fled Vladimir Putin's scorched-earth campaign to the United States. That tens of thousands of them have successfully sought refuge in this country over about three months, with relatively little fanfare — and even less controversy, considering the toxicity that attends most migration issues — is a reaffirmation of America's commitment to its values as a beacon to the world's most desperate people. That commitment must be sustained as the war in Ukraine drags on, which seems likely.

At least 71,000 Ukrainians have entered the United States, in nearly all cases legally, through airports in New York, Chicago, Philadelphia and elsewhere, as well as, in the war's earliest weeks, by crossing the southern border from Mexico. They have arrived according to various immigrant and non-immigrant categories, the most innovative of which has required U.S.-based sponsors to initiate their applications to travel here. Another 23,000 have been approved for travel; most are likely to arrive here in the coming few months.

Under the most innovative program, known as Uniting for Ukraine, sponsors have applied to support more than 60,000 Ukrainians seeking entry to this country; they include relatives or friends of those fleeing the war, as well as groups including nonprofits and churches. New online applications to sponsor individual Ukrainians are continuing at a rate of as many as 1,400 daily. In addition, roughly 22,000 managed to make it into this country before the sponsorship program was established, in April. Still others entered with visas and green cards.

At the current pace, the administration may reach its goal to admit 100,000 Ukrainians, announced in April, as soon as this summer. Officials have stressed that that number is a commitment, not a ceiling; that means admissions can — and should — continue once the mark is reached.

Given what may become a war of attrition in Ukraine, the administration would be wise to prepare for a long-term commitment. Most Ukrainians who fled their homes, hoping to return soon, have waited so far in nearby countries — Poland, Romania, Moldova and others in Eastern Europe. As the war drags on, more are likely to take resettlement opportunities farther west — in Western Europe and Canada as well as the United States.

The Biden administration's sponsorship program is innovative — it frees the government from its traditional role in resettling and supporting refugees. That is partly a matter of practicality: officials inherited a refugee resettlement program, gutted under President Donald Trump, that is ill-equipped to absorb the tens of thousands of Ukrainians now arriving. It's a workable solution for now, but it only allows stays limited to two years. It should not preclude Ukrainians who lack U.S. sponsors from applying to enter the country going forward

through the regular refugee channel, a long-term process that allows for permanent resettlement in the United States.

Owing to Russia's aggression, Ukrainian refugees will be the world's responsibility, especially Europe's, for the foreseeable future. More than 5.1 million have flooded into Europe; over 3.2 million of them have applied for temporary residence there. The United States, as the largest Western country and leader of the NATO military alliance, must continue to bear a portion of the burden.

One-party government

Dear Editor:

There seems to be a lot happening in Downey and a lot of people asking what is happening? I see it as quite simple - the same thing as is happening in California.

We are heading for a one-party government throughout the state. The liberal Democrats are moving aggressively to drive the Republicans out of the government and are succeeding, thanks to the voters.

I do not see this as an improvement. In a one-party system, decisions are made by the party in control. There need not be much (if any) debate on the issue because the final decision will be made by the leader of the party in control. If a decision draws many negative comments, then it may be reversed. However, moves will likely be taken to quiet or silence those people raising negativity.

We lose a lot by not having balanced power in our government and we lost that by voting in unqualified or biased candidates who are presented by the party in control. In other words, they may owe their allegiance to the party, not to the people.

In short, it is we, the people, who are not evaluating the candidates presented to us for election to positions of power over our lives. We are voting for those people that the party in power presents to us.

Gordon Wall Downey

Looming dictatorship

Dear Editor:

Unless Congress does its duty and convicts former President Trump for his actions on the Jan. 6 riots and continuous lying to destabilize the country, we will have another Nicaragua's Ortega in the making.

If Trump gets reelected and the Republicans gain control of Congress, then we can look forward to Trump getting Congress to change the elections laws so that he can be president forever and to see all opposing politicians jailed.

For a person like me who grew up in a third world country, it is easy to predict how third world politicians like Trump will act because we have seen it before and can recognize the symptoms right away. My prediction record about Trump speaks for itself.

In The Downey Patriot of Oct 1,2020, I wrote:

"...and he loses the election, he will declare that he found fraud and will refuse to step down..."

On Jan. 21,2021 I wrote:

"My hat is off to President Trump for having accomplished what I thought was impossible, to make the US a third world country."

On Jan. 14, 2021 I stated:

"His vanity does not allow him to accept that he lost the election and will continue to argue that the election was stolen from him without providing any proof of how it was done."

I am not patting myself on the back. I am simply stating the obvious. Trump is a wanna be dictator who uses third world politics in his quest for power. It will be a shame and bad for the country if he succeeds.

Jorge Montero Downey

Time for a political change

Dear Editor:

It's not about red or blue, Democrats or Republicans. However, the Democratic party has slightly exposed themselves of their corruption and horrible policies.

Many Republicans that have been running are not even politicians, like football legend Herschel Walker and Larry Elder. We may not know a lot about Raul Ortiz yet his occupation says it all: he is a pest control manager. He has experience getting rid of pests.

