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Pemberton, Ortiz winners in city council races

■ Dorothy Pemberton, Horacio Ortiz Jr. elected in special elections with dismal voter turnout.

By Alex Dominguez and Eric Pierce
Staff Writer and editor

DOWNEY — A Dorothy Pemberton and Horacio Ortiz Jr. were elected to the Downey City Council on Tuesday, capping a tumultuous election season and bringing a semblance of stability to City Hall, at least for the next year.

Both Pemberton and Ortiz jumped out to early leads Tuesday and maintained them throughout the night.

Results are not yet official, pending confirmation from the L.A. County Registrar-Recorder.

At the time of writing, Ortiz held a comfortable lead in the race for the District 1 (southeast Downey) seat. Ortiz collected 754 votes (or 51.54%), ahead of Elvira Meraz, who mustered 587 (40.12%) votes.

Ramon Casas Jr. trailed far behind with just 8.34% of votes cast.

"We're still early on the results, but I'm pretty confident on where we're at," Ortiz said Wednesday morning. He called his campaign "a team effort."

"I want to do right by my city," said Ortiz. "This was the place where I was born and raised all my life. This is my

home, and I want to make sure I take Downey to a new direction, and I'm pretty excited where Downey is heading."

Ortiz and his family own the chain of El Pescador restaurants, with Ortiz managing the Montebello location. He chairs Downey's planning commission and was notably the lone commissioner to vote against controversial sports bar Ojos Locos.

The District 1 seat was vacated last year after then-councilwoman Blanca Pacheco was elected to the state Assembly. Timothy Horn has been filling in on a temporary basis.

In District 3 (northwest Downey), Pemberton captured 54.69% of votes cast, ahead of Gil Legaspi (36.21%) and Ernesto Valle (9.1%).

Pemberton and Legaspi, both real estate brokers, raised tens of thousands of dollars each to fund campaigns that turned increasingly hostile over the past several weeks.

"It took a village," Pemberton said of the results, "and I thank God for the outcome."

Pemberton led the recall of former Councilwoman Catherine Alvarez, who was booted from office in January over allegations that she failed to disclose her criminal record ahead of her 2020 election.

Pemberton will now finish the remainder of Alvarez's term, which expires in 2024.



Dorothy Pemberton speaks with former mayor Rick Rodriguez (left) and campaign manager Hans Fritz on election night. Bottom photo: Horacio Ortiz Jr. chats with a campaign volunteer at an election watch party at El Pescador. (Photos by Alex Dominguez)

In a statement posted to social media Wednesday, Legaspi said he intends to challenge Pemberton again next year.

Both Ortiz and Pemberton will need to seek re-election in the 2024 General Election if they choose to continue on the council.

Turnout for Tuesday's special elections was extremely low with only around 14% of 31,742 eligible voters casting a ballot.



COUNTY STILL STRONG, HAHN SAYS

■ Supervisor Janice Hahn detailed her plan to address homelessness, public safety and mental health in her State of the county address.

By Janice Hahn
L.A. County Supervisor
Fourth District

On Thursday, the San Pedro Chamber of Commerce hosted my State of the County address at Crafted.

I talked about everything LA County — the role our 38 departments play in our residents' lives from the day we are born, with birth certificates issued by our Registrar-Recorder, to the day we die, with the work of our County Coroner.

But the bulk of my speech focused on how we are going to meet the challenges we face in public safety, homelessness, and mental health.

Public Safety

I talked about the investments we are making in the Sheriff's Department, the \$15 million effort to fight organized retail theft, and the new common sense gun policies we are putting in place to save lives by preventing guns from falling into the wrong hands.

Working Smarter to Create Housing

I talked about the humanitarian crisis on our

streets and how we are creating housing faster by taking advantage of empty county buildings and converting motels that have seen better days into apartments for formerly unhoused residents.

This year we transformed the former Best Western in San Pedro into temporary housing for formerly homeless veterans with the addiction services, mental health support, and job training they need to put their lives back on track. Every week, between five and 10 veterans are graduating from the program and moving into their own apartments. In fact, a veteran who attended the event just moved into permanent housing this week.

During the speech, I announced that we would be naming it the Louis Dominguez Veterans Center after a local veteran who served our country honorably in Vietnam and was awarded the Purple Heart. Thank you, Louis, for your service.

Hiring an Army of Mental Health Workers

But if we are going to make a difference in this crisis, we need an army of mental health workers to not only treat people in care facilities, but be on the streets every day working with people in encampments.

That's why we are offering loan forgiveness and bonuses to people who agree to work in the field instead of behind

a desk. And because we know that mental health is not a nine-to-five problem, we are offering incentives to people who agree to work night shifts and weekends. We are going to community colleges and holding hiring fairs where we can do background checks on-site and give people same-day offers.

It's working. In the past five months alone, we have hired 272 mental health professionals with the goal of hiring hundreds more in the coming months.

My address closed with a story that I think illustrates so much of the good in Los Angeles County. Last year, a woman dropped off her baby girl at a fire station in my district. Under LA County's Safe Surrender program, our firefighters on duty jumped into action and got the baby to a local hospital, where County doctors made sure the baby was healthy and taken care of.

And just last week, one of the firefighters who was there that fateful night Battalion Chief Wade Kelsey and his wife Tonya officially adopted Baby Isabella.

The State of LA County is strong and resilient. It is so much more than budget figures and data. It is made up of generous, dedicated people who are working to build a better life for their families and for our entire community -- all 10 million of us.

After 2 escapes, county beefing up security at Los Padrinos

■ County supervisors want security measures addressed at Downey's Los Padrinos Juvenile Hall.

By City News Service

DOWNEY — Following the second escape of a youth from Los Padrinos Juvenile Hall in Downey since the facility reopened in July, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors Tuesday directed probation officials to provide a report in two weeks on corrective actions and increased security measures being implemented at the facility.

"It is unacceptable that two young people have managed to escape from Los Padrinos Juvenile Hall in the last four months," Supervisors board Chair Janice Hahn said in a statement after introducing the emergency motion Tuesday. "Luckily, they were both apprehended almost immediately after their escape, but this cannot happen again."

The motion calls for the report by probation officials in two weeks to include "descriptions of additional

security measures and policies being implemented by the Probation Department to prevent any future escape from the facility."

It also directs the county's chief probation officer to meet with Downey and South Gate officials to brief them on additional security measures. It also calls on the Office of the Inspector General to investigate the most recent escape, which occurred Saturday when a youth detainee allegedly assaulted a staff member, managed to obtain a set of keys then climbed over a fence.

That youth was detained within about 10 minutes, according to Hahn's office and probation officials.

Another youth escaped briefly from the facility about two weeks after it reopened in July.

Los Padrinos was renovated and reopened to replace Barry J. Nidorf Juvenile Hall in Sylmar and Central Juvenile Hall in Lincoln Heights, both of which came under fire by state regulators for conditions that rendered them unfit to house pre-trial youth detainees.

