

The Downey Patriot



Garden comes to fruition
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One-woman show Monday
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Friday, February 20, 2009

Vol. 7 No. 44

8301 E. Florence Ave., Suite 100, Downey, CA 90240

Guerra undergoes emergency surgery

■ Mayor diagnosed with detached retina in right eye.

BY ERIC PIERCE,
CITY EDITOR

DOWNEY – Mayor Mario Guerra was admitted to Presbyterian Intercommunity Hospital in Whittier on Wednesday for emergency eye surgery.

Guerra, who uses reading glasses at City Council meetings, said he had been experiencing blurred vision since last week. He had no lower vision in his right eye, he said.

His regular doctor referred him to Dr. Thomas Choi, an eye specialist at Downey Regional Medical Center. On Tuesday, Choi diagnosed Guerra with a detached retina in his right eye and recommended immediate surgery, Guerra said.

“He said if I would have waited until next week, for example, I could have lost sight in my eye permanently,” Guerra wrote in an e-

mail to friends and family Tuesday. “This was the part that kinda scared me a little as I like my right eye.”

Guerra was admitted to Presbyterian Intercommunity Hospital on Wednesday where Dr. Glen Jarus was scheduled to perform the surgery.

Guerra said he was ordered by doctors to remain face down the next two weeks to help relieve pressure on his eye. The surgery will force him to miss several upcoming events, including Tuesday’s City Council meeting.

In the meantime, Guerra encouraged people to see their doctor immediately when they suspect something is wrong.

“The lesson is to check things out right away; don’t put off the decision like I did,” Guerra said Wednesday, before the surgery. “I could have been blind if I waited.”

Former auto dealer faces fraud charges

DOWNEY – A former owner of defunct Downey Motorcars and his wife were arrested Feb. 12 in connection with a fraudulent auto sales loan scheme that defrauded customers and banks out of more than \$5 million, the California Department of Motor Vehicles announced this week.

Ruben Hernandez and Aida Gutierrez-Bonilla, of Pasadena, were arrested on multiple counts of grand theft, identity theft, filing false financial statements and dissuading a witness by force, officials said. Both were booked into Los Angeles County Jail with bail set at \$4 million and \$500,000, respectively.

The arrests came as part of a joint investigation between DMV officials and the United States Marshall’s Office Fugitive Task Force. Last September, DMV investigators arrested three former employees of the dealership – Marisela Alvarez, Joel Rodriguez and Leticia Medrano – on felony counts of grand theft, identity theft, and filing false financial state-

ments.

All three have hearings scheduled this week, officials said.

According to investigators, the scheme consisted of fraudulent loan applications that utilized stolen identities, falsified information, and phony Social Security numbers. The suspects allegedly resold and double-financed many of the same vehicles with different finance companies.

The suspects used the personal information of three victims without their permission to secure several loans, investigators charge.

Hernandez also allegedly engineered several fraudulent real estate loans. In 2005, he submitted real estate loan applications containing false financial statements to various lending firms on six different properties.

In addition to Downey Motorcars, Hernandez and Gutierrez-Bonilla also operated South Gate Motors, officials said. The dealerships closed in January 2006.

Willis fired as basketball coach

BY SCOTT COBOS,
STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY – After an abysmal 2-year stint at Warren, basketball head coach Brent Willis was dismissed of his duties Tuesday afternoon, according to team sources.

During Willis’ tenure, he led the Bears to only one league victory, which came in his first season with the team. This year, Warren lost every game in San Gabriel Valley League play and never finished a contest closer than 18 points.

“[Willis] kept bringing up kids from junior varsity and freshman teams to play varsity and neglected the seniors and they felt like it was

a slap in the face,” said the parent of one player, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

“I was aware some of the parents were upset because he was playing some of the freshmen,” said freshman basketball coach Carl Johnson. “But [the firing] was very shocking because I didn’t know the reason or any other details. I just know he was let go. I heard from some of the kids.”

A source close to the situation said Willis was called by CIF Southern Section offices after he complained of officiating as quoted in *The Downey Patriot*.

Warren athletic director Steve Hill did not return phone calls or e-mails seeking comment.

The Yang family farm

■ Family travels 200 miles every Saturday to sell at Downey’s farmers market.

BY CAROL KEARNS,
DOWNEY WRITERS’ WORKSHOP WEST

Fortunately for local shoppers, the heavy snowfall of last weekend was no deterrent to the Yang family from Fresno who sell their produce every Saturday at the Downey farmers market. In anticipation of extreme weather and traffic conditions over the Grapevine, the family left their farm at 10 p.m. the night before to be sure they would have their booth set up by 10 a.m. Saturday morning. The sky was sparkling by market time, and to the strolling shoppers, everything had the appearance of business as usual.

More often than not, a cluster of shoppers is gathered as Sanai Ly and his wife Ma Yang give tips on how to cook some of their more unfamiliar vegetables, such as lemon grass and fresh ginger root. Customers find it hard to believe that the variety of produce comes from just 20 acres cultivated by Sanai and his family east of Fresno. The enthusiasm of the gregarious farmers is contagious, and customers share their own cooking tips while waiting in line.

For the first-time shopper, the initial attraction to the Yang booth is the abundance of both unusual and popular fruits and vegetables. The baby bok choy has become a weekly staple, but much of the produce varies with the season. Some items, especially herbs, are not available in a regular supermarket.

Gourmet cooks had a special treat last weekend when Sanai and Ma brought stalks of fresh fennel. Before that, fresh dill was available for over a month. Weekly staples at this time include potatoes, yams, onions, green leaf vegetables, beets, turnips, ginger root,



From a 20-acre farm east of Fresno, the Yang family cultivates a distinct harvest of fruits and vegetables. Their booth has become a staple at Downey’s farmers market. Photo by Carol Kearns

and herbs such as fresh cilantro. Fruit in season includes tangerines, grapefruit, and oranges.

Huge bunches of big-leaf basil and fresh mint were available throughout the summer, along with a variety of sweet tomatoes. The harvest from the family’s persimmon orchard was also very popular.

People are amazed to hear that this bounty is cultivated without chemical fertilizers and pesticides. Sanai says that the family has been replenishing the soil by natural methods for three years now. At the end of every season, non-producing plants are plowed under in preparation for the next crop, and unsold produce is fed to the potbellied pigs on the farm. In four more years the farm will be eligible to be officially certified organic.

It usually takes two days each week to harvest and clean the pro-

duce that is ready for market, and on Friday Sanai packs the truck for the 200-mile trip. His father-in-law and sister-in-law also work their own farms, and together the extended family makes the weekly trip to sell at three different Saturday markets. Sunday morning they set up booths at three more markets before driving 200 miles home.

The family has a long history of farming, and they are very proud of their work. Sanai and Ma are ethnic Hmong from near China’s southern border. Many from this group fought with the Americans during the Vietnam War, and had to flee when America withdrew. Sanai came to Utah as a young boy in 1979, and three years later, relatives persuaded his father to move to Fresno where farming was easier in the milder climate.

Sanai’s wife, Ma, also lived through a similar relocation. Her family first settled in Minnesota, and then moved to California for the same reason.

Not all of the family are farmers, but the extended family is close and does help one another. Two of Ma’s brothers are computer programmers, and grandchildren are often at the farm, riding in a wagon drawn by their grandfather’s tractor. Ma acknowledges that farming is hard work. Even baby Ethan makes the trip to Downey every week.

But the family is healthy and thriving, and that is most important. Ma and Sanai say they are gratified that Downey customers look forward to shopping with them every week.

Carol Kearns is a member of Downey’s Writers’ Workshop West.

Council prioritizing city-wide goals

■ Next meeting scheduled for Feb. 28 at community center.

BY HENRY VENERACION,
STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY – The first half of the City Council Priority Workshop took place on Feb. 14 and, although it did not yield any eye-popping revelations or details, it impressed the lone member of the public present. Longtime Downey resident and a fixture at Council meetings Chuck Ana, exclaimed, “This is very informative!”

Indeed, the three-fold purpose of the exercise was nothing if not informational: to provide a chance for city staff to present departmental operations and mandates, to give an opportunity for Council to take a “macro” look at the organization, and (later) attempt to blend department operations and mandates with Council goals.

A visibly excited Mayor Mario Guerra said as far as he knew it was the first time such a gathering had been assembled. Usually policy

mandates would trickle down to the departments concerned through the city manager for implementation. Now it is envisioned that input from the departments would find its way up to the City Council to blend ideas in a more structured way and forge a true consensus.

An analogy in the business world would be a general sales or annual report conference attended by key personnel and the public.

City Manager Gerald Caton, aware of the importance of the proceedings, would get up from his chair from time to time to make clarifying or rallying comments to clarify a point from his perspective or spark further enthusiasm.

In his discussion of the current fiscal framework, Assistant City Manager Lee Powell pointed to charts showing a rising police, fire, and public works staffing trend, and thus getting the biggest budget share, explaining “These three departments bear the brunt of safety in the city.” He said employees represent 75 percent of the cost of city government, and funds rise in

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The Downey Civic Light Opera’s “Dames at Sea” opened last night at the Downey Theatre. The production will continue through March 20. From left: choreographer Gitana Van Buskirk, executive producer and director Marsha Moode, and musical director Steven Dahlke. Photo courtesy Downey Civic Light Opera

Goals: Departments outline functions, priorities.

Continued from page 1

prosperous times, dip in slow economic times or in a recession, and that "We just have to weather the bad times as best as we can."

He also said that because city management, with sound guidance from the Council, has historically handled its finances prudently, the city of Downey has remained better off in these economically unsettled times than other neighboring cities.

Police Chief Roy Campos again enunciated his department's three main thrusts: a professional respect for everybody a police officer encounters on the street; diligent, hard-nosed, street-level, law enforcement personnel; and exploration/inclusion of technology in department operations. He said his aim is to contribute even more to a "healthy, beautiful, safe and strong community."

He also said that patrol activities include undercover operations and that there is continual training and preparedness among his force.

Finance director/risk manager John Michicoff said his department includes accounting (revenue collections), purchasing, information technology, and the administration of investments, insurance, civil liability matters, and "anything else that comes our way." To underscore the department's extensive load, he said it is responsible for auditing 11 entities including the city (SEAACA, Gas Tax, Civic Center Corp., Cemetery District, etc.), numerous state-required financial regulatory reports, and budget. (He is particularly proud of his department's award-winning Comprehensive Annual Financial Report).

The community development department, now comprising economic development and housing,

planning division, and building and safety after a recent realignment, equally boasts a host of activities and programs that boggle the mind: redevelopment and downtown revitalization issues, streamlining the permit application process and other process flows, with respect to zoning, code enforcement, and environmental considerations.

The names of building structures it has had to deal with lately include Porto's Bakery, Downey Landing, Persico Shopping Center, Johnie's Broiler/Bob's Big Boy, Kaiser Permanente, etc., as part of an all-out effort to make Downey a business-friendly city. Directing operations is Deputy City Manager Gilbert Livas.

