

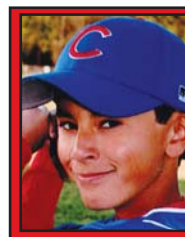
# The Downey Patriot



**Students chosen for Girls State**  
See Page 4



**Golf Club winners**  
See Page 12

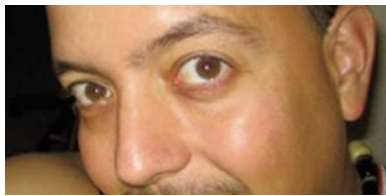


**Keep an eye on this kid**  
See Page 12

Friday, May 29, 2009

Vol. 8 No. 6

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



**George Pajon Jr. is only moving forward**

BY ERIC PIERCE, CITY EDITOR

Some could make the argument that George Pajon Jr. has led a very unrock and roll life.

Pajon, lead guitarist for the Black Eyed Peas, attended private St. Matthias Elementary School, a Catholic K-8 school in Huntington Park with a total enrollment of 248 students (or about the size of one P.E. class in any public high school).

He's a self-admitted computer junkie capable of tearing down your PC and then piecing it back together. And, Pajon says, he didn't have many friends growing up. Except one.

"The guitar was my best friend," he easily admits. "I still feel that way. When I see a guitar across the room, it calls my name."

Pajon denies he has a passion for the guitar.

"Obsession would be a more appropriate term," he says.

Pajon has spent a lifetime nurturing that obsession, literally chasing his dreams to the farthest reaches of the world.

Growing up in conservative Downey, Pajon was 9 when he picked up his first guitar. He taught himself chords and showed enough promise that his mother enrolled him in a local music school.

He didn't last long at the school, but not because he wasn't a good student.

"One day the teacher called me and said, 'I can no longer take your money,'" recalls Estrella Pajon, George's mother, whose family has lived in Downey 35 years. "I asked why and he said, 'There's nothing more I can teach him. He knows more than I do.'"

Pajon, 40, spent much of his youth locked in his bedroom, headphones strapped to his ears. He listened to Iron Maiden, Black Sabbath, and tried to emulate their sounds on a guitar given to him by his parents.

His taste soon evolved — if you can call it that — to glam metal bands like Poison. It wasn't until a sympathetic uncle with an ear for good music stepped in and "took it all away," replacing Pajon's uninspired record collection with the classic works of Led Zeppelin, Santana, The Who and Jimi Hendrix.

"When I was growing up, that was voodoo," Pajon says. "Those were considered oldies at the time. But I was instantly hooked."

After eighth grade, Pajon enrolled at Don Bosco Tech in

See PAJON page 2



Four Downey police officers were honored at Tuesday's City Council meeting with the California Highway Patrol's 10851 Award for their success in recovering stolen vehicles (10851 is the penal code referring to grand theft auto). Honored were Cpl. Kevin Kendall (12 recovered vehicles last year), Officer Todd Lockwood (12 vehicles), Officer Noah Nagel (12 vehicles) and Cpl. Jason Klevos (13). This is Klevos' sixth 10851 Award. From left: Downey Police Chief Roy Campos, Mayor Mario Guerra, Kendall, Klevos, Lockwood, Nagel and Capt. Dan Minor of the CHP, who presented the awards. Photo by Art Montoya



The Downey Coordinating Council, above, honored 27 community volunteers last week, thanking them for their service to the community. Photo courtesy Lois Buchanan

## Volunteers shown value of work

BY HENRY VENERACION, STAFF WRITER

The Downey Coordinating Council (DCC) saluted 27 "outstanding" community volunteers for the year 2008-09 at its 55th annual Community Service Awards and Installation Dinner on Thursday last week.

First to get her plaque was American Association of University Women's Marilyn Thomas, who retired from the Los Angeles Unified School District as an elementary school principal after 41 years of service. She was cited for her "leadership and dedicated service to [the Downey] branch."

A 35-year Downey resident who "enjoys gardening and antiquing with her daughter," Thomas to her peers "generously donates her centerpieces for our monthly meetings, which are used to raise money for our scholarship program." She is an active member of Delta Kappa Gamma Society International and the Downey Rose Float Association.

Deborah Massaglia of the Assistance League of Downey was recognized for her work as president of the Roxanna Todd Hodges Foundation which she helped develop and whose day-to-day operations she runs. A member of the Gypsy Johnson Auxiliary for 14 years, she has served as its chairman and is currently the Assistsens coordinator. Active on

the stroke awareness front (she began working with the Stroke Association of Southern California in 1996), she has been a recipient of the Woman of Distinction Award from the Soroptimist.

The Catholic Women's Guild's pick this year was Sally Johnson, who early on got involved with The Parents Adoption League after she and husband Bill adopted two boys. Her current focus is on the Ladies of Charity as representative for the San Pedro area and on the Skidrow Sandwich Program, as well as the Guild, where she serves as refreshments and decorations chair. She is known for doing everything "with love and expertise," and her peers extol her for her "devotion and dedication."

Alta Morelli, representing the Christian Women's Club of Downey, has said she finds it "extremely wonderful" to work for the club. She joined it in the early '80s, holding several positions over the years, including club chairperson. She currently serves as Bible coffee coordinator and Bible Study guide.

The Downey Chamber of Commerce's president, Rick Rodriguez, was also the chamber's selection as outstanding volunteer. Currently serving on its Business Watch and now in his third year as chairman of the Street Faire Committee, he has served on the Holiday Lane Parade Committee.

His nomination attests to his "genuine enthusiasm for the chamber and volunteering," his frequent

travel around the nation on business as president of RMI International, Inc. notwithstanding.

Joanna Shull's 12 plus years of "sharing her time and the gift of reading by delivering books to individuals who otherwise would not have access to the library" as a "Book on Wheels" (a partnership with the Assistance League of Downey) volunteer was the main reason why she has endeared herself as a member of the Downey City Library's volunteer corps. Otherwise, in the same breath, she is also mentioned as having "given a lifetime of service to Downey."

The Downey Coordinating Council's Mary Guzman is this year's DCC choice as its outstanding volunteer for her work with the Downey Emblem Club (serving twice as its president "over many years of service") and Arc of Southeast Los Angeles County. It says here "she is much loved by everyone" in the Downey Coordinating Council because aside from helping buy supplies, she takes care of the coffee for every DCC meeting.

Marge Lewis, a familiar figure in the Assistance League of Downey and the Symphony Guild, has been volunteering with DCC since 1990 (serving as its president from 1992 to 1994) while also finding time to get involved with PTA Helps. She was PTA Helps' volunteer of the year selection.

See VOLUNTEERS, page 11

## City agrees to pay for July 4 fireworks show

City will seek sponsorships to help offset \$50K cost. Fireworks show and accompanying festival are free.

BY ERIC PIERCE, CITY EDITOR

**DOWNEY** — This July 4, Downey residents will have an opportunity to celebrate the birth of our nation while staying safe and perhaps saving money.

A mostly apprehensive City Council agreed Tuesday to sponsor a Fourth of July fireworks show and festival at the Discovery Sports Complex.

The vote was 4-1, with Mayor Pro Tem Anne Bayer dissenting due to the event's \$50,000 price tag.

Mayor Mario Guerra, who introduced the idea of a city-sponsored fireworks display two weeks ago, said a community event like this could help prevent house fires and burn injuries.

Calls for emergency services, which normally spike July 4, could also be reduced, he said.

"If [the fireworks show] saves one fire, if it saves one boy from burning his hand, what's that worth?" Guerra said.

Councilmen David Gafin and Roger Brossmer said they wouldn't normally support spending \$50,000 on a fireworks display, but made an exception because the event would also serve as the grand opening of the Discovery Sports Complex, Downey's first park in 35 years.

Councilman Luis Marquez also supported the show, on the caveat that city staff "aggressively pursue sponsorships."

The Optimist Club of Downey has already committed \$1,000 in donations, said Mark Sauter, deputy city manager of emergency preparedness. Other service organizations and businesses also seemed willing to contribute, he said.

Bayer cast the lone dissenting vote.

"I like parties, but \$50,000 is a

### Fireworks Show

When: July 4. Festivities begin at 10 a.m., fireworks display at 9 p.m.

Where: Discovery Sports Complex, 12400 Clark Ave.

Cost: Free

little exorbitant for a party," she said.

Bayer also questioned whether the city had adequate time to coordinate such a large event on relatively short notice.

The daylong festival will include food and game booths, athletic competitions by youth sports teams, family entertainment and music, and a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new park. The event will culminate with the fireworks display at 9 p.m.

The festival and fireworks display are free.

### Cost breakdown

The city will pay \$30,000 to Pyro Spectacular for a 25-minute fireworks display. Based in Rialto, Pyro Spectacular provided fireworks for the 2004 Summer Olympics in Athens and the 2002 Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City, Utah.

They are also the company that provides fireworks for Disneyland and Knott's Berry Farm.

The rest of the costs include \$8,000 for Community Services staffing; \$3,500 for booths, games and activities; \$2,000 for police staffing; \$1,500 for fire department staffing; \$1,500 for Physical Services staffing; \$1,500 for sanitation services; \$1,000 for a cooling facility; and \$1,000 for a sound system.

The festival will be a daylong event, free to the community. The 11-acre Discovery Sports Complex is at 12400 Clark Ave., behind

See FIREWORKS, page 2

## City to crack down on illegal signs

BY ERIC PIERCE, CITY EDITOR

**DOWNEY** — Code enforcement officers will begin systematically moving throughout the city to push for compliance from Downey businesses that are illegally displaying temporary outdoor signs, according to a report filed by the City Council this week.

During a recent survey of Paramount Boulevard, code enforcement officers found more than 500 temporary signs. Meanwhile, only 20 temporary sign permits had been issued city-wide, Police Chief Roy Campos wrote in the report.

Temporary signs and advertisements, including open house signs

popularly used by real estate agents, are illegal when placed on sidewalks and public right-of-ways.

Code enforcement officers will canvass the city and direct offending businesses to remove their signs. With only six code enforcement officers on staff, the task will be difficult, Campos said.

"Assuming Paramount Boulevard is a representative sample of the temporary sign issue citywide, the magnitude of the challenge is significant," Campos wrote.

A letter was recently sent to local business owners reminding them of permit requirements for temporary signs, Campos wrote.



## Pajon: Co-wrote hit singles 'Where is the Love' and 'Let's Get it Started.'

Continued from page 1

Rosemead. He played his first concert there, a cover of a few Hendrix songs.

"That was it. I knew that was what I wanted to do for the rest of my life."

The daily commute to Don Bosco took its toll, however, and as Estrella Pajon remembers it, her son asked to transfer to Downey High School. He played his second concert in the school's cafeteria. He worked hard to collect enough credits so that by his senior year he only needed to attend half a day's worth of classes, leaving more time for his guitar. Pajon graduated in 1987.

"In my family, it was really simple: if you go to college, you're taken care of," says Pajon, who has a younger sister, Elizabeth, an elementary school

teacher. "If you don't, you're on your own. I went to Cerritos College for one year and decided it wasn't for me."

After a lengthy talk, Estrella and her husband, George Sr., put their faith — and money — in their son. George Pajon Jr. would have to find a job to pay his own medical and car insurance, but the money his parents would have used to pay his college tuition they instead used to help him live his dream.

Pajon steadily worked gig after gig, including famed Hollywood nightclubs. He frequently changed bands, a result of his drive for progress and rejection of complacency.

"There were a lot of painful, lonely years, but that drive was always the core of who I was," Pajon says. "My drive was based on purity, based on heart, based

### Tips for aspiring musicians?

We asked George Pajon Jr. to provide tips for aspiring musicians. His advice:

"There are 20,000 guitar players in Downey alone. What makes you special from the guy next to you? Passion, determination is what sets you aside.

"Set goals, never go backwards. When you do, stop yourself and reevaluate. I frustrated the hell out of every band I was in. I wasn't going to flounder. Becoming content is the enemy of musicians. You'll never find your true voice if you don't challenge yourself."

on passion. Nothing could stop that."

The elusive big break came in 1998. Pajon was working a computer job at Universal Studios; at the time, he was responsible for switching over 5,000 computers from Windows 95 to Windows 98.

"My friend handed over the first Black Eyed Peas album," Pajon remembers. "My band at the time sounded just like them."

The Peas, who were searching for a guitarist and keyboardist, saw Pajon perform and invited him and his friend to audition. They landed the gig.

In October, 1998, Pajon went on his first tour. A European tour.

"From 1998 to 2003, everybody was broke," Pajon says, shedding light on a musician's sometimes exaggerated life on the road. "There were 14 of us on the bus. Everybody was swapping money, trying to pay our rent."

Despite the Peas' critical acclaim, Pajon says he made very little money on tour.

"We were only getting enough to eat and survive. That doesn't last long when you come back — even if you record a No. 1 song, you really have to work."

In fact, soon after finishing work on "Elephunk," the Peas' third studio album in which Pajon helped write the chart-toppers "Where is the Love" and "Let's Get It Started," Pajon found himself collecting state unemployment. He was down to his last unemployment check in 2003 when he received the welcome news that the Peas were going on tour with Justin Timberlake.

"The first month of the tour was absolute murder," Pajon recalls. The Peas played three shows a day: one at 5 a.m., the concert at 5 p.m., followed by a nightclub performance.

Why would an established group such as the Black Eyed Peas spread themselves so thin? From an outsider's perspective, it hardly seems necessary.

"I think there was a little bit of fear there," Pajon says. "We saw that a lot of our friends were not making it. We've seen one-hit wonders spend millions of dollars on tours — laser shows during their concerts, pyrotechnics — and come back broke."

Today, Pajon speaks with a certain easiness. Perhaps it's because the Peas' latest single, "Boom Boom Pow," is dominating airwaves and has spent eight consecutive weeks on top of the Billboard Hot 100. (And the album won't even be released for another two weeks.) Or maybe it's because his schedule for the next nine months is booked solid, with another Peas tour — aptly named The Energy Never Dies Tour — set to depart soon, and Pajon preparing to start work on Fergie's latest album.

Still another reason for his relaxed tone: he recently married his girlfriend, Naomi.

Naomi is from Denver. She's an avid Denver Nuggets fan. Pajon is a "huge" Lakers fan.

How does that work for marital bliss?

"Being competitive is very healthy," Pajon says wryly. "I admire her obsession."

As for coming back home, Pajon, who lives in Burbank, says "I would love to come back to Downey, to be closer with my family. But I can't deal with that 5 Freeway."



A charity softball tournament to raise money for the TLC Center will be held tomorrow at Downey Adult School. Games begin at 9:30 a.m. and the community is invited. The TLC Center provides crucial services to needy families, including healthcare, health insurance, and even housing.

## Softball games tomorrow for TLC

**DOWNEY** — The first annual TLC Softball Tournament will be held tomorrow on the Downey Adult School fields.

All proceeds will benefit the True Lasting Connection Family Resource Center, a non-profit organization which has seen a recent decline in donations and grants.

Teams from Downey Kiwanis, Downey Rotary, Warren High School and Downey High School have agreed to participate in the event. Teams paid a \$650 entry fee to participate.

TLC provides a litany of free services to needy Downey families, including healthcare and low-cost health insurance. They also offer

referrals.

"In these challenging economic times, these services become even more critical," said Kiwanis club member Fernando Vasquez, who helped organize the event. "This team effort helps further a mission we all share, supporting social programs that help Downey children and their families, while raising awareness for those affected during these difficult moments."

Free food and water (courtesy of the Municipal Water District) will be available for those in attendance. The community is invited to attend.

The first round of games begins at 9:30 a.m. Winners will be announced at 2:30 p.m.

## Fireworks: Residents a little skeptical.

Continued from page 1

the Columbia Memorial Space Center.

**Community input**  
Speaking at Tuesday's City Council meeting, Downey residents expressed mixed feelings on the event.

Resident Chuck Anna had fond memories of Warren High School's Fourth of July carnival and fireworks show, but said \$50,000 "seems a bit extravagant."

"Fifty-thousand dollars is a drop in the bucket, but the bucket's getting kind of empty," he said.

John Lacy, a "fiscal conservative" by his own admission, noted the turmoil currently plaguing local, state and federal economies.

"I would cast a no vote," he said.

Finally, Richard Pridham questioned just how "green" a fireworks show could be. The city established a Green Task Force last month.



Black Eyed Peas guitarist George Pajon, Jr. wed Naomi C. Medina on February 15th at the Occidental Grand Xcaret in Playa del Carmen, Mexico. More than 150 guests attended, including Fergie and her husband Josh Duhamel (pictured above right).

