

# The Downey Patriot



**Dr. Kennis is golf chairman**  
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**Egg hunts for kids tomorrow**  
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**The Beatles revived on-stage**  
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Friday, April 10, 2009

Vol. 7 No. 51

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

## 4 teachers honored by Masonic Lodge

■ 'Teacher of the Year' honors go to Linda Zarate, Sandy Aguirre, Jayson Quimby and Cari White.

BY HENRY VENERACION,  
STAFF WRITER

**DOWNEY** – The Downey Unified School District Board of Education Tuesday heard presentations in which representatives from Downey United Masonic Lodge #220 presented plaques honoring Old River Elementary's Linda Zarate, Rio San Gabriel Elementary's Sandy Aguirre, Griffiths Middle School's Jayson Quimby, and Warren High School's Cari White as the Masonic Representative 'Teachers of the Year.'

Coordinating and doing honors as emcee was the Masons' Bob Udoff, after he was introduced by DUSD assistant superintendent/instructional services Jerilyn King-Brown.

Warren High principal John Harris said White "seems like the right person for so many positions and so she wears many hats at [the school]." At Warren since 1999, White is chair of the special education department while being active on many fronts, including organizing the campus' American Cancer Society Youth Club.

Griffiths Middle School principal Gregg Stapp said Quimby, who is English department chair and the school's Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) driving force, is another outstanding teacher who wears many hats.

"When I think of Jayson Q., I think of hard work and commitment to students," Stapp said. "He routinely is among the first teachers to arrive at work and the last to

leave each day." Another area of expertise he is working on is helping in the development of Professional Learning Communities (PLC) for the District.

Rio San Gabriel Elementary School principal Paula Barnes said Aguirre is an "outstanding, organized, positive and involved teacher inside and outside of her classroom."

She noted Aguirre's 23 years of dedicated service to the District, beginning at Gaudin Elementary in 1986, and moving to Rio San Gabriel in 1989, where she has taught first, second, third, fourth and fifth grades. Aguirre's many involvements include service as a BTSA (beginning teachers) support provider, Parent Assisted Learning (PAL) instructor, and on the District science committee.

Old River School Elementary School principal Teresa Medina said Zarate, Title I/Resource Teacher at the school, is not only an outstanding educator but a "person of the highest character and integrity," and that "there isn't anything [she] wouldn't do for the staff and students at Old River."

Zarate, who "moved around the district teaching at various elementary schools, some by choice, some by circumstance, before coming to Old River" in 2007, is completing her master's degree in education and is finishing up her fieldwork in administration.

In other action, the Board:  
• Acted with gratitude  
See DUSD, page 2

## Get your tickets for April 22 GOOD luncheon

**DOWNEY** – Gangs Out of Downey will host its annual luncheon April 22 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Rio Hondo Event Center.

The luncheon will highlight the tremendous work done by GOOD to combat gang activity in Downey. GOOD is made up of community leaders and has received national recognition, including the President's Points of Light Award and the California Merit Award in 2002.

This year's keynote speaker will be Jim Brown, NFL Hall of Famer and founder of the AMER-I-Can program.

Brown, considered one of the best running backs in football history, will share his ideas and thoughts on the importance of education, the influence of gangs, and his experience working with at-risk individuals through his foundation.

In order for GOOD to continue its work in the community, this year's luncheon is a fundraising event that costs \$50 per person or \$500 for a table of 10.

Sponsorships are also available: Platinum sponsorship for a donation of \$5,000 or more; Gold sponsorship for \$2,000 - \$4,999; Silver sponsorship for \$1,000 - \$1,999; and Bronze sponsorship for \$500 to \$999.

All proceeds are used to fund anti-graffiti programs, programs for "at-risk" students, gang suppression through the 10/20 Club, and police in the schools.

For more information on the luncheon, or to make a reservation, call Barbara Lamberth, CEO of Downey Federal Credit Union, at (562) 862-8141, ext. 223, or Stan Hanstad, assistant superintendent at DUSD, at (562) 469-6541.

With more than 350 guests usually attending, the luncheon is an annual sell-out.



Jim Brown  
Photo by Rob Helfman



After taking first place at the Fullerton College Jazz Festival last weekend, the Warren High School Vocal Ensemble will compete in San Diego's Heritage Festival later this month. Warren's four choirs will be in concert on May 21. Photo courtesy Warren High School

## Warren's Vocal Ensemble is tops at jazz festival

**DOWNEY** – The Warren High School Vocal Ensemble took first place at the 37th annual Fullerton College Jazz Festival last weekend.

The festival is one of the largest and most prestigious festivals of its kinds, school officials said.

Directed by Robert Petersen, Warren's Vocal Ensemble is an

advanced choral group that participates in community events as well as competitive festivals. On April 24, they will travel with the Warren Concert Choir to compete in the 3-day Heritage Festival in San Diego.

John Harris, principal at Warren, congratulated the vocal ensemble on their achievement.

"We are very proud of our vocal music program here at Warren," Harris said.

On May 21, all four Warren choirs will present their spring concert at Downey First Christian Church, 10909 New St.

## Author Graciela Limon to speak at library

**DOWNEY** – Award-winning author Graciela Limon will speak and sign books at a free event sponsored by the Friends of the Downey City Library on April 20 from 7-8:30 p.m.

The program is part of a National Library Week celebration, April 20-26.

A native of Los Angeles, Limon is the author of six books, including "Song of the Hummingbird" and "Memories of Ana Calderon." Her latest novel, "The River Flows North," was published this month by Arte Publico Press.

Considered one of the key voices in contemporary Latin American fiction, Limon writes lyrical, dramatic novels about social justice, popular religion, feminism and cultural identity. "Hummingbird" tells the story of Huitzitzilin, who goes from Aztec princess to slave and concubine during the Spanish conquest of Mexico.

Limon is professor emeritus of U.S. Hispanic Literature at Loyola Marymount University. She received a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Spanish Literature from Marymount College, a Master of Arts Degree from the University of the Americas in Mexico City, and a Doctoral Degree in Latin American Literature from UCLA.

Limon received a 2008 "Phenomenal Woman" award from



Graciela Limon, author of six books and professor emeritus of U.S. Hispanic Literature at Loyola Marymount University, will speak at the Downey City Library on April 20. Photo courtesy Downey City Library

Cal State Northridge, an honor given to "individuals who have touched the lives of men and women in Los Angeles and around the world."

Copies of her book will be available for purchase and signing at the event. To register, call (562) 904-7360, ext. 132, or visit the library.



At nearly 5 feet long, Maria Solis's hair was almost taller than she was.

## Hair today, gone tomorrow

BY ERIC PIERCE,  
CITY EDITOR

For reasons even she can't explain, Maria Veronica Solis is uniquely attached to her hair.

With her golden brown locks cascading nearly 5 feet -- almost to the ground -- Solis has not cut her hair for more than 20 years.

That is, until last week.

Heeding the advice of family, friends, and even a firefighter, Solis finally consented to a haircut. Marcello's beauty salon on Florence Avenue donated their services, tying her hair into a neat ponytail before chopping off 4 feet of hair.

Lisa Fox, a family friend, collected the hair and shipped it to Locks of Love, which will use the donation to create prosthetics for children suffering from long-term hair loss.

For Solis, who works as a waitress at Pete's Burgers on Firestone

See HAIR, page 4

## Free bus ride to Festival of Books

**DOWNEY** – The Friends of the Downey City Library will sponsor a free bus trip to the Los Angeles Times Festival of Books on April 25.

The festival offers lectures, author panels, storytelling and writing workshops by more than 400 authors. Also featured will be book signings, cooking demonstrations and poetry readings.

"This trip is ideal for book lovers who don't wish to drive and park on the Westwood campus," said City Librarian Nancy Messineo. "Everyone who enjoys great books, good food and entertainment will want to join us."

The bus will leave at 8 a.m. from the library's parking lot and return at 5 p.m. Bus passengers must sign and turn in a liability waiver upon registration.

Bus transportation and festival admission are free but some events require advanced tickets. The excursion involves walking on the UCLA campus and participants are encouraged to bring a sack lunch or lunch money.

For reservations, call (562) 904-7360, ext. 132, or visit the library.



## DUSD: Downey Adult School partners with local physicians and dentists.

Continued from page 1

and in-kind donations from various individuals and organizations/groups, including a total of \$65,000 from the Downey Kiwanis Foundation, distributed as follows: \$50,000 for the purchase of computers to be used at Sussman Middle School, \$10,000 in support of the TLC Family Resource Center, and \$5,000 for the Character Counts program;

- Approved the payment of expenses for convention and conference attendance;

- Ratified the settlement agreement regarding case # 2009010729 and approved the payment of \$9,000;

- Approved the proposed revisions to AR 3111, Regular School Calendar for 2009-10 (school starts Sept. 3);

- Ratified purchase orders by the Purchasing Department;

- Ratified the issuance of payroll orders for hourly, overtime, Civic Center work performed by classified personnel, Adult School, and Food Services, through March 2009;

- Ratified the Los Angeles County Office of Education contract for providing CalWorks support services to participants in the Regional Occupational Program enrolled in vocation and adult basic education programs, effective July 1, 2008-June 30, 2009;

- Approved the contract for services relating to mandated cost claims provided by Centration, Inc., effective July 1, 2009-June 30, 2010;

- Ratified the agreements

between Downey Adult School (DAS) Career and Education Center and the American Red Cross, John Bardokar, M.D., John P. Cardin, M.D., Clinica Medica Espana, Clinica Medica Sagrada Familia, Compucare Systems, LLC, David Gothard, M.D., FAAFP, Minerva Lobarbio-Banares, M.D., Universal Care Medical Group, and Women's Medical Group, to furnish practical experience to students enrolled in the Medical Assistant program; between DAS and Samir T. Ayoub Dental Corporation, Beautiful Smiles Dental Care, Children's Dental Health Clinic, Class 1 Orthodontics of Dr. Amara Crandall, Downey Community Dental, Gene R. Humphries, DDS, MS, Orthodontist, Rosecrans Dental Group, Dr. Joseph Stan, Inc., and J. Wayne Wilcox, DDS, to furnish practical experience to students enrolled in the Dental Assistant program; as well as between DAS and Amed Medical Billing Service, Dr. Ed Guzman, and Gerald Ho, to furnish practical experience in the Medical Billing & Coding program;

- Accepted the Williams uniform complaint quarterly summary (no complaints for the 3rd quarter);

- Approved a 60-month lease/purchase of two Xerox Docutech 6155 PMC Production Publishers at the monthly lease rate of \$18,362.25 for use in the Communication Center, to be charged to the General Fund;

- Approved the renewal of Bid #06/07-05 for backhoe services on an as-needed basis from Jan. 1-Dec. 31, 2009 with Terra Pave,

Inc., Whittier, in the annual estimated amount of \$150,000, with no guarantee that this amount will be met or exceeded, to be charged to the General Fund, Bond Fund, and/or Deferred Maintenance Fund, as required;

- Awarded Bid #08/09-09 for stock paper to Unisource Worldwide, La Palma, in the anticipated annual amount of \$108,234; Kirk Paper, Downey, in the anticipated annual amount of \$43,320; and Keldon Paper Company, Los Angeles, in the anticipated annual amount of \$10,132.50, with no guarantee that these amounts will be met or exceeded, to be charged to the General Fund;

- Approved the change orders involving work done (MA certification testing) for Downey Adult School; and various work (concrete, carpentry, roofing, electrical, cafeteria work) done by various vendors for Warren High School's new library, classroom building and modernization program;

- Accepted as complete fencing, ceramic tile, flooring, and concrete work performed by various contractors;

- Approved the adjustment of the 2008-09 General Fund unrestricted budget to reflect a decrease to the fund balance in the amount of \$421,722;

- Approved the adjustment of the 2008-09 General Fund restricted budget to reflect a decrease to the fund balance in the amount of \$140,042;

- Approved the adjustment of the 2008-09 Adult Education Fund restricted budget to reflect an increase to the fund balance in the

amount of \$2,219,245.00;

- Approved the adjustment of the 2008-09 Adult Education unrestricted budget to reflect a decrease to the fund balance in the amount of \$3,186.00;

- Approved routine Personnel items until subsequent action is taken by the Board;

- Approved the abolishment of one vacant intermediate Clerical Assistant position, and one vacant Child Care Assistant position, effective April 7, 2009;

- Adopted Resolution No. 200809-18, concerning the mandated biennial governing board election (i.e., voters will decide whether three members will be elected to the DUSD board), scheduled for Nov. 3, 2009;

- Reviewed the list of titles of middle and high school textbooks recommended for adoption for the 2009-10 school year;

- Approved the Memorandum of Understanding between Downey Education Association and the district regarding the 2009-10 Adult School calendar and summer session; and

- Endorsed the actions taken by the superintendent on all student cases.