Blanca Pacheco is probably a great woman and if Claudia Frometa ran Republican for state assembly, she'd have more of a chance. The issue is Pacheco is running as a Democrat which is the party that keeps destroying California.

Don't trust any endorsements done by Lucille Roybal-Allard. Why? Take a look at her district, which is the 40th district. It's still a mess.

Just some things to think about for this upcoming election.

Roger Orellana Downey

Alternatives to abortion

Dear Editor:

Jorge Montero say he is a Catholic but also pro-choice. Let me tell you that as a Catholic, the thought of abortion would never come to mind.

There are always safe alternatives. As pro-life speaker Lila Rose says, "A baby conceived in rape doesn't deserve the death sentence. And a survivor of rape isn't healed by an abortion."

Did you ever stop and think of the regret a woman might feel after an abortion? She is scarred for life with the guilt, anguish and trauma of what she had to go through. What will she feel day after day of the beautiful baby she once had and is now gone? What if she would have given that baby the love, respect and care that a new life deserves but instead just throws it away as if it was trash?

As a Catholic, you do realize that life is a blessing from God and we are and should be very grateful to accept such a wonderful gift.

I do not know Mr. Montero but as a fellow Catholic, I am happy he is here. I'm sure he has much love and respect for his mother, who did not decide to have an abortion.

Nora Guzman Downey

Biden's America

Dear Editor:

After reading Jorge Montero's letter in the Downey Patriot, I felt compelled to tell him and many others that Donald Trump has not been president for 1 1/2 years. Joe Biden is now our president.

Mr. Montero is blaming our wealth for enabling the young and crazy to buy assault weapons, and if we were poor like Ecuador, they couldn't buy guns. If this is Mr. Montero's solution, take heart. I'm sure he knows Biden is putting us deeply in debt. People are suffering that they can't pay for gasoline and most don't have the money to buy a Tesla. Food prices have risen drastically, as has most everything. The stock market is down and they are predicting a recession.

In the same edition we read that Sharon Byers wants California to provide \$2,000 per child to reduce child poverty. Then mothers can't find baby food to feed the babies. Same paper: Cristina Garcia tells of the poverty of so many in her district. So soon, we may be too poor to buy assault weapons.

To remind Mr. Montero, don't think Trump can help you now. He isn't president (wish he were to try to get us out of this mess); we can give this sprint of poverty to Biden.

Back to the guns: I understand that the drug cartels, gangs, etc. are crossing an open border, and some of them have guns. And we have to pay for food, housing, medical and education for the others illegally crossing the border. Thanks to Biden, not Trump.

Elsa Van Leuven Downey

The Downey Patriot STAFF

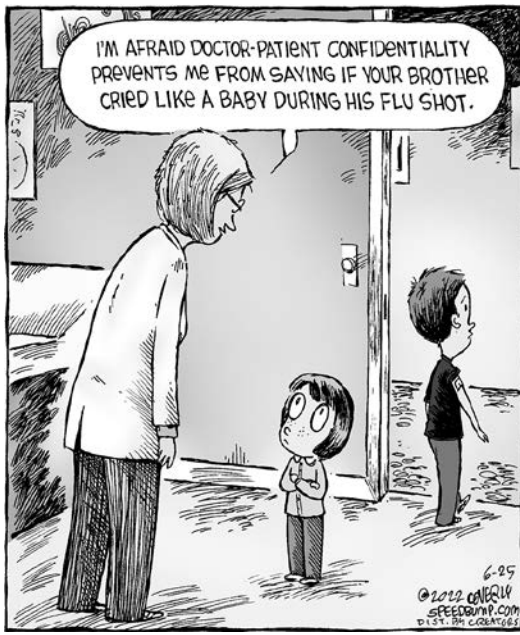
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The Downey Patriot is published weekly by The Downey Patriot, Inc.
Controlled Distribution, 25,000 copies are printed.
Distributed by CIPS Marketing Group, Inc., Los Angeles, CA.

SPEED BUMP

DAVE COVERLY



Downey Community Calendar

CITY MEETINGS

1st & 3rd Wednesday, 6:30pm: Planning Commission, Council Chamber at City Hall.
 1st Tue., 4:00pm.: Recreation and Community Services Commission, Council Chamber, City Hall.
 2nd & 4th Tue., 6:30pm: City Council, Council Chamber.
 3rd Tue., 6:00pm: 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 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.
 9:30 am: Take off Pounds Sensibly, at Barabara 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.
 4th Thurs., 10 am: Assistance League, at Casa De Parley Johnson, call 869-0232.
 4th Thurs., 7:30 pm: Downey Historical Society programs, at Community Center, call 862-2777.

