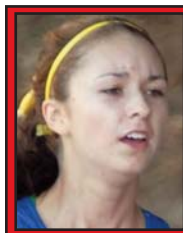


The Downey Patriot



Warren reaches CIF finals
See Page 9



Answering the 'Call of Duty'
See Page 2



Food drive a success
See Page 13

Friday, November 20, 2009

Vol. 8 No. 31

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

Lions Club can't stay away from Downey

Club is aiming for 20 members by January.

BY CHRISTIAN BROWN,
STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY – After an eight-year absence, Lions Clubs International is returning to Downey, pledging to promote service and volunteerism, while supporting local projects in the community.

"We're excited to be back in Downey," said Larry Dicus, District Governor for 48 Lions clubs stretching from Long Beach to Pasadena to Covina. "We're here to help you – we want you to know that you're joining an organization that's a solid organization in the area."

Inside Café 'N Stuff restaurant, surrounded by a dozen community members, Dicus explained the purpose of Lions Clubs International and urged those in attendance to consider taking on leadership roles in the club.

"We have over 46,000 clubs in more than 202 countries and nearly 1.3 million members," said Dicus, a member since 1996. "In 1925, Helen Keller asked us to be nice to the blind and since then we've provided over \$300 million for eye care."

In addition to their sight first program, dedicated to fighting

blindness, Lions Clubs International has also provided resources to youth programs, disaster relief and humanitarian aid.

"We bring a lot of benefits to the community," said Dicus. "We work hand in hand and 100 percent of the money we raise goes back into the community."

Before joining the Lions club of Bellflower, Ted Edmiston was a faithful member of the original Downey chapter.

"I had perfect attendance, if I remember right," said Edmiston with a laugh. "I've been a member for 33 years and my father was a Lion before me."

Edmiston, who sits on the Board of Trustees at Cerritos College, attributes one main factor for the closure of the Downey club.

"We got old," he said. "The base of the community started changing and we weren't good at change."

Dicus said the group has collected the names of 16 people interested in joining, but hopes to have 20 by the beginning of the year.

"We encourage people to invite their friends," he said. "Once they see our enthusiasm about serving our community, we hope they will join us."

Several local cities have Lions clubs including Norwalk, Bell Gardens, Pico Rivera, Paramount, Bellflower and Lakewood.

Granatas will ride as grand marshals

Ralph and Jeanette Granata named grand marshals of Holiday Lane Parade.

BY LAWRENCE CHRISTON

DOWNEY – There are many ways to serve a community. You can be a firefighter, or a philanthropist. Or you can create a warm, friendly place where strangers come for an excellent meal, and by the end, don't feel like strangers anymore.

That's what Ralph and Jeanette Granata have done. Granata's restaurant is the longest-running family business in the history of Downey, and it's still going strong. It first opened at Paramount and Alameda in 1955, moved to Florence three years later, and proved so successful that Downey's city manager, Gerald Caton, and Maria Larkin and John Croshaw of the Downey City Committee thought it'd be great for the city if they moved downtown, which they did in 2001.

During all those years, the family has worked together, including two sisters, one grandmother, and son Paul, who managed the current Downey Avenue site.

"I go to the new restaurant, and the grandchildren who came to the old one now come in with grandkids of their own," says Jeanette.

An old picture of Ralph overlooks the dining room. He's scarcely changed. The same *joie de vie* remains in the warmth of his greeting.

He has always taken a lot on himself. He was born in Gaeta, an Italian seaside town that was in harm's way during World War II. The fighting was so fierce that the



PHOTO COURTESY DOWNEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Jeanette and Ralph Granata have been named grand marshals of the Holiday Lane Parade on Dec. 6.

German army leveled a nearby town. Most of Gaeta's citizens fled to the hills. The teenager joined a small group that grabbed a rowboat and rowed to Naples, over 40 miles away, where he worried about his family in its life or death situation and continued to worry after the American army relocated him to a refugee camp in Sicily.

Ralph always dreamed of coming to America, and once the war was over he did, first to Maine, which was way too cold for his Mediterranean blood – he'd never seen snow before – and then to Boston. One night he was invited by a Catholic women's club to join in a musical celebration of folklore

and stood close to a young girl named Jeanette Bianuccio, who'd just graduated high school. They've stood close ever since. They were married in 1951, while he was serving in the U.S. Army in the Korean conflict.

Southern California seemed a natural place for them to settle. They drove out in a brand new '53 Ford, fully paid for.

"I can still smell the lemons and orange blossoms," says Jeanette. "There was a lot of warmth in the people. They were hospitable. Downey had an intimate feel then. We fell in love with it."

Ralph went to work as a chef at

Michael's Restaurant, a site currently occupied by Vasilio's night club.

"I'm not afraid of hard work," he says. "I figured the future is where you open your own business."

As for being named grand marshal, he says, "I feel honored, I appreciate it. But I'm not a big shot." And she says, "I'm scared to death."

"If I got to live my life all over again, I wouldn't change a thing," he said.

"That's the truth," she added.

Green Task Force staying active

DOWNEY – Conceived initially by Downey Mayor Mario Guerra, the City of Downey Green Task Force has been meeting monthly since its inception last May.

During its one year commission, as mandated by City Council, the task force's objective is to recommend to the council ways in which the city can move towards becoming a more sustainable community.

Topics of research and discussion have included water conservation and related city ordinances, permit fees for environmentally friendly building projects, as well as community education on sustainable practices.

To date, the Green Task Force has put forward a series of sometimes multi-topical recommendations to City Council, beginning with a recommendation to lower the cost of permits for solar installation. In this instance City Council was already discussing the possibility of lowering solar fees and ultimately approved a reduction to \$200 for single family residences—down from \$1,162.

In addition, the Task Force has recommended that the council provide for a Downey Green page on the city's website, which is currently being updated. Also recom-

mended has been participation in a high efficiency toilet distribution program for multi-family dwellings, in partnership with the Central Basin Municipal Water District, as well as two drought tolerant gardening workshops.

Most recently, the Green Task Force has encouraged City Council support of a pilot student education program within the Downey Unified School District teaching the environmental advantages of reusable grocery bags. Council considered and authorized their support of this program in conjunction with the third Los Angeles countywide "A Day Without a Bag" celebration, sponsored by Heal the Bay, which will take place this year on Dec. 17.

City Council has thus far approved all Green Task Force recommendations. The task force will continue meeting through April 2010, with more far-reaching recommendations under consideration.

Meetings are the first Tuesday of the month at noon, and have been taking place at the Cornack Room of the Downey City Library. The public is invited.

Information from the Green Task Force was used in this report.

Warren wins \$100K fitness challenge

New fitness center will be installed in two months.

BY HENRY VENERACION,
STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY – Warren High School was recently recognized as California's "2009 High School of the Year" for beating out a number of other high schools representing different school districts throughout the state in the Governor's Challenge Competition.

According to Warren principal John Harris, who flew to Sacramento with Warren senior Alex Galiviz and PE teacher Dan Latham for the recognition ceremony, Warren High was selected from among 19 finalists in the state, from which one elementary school, one middle school, and one high school were chosen to each receive a grand prize of a \$100,000 fitness center.

