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## Cerritos College trains for campus shooter

By Alex Dominguez  
Contributor

**NORWALK** – In a display of its commitment to constant preparedness and campus safety, Cerritos College hosted a large scale active shooter drill last Friday.

The drill took place from around 9 a.m. to shortly before noon. It involved Cerritos College Campus Police, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department's Norwalk Station, L.A. Fire Department, and various local first-responder agencies. Members of the college's track team also participated, acting as victims, wounded, hostages, and civilians who might be caught in the crossfire.

Friday's drill came mere days after a shooting occurred at the UCLA campus, claiming the life of a professor.

Reports indicate that gunman Mainak Sarkar, a former graduate student of the school, killed his estranged wife at her Minnesota home before making the long trip to UCLA, where he then fatally shot 39-year-old engineering professor William Klug. Sarkar then turned his weapon upon himself.

This was not the first time that the college's police department had participated in a drill like this, however this was the first time that the college had hosted such an event. According to Cerritos College PD Chief Tom Gallivan, Friday's drill had no correlation with the tragedy at UCLA.

"This has been in the planning stages for several months, probably since February," said Gallivan. "Something this size – a training exercise – can't be put together overnight. It's a lot of moving parts."

The drill was split up into two separate scenarios, both similar in nature, for two separate groups of officers and deputies. However, due to the intentional random nature of the activity, both played out differently. Clearer weather conditions during the second drill allowed for the participation of a surveillance helicopter; a luxury that the first group did not have.

According L.A. Sheriff's Department Captain Curtis Jensen, upon entering the training, officers and deputies have no knowledge of what awaited them. The only information given is that of an active shooter call, and what is given over their radios; the manner in which the officers react to what they encounter occurs in real time.

"What happens in a situation like this is the deputy sheriff's or the officers who are going to be the people responding, they know that they are in an active training scenario, [but] they don't know anything else," said Jensen. "...what you'll see – you'll see breakdowns, you'll see things slow up, you'll see things get chaotic because people on the fly are trying to figure out what it is they're doing or how they're going to neutralize that threat."

During training, it is officers' mission to use general training tactics and protocols to eliminate the threat to the active population. Jensen also noted that officers cannot prevent the threat, however are trained to stop it with as minimal casualties as possible.

Protocol's continued throughout the entirety of the scenario, including the triaging of injured or deceased. Jensen said that the experience is just as intense for those who are playing the victims as it is for the officers.

Erica Davis, one of the volunteers at the drill, said that the simulation stirred up real emotions even though that she and the other participants knew that they were not in real danger.

"Because I know all of the people that were in the simulation, especially the people who were supposed to be playing dead, it was really weird seeing it happen at first," said Davis. "...it was definitely really scary, just kind of thinking about it and watching it all happen."

## Downey graduation rate reaches 96 percent, a new record



**DOWNEY** – Downey Unified School District's graduation rate increased 2 percent from last year, reaching a record high 96 percent, officials announced.

As the number of students graduating high school in Downey increased,

the number of dropouts was cut nearly in half, decreasing from 4.1 percent to 2.2 percent.

"The increase in our graduation rate truly proves that our students continue to benefit from the positive and challenging learning environments provided at each and every school site through our dedicated teachers, administrators and classified staff," said DUSD Superintendent Dr. John Garcia.

Downey's graduation rates far exceeds the state average of 82.3 percent. Downey also tops neighboring school districts, including ABC Unified (94.4 percent), Norwalk-La Mirada (94 percent), Bellflower (92.8 percent), Whittier Union (88.8 percent), Montebello (87.1 percent), Paramount (86.4 percent), Long Beach (84 percent), Lynwood (81 percent), L.A. Unified (72.2 percent), and Compton Unified (70.7 percent).

In L.A. County, the graduation rate is 78.7 percent.

Tom Torlakson, the state superintendent of public instruction, said graduation rates in California have climbed for six years straight.

"This is encouraging news any way you look at it, especially since the increase is occurring as we are introducing much more rigorous academic standards," he said. "Statewide, our students are benefiting from the additional revenues flowing into our schools."

## 40 teachers, administrators set to retire from Downey Unified



**DOWNEY** – As the school year winds to an end, the Downey Unified School District is saying goodbye to dozens of retiring teachers and administrators.

On Monday, the Downey Education Association held a retirement celebration for the outgoing members of Downey Unified. This group of 40 employees is comprised of six administrators and 34 teachers.

In all, the retiring employees recognized at this celebration represented 1,088 total years of service to the students of Downey Unified.

Administrators who will be retiring in July include Cynthia Benedetti (vice principal, Price Elementary), Leslie Jones (assistant superintendent of educational services), Robin Martin (principal, Lewis Elementary), Margaret McClain (vice principal, Lewis and Unsworth Elementary), Kathleen Succa

(director of student services) and Denise Takano (director of elementary curriculum, instruction and assessment).

Retiring from the elementary school level are Susan Barber (Rio Hondo), Nancy Barras (Williams), Alison Cleeland (Williams), Stephanie Hathaway (Old River), Cindy Johnson (Lewis), Jonina Jolly (Williams), Kathleen Kile (Price), Jan Lake (Alameda), Valerie Leonard (Rio Hondo), Brad Mathews (Lewis), Dana Mehling (Unsworth), Nora Pedersen (Gallatin), Tamera Rodgers (Unsworth), Barbara Simpson (Williams), Betty Skarbo (Imperial), Victoria Smith (Price), Judy Stayton-Glaister (Price), Sandra Lynne St. Pierre (Williams) and Carole Watanabe-Lee (Lewis and Rio San Gabriel).

The sole middle school retiree is Gregory Benner from Sussman.

Lastly, retiring from the high school and adult school level are Jay Brunner (Downey), Virginia Comer (Columbus), Melody Delgado (Downey), William Greer (Warren), Reginald Jones (Downey), Timothy Meley (Downey), Mary Monica Miller (Downey), Susan Rodriguez (Columbus), Sherrill Romero (Warren), Linda Shelton (Warren), James Stewart (Warren), Shirley Stewart (Warren) and Teresa Tinnerman (Downey Adult School).

"On behalf of the Board of Education, we want to thank you for the countless years of dedicated service you've provided to our students," expressed school board president D. Mark Morris. "Each of you has had a positive effect on children's lives and you are the reasons why Downey Unified is such an amazing district."

## Friné Medrano says her passion, experience make her ideal for City Council

By Alex Dominguez  
Contributor

**DOWNEY** – City Council hopeful Friné Medrano believes that she can bring her 20 years of Downey residency and 10 years of working in government to help bring her vision to the city.

Medrano, 33, is a product of the Downey Unified School District. She's a proud alumni of Warren High School, where she found a passion in the arts and was highly involved in many such programs like musical theatre and drama.

However, Medrano credits finding her political passions through many influences, specifically through her mother.

"She was a UFCW (United Food and Commercial Workers International Union) union member, [and] also became a SCIU organizer," said Medrano. "So within that, when she became active in the union, part of it is to volunteer in campaigns. So she's the one that dragged me, not literally, but she definitely said, 'hey, this is where you should try out getting more involved in the community.'"

Medrano volunteered for her first political campaign with the assembly, which is where she has now worked for 10 years.

"At the time it was then Assembly Member Kevin De Leon," said Medrano. "...As you know now he is the second most powerful man in the State of California, being the Senate leader. I've always said I've hit the lottery, definitely working for a legislator that not only talks the talk, but walks the walk."

Medrano says that her time working for De Leon has also been a major inspiration to start her own political career.

"A lot of people get jaded...they lose interest in government and politics," said Medrano. "But if anything working for who I work for has definitely fueled my fire to keep going and keep pursuing my own career in politics – continue to do public service. So I am very blessed in that sense."

This is Medrano's first time running for any kind of office, as she attempts to fill the District 3 seat that Councilmember Roger Brossmer will vacate at the end of his term later this year.

Medrano's platform includes the introduction of a youth fund, which she says she is most excited about.

"I would set up a youth fund working with the business community here in Downey..." said Medrano. "...I've been going on a listening tour and a lot of these like Downey AYSO, a lot of these nonprofit organizations don't have access to funding...I think as a city we need to invest in our youth. That's what's going to make them come back and give back to their community. That's what's going to make them productive citizens of Downey like I have. I've been able to widen my horizons, to work with the best of the best when it comes to government, and now I'm bringing that knowledge, that experience, back to the city of Downey."

Medrano also hopes to develop a "one stop shop" for the needs of Downey businesses.

"I get that Downey is very pro-business; we've seen the influx of new development and a lot of businesses here in the city of Downey," said Medrano. "One thing that I've noticed is there's not a one-stop shop for our businesses here. There's not a business regional source center where you can learn about how to get county contracts, where you can learn how to not only open up a business, but how to thrive. Just a one stop shop for businesses."

Medrano says that she has already had talks with various businesses and political figures to help guide her and bring her visions to life.

Medrano also touched upon the looming vote to increase sales tax in Downey by a half-cent, which was voted on back in March by City Council, albeit controversially, to be added to the ballot.

"Currently, my concern with the sales tax increase is not having the safeguards needed to know exactly where the appropriate funding is gonna go to," said Medrano. "I believe that in order to have the public trust and be transparent in government, we should not be scared of the two-thirds majority vote, so that we can have those safeguards in place. There's been a high level of new development in the city of Downey, so I think that it's a bit premature to add a sales tax increase, because once it's there it doesn't go back, it doesn't decrease."

Medrano has recently taken to social media to aid her campaign. Residents can find more information on her via Facebook or on Instagram at @frinemedranofordowney.

City Council candidates can officially submit their nomination forms next month, and the election will be held Nov. 8.

## Weekend at a Glance

Friday 74°

Saturday 71°

Sunday 70°

### THINGS TO DO



#### 80's Strike Back

Saturday - Epic Lounge, 8 p.m.

An 80's theme party benefiting Downey Arts Coalition and Downey Symphony. \$20 at the door.



#### KCRW Summer Nights

Saturday - Anaheim Packing District, 5:30-10 p.m.

DJs, food, beer garden, games, artisans, and more. Free.

### FROM OUR FACEBOOK

#### Retirement season at Downey Unified

**Sarahi Shai:** Wishing you all a very happy retirement. A warm thank you to each of you for helping build many lives and establishing a foundation enriching minds and nourishing dreams.

**Teresa Turetzky:** I have the best memories of Mr Benner's Woodshop class! I still have the napkin holder we made.

**Kris Ty:** Congratulations on their retirements. Alison Cleeland was my 4th grade teacher in 1988! Yikes!

**Jeanette Walworth:** Happy retirement to all you great people! We will miss our principals and choir director.

**Anabel Mendoza:** Mrs. Barber what an awesome teacher you were and are. I will forever be grateful for all the great support and care you had for my son Luis.