FRIDAYS

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

SATURDAYS

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

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THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com)
FIRST OF ALL: Excluding initial articles, of course
 by Jerry Clarkson

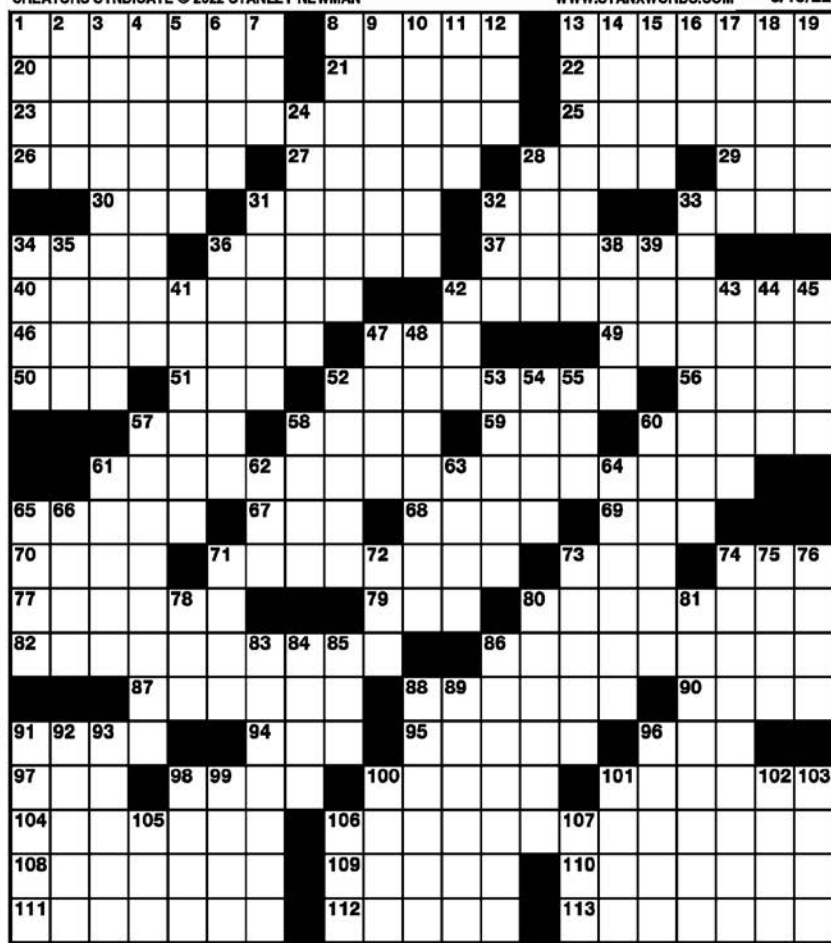
- ACROSS
- 1 Kids' unexpected winter break
- 8 Fifth tire
- 13 Wrestling twosome
- 20 Invitation to sample
- 21 Born first
- 22 Howl
- 23 HANK AARON'S MLB TEAMS
- 25 Unknown influence
- 26 Talks the talk
- 27 Queued (up)
- 28 500 sheets of paper
- 29 SASE, e.g.
- 30 "For ___ a jolly good fellow"
- 31 Tastiness
- 32 Silent assent
- 33 Victimize, with "on"
- 34 London lockup
- 36 Rent payer
- 37 Garden growth
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- 100 Rose garden insect
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- 104 Spielberg film of '97 [NOT a theme answer]
- 106 CATTLE BREEDS
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- 11 Oboe mouthpiece
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- 13 Formal wear
- 14 ___ Romeo (Italian auto)
- 15 Micronesian island
- 16 Pampering, for short
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- 31 Water near Notre-Dame
- 32 "Thursday Night" game grp.
- 33 Flourishes financially
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- 35 Fraction of a square mile
- 36 Transistor ancestor
- 38 Steed-stopping shout
- 39 Exceedingly long time
- 41 Word of warning
- 42 Creative work
- 43 Newsstand
- 44 Beehive State athletes
- 45 St. ___ Beach, FL
- 47 Typesetter's selection
- 48 Hanukkah toy
- 52 Whistle sounds
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- 54 Timid feline portrayer
- 55 Drain cleaner chemical
- 57 Certain petroleum deposits
- 58 Virtual meeting app
- 60 Bonnet decoration
- 61 Air rifle
- 62 Seasonal bug
- 63 Something required

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- 64 ___ oneself on (had an ego about)
- 65 Design detail
- 66 VERDI OPERAS
- 71 Apartment listing abbr.
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- 73 German philosopher
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- 78 Irish actor Stephen
- 80 Stevenson villain
- 81 Female Argonaut
- 83 Gave way
- 84 Depend
- 85 Clip-___ (some sunglasses)
- 86 In a sarcastic way
- 88 Stand in the way of
- 89 Mideast capital
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- 92 Mideast capital
- 93 Thoroughly
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- 100 Nickname that sounds like two consecutive letters
- 101 Snarling sound
- 102 Money in Madrid
- 103 Professional org.
- 105 What to call a catamaran
- 106 ABA member
- 107 CPR expert

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Always.
 A.T. Artificial Intelligence and ahead of AMSTAD (104 Across), Spielberg films are alphabetically
Our Souls at Night, two Steven
 Fonda, the most recent being 2017's
 starring Robert Redford and Jane
 (6) Across) is one of four movies
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 1967 film version of the Neil Simon
 Berkshire Hathaway in 2000. The
 ry products, was acquired by
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 ACME BRICK (40 Across), a



Downey Unified showcases technology with global event

■ Educators from nine countries participated in the showcase event.

