

# The Downey Patriot



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Friday, October 16, 2009

Vol. 8 No. 26

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

## H1N1 vaccines arriving Oct. 27

■ Additional clinics planned Nov. 14 and Dec. 5.

BY ERIC PIERCE,  
CITY EDITOR

**DOWNEY** – Free H1N1 (swine flu) vaccines and FluMist nasal spray will be available at the Downey Theatre on Oct. 27 from 1-9 p.m., health officials have announced.

The clinic layout will be similar to the seasonal flu-shot clinic held last month in the same location.

The clinic is open to residents who live in and around Downey. The clinic will not open early, so attendees are not encouraged to arrive excessively early. Attendees should know there may be waits

for their vaccinations and should be prepared to stand for a period of time.

There will be congestion in the Civic Center area on the afternoon and evening of this event. Residents should avoid the area if they will not be getting a vaccination.

Vaccines will be given to a priority group, including pregnant women, people living with or caring for infants under six months of age, emergency medical service workers, health care workers, children and young adults from six months through 24 years, and all adults with chronic medical conditions like heart or lung disease, asthma, diabetes or weakened immune systems.

Health care professionals rec-

ommend children under the age of 11 receive two vaccinations over the course of three weeks.

Additional H1N1 flu-shot clinics will be held in Downey on Nov. 14 and Dec. 5.

The H1N1 vaccine will be available in different forms, including injectable flu shots, FluMist nasal spray and thimerosal-free vaccine.

People with a severe allergy to chicken eggs, who have suffered a severe reaction to influenza vaccination in the past or who suffer from Guillain-Barre syndrome should consult a doctor before receiving an H1N1 vaccination.

People with an illness should wait until they are fully recovered before receiving a vaccine.

Side effects from the H1N1 flu

shot may include aches or pain, a minor fever and swelling where the shot was given.

The nasal spray may cause a runny nose, wheezing, headache, vomiting, muscle aches or fever.

Since the spring, 57 deaths in Los Angeles County have been attributed to swine flu.

Planning meetings are being held this week and next for the event. Some operational issues are subject to change. A final article with the most accurate information and a map will be in next week's Patriot.

Mark Sauter, deputy city manager for emergency preparedness, contributed to this report.

## Character Counts continues to make strides

BY HENRY VENERACION,  
STAFF WRITER

**DOWNEY** – Deeply impressed by the large attendance and enthusiasm evident at Downey's Character Counts Coalition meeting on Oct. 6, visiting CC national director Jessica Berlinski, admitting she has been in the position scarcely more than a year and visiting Downey for the first time, said "I'm blown away by this."

What she saw and heard were coalition members representing all segments of the Downey community reaffirming their commitment to the propagation of the six pillars of character—trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and citizenship—the six "universal ethical values everyone would feel comfortable [imparting] to young people," the six core values agreed upon at the coalition's birth as a foundation for character development.

Representing the City Council, Mayor Mario Guerra said, "The attitude and behavior change we seek is changing our children for the long-term. This will be our legacy for our kids."

There were representatives from the other city departments as well (community services, police), from business (Century 21 My Real Estate, Stonewood Center, Downey



PHOTO BY STAN HANSTAD

DUSD superintendent Wendy Doty, Character Counts national director Jessica Berlinski, school board member Martha Sodemani and Character Counts associate director Jessica Ellis were among several community members to attend a Character Counts Coalition meeting in Downey on Oct. 6.

Federal Credit Union), from YMCA, from youth sports (DJAA, AYSO), with the largest representation coming from the Downey Unified School District (administrators, principals, teachers) and PTA.

"Wendy Doty started this thing," said Guerra. Superintendent Doty is the Downey CC Coalition chair, and conducted the meeting.

Jessica Ellis, CC associate director and chief resource person of the meeting, provided the meeting's major thrust: she came with all sorts of planning, action plan, reference-checking, and employee appraisal checklists, meant to underline and "institutionalize" desirable behavioral traits.

Doty and the attendees had a field day with the issue of responsibility. "Would a Bill Clinton or a David Letterman have done what

they did had they had a behavioral checklist?" "How about someone seeking public office? Wouldn't this political candidate try to live up to his promises?"

Speaking about 'primary goals', Ellis said: "Ultimately, our mission is not to create an awards program or host an assembly. Our goal is to generate attitudes and behaviors consistent with the Six Pillars." Thus, in staging a CC event, "The event may be a means to [some desirable] end, but we must keep sight of the true end," she said, adding: "One must have a clear vision, and clear plans" in the attempt to reach one's target audience.

To spur idea-sharing, the attendees formed in small groups to discuss their significant projects. In one group, Phil Davis talked about the

Character Counts theme of the Carnival of Champions track tournament at Warren High in the spring.

Clearly encouraged all around was creativity in injecting Six Pillars awareness in every area of human activity whenever feasible (in school projects, in assemblies, in parades, in promotional items, etc.). At one point, Doty said: "If you've got tacky signs, take them down" [And replace them with something more CC-appropriate].

In this connection, in observance of the upcoming Character Counts Week, somebody volunteered that Ralph's is planning a Character Counts tie-in at its Downey store.

Downey's Character Counts Coalition is alive and well.

## Travelogues to return in January

BY HENRY VENERACION,  
STAFF WRITER

**DOWNEY** – The popular travel film series known as the Armchair Adventure Travelogue Series that delighted Downey residents for 30 years at the Downey Theatre is staging a comeback after a year's absence, at the City Council's behest.

The series was dropped allegedly because of staffing and financial considerations. Former theater director Kevin O'Connor, who was regarded as the driving force behind

the series, retired last year and city officials claimed its revenues could barely cover expenses.

In fact, the situation has prompted a review of the entire theater operation and a subcommittee consisting of Councilmembers David Gafin and Roger Brossmer is studying ways on how to optimize its operations.

As before, the travelogues will be shown on Sunday afternoons, with the first showing scheduled for Jan. 17, 2010. Three additional shows will fill out the rest of the 2009-10 fiscal year calendar, slated for Feb. 21, March 14 and April 2

To be featured are such titles as "St. Vincent and the Grenadines: Caribbean Jewels," "Ghost Towns of the West," and "Etched in Stone: Scotland to Provence."

Community Services director Thad Phillips said he plans to shy away from repeats of old films, and show only new titles.

"This is a bit more tricky to do, but future scheduling will depend on the availability of new travelogues," he said. "It's hard enough to compete with the Travel Channel."

This time, there is a change of venue. The travelogues will be shown at the new state-of-the-art

250-seat Downey High School auditorium. While the rental fee at the Downey Theatre was \$1,000 per showing, staff has been able to negotiate a fee reduction to \$700 at Downey High, which also boasts handicapped access facilities, officials said.

It is estimated that the proposed new ticket price of \$10 per person will cover administrative and direct costs including ticket printing and associated promotional materials.

More information about the series will be announced later.



PUBLICITY PHOTO

In celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month, the Albertsons supermarket in Downey will host a two-hour celebrity cook-off Sunday featuring Spanish radio personalities Don Cheto and La Socia. Cheto and La Socia, popular DJs on 105.5 FM Que Buena, have been accepting recipe submissions the past two weeks. The winners who have their recipes chosen will join the two as they compete to create the best-tasting recipe. The event begins at noon and will include prizes and giveaways.

## Clark Avenue may be renamed

■ Special meeting set for Tuesday, 6 p.m., at City Hall for community input.

BY HENRY VENERACION,  
STAFF WRITER

**DOWNEY** – The proposal to change the street name, Clark Avenue – between Lakewood Boulevard to either Imperial Highway or all the way to the city limit, Foster Road – to Columbia Way, has been derailed, at least temporarily, until Tuesday when the City Council makes a final determination at a special meeting scheduled at 6 p.m.

The rationale for the proposed name change is the deep identification of the name, 'Columbia', with the Downey-built Space Shuttle Columbia, and mission, which claimed the lives of seven astronauts.

Soon to have its grand opening on Clark Avenue is the new Columbia Memorial Space Center, whose name likewise honors both place and memory.

Clearly, the proposed change of address that the Council considered Tuesday was also meant to perpetuate Columbia's name. The wording of the discussion was a little more circumspect: "The city of Downey wants the address of the

Columbia Memorial [Space Center] to also reflect the memory of the fateful Columbia Space Shuttle mission and the seven men and women who lost their lives by renaming Clark Avenue 'Columbia Way'."

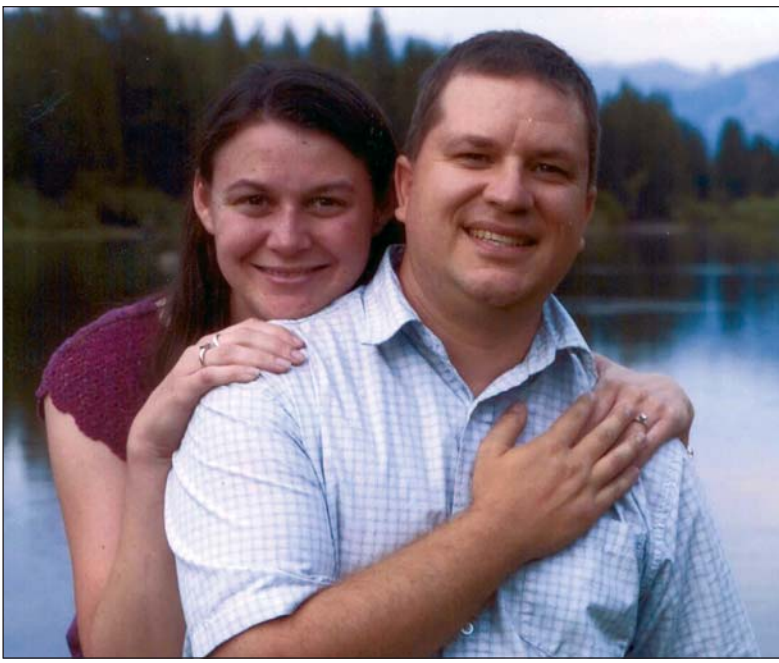
Chief proponent of the name change, Mayor Mario Guerra, reported that as of 2:15 p.m. Tuesday, total e-mails he received were 44 for the name change and five against.

A lively discussion ensued, with the council members putting forth strong arguments, both pro and con. Councilman David Gafin's argument that a survey of all the residents along the street (mostly single-family and multi-family properties on the west side of Clark below Lakewood, with the east side occupied by commercial and county property) was in his view called for, before a decision is made on the matter, prevailed.

Gafin was mainly concerned about the "considerable inconvenience" such a move would cause. At any rate, he said, the Council owes it to its affected residents that their views be carefully canvassed first.

In the end, council members agreed to enlist the assistance of Police Explorers to conduct the desired survey, the results of which will be discussed on Tuesday.





**Richard and Cheryl Salyer have announced the engagement of their daughter, Stephanie, to Mark Townsend, son of Fred and Linda Townsend. Stephanie graduated from Downey High School in 2000 and is a substitute teacher in the Downey Unified School District. Mark graduated from Warren High School in 1994 and works for security at Disneyland. A March wedding is planned.**

## Abandoned baby is in good health

**DOWNEY** – A newborn baby boy is resting comfortably at Downey Regional Medical Center this morning after someone abandoned him at a Paramount fire station.

Firefighters were returning to Fire Station 31 after a routine call

when a crew member spotted the baby inside a shoe box.

"Since most abandoned babies are never found alive, this boy is a lucky survivor, thanks to the observant crew members who spotted him," a statement from the Los Angeles County Fire Department

says.

Paramedics said the baby, who was estimated to be about four to eight hours old, was "alert and in good health." He was taken to Downey Regional Medical Center for a check-up.

State law allows parents or

legal guardians to drop off babies within 72 hours of birth to designated "safe havens," which include hospitals, fire and police departments, without fear of prosecution.

## Jazz concert at Downey church

**DOWNEY** – Downey Memorial Christian Church will present a concert Oct. 25 featuring The Jazz Monks, a South Bay jazz band that includes the music director, Terumi Lyon, on keyboard.

A homemade chili dinner will be served following the concert.

A \$10 donation is requested and includes both the concert and dinner.

For more information, call the church office at (562) 869-7291.

## Character Counts events at library

**DOWNEY** – The Downey City Library will offer three storytimes in partnership with the Downey Unified School District to celebrate Character Counts Week, Oct. 19-25.

Preschool Storytime will be offered Tuesday at 10:30 a.m.; Bilingual Storytime on Wednesday at 10:30 a.m.; and Family Story Night on Thursday at 7 p.m.

The free storytimes for preschool children and their families will focus on the program's "six pillars of character": trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and citizenship.

Character Counts is a community-based program that provides children with a framework for ethical living and helps them make better choices in life. Last year, more than 5 million children in 51 countries celebrated the Six Pillars of Character.

The Downey City Library offers a Character Counts book display and reading list of books for preschool through eighth grade.

"Character Counts also changes the lives of adults who teach children and enriches the entire community," said Gina Orello, children's librarian.

For more information, call (562) 904-7360, ext. 4.

