

# The Downey Patriot



**DUSD still wary of state budget**  
See Page 3



**Art series at Granata's**  
See Page 12



**Rancho names new CMO**  
See Page 11

Friday, July 31, 2009

Vol. 8 No. 15

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

## City gets tough on sex offenders

■ Restrictions aim to keep sex offenders away from parks, schools & more.

BY ERIC PIERCE,  
CITY EDITOR

**DOWNEY** – The City Council Tuesday unanimously voted to introduce an ordinance that toughens residency restrictions for convicted sex offenders who choose to reside in Downey.

City attorney Ed Lee called the move “mostly supplemental” to the state’s version of Jessica’s Law, which was overwhelmingly passed by voters in 2006 and forbids sex offenders from living within 2,000 feet of a school or park.

While state law only applies to sex offenders on parole, the city’s ordinance would apply to all convicted sex offenders – parole or not, said Capt. Jim McCulloch of the Downey Police Department.

Downey’s ordinance also creates a “child safety zone” that further restricts sex offenders from residing within 2,000 feet of a child care center or public library; sharing the same house, apartment or hotel room as another sex offender, unless related by blood; or loitering near a “child safety zone with the intent to commit a sex offense.”

Violators would be subject to a misdemeanor arrest.

McCulloch said there are many areas within Downey where sex offenders could live under the new law.

“There are a number of places where they can go, yeah,” McCulloch said.

The ordinance will not be applied retroactively, meaning sex offenders already living in the city won’t be affected. According to the state’s Megan’s Law website, 106 registered sex offenders currently reside in Downey.

Coincidentally, Downey Police arrested a convicted sex offender on Tuesday, hours before the City Council cast their votes.

Arturo Martinez, 32, was arrested after Downey High School administrators allegedly spotted him emerging from a girls bathroom on campus.

Administrators attempted to question Martinez but he ran, McCulloch said. School officials managed to restrain him until police arrived. No injuries were reported.

Martinez was on probation and had a warrant out for his arrest, McCulloch said. As of Wednesday, he was being held without bail and awaiting arraignment.

Introduced by Mayor Mario Guerra, the new ordinance is expected to be formally adopted when the City Council meets again Aug. 11.

## BJ’s ready for its grand opening

BY CHRISTIAN BROWN

**DOWNEY** – As BJ’s Restaurant & Brewhouse prepares for its grand opening on Monday, anticipation mounts for the newest addition to Stonewood Center.

“Everyone I’ve talked to has been really excited about it – both shoppers and community members,” said Whitney Wigle, marketing manager for Stonewood Center.

Wigle, who oversees advertising, sponsorships, Stonewood events and promotional programs, believes adding the BJ’s is a great way to draw a new crowd into the shopping center and the city.

“It really shows on the exterior, what’s changing on the inside,” said Wigle. “We have a lot of new retailers – Zumiez, Aeropostale, Crazy 8 by Gymboree, Aldo – BJ’s reflects those changes.”

According to BJ’s website, the first restaurant opened in 1978 in Santa Ana by two guys with a great recipe for deep dish pizza. Today, the Huntington Beach-based corporation oversees 85 company restaurants across the country. On Monday, BJ’s Restaurant and Brewhouse of Downey will become number 86.

Sporting a rust-colored, brick exterior, the 8900-square-foot facility features a modern, unique design not only outside but inside as well. Greg Levin, CFO for BJ’s Restaurants, Inc., confirms that this is a part of BJ’s appeal.

“We try to maintain a non-chain



**Hungry yet? BJ’s Restaurant & Brewhouse, famous for its custom-brewed beers and pizookie dessert, will open Monday at Stonewood Center. Photo of a pizookie by Elea Chang**

image,” said Levin, in a phone interview. “We want to create a high-energy, electric atmosphere for our guests, a place that feels like the neighborhood restaurant.”

BJ’s hopes to embody a comfortable place for everyone from young kids to grandparents, said Levin.

For guests, a black revolving door serves as the entrance to the restaurant, which features semi-circle booths and square tables throughout, a striped wood-grain floor and cylinder lights dangling from a high ceiling.

Customers at the 16-seat bar face a buffet of alcoholic beverages and a 103-inch plasma screen tuned to several adaptations of ESPN.

“We have always liked Downey. The mall keeps a tremen-

dous amount of volume,” said Levin. “We thought Downey would be the perfect place to continue building out.”

For Downey Brewing Company owner Walter Vasquez, however, the new BJ’s brings mixed feelings.

“This might have a negative impact on small businesses like ours,” said Vasquez. “But this could also bring more people to the city, which could give us the opportunity to be seen.”

The family-owned Downey Brewing Company, which opened its doors in October 2008, shows televised sporting events and serves everything from pizza and salads to steak and burgers.

Levin acknowledged BJ’s popularity, but expressed his hope that the people enjoying their hand-

crafted beers will patronize other breweries in the area.

In preparation for the restaurant’s grand opening, free lunch and dinner items were served to select members of the community as the cooks practice preparing BJ’s specialties and servers practice seating and serving guests.

A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held Thursday by the Downey Chamber of Commerce and on Monday the restaurant will be officially open for business.

“Our BJ’s will continue to keep the mall fresh and exciting as well as bring our national concept into the city,” said Levin. “We love being here in our backyard.”

*Christian Brown is a journalism intern for the Downey Patriot.*



**The Wiseguys Big Band Machine are set to perform Wednesday night at Furman Park. Courtesy photo**

## Big band music at Furman Wednesday

**DOWNEY** – From swing to swank, the Wiseguys Big Band Machine is an 18-piece ensemble dedicated to keeping great music alive. And they’ll perform Wednesday at Furman Park as part of the city’s free summer concert series.

The Montebello-based big band features a screaming horn line, two vocalists and a rhythm section.

Their repertoire includes the vocal tunes of Frank Sinatra, Bobby Darin and Peggy Lee; big band favorites from Glenn Miller, Perez Prado and Buddy Rich; classic mambos and cumbias (classic Latin American music originally from Columbia); and dance music from the 50’s and 60’s.

The Wiseguys’ blend of swing, jazz and big band standards has made them a popular opening act for such artists as the Cherry Poppin’ Daddies, Tierra, Mariachi Sol Del Mexico, Poncho Sanchez and Santos de Los Angeles.

They have performed at the House of Blues, BB Kings, The Whiskey a Go-Go, the Grove of Anaheim, Disneyland, The Derby, and at various private parties and civic functions.

Wednesday’s concert begins at 7 p.m. Residents are encouraged to bring lawn chairs and blankets.

The Downey Rose Float Association will be selling food and drinks.

## Restaurants like BJ’s a long time coming

BY ERIC PIERCE,  
CITY EDITOR

Admittedly, it doesn’t take much for me to get excited about a new restaurant. That especially holds true in Downey, where dining options are definitely not lacking but also not particularly exciting.

Good food, even great food, is not hard to find here. The problem

is finding a quality restaurant in Downey that can double as a social hub for the responsible 20-somethings of our community.

There are residents of Downey who would like to enjoy a beer with their meal while perhaps catching a ballgame on TV. But they don’t want to visit a seedy bar to do it.

This particular demographic – the Twitter/YouTube/BlackBerry-Tied-To-The-Hip Generation –

exists and is underserved. I know this because I *am* that demographic.

That’s the reason Downey Brewing Company, when it opened last year at what was formerly Foxy’s Restaurant, was welcomed with such a breath of fresh air. With its dozens of brews on tap, Downey Brewing Company went against the grain of the usual Downey reputation, which is, like it or not, that of an old person’s town.

The new BJ’s Brewery & Restaurant at Stonewood Center is the next exciting project to help shake that reputation.

The restaurant put its first touches on staff training this week as it prepares for its grand opening on Monday. Free meals were offered to the members of the public who knew to call to make a reservation.

See BJ’S, page 9

## Bunco scams remain popular in Downey

CONTRIBUTED BY THE DOWNEY  
POLICE DEPARTMENT

**DOWNEY** – Over the past several months, the city of Downey has experienced an increase in “bunco scams.” This notice is intended to make the public aware of some of the recent schemes which citizens have been falling victim to.

Bunco scams usually involve some “too good to be true” offer. The suspects often work in pairs and target the elderly or individuals who unwittingly put their confidence in get-rich-quick schemes.

Typically, one suspect will approach a victim asking for their help. Many of these initial contacts

have occurred in shopping areas. A common scheme is the suspect claiming to have a winning lottery ticket, but will have some plausible reason why they can not receive payment for it. Often they claim to be an illegal immigrant.

While the first suspect is explaining why he needs the victim’s help, a second suspect approaches claiming to have overheard the conversation and offers their help.

The two convince the victim that they each need to put up “good faith money.” The second suspect usually purports to have the good faith money. This is typically an envelope with shredded paper made to look like cash or a roll of

what appears to be cash.

The suspects then offer to drive the victim to their bank or home to get the victim’s good faith money. Once the victim has fronted the money, they find some way to separate from the victim.

In many cases, one suspect claims to be ill and asks the victim to go into a store to buy medicine, either holding the victim’s money or making a switch, giving the victim a worthless envelope full of shredded paper. When the victim returns, the suspects are gone.

Although the scams and suspect descriptions differ, one theme is common. These thieves prey on those who will put their confidence in them and their false offers.

Whatever the scam, there are things the public can do to avoid falling victim. Use caution when dealing with strangers and be suspicious of strangers offering to share found money or lottery winnings with you.

Bunco scam artists are persuasive and persistent. They are well-trained and have managed to take away valuable assets and, in some cases, life savings. Remember, if something sounds too good to be true, it probably is.

Questions related to these types of crimes may be directed to Detective Jeff Hill at (562) 904-2335 or Detective Ron Gee at (562) 904-2331.

## 'Parents of the Year' honored at Council meeting

By HENRY VENERACION, STAFF WRITER

**DOWNEY** — In observance of National Parents Day (the fourth Sunday of July), Mayor Mario Guerra, assisted by Katrin McCarthy, presided over the presentation of 2009 Parents of the Year awards to Charles and Melody Gregorio, representing Warren High School, and David Amatisto and Michelle Gill, representing Downey High School.

The "outstanding" parents were cited for the "great care and commitment shown in raising their child(ren) and assisting in enriching the lives of many other children in their community."

According to the proclamation, National Parents Day was unanimously established by Congress and President Bill Clinton in 1994 for the purpose of recognizing, uplifting, and supporting the role of parents in the rearing of children.

It also emphasized that, among other things, parents by their example play a crucial and important role in the development of youth.

In other action, the Council:

- Approved the Wireline Crossing Agreement with Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) authorizing the city to install conduits containing fiber-optic cables across the right-of-way along Paramount Boulevard underneath the railroad tracks (in the area between Firestone Boulevard and Burns Avenue), and approved the one-time license fee of \$14,525 which was already prefigured in the project's construction cost, funded by Prop. C Local Return funds.