The next meeting of the Board will be a special budget study session meeting at 8 a.m. on Tuesday, April 28 in the ROP Room of the Gallegos Administration Center, 11627 Brookshire Ave. (This meeting will look at all the items on the proposed/tentative District budget with respect to the salient ramifications of the state budget).



Downey United Masonic Lodge #220 named their 'Teachers of the Year' this week. Clockwise, from left: Cari White, Jayson Quimby, Linda Zarate, and Sandy Aguirre.

## Park programs during spring break

**DOWNEY** – Spring break begins Monday, and the city of Downey is offering a free program to help keep children occupied.

Between April 13-17, "Spring Break Fun at the Parks" will be offered at Apollo, Dennis the Menace, Furman, Golden and Rio San Gabriel parks from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., with activities scheduled from 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The program will also be offered at Crawford and Brookshire parks from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Children ages 6-12 can enjoy a daily program that includes lunch with the leader (bring your own lunch), arts and crafts, and outdoor activities. Children are free to come and go at any time, but city officials encourage them to stay at the park sites.

Registration is required and can be completed at the parks. For more information, call (562) 904-7238.

### EASTER WORSHIP DIRECTORY

**Celebrate Easter With Us**

7:00 am Sunrise Service  
 8:00 am Easter Breakfast  
 8:30 am Easter Egg Hunt  
 10:00 am Festival Worship

**Good Shepherd Lutheran Church**

13200 Clark Avenue, Downey  
 (562) 803-4459

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**Join us Easter Sunday As we Celebrate the Resurrection of Our Lord!**

7:00 am Sunrise Service  
 Followed by Balloon Launch!  
 10:00 Worship Service  
 Followed by Light Brunch & Easter Egg Hunt!

**Christ Lutheran Church**  
 7707 Florence Ave - Downey 90240

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**ST. MARKS EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
 10354 DOWNEY AVE. 862-3268

**Join Us For Easter Service and Celebration Sunday April 12**

10am: Festive Choral Eucharist  
 Childcare  
 Egg Hunt  
 Brunch

**Downey United Methodist Church**  
 10801 S. Downey Ave. in Downey  
 Senior Pastor Lui Tran

Palm Sunday April 5th - 10:00am  
 Children's Easter Egg hunt after worship service.  
 Good Friday Prayer Vigil 8am - 5pm & Service 7pm.

Easter Sunday Service April 12th  
 8:00am Youth Service  
 10:00am w/Bishop Mary Ann Swenson

*A place to connect....to God, to people and to faith.*

**Easter Sunday • April 12**  
 The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)  
 Three Churches - Three Services

10:30 am - Downey Memorial Christian Church  
 10:30 am - Familia de Fe Christiana (Spanish)  
 5:30 pm - Iglesia Unida En Cristo (Spanish)

8441 E. Florence Ave., Downey • (562) 869-7291  
 visit us at: [www.downeymemorial.org](http://www.downeymemorial.org)

**Holy Week**

**Messiah Lutheran Church**  
 10711 Paramount Boulevard • Downey • CA

**Maunder Thursday - with the Lord's Supper**  
 April 9, 7 p.m.

**Good Friday Tenebrare Service**  
 April 10, 7 p.m.

**Easter Sunday Services**  
 April 12, 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Breakfast will be served between services at 9:15 a.m. and an Easter Egg Hunt at 10 a.m.

**For more information call (562) 923-1215**

**You Are Invited To Celebrate Easter With Us!**

We provide outstanding ministries for younger family members!  
**Extreme Kids** (for children from birth through 5th grade)  
**The Burn** (for students from 6th through 12th grade)

encouraging message ~ uplifting music ~ outstanding childcare  
 casual atmosphere ~ friendly people ~ free breakfast 8am - 10am

**Easter Services Sunday, April 12th**

9:30am & 10:45am  
 english language  
 (562) 862-2438

12:15pm  
 spanish language  
 (562) 862-7418

[www.newstreetchurch.com](http://www.newstreetchurch.com) ~ [www.iglesia-cristiana.com](http://www.iglesia-cristiana.com)

## COPACABANA Casino

**SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL Of DOWNEY**  
 Invites you to  
*A night at the Copacabana Casino*  
 Friday, April 17, 2009

At the Fabulous Rio Hondo Event Center  
 10627 Old River School Road, Downey  
 The doors to the Copacabana Casino open at 6:30 p.m. with games until 10:00 p.m.

**Food, \$100.00 in scripts, live music, silent auction, and more prizes...**

For information and to order presale tickets contact  
 Dorothy Pemberton at 562-927-9908  
 or  
 Monica Goel at [mgoel@tldlaw.com](mailto:mgoel@tldlaw.com)  
 \$40.00 presale per person  
 \$45.00 at the Copacabana door.....

## TAX DIRECTORY

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**Brian Saylor, CPA**  
 MANAGING PARTNER

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Juan Carlos Revuelta  
 Certified Tax Preparer

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Office: 562.364.2324  
 Direct: 562.843.8006  
 Fax: 562.928.1521  
[JuanCarlos@JCincometax.com](mailto:JuanCarlos@JCincometax.com)





Kids are invited to a free egg hunt tomorrow at local parks. For information, call (562) 904-7238. Photo courtesy city of Downey

## Egg hunt for kids tomorrow

**DOWNEY** – The city of Downey will host its annual “Eggstravaganza” event for kids tomorrow at local parks. Free activities, including face painting and crafts, begin at 10:30 a.m. The egg hunt begins at 11:30 and will be divided into different age groups. Parents can also take pictures of their children with the Bunny for \$2. Members of the Miss Downey and Miss Teen Downey courts will be volunteering at the sites, along with the Volunteens and Downey police explorers. The event will be held at Apollo, Dennis the Menace, Furman and Golden parks. For more information, call (562) 904-7238.

## Business Watch meeting April 30

**DOWNEY** – Downey business owners are invited to learn about emergency preparedness and local crime trends by attending a Business Watch meeting April 30 from 2-3 p.m. inside the council chambers at City Hall. Similar to Neighborhood Watch, Business Watch is a joint crime prevention program between the Downey Chamber of Commerce and the city of Downey. Business owners receive training in business security, effective crime reporting, burglary, theft, shoplifting, and more. All Downey business owners are invited to attend. For more information, call the Chamber at (562) 923-2191 or the city at (562) 904-1895.

## Hospital CEO to speak

**DOWNEY** – Ken Strople, CEO at Downey Regional Medical Center, will be the featured speaker at Tuesday’s Rise ‘N Shine Networking meeting at Downey Brewing Company, 10924 Paramount Blvd. Strople will be joined by Crystal Torres, director of development at the hospital. Also speaking will be Les Langlois of the new Portofino restaurant. The meeting begins at 7:30 a.m. Cost to attend is an order from the menu. RSVP by calling the Downey Chamber of Commerce at (562) 923-2191.

## Safeguard against check fraud

**DOWNEY** – The American Business Women’s Association El Dorado Chapter will meet Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. at the Rio Hondo Event Center. Attorney Annie Parenzan will speak on “Protecting Yourself Against Check Fraud.” For reservations, call Debbie Stuver at (562) 884-6429.

## Fashion show at American Legion

**DOWNEY** – American Legion Post 723 will host a fashion event April 18 and the community is invited. The event is titled “Fashions at High Sea” and will feature fashions by Glory M’Lou Boutique and jewelry from Park Lane. Social hour begins at 11 a.m., followed by lunch at noon. The fashion show starts at 1 p.m. Cost is \$15 and proceeds will benefit Girls State. For more information or reservations, call Nancy Watson at (562) 413-6414.

## Summer fashions put on display

**DOWNEY** – The Downey Newcomers Club will host their annual spring fashion show May 4 at the Rio Hondo Event Center. Themed “Shopping for Fashion,” fashions will be supplied by the Glory M’lou Boutique of Los Alamitos. Club president Kim Yeager and other club members will be modeling the new spring and summer fashions. A social hour begins at 10:30 a.m. and the luncheon begins at 11:30, followed by the fashion show at 12:30 p.m. The cost of the event is \$25, which includes lunch and the fashion show. For reservations, call Melba at (562) 862-2799.

## Children’s reading event April 25

**DOWNEY** – A reading event to help promote early literacy among children will be held April 25 from 10 a.m. to noon in the Downey Memorial Christian Church parking lot. Children from various grades will take turns reading sections from their favorite books. Each child will read for approximately 10 minutes before handing the book to the next child. This will continue until their particular book is finished. All books will be age-appropriate and chosen by the Downey City Library. Free fresh-baked bread will also be given away at the event. For more information, call Shirley Johnson at (562) 862-2378. Downey Memorial Christian Church is at Florence and Brookshire avenues.

## Career expert leading roundtable

**DOWNEY** – First Presbyterian Church of Downey is introducing a “Career Mastermind Roundtable,” a program that will help people in transition to a new job or who want to make a career change. The sessions will be facilitated by Carl Wellenstein, author of the book, “12 Steps to a New Career: What to Do When You Want to Make a Change Now.” He has also written several articles on career change strategy, and is a frequent speaker to groups interested in job and career change issues. Prior to founding www.ExecGlobalNet.com in 2001, an Internet job-matching company for executives, managers and senior staff, Wellenstein founded an international executive search firm in the UK that he managed for seven years. He is a CPA and spent 15 years with Arthur Young & Co (now Ernst & Young), including five years as managing partner of the firm’s Saudi Arabia practice. The sessions begin Monday at 7:30 p.m. The roundtable is open to all, whether you’re looking for a job or at mid-career and would like help from a career expert. Registration is free but there may be a charge for materials. Wellenstein’s book is available online at Amazon.com at a pre-release price of \$11.55. For more information, call (562) 961-6752.



The Woman’s Club of Downey awarded \$40 scholarships to two local students in support of Student Art in the Schools. Joshua Richter, left, a 7th grade student at Griffiths Middle School, won first place for his acrylic painting and has advanced to state competitions in May. Ryan Richter, a 5th grade student at Creative Beginnings School, won second place for his acrylic painting.

## Ponytail softball opens registration

**DOWNEY** – Downey Ponytail softball is now accepting registration for its 2009 season. Early registration on or before April 15 is \$70. Late registration is \$80. Try-outs will be held April 19 and 25 at 11 a.m. All try-outs and registration are conducted at Independence Park, 12334 Bellflower Blvd.

## Bingo and lunch April 15

**DOWNEY** – The OLPH Women’s Guild is hosting a luncheon April 15. The community is invited. Guests will enjoy lunch, dessert and wine. The \$10 admission includes lunch and a bingo card. The event begins at 10 a.m. inside the Parish Center at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church.

