



## THE DOWNEY PATRIOT HAS MOVED

Effective Feb. 1, The Downey Patriot's new office is located at: 10927 Downey Ave., Suite C, Downey, CA 90241

**PAGING DR. FRISCHER**  
Virtual reality's growing prominence in medicine

SEE PAGE 2

**FEATURE**  
Getting to know school board member Tyrone Conde

SEE PAGE 3

# Accused killer of beloved bishop charged with murder

David O'Connell, the former associate pastor at St. Raymond's Catholic Church in Downey, was killed last weekend inside his home.

By City News Service

**HACIENDA HEIGHTS** — A man accused of gunning down Los Angeles Catholic Auxiliary Bishop David O'Connell at his home in Hacienda Heights was charged Wednesday with murder.

Carlos Medina, 61, was arrested Monday in connection with the Saturday shooting of the 69-year-old bishop. Medina is the husband of O'Connell's housekeeper, and he also performed handyman work at the bishop's home, Sheriff Robert Luna said earlier this week.

District Attorney George Gascón said the murder charge against Medina includes an allegation of the personal use of a firearm, meaning Medina faces 35 years to life in prison if convicted.

Medina appeared briefly in court in downtown Los Angeles Wednesday afternoon, but his arraignment was postponed at the defense's request until March 22. He remains jailed in lieu of \$2.03 million.

"I know this has been a shock for the community," Gascón said. "It was obviously a very tragic event, but I can't say enough about the professionalism and the work of the men and women of the L.A. County Sheriff's Department and the way they conducted this investigation, professionally and expeditiously."

O'Connell was found shot just before 1 p.m. Saturday at his home in the 1500 block of Janlu Avenue, near Turnbull Canyon Road. Sheriff's officials confirmed Sunday that his death was being investigated as a homicide. Luna said it was still being determined exactly when O'Connell was shot.

Luna said there were no signs of forced entry into O'Connell's home, and the bishop was shot in the bedroom of his home. Gascón said O'Connell had multiple gunshot wounds.

The bishop's body was discovered when a deacon went to the home to check on him, because O'Connell was apparently late for a meeting, Luna said.

Luna said tips from the public helped lead investigators to Medina, with one tipster saying that "Medina was acting strange, irrational and made comments about the bishop owing him money."

But the sheriff stopped short of saying such a dispute led to the killing, saying it was "something that came up from one of the witnesses" -- and that investigators were still conducting interviews.

Gascón did not discuss a possible motive when he announced the murder charge during a midday news conference, saying only that the case remains under investigation. Sheriff's Lt. Michael Modica said at the news

conference that Medina made various statements after his arrest about a possible motive, but investigators found them to be largely nonsensical, leading them to believe there's no validity to the suggestion that a financial debt led to the killing.

Medina was arrested around 8:15 a.m. Monday following an hours-long standoff at his home in the 2400 block of Kenwood Avenue in Torrance. Luna said two firearms were recovered at Medina's home, and they were being tested to determine if either weapon was involved in the Saturday shooting.

Luna also said that Medina's wife was being questioned and has been "fully cooperative" with detectives. While Medina was the husband of the bishop's housekeeper, Medina himself had also "previously done work at the bishop's residence," although it was unclear when, according to the sheriff.

Luna said Medina drove a dark-colored compact SUV similar to one seen on surveillance video pulling into O'Connell's driveway and leaving, although it was unsure when that occurred.

Luis Lopez was a neighbor of Medina's and told ABC7 that Medina seemed like a good man and "looked like he wouldn't hurt a fly."

O'Connell was a native of Ireland and had been a priest and later a bishop in Los Angeles for 45 years, Archbishop José Gomez said in a statement released following his death.

"He was a peacemaker with a heart for the poor and the immigrant, and he had a passion for building a community where the sanctity and dignity of every human life was honored and protected," Gomez said.

At the time of his death, O'Connell -- widely known as "Bishop Dave" -- was vicar for the Archdiocese of Los Angeles' San Gabriel Pastoral Region, a post he had since 2015, when Pope Francis appointed him as an auxiliary bishop for the Los Angeles Archdiocese.

O'Connell had previously served as associate pastor at St. Raymond Catholic Church in Downey, St. Maria Goretti Catholic Church in Long Beach, and St. Hilary Church of Perpetual Adoration in Pico Rivera and then as pastor of St. Frances X. Cabrini, Ascension, St. Eugene and St. Michael's parishes, all in Los Angeles.

Meanwhile, many people continued to mourn O'Connell.

The L.A. City Council adjourned its meeting Tuesday in his honor, with several council members speaking about the bishop's impact on the community.

Councilwoman Monica Rodriguez said O'Connell "will be remembered as always fighting for change in the communities most impacted by violence."

Councilman Marqueece Harris-



Bishop David O'Connell was found shot to death inside his Hacienda Heights home on Saturday. O'Connell was previously an associate pastor at St. Raymond's Church.

Dawson said, "This is one of our most loving and shining angels that we've lost."

On Monday, LAPD Chief Michel Moore spoke of "an unimaginable and tragic loss of a peacemaker," adding, "may God welcome Bishop O'Connell home, a good and faithful servant. We all mourn this man's loss, and am grateful to the sheriff's department for their relentless pursuit and the community's assistance to identify the individual responsible."

State Sen. Bob Archuleta, D-Norwalk, said O'Connell was a friend of his, and offered condolences from Gov. Gavin Newsom and other state officials at a Monday afternoon news briefing with reporters.

"He served the community and went to Salesian High School in East Los Angeles to bring people together and move forward," Archuleta said.

Los Angeles County Supervisor Janice Hahn told reporters that O'Connell's death has "left me and other people from here to Ireland heartbroken. He was known to walk among gang members, the homeless and transients to bring peace to them."

Gomez was overcome with emotion at a Monday news conference as he discussed the death of his friend and colleague, calling him "a good friend to all of Los Angeles."

"He worked to show compassion to the poor, to the homeless, to the immigrant, to all those living on society's margins," Gomez said. "He was a good priest and good bishop, and a man of peace."

O'Connell was born in County Cork, Ireland. He studied for the priesthood at All Hallows College in Dublin and was ordained to serve in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles in 1979, according to Doris Benavides, associate director of media relations for the Archdiocese of Los Angeles.

As chairman of the



David O'Connell, right, with former Downey mayor Mario Guerra, who is also a Catholic deacon. "I knew him well and we would go to the orphanage in Tijuana together for many years," Guerra said, adding that O'Connell attended the dedication of the John Gately Downey bust at City Hall. "He was a true gentleman that lived truly for others."

interdiocesan Southern California Immigration Task Force, O'Connell helped coordinate the church's response to immigrant children and families from Central America in recent years. He also sponsored the enrollment of several young immigrants in Catholic schools, a number of whom have advanced to college.

He served as a member of the Priest Pension Board and on the Together in Mission Board as well as the Archdiocesan Finance Council, the archdiocese said. He was a member of the Council of Priests and a Knight of Peter Claver.

At the national level, he was chairman of the Subcommittee on the Catholic Campaign for Human Development of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

In September, O'Connell was honored with the Evangelii Gaudium Award from St. John's Seminary in Camarillo, "for his selfless service to the community and the Church in L.A.," Benavides said.

The sheriff's Homicide Bureau urged anyone with information regarding the shooting to call them at 323-890-5500 or Crime Stoppers at 800-222-8477. Tipsters can also

### Weekend at a Glance

Friday	56°	
Saturday	52°	
Sunday	58°	

### ON THIS DAY

**1836:** During the Texas war for independence, Mexican General Antonio López de Santa Anna began a siege of the Alamo, which was captured after 13 days and which became for Texans a symbol of heroic resistance.