## Festival at Moravian Church

**DOWNEY** – The Moravian Church of Downey's annual Fall Festival will take place tomorrow from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The festival will include handmade crafts, baked goods, music, specialty gifts, a grandma's attic and more.

A homemade lunch of chili or vegetable soup will be available for \$6. Children can enjoy a bounce house, crafts, games and a barbecue hotdog lunch.

The public is invited to the festival. The Moravian Church of Downey is at 10337 Old River School Rd., south of Florence Avenue.

## OLPH luncheon Wednesday

**DOWNEY** – Yolanda Ramirez will be the guest speaker when the OLPH Guild hosts a luncheon Wednesday at 10 a.m. inside the Parish Center.

Ramirez, an employee with Kaiser Permanente, will share photographs and recollections of her centennial trip to Rome as well as her work with the confirmation class in religious education.

The luncheon costs \$10 and includes a hot meal and a 50/50 drawing. The Parish Center is located behind OLPH School.

## Thanksgiving dinner for seniors

**DOWNEY** – The 25th annual Thanksgiving dinner for senior citizens at West Middle School will take place Nov. 19 at 4 p.m.

This year, seniors can enjoy bingo as West Middle School students and staff serve them a free dinner. The school band will provide music.

For more information, call (562) 469-7318.

## Bands, color guards to compete

**DOWNEY** – The Downey High School band and color guard will host "Bohemian Sketches," a competition field show featuring local high schools, tomorrow starting at 11:45 a.m.

Warren High School will also participate.

Admission is \$12 per person; children 6 and under are free. The community is invited.

## Math workshop for adults

**DOWNEY** – Parents are invited to brush up on their math skills at a free seminar Wednesday at Sylvan Learning inside Stonewood Center.

Various stations will be set up to teach parents some of the math skills they may have forgotten, including fractions, percentages and Algebra.

The workshop is free and begins at 6:30 p.m. For more information, call Mary at (562) 622-9210 or e-mail downey.ca-12046@sylvanlearning.com.

## Sci-fi author to sign books

**DOWNEY** – Science fiction writer Nathan Charlton will speak and sign books during a free author event at the Downey City Library on Wednesday at 4 p.m.

Charlton, an author and middle school math teacher in Downey, will discuss his book, "Terra Nova: the Search." His novel involves a seismic phenomenon and global volcanic activity that threatens to wipe mankind from the face of the earth.

Fearing widespread panic, it is decided to keep the truth a secret from the public. In order to save the human race, the President pushes forward with an initiative to overhaul NASA and begin a mission to colonize deep space.

Copies of "Terra Nova" will be available for purchase and signing at the event.

For more information, call (562) 904-7360, ext. 4.

## Calvary homecoming tonight

**DOWNEY** – Calvary Chapel Christian School in Downey will celebrate its homecoming tonight at the Downey High School stadium.

Pre-game festivities begin at 6 p.m., when the homecoming court will be announced.

The public is invited to attend.

## Pancake breakfast tomorrow

**DOWNEY** – The 61st annual Rotary/YMCA Pancake Breakfast, featuring those unique Mickey Mouse pancakes that were first shaped in the mind of Rotarian Angelo Cardono, takes place from 7:30-11 a.m. tomorrow at Warren High School.

Entertainment will include performances by the Y's children's dance group.

There is a venue change because construction of a new cafeteria gets underway soon at DHS. Proceeds from the popular breakfast event support the activities of the community's youth.

A single ticket costs \$5.00 (five tickets will cost only \$20). Tomorrow also affords a chance to see Warren's brand-new culinary arts facility.

For information, call the Y at (562) 862-4201.

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PHOTO COURTESY ASSISTANCE LEAGUE OF DOWNEY

Operation School Bell, a philanthropic program of Assistance League of Downey, has opened for the school year. Children in need, referred by Downey elementary schools, are given a new jacket, three shirts, two pairs of pants, underwear, socks, shoes, a backpack and a hygiene kit collectively worth about \$85. Pictured above showing a typical outfit are (left to right) chairmen Marge Lewis, Janice Allen and Ann-Marie Sannebeck. Funds for Operation School Bell come from the Second Tyme Around thrift store on Downey Avenue and other fundraising events. For information on how to help, call (562) 869-0232.

## Warren High's first graduating class to celebrate 50 years

■ Reunion dinner tomorrow at Rio Hondo Golf Club.

By Christian Brown, Staff Writer

**DOWNEY** – In 1959, Harvey's Broiler was Downey's teenage hot spot. Dwight Eisenhower was the President of the United States and Elvis Presley was the newly crowned King of Rock and Roll.

"It was a great era – from the dances to the music," said Terry Peterson, who graduated from Warren High School that same year. "On Friday and Saturday nights, we'd go to the drive-in or carhop. I'd find someone to drag race on what we called the Paramount extension in Pico Rivera."

Today, Peterson is just one of the 133 alumni attending the 50-year reunion for Warren High School's first graduating class.

George Zambrano, who served

as Warren's first student body president, now heads the reunion committee, which has organized a weekend-long series of events for alumni coming to see familiar faces and share old memories.

"We're going to have a good turnout. We don't usually get this many," said Zambrano, who expects nearly 200 guests to attend. "There are only about 10 to 12 people that still live in Downey, most are scattered throughout Orange County and northern California."

Peterson and his wife, Thelma, were high school sweethearts while at Warren.

"I was co-captain of the football team and she was one of the song leaders," Peterson said. "My old Warren High letterman jacket has been worn for three generations – my son wore it and my grandson. He just graduated from Warren last year."

Born and raised in Downey, Terry and Thelma lived in the city for more than 60 years before moving to Cambria several years ago.

For 45 years, the couple has helped Zambrano with the class reunions.

"We have a lot of friends in this class. It's exciting to get back and see how people are doing," said Terry. "We have a special relationship – we all went in as 10th graders and for three years, we were the top class."

Warren High School was dedicated in 1955 and originally named Earl Warren High in honor of the former California governor and Supreme Court chief justice, who was immensely popular during the mid-50s.

Warren alumni Tom and Jean Walsh met in high school, but went their separate ways after graduation.

The two reconciled after seeing each other at a Warren class reunion and kept in touch afterwards. In 2001, they married. Determined to join their classmates at the 50-year reunion, the Walshes will drive down from San Luis Obispo County to be there.

"We've had five reunions up



here where about 15 of us have gotten together," said Jean, over the phone. "We were a close knit group of students."

Zambrano, who now lives in Upland, said reunion festivities will include a cocktail party this evening at the Embassy Suites Hotel starting at 5 p.m., a tour of the Warren campus and a reunion dinner tomorrow night at the Rio Hondo Golf Club from 6 p.m. to 11 p.m.

"It's going to be a fun program," Zambrano said. "We want to go table by table and have each classmate tell us about their memories. There will be a dance floor – we'll be playing the oldies from the '50s."

## Santa Claus raffle tickets on sale

**DOWNEY** – Raffle tickets are now on sale for an opportunity to ride with Santa Claus during the Holiday Lane Parade on Dec. 6.

Tickets are \$1 and can be purchased at the Downey Chamber of Commerce offices, 11131 Brookshire Ave., Monday through Friday between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Children must live in Downey and be between the ages of 5-10. The drawing will be held Nov. 2.

For more information, call (562) 923-2191.

## Toastmasters open house

**DOWNEY** – Downey Toastmasters Club 587 will host an open house Tuesday at 6 p.m. inside room 116 at First Baptist Church of Downey.

Mayor Mario Guerra will be the guest speaker.

Toastmasters offers guests help in honing their communication and leadership skills. The public is invited to their meetings, held every Tuesday at the church.

## Space Center tickets to be available Monday

■ Grand opening set for Oct. 24-25. One-hour tickets are free at City Hall.

**DOWNEY** – Tickets will be available starting Monday for the grand opening celebration of the new Columbia Memorial Space Center scheduled for Oct. 24-25.

The public is invited to the weekend celebration, which will be open from noon to 6 p.m. both days.

Tickets are free and will be

available at the City Manager's Office located on the third floor of City Hall. Each ticket will be valid for a one-hour time slot either Saturday or Sunday.

Tickets are limited to four per person; people can pick whatever time slot they choose.

During the one hour, the public can tour the Space Center and experience many of the exhibits, labs and programs. The center features an advanced Challenger Learning Center for simulated journeys to the Moon, Mars, a

comet, and even Earth.

A wide-range of interactive exhibits will provide insight into space shuttle operations, living and working on the International Space Station, exploration of our solar system, aerospace engineering and the range of study and jobs related to human and robotic space exploration.

The Space Center will also offer programs and instruction in technology, science and engineering, while acknowledging some of the most important aerospace

achievements of the 20th Century.

The center will stand as a monument to the seven-member crew of the Space Shuttle Columbia, who perished as the shuttle reentered the Earth's atmosphere on Feb. 1, 2003.

The Columbia Memorial Space Center is located at 12400 Clark Ave. For ticket information, call the City Manager's Office at (562) 904-1895 or (562) 904-7286.

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## Food drive at credit union

**DOWNEY** – Downey Federal Credit Union is collecting food for needy families in Downey.

Collection bins for non-perishable food are located in the main branch at 8237 3rd St. and in the express service office at Downey Regional Medical Center.

Some of the food being sought includes canned fruits and vegetables, peanut butter, tuna fish, canned meat, canned soup, canned meals, non-cook items and fruit juices.

Donations will be donated to Downey PTA HELPS (Health, Education and Local Pantry Service). The credit union is also accepting monetary donations for PTA HELPS.

The credit union will also donate Thanksgiving baskets to families whose children attend their adopted schools, Ward and Lewis Elementary School.

“Downey Federal Credit Union supports the efforts of the Downey Unified School District and the PTA, and wants to lend a helping hand to families in need,” said Barbara Lamberth, president and CEO of Downey Federal. “As an established business in Downey, the credit union is pleased to help families to grow and prosper in the community.”

## Compost workshop at Wilderness

**DOWNEY** – A “smart gardening” workshop will be held Oct. 24 from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at Wilderness Park.

Visitors will receive instruction on backyard composting, worm composting, grass recycling and water-wise gardening techniques.

Compost and worm bins will be available to workshop participants at a reduced price of \$40 for compost and \$65 for worms (cash or check only).

Composting is the natural process of decomposition and recycling of organic material into a rich soil environment known as compost. Backyard composting reduces personal trash volume, conserves water, increases plant growth and replaces the need for harsh chemical fertilizers and pesticides.

The workshop is sponsored by the city of Downey’s Recycling Office and the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works.

The event is free, but there is a \$2 parking charge starting at 9 a.m. For more information, call the city at (562) 904-7103 or (562) 904-7159.

## Films chronicle Apollo program

**DOWNEY** – Downey resident Jeff Vilencia will show six short films on the Apollo and Space Shuttle titled “With Their Eyes on the Stars” Thursday at 7:30 p.m. inside the John Downey Room at the Barbara J. Riley Community & Senior Center.

Jerry Blackburn, president of the Aerospace Legacy Foundation, will be on-hand to offer commentary and field questions.

The event is part of the regular meeting of the Downey Historical Society.

## Greek tragedy to play here

**DOWNEY** – “Troades,” the ancient Greek drama by playwright Euripides, will be presented live on stage at the Downey Theatre on Nov. 14.

The American Hellenic Council is staging the production, which will be presented in Greek with translation by acclaimed director Michael Kakoylannis.

Music by composer Mikis Theodorakis will be used in the play. A complimentary question-and-answer period with the cast will follow.

“Troades” (Trojan Women) was originally written by Euripides in Athens around 400 BC and portrays the plight of women and children following the defeat of Troy by the Greek armies as the remaining families of the defeated Trojans are about to be taken away as slaves.

Tickets are \$20 pre-sale or \$25 at the door. The play begins at 8 p.m. To purchase tickets, visit [www.americanhellenic.org](http://www.americanhellenic.org) or call (323) 651-3507.



COURTESY PHOTO

**Downey resident Samantha Rocha, 11, won first place in the 13 & Under Amateur Division at the UYGP Tournament of Champions, a golf tournament held Oct. 10 at Arroyo Seco Golf Course in South Pasadena. The tournament is organized by the Los Angeles Junior Chamber of Commerce and featured several top young golfers. Samantha credited her instructors, Rob and Greg at the Rio Hondo Golf Club, and Juan at the Bell Gardens Golf Course, for her success.**

## Auction items open for bid

**DOWNEY** – October’s silent auction items are now on display in the foyer of the Downey City Library.

Some included books are “Saturday Shrines, College Football’s Most Hallowed Grounds,” a grand tour of 40 of the nation’s most historical and beautiful stadiums; “The New Yorker 1950 – 1955,” a nostalgic look back at 40 “New Yorker” covers and 450 black and white cartoons; “The Frankenstein Diaries,” translated and edited by Rev. Hubert Venables, a unique book about the true story behind one of the most horrific and compelling legends of all time.

Bids can be placed in the Friends Book Store inside the library before noon on Oct. 31.