**Cynthia Roman:** Mrs. Cleeland! My daughter's 2nd grade teacher. Congrats to all! Teachers are amazing people.

**Lily Canales:** Mrs Simpson recognized me YEARS later. I was 21 and she came up to me at my sister's field trip and asked me if i was in her class.

**Janet Ennis:** Thank you all for taking your time to serve the community! It's not easy, thank you!

**Michelle Gonzalez:** Mrs. Cleeland, Simpson and Jolly are truly amazing teachers they will be missed.

Reach us on Facebook at: Facebook.com/DowneyPatriot

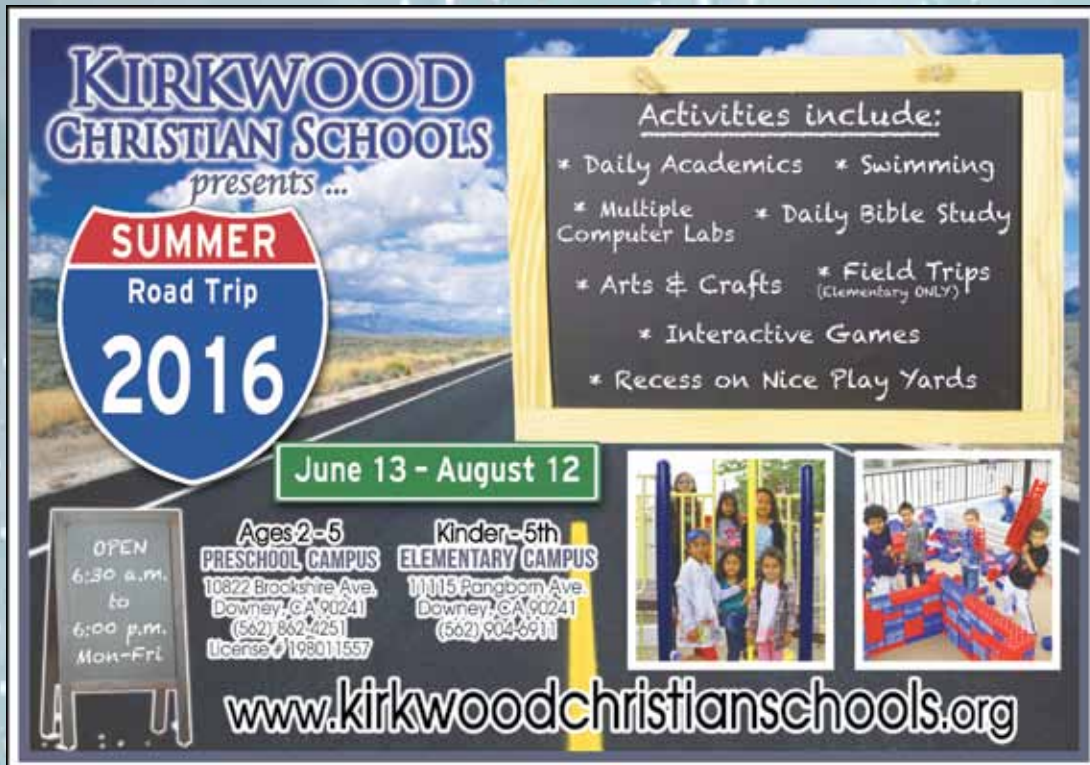
### TWEET OF THE WEEK

@jshernandez: Thank U @ FARNOOSH 4 speaking to my entrepreneurship class. #Noosh #Entrepreneurship

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## Kirkwood Christian Schools

Kirkwood Christian Schools has been serving the Downey community since 1966. Our preschool and elementary school campuses serve ages 2 through 5th grade. Both the preschool and elementary school offer an individualized computer based program where students are able to learn at their own pace and overseen by highly qualified teachers. In addition, both are accredited by the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI) and the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC). Come in for a tour as soon as possible, enrollment space is limited. The campuses are open 52 weeks of the year, Monday - Friday, from 6:30am - 6pm to meet your educational and childcare needs.



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**Activities include:**

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- \* Multiple Computer Labs
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- \* Arts & Crafts
- \* Field Trips (Elementary ONLY)
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[www.kirkwoodchristianschools.org](http://www.kirkwoodchristianschools.org)

# SUMMER FUN

## Summer Basketball Camp

with **Downey High School Head Basketball Coach Larry Shelton and Staff**

June 14- June 30  
Monday thru Thursday  
8:00 – 10:00 A.M. at the Downey High School Gym

Note that the first day of camp will be held on Tuesday, June 14th due to the summer sports meeting at DHS on Monday, June 13th  
Registration: Tuesday, June 14th at 7:30 am at the DHS gym  
Early Registration: E-mail [lsheltonhoops@aol.com](mailto:lsheltonhoops@aol.com)

**Cost - \$150**

**Includes:** Downey Basketball Jersey and Shorts

**For Grades 4-9 in August**

**Instructors...**  
Larry Shelton and staff  
Downey H.S. Varsity Coach (28Years)  
2-Time L.A. Times Coach of the Year  
San Gabriel Valley League Coach of the Year 2011, 2012, 2014  
125-46 record the last 6 seasons (SGVL Champs 2011, 2012, 2014)

Any Questions? Contact Larry Shelton (562) 412-7528 (Cell) E-mail: [lsheltonhoops@aol.com](mailto:lsheltonhoops@aol.com)

## Columbia Memorial Space Center

**SUMMER CAMPS AT THE COLUMBIA MEMORIAL SPACE CENTER**  
Downey, CA, May 17, 2016: Build a Robot! Train to be an Astronaut! The Columbia Memorial Space Center (CMSC) will be hosting its Summer Space Camp from Monday, July 11th through Friday, August 5th. Each week, campers will be focusing on a particular theme – robotics, astronaut training, engineering – Monday through Friday from 9:00am to 3:00pm. The week-long camps include fun, hands-on activities that are, of course, out of this world. And they're a bargain: each weekly camp is \$150 or \$135 for CMSC members. We offer a 4-5th grade camp and a 6-8th camp every week!

CMSC is also hosting, for the first time, a 3D Printing Workshop for students entering 6th – 8th grade! Participants will be given an introduction to the software and techniques of 21st Century manufacturing, going home with their own 3D printed project! This 3-day workshop will be held Wednesday, July 6th through Friday, July 8th from 9am to 3pm. The fee for the workshop is \$80 or \$65 for CMSC members.

**Don't miss out on these fun summer opportunities! Sign up today!**

For more information about The Columbia Memorial Space Center, please call (562) 231-1200 or visit [www.columbiaspacescience.org](http://www.columbiaspacescience.org). The Columbia Memorial Space Center is located at 12400 Columbia Way, in Downey.

## Downey Family YMCA

**MAYOR ERIC GARCETTI ANNOUNCES**  
**YMCA OF METROPOLITAN LOS ANGELES "GET SUMMER" TEEN INITIATIVE**  
*The LA Y to provide teens with free membership and part-time employment this summer.*

Mayor Eric Garcetti today announced the LA Y's "Get Summer," an initiative in which all teens, ages 12-17 years old, will have free access to all LA Y locations this June and July. In addition to offering free membership and exclusive programming for teenagers, the Y is partnering with the City and County of Los Angeles to provide local youth and young adults with part-time employment opportunities.

More than 10,000 Los Angeles teens are expected to benefit from this unprecedented initiative, in which all 26 branches of the YMCA of Metropolitan Los Angeles will offer free membership to teens. A true community partnership, the Y is working closely with the City of Los Angeles and County of Los Angeles to ensure teens have the opportunity to get healthy, active and engaged this summer.

**For more information about Get Summer please visit [www.ymcala.org/GetSummer](http://www.ymcala.org/GetSummer)**

**About:** YMCA of Metropolitan Los Angeles (LA Y) is a non-profit organization dedicated to strengthening communities by supporting youth development, healthy living and social responsibility. Welcoming individuals of all ages, faiths and backgrounds, the Y is committed to nurturing everyone's potential in spirit, mind and body. No one is turned away membership due to the inability to pay. Serving Los Angeles since 1882, the LA Y is comprised of 26 branches and three resident camps that stretch across 150 miles of Los Angeles County. Through unique programs and services, YMCA of Metropolitan Los Angeles serves nearly a half million individuals each year.

**For more information, visit [ymcaLA.org](http://ymcaLA.org). CONTACT: Erin Kane, YMCA OF METROPOLITAN LOS ANGELES 213.351.2225 (office) 213.626.9118 (mobile) / [ErinKane@ymcaLA.org](mailto:ErinKane@ymcaLA.org)**

# Summer SPACE CAMPS

Monday - Friday • 9:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.  
4th - 5th grade & 6th-8th grade  
Each week will cover one topic  
**July 11 - 15 • July 18 - 22**  
**July 25 - 29 • August 1 - 5**  
\$150/\$135 for CMSC members  
Registration begins Saturday, April 2  
To register, please call (562) 231-1200



## NEW 3D PRINTING WORKSHOP

**JULY 6 - JULY 8**

**9:00A.M. - 3:00P.M.**

**6TH-8TH GRADE**

**\$80/\$65 FOR CMSC MEMBERS**



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Columbia Memorial Space Center  
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[www.columbiaspacescience.org](http://www.columbiaspacescience.org)  
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[ymcaLA.org/downey](http://ymcaLA.org/downey)

DOWNEY FAMILY YMCA  
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Downey, CA 90241  
P 562.862.4201

# For second year straight, Stauffer Middle School wins national yearbook award



**DOWNEY** – For the second consecutive year, Stauffer Middle School's yearbook class was awarded Walsworth's national "Gallery of Excellence" award.

The Gallery of Excellence is a showcase of the best yearbooks published

by Walsworth; these books feature superior examples of coverage, design, photography, and copy.

By participating in yearbook class, the students gain experience toward becoming college and career ready by implementing graphic design, photography, interviewing skills, and feature writing skills regularly, said Mrs. Diane Huff, an English and journalism teacher at Stauffer who also oversees the yearbook. Each student also becomes a published author.

The students faced a unique obstacle this year when Mrs. Huff went out on maternity leave for three months. They exceeded expectations under the guidance of their substitute, Mrs. Jessica Worthy, and this year's editors: eighth graders Yasha Haque and Noel Gomez.

The students were also responsible for creating videos that can be linked to the yearbook by scanning specific pictures. There are 31 total videos this year, twice the amount of videos included in last year's book.

"I'm so proud of the passion and professionalism displayed by this year's staff," said Mrs. Huff. "From planning the theme in August, to creating the cover in October, to filming videos in May – they've put a ton of work into this publication, and it shows in our one-of-a-kind book."

Don Walsworth, president of Walsworth Publishing Company, praised Stauffer Middle School, writing in a letter, "Gallery books, including yours, ignite the creativity in other yearbook staffs. The induction of your yearbook honors your staff's exceptional work and dedication to excellence."



Lt. Mark McDaniel of the Downey Police Department was sworn-in as president of Gangs Out of Downey on Tuesday, with Mayor Alex Saab conducting the ceremony.