Because the specter of unexpected emergencies has caused worrisome concern to everyone involved, a department of emergency preparedness and management under Deputy City Manager Mark Sauter has recently been created. It was developed to prevent whatever calamity may arise, prepare the city and its residents and volunteers as much as possible, respond (police and fire the early responders, with an upgrade in policy decisions), perform (command and control), and recover through support and repair operations.

"These identified resources, we can throw our arms around," Sauter said.

More will be said later about these policies and procedures, plans and priorities in the weeks ahead, including the council members' pet goals.

The rest of the departments - Public Works, the Fire Department, Community Services and Special Projects - is scheduled to make their presentations on Feb. 28, in the second of the two-part Priority Meeting.



Barbara Leigh will perform a 1-woman variety show Monday at Downey Adult School. The event, which begins at 3:45 p.m., is part of the regular OASIS meeting for older adults.

Barbara Leigh to sing Monday

DOWNEY - Talented songstress Barbara Leigh will bring her "unique combination of song, history and humor" to Downey Adult School's OASIS (Older Adults Seeking Information and Skills) meeting Monday at 3:45 p.m.

Leigh's program, "Celebrating Our American Heritage," will feature historical narratives about presidents Lincoln and Washington, in addition to patriotic heritage stories.

Registration for the program is free and begins at 3 p.m. The program begins at 3:45 and is followed by an optional dinner. Dinner tickets are \$3.50 and must be purchased at time of enrollment.

Downey Dial-a-Ride can provide transportation to those who qualify. For more information, call (562) 940-6200.

Woman's Club going to Pechanga

DOWNEY - Seats are still available for the Woman's Club of Downey's bus trip to the Pechanga Resort and Casino on March 2.

Funds raised from the trip will benefit the club's scholarship fund. The bus will leave the Woman's Club at 8 a.m. and return between 5:30-6 p.m. Cost is \$6 for Woman's Club members, \$11 for non-members, and includes a \$5 voucher for casino play.

Bingo is played on the bus and guests must be at least 21 years old. For reservations, call Jeanine Keys at (562) 923-6620 or Doris Patterson at (562) 869-0377.

Christian club names guest speaker

DOWNEY - The Downey Christian Women's Club will listen to Lona Beardsley speak on "The Inside Story on Family Relationships" when it meets March 11 at the Los Amigos Country Club.

The meeting, titled "Spring Jewels," will feature music by Alan Kerr and Derek Delp and a special feature from Elena's Creations.

The meeting begins at 11:45 a.m. and is open to both men and women. Cost for the lunch meeting is \$13 and reservations are requested by calling Sonja at (562) 862-4347 or Jean at (562) 861-1114.

NARFE meeting at Furman Park

DOWNEY - The National Association of Active and Retired Federal Employees (NARFE) Southeast Chapter will meet Thursday at noon at Furman Park.

The group will discuss the upcoming NARFE state convention. Pizza will be served and new members are welcome.

Speech contest winners announced

DOWNEY - Freddy Clark took first place in Toastmaster International Club 587's annual International Speech Contest which took place Feb. 10 at First Baptist Church of Downey.

Winning first place in the Table Topics contest was Downey resident Richard Elliot. P.J. Mellana won second place in both contests.

All winners will compete in the Area Contest that will be held tomorrow at 8:30 a.m. inside the Santa Fe Springs council chambers.

Rose Float installing 29th president

DOWNEY - The Downey Rose Float Association will install their 29th president and the 2009-10 board of directors tomorrow at the Barbara J. Riley Community & Senior Center.

Tickets to the event are \$23. In addition to the installation, the Association will also honor outgoing officers, members and major donors. Tickets may be paid at the door or reserved by calling (562) 824-7172.

Girls can be treated like princesses

DOWNEY - The Downey Rose Float Association will host their second annual Princess for a Day event for young girls on March 14.

Girls ages 5-12 can spend a day with the Miss Downey and Miss Teen Downey Courts and be treated like a princess. For \$25, the girls will receive hair and makeup makeovers, learn a dance routine, construct a tiara craft, take photos, have lunch with the courts, and receive a goody bag.

The event is limited to 125 participants and will be held inside Trinity Baptist Church, 8219 Florence Ave. Girls should wear a pink or purple shirt.

Early registration will be held Feb. 28 from 3-4 p.m. at the church. For more information, call Miss Downey Sarah Lopez at (562) 644-3888 or e-mail sglopez07@yahoo.com.

E-waste to be collected in March

DOWNEY - West Middle School will be collecting e-waste March 28 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. as part of a fundraiser supporting the school's students.

Residents can dispose of their broken or unwanted televisions, computers, monitors, printers, scanners, circuit boards, copiers, fax machines, audio visual equipment, CD and DVD players, telephones, cell phones, and most other electronic devices.

If you have a large number of items, or something too big to bring, call Omni Technics at (562) 627-1910.

Items that can not be collected include large household appliances, broken glass, fluorescent devices, batteries, toxic materials, or unsafe-to-handle products.

West Middle School is at 11985 Old River School Rd.

History buffs invited to meeting

DOWNEY - Historian Wally Shidler will present his 16mm film, "To Mount Lowe with Love," at Thursday's meeting of the Downey Historical Society inside the John Downey Room at the Barbara J. Riley Community and Senior Center.

Filmed in 1976 by Phillip Callahan, the half-hour film is about the historic incline cable cars that ran from Pasadena to the top of the peak known as Mount Lowe.

Sometimes called "a railroad to the stars," the now-lost rail line is a little known piece of California history. Professor T.S.C. Lowe, who built the line and suffered through its history, said about its ending: "I have no regrets...a monument such as Mount Lowe will be [a memorial] to my name when I have passed away."

Shidler is a historian and motion picture engineer. He is a member of the Huntington Park Historical Preservation Commission and is a collector of historic memorabilia.

Thursday's meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. The public is invited.

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With the help of Downey Federal Credit Union, students at Ward Elementary recently planted a "Character Counts Garden" in the school's courtyard. From left: third grade students Aleny, Alexandria and Reina, with DFCU's Kari Johnson.

Student garden sprouts at Ward Elementary

DOWNEY – Downey Federal Credit Union officiated at the recent launch of the Character Counts Garden in the courtyard at Ward Elementary School.

The garden will be cared for by Ward students, and be a constant reminder of the six pillars of character, including trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and citizenship.

In addition, the garden will provide an opportunity for students to learn about botany and teamwork, as well as providing physical activity.

Downey Federal Credit Union placed a decorative stone in the garden showing the partnership between the credit union and its adopted school.

"We are so pleased at the close relationship we have developed with Downey Federal Credit Union," said Jennifer Robbins, principal of Ward Elementary. "The garden symbolizes a joint effort and a true team spirit that will enrich the lives of the students and teachers."

Barbara Lamberth, CEO of Downey Federal Credit Union, agreed.

"We are pleased to continue to have a partnership with Ward Elementary School and encourage young people to learn in new ways," she said. "Having a garden at the school provides a new learning environment for Downey's youth."

Child immunizations Wednesday

DOWNEY – The Downey Unified School District, in conjunction with St. Francis Medical Center, is offering free immunizations to children ages 4-18 at Maude Price Elementary School on Wednesday.

Immunizations will be given for chicken pox, hepatitis A and B, DTP, MMR, polio, meningococcal, and tuberculosis.

Children should bring their official immunization card with past immunization history. Children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Immunizations will be given from 3-7 p.m. No appointment is necessary. Maude Price Elementary is at 9525 Tweedy Lane.

Washington's birthday celebrated

DOWNEY – Noted historical impersonator Peter M. Small will perform as President George Washington at a Downey City Library event Feb. 22.

Small will present historical facts and myths on a wide-range of subjects from chopping down the cherry tree to crossing the Delaware.

Presented by the Friends of the Downey City Library, the program will start at 2 p.m. in the Cormack Room. Admission is free.

Optimists rename golf tournament for D'Alessandro

BY HENRY VENERACION,
STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY – This year's Downey Optimist Club 20th annual charity golf tournament, which has been renamed the "Tom Watts Memorial Tournament held in memory of 'Del' D'Alessandro," will be held Monday, April 13 at its usual venue, the Rio Hondo Golf Club.

The tournament was founded 20 years ago by Optimist Tom Watts, who is remembered for "his passion for golf, exceeded only by his passion for his family and for helping kids in need."

"Del" D'Alessandro, the long-time club member who brought the same dedication and commitment to excellence when he took over as golf tournament organizer and who passed away last year, was equally known for pursuing the same goal of "helping build the youth in the Downey community."

Among the club's many charitable activities: annual scholarships for exceptional graduating students from Downey's three high schools; year-round support for children with disabilities at Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center; sending children with serious burns to the club's summer fun "Burn Camp"; sponsoring Downey's annual "Pumpkin Patch" in Apollo Park; and providing sports equipment to the Optimist International Boys and Girls home ("which has been helping kids in need for more than 85 years").

The golf tournament, a shotgun start/four-person team scramble noon affair, is the Optimist Club's main fundraiser. Needless to say, it provides ample opportunities for having fun. Registration starts at 10 a.m. and the awards dinner & live auction is scheduled at 5 p.m.

This being a fundraiser, the following corporate sponsorships are offered: platinum (\$7,500); gold (\$5,000); dinner (\$5,000); golf shirt (\$4,500); silver (\$3,500); bronze (\$2,500); foursome (\$1,500); and tee/green (\$150). Individual player fee is \$150; dinner only is \$50. All players will be entitled to: 18 holes of golf, on-course refreshments, lunch, dinner, team awards, "premium" golfer gifts, hole-in-one contest to win a new car, opportunity drawing, as well as live and silent auctions.

Event program recognition deadline is March 24. For more information, call current club president Roy Acker, (562) 923-7581 or e-mail roy@mkmalpa.com.

Tea fundraiser at Embassy Suites

DOWNEY – The Women's Ministry of Breath of God Christian Fellowship Church will present a high tea fundraiser Feb. 21 at the Embassy Suites in Downey.

The event is titled "Women of Change" and begins at 10 a.m. Cost is \$25.

For more information, or to purchase a ticket, call (310) 767-9620.

Hospice volunteers in need

DOWNEY – Companion Hospice Care is now recruiting volunteers for its upcoming training program. Volunteers become friends to people during the final phases of their lives.

Volunteers can also relieve tired caregivers for short periods of time, or help with errands and shopping.

Volunteers will receive 16 hours of training, held Saturdays beginning March 21.

Companion Hospice Care is located at 8130 Florence Ave., Suite 200, in Downey. For more information, call (562) 944-2711 or go online to www.companionhospice.com.



Mariana Kabadaian, Nadia Mitina and Lisa Marie Parker will take the California Shorthand Reporters Examination in Los Angeles today.

Students qualify for examination

DOWNEY – Downey Adult School students Mariana Kabadaian, Nadia Mitina and Lisa Marie Parker recently qualified to take the California Shorthand Reporters Examination to be administered today in Los Angeles.

The exam is given three times per year and, for prospective shorthand reporters, is equivalent to the bar exam. It is a two-day test, with academic subjects tested on the first day and machine dictation on the second.