DOWNEY - In May, Downey Unified hosted their first Digital Learning Day in partnership with Apple, showcasing the 21st Century teaching, learning and innovation happening across the district's elementary schools.

Students from Downey Unified's five Apple Distinguished Schools' Tech Squads led the event and provided guests a virtual glimpse inside the classrooms of Gauldin, Imperial, Lewis, Old River and Rio San Gabriel elementary schools.

This was a unique opportunity that brought together over 200 educators from across the nation and globe to experience the learning happening within Downey Unified.

"We were so proud to be able to showcase the amazing learning happening in our classrooms to guests from around the world," shared Director of Elementary Education, Jennifer Robbins. "We had educators from 12 states and nine different countries join us via Zoom to see our students from Kindergarten to 5th grade in action."

For Downey Unified's first Digital Learning Day, educators joined from the following nine countries: Greece, Hong Kong, India, Mexico, Saudi Arabia, Scotland, South Africa, United Arab Emirates; and 12 states: Arizona, California, Illinois, Massachusetts, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, Washington and West Virginia.

This event was designed to showcase the creativity, critical thinking, collaboration, and communication within the district's elementary classrooms.

During this event, students were engaged in learning and were able to explain their thinking and process to all attendees. It was completely student lead, where students were the facilitators and presented their learning in a "news reporter style" format.

They provided attendees with a live preview inside the classroom by interviewing teachers and students as they explained the 21st Century learning environments they are immersed in every day.

Students also described the apps they use to demonstrate their understanding of content

and choice and the digital tools they use within the classrooms each day.

"Apple Distinguished Schools are some of the most innovative schools in the world," shared Apple. "They're centers of leadership and educational excellence that demonstrate our vision of exemplary learning with Apple technology. Leaders in our recognized schools cultivate environments that use Apple products to connect students to

the world, fuel creativity, deepen collaboration and make learning personal."

Downey Unified has been identified as living the above quote. Although five schools were highlighted during this event and are currently designated as an Apple Distinguished School, this type of teaching and learning is occurring at every elementary school across Downey Unified and the remaining schools are in the process or will be starting the process of being identified as an Apple Distinguished School in the coming years.

For those interested in seeing the 21st Century learning happening inside Downey Unified's elementary classrooms, a full recording of this Digital Learning Day can be found on the district's YouTube Channel.

A shortened version that features highlights from the event can be found on Downey Unified's social media pages or website.



Want to watch? Scan this code with your smart phone to watch a short recap of Digital Learning Day.

52 artists featured in group exhibit at Stay Gallery

DOWNEY - Stay Gallery is pleased to present the fourth annual installation of The Local Group Show, a group art exhibition highlighting the creative diversity of Los Angeles County.

This exhibition features the work and stories of 52 local artists from varying backgrounds, age groups, experience levels and mediums, including painting, illustration, mixed media and photography.

The Local Group Show was first piloted in 2019 as an effort to provide more accessible opportunities for local artists to share and display their work. With 52 participating artists, this year will be the gallery's largest installation of The Local Group Show to date. Their open call for the exhibition received over 100 artwork submissions from artists across LA County and beyond.

An opening reception will be held on Friday, July 1, from 7-10 pm. The evening will feature plant-based Mexican food by Dear Mama and select craft beer by Brewjeria. Locally made goods will be available for purchase in Stay Gallery's artisan shop, including art prints, handmade jewelry, ceramics, soy wax candles and a limited selection of poetry books.

The reception welcomes people of all ages and will be open to the public with free RSVP, though donations are appreciated. To learn more and RSVP, please visit: staygallery.org/localgroupshow

After the opening reception, the exhibition will be on view at Stay Gallery (11140 Downey Avenue) from July 1 - Sept. 23 during weekly hours: Wednesday - Friday from 12-6 pm and Saturdays from 10 am to 2 pm.

Admission to Stay Gallery is free during weekly hours.

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YARD SALE FRI & SAT
6/24 & 6/25, 8AM-2PM
7603 Fontana St., Downey

the 18th day of July, 2022 sealed Bids for the award of a Contract for the following:

BID NO. 06JUN22-DN;
Lynwood High School -
Culinary Arts Classroom Alterations
DSA Application #03-121994

Scope of Work Overview Summary: Alteration to existing classroom and new utilities, ventilation in conjunction with new culinary art labs, including the installation of new food service stations and equipment.

The contract time is anticipated to be 266 (two hundred sixty-six) consecutive calendar days.

This Project is being let in accordance with the Uniform Public Construction Cost Accounting Act ("UPCCAA") (specifically, the formal Bidding procedures in Section 22032(c)).

Prequalification of Bidders: As a condition of bidding for this Project, and in accordance with California Public Contract Code section 20111.5, prospective Bidders are required to submit to the District a completed set of prequalification documents on forms provided by the District.

Bids will not be accepted if a Bidder has not been prequalified. Prequalification documents are available from Susan M. Trivizo, Facilities Representative, Unified School District, 11300 Wright Road, CA 90262. Email: smtrivizo@mysud.org and cc: Gustavo Gonzalez, Director of Maintenance, Email: ggonzalez@mysud.org upon request.