A complete list of items, along with descriptions and opening bids, can be found online at [www.downeylibrary.org](http://www.downeylibrary.org) by clicking the “Friends of the Library” tab.

## Volunteers needed for dinner

**DOWNEY** – Volunteers are needed for the 18th annual Thanksgiving Outreach Dinner to be held Nov. 21 at the Barbara J. Riley Community & Senior Center.

Men and women from local shelters will be served a Thanksgiving meal. Volunteers are needed to help prepare and serve a hot meal, set-up, decorate and more.

Food donations are also needed for the 100-plus food baskets that will be prepared and distributed through Downey schools and churches.

Anyone interested in volunteering or donating food should contact Breath of God Christian Fellowship at (310) 767-9620.

Financial donations in lieu of food may be sent to Breath of God, P.O. Box 39903, Downey, CA 90239.

## POET’S CORNER

### Welcome Basket

bread all kinds of breads  
some are braided dough like amber plaits  
of the girl from got-land this is her basket  
she’s just set it down running  
through the knee-high cereal grasses  
to hail the boat in the river  
swollen hull one-eyed serpent prow  
all claws and slippery scales black weeds  
caught on one oar as though  
it had just surfaced from another world

in her basket lies a stiff *baton* with knife slashes  
like shallow cuts in a puffy sleeve to control its rising  
*norman* for Norman-dy her mother says  
next to the wand-shaped *baton* rests a round loaf  
*sour deg* flavored with rye seeds  
and anise and precious orange peel from Magyar Buda  
beside it glows a brick some call *dane gelt*  
its burnished crust shines like a copper coin  
because it’s brushed with hen’s yolk before  
her mother puts it into the oven  
her favorite treat is the sweet-fingered roll with currants  
named she doesn’t know why  
for the brown bears whose skins  
they bring down from the mountains in Norway

that’s all they find when her mother comes looking  
a woman tray filled with a history of invasions  
her daughter’s gone before there’s been time  
to invent a recipe for returning  
and with no yeast in her pocket

–Lorine Parks,  
Downey

### Walk After the Stir

Stolling a walk in the park  
Two steps too dark since I  
last left my hue mark I came  
across a bench depleting with  
bark Crass my eyes, cross my  
heart Never seen such havoc  
Between the raquet that lift I threw  
a mad little sad fit Steam came  
hot out my ears, I had it, where’s  
my bench? My fist I clench but  
won’t it rid the saw, the stench.

–James Hernandez,  
Downey



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## Where is the credit?

By Eric Pierce

So this is how the conversation went last night:

**Girlfriend (who shall remain nameless\*):** Honey, would you help me by opening the door so I can take out the trash?

**Me:** Of course, babe!

At this point I got off the couch (mind you I was in the middle of watching a very interesting episode of "King of Queens" on TV) and sprinted for the back door. Not only did I open the door, but I held it open for her too. (Yes, yes, I know I'm a sweetie pie, but that's just how I was raised. My momma deserves the credit, not me.)

The girlfriend went downstairs, threw out the trash, and came back up. For helping her by opening the door, I was expecting a kiss on the cheek, a pat on the back, a firm handshake, *something*. Instead, to my surprise, she erupts into a diatribe on how I never do anything around the house!

She said taking out the trash is a man's job. And when she asked me to open the door for her, I should have taken the hint and taken down the trash myself.

My response to that is: I don't read minds.

I mean, I love my girlfriend (who I am still not identifying\*), but if she had just asked me to take out the trash, I gladly would have done it. Perhaps not at that exact moment in time, but I would have gotten around to it eventually. I always do.

(To be fair, one time I neglected the trash so long that maggots began forming in the hamburger meat. But that only happened once, and I blame nature.)

Also, and I didn't say this yesterday, but I'll say it now: taking out the trash is not a "man's job." Isn't that the reason women burned their bras and marched through Washington, D.C., for the pride of taking out the trash themselves?

I'm not a chauvinistic pig; I think women deserve equal rights as men. So if a girl wants to haul the trash outside to the Dumpster, or change the oil in the car, well hey, I'm with you sista!

Second, I do plenty around the house. Just last week I sacrificed an entire Saturday so I could wait for the Gas Company repairman. And today I'm going to run anti-virus software on our computer, because the well-being of my family comes second to none.

I'm telling you, us men don't get enough credit.

\*Ahem, Nicole, ahem.

## Governor vetoes bill for patient protection

By the California Medical Association (CMA)

For the second year in a row, Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger has rejected legislation that would put a stop to the insurance industry's outrageous practice of wrongfully canceling patients' coverage once they get very sick and run up large medical bills.

The Governor announced Sunday night he had vetoed AB 2 (De La Torre), a measure sponsored by the California Medical Association that called for an independent review of decisions by insurers to rescind coverage. The insurance industry's widespread abuse of the practice has drawn condemnation from Republicans and Democrats alike. In June, a congressional investigation found that three insurers had rescinded coverage for 20,000 patients over five years, saving their companies \$300 million.

"With this veto, the Governor told Californians that insurance company profits are more important than their access to health care when they get sick and treatment becomes costly," said Dev GnanaDev, CMA president. "Without the patient protections of legislation like AB 2, there is no guarantee that Californians will have health insurance when they need it most."

Although he has made much of his opposition to rescissions, Schwarzenegger has now twice vetoed legislation curtailing the practice, including AB 1945 last year. Since then, CMA and the author of the legislation, Assemblyman Hector De La Torre (D-South Gate), have worked hard to address the Governor's concerns in AB 2.

Schwarzenegger's veto stands in stark contrast to his rhetoric. Two years ago, he invited a victim of rescission as a special guest for his State of the State address to highlight his opposition to the practice. And on Tuesday, Schwarzenegger went to great lengths to announce and publicize his support for President Obama's framework for health care reform, which includes putting an end to the practice of rescissions.

The *Los Angeles Times* observed on Friday that the Governor's decision to reject AB 2 "would make a mockery" of his stated efforts to extend health care coverage to more Californians. CMA views AB 2 as a critical piece of expanding access to care.

Despite grandstanding efforts to portray himself as an advocate for improving the health care system, the Governor and his administration continue to obstruct efforts to protect the people of California from health insurance companies.

*The California Medical Association represents more than 35,000 physicians in all modes of practice and specialties. CMA is dedicated to the health of all patients in California.*

## Letters to the Editor:

### Stop the insanity

Dear Editor:

I'm glad there are finally some frogs jumping out of the beaker before they are boiled. Way to go tea party participants.

I remember Nancy Pelosi saying, "This will be the most transparent administration ever..." I remember thinking "big joke," but now they have convinced me. They are transparent. It's easy to see right through their lies and deceit.

When President Obama said his health care plan wouldn't cost taxpayers a dime, he's right. As estimated by the Office of Management and Budget, it will be more than \$1 trillion in a few short years; we could only wish it would be a dime.

Congress is rushing to pass a bill that doesn't even exist yet, but apparently there is a deadline anyway, yet we're told they don't have time to put it online so people can know what's in it, but Congress is going to pass it anyway. One has to wonder what the big hurry is since it won't take effect until 2013.

Could it be that the next presidential election is in 2012, and if people don't like it, it will be after Obama is hoping he will be re-elected?

President Obama is transparent when he says illegals won't get health care. Could it be that he is planning to make all of the legal? That would take care of that problem.

It is transparent to me that Obama is throwing our friendly nations under the bus and embracing the communist and Muslim nations, i.e., Hugo Chavez, Castro, the Palestinians, Libya and others while dictating policies to Israel. It is very transparent that Israel will not follow his sage advice. They will do anything to survive.

It is transparent that Obama wants control over everything, i.e., the car manufacturing companies, insurance companies, banks, loan companies, investment houses, salaries, student loans and your health care. Soon he will ask for AmeriCorps, which he says, will be stronger than our military. Why do we need a youth group so powerful? What's the purpose?

It is transparent to me that if our country continues this obscene overspending, Obama isn't going to have anymore of our money to redistribute. Our wealth has been given away to every country and the stupid pork projects Congress can dream up. It is not yet transparent that those who have put us in debt are willing to "walk the walk" and give their wealth away.

I hope the frogs that jumped out of the beaker encouraged those still in hot water to jump out and do something to stop this insanity.

— **Elsa Van Leuven,**

**Downey**

### A marriage broken up

Dear Editor:

Has America forgotten how to multiply? Once upon a time most of our consumer goods were manufactured in America, not China. During recoveries manufacturers, that is Mr. Manufacturer, hired new workers in the USA, not China and the workers spent their new earnings in the USA, not China. Thus the "magic multiplier," a dollar spent in the USA was spent again in the USA, which was spent again in the USA, and on and on.

Since the consumer Mrs. Consumer, was 70 percent of the economy, common sense says the magic multiplier was very important. Working hand in hand, Mr. Manufacturer and Mrs. Consumer, in a happy romance (well, maybe that's pushing the analogy too far) helped each other recover from recessions. Now, Mr. Manufacturer has moved to China, where he found someone cheaper than Mrs. Consumer to work in his factories.

Mrs. Consumer is abandoned and the magic and the romance are gone. While the painful recovery drags on, ever faithful Mrs. Consumer waits for the Chinese to share the magic and spend dollars back in the USA. Then she can spend them back in China, and on and on.

For some strange reason that our government, who lets all this happen, can't figure out, the Chinese want to spend their dollars in China and make China a nicer place. The magic and romance have left Mrs. Consumer for China. The story can go on and on but obviously Mr. Manufacturer and Government have sold out Mrs. Consumer.

Meanwhile, back at home, as Mrs. Consumer struggles mightily to make ends meet, Government is trying even more mightily to sell her a very expensive health insurance plan (that she probably can't afford) and tax the very air she breathes (it contains that bad carbon dioxide). Love those insurance salesmen and tax collectors, oops Government, who are telling Mrs. Consumer that a new insurance policy and the air she breathes out are most important issues in the world, even more important than trying to bring Mr. Manufacturer and the magic back from China.

While this doesn't make a lot of sense, Government tells Mrs. Consumer "trust me;" after all, she did help elect them.

— **Scott Ramey,**

**Downey**

### Tax credits

Dear Editor:

The "Cash for Clunkers" program for new cars may have ended, but the IRS wants to remind taxpayers that many people might overlook another special break available.

If you buy a new vehicle this year, there's a special federal tax deduction available that can help you save money; in some cases hundreds of dollars. This tax break will allow people who buy a new vehicle in 2009 to deduct the sales and excise taxes they pay when they file their tax return next year. The tax deduction is available on the 2009 federal tax return even for those who claim the standard deduction.

The deduction is part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 and applies to taxes paid on up to \$49,500 of the purchase price for qualified new cars, light trucks, motorcycles or motor homes. Generally, vehicles weighing 8,500 pounds or less qualify. This means that most new cars and many new trucks will qualify. New motor homes qualify regardless of weight.

Buyers are entitled to a partial deduction if they earn between \$125,000 and \$135,000 (\$250,000 and \$260,000 for joint filers). The deduction is eliminated for those who earn more than these amounts.

To qualify, the vehicle must be new and purchased in 2009 after Feb. 16 and before Dec. 31. There is still time but the clock is ticking.

More information is available at [www.irs.gov/recovery](http://www.irs.gov/recovery).

— **Terry L. Lemons,**  
**Director of Communications,**  
**Internal Revenue Service**

*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.*



## Letters to the Editor:

### Opposes street renaming

Dear Editor:

I have just become alerted in the media to the proposal to rename a portion of Clark Ave to Columbia Way.

Having worked for the NAA-to-Rockwell corporation for 40 years, I was indeed saddened by the catastrophe of the Shuttle Columbia STS-107 disaster nearly seven years ago and do wholeheartedly applaud the creation of the facility established in its honor — together with the naming of all facilities there to match.

However, I must take exception to the proposed renaming of the street. The purpose of street names is not to glorify or honor any person, thing, or event. Rather the purpose is to enable potential visitors to find the places on that street from references to addresses, maps, and experience. Renaming the street, whether just to Imperial or all the way to the city boundary will not help people to find the location at 12400 Columbia Way — even after maps are changed and replaced over the next decade.

Granted that Clark Avenue at one time was named Cerritos Avenue, but for at least the last 70 years it has been Clark Avenue, and there are millions of people in the Downey-to-Long-Beach and surrounding Greater Los Angeles area who know in their minds the location of Clark Avenue. For all of those people who travel and cross Clark Avenue every day, finding the Columbia Memorial Space Center on Clark Avenue will be a trivial task.

For anyone to try to find a place on a small portion of that street which has been renamed for the purpose of honor, will lessen their chance of finding it.

Additionally, the residences and businesses which must change their addresses, business cards, letter heads, Internet Web pages, and professional listings, will suffer an inconvenience and expense which far exceeds any gain from the renaming.

Much greater attention would be afforded to the space center complex if the intersection at Lakewood were restored to its prior age-old configuration in order for those coming from the north to actually enter the street, and then perhaps that intersection's being named "The Columbia", or "Columbia Triangle", or "Columbia Square", as being akin to Long-Beach's "The Circle" and the many freeway sections and interchanges named in honor of State employees — none of which have any implications regarding the need to find them via an address/map reference; the same is true of the many named "Square's in eastern cities.