McDaniel's executive board includes Louis Morales (first VP), Carol Rowland (second VP), Ray Mesler (treasurer) and Julie Garcia (secretary). Rick Rodriguez is the immediate past president.

Gangs Out of Downey has already scheduled its Ricardo "Ricky" Galvez Memorial Golf Tournament, taking place Oct. 7 at the Rio Hondo Golf Club. For sponsorship information, email MarkMc.GOOD@hotmail.com.

## SPORTS BRIEFS: Trophy stays at Doty MS

By Mark Fetter Contributor

**DOWNEY** – The middle school sports year has come to an end and Doty Middle School will keep the champion's sports trophy for another year.

Doty claimed 16 city championships while Stauffer claimed seven, Griffiths claimed five and Sussman claimed three.

In the first sports rotation, Stauffer won eighth grade football, Doty won seventh grade football and Stauffer won sixth grade football. Griffiths and Stauffer tied for the city championship in eighth grade girls' volleyball, Doty won seventh grade volleyball and Doty won sixth grade volleyball.

In the second sports rotation, Doty won eighth grade boys' volleyball, Sussman won seventh grade boys' volleyball and Griffiths won sixth grade boys' volleyball. Stauffer won varsity girls' soccer and Doty won junior varsity girls' soccer.

In the third rotation, Stauffer won eighth grade boys' basketball, Sussman won seventh grade boys' basketball and Doty won sixth grade boys' basketball. Doty won eighth grade girls' basketball, Doty won seventh grade girls' basketball and Doty won sixth grade girls' basketball. Griffiths won varsity boys' soccer and Doty and Stauffer tied for the championship in junior varsity boys' soccer.

In the fourth rotation, Stauffer won varsity baseball and Sussman won junior varsity baseball. Griffiths won varsity softball and also won junior varsity softball.

In the fifth rotation, Doty won all six gender and grade level track and field competitions and added six more championships to their total.

Downey head coach Marvin Mires and his staff are inviting all interested young ladies to prepare themselves for playing lacrosse at the next level by attending the Lady Viking Lacrosse Camp.

These camps are open to girls of all ages and skill levels. If you are an incoming freshman or are a current student looking to make the Downey High Lacrosse team, this camp is for you.

The Downey High School girls' lacrosse program will hold a five week summer camp. The first week will be June 20-23 from 8-10 a.m. The second week will be June 27-30 from 12-2 p.m.

Camps are also scheduled for July 5-7, July 11-14 and July 18-21, all from 10 a.m. to noon.

These camps will present players with a chance to learn from coaches and players already competing at the high school level. Coach Mires would like you and your friends to join the fun and experience at the Downey High Lacrosse Camp.

All camps will take place at Allen Layne Stadium on the campus at Downey High School. The camp fee is \$150. Any questions should be directed to coach Marvin Mires at mmires@dusd.net or by phone at (310) 993-4342. Coach Mires hopes to see you and your friends at a Downey High Lacrosse camp this

summer.

The Warren High School baseball program will be offering several camps this summer for young baseball players to participate in. Ages range from 7-15 and will be split into two different age groups.

June 13-17 will be a camp for incoming freshmen only. Camp will be held on Monday from 12-2 p.m. and on Tuesday through Friday from 9:30 a.m. until noon. The cost is \$135.

Warren will offer baseball camp July 5-8 for 7-9 year olds, July 11-14 for 10-15 year olds, July 18-21 for 7-9 year olds and July 25-28 for 10-15 year olds.

Warren will offer more baseball camp from August 1-4 for 7-9 year olds and August 8-11 for 10-15 year olds.

The cost for each camp is \$100 per player. There is a buddy rate discount of 2 players for \$90 each. There is also a group rate of 10 or more players for \$80 each.

All camps will take place at the Warren High School baseball field. Any questions can be directed to Coach Miguel at diamondskills99@gmail.com or via text message at (530) 321-9171. Fall classes at Warren High School will begin on Aug. 17.

The city of Downey middle school track and field championships took place last Friday afternoon at Downey High School. Doty, Griffiths, Stauffer and Sussman each had gender and grade level teams competing for city championships.

The four schools compete in 10 track and field events. Those events include: the 1600, hurdles, 100, 400, 200, 800, 4 X 100 relay, shot put, long jump and high jump. The scoring system is six, four, three, two, and one for first, second, third, fourth and fifth places, respectively.

Doty claimed city championships in six of the six competitions. The Doty eighth grade boys scored 84 points, Sussman scored 37 points, Griffiths scored 21 points and Stauffer

scored 14 points, respectively.

The Doty seventh grade boys scored 59 points, Sussman scored 56 points, Griffiths scored 23 points and Stauffer scored 18 points.

The Doty sixth grade boys scored 71 points, Sussman scored 33 points, Stauffer scored 30 points and Griffiths scored 22 points.

The Doty eighth grade girls scored 84 points, Stauffer scored 42 points, Sussman scored 18 points and Griffiths scored 12 points.

The Doty seventh grade girls scored 67 points, Sussman scored 38 points, Stauffer scored 30 points and Griffiths scored 21 points.

The Doty sixth grade girls scored 81 points, Griffiths scored 33 points, Sussman scored 25 points and Stauffer scored 17 points.

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Airlines, taxes, surcharges, gratuities, transfers and excursions are additional unless otherwise indicated. Fuel surcharges, government taxes, other surcharges and airport, payment and cancellation fees, conditions are subject to change without notice at any time. Rates quoted are per person, based on adult double occupancy unless otherwise stated. Other rates are property controlled. Rates, terms, conditions, availability and itinerary are subject to change without notice. Other online restrictions, including, but not limited to, baggage limitations and fees, standby policies and fees, non-refundable tickets and change fees with one-flight re-booking decisions may apply. Fees and policies may vary among airlines without notice. Please contact the airline directly for details and answers to specific questions you may have. Certain restrictions may apply. AAA members must make advance reservations through AAA Travel to obtain Member Benefits and savings. Member benefits may vary based on departure date. Unless otherwise stated, rate is accurate at time of printing and is subject to availability and change. Not responsible for errors or omissions. See local AAA Club acts as an agent for Pleasant Holidays®. CTR #1016210-01. Copyright © 2016 Auto Club Services, LLC. All Rights Reserved.

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# GRAND OPENING! in Downey

**Thursday, June 16, 2016 10am  
Ribbon Cutting**

*Downey Chamber of Commerce Officiating*

**Complimentary Lunch  
11am-1pm**

*Catered by Marisa's Mexican Restaurant*

*Marisa's*

**Friday, June 17, 2016 4pm-6pm  
Live Univision Radio Remote  
with Argelia Atilano**



## GRAND OPENING CELEBRATION Saturday, June 18<sup>th</sup>

— Enter All Day —

**\$1,000 GRAND PRIZE DRAWING!\***

— First 100 customers —

**TWO \$250 GIFT CARD WINNERS!\*\***

*All others receive \$10 Gift Card*

— 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. —

**\$1 Hot Dog & Drink**

*Proceeds benefit Warren High School Choir*

***Plus other events throughout the day!***

\*Customers can enter to win \$1000 gift card on Saturday, June 18, 2016 8am-9pm. Drawing will be held at the end of business. No purchase necessary Must be 18 years old to enter.

\*\*First 100 customers in line will get a "WOW Ticket" for a chance to win a \$250 Gift Card. Must be 18 years old.

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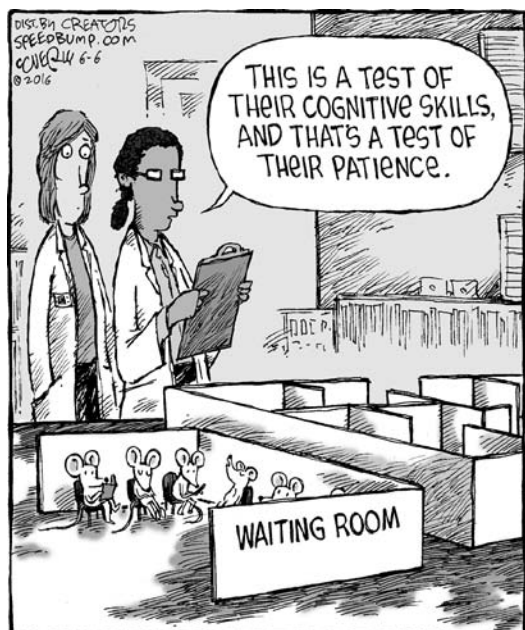


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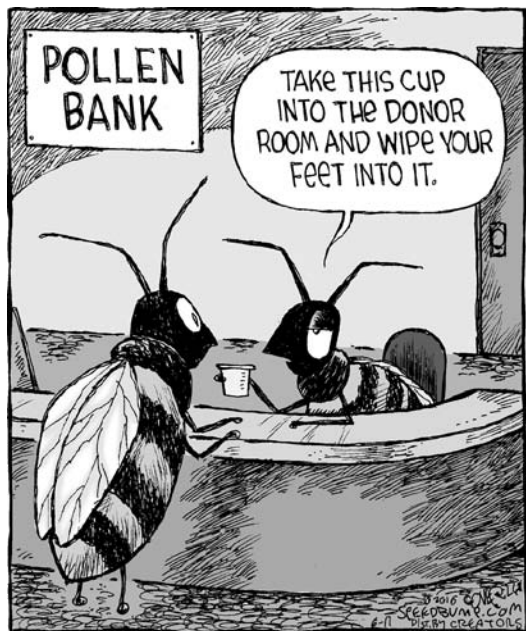




## SPEED BUMP



## DAVE COVERLY



## Downey Community Calendar

### EVENTS FOR JUNE

Monday, June 13: Author Victor Villasenor, Downey Civic Theatre, 6:30 p.m.

### 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.  
 1st Tue., 6:00pm: Emergency Preparedness Committee, at Fire Station No. 1, 12222 Paramount Blvd.  
 2nd & 4th Tue., 6:30pm: City Council, Council Chamber.  
 3rd Tue., 6:30pm: Library Advisory Board, at Downey City Library.  
 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.  
 2nd Mon., 11 am: American Legion Auxiliary #270, at United Methodist Church, call 304-3439.  
 3rd Mon., 11:30 am: Downey Newcomers Club, call Nancy 806-1782.  
 4th Mon., 7:30 pm: Downey Numismatists, at Downey Retirement Center, call 862-6666.