Weekend at a Glance

Friday 78°

Saturday 83°

Sunday 82°

ON THIS DAY

1906:

Theodore Roosevelt became the first sitting President of the United States to make an official trip outside the country, doing so to inspect progress on the Panama Canal.

1922:

Albert Einstein was named the winner of the Nobel Prize for Physics for his explanation of the photoelectric effect.

1970:

The Supreme Court declined to intervene after Massachusetts passed a law granting residents the right to refuse military service in an undeclared war.

1984:

Wes Craven's "A Nightmare on Elm Street" was released in theatres, introducing moviegoers to the villain Freddy Krueger; considered a horror classic, it spun off a number of sequels.

1989:

Long a symbol of the Cold War, the Berlin Wall, erected in 1961 and eventually extending 28 miles to divide the western and eastern sectors of Berlin, was opened by the East German government.

1996:

Evander Holyfield scored a technical knockout of Mike Tyson to win the heavyweight boxing championship for a third time.

1999:

Elton John's 1997 song "Candle in the Wind" was named the bestselling single of the century; the Beatles sold the most albums with 106 million.

2002:

Eminem hit #1 on the Hot 100 for the first time when "Lose Yourself," from his movie "8 Mile" topped the chart.



2021:

Film actor Paul Rudd was named the Sexiest Man Alive by People magazine.

BIRTHDAYS

"The Incredible Hulk" star **Lou Ferrigno** (72), wrestler **Chris Jericho** (53), "Grey's Anatomy" star **Eric Dane** (51), pop singer **Nick Lachey** (50), TV host **Vanessa Lachey** (43) and rapper **French Montana** (39).

Downey Kiwanis club begins 100th anniversary countdown

■ The Downey service club unveiled a new logo and launched an effort to reach 100 total members.

By Alex Dominguez
Staff Writer

DOWNEY – The Downey Kiwanis Club officially kicked off their centennial year last Thursday, unveiling a new logo and embarking on an ambitious recruitment campaign.

Founded on Nov. 6, 1924, Downey Kiwanis celebrated its 99th anniversary on Monday. However, the club already has its eyes fixated on the even greater milestone next year.

Held at the Rio Hondo Event Center, the kick-off festivities were a celebration of everything past and still to come with Downey's first Kiwanis Club.

"This is not the best party," said Downey Kiwanis president-elect Ed Schneeberger. "This is the kick-off; this is to get people excited about the centennial. So, we're going to celebrate the entire year and we will end on Nov. 6, the actual day, 2024."

Current president Jason Cierpiszewski said that the focus of Kiwanis was "developing the next generation of leaders."

"It's 100 years of service that we're all very proud of, and honestly we're looking forward to the next 100 years of service, serving our community both here in Downey and around the world," said Cierpiszewski.

To commemorate their legacy, 20 club members – 15 preselected and five voted on that night – from throughout time were selected to be a part of the "All-Century Team." Those individuals are Jules



Mayor Pro Tem Mario Trujillo speaks at the Downey Kiwanis 100th anniversary kick off event. (Photo by Alex Dominguez)

Ardis, Walter M. Booth, A.G. Haygood, Richard S. Williams, Haygood Ardis, Cliff Mills, Schuyler Strang, Dick Holmes, J. Donald Fisher, Don Wilson, E. John Kozey, Dick Lehn, Bill Griffith, Chris Greenbeck, Del Clawson, Chuck Pifer, Gary Nesbit, Rick Lopez, Gale Dalton, Gary Munger, Jerry Wetzstein, Rose Schneeberger, Jason Cierpiszewski, Stephen Chu, and Ed Schneeberger.

"It's important that our members are not forgotten, and if we don't recognize them now,

there won't be people around who will be able to bring those stories to the next generation of Kiwanians," said Cierpiszewski.

The main event of the evening was the unveiling of the new 100th anniversary logo, which will be featured on the club's banner and worn as a pin by club members year-round.

To find their new logo, Kiwanis held an area-wide contest.

Featuring a rocket to tie into the city's aerospace history, the design is that of Gahr High School sophomore Jacob Gutierrez, who received \$250, in addition to \$250 that went to the Gahr High School Key Club.

Of course, there is still work to be done for Downey Kiwanis, including an aggressive campaign to reach 100 members for the 100th celebration.

The club currently stands at around 70 members, meaning that they have a year to add 30 to their ranks.

"This is a big task, to try to increase that much," said Cierpiszewski. "But we think if we keep focused on it, we'll be able to do that."

Paging Dr. Frischer...

By Dr. Alan Frischer

Not a day goes by in my practice without several patients complaining about earwax. While we have all heard that we are absolutely NOT to use cotton swabs to clean our ears, Unilever continues to profit handsomely. Just what is proper ear care?



Let's be clear: Earwax in our ear canals is completely normal and good to have. Actually not wax at all, cerumen is a natural cleanser for the ears; moving from the inside of the ear canal to the outer part. Along the journey, it picks up dead skin cells, dirt, and even hair. It may have antibacterial and antifungal qualities.

Normal earwax varies – it can be dark brown, light brown, orange, yellow or off-white, and the texture and quantity vary from person to person. As with so many things, genetics plays a big role. Earwax can be wet or dry (the dry form is common among those with East Asian ancestry), and some of us have little or no earwax, causing the ears to be dry and itchy.

When a buildup of wax causes symptoms, including aching in the ear, fullness or ringing, impaired hearing, an odor, dizziness, or a cough, it needs to be cleaned out. Impacted earwax can even lead to an ear infection, which requires medical attention. Hearing aids, earplugs, or earbuds may

lead to excess earwax buildup. As we age, we tend to make more. The shape of the ear canal may make it more difficult for it to exit the ear canal naturally. If the earwax does get impacted, most health care practitioners can clean it out easily and quickly.

So, why shouldn't we use cotton swabs, or (shudder!) small objects like bobby pins or paper clips? Objects like these can push wax deeper into the ear canal, or even damage the ear canal or tympanic membrane. Many of us have heard the rule; nothing smaller than your elbow in your ear! Another idea to discard: Ear candles. Please don't. They can (obviously) cause injury from the lit candle or from the hot wax.

So, how should we clean our ears at home? Use cotton swabs only on the outside of the ear or, better yet, try wiping the area with a warm, damp washcloth. Pharmacies sell over-the-counter ear drops like Debrox, which may contain mineral oil, baby oil, glycerin, hydrogen peroxide, or saline. You place the drops in the ear, wait for a few minutes, and then rinse with a bulb syringe. If that doesn't take care of it, I urge you to visit your health practitioner.

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 10927 Downey Ave., Suite C, Downey, CA 90241.

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Downey middle schoolers perform ‘Legally Blonde Jr.’

■ An ensemble cast of 44 students put on a show in front of an enthusiastic audience.