Changing the name of the street while leaving the current access so convoluted, will essentially cause the Lakewood intersection to become nicked-name as "Columbia Maze", "Columbia Where-How", "Columbia de Sac", or "Columbia Can't".

The honor of the change will long be over-shadowed by the inconvenience to others, its making the honoree location harder to find, and the continued blockage of ingress from the major access route. The Astronauts lost in 2003, would collectively object to the pseudo honor.

For the sake of future attendance and community harmony, the proposal should be withdrawn or voted down.

Enough with the hoopla. If it ain't broke, don't fix it. Keep it simple.

— **Hugh T. Hoskins,**

**Downey**

### Restore the Avenue

Dear Editor:

Things are sounding and looking good in Downey: BJ's recently opened at Stonewood Center with the highest-grossing opening in the company's history, the Broiler is coming back from the grave and reopening with a new yet very familiar look on Oct. 19, Porto's Bakery has broken ground on their new location in old Downtown Downey, and it's looking better and better that the old space factory will be retrooled as the new Tesla Motors.

It seems like saving the oldest-standing theater in Downey — The Avenue — from demolition, restoring it and reopening it as the newest and coolest venue for films and live performances just fits right in with the direction our city is heading. Let's continue to preserve our past and make it part of the future of our city!

In the past year, our city leaders have seen how our historic landmarks are our biggest selling point. Jim Louder of Bob's Big Boy, and hopefully, Elon Musk of Tesla, have been sold on Downey because we have something to offer that is unique. The same can be said for the Avenue Theatre, a 1925 playhouse that offers something special you can't find in every other city in southeast Los Angeles.

Destroying it and turning the site into high-rise, low-income housing would be a step in the wrong direction. Our city leaders have demonstrated their excellent abilities to negotiate wonderful business opportunities for Downey. Let's hope that they can resolve the problem that was created with the purchase of the Avenue with housing monies and make it possible for the Avenue Theatre to be the unique historic landmark from our past that contributes to a brighter future for Downtown Downey.

— **Kathy Perez,**

**Downey**

## The Downey Patriot

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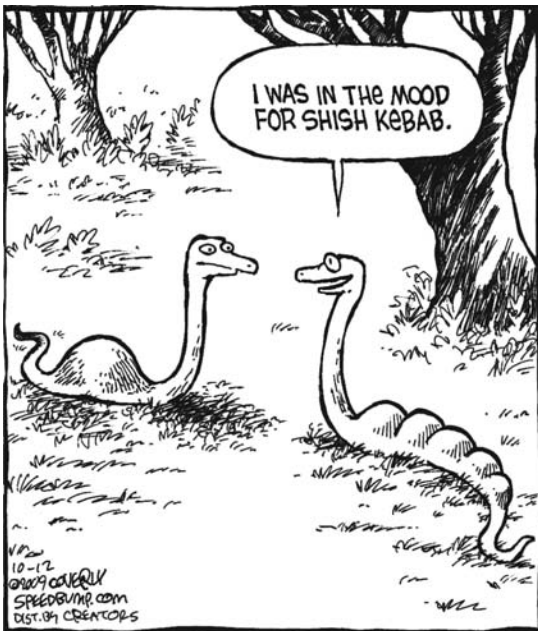
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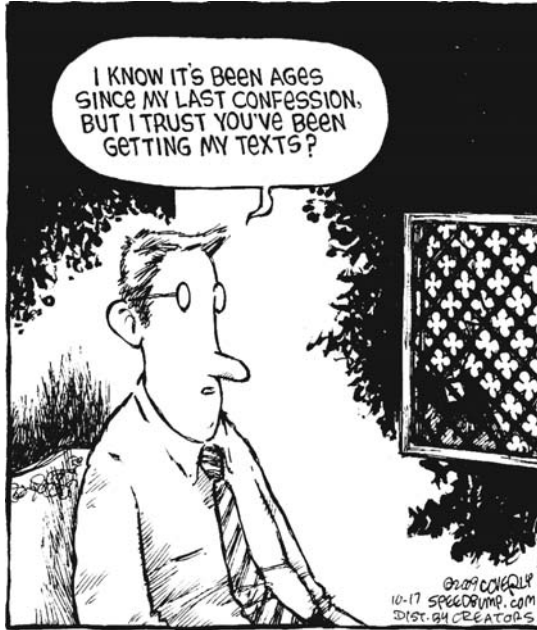
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## SPEED BUMP



## DAVE COVERLY



## Downey Community Calendar

### Events For October

- Fri. Oct. 16: **Calvary Chapel homecoming**, Warren High School, 6 p.m.
- Sat. Oct. 17: **Pancake breakfast**, Warren High School, 7:30 a.m.
- Sat. Oct. 17: **Fall Festival**, Moravian Church of Downey, 10 a.m.
- Sat. Oct. 17: **Band & color guard competition**, Downey High School, 11:45 a.m.
- Sun. Oct. 18: **Celebrity cook-off**, Albertson's, noon
- Mon. Oct. 19: **Jewish vocabulary discussion**, Temple Ner Tamid, 10 a.m.
- Tues. Oct. 20: **Toastmasters open house**, First Baptist Church of Downey, 6 p.m.
- Tues. Oct. 20: **Meeting to discuss Clark Avenue name change**, City Hall, 6 p.m.
- Wed. Oct. 21: **OLPH luncheon**, Parish Center, 10 a.m.
- Wed. Oct. 21: **Author Nathan Charlton**, Downey City Library, 4 p.m.
- Wed. Oct. 21: **Math Workshop**, Sylvan Learning at Stonewood Center, 6:30 p.m.
- Thurs. Oct. 22: **Apollo short films**, Community Center, 7:30 p.m.

### City Meetings

- 1st Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m.: **Redevelopment Project Area Committee**, Cormack Meeting Room at Downey Library.
- 1st & 3rd Wednesday, 6:30 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 Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.: **Library Advisory Board**, at Downey City Library.
- 3rd Wednesday, 7:00 p.m.: **Water Board**, at City Hall.
- 4th Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.: **Emergency Preparedness Committee**, at Fire Station No. 1.

### Regularly Scheduled Meetings

#### Mondays

- 7:30 p.m.: **Job/Career Coaching**, at The First Presbyterian Church, for info. call 861-6752.
- 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 p.m.: **Downey Sister City Assoc.**, at Maude Price School, for information call 884-9657.
- 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., 6 p.m.: **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 Barbara J Riley Center, call 943-5513.
- 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.
- 2nd Thurs., 7:30 p.m.: **Beaming Rebel Foxes Collectors Club**, for more information call Carl D. Jones at 923-2400.
- 4th Thurs., 10 a.m.: **Assistance League**, at Casa De Parley Johnson. for information call 869-0232.
- 4th Thurs., 7:30 p.m.: **Downey Historical Society programs**, at Community Center. Call 862-2777.

#### 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.
- 2nd Sat., 12:30 p.m.: **AAUW**, Los Amigos Country Club.

## On This Day...

- Oct. 16, 1793:** Marie Antoinette, found guilty of treason, is beheaded during the French Revolution.
- 1962:** President John F. Kennedy is informed of missile bases in Cuba, sparking the Cuban Missile Crisis.
- 1973:** Henry Kissinger and Le Duc Tho are named winners of the Nobel Peace Prize for negotiating a cease fire in the Vietnam War. Tho declined the award.
- 1987:** Eighteen-month old Jessica McClure is rescued from a well in Midland, Tex., where she spent 58 hours.
- 1995:** A "vast throng" of black men gather in Washington for the Million Man March.
- Birthdays:** Actress Angela Lansbury (84), actress Suzanne Somers (64), actor Tim Robbins (51), rocker Flea (47), basketball player Manute Bol (47) and musician John Mayer (32).

## THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

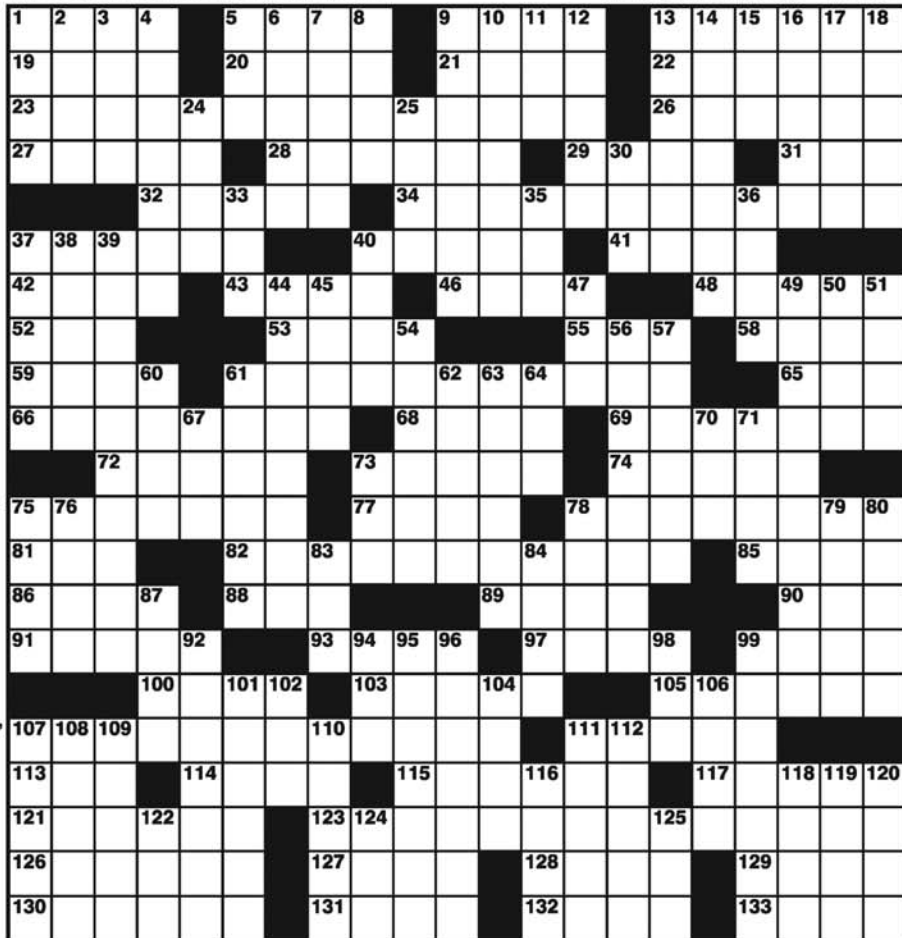
Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com)

**FRONT MONEY: Cash, and lots of it**  
by Gail Grabowski

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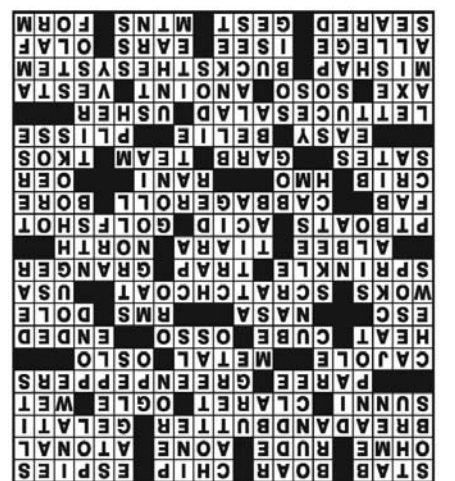
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You can contact puzzle editor Stanley Newman at his e-mail address: [StanXwords@aol.com](mailto:StanXwords@aol.com). Or write him at P.O. Box 69, Massapequa Park, NY 11762, Please send a self-addressed, stamped envelope if you'd like a reply.

mixing and kneading processor alternative to hand- (49 Down) are used as a food- heart goddess. DOUGH HOOKS Ceres, was named for the Roman the most massive asteroid after Frenchmen." VESTA (117 Across), for the musical "Fifty Million (Across) was written by Cole Porter "You Don't Know Where" (32







## Richard Lee's Academic Excellence "Pays Off"

By: Deborah Won, Intern

Studying and hard work has paid off for Richard Lee, the only student at Warren High School who has been selected as a National Merit Semi-Finalist for his commendable score on the PSATs. Now a senior, Lee took the PSATs his junior year and was recently notified of being selected as one of the semi-finalists in the nation.



"I simply signed up for the PSATs during my junior year and hoped for the best as I took it," said Lee when asked to explain what he did in order to become a National Merit Semi-Finalist. "The NMSC uses the PSAT score as the sole basis of choosing its semi-finalists."

The National Merit Scholarship Corporation recognizes exceptional students throughout the country, and provides various scholarship opportunities for selectees. The only way students are selected is

through the PSAT test, and those who make the "cut-off" score, which varies from state to state, are entered into the competition. Those who become National Merit recipients are recognized on college applications, and those who reach the final round of National Merit are awarded with innumerable amounts of scholarships. For Lee, he only has to be selected as a Finalist in the next round, then make the final cut, in order to be a recipient of the various scholarships associated with National Merit.