#### TUESDAYS

9:30 am: Downey Seniors Club, at Apollo Park, call Irene Vallini at 328-7039.  
 10 am: Downey Bocce Club, at 7850 Quill Drive, call John Fiorenza at 652-4399.  
 12 pm: Rotary Club, at Rio Hondo Events Center, call William Medina 413-3477.  
 6 pm: Toastmasters Club 587, at First Baptist Church, contact Salvador Cervantes: tmsalcpuede@gmail.com.  
 7 pm: Downey Knights of Columbus Bingo, at 11231 Rives Ave., call 923-1932.  
 7 pm: Healing Room and Prayer, at Desert Reign Church 11610 Lakewood Blvd, call 861-6011.  
 1st Tues., 7:30 am: Gangs Out of Downey, at City Hall training room.  
 2nd Tues., 3:30 pm: Keep Downey Beautiful, at City Hall, call 905-7103.  
 2nd and 4th Tues., 6 pm: Sertoma Club, at Rio Hondo Event Center, call 927-6438.  
 2nd Tues., 6 pm: Downey Fly Fishers, at Apollo Park, call 425-7936.  
 3rd Tues., 6:30 pm: Community Emergency Response Team meeting, Fire station 1, 12222 Paramount.  
 3rd Tues., 6 pm: American Legion #270, at Sizzler Restaurant, call 544-0372.  
 Tues., Thurs. & Sat., 10 am: Downey Bocce Club, at 7850 Quill Drive, call John Fiorenza 652-4399

#### WEDNESDAYS

7 am: Kiwanis Club, at Rio Hondo Events Center, call Steve Roberson at 927-2626.  
 1 pm: Women's Bocce Club, at 7850 Quill Drive, call Marie Puch at 869-4366.  
 1 pm: Out Post 132 Royal Rangers, at Desert Reign Church, call 928-8000.  
 1st Wed., 11 am: Woman's Club of Downey, call Cheryl Olson 833-8954.  
 1st Wed., 11:30 am: Downey Coordinating Council, Community Center, call Cindy 803-4048.  
 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, at Los Amigos Country Club, call Helen 864-7319.  
 2nd Wed., 7:30 pm: Downey Model A Club, at Gallatin School Cafeteria, call 928-4132.  
 3rd Wed.: Downey Dog Obedience Club, at Apollo Park, call Gina 869-5213 or Valerie 420-2972.  
 3rd Wed., 10 am: Los Angeles County Quilters Guild, at Women's Club, call (310) 604-0725.  
 3rd Wed., 10 am: OLPH Women's Guild, at OLPH School Auditorium, contact Armida Lugo, (562) 715-6142.  
 4th Wed., 12:00 pm: Retired Federal Employees, at Barbara J Riley Center, call 943-5513.  
 4th Wed., 7:30 pm: US Coast Guard Aux. Flotilla 5-10, First Presbyterian Church, call Brian 419-5420.  
 Wed. & Fri., 10:15 am: Senior Bingo, at Apollo Park, call 904-7223

#### THURSDAYS

7:30 am: Connections Networking, at Bob's Big Boy, for info., call Nick Smith, 861-5222.  
 7:30 am.: Soroptimist Int'l of Downey, for information, call Mia Vasquez, 806-3217.  
 9:30 am: Take off Pounds Sensibly, at Barabara Riley Senior Center, call (800) 932-8677.  
 12 pm: Kiwanis Club of Downey, at Rio Hondo Events Center, call Roy Jimenez 923-0971.  
 12 pm: Optimist Club of Downey, at Rio Hondo Events Center.  
 6:30 pm: Downey United Masonic Lodge # 220, 8244 3rd St., call 862-4176.  
 7 pm: Troop 351, Boy Scouts of America, at First Baptist Church, call 776-3388.  
 1st Thurs., 12:00 pm: Downey Christian & Professional Luncheon, Sizzler's Restaurant, call James 310-1335.  
 1st Thurs., 7:30 pm.: The Downey Amateur Radio Club, at First Baptist Church room 120.  
 2nd Thurs., 7:30 pm: Beaming Rebel Foxes Collectors Club, call Carl D. Jones at 923-2400.  
 2nd & 4th Thurs., 6 pm: Lions Club, at Coco's, call Lenora (310) 283-9825.  
 3rd Thurs., 4 pm: Public Works Committee, at City Hall Training Room.  
 3rd Thurs., 6 pm: Downey CIPAC, at Sizzler's Restaurant, call Rich Tuttle 413-6045.  
 4th Thurs., 10 am: Assistance League, at Casa De Parley Johnson, call 869-0232.  
 4th Thurs., 7:30 pm: Downey Historical Society programs, at Community Center, call 862-2777.

#### FRIDAYS

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

#### SATURDAYS

9 am: Farmers Market, Downey Avenue at 3rd Street, call 904-7246.  
 4th Sat., 12:00 pm: Downey Arts Coalition, email contact@downeyarts.org.

### On This Day...

**June 9, 1870:** Charles Dickens, the English author who wrote "A Christmas Carol" and "A Tale of Two Cities," died at age 58.

**1973:** Secretariat won horse racing's Triple Crown with a victory at the Belmont Stakes.

**1980:** Comedian Richard Pryor suffered near-fatal burns at his home when a mixture of free-base cocaine exploded.

**BIRTHDAYS:** Crime writer Patricia Cornwell (60), pastor and author TD Jakes (59), actor Michael J. Fox (55), actor Johnny Depp (53) and actress Natalie Portman (35).

### THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com)

#### FIT TO BE TIED: We think knot

by Gail Grabowski

#### ACROSS

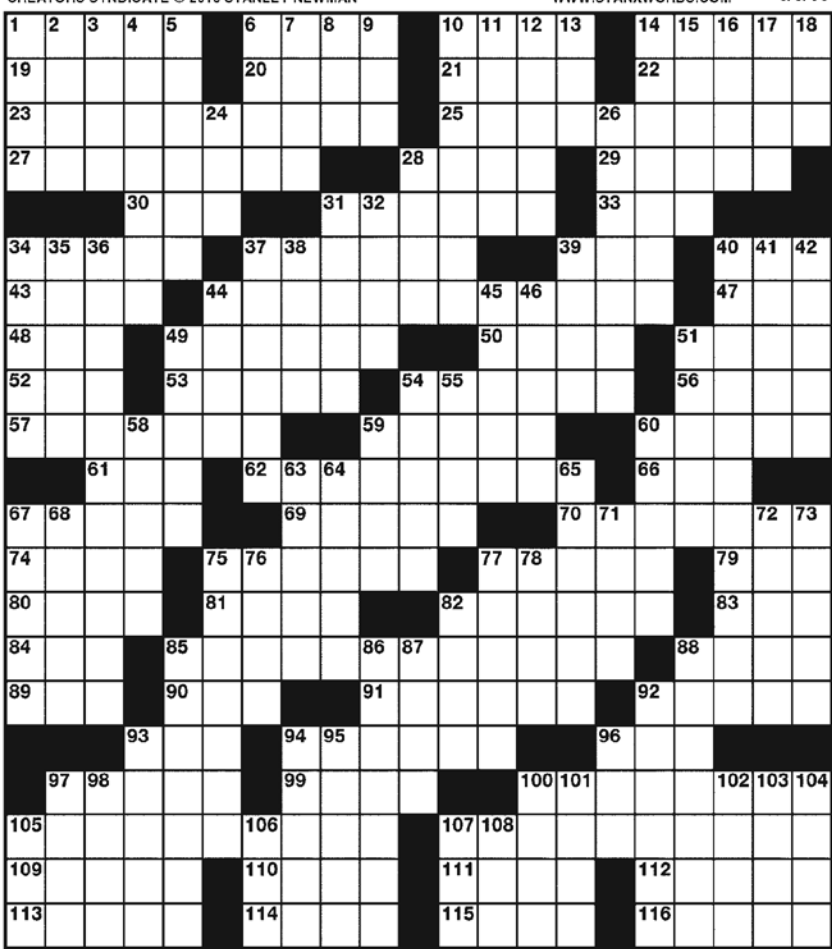
- 1 Wimbledon shot
- 6 Nativity scene threesome
- 10 Trivial details
- 14 Six on a par-five hole
- 19 Fine and dandy
- 20 Frizzy do
- 21 Race distance, for short
- 22 Enraged
- 23 Engages in storytelling
- 25 Garden vegetable
- 27 Summons
- 28 Fancy pitcher
- 29 Alternate name
- 30 Web-crawling software
- 31 Just
- 33 Full collection
- 34 Helmet attachment
- 37 Nursery rhyme starter
- 39 School support org.
- 40 Cricket equipment
- 43 Pigtail material
- 44 Connecting concept
- 47 World Cup cry
- 48 PD alert
- 49 Bun seed source
- 50 Long swimmers
- 51 Mattress size
- 52 UNLV collegian, in headlines
- 53 Short-tempered
- 54 "Let me think about it"
- 56 Cereal grains
- 57 Extravagant
- 59 Cry of concession
- 60 Easily tipped boat
- 61 Agree silently
- 62 Eat voraciously
- 66 Mix in
- 67 Fake drake
- 69 Winter Games vehicles
- 70 Seasoned sailor
- 74 Common mirror shape
- 75 James of The Blacklist
- 77 Be partial to
- 79 Pal of Piglet
- 80 Register compartment
- 81 Actress Hatcher
- 82 Water channel
- 83 Line of seats
- 84 Put a stop to
- 85 Add potency, at a party
- 88 Sit for a portrait
- 89 Barnyard abode
- 90 Saucer crew, for short
- 91 Provoke
- 92 Reduced in number
- 93 Frat letter
- 94 Across the sea
- 96 "It's freezing in here!"
- 97 Bank job
- 99 Carries out
- 100 Grow quickly
- 105 Begin acting independently
- 107 Pane holder
- 109 Old-hat
- 110 "America's Favorite Cookie"
- 111 Prima donna's solo
- 112 Identified
- 113 Maui and Kauai
- 114 Capital in the Alps
- 115 Empty spaces
- 116 Idirarod vehicles
- DOWN**
- 1 Impudence
- 2 Wear a long face
- 3 Comparable (to)
- 4 Marine hazard
- 5 Mint family herb
- 6 Bread spread
- 7 Worship from
- 8 Watchdog's warning
- 9 Physics particle
- 10 "Piece of cake"
- 11 Info from a spy drone
- 12 Absorbent fabric
- 13 Snow runner
- 14 It's tough to overcome on the field
- 15 Planetary path
- 16 Mother of the Titans
- 17 LAX predictions
- 18 Hankering
- 24 Toward the rudder
- 26 Romanian tennis great
- 28 Personal flair
- 31 Rat Pack pal of Frank and Dean
- 32 Wind quintet member
- 34 Quick-witted
- 35 Narrow gradually
- 36 Wavy Yuletide sweets
- 37 Staff supervisors
- 38 "I \_\_\_ my wit's end!"
- 39 Brazilian soccer legend
- 40 Cupid's gear
- 41 2006 Court appointee
- 42 Jittery
- 44 Average grades
- 45 Nametag greeting
- 46 Fix again, as a hemline
- 49 Hit the books
- 51 Frog cousins
- 54 Deducer
- 55 Some TV screens
- 58 Hoodwinks
- 59 Sudden impulse
- 60 Close-knit group
- 63 Irish county
- 64 Accounting inspection
- 65 Rookier
- 67 Showers attention (on)
- 68 Part of a meet
- 71 Nessie's home
- 72 Lenient
- 73 Sky-high structure
- 75 Legislative act
- 76 Push-up beneficiaries
- 77 Ever-shifting
- 78 Family member
- 82 Pet adoption org.
- 85 Animal restraints
- 86 Joined the staff
- 87 Son of Seth
- 88 Careful reading
- 92 Displeased looks
- 93 What's on every cover of a magazine
- 94 Really like
- 95 Destructive insect
- 96 Dude
- 97 Crude shelters
- 98 List-shortening abbr.
- 100 Small cut
- 101 Handheld organizers: Abbr.
- 102 Domesticate
- 103 Accustomed (to)
- 104 MIT degrees
- 105 CBS franchise
- 106 Male swan
- 107 Sign of a happy hound
- 108 Common portfolio holding

Reach Stan Newman at P.O. Box 69, Massapequa Park, NY 11762, or at www.StanXwords.com

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6/5/16



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**You can contact puzzle editor Stanley Newman at his e-mail address: StanXwords@aol.com. Or write him at P.O. Box 69, Massapequa Park, NY 11762, Please send a self-addressed, stamped envelope if you'd like a reply.**



## Paging Dr. Frischer...

By Dr. Alan Frischer

What we eat and when we do it is significant for so very many reasons. Among the most important relates to our medications. You have likely heard warnings such as "Never drink grapefruit juice with cholesterol medication."