Prequalification documents must be submitted by July 7, 2022 by noon (not less than five days prior to Bid opening date). Bidders will be notified by email of their prequalification status within a reasonable period of time after submission of their prequalification documents, but not less than one day prior to the Bid opening date.

The successful Bidder must possess a valid and active State of California Class "B" License at the time of Bid and throughout the duration of this Contract. Subcontractors shall be licensed pursuant to California law for the trades necessary to perform the Work called for in the Bid documents.

All Bidders and their subcontractors must be registered and approved by the State of California Department of Industrial Relations in order to bid on this project.

There will be a Mandatory Pre-Bid Site Walk on Tuesday, June 28, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. in front of the Lynwood High School main entrance located at 12124 Bullis Rd., Lynwood CA 90262. Any Bidder bidding on the Project who fails to attend the entire mandatory Pre-Bid site walk will be deemed a non-responsive Bidder and will have its Bid returned unopened.

The BID and all requirements, instructions and associated documents will be emailed directly to those who attended the mandatory pre-bid site walk.

Inquiries shall be sent in writing by email to: Daniela Navarro, Senior Buyer, Purchasing Department, Unified School District, Email: Daniela.Navarro, Email: dnavarro@mysud.org, and cc: Porfiria Mora, Buyer, Purchasing Department, Unified School District, Email: Porfiria.Mora, Email: pmora@mysud.org. No telephone or facsimile machines are available to Bidders on the District premises at any time.

The Downey Patriot 6/16/22, 6/23/22

CITY OF DOWNEY NOTICE CALLING FOR BIDS

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT NO. 22-03 ALLEYS NORTH AND SOUTH OF STEWART & GRAY ROAD PAVEMENT REHABILITATION

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 a.m. on Thursday, July 7, 2022, 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. 22-03 - Alleys North and South of Stewart & Gray Road Pavement Rehabilitation.**

The work to be performed under this Contract generally consists of pavement rehabilitation on five alleys north and south of Stewart & Gray Road, between Porton Road and Lakewood Boulevard, as shown on the Plan. This project consists of the removal of the existing asphalt pavement and base or subgrade materials, and construction of asphalt concrete (AC) base course and AC overlay. Work also includes the reconstruction of Portland cement concrete (PCC) Interlock, the form installation of PCC curb ramp, repair of damaged PCC curb, gutter, and other concrete improvements, adjustments of manhole and utility valve covers to the new grade, 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. 22-03.**

Plans and Specifications for this project are available at the office of the City Cashier at 11111 Brookshire Ave., Downey, California, where they may be examined, and copies obtained at a cost of **\$35.00 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 Overnight courier.

BIDS MUST BE MADE ON THE PROPOSAL FORM INCLUDE IN THE PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT NO. 22-03. 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"). Said 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 bonds 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 who performs any of the work described in 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 "General Engineering Contractor".

In accordance with California Labor Code Section 1771.1, no Contractor or subcontractor shall be qualified to bid on or be listed in a bid prospectus 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 Capture 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
E-Mail: dgutier@downeyca.org
Tel.: (562) 904-7116
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.

CITY OF DOWNEY, CALIFORNIA
Maria Alicia Duarte, CMC
City Clerk

The Downey Patriot 6/16/22, 6/23/22

CITY OF DOWNEY NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE ADOPTION OF USER FEES

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City Council for the City of Downey will hold a Public Hearing at a Regular City Council Meeting on June 28, 2022, at 6:30 p.m., in the Downey City Council Chambers, 11300 Brookshire Avenue, Downey, CA 90241, concerning proposed new and/or increased user fees for services or regulatory activity provided by the City ("Fees"). At the Public Hearing, members of the public will be afforded an opportunity to make oral or written presentations concerning the proposed new Fees.

All interested persons may present oral comments and information at the Public Hearing or may submit written comments and information to the City council at any time prior to the hearing by delivering them to the City Clerk's Office at 11111 Brookshire Avenue, Downey, CA 90241.

The data supporting the Fees will be available for review at: <https://www.downeyca.org/our-city/departments/city-clerk/documents/ty-documents> on Friday, June 17, 2022.

If you have questions about the Fees, please contact Anil Gandhi, Director of Finance and Information Technology, at (562) 904-7265.

Maria Alicia Duarte, CMC
City Clerk

The Downey Patriot 6/16/22, 6/23/22

DOWNEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT Asset Management Advisory Committee

Downey Unified is seeking qualified interested individuals to join a committee of community leaders which will serve as the Asset Management Advisory Committee, also referred to as a 7-11 Committee. The role of the committee is to advise the District's Governing Board regarding the disposition of District owned real properties. If interested, please visit www.dusd.net/ facilities to review the application for criteria of service and to apply. The application will

be on the website starting on June 27, 2022 and all applications are due no later than 12:00 p.m. on July 15, 2022.