"Only time can tell if I receive any tangible benefits, especially those in the form of checks," said Lee. "However, it sure looks good on your resume and college applications."

The National Merit program is a highly competitive system, where essentially any individual who takes the PSATs may be a candi-

date to follow in the fortunate footsteps of Lee.

"My advice is, and you can quote me on this: believe it or not, studying can pay off, literally!" said Lee when asked if he had any advice for other students. "Pursue your goals, especially if free money is involved."

An academically competitive student, Lee wishes to attend the University of Pennsylvania after graduating high school, and plans to major in Biochemistry with a pre-Medicine emphasis.

"My biggest aspiration, however, is working in the Medical Corps of the U.S. Navy after having the government pay for my med-school tuition," said Lee. "In the end, we both win."

In addition to being a National Merit Semi-Finalist, Lee has been recognized for academic excellence in several other ways. Lee has received numerous Golden Bear awards at Warren, represented the school as a delegate to the California's Golden Boys' State in 2008, studied biomedicine at the University of Pennsylvania for a month this past summer, and is currently the captain of the golf team and a part of Warren's solar boat team.

## Downey senior qualifies for National Merit Scholar program

By: Jennifer Cho, Intern

Downey High senior Christine Tran is one of 16,000 students in the nation qualified as a semifinalist in the National Merit Scholar competition this year and the only Downey student to accomplish this feat.

The 16-year-old Tran is actually a year younger than most of her peers since she chose to skip the seventh grade as part of an advanced program at her private school. Tran has no trouble blending in with her peers and keeping up with academics, as she is currently No. 2 in her senior class and has been a member of the California Scholastic Federation for four years. Tran excels in math and science and has previously

received multiple nominations for these categories at the annual Viking Awards. She is also enrolled in rigorous AP (Advanced Placement) classes such as AP English and AP Chemistry and is an active student on campus by participating in many extra-curricular activities. Tran has been a member of both Key Club and Junior Statesmen of America for four years and has played on the school's tennis team for three years. She volunteers her time at the Downey Regional Medical Center, hoping to pursue her dream in working in the medical field, particularly pharmaceutical sciences.

With college applications dead-

lines approaching in almost a month, Tran says she is planning her future for college and hopes to attend either UCLA or USC to study to become a pharmacist. Whatever path Tran chooses to take for her future, she is sure to succeed based on her academic achievements.

Eligibility to participate in this prestigious academic program is based off the students' PSAT/NMSQT (Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholar Qualifying Test) scores typically in their junior year. Students with outstanding performance on this exam may qualify for scholarships, depending on the level of the competition.

## Warren's Homecoming with a New Twist

By: Deborah Won, Intern

"A Night of the Golden Dragon" is this year's theme for Warren High School's Homecoming Dance, taking place on Saturday, Oct. 24, from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. at the local Rio Hondo Country Club. Students are thrilled for another fun-filled night, expectedly, as the Homecoming Dance is always popular amongst the student body population. Particularly with this unique theme, which A.S.B. had democratically decided, a new twist is added to encourage students to attend the first traditional school dance of the year.

"The theme was inspired by the endless possibilities related to a Chinese theme," said Dance Commissioner Deanna Kim. "A.S.B. decided that decorating the country club with fans, lanterns, a golden dragon, and banners would create a different approach to homecoming, as well as a memorable night."

On the night of the dance, the Rio Hondo Country Club will be festively decorated with the dominating colors of red, gold and black to emulate the aura of a Chinese

New Year's festival. In anticipation of a large number of attendees to this dance, the dance hall will be cleared and expanded in order to accommodate all the students. In addition, a separate designated area will be provided for drinks and refreshments for the students. A professional Jostens photo booth for couples and groups will also be available.

"Warren High School is trying to have annual homecoming dances at Rio Hondo to make this country club a traditional spot," said Kim.

This year will be the second time that Warren will host its Homecoming Dance at the country club, thanks to the success of the event last year. In addition, by having the Homecoming Dance at a local location, the prices for the tickets can be lower and more affordable, so that many students at Warren will be able to attend this memorable night. The starting cost of the tickets was only \$30, with an A.S.B. card, although

the prices were increased in small increments weekly.

Truly, such a theme is a first at Warren High School, and has been effective in attracting quite a few of the students, who seemed to be excited for the dance.

"I'm very enthusiastic about this year's Homecoming," said junior Nigel Adashefski. "And curious to see how this year's theme will affect the way people dress."

Warren High School has also been promoting the dance through other means, such as the Homecoming Fashion Show. The fashion show consists of senior students who perform a dance during lunch in "Homecoming attire," or dresses and suits, in order to pump up the students about the upcoming event. There is also the Homecoming game the night before the dance, where the Homecoming court and the King and Queen is revealed.

## JSA Kicks-Off the New School Year

By: Gabriela Coya, Intern

The Junior State of America, a national, non-profit, student-run organization dedicated to keeping students politically aware by offering the opportunity to participate in debates and thought talks on today's most controversial topics, is kicking-off the new JSA year with the Fall State and the Angeles Region One Day conventions.

The Los Angeles region Fall State, a annual, two-day convention taking place this year at the LAX Marriott from Nov. 14 to Nov. 15, brings together JSA members from schools all over Southern California to share their passion for politics.

"It's an opportunity for students all over Southern California to increase their political knowledge and awareness," said Southern California JSA Governor and Diamond Ranch High School senior Adam O'Neal. "This year's theme is 'Beyond the Horizon:

Assessing American Influence.'"

In addition to traditional debates and thought talks, JSA members can look forward to several other events.

"This year, we will be having an advocacy program where we submit a piece of legislation into the California state assembly to get lawmakers to pass it" said Speaker of the Assembly and Apple Valley High senior Jairus Nytes.

"There are going to be comprehensive speakers at opening and closing sessions, new activities such as mock trials, and attendees will be able to decide whether they want an electoral college or popular vote to decide at next Spring State's elections" said O'Neal.

Students in the Los Angeles region of JSA can also attend the AR One Day held this year at Loyola Marymount University on Oct. 31 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Students will

discuss in topics inspired by this year's theme: "Laying Down the Law: Questioning California's Constitution."

"The purpose of the AR One Day is to have a forum for debate where everyone's opinions are welcome and respected," said AR Mayor and The Buckley School junior Matt Saunders. "This year, we are focusing on California Government and the prospect of a Constitutional Convention. California has suffered some of the worst economic losses of any state in the US. As students, we can constructively engage in a dialogue on how to fix our problems."

Some of the topics to be discussed will include the legality of Capital Punishment and the necessity of a full-time legislature.

For more information on JSA, visit [www.jsa.org](http://www.jsa.org) or [www.angesregion.com](http://www.angesregion.com).

## KIWINS donates \$250 to Struggling Student

By: Joanna Quintana, Intern

Reminding those in need that they are far from being forgotten, a club derived from the internationally recognized Kiwanis organization, KIWINS, served its community on Oct. 9 by donating \$250 to struggling Downey student, Lizett Postigo.

"KIWINS as a club helps people become leaders," said KIWINS President Zach Gauderman. "We encourage leadership through service. Kiwanis gives out a lot of scholarships and help people who are in need, and I would like for us to do the same thing—just to help people out who need it."

Postigo certainly qualifies as a person in need. She is the daughter

of a mother who is currently hospitalized due to Leukemia, and has taken on many responsibilities unknown to most students her age with the help of her father, who is currently away in Peru. Postigo held a previous job position at Penske Toyota but was recently let go due to the economic recession, making the 17-year-old's life that much more difficult.

"She pays the bills with money her dad sends, but still has to keep the house clean, grocery shop, cook, etc.," said KIWINS Advisor and Downey High English teacher Bryn Wade in an email. "These are burdens that are meant for adults, but in Lizett's case, she has no

choice but to persevere."

It had been Wade who had discovered this heartening story when Postigo offered to teach this English teacher Latin dance classes or piano lessons for \$10. After revealing her circumstances, Wade was determined to assist the teenager in some way since he hadn't been able to make time for lessons. Having brought up Postigo's situation in a KIWINS Board of Trustees meeting, an agreement was made that some form of assistance should be carried out to help lessen the load on the teenager's shoulders. This assistance came in the form of \$250.

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## Downey wins league opener

By ALYSSA WYNN, SPORTS INTERN

**DOWNEY** – Last Thursday, the Downey girls' tennis defeated the Gahr Gladiators 16-2, in a match that saw the consistency be just enough for a victory.

This was Downey's first league match against Gahr and while they performed at their best, the team believes there is still room for improvement.

Head coach Denise Diego is very proud of her girls and how they are doing this season she said. She also said that there is room for improvement, but getting better should always be a mindset in any sport.

"We did better than last time but not by much," said Diego.

Last Friday, the Vikings also competed against the Paramount Pirates in another San Gabriel Valley League match up, losing 12-6.

This was Downey's second match against the Pirates and they were just not as successful as they were previously. No. 2 doubles player Caroline Tran suffered from a sprained ankle in the middle of the match. Her partner, Christine Tran, was unable to play as well without her sister by her side and lost each set, allowing Paramount to win.

Luckily, Tran's injury was not too severe and she is reported to be able to play very soon.

Downey had another league match against Lynwood on Thursday but scores were unavailable at press time.

## Warren (4-1) is human after all

■ Teams take the positives out of 42-28 loss at Vista Murrieta.

By SCOTT COBOS, STAFF WRITER

**DOWNEY** – Losing their first game of the season 42-28 visiting Vista Murrieta last Friday night, while frustrating, proved to help Warren figure out that stud running back Jesse Callier is not alone on offense.

Quarterback Sam Bettencourt had his best game of the season compiling 180 yards, two touchdowns, and an interception on 15 for 23 passing. While the main focus was the loss, Warren head coach Chris Benadom was impressed by his second-year quarterback.

"We learned [Friday] that Sam can throw the ball a little bit," he said. "With that, we don't need to rely on Jesse as much."

After the game in the locker room, Bettencourt did acknowledge that Callier is still the cornerstone of the offense, but knows that if need be, he can step up when teams are bottling up the running game.

"Jesse is still our man," Bettencourt said. "If they stop Jesse though, now we can pass the ball."

But Warren also learned another thing after the game. They learned they were human.

The loss was the Bears' first of the season and according to Benadom there are things that still need to be worked on.

"We have to clean up stuff," he said. "Mental lapses, dropped balls, fumbles, these are things we can't do."

The Bears' shot out of the gates



Warren senior wide receiver Bailey Cowins snags a pass from quarterback Sam Bettencourt in last week's game against Vista Murrieta. "We learned...that Sam can throw the ball a little bit," said Warren head coach Chris Benadom.

PHOTO BY RICK PIANELLI

right away on a 90-yard kickoff return to start the game by Callier. Sitting on the 10-yard line, it looked as if it were only a matter of time before Warren scratched on the scoreboard, but Bettencourt dropped back and carelessly floated a ball toward the sidelines that was picked off by a Bronco defender.

Though the turnover didn't cost the Bears any points, on Vista Murrieta's second possession, they were able to take advantage of good field position and Bronco

running back Benjamin Madison scored on a 19-yard touchdown rush.

Vista Murrieta scored 21 unanswered points until in the second quarter Bettencourt started to find a rhythm in the pocket, leading the Bears' down the field and then putting Warren on the scoreboard with a 28-yard touchdown pass to receiver Bailey Cowins.

In the second half, Warren was able to maintain the momentum gained after Bettencourt's first touchdown pass and marched 80 yards down the field scoring on an 11-yard touchdown run by Jamil Magee, putting them within a touchdown.

Vista Murrieta answered immediately returning the ensuing kickoff 99 yards for a touchdown to put them back up by 14. The touchdown return all but sucked the life out of Warren, looking like they had no more fight in them on the sidelines.

The dagger in the game came in the opening moments of the fourth quarter when Vista Murrieta's receiver Hollis Jones fumbled a completed pass into the end zone only to watch one of his own players jump on the ball for the score.

Trying to answer again, Warren started moving down the field but ended their chances of making any comeback after Cowins fumbled a reception.

Callier, in his own standards, made very little impact on the game rushing for 149 yards on 16 carries. What made this night specifically rare was that Callier not once visited the end zone. The closest he came was on the game's opening kickoff.

Another problem plaguing Warren was the penalties that were called. In the entire game, both teams totaled for 25 penalties, pushing both teams back a combined 240 yards.

Warren was noticeably getting irritated with the phantom calls and non-calls that the officiating crew was and wasn't calling, with many players seen walking off the field with their hands up in the air in confusion.

"I don't know," said Benadom about the officiating. "I thought some of the calls were bad, but you know, the referees can't be controlled. We just have to go out and play."

After the game, the officials were greeted by the Warren stands with boos and thrown objects in the direction of the crew. Security immediately swarmed the officials and escorted them quickly away from the danger.

Warren, after recording a 4-1 record in non-league play, begins their league title defense on the road against Dominguez tonight. Game time is 7 p.m.