**1870:** Mississippi was readmitted to the United States following the American Civil War.

**1886:** American chemist Charles Martin Hall produced the first samples of aluminum from the electrolysis of aluminum oxide. This caused aluminum to become the first metal to attain widespread use since the prehistoric discovery of iron.

**1903:** Cuba leased Guantánamo Bay to the United States "in perpetuity".

**1905:** The first Rotary Club was founded by Chicago attorney Paul P. Harris.

**1927:** President Calvin Coolidge signed a bill by Congress establishing the Federal Radio Commission (later replaced by the Federal Communications Commission) which was to regulate the use of radio frequencies in the United States.

**1940:** Walt Disney's animated movie "Pinocchio" was released.

**1945:** Six U.S. servicemen raised the American flag over Mount Suribachi on the island of Iwo Jima during World War II.



**1954:** The first mass inoculation of children against polio with the Salk vaccine began in Pittsburgh.

**1965:** British-born comedian Stan Laurel, of the comedy team Laurel and Hardy, died at the age of 74.

**1997:** 65 million people watched an uncensored NBC broadcast of "Schindler's List."

**1999:** TLC released its third album, "FanMail," featuring the No. 1 Billboard single "No Scrubs."

**2000:** Carlos Santana won eight Grammy Awards for his record "Supernatural," tying the record set by Michael Jackson.

**2003:** Norah Jones won all five Grammy Awards she was nominated for, including Record Of The Year and Song Of The Year for "Don't Know Why."

**Birthdays**  
"Home Improvement" star **Patricia Richardson** (72), actress and TV host **Niecy Nash** (53), actress **Emily Blunt** (40), comedian **Aziz Ansari** (40), actress **Dakota Fanning** (29), and Lakers point guard **D'Angelo Russell** (27).

# 141 school district workers accept early retirement offer

Downey Unified offered the retirement incentives as part of a cost-savings effort.

By Alex Dominguez  
Staff Writer

**DOWNEY** — More than 140 Downey Unified School District employees have accepted an

incentive plan to retire within the 2022/23 school year.

The district offered a retirement incentive benefit equal to 70% of final pay for certificated non-management employees, and 25% of final pay for certificated management, classified non-management, and classified management employees.

Workers interested had until Jan 31 to enroll in the plan with resignation letters to follow by no later than June 30.

DUSD worked with Public Agency Retirement Services (PARS) to design the Supplementary Retirement Plan (SRP), which encouraged eligible employees to retire early, with the goal to create a no-cost or

savings generation to the district by increasing the number of retirements in the current school year.

According to PARS Analysis, the district is projected to meet its goal of no-cost, and potentially could generate savings over five years.

A list of the 141 employees

who accepted the offer is not yet available as not all have been made public yet.

The district accepted the resignations at their meeting last Wednesday.

# Paging Dr. Frischer...

By Dr. Alan Frischer

Many of us have had some exposure to virtual reality; perhaps through gaming, or in an escape room. VR is now finding a home in health care. Virtual reality technology allows us to simulate a situation or experience, and to interact in a computer-generated environment. It might use 3-D goggles with a screen, or gloves that provide sensory feedback, in order to help us learn from experience in a virtual world. Take a look at some of the evolving uses of VR in medicine:

**Pain management:** VR for pain control is one of the best-studied and most-used areas. VR has been used to reduce suffering from various sources of acute and chronic pain (including labor pain) by allowing patients to be distracted from their symptoms and from the fear related to the pain. For some, VR may offer a drug free alternative for pain control, which is especially relevant during this opioid crisis. It has provided an escape into the digital world for sick and injured children. Cedars Sinai has employed a "virtualist," who evaluates whether VR might be suitable for a patient, and then tailors a prescription for the technology.

**Physical therapy:** VR has been effective in the treatment of stroke rehabilitation, Parkinson's disease, cerebral palsy, and

injuries. Using motion enabled programs, VR can reproduce physical movements and provide motivation. Patients can virtually practice real-life skills, like grocery shopping or dishwashing, and receive immediate feedback. A local skilled care facility in Downey has used a virtual bowling game and other virtual sports to get their patients moving.

**Physical fitness:** VR has been used in a number of fitness apps to encourage physical activity by making it more fun. Apps provide goals and rewards, give feedback on movement, or simply make it more enjoyable by immersing the user in a beautiful environment. I recently ran on a treadmill which allowed me to select my virtual location, and I chose to take that day's run along the Merced River.

**Mental health:** VR is used to address anxiety and trauma. Psychologists might, for example, treat someone traumatized by a car crash with virtual exposure therapy to public streets. VR has been used to treat fear of heights and other ailments and phobias, including depression and post-traumatic stress disorder. Some medical centers are using VR to help chemotherapy patients escape from the discomfort, anxiety, or boredom of treatments.

**Addiction:** VR can be useful in addiction recovery, using gradual exposure techniques alongside coaching. It uses a person's own environment to practice resisting their own common triggers, prior to encountering those triggers in the real

world. **Memory and cognition:** Studies show that VR can improve memory, cognitive, and motor function in patients with dementia.

**Increasing empathy:** Some hospitals use VR simulations to help health care providers better understand what their patients are going through. VR can simulate health conditions for ailments like dementia, Parkinson's disease, or a migraine.

**Surgery prep:** Prior to the operation, surgeons have access to 3D renderings of hearts, eyes, knee joints, and other body parts. Surgeons can use feedback gloves to mimic the buzzing of saws and drills.

**Medical training:** Current medical training has shifted from memorizing facts to imparting real-life skills, and includes problem-oriented learning and communication skills. Virtually any kind of medical situation can be simulated. This is followed by feedback and debriefing. The VR environment is more immersive, interactive, and engaging than many other educational formats, and it has the potential to profoundly change medical education.

The medical applications of VR continue to expand, as the technology is advancing quickly, costs are dropping, and devices are smaller, faster, more reliable, and more affordable. I will be paying close attention to see where this field takes us.

*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.*



# Norwalk family has two sets of 'miracle twins' in 18 months

■ Norma and David Salazar had two sets of fraternal twins born during the pandemic.

By Alex Dominguez  
Staff Writer

**NORWALK** — Compared to others, you could say that Norma and Daniel Salazar's family building has been a bit on the accelerated side.

The Norwalk couple met around 20 years ago working at the Downey Home Depot. In 2019, they would reconnect and start dating.

"We were just kind of coworkers and friends, and kept in touch here and there," said Norma. "Then we reunited three years ago."

At the time, Norma was a single foster mother to a young boy. Around the time of the couples first date, that child would return to his family. Norma would later take in two sisters, which Daniel took in stride.

The couple married in 2020.

But children of their own didn't seem to be in the cards, as Norma suffered from PCOS; a hormonal condition which causes infertility.

At least, that's what they thought.

"We ended up getting married, and then we got pregnant," said Norma. "We didn't know what we were having or anything, but by that time, the girls, they told us they would be reunited back with their parents."

It ended up being perfect timing, as Norma wasn't just pregnant; she was pregnant with twin girls.

Ramona and Camila were born in January 2021.

Considering Norma's condition, the fraternal twin sisters were



already a happy surprise.

"We thought that was it," said Norma. "We were happy with our girls."

That is until nine months later when Norma discovered she was pregnant.

Again.

With twins.

Again.

"I thought [the girls] were miracles already...What were the odds that we were going to get pregnant," said Norma.

Daniel and David were born in July 2022. If you're keeping track, that's two sets of twins, four babies, in the span of about a year and a half.

"We were completely shocked. We were overwhelmed, scared," said Norma.

Before the arrival of their boys, the family had gotten rid of most of their "twin stuff," except for their car seats.

Things have a funny way of working out though.

"Before we knew that we were having boys and twins, a woman was giving away diapers in Norwalk," said David. "When I got there, she

said 'I have a bag of clothes, do you want them?' I said, 'Yeah, I'll take them and [Norma] will go through them.' We noticed when we were going through them, it was a lot of boy clothes for doubles.