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## Downey High enshrines 4 into Hall of Fame

■ New inductees work in varying industries, but all share one common trait: success.

By HENRY VENERACION,  
STAFF WRITER

**DOWNEY** – Four distinguished Downey High School alumni, including a posthumous honoree, were inducted last Friday (May 22) into the school's Hall of Fame, joining such well-known previous inductees as Robert Ballard ('60), Richard and Karen Carpenter ('64 and '67), and Jack Kyser ('51).

This year's crop: Ginger Allen-Schager ('89), morning anchor and special projects reporter for CBS Dallas/Fort Worth; Harry Gifford ('45), a retired civic/community leader after whom a Boy Scout camp in Holcomb Valley was named; Richard Trank ('72), Academy Award winning Hollywood producer and director; and Francois Dion (Bud) Uzes ('51), a noted land surveyor, consultant, speaker and author who died last year.

Admitting to periodic twinges of nostalgia for Downey, the inductees said they were awed by the changes they saw at the school, beginning with the just-completed state-of-the-art 235-seat auditorium where the ceremony took place and attended by family and friends as well as a sprinkling of former inductees.

In terms of time between graduation years, 44 years separate the youngest (Allen-Schager) from the oldest (Gifford), but the emotions they felt were the same: each of them said they were glad to be back

in the city that evoked many fond memories and that they wouldn't have missed the ceremony for all the world.

They literally came from all over, the blonde and vivacious Allen-Schager flying in from Dallas with her smiling husband and their two kids, the stylishly-maned Trank motoring from Santa Monica, Gifford leaning on close friend and former classmate Monty Montgomery to drive him over from Sun City (another close friend, Dick Thompson, arrived later to cheer him), and Uzes's widow (Judy) and son (Ron) coming all the way from Northern California.

Each received resounding applause, a commemorative plaque and a distinctive quilt with the DHS emblem. Honorees are chosen for their contributions or achievements in one or more of six specific or related categories: arts, athletics, business, education, civic/community/government and professional.

According to his bio, Uzes, honored for his work in the business/professional areas, entered Caltech after his graduation from DHS in 1951 but had to leave during his freshman year when his dad died. He worked to help the family and attended Pasadena City College, taking drafting and surveying courses. In 1954 he was hired to do field surveying and mapping for the California State Lands Commission, rising after 20 years or so later to head its

Boundary Determination Section while directing a staff of up to 63. He was to spend 33 years with the State Lands Commission after which he opened his consulting firm, Boundaries Unlimited, and wrote three books on surveying.

He meanwhile made "exciting discoveries in Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Sudan and New Mexico, Arizona and the Sierra Nevada Mountains" during his many trips. His collections of historical survey instruments and books have been shown in museums throughout California. Presenter was 2004 Hall of Fame inductee Kirk Cartozian ('91), a Berkeley alum.

Gifford, recognized for his "many hours of work and commitment to kids and the civic/community" area, counts among his many honors and awards the following: the Kiwanis International George F. Hixson Award (the highest honor Kiwanis bestows), the Outstanding Man of the Year/Distinguished Service Award of the Lancaster Chamber of Commerce, the Outstanding Service Award presented by Cerebral Palsy, and the aforementioned Boy Scout camp named in his honor.

He acknowledged that his stint as DHS Student Body president was good preparation for his later taking the helm of Little League, Old Baldy Boy Scout Council, Claremont Kiwanis, the Sun City West Kiwanis Foundation, Fallbrook Presbyterian Church, many GTE clubs, the Independent Pioneers Association, and countless others.

Trank, chosen for his award-winning ways in the arts, won Academy Awards in 1997 for his

feature documentary, "The Long Way Home," narrated by Morgan Freeman; and "Echoes That Remain," "Liberation," and "Search of Peace, Part I: 1948 to 1967," in other years. He also directed "I Have Never Forgotten You," which took a comprehensive look at the life and legacy of Simon Wiesenthal, narrated by Academy Award-winning Nicole Kidman; produced and directed "Ever Again," narrated by Kevin Costner, another Academy Award winner; wrote and directed "Unlikely Heroes," narrated by Sir Ben Kingsley—all dealing with Jewish themes.

First coming to the Wiesenthal Center in 1981 to create and produce its weekly news radio magazine Page One, he produced radio news and public affairs programming throughout the '80s. Apprised of the "vibrant" arts environment in the community and witnessing first-hand proven artistic talent at DHS (the overachieving Viking Jazz Choir performed at the ceremony), Trank said: "The arts are very important to our lives. Keep up the great work you're doing here."

Allen-Schager, her distinction occurring in the professional category, began her career at KCBS-TV in Los Angeles as a researcher and also worked at KMIR-TV in Palm Springs. She has covered news in North Texas as a general assignment reporter, investigator and anchor since 1999. She worked previously in Cincinnati, Bakersfield, and traveled all over the country while with former employer NBC News Channel covering major stories for NBC affiliates.

## Downey Relay for Life scheduled June 6-7

**DOWNEY** – Residents are encouraged to help make a difference in the fight against cancer by participating in the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life scheduled June 6-7 at Downey Adult School.

More than 600 Downey residents are expected to take turns walking or running around a track to raise money for cancer research, community education, legislative advocacy and patient service programs.

The relay continues for 24 hours, beginning at 9 a.m. Local cancer survivors are also invited to a survivor's breakfast June 2. For more information on the breakfast or Relay for Life, call the Downey Rio Hondo Unit at (562) 776-0201.

Donations may also be submitted online at [relayforlife.org/downeyca](http://relayforlife.org/downeyca).

## Greek Festival returning for 25th year

**DOWNEY** – The 25th annual Downey Greek Festival will take place June 6-7 at St. George Greek Orthodox Church, 10830 Downey Ave.

An annual community event, the festival features live Greek music, folk dancing by award-winning dance groups, tours of the 6th Century Byzantine-style sanctuary, and authentic Greek food, including souvlakia, gyros and traditional rotisserie lamb.

There will also be a children's area. The festival is open both days from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Admission is \$2 but seniors and children under 12 are free.

For more information, call the church office at (562) 862-6461.



### Doris Wagner

August 8, 1920 - May 10, 2009

Doris Wagner, a resident of Downey for 50 years, passed away on May 10, 2009. She was 88 years old and the daughter of Roscoe and Vera Sewell of Sabina, Ohio. Her sister, Helen Bottenfield, bore Doris' cherished niece, Linda McCann of Rockford, Ohio.

Doris and her husband, Bob were married for 63 years until his death in 2001. Together, they traveled the world, always finding new adventures (especially when they got lost in foreign countries).

Doris is survived by her son, Don Wagner and his wife Susan, of Tustin, her daughter, Janice Emery of Seal Beach, grandchildren, Jaime Emery, Erica Wagner-Cruz and Matt Wagner as well as Erin Houston and Alex Mate. She had four great grandchildren: Bryan and Timothy Wagner, and Michael and Miranda Cruz, all of whom brought her great joy.

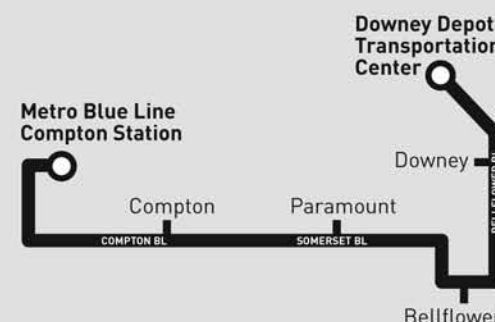
She lived for her family and we lived for her.



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## Council asks for project updates

BY ERIC PIERCE,  
CITY EDITOR

**DOWNEY** – Council members had a busy two weeks, judging from comments made during Tuesday's City Council meeting.

Councilman Luis Marquez said he attended a Contract Cities meeting at Indian Wells with Councilman Roger Brossmer and Mayor Mario Guerra. Marquez said he had a chance to meet with County Supervisor Don Knabe and discuss local issues, including Treasure Island Park.

Marquez, Brossmer and Guerra also attended a conference of the International Council of Shopping Centers (ICSC), where they networked and met with potential developers.

While contemplating adding an additional 400 square feet to his home, Marquez discovered that current zoning laws would require him to also install a two-car garage. Marquez asked that the code, par-

ticularly when applied to smaller homes, be revisited in the future.

**Brossmer**

Brossmer attended a Public Works breakfast and also helped recognize resident Cleo Latimer with an "Older American" award. He also attended a Downey Coordinating Council event, a Columbia Memorial Space Center and Discovery Sports Complex subcommittee meeting, and the Arc/Rotary Fishing Derby at Wilderness Park.

Brossmer also reminded the audience of yesterday's Family Fun Night at Downey High School, thanked the local media for articles detailing the city's new banner program recognizing local veterans, announced the dates for the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life (June 6-7), and invited the community to tomorrow's inaugural softball tournament at Downey Adult School with funds benefiting the TLC Center.

Brossmer also called last month's Dine in Downey program

successful, and reported that the Philly's Best restaurant collected more than 25 coupons, half of which came from new customers. Brossmer said he wanted the program to return next year.

Finally, Brossmer asked for an update on lights for Treasure Island Park and recommended protecting the new park from the damage caused by pickup soccer games.

**Bayer**

Mayor Pro Tem Anne Bayer said she received a report from Robert Rubio, her appointee to the city's Green Task Force, and was impressed. She also asked that city staff find out how much paper is recycled at City Hall and the police department.

**Gafin**

Gafin also attended the Coordinating Council awards event, and helped flip pancakes at the Public Works breakfast.

He reminded the audience that "42nd Street" opens this weekend, and the Greek Festival takes place June 6-7.

Gafin also asked for an update on a traffic-calming initiative he helped spearhead last year.

**Guerra**

Guerra said he attended two neighborhood watch meetings (there are now 39 watch groups citywide). He spoke of meeting a World War I veteran at the Memorial Day ceremony that took place at Downey Cemetery. The vet, Ken Drake, was the oldest surviving veteran in attendance and has been married 71 years.

Guerra thanked members of the Downey Fire Department who recently traveled to Zacatecas, Mexico to help train their fire personnel. He also reminded the community that the second meeting of the Green Task Force will be held next week at the Coca-Cola Bottling Plant.

The entire City Council attended Monday's Memorial Day commemoration at the Downey Cemetery as well as the Coordinating Council awards event.

## POET'S CORNER

### Machines Travel

#### Windward

why walk when John ran?  
work became no more than a scan  
and stacked done before it began  
John was a working man  
careless to the thought  
and less than ought  
No matter how long he  
fought John never got  
exactly what he sought  
Hard work came hard work  
would boil Never did John go  
and toil He thought to himself  
Above all else surely the future  
has my name on a shelf  
Come nightfall the winds blew  
sands grew and John was not  
yet through Rain poured hail  
stored and only a shack could he  
afford Fight now not then by heard  
But what could John learn by hearing  
something so absurd John was not  
only a working man but a machine  
He could not learn to do what hadn't  
been routine.

—James Hernandez,  
Downey

### Driving Lessons

I learned how to drive a Porsche  
in the parking lot of the Rose Bowl.  
I was taught to gear down  
instead of using brakes.  
I lugged badly until I got the hang  
of shifting gears without grinding.  
For weeks I bounced us around  
in those small bucket seats.  
After a while my driving  
got smoother and smoother.

Soon I was flying down th Arroyo  
up Holly Street, over Colorado  
back on California Avenue  
the 134 freeway, on Linda Vista  
left on Bennett Drive  
to my house, in the front door  
right into the bedroom  
off onto the porch  
by the driveway  
toward the gate.  
There we crashed.

—Margaret Hehman-Smith,  
Downey

## Diabetes health fair at DRMC

**DOWNEY** – Downey Regional Medical Center will host its 2009 Diabetes Health Fair on June 13 from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the hospital's basement conference rooms.

The event, which is open to the public and free to attend, will feature a variety of health screenings and an opportunity to speak with professionals from both the hospital and other health care organizations.

Dr. David Berger will be the event's featured speaker. He will speak on the "ABCs of Diabetes" from 9:15-9:30 a.m.

Other services available at the fair include:

- Carotid screenings
- Bone density, skim damage and glaucoma screenings
- Dental screenings
- Exercise
- Massages
- BMI and weight
- Ask the Doctor
- Ask the Pharmacist
- Ask the Dietitian

For more information about the Diabetes Health Fair, call diabetes educator Elsa Saucedo at (562) 904-5578.



Sarah Ortiz (Downey High School, left), Michelle Bertinelli (Warren High School, center) and Jacqueline Gutierrez (La Serna High School) will represent their schools at the 2009 Girls State.

## Young women chosen to attend Girls State

**DOWNEY** – Three local girls have been chosen to represent their schools at the 2009 session of Girls State to be held at McKenna Hall in Claremont from June 27 through July 2.

Downey High School's Sarah Ortiz, Warren High School's Michelle Bertinelli and La Serna High School's Jacqueline Gutierrez were chosen based on their scholastic record, leadership qualities, and service to their school and community.

The girls are sponsored by the American Legion Auxiliary Post 270, and were recently honored at a District 19 tea, at which time they were briefed on what to expect at the week-long session.

Twenty-five girls from Southern California will join 500 girls from around the state in studying city, county and state government functions through mock proceedings.

Sarah Ortiz is the daughter of Victor and Sarah Ortiz; Michelle Bertinelli is the daughter of Pablo and Lilly Bertinelli; and Jacqueline is the daughter of Janet and Andy Gutierrez.

A luncheon will be given in their honor at the conclusion of Girls State.

## Pancake breakfast at Apollo Park

**DOWNEY** – The Old River Men's Club will hold its annual pancake breakfast June 7 from 8 a.m. to noon at Apollo Park.

Proceeds from the event will support the camping and outdoor programs of Boy Scout Troop 441 and Cub Scout Pack 805.

Pack 805 will host its annual Sail Boat Regatta at 11 a.m. Boys between the ages of 7-10 are invited to visit along with their parents.

The breakfast is open to the community. A donation of \$5 for adults, \$3 for children under 10 is suggested.

For more information, call (562) 533-1630 or (562) 920-6141 or visit [www.DowneyBoyScouts.com](http://www.DowneyBoyScouts.com).

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YOUR HOMETOWN COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER



## New digs

By Eric Pierce

I must be chopped liver. Look at the tiny space I have available to write in this week.

I'll use this limited space to inform you that I've found a new apartment. In Downey.

It's nothing too fancy. No hot tub or barbecue pit. But there's no mice running around, thankfully, and my new landlord has shown the tendency to pick up her phone every time I call (can't say that about my current super).

District 4, here I come.

## Loss of Cal Grants will delay progress

Contributed by the Institute for College Access & Success

In direct contrast to federal efforts to increase college access during the current recession, today Governor Schwarzenegger proposed eliminating all new Cal Grants, along with deep cuts to public university systems and other essential state programs and services. The Cal Grant program has been an integral part of California's commitment to college access and affordability for more than 50 years. Since 2001, all qualified graduating high school students have been guaranteed a Cal Grant.

"The Governor's alarming threat to eliminate Cal Grants sends a discouraging signal about college affordability to all Californians," said Lauren Asher, acting president of the Institute for College Access & Success. "Students and families are counting on Cal Grants in these tough times, and the proposed cuts will wreak havoc with college plans for this fall."

The Governor seeks to cut approximately \$250 million from the state budget by:

- Eliminating all new Cal Grants for students at both public and private colleges; and

- Reducing the value of renewal Cal Grants for all returning University of California (UC) and California State University (CSU) recipients by lowering the share of enrollment fees their grants will cover. (Renewal Cal Grant recipients at other colleges would not experience cuts.)

The Institute estimates that more than 200,000 students statewide – over two-thirds of all current students offered Cal Grants – would lose all or part of the Cal Grant they were counting on to help pay for college this fall. These students will see their financial aid packages reduced by between \$576 and \$9,708. Based on the Institute's analysis, here is a snapshot of these high-achieving, financially needy students and what is at stake for them.

At least 118,300 students would lose their entire grant, worth up to \$9,708, this fall: Eliminating all new Cal Grants would deny approximately 118,300 students access to aid dollars they needed and expected for the 2009-10 academic year. These students have very low to moderate incomes, and vary greatly in age and type of college, although nearly half would have attended community colleges.

- 26,000 students face cancelled Cal Grant A offers. A typical Cal Grant A student has a 3.45 grade point average (GPA) and a family income of \$48,733.

- 84,500 students face cancelled Cal Grant B offers. Cal Grant B students, who receive 70% of new awards and would therefore be among the hardest hit, come from much needier families. A typical Cal Grant B student earns slightly above a 3.0 GPA, and has a family income of \$17,791.