By Alistair Hunter Contributor

DOWNEY – This past week, Downey Unified School District’s Musical Theatre Conservatory (MTC) presented “Legally Blonde JR.” at Stauffer Middle School with a diverse double cast of 44 middle school students from throughout DUSD.

Stauffer Principal Dr. Allison Box greeted an audience of all ages, including students, families, community members, DUSD Board of Education Vice President Nancy Swenson, along with former Board Member and City Council Member Donald La Plante. It’s quite remarkable that all DUSD middle schools have drama departments.

Director and Stauffer drama teacher Andrea Pyle welcomed the audience, encouraged them to have fun, and take pictures. We can do with more teachers like Mrs. Pyle. More about her later.

The audience was enthusiastic. Lots of applause and cheers; even more when the curtain came down. And when the cast later entered the auditorium, joy on faces, smiles and hugs. What an opportunity and experience.

“Legally Blonde Jr.” follows the transformation of Elle Woods (Caighsi Currie/Briseis Elva Ayala-Soriano) as she tackles stereotypes, snobbery, and scandal in pursuit of her dreams. Along the way we learn a little bit about female empowerment and sisterhood.

Elle is a fashion and merchandising major at UCLA, and President of the Delta Nu sorority. “Barbie” has nothing on Elle, whose fashion statement color is all shades of pink. There’s even a line, “All that pink you are wearing, is that even legal?”

When Elle’s boyfriend Warner (Dominic Alexander Olivera/Jose Anival Zepeda III) dumps her claiming she’s not serious enough, and heads off to Harvard Law, Elle takes matters into her own hands. Scoring 175 on the LSAT, she uses her own personal strengths to overcome prejudices, and gains entrance to Harvard herself.

Befriending classmate Emmett (Adam Rodriguez) and spunky hairdresser Paulette (Lia Mendoza/Kaylin Arminian), Elle finds that books and her passion for fashion aren’t mutually exclusive.

An unethical professor (Daniel Miranda/Michael Olvea) hits on Elle. Emmett supervises her in a trial, where it is her insight that successfully defends her client, Brooke (Nathalie Gadea/Gerna Flores Ramirez). Elle graduates as valedictorian, proposes to Emmett, and everyone celebrates their legally blonde friend.

“Legally Blonde JR.” is based on Amanda Brown’s true story and novel that became the 2001 movie starring Reese Witherspoon. In 2007, it was adapted into the Tony-nominated “Legally Blonde - The Musical”. In 2019, Musical Theatre International (MTI) adapted it as “Legally Blonde JR.” in collaboration with Laurence O’Keefe and Neil Benjamin (Music and Lyrics), and Heather Hatch (Book).

Choreography was by Anisa Diaz, with vocal training by Athena Hansen. Stage Manager was high school student Sebastian Velasco.

Lighting was by Jeffrey Toussieng. Toussieng is a retired former DPD officer who taught the DARE Program in DUSD Elementary Schools. He voluntarily provides the elaborate lighting equipment and projectors, hangs them, and runs the light board. He is self-taught, and also builds the sets. After the play was over, he was cleaning up before the next performance. Previously he volunteered his

time and equipment at DARE graduations, at West Middle School Drama, and at the Sarah Jameson Theatre at Doty Middle School. On Monday, he extended the stage for the upcoming “The Lion King JR” set, which Stauffer will rent from the Calvary Chapel.

Teacher/Director Pyle wears two hats: Stauffer drama teacher, and director of the after-school DUSD Musical Theatre Conservatory. She has three classes of 6th grade drama, two classes of 7/8 advanced drama, and Video Production that produces Spartan TV.

She says, “I’ve never been so busy in my life!” Her own two children, ages 7 and 9, are currently in rehearsals for “Elf JR.”

Pyle is a musical theatre graduate from the Orange County High School for the Arts (OCHSA). She has a BA in English, an MA in Secondary Education, and a teaching credential from CSUF. She has been a teacher at Stauffer for 16 years, where she began teaching English and only one drama class. She credits support from former Principal Alyda Mir, and the administrators that followed, that now allows her to teach a full load of drama along with TV and film. Stauffer Middle School Drama will present “The Lion King JR.” Nov. 29 to Dec. 2. Next semester, Stauffer drama presents “Peter Pan JR.”

The Stauffer stage is a challenge. Little or no wing space. Only one back door. Costume changes and green rooms are in two nearby classrooms. An onstage quick costume change area. So, set changes and costume changes take some time. Surprisingly the digital soundtrack covers it all.

There are lots of costumes; lots of pink for Elle. That can be

expensive, but Pyle rents what she needs from a very helpful New York costume company.

Students from Stauffer feed into the Warren High School Drama Department. Two of Pyle’s students were accepted into the Los Angeles County High School for the Arts (LACHSA), the number one arts school in the country. LACHSA is open to all high school students in Los Angeles County.

In 2007, Pyle applied successfully to the Mary R. Stauffer Foundation, who provided funds for the original sound system, wireless mics, curtains, and equipment.

In 2021, Pyle applied to the highly competitive American Theatre Wing, and successfully received the only award in California: \$8,353 to replace the sound system, and sound board. It is impressive.

“By ensuring students’ access to the arts, we don’t just help instill a lifelong appreciation for theatre, we also support empathy-building, problem-solving, creative-thinking, and a whole range of crucial life skills,” said Heather Hitchens, President and CEO of the American Theatre Wing. “We are so proud to support these 12 Title 1 schools and their educators, who go above and beyond to provide quality arts education to their communities.”

In 2022, the President of the Downey Foundation for Educational Opportunities (DFEO), Mathew Knox, and DUSD Administrators, including Assistant Superintendent Roger Brossmer, joined together and created the DUSD Musical



Theatre Conservatory (MTC). DFEO provides funds for MTC through their Encore Program. It is a free after school program available to all middle school students in DUSD, and the performances are free to the community.

Middle School students audition for the Musical Theatre Conservatory (MTC) with a song and a monologue. They are responsible for their own transportation. Attendance is mandatory Monday through Friday from 3:15 pm to 5:15 pm.

Auditions and rehearsals for “Legally Blonde JR” began in August. Next semester, MCT will hold auditions for “Matilda JR.”

Pyle says it’s great working with Musical Theatre International (MTI), from which she acquires the rights for the musicals.

“They know we have a free program with free performances so they give us a deal,” Pyle said.

And they provide a complete ShowKit.

Musical Theatre International

(MTI) is itself a bit of a phenomenon. It was founded in 1952 by Tony, Grammy, and Academy Award winner Frank Loesser, best known for his music and lyrics for “Guys And Dolls”.

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Tax-saving benefits for veterans

By Jeff Prang
Los Angeles County Assessor

As we prepare to give thanks this November on Thanksgiving Day, it's also important to remember those that have served our great nation in the military and honor their courage and valor this Veterans Day.

