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## Hahn beats Villanueva for third term

■ Janice Hahn collected 54.7% of Tuesday's vote, avoiding a runoff election against Alex Villanueva, according to unofficial results.

By City News Service

**DOWNEY** – Los Angeles County Supervisor Janice Hahn appeared to be heading for a third and final term Wednesday, narrowly maintaining enough of a margin to avoid a November runoff with former Sheriff Alex Villanueva.

Unofficial results from Tuesday's election showed Hahn with 54.7% of the vote, just over the 50% she needs to avoid the runoff. Villanueva was a distant second with 30.6%, followed by Rancho Palos Verdes Mayor John Cruikshank, who had 14.7%.

It was unclear how many ballots from District 4 still need to be tallied, and if there are enough to potentially bring Hahn below the 50% mark.

The District 4 seat represents more than 50 communities, including Downey, Long Beach, Pico Rivera, Torrance, Whittier, along with the unincorporated areas of East La Mirada, Santa Catalina Island, Westfield, and the Los Angeles neighborhoods of Harbor City, San Pedro and Wilmington.

Hahn was elected in 2016 and re-elected to another term in 2020. Previously, she served three terms on the Los Angeles City Council representing the 15th District before being elected to Congress in California's 36th and, later, 44th districts.

Hahn, 71, said her top priority is confronting the homelessness crisis. According to her campaign's website, "Hahn is leading the implementation of California's new Care Court in L.A. County, which is helping get unhoused people with severe mental health issues off our streets and into supervised care facilities to receive the treatment they need."

As a supervisor, Hahn has "created housing solutions across her district quickly and affordably using former motels and vacant government property," her campaign website states.

The campaign also touts her efforts to improve public safety and emergency response.

"She has invested in local police, firefighters and paramedics to reduce emergency response times and is working to increase the number of Metro police in stations and on trains to make LA Metro safer," Hahn's campaign said.

Hahn is also fighting to "reduce gun violence and keep guns out of the hands of dangerous criminals, including those accused of domestic violence."

During his term as sheriff, Villanueva often clashed with the Board of Supervisors. He was also accused of mishandling certain issues within his department, including the investigations into deputy gangs and refusing to enforce COVID 19 vaccine mandates -- criticisms he vocally rebuffed.

Villanueva, 61, served as sheriff from 2018 to 2022, when voters gave the job to former Long Beach Sheriff Robert Luna. Before being elected sheriff, Villanueva was a deputy sheriff for more than 30 years. He ran on a platform of restoring safety and security, and reducing the impact of homelessness on families and businesses.

"The Board of Supervisors has a responsibility to provide for the health, safety and welfare of the county," Villanueva said in September, when he announced his candidacy. "In that regard, they have failed absolutely miserably."

He also said he wanted to rebuild the sheriff's department "after it was gutted by the defunding movement." He also advocated repeal of Prop 47, which voters passed in November 2014. It classified retail theft under \$950 as a misdemeanor, not a felony.

Cruikshank, 57, said he wanted to tackle what he called the core four issues: public safety, infrastructure, homelessness and economic empowerment.

"We need to reopen our jails and start putting the bad guys back in them," Cruikshank said. He added that if the county D.A. is "soft on crime," then it is the "law-abiding citizens who suffer the consequences."

The supervisorial seats are nonpartisan. It's been 44 years since an incumbent county supervisor has lost a reelection bid.

The five board members govern a county with approximately 10 million residents. Supervisors are elected to serve four-year terms and can remain in office for up to 12 consecutive years.

## NATIONAL CHAMPS



Downey High School Dance Team made history over the weekend.

The 2023 DHS dance team proudly represented on a national stage and was named three-time national champion at the 40th Contest of Champions National Dance Competition in Orlando over the weekend.

The team received three first place wins, and a second place finish in the following categories:

First place: Medium Hip Hop, Small Hip Hop and Extra Small Jazz.

Second Place: Medium Lyrical.

The team also received the Judge's Award for Best Choreography for Small Jazz.

The DHS Dance Department is under the direction of Leslie Patterson and assisted by Cassie Garcia and Alicia Martinez; all three are alumni of Downey Unified.

## Gascón bound for runoff in reelection bid

■ Incumbent DA George Gascon and Nathan Hochman will battle in November.

By City News Service

**DOWNEY** – District Attorney George Gascón will be heading to a November runoff election in his bid to retain his position, squaring off against Nathan Hochman, a former U.S. assistant attorney general who was the Republican candidate for state attorney general in the 2022 general election.

With neither candidate earning more than 50% of the vote from Tuesday's primary election, the top two vote-getters advance to the November general election.

Gascón topped the field of 11 challengers, but unofficial results showed him with just

21.4% of the vote. Hochman placed second with 17.7%, with the 10 other challengers splitting the remaining ballots. Jonathan Hatami, a child abuse prosecutor in the District Attorney's Office, placed third with 13.4%.

It was unclear how many countywide ballots from Tuesday's election still need to be tallied, or how many were submitted by mail by Tuesday's deadline but have not yet been received.

Despite leading all vote-getters in a crowded field, Gascón's roughly 21% tally suggests he could face a struggle to win over voters in November who opted for any of the other candidates on Tuesday's ballot.

"Tonight, three-quarters of Angelenos rejected George Gascón and said enough is enough of playing politics

with our communities' safety," Hochman wrote on social media Tuesday night. "The Golden Age of Criminals is coming to an end. In the general election, I look forward to unifying all those who want to restore safety in their communities, in their streets, parks, subways and neighborhoods. I look forward to restoring trust with prosecutors, a partnership with law enforcement and credibility with victims and the public."

Gascón said his opponents engaged in "fear-mongering" during the campaign

"It was all based on personal attacks and hyperbole, so I'm looking forward to actually a general election where we'll have meaningful conversations around policy, disagreements in policy, and what the solution should be," Gascón told KTLA5 Tuesday.

Gascón was elected in 2020 over incumbent Jackie Lacey as he promised a wave of progressive changes. But he has been under fire since taking office by issuing a series of directives critics have blasted as being soft on crime.

Continued on page 2



Voters will decide between George Gascon, left, and Nathan Hochman in November.

### Weekend at a Glance

Friday	71°	
Saturday	72°	
Sunday	68°	

### ON THIS DAY

- 1876:** Alexander Graham Bell received a patent for the telephone.
- 1965:** State troopers used nightsticks and tear gas to attack American civil rights activists as they crossed a bridge in Selma, Alabama, during their attempted march to the state capitol in Montgomery.
- 1986:** Divers located the crew cabin of the Space Shuttle Challenger on the ocean floor.
- 1987:** Mike Tyson became the youngest heavyweight to acquire the World Boxing Association (WBA) championship belt when he defeated James Smith in 12 rounds.



- 1994:** The Supreme Court ruled that parody constitutes fair use in deciding that 2 Live Crew's version of Roy Orbison's "(Oh) Pretty Woman" was legal.
- 1999:** Director Stanley Kubrick—whose iconic films are characterized by a cool, formal visual style, meticulous attention to detail, and a detached, often ironic pessimism—died in England.
- 2001:** The National Endowment for the Arts revealed its list of the top 365 "Songs Of The Century," topped by "Somewhere Over the Rainbow" and followed by "White Christmas" (#2) and "My Land is Your Land" (#3).
- 2010:** Kathryn Bigelow became the first woman to win an Academy Award for best director, for "The Hurt Locker."
- 2015:** Drake placed 14 songs in the Hot 100, thanks to the release of his mixtape "If You're Reading This It's Too Late."