Medication effectiveness is an especially important issue for older adults; while they make up roughly 13% of the population, they account for 34% of prescriptions and 30% of over-the-counter drugs taken in the United States. About two of every five people on Medicare report taking five or more prescription medications. Older patients often have more than one doctor prescribing for them, making it difficult to track all of the medications. Drugs might interact with each other, or with another disease process. To further complicate matters, as we age, physiological changes affect how a drug is absorbed, distributed, metabolized, and excreted.

On top of all of these factors, the way in which we consume our food and drink can significantly impact a medicine's safety and effectiveness. Let's take a look at some of the most common food/drug interactions.

Grapefruit is well known for interacting with a variety of different drugs, resulting in either a higher or lower concentration of the medication in the blood. This can lead to an increased risk of serious side effects. Grapefruit contains furanocoumarins, which can change the way that the body metabolizes a drug by inhibiting an enzyme. Grapefruit also contains bioflavonoids (as do Seville oranges, pummelos, rose hips and black currants). Bioflavonoids affect most calcium channel blockers (prescribed for high blood pressure), statins (cholesterol-lowering drugs), anti-inflammatories, some antibiotics (including ciprofloxacin), thyroid medication, birth control pills,

stomach acid drugs, and some cough suppressants. If you use any of these medicines, it is best to simply avoid grapefruit altogether.

Green leafy vegetables such as kale, collards, spinach, turnip greens, Brussels sprouts, broccoli, asparagus, and endive are high in vitamin K, which diminishes the effectiveness of Coumadin (warfarin), a commonly used blood thinner. Coumadin treats and prevents blood clots, and prevents strokes in patients with atrial fibrillation. Other foods that can affect Coumadin levels include cooked onions and soy. The trick is actually not to avoid greens, but rather to eat a consistent amount, so that Coumadin levels in the blood remains steady.

I am a fan of black licorice. In sufficient quantities, glycyrrhiza, contained in licorice root, can lead to low potassium, salt and water retention, edema, and high blood pressure. Glycyrrhiza can decrease the effectiveness of blood pressure medicines and the blood thinner Coumadin. By the way, did you know that most licorice root production is used for tobacco products?

Dairy products can decrease the effectiveness of some antibiotics, including tetracycline, ciprofloxacin, and azithromycin. The calcium and magnesium in dairy can bind to the antibiotics and prevent their absorption. (However, note that certain antibiotics, like metronidazole (Flagyl) should be taken with milk or water in order to prevent stomach upset.) Dairy can also decrease iron absorption.

Salt substitutes typically replace sodium with potassium. This can decrease the effectiveness of Lanoxin (digoxin), used to treat congestive heart failure; and ACE inhibitors, used to treat high blood pressure. Those with decreased kidney function already have a hard time eliminating potassium, and should avoid salt substitutes.

When is it important to have a full or an empty stomach? NSAID's

like Motrin, Advil, and Aleve should be taken with food because they can be irritating to the stomach lining. Tylenol is best taken on an empty stomach because food may slow its absorption. Antihistamines like Claritin, Zyrtec, and Allegra are also best taken on an empty stomach - they will be more effective. Certain antibiotics (including azithromycin and tetracycline) have poor absorption when taken with food.

Alcohol can be dangerous when combined with anti-anxiety medication like Xanax, Ativan, and Klonopin; antidepressants; or sleep medication, because it may add to the sedating effects of these drugs. Alcoholic can also increase or prolong the effects of insulin and oral diabetic medications, leading to low blood sugar. Alcohol and Tylenol are a bad combination; two or more drinks per day can increase liver toxicity.

Understanding of drug/drug, food/drug, and herb/drug interactions is rapidly growing. Further, genetic factors affecting pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics are being studied, which is expected to lead to improved drug safety and to enable individualized drug therapy. It's extremely complex! I urge you to pay close attention to recommendations from your physician and your pharmacist.

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

## CDC recommends behavior therapy for children with ADHD

More young children 2 to 5 years of age receiving care for attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) could benefit from psychological services - including the recommended treatment of behavior therapy. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) latest Vital Signs report urges healthcare providers to refer parents of young children with ADHD for training in behavior therapy before prescribing medicine to treat the disorder.

ADHD is a biological disorder that causes hyperactivity, impulsiveness, and attention problems. About 2 million of the more than 6 million children with ADHD were diagnosed before age 6. Children diagnosed with ADHD at an early age tend to have the most severe symptoms and benefit from early treatment.

The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that before prescribing medicine to a young child, healthcare providers refer parents to training in behavior therapy. However, according to the Vital Signs report, about 75% of young children being treated for ADHD received medicine, and only about half received any form of psychological services, which might have included behavior therapy.

"Parents may feel overwhelmed with decisions about their child's treatment for ADHD, but healthcare providers, therapists, and families can all work together to help the child thrive," said Anne Schuchat, MD (RADM, USPHS), Principal Deputy Director, CDC. "Parents of young children with ADHD may need support, and behavior therapy is an important first step. It has been shown to be as effective as medicine, but without the risk of side effects. We are still learning about the potential unintended effects of long-term use of ADHD medicine on young children.

"Until we know more, the recommendation is to first refer parents of children under 6 years of age with ADHD for training in behavior therapy before prescribing medicine."

The report looks at healthcare claims data from at least 5 million young children (2-5 years of age) each year insured by Medicaid (2008-2011) and about 1 million young children insured each year through employer-sponsored insurance (2008-2014). In both groups, just over 75% of young children diagnosed with ADHD received ADHD medicine.

Only 54% of young children with Medicaid and 45% of young children with employer-sponsored insurance (2011) received any form of psychological services annually, which might have included parent training in behavior therapy. The percentage of children with ADHD receiving psychological services has not increased over time.

Parents do not cause their child's ADHD, but parents can play a key role in the treatment of ADHD. In behavior therapy, parents are trained by a therapist during eight or more sessions, learning strategies to encourage positive behavior, discourage negative behaviors, improve communication, and strengthen their relationship with their child. When applied, these skills can help the child at school, at home, and in relationships by improving behavior, self-control, and self-esteem. Learning and practicing behavior therapy requires more time, effort, and resources than treating ADHD with medicine, yet research shows that there are lasting benefits making it worth the investment.

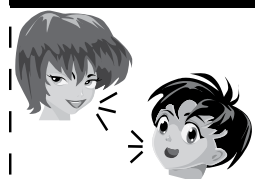
In behavior therapy, therapists help parents build skills in guiding their child's behavior. Skills may include, but are not limited to:

**Positive communication:** When parents give children their full attention and reflect their words back to them, your child knows you are listening and care about what he has to say.

**Positive reinforcement:** Praise the child when she does something right. The more parents praise a behavior, the more likely it is the child will behave the same way again.

**Structure and discipline:** Children do better when their world is predictable. Set up routines and daily schedules to help the child know what to expect each day. Respond to the child's behavior the same way every time to help her learn more quickly.

### DOES YOUR CHILD HAVE A SPEECH PROBLEM?



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## Shared Stories: Name That Tune

As the proud mother of four children, Kacie Cooper shares her experience with the tremendous challenge and decision required of all parents – what to name the baby. *Shared Stories* is a weekly column featuring articles by participants in a writing class at the Norwalk Senior Center. Bonnie Mansell is the instructor for this free class offered through the Cerritos College Adult Education Program. Curated by Carol Kearns

By Kacie (Kathy) Cooper

"Name That Tune" was a T.V. game show in the 1980's where thousands of dollars were given away to a worthy contestant who could guess the name of a song being played in the least amount of notes. Amazingly, some songs were identified in only one note. The doctor who delivered my last child was one such winner.

I guess he was a lot better at naming tunes than he was at naming babies. He had absolutely no clue about how to help me come up with a name for my youngest, unborn

child. At every doctor's appointment with him, I would ask him to help me come up with a name; but to no avail. He had no ideas at all, except to say, "Well, just try to keep it to one or two notes... I mean syllables."

We ended up naming my baby after our great friends from Utah who had about ten daughters, all of whose names began with the letter 'M'. We named our daughter Monique - with two notes (syllables), but sometimes we call her Mo-nee-queee, which is actually three notes.

So where do a mother and father actually find the perfect name for their little bundle-of-joy? From a book? A family name? An old boyfriend or girlfriend who got away?

When I was pregnant with my oldest son, the movie "The Godfather" was playing and the name of Vito was introduced to me. Every night I would dream about that name... Vito Corleone. Vito... Vito... Vito. I really loved that name, but I feared that with my luck, years

later my beautiful baby boy would turn into a mobster.

Luckily, at that time Tony the Tiger was also quite famous, so we ended up naming my son Tony. As easy as that. He's a D.J. now and refers to himself as "Tony Tigah", which I think is Grrrreaaaaat!! So I guess many of our hopes and dreams go into the choosing of our children's names.

I always dreamed of being a movie star. During the pregnancy of my first daughter, the movie on the big screen was Liza Minelli's "Cabaret". I surely did not want my daughter to have to say "Liza with a 'Z'" every time she told someone her name. So I went with "Marissa," who was Liza's supporting actress, Marissa Berenson. I probably did it in the hopes that my daughter would someday become a beautiful actress. She's not an actress, but she is beautiful.

Now with my younger son I decided to go with a family name; perhaps my grandfather's name.

I adored Gramps and his sense of humor. His first name was Lloyd, spelled L-l-o-y-d. Whenever I would ask him to spell it he would say, "Big hell, little hell, o, y, d." I contemplated Gramp's last name, Benedict. Unfortunately the only person I knew with that name was Benedict Arnold. Again, with that name and my luck, I was afraid my baby boy might become a traitor.