The governor personally congratulated the winners.

The competition is an annual contest among K-12 California schools that encourages students, teachers, and parents to be, in Harris' words, physically active 30-60 minutes a day, at least three days a week. Harris said that more than 2,300 Warren students completed the governor's prescribed fitness program.



Jeannette Hernandez



Louis Cortez



Carole Ozima

In making the announcement at the Board of Education meeting Tuesday, Harris introduced Latham, along with the Governor's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports executive director Kenny Rogers, who exhorted everybody to join the project and exercise. The theme of the Governor's Challenge Competition is "Don't Quit! Rise to the Governor's Challenge."

Harris said the fitness lab will be delivered in two months, and there will be an appropriate ribbon-cutting ceremony then.

Vision Award

Meanwhile, three certificated employees (read teachers) were honored with the superintendent's Vision Award in the area of instruction: Downey High's Jeannette

Hernandez, West Middle School's Louis Cortez, and Unworth Elementary's Carole Ozima.

Hernandez was in the news recently for having tutored Downey grad Kalief Rollins in a nation-wide business plan competition which Rollins won. Rollins was awarded \$10,000 for his entry and won an audience with President Barack Obama.

He was accompanied on the trip by Hernandez who, Downey High principal Tom Houts said, even as a new teacher already displayed a talent for thinking "outside the box" and on her own initiative developed, among other things, a curriculum on entrepreneurship.

West Middle School principal Craig Bertsch lionized Cortez, who

joined DUSD in 2001 as a science and math teacher, as a real professional whose "every lesson he teaches is well-planned and exhibits research-proven strategies that promote student learning of the California content standards as well as important life skills."

He added: "Every lesson maximizes instructional time and is differentiated to meet the unique needs and learning styles of our diverse student population."

Bertsch also cited Cortez for being West's SIOP coach, responsible for "developing, monitoring, and implementing a plan to assist fellow teachers with professional self-reflection and instructional improvement." SIOP (Sheltered

See DUSD, page 4

Free Thanksgiving dinner

DOWNEY – Downey First Christian Church invites the community to a free Thanksgiving dinner Wednesday from 4 to 8 p.m. in the gymnasium.

The church is located at 10909 New St. in downtown.

Church collecting blankets

DOWNEY – Messiah Lutheran Church will be collecting blankets and quilts to send to a Mexican orphanage when it holds Thanksgiving Eve worship service Wednesday at 7 p.m.

For more information, call the church office at (562) 923-1215.

OLPH luncheon Dec. 5

DOWNEY – The OLPH Women's Guild will host its annual Christmas luncheon Dec. 5 at the Rio Hondo Event Center.

Center pieces and a large wine gift basket will be raffled off. Christine Pohlen will provide Christmas music.

The luncheon begins at 11:30 a.m.

Cost is \$30; children 5 to 11 are \$15; children 4 and under are free. Checks should be made payable to Catholic Women's Guild and mailed to Terry Ramirez, 10238 Chaney Ave., Downey, CA 90241. Indicate your choice of salmon or chicken.

Deadline for reservation is Nov. 30.

Church in need of tutors

DOWNEY – First Presbyterian Church of Downey is in need of volunteer tutors for its after-school program.

Tutors are particularly needed in math, science, English and music. Volunteers may work as little as two hours per week.

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

Club celebrates Christmas

DOWNEY – The Downey Christian Women's Club will celebrate Christmas on Dec. 9 at Los Amigos Country Club.

Guest speaker Pam Hage will discuss "The Very Best Christmas Gift."

Cost to attend is \$13 and includes a buffet lunch. RSVPs are requested by calling Sonja at (562) 862-4347 or Jean at (562) 861-1114.

Resident is 'Citizen of the Year'

DOWNEY – Randall Courtney, a longtime Downey resident and board member for Los Amigos Kiwanis, has been named Santa Fe Springs Business Professional Citizen of the Year for 2009.

Courtney owns a commercial printing company, Digital Datawerks and The Copy Center, in the city of Santa Fe Springs and "is always trying to give back to the local community."

He was honored at a luncheon Wednesday at the Santa Fe Springs Towne Center Hall.

Christian church to mark 140 years

DOWNEY – More than 140 years ago – Jan. 3, 1869 to be exact – William Justice preached at the first worship service for what is now the First Christian Church of Downey.

This Sunday, the venerable congregation, located at 4th and New streets near downtown, will celebrate nearly a century and a half of proclaiming the Gospel message to the local community and literally throughout the world.

The church has celebrated its 140th anniversary throughout 2009 and the celebration culminates Sunday with special services and a barbecue luncheon open to the community.

The English service begins at 10 a.m., followed by a Spanish service at 1 p.m.

Scott Martin, senior high pastor at Huntington Beach First Christian Church, will be the guest preacher at the English service. Martin was raised in the Downey church and later served as its youth pastor before accepting his current position. He has been at Huntington Beach for seven years.

Lunch catered by Chris & Pitts will feature hot dog and hamburger meals with corn on the cob, baked beans and potato salad. Lunch will be served between 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. and is "economically priced."

For more information on the anniversary celebration or the church in general, call the office at (562) 862-2438.

Thanksgiving storytime for kids

DOWNEY – Preschool children ages 3-5 and their parents can celebrate Thanksgiving at a special storytime event at the Downey City Library on Tuesday at 10:30 a.m. in the Cormack Room.

Children will hear stories about family, friends and the traditional day of giving thanks.

A bilingual storytime in English and Spanish will be given Wednesday at 10:30 a.m.

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

EPA seeks Rockwell workers

LOS ANGELES – The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is seeking former Rockwell employees who worked on nuclear and radiological projects at the now closed Santa Susan Field Lab near Los Angeles.

Former employees of Atomics International and Rocketdyne are also sought as the EPA works to identify potential radiological contamination at the lab, which is being prepared for clean-up.

The EPA is interested in interviewing former employees that have knowledge of spills, dumping or other types of releases of radiological material to the land, air and water.

The EPA is soon planning a study of radiological contamination at the lab.

Interviews will be conducted in-person with EPA representatives. To participate, contact Andrew Taylor at (415) 972-3129 or taylor.andrew@epa.gov.



COURTESY PHOTO

David Villalobos, a pending Eagle Scout, won a "Call of Duty" video game tournament at Best Buy.

Downey resident is a gamer

DOWNEY – David Villalobos, a lifelong resident of Downey, beat out 30 participants to win a "Call of Duty" video game competition at Best Buy.

Villalobos, a graduate of St. Raymond's School and currently a senior at Loyola High School, outlasted his rivals in the single-elimination tournament that lasted several hours.

His prize was a free copy of the sixth edition of the highly-popular video game franchise "Call of Duty." Villalobos was allowed to be first in a line that extended around the corner to collect the game at midnight on Nov. 10. (Retailers were prohibited from distributing the game any earlier.)

Villalobos, a pending Eagle Scout, said he did get up the next morning to go to school.