### BIRTHDAYS

"Breaking Bad" star **BRYAN CRANSTON** (68), "Fifty Shades" author **E.L. JAMES** (61), comedian **WANDA SKYKES** (60), "The Office" star **JENNA FISCHER** (50) and poet **AMANDA GORMAN** (26).

# Gascón overturns Downey murder conviction

■ Two men were exonerated of the 2000 killing of a teen in Downey.

By Eric Pierce  
Editor

**DOWNEY** – Two men who were convicted for a 2000 killing in Downey were exonerated by District Attorney George Gascón on Wednesday, who said the men were wrongfully convicted.

The Downey Police Department disagreed with the decision.

Ronald Velasquez Jr. and Abraham Villalobos were convicted in 2001 for the shooting death of 15-year-old Michael Roybal, who was

shot as he opened the door of an apartment he was visiting on Deming Street in Downey, according to the District Attorney's Office.

Despite initially saying she could not see the perpetrators, a witness to the shooting positively identified Velasquez and Villalobos during the trial.

Velasquez was convicted of first-degree murder and sentenced to 50 years to life in prison. Villalobos was convicted of second-degree murder as an abettor to the crime, and was sentenced to 15 years to life in prison.

Villalobos was paroled in 2015, but according to the Loyola Law School's Project for the Innocent, he

was immediately deported to Mexico and has been unable to return to see his family in Los Angeles.

According to prosecutors, Velasquez filed a conviction-review request with the District Attorney's Office in 2021, and new evidence pointed to a man named Sergio Torres as the gunman.

Torres was killed in a drive-by shooting in October 2001, prosecutors said.

In court Wednesday, Velasquez and Villalobos were both declared factually innocent, and Velasquez was released from custody.

"Our commitment to seeking the truth is unwavering," Gascón said in a

statement. "The exoneration of these two men serves as a reminder of the importance of accountability within our own office and throughout the justice system."

Velasquez's attorney, John Hanusz, called the exoneration a long time coming.

"Ronald Velasquez Jr. and his family worked tirelessly for more than 20 years to demonstrate his innocence, and their pleas for justice fell on deaf ears -- until today," Hanusz said in a statement. "Mr. Velasquez Jr.'s exoneration also would not have been possible but for the pro bono work of private investigator Dana Orent."

The Downey Police

Department released a statement saying it did not agree with the DA's findings.

"The Downey Police Department did not participate in the [DA's] investigation," the statement read. "The City of Downey and the Downey Police Department disagree with the outcome of the...investigation and are disappointed in the District Attorney's decision."

"This case was prosecuted before a jury, which rightfully convicted both Velasquez and Villalobos of murder based on the substantial amount of evidence presented. Any 'new' evidence that was reviewed by the [DA] does not support a reversal of this outcome."

Additionally, the convictions themselves were repeatedly affirmed on appeal by the state courts as well.

"The Downey Police Department continues to maintain community safety as its top priority, and carries its duties with the highest integrity and accountability standards. The [Conviction Integrity Unit] investigation and decision by the District Attorney was not in any respect due to the Downey Police Department's handling of the case."

# Hochman, Gascón head for November runoff

Continued from page 1

The directives included a rule against seeking the death penalty, a ban on transferring juvenile defendants to adult court and prohibitions on filing sentencing-enhancements in most cases.

"This campaign is not about me, this is a community movement," Gascón said last November, when he kicked off his reelection campaign. "This is about looking at the criminal justice system of the 21st Century not with a rear-view

mirror but looking forward."

Also running for his job were three other members of Gascón's office: John McKinney, supervising district attorney; Maria Ramirez, the head deputy D.A.; and Eric Siddall, a violent crimes prosecutor.

Los Angeles County Superior Court Judges Debra Archuleta and Craig J. Mitchell were also on the ballot, along with David S. Milton, who retired as a Superior Court judge in 2014.

The other candidates were Jeff Chemerinsky, an assistant U.S. attorney; criminal defense attorney Dan Kapelovitz, and Lloyd "Bobcat" Masson, a cold case prosecutor in San Bernardino County.

Most of the opponents were challenging a number of Gascón's policies, with numerous candidates framing a narrative of out-of-control crime in Los Angeles, driven by lenient policies enabling criminals' release.

Hochman, a former U.S. assistant attorney general,

offered voters what he described as a "blueprint for justice."

"I am shocked and disappointed at how our public safety has seriously worsened over the last three years under current D.A. George Gascón," Hochman stated on his campaign website. "I am prepared to fight to restore it. My Blueprint for Justice outlines the changes I will make as your District Attorney to restore safety and justice to our county."

Hochman said that under

Gascón's leadership, veteran prosecutors were stripped of their ability to file appropriate charges against violent, repeat offenders.

As for part of his blueprint, Hochman vows to "restore the purpose of the District Attorney's Office to fairly, effectively, and vigorously prosecute those who break laws in Los Angeles County based on the evidence and the law."

Hochman said he would also "restore the integrity and independence of the district attorney by not making

decisions based on a party affiliation or political ideology but solely on the facts and the law."

His campaign points out that Hochman is running as an Independent.

Most of the challengers in the race said they planned to reverse the sweeping policy changes Gascón enacted on his first day in office. Gascón, despite all the criticism, was able to fend off two recall attempts. During a debate with nine of the 11 challengers, Gascón defended his directives.

## LEGACY CHURCH OF DOWNEY

We invite you to join the grand launch of our new services on **Palm Sunday - March 24th**, at either **9:30** or **11:00 AM**. We are expanding to accommodate our growth and to welcome new members, like you! Whether you've never been to a church or if you've been a Christian for a long time, now is the time for you to visit our church. We have several Easter events coming up, so **SAVE THE DATES**, and we will see you soon!

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Young Adults (18-30ish)	Tues. 7:00 PM
Recovery Ministries	Tues. 6:15 PM

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MARCH 31ST @ 9:30 & 11:00 AM

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SCAN

## LOOKING FOR A NEW CHURCH?



## Rich Loya finds his humanity

■ Downey resident Rich Loya discovered his talent for theater production in prison. His latest show opens this weekend in Culver City.

By Alistair Hunter  
Contributor

Rich Loya has spent almost 30 years in prison. At Avenal Prison, he was directed to specifically recruit 25 inmates to participate in an upcoming Tim Robbins' Actors' Gang Prison Project residency.

Loya came back with a list of five hardcore members from each of the self-segregated racial groups, including Whites and Blacks who by prison policy could not mingle. They were approved.

Loya has been successfully released now for six years. He married his teenage sweetheart, purchased his first new car, and adopted two dogs. He and his wife have made Downey their home.

He has also returned to prison. But this time as program manager for The Actors' Gang Prison Project which is active in 14 state prisons and in LA County Probation facilities.