In Public Works director Brian Ragland's report, the project itself,

called the Paramount Blvd. Fiber Optic Communication System Project, basically consists of a communication system that will interconnect all traffic signals on Paramount Boulevard and provide two-way video and data transmission between the field and the city's Traffic Management Center located on the second floor of City Hall;

- Approved a contract with overall low bidder All American Asphalt, Inc., which has successfully done similar work for the city and such other cities as West Covina, San Clemente, and Westminster, for on-call street and concrete repairs and minor public works improvement (including street, median and parkway improvement projects within public right-of-way throughout the city) for a period of one year with an option to renew for two additional years;

- Approved a continuation up to Sept. 30, 2009 of a grant contract (which started in Aug. 28, 2008) with the city of Los Angeles through the Urban Area Security Initiative for training (and equipment) funds for the Downey Fire Department;

- Approved the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) subrecipient grant agreements with the following agencies, with a combined allocation of \$140,000 in CDBG funds, as follows:

- 1) **Arc of Southeast L.A. County, \$11,500**—Arc has earmarked the funds to supplement a job training and employment program for persons with mental and developmental disabilities benefiting from 23 to 49 souls registered with Arc;

- 2) **Downey Unified School**

**District, \$34,400**—with \$31,000 going to DUSD-supported 10-20 Club, which offers preventive and intervention activities including group support/counseling services, family counseling, and crisis intervention focusing on community youth ages between 10 and 20 years who might be "at-risk" or susceptible to street gang involvement; and \$3,400 going to another DUSD-sponsored program, The True Lasting Connection (TLC) Family Resource Center, which provides health screenings and check-ups to children from low-income families;

- 3) **Rio Hondo Temporary Home, \$17,500**—used for providing temporary housing to homeless families coming from a wide geographic area until they can transition back into permanent housing; some three to six disadvantaged families from Downey are expected to receive assistance under this program;

- 4) **Southern California Rehabilitation Services (SCRS), \$77,000**—with \$2,000 reserved for the Southeast Center for Independent Living which provides programs and services (training for independent living skills, in-home attendant registry, housing assistance, peer counseling, transportation assistance, and benefits advocacy, etc.) to an estimated 170 persons this year with physical disabilities, and \$75,000 for the Home Modification Program, which would provide free home modifications (installation of wheel chair ramps, handrails, grab bars, replacement of door and faucet handles, door widening, etc.) this year to some 15-25 housing units;

- By a vote of 4-1, with Mayor Pro Tem Anne Bayer dissenting

(citing sympathy with frozen middle management position increases), adopted a resolution creating class specifications and establishing enhanced salary ranges for Budget analyst and Fire Prevention Technician, and increasing the salary range for the existing position of Finance Director justified, so the reasoning and sentiment went, by the assumption of additional substantive functions normally performed by the departing asst. city manager;

- Adopted a resolution approving the location and appearance of the signs within a multi-tenant commercial shopping center on property located at 9200-9250 Lakewood Blvd. and 9009-9027 Gallatin Rd., reflecting its approval to provide six tenant panels on the proposed freestanding signs for the shopping center instead of the four four originally endorsed by the Planning Commission;

- Adopted an ordinance amending Section 3155.2 of the Downey Municipal Code to add angled parking on Clark Avenue between James Street and Lakewood Boulevard, to accommodate anticipated increased parking demands and mitigate potential parking problems in the vicinity due to the already opened Discovery Sports Complex and the Columbia Memorial Space Center which is nearing completion; total of angled parking spaces made available is 56, against only 36 parallel spaces under the old configuration;

- Adopted a comprehensive update of the Zoning Code (Ch. 1-8 of Article IX of the Downey Municipal Code) and revisions to many of the development stan-

dards within the code, including the correction of typographical and grammatical errors, as well as closing loopholes within the code and correcting omissions;

- Adopted an ordinance dissolving Vehicle Parking District No. 1;

- Approved the termination of the lease agreement for facilities and child care operation at Furman Park with the Downey Unified School District, and struck a 5-year lease agreement with the YMCA for the use of the city's portable modulars located in Furman Park for the operation of a licensed child care center.

- Introduced an ordinance amending the lease with the

Community Hospital Foundation, now Downey Regional Medical Center, to allow for hospital accreditation by a federal authorized accrediting body; the DRMC-preferred accrediting agency is Det Norske Veritas (DNV), in place of just the Joint Commission; and

- Heard Councilman Luis Marquez present certificates of appointment to Mario Trujillo, Art in Public Places Committee; Ernest Garcia, Water Board; and Jack Horvath, Personnel Board.

The next regular public meeting of the City Council will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 11 at City Hall.

## Rancho named one of nation's 'best hospitals'

**DOWNEY** — Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center has made the list of "America's Best Hospitals" in an annual ranking of the nation's elite medical centers by U.S. News & World Report.

Rancho is run by the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services.

Rancho once again made the "Top 20" list of rehabilitation hospitals where it has remained for two decades -- the only rehabilitation hospital in California to have that distinction.

The U.S. News ranking, now in its 20th year, differs from other rankings by examining how well a hospital handles complex and demanding situations, and involves surveys completed by 10,000 physicians nationwide.

A total of 4,861 hospitals were considered for the survey, but only 174 hospitals were ranked in one of 16 specialties, including cancer, heart and heart surgery, kidney disorders, urology, neurology, neurosurgery and more.

Scoring criteria included reputation, mortality index, patient safety, and care-related factors such as nurse staffing and available technology. However, in the rehabilitation, ophthalmology, psychiatry and rheumatology rankings, hospitals were ranked on reputation alone.

"This ranking illustrates that our world-class clinical care has earned the respect and admiration of our national peers," said Jorge Orozco, CEO of Rancho. "All of Rancho's highly-trained and dedicated health care providers share in this prestigious recognition of our work and mission."

Of the 174 hospitals ranked in one or more specialties, 21 qualified for Honor Roll by earning high scores in at least six specialties. More information is available at <http://health.usnews.com/health/best-hospitals>.

# August's RED HOT COUPONS

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**Any single item**  
 Offer valid with coupon only.  
 Offer valid at Downey location only  
 Not valid in conjunction with any other offer.  
 One coupon per customer per day.  
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 Everything excluding beverages  
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Tuesday - Thursday ~ 11:00 A.M. to 9:00 P.M.  
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 (Our dining room closes 30 min. prior)  
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OUR DINING ROOMS OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK FROM 11 A.M.

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AM 1110

WORLD TOUR 2009

## Jonas Brothers

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 Join Radio Disney for music, games and prizes!

10555 E. Firestone Blvd., Norwalk, CA 90650  
 Saturday, August 1st 5 P.M. - 7 P.M.  
 Winner will be chosen at 7 p.m.

Many will enter, one will win. Winner needs to be present to win. Contest ends August 1, 2009. Open to residents of California, ages 14 and under. Must be present to win. No purchase necessary. Void where prohibited. Subject to official rules at RadioDisney.com

### CUBAN COFFEE HOUSE

**Tropicana Bakery & Cuban Café**

**NEW SUMMER HOURS!**  
**\$1.00 Coffee Nights**  
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 Limit 1 coupon per customer per visit.

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**SEPTEMBER'S RED HOT COUPONS**  
 AUGUST 28, 2009  
 TO RESERVE YOUR SPACE  
 PLEASE CALL DOROTHY MICHAEL  
 OR MARYANN SOURIAL  
 (562) 904-3668

## Baseball team fundraiser tonight

**DOWNEY** – A fundraiser for the Southern California Legends Baseball Club will be held tonight from 6-9 p.m. at Shakey's Pizza in Downey.

When guests order food (dine-in or take-out) and mention the Legends 12U travel baseball team, 25 percent of the order will be donated back to the team. The money will help the team with uniforms, fields and more.

Shakey's Pizza is at 12030 Paramount Blvd.

## Chamber's luau business mixer Aug. 13

**DOWNEY** – The Downey Chamber of Commerce will present a mixer Aug. 13 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at George's Restaurant & Bar, 7857 Florence Ave.

Admission is free and there will be raffles and entertainment. The mixer is luau-themed and guests are encouraged to dress in Hawaiian attire.

For more information, contact the Chamber at (562) 923-2191.

## Networking speakers named

**DOWNEY** – Bob Patton of the California Elder Law Center and Cordelia Kpaduwa of Home Health Services will be guest speakers at the Aug. 11 meeting of Rise 'N Shine Networking at Downey Brewing Company.

The meeting begins at 7:30 a.m. and the cost is an order from the menu.

RSVP by calling the Downey Chamber of Commerce at (562) 923-2191.

## Tickets to oldies concert now on sale

**DOWNEY** – The sixth annual "Oldies but Goodies" concert to benefit Easter Seals will be held Nov. 7 at the Downey Theatre.

Headlining the event is the band Ronnie & the Classics. Their act has been described as "an explosive show filled with energy, animation, choreography and great music."

The concert is sponsored by Century 21 My Real Estate and the Downey Chamber of Commerce. For information on tickets (\$25) or sponsorships, call the Chamber at (562) 923-2191.

# DUSD wary of more possible budget cuts

By HENRY VENERACION, STAFF WRITER

**DOWNEY** – The DUSD Board conducted its midsummer meeting Wednesday instead of its usual Tuesday schedule and, with the majority of teachers and students off campus and the spirit of summer pervading everything, had no reason to dwell on any item on an abbreviated agenda that contained nothing more than routine matters anyway.

Boardmembers Willie Gutierrez and Don LaPlante, though, weighed in on the state budget that just got passed. Gutierrez said the line item cuts and tweaking made by the governor "may not be the end of it," that we may still have to wait awhile before we can discern the budget's full impact.

LaPlante concurred, and repeated his tirade against some of the state's policy and budget indiscretions. He cited, for instance, the waste of funds associated with the state's fiat that new history textbooks be adopted every seven years. He said the outline of U.S. history doesn't change from Independence Day till, say, the Civil War, so the seven-year change is just "a waste of money," oftentimes only benefiting fawning book publishers.

In this, Boardmember Barbara Samperi also heartily concurred, suggesting that historical updates can be used as supplements only to the textbooks already in place.

In other action, the Board:

- Accepted cash donations of a) \$2,000 from Carpenter Elementary School PTA in support of the school's student field trips; and b) \$20,000 from Kaiser Permanente; \$1,589 from Lewis Elementary School; \$650 from Carpenter Elementary School; \$474.56 from Old River Elementary School; \$362 from the Price Elementary School fifth grade class of 2009; \$282.11 from the Ward Elementary School Teachers/Staff Club; \$200 from Price Elementary School; \$200 from Robin Martin; \$50 from Downey Church of Religious Science; and \$20 from Kathy Dawnele and Ronn W. Guier, to be used in support of the TLC Family Resource Center;

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

- Ratified the general agreement with Devereau Texas Treatment Network for the 2008-09 fiscal year (July 1, 2008-June 30, 2009), which will provide special education and/or related services to LEA (local education agency) students with exceptional needs;

- Approved the payments for special education placements covering Feb. 6-June 30, 2009;

- Approved purchase orders by the Purchasing Department;

- Approved the payments for hourly, overtime, and Civic Center work performed by classified personnel, Adult School and Food Services for the month of May, 2009;

- Ratified B warrants;
- Ratified the legal service agreements, to be used on an as needed basis only, with law firms Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo (effective April 1, 2009-June 30, 2012), as well as with Breon & Shaeffer (July 1, 2009-June 30, 2010);

- Ratified the agreement with Educational Consulting Services to provide services for the Saturday School Attendance Recovery Program, effective July 1, 2009-June 30, 2012;

- Ratified the contract for consultant services related to the requirements of the California General Industrial Storm Water Permit, as part of the California School Monitoring Group, with Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE), effective July 1, 2009-June 30, 2010;

- Ratified the contract for transportation services (to individuals with exceptional needs) with LACOE effective July 1, 2009-June 30, 2010;

- Ratified amendment No. 1 to the contract for consultant and coaching services with LACOE, effective Jan. 1, 2009-June 30, 2010;

- Approved the 3-year agreement with School Wise Press for school accountability report card services, using software and IT, for 2008-09, 2009-10, and 2010-11;

- Approved the successor agreement with the YMCA of Metropolitan Los Angeles for the Downey Family YMCA for the facilities and service child care programs at various DUSD school sites, effective Sept. 1, 2009 through Aug. 31, 2014;