- 7,800 students face cancelled Cal Grant C offers. A typical Cal Grant C student has a 2.67 GPA and a family income of \$21,859.

- The elimination of new awards affects both young adults and older students: 88,000 new High School and Transfer Entitlement students, whose average age is between 18 and 22, would lose their grant offers, as would 30,300 new Competitive and Cal Grant C students, whose average age is between 29 and 33.

- Eliminating new awards affects students at all types of public and private colleges, but community college students would lose the largest share – 45 percent – of new Cal Grant offers.

- Cal Grants A and B provide four years of eligibility for students, including transfers from community colleges to four-year schools. An estimated 110,500 students would not be able to receive these new grants in 2009-10, and over four years could miss out on as much as \$38,000 each in needed aid.

At least 90,000 returning students would lose part of their Cal Grant this fall: An estimated additional 90,000 UC and CSU students would see their promised renewal grants reduced by up to \$600 for 2009-10, a result of the Governor's proposal to eliminate support for fee increases.

"The loss of Cal Grants will push lower income students off the college track, delay their progress, or leave them even deeper in debt as they struggle to make ends meet. Making it harder for Californians to get the training and education they need puts our state's troubled economy at even greater risk, now and in the future," said Asher. The Public Policy Institute of California recently found that California needs more than a million new college-educated workers by 2025 to protect the state economy from decline.

The Institute's analysis is based on the distribution of 2007-08 Cal Grant offers (the best and most recent available data), as well as the Schwarzenegger administration's projections for 2009-10, including: "2007-08 Cal Grant Program Recipients, Legislative Report Requirement", California Student Aid Commission (CSAC), undated, and projections provided to the Institute by CSAC on May 22, 2009. The federal poverty level for a family of four is \$22,050.

*An independent, nonprofit organization, the Institute for College Access & Success works to make higher education more available and affordable for people of all backgrounds. By conducting and supporting nonpartisan research, analysis, and advocacy, the Institute aims to improve the processes and public policies that can pave the way to successful educational outcomes for students and for society. www.ticas.org*

## Letters to the Editor:

### Takes two to get pregnant

Dear Editor:

This is in response to the letter in last week's Downey Patriot titled "Pro Choice."

As far as Ms. Evan's opinion that the abortion question can be resolved by saying, "women should have the choice whether or not to become pregnant and they do have that choice...and they do know how to prevent pregnancy," that is a very inaccurate and unfair statement.

In the first place, it is easy to blame women. (Why is it always blamed on the woman, by the way? Doesn't it take two to get pregnant?)

I can say this is inaccurate from firsthand experience; as a just married young woman I got pregnant while using two forms of birth control. I thought I was taking great precautions. How about the many women who do not have access to any form of birth control at all, at the moment they are swept into a sexual relationship by an insistent male, who will not take no for an answer.

And what about the billions living in extreme poverty, living on a dollar or two per day, who cannot afford to purchase any form of birth control at all, even if it were available? And those who are very young, and haven't been taught that sex can result in pregnancy, or how to avoid it? And those women who are raped or even sexually abused by a family member?

No, to say that women do have a choice whether to get pregnant or not with very rare exceptions is a misleading, inaccurate and unfair statement, and does not justify the conclusion that abortions should be illegal.

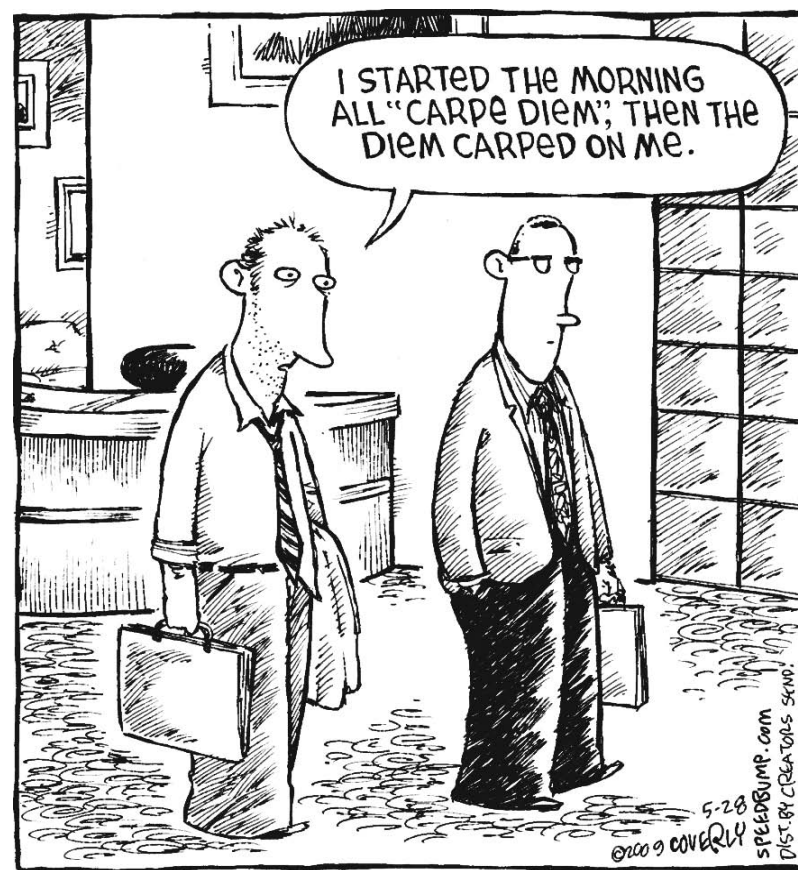
Saying that abortion is illegal in God's eyes is an opinion expressed by some and taught in some churches. Those who feel strongly that way obviously should not have abortions. Those who disagree should be able to follow their own conscience.

I sometimes feel like we have sort of a Christian Taliban in this country that wants to force everyone else to follow their own version of their religion. Our founding fathers created this country so that each of us could practice our own religion in our own way, and we should not impose our religious views on others.

— Anita Rivero,  
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](mailto:downeypatriot@yahoo.com).

Letters may be edited for style and/or content, and must include a full name and address for verification.



## Cerritos has new insurance courses

**NORWALK** – The Business Division at Cerritos College will offer two new insurance courses, Introduction to Insurance and Insurance Code and Ethics, in the summer session.

Both classes will be offered in the 6-week second session beginning July 6.

The Introduction to Insurance course provides a background of the modern property/casualty insurance system, how insurance products and services are distributed to the consumer, and explores civil, tort, and contract law.

The Insurance Code and Ethics course is designed for insurance majors and those looking to work in the insurance field. The class addresses ethical considerations one must support in order to succeed in the insurance industry.

Cerritos College is the only community college in Southern California which offers a California Insurance Career Program.

For more information on insurance courses, visit [www.cerritos.edu](http://www.cerritos.edu) or call (562) 860-2451.

## Roybal-Allard praises Sotomayor

Rep. Lucille Roybal-Allard (D-34), Downey's representative in Congress, released the following statement concerning the nomination of Sonia Sotomayor to be the next Justice on the United States Supreme Court:

"I commend President Obama for nominating Federal Court of Appeals Judge Sonia Sotomayor to be the next Justice on the United States Supreme Court. Upon her confirmation by the U.S. Senate, Judge Sotomayor will become the first Hispanic and only the third woman to serve on our nation's highest court.

This historic nomination marks a proud day, not only for the Latino community that will see one of our own reach new heights, but also for our country as a whole that will gain tremendously by having such an accomplished, experienced and respected attorney and jurist among our Supreme Court Justices.

I implore my colleagues in the U.S. Senate to give Judge Sotomayor – who has been nominated by Democratic and Republican Presidents to the

federal bench – fair, full and swift consideration, and confirm her by the President's deadline prior to Congress' August recess."

Sotomayor was born in the Bronx to Puerto Rican parents, raised in a public housing project. She graduated as her high school valedictorian and won a scholarship to Princeton University, where she went on to graduate Phi Beta Kappa as well as summa cum laude.

In 1976, she was accepted to Yale Law School and served as editor of the Yale Law Journal. She served as an Assistant District Attorney in Manhattan. She then went into private practice in 1986.

If confirmed, Sotomayor would bring more federal judicial experience to the Supreme Court than any justice confirmed in the last 100 years, and more overall judicial experience than anyone in the past 70 years. She was appointed to the District Court for the Southern District of New York by President George H.W. Bush and promoted by President Bill Clinton to the Second Circuit in 1998.

## California needs a spending cap

Contributed by Robert Romano, Americans for Limited Government

Speaking to small business leaders in California on Tuesday, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger summarized what he viewed as the crystal clear message of the electorate that had defeated a \$16 billion tax increase a week prior to balance a \$23 billion shortfall, "A week ago in a special election the voters sent a very clear message to Sacramento; live within your means. Cut spending, slash the size of government, get rid of the waste and the inefficiency and don't raise taxes."

The Governor was right—but he was overly optimistic that the message had resonated at all with politicians in Sacramento when he opined, "Let me say I think that we heard, I heard, the message of the people loud and clear and I'm sure that the legislative leaders and the legislators also heard the message loud and clear." Well, probably not.

Republican Assemblyman Chuck DeVore has a different, likely more accurate view of the situation in Sacramento. Writing for the Policy Report, he states, "I was on NPR with Senate President pro Tem Darrell Steinberg (D-Sacramento) the day after the election as he labored to claim that the Tuesday vote was all about frustrated voters, worried about their jobs who simply want the legislature to do its job and not pass the buck to them. He rejected my contention that the vote was an anti-tax vote." And the sad fact is, he never got it.

Not that he needs to. Californians got it. And certainly, the hard lesson is for the politicians who are making bigger promises than the people can deliver in the form of taxes. Governor Schwarzenegger notes in his speech, "I can tell you, if we don't make those cuts, I think that we will face catastrophic consequences because the state will simply run out of money and get insolvent, which we can't afford to do. Remember, we are not Washington. We cannot print our own money or we cannot run up trillions of dollars of deficit. We can't do that. In our state we can only spend what we have." Which, of course, is the problem.

Not that the Governor is perfect. He has not had a perfect record on taxes or borrowing or a host of other budget-related issues to say the least. But he is right. Unfortunately, as Governor he can only set the agenda. The heavy lifting is up to the legislators—and as expected, they will try to shift the burden, or shirk it altogether. But this time has to be different.

The Governor must go further than he has. He has to draw lines in the sand. For instance, a state spending cap must override the state's outrageous spending requirements and untenable mandates Mr. Schwarzenegger outlined in his speech: "[We] have federal judges telling us how to run our prison health care system and how much we must spend. And we have federal laws telling us how and where we can make spending cuts, or else we risk losing billions of dollars in federal funding and in matching funds..."

California should fight back against the federal mandates in the same

way it recently did when President Obama, at the behest of the SEIU, threatened the state with losing \$6.3 billion in supplemental Medicaid funds if \$74 million in pay cuts to home healthcare workers were not rescinded. Instead, California stood strong, and it was Barack Obama, through his new Health & Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius who rescinded his threat.

Mr. Schwarzenegger, unfortunately, weakened his own position by criticizing the two-thirds requirement for the budget to be passed in the legislature. Others have criticized that Republicans in California have "veto" power over the budget. As if removing Republicans completely from the table of discussion and solidifying one-party rule in the state would result in anything other than the Democrat-dominated legislature guaranteeing insolvency—from here to eternity. That, clearly, is not the answer.

Still, he was adamant about the constraints that spending mandates put on balancing the budget, "We have an endless list of propositions that we have to take under consideration, whether it is Proposition 13, 98, 42, 49, 63, Proposition 10, Proposition 1A and the list goes on and on and on. All of those propositions tell us how we must spend our money... We have no choice over those kind of things. They all dictate exactly how we're going to spend the money and therefore it makes it very difficult for us to balance our budget or to make the necessary cuts very quickly. Until we fix our system, nothing will ever change. This is no way, of course, to run a state..." Again, he is right.

The solution for California's budgetary woes is a spending cap that overrides and repeals any and all spending requirements currently enacted under state law, and requires across-the-board cuts whenever budgets are delivered by the legislature in deficit. Currently, the state is currently 17.35 percent over-budget. Under mandatory spending cuts, every line would be slashed 17.35 percent without any action required legislatively. And while that may seem drastic on paper, in subsequent years it would force legislators to deliver budgets more on target with revenue projections.

If the simple ability to balance budgets exceeds the skill set of the California state legislators, then perhaps it is time for the people of California to engage in yet another tax revolt and enact a proposition that takes that power away from the legislature all together. As Mr. Schwarzenegger said, "A week ago... the voters sent a very clear message to Sacramento..." Now, it's time to see if the politicians' hearing is as badly impaired as their sense of integrity and self-discipline.

Robert Romano is the Senior Editor of ALG News Bureau.

### The Downey Patriot

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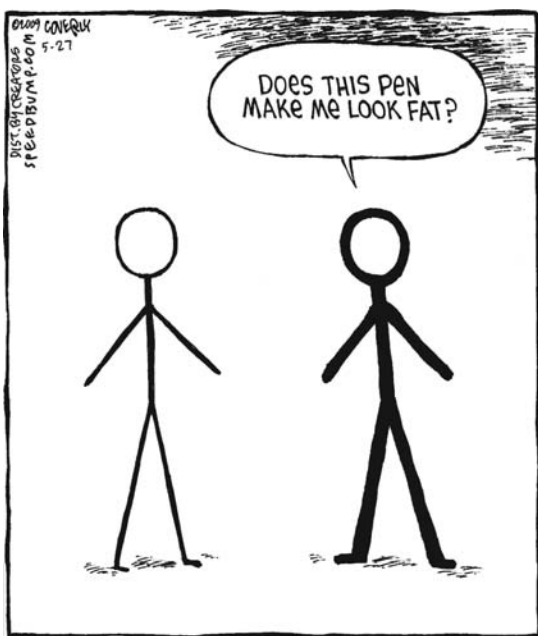
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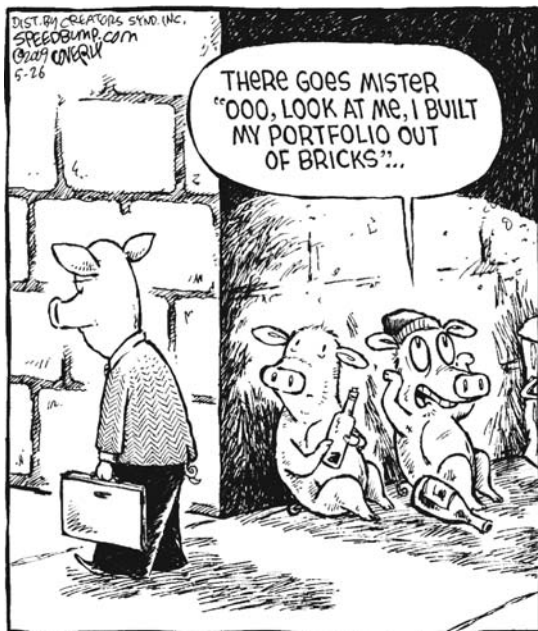
The Downey Patriot is published weekly by Jennifer DeKay-Givens. Controlled Distribution, 25,000 copies printed. Distributed by Great Western Advertising Distributors, Inc., Los Angeles, CA.



## SPEED BUMP



## DAVE COVERLY



# Downey Community Calendar

### Events For May/June

- Fri. May 29: **Carnival**, Rio San Gabriel School, 3 p.m.
- Fri. May 29: **Concert and festival**, Warren High School, 5 p.m.
- Sat. May 30: **Softball tournament fundraiser**, Downey Adult School, 9:30 a.m.
- Mon. June 1: **Jimmy Weldon presentation**, Downey Adult School, 3:45 p.m.
- Thurs. June 4: **Ribbon cutting**, Parc@5 Apartments, 4 p.m.

### City Meetings

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

### Regularly Scheduled Meetings

#### Mondays

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

#### Tuesdays

- 9 a.m.: **Downey Bocce Club**, at Apollo Park, for information call Pat Rooney at 923-5352.
- 9:30 a.m.: **Downey Seniors Club**, at Apollo Park, for information call Nadine Morris at 923-9422.
- 12 p.m.: **Rotary Club**, at Rio Hondo, for information call Brian Saylor at 927-2000.
- 6:00 p.m.: **Toastmasters Club 587**, at First Baptist Church, for info call John McAllister 869-0928.
- 7 p.m.: **Boy Scout Troop 2**, at Downey United Methodist Church, for information call 869-6478.
- 2nd and 4th Tues., 6 p.m.: **Sertoma Club**, at Cafe 'N Stuff, for information call (562) 927-6438.
- 2nd Tues., 6 p.m.: **Downey Fly Fishers**, at Apollo Park, for information call 425-7936.
- 3rd Tues., 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.
- 2nd & 4th Weds., 11:30 a.m.: **Downey AARP**, at Barbara J. Riley Senior Center, for info. call Lorene Frazier 861-6075.
- 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...