Many people know of Tim Robbins the Oscar winning actor of "Shawshank Redemption," "Dead Man Walking," "Mystic River," and others. Most people don't know of Tim Robbins the Artistic Director of The Actors' Gang. For 40 years it has been a highly regarded ensemble creating some of the most significant theatre, and innovative theatre projects in Los Angeles.

For 17 years, The Prison Project has been recognized internationally as a rehabilitation program that has had a profound impact on incarcerated men, women, and youth.

Of the original 25 who participated in the Avenal Prison Project, 18 had life



Rich Loya, left, with Raiza Licea and Marcelina Valenzuela. Courtesy Eztli De Jesus @fotosbyeztli / Las Fotos Project

sentences. The Prison Board has found 17 suitable for release; 22 of the original 25 are now home.

"Prison culture does not allow the expression of emotions, especially fear," Loya said. "We began in a circle just introducing ourselves by our birth name. Not our monikers. I realized I didn't even know my best friend's name. How cut off from humanity I was. And from myself. I was ready to change."

"It was an intense experience," he added. "We discovered our humanity. Then came communication and understanding. Trust then empathy. By day three I was in tears. I wasn't alone. We learned emotional honesty, and how to break down barriers. To support human connection, and tools for life beyond bars."

Loya goes on to describe how theatre games and trust exercises led to the creation of high energy, highly stylized "Commedia dell' Arte" exaggerated stock characters. Faces were made into masks with makeup. Costumes were added. They improvised and created ensemble movement. All to express the key emotions of anger, happiness, sadness and fear with urgency.

Loya has since been

invited to join the professional ensemble of "Ybor City," their new play which opens March 7. It is their first bilingual play written and directed by Mariana Da Silva, with movement by Stephanie G. Galindo. Infused with popular Latin songs, and projections, it is performed in English and Spanish with supertitles.

Robbins has guided the writing and production saying, "This innovative approach invites audiences into a mesmerizing world where movement and language converge, transcending cultural and linguistic barriers."

Yorba City in Tampa, Florida was founded in the 1880's by Vincente Martinez-Ybor who moved his cigar factory from Cuba and built a vibrant community including housing for his immigrant workers from Cuba, Spain, and Italy. The cigar factories were hugely successful and provided the world with cigars for over 50 years.

Ybor City was a vibrant, radical, and diverse community, interested in politics and ideology.

The play introduces the oral tradition of the lector, or reader. The workers hired the lectors themselves. The lectors provided relief from the work.

They also educated the illiterate workers.

Lectors read from newspapers, pamphlets, and novels while the workers hand rolled cigars. Labor conditions were poor. Many of them died on the job. Conditions worsened. In the play, a radical consciousness leads to the first female lector.

Robbins notes, "as the lector reads to the workers - particularly Miguel de Cervantes' "Don Quixote" and Henry David Thoreau's essays - we also celebrate the transformative power of literature. 'Ybor City' portrays a culture at its peak - blending historical fiction, fantastic realism, supernatural intrigue, and the revolutionary spirit - as it speaks directly to the human heart, which is part of The Actors' Gang artistic mission."

As a former teacher and school administrator in the Los Angeles County Office of Education, the Los Angeles County High School for the Arts, and as project director for CTG/Mark Taper Forum, L A TheatreWorks, and Theatre of Hearts Guest Artist Residencies, I have witnessed young people opened to a new awareness of who they are, and

who they can be through the arts.

The Downey Arts Coalition is "Empowering Voices in the Community" by inviting the community to join them at DAC Night at the Actor's Gang - Ybor City, on Saturday, March 23, at 8 pm. Discount tickets \$20 are available online at theactorsgang.com using the code DAC5 or call (310) 838-4264.

The performance will be followed with a talkback with Rich Loya.

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# Porter calls Senate primary election 'rigged'

■ After losing Tuesday, Rep. Katie Porter said the election is rigged by outside donors.

By City News Service

While Democratic Rep. Adam Schiff and Republican former Dodger Steve Garvey prepare for a November runoff election after topping a crowded

field of candidates looking to claim the U.S. Senate seat previously held by the late Dianne Feinstein, Katie Porter is catching flack Thursday for saying the system to select candidates is rigged.

Porter, a member of Congress representing Irvine who finished third in the primary election, posted on social media Wednesday that

donors supporting Schiff used their money to rig the election.

"Thank you to everyone who supported our campaign and voted to shake up the status quo in Washington. Because of you, we had the establishment running scared -- withstanding 3 to 1 in TV spending and an onslaught of billionaires spending millions to rig this election," Porter said in a post after the race was called.

According to still-unofficial results from Tuesday's primary election, Schiff, D-Burbank, led the way among the more than two dozen candidates seeking the seat, earning 33.2% of the vote. Garvey was only about 30,000 votes behind, earning 32.4% of the tally.

Porter, D-Irvine, was a distant third at 13.8%, and Rep. Barbara Lee, D-Oakland, placed fourth at just 7.4%.

Porter issued a statement Thursday to address criticism for saying the primary election was rigged.

"Rigged" means

manipulated by dishonest means," Porter said in a statement.

"That is dishonest means to manipulate the outcome. I said 'rigged by billionaires' and our politics are -- in fact -- manipulated by big dark money. Defending democracy means calling that out," Porter said.

She made it clear she did not claim the vote count or the election process was rigged. Rather the donors funding candidates are using their money in inappropriate ways. She said the state election process is "beyond reproach."

Many pundits were anticipating a Schiff-Garvey runoff, with most believing it could result in an easy Schiff victory in heavily Democratic California as they fight for a full six-year term in the Senate.

Schiff and Garvey will actually appear twice on the November ballot, with both also seeking to fill out the remainder of Feinstein's term, which ends in January.

Schiff claimed victory at a Hollywood rally Tuesday night.

"It looks like we're going to the general, ladies and gentlemen," Schiff said. "So a little over a year ago we kicked off this campaign and I won't say it wasn't without its bumps along the way. I seem to recall, although it's a little hazy, within hours of our announcement a certain Kevin McCarthy kicked me off the Intelligence Committee. ... And then at the urging and badgering of Donald Trump, the Republicans censured me for holding him accountable. ... And then Trump would attack me after rally after rally.

"... But you had my back every step of the way, every step of the way. You helped us build the biggest grassroots campaign for Senate in California history and I cannot thank you enough."

Things were notably calmer in Palm Desert, where Garvey hailed his advance to the November runoff. He compared the election results to "what it's like to hit a walk-off home run."

"Your vote was your shared belief with me that California is no longer the heartbeat of America -- but now just a murmur," Garvey said. "That we have challenges to face up to -- like closing the border. And responsibilities to live up to -- like helping the homeless off the

streets with a pathway back to their dignity. And that if we do those things and more -- that our best days will be ahead of us. With California once again being the heartbeat of America. As we celebrate tonight -- I want you to know that we haven't come this far, to only go this far.

"When I stepped on the field for the Dodgers and Padres, I didn't play for Democrats, Republicans or Independents -- I played for all the fans. And now I'm running for all of the people."

Porter conceded defeat during a gathering with supporters in Long Beach, saying she remains convinced that voters want to see change in Washington.