- Ratified the agreements between Downey Adult School (DAS) Career and Education and

Malu Calderon-Norton, DDS, Inc., The Children's Dental Center of Greater Los Angeles, Dental Care of Cerritos, Rebecca Irene A. Pena, DMD, and Smile Burst Dentistry, to furnish practical experience to students enrolled in the Dental Assistant program; between DAS and Marilou G. Cruz, M.D., and Ragaa Z. Iskorous, M.D., to furnish practical experience to students enrolled in the Medical Assistant program; between DAS and Healthpoint and Santo Tomas Medical Clinic, to furnish practical experience to students enrolled in the Medical Billing & Coding program; between DAS and California Pharmacy and Rivera Pharmacy, to furnish practical experience to students enrolled in the Pharmacy Technician program; and between DAS and Azusa Way Family Medical Center, Consultorio Medico Latino, Dusk to Dawn Urgent Care, and Para Latino Medical Center, to furnish practical experience to students enrolled in the Phlebotomy Technician program;

- Accepted the 2008-09 annual report for the supplemental counseling program (including CAH-SEE results) for middle and high schools pursuant to Assembly Bill

1802, as a condition of funding;

- Approved the bid renewals for the purchase of produce products with ASR Food Distributors, Inc., of Commerce, and for the purchase of bread products with Gold Star Foods of Vernon, for the Food Services Department, to be charged to the Food Services fund;

- Approved the change orders involving work done by various vendors/service companies as needed by Downey Adult School and Special Education Department, and for Warren High School's new library, classroom building and modernization projects, as well as Downey High School's new classroom building ("B") construction;

- Accepted as complete electrical, roofing, fencing, backhoe, paving and concrete work performed by various contractors;

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

- Approved the abolishment of one vacant nursing specialist position effective July 29, 2009;

- Ratified the establishment of two new limited-terms position with duties corresponding to the current classification of Intermediate Clerical Assistant, assigned to Categorical Programs

and Food Services;

- Reviewed the proposed revisions to the Uniform Complaint Procedure, the Intradistrict Open Enrollment, the Identification of Child Abuse and Reporting Procedure, the Fees for Class and Lab for Adult School students, the Regular Part-Time Employees and Substitutes, and the Jury Duty and Subpoena program—all for updating purposes, all to be brought back for approval at the next meeting;

- Approved the addendum to the Restated Employment Contracts for the superintendent, asst. superintendent of business services, asst. superintendent of instructional services, and asst. superintendent of personnel services, extending said contracts to June 30, 2013; to prevent any misunderstanding, LaPlante made sure it was clear to all that no raises were involved in these contract renewals; and

- Endorsed the recommendations by the superintendent on waivers for all indicated student petitions, including the action taken on Student Case No. 200809-69.

The next meeting of the Board will be at 5 p. m. on Tuesday, Aug. 25 in the Gallegos Administration Center, 11627 Brookshire Ave.

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# SENIOR CITIZENS:

The City of Downey's Housing Division offers an opportunity for eligible Downey homeowners to participate in the

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*If you're a Downey homeowner at least 62 years young, you've not yet participated, and your income does not exceed the limits listed below, you're eligible for the Senior Paint & Fix-Up Program.*

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IF YOU QUALIFY AND WOULD LIKE AN APPLICATION MAILED TO YOU, CALL THE CITY OF DOWNEY'S HOUSING DIVISION AT (562) 904-7167.



A group is seeking space at the Avenue Theatre, top left, to produce cultural events for the community. The theater was acquired by the city of Downey last year. Photo courtesy Downey Historical Society

## Cultural group seeks non-profit status

**DOWNEY** – A group of community residents seeking to instill arts and culture in the city-owned Avenue Theatre have announced plans to formally register as a state non-profit.

According to a news release issued by the Avenue Arts Foundation – formerly known as the Avenue Cultural Arts Foundation – an organizing committee has been created to look into attaining non-profit status.

The foundation is seeking ground-level space at the Avenue Theatre for the purpose of visual and performing arts “to meet the interests and needs of the young, and not so young, residents of Downey whose interests and needs remain underserved by city programs.”

According to organizers, the foundation has collected more than 1,000 signatures on a petition “fielded to ascertain community interest.”

The city of Downey acquired the Avenue Theatre and nearby Verizon building last year and have plans to convert the building into housing and “community space.”

For more information on the Avenue Arts Foundation, contact Kathy Perez, president, at (562) 862-2044 or via e-mail at kperez007@ca.rr.com, or Gary Head at (562) 728-2928, or headster@verizon.net.

## Downey resident earns medical degree

**DOWNEY** – Andrew Robinson, of Downey, has graduated from the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences in Bethesda, Md.

Robinson, a 1997 graduate of St. John Bosco High School, received a medical degree and was commissioned to the rank of captain, with a minimum seven-year active duty service commitment.

He is assigned to Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio and will serve as an officer in the U.S. Air Force Medical Service.

Uniformed Services University is a tuition-free institution which manages a graduate nursing school, a graduate school with doctor of philosophy and master’s degree programs, and a medical school that prepares

men and women for careers as physicians in the Army, Navy or Air Force.

The medical school curriculum includes a concentration of preventive medicine, primary care, military medicine and emergency medicine.

Robinson, a physician, received a bachelor’s degree from Cal State Long Beach in 2003 and earned his master’s degree in 2005 from Loyola University.

He is the son of Lorraine Robinson, of Downey, and Charles Robinson, of Bellflower.

His wife, Araceli, is the daughter of Carlos and Estela Santana of Downey.

## Chamber Golf Classic is Sept. 25

**DOWNEY** – The 13th annual Downey Chamber of Commerce Golf Classic will be held Sept. 25 at the Rio Hondo Golf Club.

Funds raised from the tournament will support the American Cancer Society’s 24-hour Relay for Life and scholarships for Downey children.

Foursomes are \$560 and include dinner, lunch and 20 raffle tickets. Cost for an individual player is \$140 and includes lunch, dinner and five raffle tickets.

All players receive 18 holes of golf with use of a cart, gift bag, hosted bag drop, contest opportunities, an on-course masseuse, group photos, lunch on the course, dinner, drawing opportunities, and participation in live and silent auctions.

Registration deadline is Sept. 11. For more information on registration or sponsorship opportunities, call the Chamber at (562) 923-2191.

## POET’S CORNER

### Old Geezer’s Lament

I’m gettin’ older but old age don’t worry me  
I gotta son who’ll take care of me  
Sometimes I forget lottsa stuff you see  
But that ain’t gonna worry me  
I gotta daughter who’ll take care of me  
My body gets cold when it should be hot  
It’s doin’ things when it should be not  
But that ain’t gonna worry me  
I gotta grandson who’ll take care of me  
The other day I went to the store  
But I forgot what I went for  
Well that ain’t gonna worry me  
I gotta granddaughter who’ll take care of me  
They say there’s a heaven  
They say there’s a hell  
If I go to heaven that sure will be swell  
‘cause there’ll be an angel who’ll take care of me  
and that’s the way it ought to be  
If I go down to that other place  
the devil and I won’t see face to face  
Well that ain’t gonna worry me  
‘cause I ain’t gonna stay there, no siree  
Well I guess I’ll have to take care of me  
and I’ll sure like it yes siree!  
‘cause I’m takin’ care of little old me  
and that’s the way it ought to be.

–George J. Geller,  
Downey

### These Old Hands

These old hands  
Wrinkled and mottled with age  
But they are strong

These hands  
The hands of a tiny babe  
Clutching her Mama’s finger  
Reaching for everything so new  
They are strong

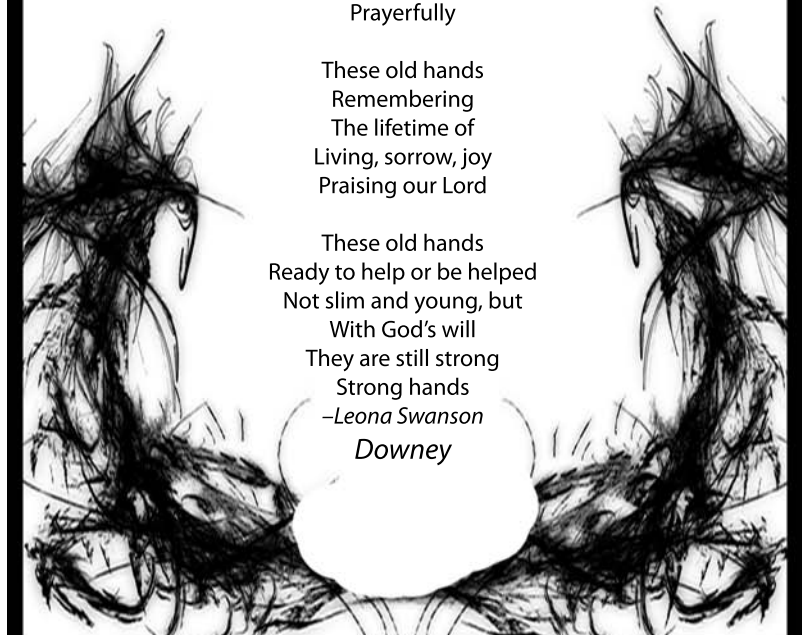
These hands  
Daddy’s little helper  
Eager, competent, confident  
Ready to find the world  
They are strong

These hands  
Young woman  
Facing that world that is real  
Finding the love God kept for her  
Thankful

These hands  
Wife and mother  
Caressing, loving, comforting  
Guiding, molding, happy  
Prayerfully

These old hands  
Remembering  
The lifetime of  
Living, sorrow, joy  
Praising our Lord

These old hands  
Ready to help or be helped  
Not slim and young, but  
With God’s will  
They are still strong  
Strong hands  
–Leona Swanson  
Downey



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## Legion celebrates post 9/11 GI Bill benefits

Contributed by the American Legion

As veterans start the new academic year, the leader of the American Legion said he is happy to see that they will be able to enjoy the benefits of the new GI Bill.

"August 1st will be a proud day for us," said David K. Rehbein, national commander of the nation's largest veterans service organization. "That's when the educational benefits in the Post-9/11 Veterans Education Assistance Act take effect—benefits that The American Legion worked hard to bring about."

In fact, the American Legion was so instrumental in the passage of the most sweeping veterans benefit in generations that U.S. Rep. Chet Edwards said at the time, "Passing this historic new GI Bill into law could not have happened without the dedicated efforts of The American Legion."

The Legion's role in the formulation of the new GI Bill has deep historical roots. Members of the American Legion drafted the original Servicemen's Readjustment Act, popularly known as the GI Bill, in 1944. It was written in longhand on hotel stationery by American Legion Past National Commander Harry Colmery.

The largest scholarship program in U.S. history, the GI Bill also made home ownership a possibility for a new generation of Americans, transforming the American economy and creating the middle class.

The American Legion continued its staunch advocacy for veterans, playing a key role in every readjustment legislation since 1944. While some of the successors to the GI Bill fell short of what the American Legion hoped for, the organization worked closely with then-U.S. Rep. G.V. "Sonny" Montgomery on the improved "Montgomery GI Bill," which benefited peacetime veterans.

While the American Legion has never stopped pushing for a comprehensive benefit to cover all education costs for veterans, the organization went clearly on the record at its 1992 National Convention in Chicago. Delegates there unanimously passed Resolution 3, which called for the establishment of "a benefit package commensurate with those provided veterans of World War II, Korea and Vietnam."

As the Global War on Terrorism progressed, it became clear that National Guard and Reserve veterans were not being compensated as generously as their active-duty counterparts.