## Makeup class begins April 27

**DOWNEY** – Downey Adult School’s Makeup Academy will begin its 15-week Makeup Artistry Program beginning April 27. The program teaches students beauty makeup, glamour, and high-fashion makeup for film, TV and stage. Also covered in the course are old age, prosthetics, and character makeup techniques. Students who enroll in the course will receive a professional makeup kit from Academy Award-winning makeup artist Maurice Stein. Upon graduation, students will receive a professional portfolio of their work. The courses instructors are working celebrity makeup artists. The class is ideal for those looking to make a quick career change, school officials said. For registration information, call Downey Adult School at (562) 940-6200 or visit www.das.edu.

<p><b>BARBARA BRILEY BEARD</b></p>  <p><b>Farmers Insurance</b> (562) 869-7618 Auto • Home • Life Business • Workers Comp.</p>	<p><b>Connections Networking</b></p> <p>Join us Thursdays at 7:30am</p> <p><b>Cafe N’ Stuff</b> 9306 Firestone Blvd., Downey, CA 90241</p>
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*You are cordially invited to “Spa Day” at Esther’s Palace*

*Treat yourself or your mom to spa treatments which include manicure, facial, and back massage.*

*Then an elegant luncheon at the registered Historic landmark Rives Mansion White House in Downey. Hear an inspiring testimony of one woman’s journey from the Prison to the Palace.*



March 6, 2009 Queen Esther Spa benefit with the 2009 Miss Downey Contestants & 2008 Reigning Court. In this picture: 2008 Miss Downey, Sarah Lopez (foreground) and the newly crowned 2009 Miss Downey, Kathia Morales.



**Tickets: \$90 single or \$175 for two**  
**May 9, 2009 11:00 - 4:00 PM**  
**10933 Paramount Blvd.,**  
**Downey, CA 90241**  
**Call to reserve your space.**  
**904-4800**  
**Tickets are limited**



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**Southland CREDIT UNION**  
Your Community Credit Union

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In this economy, every dollar counts. Make your budget a little easier to follow and put your mind at ease. Refinance your existing Vehicle Loan and lower your monthly payment with a low-rate Vehicle Loan at Southland. When you do, we'll give you \$200 in spending cash!

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Membership is subject to eligibility. All new accounts will be verified through ChexSystems and are subject to credit approval. \*The \$200.00 will be deposited directly into a Southland checking or savings account once the loan has been funded. Vehicle loan must be a minimum of \$15,000 and be funded by May 30, 2009 to qualify. \*\*APR=Annual Percentage Rate. Rates quoted as of 3-16-09 and are for 60-month terms. Rates include a .25% discount for autopay, which must be from a Southland Checking or Money Market Account and 1.00% discount with a maximum loan-to-value of 80%. Additional discounted loan rates of 6.24% APR for new vehicles and 6.49% APR for used vehicles with terms of 61 to 84 months. Vehicles valued over \$25,000 financed up to 84 months (on approved credit); otherwise, maximum term is 72 months. Rates for loans with loan-to-value of 81-100% of value are 6.49% APR for new vehicles and 6.74% APR for used vehicles for a 60-month term, 7.24% APR for new vehicles and 7.49% APR for used vehicles with terms of 61 to 84 months. Rates and cash offer are subject to change without notice.

**800.426.1917**  
**www.SouthlandCU.org**  
**8545 Florence Ave., Downey**





Marcello's beauty salon collected 4 feet of hair from Maria Solis, who had not cut her hair in more than 20 years. Photo courtesy Lisa Fox

## Hair: Four feet of hair donated to charity.

Continued from page 1

Boulevard, Locks of Love is a particularly poignant foundation to support. Her older sister is a survivor of cervical cancer, and she witnessed one of her regular customers go bald after undergoing chemotherapy for breast cancer.

Before the cut, Solis's hair reached down to her ankles. It took nearly two hours to shampoo and rinse the hair, and it was impossible to brush without an extra hand.

The hair also wreaked havoc at work. Once, while she was standing on a stool changing a lightbulb, Solis says, her ponytail fell onto a stovetop and caught fire. From then on she was required to tuck her hair into the back of her pants.

Those were the consequences of letting it grow for so long -- Solis hadn't cut the hair since she was 21 and pregnant with her daughter.

Now 41, she decided two years ago it was time for a cut. But it took 24 months of hemming and hawing to finally go through with

it.

Solis says a Downey firefighter noticed her hair and stopped her at a restaurant once, where he explained to Solis about the department's annual hair-cutting fundraiser, where community members shave or cut their hair and raise money for the St. Baldrick's Foundation.

Even though Solis ultimately chose Locks for Love, she says the firefighter helped her realize she needed to do good with her hair.

"When your hair is that long, it becomes a part of your body," says Solis. "I feel like I was cutting off a part of my body...It's hard to explain."

Solis's new 'do is chic and contemporary. Her hair was straightened and comes down to her shoulders, where it ends with a little upward flip.

If you look really fast, it almost resembles a Jennifer Aniston cut. Almost.

The best part is, there's no chance the hair will ever catch fire on a stove again.

## Budding architect helps create winning design

Christie Bruno, of Downey, wins second place in student architecture competition.

**LONG BEACH** – Downey resident Christie Bruno was one of two Cal State Long Beach students to capture second-place honors and a \$6,000 cash prize at the 17th annual 1:2 Student Competition.

Presented by the AIA Los Angeles Interior Architecture Committee, two students from interior architecture, environmental design and architecture departments from local colleges and universities are invited to participate, and \$23,000 in prize money is awarded to the first- through third-place finishers of the all-day event.

"Even though we presented first, we were very confident about our presentation and felt we had a good chance of winning something. We were the only group that did not receive any bad criticism from the judges," said Lindsay Sienkiewich, a 24-year-old senior interior architecture major at CSULB, and Bruno's partner. "It was a great experience. This competition gives you a lot of experience to the working world and connects you with working professionals. We feel extremely honored to have been part of the event."

At the competition, the student teams have six hours to incorporate a design on to two 32-inch by 40-inch presentation boards, using only the manual tools of the trade to complete their effort. Students arrive with boxes of trace, magazines, tape, colored paper and all of the pencils, markers and straight rules of yesterday. At the end of the six hours, each team's boards are

silently juried, and the 14 teams are whittled down to six finalists.

The finalists then have 30 minutes to prepare a 5-minute verbal presentation to support their visual presentation. After the oral presentations, the jury goes behind closed doors and merges with three winners.

This year's assignment was to design a project titled "Foodchain," an 11,000-square-foot cooking and health infill campus. Bruno and Sienkiewich came up with a concept they titled "Filter." Given the criteria, the two students said they dug deep for a concept that pushed the envelope a little farther than the other submissions.

"We based our concept on the idea of a filtration system, hence our project name, 'Filter.' Our original idea was based on an oyster, and how this creature is rough, jagged and dark on the outside, but as it filters impurities and toxins within ocean water, a smooth luminescent interior reveals a pearl, in its purest state," Sienkiewich explained. "Our building acts as an oyster does while people act as sea water. As people move through the space, they themselves are being filtered through a sequence of learning areas."

"This award is a great honor for all of us. Our students competed against teams from such institutions as the Art Center College of Design, the OTIS College of Art and Design, UCLA, Woodbury College and Cal Poly Pomona," said Dorothy Ottolia, associate professor and interim chair of the CSULB Design Department. "Several people went out of their way to mention to me that our students' quality is consistent and impressive each year."

## Downey dentist recognized by Spanish-language newspaper

**DOWNEY** – Dr. Sonia Molina, who escaped war-torn El Salvador when she was a teenager to later become a successful Harvard-educated dentist, received the 3rd Annual Mujeres Destacadas (Distinguished Women's Award) sponsored by the Spanish-language daily newspaper, *La Opinion*.

Molina, the founder and owner of Molina Endodontics in Downey, was recognized in the award's

health category where she "exemplified exceptional contributions that have advanced the health of Latinos."

Along with four other Hispanic women, Molina was recognized as a "true unsung hero in the community" during ceremonies held at Cathedral Plaza in downtown Los Angeles last month.

"It is an honor to be recognized for the work that I'm truly privileged to be able to perform every day in this country as a dentist," Molina said. "Although I've enjoyed my career and the opportunities that I've received in this country, my thoughts are never far away from the family and friends I left behind in El Salvador."

For the last three years, *La Opinion* has honored Latinas who perform "above and beyond the regular call of duty" on a professional or voluntary basis.

## POET'S CORNER

Fargo

From this valley they say you are leaving...  
Do not hasten to bid me adieu  
Just remember the Red River Valley  
And the cowboy who loved you so true

the high water full of bravado bucks at its banks  
it pokes its head out of its swollen corral  
ice floes ride loose on the unbroken current  
like swaying cowboys on unschooled Brahma bulls

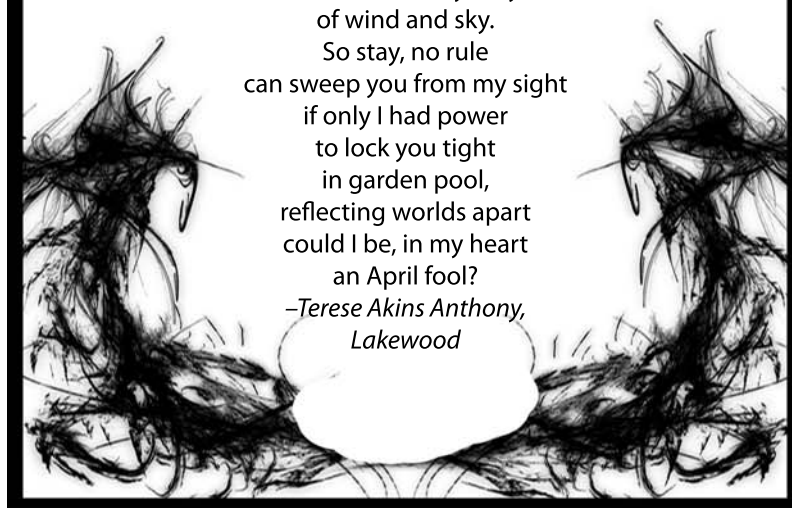
submerged is the sawdust arena  
the fairgrounds will be next to go  
unless frantic Fargo's glazed chute of sandbags  
sidetracks this torrent tumbling in the surge

the West's biggest bad desperados  
merge with tin stars and greenhorns clowns in barrels  
boots over belt buckles spurs stuck in stirrups  
then adieu adieu saddle up for the next rodeo

—Lorine Parks,  
Downey


### An April Rain

One drop of rain  
pats softly down on me  
from ice cream clouds  
it has blown far and free  
it will remain, to emulate  
on earth, a queenly gem,  
possessed of pristine birth,  
born without pain.  
Then still, I breathe  
ecstasy of spring,  
glad world, revolve,  
filled with remembering,  
never to die, enchantment  
held at sea, in sunrise text  
that unlocks mystery  
of wind and sky.  
So stay, no rule  
can sweep you from my sight  
if only I had power  
to lock you tight  
in garden pool,  
reflecting worlds apart  
could I be, in my heart  
an April fool?  
—Terese Akins Anthony,  
Lakewood



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# I'll start Monday

By Eric Pierce

It's funny how simple, anonymous people from around your neighborhood can sometimes become sources of inspiration.

Every morning as I drive to work, I spot a gentleman walking along Florence Avenue, between Downey and Brookshire avenues. I've spotted him around several parts of town, but mostly in North Downey.

He appears to be Asian, middle-aged, and he is almost always wearing a jogging suit. He walks with the help of cane, and despite a noticeable limp, he seems determined to get in his early-morning exercise.

As an able-bodied man in the prime of my life, the anonymous walker makes me feel infinitely inspired, like there's nothing in the whole wide world I can't achieve if I give an honest effort.

Now if I could only get off the couch.

# Affordable solar for everyone!

Contributed by Erica Gies

Some Americans view Berkeley, Calif., as that wacky, eccentric cousin at the family reunion: one of us, yes, but best ignored. Yet Berkeley's enthusiasm for thinking differently can result in bright ideas with broad appeal, like a new program there that allows homeowners to install solar panels with no up-front cost.