The last exam was administered in November and all Downey Adult School court reporting students did "exceptionally well," school officials said.

To be eligible for testing, students must have completed 660 hours of training in English, legal studies, medical terminology, court procedures, California codes, and computers.

Students also must pass all speed tests up to and including a 200 word per minute qualifier test with four live readers. All speed tests must be passed with 97.5 percent accuracy.

Crime Watch

Feb. 9: A robbery at Fashion City, 8520 Paramount Blvd., results in a loss of approximately \$40. No weapon was seen.

Feb. 8: At 12:25 p.m., shots were fired into the air in the alley north of Lyndora Street and west of Lakewood Boulevard. The suspect fled before officers arrived. No one was injured.

Feb. 7: A newspaper delivery man was carjacked at 5 a.m. near Bellder Drive and Imperial Highway. Minutes later, an officer saw the victim's car in the parking lot of a local motel and detained two suspects seated inside.

As the officers investigated, they learned another robbery had previously taken place at Bellflower Boulevard and Steve Horn Way. The loss was a purse.

The suspects, a 19-year-old from Los Angeles and a 20-year-old from Downey, were positively identified and arrested for robbery and carjacking.

At 5:40 p.m., a man was walking near Lakewood Boulevard and Gallatin Road when a car jumped the curb and struck him. The driver fled the scene and was later arrested for felony DUI. The victim was taken to a local hospital and is listed in stable condition.

At 6 p.m., a street robbery occurred near Bellflower Boulevard and Washburn Road. The suspects used a handgun to steal a cell phone.

Feb. 6: At 4:40 p.m., a person used a handgun to commit a street robbery near Paramount Boulevard and Orange Avenue. The loss was approximately \$7.

Source: Downey Police Department

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March 28, 2009

Arc
of Southeast Los Angeles County

Walk for Independence

www.arcwalk.org

A one or three mile Walk to raise funds for people with intellectual and other developmental disabilities.

Stonewood Center – Downey

Acapulco Restaurant
(Corner of Firestone and Lakewood)

Opening Ceremonies
8:00 a.m.

Walk Starts at
8:30 a.m.

➤ **Registration Fee \$10.00**

Free Breakfast Courtesy of Acapulco Restaurant - for paid participants

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**For Registration Info. – Call 562-803-4606 ext. 230
or register on-line at: www.ArcWalk.org**

Arc is a private non-profit organization serving over 400 people with intellectual and other developmental disabilities every day in 14 different programs.

Philanthropist Art Morris honored on his 90th birthday

BY HENRY VENERACION,
STAFF WRITER

In welcoming Art Morris' associates, friends and family members who gathered together on Feb. 6 to celebrate his 90th birthday, Downey Regional Medical Center CEO and emcee Ken Strople called attention not only to the nonagenarian's financial contributions benefiting the hospital but also his inestimable investment of time over the years.

To this day, Morris belongs to both the corporate and hospital boards, he said.

The City Council as well recognized Morris' place in the history of Downey; it proclaimed Feb. 6 "Happy Birthday, Art" Day. His actual birthday was two days later, on Feb. 8.

Morris, in his wheelchair and believed to be afflicted with an array of ailments, was as usual in good spirits and observed to be enjoying the attention and best wishes heaped upon him. DRMC officer DeeAnna Hampton, who was in charge of the afternoon get-together held in DRMC's Conference Room

A courtesy of the Memorial Trust Foundation, more than 100 estimated guests enjoyed the cookies, cake, coffee, and punch prepared for the occasion against a festive backdrop of colorful balloons, bunting, and what-not. Two guest books, one bordering on the gigantic, provided opportunities for the guests to pen sundry messages of cheer and encouragement.

There were friends from the business world and the community (Bill Hare, Larry Lewis, Bob Goldstein), doctors, hospital employees, auxiliaries, hospital board associates, Kiwanians, along with a significant number of fellow



Friends and family helped Art Morris, a longtime supporter of Downey Regional Medical Center, celebrate his 90th birthday on Feb. 6.

At 90, Morris still serves on Downey Regional's corporate and hospital board. Photos courtesy Downey Regional Medical Center



Rotarians (John Lacey, Harold Tseklenis, Frank Hall and his wife, Jorge Montero, Dan Fox, Mary Phillips, Wayne Wilcox, Lorine Parks, Grace Eshelian, Larry McGrew, Brian Saylor and son).

Lending their presence were former council members Meredith Perkins and Kirk Cartozian (who

was delegated by Mayor Mario Guerra to read the above proclamation).

In reaching the ripe old age of 90, which very few can ever hope to reach, Morris, along with Dr. Mary Stauffer, joins an illustrious group who did (along with the age when they died): Sophocles, 90; Pablo Picasso, 91; Jan Sibelius, 91;

Andrew Wyeth, 91; George Bernard Shaw, 94; Titian, 99; and Grandma Moses, 101, to name a few.

Mary Morris, one of Morris' four children, added this tribute to her dad: "He's the best dad around."

POET'S CORNER

Crows

Five sleek crows peck at crushed crackers in the grass. One hobbles on a bent leg. Another holds a large piece in place with his foot while his sharp beak severs it neat.

I wish I could sit with them. And fly, too. It would be a thrill to soar to the top of that pine. I'd look for a special crow there; the one who cawed piteously above my head the day I picked up his dying mate. There were no marks on her.

I touched her feet, stroked her head. Her feathers were so black I could see tiny bright flashes of blue. If I would find her mate I'd tell him what happened as I held her -- that she opened her eyes and spread her wings one last time for her crossover flight.

—Margaret Hehman-Smith,
Hollydale

Compulsory Education

Six million kids to lead gradually toward graduation. what a task but it must be done or trial law and table waiting will be passe' In California.

How to comply with the desires of federal, and state bureaus and school boards not to mention teachers.

To quote a famous educator of my acquaintance: "In the real world there is no such thing as algebra."

—John Vincent,
Downey

Downey overmatched in CIF opener, lose 61-39

BY SCOTT COBOS,
STAFF WRITER

Downey found out quickly was how long the No. 6 team in the state, Martin Luther King High School, was physically in their 61-39 loss Wednesday night in the opening round of the CIF Southern Section playoffs.

The Vikings managed to win their last three games in San Gabriel Valley League play to once

again sneak into the playoffs with an at-large bid. Unfortunately, their overall record (15-12) played against them when it came time for the CIF panel to craft the brackets.

Being matched up with the Wolves proved to be anything but fun when they found out they would have to face a team that has a guard at 6-foot-7 in Kawhi Leonard, who had 20 points and 12 rebounds on the night.

Downey's tallest player is forward Matt Black and he measures

in at 6-foot-3 while the average size on King's team is 6-foot-4.

The Vikings came out hot in the first half and only trailed by seven points at half time, but were unable to keep up with King's size and length advantage.

"They had five inches on us in every spot," said Black. "I know we battled but, I just don't know."

According to forward Matt Taylor, Downey was no stranger to playing upper echelon teams such as the Wolves.

"It's not a shock to play a top team," he said. "We played Mater Dei and Dominguez so we were used to playing these caliber teams."

The game slipped away in the third quarter. Downey was only able to muster four points in the period and found themselves down 17 with eight minutes to go in the game.

It was too late by then with Downey looking fatigued and settling for a lot of 3-point shots. Downey head coach Larry Shelton

said perhaps his team should have been more aggressive.

"We took a lot of 3's and maybe we should've attacked a little more but they're pretty big inside and they're very athletic and I don't know how many shots they blocked tonight, but I know that had something to do with taking so many perimeter shots," he said.

There was no doubt Downey was tired though. Shelton cited fatigue as a problem his team had endured all year, saying that he couldn't rest his big kids because there was no one off the bench that could match up.

Downey's Black and guard Alex Mediola both scored in double digits to lead the team and Taylor scored seven points and pulled down six rebounds.

Shelton was able to take positives from the game and had nothing but praise for his team after.

"My kids played really hard," he said. "We were overmatched size wise at every position. I talked to them about the one thing I wanted from them and that was to compete and not be scared and I'm really proud of their effort tonight."

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Exit, stage left

By Eric Pierce

The axe was bound to fall, the only question was when. Warren High School boys basketball coach Brent Willis was fired Tuesday just one week after his team finished winless in league competition.

Under Willis' tenure, Warren was 1-18 in league play. As the now former coach told our staff writer Scott Cobos last week, "That is unacceptable and I'll accept responsibility for that."

By "accepting responsibility" he also accepted a pink slip, and rightfully so.

Willis put a black eye on Warren's basketball program, but it has nothing to do with his team's record. Willis stained the program through his insensitive and antagonistic words.

Of Warren's longtime rivalry with Downey, Willis said: "This rivalry has been too touchy and too feely and that's going to change under my tenure...We aim for Downey. And they can put that in the papers, and they can put it up in their lockers if they want."

Oh, we put it in the paper all right, and no doubt Downey used the idiom as locker room fodder, because the next week Downey trounced Warren 72-38.

As a result, the Vikings went to Riverside for CIF playoffs. Willis and his team just went home.

After that game, you would think Willis would have learned to ditch his hard-nosed (and hard-headed) style of basketball and instead recommit himself to teaching his players the fundamentals of the game.

But, inexplicably, he didn't.

"You better guarantee, 100 percent, 5-star lock it, we're going to come with that mentality whenever I'm coaching this team," he told Cobos last week.

The conversation then turned morose, if not a tad bit uncomfortable.

"[Our style] is not going to be soft, it's not going to be cozy. It's going to be up in your face, it's going to be tight, it's going to be hot, and it's going to be rough and that's the way basketball is supposed to be played."

No, Willis, you're wrong. And that's why you were fired.

This isn't the NBA. You're not coaching the latest incarnation of the Detroit Pistons' "Bad Boys." You're coaching a squad of fresh-faced teenagers who probably joined your team because they enjoy the game of basketball, and now you're ruining the experience for them.

As any good coach knows, you can't teach toughness.

Playing hard is one thing, but playing without respect for your opponent is another, especially in the Downey Unified School District, which prides itself in "Character Counts" and "Pursuing Victory with Honor."

School officials wouldn't call Cobos back for comment, so we don't know the exact reason for Willis' firing (administrators hedged to even confirm it), but the facts speak for themselves: Willis was a bad coach, with a bad philosophy, and his ouster will only enrich Warren's athletic department.

Letters to the Editor:

Pasta and Presto

Dear Editor:

Every year at the end of February, the Warren Band and Color Guard hosts an event we like to call "Pasta and Presto." This fundraiser is not your typical fundraiser because it is a wonderful opportunity for anyone to enjoy a very "cheap" but fun and entertaining night out.

Tomorrow, Feb. 21, you are welcome to come enjoy a spaghetti dinner and performance by seven different ensembles. Starting at 5:30 p.m., the Warren High School band will be serving a spaghetti dinner to anyone who purchases a ticket for a mere \$7. The food is great and donated by local businesses such as Olive Garden, Frantone's, Pina Pizza, and more.