It was time for a new GI Bill. A longtime Legionnaire, Sen. Jim Webb (D-VA) built a bipartisan coalition in the Senate. The final bill included a provision that allowed for the transferability of benefits to family members, an additional benefit supported by the American Legion. The bill was signed by President George W. Bush on June 30, 2008.

The new GI Bill does not replace existing education programs for veterans, but augments them. Depending upon individual needs and eligibilities, benefits of the older Montgomery GI Bill, the Montgomery GI Bill/Selected Reserve, and the Reserve Educational Assistance Program (REAP) are still available as well.

The American Legion explains veterans educational benefits in great detail at [www.mygibill.org](http://www.mygibill.org).

## Physicians say budget will hurt the poor

Contributed by the California Medical Association

The California Medical Association expressed grave concerns this week about the budget passed by the Legislature, pointing to deep cuts in Medi-Cal and the Healthy Families Program that will deny hundreds of thousands of the state's most vulnerable residents—children, the elderly and the poor—from getting the health care they need.

"This is a devastating blow to the swelling ranks of California's needy, who are struggling to get through the worst economic crisis in a generation," said Dr. Dev GnanaDev, president of the California Medical Association. "These cuts dramatically increase the long-term health care costs borne by taxpayers, as the patients shut out of these programs now must turn to costly and overcrowded emergency rooms for care."

The budget slashes one third of the funding for the Healthy Families, which provides health care to nearly one million children from low-income families. The \$124 million cut means 450,000 kids will have to be dropped from the program.

"Leaving children without health care is irresponsible—from both a public health and fiscal point of view," GnanaDev said. "Unfortunately, this forces many financially strapped families to choose between taking their kids to the doctor or feeding and clothing them. As a trauma surgeon, I see what happens when preventative care is eliminated; it results in more people getting sick and more people going to the ER."

Because of the state budget situation, Healthy Families instituted an enrollment cap in mid-July that prevents the program from accepting any more children who are eligible. In less than one week since the freeze began, more than 7,000 kids have been put on the wait list.

The budget includes:

- \$124 million in cuts to Healthy Families
- \$300 million in cuts to Medi-Cal, California's version of Medicaid, the national health care program for the poor jointly funded by state and federal governments.
- \$1 billion in shaky revenues for Medi-Cal that will have to be made up in cuts if the federal government doesn't provide them.
- \$224 million in cuts to In Home Supportive Services (IHSS), a program that provides care for the frail, disabled and elderly in their homes. The California Medical Association represents more than 35,000 physicians in all modes of practice and specialties.

## Letters to the Editor:

### Give 'em the Patriot to read

Dear Editor:

Three weeks ago I wrote about the proper role of government by highlighting the virtues of limited government under the law. However, one or two examples would serve well in cementing the idea that we should not look to government to act as a positive force by providing things for people but only as a negative force by restricting evil and safeguarding our unalienable rights.

These two examples can be found in two opinion pieces that you ran in the Editorial page, one last week by Bill Schneider of Montana ("Proposed Bill Ensures No Child Left Behind," 7/24/09), and the other almost two months ago by Caroline Abels of Vermont ("Amtrak: You Can't Get There From Here," 6/5/09). They both start by making excellent observations, but then jump to the wrong conclusions.

In her article Ms. Abels bemoaned the fact that she could not take the train to go down to Florida on vacation, citing Amtrak's lack of routes and poor connections. The timing of your publishing her article could not have been more ironic since that same week General Motors filed for bankruptcy, with the federal government in tow ready to bail them out. You say, where's the connection? In 1970 the Federal government "stepped in" to save passenger rail service from bankruptcy by promising to "step out" in three years max once Amtrak got to be on its own feet again.

Today, 40 years and billions of dollars later, the government not only still runs Amtrak but makes it illegal for anyone else to compete with Amtrak. The result is that Amtrak is operating at a loss every time someone uses passenger rail as a form of transportation and Ms. Abels correctly complains that it does not take her where she wants to travel. Her conclusion? Lobby Congress for even more of our tax dollars for Amtrak.

If this isn't an excellent example of where government acts as a positive force by doing things for people, such as providing subsidized transportation for them, I don't know what is. Just imagine now what they can do with GM and the rest of our once formidable auto industry, having just taken a majority stake in running GM and subsidizing rebates and dictating Detroit how to engineer cars.

Moving on to Mr. Schneider's opinion piece in which he wants us to join in lobbying Congress for passing H.R. 2054, "No Child Left Inside Act of 2009", he likewise makes a good observation, namely, that many of our youth spend too much time indoors in front of the TV, DVD or computer and not enough time in the outdoors, fishing, camping, hiking and so on. However his conclusion that somehow the federal government should spend \$500 million to get the children out of the indoors is plain wrong. It is also another perfect example of where government sees itself as a positive force by helping families and local communities provide outdoor activities for children. Besides, haven't we learned that any law that starts with the words "No Child Left...", doesn't work since it uses a "one size fits all" Washington approach?

The result of government subsidies in any industry or type of activity, even children's outdoor activities, is to increase the cost of goods or services that industry provides and thus diminishes the availability to consumers of such goods and services. That would be the opposite of what Mr. Schneider is seeking.

He also makes the observation that billions of dollars have already been given to Wall Street banks, so what's another \$500 million further into the hole? However, even our children in Downey being taught the Character Counts program know that if something is wrong you don't go further in that direction simply because now "it's only a drop in the bucket". You stop, turn around and do what is right. Which is why the real bill to support on Capitol Hill is H.R. 1207 and S. 604, which would audit the elitist and unaccountable Federal Reserve Bank. Today this bill has 277 sponsors in the House and 19 in the Senate!

In closing, there is no question that Mr. Schneider of Montana had a beautiful childhood away from the TV and video games and that Ms. Abels of Vermont is a talented journalist who can write about the times in which we live, but I am afraid that both of them missed their Economics 101 class. Perhaps they should be the ones reading up the *Downey Patriot* Editorial page regularly, instead of us reading their columns.

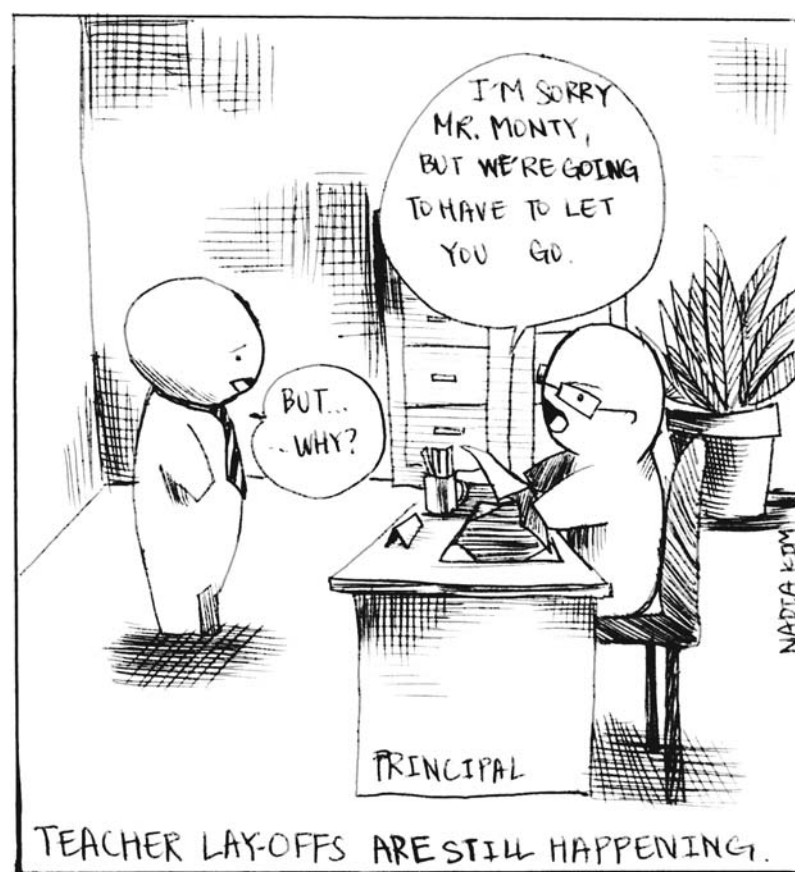
Let's be proud of our local talent and the wonderful people Downey has to offer and listen to one another as we go through difficult days in our nation's history.

Yes, give 'em the Patriot to read!

— Dan Cristea

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. Letters must include a full name and address for verification.



## Global warming is real

Dear Editor:

Last week's letter referring to "Global warming nonsense" (Letters to the Editor, 7/24/09) and all of the ramblings in that letter really display a lack of understanding of the issue. Ignoring scientific data to conveniently espouse a political point of view is puzzling.

Global warming is real and a serious threat to our planet. The scientific data supporting this conclusion is accepted by at least 90 percent of the world's scientific community. Here are just a few of the irrefutable facts:

The polar ice caps are melting and the surrounding seas are warming at an accelerated rate.

The average temperature of the atmosphere and the oceans is rising.

The level of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere is steadily increasing. In the late 1800s when measurements were first recorded, the level was approximately 280 ppm (parts-per-million). It's now about 340 ppm and accelerating each year. This is exacerbated with the annual loss of hundreds of square miles of the world's rain forests. The scientific models predict dire consequences if the carbon dioxide levels reach the 370-390 ppm level resulting in rising sea levels and long periods of drought. The greenhouse effect is real and well understood.

Those who deny the global warming threat refer to the cyclical patterns of the planet's warming and cooling. They ignore one simple fact. For the first time in the history of the planet there are almost 7 billion people on earth contributing to hydrocarbon emissions, and to make matters worse, their number is likely to double in the next 20-25 years.

It is not nonsense for our government to try to take the lead in fighting global warming. The industrialized nations of the world were the major polluters for the last 200 years and we should own up to our responsibility to solve the problem. It will not be easy nor cheap.

Denying the problem only burdens future generations with solutions that will undoubtedly be too little and too late. For now, other countries will not be able to change as quickly. They will eventually cooperate knowing that this is a global problem and also in their best interest, but only if we have the leadership to show the way.

— Alex Ambruso,

Downey

## War critics

Dear Editor:

What happened to all the war protestors? Remember all the "grass roots" people and celebrities calling for President Bush to end the war? Where have they gone?

If they are still out there why is the news not covering them? If they are not protesting any more is it because it's their guy in office calling the shots now?

If that is the reason then they are really big hypocrites and should wise up and stand by their principles. Get vocal again. Start demanding an exit strategy from President Obama.

Rise up, oh grass roots celebrities, for change!

— Jeffrey East,

Downey

## Online rental ads could be phony

Contributed by the FBI

You can't believe your good fortune—you find a rental home in a nice area through a Craigslist classified ad at an unbelievably low rate. The landlord—who had to leave the country and travel to Nigeria—asks that you wire him two months' worth of rent. You arrive at the home on the agreed-upon date, but there's just one small problem—the house is not actually for rent and its owners know nothing about your agreement.

This latest scam being perpetrated by Nigerian criminals located halfway around the world has been seen in a number of U.S. states, perhaps in response to the current housing market—with fewer people buying, more people are renting.

But it's not really a new scam, just a variation of an old one. The so-called 419 scheme—named after the Nigerian penal code section under which this particular kind of fraud is prosecuted—has been around since the early 1980s. The common thread running through these kinds of scams? The victims are solicited by Nigerian criminals to transfer money out of the U.S. and into the criminals' pockets...usually by being promised something in return. And these schemes are profitable, costing victims millions of dollars annually.

In South Carolina, the rental scam problem has become so prevalent that Columbia FBI Special Agent in Charge David Thomas recently issued a warning about it to homeowners and prospective renters, particularly in the Charleston, Columbia, and Hilton Head areas. The scam has also ensnared victims in Rhode Island, Illinois, Colorado, and California, among other states.