**May 29, 1765:** American statesman Patrick Henry denounces the Stamp Act. Speaking at Virginia's House of Burgesses, he declares, "If this be treason, make the most of it!"

**1790:** Rhode Island ratifies the U.S. Constitution, the last of the original 13 colonies to do so.

**1938:** Former baseball commissioner Fay Vincent is born. Also born May 29: race car driver Al Unser Sr. (70), singer LaToya Jackson (53), actress Annette Benning (51), singer Melissa Etheridge (48) and former Spice Girl Melanie Brown (34).

**1973:** Tom Bradley is elected the first black mayor of Los Angeles.

**1999:** The Space Shuttle Discovery docks on the International Space Station.

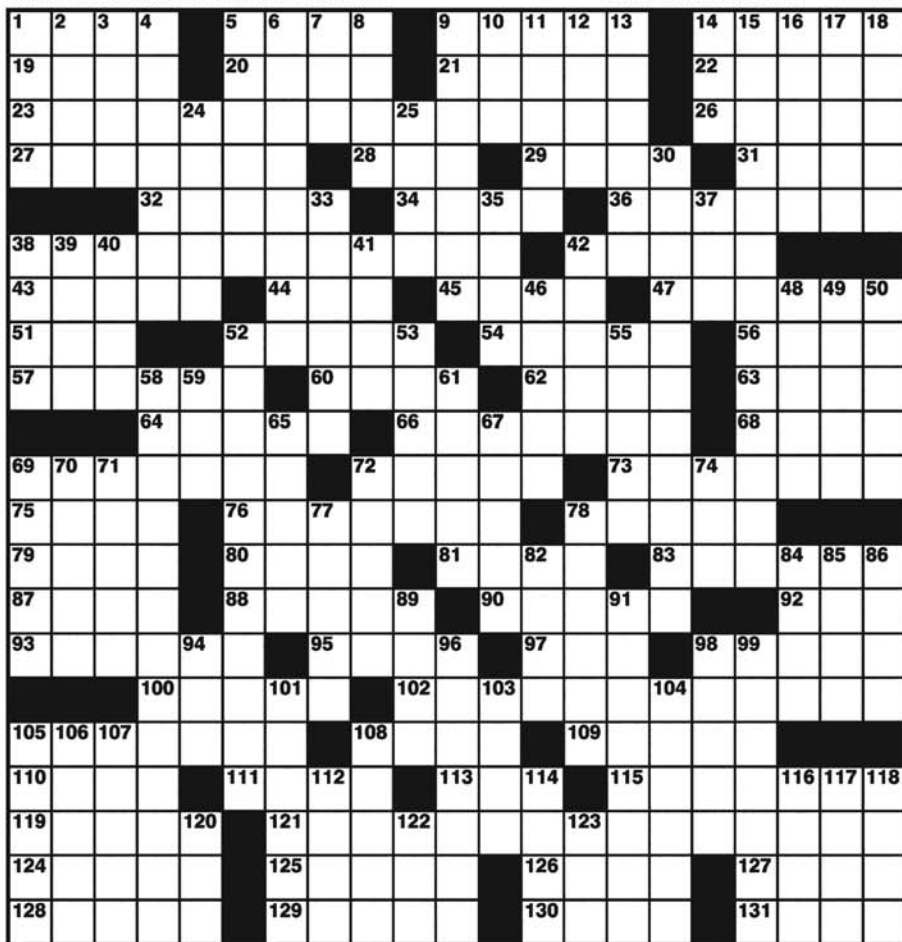
## THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com)

**ON LOCATION: A day at the movie**  
by Shirley Soloway

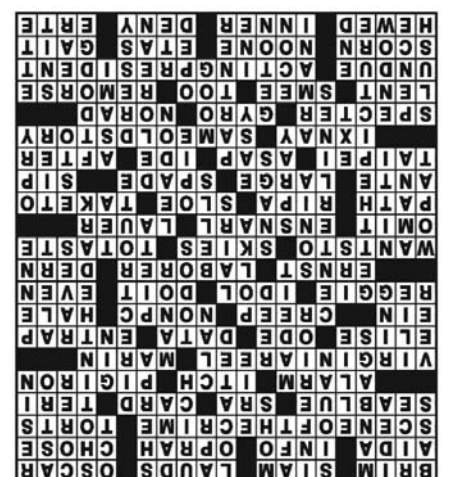
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| <b>ACROSS</b> | 1 Upper edge | 5 The King and I setting | 9 Praises | 14 AMPAS statuette | 19 Verdi opus | 20 Lowdown | 21 Talk-show tycoon | 22 Selected | 23 Whodunit locale | 26 Civil wrongs | 27 Ocean hue | 28 Mme., across the Pyrenees | 29 Check the ID of | 31 Polo of The West Wing | 32 Morning sound | 34 Hankering | 36 Blast-furnace product | 38 Old folk dance | 42 Sausalito's county | 44 Beethoven dedicatee | 45 Byron selection | 47 Snare | 51 German article | 52 Move very slowly | 54 Inappropriate, in a way | 56 In fine fettle | 57 Baseball great Jackson | 60 Lionized one | 62 Encouraging words | 63 Tied up | 64 Physicist Mach | 66 Unskilled worker | 68 Bruce or Laura of Hollywood | 69 Has a desire | 72 Weather-report word | 73 As you like it | 75 Forget about | 76 Get caught up | 78 Morning TV cohost | 79 Way to go | 80 Morning TV cohost | 81 With 37 Down, red liqueur | 83 Become fond of | 87 Start a pot | 88 Substantial | 90 Hammett detective | 92 Drink daintily | 93 Republic of China capital | 95 "Right now!" | 97 Chemical suffix | 98 On the trail of | 100 "Cut that out!" | 102 Usual thing | 105 Haunting image | 108 Sandwich in a pita | 109 U.S.-Canada defense acronym | 110 Ignored Polonius' advice | 111 Hook's right-hand man | 113 Additionally | 115 Regretful feeling | 119 Disproportionate | 121 25th Amendment phrase | 124 Derision | 125 Nary a soul | 126 LAX postings | 127 Way of walking | 128 Felled | 129 Deeply personal | 130 Gainsay | 131 Art Deco artist | <b>DOWN</b> | 1 Big instrument | 2 Hillary Clinton predecessor | 3 Thought | 4 Briefcase relatives | 5 Native American language | 6 Not up to par | 7 Toward the stern | 8 Mineral-hardness scale | 9 Found | 10 Loan-ad letters | 11 Spencer: For Hire star | 12 Spanish lady | 13 Himalayan guide | 14 Calendar abbr. | 15 Wild guess | 16 Kitchen gadget | 17 The Jetsons' dog | 18 Plastic ingredient | 24 Dallas matriarch | 25 Great Lakes port | 30 "As the crow flies" course | 33 Succeeded | 35 Extended family | 37 See 81 Across | 38 Swerve | 39 Nastase of the courts | 40 Band of thieves | 41 Marsh plant | 42 Grand house | 46 Dust-ups | 48 All-night dance parties | 49 Standing by | 50 Trattoria offering | 52 Highway dividers | 53 Oktoberfest music | 55 Michelangelo masterpiece | 58 Catch on | 59 Treasury Dept. agency | 61 Hideaways | 62 Actress Braga | 65 Cat-collar attachments | 69 Dukes of Hazzard star | 70 Whirlpool alternative | 71 Capone colleague | 72 Catches | 74 Something steeped | 77 Floral decoration | 78 Deceive | 82 Andy Griffith Show lad | 84 This: Sp. | 85 Stadium section | 86 Grand Ole | 89 No problem | 91 Back to the Future vehicle | 94 Business-card letters | 96 Law-firm bigwig | 98 "Me, too" | 99 Iowa city | 101 Italian designer | 103 Synthesizer creator | 104 Suitable for evening wear | 105 Post-blizzard stuff | 106 Pound fractions | 107 Provide financing for | 108 Fare | 112 Social sci. | 114 Columnist's piece | 116 Vanguard opposite | 117 Huff | 118 Diminutive suffix | 120 Terminus | 122 Suffix for serpent | 123 Help from a GPS |
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CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2009 STANLEY NEWMAN WWW.STANXWORDS.COM 5/24/09



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

PIG IRON (36 Across) got its name from the resemblance of the traditional mold to a litter of piglets. The reference at 110 Across is to the quote by Polonius in Hamlet: "Neither a borrower nor a lender be;" spoken by Polonius in Hamlet. The last name of synthesizer inventor Robert Moog (103 Down) rhymes with "vogue."





# STUDENT LIFE



## Warren Prom Recap

By: Britawnya Craft, Intern

On May 9, the House of Blues of Anaheim hosted Warren High's 2009 senior prom from 8 p.m. to midnight. The location of the dance was perfect for seniors due to the entire atmosphere of Downtown Disney. While dance attendees were arriving a long line stretched outside of the venue. Strict security was outside of the dance checking for unwanted items such as alcohol, markers, pens, cigarettes, and weapons while Warren's administration admitted and greeted students.

Prom pictures were on the minds of most seniors attending the dance. A long line was formed on the second floor of the venue, wrapping around the whole balcony. Sanford Studios provided students with pictures allowing them to take group, individual and/or couple photos. They offered several forms of packages for seniors ranging from all separate price ranges, prices ranged from \$45 to \$100.

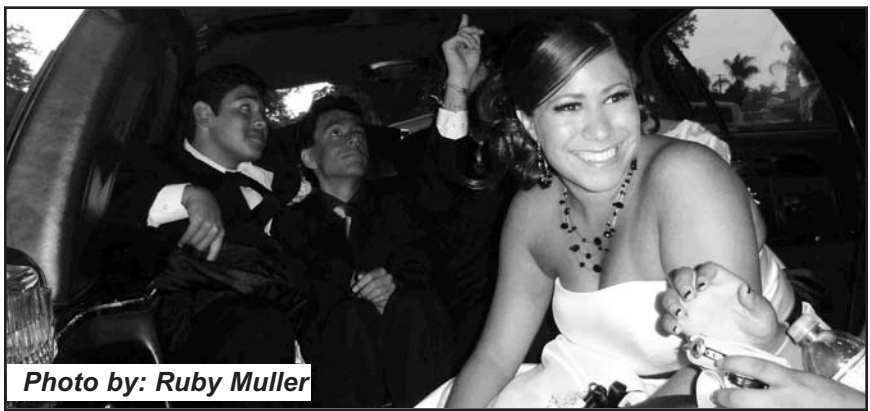


Photo by: Ruby Muller

The theme of the dance, "One More Time" was thought of by ASB and a few participating seniors. Surveys and suggestions were provided by seniors with several ideas for the dance. Parking was essential when it came to picking a venue, for the dance parking was free for the first five hours. The House of Blues was able to maintain almost all of the seniors in attendance. There were several balconies which were not as crowded as the dance floor. Many seniors were caught dancing and overlooking the dance. Beverages and appetizers were given out to prom attendees, empty cups were found through out the dance. The empty bars were used as a rest area where attendees were allowed to cool down with refreshments.

The dance floor was at the very bottom of the 3-floor venue, a stage occupied the DJ and also the MC of the night. Many of the songs played came from all sorts of genres. A crowd favorite was "Suavemente." Another song that seemed to catch everyone's attention was "You A Jerk" by the New Boys. As soon as this song was played many people rushed to the dance floor and began "jerking."

As the night was beginning to come to an end, the music began to slow down and the lights dimmed, the room grew silent, as it was time to announce prom king and queen. A roar of anticipation could be heard through out the House of Blues as they announced Quincy Drayton and Kat Wheeler as Prom king and queen.

Overall, the dance was a hit, playing the latest music and providing seniors with one of their last memories of high school.

## Downey Prom Follow-up

By: Jennifer Cho, Intern

On May 15, Downey High held its senior prom at Erhart's by the Sea at Fort MacArthur, an active military base located in San Pedro. The junior class presented this year's prom, "A Night in Paris," which was held from 8 p.m. to midnight.

Students and teachers praised this year's venue.

"I liked the atmosphere since it was spacious and beautiful," said Ciara Campos, a senior at Downey. "I loved the view of the ocean from the dance room."

"I really enjoyed this year's prom facilities—Fort MacArthur," said Teresa Hill, an English teacher at Downey. "I felt students had a lot of space to move around. Also, from a teacher's perspective, it was nice having the military police present."

Many seniors enjoyed dancing and hanging out with friends.

"Dancing was the best part of the prom, as well as seeing everyone dressed up very formal," said Chris Saldana, a senior at Downey.

"I'm glad I got to hang out with my friends at the prom," said Marissa Fernandez. "I think it's one of the last few events where we can see our friends before college." For seniors such as Aisha Butt, the

prom served as a great stress reliever from Advanced Placement (AP) testing as well as marking the end of a long journey at Downey High.

"Our prom was the day after my last AP exam," said Butt, who had to take seven AP exams prior to the prom. "The prom was like the end of a four-year adventure for me. I'm finally done with high school, and I enjoyed being able to spend time with my friends before we go to college."

Some seniors, such as Erika Yi and Brenda Galvan, enjoyed the transportation available to those who were attending the prom.

"The party bus that took us to the prom was amazing," said Yi. "I had more fun in the bus than the actual prom itself."

"Being in the party bus with my closest friends was awesome," said Galvan.

While most seniors chose to dance the night away, others chose to participate in the various activities designated to allow everyone to have a good time. There were separate rooms in which students could sing karaoke with friends or have caricatures drawn for free.

"After a few dances, I walked from room to room and watched

people singing karaoke and the caricature artists drawing couples," said Gettler.

"I got my picture drawn by a cartoonist," said Campos. "It was my first time!"

Teachers who served as chaperones enjoyed the prom as well.

"I liked the karaoke room and the free caricatures," said José De La Torre, a math teacher at Downey and a chaperone at the prom. "My wife was my date to the prom, and she even sang karaoke and got a standing ovation."

"The chocolate-covered strawberries were yummy!" said Hill. "I took a lot of pictures with my students to display in my classroom." The highlight of the night was the coronations of prom king and queen, Michael Sabir and Geneve Melendez.

For Michael Sabir, his coronation had a very special meaning for him.

"I took my mom as my date," said Sabir, who is also the vice president of his senior class. "It was really meaningful for me to have my mom there when I was crowned prom king."

## Warren High School Avid Banquet

By: Bridget Sagrero, Intern

The fifth annual Warren High School AVID banquet took place last Friday, at 6 p.m. at the Rio Hondo Golf Club.

With three months of planning and preparation the AVID banquet was hosted by Warren High School to honor their perspective graduating senior class, along with underclassmen AVID students. This event not only brought forth Warren AVID students and their parents but also had the pleasure to welcome a few members of the Downey Unified School District and Downey City Council members.

Councilmen David Gafin spoke during the banquet and mentioned the outstanding statistics the AVID Program had with their students going on to a higher level of learning after high school.

"Thirty-two percent of our students are going on to a 4-year school, 54 percent to a 2-year school college level, 11 percent to a technical school, that takes us 97 percent," said Gafin. "Another 2 percent of our class is going to military service. The No. 1 reason that they stated in joining the military was for college benefit and that takes us all the way to 99 percent of our graduating class last year leaving Warren High with a plan for further education."

AVID has been strong at Warren for eight years now with not only the great efforts of the students, but the teachers and staff

that have supported the program as well. They have gone out of their way many times to do what ever it is they can do for these students. Gafin even went on to say that AVID did not just stand for Advancement Via Individual Determination, but that to him it also meant Advancement Via Instructional Dedication.

As the evening went on and everyone had their dinner the introduction of the AVID students began. Freshmen AVID teachers Daryl Lacolla and Charlotte Evensen announced their students and congratulated them for making it their first year in high school in the program. Then came the sophomore class presented by teacher and AVID Coordinator Christa Murphy. Second to last to be presented were the junior class who were introduced by their teacher Kim Castro.

Each of the students was awarded with a certificate of achievement and one AVID student in every class took home the AVID Student of the Year Award. Natalie Arevalo was the freshmen award holder, Alex Carillo the sophomore and Allan Cortez the junior. After the lower classmen were announced and presented, teachers Monique Willis and David Cha proudly announced their senior class.