SCOTT COBOS

## Referees cheated Warren

A frightening event occurred last Friday when Warren visited Vista Murrieta for their first true test of the season. They were tested, but they weren't notified that everyone else was given a cheat sheet from the officiating. Or maybe the others weren't given a cheat sheet, but instead were the beneficiary of some good old fashioned home-cooked refereeing.

Whatever the case may be, when all was said and done, 240 yards on 25 combined penalties were called. Warren was the unlucky loser of most of these calls, and on top of that they were the recipients of non-calls that should have been flagged.

Warren was looking for a test, but instead they were cheated out of really knowing how good they were by the officiating.

"Look, I'll admit that [Vista Murrieta is] a good team, and that we lost, and that they beat us, but we did not lose by that many points," said Warren team staff member Bill Austin after the game, commenting on the officiating.

And while the final score says otherwise, in a way Austin is right. There's no way that Warren should have lost by that many points. In fact, the game should have come down to the last possession at the very least.

While watching the game, you got the sense that everything just seemed to bounce the Broncos' way. And while this can be looked at as poor sportsmanship, you can't dismiss the truth. The officiating was horrendous.

It really makes you start to wonder if anything behind the scenes was done. In all honesty, after the game, you couldn't help but think about the scene in the hit Disney movie "Remember the Titans" when a game was rigged by the officiating.

See REFS, page 13

## Bears should cruise through league

By SCOTT COBOS, STAFF WRITER

**DOWNEY** – The defending San Gabriel Valley League football champion Warren Bears begin their title defense tonight on the road against a team that in the past has given them nothing but fits.

While Dominguez is the first school in the way of a SGVL repeat championship, don't expect them to put up much of a fight, especially with the way they're playing so far this year.

Last year, Warren had beaten Dominguez for the first time in years, with their victory sealing the league championship avoiding a possible three-way tie for the title. A 28-14 win also sent Warren's confidence sky high into the play-

offs where they ripped open Santa Monica in the first round, then lost to Mira Costa in the second round.

But last year's game was more than just a championship game for the Bears. It showed them that Dominguez, the defending league champions from the season before, was vulnerable and beatable.

This year, Dominguez continues their descent from atop the SGVL and is possibly entering a year of rebuilding, with them being 1-3 in non-league play. So far, Dominguez is having trouble scoring points, which is something they never really had issues doing.

Running their Wing T formation, Dominguez has always had the athletes to run around, through, and sometimes fool the opposition. Their current record is showing that those athletes aren't at the

same echelons as previous years.

If there's one thing Dominguez will bring to the table, it will be a physical demeanor. Not only are the players from Dominguez normally athletes, but they're also notoriously big and tough. Dominguez will have to rely on their physical play to hopefully stop one of the area's top five teams.

Last year, Warren's all-CIF running back Jesse Callier looked relatively human only compiling 147 yards on 25 carries. Callier never looked comfortable out of the backfield, and was only able to put up a decent amount of yards in his standards because of an 80-yard touchdown rush. If not for the homerun dash, Callier is looking at a season low in yardage.

However, coming off a similar game against Vista Murrieta, look for Callier to blow this game wide open.

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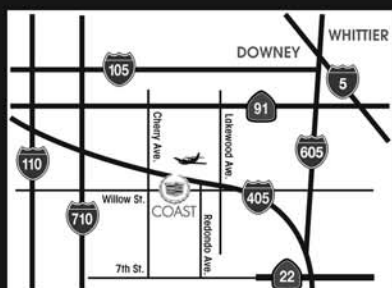


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## Downey looks to turn things around

By JOSEPH APODACA, SPORTS INTERN

**DOWNEY** – The Downey Vikings football team is looking towards a comeback as they enter their league season tonight against Gahr at the Gladiators' home field.

The Vikings ended their pre-season campaign with one victory against Schurr High School and four losses to La Serna, La Habra, Kennedy, and Santa Fe, bringing their record to 1-4.

Tonight the Vikings will face fellow San Gabriel Valley League members the Gahr Gladiators, who so far have held a record of 3-2 for their season. Downey managed to take home the victory last season against Gahr, winning 31-23. The Gladiators settled their league campaign last year with a 3-2 record, as did the Vikings.

Sitting out for two consecutive games due to an arm injury still doesn't stop quarterback Steven Cervantes from holding the record so far in the season for the most completed passes, with 41 totaling 450 yards, with wide receiver Dallas Lopez following close behind with 22 complete passes and 286 yards.

Full back Joseph Ortiz has rushed the most yards of the season, totaling 57 carries and 386 yards while running back Kyle Lewis comes close with 42 carries and 230 yards. Ortiz also has the honor of scoring the most points for the season so far, with 18 total and an average of almost four per game.

Wide receiver Miles Claiborne has received the most passes so far this season, with 16 and 147 yards while wide receiver Jabari Ruffin brings his total to 13 and 166 yards. Linebacker Justin Haro, defensive tackle Daniel O'Veal, and free safety Isaiah Medina have all garnered the most tackles of the season, with 51, 38 and 25.

The Vikings are hoping to have Cervantes back on the field for tonight's game, who has been benched for an arm injury for two consecutive games. Nonetheless, the Vikings face quite a challenge against the Gladiators, whose quarterback has rushed a season total of 378 yards so far.

In the past two games, the Vikings have consistently come close to a victory, but not moving the ball down the field and illegal procedures have hindered their chances at victory. Hoping to reignite their fire now that league has begun, the Vikings continue to practice hard and work on their offense and defense strategies to ensure the greatest success according to Downey head coach Will Capps.



PHOTO BY CARLOS ONTIVEROS

Downey running back Kyle Lewis (2) rushes for a touchdown in the first quarter against Santa Fe. The Vikings lost, 23-13.

## Late touchdowns doom Vikings

Downey gives up three touchdowns in the fourth quarter to lose the game.

By JOSEPH APODACA, SPORTS INTERN

**DOWNEY** – In their final non-league game, the Downey Vikings were unable to put up another win on their record, losing to Santa Fe 23-13 at Allen Layne Stadium last Friday.

Santa Fe managed to score three touchdowns and a safety during the latter part of the fourth quarter while Downey scored two touchdowns and missed a PAT throughout the game. Downey's record now stands at 1-4 going into league.

Running back Kyle Lewis scored the Viking's first touchdown of the evening in the first quarter, following wide receiver Dallas Lopez's rush to the 5-yard line in the end zone. Wide receiver Jabari Ruffin scored Downey's last touchdown of the game during the third quarter, rushing past the Santa Fe defensive line and into the end zone.

The game was stalled for a majority of its duration. The Vikings started with the kickoff followed quickly by their first flag of the night. The Vikings defense was pushed around all night by Santa Fe's rushing game.

Downey's only highlight of the night came from Steven Williams who scrambled out of the backfield and leaped over a Santa Fe defensive back for a 63-yard rush that started in Downey's 1-yard line. Ruffin particularly was a standout on both the offense and defense, doing whatever he could to get the

team ahead. Lopez, who continued to substitute for quarterback Steven Cervantes who is still out for an arm injury, completed six out of 14 passes throughout the game, totaling 67 yards. Ruffin and Lewis rushed the most yards of the evening, with 103 and 51. Ruffin also received the most passes with two throughout the game totaling 40 yards.

Downey specifically suffered on the night, being called for many penalties. At times it seemed that their line was jumpy, being plagued with more illegal procedure calls than anything.

Downey's offensive line struggled against Santa Fe's defensive line, which was faster and swallowed up the Viking offense, making them unable to move the ball down the field effectively. Downey's defense was also no match for the Santa Fe offense, who moved down the field with ease by using their air attack.

Aside from Cervantes remaining on the bench for the game, there were no serious injuries. Running back Kyle Lewis fell following a tackle in the third, feeling pain from an apparent leg cramp. After coaches came to stretch out his leg on the field, he resumed

play. With their record now at 1-4, the Vikings move forward into league games.

## Golfers no longer perfect

**DOWNEY** – Downey went into league play with Valley Christian at Rio Hondo Golf Club last week undefeated with a 4-0 record, but Valley Christian squeaked by winning the match by one stroke 252-253.

Ashley Reyes continued to shine shooting a 47 with Jenna Redd and Monica Toscano both putting in a solid 49.

"We have to win the rest of the way to take first place," Downey golf head coach Al Holley said. "We're more than capable; [the San Gabriel Valley League] should come down to our match with Warren next week."

With that match slated to be Oct. 22 at Rio Hondo, the cross-town rivalry won't just be for bragging rights, it will be for SGVL championship.

—Jared Head, sports intern

## Water polo wins one, loses one

Young team hopes to gain confidence as league games continue.

By JOSEPH APODACA, SPORTS INTERN

**DOWNEY** – The Downey boys' water polo team opened their league season last week with a win against Gahr and a loss against Lakewood.

In last Tuesday's game against the Gahr Gladiators, the Vikings won 15-5. Derek Dodson scored the most goals during the game with seven while Juan Rivas scored three, Richard Garcia scored two, and Serro Park and Derek Klotzer scored one each. Goalie Matthew Sims had the advantage of not treading water for half the game at Gahr's pool, as one of the goals was set up in a four-foot zone allowing him to stand.

In last Thursday's match against the Lakewood Lancers, the Vikings ended the game with a 19-10 loss. Dodson scored six goals while Klotzer and Park scored three and one respectively. The boys led seven six-on-five plays, gaining the upper hand on Lakewood's strong offense.

"I really do think it's going to take a little more games for us to be prepared for the harder league games," said captain Serro Park. "In the first 2 minutes [against Lakewood] we had hard defense, and strong offense. Then everyone went back to their old habits and that's when Lakewood took off".

Both the Gahr and Lakewood match-ups saw the Vikings winning the sprint for only one out of

four periods. The boys received three fouls against Gahr, with Klotzer, Andrew Caero, and Joshua Kim earning one each. The Lakewood game was met with more fouls, with Klotzer, Park, and Caero receiving two each while Rivas received one.

The Vikings continue to improve in their ball-handing skills, as evident in the Gahr game. They were able to keep the ball live and move it from player to player until finally someone scored a goal. Their defense strategies continue to shape up, as they make the effort to press on their opponents and block goal attempts. Still, head coach Shaun Delhousay and his assistants urge his team to take cross-cage shots, as many of them aim right in front of the goalie.

"After the first quarter, we already knew how the results were going to be," said Park. "It was an easy win and more teamwork was shown".

In the Lakewood game, however, the Vikings were swallowed by the Lancers' strong offense and defense. With a tough defense in set, the Vikings got technical with their shots at the goal. Klotzer managed to skip the ball into the goal from the five-meter line while Park later scored on a backhand.

The Vikings still have a long way to go before they are finished with their league matches. Hoping to learn from their mistakes, they take what they've learned from previous games and work on what needs to be improved during practice.

"We have to go into the league games more confident, not cocky," said Park.

## Warren tennis beats Lynwood, 15-3

By ALYSSA WYNNE, SPORTS INTERN

**DOWNEY** – Last Friday, the Warren Lady Bears raged in their tennis match against the Lynwood Knights in a 15-3 victory.

The ladies have certainly picked up the pace since their first few matches and will hopefully continue to improve. They have come far from where they were at the beginning of the season and it is most definitely something the hardworking girls should be proud of.

Head coach Mary Starksen has previously mentioned that she anticipates a strong team for league this year. However, she was unable to comment on this particular match at press time.

The Bears also had a match against the Paramount Pirates on

Tuesday but due to bad weather, the game was rained out and the ladies were unable to compete.

Warren had another match on Thursday against the Gahr gladiators but scores were not yet available before press time.

### GIRLS TENNIS RANKINGS

#### Division III

1. San Marino
2. Valencia (P)
3. Valencia (V)
4. ML King
5. Temple City
6. South Pasadena
7. Villanova Prep
8. Paramount
9. Downey

#### Division I

1. Dana Hills
2. Palos Verdes

CIF rankings are compiled based on votes by coaches.

### WEEK 5 FOOTBALL RANKINGS

#### Western Division Football

1. St. Francis (5-0)
2. Mira Costa (3-2)
3. Alemany (3-2)
4. Culver City (4-1)
5. Palmdale (3-2)
6. Chaminade (5-0)
7. Leuzinger (4-1)
8. Palos Verdes (4-1)
9. Warren (4-1)
10. West Torrance (4-1)

CIF rankings are compiled based on votes by coaches and media.

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## Concert to feature world premiere

BY JOYCE SHERWIN,  
DOWNEY SYMPHONY

**DOWNEY** – Spring may be known as the period of fresh starts, but autumn too can be a time of great beginnings and important first-ever events.

Case in point: on Saturday evening, Oct. 24, the Downey Symphony, a perennial of 52 years, presents its first concert of the new season, and on the program is a world premiere performance titled “Generations: Concerto for Violin and Orchestra,” by 27-year-old composer Daniel Chan.

Our music director, Sharon Lavery, hopes to present a new work each year with the symphony, and audiences recall with pleasure last season’s premiere of Robert Litton’s atmospheric “Mendocino,” for harp and orchestra.

Now, there is an interesting story that links “Mendocino” and Daniel Chan’s “Generations.” Sharon Lavery tells about it.