"I said, 'imagine if we have twin boys; we already have all their clothes.'"

Naturally, there comes a lot of stress with having four young babies at home all at the same time. But Norma and David praise the support they've received from family and loved ones, and they wouldn't have things any other way.

Besides, there's plenty of joy to go around too.

"We get to see them grow," said David. "Our kids are all happy; Everyone always says they're happy and well behaved. When I'm at work, I want to come home and see them."

Norma says her children are "miracles."

"The doctors were saying I may not be able to [have kids]," said Norma. "So, to me, they're all a blessing and miracle from God, because that's the only way I can explain it."

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# Downey helps battle school cafeteria fire

## From involved parent to school board member, Conde forges path with all students in mind

■ A two-alarm fire destroyed the cafeteria at Dominguez High School; its cause has not been determined.

■ Tyrone Conde reflects on his life and career, and his road to become Downey's newest school board member.

By City News Service

**COMPTON** — The campus of Manuel Dominguez High School in Compton was closed Tuesday in the aftermath of a massive fire in the cafeteria that sent large plumes of smoke into the air and kept firefighters battling flames for hours.

The fire was first reported at 7:12 p.m. Monday at the school, located at 15301 S. San Jose Ave., a Compton Fire Department dispatcher told City News Service.

It was not immediately clear what started the blaze.

A second alarm was requested at 7:37 p.m., the dispatcher said. Firefighters from the Los Angeles County and Downey fire departments provided mutual aid to the Compton Fire Department. Video from the scene showed a partial roof collapse.

Firefighters remained at the school until 3:15 a.m. Tuesday making sure all hot spots were out.

No injuries were reported.

The Compton Unified School District confirmed on Facebook that the fire was in the cafeteria and noted the school was closed Monday for the Presidents Day holiday.

Just after 11 p.m. Monday, the district announced that classes were canceled Tuesday on the advice of fire and building safety personnel.

"We are grateful that there are no reported injuries, as well as for our school and district community, who have already come together to start planning for instruction to resume," officials said.

Staff were to receive instructions as to whether and where they are to report to work and students will be able to get breakfast and lunch at William Jefferson Clinton Elementary School at 6500 E. Compton Blvd.

As Tyrone Conde enters his third month as Downey Unified's newest school board member, he reflects on the journey that led him to run for the Board of Education and how, just seven years ago, his life looked very different than what it is today.

His focus began to shift as he and his wife embarked on raising a family, with a strong desire to be present and active in their children's education.

Now as part of the Price Panther family, with a son in fourth grade and a daughter in second grade, Conde appreciates being able to participate in his kids' educational journey — in an even more impactful way — as the newly elected Board of Education member representing Trustee Area 1.

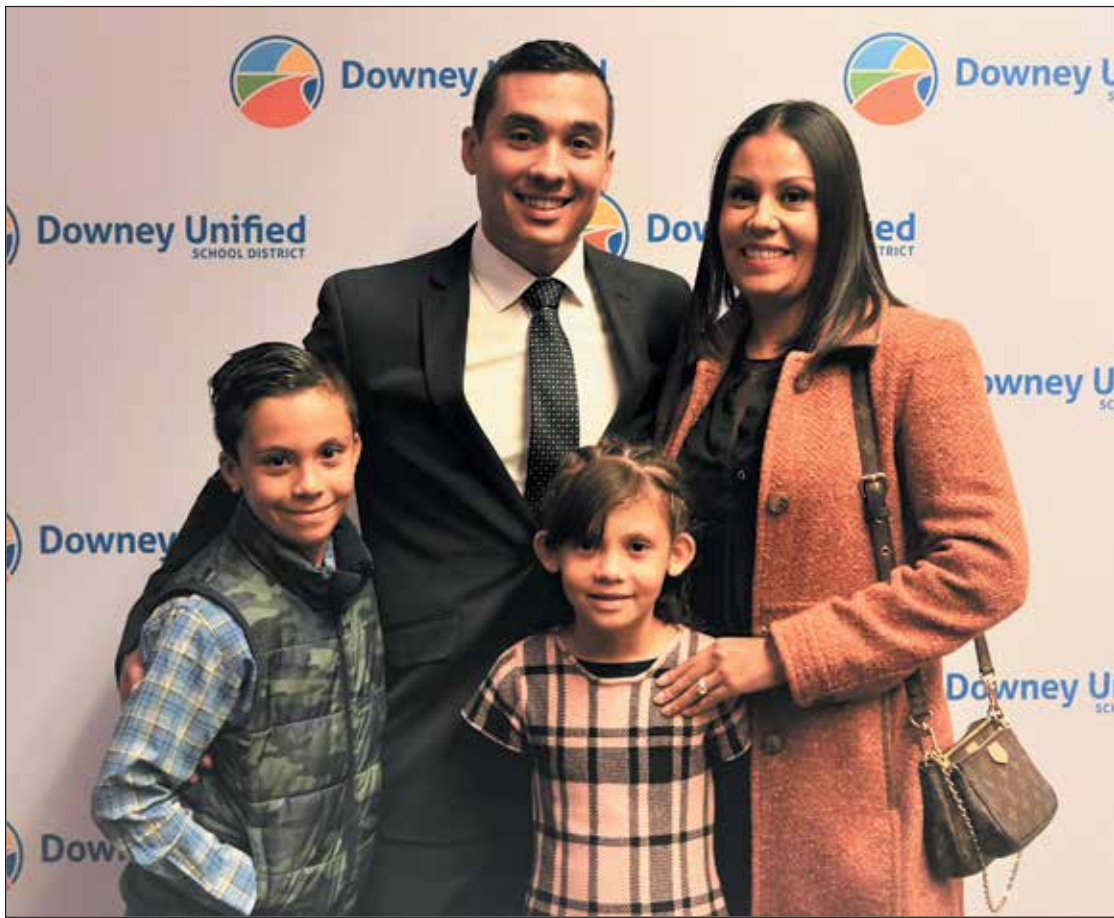
As with many parents who seek to be more involved, Conde explained that his motivation to attend school events, join the PTA, and now, hold a seat as a Board member, stemmed from wanting to be a driving force in the continuation of Downey Unified's work providing a 21st Century education, focused on character, technology integration and innovation for his two children.

"When I say our kids, it first originated from my kids," Conde shared. "As a parent, you inherently think of your own kids and what you would want and expect a teacher, school administrator, principal, superintendent, or school board to provide for your kids."

"It just got me thinking — along with the encouragement of other folks in the community who motivated me to see myself as maybe an advocate, a voice, for all our [Downey Unified] kids and to continue to make sure that we stay on the path of innovation moving forward." With that initial thought, Conde shared about the path that brought him to Downey.

A Los Angeles County native, Conde grew up east of Downtown in Boyle Heights, as one of six children — including his fraternal twin brother — along with his mother and father, both of whom immigrated from Mexico. At a young age, his interest and curiosity in how businesses engaged their customers was evident.

"I wouldn't say I was a 'normal' 12-year-old," shared Conde. "I would see a billboard or watch a commercial and ask, 'why did they



say what they said?' or 'why did they pick this music or use that tagline?'"

Wanting to connect the dots and follow his enthusiasm for the underlying mechanics of marketing, he pursued a bachelor's degree in Business, and once he had some years in the workforce, continued his studies and earned a master's in Business Administration, both degrees from California State University, Los Angeles.

As a professional, he immersed himself in all aspects of the marketing and advertisement world, including working in sales, concept design, copywriting and media planning — forging a path of success in a notoriously fast-paced industry due to something he describes as "a certain relatability to people," that is necessary when working in this field.

A career pivot into sports marketing proved to be a fruitful one when he was hired by the Los Angeles Lakers in 2007. While working his way up within the organization, the doors for massive marketing opportunities opened as the renowned NBA team reached the finals three more times and won two more championships.