The seniors were presented with their certificate of achievement, a certificate of appreciation

from the City of Downey, and a gift bag with a shirt of the college they are to attend in the fall. The AVID Student of the Year went to Stephanei Orozco.

"My favorite part I think was, I mean obviously recognizing the senior's achievement is important, but for me the best part was seeing the pride in the faces of the parents," said Cha. "I like seeing their eyes glow when their kids come up and [are] recognized."

Not only did the students walk

away with certificates and awards but so did some of the teachers thanks to the seniors.

"I liked the banquet, I think that [the seniors] all looked so good and [they] all had a wonderful way of expressing themselves to the teachers and to the rest of the staff, it was nice," said teacher and AVID supporter Irene Bergh.

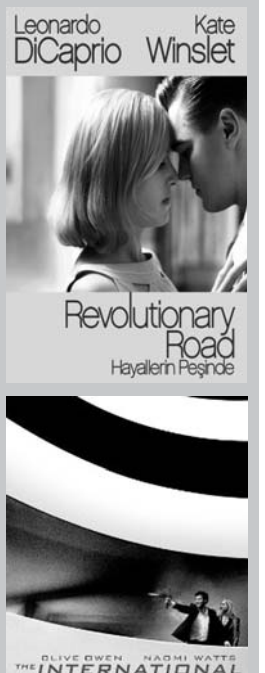
The banquet was a success leaving many with the optimism and hopes that this program only keeps growing from here and on.



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## DVD RELEASES FOR JUNE 2

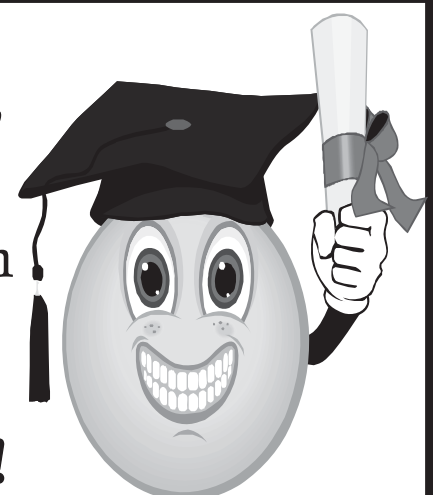
Revolutionary Road  
He's Just Not That Into You  
Defiance  
Baby on Board  
Spring Breakdown  
Anaconda 4: Trail of Blood  
Army Wives: Season 2  
Prison Break: The Final Season  
Raising the Bar: Season 1  
Weeds: Season 4



## JUNE 9

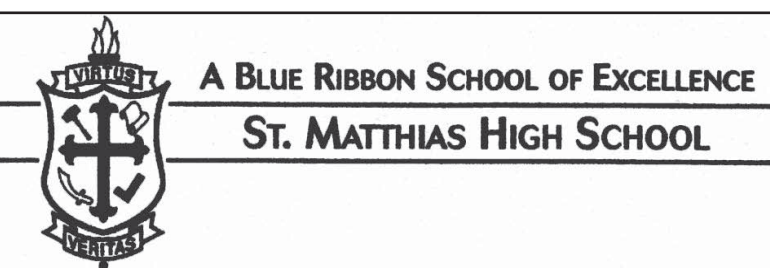
Fired Up!  
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The International  
Reaper: Season 2  
The Shield: Season 7

Don't miss *The Downey Patriot's* special section dedicated to the class of 2009!



See details on page 14.

Community Calendar  
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Time: 7:30am-3:00pm  
Dates: June 22 - July 24  
Camp Little Jesters offers academic opportunities, arts and crafts, sports activities, pool time, and field trips. Meals and Snacks are provided.

Session I June 22 - 26	Session II June 29 - July 3	Session III July 6 - 10
Session IV July 13 - 17	Session V July 20 - 24	

Fee: \$150 per session  
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## Come Celebrate!



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**10:30am -2:30pm**  
**Fun for the whole family.**  
**Ribbon Cutting- 12:00noon**  
**Christian Battle of the Bands**  
**7:30pm-10:30pm**  
**Dedication Service June 7, 2:30pm**  
For more information visit us on the web at: [www.desertreign.org](http://www.desertreign.org)



## Christian meeting June 10

**DOWNEY** – Marilyn Waterhouse will be the guest speaker when the Downey Christian Women's Club meets June 10 at Los Amigos Country Club.

Her topic will be "How to Check Your Baggage and Soar like an Eagle."

Also at the meeting, Pat Bedes will speak about Rancho Adult Day Services. Beverly Madru will provide music.

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

The community, including men, is invited.

## 'Go Ask Alice' a must read for teens

By **KEYSI CARRASCO,**  
INTERN

**W**ith more than five million copies sold, *Go Ask Alice* is a book that many teenagers turn to when they need something to relate to or when they just want to have some sense of experience in the world of sex, drugs and mischief.

*Go Ask Alice* is a diary written by a 15-year-old girl who tells a story of what it is like to live and be a part of society in her day. Her story shows the harsh and horrifying reality that many teens from each generation have possibly gone through.

Although the author is anonymous, you find yourself closely identifying with the author and you even feel as if you know her personally. You are reading her thoughts and every thing that goes on in her mind, making you feel like you have become her dear and closest friend. You live with her and her experiences through every entry.

Her days are filled with every experience a young teen could possible go through. Through her words, you live the life of someone who has much insecurity about the way she looks or even how she measures up to



others. Like every adolescent, she faces the struggle of not having the perfect relationship with her family. You feel the pain she goes through when having to deal with her relationship with her friends and the many boys in her life.

Through each page you notice changes in the way she views life and you slowly begin to see her get sucked into a world away from her quiet comfortable family and into a life filled with sex and drugs.

As months go by, you see her constantly turn her back on her family as she tries to live comfortably on the streets with either friends or on her own. With each mistake she makes, she begins to feel sorry, but the thrill of the drugs can never escape her. She realizes that living life is harder than it seems.

This strong reality never ceases to amaze readers and many teens feel she is someone who has gone far into her mind, a place where no one else dares to go.

There is no doubt that this powerful young adult book will leave you cringing as you turn each page. This quick, simple read will never let you forget the life of this young teenage girl. This young girl's diary make you wonder how someone could live through such an extraordinary life.

## New Titles at the Downey City Library

### Fiction

- **"Censoring an Iranian Love Story"** by Shahriar Mandanipour. From one of Iran's most acclaimed writers comes his first novel to appear in English--a book that shows what it's like to live, love, and be an artist in today's Iran.
- **"Hello, Goodbye"** by Emily Chenoweth. A debut novel about friendship, loyalty, and growing up, this book follows a dying woman's final vacation with her family at a lavish New England resort.
- **"The Law of Love"** by Nora Roberts. Two historical romance novels, "Lawless" and "The Law is a Lady," are collected in this volume by the New York Times bestselling author.
- **"One September Morning"** by Rosalind Noonan. In this fast-paced, character-driven tale with a touch of mystery, Abbey Stanton is a young widow who wants real answers about her husband's death in Iraq.
- **"This One is Mine"** by Maria Semple. Violet Parry is living the quintessential life of luxury in the Hollywood Hills. She has the perfect life--except that she's deeply unhappy. This is a compassionate and wickedly funny satire about the need for more, and the often disastrous choices made in the search for happiness.

### Non-Fiction

- **"Excuses Begone!"** by Wayne W. Dyer. The renowned author and lecturer shows how to change self-defeating thinking habits that prevent you from living at the highest level of success.
- **"40 More Years: How the Democrats Will Rule the Next Generation"** by James Carville. Have we seen the collapse of the Republican Party? The author predicts the emergence of a Democratic majority that will last not four but forty years.
- **"How to Build a Dinosaur: Extinction Doesn't Have to Be Forever"** by Jack Horner and James Gorman. A paleontologist teams up with a science writer to reveal a new science that trumps science fiction: how humans can re-create a dinosaur.
- **"Lost Boy"** by Brent W. Jeffs. In this powerful and heartbreaking account, the nephew of Warren Jeffs--the jailed former leader of the Fundamental Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints--reveals that leaving the sect can be just as harrowing for men as it is for women.
- **"Out of Our Heads: Why You Are Not Your Brain, and Other Lessons from the Biology of Consciousness"** by Alva Noe. A neuroscientist/philosopher presents a new approach to the way we view the brain, the self and consciousness.

Visit [www.downeylibrary.org](http://www.downeylibrary.org) and click on "New and Notable Books" to browse more titles

## Economists expect job losses to decline

**LONG BEACH** – Two Cal State Long Beach (CSULB) economists are predicting that the regional economy will show signs of improvement over the next 12-18 months, but that "improvement" still doesn't translate into positive job growth or an increase in taxable sales. It just means the declines in those areas won't be as severe as the previous 12 months.

Such was the tone of the 15th annual Regional Economic Forecast, which was delivered by CSULB Professors Joe Magaddino and Lisa Grobar to more than 300 local business and civic leaders May 14 at the Hyatt Regency Long Beach.

Those wondering when there might actually be an actual increase in employment and taxable sales are going to have to be patient for a little longer, according to the 2009-10 report. The economists don't anticipate any sustained growth in jobs or taxable sales until 2011, when they believe "a real recovery finally gets underway."

The CSULB Regional Economic Forecast features information on and predictions for the five-county, Southern California region that includes Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino and Ventura counties. Because job growth is the measure for overall

economic activity at the state and local levels, much of the forecast focuses on these figures.

Magaddino pointed out that the U.S. economy is in a steep and challenging recession, and that national recession has severely hampered the prospects for the Southern California region. So, he believes that when the U.S. economy improves, the region's economy will follow suit.

"I think the good news is that the national economy should start to generate some positive economic growth by the end of the fourth quarter of this year. The growth next year will be pretty modest," he noted. "The unfortunate reality is that unemployment tends to lag output. So, even though the economy is showing some signs of recovery, we're still going to see rising levels of unemployment. That's just how the economy works."

### Regional Employment

Overall, employment in the region fell by 1.9 percent in 2008 (a loss of 139,800 jobs), and the forecast anticipates a 1.5 percent decline this year. The job market will improve slightly in 2010 with losses falling to 0.9 percent. The economists say it will be 2011 before any sustained job growth returns to the region.

Taking the brunt of those job losses is the manufacturing sector, which is described as "cyclical and sensitive to macroeconomic trends." Durable manufacturing employment will see losses of more than 8 percent this year while the non-durable sector will decline by 4.6 percent.

Because the national recession has produced a sharp pull-back in consumer spending, the retail sector is struggling, and many establishments are shutting down operations as a result of economic losses.

Retail employment saw a decline of 2.8 percent in 2008, and this year, the sector is expected to lose another 4.1 percent of its jobs.

The sharp decline in the retail sector has also translated into a freefall in taxable sales. The forecast estimates taxable sales fell by nearly 7 percent in 2008 with much of the decline in the last quarter. This year, the expectation is another 12 percent decline in taxable sales followed by another smaller drop in 2010.

The lone bright spot for employment continues to be the health services sector, which added jobs at a rate of 3 percent in 2008 despite the generalized economic decline. The sector is expected to increase its job number by another 2.8 percent this year and in 2010.

"The health services sector is relatively immune to cyclical pressures and continues to add jobs at a pretty good clip," said Grobar, director of the Economic Forecast Project. "The reason for this growth has to do with long-range demographic issues, such as the aging of the population and health technology improvements. These factors give us a long-run, robust trend in employment growth in the sector. So, it's going to continue to be a very stable sector, an area where there is just going to be a demand for workers in the long term."

### Housing News

The forecast also includes a brief report on housing in the region, and this year, unlike last year, the news is more on the positive side. Even though there isn't good news to report just yet, both Magaddino and Grobar noted that they believe the housing market will bottom out this year, despite the fact that the region is in the midst of this recession.

"We do think housing starts will bottom out. There were dramatic cuts in inventories during the fourth quarter of last year and the first quarter of this year. So we don't believe that there is much more ability to cut inventories," Magaddino said.

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## Kids, and symphony, have a blast

By JOYCE SHERWIN,  
DOWNEY SYMPHONY

**DOWNEY** – Before a packed house in Downey's Civic Theatre, the conductor of the Downey Symphony stood on the podium before her orchestra and addressed the audience. Gesturing to the side stages, Sharon Lavery said, "I am proud to share the stage with these fine musicians."

In two rows on each side stood 10 or 11 wind and brass players, their polished instruments gleaming in the spotlights, their determined faces trying to hide delight without success.

The occasion was the annual concert for the city's fifth-grade students. Lavery and the orchestra had just presented a program of Beethoven, Mussorgsky, a touch of "Pirates of the Caribbean," and Tchaikovsky, all enthusiastically received.

Now it was finale time, and in these concerts that means the overwhelming conclusion to Tchaikovsky's 1812 Overture.

Russia won the War of 1812 and did not celebrate moderately. When Tchaikovsky wrote his thrilling work commemorating the event, he called for victorious cannon booms (thunderous whacks on the bass drum), the wild peal of church bells (torrents of liquid notes from the chimes), and a huge orchestra.

For Sharon Lavery it was time to call in a few friends to help out, just as her predecessor, Tom Osborn, had done it. Hence those side stages and the wind and brass students from Warren High School and Downey High School.

What a blast. On Downey's stage, a very small girl played euphonium – that's a baritone tuba, folks – and an even smaller girl conquered the challenges of a trombone. It was all mighty and accurate and sure and jubilant. And proud.

We talked with some of the Warren players afterward, all of whom play in marching band. Kandis began oboe in fourth grade. Jasper, a junior on trumpet, played this concert with the Symphony

last year. As a third-grader, Christopher started an exploration of sax and clarinet and horn and piano, and now wants to go to the Julliard School of Music in New York. Silvia plays flute, Andrea and Erinjoy play clarinet.

The purpose of the orchestra's performance for 1,709 students this day is to get them excited about instrumental music so they will want to try it out next year in middle school. This involves considerable funding, of course, and the Downey Kiwanis Foundation came through. Cheers.

As is the case every year, Ana Thorne in the Downey Unified offices handled flawlessly the logistics of delivering students to the theater and back again. So the bus bringing Old River School's kids broke down en route to the concert, thereby messing up the works, right? Way wrong. Everyone coped, the kids arrived, things flowed along just fine.

In a letter to the Symphony board, Denise Takano, director of elementary education at DUSD, wrote, "Our students and teachers were truly delighted to experience such wonderful music at the Downey Theatre. Sharon Lavery conducts the orchestra in a way that keeps the students' attention, and makes the concert not only educational, but also fun. Many of them leave feeling inspired to learn how to play a musical instrument. Hopefully, you will see some of these fifth grade students performing in our high schools' bands in a few years."

So with anticipation and confidence, we'll be watching those side stages!

## Weldon returns to OASIS

**DOWNEY** – Jimmy Weldon, a popular TV personality in the 50's and 60's, will present his newest program, "From Pedals to Propellers," this Monday at the OASIS meeting at Downey Adult School.

Weldon is best known with his sidekick Webster Webfoot. Weldon appeared in numerous television shows throughout his career, and is now an entertainer and motivational speaker.

The OASIS program is free to older adults and is held inside the Harriett Paine Event Center at Downey Adult School.

Enrollment begins at 2:45 p.m. The program starts at 3:45 and is followed by an optional dinner which may be purchased for \$3.50 at time of enrollment.

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

## Downey High's new play is crazy, kooky fun

By BRIANNE SCHAR,  
INTERN

**DOWNEY** – Crazy and kooky are the best words to describe Downey High School's latest drama production "Run for the Money" set to premiere Tuesday at 7 p.m.

"It's a really fast-paced screwball comedy," said drama instructor Lars Hansen.

"Run for the Money" is a story of greedy people who do not learn from their mistakes. After the death of a family member, the main characters each want their cut of the money. The characters end up playing a game in which they must decipher clues to find their inheri-

tance.

The play will run from June 2-6 at 7 p.m. each night. Tickets are \$6 presale and \$8 at the door. Tickets may be purchased from Downey's ASB window or by contacting Hansen at lhansen@dusd.net.

This will be the first production in Downey High's new theater, which seats 235. The theater has many perks, including high-tech lighting and sound systems. The larger theater also allowed for more elaborate set designs.

Hansen, who has been teaching drama at Downey for five years, said he is still working with the cast to figure out how everything works and to get used to the feeling of

performing in front of a larger audience.

Callie Cook has been acting since elementary school and has participated in three plays at Downey. She said the play is, "Wacky. It's very different and has a lot of humor."