“I came across Chan’s work through my friend, harpist JoAnn Turovsky (we all remember her spectacular performance with the Downey Symphony this past January when she played the first performance of Robert Litton’s piece).

“Well, last spring JoAnn was working with Daniel Chan in the film studios on what she called ‘a wonderful new violin concerto.’ When she told me about the piece, I asked her to bring me the score, and as soon as I laid eyes on it I knew we had a winner.

“Daniel and concert violinist Roger Wilkie had already put together a recording of ‘Generations’ with a group of talented studio musicians, so I was fortunate enough to be able to listen to the piece before I chose to program it – an opportunity quite uncommon when dealing with premiere works.

“I immediately asked the Downey Symphony Board of Directors if we could go ahead with another ‘world premiere’ and, as I often am, was greeted with overwhelming support.

“So here we are, once again,” Lavery continues, “on the verge of giving life to another brand new work that has yet to be heard by the public. Am I excited about this? You bet I am. This is exactly the kind of event I want to bring to our loyal Downey Symphony community, season after season.”

Soloist in this first-ever concert performance of “Generations” will be, of course, Roger Wilkie, who has appeared memorably with the



PHOTO BY BERNICE STUMPS

**Sharon Lavery, music director of the Downey Symphony, said she hopes to present a new work each year. The symphony will be in concert Oct. 24 at the Downey Theatre.**

Downey Symphony Orchestra twice in the last several years.

Included on the program are Dvorak’s “Carnival Overture” and works by Aaron Copland, “Appalachian Spring” and two movements from “Rodeo.”

This Oct. 24 concert begins at 8 p.m. in Downey’s Civic Theatre, 8435 Firestone Blvd. at the corner of Brookshire Avenue, with a preview discussion at 7:15 p.m.,

which is free to ticket holders. Parking is also free.

Tickets at \$30 and \$25, \$10 for students, can be purchased at the theater box office on Wednesday, Oct. 21, between noon and 4 p.m., and before performance time. You may also call the symphony office for information or to reserve tickets: (562) 403-2944. The orchestra’s website is [www.downeysymphony.org](http://www.downeysymphony.org).



PHOTO BY BERNICE STUMPS

**Time is running out to see the Downey Civic Light Opera production of “My Fair Lady,” which closes its run at the Downey Theatre on Sunday. Charlotte Carpenter stars as Eliza Doolittle. For tickets, call (562) 923-1714.**

## Holiday boutique in Long Beach

**LONG BEACH** – The Assistance League of Long Beach will hold its annual fundraiser, “Destination...Unknown” holiday boutique, Nov. 7-8 in Long Beach.

Vendors will be selling a variety of items, including home décor, jewelry, gourmet food, holiday décor, garden items, handbags, scarves, wraps and more.

In addition to the boutique, a reception and silent auction will be held Nov. 8 at 5 p.m. To attend the reception, guests must purchase an opportunity drawing ticket for \$100. Only 600 tickets are available, and two people may be admitted per ticket.

Proceeds from the boutique and reception will benefit the Assistance League of Long Beach’s philanthropic programs, including Operation School Bell, scholarships, museum tours and an orthodontic program.

The boutique will be held at the Assistance League of Long Beach Philanthropic Center, 6220 E. Spring St.

For more information on the boutique, or to purchase an opportunity drawing ticket, call (562) 627-5650 or visit [www.allb.org](http://www.allb.org).

## Christopher Lloyd will play ‘The Grinch’

**HOLLYWOOD** – Producers have announced the cast for the Los Angeles debut of Dr. Seuss’ “How the Grinch Stole Christmas,” playing at the Pantages Theatre for a limited engagement Nov. 10 – Jan. 3.

Leading the 24-member cast will be Emmy Award-winner Christopher Lloyd as The Grinch and John Larroquette as Old Max.

Lloyd has appeared in more

than 200 plays on and off Broadway. He began his film career in 1975 in “One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest,” soon followed by a two-year run as Jim Ignatowski on the television series “Taxi.”

Lloyd is also recognizable from his appearances in the “Back to the Future” trilogy of films.

Larroquette is probably best known for his portrayal of Dan

Fielding on the long-running NBC sitcom, “Night Court.”

The musical version of “How the Grinch Stole Christmas” was praised by the New York Times as “100 times better than any bedside story.” It features the hit songs, “You’re a Mean One Mr. Grinch” and “Welcome Christmas” from the original animated series.

Max the Dog narrates as the mean and scheming Grinch, whose

heart is “two sizes too small,” decides to steal Christmas away from the holiday-loving Whos.

Elaborate sets and costumes inspired by Dr. Seuss’ original illustrations are used in the musical.

Tickets range in price from \$25 – \$90 and are available via Ticketmaster, at the Pantages box office, or by calling (800) 982-2787.

## ‘Po Boy Tango’ opens Nov. 11

**LOS ANGELES** – “Po Boy Tango,” a play where the issues of racism and death are addressed through the power of food, will make its West Coast premiere when it opens Nov. 11 at the David Henry Hwang Theater.

East West Players is producing

the show.

Po Mama’s Chinese cuisine evokes the joy of cooking and her son, Richie Po, has the palette to prove it. When Po Mama dies and passes her secrets on to him, he reunites with Gloria B., a “soul food” chef in the making.

Together, they use Po Mama’s TV cooking tapes to discover a deeper understanding of food, culture and the recipe for friendship.

“Po Boy Tango” will close Dec. 6. Tickets range from \$25 – \$35 and are now on sale. For tickets, visit [www.eastwestplayers.org](http://www.eastwestplayers.org) or call (213) 625-7000.

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★ WHERE THE WILD THINGS ARE PG (11:45, 12:45, 2:10, 3:10, 4:35, 5:35), 7:00, 8:00, 9:25, 10:25

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# Domestic violence on the rise as funding tanks

BY REP. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD & RITA SMITH

October marks Domestic Violence Awareness Month, a time to raise awareness about this epidemic and renew our commitment to ending it. As a nation, we must recognize the very real danger of domestic violence in our communities and acknowledge the importance that our national economy has on the incidents of violence in the home.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, in any given year, women experience about 4.8 million intimate partner-related physical assaults and rapes. Men experience 2.9 million intimate partner-related assaults each year.

Making matters worse, the recession's wake has left more families in danger as unemployment, home foreclosures and bankruptcies compound the stress on already strained relationships. A June Chicago Tribune headline sums up what experts agree is a national trend: "Domestic violence reports on the rise; Demand for support services reaches a peak as the economic downturn drives up the desperation that can lead to abuse."

The National Domestic Violence Hotline, which takes approximately 21,000 calls a month, reported a 13 percent increase in calls from October 1, 2008 through March 31, 2009. In addition, when the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence surveyed state domestic violence coalitions this September, they reported shelters filled to capacity with residents who were in need of longer stays and who had experienced more severe forms of violence. In some areas, the coalitions even reported increased domestic violence-related homicide rates.

And while the need for services is increasing, budget constraints at all levels of government and in the non-profit sector have taken a toll on critical programs available to assist families impacted by domestic violence.

Nationwide, domestic violence programs – including the National Domestic Violence Hotline – have lost sizeable portions of their operating budgets. Many states have slashed their budgets and both corporate and private donations are down. As a result, domestic violence programs are in financial peril and struggling to provide needed services.

Programs turn first to letting staff go. Prevention programs are next, denying a generation of youth the opportunity to begin their life in safe and healthy relationships. Last, services to victims are painstakingly reduced or eliminated.

In California, Governor Schwarzenegger terminated the entire state budget for domestic violence. Since then, nine California shelters have closed. Programs, such as Peace Over Violence in Los Angeles, report what programs are experiencing nationwide: reduced staff and greater need.

In order to truly address this crisis and help families, domestic violence programs must have adequate funding to continue their life-saving work.

Congress can make an enormous difference in filling the gaps left by these budget cuts by fully funding the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA). Enacted by Congress in 1984, FVPSA provides funding for critical domestic violence services including shelters, crisis lines, counseling, safety planning and other vital assistance to victims and their families. These essential services rebuild lives, creating safe homes and communities.

In addition, passage of the Security and Financial Empowerment Act (SAFE) is critical to assisting domestic violence victims by allowing them to take unpaid leave from work to address their needs without fear of losing their jobs. It would also allow victims to qualify for unemployment benefits if they leave a job or are fired as a result of taking time off to seek medical services, find housing or attend court proceedings.

This month and throughout the year, we have to reflect on our national priorities and place more emphasis on creating safe homes and communities for our families. The many rewards of this commitment – including saving lives – far outweigh the costs.

*Rep. Lucille Roybal-Allard is a longtime advocate on behalf of survivors of domestic violence. As an assembly member, she authored a law that requires state courts to consider a batterer's history of domestic violence during child custody hearings.*

*Rita Smith executive director of the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, where she has been working since 1992.*



Rep. Lucille Roybal-Allard, center, spoke at a 30th anniversary event for the Su Casa support group in Lakewood.

## Su Casa shelter marks 30 years

LAKESWOOD – Su Casa, a non-profit organization that provides support to survivors of domestic violence in Los Angeles County, celebrated its 30th anniversary at an event Oct. 4 attended by more than 300 supporters.

Rep. Lucille Roybal-Allard (D-34) was honored at the event for her advocacy on behalf of survivors of domestic violence.

"This award has great personal meaning because Su Casa's work of empowering victims of domestic violence has been close to my heart throughout my 23 years of public service," Roybal-Allard said during her remarks. "To me, this award presented by Su Casa is very humbling, because I know how hard the dedicated staff and volunteers work, day in and day out, on the front lines, to provide life-saving services to families victimized by domestic violence."

Founded in 1979 and based in Long Beach, Su Casa provides a wide array of services to assist survivors of domestic violence and their children, including providing shelter, case management and counseling. Su Casa also works with victims still living with their batterer.

## Anna Bostwick dies at age 92

DOWNEY – A funeral service will take place Oct. 24 at First Presbyterian Church of Downey for Anna T. Bostwick, who passed away Oct. 5 at age 92.

Interment will take place at Forest Lawn in Cypress. She was predeceased by her husband, Noble D. Bostwick.

In lieu of flowers, the family has requested contributions to First Presbyterian Church of Downey, P.O. Box 5069, Downey, CA 90241.

## Susan Kallett was longtime resident

DOWNEY – Susan Maureen Kallett, a former Downey resident, died Oct. 10 in Victorville. She was 78.

She was born Feb. 2, 1931 in Salt Lake City, Utah, and had been a longtime resident of Downey prior to moving to Victorville three years ago.

She was an active member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

She is survived by three daughters, Leslie Postoian, Cynthia Sweeney and Karen Foreman; 11 grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Wednesday at the Downey 4th Ward with interment following at Rose Hills Memorial park. Allen-English & Estrada Funeral Service assisted the family.

## Elisa Rosemarie Davis mourned by family

DOWNEY – Elisa Rosemarie Davis, 19, died Oct. 8 in Oakland.

A Downey resident, she played basketball, volleyball and soccer, and was an honors graduate of Frederick K.C. Price III High School in Los Angeles.

She was a sophomore at Cal State University East Bay, where she planned to major in psychology. Davis, a born-again Christian, often volunteered in her church's nursery and hoped to use her degree to help children.

She is survived by her parents, Harry and Arcelia, and brothers, Shain and Jysiah Davis.

A memorial service will be held tomorrow at 11 a.m. at Crenshaw Christian Center, 7901 S. Vermont Ave., in Los Angeles.

In lieu of flowers, the family has requested donations in Davis' memory to the Crenshaw Christian Center Nursery, 7901 S. Vermont Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90044.



## Alma Anthony Wolf was on church board

DOWNEY – Alma Anthony Wolf, known to many as "Tonie," passed away Sept. 29 as the result of an automobile collision.

She was born in South Gate on Sept. 14, 1944, the only child of Asia and Margaret Still.

She was a lifelong resident of Downey and graduated from Warren High School in 1962. She was an active board member of her church, the Downey Church for Spiritual Enrichment.

She is survived by her husband, Cole Tinsley; mother, Maggie; sons, Kevin and Jeff; and grandchildren, Andrew, Julie and Jessica.

A memorial service will be held Sunday at 2 p.m. at the Downey Church for Spiritual Enrichment, 10000 Paramount Blvd.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the church.



## Services held for Ethel Florence Gilliam

DOWNEY – Services were held Saturday for Ethel Florence Gilliam, who passed away Oct. 8. She was 83.

She was born in Murfreesboro, Ark., and resided in Downey for 50 years.

Gilliam was vice president of Emerson Electric. She belonged to First Baptist Church of Downey.

Services were held at Miller-Mies Mortuary. Burial was at Rose Hills Memorial Park.

She is survived by her children, James Harris (Maggie) Gilliam Jr. and Kimberley (Bob) Gilliam Seldon; and grandchildren, James Harris Gilliam III, Michelle Gilliam, Kristen Paige Gilliam, Susan Kimberley Gilliam, Cooper Gilliam Seldon and Raleigh Gilliam Seldon.

She was predeceased by her husband, James Harris Gilliam, in 2003, and her son, Stanley Thomas (Kathy) Gilliam, in 2006.