So we ended up naming my son Benny. Of course when the risqué T.V. show Benny Hill appeared on the scene, I had to resort to calling him Benny Boy and then just hope for the best.

Expectant parents have many important things to think about regarding their unborn child. Surely agreeing on a 'perfect' name has got to be one of the more challenging aspects for a parent to contemplate - no matter how one arrives at it or how many notes they name it in.

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## Garcia calls for judge's resignation

DOWNEY – Assemblymember Cristina Garcia this week called for the resignation of the judge who sentenced a former Stanford swimmer convicted of sexually assaulting an unconscious woman to just six months in county jail.

Brock Turner, 20, was arrested January 18, after two Stanford graduate students confronted him after spotting him lying on top of a

woman near a garbage bin on the Palo Alto campus. He was convicted in May of three felonies: assault with intent to commit rape, sexually penetrating an unconscious person with a foreign object, and sexually penetrating an intoxicated woman with a foreign object. He could have been sentenced to up to 14 years in state prison; the prosecutor asked for six.

Last week, Santa Clara Superior Court Judge Aaron Persky sentenced Turner to just six months in county jail. Persky justified the lenient sentence by citing Turner's youth and his lack of a prior criminal record.

The victim, a 23-year-old woman, had asked that the sentence send a strong message, and is reported by the Guardian to have said, "We cannot forgive everyone's first sexual assault ... The seriousness of rape has to be communicated clearly. We should not create a culture that suggests we learn that rape is wrong through trial and error."

"Rape is never an accident. It is never invited, wanted or warranted, ever," said Garcia. "Rape is a cancer that impacts the lives of survivors daily and for a lifetime. It is disappointing; the judicial process put this victim on trial and the judge has reduced his sentence to no more than an inconvenience."

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Greg Welch, Downey Rotarian, Gangs Out of Downey member and owner of Risher Mortuary and Cremation Service, rode his Harley all the way to Washington DC last month. He rode in the Memorial Day "Rolling Thunder" parade in honor of our fallen soldiers.

## 10-time Grammy winner Bobby McFerrin coming to Cerritos Center

**CERRITOS** – Legendary vocal innovator, 10-time Grammy winner, and Cerritos College alumnus Bobby McFerrin will take the stage at the Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts on Sept. 15 with students, faculty, and fellow alumni to celebrate the musical legacy of Cerritos College.

Proceeds will benefit the Cerritos College scholarship fund. The event will also celebrate progress on the new Cerritos College Performing Arts Center and Fine Arts Complex.

McFerrin's first recorded work, the self-titled album Bobby McFerrin, was not produced until 1982, when McFerrin was already 32 years old. Before that, he had spent six years developing his musical style, the first two years of which he attempted not to listen to other singers at all, in order to avoid sounding like them. He was influenced by Keith Jarrett, who had achieved great success with a series of improvised piano concerts including The Köln Concert of 1975, and wanted to attempt something similar vocally.

In 1984 McFerrin performed onstage at the Playboy Jazz Festival in Los Angeles as a sixth member of Herbie Hancock's VSOP II sharing horn trio parts with the Marsalis Brothers.

In 1986, McFerrin was the voice of Santa Bear in Santa Bear's First Christmas, and in 1987 he was the voice of Santa Bear/Bully Bear in the sequel Santa Bear's High Flying Adventure. That same year, he performed the theme song for the opening credits of Season 4 of The Cosby Show.

In 1988, McFerrin recorded the song "Don't Worry, Be Happy", which became a hit and brought him widespread recognition across the world. The song's success "ended McFerrin's musical life as he had known it," and he began to pursue other musical possibilities on stage and in recording studios.

The song was used in George H. W. Bush's 1988 U.S. presidential election as Bush's 1988 official presidential campaign song, without Bobby McFerrin's permission or endorsement. In reaction, Bobby McFerrin publicly protested that particular use of his song, including stating that he was going to vote against Bush, and completely dropped the song from his own performance repertoire, to make the point even clearer.

At that time, he performed on the PBS TV special Sing Out America! with Judy Collins. McFerrin sang a Wizard of Oz medley during that television special.

In 1989, he composed and performed the music for the Pixar short film Knick Knack. The rough cut to which McFerrin recorded his vocals had the words "blah blah blah" in place of the end credits (meant to indicate that he should improvise). McFerrin spontaneously decided to sing "blah blah blah" as lyrics, and the final version of the short film includes these lyrics during the end credits.

Also in 1989, he formed a ten-person "Voicestra" which he featured on both his 1990 album Medicine Music and in the score to the 1989 Oscar-winning documentary Common Threads: Stories from the Quilt. The song "Common Threads" has frequently reappeared in some public service advertisements about AIDS. McFerrin also performed with the Vocal Summit. A modified version of the song "Thinkin' About Your Body (as Thinkin' About Your Chocolate)" from the album Spontaneous Inventions was used in a series of UK Cadbury's chocolate adverts in 1989/1990.

In 1993, McFerrin sang Henry Mancini's "Pink Panther" theme for the movie Son of the Pink Panther.

In addition to his vocal



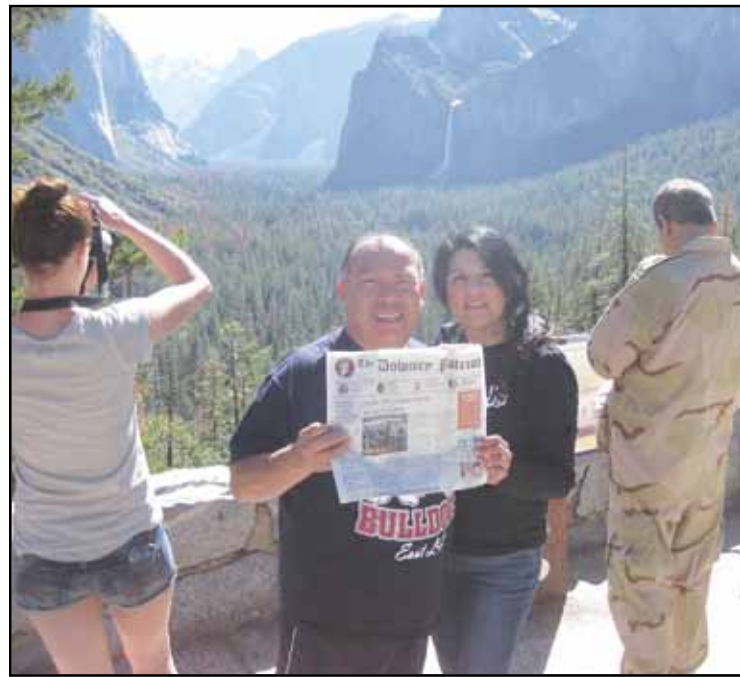
Photo by Steve Jurvetson

performing career, in 1994, McFerrin was appointed as creative chair of the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra. He makes regular tours as a guest conductor for symphony orchestras throughout the United States and Canada, including the San Francisco Symphony (on his 40th birthday), the New York Philharmonic, the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, the Cleveland Orchestra, the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra, the Philadelphia Orchestra, the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the London Philharmonic, the Vienna Philharmonic and many others.

In McFerrin's concert appearances, he combines serious conducting of classical pieces with his own unique vocal improvisations, often with participation from the audience and the orchestra. For example, the concerts often end with McFerrin conducting the orchestra in an a cappella rendition of the "William Tell Overture," in which the orchestra members sing their musical parts in McFerrin's vocal style instead of playing their parts on their instruments.

In 2009, McFerrin and musician-scientist Daniel Levitin served as co-

hosts of The Music Instinct, a two-hour award-winning documentary produced by PBS and based on Levitin's best-selling book "This Is Your Brain on Music." Later that year, the two appeared together on a panel at the World Science Festival.



Christopher and Rita Delgado spent five days vacationing in Yosemite Valley, Calif., and took their Downey Patriot.

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## In Memory of Adele Burger



Adele Burger was a long time resident of Downey and a dedicated member of many wonderful organizations: The Downey Women's Club, the Assistance League, and the Christian Women's Organization; she also volunteered her time toward many other worthwhile causes. Adele passed away on Monday, July 5th, at the age of 77. She is survived and will be dearly missed by her husband of 57 years, Karl, and her sons, Robert and Richard, as well as her 7 grandchildren.

## Marylene Morris laid to rest

DOWNEY - Longtime Downey resident Marylene Morris was laid to rest following services at Rose Hills Memorial Park in Whittier on June 6.

Marylene lived in the Morris family home on Dolan Avenue for nearly 50 years. She was married for 53 years to Dr. Clyde Morris, physician and surgeon who practiced in Downey.

She was born in St. Louis, Mo., where she would later meet and marry her husband Clyde. Following the war, the young couple moved to California where Clyde enrolled at La Sierra College in Riverside, before moving on to the College of Medical Evangelists (now Loma Linda University) where he earned his M.D. degree.



Marylene was the driving force behind her husband's medical career, even helping him open his office in Downey in 1958, and managing his office for several decades.

She is survived by three children, eight grand-children and two great-grand-children. She was preceded in death by her husband, Clyde, and her son, Dean.

## Barbara Bermudez was NY Times writer

DOWNEY - Former Downey resident Barbara Ann Bermudez passed away May 26 at age 95.

Barbara was born to parents Ernest and Mary Potters on April 16, 1921 in Valley Stream, New York. She grew up as the middle of three and attended Valley Stream Central High School. She attended Cornell University and received a Bachelor of Science degree in Home Economics and graduated with the class of 1943. Barbara went on to teach and write for the New York Times, founding the Baby Column.

In 1948 she came to Los Angeles and continued her teaching career and also contributed to the Los Angeles Times as the Food Editor.

In 1952 she married Dr. Diego Bermudez and started their family in Downey. In 1969 the family moved to Los Banos and in 1972 the family settled in Morgan Hill, where she was active in the St. Catherine's Parish Choir and their education program.

Barbara moved to Lincoln in 2001 and was a soloist in the Lincoln Hills Singers, The Entertainers, and the Vaudeville Troupe. She is survived by her daughter, Ann; her son, Richard; her son John; and four grandchildren. She is preceded in death by her son David.

# Brookfield Health Care Center wins prestigious Ensign Flag award

By Alex Dominguez Contributor

DOWNEY - Brookfield Health Care Center staff, administration, patients, and family members celebrated Tuesday afternoon after being awarded with the prestigious Ensign Flag award, an honor bestowed to skilled nursing facilities who demonstrate quality care and customer service above and beyond the normal regulated standards.

According to David Howell, Administrator at Brookfield, the "Flag" is not easily earned, due to the standards set by Ensign (Brookfield's parent company). Only a handful of those who apply for the honor are selected to receive it.

"What Ensign has done is said, 'Well, we're gonna pick 20 plus criteria for you to reach, which is incredibly hard to reach,'" said Howell. "We have applied several times and not been able to get it. Just because you're five star doesn't mean

you're going to win the Flag."