The Downey Patriot 6/23/22, 6/30/22

LIEN SALES

NOTICE OF SALE

In accordance with the provisions of the California Uniform Commercial Code, there being due and unpaid storage and other charges related to the storage for which DOMINGUEZ HILLS ESTATES is entitled to a lien as Warehouse on the goods hereinafter described, and due notice having been given to the parties known to claim an interest, and the time specified in such notice for payment of such charges having expired, notice is hereby given that these goods will be sold at public auction at **1909S Laurel Park Road, Space 461, Dominguez Hills, California 90220 on July 11, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.** The following is a brief description of the property to be sold:
A 1981 Butterfield Mobilehome, (Decal numbers(s) LAG5798, Serial Number(s) A0169, B0169, C0169 HUD/Label/Insignia Number(s) CAL212490, CAL212491, CAL212492, 62 feet in length, 34 feet in width.

Purchase of the mobilehome and its contents by any party will require its removal from Dominguez Hills Estates
Name of Owner: **William E Murray Elizabeth R Murray**
Amount Due: \$19,012.07
Dated at Sunnyvale, California
June 17, 2022

By: JUDY C. TSAI
Attorney for Dominguez Hills Estates
710 Lakeway Drive, Suite 180
Sunnyvale, CA 94085
(408) 775-8848

The Downey Patriot 6/23/22, 6/30/22

NOTICES

Declaration of Nationality

In God We Trust. Declaration of Nationality. Notice of White Flag Surrender. Notice of Special Appearance: I am that I am: "Todd Ragan Mitchell Jr.", in full life, in propria persona, sui juris, in solo proprio, Haqdar by natural issue, the beneficiary and heir of: "MITCHELL JR, TODD RAGAN", corp.sole Dba.: "MITCHELL JR, TODD RAGAN", corp.sole Dba.: "TODD RAGAN MITCHELL JR®", "MITCHELL JR, TODD RAGAN", "TODD R MITCHELL JR®", "TODD MITCHELL JR®", "TODD MITCHELL JR", "TODD RAGAN MITCHELL JR EL®", "ALI AZAD EL®", "Raegan Aniya Taylor Mitchell", the beneficiary and heir of: "MITCHELL RAEGAN ANIYA TAYLOR", corp.sole Dba.: "RAEGAN A MITCHELL", "RAEGAN A T MITCHELL", "RAEGAN MITCHELL", "RAEGAN ANIYA TAYLOR MITCHELL EL", "ANIYA AZAD EL". Having reached the age of majority, being aboriginal to the northwestern and southwestern shores of Africa, the Arabian Islands, the continental Americas, being duly certified, hereby affirms to declare my tribal intention to be as my pedigree subscribes, as a: Aninyunwya Moorish American Moslem Nationals, but not a citizen of the United States. I declare permanent, unalienable, allegiance to The Moorish Empire, Estados Unidos, Societas Republicae Ea Al Maurikanus Estados, The Constitution for the United States of America, Article III Section 2, The Lieber Code, Hague Conventions of 1899 & 1907, The Geneva Conventions, [United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples], and all natural laws governing moors, I hereby declare and proclaim my nationality in good faith as a: Aninyunwya Moorish American Moslem Nationals. I am that I am: " Todd Ragan Mitchell Jr.", from this day forward, in harmony with my Nationality / Status / Jurisdiction, shall be known as: "Raegan Aniya Taylor Mitchell", from this day forward, in harmony with our Nationality / Status / Jurisdiction, shall be known as: "aniya azad el". Notice of White Flag Surrender: as "hors de combat", pursuant to The Geneva Conventions, Article 4, as a minister of The Moorish Empire, and Internationally Protected Person. Notice: LAWS AND CUSTOMS OF WAR ON LAND (HAGUE, IV), ARTICLE: 32, 45, 46, & 47. Notice of Claim pursuant to Public Law 87-846, TITLE II, SEC. 203. Notice of Bailment Merging of Legal Title with Equitable Title: This order is presented, legal and equitable title, and to reserve all rights, title and interest, in the property, Re: "Health, California Department of ". DBA: STATE OF CALIFORNIA: STATE FILE NUMBER, 104-73-217696: " MITCHELL JR, TODD RAGAN", corp.sole Dba.: "TODD RAGAN MITCHELL JR", "TODD MITCHELL JR®", "TODD RAGAN MITCHELL JR®", "TODD RAGAN MITCHELL JR", "TODD MITCHELL JR®", "TODD MITCHELL JR", "TODD RAGAN MITCHELL JR EL®", "ALI AZAD EL®" & "Health, California Department of ". DBA: STATE OF CALIFORNIA: STATE FILE NUMBER, 1052008346508: "RAEGAN A MITCHELL", "RAEGAN A T MITCHELL", "RAEGAN MITCHELL", "RAEGAN ANIYA TAYLOR MITCHELL EL", "ANIYA AZAD EL", " is as a special deposit order, conveyed in Sunray Trust "All property of the same issue and amount, in like kind and specie, is to be returned fully intact, as a Special Deposit order of the Depositor / Beneficiary / Bailor / Donor / Principal / Creditor / Guardian: " ali azad el", nom deguerre: " Todd Ragan Mitchell Jr.", as a special deposit order in lawful money.