Band students will serve as your waiters as you enjoy a wonderful meal for a very modest price. While eating, the Warren jazz bands will entertain you.

Then, at 7 p.m., the Presto portion begins. The WHS wind ensemble, concert band, percussion ensemble, and winter guard will perform in the gymnasium. This year special guests Griffiths and West middle school bands will be joining the festivities so everyone can see how music is thriving at all levels of the DUSD.

On a final note, you will get to see and experience our wonderful newly-renovated cafeteria -- it is an outstanding facility! Be one of the first to see and enjoy this wonderful new space on the Warren campus.

Don't miss out, \$7 for a spectacular evening night out! Please come join us. Please park in the large main parking lot located on Paramount Boulevard and walk directly into the center of the school where you will find the cafeteria and gym.

— David Niemeyer,
Band Director, Warren High School

Editor's note: For more information, call David Niemeyer at (562) 869-7306, ext. 5616, or e-mail dniemeyer@dusd.net.

Letters to the Editor:

Defending journalists

Dear Editor:

If City Editor Eric Pierce knew what fear, misery, heartache and despair the remaining writers and editors are experiencing at the rapidly sinking *Los Angeles Times* right now, he might not be so willing to slam a beleaguered group who are, professionally speaking, his colleagues.

In the Feb. 13 edition of *The Downey Patriot*, he took the paper, and journalists in general, to task for what he perceives as arrogance and insensitivity, in this instance by eliminating the California section.

Admittedly, the Times has always had trouble covering the regions of L.A. County; or, to put it another way; it's never been able to solve the intricacies of gigantic sprawl that characterize what was never intended to be a centralized city to begin with. No one has.

I share his resentment of snobby, self-satisfied journo and editors, a few of whom I find insufferable. But that's just a few, and they work just as hard as their most earnest, civic-minded and conscientious peers. It wasn't their decision, that is, a professional journalists' collective decision, to shut down California. They're just as unhappy about it as Pierce is.

The cut-back comes from the relentless pressure of management, and its absurdly suicidal notion that you can enhance a product by destroying its value. This is a lunatic trend that began with Reganomics (remember leveraged buyouts, junk bonds, spinoffs?) where entrepreneurs and investment bankers made money by buying companies, tearing them apart and ruining people's lives.

In the late '80s, these MBA types started looking at newspapers, with their relatively healthy profit margins, and began squeezing them too. The Times began its decline then, as did most other papers nationally. Finally, when foul-mouthed Sam Zell bought the Chicago Tribune Company in 2007, the Times went into free fall. Zell hates journalists, and the Chicago group that preceded his ownership has always borne a strange cultural animus to L.A., as though it were the nation's Sodom and Gomorrah.

Now we're seeing the result, endless bloodbath rounds of layoffs and the purging of irreplaceable talents who've spent lifetimes gaining knowledge and experience in their fields. A skeleton staff runs the paper now — down two-thirds from the '80s. Another round of layoffs is coming, and there's a strong rumor that the paper will go under in June — if the Long Beach *Press-Telegram* doesn't fold first.

I know there are other problems facing newspapers — the Web and the blogosphere and an increasingly dumbed-down public. But those are other issues. In the meantime, it's up to local publications like *The Downey Patriot* to pick up the community slack. I admire the DP's new energy and promise; it's serving Downey better than ever. But with no money and a relatively inexperienced staff, I don't expect we'll be seeing any investigative journalism soon, or in-depth reportage from deeply knowledgeable editors and reporters who make journalism the social safeguard it is when it's at its best.

So please, Mr. Pierce, have a heart when it comes to kicking people who are already down.

— Lawrence Christon,
Downey

Double standard

Dear Editor:

Instead of senators voting for this so-called economic stimulus plan, we should have all our governors vote instead. Then Gov. Schwarzenegger could ask how come the federal government can be \$800 billion in the red, but California can't be \$42 billion in the red.

Isn't this called a double standard?

— Mike Sandoval,
Downey

Funny smell

Dear Editor:

This is an update for all of the concerned citizens that live west of Old River School Road, north of Imperial Highway, and south of Firestone Boulevard. The toxic smell referred to in *The Downey Patriot* article dated Feb. 6 ("Suspicious Odor Remains a Mystery") is being investigated by city officials.

I have been researching this problem for months and presented my concerns and findings to the City Council at their meeting on Feb. 12. After the meeting, I spoke with City Manager Gerald Caton and he assured me that I may participate in future meetings concerning this issue.

I will keep you informed through Letters to the Editor in the Patriot. If you have information, concerns or health issues regarding this situation, please e-mail me at ClearTheAir@msn.com and I will make sure that your information is included in the meetings with city officials.

This is a serious situation, however, I am optimistic that it will be resolved expeditiously. We have dealt with it long enough and now it is time for answers.

— Tricia Zelambo,
Downey

No homes downtown

Dear Editor:

On the front page of last week's paper, John Perfit, economic development director, said the city of Downey is recommending building high-density apartments or condominiums where the Avenue Theatre or the Verizon building are. ("Perfit Reiterates Goals for Downtown," 2/13/09)

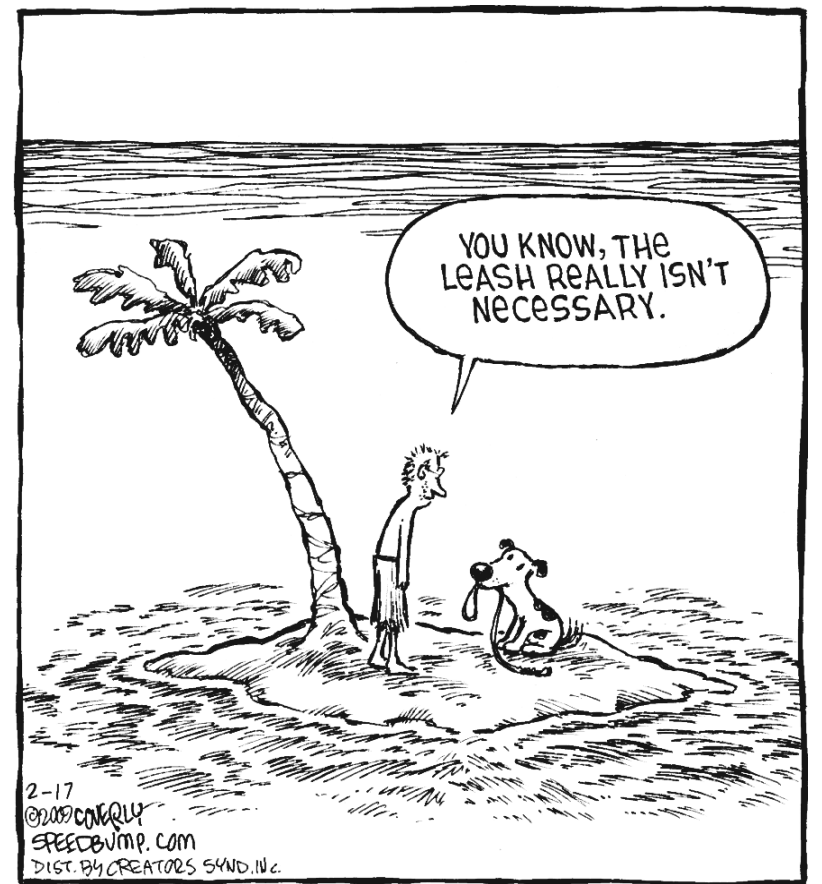
Creating more high-density living quarters in Downey is turning it into a ghetto. That's what "projects" and "clown houses" do. Downtown Downey is for businesses, not homes. What city staffer would raise his family in a high-density building in Downtown Downey?

The quality of life should be a priority over the quantity of life. Every summer we're threatened with water shortages. Packing more people into Downey in a high-density building will make our water shortage worse.

For those who act like we can do something about an alleged "global warming," what do you think happens when you take away grass and space and put in concrete? When the sun hits concrete heat is increased.

— El Bee,
Downey

Letters to the editor may be submitted by writing to *The Downey Patriot*, 8301 E. Florence Ave., Suite 100, Downey, CA 90240 or by e-mail to downeypatriot@yahoo.com. Letters may be edited for style and/or content. Letters must include a full name and address for verification.



Heroic act

Dear Editor:

On Jan. 12, an evening Downey Adult School student was found collapsed in a restroom. Maria Kulikoff, an intermediate clerical assistant in the front office, was immediately contacted by security.

Maria instinctively reacted by rushing to the fallen student and administering CPR. Maria did not stop CPR until paramedics arrived.

Maria did her very best, and truly went above and beyond of what can be expected in such a situation, however, despite the persistent and heroic efforts of Maria and paramedics, the student unfortunately was not revived.

Downey Unified School District and Downey Adult School commend Maria for her tenacity, her unselfishness, and her professionalism in this situation. Congratulations, Maria, on this very well-deserved honor.

— Downey Adult School

Rejects pay raise

Dear Editor:

I don't get it. We are in the midst of the worst recession in decades, and it's going to get worse before it gets better. People are losing their jobs, car dealerships and other businesses are closing, and our illustrious City Council gives a 4 percent pay raise to 98 city employees, plus other benefits that could add up to much more. ("City, Union Come to New Agreement," 2/13/09)

Now 4 percent is a modest increase in normal times, but these are not normal times. If ever the Council would be justified in refusing the union's demand, this is the time. Is the city worried the employees will quit? I think not. With an unemployment rate approaching 10 percent in California, anybody should be thankful for a job.

If the city treasury is so flush with cash, let them take that 4 percent and use it to hire a half-dozen or more employees to fix our streets. It seems to me the union would even benefit by having more employees to collect dues from.

We live in a representative democracy, and our City Council members are our most immediate representatives. I know they like to play their little political games, but this is serious business. I think they should retract that agreement with the union and start some real thinking about how to bring more business to Downey. It pains me to see the huge holes where car dealerships have folded, reducing our tax base.

We should be spending less money, not more, and anything we spend should produce a benefit to the city. Higher salaries don't do that.

I didn't vote for the representative from my district, and I'm sure going to work to find someone else at the next election. I hope every Downey citizen will watch the City Council's actions and be prepared to reward or punish as appropriate.

— Don Niemand,
Downey

Honeymoon over?

Dear Editor:

OK, the honeymoon with President Obama is over, I think, so where do we go to file for divorce? Too bad we must wait in pain and suffering for four years. Meanwhile, we are being put so deeply in debt during this time, we will be trillions of dollars in the red.

We hear that 55 percent of citizens will have their taxes cut, but then we know that about 50 percent pay no income tax. Those who don't meet the standard of earnings set by the government will be paid under the earned income tax credit, which is another lie told to us by the federal government. How can you earn a tax credit when you've paid no tax?

Can you believe that a majority in the Senate and the House would pass a spending bill of about \$1 trillion and none have completely read this 1,500-plus page bill, but apparently as long as it benefits them, it's OK.

I asked the offices of a few in Congress if they would sign a personal check and send it to me and I'd fill in the rest. (No, I haven't received one yet; I'm still waiting.) This is exactly what they're doing to us.