"You want leaders who demand better from both parties, leaders who want progress not partisanship, officials whose bottom line is people, not profits," she said. "That is why we were able to turn heads in this campaign and make the people in power listen and run scared. Let's be honest, I think all of us can agree that our government isn't working well for us, for families, for Californians, for workers, for consumers. So many of those in power are too interested in helping other powerful people instead of paying attention to the needs of everyday people. Too many are more interested in being an elected official than in actually doing anything to fix the problems that everyday people face."

## In Memory of

### Paula Ponce Sanchez

June 18, 1927 - February 22, 2024



Downey, California - It is with great sadness and heavy hearts that we announce the passing of our beloved mother, Paula Ponce at the age of 96.

Paula was born in Tlajamalco, Mexico to Vicenta and Domingo Sanchez. She was the fourth of eighteen children.

She joined her sister in Los Angeles, California in her early 20's and married Juan M. Ponce. Paula had six children, Sandra (Cliff) Starn, Mary (Dave) Ramsey, Raymond (Karen) Ponce, Jack (Deana) Ponce, Abraham (Melody) Ponce and Cathy (Stephen) Kustra.

Paula was instrumental in building a real estate portfolio with her husband. She worked alongside him while raising her six children. Paula enjoyed sewing, painting, flower arranging and her many pets. She had a gift for cooking and was well known for her famous salsa. She was a good listener, gave great advice to family and friends, had a wicked sense of humor, and people gravitated to her for counsel and family stories. Paula will be greatly missed by all of us who dearly loved her. She was preceded in death by her parents and eleven brothers and sisters. She is survived by six siblings, twelve grandchildren and four great grandchildren. Her family would like to express sincere gratitude to her caregivers, Arcelia, Angie, Maria and Josefina who were angels with their compassion and care.

A mass will be held at 11am at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Downey on March 21st.



## St. Joseph's Table

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Sat. March 16 - 5:00 pm Liturgy - Procession and Blessing to follow  
Pasta Dinner & Pastries will be served 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm  
Sunday March 17 - 9:00 am Liturgy -  
Procession to follow - Viewing 8:00 am - 3:00 pm  
Pasta Dinner & Pastries will be served 11:00 am - 3:00 pm  
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## The AP course that America’s kids need

Women’s contributions to U.S. history are being undermined in our classrooms.

By Elena Sheppard

Elena Sheppard is a culture writer who focuses on books, fashion, theater and history. Her first book, “The Eternal Forest: A Memoir of the Cuban Diaspora,” is forthcoming from St. Martin’s Press.

It wasn’t until I got to college that I learned much of anything about women in US history. I had sort of learned about the first ladies (but really just because I’d learned about their husbands) and I’d learned about Betsy Ross (whose legacy as the one to sew the first American flag fits right into historic narratives about women’s work). But while sitting in a first-year college lecture about women’s roles throughout our nation’s growth, I remember feeling stunned that I hadn’t heard most of these names before: Dorothea Dix and her 19th century work to fundamentally change the medical field; Lucy Delaney, the formerly enslaved activist and memoirist; even Elizabeth Cady Stanton, 19th century leader of the women’s rights movement, who occupied only a pullout blurb in my high school textbook.

This gap in my education — and in many American students’ educations — is one with serious repercussions. If during the foundational years of our education, we are perpetuating a male-centric past, our male-centric present begins to feel inevitable. On a policy level, women’s rights are currently being eroded across the United States and women are still fighting for equal pay for equal work. Were we taught in school how fundamental women’s history is to understanding American history, we would not find ourselves in a position where American kids grow up to be American adults with a spotty understanding of women’s contributions and women’s stories. If, while in school, we are taught that the most important histories are about men and written by men, it only makes sense that we then grow up to believe (subconsciously or not) that men’s experiences are the most important ones, too.

A 2017 report by the National Women’s History Museum

researched K-12 educational standards in social studies classes nationwide, examining how curricula addressed women and their stories. “All history projects require choices. Including a person or event excludes another. Women often don’t make the cut,” the writers explained. “The most recent study, published in 2016, found that women continue to make up a small percentage of figures in US history textbooks, including illustrations and sidebars.”

The 2017 report also found that when women are included, it’s often as an addendum. “Women are frequently included in lists of marginalized groups as a reminder to teachers that when covering a broad topic, they should also include the experiences of women among others,” their report reads.

Seven years later, not much has improved. To combat that, two high school history teachers have started a national campaign to incorporate more women’s history into high school classrooms via Advanced Placement (AP) classes. Kristen Kelly and Serene Williams are petitioning the College Board — the entity in charge of AP exams and the suite of SAT tests — to create an AP US Women’s History Course. Their argument, as laid out on their website, is that women’s history is not sufficiently taught. In response to a request for comment by The 19th last year, the College Board did not make anyone available for interview, but did release a statement about their criteria for course assessment: “Key to that process is colleges and universities’ willingness to award college credit and placement to students who achieve qualifying AP exam scores,” a spokesperson told The 19th. “Additionally, we evaluate new courses to determine if there is significant demand for the course in high schools. Finally, the launch of the course must also serve the Advanced Placement program’s mission to expand access to a broader student population.”

Were the College Board to stand behind the importance of this subject matter, that would go a long way toward bringing it into non-AP classrooms as well. AP classes and exams are used by both students and college admissions as a marker of academic seriousness and rigor; were women’s history given its own AP course, that subject matter’s importance and depth would be underscored. Of course, it should not only be AP students who are given the opportunity to learn this history. But creating an AP curriculum around it would shine a national spotlight on its importance, hopefully

encouraging other learning environments to follow suit.

In a Ms. Magazine article, Kelly and Williams point out that in AP US Government & Politics, and even with the 2022 overturning of Roe v. Wade, of the 14 Supreme Court cases required to be taught, none of them have to do with women’s equality. Of the course’s core texts, none are written by women. In AP US History, women’s suffrage, for example, is taught as just one of many movements encapsulated in the Progressive Era. The end result is a general devaluing of women’s histories, stories and contributions. If we are teaching our students that women are a sidebar to men, is it any wonder if that’s what they grow up to believe?

There is a precedent for this kind of change from the College Board. This coming school year will mark the launch of the AP African American Studies course, introduced after similar backlash highlighted the underrepresentation of the subject matter in the nation’s high school classrooms. The course has faced substantial controversy, with the coursework being revised and many scholars left unsatisfied with the final course offering, saying it doesn’t go far enough into structural racism or critical race theory.

On the other hand, Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis has vowed to ban the course from his state’s classrooms on the grounds that it is promoting a political agenda. Other states — including Arkansas, Virginia, North Dakota and Mississippi — quickly decided that they too would need to review the AP offerings to make sure that they don’t violate state restrictions on the teaching of race. It’s a safe assumption that a women’s studies AP course would face similar controversy and scrutiny, particularly with the inclusion of women’s reproductive rights. But by not teaching students we are doing them a disservice, especially as yet another generation grows up with this educational gap.

Women are not sidebars. But by undermining and undervaluing their contributions and histories, that is exactly what we’re teaching our students. Women’s stories should be fully integrated in our national narrative, and we should be teaching our students as much. Women deserve more, high schoolers deserve more, all of us deserve more. And it’s our responsibility to help make it so.

## Time to end our obsession with Oprah

Oprah is 70 years old and no longer with Weight Watchers; can we let her live?