Holiday fundraiser tickets on sale

DOWNEY – The Assistance League of Downey will host its major fundraiser of the year this Sunday at the Long Beach Hilton.

The event begins at 10 a.m. and will include a drawing for a decorated Christmas tree; silent auction; vendors; handmade crafts and baked goods; drawings (first prize is two tickets to anywhere Southwest Airlines flies); and entertainment by the Citrus College Singers.

Funds from the event will go towards the Assistance League's philanthropic projects, including Operation School Bell, H.O.M.E., Kids on the Block and Hug-A-Bear.

Reservations and drawing tickets are available at the Second Tyme Around Thrift Shoppe on Downey Avenue or by calling (562) 869-0232.

High school club washing cars

DOWNEY – The newly-formed Relay For Life Club at Downey High School will be washing cars tomorrow from 8 a.m. to noon to raise money for the American Cancer Society.

The club will wash any car for \$5.

Airman reports to Tokyo

DOWNEY – Air Force Capt. Laura Apeldoorn has arrived for duty at Yokota Air Base in Tokyo.

Apeldoorn, an air freight officer in charge with five years of military service, is assigned to the 730th Air Mobility Command.

She is the daughter of Lawrence and Hyonae Apeldoorn of Downey. She graduated from Downey High School in 1998 and received a bachelor's degree from Cal State Long Beach in 2004.

Bus trip to Pechanga Casino

DOWNEY – Seats are still available for a Dec. 7 bus trip to the Pechanga Resort and Casino.

Proceeds will benefit a scholarship fund from the Woman's Club of Downey.

The bus leaves the Woman's Club at 8 a.m. and will return by 6 p.m. Cost is \$6 for club members, \$11 for non-members, and includes a \$5 voucher for casino play.

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

Singing group needs new members

DOWNEY – The Joyful Singers, an ensemble of mixed voices, is seeking additional singers to join its group.

Tenors, basses and baritones are particularly sought to join the 4- and 5-part harmonies.

The Joyful Singers have performed for the OASIS group at Downey Adult School and at St. John's Lutheran Church in Cerritos.

The group rehearses a varied repertoire of new compositions, show tunes, classics and oldies at a private home in Bellflower on Sundays from 6 to 8 p.m.

The ability to read music is a plus, but is not required. There is no fee to join.

For more information, call Yvonne Blew at (562) 926-2445.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR
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NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2009



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<p>NOVEMBER</p> <p>Oh, My Aching Feet! Speaker: Dan Murphy, M.D. Do you have corns, calluses or bunions? Heel or ankle pain? Feet that just hurt? Learn what you can do to prevent these problems and available non-surgical and surgical treatment options. Learn how to prevent common foot problems and put the spring back in your step. Thursday • November 19 10:15 a.m. Weingart Senior Center 5220 Oliva Avenue • Lakewood Reserve your seat by calling 800-813-4345</p> <p>Hips, Knees and Shoulders: Origin of Pain and Potential Surgical Outcomes Speaker: Pad Krishna, M.D. Learn about general orthopedic conditions & injuries. You'll also find out the most common origins of hip, knee & shoulder pain. Friday • November 13 • 1:00 p.m. Cerritos Senior Center Conference Room 12340 South Street • Cerritos Reserve your seat by calling 562-916-8550</p> <p>Risk Factors for Heart Attack & Dispelling the Myths of Pacemakers & Implantable Defibrillators Speaker: Timothy G. Yeh, M.D. Learn who is at risk for Sudden Cardiac Death & what you can do with your physician's help to protect yourself. Topics such as pacemakers & defibrillators will be discussed. Wednesday • November 18 12:30 p.m. Lakewood Weingart YMCA 5835 Carson Street • Lakewood Reserve your seat by calling 800-813-4345</p>	<p>DECEMBER</p> <p>Strike Out Stroke Are you at risk for a stroke? Learn the signs and symptoms of stroke and how you can reduce your risk. Wednesday • December 9 10:30 – 11:30 a.m. Educational Presentation by OC Stroke Association. 12 noon – 2 p.m. Free Stroke Screening of the carotid artery. Oasis Community Center 5100 Lakewood Blvd • Lakewood Refreshments and Door prizes Reserve your seat by calling 800-813-4345</p> <p>Cardiac Risk Factors Speaker: Milan Rawal, M.D. Sudden cardiac death often occurs in active, healthy people who have no known heart disease or other health problems. Learn about risk factors associated with sudden cardiac death & the latest technology & screenings to determine your risk. Thursday • December 17 1:00 p.m. Cerritos Senior Center Conference Rm 12340 South Street • Cerritos Reserve your seat by calling 562-916-8550</p> <p>ACID REFLUX SEMINARS</p> <p>Acid Reflux Speaker: Shyam Dahiya, M.D. Join us for a free community seminar and learn the latest procedures for treating chronic acid reflux. Wednesday • December 16 Wednesday • January 20 6:00 p.m. Lakewood Regional Medical Center Conference Area, Room B 3700 E. South Street • Lakewood Reserve your seat by calling 800-813-4345</p>
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Wednesday • December 16
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Dinner will be served immediately after the 10am morning worship service.

Transportation will be provided!

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PHOTO BY THERESA ROBARGE

The Downey Bocce Club won first place in the Las Vegas International Bocce Tournament held Nov. 14-15. The winning team consisted of, left to right: Alfonso Di Palma, Don Gaggiano, Vince Zoida and George Castagna.

Author will be at Borders

DOWNEY – Gerald Blackburn, author of the retrospective book “Downey’s Aerospace History 1947-1999,” will be at the Borders Express inside Stonewood Center on Saturday from noon to 3 p.m.

The book, published by Arcadia Publishing, includes more than 200 photographs of what has been called “one of aerospace history’s most sacred sites.”

Wealthy industrialist E.M. Smith began the history when he purchased a portion of the Huynan Ranch in 1929. His company, EMSCO Aircraft, was the first of what would become a memorable list of pioneers in aviation and space.

The story of the site’s aerospace history, where engineers and scientists designed and developed the technology that took man to the moon and established a permanent presence in space, extends from North American Aviation’s tenancy in 1947 to the site closure in 1999.

Blackburn spent 35 years at the Downey site as an engineer and project manager with North American Aviation and Boeing.

Copies of the book will be available for purchase. A portion of the book’s proceeds are being donated to the Aerospace Legacy Foundation.

Thanksgiving service for all

DOWNEY – Downey Memorial Christian Church will host the fifth annual Downey Interfaith Thanksgiving Service, featuring clergy members from various beliefs and faiths in Downey, on Monday at 7 p.m.

The service draws upon the religious traditions of both Christian and Jewish communions and “reflects the cultural richness of our community,” organizers said.

The Rev. Dave Smith of Downey First Christian Church will lead the service. Mayor Mario Guerra, a deacon at St. Raymond’s Catholic Church, will present a proclamation from the city.

In addition to traditional and contemporary music, Rabbi Efraim Wazshaw of Temple Ner Tamid will teach the audience to sing two Hebrew songs.