Then we have the beloved state government who think we can get them out of their obscene spending habits by raising the sales tax 1-2.5 percent and double our car registration fee. One wonders if it pays to work. Maybe we should quit and go on government programs since it appears there is one to cover everything.

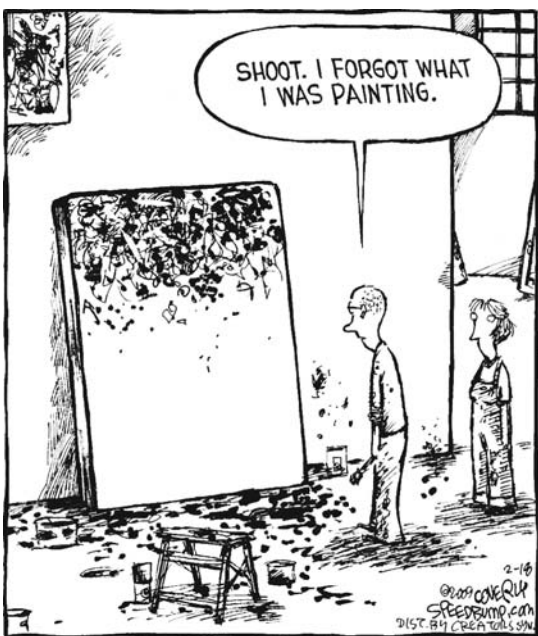
Maybe it's time for a Boston Tea Party. Wonder if the children taught in our failing school system know what this is? They probably think it's a social event in D.C. Let's start by dumping the politicians, not the tea.

Everyone in Congress and the President know that people don't want this ridiculous over-spending bill, but they will do it anyway. I believe the slogan at the Boston Tea Party was "No Taxation Without Representation." Well, folks, we aren't being represented. I want to know where my tax money is being spent.

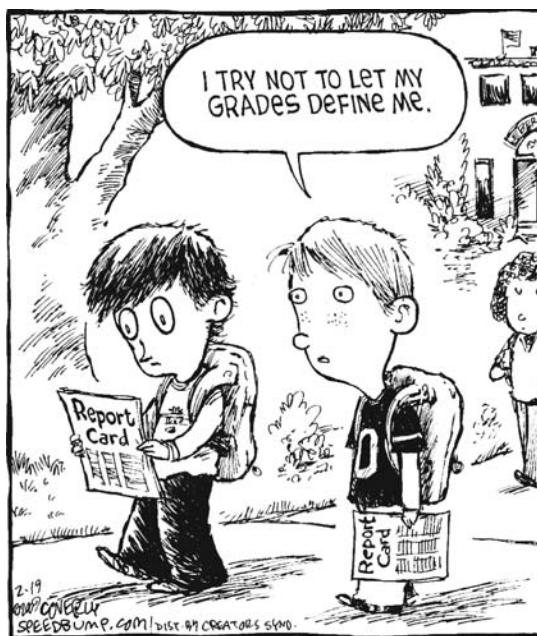
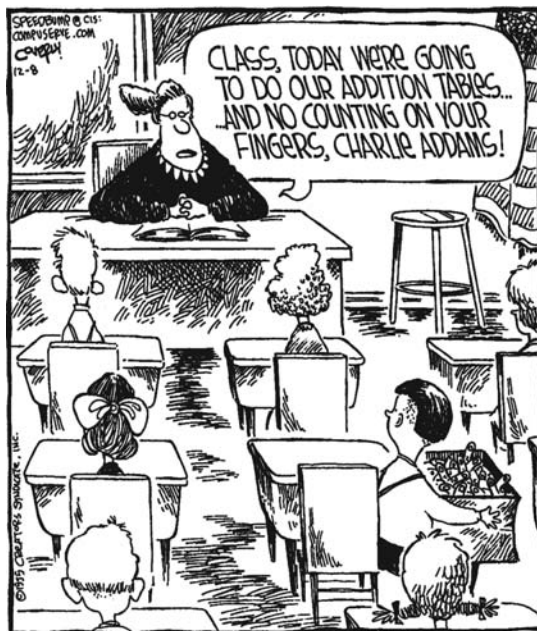
— Elsa Van Leuven
Downey

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SPEED BUMP



DAVE COVERLY



Downey Community Calendar

Events For February

- Sat. Feb. 21: **Digital bookmobile**, Downey City Library, 10 a.m.
- Sat. Feb. 21: **Downey Rose Float installation**, Barbara J. Riley Center, 6 p.m.
- Sun. Feb. 22: **George Washington impersonator**, Downey City Library, 2 p.m.
- Mon. Feb. 23: **Barbara Leigh variety show**, Downey Adult School, 3:45 p.m.
- Tues. Feb. 24: **City Council meeting**, City Hall, 7:30 p.m.
- Wed. Feb. 25: **Child immunizations**, Maude Price Elementary, 3 p.m.
- Thurs. Feb. 26: **NARFE meeting**, Furman Park, noon
- Thurs. Feb. 26: **Downey Historical Society meeting**, Barbara J. Riley Center, 7:30 p.m.

City Meetings

- 1st Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m.: **Redevelopment Project Area Committee**, Cormack Meeting Room at Downey Library.
- 1st & 3rd Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.: **Planning Commission**, Council Chamber at City Hall.
- 1st Tuesday, 4:00 p.m.: **Recreation and Community Services Commission**, Council Chamber, City Hall.
- 1st Thursday, 9 a.m.: **Traffic Committee**, Training Room, Second Floor of City Hall.
- 2nd & 4th Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.: **City Council/Community Development Commission**, Council Chamber.
- 3rd Thursday, 3:30 p.m.: **Parking Place Commission**, Second Floor Training Room at City Hall

Regularly Scheduled Meetings

Mondays

- 2nd Mon., 11 a.m.: **American Legion Auxiliary #270**, at United Methodist Church, for info. call 923-2481.
- 2nd Mon., 3 p.m.: **Keep Downey Beautiful**, at City Hall, for more information call 904-7159.
- 4th Mon., 7:30 p.m.: **Downey Numismatists**, at Downey Retirement Center, call 862-6666.

Tuesdays

- 9 a.m.: **Downey Bocce Club**, at Apollo Park, for information call Pat Rooney at 923-5352.
- 9:30 a.m.: **Downey Seniors Club**, at Apollo Park, for information call Nadine Morris at 923-9422.
- 12 p.m.: **Rotary Club**, at Rio Hondo, for information call Brian Saylor at 927-2000.
- 6:00 p.m.: **Toastmasters Club 587**, at First Baptist Church, for info call John McAllister 869-0928.
- 7 p.m.: **Boy Scout Troop 2**, at Downey United Methodist Church, for information call 869-6478.
- 2nd and 4th Tues., 6 p.m.: **Sertoma Club**, at Cafe 'N Stuff, for information call (562) 927-6438.
- 2nd Tues., 6 p.m.: **Downey Fly Fishers**, at Apollo Park, for information call 425-7936.
- 3rd Tues., 7:30 p.m.: **Writer's Workshop West**, at at Downey High School library, for info call 862-3106.

Wednesdays

- 7 a.m.: **Kiwanis Club**, at Rio Hondo Events Center. Call Steve Roberson at 927-2626.
- 1 p.m.: **Women's Bocce Club**, at Apollo Park.
- 1st Weds., 10 a.m.: **Woman's Club of Downey**, for information call Barbara Briley-Beard 869-7618.
- 1st Weds., 11:30 a.m.: **Downey Coordinating Council**, at Community Center, for information call 923-4357.
- 1st Weds., 7:30 p.m.: **Downey Stamp Club**, at Maude Price School cafeteria, for information call 928-3028.
- 2nd Weds., 7:30 p.m.: **Downey Model A Club**, at Gallatin School Cafeteria, for information call 928-4132.
- 3rd Weds., - **Downey Dog Obedience Club** Apollo Park, for info. call Gina 869-5213 or Valerie 420-2972.
- 3rd Weds., 6 p.m. - **American Business Women's Association**, Rio Hondo Country Club, Call Barbara Carlson 863-2192.
- 4th Weds., 12:00 noon: **Retired Federal Employees**, at **Furman Park West Bldg.**, call 943-5513.
- Wed. & Fri., 10:15 a.m.: **Senior Bingo**, at Apollo Park, for information call 904-7223.

Thursdays

- 7:30 a.m.: **Soroptimist Int'l of Downey**, for information, call Pat Heineke, 904-3534.
- 12 p.m.: **Kiwanis Club of Downey**, at Rio Hondo Events Center, call Roy Jimenez 923-0971.
- 12:30 p.m.: **Take off Pounds Sensibly**, at First Christian Church, call (800) 932-8677.
- 6:30 p.m.: **Downey United Masonic Lodge # 220**, 8244 3rd St., Call 862-4176.
- 7 p.m.: **Troop 351, Boy Scouts of America**, at First Baptist Church, for information call 776-3388.
- 4th Thurs., 7:30 p.m.: **Downey Historical Society programs**, at Community Center. Call 862-2777.
- 2nd Thurs., 7:30 p.m.: **Beaming Rebel Foxes Collectors Club**, for more information call Carl D. Jones at 923-2400.

Fridays

- 7:30 a.m.: **Pro Networkers**, at Mimi's Cafe, for information call Barbara Briley Beard at 869-7618
- 3rd Fri., 8:30 a.m.: **Women's "In His Glory" Ministry** at Los Amigos C. C. (562) 622-3785.

Saturdays

- 9 a.m.: **Farmers Market**, Second Street at New Avenue, for information call (562) 904-7246.

On This Day...

- Feb. 20, 1792: President George Washington signs an act creating the United States Post Office.
- 1839: Congress outlaws dueling in the District of Columbia.
- 1924: Fashion designer Gloria Vanderbilt is born. Also born Feb. 20: Academy Award winning actor Sidney Poitier (82), newspaper heiress Patricia Hearst (55), basketball hall of famer Charles Barkley (46), model Cindy Crawford (43), actor Andrew Shue (42) and singer Rihanna (21).
- 1962: Astronaut John Glenn becomes the first American to orbit Earth.
- 1998: American figure skater Tara Lipinski, 15, becomes the youngest athlete to win a gold medal at the Winter Olympics.
- 1999: Film critic Gene Siskel dies after surgery to remove a brain tumor. He was 53.