During his 11 years with the Lakers, Conde rose to the position of Executive Director of Marketing

Partnerships and was privy to impactful and high-stakes career experiences.

"I was able to work on some big projects with global brands that [professionally] put me in a high-intensity level... Working with brands like Toyota, Nike, American Express, and Gatorade on marketing campaigns that we know are going to have a global reach really gave me a lot of experience in being able to manage big and stressful situations."

When asked about his time with the Lakers, Conde shared the excitement of working for the world-renowned sports franchise, without downplaying the realities of the demanding schedule, which often included working late nights and over the weekends.

It was then that Conde, with the support of his wife — whom he credits for being the catalyst and "keeping it all together" in their family — began his search for a career move that could afford him the flexibility to dedicate more time to his two children. Having already worked in marketing with Bank of America before his sports run, Conde found a new opportunity with Downey Federal Credit Union (DFCU).

Conde, who is also fluent in Spanish, has been credited for being instrumental in growing and engaging DFCU's Spanish-speaking customer base. This feat earned him a November 2020 feature in the Downey Patriot for receiving the California and Nevada Credit Union Leagues' Tomorrow's Star Award which recognizes "the achievements by young credit union professionals, ages 35 and under".

His thorough understanding of the Downey community's needs — especially around financial

knowledge and having improved and better access to banking services — gave way to the creation of DFCU's Spanish-language website. Other community-engaging efforts Conde has overseen or been a part of include the credit union's financial support of the Dia de los Muertos event in Downey, DFCU's student enrichment grants and their Financial Literacy Workshops for both children and adults.

"I think the last three years have been the most rewarding of my career," Conde happily shared about his current role. Through his professional experiences in the Downey community, Conde expressed his appreciation for the Police and Fire Departments, the staff at City Hall as well as different community organizations such as the Downey Foundation for Educational Opportunities and the Downey Chamber of Commerce.

"Working at the credit union [DFCU] has really allowed me to embed myself into the community and meet a lot of great people who want to help. People like Martha Sotetani, Linda Saldaña, and [Dr.] John Garcia, who each really have the best interest of the community in mind," shared Conde. He further stated how Sotetani and Saldaña were both pivotal in his run for School Board.

"You hear PTA, and... you're not really sure what to make of it," Conde explained about his involvement at the beginning of his children's elementary journey. "As my kids started to attend Price, I noticed that we would get notifications on what the PTA did... That's what motivated me."

Continued on page 9

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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 Mel Sanchez 562-665-4125.  
 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 351, at Furman Park, contact 562-500-5093 for more information.  
 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.  
 10:30 am: Ballroom dance class, at Downey Community Center, call 776 7270.  
 1 pm: Women's Bocce Club, at 7850 Quill Drive, call Marie Puch at 869-4366.  
 7 pm: Royal Rangers Outpost 132, at Desert Reign Church, call 562-861-6011.  
 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., 11:30 am: 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.  
 7:30 pm: Downey Elks Lodge #2020, call 803-3557.  
 1st Thurs., 6 pm, All other Thurs. 12 pm: Kiwanis Club of Downey, at Rio Hondo Events Center, 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.

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

### THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com)  
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 by Gary M. Larson

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and Rosalynn Carter.  
 other two being Margaret Taylor  
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 was the first of three First Ladies  
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## To solve our national immigration crisis, let states sponsor immigrants

By Eric Holcomb and Spencer Cox

*Eric Holcomb, a Republican, is governor of Indiana. Spencer Cox, a Republican, is governor of Utah.*

Indiana has about 220,000 open jobs right now and Utah has 107,000, according to the most recent federal data — more than 6 percent of all jobs in both states. With strong business and tax environments, we like our chances in the competition for job-seekers moving from other states. But they won't be enough to fill all of those vacancies. We also need immigrants who are ready to work and help build strong communities.

To help us do our jobs as governors, we call on Congress to end its two-decade standoff on setting immigration policy — one of its most basic duties. And, as leaders of states, we pledge to share the accountability. Though border security is a national concern, and a nonnegotiable requirement of national security in a world with drug cartels and terrorists, we believe that states should be able to sponsor whatever immigrants serve the needs of their communities. As it is, the standstill on immigration hobbles both parties and, more seriously, endangers America's long-term well-being.

A growing, bipartisan group of senators appears to share our sense of urgency. But voices on one side call for an overly liberal national immigration policy that overlooks the toll on border states and encourages too many people to take dangerous journeys that can end in legal limbo. Meanwhile, voices on the other side call immigrants a burden, against all the evidence from economics and history.

The United States became prosperous because many immigrants saw our beacon and seized the freedoms and opportunities offered here. That formula has not changed. As of 2021, for example, nearly half of America's Fortune 500 companies had been founded by an immigrant or the child of one.

At home, we see more ordinary stories of immigrants contributing to our state economies. Julian Diaz entered the United States in search of work in the 1990s. His son Juan now employs four other Hoosiers in a successful landscaping business, while Juan's son studies computer science in college. Bassam Salem, born in Egypt, came to the United States more than 30 years ago with his parents and grew up in Utah. He eventually secured permanent residency, became a U.S. citizen and founded two successful technology start-ups that have contributed millions to the economy.

Rapidly declining birthrates and accelerating retirements across the United States mean that our states' already wide job gaps will grow to crisis proportions without more families such as these — causing our growth engines to sputter. Many of these jobs require high-level skills and entrepreneurship. But states are also awash in unfilled entry-level, low-skill roles — essential in agriculture, health care and the service industries.

So, count us as supporters of immigration sponsorship by the states. Under such authority, similar to what employers and universities have already, each state could make its own decisions. They could sponsor no visas or many visas each year, up to a limit set by Congress, for the specific sorts of jobs they need to fill.

Immigration sponsorship would give states a dynamic means to attract new residents, both from a pool of new applicants from abroad and from the ranks of current asylum seekers. The policy would also expand the states' responsibility for the contributions and success of these folks in American life.

Washington would need to grant us such authority. And, of course, that's not the only task on Washington's list after two decades of punting. There is no way to approach immigration without three basic components: rules to determine who can come in and how, and who can stay; unflinching enforcement of such rules; and some kind of review-and-repeat process to assure that the United States offers paths to citizenship based on our evolving needs. The rules must include a practical approach to illegal immigrants who came to this country as children. And enforcement must include firm control of all entry points.

Perhaps it will help our representatives in Washington to know that governors and many other people back home in the states have their backs. The two of us are not unicorns, and last week's National Governors Association meeting encouraged us to believe that others will soon step up, as well.

Our southwestern states bear the brunt of today's immigration catastrophe, which forces those states to house, clothe and feed an unrelenting stream of people. But in meaningful ways, every U.S. state shares a border with the rest of the world, and all of them need investment, markets and workers from abroad. That border can remain an embarrassment, or it can become a big asset to us once again.

## Can Biden legally cancel student debt? There's no question.

By George Miller

*George Miller, a Democrat, represented California in the U.S. House from 1975 to 2015. He chaired the House Education Committee from 2007 to 2011.*

In the Supreme Court case about challenges to President Biden's student debt relief plan, three Republican former representatives — former speaker John A. Boehner (Ohio), John Kline (Minn.) and Howard P. "Buck" McKeon (Calif.) — filed a brief telling the court that "Congress" never authorized the plan.

But they certainly don't speak for every member of Congress who voted for the law undergirding Biden's plan.

During my time in Congress, I co-sponsored the Heroes Act of 2003, as well as a 2007 law making the act permanent. As I explained in my own brief in the case, the student debt relief plan is clearly authorized by the Heroes Act. A look at the text and history of the law makes that clear.