Some of the criteria that Brookfield and like agencies include passing surveys of employees, patients, and family members, safety, culture, and community census.

"There's just many different criteria that we've been grateful enough to achieve," said Howell.

Several individuals addressed the crowd, speaking highly of Brookfield, its staff, and its care, including Co-Medical Directors Dr. Max Nguyen and Dr. Alan Frischer.

"When David came along, we actually pushed it forward," said Nguyen. "We made sure that we became the role model for all the nursing homes for Ensign. Not just Ensign, but eventually for the entire nation - all the nursing outside of Ensign. We wanted to be the role model."

Frischer commented that a lot has changed since he first began working with Brookfield, and reinforced Nguyen's comments on being a role model.



Photo by Dr. Max Nguyen Digital Photography

"When I started working at Brookfield 12 years ago, this was a very dingy, small building that was not performing very well. And David, [Dr. Nguyen], and I sat down and helped a culture and a quality facility that really shines across the United States; we wanted to be a role model. And I think we've done a great job so far."

Along with the Flag honor, Ensign has also given Brookfield \$40,000 to distribute to employees, and another \$30,000 designated for improvements and beautification of the Brookfield facility.

# Calls in Norwalk to rename music rehearsal hall after former band director

By Christian Brown Staff Writer

NORWALK - A group of Norwalk residents is petitioning the city to rename the music rehearsal hall at the Norwalk Arts and Sports Complex after Lee Mitchell, the former director and founder of the All-City Youth Band.

Sponsored by several former All-City band members, the proposal advocates placing Mitchell's name on the hall to solidify the legacy of a man they say helped unify and educate

Norwalk's youth through music.

Steve Ortega and Bruce Soto, who were founding members of the band, say the idea came up last year when Mitchell served as grand marshal of the annual Arturo Sanchez Sr. Halloween Parade.

"We started inquiring why the music hall wasn't named after him," Soto said. "Mr. Mitchell helped design that hall when it was built 20 years ago."

After speaking with other alumni of the band, Soto and Ortega have decided to collect signatures to garner support for renaming the room where the All-City Youth Band rehearses for its performances.

"I think it would be fitting -- he was always there for the kids," said Arturo Sanchez Jr., who is also supporting the petition. "He was always very professional. He was strict and firm, but the kids just admired him."

"Even ones that graduated -- they would never call him Lee, it was always Mr. Mitchell," Sanchez said.

The Norwalk All-City Youth Band was started by Mitchell in 1974 after former Norwalk mayor and councilwoman Margaret (Peg) Nelson suggested the creation of one for the



Supporters of retired All-City Youth Band director Lee Mitchell want to rename the city's music rehearsal hall in his honor.

country's bicentennial celebration. architect to design the band room." "It also kept the kids out of trouble," said Mitchell. "And it helped stop some of the gang violence going on at the time between Excelsior, John Glenn and La Mirada high schools."

For the next 30 years, Mitchell -- with the support of a strong parent association -- led the band in performances from Washington D.C. to Germany, Switzerland, and the Netherlands.

"When Excelsior closed, we had no place to practice so the city got a grant to build the arts and sports complex," Mitchell said. "And I worked with the

Mitchell says the very idea of such a petition is touching, a sign that his many years in Norwalk were not in vain. "I love Norwalk, I spent 35 years with the band and I don't regret anything at all," he said. "I would be thrilled to have the room named after me."

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Long Beach poet to read from latest book

DOWNEY – The Long Beach poet known as Raindog will read from his newest book, "Tracking the Rabbit," at Downey's Stay Gallery on June 16.

In addition to his poetry, Raindog also edits and publishes the LummoX anthologies.

The June 16 is free and open to the public. An open mic begins at 7:30 p.m.

**POETRY MATTERS**

**The Old Dog**

When the day comes  
when the final bell ends his last  
round  
when the needle scratches  
the last groove  
and the last exacta is run  
then they can have him.

When the last  
sleepless night is over  
when the last drop of wine is drained  
when the last hangover fades  
then it won't matter where he's gone.

But until that time  
let him raise a palsied paw  
to the sky  
and howl at the moon for all he's worth.

So what if the swaggering blowhard  
has been replaced by a staggering old pup.

Leave him alone and he'll still amaze  
us  
with that  
one  
last  
perfect  
gesture.

—RD Armstrong, from "Three Poems for Bukowski"

"I discovered Bukowski in high school," says Armstrong, the poet also known as Raindog. "He had a column in the L.A. Free Press called Notes of a Dirty Old Man which I avidly consumed... loving the quirky tales and the general weirdness." A legend himself as the editor of an independent little magazine and now the yearly anthology, LummoX, Raindog will read from his new book, Tracking the Rabbit, for Poetry Matters on June 16 at Stay Gallery, 111540 Downey Avenue in the heart of downtown Downey. Many of the published poets whom the Dawg has fostered and encouraged are expected to attend this don't-miss event. Doors open at 7, Open Mike at 7:30. Poetry Matters is curated by Lorine Parks.

Hahn, Napolitano headed for runoff election in November

By Christian Brown  
Staff Writer

DOWNEY – U.S. Rep. Janice Hahn is heading into a runoff election with second-place finisher Steve Napolitano this November after failing to reach 50% of the vote in her bid for a seat on the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors.

With 100% of the precincts reporting, Hahn finished in first place, garnering 47% of the vote in the Fourth District. Napolitano, a former mayor of Manhattan Beach and senior deputy to Supervisor Don Knabe, received nearly 37% of the vote.

Whittier Union High School District board member Ralph Pacheco ended Tuesday night with just 15%.

First elected in 1996, Knabe is being termed out of office this fall, leaving a coveted vacancy on the L.A. County Board of Supervisors, which manages a \$28 billion budget and oversees social services, public health and welfare programs that affect 10 million people.

Hahn, a former Los Angeles City Council member, has enjoyed high name recognition in the race. Her father Kenneth Hahn served on the board of supervisors for 40 years and her brother James K. Hahn was once the mayor of Los Angeles.

"I've been fighting for people my whole life," Janice Hahn said in a candidates' forum last week. "The L.A. Times says my biggest weakness is my heart...that I care too much. If anyone is going to prick the conscience of the board [of supervisors] to do the right thing, it's me."

Nonetheless, Napolitano has leveraged his local experience and community connections to score dozens of endorsements -- including Knabe's endorsement.

"Nobody knows the Fourth District better than me and I have a record of achievement," said Napolitano last month. "We don't need an L.A.-centric, Washington, D.C. approach to the county. We need a public servant."

While Hahn is a Democrat and Napolitano is a registered Republican, ideologically both agree on increasing funding for early childhood education, expanding affordable housing opportunities, safeguarding health benefits for undocumented immigrants, and exploring special taxes to raise funds for homeless services.

Heading into the general election, Napolitano's campaign is doubling down on its message that voters are looking for local

representation.

"Results of the June 7 primary election show that more than a majority of the voters of the Fourth Los Angeles County Supervisorial District want an end to the pandering and establishment politics by blocking establishment candidate Janice Hahn from her L.A. City power grab and winning a straight run towards the open supervisorial seat," said Mike Madrid, campaign strategist for Napolitano.

The board of supervisors is nonpartisan, but until recently, it has been represented by many moderate Republicans like Knabe. However, with the recent election of supervisors Hilda Solis and Shiela Kuehl, signs indicate the board's makeup is shifting left.

The Fourth District stretches from the South Bay, down to Long Beach, and up through Downey and Whittier into Diamond Bar.

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Somer Walid Nabulsi has earned the Girl Scout Gold Award, the highest honor a Girl Scout can earn.

The Gold Award is a national award with significant standards that elevates a girl's leadership skills, creativity, value, and efforts to make the world a better place.

Earning the award requires completion of a challenging, large-scale project that is innovative, engages others, and has a lasting impact on its targeted community with an emphasis on sustainability.

Somer's project was inspired by her love for her **sido** (grandfather). She created a craft center at a convalescent home for the elderly to connection generations of old and young.



Somer has been a Daisy Girl Scout since kindergarten at Rio San Gabriel Elementary and is now an Ambassador Girl Scout while a junior at Downey High.

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# Downey schools evaluated by 21st Century accreditation team



Students in Mr. Benner's classroom at Sussman Middle School express their future career goals in engineering as they interact with the visitation team from P21 during their walkthrough on June 1.

they design, program and build real-world objects." Students in Mr. Benner's class interacted with the P21 team sharing the process they go through to build and then code robots, programming it to follow a maze across the classroom floor. Several of Mr. Benner's students even expressed their future plan of pursuing careers in engineering post-graduation.

Stauffer Middle School implementation of PLTW programs span throughout the campus, even extending to courses such as culinary arts. Teachers emphasize the science and chemistry behind cooking by providing students with basic instructions and then allowing them to create their own food ensemble, giving each the ability to think critically to discover what ingredients work and react well together.

Alyda Mir, principal at Stauffer Middle School, shared with the P21 team the importance of offering PLTW courses to students at the middle school level stating, "We want to make sure that we at Stauffer, along with the other middle schools, provide students with a 21st Century learning environment that gives them an advantage when transitioning into high school."

At Downey High School, many classrooms have been renovated in order to incorporate 21st Century technology into the classroom.

These learning environments are now larger, furniture is more functional by allowing students to rearrange desks within seconds and teachers are now able to project lessons using a SAFARI Montage camera. This type of mobile/movable classroom resonates one main component of 21st Century Education, the Fives C's. These updated classrooms now provide students with the opportunity to Collaborate, Communicate, think Critically, be Creative and gain Citizenship skills that are fundamental for their future success.

Students at Downey and Warren High School are also able to check out Chromebooks during class to work on assignments and group projects. Currently, Warren is in the process of establishing the same system of having functional, 21st Century classrooms for students.

These architectural and technological updates are all possible due to the school bond measure that was passed in November 2014 (Measure O), which covers a 12 year span and will affect all schools districtwide. These funds will provide all Downey Unified schools with various renovations to ensure that each student has access to advanced instructional technology to better prepare them for college and/or careers post-graduation.

In conjunction with these factors, Downey Unified has also

implemented additional 21st Century education through the STEAM 15, a group of traveling teachers enlisted to provide STEAM (Science, Technology, English, Arts and Mathematics) instruction to kindergarten through fifth-grade students throughout the district. For 90 minutes, twice a month, students are able to participate in quality hands-on 21st Century-based projects that promote collaboration, critical thinking, communication and creativity. On the final stop of this visitation, the P21 team saw the STEAM15 in action at Old River Elementary School.

The P21 evaluation is based on six factors: evidence of commitment to college, career and life readiness; educational support systems and sustainable design; engaged learning approaches; equitable student access to 21st Century learning; evidence of student acquisition of 21st Century knowledge and skills; and partnerships for sustainable success.