Visitors are asked to bring a non-perishable food item which will be donated to the PTA Helps program.

Refreshments and fellowship will follow the service.

Downey Memorial Christian Church is at 8441 E. Florence Ave., just west of Brookshire Avenue.

Torrid to preview Iraheta’s debut album

DOWNEY – The Torrid clothing store inside Stonewood Center will host an Allison Iraheta “listening party” this Sunday.

Beginning at 3 p.m., Iraheta’s new CD will be played in its entirety. A limited edition T-shirt iron-on will also be raffled away for free.

Iraheta, a Downey resident who advanced to the final four on “American Idol,” will release her debut album, “Just Like You,” on Dec. 1.

The music video for Iraheta’s first album single, “Friday I’ll Be Over U,” premiered Thursday on Yahoo Music.

Music from “Just Like You” is also playing before performances of “Twilight Saga: New Moon,” which opened in theaters this weekend.

Straight A students rewarded by Stauffer

DOWNEY – Local philanthropist Dr. Mary Stauffer wrote checks totaling \$22,800 to more than 175 Downey middle school students during a recognition ceremony Nov. 4-5 at the Barbara J. Riley Community & Senior Center.

The money will be used by students to open or add to their college savings plan.

All 176 DUSD students who received awards earned straight A’s for both semesters as fifth or sixth graders during the 08-09 school year. A total of 218 students qualified, and 186 applied for the award.

Of the 186 applicants, 176 attended the awards ceremonies.

Checks for \$100 each were issued to 163 students. Thirteen students were recognized as “Stauffer Scholars of the Year” and received \$500 checks.

Stauffer Scholars have their names engraved on their school’s perpetual plaque which hangs at the school.

This year’s Stauffer Scholars include Christopher Portillo (East Middle School), Whitney Pemberton (Griffiths), Calyn Herrington (Sussman), Johnny Yu (West), Alexis Guerra (Carpenter) Ellis Tirado (Gallatin), Candice Burrue (Gauldin), Anthony Laverde (Lewis), Jaqueline Martinez (Old River), Javier Padilla (Price), Kristi Bourret (Rio Hondo), Jonathan Yi (Rio San Gabriel) and Amber Martinez (Unsworth).

Linda Kennedy, retired director of curriculum and instruction at DUSD, was guest speaker at the event. She spoke about the benefits of starting a college savings plan early.

Stauffer told the kids that, “Education is the best investment that you could ever make.” She encouraged all the children to attend college.

School board members Willie Gutierrez and Donald LaPlante also spoke on the importance of a college education.

Assisting with the event were students from Warren High School’s Girls League (Simrat Thind, Gifty Assibey, Maria Santana, Sanjana Narkar and Michelle Bertinelli) and Link Crew (Ana Perez, Brianna Mendoza, Esteban Garcia, Juan Lopez and Matt Lilley).

Ana Thorne, a senior secretary, coordinated the application process and prepared the certificates.

Library items up for bid

DOWNEY – Holiday silent auction items are now available for viewing in the foyer of the Downey City Library.

A partial list of items includes: “Only the Best: A Celebration of Gift Giving in America” by Jill Spalding, containing famous and no-so-famous gifts beautifully photographed; “Light Post for Living” by Thomas Kinkade, which tells us how to slow down, simplify options and have a more joyful life; “Frank Sinatra and the Lost Art of Living” by Bill Zehme; and “There’s No Business Like Show Business 3 CD Set,” an inside look at Frank Sinatra and 36 songs to go with it.

The deadline to bid on items is 12 p.m. on Dec. 12. Bids may be placed inside the Friend’s Book Store.

For a complete list of the 12 auction items up for bid, go to www.downeylibrary.org and click on the “Friends” tab.

Event to feature ethnic food

DOWNEY – A free community event, “Kermes 2009,” featuring food tasting from more than 20 countries, will be held tomorrow from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. outside the offices of Zion Media, 12145 Woodruff Ave.

In addition to food tasting, there will also be bands, CD giveaways, toys, health screenings and more.

The community is invited.

City toy drive starts Monday

DOWNEY – The city’s 24th annual holiday toy drive begins Monday and ends Dec. 11.

Collection bins will be placed at City Hall, the Barbara J. Riley Community & Senior Center, all Downey fire stations, all Downey public schools, the library, and at many local businesses displaying a city toy collection box.

Toys must be new and unwrapped. No used toys will be accepted.

Toys will be distributed through the Downey PTA HELPS’ holiday basket program, the fire department’s Operation Santa, and to other local children’s organizations.

For more information on how to get involved with the toy drive, call the city’s Recycling Office at (562) 904-7103.



COURTESY PHOTO

A partial list of winners of a Character Counts coloring contest is pictured above. From left: Jorge Perez, Syed Zaidi, Isaac Arredondo, Allison Rangel, Carl Moreno, Vianka Bernal, Stacy Cordero, Lucia Medina and Elizabeth Morales.

Kids interpret character through artwork

DOWNEY – Downey Federal Credit Union sponsored its fourth annual Character Counts Coloring Contest at two Downey schools.

Students at Ward and Lewis elementary schools were encouraged to display their interpretation of one of the six pillars of Character Counts.

Finalists received a \$25 cash prize and a gift bag with Character Counts merchandise.

Eleven winners from Ward and 14 winners from Lewis were announced.

Winning students from Ward included Mel Mencos and Isabella De Lira (kindergarten); Allison Rangel and Syed Zaidi (first grade); Jorge Perez, Vianka Bernal and Lucia Medina (second grade); and Isaac Arredondo, Carl Moreno, Stacy Cordero and Elizabeth Morales (third grade).

Lewis winners included Jaydin Lucero and Daniel Garcia (kindergarten); Esteban Bowen and Filifili Fanua (first grade); Qunaje Maxwell and Julieta Meillon (second grade); Anthony Rivera, Aotoa Fanua and Noronzie Malala (third grade); Christopher Anselmo and Gisselle Gamarro (fourth grade); and Nicholas Rhodes, Lucia Rios and Savannah Bala (fifth grade).

“Downey Federal Credit Union is proud to be a partner of Downey Unified School District and the Character Count program,” said Barbara Lamberth, president and CEO of DFCU. “We support the school district’s adoption of Character Counts and all the activities associated with building character with the students in all Downey schools.”

Jennifer Robbins, principal of Ward, said, “We are pleased that Downey Federal Credit Union is a close associate of Ward Elementary. Not only has the credit union acted as a partner with our teachers and students, but they have gone the extra mile in providing financial education for our students.”

City Hall to light up tree

DOWNEY – The city of Downey will host its annual Tree Lighting Ceremony at City Hall on Nov. 30.

The free event runs from 6-8 p.m. The actual tree lighting will occur at 6:30 p.m.

Local schools will provide entertainment. There will also be arts and crafts for children, a snow play area, a raffle, and a visit from Santa Claus.

Food and refreshments will be sold by the Downey Rose Float Association.

For more information, call (562) 904-1895.

Church giving away turkeys

DOWNEY – The Love, Peace and Happiness Church will be distributing free turkeys and serving free Thanksgiving meals on Sunday.