NOTICE OF HEARING

Date: AUGUST 12, 2022, Time: 10:30 a.m., Department: C, Room: 312
The address of the court is 12720 NORWALK BLVD., NORWALK, CA 90650
A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once a week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in the county, **DOWNEY PATRIOT** JUNE 8, 2022
JUDGE MARGARET M. BERNAL
Judge of the Superior Court
Petitioner or Attorney for Petitioner
CINDY YVONNE SCHAFFER
9834 ARKANSAS ST
BELLFLOWER, CA 90706
(562) 341-4454
Cschafer88@gmail.com

The Downey Patriot 6/16/22, 6/23/22, 6/30/22, 7/7/22

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

CASE NUMBER: 22NWCP00212
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner IN RE CINDY YVONNE SCHAFFER filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
Present name (1) CINDY YVONNE SCHAFFER to Proposed name (1) CINDY YVONNE LAKOTA
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.
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The Downey Patriot 6/16/22, 6/23/22, 6/30/22, 7/7/22

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

CASE NUMBER: 22NWCP00212
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner SHERRILL ANN MACQUARRIE filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
Present name (1) SHERRILL ANN MACQUARRIE to Proposed name (1) SHERRILL ANN REDD
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: JULY 22, 2022, Time: 10:30 a.m., Department: C, Room: 312
The address of the court is 12720 NORWALK BLVD., NORWALK, CA 90650
A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once a week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in the county, **THE DOWNEY PATRIOT** MAY 24, 2022
JUDGE MARGARET M. BERNAL
Judge of the Superior Court
Petitioner or Attorney for Petitioner
SHERRILL ANN MACQUARRIE IN PRO PER
10035 IRVING GROVE DR.
DOWNEY, CA 90241
(562) 965-0728

The Downey Patriot 6/2/22, 6/9/22, 6/16/22, 6/23/22

PROBATE

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF ALLEN GREGORY DECK aka ALLEN GREGORY DECK Case No. 22STPB05411
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of ALLEN DECK aka ALLEN GREGORY DECK
A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by Barbara Staley in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.
THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that Barbara Staley be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.
THE PETITION requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.

The Downey Patriot 6/2/22, 6/9/22, 6/16/22, 6/23/22

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

CASE NUMBER: 22MCP00106
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner LEAH LEANNE MONTEJANO-BARKER filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
Present name (1) LEAH LEANNE MONTEJANO-BARKER to Proposed name

(1) LEAH LEANNE BARKER
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: SEPTEMBER 1, 2022, Time: 8:30 a.m., Department: A, Room: 904
The address of the court is 200 WEST COMPTON BLVD., 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** JUNE 20, 2022
JUDGE THOMAS D. LONG
Judge of the Superior Court
Petitioner or Attorney for Petitioner
LEAH LEANNE MONTEJANO-BARKER
7118 CORTLAND AVE.
PARAMOUNT, CA 90723
(562) 341-8337
Lb10360@yahoo.com

The Downey Patriot 6/23/22, 6/30/22, 7/7/22, 7/14/22

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

CASE NUMBER: 22NWCP00230
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner IN RE CINDY YVONNE SCHAFFER filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
Present name (1) CINDY YVONNE SCHAFFER to Proposed name (1) CINDY YVONNE LAKOTA
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: AUGUST 12, 2022, Time: 10:30 a.m., Department: C, Room: 312
The address of the court is 12720 NORWALK BLVD., NORWALK, CA 90650
A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once a week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in the county, **DOWNEY PATRIOT** JUNE 8, 2022
JUDGE MARGARET M. BERNAL
Judge of the Superior Court
Petitioner or Attorney for Petitioner
CINDY YVONNE SCHAFFER
9834 ARKANSAS ST
BELLFLOWER, CA 90706
(562) 341-4454
Cschafer88@gmail.com

The Downey Patriot 6/23/22, 6/30/22, 7/7/22, 7/14/22

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

CASE NUMBER: 22NWCP00212
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Petitioner or Attorney for Petitioner
SHERRILL ANN MACQUARRIE IN PRO PER
10035 IRVING GROVE DR.
DOWNEY, CA 90241
(562) 965-0728

The Downey Patriot 6/16/22, 6/23/22, 6/30/22, 7/7/22

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CASE NUMBER: 22NWCP00212
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(562) 965-0728

The Downey Patriot 6/2/22, 6/9/22, 6/16/22, 6/23/22

PROBATE

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF ALLEN GREGORY DECK aka ALLEN GREGORY DECK Case No. 22STPB05411
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of ALLEN DECK aka ALLEN GREGORY DECK
A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by Barbara Staley in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.
THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that Barbara Staley be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.
THE PETITION requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.

The Downey Patriot 6/2/22, 6/9/22, 6/16/22, 6/23/22

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To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of ALLEN DECK aka ALLEN GREGORY DECK
A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by Barbara Staley in the Superior Court of California, County

Paging Dr. Frischer...

By Dr. Alan Frischer

This may surprise you: Diverticulosis is seen in some 30%-50% of adults over the age of 60. It is usually found in the lining of the sigmoid colon, on the left side of the abdomen, near the entrance to the rectum. It's important to know that treatment for this condition has recently changed.

Diverticulosis means that diverticula are present.