Veterans Day is a federal holiday and is celebrated Nov. 11. Veterans Day, as most of you know, is a tribute to military veterans

who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces. It's not to be confused with Memorial Day, which honors those who died while in service. Veterans Day honors all military veterans, including those still with us.

As a quick reminder, Veterans Day evolved from Armistice Day, which was proclaimed in 1919 by President Woodrow Wilson, celebrating the signing of the Armistice that ended World War I. That occurred on Nov. 11 at 11 a.m. and formally recognized the "11th hour, of the 11th day, of the 11th month" in 1918 that ended the war.

In 1954, the holiday was changed to Veterans Day to honor all veterans in all wars. We still celebrate this day, recognizing the tie with WWI, meaning we celebrate Veterans Day the same day every year – Nov. 11 – regardless of the day of the week it falls. If Veterans Day falls on the weekend, it can be celebrated on the Saturday or Sunday and on the following Monday.

Since it's a federal holiday, a bank holiday and a state holiday, federal and state employees get the day off from work.

Not only am I visiting with you about Veterans Day but to remind you that we have tax savings' programs available for veterans and if pending legislation passes, the exemptions could be expanded.

Here's how it works: If you are a single veteran with assets of less than \$5,000, a married veteran with assets of less than \$10,000, or an unmarried surviving spouse of an eligible veteran, you may apply for the Veterans' Exemption of \$4,000, which is applied to the assessed value of your property.

If you are a disabled veteran the exemption is even greater. If a veteran is blind in both eyes, has lost the use of two or more limbs, or is 100% disabled as a result of injury or disease incurred in military service, you may be eligible for a Disabled Veterans' Property Tax Exemption. You may be eligible for an exemption of up to \$150,000 of the assessed value of your home. The Veterans Administration must certify the veteran's disability. Unmarried surviving spouses of certain deceased veterans may also qualify.

Now to the legislation, Senate Constitutional Amendment 6 (SCA6), which would allow veterans to claim both the Homeowners' Exemption and the Veterans' Exemption or the Disabled Veterans' Exemption. As a reminder, the Homeowners' Exemption reduces your assessed value on your primary residence by \$7,000. That translates to an actual reduction of \$70 to a homeowners' tax bill. As of now, a veteran cannot claim the Veterans' Exemption or the Disabled Veterans' Exemption and the Homeowners' Exemption. If SCA6 continues to move through the legislative process and becomes law that will change. I will keep you posted on any developments.

We owe a tremendous debt to our veterans and I say thank you for all that you've done, all that you do and all that you will do. Our Democracy is built on your service.

My office offers other several tax-savings programs as well and the Veterans' Exemptions are just two examples. For additional property tax relief programs, visit assessor.lacounty.gov/exclusions-tax-relief or call 213/974-3211.

Veterans and PTSD

Contributed by
Kaiser Permanente

This Saturday, Nov. 11, America will observe Veterans Day to honor the men and women who served our country in war or peace, and recognize them for their sacrifices to protect our freedoms.

For many veterans who served in military conflicts, however, their service came at a high price, as many continue to experience nightmares or flashbacks caused by Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, or PTSD. Those veterans often have flashbacks, and many relive traumatic events experienced on the battlefield that have become seared in their memories and often negatively affect their mental health.

In one major study of 60,000 Iraq and Afghanistan veterans, 13.5% of deployed and non-deployed veterans screened positive for PTSD, while other studies show the rate to be as high as 20% to 30%. As many as 500,000 U.S. troops who served in those wars may have been diagnosed with PTSD, according to the study.

"Veterans with PTSD are affected in a variety of ways," said Dr. Ashley Zucker, a psychiatrist with Kaiser Permanente Southern California. "They often share one thing in common, however. Those with PTSD often experience significant challenges when it comes to managing daily activities such as work, going to school or having healthy relationships with your spouse, children, friends and loved ones. That can often lead to social withdrawal, anxiety, shame, sleep disorders, or even suicide."

Dr. Zucker noted the simplest triggers can make someone with PTSD feel like their nervous system becomes hijacked by a panic reaction, and that can cause you to fight (get angry), flight (avoid) or freeze (feel numb).

She noted certain factors increase the chances of someone developing PTSD, including having directly experienced or repeatedly witnessed the aftermath of a very intense or long-lasting traumatic event, which is common among many veterans.

According to Dr. Zucker, doing the following may improve a person's path to recovery from PTSD:

- In times of anxiety, reassure and comfort yourself.
 - Always attend scheduled counseling sessions and doctor's appointments.
 - Avoid alcohol, caffeine, nicotine and illegal drug use, as they can raise your anxiety level and cause problems with sleeping.
 - Make sure you get sufficient rest.
 - Exercise.
 - Use proven relaxation techniques.
 - Get involved in your community.
- Because there are times when PTSD can cause severe anxiety and other mental health challenges, Dr. Zucker emphasized the importance of knowing when to seek help.

POET'S CORNER

Grass

Pile the bodies high at Austerlitz and Waterloo.
Shovel them under and let me work—

I am the grass; I cover all.

And pile them high at Gettysburg
And pile them high at Ypres and Verdun.
Shovel them under and let me work.
Two years, ten years, and passengers ask the conductor:

What place is this?

Where are we now?

I am the grass.

Let me work.

Carl Sandberg, *Cornhuskers*, Henry Holt, 1918

November 11 was originally named Armistice Day after World War I, then Veterans' Day. It honors those who have served in the military, in wartime or peacetime, with parades and a ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Poets try to measure the human effects of war. Sandberg won his first Pulitzer Prize for the book of poetry that included this poem. Poetry Matters is curated by Lorine Parks.

In Memory of

Winnie Mary Hopkins

August 29, 1921 - October 20, 2023



Born Aug 29, 1921 in Downey, CA as Mary Leona Mussachia.

She attended primary school in Downey in a 1 room schoolhouse.

She attended HS at St Anthony's Catholic School in Long Beach, then learned to become a switchboard operator at Los Angeles Trade School.

Winnie married the love of her life, Hays Hamilton Hopkins, on Feb 5, 1950. They lived in Downey & started their family.

Cathy 1952, John 1955, Lisa 1956, & Maureen 1958.

Winnie was an active parishioner of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church. She passed away on Oct 20, 2023 in her home in Downey, at the age of 102!

She is survived by her 4 children, 10 grandchildren & 17 great grandchildren. She will be greatly missed by all who knew her. She was the greatest Wife, Mom, Aunt, Friend, Grammie & "GG"

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VETERANS DAY: Celebrating 50 years of our all-volunteer U.S. Army

By **Mario A. Guerra**

Deacon Mario A. Guerra is the former mayor of Downey and currently serves as the Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army. He can be reached at www.marioaguerra.com

On this Veterans Day in 2023 we recognize all who have served our nation with honor and distinction. Veterans have earned our undying gratitude, and the American people must never forget their sacrifices.