The free dinners will be served to the “homeless and hurting” of our community.

Meals will be served beginning at 10 a.m. The community is invited to the event, regardless of church affiliation.

For more information, call (562) 806-9890.

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DUSD: \$3,900 donation from East PTA.

Continued from page 1

Instruction Observation Protocol) addresses methods of academic instruction for "limited English proficient" English Learner students.

Unsworth Elementary School principal Yolanda Cornair used many superlatives in describing Ozima, who she said began teaching in 1988 at Carpenter and immediately won notice for her "strong focus on instruction" and for working well with students, parents and staff members. She has also been praised for "demonstrating the highest level of professional conduct, both within her classroom, in the Rio San Gabriel community, and in the larger educational community."

Currently serving as the Title I, school improvement and English resource teacher at Unsworth, Ozima was lauded for her valuable work and contributions in several areas (curriculum and instruction, BTSAs, math leadership team, etc.). "She has enriched the lives of Unsworth students in many ways," said Cornair.

In other action, the Board:

- Accepted with gratitude various cash and in-kind donations from several individual and institutional donors for use at various schools, including: \$3,900 from the East Middle School PTA in support of student activities and recognition, Character Counts and the Renaissance at East Middle School; nine large koi fish valued at \$2,000 from Randy Brandon for the koi pond at Downey High School; and \$1,000 from the Eleanor Kehoe Eck Trust, in addition to other no less important donors, for use by the TLC Family Resource Center;

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

- Ratified the general agreements entered into with various institutions, including one with the Downey Family YMCA, for the 2009-10 fiscal year effective July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010;

- Ratified the payments for special education placements;
- Approved the revision to AR 2380 dealing with eligibility requirements involving grades 6-12 when they participate in such extracurricular activities as interscholastic athletics, cheer leading, drill team, student council, band, dance team, etc.;

- Ratified purchase orders by the Purchasing Department;

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

- Ratified B warrants;

- Ratified the agreements between the Downey Adult School Career and Education Center and a number of clinics/institutions to provide practical experience to students enrolled in the Medical Assistant/Dental Assistant program;

- Ratified the license agreement with the Administrative Office of the Courts for use of space in Downey Superior Court, at 7500 East Imperial Highway, for SARB (School Attendance Review Board) hearings, effective Oct. 1, 2009;

- Ratified the services agreement with LifeCare Resources, Inc. for the DUSD employees' Wellness Program (provides administration of the following services: influenza, pneumonia, hepatitis B, tetanus & diphtheria shots, tuberculosis tests, and lipid profile services) effective Oct. 1, 2009-Oct. 1, 2011;

- Ratified the contracts with the Los Angeles County Office of Education for a) state fiscal stabilization fund entitlements for use in

DUSD's ROP program, and b) bilingual teacher training program curriculum and instructional services, to run till June 30, 2010:

- Approved the fifth year renewal of Bid #05/06-02 for roof repairs, replacement & asbestos abatement of roofing materials, with FC & Sons Roofing, Inc. of Bell Gardens, in the annual estimated amount of \$800,000 to be charged to the General Fund, Maintenance Fund, and/or Bond Funds, as appropriate;

- Approved the change order for low voltage systems for the new library, classroom building and modernization (Bid Package #20) at Warren High School, with JAM Fire Protection, Inc. of Monrovia, in the increased amount of \$27,880;

- Accepted as complete electrical, roofing, fencing, backhoe services, carpentry work, doors and framing, HVAC, concrete, and food service equipment & cafeteria modernization (at WHS) work performed by various contractors,

- Approved the adjustments to the 2009-10 General Fund restricted and unrestricted budgets;

- Approved the adjustments to the 2009-10 budget for all funds to reflect the 2008-09 ending Unaudited Actuals in the 2009-10 beginning budget;

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

- Authorized the approval by the Committee on Assignments to approve teaching assignments based on special skills and preparation, for the 2009-10 school year (for a maximum of one school year at a time), pursuant to Ed. Code 44258.7 (c) & (d);

- Authorized the service of the teachers, as submitted, assigned a subject area not listed on their teaching credentials for the 2009-10 school year, pursuant to the cor-

responding sections of the Education Code;

- Ratified the abolishment of a few vacant positions in the Instructional Assistant area and one Senior Accounting Technician, and the establishment of mostly Senior Instructional Assistants in the behaviorally-challenged and severely/multiply handicapped areas, assigned to different schools and Downey Adult School, with varying effective beginning and ending dates;

- Meanwhile approved the changes to the duties of the Instructional Assistant position, per attached updated duty statement;

- After a public hearing on the receipt and use of certain Tier III categorical funds in accordance with Ed. Code Section 42605(c)(2), approved the use of available funds in such programs as arts and music block grant, CAHSEE intensive instruction, community-based English tutoring (CBET), school safety and violence, etc., as follows: 1) \$2,000,000 for the purchase of approved textbooks; and 2) \$2,519,093.62 to offset the cost of 35 full-time equivalent certificated and classified positions to avoid further staffing cuts;

- Reviewed and approved the annual report on developer fees for fiscal year 2008-09; total income received from residential and commercial transactions was \$429,802.26, while total expenditures amounted to \$258,445.27; and

- Endorsed the actions taken by the superintendent on all student cases, noting that not a single one involved expulsion.

The next regular meeting of the Board will be at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 15, 2009 at the Gallegos Administration Center, 11627 Brookshire Ave.

POET'S CORNER

Be Thankful

Be thankful for the sun
That brightens up your day
Be thankful children run
And laugh and sing and play.

Be thankful for the rains
That make the flowers grow
And beautify the lanes
Wherever you may go.

Be thankful for your friends
That you have come to know
Thanksgiving never ends
For those who love you so.

Be thankful for the breeze
That cools a summer day
And for the memories
You make along the way.

Be thankful for the tide
And for the food you eat
For feelings deep inside
When friends you chance to meet.

For ev'ry breath you take
Each step along the way
For memories you make
Be thankful for today.

Be thankful you connect
When friends give you the nod
Politically correct?
Who cares?
Be thankful unto God.
-Bill Millburn,
Downey

For the Woman at the 5 Freeway and Lakewood

There she was,
Simply walking,
Down the street,
She wore a fat lip,
And stiletto heels.

And a tear was,
Simply running,
Down her face,
She wore a fat lip,
And stiletto heels.

And her lip was,
Simply Bleeding,
Down her chin,
She wore a fat lip,
And stiletto heels.

And her face was,
Simply Showing,
Her fear,
She wore a fat lip,
And stiletto heels.

And there I was,
Simply walking,
Down the street,

And there I was,
Simply feeling,
Her pain,
She wore a fat lip,
And stiletto heels.
-Nicholas Baxter,
Downey

Credit union collecting books

DOWNEY - Downey Federal Credit Union is collecting new books suitable for children ages 5 to 10 years old to benefit Downey elementary school students.

Collection bins are located in the main branch and at the express office in the lobby of Downey Regional Medical Center.

The credit union is also accepting monetary donations.