The Heroes Act gives the education secretary the authority to "waive or modify any statutory or regulatory provision" regarding federal student-loan programs as he or she "deems necessary in connection with a . . . national emergency."

That language could hardly be clearer. "Statutory or regulatory provision[s]" regarding federal student-loan programs include the rules or regulations that would ordinarily require borrowers to pay

their loan balances. By giving officials the authority to "waive" those requirements in connection with a national emergency, Congress empowered officials to say that those requirements no longer apply — that borrowers no longer need to pay off the debt they owe.

As I explain in my brief, this is how the federal government has used the word "waive" in other contexts and is consistent with how the Education Department and the courts have understood the secretary's waiver authority for decades.

And there's no question that the covid-19 pandemic is a "national emergency" within the meaning of the law. The law specifically states that a "national emergency" includes any event declared by the president to be a national emergency. President Donald Trump declared covid-19 to be a "national emergency," and Biden has extended that national emergency declaration twice.

Why did we give the education secretary this authority? We wanted to make sure that federal student-aid recipients who are affected by national emergencies "are not placed in a worse position financially in relation to that financial assistance" because of the emergency. And we thought the education secretary would be in the best position to determine how best to effectuate that goal. As a 2003 House of Representatives report stated, we wanted to provide the secretary with "flexibility" and "the authority to implement waivers deemed necessary and not yet contemplated."

The Biden student debt relief plan achieves our goal of ensuring that student-aid recipients are not put in a worse position by a national emergency. As Education Secretary Miguel Cardona explained in an analysis submitted to the court, education officials determined that the debt-relief plan was necessary to ensure that borrowers would not default on their loans when pandemic-related payment pauses — in place since March 2020 — expired at the end of 2022. While experts might disagree on this analysis, it's the exact type of assessment that the Heroes Act empowers the education secretary to make.

Sure, Congress could have gone further by *requiring* the Education Department to relieve student debt. (In fact, as Boehner, McKeon and Kline noted in their brief, I pushed for this type of measure at one point, fearing that the department would not act fast enough on its own.) But instead, we gave education officials the flexibility to decide what waivers or modifications would best protect borrowers who were affected by national emergencies. Instead of constraining the education secretary's options, as my former colleagues argue, we deliberately kept those options open.

The Supreme Court should respect the law that Congress passed and the authority that it gives the education secretary. To reach that result, the court doesn't need to address the debate among former lawmakers about what Congress "intended." It should look no further than the text of the law that my colleagues and I passed.

## For-profit healthcare is killing us

By Jim Hightower

*Jim Hightower is a talk radio host and syndicated columnist.*

No one needs another outrage to worry about, but here's one that could literally be your last worry: Our hospitals are killing us.

Not that the staffers are going room to room snuffing out patients, of course, but hospital owners and top executives are nonetheless killing thousands of ill Americans entrusted to their care. They are doing so by deliberately short-staffing their facilities and shortchanging the sick and injured people they're richly paid to serve.

At the core of this outrage is a fatal structural flaw in our health care system, namely that these are no longer "our" hospitals. Instead of being public or nonprofit entities for the common good, focused squarely on patients, hospitals today tend to be private operations controlled by corporate profiteers. Pitting patients against profits is no way to run a hospital, for it means money will ultimately rule over health (and over life itself). Ask a nurse.

These dedicated professionals are the solid pillars of American health. More than doctors and way more than administrators, nurses make a hospital function, providing the primary care and

constant, on-site monitoring that are the essence of an ethical, healthy system. Yet, thousands have already fled the work they love, another third plan to leave this year — and thousands more are going on strike.

Why? Because the profit system demands massive staff cuts, leaving way too few nurses to meet the basic needs of patients, causing burnout among nurses... and unnecessary deaths of the people they care for. A damning 2021 study revealed that forcing fewer nurses to tend to an ever-larger caseload effectively killed more than 4,000 New York hospital patients in the previous two years alone.

Yet, the corporate powers insist on treating nurses just as a cost to be cut, arguing that hospitals must have "staffing flexibility." In other words: cut nurses, raise profits.

Your doctor is out and unable to see you now. Not out for lunch or out on vacation — but out of medical practice.

America's perverse health care system, which sublimates care to the profiteering demands of the Wall Street speculators who essentially own today's system, has been driving out hordes of nurses, pharmacists... and now doctors. These practitioners take their Hippocratic Oath seriously: "First, do no harm." Yet again and again they see corporate managers of hospital chains, physician

clinics, etc. doing severe harm, routinely slashing staffing levels, eliminating services, rejecting low-income patients... and raising prices. All to prop up the profits of rich, absentee investors.

A prominent physician recently wrote that in 2021 alone, four times more doctors quit the profession than joined. He says his colleagues are demoralized by "the diseased systems for which we work." The disease is money.

The primary measure of "care" is now how much profit the system generates for its uncaring corporate owners, so one's health is largely dependent on one's wealth. The morally abominable result is that hundreds of thousands of preventable deaths are occurring each year. Yes, profit-based health care is a killer.

It's time to be blunt: For-profit health care is the creation of profiteers and the politicians they buy. It's insane to let their greed dictate the allocation and quality of this essential human need. Luckily, a better way is right in front of us: Medicare. This enormously popular public program of universal coverage for each and every American over 65 has proven to be an effective and fair system that is far cheaper and much, much more caring than Wall Street's privatized scheme. So, let's eliminate the profiteers by extending Medicare to all of us — every woman, man and child in our society. To help, go to: [ourrevolution.com/issues](http://ourrevolution.com/issues).

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### Fund ideas, not pet projects

Dear Editor:

Now that our established City Council has established their moral superiority and exiled Catherine Alvarez - and by no means am I an advocate for her - can they please redirect the city's money to more pressing issues?

That's not to say build a statue of the Carpenters; please Mayor Pro Tem Mario Trujillo, do not go overspending on a relic of pop music. Instead, fund ideas.

It begins with the stoppage of prioritizing restaurants that cater to our demographic, being, I'm sorry to say, closing in on senior-hood. We get it, it pays. Still, they're exiling our future.

Downey is genuinely fortunate to host a variety of youth with a lot of vision.

This city has so many young people with ideas and motives, not just the ones whose parents already own the restaurants but the ones who can't afford to lease an overpriced location, instead finding it easier to move away to neighboring cities or keep their businesses strictly online. Hear me out: allocate what the city council is overpaying its city manager, or third police chief, or whatever money they may be embezzling, into more productive programs that'll allow locals, such as myself and my generation

to kick-start their ideas in this great city of Downey.

Thousands of people drive by us every day with no reason to take the exits off our two main freeways other than to overspend on alcohol, eat at over twenty different Mexican restaurants, or drop in on the thousands of Starbucks we have.

If the city council wants to remain impactful and relevant, they need to trust the youth; they need selfless for once, allow us, and allow them to share their ideas, to apply for grants they can and should offer. Every time I read this newspaper, I see all the money they don't know how to spend and all the insignificant issues they're addressing.

I guarantee they'll receive a plethora of fresh innovative ideas that will guarantee a new crowd of youth into this city and make Downey a staple on the map. And yes, more money in the long run.

Although it is doubtful they'll bat an eye at this, the fact remains, they all need to do more for the community. All of the community.