Veterans Day is a reminder that the Army’s people are its greatest strength and taking care of them and ensuring they are ready to fight and win our nation’s wars is our top priority. Prospective soldiers observe how we take care of our soldiers and our veterans as they consider serving themselves.

The Army is committed to the success of our soldiers from pre-enlistment to post-separation. In fact, about half of the Department of Army Civilian force is made up of Army veterans. Duty to our country is a prime reason people want to serve in the Army, but the Army is also a good career – you can be all you can be in the Army. Soldiers are a diverse set of professionals who have unique skills and experiences, making them invaluable contributors to their organizations and communities once they are done with their service.

Despite all of this, only one percent of our nation serves in the military, and 61 percent of those who serve are more likely to have been exposed to military life through friends or family. It’s an indicator that veterans have first-hand knowledge of the benefits of a military career and can bridge the gap between those who are familiar with military life and those who have never considered the military as a career.

If you are a veteran, I encourage you to share positive stories about your service this Veterans Day. Veteran stories connect Americans with the value of Army service and inspire the next generation to serve.

History of Veterans Day

For nearly a century, we have observed Veterans Day on the anniversary of the armistice that ended the fighting along the Western Front in World War I on November 11, 1918.

In 1938, Congress made Armistice Day an official, annual national holiday. In 1954, its name was changed to Veterans Day.

While Memorial Day is a time to remember those who died in the service of their country, Veterans Day is a time to remember all those who have served – past and present.

All-Volunteer Force

Many of our surviving veterans are members of what we call the all-volunteer force. For those unfamiliar with the military, when we say we are an all-volunteer force, we don’t mean that soldiers are not paid for their work. We mean that soldiers choose to serve. In the Army, you earn a paycheck and countless other valuable financial and educational benefits. More than that, the Army sets the conditions for being part of a close-knit community held together by life-long bonds with fellow soldiers and veterans, and a career path that has no limits.

You can “Be All You Can Be” in the Army, and the strength of our force is reflected in the quality and professionalism of our people.

This year marked the 50th anniversary of the all-volunteer force. If you are a veteran who served your country, I want to personally say thank you for your commitment to keeping our country safe and for being part of the best Army in the world.

Soldiers for Life

In the Army, we consider our greatest asset to be our people. Our all-volunteer Army is a credit to Americans of all races, genders and creeds; and our common commitment to defense of, and love for, our country binds us, and unites us, together. That goes to the heart of what it means to be an American.

As a nation, we must ensure that the service and sacrifice of our veterans is never overlooked or forgotten. The Army believes that every soldier is a “Soldier for Life” and is committed to removing barriers to their success both in and out of the Army.

In the United States, we have about 18 million veterans who have served – about 7 percent of the adult population. Their service spans World War II to our latest conflicts in the Middle East. On Veterans Day, we honor the brave men and women from all walks of life who have stepped forward to defend our nation throughout our history.

The U.S. now has the largest population of young veterans since the Vietnam War. We owe it to these men and women to make sure they transition from active-duty careers with the skills and experience to find meaningful employment.

Regardless of the military branch in which our veterans have served – Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard or Space Force – this day belongs to them. Generations of patriots have dedicated themselves to the defense of our country to make us stronger and more resilient as a nation.

Soldiers live by the Army values of loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity and personal courage. They do not leave behind their values and skills when they transition to civilian life, maintaining a life-long identification with the Army. Army Soldiers are not “former” soldiers, they are “Soldiers for Life” and uniquely qualified to advocate for and connect the public with the Army by telling their Army story.

The Army’s Soldier for Life program works in communities across the country to create opportunities for our soldiers, veterans and families, and encourages veterans to remain connected to the Army.

Right now, all around the country, our Soldiers for Life and veterans from other services are teachers, doctors, engineers, social workers, community leaders, first responders and elected officials. They continue to serve our communities by making positive contributions, building stronger futures and inspiring future generations.

I’ll end with this story that continues to inspire me. As Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army, I get the privilege to meet a lot of heroes and brave people. I recently had the opportunity to have dinner with Captain Sam Brown.

Captain Sam Brown is the oldest of five children, and he quickly learned the importance of servant leadership, and his parents instilled in him an undying commitment to the service of others.

Sam always had a desire to serve his country but when he witnessed the 9/11 terrorist attacks, that desire became an ironclad resolve.

One year later, Sam was accepted to the United States Military Academy at West Point.

After graduating from West Point, he was

Love connection

Dear Editor:

Please send my info to Edith Aguirre. (“Bachelor Nation swoons over Downey’s Golden Bachelorette,” 10/17/23)

I’m the same age, speak Spanish, and would give her a dozen roses.

**John Conner
Maywood**



commissioned as an infantry officer and was assigned to the 3rd Brigade, 1st Infantry Division at Fort Hood. In 2008, Sam was deployed to Kandahar, Afghanistan.

Only four months into his deployment, Sam was on a mission when he received word that another nearby platoon had been ambushed.

So, he led his team into battle to provide support for his fellow soldiers.

Upon entering the engagement area, a roadside bomb detonated under the fuel tank of his vehicle, leaving him drenched in diesel and covered in flames.

He told me that as he laid there screaming in pain and calling for God and his mother, he finally gave up. He said he thought to himself, how long it would take to burn to death?

By the grace of God, Sam’s gunner was able to extinguish the flames before they took his life. He said all he remembered hearing was the gunner saying to him, “Sir, I’ve got you now.”

He woke up months later at Fort Sam Houston in one of the best Army burn hospitals in the world. His road to recovery was painful, both physically and mentally.

Following the injuries he sustained, Sam was medically retired from the US Army as a captain.

In the three years following the explosion in Afghanistan, Sam underwent intense physical rehabilitation and over a hundred surgeries to give him a new face. During this process of recovery, Sam recognized that God had given him a new life. A life that was intended to be dedicated to the service of God and country.

During the three years he spent in recovery, he wondered who would want him in this condition. He was a young, single man with a lot of disfigurement over most of his body.

But as he told me, God had other plans. Since he couldn’t feed himself for six months, an Army dietitian in the burn unit, 1st Lieutenant Amy Larsen, fed him almost daily. And she could see further than his skin.

Sam fell in love, but just as importantly, she did too. They ended up getting married and today have been married 14 years and have three beautiful kids. He went back to school and got a Masters from SMU and today is running his own successful company providing medicines for veterans in hard to reach areas of our country.

I smile every time I think of him and his family. I give thanks for his passion and love for our country. I am inspired by veterans like him and so many others.

Our nation’s veterans throughout our history have kept us free, returned home and continued to serve our nation in a multitude of ways. Today, we say thank you to them all.

Election season is over

Dear Editor:

Congratulations to the participants in this year’s Downey city council elections. You campaigned and voters made their decisions. Thank you for wanting to make Downey a better place.

Now take down your signs.