For more information, visit either branch or call (562) 862-8141.



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Woman's Club of Downey
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\$ Everyone **wins** when we help one another.
\$ Makes a great gift!! Buy more; increase **winning** chances!
\$ Proceeds support parish & outreach to others.

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Christmas in July

By Eric Pierce

What is it about the holidays that brings out the best in people? (Most people, anyway.) People are just happier and far more charitable when the calendar flips to November. Maybe it's the weather and potential for hot chocolate.

I think jolly Santa Claus has something to do with it too. And all that food we stuff ourselves with on Thanksgiving. After a meal like that, who has the energy to fight?

Whatever the reason, I wish people were in this type of mood year-round. Why can't we?

Why do the greeting cards, feasts with families, Starbucks peppermint lattes and donations to charities end on December 26?

Can't we have toy drives in, say, June?

Do the hungry only eat on Thanksgiving? Let's all pitch in and have food drives year-round.

Every Christmas, local shopping malls hoist Christmas trees with ornaments listing a needy child and a toy they requested. It's a great effort, and fun for consumers. Let's make it a year-round program.

I wish my mom made tamales in December and April.

Let's move Thanksgiving to February.

Is there a law that says eggnog can only be manufactured and sold two months out of the year?

Maybe if we spread this Christmas cheer over 12 months we would all be happier and more selfless.

Maybe next time we're inclined to make a donation to a local food pantry, or buy a needy child a toy, we won't check the calendar before taking out our debit card.

Letters to the Editor:

Ticket problems

Dear Editor:

I am writing to inquire about whether or not The Patriot will be addressing the controversial surplus of tickets sold for the Warren vs. Downey game last Friday.

My family purchased tickets to the Downey-Warren varsity football game in advance to watch my brother play at 7 p.m. They entered the stadium and saved a few seats for my husband and I so that we could arrive at the game at 6:45 p.m. We have a 10-month-old son and did not want to spend any more time than was necessary in the cold weather.

However, when we got there, we were turned away from the gates with at least 100 other people. When those of us with tickets asked if we could have refunds, the Warren staff said that they were not issuing refunds because they had signs posted stating "no refunds" and that it was our responsibility to enter the stadium as soon we purchased our tickets.

I, along with many others, was outraged! I began to ask numerous people who claimed to be in charge why so many extra tickets were sold when they knew there weren't enough seats to accommodate all ticket holders. I received different answers from everyone.

One official told me that they do not count the seats, so they did not know how many seats their stadium holds. Another person told me that they do not pre-count their tickets and that they have numerous students who have ASB cards that allow them to enter the game for free. My response to that was that it was their responsibility to keep track of the number of students who hold these cards so that they know how many tickets should be sold, especially since it was expected to be a popular game.

Finally, at 7:20 p.m., after dozens of people had already left after being denied their refunds, Warren decided to start giving refunds to get rid of the remaining people who were still outraged. This refund period lasted approximately 10 minutes and was only offered to whoever happened to be by the front gate at the time.

Once I received my refund, I noticed two women arriving at the gate with two small children and they were allowed in. I was furious! I asked the man at the gate why he just let the women in with their children when they had been telling everyone that they were at capacity? The man told me that the women were with Downey administration and that he had been given orders to let them in. I was upset and told him that being at capacity means being at capacity, regardless of whether or not they were administration and that it wasn't fair that I was expected to be seated in the cold stadium two hours earlier than that woman and her small children. He had nothing to say except that he was just taking orders.

When I asked the ASB coordinator if people who had already gone home after being denied a refund would be able to get refunds on Monday, she said NO! This was after another official had told me that everyone would get a refund and that they never intended to not give refunds. I then asked her why there were signs posted stating "No refund" and she said it must have been an oversight.

By the end of the night, with no definitive answer, it was very clear to me that Warren knew they were selling extra tickets and were out to make a profit, instead of taking the necessary precautions to make sure that their supporters were not cheated out of their hard-earned money.

I hope that this issue is addressed and that people who did not get a refund at least receive an apology from whoever was supposed to be in charge.

—Rachel Cuevas,
Downey

Letters to the Editor:

Congressional disconnect

Dear Editor:

Rep. Lucille Roybal-Allard asked my opinion of Afghanistan in an e-mail. I gave it:

"You asked my opinion about Afghanistan and here it is: Give Gen. McChrystal what he asks for and let him fight the war and do not let the politicians (e.g., you) sitting around 12,000 miles away worrying about campaign contributions muck up the effort. Obama will turn Afghanistan into another Vietnam if he continues dallying, dawdling and delaying like a confused hamster scurrying around wondering which hole leads to daylight. If the hole goes up it probably leads to daylight, take the one the General recommended.

"However, 12,000 miles away in Afghanistan doesn't concern me nearly as much as what you politicians, obviously out of touch with reality, are doing to our economy and want to do with our health care. That affects me every day. Quit the spending like there is no tomorrow and forget health care! What you have done with the economy and plan to do with health care is an abomination beyond my wildest imagination. Not only are you planning on taxing the very air I breathe with the carbon tax, but you are intent upon cutting Medicare just when I'm going to be eligible to draw on what I've been paying into for all these years.

"Why should I worry about the Taliban in Afghanistan when we seem to have our own Taliban hard at work in Washington, D.C.?"

What bothers me most about Roybal-Allard isn't that we disagree on major issues because people disagree all the time. Rather it's that the only questionnaire mailed to me deals with events almost half a globe away, ignoring serious problems on my doorstep, in my home.

This is a disturbing disconnect from very important matters right at hand and steering the conversation to an unpleasant, but necessary, task that infrequently touches my personal life. Something like your or my teenager, after crashing the family car, asking, "How's work going?" Understandable for a teenager but Ms. Roybal-Allard is no teenager and none of us should have to be reminding her of what matters most.

Such is the sorry state of leadership in our government in this topsy-turvy world.

— Scott Ramey,
Downey

Government healthcare

Dear Editor:

Well, as President Reagan would say, here we go again.

After reading Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard's comments, she states that it was the most important single piece of legislation being considered by this 111th Congress. ("Roybal-Allard's Remarks on Healthcare," 11/13/09) However, when she was called two days before the vote, Roybal-Allard didn't know how she was going to vote. She also states that without a doubt this has been the most transparent and inclusive legislative effort she's seen in 17 years in Congress.

Transparent to whom? They had four days to read almost 2,000 pages and it was not put out for the public to read in time for them to react. It seems that her constituency doesn't matter since Congress doesn't seem to understand or care what the "lowly people" think. Maybe just as the word "illegal" isn't understood in D.C., so the word "transparent" isn't understood either.

I understand that people who have good insurance will probably lose it and be forced to go on this government plan. I also understand that we will either be taxed heavily or President Obama and Congress will drop the tax codes that are helpful. I understand that Congress and the "elites" will still have their "Cadillac" policies. If we are forced to go on this government program, then President Obama, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, senators Boxer and Feinstein, and the other big spenders should be standing in the same health care line with us.