Solar power saves money over the long haul, but the \$20,000 to \$60,000 investment per home – essentially paying for 20 years of power at once – has been a significant deterrent to widespread adoption. Berkeley FIRST (Financing Initiative for Renewable and Solar Technology) eliminates that hurdle by paying for the systems with municipal bonds funded by an Oakland financing company, Renewable Funding. Homeowners get a check to pay the solar installer of their choice. Then they repay the fixed-interest loan through a 20-year assessment on their property taxes.

It's an innovative use of municipal bonds for special tax districts. Typically cities sell bonds to cover project costs, like new streets in the commercial district, for example. Then property owners agree to a tax increase to pay for the improvements. Berkeley's innovation was to allow private property owners to use the financing for energy efficiency and solar projects. The program is voluntary, so only homeowners who use the bond pay additional property taxes, and they only pay for the cost of their project. The tax assessment stays with the house. If the owner moves, the new owner, who will reap the benefits of solar power, pays off the assessment.

Aaron Mann was the first person to use Berkeley FIRST, installing 32 solar panels that generate 25 to 30 kilowatts on a clear day to provide energy to his 2,800-square foot home. He estimates the new solar system, installed in February, will provide 90 percent of his family's needs.

Mann's new system cost \$41,000, but he got a \$6,000 rebate from Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E), the local utility. That left \$35,000 to finance through Berkeley FIRST. Before his solar installation, Mann was paying \$4,200 a year to PG&E. To repay the \$35,000 loan, Mann's property taxes increased \$3,300 a year. That's a net savings of \$900 a year over his pre-solar energy bill. And that savings doesn't even include the 30 percent federal tax credit on solar systems now available to people who use municipal financing. In addition, with energy costs expected to rise over time, so will Mann's annual savings. Granted, the numbers are a little less convincing in states that don't offer rebates, such as the one Mann obtained from PG&E, but the savings remain.

Functionally the electricity works exactly as it did before. Whether the house runs entirely off solar, pulls power from the utility at night or on dark days, or uses a blend, "I don't know the difference," Mann said.

Some states may need to amend their laws to allow their municipalities to follow Berkeley's lead. But California, Oregon, Nevada, New Mexico, Arizona, New York, Vermont, and Texas have already done so or are working on it. New Jersey, Michigan, and Washington have expressed interest.

In coming months, similar solar pay-as-you-go programs will begin in Boulder County and Denver, Colo.; Flagstaff and Tucson, Ariz.; Albuquerque and Las Cruces, N.M.; Austin, Texas; Portland, Ore.; Burlington, Vt.; Belmar, N.J.; and San Diego, Solana Beach, Santa Monica, Sonoma County, and San Francisco, Calif. Palm Desert, Calif., is already up and running.

The Berkeley program might expand to include insulation, new windows, and other energy-saving projects. Other places will likely follow suit.

But government doesn't offer the only creative solar financing option. Sun Run, a San Francisco company, owns the panels on people's homes, allowing them to pay less up front and to buy electricity at a fixed rate. MMA Renewable Ventures, with seven offices nationwide, provides financing for commercial customers by attracting funders who want an investment with a tax write-off. SolarCity, which serves eight western cities, has a community program that signs up 30 to 40 homes in a three-mile radius. Working in volume saves 20 to 25 percent, said CEO Lyndon Rive. SolarCity also has a lease-to-purchase alternative.

Options like these make solar an economically rational choice, even in the short term. People who start now can begin reducing their energy costs within months. I hope to be one of them.

Erica Gies is a freelance reporter published by the International Herald Tribune, Wired News, Grist, E/The Environmental Magazine, and The San Francisco Bay Guardian. © 2009 Blue Ridge Press

## The Downey Patriot

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## Letters to the Editor:

### Pot holes and accountability

Dear Editor:

Four months ago I attended a City Council meeting and presented pictures of the pot holes on the corner of Lubec Street and Paramount Boulevard and pointed out the liability of the city of Downey should an accident occur, rather, when it will occur.

I also wrote a letter to the Patriot and called Downey "a city just a little north of the border." Let me change it to just like any city south of the border.

After I made my speech, a tall Welshman in charge of the maintenance department shook my hand and promised to get it fixed. This, of course, was a blatant lie as nothing has been done.

It seems to me even the city of Downey is staffed with self-serving and, in certain other departments, possibly corrupted individuals, like has become common practice in the highest levels of government.

The so-called public servants pocket six-figure incomes. I would like to know for what? There appears to be no accountability regarding their job achievements.

I know as a simple old retiree I do not have much power to change the attitude of city government. I will send my letter to the Patriot and maybe motivate other citizens to get results. I am in position to leave Downey at any time to make room for some more undesirable elements which the Downey hierarchy seems to prefer. I probably give them too much credit to think that far ahead.

As I mentioned at the meeting, any criminal mind will see an opportunity to stage an accident that will cost Downey a fortune in liability monies. No one was impressed nor cared about my findings. I do have a bad knee but my upbringing and being a Christian prevents me from getting some easy money.

— Dieter Oltersdorf,  
Downey

### Moon landings

Dear Editor:

On April 4, the "Oprah Winfrey Show" went to a Mormon commune in Utah to see how they live and try to understand their way of life. Oprah asked their teacher if it's true that they do not inform the children that we landed on the moon. The teacher stated that they do not teach that we did not land on the moon, they just do not say that we did.

In Downey schools, we do not mention the moon landings at all. It's not in our school's history books. Ask any history teacher.

To prove this, just ask your child or children how many times we allegedly landed on the moon and how many moon rovers are on the moon. Ninety-eight percent will not know the answer. The answer is six landings and three rovers.

By the way, most adults don't know either.

— Mike Sandoval,  
Downey

### Curb paintings

Dear Editor:

The time is coming for the annual painting of addresses on the curb.

These curb paintings don't last very long with cars parking and scraping the paint. If you have a front porch with concrete steps, have the painters put the address on the second or third step, on the edge closest to the driveway. This will last indefinitely – I've had mine for six years and it still looks like it was just painted.

It's also very handy for police and paramedics because it can be spotted right away.

— Mike Rodela,  
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.

# Safe Haven Law needs no tinkering

Los Angeles County Supervisor Don Knabe, Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, renewed his opposition for the fourth time to new legislation by Assemblyman Alberto Torrico (D-Fremont) that will fundamentally alter the rules of the highly-successful Safe Haven Law.

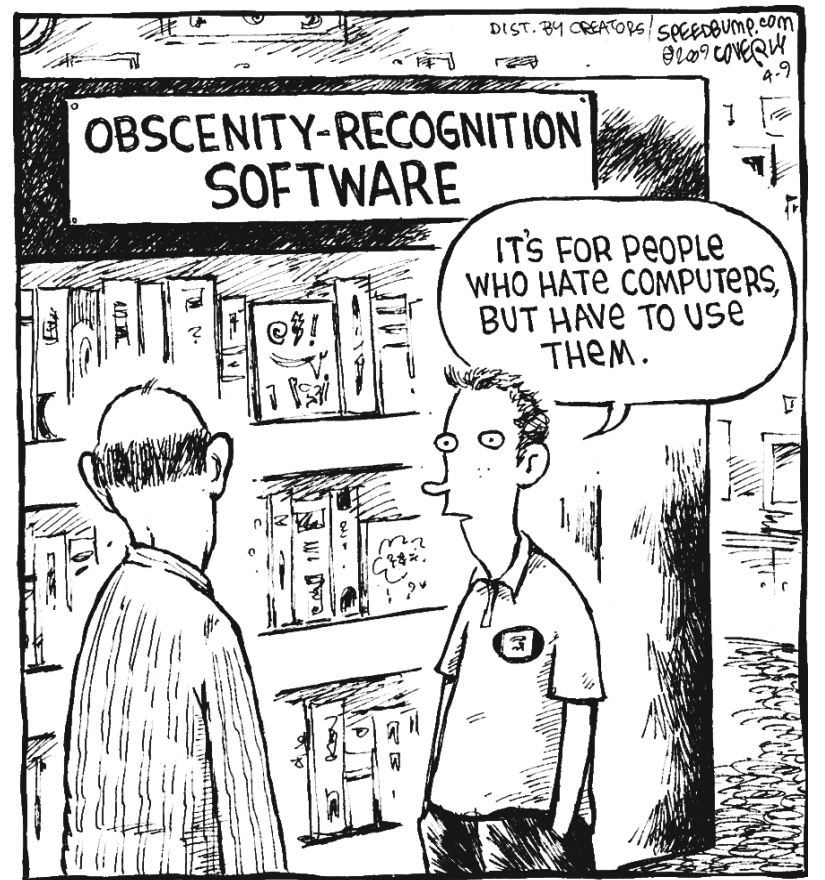
Under the proposed legislation, AB 1048 will extend the newborn surrender period to 30 days. Currently, the program allows mothers of unwanted newborns to surrender their babies at Safe Surrender sites, such as fire stations and hospitals, up to 72 hours after the child's birth. Access to quality medical care in the first hours of life is a critical component that could be placed in jeopardy if this legislation passes. Many infants who are safely surrendered have received no prenatal care or medical care at all – services that are critical for these newborns to receive in the first hours after birth. Extensive research has shown that the 72 hour window works.

Similar bills have been introduced each of the last three years by Assemblyman Torrico. All three attempts, AB 1873, AB 81 and AB 2262 were vetoed by Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger.

"This was an unnecessary bill the first three times, and it remains unnecessary," said Knabe, who championed the Safe Surrender Program, the Los Angeles County version of the Safe Haven Program, over six years ago. "There is no data showing that an extension to the 30 days proposed in Assemblyman Torrico's legislation would improve this successful program, and we cannot allow an arbitrary number with no scientific basis to compromise the safety of these babies. The only window that has irrefutable evidence is the 72 hours, and changing it is a risk that we simply cannot afford. I vow to fight this bill every step along the way."

Los Angeles County has been at the forefront of implementing the Safe Haven Law. Since its enactment in 2002, 70 babies have been safely surrendered in Los Angeles County – more than one-third of all the newborns saved in California.

Contributed by the office Supervisor Don Knabe.



## Political debate

Dear Editor:

I simply cannot allow the myths perpetuated by Ms. Michaels in her letter last week to go unanswered ("Beyond the Pundits," 4/3/09).

The facts are that President Obama and the Democrats were directly responsible for this housing crisis in that that they decided social engineering made more sense than logical economics. The Democrats decided to start "encouraging" (which is a nice way of saying they made the banks an offer they couldn't refuse) to loan money to people who couldn't afford to buy a house. So the banks did! And who bothered to say anything about the impending doom we are now experiencing? President Bush and Sen. John McCain.

When they pointed out that the bad practices were going to self-destruct, Democrats like Barney Frank and Maxine Waters told them to butt-out and mind their own business while their Democrat friends at Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac were lining their pockets with all the new loan money.

Obama played a small part in creating this mess and cannot be blamed for everything, but he is absolutely making matters worse, not better.

— Alaina Niemann,  
Downey

Dear Editor:

I was sorry and somewhat dismayed to see the attacks on Ms. Elsa Van Leuven's recent letter to the editor ("Obama's Change," 3/27/09). My family has often enjoyed her reasoned and thoughtful remarks on various issues, whether we agreed or not. I wish there were more letter writers like her.

I also think the detractors should reread her letter to note that, apparently, she has done more than "sat back and said nothing" when something has roused her to make her comments. I cannot presume to know the extent or lack of involvement in political issues in Ms. Van Leuven's past or present, but I don't think it would be illogical to assume that Ms. Van Leuven's knowledge of the congressional switchboard number could mean that she has never used it.

We all hope for the sake of our country that President Obama will do well. And I believe that it is our job as citizens to do our part to make sure he does.