"I wanted to do something that was light and easy to get kids involved in," Hansen said.

"Run for the Money" features many students who are not enrolled in any drama classes. Hansen described this play as a great opportunity to use the new stage and get more kids involved in drama.

## Survey: Hollywood violence can scar children

Most children witness two murders a day.

This is one of the results of a survey conducted by the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, which estimates most American children, will witness as many as 16,000 murders via television and movies by the time they are 18.

This frightening statistic is why families need to take care with the filmed entertainment they consume, according to family expert Teri Haux, author of "Movie Viewer Extraordinaire: Discerning the Influences of Movies on Your Freedom, Family and Happiness," from Booksurge. (www.movieviewerextra.com).

"Consuming graphic violence for fun devalues all life, including our own," Haux explains. "Watching excessive graphic violence and gore, like exploding body parts, torture and wonton murder for entertainment has two main destructive results. The first is a person, particularly youth, may become afraid of death and dying.

This powerful fear short circuits a person's response when faced with actual traumatic experiences. In other words, they are more likely to become a helpless victim, versus a strong person who is able to defend themselves. The other likely result is they may become more violent, viewing violence as a way to resolve any conflict."

The study also concluded that:  
•Sexual content appears in 64% of all TV programs, averaging 4.4 scenes per hour

•44% of kids say they watch different movies when they are alone than with their parents

•60% of teens state they acquire their information regarding sex and

sexual health from TV and movies, as opposed to a healthcare provider or family member

While it's easy to rationalize, "They're just movies," Haux believes the entertainment culture of the United States has become a more significant influencer of attitudes than most people think.

"During a friendly debate with a university professor regarding the importance of making moral judgment calls on the media we consume, my friend declared 'all life stories are valid,'" Haux says. "I responded with 'the truth is movies often tell lies.' She looked at me funny, but would not be swayed in her opinion that all movies are good. This shows how powerful the movie experience can be, even though we know it is just a movie. The emotions we feel are the same as if the drama on screen was actually unfolding in our lives off screen. Movies feel real, especially well made ones."

Conversely, Haux believes not every violent movie is bad.

"The silver lining is in movies which inspire us to be better people and stand up to fight for our freedom, families and lives," she says. "Any John Wayne movie is a good example. Movies like 'High Noon' or 'Gettysburg' which show incredible examples to emulate, without excessive graphic violence can be some of the most cathartic and awesome cinematic experiences leaving us wanting to be better people."

One piece of anecdotal evidence to support her opinion was the story of her friend, who is a head nurse in an intensive care unit.

"Excessive violence in media is causing an irrational fear of death as a natural process in life," Haux states "An ICU nurse lamented to me recently how more and more people are afraid of being close to family members while they're dying. Increasingly she has to help people show love during the last few moments of a loved one's life. So, what's wrong with this picture?"

Haux's primary viewpoint, however, is that movies have an impact on our decision-making capacities.

"Life is made up of thousands of moments where we can choose to act in a positive or destructive way," she said. "Movies are a significant component in preprogramming our responses with examples to follow. It is critical to our freedom, families and happiness that we carefully choose the media which we allow to enter our lives, because it is not just two hours of mindless entertainment."

Teri Haux has been a screenwriter for nearly a decade. Her scripts have been optioned for production and she has placed as a finalist in the Scriptapalooza and the Bluecat Screenwriting screenplay competitions.

## Last chance to bid on library auction items

**DOWNEY** – Tomorrow is the last day to bid for 12 silent auction items now on display in the foyer of the Downey City Library, 11121 Brookshire Ave.

Bids can be placed inside the library's Friend's Book Store until May 30.

Among the items to be auctioned: "Father and Son: The Bond," a collection of photographs and essays on the relationship between fathers and sons; "Here's a Little Poem" by Jane Yolen and Andrew Peters, a child's first book of poetry; "The Encyclopedia of Ships" by Tony Gibbons includes more than 1,500 military and civilian ships from 5000 BC to the present; "Exploring the West" by Herman Viola includes drawings, photos and maps from the early years of exploring the West.

For more information on any of the books, visit the library.

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Mon to Thu. (12:20, 2:35, 4:55), 7:20, 9:35  
\* NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM: BATTLE OF THE SMITHSONIAN PG (10:55, 11:40, 1:35, 2:20, 4:15, 5:00), 7:00, 7:45, 9:40, 10:25  
\* TERMINATOR SALVATION PG-13  
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# Volunteers: Mayor: Downey is a great place because of people like you.

Continued from page 1

Pat Vallefucio is this year's Downey Family YMCA nominated honoree. She is the current president of the Downey Y's Men Club which raises funds through sales projects, Christmas tree lot sales and other fundraisers. She is known for her all-out support for the Y's youth and family programs.

Louis Wilson joined the Downey Regional Medical Center Auxiliary 32 years ago, and has logged a total of 10,500 volunteer hours being a general factotum (floor service, chaplain's aide, chairman of ICU/CCU, etc.). According to her associates, the word, CARING, is writ large on her forehead. Her nomination to receive DCC recognition this year was uncontested.

The Downey Rose Float Association's representative this year was Mike Artherton, a Float member for 22 years and currently its 1st vice president. He is known to Furman Park summer concert aficionados as the "ice cream scooper guy." A Boy Scout leader for several years, he's also involved with the Southern California Metropolitan Car Club which hosted the Southwestern Unique Little Car Show at the Citadel this past April.

Downey Sister Cities' choice as its honoree was Paula Mejia, who is this year's association's treasurer. Her family has resided in Downey for many years. She has held various positions with the Montebello Board of Realtors and has recently joined the Amer-I-Can program where she will counsel kids and parents. Her daughter Jacqueline, who is now pursuing a career in journalism at the University of Missouri, was at one time an occasional contributor to this paper.

Getting recognition is old hat to Bernice Stumps, honored by the Downey Symphony Guild as its representative for outstanding volunteer. A mother of 5, and grandmother of 9, she finds time to build and manage the Downey Tennis Club's website and is on the tennis courts several times a week. A member of the Women's Club of Downey and Pro Networkers of Downey, she has her own business as an authorized contractor for The Free enterprise Institute, a company that that "teaches and promotes business

ethics and creative technologies for solving problems."

The Downey Symphonic Society's representative nominee this year was Downey Symphony director Sharon Lavery, who also teaches and conducts at USC's Thornton School of Music. With characteristic energy, she has thrown herself into a lot of projects promoting the continued success of the Downey Symphony, including founding a Young Artist Competition, to the delight of many.

Harriett Paine, Adult Education home economist, instructor and author, needs practically no introduction because of her work with OASIS. Her early pioneering work in the home and family disaster preparation area, following the San Fernando earthquake, led her into a collaboration with the city manager and the fire chief in promoting city disaster preparedness via churches, clubs, the PTA and city employees. She was the Emergency Preparedness Committee's choice as its honoree this year.

Representing the Friends of the Downey City Library was its long-time volunteer, former president and its perennial bookkeeper, Vicki Spearman, who works full-time as a realtor and was the moving force behind the major remodel of the main entrance and the Friends bookstore. Hard to contemplate, but she, a Warren High School product, has been married for 46 years to a Downey High alumnus.

Barbara Lamberth was this year's Gangs Out of Downey outstanding nominee for her indefatigable involvement in many areas of GOOD's increasingly influential program. She has served as GOOD chairman and is "one of the key reasons GOOD continues to thrive."

Honored for the "time and energy he has contributed to the community over the years," Byron Dillon, retired dentist and former U.S.A.F. captain who served in WWII and the Korean War, was a shoo-in as Keep Downey Beautiful outstanding volunteer nominee. He is known to remove or pick up anything that even remotely resembles trash or clean surfaces of unwanted graffiti. Not only is this commendable activity "keeping him fit" by walking daily, he also leaves behind a clean street."

Living Help Center's delegate honoree was Linda Malme, who has been with the center for over 15 years. She has been a board member and worked many positions but mainly she has worked in the computer department. She has also invested her energies in the center's Walk for Life program and the city's Kids Day at the park.

The Newcomers Club of Downey's honoree was Joanne Hoffman who joined the club in 1989. Since then she has served as secretary, treasurer, president and chairman of activities and decorations. She helps out with the club's scholarship program, entertains monthly for the Pan Group and the monthly coffee, and hosts the annual Back Yard get-together.

Daniel Gold was the Optimist Club of Downey's representative volunteer of the year for his involvement with its many charitable activities. He is on the golf tournament committee, supports Arc, participates in the annual Halloween Pumpkin Patch event, and helps provide major assistance to the children's programs at Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center.

The Polio Survivors Association's choice as outstanding volunteer was Nora Ruth Pla, for her work with adults, children and infants with various disabling conditions, including spinal cord injury, developmental disabilities, and polio. A regular volunteer at Rancho Los Amigos, she devotes many hours each month helping the Polio Survivors Association and the Rancho Post-Polio Support Group.

Rancho Los Amigos' volunteer of the year was Julie Helgren, who is celebrating her 25th year of service there, particularly in the area of pediatric care. Through her "bubbly personality and consummate professionalism, combined with her endless creativity," she tries to help every kid participate in "life-changing activities and achieve their dreams."

Together for Hope's representative was David Butler, an alumnus of Warren High and Cerritos College. He worked as a federal fireman at Fort Riley Army Base in Kansas and is a Vietnam veteran. Upon retirement, he returned to California where was put to work by The Ladies of Together for Hope.

A relative newcomer to

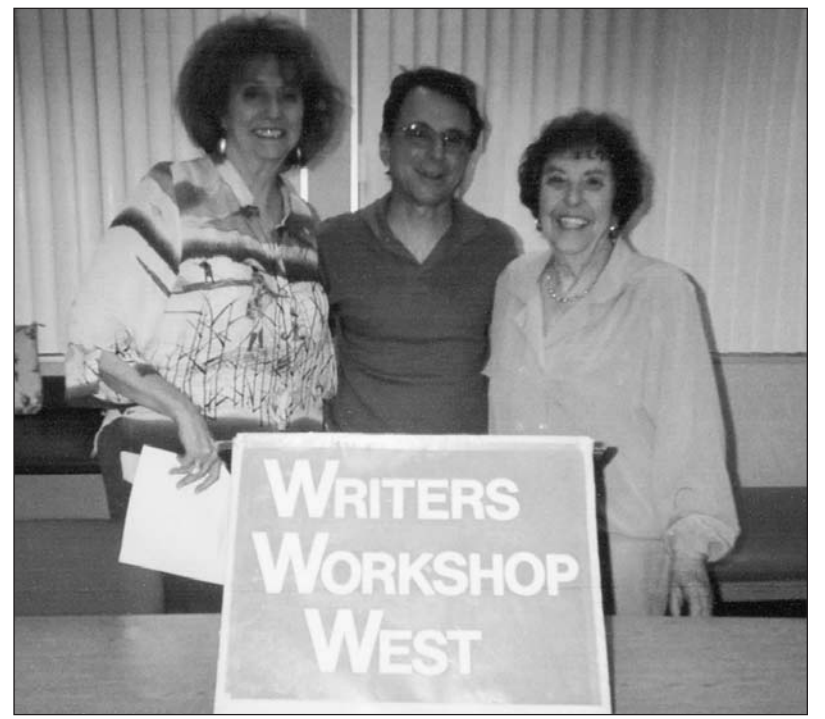
Soroptimist International of Downey, Patricia Kotze's drive and talents have catapulted her to leadership roles. She is SI Downey's president-elect and served as chairperson of the club's scholarship committee this year, after co-chairing the recent Casino Night Fundraiser. She concurrently serves on the board of the Downey Chamber of Commerce.

Unity in the Community's honoree was Devi Kokaram, who has been involved with the association's work with the residents of Treasure Island for some time now. She currently serves as vice president. Her active involvement includes following up on safety concerns on the Island, interfacing with city officials on the Island's behalf and helping arrange feature events. She was at one time editor of the Island newsletter, "The Breeze."

Outstanding volunteer up for recognition chosen by Women's Club of Downey was longtime member (23 years), former president (2 years) and former executive board member (3 years) Cheryl Olson whose active participation in the club's activities has included serving as Su Casa Domestic Violence Shelter chairman for 18 years, service in the Gourmet Section for 10 years, and helping obtain items for veterans at the VA hospital in Long Beach. She first started serving the community by becoming a "candy striper" in 1963 at Rancho Los Amigos.

Outgoing DCC president and emcee for the evening Anne Bayer thanked her 2008-09 officers team that included nonreturning Kathleen Midstokke as treasurer and Linda Malme as auditor, for their "support and a job well done." The rest of her original team forms the core of the incoming 2009-10 officers, namely, Leonard Zuniga, who served as secretary and will now serve as president; Barbara Emry, who will continue to serve as 1st vice president; and Carol Rowland, who will continue as 2nd vice president. DeeAnna Hampton is the new secretary, Brenda Warner the new treasurer; and Jan Scott the new auditor.

Acknowledging the large turnout to the event and no less important its quality, mayor Mario Guerra said: "Downey is a great place because of people like you."



Lorine Parks, Frank Kearns and Rosalie Sciortino (from left) were winners in two recent contests sponsored by Writers' Workshop West.

## Writers' group announces winners

**DOWNEY** – Writers' Workshop West winners in two recent contests have been announced by president Ralph Cohen.

Frank Kearns won first place in the serious poetry contest for his submission, "Night Life." Second place was won by Lorine Parks for "The Iron Fireman," and third went to Rosalie Sciortino for "My Mother's Garden."

Peggy Smith's "Writing Tips" was a first prize winner in the light verse contest. Second place went to Parks for "Buddha in the Magic Nails Parlor," and third place to Sciortino for "September Morning."

Writers' Workshop West meets the third Tuesday of each month in the Downey High School library at 7:30 p.m. People interested in writing are invited to join the group of amateur and professional writers for an informal meeting of people who enjoy sharing their work.

Four contests are held each year and cash prizes are awarded. For more information, call (562) 862-3106.

## Church hosting annual conference

**DOWNEY** – The Love, Peace and Happiness Church will host the 2009 Annual Living Word Conference next week, June 3-7.

The theme is "Connecting to Kingdom Greatness and Increase." Institutional Hour is from 6:30-7:15 p.m. nightly during the conference, with nightly services at 7:30 p.m. Sunday services will be at 8:30 a.m., 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Conference speakers include Pastor Derek Rimson, Dr. Jean Perez and Bishop Alfred Smith of Humble, Tex.; and Bishop Truman Martin of Dayton, Ohio.

The conference will end with a Shepherd's Day Celebration on June 7 at 3 p.m. Musical guests will include Sounds of Salvation, Shervonne Wells – formerly of the Kurt Carr Singers, Minister Keith Pringle, DeVo Called & Chosen, Pastor Carlos Martin, Shackelford Miracle Temple Choir, and others.

The community invited to the conference. Love, Peace and Happiness Church is at 11022 Old River School Rd.

For more information on the conference and transportation options, call (562) 806-9890 or visit [www.lphfamily.org](http://www.lphfamily.org).

## Apartment homes get makeover

**DOWNEY** – A Downey apartment complex will celebrate the completion of extensive renovations with a ribbon-cutting ceremony June 4 at 4 p.m.

The Parc@5 apartment homes are located at 9140 Brookshire Ave., north of Gallatin Road. The complex built a state-of-the-art fitness center, business center and clubhouse.

The Downey Chamber of Commerce will assist with the ribbon-cutting. Appetizers and refreshments will be served.

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# Downey flashes the glove, advances in playoffs

■ Big defensive play by Alex Jimenez in the first inning is key as Downey beats Ocean View, 3-1, in CIF playoffs. Vikings will travel to Lancaster today.

BY SCOTT COBOS,  
STAFF WRITER

**DOWNEY** – It's not very often that you see a play in the first inning of a baseball game that makes the difference in the final results, but in a 3-1 Downey victory over Ocean View there was that one play that made all the difference.

With baseball being a game of inches, it took Downey shortstop Alex Jimenez just under a foot to win a game for the Vikings by snagging a line drive over his head to keep two runs from scoring.

"[The catch] was pretty big," Jimenez said. "Just that 11 1/2-inch glove caught it. I didn't even know I had it."

Downey had just scratched on the scoreboard with a run in the top of the first inning after Jimenez doubled, moved over to third base after Ivory Thomas and Michael Mazzara walks, then scored on a Mark Palacios sacrifice fly to centerfield.

Ocean View quickly responded in the bottom half of the inning with back-to-back singles by Aaron Delgado and Kevin Mackey. The two runners moved up a base after a dribbler to Jimenez.