Roybal-Allard says, "We can't afford to do nothing." I don't understand why. Congress and she have sat around 17 years and have done nothing to help or correct the waste they say is in Medicare and Medi-Cal. Everything the government has control over is deeply in debt and going deeper every day.

Taxes will be imposed and collected as soon as the bill is passed, but it won't be effective until 2013. Strangely this is just after the presidential election.

— Betty Logan,
Downey

Sinking into debt

Dear Editor:

First let me say I am all for everyone having medical insurance, having survived several serious cancer operations that would have killed me had it not been for insurance.

But to insure 30 million new people we will first have to find 30,000 new doctors, if each takes on 1,000 new patients, plus new nurses. When President Obama can't find 30,000 new doctors, present doctors will suffer from a heavy overload of patients, a cut in their payments by Medicare of 20 percent, a raise in taxes, and they will be forced to spend less time with patients and family.

With not enough money to cover everyone equally there will be rationing of care given to older patients depending on their remaining years.

The cost of Obama's health plan, estimated at more than \$1 trillion, will require we borrow more from China. China is not impressed with Obama, who they blame for the failing world economy, but they will probably grant the loan to keep U.S. buying huge amounts of their goods, and if his health care plan gets into trouble, which is becoming more probable, they will be in a position to demand they be allowed to drill offshore for Alaska's oil, which they have been after, to appease their huge growing demand.

— James Hawkins,
Downey

Teachers criticize budget cuts

DOWNEY – It's American Education Week across the country this week, but not all teachers are happy, particularly those in California.

The Downey Education Association put out a press release Monday "drawing attention to the fact that California and local schools don't have much to celebrate this year."

"If we are going to offer quality education to our students, we have to stop impoverishing our schools," Jeff Orlinksy, a science teacher at Warren High School and president of the Downey Education Association, said in a statement. "Public education is essential. Quality public schools build strong communities, and that's worth fighting for."

State budget cuts have decimated funding to public schools. More than \$17 billion has been cut from education budgets the last two years, according to the Downey Education Association.



"EITHER THAT OR LOOKING FOR HIS APPROVAL RATING."

Letters to the Editor:

A design failure

Dear Editor:

I am glad that the city of Downey always has had a reputation for enforcing their building codes, making sure new homes or additions were being built to city standards. So when the hotel on the corner of Gallatin and Downey Avenue resumed construction again after being left half completed for more than a year, I knew that city inspectors would not allow construction to continue building over the existing original structure, which has been standing exposed to the elements.

But for some reason they did allow it, and in fact, it seems like the city has fast tracked the project. So what is usually a long drawn out process, is now in the final stages.

In most cases it takes months and even years to get building plans approved before building can begin and finally completed. But in this case, in just a few months the project is almost completed. Yet, I had faith that city would never let this monster destroy the look and feel of the neighborhood.

I thought the Design Review Board would ride to the rescue and never allow the 10-bedroom structure to be built, mainly because it lacks both design or style which the board is suppose to enforce. But, sadly, I learned that the Review Board only oversees the construction of condos, townhouses and apartments and various other commercial buildings. Apparently residential structures can be built in any shape or form, with or without style.

I know that there must be a logical answer but I can't tell what it can possibly be. All I know is, if you build a warehouse but call it a single family residence, it is still a warehouse.

On the other hand, this disaster might be a wake up call to the city to widen the board's scope to include all structures, so that streets throughout the city will remain residential and in the future we will not see a "Comfort Inn" being built next to Furman Park and the city calling it a family residence.

— Ed Romero,
Downey

Editor's note: The Design Review Board was dissolved late last year. Its duties are now handled by the Planning Commission.

No defense

Dear Editor:

Edy Grayson did not defend the picture. (Letters to the Editor, 11/13/09) It was simply a diversionary tactic. After reading the letter to the editor I wanted to hold hands with my neighbors and sing Kumbaya. "Hands to put in his pockets," indeed.

Whether you like or dislike President Obama, you should still show the respect that his office deserves. Mr. Obama was neat as a pin and had that great smile on his face. On the other hand, the young man looked like he slapped his clothes on and was "hanging with his homie."

— Kenneth Stallcup,
Downey

Ashamed of photo

Dear Editor:

I couldn't believe my eyes when I saw the picture in the Patriot of our mayor, Mario Guerra, and a visiting Sister City official from Zacatecas, Mexico.

Our mayor and David Monreal Avila, mayor of Fresnillo and candidate for governor of Zacatecas, are shown in the police gun room armored with automatic assault weapons.

What kind of message does this send to Mexico and the rest of the world? As a longtime Downey resident I am embarrassed and ashamed that Downey would be perceived as a third world city without laws and its citizens having to protect themselves with assault weapons.

Mayor Guerra, you have gone too far in the name of a photo-op and you owe the citizens of Downey an apology.

— Dennis Pagenkopp,
Downey

Housing money

Dear Editor:

If the city is putting affordable housing downtown, how will the residents be able to afford supporting downtown businesses? ("City Seeks up to \$2 Million for Downtown Housing," 11/13/09)

Seems like a logical question to me.

— Barry Dunlap,
Downey

Store openings

Dear Editor:

Thank you, Fresh 'N Easy, for deciding to open a store in Downey. You are saving me a trip to Norwalk.

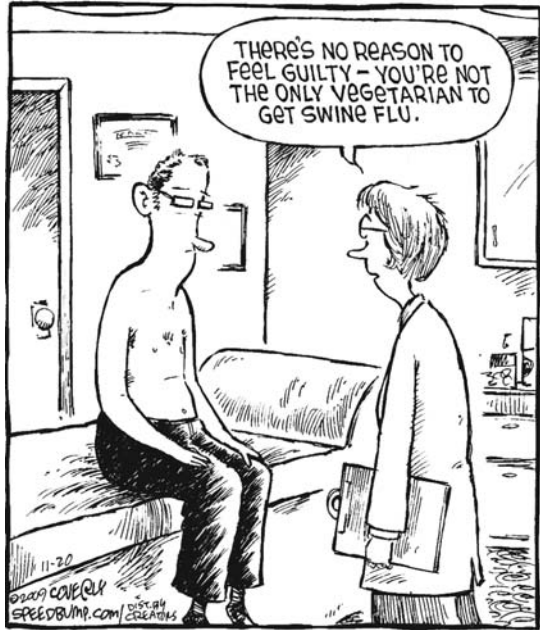
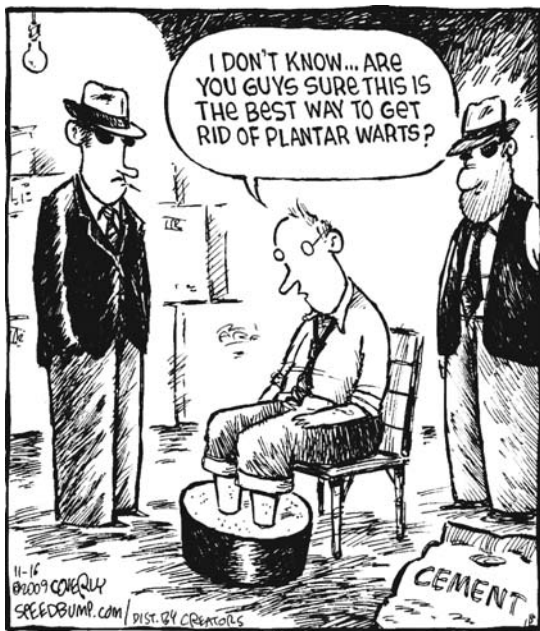
I also extend my thanks to BJ's, which I understand is doing very well, and Porto's Bakery, which I know will be a delightful addition to our community.