How exactly does the rental housing scam work? The criminals search websites that list homes for sale. They take the information in those ads—

lock, stock, and barrel—and post it, with their own e-mail address, in an ad on Craigslist (without Craigslist's consent or knowledge) under the housing rentals category. To sweeten the pot, the houses are almost always listed with below-market rental rates.

An interested party will contact the "homeowner" via e-mail, who usually explains that he or she had to leave the U.S. quickly because of some missionary or contract work in Africa. Victims are usually instructed to send money overseas—enough to cover the first and last month's rent—via a wire transfer service (because the crooks know it can't be traced once it gets picked up on the other end).

Renters might sometimes be asked to fill out credit applications asking for personal information like credit history, social security numbers, and work history. The Nigerian crooks can then use this info to commit identity fraud and steal even more money from their victims.

How to avoid being victimized:

- Only deal with landlords or renters who are local;
- Be suspicious if you're asked to only use a wire transfer service;
- Beware of e-mail correspondence from the "landlord" that's written in poor or broken English;
- Research the average rental rates in that area and be suspicious if the rate is significantly lower;
- Don't give out personal information, like social security, bank account, or credit card numbers.
- If you suspect a scam, have already been victimized, or know someone who has fallen victim to a scam, please report it to our Internet Crime Complaint Center ([www.ic3.gov](http://www.ic3.gov)) to help us determine the extent of the problem.

## The Downey Patriot

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## SPEED BUMP



## DAVE COVERLY



# Downey Community Calendar

### Events For July/August

- Fri. July 31: **Ribbon-cutting**, So Cal Postal Credit Union, 11 a.m.
- Fri. July 31: **Chamber volunteer awards**, Rio Hondo Event Center, 11:30 a.m.
- Fri. July 31: **Baseball fundraiser**, Shakey's Pizza, 6 p.m.
- Wed. Aug. 5: **Wiseguys concert**, Furman Park, 7 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.
- 7 p.m.: **Out Post 132 Royal Rangers**, at Desert Reign Church, for info call 928-8000.
- 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., 6:00 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.: **Connections Networking**, at Cafe N Stuff, for information, call Sandy Esslinger, (310) 491-8989.
- 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...

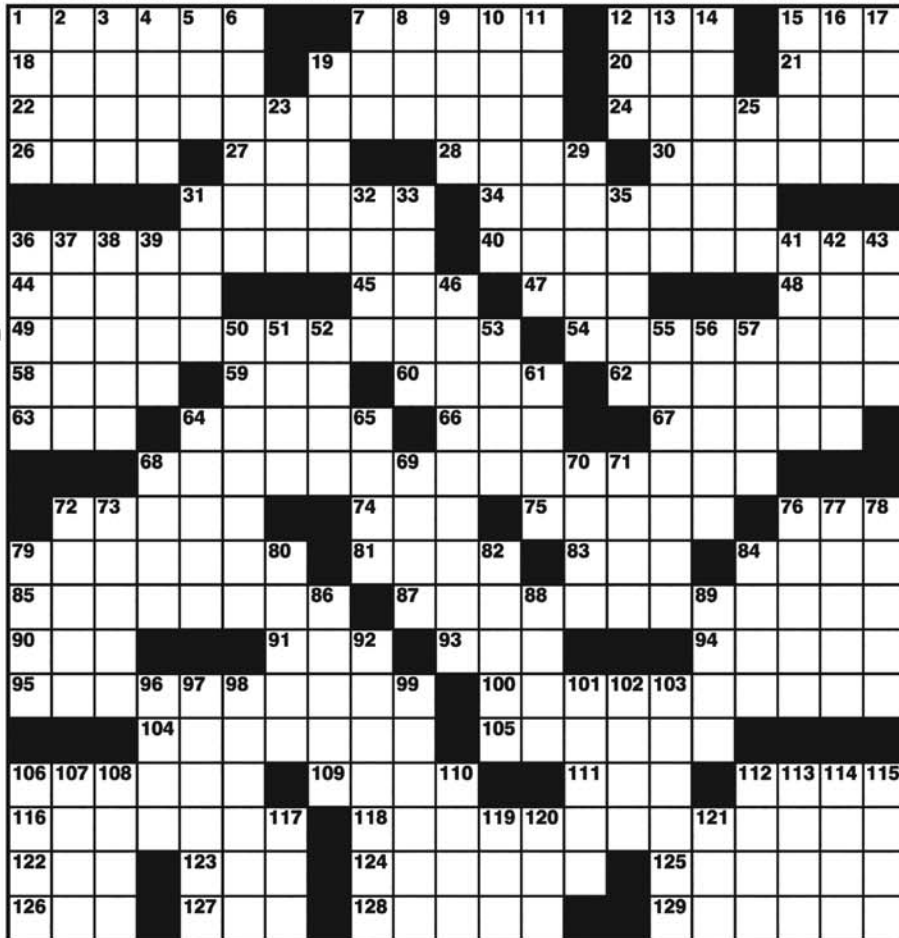
- July 31, 1951:** Japan Airlines is established.
- 1961:** At Fenway Park, the first All-Star Game tie in major league baseball history occurs when the game is stopped in the 9th inning because of excessive rain.
- 1981:** 42-day strike of Major League Baseball ends in the United States.
- 2007:** Operation Banner, the presence of the British Army in Northern Ireland, and longest-running British Army operation ever, comes to an end.
- Birthdays:** Professional football player Glenn Holt (24), "Avenged Sevenfold" band member Mathew Sanders (28), and actor B. J. Novak (30).

### THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com)  
**SOUNDS LIKE SNAKES: To be found Across**  
 by David W. Cromer

- |                                     |  |                                  |
|-------------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| <b>ACROSS</b>                       | 79 Overly formal, as writing             | 10 Articles of faith             |
| 1 What legwork builds               | 81 Apple relative                        | 11 They have their ups and downs |
| 7 Paint layers                      | 83 TV series since '75                   | 12 Vim                           |
| 12 One way to stand                 | 84 Levelheaded                           | 13 Nike competitor               |
| 15 Winter bug                       | 85 Checked for differences               | 14 Military outerwear            |
| 18 Set right                        | 87 Representative sample                 | 15 Put something over on         |
| 19 Small footwear                   | 90 Schooner contents                     | 16 Humdinger                     |
| 20 www.rutgers_                     | 91 French wine                           | 17 Lone Star State sch.          |
| 21 Old hat                          | 93 Chinese belief                        | 19 Gravy holders                 |
| 22 Jazz instrument                  | 94 Watering hole                         | 23 Gen_ (boomers' kids)          |
| 24 Balloon flaw                     | 95 Musical set in Vietnam                | 25 Possess, poetically           |
| 26 Blind part                       | 100 A-line, e.g.                         | 29 Three-note chord              |
| 27 See 2 Down                       | 104 Night watchman's device              | 31 They're hot for a while       |
| 28 Gusto                            | 105 Two trios                            | 32 Ethereal instrument           |
| 30 Cable-modem alternative          | 106 Channel                              | 33 Pulls the switch?             |
| 31 Scottish inlets                  | 109 Paper damage                         | 35 Windows predecessor           |
| 34 Airport areas                    | 111 Author Fleming                       | 36 Sly                           |
| 36 Workshop tool                    | 112 Lose luster                          | 37 Hardy's nickname              |
| 40 Chophouse order                  | 116 Place to stay                        | 38 Sounds dissatisfied           |
| 44 Audibly                          | 118 One looking for a witness            | 39 <i>In Boots</i>               |
| 45 Fan noise                        | 122 Poet in the ring                     | 41 Gets to work on <i>Time</i>   |
| 47 Down in the dumps                | 123 Verse "to" something                 | 42 Pop singer Mann               |
| 48 Cube with pips                   | 124 Finally                              | 43 Finely sharpened              |
| 49 Key prop in the Cinderella story | 125 Cybermessages                        | 46 Early advantage               |
| 54 Unproductive period              | 126 Cozy spot                            | 50 Atomic device                 |
| 58 German "one"                     | 127 Snitch                               | 51 Rifle with life               |
| 59 Pie filling                      | 128 Featherbrains                        | 52 Object of adoration           |
| 60 Comes out with                   | 129 Daily event                          | 53 Sandwich selections           |
| 62 Abridge                          |  | 55 Cajole                        |
| 63 "Absolutely!"                    |  | 56 90 degrees from <i>este</i>   |
| 64 Wears                            | <b>DOWN</b>                              | 57 Cafeteria carrier             |
| 66 Md. neighbor                     | 1 Edible ears                            | 61 Messy one                     |
| 67 Rub off                          | 2 With 27 Across, water that's shrinking | 64 " <i>la vista!</i> "          |
| 68 It doesn't use real money        | 3 <i>Mona</i> _                          | 65 Tide type                     |
| 72 Blizzard aftermath               | 4 Flak jacket, e.g.                      | 68 Cosby's <i>Spy</i> costar     |
| 74 Quick to learn                   | 5 USNA grad                              | 69 Blueprint detail              |
| 75 Illegal access, in perp-speak    | 6 Equilibrium                            | 70 Actress Peggy                 |
| 76 Accomplished                     | 7 Worker with a beat                     | 71 Where to find 116 Across      |
|                                     | 8 "That's marvelous!"                    | 72 Absolut rival                 |
|                                     | 9 Completely                             | 73 Green garnishes               |

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- |                            |  |                                  |
|----------------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| 76 "Fresh" flower          | 92 Phone-desk item                       | 107 Auditor's desire             |
| 77 How some fish is packed | 96 Skyline obscure                       | 108 Valhalla VIP                 |
| 78 Really crammed in       | 97 Deliverer from danger                 | 110 Get moving                   |
| 79 It's a ripoff           | 98 Things up for discussion              | 112 Drescher of <i>The Nanny</i> |
| 80 Prepare eggs, perhaps   | 99 Close by                              | 113 Hertz alternative            |
| 82 Courses                 | 101 Are                                  | 114 Takeout order                |
| 84 ASAP, in the OR         | 102 RR stops                             | 115 Prefix for while             |
| 86 1 or 2                  | 103 <i>The Hundred Secret</i> (Tan book) | 117 Understand                   |
| 88 Tender                  | 120 Half a figure eight                  | 119 Purring pet                  |
| 89 The bottom line         | 106 Pleased                              | 121 Australian bird              |

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.



## Marcia O'Brien was longtime resident

**DOWNEY** – Marcia Ann O'Brien passed away July 23 after a long battle with cancer.

She was born Dec. 26, 1933 in Sheboygan, Wis. where she met and married Franklin O'Brien. They raised their family in Salem, Mass. and then moved to Downey, where they had lived the past 25 years.

She is survived by her husband of 55 years, Franklin; daughters, Pamela Hall and Lynda Dennehy; son-in-law, Dennis Dennehy; and grandchildren, Kristin, Matthew and Jeffrey.



Her son, David O'Brien, preceded her in death.

A memorial service will be held Aug. 1 at 10 a.m. at Redeemer Covenant Church, 10801 Fairford Ave., in Downey.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Marcia O'Brien's memory to the Los Angeles Mission, 303 E. 5th St., Los Angeles, CA 90013.

## Babe Hallier survived by large family

**DOWNEY** – Clementine "Babe" (Bayless) Hallier passed away July 19 with family by her side. She was 91.

Born in Protection, Kan., the youngest of three, she spent her childhood in Burbank. She married Bruce in 1938, lived in Los Angeles, then moved to Downey in 1963.