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THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com)

CAN'T SIT STILL?: Then this is for you

by Shirley Soloway

ACROSS

- 1 Rural rest stop
- 6 Impel
- 10 Does lawn work
- 14 I Love Lucy star
- 19 "And we'll have ___ good time"
- 20 Ice-cream holder
- 21 Twain character
- 22 Rather
- 23 Arab League member
- 24 Related
- 25 Citrus hybrid
- 26 Sandy's owner
- 27 When the Blizzard of 1888 began
- 30 WWII naval vessels
- 32 "Right now!"
- 33 Watch for
- 34 Bread purchase
- 35 Sistine ceiling subject
- 38 Connecticut governor
- 40 Doing the same old, same old
- 42 Recipe abbr.
- 46 Reprimand
- 49 Space under a desk
- 51 Not quite right
- 52 Tabby treat
- 53 Alliance
- 55 Put on again
- 56 "Super!"
- 57 Relative of mini-
- 60 Neck of the woods
- 62 Creator of 65 Down
- 64 Where belts go
- 66 Serpentine swimmers
- 68 Bucket user in a boat
- 69 Mama's mate
- 72 Trusting act
- 75 Vega's constellation
- 76 Threat ender
- 78 Needing some color
- 79 Educate
- 81 Puffers around
- 83 Laura or Bruce
- 85 Author Vonnegut
- 86 ___ out a living
- 89 American Fur Company founder
- 90 Caustic substances
- 92 Parapsychology subject
- 94 Gumbo needs
- 96 Powers of Hart to Hart
- 98 Ride for free, perhaps
- 101 Not quite a majority
- 102 Name meaning "prosperous friend"
- 105 Singer Lovett
- 106 Spanish woman's title
- 107 In the building
- 109 Time being
- 111 Fools
- 113 Like most of *The Wizard of Oz*
- 116 Help to recall
- 121 Wynonna's mom
- 122 Applications
- 124 Kicks in
- 125 "I want in!"
- 126 Spot in the sea
- 127 Give up
- 128 Atmosphere
- 129 One-for-all feeling
- 130 Yonder
- 131 Some tel. nos.
- 132 S&L offerings
- 133 ___-Japanese War

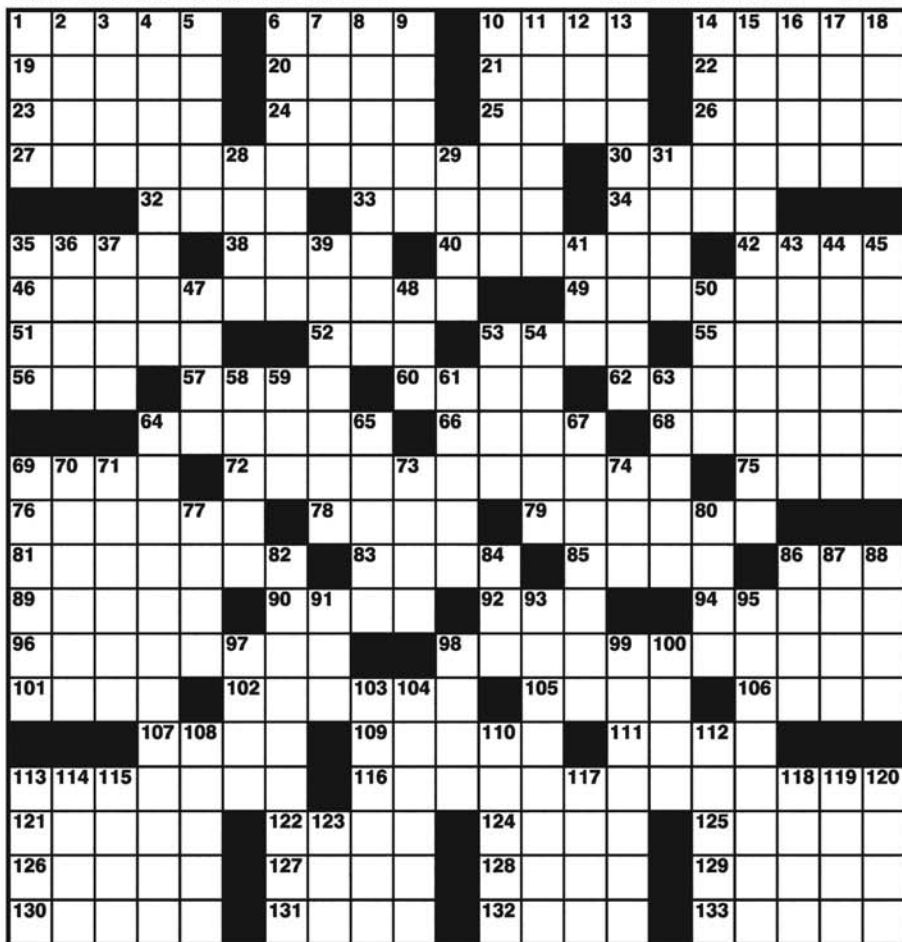
DOWN

- 1 Lip protector
- 2 Tosca tune
- 3 Col. neighbor
- 4 Summer spots for some students
- 5 Doldrums
- 6 Cutting tool
- 7 Nudge
- 8 Type of mollusk
- 9 Sign up for more issues
- 10 Confined
- 11 "You ___ Be in Pictures"
- 12 CCCXXV doubled
- 13 Work without a break
- 14 Port of Jordan
- 15 Nothing special
- 16 Ship of 1492
- 17 Quarrelling
- 18 Encyclopedia's end
- 28 Viscount's superior
- 29 Movie director Mira
- 31 Big bag
- 35 Partly open
- 36 Russian assembly
- 37 In the thick of
- 39 Gesture of affection
- 41 Studio for most Astaire/Rogers films
- 43 Extremely
- 44 Metal worker
- 45 Corolla alternative
- 47 Enroute, in a way
- 48 Hellenic H
- 50 Humorist Bombeck
- 53 Complain
- 54 Song syllables
- 58 Flooring installer
- 59 *The Waste Land* monogram
- 61 Direct elsewhere
- 63 Really hate
- 64 Game-ending four-bagger
- 65 *Maltese Falcon* detective
- 67 Employment benefit
- 69 Glassmaking ingredient
- 70 Toni Braxton record label
- 71 Bic alternative
- 73 Cuernavaca kudos
- 74 Thanksgiving Day abbr.
- 77 Blood components
- 80 Western Indian
- 82 Calculator ancestor
- 84 Opposite of paleo-
- 86 Thus
- 87 Madeline of the movies
- 88 Are: Sp.
- 91 Archery-bow wood
- 93 Magnificence
- 95 Family-restaurant feature
- 97 Pianist Peter
- 98 Be undecided
- 99 Practices good dental hygiene
- 100 500 sheets
- 103 Teasingly
- 104 Slipknot loops
- 108 A-list
- 110 Raccoon relative
- 112 Longest human bone
- 113 Monogram ltr.
- 114 "One-I lama" poet
- 115 "Unforgettable" singer
- 117 Author Ferber
- 118 Elevator innovator
- 119 Goes bad
- 120 Vacillate
- 123 Chicago White ___

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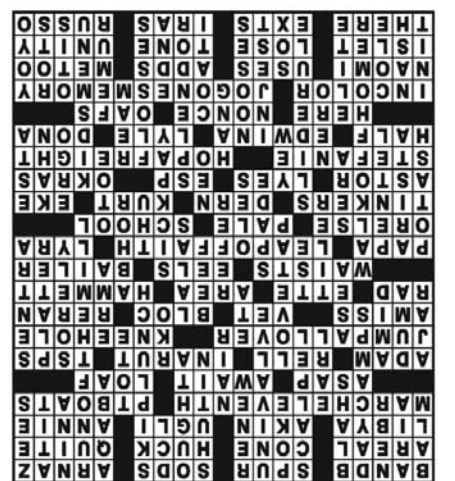
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2/15/09



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.

The UGLI (25 Across) is a Jamaican hybrid of the grapefruit and tangerine. (Samuel) Dashiell HAMMETT (62 Across) named his detective Sam SPADE (65 Down) after himself. Theodore Roosevelt received the 1906 Nobel Peace Prize for mediating an end to the RUSSO-Japanese War (133 Across).



STUDENT LIFE



Youth & Government

By: Britawnya Craft, Intern

Two-thousand-four-hundred California teens gathered at the state capital over the course of five days last weekend, presenting bills and proposals to be implemented into the California legislature. This program is known as the Youth and Government, it is a statewide run program designed to educate future generations on politics and governmental policies and procedures. Thus sparking its motto, "Democracy must be learned by every generation". California teens have attended state wide conferences to prepare them for their February convention in Sacramento. Over the past 60 years, Youth and Government has been responsible for allowing teens to grow essentially while supplying them with leadership skills that they carry on into other endeavors in life. Their focus is to mold strong, free thinking citizens while allowing them the freedom to choose their own course into other aspects of the program. With hundreds of delegations throughout the state of California extending as far as Eureka to San Diego, it is no surprise there is a delegation nearby.

A local delegation resides close to home, the Downey-South Gate Delegation (DSG). This delegation is composed of 19 delegates, ranging from freshman to seniors, who attend Downey, Warren, South East and South Gate High school. A few of the Downey delegates include; Amy Gebert, Christy and Jonathan Gera, Elena Alonso, Nichelle Esquitin, Leonela Chaj, Amanda Flores, Kevin Garcia, Melanie Molinaro, Olivia Harlaom, Michelle Bertinelli, Alexis Denes, Evan Gregorio and myself, Britawnya Craft. Since early October, DSG has been preparing and prepping for roles and debating on bills. Last weekend was the final conference of the Youth and Government program for this year. Every delegation is responsible for proposing at least one bill (depending on the size of the delegation),

that they would like to see implemented into California's legislation.

While in Sacramento teens take on several different roles that they model, and also take over the capitol and courts. The roles vary from several different program areas such as the court system, legislature, media, National Issues or hold a highly publicized position. These roles can include a district attorney, a judge, bailiff, lobbyist, senator, assemblymen, legislative analyst, presenting a proposal to be passed into legislation on a national level, working with print media, or a broadcast reporter with the news. The possibilities are endless in this program. Although, the bill DSG proposed did not make it through Senate, Michelle Bertinelli proposed a bill dealing with national issues. It made it through general assembly (4 rounds) and will be reviewed by Governor Schwarzenegger to determine its place in California legislation. During their time in Sacramento, two DSG delegates, Christy Gera and Amy Gebert held high positions as committee chairs running hearings. Composed of only two delegates, Amy Gebert was selected to work with the Youth Governor next year, on his governing board.

The delegates of DSG have worked extremely hard over the past several months for their Sacramento conference. While this sparks the third year of the Downey South Gate delegation, this program would not be possible without DSG's wonderful advisors, Cecilia Butler, Christine De la Torre, Mary De Witt and Jean Fiddler. Their endless support, love and appreciation has inspired all delegates to strive for more in life and also to believe in themselves. Although the February conference sparks the end of the road for many Youth and Government seniors, it is not necessarily a sad time for all. The friendships gained through Y&G are everlasting while the experience and lifelong lessons are priceless.

Pennies for Patients

By: Bridget Sagrero, Intern

Ranking in 2nd place out of hundreds of other high schools, Warren High School collected over \$7,500, in hopes of finding a cure for blood cancer in 2008 with the School & Youth Program: The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, Pennies for Patients.

More than 823,000 Americans are living with blood cancer, and an estimated 135,000 more will be diagnosed throughout the year. Leukemia is still the leading cancer killer among kids and young adults under the age of 20.

Pennies for Patients, is a program along with Pasta for Pennies that encourages young people and their schools to collect spare change in their classrooms to benefit the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. Since 1993, millions of dollars have been raised by these programs all across the country. Last year they raised a total of 19 million dollars to fund blood cancer research and patient aid.