By Elena Sheppard

Elena Sheppard is a culture writer who focuses on books, fashion, theater and history. Her first book, “The Eternal Forest: A Memoir of the Cuban Diaspora,” is forthcoming from St. Martin’s Press.

This week, Oprah Winfrey announced that she would be stepping away from the board of the Weight Watchers (WW) brand and divesting her 10% share in the company. Many will remember when Oprah began her partnership with WW nearly 10 years ago. At the time, the company was struggling to make new profits and Oprah’s Midas touch took the company and its stock to new levels.

Who can forget Oprah’s famous “I. Love. Bread.” commercial? With taglines such as: “Eat bread. Lose weight. Whaaatrrrr?” She too, had me at bread. I can recall joining WW shortly after the birth of my second child during the early years of Oprah’s partnership. For decades, America has followed Oprah through every major weight loss trend, and this was no exception.

During the height of Oprah’s daytime talk show, viewers tuned in five days a week to learn about “how to live their best lives.” Oprah illustrated the many ways one achieved wellness, and for better or worse the theme of weight loss dominated her 25-year run. In 1988, she infamously rolled out 67 pounds of animal fat in a red wagon to illustrate the weight she lost from a 30-day liquid only diet. She later deeply regretted such a stunt, calling it a “Big, big, big, big, big, big, big mistake!”

In 1994, Oprah ran her first marathon to celebrate her

40th birthday. Her time during the Marine Corp Marathon was 4:29:15, which became the benchmark to beat for any celebrity that wanted to best Oprah. She graced the cover of “Runner’s World” in matching spandex coral colored sports bra and running shorts with the headline: “Oprah Did it, So Can You.” In 2008, Oprah kicked off a vegan craze, where she and the entire staff at Harpo Studios, her production company, opted to eat vegan for a short time.

All throughout her professional life, Oprah’s struggles with weight loss and gain have been iconic. But this year, Oprah also turned 70 years old, and the public still cannot relinquish its gaze on her body or health journey. During her red carpets events for the premiere of “The Color Purple,” the internet became obsessed again with Oprah’s small waistline and thinner figure. It raised questions about Oprah taking medical weight loss drugs such as Ozempic or Wegovy. Known for transparency, she shared she was indeed taking weight-loss medication. Perhaps she hoped that her own choices would remove the stigma that comes from medical intervention.

WW has also strategically launched a plan for its members to take advantage of weight loss drugs and even telehealth services to offer virtual prescriptions for patients when applicable. Oprah’s departure from WW comes at an interesting moment in our weight obsessed culture.

What happens when our aspirations for “living our best lives” no longer requires 30-day liquid diets, marathons or going vegan? While many will certainly see this as a progressive change, I am not confident that Oprah’s leaving WW is a mission accomplished moment. The solution to weight loss appears to be “take the shot” or

“pop a pill.” In various ways, it feels like the culture has punted on figuring out what “fat” actually is. Scientists still have no definitive answers about what makes someone fat; it is not just what you eat or how much you eat. Most of America is convinced that fat or obese people are always unhealthy: not true. The public is also generally deceived into the idea that skinny people somehow can’t be unwell. These ideas harm everyone.

With Oprah stepping down, many people will lose their measure or point of reference for what is ahead or behind the curve as it relates to their weight and health. Hollywood has taken its fixation with thinness to new levels. But celebrity voices are hardly needed anymore when social media influencers can stir the culture just as much with their medical weight loss journeys for all to see. The dopamine shot from dropping another few pounds is drowning out all of the canaries in the coal mine that call out the potentially harmful side effects of Ozempic and other similar drugs.

Oprah’s departure will also have particular meaning for the Black community. As a result of her announcement, WW stock plunged 25% in value. Oprah stated that she will be donating the shares of her stock to the National Museum of African American History and Culture. While it may seem like a significant donation to the museum, the shares are only as valuable as the company, which just took a major hit. In order for the museum to see a boon, the company will have to continue to do well. One might also ask what it means for the nation’s preeminent Black history museum to be economically tethered to a weight loss company.

Ultimately, Oprah can do whatever she wants with her money, her time and her talents. Stepping down is her prerogative. But perhaps, it’s finally time that our culture also relinquishes its obsession with Oprah’s body — and along with it, its anti-fat bias and attachments to seemingly quick-fix solutions to much bigger problems.

## Proud Trump supporter

Dear Editor:

I am proud to be part of the MAGA crowd – those of us who support the great four years former President Trump gave us: No new wars. Low inflation. Energy independence. Peace in the Middle East. Secure border. Respect in foreign countries.

As a MAGA supporter, I would love to have another four great years under Donald J. Trump’s presidency.

As for the many indictments against Trump, all were brought forth after Trump announced he was running for re-election in 2024. Why didn’t E. Jean Carroll bring forth rape charges against Trump in 1995-1996 when the incident allegedly took place? Why is Trump charged with overturning the election when many Democrats have questioned the election results in the past, and Hillary Clinton maintains that Trump was an illegitimate President? DA Letticia James and DA Fani Willis ran on the platform of “Getting Trump”, and Jack Smith, who also hates Trump, was selected by Merrick Garland to preside over the document case in Mar A Lago.

If Trump were to cease his Presidential campaign, all charges would be dropped. He is the biggest threat to Joe Biden being re-elected, and the indictments are attempts to destroy Trump’s credibility, bankrupt him of campaign funds, and yes, imprison him.

Those supporters of the current two-tiered, biased justice department in D.C. under the leadership of the Biden Administration truly are the ones who have their heads stuck in the sand.

Martha Morrissey  
Downey

## Increasing trash fees

Dear Editor:

I live in an 8-unit condo complex in Downey. The trash pickup before Athens implemented their new collection agenda to comply with SB 1383 was \$2,688.72 a year.

The HOA is now stuck with a bill of \$6,186 a year. This is an increase of \$3,497.28 a year.

Surely someone from the city was involved in working with Athens to ensure that this new program would not bankrupt the residents who rely on having their trash picked up. I would be interested in learning what other alternatives in pricing were brought forward. Or how we will now pay over 100% more to have the trash picked up.

In addition, Athens will be sending the “trash police” to monitor the trash in our containers. If Athens wants to increase their bottom line then I suggest they monitor all the overfilled bins I see throughout the city on trash pickup day.

I can’t wait for Athens to do their yearly increase next year so we can pay even more money to have our trash picked up.

Joyce Tryby  
Downey

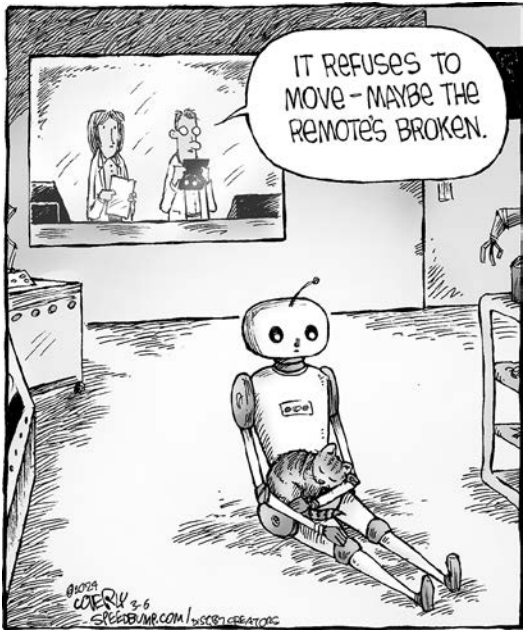
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## SPEED BUMP



## 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.  
 1 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.  
 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.  
 2nd Sat., 9-11 am: Free pancake breakfast, at Trinity Baptist Church in Downey, 8219 Florence Ave.