There is too much at stake, and I think we are all to blame for letting this happen. Both parties have done badly, and we are now faced with a young man with little proven experience or record in one of the greatest offices in the world during one of the greatest crisis periods of our history. We cannot afford to be stary eyed about his prose and demeanor; we desperately need so much more. So while living with hope, we should also expect more than words.

I commend Ms. Van Leuven for her watchful concerns, and I understand we need patience with our new president. But I also intend to watch closely and speak out where I can when I think promises are not being lived up to, or damaging polices are made with this new administration. Can any of us afford not to do the same?

— Catherine Rios,  
Downey

Dear Editor:

Re Jacki Michael's and Lois Rossi's letters to the editor. I want, in all kindness, to "set the record straight."

•My letters aren't always printed and those that are have sometimes been edited, as was the last one, so you didn't get the full intent of the letter.

•If you think I was exceedingly happy with President Bush, you're mistaken. I didn't like the overspending of Congress then and I don't like it now. I feel that Bush should have vetoed the overspending of Congress, as I wish President Obama would do now. We know that Obama's budget is larger than all budgets from George Washington through Bush combined. I believe a \$10 trillion deficit is projected in 10 years, with the interest being \$806 billion a year. This frightens me!

•If, as stated, I "sat by," you're sadly mistaken. I would venture to say I've made more calls to Bush and Obama (when I get through) than anyone in Downey. Also, more calls to Congress than anyone in Downey, often 10 to 15 calls a day. On one issue (yes, under Bush) I made 150 calls to the senators in two days (yes, I know there are only 100).

•While "sitting by" I've fought the LOST Treaty, the SPP Treaty, illegal immigration, abortion, the NAFTA Super Highway, the subsidizing by the government of 70 percent of the purchase of a home by illegals and those who couldn't possibly pay for them. In the past I've met with Sen. Alan Cranston, twice with Rep. Steve Horn, once with Rep. Lucille Roybal-Allard, and with Bob Epple when he was my assemblyman. Now I'm trying to get an appointment with Sen. Lowenthal and Assemblyman Charles Calderon (very difficult).

There are countless issues I've worked on in both parties. Right now I'm trying to fight legalizing marijuana, as some in the state are considering, so as to tax it to cover the overspending of our state officials. I see the country I love in decline, both morally and financially.

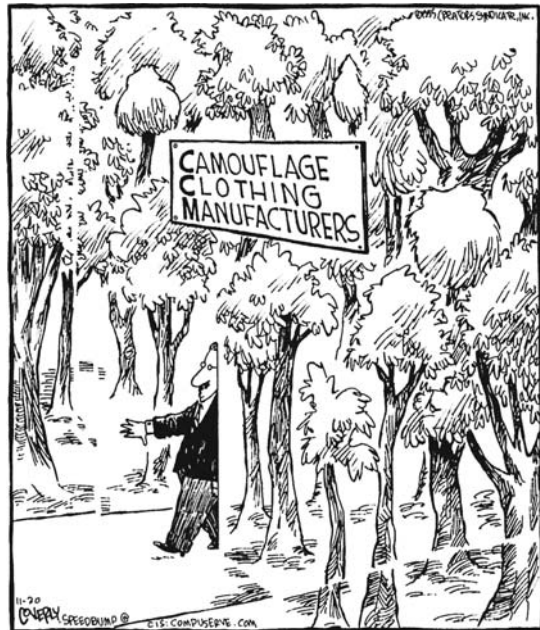
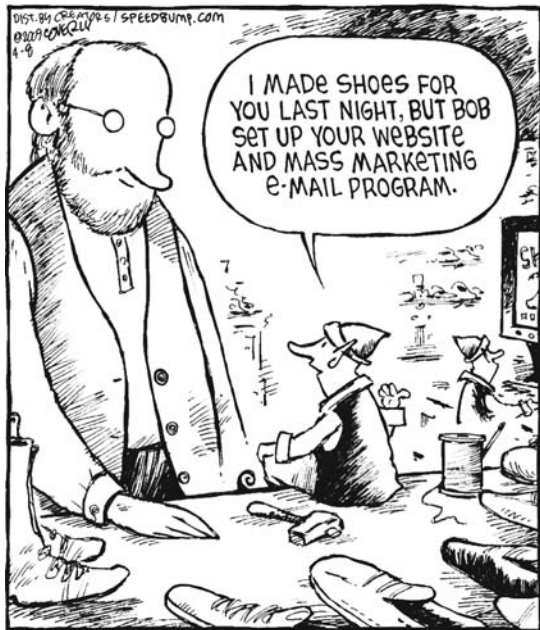
— Elsa Van Leuven,  
Downey



## SPEED BUMP



## DAVE COVERLY



## Downey Community Calendar

### Events For April

- Sat. April 11: **Egg hunt for children**, Downey parks, 10:30 a.m.
- Mon. April 13: **Career change discussion**, First Presbyterian Church of Downey, 7:30 p.m.
- Tues. April 14: **Rise 'N Shine networking**, Downey Brewing Company, 7:30 a.m.
- Wed. April 15: **OLPH luncheon**, OLPH Parish Center, 10 a.m.
- Thurs. April 16: **Dr. Anthony Bordas ribbon cutting**, 12739 Lakewood Blvd., 2 p.m.
- Thurs. April 16: **Car inspections for seniors**, Rancho Los Amigos, 10 a.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., 6:30 p.m.: **Community Emergency Response Team meeting**, Fire station 1, 12222 Paramount.
- 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.
- 4th Weds., 6:30 p.m.: **Emergency Preparedness Committee meeting**, Fire station 1, 12222 Paramount.
- 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...

**April 10, 1912:** The Titanic, the "unsinkable" luxury liner, sets sail from Southampton, England for its first and final voyage. The ship sank five days later after colliding with an iceberg.

**1936:** Sportscaster John Madden is born. Also born April 10: "Doctor Zhivago" actor Omar Sharif (77), sports-caster Don Meredith (71), actor Steven Seagal (57), singer Babyface (50), singer/actress Mandy Moore (25), and "The Sixth Sense" actor Haley Joel Osment (21).

**1947:** Dodgers president Branch Rickey purchases the contract of Jackie Robinson, who had been playing with the Kansas City Monarchs of the Negro League.

**1972:** The United States is joined by some 70 nations in banning biological warfare.

**2001:** The Netherlands legalize mercy killings for people suffering from "unbearable" terminal diseases.

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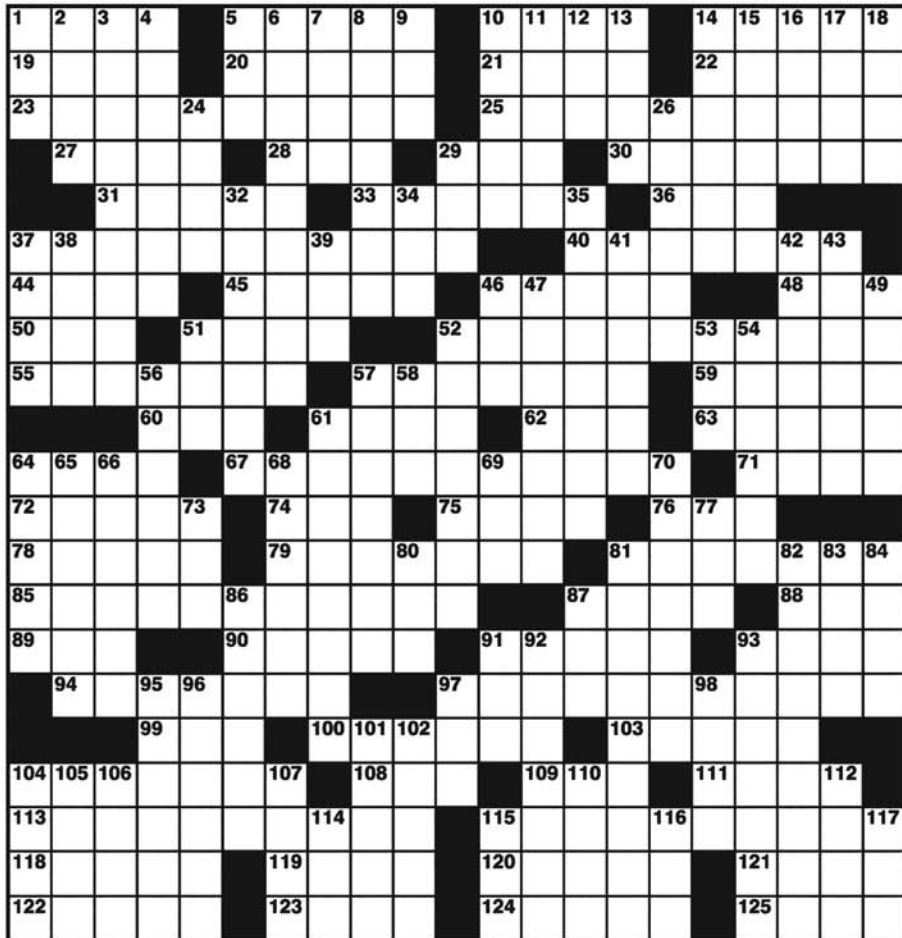
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### THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com)  
**SHORT SUBJECTS: How to leave things off**  
 by Doug Peterson

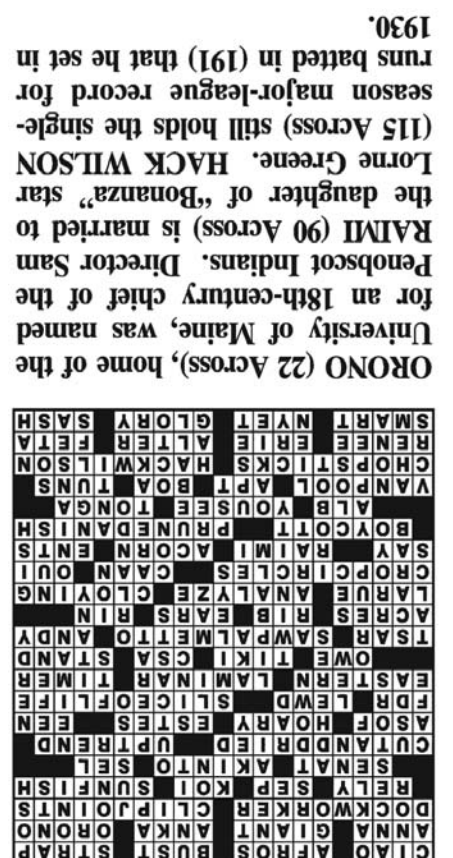
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You can contact puzzle editor Stanley Newman at his e-mail address: [StanXwords@aol.com](mailto:StanXwords@aol.com). Or write him at P.O. Box 69, Massapequa Park, NY 11762, Please send a self-addressed, stamped envelope if you'd like a reply.





## Paging Dr. Frischer...

By Dr. Alan Frischer



Way back in the 1990's, a new drug being tested in England was an utter failure at treating high blood pressure and angina. It did, however, have quite an unusual side effect – it caused male erections. That drug is now known as Viagra, and the rest, as they say, is history.

Today, Viagra, Levitra, and Cialis are the only drugs approved by the FDA for Erectile Dysfunction (E.D.), a condition that affects as many as 30 million men in the United States. These drugs work by increasing the flow of blood into the penis so that, upon arousal, an erection is more likely to occur. They belong to a class of drugs called PDE5 (phosphodiesterase 5) inhibitors. They work by dilating the smooth muscles in the blood vessels that provide blood flow to the male genitalia.

For the most part, those helped by the PDE5 drugs are older and have a clear cause for erectile dysfunction that is not reversible. The immediate cause is inadequate rigidity of the corpora cavernosa, a chamber in the core of the male penis. This in turn can be the result of a lack of nerve signals initiating blood flow, impairment of the arteries filling the penis, ineffective closure of veins required for appropriate storage of blood within the erect penis, hormonal deficiencies, or psychological factors.