## Hospital giving flu shots

NORWALK – Presbyterian Intercommunity Hospital is now accepting reservations for free flu shots Nov. 10 at the Norwalk Library, 12350 Imperial Hwy., in Norwalk.

All adults are eligible for a flu shot. Persons with an allergy to eggs or with Guillain-Barre syndrome should consult a physician beforehand.

To make a reservation, call (562) 868-4003.

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## Octoberfest at Norwalk church

NORWALK – St. Francis Episcopal Church in Norwalk will celebrate its first annual Octoberfest tomorrow from 1-6 p.m.

A German-style lunch buffet will be available at 2 p.m., followed by the music of Gary Myers. The event will also include raffles and door prizes.

Adult admission is \$10; children are \$5. St. Francis Episcopal Church is at 12700 Paddison Ave., just east of the 5 Freeway.

## Flu shots in Norwalk

NORWALK – Free flu shots for seniors will be available Wednesday from 9-11 a.m. at the Norwalk Senior Center, 14040 San Antonio Dr.

Shots will be given until supplies run out. Numbers will be distributed at 8 a.m.

To qualify for a flu shot, persons must be at least 50 years old, or between 18-49 with an underlying chronic medical condition.

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The Downey Patriot, a newspaper of general circulation for the County of Los Angeles, State of California, Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. VS019238

**LEGAL NOTICES**

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT**  
 File Number 20091470698  
 THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) IS (ARE) DOING BUSINESS AS:  
 (1) **Born Again QT, 2202 Gregory Ave., Palmdale, CA 93550, County of Los Angeles**  
 Name of registrant(s):  
 Thomas McGraw, 8959 Alder Ave., Fontana, CA 92334-1210  
 Harry Sacks, 2202 Gregory Ave., Palmdale, CA 93550-7043  
 This business is conducted by Copartners Registrant has begun to transact business under the fictitious name(s) listed above on 09/01/2009.  
 I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime.)  
 S/ Harry Sacks, Partner  
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on September 28, 2009.  
 NOTICE-In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the County Clerk, except, as provided in Subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A New Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration.  
 The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (see Section 14411 et. seq., Business Professions Code).  
 Published in:  
 The Downey Patriot #VS019238  
 10/9, 10/16, 10/23, 10/30/2009

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# Razorbacks suffer case of déjà vu

■ Razorbacks can't fend off Gardena in rematches.

BY MIKE BAUMANN,  
DOWNEY YOUTH FOOTBALL

**DOWNEY** – The results of Week 5 against the Gardena Mohicans pretty much mirrored those of Week 2 when the Downey Razorbacks met Gardena back on Sept. 19.

MiteMite Razorbacks (7, 8 and 9 year olds), now with a record of 1 win and 4 losses on the season, lost to the Mohicans 24-6. The Hogs were unable to avenge their last-play loss to Gardena in Week 2.

Junior PeeWee Razorbacks (8-10) regained their offensive potency by outclassing the Mohicans,

31-0. The Junior PeeWee record now stands at 3 wins and 2 losses, and puts them back in the chase for a conference playoff berth.

PeeWee Razorbacks (9-11) lost their first encounter with the Mohicans, 6-0, back in September in an extremely close game, decided in the last minute. This time, Gardena was more prepared and skunked the Hogs, 28-2.

The Junior Midget Razorbacks (10-12) began the game with a 75-yard return of the initial kickoff. It was the first kickoff return for the unbeaten (5-0) Hogs this year.

Joshua Medina fielded the kick and, with excellent blocking from his teammates, scampered the distance. The Hog defense once again played a strong game, limiting Gardena gains and forcing turnovers. After the Hog reserves'

drive bogged down, Justin Huff and the first string team blasted for a 5-yard score and added a 1-point run for the PAT.

On the ensuing kickoff, Joshua Palacios hustled down the field tackling the Mohican runner and nearly recovering the ball. When the Hogs returned to offense, Jelani Dozier-Jones dashed for a 25-yard touchdown score. His run for the PAT put the score at 20-0.

Rafael Rodriguez made the most dazzling play of the game on a triple option keeper, scoring from the 25-yard line. Defense reared its head once again when Justin Huff intercepted a pass and took it to the house only to have the play called back on an illegal hit penalty. Josh Medina's 5-yard run capped the scoring the Hogs at 33-0.

The Midget Hogs have a

young, inexperienced team this season. Most of these players will be representing our local high schools next year and are getting valuable playing experience. The Midget Hogs play good defense and have an exciting offense, but that inexperience has resulted in several close losses this team. Against Gardena, the 1-4 Hogs came up short, 26-20.

Tomorrow, most Razorback teams will host TriCities (San Pedro and Harbor City) at St. Matthias High School in Downey. The MiteMite game begins at 9 a.m., with games following every two hours.

The Midget Hogs will play at Warren High School at 5 p.m.



PHOTO COURTESY DOWNEY ADULT SCHOOL

Anitra Simmons, Richard Alossi, Charity Zwerling and Tanya Leonard, from left, will take the California Shorthand Reporters Examination today in Sacramento.

## Students qualify for examination

**DOWNEY** – Downey Adult School students Richard Alossi, Tanya Leonard, Anitra Simmons and Charity Zwerling qualified recently to take the California Shorthand Reporters Examination which will be administered today in Sacramento.

The test is given three times a year and is the equivalent of the bar exam. It is a two-day examination with students tested on one day and the machine dictation on another day.

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

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

In addition to the machine speed, students must have completed 660 hours of academic training in English, legal studies, medical terminology, court procedures, California codes and computer training.

Downey Adult School's court reporting program has been in existence since 1972 and is approved by the California Shorthand Reporters Board.

# Refs: Video footage shows referees botched several calls against Warren.

Continued from page 8

This game seemed to roughly resemble just that, without the racism.

Warren head coach Chris Benadam, one who normally never comments on officiating, said after the game on the record that he thought there were some brutal calls against his team.

For example, in the first half, safety Bailey Cowins dropped back to cover a Broncos receiver who so obviously slipped and fell. The result of the play because the ball was thrown to the receiver was a passing interference call on Cowins and a 15-yard penalty.

The tape though clearly shows that Cowins wasn't even within five feet of the player and that the receiver fumbled his footwork and ate turf on his own accord. Cowins was also seen with his hands up, looking and being guilt free of any penalties.

Another call that was caught on tape was a ball that was fumbled by quarterback Sam Bettencourt and supposedly recovered by Vista Murrieta. Bettencourt was hit from behind, sending the ball a few feet in front of him. A trio of Bears was

seen smothering the ball only to be followed by a couple Broncos moments later. When the scrum was dispatched, it was determined that Vista Murrieta recovered the ball.

How is it that three Bears, all of them who looked like linemen, smothered the ball and allowed it to slip into the hands of Vista Murrieta? Wait, it wasn't. The tape clearly showed that the ball was never kicked loose after the players jumped on it.

The tape also showed plenty of non-calls such as holds that weren't called, pass interference calls that weren't flagged until the game was completely out of reach, and other extremely basic calls that the officiating crew completely botched.

After the game the officials were showered with boos and had objects tossed at them from Warren's bleachers. Yes, a shameful act it was, but you think to yourself if maybe if you were in the stands would you have reared back and tossed whatever object nearest to you also?

The saddest things are these: This column is in defense of Warren's efforts on Friday night. This column is to make sure it's

understood that while they lost, they should know that they do rank right up there with the top tiered teams in California. This column is to acknowledge how far the program has come and to make sure

everyone knows that the Bears aren't a team to be taken lightly at all.

But truly the saddest thing of this column is that it shouldn't have had to be written at all.

## OLPH carnival this weekend

**DOWNEY** – Our Lady of Perpetual Help School will host its annual carnival this weekend.

In addition to food, rides and games, the carnival will feature live entertainment, raffles, karaoke and a silent auction.

The school is also raffling a 2010 car. Raffle tickets are \$200. For more information, call (562) 869-9969.

## Industrial complex is sold

**DOWNEY** – A Downey industrial complex has sold for just less than \$10 million, Coreland Companies real estate company announced on Wednesday.

Located on 7.1 acres at 9220 Hall Rd., the transaction consisted of 45 condominium units encompassing 174,380 square feet and situated in a newly-completed 50-unit industrial development.

The property is currently vacant but the buyer, Los Angeles-based Rexford Industrial, plans to offer some of the units for sale and the remaining units will be leased, according to Steven Hogberg, senior vice president of Coreland's brokerage division.

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## Council pares down its list of priorities

■ Council identifies seven subjects as priorities for coming months.

BY HENRY VENERACION, STAFF WRITER

**DOWNEY** — Realizing the enormity of the Council Priority List project, the City Council Tuesday voted to rationalize its priorities list and adopted City Manager Gerald Caton's recommendations that included the body tackling one priority at a time over a period of several months.

It was agreed that the majority of the 17 items on the priorities list under consideration could be stricken off because they are either currently being implemented or form part of departmental projects that are ready for launching.

Under the new rubric, seven items have been identified as worth addressing in future sessions: 1) comprehensive parks evaluation as well as public works yards consolidation; 2) road maintenance; 3) accelerate economic development program; 4) the use of cameras for increased crime prevention; 5) code enforcement to reduce blight in general; 6) formation of grant team to maximize grants resources; and 7) improve public information system.

In other action, the Council:   
•Approved the agreement for the Joint Powers Communication Center (based in Downey) with the cities of Compton and Santa Fe Springs, following the withdrawal of the Montebello fire department, reflecting an increase in Downey's

shared cost;

•Approved the professional services agreement with the Ramsay Group, in the amount of \$21,000 for the preparation of a 5-year consolidated plan required to continue to take advantage of the Community Development Block Grant Program and the Analysis of Impediments Report for the Home Investment Partnership Federal Housing Program;

•Approved the confirmation order with ICMA-TV for \$19,500 for the production of a documentary film about the former NASA industrial plant in Downey, which has received a Phoenix Award from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for cleanup and reuse of the site, labeled as a Brownsfields site; the site will be profiled as a best practices project at the 2009 Brownsfields Conference in New Orleans on Nov. 16-18, 2009;

•Approved the recommendations from the "energized" Green Task Force that included: the development of a green page on the city's website; authorizing the city's participation in a high efficiency toilet retrofit program targeting multi-family buildings; sponsoring a drought tolerant gardening workshop; and appropriating \$2,500 from the General Fund for the purpose, while authorizing \$9,600 for staff time expense to coordinate these activities;

•Adopted a resolution amending the uniform schedule of fees previously adopted by Resolution No. 09-7139 by eliminating the city emergency response team (CERT) training fee of \$52 per

enrollee;

•Re-introduced an ordinance amending Article VI, Chapter 5, Part II of the Downey Municipal Code regarding the placement and operation of publication vending machines (newsracks) on city property; adoption is set for next meeting;

•Authorized the city to continue as a collaborative partner with the Downey Unified School District for submittal of an After School Education and Safety program grant renewal application to benefit the district's flourishing After School Program for Information Recreation and Education (ASPIRE) program;

•Adopted a resolution approving the appointment of Kent Halbmaier to the Traffic Committee for Council District Two;

•Heard Mayor Mario Guerra proclaim Oct. 28, 2009 as National Immigrants Day;

•Heard Sylvia Southerland of Southern California Edison present a check for \$59,367.28 representing the city's energy savings for its upgrade of its water pumps under Edison's Agricultural Energy Efficiency Program (AEEP); and

•Heard Guerra present the Mayor's Diakonia (servant) Award to community leader Luann Parker.

The special City Council public meeting at 6 p.m. this Tuesday, at City Hall will discuss the subject of name change from Clark Avenue to Columbia Way.

The next regular public meeting of the Council will be at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 27 at City Hall, 11111 Brookshire Ave.

## Bill expected to increase park space

**BELFLOWER** — A bill that will provide greater access to recreational parks and open space in urban neighborhoods has been signed into law by Governor Schwarzenegger.

Assembly Bill 521, written by Assemblyman Hector De La Torre (D-South Gate) will streamline the existing permit process and provide recreational opportunities for families in densely populated communities.

"With this bill, the California Public Utilities Commission can take into consideration the community benefits of parks and open space when determining a fair

lease rate for urban city parks," De La Torre said.

Urban communities, including the southeast cities in Los Angeles County, lack the public health, environmental, economic and social benefits that come with having ready access to parks and open space, De La Torre said.

In many Southeast cities, only one out of four residents live within 440 yards of a neighborhood playground or park facility, De La Torre added. There are even fewer parks and open spaces in low-income neighborhoods, where 1,000 people share a third of an acre.

In 2002, Bellflower received a grant to create Riverview Park as a secondary use of a utility right-of-way. Bellflower currently owns six acres and needed to lease an additional 12 acres from the utility to create a local park.

The park will run along the San Gabriel River and will increase Bellflower's park space by about 24 percent.

"Millions of Californians across the state do not have access to park space in their community, particularly in low-income areas," said Rico Mastrodonato, senior government relations manager with the Trust for Public Land.

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