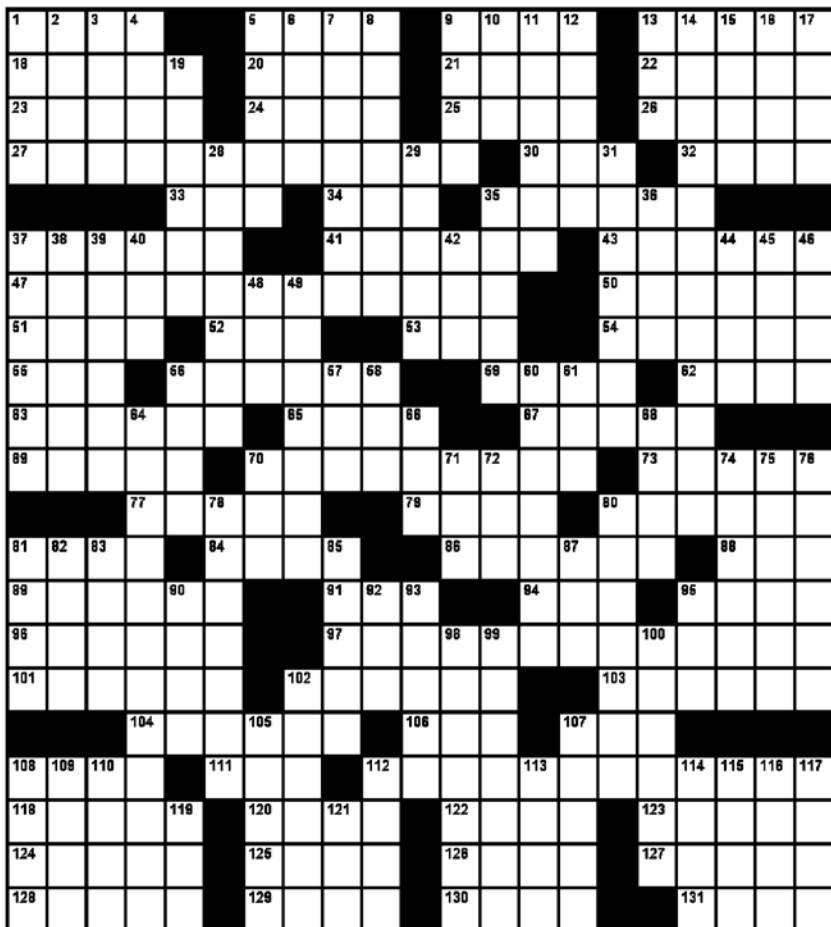
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**IT'LL HOLD WATER: Human-made and otherwise**  
 by Mark McClain

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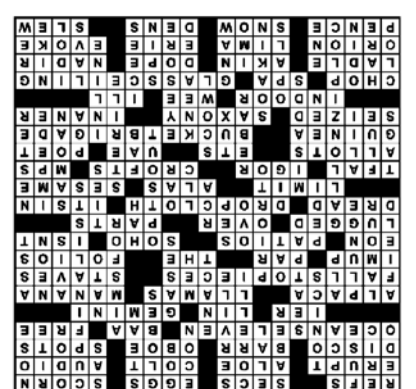
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...and aluminum from a combination of "Teffon" company (8) Across got its name in southeastern France, the TEAL affix of "foliage." Headquartered word for "tear," thus is a close relative. The word FOILIO (54 Across) is derived from a Latin creation. The word FOILIO (54 Across) submitted for consideration; her entry was selected from the 1,400+ submitted for consideration. Memorial while a Yale undergrad design for the Vietnam Veterans (34 Across) created her











# Downey wrestler wins state championship

■ Christina Osorio becomes the first girls state wrestling champion in Downey High history.

**DOWNEY** – Downey High School Senior, Christina Osorio, beat the nation's number five seed to finish first at the 2024 CIF State championship in Bakersfield on Saturday, Feb. 24.

"It feels really good being the first Downey High Girls State Champion. It feels like I made my mark in girls wrestling," shared Osorio shortly after her historic win.

Osorio competed for three days in Bakersfield, wrestling a total of five matches against familiar top-tier wrestling opponents. "I went into the tournament the number four seed and beat the top seed in the semi-finals. In the finals, I won against the girl who beat me at Masters. It felt really good to win," shared Osorio about her matchups.

Having coached Osorio

since her sophomore year, Downey High wrestling coach Rodger Rios spoke highly of Osorio's wrestling skills by describing her as highly athletically gifted with the knowledge to use a wide variety of wrestling techniques in her matches.

"What's most impressive about Christina's win is the sheer amount of talent that she has been up against in the CIF-Southern Section, which is well-known for its talent across the nation" Rios added while noting that the California CIF State Championship in girls wrestling is considered one of the top three in the nation.

Osorio boasts an incredible high school record, including taking first place at Masters and placing fifth in the State tournament during her junior year, multiple league championships, and placing second at CIF for three consecutive years. She also helped the Viking girls wrestling team take second place at the CIF State Tournament in 2023.

When asked who she would like to thank for her success, Osorio acknowledged her family, friends, and coaches were among the people who had believed in her the most. Osorio began wrestling at the age of five and was mentored by her father and brother, the latter of whom, Felix Osorio, wrestled for Cerritos College and became a State Champion his sophomore year.

As a senior, Osorio has plans to attend a four-year college on a wrestling scholarship. While she has received several offers, her recent success means she is likely to receive more as she approaches graduation.

When asked about Osorio's future potential, Coach Rios expressed his enthusiasm for her prospects.

"It's clear Christina loves the sport and I fully expect her to be nationally ranked at the college level soon. I could see her making the Olympic team. She's that good."



## Community Based Organization Funding Program

The CBO Funding Request Program is designed to help assist local non-profit organizations in providing community benefits to Downey residents.