Often the cause of E.D. involves both physical and the psychological factors. Issues related to E.D. also include loss of sexual desire, premature ejaculation, or inability to reach orgasm. Many common diseases and conditions are associated with atherosclerosis and thus poor blood flow (note that one of the early indicators of heart disease is E.D.), including high blood pressure, high cholesterol, diabetes, vascular disease, cigarette

smoking, depression, and aging.

For a younger healthy man where there is no obvious cause of E.D., a full work-up should be undertaken to find a potentially treatable cause before beginning any of the PDE5 medications. In young men, sexual dysfunction is often caused by emotional problems, particularly if there are relationship issues. Drugs and alcohol interfere with sexual performance, and stress, anxiety and fatigue may also play a role.

While E.D. is certainly not a fatal condition, it does result in a withdrawal from sexual intimacy and a reduced quality of life, and even decreased work productivity and increased health care utilization. These three drugs are now considered first-line treatment for the medical treatment of erectile dysfunction. So, which one may be right for you?

Viagra is the first and most famous of the PDE5 drugs. Because food decreases its absorption, it should be taken on an empty stomach, at least 30 minutes after dining. Cialis seems to be the clear choice for spontaneity, since it lasts for 36 to 100 hours and taking two to three pills per week is now an acceptable treatment. For patients with difficult to treat erectile dysfunction, Levitra may be the best choice as it has the highest potency. It can last up to 24 hours, and onset is very rapid.

Viagra, however, remains the "gold standard" of PDE5 drugs. It has the longest safety record, though they all appear quite safe. I tend to let my patients try all three, and choose the one that works best and is right for their needs.

Side effects from Cialis, Levitra and Viagra are unusual. They do include headaches, recent reports of sudden hearing loss (which is still under investigation), facial flushing, upset stomach, and unusual visual disturbances including bright vision or a blue-green halo.

Which men should NOT be taking any of these medications?

Anyone who has exhibited an allergy to any one of these three drugs should avoid all of them;

Those with any surgery pending, including dental surgery;

Those taking any nitroglycerin products, either in the short-acting or long-acting form, or any "alpha blockers" for prostate problems.

The combination of these with Viagra, Levitra, or Cialis could lead to dangerously low blood pressure;

Anyone who has suffered a heart attack, a stroke or a life threatening heart rhythm problem in the past six months.

Discuss these medications with your doctor. Incidentally...a Viagra-type drug is coming soon for women...stay tuned.

Good health to you all!

*Dr. Alan Frischer is former chief of staff and current 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.*

## Older drivers urged to inspect cars

**DOWNEY** – Older drivers in Downey are invited to a free program Thursday to learn how the effects of aging change the way they fit in their vehicle and how their driving can be affected.

The program is offered by the Automobile Club of Southern California and will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center.

Auto Club representatives will inspect the vehicle's seat-belt adjustments, foot pedals, mirrors, and more to ensure that senior drivers are "correctly fitted" to their vehicles.

An occupational therapist who specializes in driver rehabilitation will offer advice on ways a driver can maintain and strengthen their driving health, including community resources where seniors can go for further evaluation regarding exercise, nutrition, and adaptive devices.

According to the Auto Club, the number of seniors in California is growing rapidly and the state has more adults over age 65 than any other.

Appointments will be scheduled every 20 minutes. To sign-up for a free inspection, call Shenette Davis at (562) 401-7464.



**Dr. Jack Kennis is chair of the 24th annual Golf Classic, a fundraiser for Downey Regional Medical Center scheduled for May 4. Registration deadline is April 24.**

## Registration underway for Golf Classic

**DOWNEY** – Downey Regional Medical Center will host its 24th Annual Golf Classic on May 4 at the Rio Hondo Golf Club in Downey.

This year's tournament chair is Jack Kennis, MD, a Downey Regional emergency department physician for more than 25 years.

Proceeds from the tournament will benefit Downey Regional's cardiac cath lab, a specialized department with a team of RNs and cardiovascular radiological technicians led by a cardiologist. The cath lab provides state-of-the-art imaging that visualizes and treats coronary artery disease.

The lab is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Its staff treats patients in the midst of a

heart attack as well as patients scheduled for a diagnostic or interventional procedure.

Registration for the tournament begins at 9:30 a.m., followed by a putting and chipping contest. Shotgun start is at noon, with a hot barbecue lunch and hosted Bloody Mary bar. The event will conclude with an awards dinner and announcement of the sweepstakes winners, beginning at 5 p.m.

Entry fee is \$275. Sponsorship opportunities, dinner tickets and tee signs are also available for purchase. Registration deadline is April 24.

For more information on the Golf Classic, or to register, call DeeAnna Hampton at (562) 904-5055.

## Tips to avoid emotional overeating

For many people, emotions can trigger overeating, and food becomes a crutch when they're bored, tired, anxious or stressed. TOPS Club (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) recognizes the temptation of emotional overeating and the health problems caused by it. This is particularly timely in April, Emotional Overeating Awareness Month. With support and education from TOPS, weight-loss warriors can take steps to control those emotional cravings.

"Eating gave me comfort. Fast-food chicken was my favorite quick fix for emotions," says Teena Conrad. At one point, she defined herself as an "emotional binge-eater," but now she says, "I am a former compulsive binge-eater. I now choose to get healthy and see my grandkids grow up."

Here are a few guidelines to help avoid emotional overeating:

•Prevention works. Don't bring high-calorie foods home from the grocery store.

•Routine helps build good habits. Try to eat at the same time every day and stick to the basic food groups. Fill up on whole grains, vegetables and fruits, as well as low-fat dairy products and lean meats.

•Notice what's happening emotionally within yourself. Learn to recognize if your hunger is real.

•Monitor food intake for several days, writing down when, where, how much, and why food is eaten. Recognize negative triggers that prompt overeating.

•Before giving in to emotional overeating, hit the personal pause button. Take a walk or call a friend.

•Plan for healthy snacks between meals. Keep fresh fruit and pretzels available and skip the chips.

*TOPS has about 170,000 members in nearly 10,000 chapters throughout the United States and Canada, and several chapters in Europe. Visitors are welcome to attend their first TOPS meeting free of charge. To find a local chapter, visit [www.tops.org](http://www.tops.org) or call (800) 932-8677.*

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**Word of MOUTH**  
 by Soheir S. Azer, D.D.S.  
 According to recent research, laughter stimulates strong brain activity in listeners, particularly in the areas that control the muscles of the face, and prompts them to smile and laugh back. Simply put, laughter and smiling are contagious. Of course, no one really needs a scientific study to tell us something that we already know to be true—that a smiling face tends to attract attention and delightful responses. However, the unfortunate fact is that many people are so self-conscious about the condition of their teeth that they deprive themselves of this important asset. If you are concerned about the whiteness of your smile, professional tooth whitening by the dentist provides the safest and most effective way to brighten your smile.  
 Have you tried many things without success? Maybe now is the time to give your dentist a chance to whiten and brighten your teeth. We strive to teach you good oral hygiene. In the long run, you will have better dental health. We're located at 10800 Paramount Blvd., Suite 307, where we stress that health depends on healthy teeth and good dental care. A thorough examination and detailed explanation of all findings and treatment needed are routinely given. Please call (562) 923-3714 to schedule an appointment. We're always happy to discuss improving your smile, and thus, your total feeling of self-esteem.  
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## Bergschneider was USO performer

**DOWNEY** – Dominica “Monica” Bergschneider, a USO performer during World War II, passed away April 2. She was 86.

Bergschneider worked with the USO during World War II before taking a job with the city of Downey.

She was past Grand Regent of CDA, and served as a member of Newcomers Club and Our Lady of Perpetual Help Guild.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 37 years, Clarence. She is survived by her six children, Rose Ann, Susan, Kathleen, Donna, Robert and Diana; 11 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and her two brothers, Ed and Hank.

A visitation was held Monday at Miller-Mies Mortuary. A funeral Mass followed Tuesday at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church. She was buried Thursday at Riverside National Cemetery.

## Helen Wessman was longtime resident

**DOWNEY** – Helen Delores Wessman died peacefully in Upland on March 31 at 7:31 a.m. She celebrated her 86th birthday with family on March 6.

Wessman was born in Emmetsburg, Iowa on March 6, 1923. She grew up in Iowa with her parents, Jim and Mary Collins, and her sister, Marilyn.

In 1955 she and her husband, Gaylon, and their children moved to Downey. She was an active member of First Baptist Church of Downey until she and her family moved to Ontario in 2002. The past six years she belonged to Hillside Community Church in Alta Loma.

Wessman was a wife and mother since age 17. She was preceded in death by her third-born son, Donald Wessman, and husband, Gaylon.

She is survived by her son, Robert (Maricella) Dietrich of Payson, Ariz.; Roger (Phyllis) Dietrich of LeRoy, Minn.; daughter, Doris (David) Anderson of Ontario; sister, Marilyn (Charles) Heers of Las Vegas; nine grandchildren; and 20 great-grandchildren.

A funeral service was held April 6 at Rose Hills in Whittier.

## Ilene Davilla was mother of two

**DOWNEY** – Ilene Davilla, a 35-year Downey resident, passed away March 29.

She was born in Long Beach on June 24, 1924 to William and Beulah Glaue. She had one brother, Carl.

She graduated from Long Beach Polytechnic High School in 1942. She met her husband, Charles, during the high school commencement ceremony as they were paired together in the procession.

After high school, she graduated from Long Beach Secretarial College.

World War II got underway soon after Ilene and Charles graduated high school. Charles was drafted and they had to wait to be married. Finally, they were wed on May 3, 1945.

Ilene was a war bride, following her husband from a military base in Douglas, Ariz. to a military base in San Bernardino. While they lived on the bases, Ilene worked as a secretary.

When their first child, Charlene, was born, Ilene became a stay-at-home mom. Eight years later, she had her second child, Daniel. During those years, Ilene was an active volunteer at her children’s schools, including the PTA and as a teacher’s helper.

Ilene lived the past 35 years in Downey, and is survived by her husband, Charles; son, Daniel; daughter, Charlene Taylor; son-in-law, Gregory Taylor; and grandchildren, Eric, Deborah and Kevin Taylor.



## Grief workshop begins April 22

**DOWNEY** – Ruth Foelber of Lutheran Social Services will conduct a two-part workshop on “Grief and Healing Through Jesus” at Messiah Lutheran Church in Downey on April 22 and 29 from 2-4 p.m.

The workshop is four hours long so it is important to attend both sessions. Anyone suffering from the loss of a loved one, job, health, finances, etc. is encouraged to attend.

For more information, call (562) 923-1215.



### Robert Allen Abrams

Robert Allen Abrams, longtime Downey resident, passed away on February 1, 2009. Robert was 71. Robert, “Bob” as he was better known, worked 30 years at Downey Welding. When he wasn’t working you could find him fishing

or driving to the desert. After retiring he moved to Apple Valley, Ca, which was a longtime dream of his. Robert is survived by his children: Maryellen (Pepsi) & Robert Powers, Donna & Kenny Churning, & Roberta Abrams; and his grand children: Brandi, Kenny & Robert (Joe) Churning.

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## Vikings shut out league rivals

By SCOTT COBOS, STAFF WRITER

**DOWNEY** – If there was any question if Downey High School could make a run at the San Gabriel Valley League championship at the beginning of the season after a rough loss against Paramount, all critics were silenced after a 3-0 win over the Pirates and an 8-0 victory

over Gahr.

Downey dismantled a strong pitching staff of Gahr last Friday and flexed their own pitching strength behind Chris Munoz. Munoz went five innings but left the sixth with the bases loaded and no outs.

Downey manager Jess Gonzalez brought in Jesse Silva, who retired the next three batters to

end the only threat of the night.