**Norma Godinez
Downey**

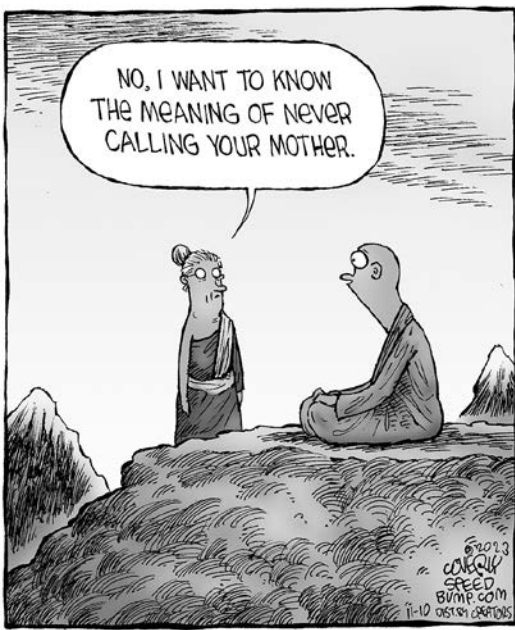
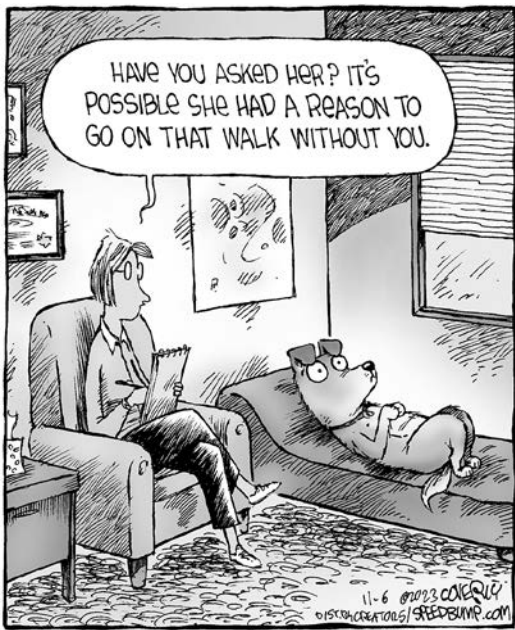
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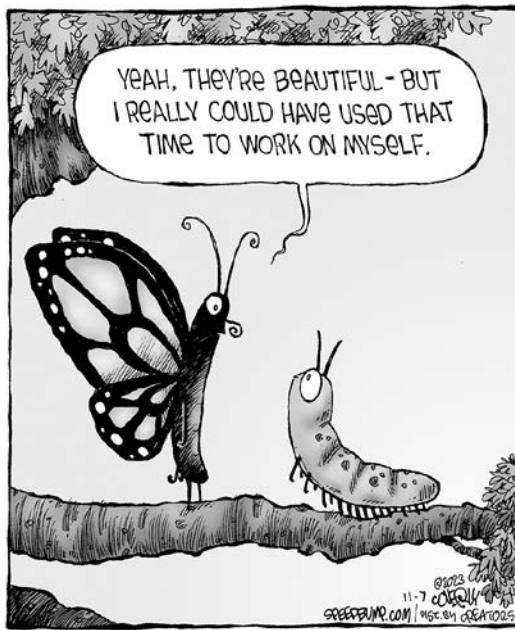
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SPEED BUMP



DAVE COVERLY



Downey Community Calendar

CITY MEETINGS

1st & 3rd Wednesday, 6:30pm: Planning Commission, Council Chamber at City Hall.
 1st Tue., 4:00pm.: Recreation and Community Services Commission, Council Chamber, City Hall.
 2nd & 4th Tue., 6:30pm: City Council, Council Chamber.
 3rd Tue., 6:00pm: Library Advisory Board, at Downey City Library.
 3rd Thurs., 6:30pm: CERT, at Downey City Council Chamber at City Hall, for more info call 299-5462.
 4th Mon., 5 pm: Green Task Force, at City Hall.

Regularly Scheduled Meetings

MONDAYS

7 pm: Boy Scout Troop 2, at Downey United Methodist Church, call 869-6478.
 4:30 pm: Courage Forward Meeting, at 10829 New St, 2nd Floor, call 213-545-6810.
 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.
 6:30 - 9 pm: Civil Air Patrol - Los Angeles Cadet Squadron 138, at Downey Adult School, Room M104, call 714-402-5157.
 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.
 1st Tues., 7:30 pm: Downey Amateur Radio Club, EOC room Downey Fire Station #1, 12222 Paramount Blvd.
 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.
 9 am: Quilters Group, at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, call 803-4459.
 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.: 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.
 4th Wed., 7:30 pm: US Coast Guard Aux. Flotilla 5-10, First Presbyterian Church, call Brian 419-5420.
 Wed. & Fri., 10:15 am: Senior Bingo, at Apollo Park, call 904-7223

THURSDAYS

7:30 am: Connections Networking, at Bob's Big Boy, for info., call Nick Smith, 861-5222.
 7:30 am.: Soroptimist Int'l of Downey, for information, call Mia Vasquez, 806-3217.
 9:30 am: Take off Pounds Sensibly, at Barbara Riley Senior Center, call (800) 932-8677.
 12 pm: Bingo, at Woman's Club of Downey - Proceeds benefit Rancho.
 12 pm: Optimist Club of Downey, at Rio Hondo Events Center.
 6:30 pm: Downey United Masonic Lodge # 220, 8244 3rd St., call 862-4176.
 7:30 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.
 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.

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 Mark McClain

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The word "van," in all its transportation meanings, is a shortened form of CARAVAN (6) Across). Brad Bird had directed his first film, Pixar's *The Incredibles*, three years before Ratonouille (7) Across). Per the latest estimates, the nearly 15 million residents of KARACHI (8) Across) ranks #7 in world population, behind Istanbul at #6.

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Alxmc83@gmail.com**

**The Downey Patriot
11/9/23, 11/16/23, 11/23/23, 11/30/23**

**NOTIFICATION BY TRUSTEE
PURSUANT TO
PROBATE CODE SECTION 16061.7**

TO CONTEST THE TRUST MORE THAN 120 DAYS FROM THE DATE THIS NOTIFICATION BY THE TRUSTEE IS SERVED UPON YOU OR 60 DAYS FROM THE DATE OF WHICH A COPY OF THE TERMS OF THE TRUST IS MAILED OR PERSONALLY DELIVERED TO YOU IN RESPONSE TO YOUR REQUEST DURING THE 120-DAY PERIOD, WHICHEVER IS LATER.