**Application is open through March 22, 2024**

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT [WWW.DOWNNEYCA.ORG/CBO](http://WWW.DOWNNEYCA.ORG/CBO) OR CALL 562-904-7238

## LEGALS

**Attorney for petitioner:**  
**PAUL HORN ESQ**  
**SBN 243227**  
**PAUL HORN LAW GROUP PC**  
11404 SOUTH STREET  
CERRITOS CA 90703  
CN104911 TANUVASA Mar 7,14,21, 2024

**CN104911**  
**The Downey Patriot**  
3/7/24, 3/14/24, 3/21/24

### SUMMONS

SUMMONS – EVICTION (CITACION JUDICIAL – DESALOJO) UNLAWFUL DETAINER/FORCIBLE DETAINER/FORCIBLE ENTRY (RETENCION ILICITA DE UN INMUEBLE/RETENCION FORZOSA/ENTRADA FORZOSA)  
NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: AVISO AL DEMANDADO (Nombre): Kenny Aguilar, Magno Ernesto Aguilar, Does 1 to 10  
¡AVISO! Usted ha sido demandado. Si no responde dentro de 5 días, el tribunal puede emitir un fallo en su contra sin una audiencia. Una vez que le entreguen esta citación y papeles legales, solo tiene 5 DÍAS, sin contar sábado y domingo y otros días feriados del tribunal, para presentar una respuesta por escrito en este tribunal y hacer que se entregue a usted o al demandante.  
A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find

these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center ([www.courts.ca.gov/selfhelp](http://www.courts.ca.gov/selfhelp)), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court.  
Una carta o una llamada telefónica no lo protege. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y más información en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California ([www.sucorte.ca.gov](http://www.sucorte.ca.gov)), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede más cerca. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por falta de comparecencia y se le podrá quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin más advertencia.  
There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services website ([www.lawhelpca.org](http://www.lawhelpca.org)), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center ([www.courts.ca.gov/selfhelp](http://www.courts.ca.gov/selfhelp)), or by contacting your local court or county bar association.  
Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remisión a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services, ([www.lawhelpcalifornia.org](http://www.lawhelpcalifornia.org)), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, ([www.sucorte.ca.gov](http://www.sucorte.ca.gov)) o poniéndose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados local.  
FEE WAIVER: If you cannot pay the filing

fee, ask the clerk for a fee waiver form.  
NOTE: The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of \$10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case.  
EXENCION DE CUOTAS: Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario de la corte que le dé un formulario de exención de pago de cuotas. AVISO: Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos exentos con un gravamen sobre cualquier cantidad de \$10,000 ó más recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesión de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desestimar el caso.  
1. The name and address of the court is (El nombre y dirección de la corte es): Santa Barbara County Superior Court 1100 Anacapa Street Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
2. The name, address, and telephone number of the plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is: (El nombre, la dirección y el número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es): Charles M. Oxton 1220 State Street, 2nd Floor Santa Barbara, CA 93101 Charles M. Oxton SBN 054267 (805) 963-2011  
PLAINTIFF (Name): The 1999 Trust  
DEFENDANT (Name): Kenny Aguilar, Magno Ernesto Aguilar  
CASE NUMBER: 23CV05621  
Date (Fecha): DECEMBER 20, 2023 Clerk, by (Secretario) /s/ Sarah Sisto, Deputy (Adjunto)  
**The Downey Patriot**  
3/7/24, 3/14/24, 3/21/24, 3/28/24

### TRUSTEE SALES

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE Trustee Sale No.: 00000009712894 Title Order No.: 230017619 FHA/VA/PMI No.: YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF

TRUST, DATED 09/22/2007, UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. BARRETT DAFFIN FRAPPIER TREDER AND WEISS, LLP, as duly appointed Trustee under and pursuant to Deed of Trust Recorded on 10/01/2007 as Instrument No. 20072247722 of official records in the office of the County Recorder of LOS ANGELES County, State of CALIFORNIA. EXECUTED BY: DELIA ELEANOR STOVER, A WIDOW, WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH, CASHIER'S CHECK/ CASH EQUIVALENT or other form of payment authorized by California Civil Code 2924h(b), (payable at time of sale in lawful money of the United States). DATE OF SALE: 04/18/2024 TIME OF SALE: 9:00 AM PLACE OF SALE: Doubletree Hotel Los Angeles-Norwalk, 13111 Sycamore Drive, Norwalk, CA 90650, Vineyard Ballroom, STREET ADDRESS and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 12269 LAKEWOOD BOULEVARD, DOWNEY, CALIFORNIA 90242 APN#: 6261-018-028 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. Said sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances; to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by said Deed of Trust, with interest thereon, as provided in said note(s), advances, under the terms of said Deed of Trust, fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust. The total amount of the unpaid balance of the obligation secured by the property to be sold and reasonable estimated costs, expenses and advances at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale is \$142,891.22. The beneficiary under said Deed of Trust heretofore executed and delivered to the undersigned a written

Declaration of Default and Demand for Sale, and a written Notice of Default and Election to Sell. The undersigned caused said Notice of Default and Election to Sell to be recorded in the county where the real property is located. NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, 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 833-561-0243 for information regarding the trustee's sale or visit this Internet Web site [WWW.SALES.BDFGROUP.COM](http://WWW.SALES.BDFGROUP.COM) for information regarding the sale of this property, using the file number assigned to this case 00000009712894. 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: 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 833-561-0243, or visit this internet website [WWW.SALES.BDFGROUP.COM](http://WWW.SALES.BDFGROUP.COM) using the file number assigned to this case 00000009712894 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 TRUSTEE SALE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL: 833-561-0243 [WWW.SALES.BDFGROUP.COM](http://WWW.SALES.BDFGROUP.COM), BARRETT DAFFIN FRAPPIER TREDER AND WEISS, LLP IS ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. BARRETT DAFFIN FRAPPIER TREDER AND WEISS, LLP as Trustee 3990 E. Concourse Street, Suite 350 Ontario, CA 91764 (866) 795-1852 Dated: 03/01/2024 A-FN4811056 03/07/2024, 03/14/2024, 03/21/2024  
**ASAP-FNMA 4811056**  
**The Downey Patriot**  
3/7/24, 3/14/24 3/21/24

## Dream For All down payment program opens next month

The Dream For All Shared Appreciation Loan is a down payment assistance program for first-time homebuyers to be used in conjunction for down payment and/or closing costs. (We recommend to use it all towards down payment so that the borrower can avoid paying for mortgage insurance.)

### How it works:

- Homebuyers receive a shared appreciation loan to help them reach a down payment of up to 20% of their home's purchase price.
- The homeowner pays back the original loan amount plus 20% of any appreciation in the value of the home.
- The program drawing is set to open April 3 and close April 29 of 2024.

### Borrower requirements:

- Be a first-time generational home buyer. A first-generation homebuyer is defined as a homebuyer who has not been on title, held an ownership interest or have been named on a mortgage to a home (on permanent foundation and owned land) in the United States in the last 7 years, and;
- To the best of the homebuyer's knowledge whose parents (biological or adoptive) do not have any present ownership interest in a home in the United States or if deceased whose parents did not have any ownership interest at the time of death in a home in the United States, or;
- An individual who has at any time been placed in foster care or institutional care (type of out of home residential care for large groups of children by non-related

caregivers)

- Occupy the property as a primary residence
- Must complete two levels of homebuyer education counseling and obtain a certificate of completion through an eligible homebuyer counseling organization.
- Meet CalHFA income limits for this program.

### Property Requirements:

- Be a single-family, one-unit residence (guest houses, granny units, and in-law quarters may be eligible)
- Manufactured housing is permitted
- Condominiums must meet the guidelines of the first mortgage

### Benefits:

- Comparatively lower interest rate than another assistance program
- No private mortgage insurance (PMI) means lower monthly payments (if 20% is used towards down payment).
- Lower monthly payment due to a lower loan amount
- Increased buying power

The homeowner doesn't repay the loan until they sell, refinance for a second time, or transfer the property. The repayment will be the initial 20% down lent to buy the home and 20% of the shared equity that was made during the home ownership

For questions or more information, contact Chris Aziz at (562) 378-6781 or Chris.Aziz@CCM.com

## Carpenters tribute show returning to Downey Theatre

By Alex Dominguez  
Staff Writer

**DOWNEY** – The Carpenters Legacy, a tribute show celebrating the music and legacy of Karen and Richard Carpenter, will return to the Downey Theatre next month as part of the Carpenters 55th Anniversary Celebration.