Hallier was predeceased by her husband, Bruce; brother, Arnie Bayless, and sister, Fauness Day.

She is survived by her son, Thomas (Trish) Hallier; daughter, Pamela (Paul) DeTilla; grandchildren, Nanette (Rick Coulson, Dina (Nick) Carr, Ginger (Brian) Taylor, Valeria DeTilla, Lauren (Peter) Madonna and Bradley Hallier; and four great-grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held Aug. 16 at the Moravian Church of Downey.

## Mark Mandala, former ABC president, dies

**DOWNEY** – Mark Mandala, who served as president of the ABC Television in the late 1980s, died July 11 in Dorset, Vt. He was 72.

Born in Downey in 1937, Mandala graduated from USC with a liberal arts degree.

Joining ABC in 1962, he served in several positions in sales and management in Los Angeles, San Francisco, Chicago and New York.

In 1983, Mandala became president of the ABC-owned Television Stations division and in 1986 he became president of the ABC Television Network, where he oversaw sales, affiliate relations, affiliate marketing services, sales development, network operations, program administration and public relations.

He maintained residences in La Quinta and Dorset.

He is survived by his wife of 48 years, Joan Neely Mandala; three sons: Steve of Greenwich, Conn., Charlie of San Diego and Michael of Palos Verdes; a sister; and six grandchildren.

A reception for family and friends was held July 14 at the Dorset Field Club. A second memorial here on the West Coast is being planned.

## Therapy dogs bring smiles to patients



Therapy dogs are a welcome sight at Lakewood Regional Medical Center. Photo courtesy Therapy Dogs International

**LAKWOOD** – It has long been established that close contact with animals can have a therapeutic effect on humans.

Whether a patient is ill, has a life-threatening disease, a disabling condition, or just feeling a little stressed, a small dose of animal therapy can go a long way.

Studies have shown that physical contact with a pet can lower high blood pressure and improve survival rates for heart attack victims.

Because of these proven benefits, Lakewood Regional Medical Center has announced the launching of an animal-assisted therapy program for its patients. Animal-assisted therapy uses trained animals and handlers to help patients achieve specific physical, social,

cognitive and emotional goals.

"Many skills can be learned or improved with the assistance of a therapy animal," said Vikki Puffer, coordinator of the hospital's animal therapy program. "Patient rehabilitation can be encouraged by such activities as walking or running with a dog, or throwing objects for the animal to retrieve while fine motor skills may be developed by petting, grooming or feeding the animal."

The benefits of animal contact also get more specific when dealing with patients with other problems. Animals pay no attention to age, physical disability or emotional dysfunction. They accept people as they are, making them the ideal therapy companion for the mentally or physically disabled.

The emotional benefits from animals are difficult to measure, says Cindy Bryant, pet therapist of Therapy Dogs International. What experts know, however, is that animals allow humans to focus, even for a short period of time, on something other than themselves.

According to Bryant, therapy dogs have been specially trained to interact with all types of patients.

"It takes a certain type of dog to do this work and not all dogs qualify," Bryant said. "Besides their behavior being evaluated, the dog's health status must be cleared by a veterinarian and all their shots kept current."

Once the dogs are cleared for training they go through a rigorous program, along with their handlers,

to learn to adapt to a variety of environments, including multiple types of equipment, various sounds and different types of patients.

Every patient is evaluated separately to see if they are appropriate for the dog to visit. Dogs currently visit Lakewood Regional "a couple times a month."

"We would love for them to visit at least weekly but the demand for these dogs is very high and they are already booked at several hospitals," said Jodi Hein, chief nurse officer at Lakewood Regional. "Therapy Dogs International is in the process of training more dogs to keep up with the demand, so hopefully soon we will see our furry friends on a more frequent basis."



### Sean Charles Asbill

October 27, 1971 - August 3, 2007

Sean attended Rio San Gabriel Elementary, Griffith's Middle School, Downey High, and graduated, by the skin of his teeth, from Columbus High School.

Sean was a character, who inherited the "Type A" personality from both sides of his family. Early on, he began using humor and sarcasm, in order to cope. His paternal grandfather was a minister, his maternal grandfather, a lawyer. Let's just say, he had a wide range of inherited traits to draw on. Many of his one-liners can't be used here, but if you knew Sean, you knew what he would be saying now. It would go something, like this: "You want me to go where?... Heaven? Now?? Are you out of your mind?"

Ironically, Sean was always at ease with himself, and his accomplishments. By age 28, he had 3 sons, a dear woman, life-long friends, and 10 years of steady work\* under his belt, earning him a promotion, and his own office. \*(1990 U.S. Census, Kubota Tractor, MajesticWear, and Executive Office Concepts)

Despite his attributes, he always drove a beater car, and lived where the price was right. He figured that because he was brilliant, handsome, and charming, he didn't need any "props". If he gained a few pounds, that was your problem.. If you thought his car needed painting, you didn't need to get in it. He had his war games, his love of history, his work, and the gift of gab. His knowledge of the world, past and present, was remarkable. He could talk to anyone, from any walk of life, about any subject, in a warm, engaging way. Many said, he should have been a history teacher. He always planned to get around to that, when the time was right. He would say it something like this: "When GIL releases me from the chokehold, I'll go back to school. Right now, with him breathing down my neck, sucking the life out of me, I can't concentrate!" This would be in reference to his 7 years of being the only man in L.A. County (according to Sean), who actually PAID his child support every month, during the time of a very flawed child support system, within the District Attorney's office, where computer snafu's and mishaps, were commonplace.

Sean was deep, genuine, and loyal. He had no acquaintances, only friends. He would know everything about you in a few minutes, and file it away somewhere in his magnificent brain. A class act, is how he was often described. He believed in God, and knew there was a Heaven.

Sean left this earth, suddenly, on August 3rd, 2007, at the ripe old age of 35. (it has taken 2 years to put these words to print) After dinner, he watched a movie, and fell asleep. He had no idea, he would not see tomorrow. He would be amazed at the outpouring of support his family received at his untimely passing. Friends, relatives, co-workers, neighbors. You know who you are: thank you, thank you.

He leaves 3 sons, Sean Jr, Aidan, and Colin. You will find them in any Borders, between California and Hawaii, draped over chairs and on floors, reading books, just like their Dad. He also leaves, the love of his life, Kimberly; his mother, Jaymee; his maternal Grandmother, Gareth; He would want thanks expressed to Joy and Don, Kristina and Rob. There are many aunts, uncles, cousins, and countless friends, who will miss him. He was predeceased by his father, the memorable, Charles Asbill, in 2002. Also predeceased by his paternal grandparents, Nellie "Esther" and Wm. Arthur Asbill, Jr., and his maternal grandfather, H.H. (Bud) Hegner, Jr.

As he knew the Bible, chapter and verse, Sean would want it said, as Paul's Second Letter to Timothy did:

"Now is the time for me to leave this life. I have fought the good fight. I have finished the race. I have kept the faith. Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day."

Go get your crown, Seanny Boy.



### Cira Garces

February 1, 1931 - July 24, 2009

Cira Garces, born February 1, 1931 in Artesia, California, passed peacefully surrounded by family and loved ones on July 24, 2009. She was a long time resident of Downey, CA. Cira

touched many through her devoted and dedicated 60 years as employee and owner of Security Land Escrow Company in Downey, CA. Cira was a devoted catholic and parishioner of St. Raymond's Catholic Church and an active member of the Paramount Sister Cities Club. She graciously and abundantly donated to numerous local charities, orphanages, and senior centers in Mexico and Peru. Cira is survived by her son, Larry (Anna) Garces; grandchildren, Geoffrey, Daniel, and Nicole; daughter, Terri Garces; brother, Ignacio Oropeza; and sister, Veronica (Sergio) Sanchez. She enjoyed planning, cooking for family gatherings, entertaining at home, gardening, and world traveling. Her strong and loving presence shall be missed by all. In God's embrace, may her love continue to guide us. Funeral Mass will be held on Friday, July 31 at 10:00 AM, St. Raymond's Catholic Church.



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# Favre is finally done (we think), and good for him

BY SCOTT COBOS,  
STAFF WRITER

A fan sits on her couch in a small studio apartment staring at her picture of Brett Favre that is fixed on a wall right above her kitchen countertop. The legend had finally decided to stay retired she heard through a report on ESPN.



Scott Cobos

Favre had told ESPN's Ed Werder that the decision to not play for the Vikings was hard and at the time was in the process of thinking that he would never play in the NFL again, even though recent reports have surfaced saying otherwise.

The fan continues to sit while thinking about the words that Favre said to Werder, thinking to herself that it's good that the ol' gun slinger from Mississippi finally decided to hang it up. Listening to Brett say that he was not healthy enough to play spoke volumes because of the NFL record 269 straight regular season starts Favre has endured in the NFL. The iron man of football was finally done.

What a career we were treated to. From the records held and the memorable performances, to the MVP awards and the Super Bowl win, football will never forget the

quarterback that was Brett Favre.

It started back in 1991 when Favre was drafted in the second round by the Atlanta Falcons. Coming out of Southern Miss, the only college to offer him a scholarship, Favre was offered a 3-year \$1.4 million contract. The only problem was that Atlanta's head coach Jerry Glanville didn't approve of the team's taking of Favre and went on record saying it would take a plane crash for him to play Favre.

It would only fit that Favre's first NFL pass attempt was picked off and returned for a touchdown. With Atlanta, Favre only attempted four passes before he was traded to the Green Bay Packers in 1992.

The early going with Green Bay was rough for Favre. In a game where he had to replace current starter Don Majkowski due to a ligament injury, Favre fumbled the ball four times. The crowd started chanting for him to be removed and replaced by third string quarterback Ty Detmer.

But then something clicked. With a minute left on the clock and down 23-17 against the Cincinnati Bengals, the Packers reach Super Bowl XXXI to face the New England Patriots. Favre completed a 42-yard pass to Sterling Sharpe, then three plays later would complete the game winning touchdown pass to Kitrick Taylor with 13 seconds remaining.

That following week would begin what is seen as an unbreak-

able record in the NFL. Against the Pittsburgh Steelers in 1992, Favre would begin his streak of 269 straight regular season starts. Favre in the game also led the Packers to a 17-3 victory, and posted a 144.6 passer rating. While the season saw them miss the playoffs, Favre put up 3,227 passing yards with a passer rating of 85.3, good enough for this first Pro Bowl Selection.

In 1995, Favre led the Packers to an 11-5 record, Green Bay's best record in nearly 30 years up to that point. Favre would have a career year, passing for 4,413 yards, 28 touchdowns, and a rating of 99.5 which was the highest of any of his years in the NFL. These numbers would see him win the first of his three MVP awards. It also helped the team reach the NFC Championship game, which was the farthest a Packer team had advanced up to that year since the team won the Super Bowl in 1967.

It wouldn't be much longer until the Packers had a chance to win their first Super Bowl since that 1967 season. In fact it was only two years later. In 1997, Favre won his third straight MVP award and helped the Packers reach Super Bowl XXXI to face the New England Patriots.

Favre and the Packers started hot offensively. On the second play of the game, Favre threw a 54-yard touchdown pass to receiver Andre Rison. At the half, Green Bay was up 27-14. They never looked back from that point with their defense providing all the support they

needed. Green Bay would only allow one touchdown in the second half and cruised to the Super Bowl win.

In the game, Favre completed 14 of 27 passes for 246 yards and two touchdowns. The win would be Favre's only championship of his career. As emotional as a championship win is, nothing could eclipse the emotional roller coaster that was the game in 2003 against the Oakland Raiders.

On Dec. 22, Monday Night Football hosted what was one of the most incredible performances by a quarterback on Monday night. What made the feat so amazing was the circumstance behind it.