With the win, Munoz is now 3-0 with a 0.30 ERA in league play. The victory created gridlock atop the standings in the SGVL.

On Tuesday, Downey managed to create a little space by avenging a loss from earlier in the season with a 3-0 win against Paramount at home.

The Vikings pitching staff has

been virtually invincible this year with a combined ERA of under 2.50. Shutting out Paramount pushes the Pirates into second place and leaves Gahr and Downey atop the standings.

Scores for Thursday’s game at Paramount were not available at press time. Downey’s next game will be at Dominguez this Tuesday at 3:15 p.m.

## Elvis impersonator rocks library recognition event

By HENRY VENERACION, STAFF WRITER

**E**lvis Presley, in the person of performer George Thomas—who has co-starred on the NBC hit, “Las Vegas,” and performed at the 75th birthday of Mikael Gorbachev, among his credits—entertained at Saturday’s Fabulous Fifties-themed 25th annual Volunteer & Major Donor Recognition brunch, and he didn’t disappoint.

True to expectations, Thomas, clad in loud, outlandish showbiz garb, swiveled his hips and gyrated wildly to the tune of, first, “You’re Nothing But a Hounddog,” secondly, to “Heartbreak Hotel,” and, lastly, to “Jailhouse Rock” as part of the program that also marked the 50th anniversary of the Downey City Library.

To the delight of the large audience that included Mayor Mario Guerra, Mayor Pro Tem Anne Bayer, and City Council members David Gafin and Luis Marquez, and other distinguished guests, Dr. Mary Stauffer had to be cajoled into attempting a whirl or two with Thomas, who had by this time succeeded in inviting Bayer, literacy volunteer Freddie Hawkins, and

fellow volunteer Arlene McArthur to the front for a little ‘hopping’ fun.

The episode with Stauffer provided a lot of laughs as she repeatedly failed to respond to Thomas’ ministrations (apparently he didn’t have an inkling of who she was and the esteem she’s held by the community) as he persistently addressed her left ear (she can hear better with her right ear, it turned out).

Julie Anderson, Downey High School alumna and currently a student at the Music Institute of Hollywood, also sang. She is the daughter of Christina Anderson, referred to by city librarian Nancy Messineo, who delivered the welcoming remarks, as her “right hand.”

Master of Ceremonies was literacy coordinator Claudia Dailey, who orchestrated the giving away of certificates of appreciation to the scores of library and Friends of the Library volunteers, as well as the library’s major donors over the past year.

The sumptuous brunch was underwritten by the Friends of the Library and held at the Rio Hondo Event Center.



Elvis impersonator George Thomas was a crowd favorite at Saturday’s Volunteer & Major Donor Recognition brunch, an event for the Downey City Library’s volunteers and supporters.

## New Titles at the Downey City Library

### Fiction

- **“Cursed”** by Carol Higgins Clark. Private investigator Regan Reilly moved from L.A. to New York City, but is called back to her old stomping ground to help a young friend who believes her life has been cursed since birth.
- **“Hungry Woman in Paris”** by Josefina Lopez. A journalist and activist, Canela believes passion is essential to life; but lately it seems to be in short supply. Cooking school in Paris is a sensual and spiritual reawakening that teaches her to savor the world around her.
- **“I Can See Clearly Now”** by Brendan Halpin. In 1972, four young, talented songwriters come together to create the music that will define a generation’s childhood.
- **“The Renegades”** by T. Jefferson Parker. Some say that outlaws no longer exist, that the true spirit of the American West died with the legendary bandits of pulp novels. Deputy Sheriff Charlie Hood knows nothing could be farther from the truth.
- **“The Story of a Marriage”** by Andrew Sean Greer. Living in San Francisco in 1953, Pearlie cares for her ailing husband and son. When a stranger appears at her door, she begins to question her marriage and the husband she thought she knew.

### Non-Fiction

- **“American Eve: Evelyn Nesbit, Stanford White, the Birth of the ‘It’ Girl, and the Crime of the Century”** by Paula Uruburu. Model Evelyn Nesbit was the most photographed woman of her era—and the center of the scandalous Stanford White murder.
- **“The First Paul: Reclaiming the Radical Visionary Behind the Church’s Conservative Icon”** by Marcus Borg, and John Dominic Crossan. Two top Bible scholars present a fresh perspective on early Christianity with this new view of a radical Paul.
- **“Growing Up Again: Life, Loves and, Oh Yeah, Diabetes”** by Mary Tyler Moore. With generosity of spirit and sly humor, Moore presents the intensely private and sometimes startling story of her life with diabetes.
- **“Intelligence and How to Get It: Why Schools and Culture Count”** by Richard E. Nisbett. Social psychologist Nisbett asserts that intellect is not primarily genetic but is principally determined by societal influences.
- **“Mommywood”** by Tori Spelling. The actress and author chronicles her adventures as the mother of two small children.

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# Beatles musical puts Fab Four back on stage

**LA HABRA** – The La Habra Depot Theatre has announced the world premiere of “Ticket to Ride,” a musical biography of the Beatles, starring internationally-renowned Beatles tribute band, Hard Day’s Night, who perform the music of the Fab Four live on stage.

The show runs from April 17 through May 3.

More than a basic Beatles tribute concert, “Ticket to Ride” takes the audience back to the pivotal moments and locales of the Beatles’ career. The band’s custom-tailored costumes, vintage instruments, Liverpudlian dialect and precise attention to every detail recreate the magic, music, wit and wisdom of the total Beatle phenomenon.

The four band members capture the unique personality, physicality and charm of the Beatle they portray, including the Fab Four’s familiar head bobs, toe taps and patter between songs.

Beginning at the legendary Cavern Club in Liverpool where they meet their manager, Brian Epstein, the audience continues their journey to venues that include the Ed Sullivan Show, Shea Stadium’s 50,000-plus screaming fans, the Abbey Road recording studios, and their final live performance on the rooftop of their Apple Corp office building.

The character of Brian Epstein, played by Greg Wilmot, will serve as narrator throughout the show.

With a script written by Beatlemania original cast member P.M. Howard, the play’s dialogue rings true. Howard played the role of George in the 1977 Broadway production. The show is directed by Danielle Palmer.

“I’ve lived with these characters for most of my life and this is a story I’ve wanted to write for over 30 years,” Howard said.

“As a director, this is a very exciting opportunity to direct the world premiere of a show,” said Palmer. “There have been so many different Beatle band concert shows over the years, but in ‘Ticket to Ride’ we get a chance to see the Beatles, up close and personal, at crucial moments in their career and hopefully gain a deeper insight into who they really were.”

Since 1997, Hard Day’s Night has been thrilling audiences with tight harmonies and flawless note for note instrumental renditions of Beatle hits. With more than 1,000 performances, Hard Day’s Night



“Ticket to Ride” opens April 17 at the La Habra Depot Theatre. For tickets, call (562) 905-9625 or visit [www.lhdepottheatre.org](http://www.lhdepottheatre.org). Photo by Richard Norman

has honed their show to become one of the most musically and visually satisfying Beatle tribute acts in the world.

Along with a talented cast of actors, the band will take the audience back to January 1964, when Americans saw the Beatles for the first time on the Ed Sullivan Show, playing “I Wanna Hold Your Hand.” Progressing through their various musical stages, the audience re-experiences the psychedelic era of “Sgt. Pepper’s Lonely Harts Club Band,” the creation of the haunting “Yesterday,” and the

raucous rock and roll of “Get Back.”

The show is a fundraiser to support the La Habra Depot Theatre’s summer youth program, with the Hard Day’s Night band playing the three-week run for a nominal fee. The Depot is one of the few community theaters in Southern California that does not charge children to participate in youth shows.

“The Depot gives kids from economically disadvantaged families a chance to perform in children’s theater,” said Whittier native

Gilbert Bonilla, who plays John Lennon in the band. “We are glad we can help out the program.”

“Ticket to Ride” opens April 17 and runs through May 3. Performances are Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m., with Sunday matinees at 5 p.m. Tickets are \$20 and beer and wine are sold. Audience members may also participate in Beatle karaoke after the show.

For tickets, call (562) 905-9625 or visit [www.lhdepottheatre.org](http://www.lhdepottheatre.org). The La Habra Depot Theatre is at 311 S. Euclid St. in La Habra.



Charlotte Carpenter returns for a fifth time to star as Dorothy Brock in the Downey Civic Light Opera’s production of “42nd Street,” opening May 28 at the Downey Theatre. Carpenter was previously cast as Adelaide in “Guys and Dolls,” Sally Bowles in “Cabaret,” Nancy in “Oliver,” and Anna Held in “Tintypes.” For tickets and information on “42nd Street,” call (562) 923-1714.

## ‘Mega Mixer’ at Cerritos College

**NORWALK** – Cerritos College will host their 13th annual Chamber Mega Mixer on April 21 from 5-7:30 p.m. in their Student Center.

The event is free and will include 50/50 drawings, door prizes, and networking opportunities.

For more information, call (562) 860-2451, ext. 2798.

## ‘Is He Dead?’ making premiere

**LONG BEACH** – The West Coast premiere of “Is He Dead?,” a newly-discovered comedy by American humorist Mark Twain, opens for a special preview performance April 28 at the Long Beach Performing Arts Center in Long Beach.

Tickets range between \$29-\$60 and are available by calling (562) 436-4610 or online at [www.ictlongbeach.org](http://www.ictlongbeach.org).

## Casino night tickets on sale

**DOWNEY** – Soroptimist International of Downey invites the community to “A Night at the Copacabana Casino” on April 17 at the Rio Hondo Event Center.

The event begins at 6:30 p.m. and will feature live music with a DJ, \$100 in scripts, silent auction, 50/50 drawings, and more.

Pre-sale tickets are \$40 and available now. For tickets, contact Dorothy Pemberton at (562) 927-9908 or Monica Goel at [mgoel@tldlaw.com](mailto:mgoel@tldlaw.com).

All money raised will go to local high school scholarship winners.

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**THE HAUNTING IN CONNECTICUT** (12:10, 2:35, 5:00, 7:35, 10:05)

**★ MONSTERS VS. ALIENS 3D** (11:00, 11:45, 1:30, 2:15, 4:00, 4:45), 6:30, 7:15, 9:00, 9:45

**KNOWING** (11:05, 1:55, 4:55), 7:50, 10:35; **Mon to Thur:** (11:05, 1:55, 4:55), 7:50

Times for Friday-Thursday, April 10-16, 2009

Bargain Matinee ( ) Advance ticket sales  
Special Engagement/No Passes \* [www.kptmovies.com](http://www.kptmovies.com)

## Community Calendar

[www.allaboutdowney.com](http://www.allaboutdowney.com)