The performance will take place on April 24 at 8 pm.

Starring Sally Olson as Karen Carpenter and Ned Mills as Richard Carpenter, the show is a recreation of what audiences may have seen when seeing the Carpenters live in the 1970's. The show currently maintains a residency in the V Theater at Planet Hollywood Resort & Casino in Las Vegas.

"This show is based on the Carpenters live concerts,

centering around their 1976 tours," said Mills. "What we did is we're one of the only tributes out there that we actually perform in character, including duplicating their dialogue, their banter with each other and the audience. For a lot of people who have never seen the Carpenters perform live, there's an entertaining side of them that they wouldn't know unless they purchase a ticket to see them live. Sally does a big drum feature like the way Karen did. Richard does a classical piano feature, and so we've put that into the show as well.

"In other words, after people have seen the show, they realize that the Carpenters didn't just come up with a bunch of wonderful, beautiful hits, but there's an entertaining side to them as well."

This is the third time that the show will perform at the Downey Theatre.

Olson called Downey "The Graceland of the Carpenters."

"When I first started performing as Karen, going back to even before I met Ned, I had the goal and the aspiration of bringing the show one day to the Downey Theatre because of the Carpenter's History there," said Olson. "The audience at the Downey Theatre, they're probably some of the best audiences we've ever had because they're so proud of that Carpenters connection and the energy is really just thrilling."

For ticket information, visit [www.downeytheatre.org](http://www.downeytheatre.org) or call (562) 861-8211.

## Historic preservation can lead to property tax savings

■ The Mills Act provides property tax relief to owners of qualified historic properties.

By Jeff Prang  
L.A. County Assessor

We can all learn from the past as those valuable history lessons provides us with a solid foundation that builds on a better future. I believe that to be a true statement.

I also know that history can lead to a property tax savings' program that preserves as well as saves money.

The Mills Act is an economic incentive program in California for the restoration and preservation of qualified historic buildings by property owners. Enacted in 1972, the Mills Act legislation grants participating cities and counties the authority to enter into contracts with owners of qualified historic properties who actively participate in the rehabilitation, restoration, preservation, and maintenance of their historic properties. The Mills Act permits property tax relief to offset the costs.

Mills Act contracts are for an initial term of 10 years. A contract automatically renews each year on its anniversary date and a new 10-year agreement becomes effective, creating a rolling contract term that is always equal to the initial terms of the contract.

How does the property tax relief work?

After a property owner enters into a contract, the local government agency notifies the Assessor - in this case my office - of the contract. We will then annually determine the value of a Mills Act property based upon a prescribed capitalization rate as provided

for in Revenue and Taxation Code section 439.2 (b) or (c). This is a restricted value. We will then compare this restricted value to the current market value and the factored base year value (also known as the "Proposition 13" value). The lowest of the three values is then enrolled, which is most likely the restricted value.

In fact, that's where the property tax savings comes in. The restricted value can be considerably lower, many times more than half, than the other values creating a tax savings for the owner. Since all properties are assessed annually, Mills Act properties may even undergo more decreases, possibly increases, in property taxes each year as market conditions change.

Each year all Mills Act enrolled properties are notified by mail of their Mills Act values for that year as determined by the Assessor. This notification is typically sent out when a new contract value is first enrolled, or annually in May for existing

contracts.

How can I get my property registered or find out if my property qualifies for the Mills Act Program?

Each city and county (unincorporated Los Angeles County) may have different procedures for local historic designation. Contact the Planning Department or Community Development of your local municipality to confirm whether they participate in the Mills Act Program, the criteria that would need to be met, and the application process. Your building may already be considered a contributing structure to an established historic area. Also, many buildings that were not designated as historic on past surveys may now be eligible to qualify as historic.

For more information, please go to my website at [assessor.lacounty.gov/tax-relief/mills-act](http://assessor.lacounty.gov/tax-relief/mills-act) or review the state guidelines at State Board of Equalization Guidelines.



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DRE #00542721

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**NEW LISTING**



**NORTH DOWNEY CHARMER**

- 4 bedrooms
- 2 bathroom
- 1,792 sq ft living space
- 8,432 sq ft lot
- Den with fireplace
- Attached 2 car garage
- Sparkling pool

**LIST PRICE: \$975,000**

**JUST LISTED**



**DUPLEX IN COMPTON**

- Two 2 bed room, 1 bathroom
- Extra space behind 2nd unit to add ADU

**LIST PRICE: \$639,000**

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**OPEN HOUSE SAT & SUN 12-4PM**

- 3 bedrooms
- 1 bathroom
- 936 sq ft living space
- Rebuilt in 2014


**LIST PRICE: \$589,000**



**SPRING FORWARD**

On March 10, 2024 your clocks are set forward one hour

**IN ESCROW**



**12347 HORLEY AVE, DOWNEY**

- 3 bedrooms
- 2 bathrooms
- 1,278 sq ft
- Newer roof
- Newer A/C
- Copper plumbing

**SOLD IN 9 DAYS!!!**  
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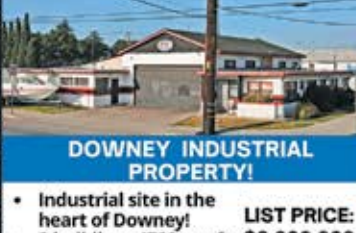


**SOUTH GATE CHARMER**

- 2 bedrooms
- 1 bathroom
- 1,204 sq ft living space
- 5,505 sq ft lot
- Bonus room
- Remodeled kitchen
- Pool

**LIST PRICE: \$699,900**

**BACK ON MARKET**



**DOWNEY INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY!**

- Industrial site in the heart of Downey!
- 2 buildings 4700+ sq ft.
- 38,000+ lot

**LIST PRICE: \$2,399,999**

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**JUST SOLD IN NW DOWNEY!**

- 3 BD | 2 BA
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- EASTVALE
- FULLERTON
- HUNTINGTON BEACH
- LA HABRA
- LAKE FOREST
- LOS ANGELES
- LONG BEACH
- MISSION VIEJO
- LAKEWOOD
- NORWALK
- PICO RIVERA
- SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO
- SANTA MARIA
- SOUTH GATE
- WESTMINSTER
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**SOLD IN OVER 30 CITIES**

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**DOWNEY DEAL!**

- 2 beds
- 1 bath
- 832 sq ft
- 5,120 sq ft

**SOLD \$40,000 OVER LIST!**  
**LISTED FOR: \$675,000**

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★★★★★

Michael has a lifetime customer with me & it's no surprise I am so thankful for his knowledge, insight, intelligence, work ethic, honesty, humility and kindness. He and his entire family & team are a rare find! The nicest people. There are not enough good people around & to find Michael and his team was a blessing!!  
-L. Michaels



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- 4 bedrooms
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**11AM-3PM**

**APR 13**

Norwalk Spring Festival

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**MAY 4**

Downey Street Faire

**10AM-4PM**