Just 24 hours prior to the game, his father had died from a heart attack. Favre and his father had been very close. To lose someone of that magnitude is life altering.

But the curtain went up and the spotlight shined down on him. In the first half of the game, Favre torched the Raiders for four touchdowns, and passed for 399 yards on the game. The Packers went on to win 41-7.

"I knew that my dad would have wanted me to play," Favre said to reporters after the game. "I love him so much and I love this game. It's meant a great deal to me, to my dad, to my family, and I didn't expect this kind of performance. But I know he was watching me tonight."

He was named the NFC Offensive Player of the Week for the game and later on he would win

an ESPY Award for his performance.

As inspiring a performance as that was, tragedy seemed to follow Favre for the next couple years. Just 10 months after his father passed away, his brother-in-law was killed in an all-terrain vehicle accident on Favre's Mississippi property.

A year later, Favre's wife Deanna was diagnosed with breast cancer. Aggressive treatment of the cancer did help her fully recover.

But then in 2005, Hurricane Katrina came ripping through Mississippi, destroying his family's home, however none of his family was injured.

The wear and tear started to show on Favre during the 2005 season. His passer rating was the worst in the league amongst starting quarterbacks at 70.9. Rumors had started circulating amongst the press that it might be time for Favre to retire.

In 2006, it was nothing but more frustration for the Packers and Favre, watching Favre get shutout twice against the Chicago Bears and the New England Patriots. Those two shutouts were the only two shutouts of Favre's career.

The 2007 campaign seemed to be Favre's last chance at a championship. The regular season ended with Green Bay 13-3 and a big threat in the playoffs. In the first round, Green Bay cruised past the Seattle Seahawks 42-20. Favre threw three touchdown passes at a snow covered Lambeau Field. But the Packers' season ended the following week after they suffered a 23-20 overtime loss in the NFC Championship Game against the eventual Super Bowl Champion New York Giants.

In March 2008, Favre announced his first retirement, saying that he would be willing to play only if he felt that the team would be successful enough to win a Super Bowl. He also added that he wasn't up for the challenge.

Just months later, however, reports had started to trickle out that Favre had been in contact with the Packers about a possible return. Then started the messy breakup between Favre and the Packers. With his retirement announced, Green Bay was committed to Aaron Rodgers as its new quarterback.

Favre asked for his unconditional release and after months of back and forth between other teams, Favre was traded to the New York Jets for the 2008 season.

After 11 games, Favre looked like the gun slinger of old leading the Jets to an 8-3 record.

After the season, Favre again announced his retirement. Reports again though started to appear that he would be coming back and this time possibly to the Minnesota Vikings, a rival of the Green Bay Packers.

Alas, it was not meant to be with Favre announcing on Tuesday that he wasn't ready to go and that he was done.

The 40-year old chucker has done nothing but sparkle for the NFL for 18 years. Favre made the right decision by staying home this time around. His place in the Hall Of Fame is secure and he has nothing left to prove.

The fan sitting in her apartment will most likely never see Favre play for an NFL team again. The last time she'll see Favre in his glory days will most likely be in that framed picture on the wall. And that's how it should be.

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## New Titles at the Downey City Library

**Fiction**

- **"America Libre"** by Raul Ramos y Sanchez. An award-winning tale envisions a civil war sparked by years of anti-immigration prejudice and a politician's efforts to relocate Hispanic citizens into detention centers.
- **"The Crowning Glory of Calla Lily Ponder"** by Rebecca Wells. Calla Lily thrives in her small Louisiana town until the loss of her first love. Moving to Crescent City, she discovers she has the power of "healing hands" to change lives and heal pain--including her own.
- **"The Defector"** by Daniel Silva. By the author of "Moscow Rules," this is the ninth book in Silva's smart, fast-paced series about enigmatic assassin and art restorer Gabriel Allon.
- **"A Happy Marriage"** by Rafael Yglesias. A story inspired by the author's marriage to his late wife alternates between the first weeks of a young couple's acquaintance and the bittersweet final weeks before the wife's death.
- **"More Than It Hurts You"** by Darin Strauss. When Josh Goldin's 8-month old son is treated for mysterious and life-threatening symptoms, the hospital suspects that Josh's wife suffers from Munchausen syndrome, and has deliberately hurt the baby.

**Non-Fiction**

- **"As You Were: to War and Back with the Black Hawk Battalion"** by Christian Davenport. A reporter captures the hardships and heroism of National Guard citizen soldiers during the Iraq war.
- **"Books: a Memoir"** by Larry McMurtry. The author of "Lonesome Dove" describes his lifelong passion for buying, selling and collecting rare antiquarian books.
- **"Lance Armstrong: a Candid Portrait of the World's Greatest Champion"** by John Wilcockson. This is an in-depth look at the life and determination of the seven-time Tour de France champion.
- **"My Life in France"** by Julia Child. The movie tie-in companion to the film "Julie and Julia" tells the story of the famous chef's time in France and how she mastered the art of French cooking.
- **"Scuse Me While I Kiss the Sky: Jimmy Hendrix, Voodoo Child"** by David Henderson. This updated portrait of the iconic musician includes new photos and excerpts from his personal writings.

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

## Shopping/Services

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Till 7:00 PM





Legendary singer Tony Bennett will be at Segerstom Hall in Costa Mesa on Sept. 25. Tickets are now on sale. Photo by Mark Seliger

## Tickets to see Tony Bennett now on sale

**COSTA MESA** – Tony Bennett, the epitome of cool, will bring his smooth vocals and interpretive artistry to the Orange County Performing Art Center's Segerstom Hall on Sept. 25.

Bennett's fourth visit to the Center will feature all the songs and impeccable style that have earned him multiple gold and platinum albums, Grammy and Emmy awards, Billboard's Century Award and a Kennedy Center Honor. Frank Sinatra called him "the best singer in the business."

Bennett has received 15 Grammy Awards including the prestigious Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award.

His big break came in 1949 when comedian Bob Hope discovered him working with Pearl

Bailey in Greenwich Village and invited him to sing at Paramount Studios.

Bennett's initial fame came via a string of Columbia singles in the early 1950s, including such chart-toppers as "Because of You," "Rags to Riches," and a cover of Hank Williams' "Cold, Cold Heart."

He has placed two dozen songs in the Top 40, including "I Wanna Be Around," "The Good Life," "Who Can I Turn To (When Nobody Needs Me)" and his signature hit, "I Left My Heart in San Francisco," which earned him two Grammy Awards.

Tickets to see Tony Bennett range between \$64-\$106 and are available by calling (714) 556-2746 or online at [www.ocpac.org](http://www.ocpac.org).

## Female chorus needs singers for show

**NORWALK** – The Norwalk-based Southland Harmony Chorus is searching for female singers to join its group.

Women of all ages who enjoy singing are invited to the chorus' weekly rehearsals Tuesdays at 7 p.m. at the Norwalk Masonic Center, 12345 E. Rosecrans Ave.

The chorus is currently preparing for its fall show on Nov. 7 and would like to add voices to enhance the show.

Musical knowledge is not nec-

essary to join – voice training and music education are part of the membership. Any woman of average singing ability will find a part in the chorus.

For more information, contact Bobbi Morrill at (714) 376-1810 or e-mail [bobbimorrill@yahoo.com](mailto:bobbimorrill@yahoo.com).

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**ALIENS IN THE ATTIC** PG (10:05, 12:20, 2:40, 5:00, 7:20, 9:40)

**THE COLLECTOR** R (10:15, 12:30, 2:50, 5:15, 7:40, 10:00)

**FUNNY PEOPLE** R Fri to Mon: (11:45, 12:45, 3:05, 4:05), 6:30, 7:30, 9:40, 10:40; Tue: (11:45, 3:05, 4:05), 6:30, 7:30, 9:40, 10:40; Wed & Thu: (11:45, 12:45, 3:05, 4:05), 6:30, 7:30, 9:40, 10:40

**G-FORCE IN DISNEY DIGITAL 3D** PG (10:00, 12:15, 2:30, 4:50), 7:10, 9:30

**ORPHAN** R (11:15, 2:00, 4:55), 7:45, 10:35

**THE UGLY TRUTH** R (11:45, 2:20, 5:05), 7:30, 10:05

**HARRY POTTER AND THE HALF-BLOOD PRINCE** PG-13 Fri to Mon: (11:30, 12:10, 2:55, 3:45), 6:20, 7:00, 9:45, 10:25; Tue: (11:30, 2:55, 3:45), 6:20, 7:00, 9:45, 10:25; Wed & Thu: (11:30, 12:10, 2:55, 3:45), 6:20, 7:00, 9:45, 10:25

**ICE AGE: DAWN OF THE DINOSAURS 3D** PG (11:30, 2:00, 4:30), 7:05, 9:35

**MADAGASCAR: ESCAPE 2 AFRICA** PG Tue: (10:00 AM, 12:30 PM)

Times for Friday-Thursday, July 31-August 6, 2009  
Bargain Matinee ( ) Advance ticket sales  
Special Engagement/No Passes \* [www.kptmovies.com](http://www.kptmovies.com)

## BJ's: Restaurant set to open Monday.

Continued from page 1

My girlfriend and I visited to eat, drink and gain a glimpse of what the Downey community can expect.

Before I even made it into the restaurant I had my first "wow" moment. As in, "Wow, I can't believe it's true, there's actually a BJ's in Downey!" I had to collect myself before walking in.

Our hostess was Nichole, a bubbly, smiling young lady who escorted us to our table. Karina, another friendly young woman, served as waitress.

The place was buzzing; obviously a lot of people had heard of the free-meal promotion and were happy to oblige. The bar was mostly empty but a handful of bartenders stood ready behind the counter, ready to serve a thirsty customer. The shelves were neatly lined with dozens of colorful liquors.

Behind the bar and mounted on the wall was what looked to be four huge TV screens, each tuned to different sports channels. But in reality it was one giant 103-inch plasma TV. That's not a typo; it's a 103-inch TV.

Several more televisions hung from the various nooks and crannies of the restaurant.

As a test, I asked Karina to explain the different types of beers on the menu -- my girlfriend shot me the evil eye for doing this -- but Karina didn't skip a beat and summarized the seven different types of beers offered that day. I was impressed, and decided on the BJ's Brewhouse Blonde.

The entrees were filling and flavorful but the best part, of course, was still to come. Dessert was BJ's world-famous pizookie: a large, warm cookie served inside a deep pizza dish with vanilla bean ice cream scooped on top. It tastes even better than it sounds.

What BJ's Brewery in Downey lacks in intimacy -- the floor space, although visibly smaller than the Cerritos location, is expansive -- it makes up with a satisfying menu, impressive selection of beer and outgoing employees.

Best of all, it's one less reason to have to give our tax dollars to Lakewood or Cerritos.

Welcome to Downey, BJ's. This looks like the start of a beautiful relationship.



A BJ's Brewhouse beer. Photo by Jared Cherup

## Tracker aids in catch of yelloweye rockfish

Anglers can now use the Department of Fish and Game's (DFG) website to monitor the current status of the statewide catch of yelloweye rockfish. This information is of interest to many, because once the federal catch limit of this species is close to being met, the groundfish season may close.

"Yelloweye rockfish is the most constraining groundfish species on the West Coast," said Marija Vojkovich, DFG Marine Region Manager. "In 2008, many anglers were surprised when the groundfish season north of Point Arena closed early because the yelloweye rockfish catch had approached the federal harvest limit. This year, the tracking tool should result in fewer surprises."