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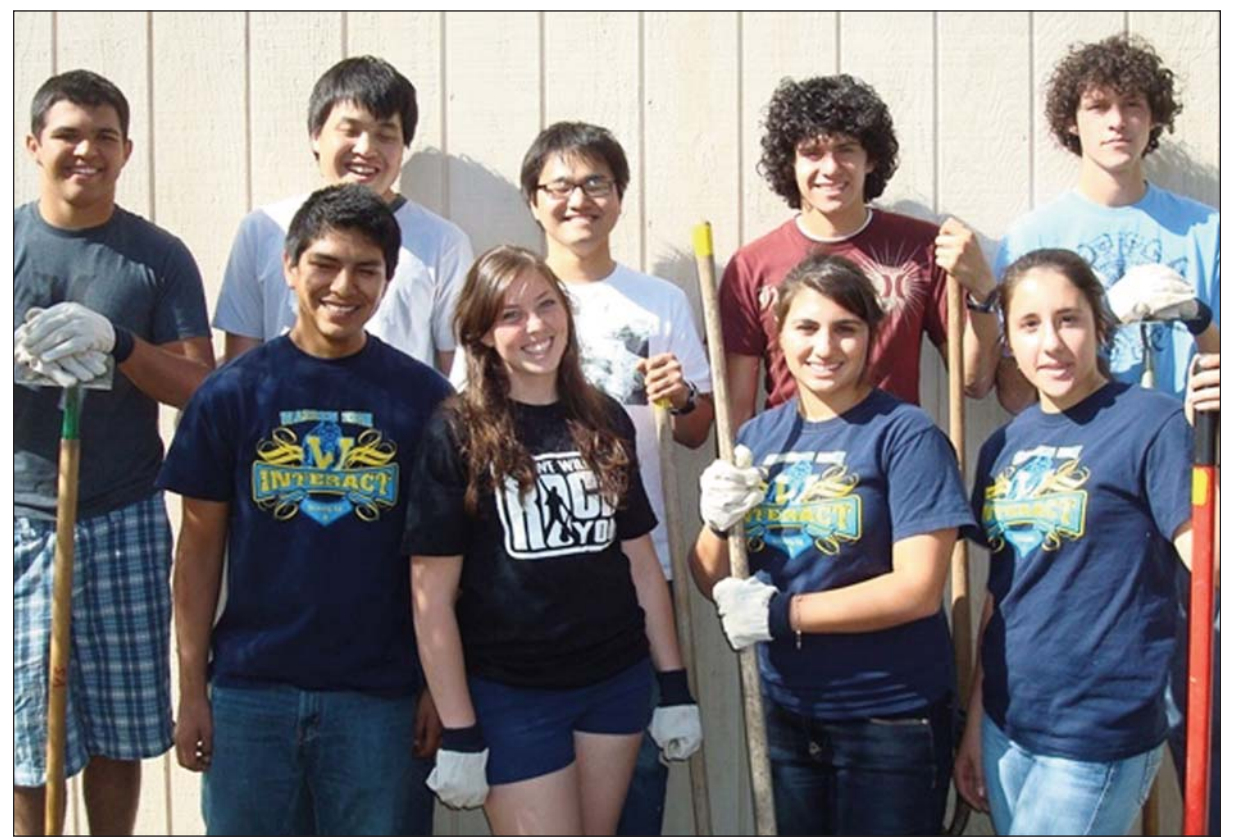
<p><b>Carrie Uva</b>                  "Let's Talk Real Estate &amp; Law Too!"  <b>562-382-1252</b>  <a href="http://www.CarrieUva.com">www.CarrieUva.com</a></p>	<p><b>Jason Lockwood</b>                  "Experience the 24 Hour Difference!"  <b>562-619-2979</b>  <a href="mailto:Jason@Prudential24Hours.com">Jason@Prudential24Hours.com</a></p>	<p><b>Mario Persico</b>                  "Mario Did it AGAIN!"  <b>562-533-7433</b>  <a href="http://www.MarioPersico.com">www.MarioPersico.com</a></p>
<p><b>OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS!</b>                  Charming Duplex in Downey w/ 2 BD, 2 BA &amp; other unit 1 BD &amp; 1 BA                  Price: \$409,900                  Call Carrie @ 562-382-1252</p>	<p><b>INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY IN DOWNEY!</b>                  29 office suite, 48 parking spaces, 30,052 sq. ft. lot                  Priced at: \$1,599,999                  Call Jason Lockwood 562-619-2979</p>	<p><b>HUGE 14,000 SQ. FT. LOT</b>                  Amazing remodeled in 2008, top of the line everything, nearly 2800 sq. ft. home.                  Call Mario for a private showing 562-533-7433</p>
<p><b>ACT FAST!</b>  <b>ENTERTAINERS DELIGHT</b>                  Super nice 3 BD, 3 BA home with large lot, pool &amp; basketball/handball court. Must See! Priced at \$498,000                  Call Carrie @ 562-382-1252</p>	<p><b>CALL NOW!</b>  <b>THE PRICE IS RIGHT!</b>                  2 BD, 1 BA, living room w/ fireplace, on a 3,700 sq. ft. lot. A MUST SEE!                  Call Jason Lockwood 562-619-2979</p>	<p><b>LEISURE WORLD!</b>  <b>BIG PRICE REDUCTION!!</b>                  Stunning remodeled 2 BD, 2 BA. Great floor plan, PERFECT LOCATION!! Seller wants it "SOLD" make offer!                  Call Mario for NEW PRICE @ 562 533-7433</p>
<p><b>IN ESCROW!</b>  <b>A SMART BUY!</b>                  3 BD, 2 BA home in Downey w/ living room, fireplace, nice back yard &amp; freshly painted! Price \$349,900                  Call Carrie @ 562-382-1252</p>	<p><b>JUST LISTED</b>  <b>READY TO MOVE IN!</b>                  2 BD + Bonus room, 1 BA, updated kitchen, spacious living room.                  Call Russell Skersick (562) 619-8280</p>	<p><b>IN ESCROW</b>  <b>SPLISH SPLASH IN CHEROKEE ESTATES!</b>                  Gorgeous 4 BD, 3 BA, 2,300 sq. ft. on a 9,600 sq. ft. lot. Entertainer's Delight! MUST SEE!                  Call Mario for a private showing 562-533-7433</p>
<p><b>FOR RENT!</b>  <b>A SMART BUY!</b>                  3 BD, 1 BA home in N. Downey.                  \$2,000 a month                  Call Carrie for Info 562-382-1252</p>	<p><b>JUST LISTED</b>  <b>SUPER DEAL!</b>                  Custom built home features 2,899 sq. ft. large family room &amp; huge 1,0480 lot! ONLY \$599,999!                  Call Marie Picarelli (562) 618-0033</p>	<p><b>IN ESCROW</b>  <b>AND HE DID IT AGAIN...</b>  <b>BANK OWNED HOUSE IN DOWNEY</b>                  2 BD, 1 BA, approx. 900 sq. ft., 7,500 sq. ft. lot. 2 car garage                  I CAN SELL YOURS TOO!!</p>
<p><b>AVOID PROBATE!</b>                  • Living Trusts                  • Wills                  Make Your Living Trust!!!                  CALL CARRIE TODAY!                  (562) 382-1252</p>	<p><b>SUPER BUY!</b>  <b>MOBILE HOME + LAND</b>                  2 BD, 2 BA in Moreno Valley. Call for More Details PRICE: \$399,000                  Call Mary Jane Lee 562-618-0390</p>	<p><b>AND HE DID IT AGAIN...</b>  <b>SOLD!</b>  <b>ATTENTION INVESTORS...</b>                  3 BD, 2 BA, 1,300 sq. ft., 8,500+ lot, NW Downey, needs major rehab                  Call Mario for details 562-533-7433                  SOLD! SOLD! SOLD!</p>

Visit us at: [www.Prudential24Hours.com](http://www.Prudential24Hours.com) (562) 861-7257

**MICHAEL BERDELIS**  
 "The 24 Hour Agent"  
 (562) 818-6111  
 Once again, Downey's #1 agent, 6 years and running!  
 48 homes sold in 2008!  
[www.MichaelBerdelis.com](http://www.MichaelBerdelis.com)

<p><b>JUST LISTED</b>  <b>A Real Charmer!</b>                  3BD, 3BA, over 3,000 sq. ft. on 10,000 sq. ft. lot, w/ many upgrades!                  Price: \$795,000                  Call Michael Berdelis at (562) 818-6111</p>	<p><b>JUST REDUCED</b>  <b>Centrally Located!</b>                  3 BD, 2 BA North Downey home, 1539 sq ft living space, 6360 sq ft lot, 2 car det garage.                  Price: \$359,900                  Virtual tour at <a href="http://www.MichaelBerdelis.com">www.MichaelBerdelis.com</a></p>	<p><b>JUST REDUCED</b>  <b>A Real Steal!</b>                  5 BD + office, 4 BA, master suite w/ fireplace, 3,750 sq ft, 6,480 sq ft lot.                  Price: \$849,000!                  Call Michael Berdelis at (562) 818-6111</p>
<p><b>NE Downey Home!</b>                  3 BD, 2.5 BA, 2587 sq ft, large master bedroom, new roof, 3 car garage, 10,005 sq ft lot.                  Priced right @ \$769,950                  Call Michael Berdelis at (562) 818-6111</p>	<p><b>Cherokee Estates Charmer!</b>                  4BD, 2.75 BA, N. Downey Home w/ spacious family rm, updated kitchen w/ newer appliances &amp; granite counters, pool size yard, 9900 sq ft. lot, and a master bedroom.                  Priced at: \$649,000                  Call Michael Berdelis at (562) 818-6111</p>	<p><b>JUST REDUCED</b>  <b>A-1 Neighborhood</b>                  NE Downey 5 BD, 4 BA home w/ entertaining floorplan, 3240 sf, large master suite, oversized 3 car gar w/ workshop, many great amenities, &amp; large yard with pool/spa.                  Price: \$945,000                  Call Michael Berdelis at (562) 818-6111</p>
<p><b>Home Sweet Home!</b>                  3BD, 2BA, including a master bedroom w/ large bathroom, 1,603 sq ft, 6,230 sq ft. lot size, hardwood floors, pool, and patio.                  Price: \$549,900                  Call Michael Berdelis at (562) 818-6111</p>	<p><b>BACK ON MARKET</b>  <b>Paradise Found!</b>                  Wonderful 5BR, 4.5 BA home, including a master suite with too many amenities to list, family room w/ fireplace, a loft/family room, and more!                  Call for price!                  Call Michael Berdelis at (562) 818-6111</p>	<p><b>JUST REDUCED</b>  <b>Close Out Pricing!</b>                  6 BR, 6 BA, 5500 sq ft living space, 7,590 sq ft lot size, built-in BBQ, located in Northeast Downey near schools!                  Price: \$999,900                  Virtual tour at <a href="http://www.MichaelBerdelis.com">www.MichaelBerdelis.com</a></p>

View these homes at: [www.MichaelBerdelis.com](http://www.MichaelBerdelis.com)



About 20 students from Warren High School's Interact Club rolled up their sleeves and recently helped the TLC Family Resource Center spruce up their site with some spring gardening. "The TLC Center could use a little TLC," Luz Perez, coordinator of the center, said before the students arrived. "Warren's Interact Club showed that they care about their community and that character counts!"



The Women's Guild of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church recently honored its past presidents at their St. Patrick's Day luncheon at the Rio Hondo Event Center. The Guild was founded in 1951 and, 52 presidents later, is still going strong. Standing above, left to right: Christine Pohlen, Sheila Peck, Jean Brazleton, Nora Szechy, Karol Morrison, Judy Commodore, Polly Glenn, Stella Derry, Rosemary Meyer and Joyce Prokop. Sitting: Georgia Higson, Greta Bowermaster, Marie Lindsay, Maria Larkin, Martha Krolkowski, Agnes Donahue and Phyllis Gillespie.

**Mother's Day is May 10!!!**

Send a message in The Downey Patriot!

The Downey Patriot will publish a special section dedicated to Mother's Day. For only \$25.00, you can honor your mother, grandmother or that someone special with a 1.986" by 3" announcement.

Deadline for announcements is May 4 and will be published on May 8, 2009.

Include the following information:

- ✓ Completed Information Card
- ✓ Photo
  - By Mail - photo must be 2" x 3"
  - By EMail - photo must be 300 dpi (DowneyPatriot@yahoo.com)
- ✓ Check payable to The Downey Patriot

Send to:  
 The Downey Patriot, 8301 E. Florence Ave., Suite 100, Downey, CA 90240

**The Downey Patriot**  
 8301 E. Florence Avenue, Suite 100, Downey, CA 90240  
 Line = approximately 20 to 23 characters including spaces and punctuation

Line 1 (Mother's Name) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Line 2 (Your message here) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Line 3 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Line 4 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Line 5 \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Information  
 Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Please call The Downey Patriot with any questions regarding your announcement. Phone (562)904-3668