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:
MARY E MULLIN ESQ**

**SBN 162163
10419 BOGARDUS AVE
STE 125
WHITTIER CA 90603**
CN101195 MOTLEY Oct 26, Nov 2, 9, 2023
**CN101195
The Downey Patriot
10/26/23, 11/2/23, 11/9/23**

GREGORY LEE LUTHER executed the FORREST AND BEVERLY LUTHER TRUST in her capacity as Trustor on September 28, 1995. Pursuant to Probate Code Section 16061.7, the Trustee provides the following Notification:

- The name, mailing list and telephone number of the Trustee of the Trust is set forth below:
**GREGORY LEE LUTHER
8039 Brookpark Road
Downey, CA 90240
PHONE: (909) 730-7835**
- The address of the principal place of trust administration pursuant to Probate Code Section 17002 is set forth below:
**8039 Brookpark Road
Downey, CA 90240**
- The terms of Probate Code Section 16061.7 require the disclosure of the following:
BEVERLY LUTHER died on May 4, 2018, and the Trust has become irrevocable.
- You are entitled to receive from the Trustee a true and complete copy of the terms of the trust by requesting the same from the Trustee listed above. Note: "Terms of the Trust" as defined by Probate Code Section 16060.5 are provisions of a written trust instrument that describes or affect an irrevocable portion of a trust, including, but not limited to signatures, amendments, disclaimers, and any directions or instructions to the trustee that affect the administration or disposition of the trust.
- YOU MAY NOT BRING AN ACTION**

PROBATE

**NOTICE OF PETITION TO
ADMINISTER ESTATE OF
SHERILL J. MOTLEY
Case No. 23STPB11417**


To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of SHERILL J. MOTLEY
A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by Mark Motley in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.
THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that Mark Motley 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 Nov. 22, 2023 at 8:30 AM in Dept. No. 29 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

Need to Publish a Legal Notice?

The Downey Patriot is a newspaper of general circulation, and is adjudicated in Los Angeles County and the City of Downey. We are able to publish any and all legal notices.



**Email us at legals@thedowneypatriot.com for a quote.
Phone 562 • 904 • 3668 | Fax 562 • 904 • 3124**



Dear Downey Patriot Valued Reader,

On behalf of The Downey Patriot, I am thrilled to announce the establishment of the Downey Foundation for Independent Journalism, a non-profit foundation launched by the Downey Patriot newspaper. As a cherished member of our community, I wanted to share this exciting news and invite you to be part of our journey.

For several years, the Downey Patriot has been dedicated to providing reliable and unbiased news coverage, championing the principles of journalism, and serving as a beacon of truth in our community. We strongly believe that independent journalism is a cornerstone of a thriving democracy, and it is with this conviction that we have founded the Downey Foundation for Independent Journalism.

The Downey Foundation for Independent Journalism aims to ensure the sustainability and integrity of local news reporting, fostering an informed and engaged citizenry. Our mission is threefold: to support the training and professional development of journalists, to promote investigative journalism, and to enhance access to reliable local news for all residents of our community.

To achieve these goals, we are seeking tax-deductible donations from generous individuals like yourself who share our commitment to independent journalism. Your support will play a crucial role in empowering local journalists, enabling them to cover important stories, hold those in power accountable, and provide unbiased information to our community.

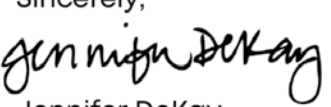
With your contribution, we will establish scholarships and training programs for aspiring journalists, ensuring that the next generation is well-equipped to uphold the principles of ethical and accurate reporting. We will also dedicate resources to support investigative journalism projects, fostering in-depth reporting that uncovers truths, reveals corruption, and sheds light on critical issues affecting our community.

Additionally, the Downey Foundation for Independent Journalism aims to address the challenge of access to local news in underserved areas. We will explore innovative approaches, such as expanding our digital presence, partnering with community organizations, and launching initiatives to bridge the information gap for those who face barriers to accessing reliable news sources.

We kindly invite you to contribute to the Downey Foundation for Independent Journalism and become a vital part of our mission. Your tax-deductible donation, no matter the size, will make a difference in supporting local journalism and nurturing a vibrant democracy.

Thank you for considering our request and for your commitment to the ideals of independent journalism. Together, we can make a lasting impact and ensure that our community remains well-informed, engaged, and empowered. I am happy to answer any questions you may have or provide further information on how your contribution will be utilized. Please contact our office at (562) 904-3668 or jennifer@thedowneypatriot.com.

We look forward to your support and the possibilities that lie ahead.

Sincerely,

Jennifer DeKay
Chief Executive Officer
Downey Foundation for Independent Journalism

**Donations can be mailed to:
Downey Foundation for Independent Journalism
10927 Downey Avenue, Suite C
Downey, California 90241**

NON PROFIT 501(C)3 10927 DOWNEY AVENUE • SUITE C • DOWNEY • CA • 90241 TAX ID# 92-3261544

DOWNEY HAPPENINGS

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10

Block Party, 2 pm. Bastards hosts its annual U.S. Marine Corps birthday and Veterans Day block party, with live entertainment, beer garden, veteran vendors, veteran resources, and more. Downtown Downey

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11

Veterans Day Ceremony, 10 am. Join the City of Downey in honoring our nation's military veterans. Columbia Memorial Space Center, 12400 Columbia Way

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15

Food Packing Event, 5:30 pm. Join Downey Federal Credit Union as it works to pack, seal and share 20,000 meals for local families. Sign up as a volunteer at DFCUFoodPacking.eventbrite.com NewStart Housing Corporation, 3355 Gage Ave., Huntington Park

Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer, 6:30 pm. Get in the Christmas spirit early this year with the beloved TV classic "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer: The Musical" as it soars off the screen and onto the Downey Theatre stage. Downey Theatre, 8435 Firestone Blvd.

Budget Seminar, 6:30 pm. Learn how to create and maintain a budget; set goals for spending, savings and debt repayment; examine the differences between wants and needs; and more. Free workshop sponsored by Financial Partners Credit Union. Downey City Library, 11121 Brookshire Ave.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16

Book Club, 12-1 pm. Join other book lovers in a discussion of "Our Missing Hearts" by Celeste Ng. New members welcome. Downey City Library, 11121 Brookshire Ave.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18

Steve Blum, time tba. Meet prolific voice actor Steve Blum. Autographs also available. Tickets required. OG Collectibles, 8124 Firestone Blvd.

Fall Flea, 11 am to 4 pm. Shop from various small businesses, young entrepreneurs and artists at this flea market supporting the Downey High School dance team. Downey High (main office), 11040 Brookshire Ave.

Celebrate the Season, 5-9 pm. Assistance League's annual Celebrate the Season holiday event. Reservations required. For more information, contact Stacy Brabant at (310) 991-3757. Casa de Parley Johnson, 7749 Florence Ave.

Friendsgiving, 5-8 pm. Join your Downey neighbors for a family-friendly dinner with a speaker and good times. Sign up with Legacy Church to bring a dish

or side to share. Legacy Church, 8333 2nd St.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25

Small Business Saturday, 3-9 pm. Join Downtown Downey in celebrating and supporting small businesses and all they do for their communities.