Yelloweye rockfish are federally designated as an "overfished" species that may not be kept in California; however, anglers sometimes catch the fish by accident, and this incidental take is counted

towards the statewide recreational harvest limit. The new tracking tool, available at [www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/groundfishcentral/tracking.asp](http://www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/groundfishcentral/tracking.asp), will help anglers keep up to date on the status of the statewide catch and the possibility of early season closure.

The tracking tool will be updated weekly as new catch information is received and processed.

"This is a useful tool for any angler who wants to check on the status of our rockfish seasons as they progress. The length of our recreational groundfish season depends on our ability to educate anglers about how to identify yelloweye rockfish and lower our impact on overfished species," said the Recreational Fisheries Alliance West Coast Regional Director Jim Martin.

Yelloweye rockfish, a species found most frequently in northern California, is a challenging species to manage because the statewide

recreational harvest limit is minimal-only 6,173 pounds of incidentally taken fish are allowed for 2009. This species is slow-grow-

ing, late-maturing, and can reach ages of more than 100 years. Yelloweye rockfish stock may take over 70 years to recover.

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NOTICE OF HEARING ON VERIFIED PETITION TO ESTABLISH A NEWSPAPER AS A NEWSPAPER OF GENERAL CIRCULATION (California Government Code §§ 6000, 6020)  
 Case No. VS019238  
 Superior Court of the State of California, County of Los Angeles  
**IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF JENNIFER DEKAY-GIVENS TO HAVE THE STANDING OF THE DOWNEY PATRIOT AS A NEWSPAPER OF GENERAL CIRCULATION ASCERTAINED AND ESTABLISHED**  
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on August 17, 2009 at 8:30 a.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard in Department C of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, located at 12720 Norwalk Boulevard, California 90650, Petitioner intends to apply for an order, pursuant to California Government Code § 6000 declaring The Downey Patriot to be a newspaper of general circulation in the County of Los Angeles, California.  
 The Petition sets forth the following: Petitioner Jennifer DeKay-Givens respectfully alleges and verifies that:  
 1. She is the Publisher of The Downey Patriot, a newspaper whose principal office of publication is located at 8301 E. Florence Avenue, Suite 100, Downey, California 90240. The newspaper was established under the name "The Downey Patriot" on May 3, 2002, and has been printed and published under that name on a weekly basis since then. The Downey Patriot currently is published each Friday morning in the County of Los Angeles, State of California.  
 2. The Downey Patriot is published for the dissemination of local and telegraphic news and intelligence of a general character in the County of Los Angeles, State of California. The Downey Patriot covers news stories and other items of interest to the local community. For example, The Downey Patriot's regularly featured content includes, among other things: News, Dining & Entertainment, Health & Wellness, Sports, Opinion, Letters to the Editor, Obituaries, and Events. In addition to these regular features, The Downey Patriot also provides in-depth cover and feature articles. This local and/or telegraphic news and intelligence of a general character consistently has comprised well over 25% of The Downey Patriot's total inches during the one year period preceding the date of this Petition.  
 3. The Downey Patriot has a bona fide list of 185 paying subscribers. That is, The Downey Patriot has a real, actual, genuine subscription list containing only the names of those 185 persons and entities that are in good faith paying regularly for subscriptions. The Downey Patriot enjoys a diverse subscriber base. In addition to individual subscribers, several local businesses have purchased annual subscriptions. The Downey Patriot's annual subscription fee for home delivery is \$20.00, and its annual subscription for mail delivery is \$72.00.  
 4. For at least one year preceding the filing of this Petition, the mechanical work of producing The Downey Patriot, that is, the work of typesetting and impressing type on paper, has been performed in the County of Los Angeles, State of California. Specifically, since August 10, 2007, copies of The Downey Patriot have been printed by Southwest Offset Printing Company ("Southwest"), located at 13630 Gramercy Place, Gardena, California 90249. The Downey Patriot currently is distributed to the public from Southwest's office. The Downey Patriot, therefore, has been issued from the same County and State where it is printed and published, has been both printed and published in the same County and State, and has been published weekly since August 10, 2007.  
 WHEREFORE, Petitioner now prays for a judgment ascertaining and establishing The Downey Patriot as a newspaper of general circulation in the County of Los Angeles, State of California, pursuant to California Government Code §§ 6000 and 6020.  
 Dated: June 26, 2009  
 Karen A. Henry, Esq.  
 Davis Wright Tremaine LLP  
 865 S. Figueroa Street, 24th Floor  
 Los Angeles, California 90017  
 (213) 633-6800

## SUBSCRIBE TO THE PATRIOT

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## Downey Business Directory

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**Downey Business Review**  
 ADVERTISING SUPPLEMENT

**Tabberts TV & Appliance**  
 Tabberts TV & Appliance is a Family owned Business established since 1962 in Downey, located at 8130 Firestone Blvd. Our showroom floor displays Plasma, LCD and DLP featuring L.G, Mitsubishi and Toshiba. We offer no service or product information. Come join our family of satisfied customers. (562) 861-0948

**Ana Esparza, Real Estate Executive**  
 Ana Esparza has been servicing the City of Downey since 1991. She is involved in many organizations and currently serves as President of the Downey Association of Realtors. Ana believes that purchasing Downey Real Estate is a great investment whether you are purchasing your first home, second home, or commercial property. Ana believes when you are buying or selling in today's real estate market, it is important to have confidence in your Real Estate Professional. Ana is committed to provide specialized service that her clients deserve. If you are considering buying or selling a home, or commercial property, or would like to have additional information about real estate in your area. Please contact Ana Esparza at (562)756-8870

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# Rancho names Aisen new chief medical officer

**DOWNEY** – Mindy Lipson Aisen, MD, has been appointed Chief Medical Officer (CMO) at Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center in Downey.



Aisen brings an extensive career in clinical rehabilitation, neurological rehabilitation research and rehabilitation research administration to the post, where she will lead a team of clinicians known internationally for pioneering work in rehabilitation medicine for more than 50 years.

“Throughout her career, Dr. Aisen has distinguished herself as a talented physician and passionate advocate for people with disabilities,” said Jorge Orozco, CEO of Rancho. “As chief medical officer, she will work across Rancho’s highly specialized clinical practices to drive new research and the clinical innovation that has always been the hallmark of the hospital.”

Aisen most recently served as director and chief executive officer of the Cerebral Palsy International Research Foundation (CPIRF), where she led efforts to increase visibility for cerebral palsy. She concurrently served on the faculty as adjunct professor in the Department of Neurology at Georgetown University’s School of Medicine.

“Dr. Aisen brought both energy and commitment to the mission of CPIRF, in addition to her medical expertise,” Paul A. Volcker, board chairman of CPIRF, said in a statement. “While we will miss her as CEO, we wish her well in her future endeavors, and know that she will bring the same level of dedication to her new position.”

CPIRF board president James Stearns added: “Dr. Aisen was especially successful in international efforts and in integrating the use of adaptive devices, including robotics, into the Foundation’s research mission.”

Previously, Aisen served as national director of rehabilitation research and director of the technology transfer department of the Veterans Affairs headquarters in Washington, D.C. and held clinical and academic positions at Cornell University Medical College, Burke Rehabilitation Hospital and New York Hospital.

She has served on the boards of the American Society of Neurorehabilitation, the American Academy of Cerebral Palsy and Developmental Medicine, the American Academy of Neurology, the National Institute of Child Health, and the Rehabilitation Engineering Society of North America.

She has also presented at more than 35 professional meetings and conferences, provided peer review of journal publications, and authored or co-authored 45 books, chapters and editorials.

“Dr. Aisen’s appointment enhances the stature of the department and underscores our ability to attract top clinicians and researchers who share our mission of caring for the county’s vulnerable populations,” said Dr. Robert Splawn, interim chief medical officer for Los Angeles County’s Department of Health Services.

Aisen is certified in neurology and neurorehabilitation with the American Board of Neurology and Psychiatry and the American Society of Neurorehabilitation, and holds active medical licenses with the states of New York and California.



Bill and Janis Allgood will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary with a gathering of friends and family Aug. 1 in Orangevale. The couple was married Oct. 1, 1949 at Christian Chapel in South Gate. A few years later they moved to Downey, where they raised their four children: Joyce, Doug, Dave and Mark. The couple spent most of their married lives in Downey before moving to Folsom, Calif.

## Foreclosure help available Aug. 8

**DOWNEY** – A “foreclosure prevention fair” to help local residents save their homes is scheduled for Aug. 8 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Downey Adult School.

Credit counselors and lenders will be available for on-site assistance, one-on-one counseling, and information on viable options for your mortgage.

Presentations will also be given on topics including “Understanding Your Mortgage Options,” “Fraud Prevention and Awareness” and

“Improving and Restoring Credit.”

Visitors should bring their loan and other relevant financial documents. The fair is sponsored by Rep. Lucille Roybal-Allard, the Los Angeles Neighborhood Housing Services, L.A. County Neighborworks Center for Foreclosure Solutions, Downey Unified School District and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

For more information, call (213) 628-9230.



Four Downey students recently capped their school year by participating in a musical at Downey Moravian Church. The students joined together for a joint rendition of “Stars and Stripes Forever.” The four are longtime students of piano teacher Elizabeth Wilson, of Downey, who is also an adjudicator for the California State Music Teachers Association. From left: Candice Saylor, Danielle Clennon, Ruth Tan and Nelson Chang.

## Golf clinic offers help with long drive

**DOWNEY** – John Marshall, a two-time super senior national long-drive champion, will give a free clinic Aug. 8 at Los Amigos Country Club.

Golfers looking to increase their distance off the tee can benefit from the clinic.

Marshall, who can still drive golf balls well over 300 yards even at age 61, will explain the fundamentals of power golf and demonstrate them as well.

Marshall has competed in long drive competitions the past six years and was a finalist at the Re/Max World Long Drive Championship from 2004-07. He won the American Long Drivers Association national championship in both 2005 and 2006.

The long drive clinic is free and begins at 11 a.m. For more information, call (323) 255-3935 or visit [www.allaboutgolf.us](http://www.allaboutgolf.us).

## Learn more about OASIS

**DOWNEY** – Karina Madariaga will give a presentation about Downey Adult School’s OASIS program when she speaks to the Downey Christian Women’s Club on Aug. 12 at Rio Hondo Event Center.

Also scheduled to speak is Linda Olson, whose topic is “Being Made for Something More.”

The buffet lunch meeting begins at 11:45 a.m. and costs \$13. Both men and women are invited.

For reservations, call Sonja at (562) 862-4347.

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Beautiful Downey condo. 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom, bonus area, central heat & A/C, laundry area, move in condition. Priced for today’s market!

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Beautiful 3 bedroom, 2 bath, formal dining room, good size den, 2 car garage, and a nice back yard. First time home buyer opportunity. It’s a WINNER!

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This home needs a little TLC but it’s an outstanding price. 3 bedroom, 1 bath, newer roof, pool and a nice area of Downey.

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- 8953 Atlantic ~ South Gate 985 sq. ft. commercial space \$900
- 11738 Tristan ~ Downey 2 BD, 1 BA home \$1,300

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Approximately 80-100 people attended the opening of the Artist's Night Art Exhibition July 17 at Granata's Italian Villa. The art exhibition, which is free and ends tonight, features 38 original drawings, paintings and photographs by local emerging and established artists. Pictured in the top photo, left to right: Tobias Sands, Ramon Perez, David Achon II, Juan Pablo Onate, Jamie Coulson, Paul Granata, David Hawkins (kneeling), Luis Sanchez, Jon Portez, Talent Caldwell, Monique Pucciarelli and Daniela Meltzer. Bottom photo (courtesy Zion Publishing): Anthony King and Dan Boissy of the Jazz Poets.



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