**Julio Rayuela**  
Downey





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**YARD SALE**

**ESTATE SALE**  
Sunday February 26th 1pm-5pm.  
EVERYTHING MUST GO.  
**7141 Cole St., Downey 90242**

**CASE NUMBER: 23NWCP00040**  
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner MARIA MELANIA RINCON filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:  
Present name (1) MARIA MELANIA RINCON to Proposed name (1) MELANIA RINCON 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: **APRIL 5, 2023, 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, **DOWNY PATRIOT** FEBRUARY 3, 2023  
JUDGE OLIVIA ROSALES  
Judge of the Superior Court  
Petitioner or Attorney for Petitioner **MARIA MELANIA RINCON**  
**9120 BEVERLY RD. PICO RIVERA, CA 90660**  
**(619) 251-5132**  
melanierincon@yahoo.com

grant the authority.  
A HEARING on the petition will be held on March 17, 2023 at 8:30 AM in Dept. No. 9 located at 111 N. Hill St., Los Angeles, CA 90012.  
IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.  
IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.  
YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.  
**Attorney for petitioner:**  
**KWI YONG LEE, ESQ.**  
SBN 249693  
LAW OFFICE OF  
KWI YONG LEE  
4220 ADMIRABLE DRIVE  
RANCHO PALOS VERDES CA 90275  
CN994209 RENAULT Feb 16, 23, Mar 2, 2023

**The Downey Patriot**  
2/23/23, 3/2/23, 3/9/23

**NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF CURTIS MYERS aka CURTIS W. MYERS**  
Case No. 22STPB09008  
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of CURTIS MYERS aka CURTIS W. MYERS  
A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by Cathy Myers in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.  
THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that Cathy Myers be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.  
THE PETITION requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.  
THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.  
A HEARING on the petition will be held on March 6, 2023 at 8:30 AM in Dept. No. 4 located at 111 N. Hill St., Los Angeles, CA 90012.  
IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.  
IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.  
YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.  
**Attorney for petitioner:**  
**DANIEL J WILSON ESQ**  
SBN 106487  
WILSON & WILSON  
8141 E 2ND STREET  
STE 501  
DOWNEY CA 90241  
CN993975 MYERS Feb 16, 23, Mar 2, 2023

creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California Statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California Law.  
YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.  
Attorney for petitioner:  
**Christina D. Bennett, Esq., SBN 251842 ; Fred S. Peters, Esq., SBN: 269419 Pyka Lenhardt Schnaider Dawkins 14701 Myford Rd. Suite B-2 Tustin, CA 92780 (714) 835-9011 (714) 667-7806 cbennett@plsdlaw.com; fpeters@plsdlaw.com**  
Petitioner, **Andrea Ysais Chavez**

**FEDERAL CREDIT UNION, OR A CHECK DRAWN BY A STATE OR FEDERAL SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATION, SAVINGS ASSOCIATION, OR SAVINGS BANK SPECIFIED IN SECTION 5102 OF THE FINANCIAL CODE AND AUTHORIZED TO DO BUSINESS IN THIS STATE; BEHIND THE FOUNTAIN LOCATED IN CIVIC CENTER PLAZA, 400 CIVIC CENTER PLAZA, POMONA, CA 91766** all right, title and interest conveyed to and now held by it under said Deed of Trust in the property situated in said County and State described as: **MORE ACCURATELY DESCRIBED IN SAID DEED OF TRUST.** The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: **3626 VIRGINIA ST, LYWOOD, CA 90262.** The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. Said sale will be held, but without covenant or warranty, express or implied, regarding title, possession, condition, or encumbrances, including fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust, to pay the remaining principal sums of the note(s) secured by said Deed of Trust. The total amount of the unpaid balance of the obligation secured by the property to be sold and reasonable estimated costs, expenses and advances at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale is: **\$359,693.70** If the Trustee is unable to convey title for any reason, the successful bidder's sole and exclusive remedy shall be the return of monies paid to the Trustee, and the successful bidder shall have no further recourse. The beneficiary under said Deed of Trust heretofore executed and delivered to the undersigned a written Declaration of Default and Demand for Sale, and a written Notice of Default and Election to Sell. The undersigned or its predecessor caused said Notice of Default and Election to Sell to be recorded in the county where the real property is located. **NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS:** If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the court recorder's office or

a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. **NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER:** The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgage, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call (844) 477-7869 or visit this Internet Web site **WWW.STOXPOSTING.COM**, using the file number assigned to this case **102892-CA.** Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. **NOTICE TO TENANT:** Effective January 1, 2021, you may have a right to purchase this property after the trustee auction pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. If you are an "eligible tenant buyer," you can purchase the property if you match the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. If you are an "eligible bidder," you may be able to purchase the property if you exceed the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. There are three steps to exercising this right of purchase. First, 48 hours after the date of the trustee sale, you can call (855) 313-3319, or visit this internet website **www.clearreconcorp.com**, using the file number assigned to this case **102892-CA** to find the date on which the trustee's sale was held, the amount of the last and highest bid, and the address of the trustee. Second, you must send a written notice of intent to place a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 15 days after the trustee's sale. Third, you must submit a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 45 days after the trustee's sale. If you think you may qualify as an "eligible tenant buyer" or "eligible bidder," you should consider contacting an attorney or appropriate real estate professional immediately for advice regarding this potential right to purchase. **FOR SALES INFORMATION:** (844) 477-7869 CLEAR RECON CORP 8880 Rio San Diego Drive, Suite 725 San Diego, California 92108

**The Downey Patriot**  
2/9/23, 2/16/23, 2/23/23, 3/2/23

**CN994209**  
**The Downey Patriot**  
2/16/23, 2/23/23, 3/2/23

**The Downey Patriot**  
2/23/23, 3/2/23, 3/9/23

**TRUSTEE SALES**

**T.S. No. 102892-CA APN: 6175-015-006 NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE IMPORTANT NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST, DATED 11/16/2006. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER ON 4/5/2023 AT 10:30 AM, CLEAR RECON CORP, as duly appointed trustee under and pursuant to Deed of Trust recorded 11/22/2006 as Instrument No. 06 2594380 of Official Records in the office of the County Recorder of Los Angeles County, State of CALIFORNIA executed by: ADOLFO F. COTA AND JANIE COTA, HUSBAND AND WIFE, AS JOINT TENANTS WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH, CASHIER'S CHECK DRAWN ON A STATE OR NATIONAL BANK, A CHECK DRAWN BY A STATE OR**

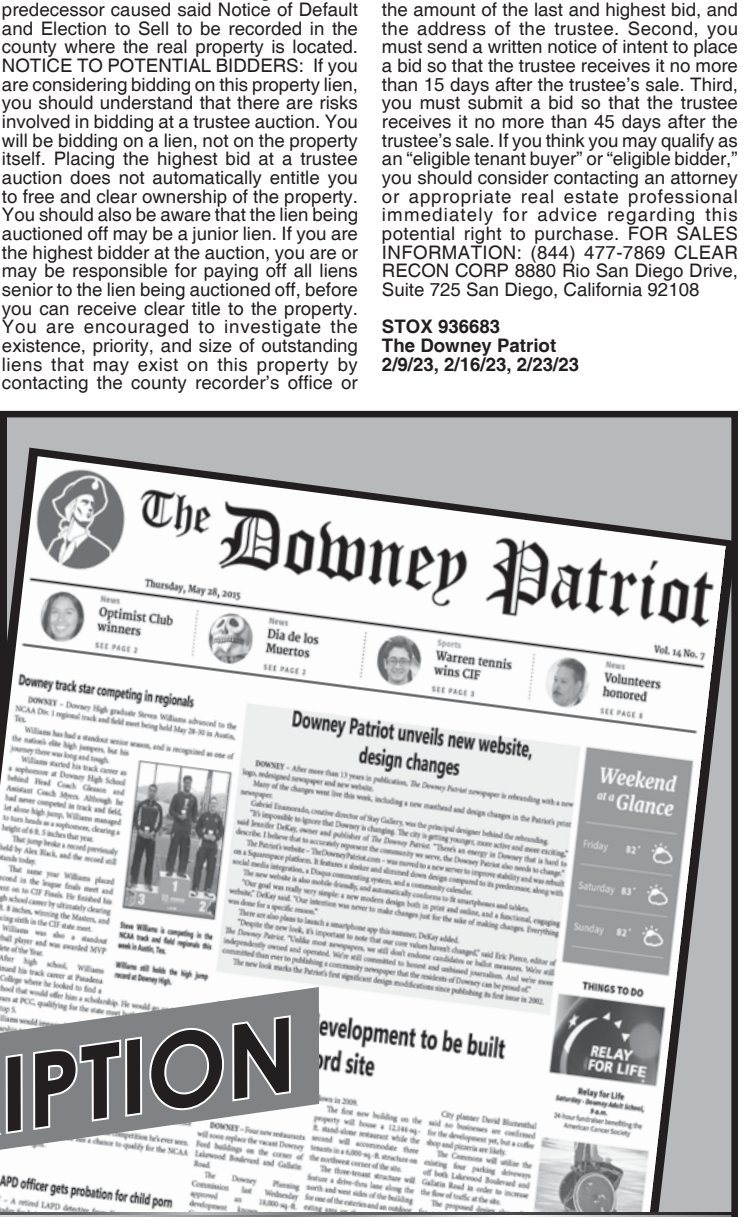
**STOX 936683**  
**The Downey Patriot**  
2/9/23, 2/16/23, 2/23/23

**SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**  
CASE NUMBER 20CCAD0029  
CITATION FREEDOM FROM PARENTAL CUSTODY AND CONTROL (ABANDONMENT) (Re: ADOPTION)  
In the Matter of:  
EFREN GUERRERO, Minor(s)  
A person(s) who should be declared free from the custody and control of his/her (their) parent or parents.  
TO: JOSE EFREN GUERRERO and to all persons claiming to be the father or mother of said minor or person(s) above named.  
By order of this Court you are hereby cited and (required to) (may) appear before the Judge Presiding in Department 406 of the above entitled court, located at Children's Court 201 Centre Plaza Drive, Monterey Park, CA 91754 on MARCH 28, 2023, at 10:30 a.m. of that day, then and there to show cause, if any you have, why said person should not be declared free from the control of his/her (their) parents according to the petition on file herein.  
You are hereby notified of the provisions of Family Code 7860 which provide the judge shall advise the minor and the parents, if present, of the right to have counsel present. The Court may appoint counsel to represent the minor whether or not the minor is able to afford counsel, and if they are unable to afford counsel, shall appoint counsel to represent the parents.  
The petition filed herein is for the purpose of freeing the subject child for placement for adoption.  
Dated: 01/05/2023  
SHERRI R. CARTER, Executive Officer/Clerk of Court, By: T. Hernandez, Deputy  
JESSICA B. CHA, CFLS (SBN 248071)  
LAW OFFICES OF J.CHA & ASSOCIATES  
1245 CABRILLO PARK DRIVE  
SANTA ANA, CA 92701  
T: 949-423-6933  
ATTORNEY FOR PETITIONERS:  
MARIA ERNESTINA PADILLA  
AND JESSE JOHN PADILLA  
**The Downey Patriot**  
2/23/23, 3/2/23, 3/9/23, 3/16/23

**NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF IRENE A. DIAZ-ERAS aka IRENE A. DIAZ**  
Case No. 22STPB11310  
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of IRENE A. DIAZ-ERAS aka IRENE A. DIAZ  
A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by David Diaz and Christina Diaz in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.  
THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that David Diaz and Christina Diaz be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.  
THE PETITION requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.  
THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.  
A HEARING on the petition will be held on April 27, 2023 at 8:30 AM in Dept. No. 9 located at 111 N. Hill St., Los Angeles, CA 90012.  
IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.  
IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.  
YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.  
**Attorney for petitioner:**  
**DANIEL J WILSON ESQ**  
SBN 106487  
WILSON & WILSON  
8141 E 2ND STREET  
STE 501  
DOWNEY CA 90241  
CN992618 DIAZ Feb 23, Mar 2, 9, 2023

**NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF ANDREA YSAIS CHAVEZ**  
Case No. 22STPB07581  
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of TOMAS CHAVEZ  
A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by: ANDREA YSAIS CHAVEZ in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES  
THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that ANDREA YSAIS CHAVEZ be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.  
THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.  
A HEARING on the petition will be held on MARCH 24, 2023 AT 8:30 A.M. in Dept. 67 Room N/A located at SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, 111 N. HILL STREET, LOS ANGELES, CA 90012  
IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.  
IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent

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**PROBATE**

**NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF FRANK RENAULT**  
Case No. 23STPB01512  
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of FRANK RENAULT  
A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by Lorraine Fontes in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.  
THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that Lorraine Fontes be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.  
THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not

**NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF ANDREA YSAIS CHAVEZ**  
Case No. 22STPB07581  
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of TOMAS CHAVEZ  
A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by: ANDREA YSAIS CHAVEZ in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES  
THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that ANDREA YSAIS CHAVEZ be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.  
THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.  
A HEARING on the petition will be held on MARCH 24, 2023 AT 8:30 A.M. in Dept. 67 Room N/A located at SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, 111 N. HILL STREET, LOS ANGELES, CA 90012  
IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.  
IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent

**NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF ANDREA YSAIS CHAVEZ**  
Case No. 22STPB07581  
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of TOMAS CHAVEZ  
A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by: ANDREA YSAIS CHAVEZ in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES  
THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that ANDREA YSAIS CHAVEZ be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.  
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A HEARING on the petition will be held on MARCH 24, 2023 AT 8:30 A.M. in Dept. 67 Room N/A located at SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, 111 N. HILL STREET, LOS ANGELES, CA 90012  
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IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent

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A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by: ANDREA YSAIS CHAVEZ in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES  
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A HEARING on the petition will be held on MARCH 24, 2023 AT 8:30 A.M. in Dept. 67 Room N/A located at SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, 111 N. HILL STREET, LOS ANGELES, CA 90012  
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IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent

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A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by: ANDREA YSAIS CHAVEZ in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES  
THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that ANDREA YSAIS CHAVEZ be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.  
THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.  
A HEARING on the petition will be held on MARCH 24, 2023 AT 8:30 A.M. in Dept. 67 Room N/A located at SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, 111 N. HILL STREET, LOS ANGELES, CA 90012  
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THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that ANDREA YSAIS CHAVEZ be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.  
THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.  
A HEARING on the petition will be held on MARCH 24, 2023 AT 8:30 A.M. in Dept. 67 Room N/A located at SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, 111 N. HILL STREET, LOS ANGELES, CA 90012  
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IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent

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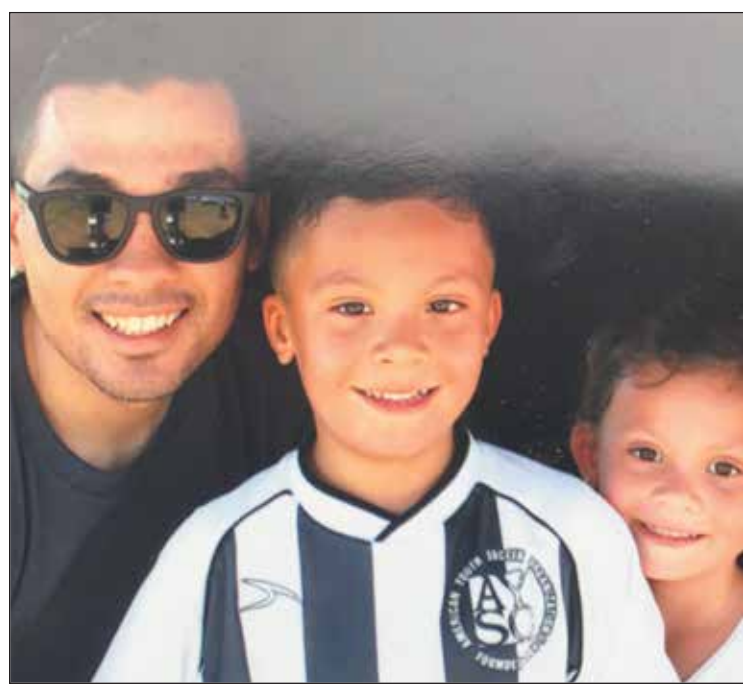


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# Conde never intended to be an elected official

Continued from page 3

The PTA's actions were directly correlated to some of the positive educational experiences that my kids were having. So, we began attending events and meetings to get to know the parents behind the scenes."