With only one out and pitcher Jesse Silva a little shaky, Silva delivered a 1-0 pitch to Ocean View's cleanup hitter that was lined about three feet above Jimenez's head. The shortstop leaped, threw up his gloved hand, and snagged the ball out of midair saving two runs.

Silva would then strike out the next hitter to end the inning. Not knowing that the final score would have Downey ahead by only two runs, that single play possibly saved Downey's playoff life.

"It was big, it was good," said Downey manager Jess Gonzalez. "[Ocean View] took two great at bats to start the game. It was a big play."

The play loomed big in that inning but also seemed to affect the way Silva pitched. After throwing 20 pitches in the first inning, Silva averaged no more than 14 pitches per inning the rest of the way and didn't allow anyone past first base until the final inning of the game.

This was Silva's first experience pitching in a CIF playoff game and while the first inning was scary he forced himself to

buckle down and throw strikes like a veteran.

"You have to do it," Silva said about settling down and making pitches. "You have to make it happen."

Gonzalez was also impressed with his junior saying that he mixed his pitches very well and threw everything for strikes which was key.

"He sacked up and threw those curveballs and changeups even when he got behind in a count he threw a 2-1 change or a 2-1 curveball and they swung at them," Gonzalez said.

Silva pitched a complete game, allowed one run, struck out five and most importantly didn't walk anyone, making Ocean View put the ball in play, giving his defense a chance to succeed and feel the rhythm of the game.

Downey looked like they didn't skip a beat even after blowing out El Rancho last Friday 16-0. Gonzalez knew his team wouldn't fall asleep at the wheel after a laugh.

"In the playoffs, I don't think that's something we need to worry about," he said. "I don't think any team needs to worry about that in the playoffs. I mean it's one and done."

After the first inning run, Downey tacked on another run in the third inning after another hit by Jimenez to start the inning. He was then moved to second after another walk to Thomas and advanced to third on a busted double steal. Ocean View pitcher Andrew Bynum tried to pick off Jimenez at third base but threw the ball up the line allowing Jimenez to score.

In the fourth inning, Anthony Roller led off with a single and then was replaced by pinch runner Josh Collazo. Collazo stole second base then moved to third after a Cesar Valtierra single. Jimenez singled him in for Downey's third and final run.

Ocean View's only threat of the game after the first inning came in the bottom of the seventh inning after a lead off single that got to third base after a groundball to second then a defense indifference. The run scored after a hit. The threat ended after Silva got a groundball to second base to end the game.

Downey will head to Lancaster High School for their third round game today. The



C.J. Pacheco pitched a no-hitter as he led his Cubs of West Downey Little League's Major Division to a victory over the Angels. C.J., who also plays catcher and shortstop, threw 71 pitches in six innings. He struck out 12 and walked one.

Lancaster Eagles were champions of the Golden League and have scored double digits in both their CIF games. In the first round, they defeated Laguna Hills 13-12 and in Tuesday's second round game, they beat Bell Gardens 12-2.

Game time is 3:15 p.m.

#### First round

Downey opened up their CIF playoffs with a first round blowout against El Rancho, winning 16-0 with Chris Munoz and Bryant De La Campa supplying all the power.

Munoz smacked a pair of homeruns and De La Campa added one of his own in the demolition of El Rancho who had to play in a wild card game before going up against the No. 1 seed out of the San Gabriel Valley League.

The Vikings took any excitement out of the game by scoring six runs in the first and three runs in the second which all but closed the game.

Ten runners saw at bats in the first inning and quickly chased Dons pitcher Joey Moran.

Munoz while smacking a pair of homeruns also introduced himself as a potential all-CIF pitcher to El Rancho and shutout El Rancho through six innings before picking up his area best eighth win.

He allowed three hits and struck out five in his innings of work. He did run into some trouble in the second and third innings but worked his way out of runner-in-scoring position jams and picked up the win.



Lauren Rumbaugh, right, was the winner of the 49th annual Rio Hondo Women's Golf Club Championship Tournament, held May 19 at the Rio Hondo Golf Club. Shin Hee Kim, left, was runner-up in the 3-day tournament.

## Ponytail softball now accepting registration

**DOWNEY** – Downey Ponytail is now accepting registration for its fall league, open to girls ages 7-18.

Practice begins in August and games begin the Saturday after Labor Day. The season ends just before Thanksgiving.

Registration is \$80 for the first girl and \$70 for each additional sibling.

All games are doubleheaders played on Saturdays. Home games are at Independence Park and away games are played at various nearby cities, including Norwalk, Cerritos, Pico Rivera, San Pedro, Torrance, La Mirada, El Segundo, Palos Verdes, Redondo Beach, Long Beach and Whittier.

Game times are 9 a.m. and 11 a.m., or 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. Applications will be available at the Independence Park snack shack Monday through Thursday, 5-7 p.m., until June 25.

Last chance signups, if room permits, will be held during the Downey All Star Classic, July 17-19, at Independence Park.

## Middle school track meet June 6

**DOWNEY** – The Downey Unified School District will present its 35th annual Middle School Track Meet on June 6 at Downey High School.

The meet brings together sixth, seventh and eighth grade representatives from all four Downey middle schools. Approximately 400 student athletes will compete in track and field events.

Field events are scheduled to begin at 8:30 a.m., followed by running events at 9:15 a.m.

Team scoring will be on a 6-4-3-2-1 basis for first through fifth place in each event.

The public is invited to attend. Admission is free.

## Head Start accepting applications

**SANTA FE SPRINGS** – Head Start, a pre-school program offered to low-income families by the Los Angeles County Office of Education, is now accepting applications for fall 2009.

Head Start is free to families and provides early childhood education, health/dental assessments and referrals, healthy meals, mental health counseling, and parent training.

Half-day school programs are offered 4-5 days a week. In some areas, full-day programs are available.

Only households that meet certain income restrictions are eligible to apply for Head Start. For more information, call (877) 773-5543.

## Hearing loss group hosting potluck

**LAKEWOOD** – The Hearing Loss Association, Long Beach/Lakewood Chapter will host a potluck dinner June 11 at the Weingart Senior Center in Lakewood.

The Hearing Loss Association is a support group offering education on coping skills and resources "to help survive in a hearing world."

The community is invited to attend the free meeting. For more information, call (562) 433-6509.

### Volunteers Needed... Help Your Community Prepare for a Potential Disaster



Downey Regional Medical Center,  
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the City of Downey Fire Department need you!

We're looking for volunteers to participate  
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An informational meeting for all participants will take place  
on Monday, June 8 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. in  
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**Please call 562-904-5580 to sign up or for additional information.**

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# Freddie Fazzina was WWII Army vet

**DOWNEY** – Freddie Fazzina, a lifetime Downey resident, passed away peacefully May 16 with his two daughters by his side. He was 81.



Born in Manchester, Conn. on May 3, 1928 to Paulina Cardel and Frank Fazzina, he was a veteran of World War II after serving three years in the U.S. Army.

He worked as a warehouseman for General Electric Co. for more than 30 years.

Fazzina is survived by his daughters, Dawn and Diana Fazzina, of California; sister, Lena Ciccio, of Connecticut; brothers, Nunzio Fazzina of Nevada and Francis Fazzina of California; and grandson, Vincent Michael Thompson, of Tennessee.

Services will be held today at 11:45 a.m. inside stage area 4 at Riverside National Cemetery in Riverside.

Arrangements were under the direction of Miller-Mies Mortuary.

## Patriotic concert in Norwalk

**NORWALK** – Sweet Adelines International's Southland Harmony is presenting a patriotic show, "I Love America," on June 23 at the Norwalk Masonic Center, 12345 Rosecrans Ave., Norwalk.

The event begins with dinner at 6:30 p.m., followed by the show. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 for children under 13.

For tickets, call (562) 862-9592.

## Yard sale to help cancer victim

**DOWNEY** – A yard sale to benefit the family of Jason James Williams, a former Downey resident who died May 11 after a long battle with cancer, will be held this weekend at 12313 Horley Ave.

Proceeds from the sale will be donated to the Williams family to assist with their recent funeral expenses.

The yard sale will be open Saturday and Sunday from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.

## School to mark 100 years

**HUNTINGTON PARK** – Huntington Park High School will commemorate their centennial with a free, all-day celebration Sept. 12 on the school's campus.

The event will include music, food, historical displays, and campus tours.

For more information, call the school at (323) 826-2300 or contact Irene Berrones Settele (class of '76) at irenehp@verizon.net.

The school is accepting donations of goods and services for the event.

## Downey grad gets leadership award

**WINONA LAKE, IND.** – Abigail Marie Nishimoto, a Downey High School graduate, was the recipient of the Communication Student Leadership Award for the 08-09 academic year at Grace College.

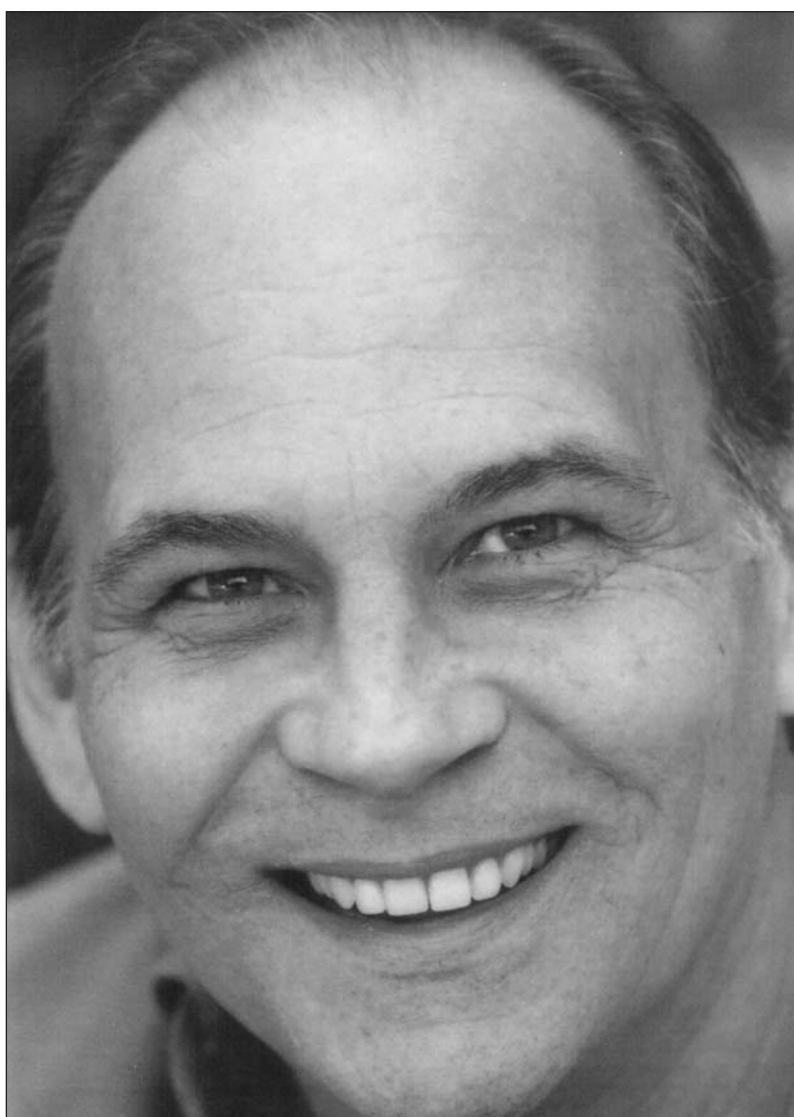
The award is presented annually to a communication student who demonstrated "strong academic achievement, consistently showed leadership through involvement in department and college activities, and modeled Christian communication principles both in and out of the classroom."

Grace College is an evangelical Christian liberal arts college in Winona Lake, Ind.

Nishimoto is the daughter of Thomas and Tamra Hocking of Downey. She is a 2006 graduate of Downey High School.



Downey Adult School held its fourth graduation and pinning ceremony for its Vocational Nursing program on May 14. Barbara Samperi, vice president of the Board of Education, gave the salutation while board member Martha Sodemani served as keynote speaker. Awards were given to students who had perfect attendance and others who exhibited outstanding clinical performance. Salutatorian and valedictorian awards were also handed out. The night concluded with a candle-lighting ceremony, in which all nurses recited the Nursing Pledge.



George Champion makes his fourth appearance with the Downey Civic Light Opera as he portrays Bert in "42nd Street," now playing at the Downey Theatre. For ticket information, visit the box office or call (562) 923-1714.



Downey native Adrianna Palmero earned the Girl Scout Silver Award, recognizing her accomplishments in Girl Scouting and the community. Adrianna completed her Silver Award project as a Cadette (Juliette) Girl Scout by creating care kits that she distributed to senior citizens, with the help of CareMore Insurance Services. During the awards ceremony, Adrianna, a freshman at St. Joseph's High School, received a special commendation and a certificate of recognition from the city of Downey.

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Line 5

ACTUAL SIZE

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

Deadlines for announcements is June 15 and will be published on June 19, 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 (Father's Name) \_\_\_\_\_  
Line 2 (Your message here) \_\_\_\_\_  
Line 3 \_\_\_\_\_  
Line 4 \_\_\_\_\_  
Line 5 \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

## Hats Off to the Graduates! Congratulations, Class of 2009!



**Photo Here**

**Graduates Name**  
Line 2  
Line 3  
Line 4  
Line 5

ACTUAL SIZE

The Downey Patriot will publish a special section dedicated to commencement and graduation ceremonies. For only \$25.00, you can honor your graduate with a 1.986" by 3" announcement. They will be listed by school and by name.

Deadlines for High School announcements is June 8 and will be published on June 12, 2009.

- Include the following information:
- ✓ Completed Information Card
  - ✓ Photo of the Graduate
    - 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 Avenue, 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 (Graduate's Name) \_\_\_\_\_  
Line 2 (School) \_\_\_\_\_  
Line 3 (Your message here) \_\_\_\_\_  
Line 4 \_\_\_\_\_  
Line 5 \_\_\_\_\_

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

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





Cristian Ripoll has joined Century 21 My Real Estate as a full-time agent. Ripoll is experienced as a licensed life insurance, health insurance, and variable annuities agent. "We welcome Cristian to our office. His attention to detail coupled with his community-minded attitude make him a perfect match with the team here at Century 21 My Real Estate," said broker and owner Steve Roberson. To reach Ripoll, call (562) 927-2626.



Century 21 My Real Estate has welcomed Melanie Downing to its staff. Downing is a resident of Downey and graduated from Loyola Marymount University with a degree in Liberal Studies. "We are thrilled to have this delightful and talented young woman as a part of our dynamic sales team," said Steve Roberson. "Melanie brings a positive energy coupled with an optimistic approach to learning and integrity." To contact Downing, call (562) 927-2626.

### Mystery writers to lead discussion

**DOWNEY** – Some of Southern California's best mystery writers will be in Downey on June 6 for a book-signing and luncheon event sponsored by Friends of the Downey City Library.

The event begins at 11:30 a.m. at the Rio Hondo Event Center. Downey High School graduate and mystery writer Jeff Sherratt will join a panel consisting of authors Michael Mallory, Gary Phillips and Darrell James. Their books will be available for purchase and signing after the discussion.

Cost to attend is \$20 and includes choice of a beef, chicken or pasta lunch.

Reservation forms are available inside the Friend's Gift Shop inside the library. Deadline for reservations is May 30.

### Free concert, festival at Warren

**DOWNEY** – The Warren High School Symphonic and Jazz Bands will present a free concert today at the school's stadium.

A family festival with entertainment, food vendors and 50/50 raffle will be available before the concert, beginning at 5 p.m. The concert starts at 7 p.m.

Admission to the festival and concert is free.

### City accepting applications for military banner program

**DOWNEY** – The city of Downey is now accepting applications for the Military Banner Program, a new plan designed to support, recognize and express appreciation to active American military service members currently serving overseas.

Banners listing the service member's name and branch of service will be displayed throughout the city.

In order to qualify for the program, honorees must be on active overseas duty with a branch of the U.S. military. The honorees must also be a resident or relative of a Downey resident, or had been a Downey resident for some period during the ages of 1-21.

Donations are being solicited from residents and local businesses for the purchase of the banners. To make a donation, or to request an application, call (562) 904-1895.