The 21st Century Exemplar Program is in its fourth year of existence and is considered to be the foundation for the next stage of 21st Century education. The program's ultimate goal is to identify, document, promote and celebrate examples of successful 21st Century learning.

Accreditation results are expected to be released during the 2016-17 school year.

Due to the present advancement in technology, providing students with a 21st Century-based curriculum ensures they will

district-wide is an enormous feat and a tribute to our amazing teachers, administrators and staff."

School districts that earn the Exemplar Status receive special P21 Exemplar School Designation which will provide them with the following: being showcased on the P21 website; local, state and national media exposure; opportunities to present at conferences with P21 as exemplars; participation in P21 events and national visibility.

Currently there are 59 Exemplar Schools nationwide and, if selected, Downey Unified would be one out of seven school districts in California to receive this designation.

Members from the 21st Century Learning Exemplar Program (P21) visited several Downey Unified school sites June 1 to validate that the school district provides students with an effective 21st Century learning environment.

Normally, this accreditation is on a school by school basis," shared Superintendent Dr. John Garcia. "The fact that Downey Unified is in the process to get this accreditation

Due to the present advancement in technology, providing students with a 21st Century-based curriculum ensures they will

district-wide is an enormous feat and a tribute to our amazing teachers, administrators and staff."

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# Bellflower school district chooses secretary as Employee of the Year

Eileen Jones, who serves as a secretary to the Director, Elementary Education at Bellflower Unified, has been named the 2016-17 Classified Employee of the Year for her expert hand at connecting with community members, juggling a multitude of tasks and assisting new employees.

Jones is at the ground level when it comes to getting things done, according to Elementary

Education Director Dr. Alysia Odipo and Secondary Education Director Colleen McKinley, who nominated Jones.

She coordinates buses for elementary music, activities for the GATE program, materials for elementary training programs and handles elementary parent concerns. She is a go-to person for classified staff across the district, helping them navigate such complex tasks as

budgets and work orders.

"Eileen is not only a tremendous member of our team, she is also a delight to work with day in and day out," Superintendent Dr. Brian Jacobs said. "She brings vast knowledge, a sunny demeanor and a high level of proficiency to ensure the work of the district is done efficiently and effectively."

Jones has worked for Bellflower Unified since 1997, starting as an

instructional aide. She has worked as a school secretary, served as PTA Council president six times and as a member of the Citizens Task Force for 18 years - currently as its chairperson. She is also active on the Superintendent's District Advisory Group.

Jones is also known for dressing up for holidays and special events in costumes as simple as bunny ears and as detailed as a picnic table. She brings

homemade cakes on birthdays and treats for holidays, and coordinates a holiday cookie exchange.

"She is a gem," Odipo said. "She expertly juggles many tasks, volunteers to lead events like Relay for Life, helps her colleagues at the drop of a hat and is always there when we need her, no matter what. And her sense of humor never fails to raise everyone's spirits."

McKinley echoed the sentiment.

"Mrs. Jones is one of the most experienced and dedicated people I have ever worked with. She truly has a heart for students and works tirelessly to serve the Bellflower Unified School District community," McKinley said. "I am lucky to have her additional support every day."

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Thursday, Oct. 22, 2015  
Vol. 14, No. 28

NEWS: Downey Doodle-icious  
HEALTH: Butter vs. margarine  
OBITUARIES: Local Passings  
SPORTS: Darrin Franklin

3 dead in apparent murder-suicide  
DONNEY - Three people, including a toddler, were found dead inside a Downey apartment Wednesday night. Police suspect murder-suicide.

School district warns of phony solicitors  
DONNEY - Teenagers are knocking on the doors of local homes and trying to collect donations on behalf of local schools, the Downey Unified School District warned Wednesday.

Former Downey High teacher sued for sexual relationship with student  
A Los Angeles law firm has filed a lawsuit against the Downey Unified School District and Downey High School, alleging the former Downey High student teacher, initiating a sexual relationship with her.

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Friday 82°  
Saturday 81°  
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CRIME REPORT  
FRIDAY, OCT. 9  
At 12:30 a.m., Downey police officers responded to the 9000 block of Charisma in regards to a robbery that occurred. The victim had arrived home and exited the house. He was approached by two male suspects...











# Anyone can mistakes with estate matters – you don't have to

By Nathaniel Sillin

Adulthood brings certain financial responsibilities like the building of budgets, bank accounts and proper insurance. It's surprising how few consider a proper estate plan part of that essential mix.

In fact, a recent ABCNews poll found that only about 50 percent of Americans have created a will and significantly fewer have created the supporting estate documents like a living will or a power of attorney.

Preparing now for the end of your life or for illness may not sound like fun, but it is necessary. Having a plan for the future can help bring you peace and even put you on the road to stronger financial security. It can also help those you care most about. We've all heard cautionary tales about relatives or friends who did not have a will, and family members who were left with difficult but avoidable situations.

So, how do you start an estate plan? It has a lot to do with carefully drawn documents, but it's the planning behind them that really counts. I would encourage you to work with a qualified financial, estate and/or tax professional in your home state at the earliest opportunity to make sure your plans fit your needs and the needs of your loved ones. Here's a bit more detail on each.

A will, also called a testament, is the starting point. Wills are generally seen as the umbrella document that drives the rest of an individual's estate process. A will generally accomplishes the following:

It details how you want to leave your property to specific people or institutions after you die.

If you have minor children, it allows you to name a guardian to care for them after you die or become incapacitated. It also indicates who will manage your kids' assets, including what you leave them.

It lets you name your executor, the trusted person who will carry out all your wishes in the will.

If you die without a valid will, your state's court system may get involved in distributing your assets depending on intestacy laws on the books.

A living will – also known as an advance directive – allows you to define how you want to be medically treated under specific situations, including irreversible injury or terminal illness. Depending on your state laws, living wills allow you to express your exact wishes about feeding, breathing assistance and other life-sustaining procedures in addition to how you want them carried out at certain decision points in your care. A living will may also provide information on pain or infection medications you either want or don't want administered as well as specific instructions about your remains, including release to your family or donation for medical research.

Powers of attorney are legal documents that allow you to name a specific person to take care of your money or healthcare wishes if you are incapacitated. It is particularly wise to seek professional counsel from a qualified trusts and estates attorney in writing these documents. The person you designate as healthcare power of attorney will be speaking with doctors and executing your wishes on various forms of treatment; your financial power of attorney will be in charge of paying your bills and depending on the range of responsibilities you outline for that person, handling your investment and business affairs. Both are extremely important jobs that should be carried out by people you trust, and that's why they need to be people in the know. Make their preparation part of your estate planning so they know how to step in and carry out the assignments you've given them efficiently.

Bottom line: Estate planning is the final, responsible step in all good financial planning. While it may be unpleasant to do, it is essential in taking care of family, loved ones and causes you support after you're gone.

Nathaniel Sillin directs Visa's financial education programs. To follow Practical Money Skills on Twitter: [www.twitter.com/PracticalMoney](http://www.twitter.com/PracticalMoney).

## Victor Villaseñor in Downey this Monday

DOWNEY – Bestselling author and three-time Pulitzer Prize nominee Victor Villaseñor will be at the Downey Theatre on Monday, June 13, speaking on the power of language and how personal family histories empower us.

The talk begins at 6:30 p.m. and is open to the public.

As a dyslexic high school dropout, Villaseñor went on to become an award winning author and inspirational speaker. He credits James Joyce's "Portrait of an Artist as a Young Man" with changing his life.

The evening is sponsored by the Friends of the Downey Library. Admission is free.

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# Don't be shocked by these hidden costs of buying a home

When you're thinking about buying your first home, it might seem like it's all about the down payment. You save for years to have it, and you base a good portion of your home-buying budget on it.

Next comes the mortgage. How much will you owe each month in principal, interest, taxes, and insurance? How does that compare with how much you currently pay as a renter?

If you've figured out how to tackle those two huge expenses, you might think you have it made in the shade.

But in fact, there are lots of hidden costs to anticipate. These fees might affect your overall budget, timeline for buying, and what kind of home you want to buy. It's important to consider them early in the process, before you fall in love with a place you can't afford.

**1. Closing costs and other fees:**

The house has to be appraised to find its fair market value, the property records must be checked to make sure the seller has full rights to sell you the home, the real estate agent has to be paid for her work, and so on.

The seller might pick up some of these costs, but you'll have to shoulder some of the burden. We're talking about fees that, all together, can add up to a few thousand dollars. And you can expect closing costs to run from 2% to 5% of your home's value.

**2. Home inspection:** This is a must to make sure you're not buying a home with major structural issues. A home inspection will take a few hours and cost up to \$500, but it can save you a lot of grief in the future.

**3. Home warranty:** If you're buying an older home with appliances that are no longer covered by manufacturer warranties, getting a home warranty

could be a good call. They generally cost a few hundred dollars per year and protect things such as kitchen appliances, ceiling and exhaust fans, plumbing, the furnace, and the sump pump.

Inevitably, you'll face a major repair on your new home, so consider whether a home warranty will save you from that expense.

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**DOWNEY'S #1 AGENT**  
2002-PRESENT  
Over 900 Homes sold Since 1999  
CALBRE #01234589

## MICHAEL'S "24 HOUR" PROPERTIES OF THE WEEK!

**JUST LISTED**  
**GRAND ESTATE NEAR FURMAN PARK**  
3 BD, 2 BA, 2,146 sq ft Spanish style main house with a 2 car detached garage with attached apartment, plus a large pool house, pool, sport court, and grass area -- all on a 19,000 sq ft lot.  
**Reduced to: \$1,050,000**

**OPEN HOUSE SATURDAY**  
**ENTERTAINER'S DELIGHT**  
4 BD, 4.5 BA, 4,942 sq. ft., 12,112 sq. ft. lot, large pool, master suite with fireplace and guest house behind 2 car garage.  
**Reduced to: \$1,289,900**

**OPEN HOUSE SAT & SUN**  
**CUL-DE-SAC LOCATION**  
4 BD, 3 BA, 2,220 sq. ft., 5,058 sq. ft. lot, built in 1966, formal living room & dining room, large family room with fireplace, master BD with walk-in closet, yard with pool/ spa and patio.  
**Reduced to: \$674,950**

**SO MUCH POTENTIAL!**  
2 BD, 1 BA, 1 car garage (currently 3rd BD), & 8,800 sq. ft. lot w/separate entrance gate in the back, perfect for parking extra cars.  
**List Price: \$458,000**

**SELLER SAYS "SELL IT!"**  
4 BD, 2 BA, 1,642 sq ft living space, large family room with fireplace. Home needs some cosmetic work but priced to sell fast.  
**List Price: \$475,000**

**ONE OF A KIND!**  
North Downey 4 BD, 3 BA house + guest house on a large 18,000+ sq. ft. lot with salt-water pool & spa, outdoor kitchen, and large patio & grass area.  
**List Price: \$1,189,000**

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