Last year a total of \$993,359 was collected from The Greater Los Angeles area, which consisted of schools from Los Angeles, Ventura, Santa Barbara, and San Luis Obispo's counties. This was a new record which made The Greater LA School & Youth campaigns number one in the nation for the third year running. This year their goal is to raise over \$1 million dollars and Warren High is ready to help make this goal come true.

Starting February 23rd and running through March 13th Warren High's Associated Student Body will supply every class, with a fourth period, a box for this fundraiser. ASB members will come by the classrooms and collect the money that has been collected every Friday and keep the school updated on the classes that have the most money raised.

The class that collects the most money by the end of the fundraiser will receive a pasta party catered by Olive Garden. Last year Jay Waldron was the teacher whose class collected the most money, but instead of accepting the pasta party for his class they did something different, as they gave their pasta to the Midnight Mission in L.A.

"The pasta that we received was given to the Midnight Mission in L.A. We served it to the homeless there and it was an amazing experience!" said Nathalie Gutierrez.

In addition to the pasta party this year, the teacher whose class raises the most money will get the day off and have John Harris, the principal, substitute the class. To top it off the teacher will also receive a \$50 gift certificate to any Downey restaurant of their choice.

"Cari White and I were trying to come up with ideas and incentives for this fundraiser and she had a \$50 gift certificate to any Downey restaurant and so I told her I was willing to cover a class for the winning teacher as well," said Harris.

To Mr. Harris this fundraiser is very important for the reason that he can relate to what many people feel when they lose a loved one to this tragic disease.

"Back when I was eight years old my three year old brother passed away from leukemia," said Harris.

The second place classroom will receive a pizza party and the third place winners will receive a donut party, but this year a small twist will be added to the campaign. During the final weeks Warren will be at War, not just any war but a Penny War.

"ASB came up with the idea of having a penny war the last week [of the fundraiser], because we used to do it in middle school..." said Catherine Ngyen, who is part of ASB. "...it made raising money a lot more fun and it also got more students involved."

During this Penney War each class will have an additional box where only silver coins and dollar bills will be collected. The value of any pennies collected by the class will count as positive points toward the class's total amount and the value of silver coins and dollars will subtract from that total. In competition this allows other classes who are in close running of first place to bombard the winning class with silver coins and dollar bills to get that class to lose their chance of the first place title. During this week the money will be collected daily and the top five classes will be announced and posted daily.

In order for Warren to beat their previous amount of \$7597.94, which ranked them 2nd place last year their goal for this year is \$10,000. Every one is free to donate money to this honorable cause of finding a cure to blood cancer. It is just a click away. For more information on how to donate

Cafeteria

By: Keysi Carrasco, Intern

The renovation of Warren High School's cafeteria has left students speechless. Although everyone is excited about the new look and the additions, some teachers are questioning whether the district really spent their money wisely.

The first time the new cafeteria doors opened there was a line of eager students waiting to see what the school had been working on for the past few months. There had been a lot of talk about the large amount of extravagant features that were brought to the newly renovated lunch room, but still many were surprised when they walked in to see multiple flat screen TVs hung on the walls along side unique pieces of artwork. Instead of the typical long skinny tables the students were used to sitting on, there were restaurant booths, round tables that seated six or more people, and even stools and high chairs for two.

Students have realized that the cafeteria has turned into something you would not find in a typical high school. It now acts more as a food court, leaving you with many different choices including your typical lunch menu, a pizzeria bar, a fresh foods aisle, and even a dessert bar.

"I think the cafeteria looks great. It's really different and it looks like something you'd find at a high-end mall. I've heard that there are problems with money and schools but I guess our school is doing okay since we have flat screen TVs everywhere and even a dessert bar," said Crystal Peralta.

It is true, there are many schools dealing with the struggle of budget cuts that are leaving them without school supplies and some even without staff. It is for this reason that many of the teachers at Warren High are having a hard time figuring out whether the renovation of the cafeteria and the new

add-ons are really necessary. Many are complaining that the district is not spending their money wisely and feel that it should go towards buying new school supplies or painting over the walls covered with graffiti in the halls. They are being turned down when they ask for money and are told that there is no money for the district to spend. It seems that all the money they had was spent on purchasing flat screen TVs, which both teachers and students alike do not see as a smart purchase. Many do not think the district has the same priorities of normal educational facilities.

The Downey Unified School District has not been hit as hard as many of the other districts and they have even managed to keep all of the teachers employed, but this does not mean it is going to be smooth sailing through these budget crunches for DUSD.

"I really can't believe the school spent so much money on all these things. I don't think very much of it is actually necessary. All we really asked for was better food," said Dalia Cortes.

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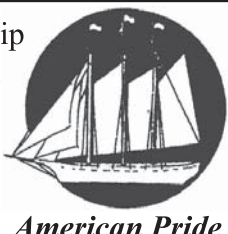
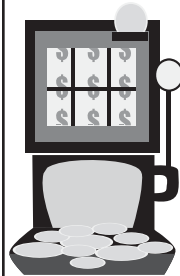
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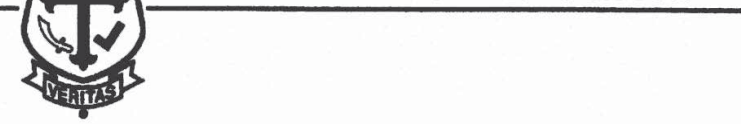
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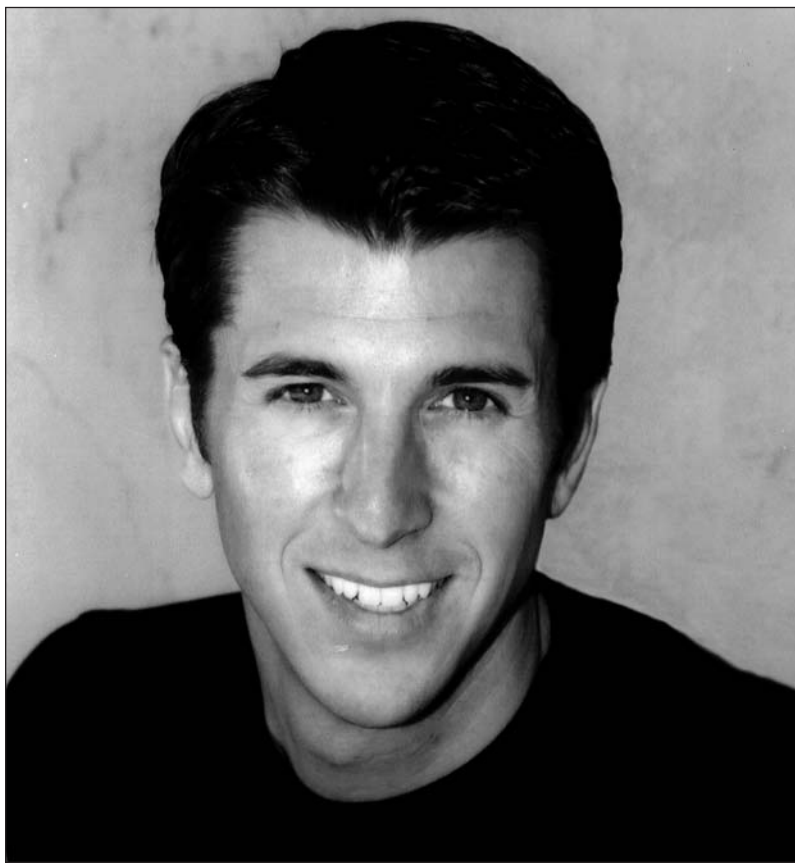


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Bart McHenry stars as Lucky in the Downey Civic Light Opera's production of "Dames at Sea," now playing at the Downey Theatre. For tickets, call (562) 923-1714.



Girl Scout Troop #324 visited nearly 600 local businesses to offer an anti-littering window decal. Their efforts were recognized by the City Council last week. Photo courtesy Renee Santana

New Titles at the Downey City Library

Fiction

- **"Galway Bay"** by Mary Pat Kelly. After the 19th century potato famine in Ireland, a couple comes to Chicago to transform their lives and the fate of America.
- **"Garlands of Gold"** by Rosalind Laker. A young servant girl falls in love with renowned woodcarver Grinling Gibbons when he is an apprentice in Holland.
- **"The Housekeeper and the Professor"** by Yoko Ogawa. A strange, beautiful relationship blossoms between a brilliant mathematician, who has almost no short-term memory, and the young housekeeper hired to care for him.
- **"Irreplaceable"** by Stephen Lovely. A young archaeologist deals with guilt and ethical questions after his wife is killed in an accident and he agrees to an organ transplant of her heart.
- **"The Lost Witness"** by Robert Ellis. Hollywood homicide detective Lena Gamble is on the outs with her department, but has one last chance to prove herself in Ellis' latest thriller.

Non-Fiction

- **"Barbie and Ruth: the Story of the World's Most Famous Doll and the Woman Who Created Her"** by Robin Gerber. A behind-the-scenes look at the careers of Ruth and Elliot Handler, who revolutionized the toy industry with their creations of Barbie, Ken, Hot Wheels and more.
- **"Paranoia: the Twenty-First Century Fear"** by Daniel Freeman and Jason Freeman. A psychologist and his journalist brother offer research on paranoia and its connection to delusional thinking, social alienation and stress.
- **"So Damn Much Money: the Triumph of Lobbying and the Corrosion of American Government"** by Robert G. Kaiser. A senior correspondent for the Washington Post takes a long look at the many aspects of influence-peddling in government.
- **"Stuffed: an Insider's Look at Who's (Really) Making America Fat"** by Hank Cardello. A marketer shares secrets employed by the food industry to entice Americans to consume their products while helping to create a national obesity epidemic.
- **"What Would Google Do?"** by Jeff Jarvis. A columnist and blogger offers business advice on surviving and prospering in the Internet age.

Visit www.downeylibrary.org and click on "New and Notable Books" to browse more titles

Girl Scouts' work recognized by city

DOWNEY – Girl Scout Troop #324 was recognized by the City Council last week for their work on an anti-littering decal campaign done in conjunction with Keep Downey Beautiful.

The troop has spent the last few months working on their Silver Award, the highest award that can be earned by a Cadette Girl Scout. It recognized efforts to better the community and the lives of others.

In partnership with Keep Downey Beautiful, the troop launched an anti-littering decal campaign. The Girl Scouts visited nearly 600 businesses and retail stores in Downey to offer a window decal that said "Please Stop Littering – Keep Downey Beautiful." About 70 percent of the businesses accepted a decal.

The City Council presented the Girl Scouts with a certificate of recognition last week.

Members of Troop #324 who participated in the project are Kirsty Brito, Megan Collier, Marissa Santana and Bonnie Shilling. The troop is lead by Renee Santana and Noemi Brito.

Hearing loss group meets March 12

LAKEWOOD – Nanci Linke-Ellis, a member of the California Hearing Loss Association's board of directors, will speak at a March 12 meeting at the Weingart Senior Center in Lakewood.