One of the people the Condes would come to be familiar with was current Board member Linda Saldaña, who also has children attending Price Elementary. "We crossed paths a good amount at the Price PTA. Linda is very involved."

Making the jump from involved parent to running for School Board, Conde shared that getting to know former Board Member Sodetani was inspiring and encouraging.

"You don't have to be around Martha more than a minute to realize how much she cares deeply about our kids and our schools." Even confessing to asking himself if he could be "as invested as Martha was," he shared that having several conversations with Sodetani ultimately gave him the confidence to overcome any apprehensions he had about trying to fill his predecessor's shoes. He instead was motivated to see himself as a voice on the Board of Education to provide continued stability, high expectations, and ultimately further strengthen the work the Board has already begun.

"There's been a lot of work done [by Downey Unified] and they deserve a lot of credit. One example that comes to mind is the gaming area. The high schools [Downey and Warren] are very competitive in gaming. And that's trickling down to the middle schools. It even trickles down in my mind to things like Innovation Labs and Robotics in our elementary schools," Conde shared. "I don't think it's all about gaming and technology but, whom are we kidding? That's where the world has been going. That's where a lot of jobs are and where a lot of upward innovation comes from... Whether it's in the medical field, teaching, engineering industry or mechanics."

"I feel like as a Board [of Education] and a Board member, it's our job to make sure that we are in constant innovation mode... There's a sweet spot for innovating at the proper pace, for introducing ideas at the proper pace, and making sure that we have the wherewithal to implement them properly... and that is my main goal now on the Board - to keep things moving forward at the right pace."

The Condes - now with a few years of experience as members of the Price Panther family - are embracing all a Downey Unified elementary school experience has to offer. "My son is in Robotics, and he is currently training and trying out for the Carnival of Champions team," Conde explained, while also proudly sharing how his daughter was very much looking forward to joining the Gardening Club in the third grade.

As Conde concludes with some reflection on his short time on the Board and the years to come, he expressed, "I have all the motivation in the world to make sure that all our kids in the district get what I want and expect my kids to have and experience. That honestly and genuinely keeps me motivated to ask questions and make sure that we stay focused."

It's evident that although Conde began this endeavor with the goal to support and positively affect his two children's education, as he moves forward as a member of the Board of Education, every decision will be made with every Downey Unified student in mind as he now sees each of the district's 22,000 students as his own.

"I'm just a normal father, person, and community member, who is doing something that I'm sure any other parent would do - do right by our kids - and I am going to do just that each and every day."

# Next phase of Queen Mary repairs takes step forward

Millions of dollars of repair work will begin in the spring, with the goal of reopening the ocean liner as a hotel with restaurants and amenities.

By City News Service

**LONG BEACH** — Preparations have begun for the next phase of repairs to the Queen Mary, with the goal of opening the retired ocean liner's hotels, restaurants, bars and some other amenities by this spring, Long Beach officials announced Tuesday.

The city said demolition work has started on out-of-commission boilers and heat exchangers, which will eventually be replaced by new units that will supply hot water for cooking, cleaning and other hospitality-related functions.

That work is expected to be completed over "the next few weeks," the city said. Next would be installation of new pipes and other mechanical equipment to support the new boilers and heat exchangers.

"The amount of critical work put into our icon, the Queen Mary, over the last year has been incredible to watch," Mayor Rex Richardson said in a statement. "We are almost there for our targeted reopening later this spring. I look forward to welcoming more visitors back onboard this historic landmark soon."

In mid-December, limited tours of some sections of the historic ship began after they were canceled because of the coronavirus pandemic -- and due to critically

needed structural repairs. The tours concluded last month so that further repairs could get underway.

Published reports have said the 87-year-old rusting, leaking liner was in need of some \$23 million in immediate renovations, or it could face falling into critical disrepair -- or even sinking.

In February 2022, the city began the first phase of repairs after identifying about \$5 million in most-needed work.

According to the city's statement Tuesday, other critical repairs approaching completion include installation of an emergency generator and a bilge pump system -- elements expected to be done by early spring.

"We've worked so hard to preserve and uphold this community treasure and we are so excited to share our progress with our community soon," Councilwoman Mary Zendejas said in a statement.

The city said other projects underway include repairs to the wharf and promenade deck gangways; elevator repair and modernization; painting, lighting and enhancements to the wharf area; rest room repairs; flooring replacements and ceiling paint and tile repair in the promenade deck's main hall; HVAC repair and floor and window repairs in the observation bar; parking lot repairs; and kitchen and restaurant improvements.

Progress can be tracked on the Queen Mary Updates web page at <https://longbeach.gov/>

In December, the city also announced an annual membership program to help fund the ongoing renovations. The program is a partnership between the city -- which regained control of the tourist attraction in June 2021 for the first time in four decades -- and Long Beach Heritage. Evolution Hospitality and the Queen Mary Heritage Foundation will

collaborate as well, the city said.

Currently, a Tourist Class Membership is being offered for \$150 per year, with additional tiers to be implemented in the spring. Members will begin receiving benefits once additional elements and amenities begin to reopen in the spring, the city said.

Those wishing to purchase a membership, make a donation or get more information can visit the Long Beach Heritage website at [lberitage.org/queen-mary](http://lberitage.org/queen-mary).

## POET'S CORNER

### I Live For My Car

can't let go of it. to live is to drive. to have it function smooth, flawless. to rise with morning and have it start i pray to the mechanic for heat again and air conditioning when i meet people i used to know i'm glad to see them until i remember what i'm driving and am afraid they'll go outside and see me climb into that struggle buggy and laugh deep long loud i've become very proficient at keeping my car running. i visit service stations and repair shops often which is why i haven't a coat to wear or nice clothes or enough money each onth to pay the rent. i don't like my car to be dirty. my car's an absolute necessity in this city of cars where you come to know people best by how they maneuver on the freeway make lane changes or handle off-ramps. i've promised myself i will one day own a luxury model. it'll be something i can leave my children. till then i'm on spark plugs and lug nuts keeping the one i have mobile. i live for it. can't let go of it to drive is to live

**Wanda Coleman, An Expanded Anthology, 2002, University of Iowa Press**

"If driving is the most L.A. of experiences, then Coleman's prose poem has to be among the most L.A. of all poems in the history of poetry," says critic Julia Wick. "It's an unlikely ode to Los Angeles." It crystallizes her drive for freedom. Watts-born Wanda Coleman, who died in 2013, was considered by many to be Los Angeles' unofficial poet laureate. Poetry Matters is curated by Lorine Parks.

# 1 person wounded in shooting outside Denny's

**BELLFLOWER** — A fight outside a Bellflower Denny's restaurant led to gunfire Tuesday morning and a wounded person showed up at a hospital.

The shooting was reported at 2:57 a.m. in the parking lot of the Denny's restaurant at Artesia and Lakewood boulevards, said Lt. F. Maldonado of the Lakewood Sheriff's Station.

"Multiple people were fighting in the parking lot," Maldonado told City News Service. "Three or four shots were heard."

A victim showed up at a hospital in the Lakewood area and the victim was taken to a Long Beach hospital for treatment, he said.

The age and gender of the victim and extent of injuries were not immediately available, Maldonado said.

KCAL reported the victim had gunshot wounds to the head, back and chest.

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