June's RED HOT COUPONS

**La Fonda de Michoacan**  
Finest Mexican Food in Town  
7939 Imperial Highway • (562) 923-8017  
• Gorditas • Empanadas • Tacos • Taquitos • Enchiladas

**BUY ONE ENTREE  
GET ONE FREE**  
with purchase of 2 beverages  
EXP. 6/30/09

**WAELEVA Party Supply**  
11911 Lakewood Blvd., Downey  
(562) 861-9896  
Tables / Chair Rentals - Dulceria - Heaters  
Helium tanks - Flowers - Hall Decoration - Gift Shop

**JUMPERS 3 IN 1 COMBO WATER SLIDES**

\$10.00 off any Party Rental Exp. 6/30/09

**We Love Our Community.**  
"If you think it,  
We can cook it!"

Bring this Coupon to  
receive **10% off** any  
purchase over \$20.00

**11018 Downey Ave.  
(562) 622-7373** Exp. 6-30-09

**PINA PIZZA HOUSE & RESTAURANT**  
ESTABLISHED 1959  
11102 PARAMOUNT BLVD. DOWNEY, CA 90241  
OWNED AND OPERATED BY PINA & JOHN PERSICO  
• Banquet Room • Catering Available • We Deliver

**15% OFF**  
Everything excluding  
beverages  
(Dine-In-Only) Exp. 6-30-09

Tuesday - Thursday ~ 11:00 A.M. to 9:00 P.M.  
Friday - Saturday ~ 11:00 A.M. to 10:00 P.M.  
Sunday ~ 11:00 A.M. to 9:00 P.M.  
(Our dining room closes 30 min. prior)  
Closed Mondays

562-923-4411

**Early Bird Special** Exp. July 2009 not valid w/any other coupon

Come in for a  
Haircut on  
Tuesday or  
Wednesday for  
**\$25**

ReLini

BUSINESS HOURS: TUES-FRI: 9AM-8PM | SAT: 8AM-5PM | SUN: 10AM-4PM  
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Weddings, anniversaries, proms, funerals,  
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We rent tables, chairs, helium tanks.  
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Downey, CA. 90242  
Tel: (562) 861-4143

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OUR CLIENTS

"Maria Zuloaga did a wonderful job! I couldn't have asked for anyone better." – **Cristina Purintun**

"Angie Pierce and Maria Cibrian did a great job. They were easy to work with and always followed up. **Angie and Maria** were flexible to work with my schedule." - **Amaury Rosario**

"Raul Palacio did a good job! It was a smooth transaction and **Raul** was very helpful. **Raul** was knowledgeable and closed this deal fast!" – **Raoul Palacio**

FEATURED PROPERTY

**5 Bedroom Condo**  
Hard to find 5 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Newer kitchen cabinets and granite counter top, tile/ laminate floors... 2 car garage, located in a nice area of the complex. Priced for today's market!

TOP PRODUCERS

**TOP LISTING**  
Lilian Lopez &  
Lorena Amaya

**TOP PRODUCTION**  
Rowena  
Dominguez

**TOP SALES**  
Lilian Lopez &  
Lorena Amaya

**Clean Corner Unit**

Very nice 2 bedrooms, 2 bath condo. Nice area. Good short sale opportunity.

**Not A Short or Reo Sale**

A Great house with 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, fresh paint, updated bathrooms and new tile on kitchen floor. This is a great house in a great location and price to sell fast.

**Beautiful and Charming**

Large kitchen w/Island, Formal dining area, 3 bedrooms, 3 baths, large living room with fireplace, family room. Very nice Downey area! Priced to sell

**One Of The Best**

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

**First Time Buyer**

This 3 bedroom, 2 bathrooms, nice size property and this is price right as a short sale.

**A Grand Opportunity**

New Construction in Downey, 4 separate houses with private yards. Each unit has 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, central heat & A/C, fire sprinklers, granite countertops, and interior laundry. This has great opportunity!

**FHA Buyers!**

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

**Remarkable Opportunity**

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

**QUALITY SERVICE**  
AWARD 1998-2008

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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>JUST LISTED!</b></p>  <p><b>3 UNITS</b> 3 units in Lincoln Heights area of Los Angeles <b>PRICE: \$249,900</b> Call Carrie for Info 562-382-1252</p>	<p><b>Angel Martinez</b> "Your Real Estate Angel!" <b>562-619-2979</b> <a href="mailto:Angel@prudential24Hours.com">Angel@prudential24Hours.com</a></p> <p><b>JUST REDUCED!</b></p>  <p><b>ROOM TO GROW!</b> 4 BD, 2 BA, living room &amp; dining room, 1,800 sq. ft. + all on a 18,000 sq. ft. lot. <b>Foreclosure Price!</b> Call Angel Martinez @ 562-382-7299</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>NEW LOW PRICE!</b></p>  <p><b>SELLER SAYS "SELL IT!"</b> Huge Master Suite. Glorious kitchen &amp; Family room 4 BD, 3BA, 3000 + Sq ft. Remodeled. MAKE OFFER!! A MUST SEE! <b>Virtual tour at www.MARIOPERSICO.COM</b></p>
<p><b>FOR RENT!</b></p>  <p><b>HOUSE FOR RENT!</b> 3 BD, 1 BA home in N. Downey. Call Carrie for info 562-382-1252</p>	<p><b>JUST REDUCED!</b></p>  <p><b>QUALITY &amp; ELEGANCE!</b> 5 BD, 4 BA, 3,172 sq. ft., 9,625 sq. ft. HUGE LOT! Priced at: <b>\$649,000</b> Call Jason Lockwood @ (562) 619-2979</p>	<p><b>LEISURE WORLD!</b></p>  <p><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>RENTALS AVAILABLE!</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 8269 DePalma ~ Downey 2BD, 1BA home \$1,850 Available June 2009</li> <li>• 7150 Luxor ~ Downey 1BD, 1BA home \$1,000 Available June 2009</li> <li>• 8951 Atlantic ~ South Gate 640 sq. ft. commercial space \$600 - Available NOW!</li> <li>• 8953 Atlantic ~ South Gate 985 sq. ft. commercial space \$900 - Available NOW!</li> <li>• 8949 Atlantic ~ South Gate 2BD, 2BA home \$1,200 Available June 2009</li> <li>• 8949 1/2 Atlantic ~ South Gate 1BD, 1BA home \$600 Available June 2009</li> </ul>	<p><b>FREE LIST OF BARGAINS</b> Bank Owned Homes!!! Take Advantage Of The Low Rates, Low Prices, \$8K Tax Credit</p> <p><b>COMING SOON!</b></p>  <p><b>N. DOWNEY!</b> 3 BD, 2 BA, newer roof, paint, A/C, and more! Over 1,700 sq. ft. Call Mario For More Info 562-533-7433</p>	<p><b>IN ESCROW!!!</b></p>  <p><b>BANK REPO!</b> Newer 4,135 sq. ft. home 5 BD, 4 BA, North Downey location! Bank says sell \$749,900 Call Marie Picarelli (562) 618-0033</p>
<p><b>AVOID PROBATE!</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Living Trusts</li> <li>Wills</li> </ul> <p>Call Today to make Your Living Trust!!! <b>CALL CARRIE TODAY!</b> (562) 382-1252</p>	<p><b>JUST LISTED!</b></p>  <p><b>HOME SWEET HOME!</b> 4 BD, 3 BA, family room w/ fireplace, 10,000 Sq. Ft. HUGE LOT. PRICE: \$631,000 Call Mary Jane Lee 562-618-0390</p>	<p><b>Buying?... Selling?...</b></p> <p>Call Mario Persico</p> <p>Free Professional Consultation On All Your Real Estate Questions Call Mario Persico at (562) 533-7433</p>

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

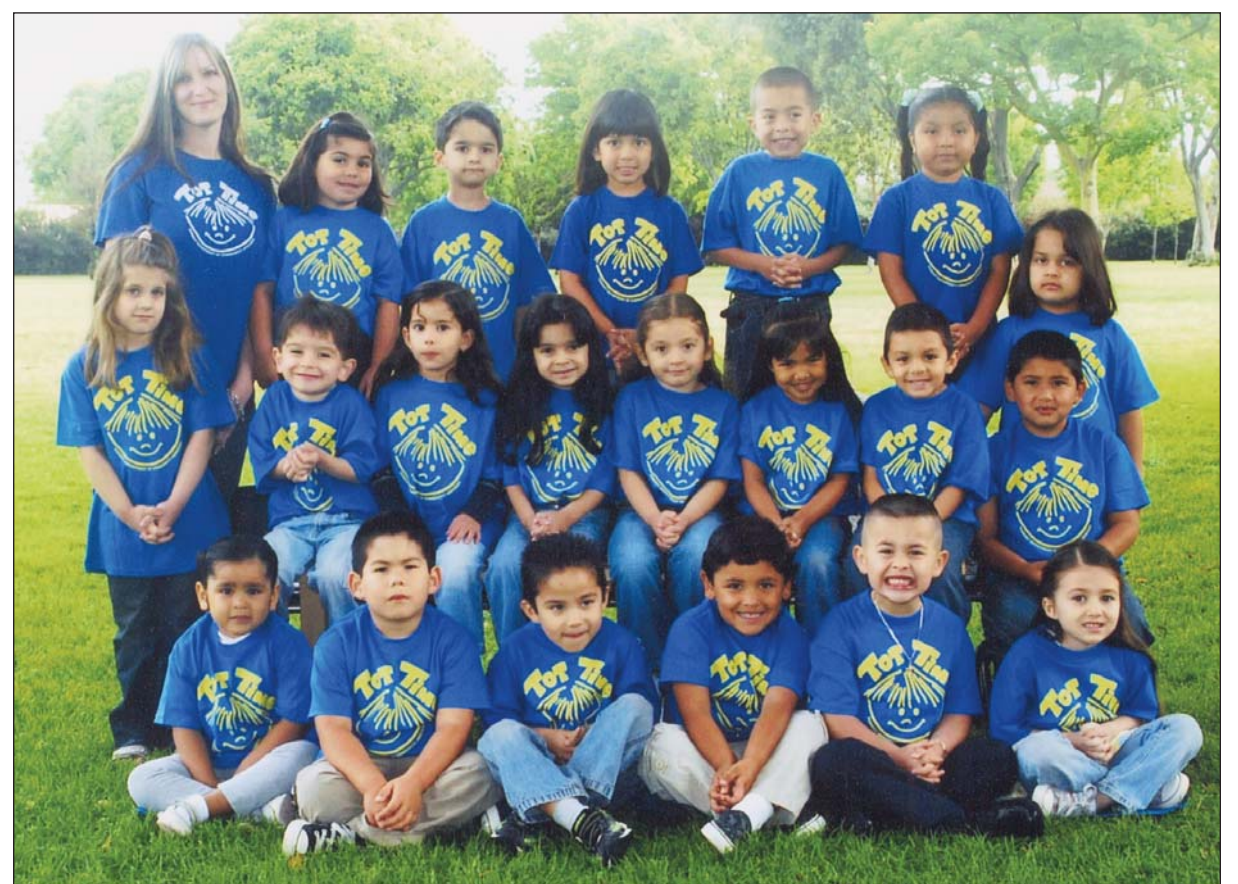


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48 homes sold in 2008!  
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 <p><b>Imagine Yourself Here!</b> Elegant 6 Br, 5 BA, custom built, Downey Home, with over 4,000 sq ft you can be the hottest house on the block! Bank in on this deal, at only \$729,900! Call Michael Berdelis at (562) 818-6111</p>	 <p><b>Building Opportunity</b> Bungalow-style, 2BR, 1BA home, on a 7,078 sq. ft. lot. Value is in the land. Call for more details. Price: \$335,000 Virtual tour at <a href="http://www.MichaelBerdelis.com">www.MichaelBerdelis.com</a></p>	 <p><b>A Real Charmer!</b> 3BD, 3BA, over 3,000 sq. ft. on 10,000 sq. ft. lot, w/ many upgrades! Price: \$765,000 Call Michael Berdelis at (562) 818-6111</p>
 <p><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>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>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>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: \$635,900 Call Michael Berdelis at (562) 818-6111</p>	 <p><b>Let's Make a Deal!</b> 5BD, 4BA, 3800 sq ft., pool and spa, 3 car garage. List Price: \$889,000 Call Michael Berdelis at (562) 818-6111</p>

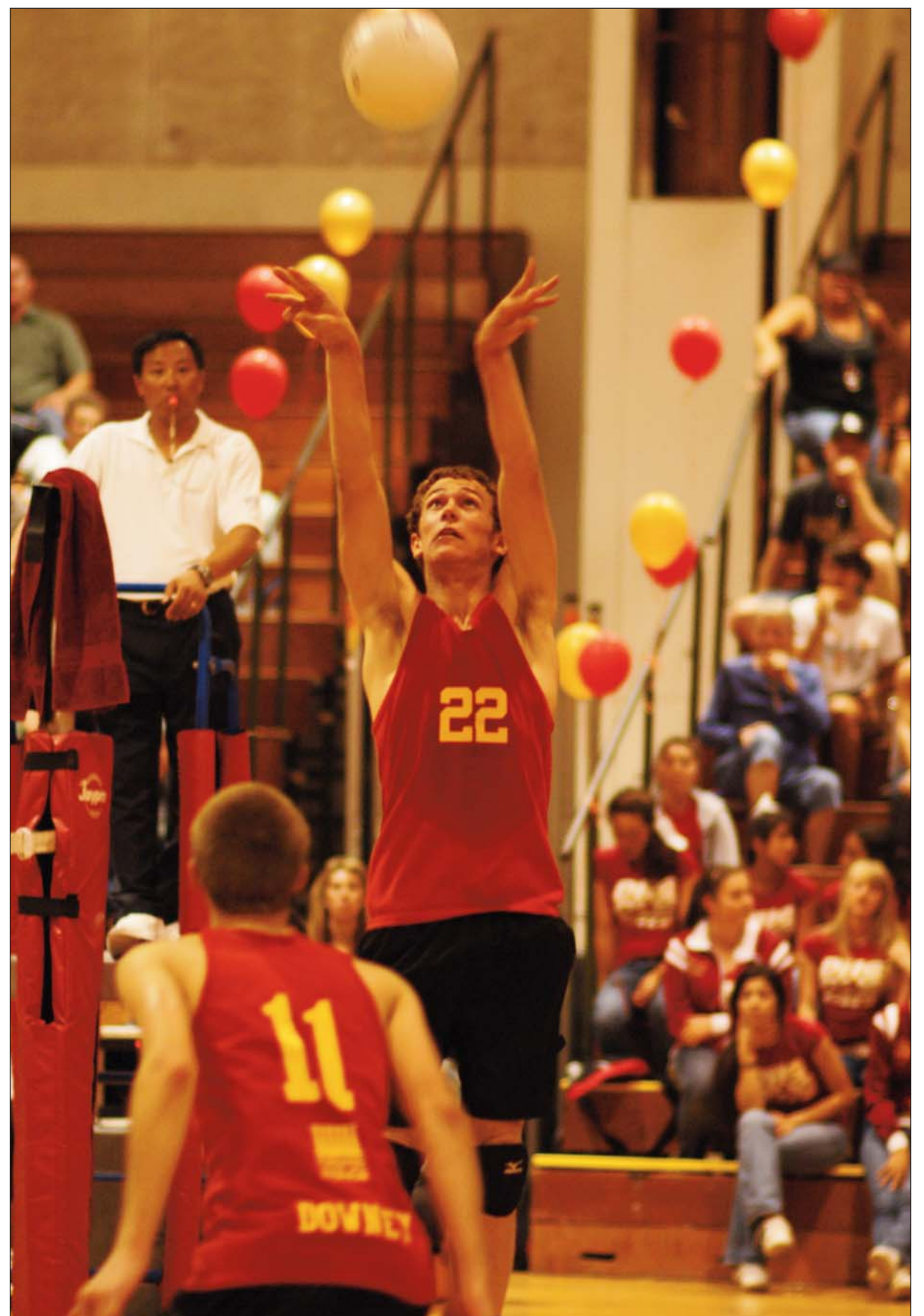
**View these homes at: [www.MichaelBerdelis.com](http://www.MichaelBerdelis.com)**



Tot Time, a preschool program from the city of Downey, celebrated their graduated May 23 at the Barbara J. Riley Community & Senior Center. The young graduates are shown above with their teacher, Tiffany Parsley. Photo courtesy Lucrecia Guzman



The Southland Harmony chorus will present, "I Love America," a patriotic concert, June 23 at the Norwalk Masonic Center. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 for children under 13. Call (562) 862-9592 for tickets. Photo courtesy Sweet Adelines International



Downey High School's boys volleyball team defeated South High School 3 sets to 1 on Wednesday. Photo by Paul Heidecker.