Carpenters Legacy: A Christmas Portrait, 8 pm. Direct from Las Vegas, "Carpenters Legacy: A Christmas Portrait," starring Sally Olson as Karen Carpenter and Ned Mills as Richard Carpenter, takes the audience back in time to an old fashioned Christmas. Downey Theatre, 8435 Firestone Blvd.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1

A Night in Monte Carlo, 7-10 pm. A casino night fundraiser benefiting the 10-20 Club. Dress in dapper attire while enjoying casino table games, drinks and appetizers, with raffle and cash prizes. The Arc, 12049 Woodruff Ave.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2

Crochet Workshop, 10 am to 12 pm and 2-4 pm. Explore the basics of crochet in this free workshop. The class is intended for beginners with no previous experience. Downey City Library, 11121 Brookshire Ave.

The Nutcracker Ballet, 2 pm and 6:30 pm. The Nutcracker Ballet, featuring the timeless score by Tchaikovsky, is an enchanting tale of a young girl who has a very special Christmas. Downey Theatre, 8435 Firestone Blvd.

Christmas Market, 5-9 pm. Vendors, food, live music and a real snow playground. Imago Dei Church, 9826 Priscilla St.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3

Downey Christmas Parade, 1 pm. Downey's annual Christmas parade returns with floats, marching bands, classic cars and, of course, Santa Claus.

The Nutcracker Ballet, 2 pm. The Nutcracker Ballet, featuring the timeless score by Tchaikovsky, is an enchanting tale of a young girl who has a very special Christmas. Downey Theatre, 8435 Firestone Blvd.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 4

Tree Lighting Ceremony, 6-8:30 pm. This free event features entertainment from local schools, a snow play area, arts & crafts, photos with Santa Claus, and more. Downey Civic Center, 11111 Brookshire Ave.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7

Cirque Musica, 8 pm. An all-new musical journey that will transport audiences to a magical land far away for a fun-filled holiday-themed show experience

they will never forget. Downey Theatre, 8435 Firestone Blvd.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9

Intro to Computers, 10:30 am to 12:30 pm. Learn the basics of using a computer and become familiar with peripherals, programs, files, browsing, emails, and more. Free but registration is required by calling (562) 904-7366. Downey City Library, 11121 Brookshire Ave.

Downey Posadas, 5-9 pm. Celebrate Las Posadas at this free, outdoor festival in Downtown Downey, featuring shopping, food trucks, family activities, and more

Apollo Lighting, 6-8 pm. The Downey space center's annual Christmas tradition returns with the lighting of its Apollo capsule. Plus an appearance by TubeChristmas. Columbia Memorial Space Center, 12400 Columbia Way

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10

Excursion to LA Zoo Lights, 4-9 pm. LA Zoo Lights brings you a winter wonderland, featuring seasonal magic, wildlife-inspired displays, fantastic photo ops, immersive interactive experiences, and dynamic projections and lights. Cost is \$40 for Downey residents and includes transportation and admission. Sign up at the Barbara J. Riley Community & Senior Center

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13

Jose Feliciano, 7:30 pm. Jose Feliciano takes the stage to perform "Feliz Navidad" and his array of hits from an iconic six-decade career. Downey Theatre, 8435 Firestone Blvd.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14

Creative Purpose Club, 11:30 am. Richard Tuttle, retired Downey police officer, is guest speaker at Creative Purpose, a club that discusses politics, science, biblical controversy, and more. Sizzler, 10315 Lakewood Blvd.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16

Wreaths Across America, time tba. Join Wreaths Across America as they place wreaths on the graves of local veterans. Downey Cemetery, 9073 Gardendale St.

All Elite Wrestling champion Maxwell Jacob Friedman, also known as MJF, will make an appearance at OG Collectibles in Downtown Downey on Thursday, Nov. 16, from 6-8 pm.

Tickets for autographs and photos can be purchased at buyogcollectibles.com



SUNDAY, JANUARY 28

Robert Cazimero in Concert, 3 pm. Robert Cazimero is a Grammy-nominated recording artist who has performed from the stage of Carnegie Hall in New York to stages in Japan, Australia, Hong Kong, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Portland, and Seattle. See him live at the Downey Theatre, 8435 Firestone Blvd.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4

America's Ideal Miss California Pageant, 2 pm. Young women will compete for prizes, scholarships and the title of Ideal Miss California. Downey Theatre, 8435 Firestone Blvd.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20

Coffee with the Superintendent, 6 pm. Join Downey Unified School District superintendent Dr. John Garcia for coffee and conversation. Sussman Middle School, 12500 Birchdale Ave.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24

TLC 5K, 8 am. Save the date: the TLC 5K run/walk returns with proceeds benefiting Downey Unified School District's TLC Family Resource Center

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28

Stomp, 8 pm. Matchboxes, brooms, garbage cans, Zippo lighters, and more fill the stage with energizing beats at Stomp, the inventive stage show that's dance, music and theatrical performance blended together. Downey Theatre, 8435 Firestone Blvd.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29

Stomp, 8 pm. Matchboxes, brooms, garbage cans, Zippo lighters, and more fill the stage with energizing beats at Stomp, the inventive stage show that's dance, music and theatrical

performance blended together. Downey Theatre, 8435 Firestone Blvd.

SATURDAY, APRIL 6

Downey Symphony Concert, 8 pm. Titled "Springtime," the concert features performances of Beethoven's Coriolan Overture, Mendelssohn's Symphony No. 4 "Italian," and Mozart's Piano Concert No. 20 in D minor with Cameron Akioka on piano. Downey Theatre, 8435 Firestone Blvd.

SUNDAY, APRIL 7

The Dennis Kamakahi Music Festival, 3 pm. The Rev. Dennis Kamakahi is considered one of the most prolific Hawaiian songwriters of all time. Watch him perform live at the Downey Theatre, joined by special guests. Downey Theatre, 8435 Firestone Blvd.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10

Coffee with the Superintendent, 6 pm. Join Downey Unified School District superintendent Dr. John Garcia for coffee and conversation. Lewis Elementary, 13220 Bellflower Blvd.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24

Carpenters Legacy, 8 pm. Direct from Las Vegas, Carpenters Legacy is the definitive show celebrating the music and legacy of the famed brother-sister duo. Downey Theatre, 8435 Firestone Blvd.

SATURDAY, MAY 18

Mark Yamanaka, Kupaoa, Hoku Zuttermeyer in concert, 7 pm. An authentic Hawaiian concert featuring three talented, award-winning recording artists. Downey Theatre, 8435 Firestone Blvd.

Submit Downey events to eric@thedownepatriot.com



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Upcoming Events ...

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**Downey Theatre presents:
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November 15th- 6:30pm

**Downey Theatre Presents:
Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer: The Musical**

November 25th- 8:00pm

**Carpenters Legacy:
A Christmas Portrait**

December 2nd & 3rd

The Nutcracker Ballet

December 7th- 8:00pm

**Downey Theatre presents:
Cirque Musica**



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