The meeting begins at 6:30 p.m. Admission is free. Linke-Ellis will speak on "Captions, Captions, Captions." Linke-Ellis helps coordinate closed-captioning for TV and movies.

The Weingart Senior Center is at 5220 Oliva Ave. in Lakewood.

Learn to weed out drug users

DOWNEY – Eddie Estrada of Lighthouse Trainings will be the guest speaker at the Tuesday meeting of Rise 'N Shine Networking at Downey Brewing Company. The meeting begins at 7:30 a.m.

Estrada's topic will be "Identifying Substance Abuse on the Job." The meeting is open to the public. Cost is an order from the menu. RSVP by calling the Downey Chamber of Commerce at (562) 923-2191.

4 Bedrooms, 3 baths asking \$399,999
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Help sponsor Downey Street Faire

DOWNEY – Sponsorship and booth opportunities for the 16th annual Downey Street Faire are still available.

Sponsorships range from \$500 - \$2,500. In addition to booths and banners, all sponsors will be prominent in ads, posters, fliers to 10,000 fliers to Downey elementary school students, and publicity in local newspapers.

For more information, call the Downey Chamber of Commerce at (562) 923-2191.

Homework help at local church

DOWNEY – Local school children are invited to study and do their homework at First Presbyterian Church of Downey through the church's Kidz Connection after-school program.

The program runs Monday through Thursday from 3:30 to 5 p.m. The program offers tutoring in reading and math as well as homework support.

For more information, call Alfredo Delgado or George Leiva-Ardon at (562) 861-6752.

Host families sought for students

American families are being sought to host foreign exchange students from other countries.

Students can be hosted a quarter, semester, or an entire academic year. To view student profiles or learn how to become a host family, visit www.ayusa.org or call (949) 698-4725.

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"Roger Nordin did a good job and was so helpful. We couldn't have made it without him. We are eternally grateful. Roger rates an "A++". – **Norma Jean All**

"Lilian Lopez & Lorena Amaya did a good job. Lilian and Lorena treated me very professionally." – **Jose Ruiz**

FEATURED PROPERTY



Outstanding ...North Downey
 Downey 4 bedroom, 3 bath home, 3 fireplaces, large pool, spa, formal living room, family room, alarm system, formal dining area, copper plumbing. Virtual Tour – www.towncenter.com/9327

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Go Cal State...
 Great opportunity to live by Cal State Fullerton. 3 Bedrooms, 2 baths, central heat & A/C, tile floors, fruit trees. This is a short sale and could be a fantastic buy.

Seller Wants It Sold NOW!
 So seller has made another BIG REDUCTION! 1593 sq. ft., central heating & A/C, fireplace in living room, large family room, new interior paint and across the street from middle school!

For The Starter In Downey
 A very nice 2 bedroom, 1 bath, nice closed end street, nice area of Downey. Great fixer at a great price.

REDUCED
A Penny Saved
 Fantastic home newly remodel 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom, living room, den and located in the Downey School District.

REDUCED
Be THE Landlord
 Two units in a very desirable area that is close to the beach. 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 bathrooms and 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Wood floors, formal dining room, move-in condition.

Sell It Fast
 Said the owner! 3 bedroom, 2 bath home, gorgeous Travertine floors, fireplace, electric gate to a 2 car garage, close to school, park and golf course. Short Sale

REDUCED
Additional Income
 Live In One...Rent The Other? This one has it all! Clean and move in condition, corner lot, 1 @ 2 bedroom/1 bath, 1 @ 1 bedroom/1 bath and a huge reduction in price.

Only 3 Units Left
 3 spacious bedrooms, 3 baths, delightful fireplace, sparkling stainless appliances, granite countertop in a spacious kitchen, 2 car garage. An unbelievable low price and they are new!



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<p>Carrie Uva "Let's Talk Real Estate!" 562-382-1252 www.CarrieUva.com</p> <p>FOR RENT</p> <p>SHORT TERM RENTAL! 3 bed, 1 bath home in North Downey. Looking for Short Term Tenant 2-4 months only! Call Carrie @ 562-382-1252</p>	<p>Angel Martinez "Your Real Estate Angel!" 562-382-7299 Angel@Prudential24hours.com</p> <p>SUPER BUY!</p> <p>HOW SOON CAN YOU MOVE? 4 BD, 2 BA, 2,600+ sq. ft. nearly 7,000 sq. ft. lot, Priced to Sell! Call Angel @ 562-382-7299</p>	<p>Mario Persico "Mario Did it AGAIN!" 562-533-7433 www.MarioPersico.com</p> <p>MAKE OFFER!</p> <p>LEISURE WORLD'S BEST! Stunning remodeled 2 BD, 2 BA. HUGE 1 story PERFECT LOCATION!! Priced to Sell! Call Mario for price @ 562-533-7433</p>
<p>REDUCED PRICE!</p> <p>OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS! Charming Duplex in Downey with 2 BD, 2 BA and other unit 1 BD and 1 BA. Price: \$409,900 Call Carrie @ 562-382-1252</p>	<p>BACK UP OFFERS!</p> <p>MORE FOR YOUR MONEY! 5 BD, 4 BA, master suite, 5,520 sq. ft. lot PRICE: \$789,000 Call Jason Lockwood 562-619-2979</p>	<p>APPROVED SHORT SALE! HUGE 3 BD, 3BA. Amazing Floorplan! Vacant & Move in Ready! Sold in '05 for 740k Now...\$499,000!!</p>
<p>ACCEPTING OFFERS!</p> <p>SWEET & LOW! Lovely 3 bedroom 2 bath home in Downey with living room & fireplace. Price \$374,900 Call Carrie @ 562-382-1252</p>	<p>TURNKEY</p> <p>MOVE TO THE BEACH! Exquisite 3 BD 2 BA, gourmet kitchen, hardwood floors! PRICE: \$519,000 Call Marie Picarelli (562) 618-0033</p>	<p>NEW LOW PRICE!</p> <p>I'M BIGGER THAN YOU THINK! Huge Master Suite. Glorious kitchen & Family room 4 BD, 3BA, 3000 + Sq ft. Remodeled!! Virtual tour at www.MARIOPERSICO.COM</p>
<p>IN ESCROW!</p> <p>HOUSE AND GUEST HOUSE! Super clean 3 BD, 2 BA home with central air & heat and 1 BD, 1 BA guest house. Price: \$479,900 Call Carrie @ 562-382-1252</p>	<p>MUST SEE!</p> <p>MOVE IN CONDITION 3 BD, 1 BA, large back yard 7,023 sq. ft. lot, PRICE: ONLY \$249,999 Call Sonia Banuelos (562) 972-7115</p>	<p>COMING SOON!</p> <p>DOWNEY CHARMER! 3 BD, 2 BA, Great Location, Turnkey Condition! Regular Sale! Call Mario For More details</p>
<p>AVOID PROBATE!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Living Trusts • Wills <p>Make Your Living Trust!!! (Discount if done by 3-31-09)</p> <p>CALL CARRIE TODAY! (562) 382-1252</p>	<p>IN ESCROW!</p> <p>GREAT CURB APPEAL 2 BD, Large Family Room w/ Fireplace PRICE: \$399,000 Call Mary Jane Lee 562-618-0390</p>	<p>MARIO PERSICO SELLS DOWNEY! Born * Educated * Lives * Worships in Downey</p>

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Priced right @ \$769,950
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A-1 Neighborhood
NE Downey 5 BD, 4 BA home w/ entertaining floorplan, 3240 sq ft, large master suite, oversized 3 car gar w/ workshop, many great amenities, & large yard with pool/spa.
Price: \$995,000
Call Michael Berdelis at (562) 818-6111

Let's Make a Deal!
5BD, 4BA, 3800sq ft., pool and spa, 3 car garage.
Price: \$929,000
Call Michael Berdelis at (562) 818-6111

Centrally Located!
3 BD, 2 BA North Downey home, 1539 sq ft living space, 6360 sq ft lot, 2 car det garage.
Price: \$399,900.
Call Michael Berdelis at (562) 818-6111

A Real Steal!
5 BD + office, 4 BA, master suite w/ fireplace, 3,750 sq ft, 6,480 sq ft lot.
Price: \$899,000
Call Michael Berdelis at (562) 818-6111

Great Neighborhood, Great Price!
3 BD, 2 BA Northeast Downey home with large yard, enclosed patio, hardwood floors, and living room with fireplace.
Price: \$469,000
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Northeast Downey Estate!
5 bed, 4 bath, 3966 sq ft house + 1000 sq ft guest house on a 20,040 sq ft lot. Remodeled like new 6 years ago and priced to sell @ \$1,799,000.
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Investment Opportunity
3BD SFR on a 5,720 sq ft lot w/ potential to add a 2nd unit. Property has a 2 car detached garage & large yard. Perfect for either remodeling existing house or for the contractor-type looking to build on lot.
Price: \$299,000
Call Michael Berdelis at (562) 818-6111

Cherokee Estates Charmer!
4BD, 2.75 BA, N. Downey Home w/ spacious family rm, updated kitchen w. newer appliances & granite counters, pool size yard, 9900 sq ft. lot, and a master bedroom.
Starting: at \$679,000!
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Home Sweet Home!
3BD, 2BA, including a master bedroom w/ large bathroom, 1,603 sq ft, 6,230 sq ft. lot size, hardwood floors, pool, and patio.
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The Dream Deal in Downey!
5 BD, 3.5 BA main house + 3 BD, 1 BA guest house with amazing amenities, awesome pool & spa, and approx 20,000 sq ft lot in North Downey.
Price: \$1,499,000
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Downtown Downey Development!
2BR+den, 1BA house w/ 2 car garage & large parking in backyard, on a 8799 sq ft lot, can be built into a 7000 sq ft office/retail bldg.
Price: \$499,900
Call Michael Berdelis at (562) 818-6111

View these homes at: www.MichaelBerdelis.com



Warren High School's girls water polo opened the CIF Southern Section Division VII first round playoffs yesterday. Results were not available as of press time. Photo by Art Montoya



Downey High School's cheer squad recently placed first in the 2009 California State Cheer and Dance Championships. Photos by Paul Heidecker

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- Must meet our income guidelines and have decent credit.*
- Demonstrate need for adequate housing.*
- Willing to partner with Habitat for Humanity Greater Los Angeles and invest 500 hours of Sweat Equity.
- Attend an orientation – all orientations start promptly. If you are more than 10 minutes late, you will not be admitted.

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Saturday, February 21, 2009 - English at 1:30 pm
Sunday, February 22, 2009 Spanish at 1:30 pm
Spanish at 3:00 pm

Number in household	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Maximum LIMITS	31,860	36,360	40,920	45,480	49,140	52,740	56,400	60,060
Minimum LIMITS	24,000	24,000	25,000	25,000	26,000	26,000	27,000	27,000

QUESTIONS? Please call Nadia Urieta @ 310-323-4663 ext. 112 – nurieta@habitatla.org

*Details will be given at the orientations



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