Diverticula are pockets of mucous membrane which have been pushed out through weak points in the muscle. Diverticulitis is when one or more of these pouches become inflamed, and in some cases infected.

Diverticulitis can lead to bleeding, abscesses, perforation of the colon, strictures, and fistulas. It can cause severe abdominal pain, fever, nausea and change in the stool. However, most of those with diverticulosis do not have symptoms.

The old traditional method of managing diverticulitis was to prescribe routine antibiotics for everybody. This practice is on the way out. The American College of Physicians has developed new guidelines which are based on evidence that diverticulitis is indeed a disease of inflammation, but does not always include infection.

Therefore, some patients can forgo antibiotics, recover just as well, and have less antibiotic exposure. (Of course, it's not always easy for a doctor to send a patient home without an antibiotic, when the longtime rule has been to prescribe one.)

We now look at diverticular disease on a spectrum, beginning with

asymptomatic diverticulosis. Diverticula without inflammation are common. Next on the spectrum is mild diverticulitis, which involves inflammation of a small area of the intestine. More severe diverticulitis carries with it more intense inflammation and possible abscess formation, and comes with a risk of perforation and death.

Antibiotics should be used, per these new guidelines, when the patient has complicated diverticulitis, other chronic conditions, is immunosuppressed, or has signs of a more systemic disease process. Antibiotics may also be used if symptoms last for more than five days, or if the patient cannot eat without making

the symptoms worse.

Diverticulosis is usually a result of consuming a low-fiber diet, and from straining when having a bowel movement. Lifestyle changes that may help prevent future attacks are highly effective and very straightforward:

- Cut down on red meat
- Consume more dietary fiber
- Increase physical activity
- Work towards a normal body mass index (BMI)

·Do not smoke.

As always, I urge you to discuss prevention and treatment with your physician.

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

Lightning kills woman, two dogs in Pico Rivera

PICO RIVERA - A woman and her two dogs were fatally struck by lightning in Pico Rivera Wednesday as a storm front pushed across the Southland and led to power outages and beach closures.

The lightning strike in Pico Rivera occurred around 8:50 a.m. when the woman was walking along the San Gabriel River, according to the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department. The woman and her dogs both died at the scene.

"There's a one-in-a-million chance of something like this happening, and it happened," Los Angeles County sheriff's Sgt. Patrick Morey told the Los Angeles Times.

According to the county fire department, the woman was struck near Mines and Rimbank avenues.

It was a tragic turn in a morning peppered by scattered thunderstorms that made for a damp morning commute in some areas, sparked at least one small brush fire and caused lighting strikes that forced temporary closures of Orange County beaches in Newport Beach and Laguna Beach.

All beaches in Long Beach were closed late Wednesday morning due to a "significant lightning strike within the breakwall," according to the city Fire Department.

The Pasadena Fire Department reported several "lightning-related palm tree fires" Wednesday morning, and by mid-morning was responding to a blaze above Eaton Canyon.

"Please try to stay indoors during this unstable weather and have your disaster supplies ready if you lose power," the fire department warned residents.

There were scattered reports of power outages around the Southland as the morning continued and isolated storms erupted. At least one small brush fire in the Sunland area was believed to have

been sparked by a lightning strike.

A strong storm cell developed early Wednesday morning over the Pasadena area, prompting the National Weather Service to warn of potentially gusty winds, lightning and even hail in parts of the San Gabriel Valley.

The weather service also reported lightning strikes and thunderstorms Wednesday morning over Mount Wilson, with the system moving northwest covering Monrovia, Angeles Crest Highway between Mount Wilson and Mount Waterman, Sierra Madre, Arcadia and Duarte. The

NWS recorded wind gusts reaching 51 mph on Mount Wilson, and up to 66 mph in the Lake Hughes area.

By daybreak, forecasters said the eastern portion of the county had been "overrun with showers and (thunderstorms)."

According to the NWS, the main storm front over Los Angeles County stretched from Long Beach through the Antelope Valley, with isolated storm cells developing and dissipating along the front, dropping roughly a quarter-inch of rain at a time and even dropping some small hail.

POET'S CORNER

Things Haunt

California is a desert and I am a woman inside it. The road ahead bends sideways and I lurch within myself. I'm full of ugly feelings, awful thoughts, bad dreams of doom, and so much love left unspoken.

Is mercury in retrograde? someone asks. Someone answers, No, it's something else like that though. Something else like that.

That should be my name. When you ask me am I really a woman, a human being, a coherent identity, I'll say No, I'm something else like that though.

A true citizen of planet earth closes their eyes and says what they are before the mirror. A good person gives and asks for nothing in return. I give and I ask for only one thing—

Hear me. Hear me. Hear me. Hear me. Hear me. Hear me. Bear the weight of my voice and don't forget—things haunt. Things exist long after they are killed.

Joshua Jennifer Espinoza, Poem a Day, 2018, The Academy of American Poets

A transgender woman and poet in living in Riverside CA, Espinoza prefers the pronoun she. "I started writing to make sense of a life," she says. "I want to live in a world where people have room to become themselves without fear of violence." Poetry Matters is curated by Lorine Parks.

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