If Trader Joe's says our demographics stink, I don't know what demographic numbers they are looking at.

— Martha Godinez,
Downey

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SPEED BUMP



DAVE COVERLY



Downey Community Calendar

Events For November

- Sat. Nov. 21: **Carwashes for American Cancer Society**, Downey High School, 8 a.m.
- Sat. Nov. 21: **Razorbacks playoffs**, Downey High School stadium, 9 a.m.
- Sat. Nov. 21: **Food-tasting festival**, 12145 Woodruff Ave., 9 a.m.
- Sat. Nov. 21: **Author Gerald Blackburn signing**, Border's Express at Stonewood Center, noon
- Sun. Nov. 22: **140th anniversary Mass**, Downey First Christian Church, 10 a.m.
- Sun. Nov. 22: **Assistance League of Downey fundraiser**, Long Beach Hilton, 10 a.m.
- Sun. Nov. 22: **Allison Iraheta CD listening party**, Torrid at Stonewood Center, 3 p.m.
- Mon. Nov. 23: **Thanksgiving interfaith service**, Downey memorial Christian Church, 7 p.m.
- Tues. Nov. 24: **Thanksgiving storytime**, Downey City Library, 10:30 a.m.
- Wed. Nov. 25: **Free Thanksgiving meal**, Downey First Christian Church, 4 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 Thursday, 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

- 8:00 p.m.: **Job Club**, 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 Sailors 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., - **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...

- Nov. 20, 1620:** Peregrine White is born aboard the Mayflower, which was docked at Massachusetts Bay, becoming the first child of English parents to be born in present-day New England.
- 1789:** New Jersey becomes the first state to ratify the Bill of Rights.
- 1966:** "Cabaret" opens on Broadway.
- 1969:** DDT is outlawed as a residential pesticide.
- 1995:** Princess Diana admits to infidelity during an interview on BBC TV.
- Birthdays:** Senator Robert Byrd (92), Vice President Joe Biden (67), baseball player Rick Monday (64), game show host Richard Dawson (77), actress Bo Derek (53) and gymnast Dominique Dawes (33).

THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

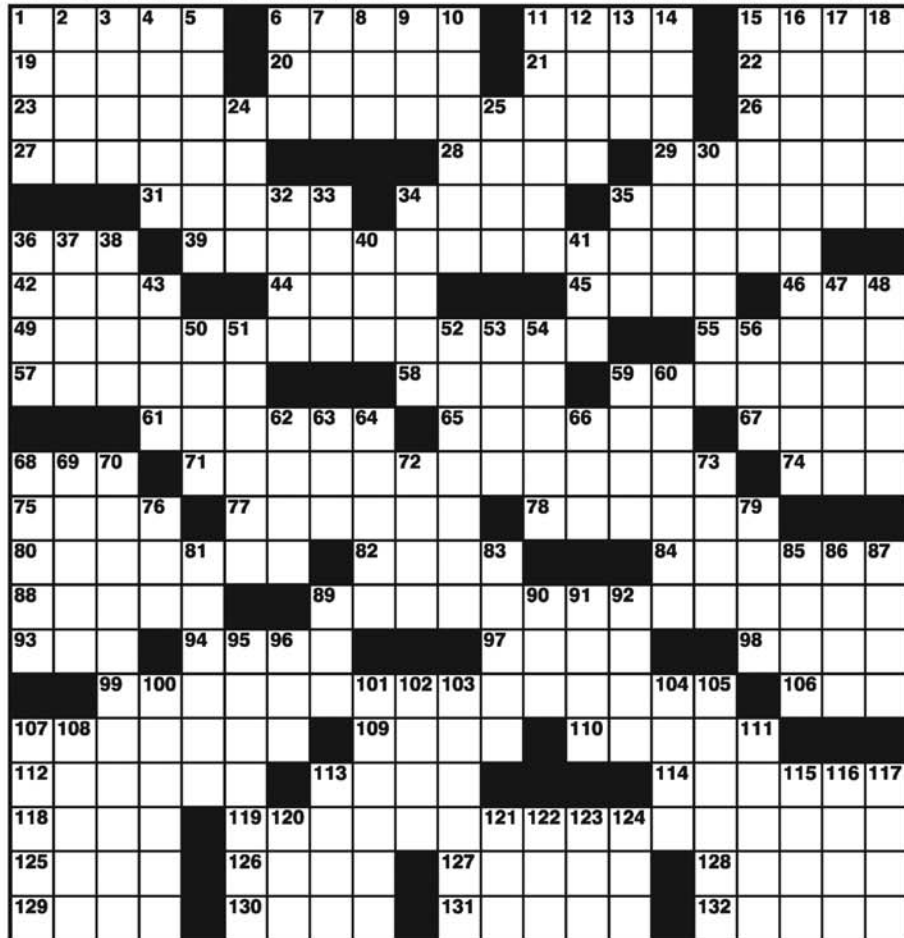
Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com)

TOOLBOX: A handyman's special

by Merle Baker

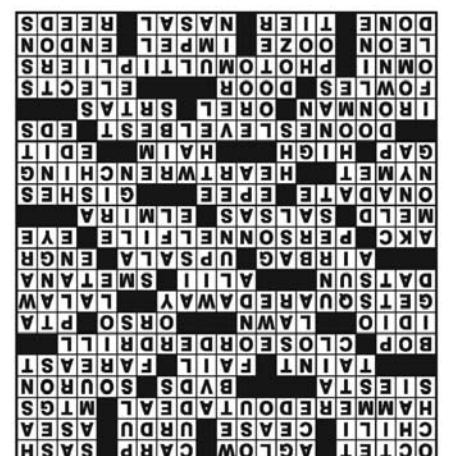
- ACROSS**
- 1 Duet x 4
- 6 Shining
- 11 Find fault
- 15 Beauty-pageant attire
- 19 Cookoff food, perhaps
- 20 Come to a standstill
- 21 Pakistani language
- 22 Not docked
- 23 Finished negotiations
- 26 Conclaves: Abbr.
- 27 Break in Bolivia
- 28 Briefs, briefly
- 29 Become displeased with
- 31 Besmirch
- 34 Need repair
- 35 Marco Polo destination
- 36 Charlie Parker's jazz style
- 39 Marching practice
- 42 "Peculiar" starter
- 44 Tennis surface
- 45 Roughly speaking
- 46 Pro-education org.
- 49 Put everything in order
- 55 Erstwhile NBC legal drama
- 57 Nissan's former name
- 58 Et (and others: Lat.)
- 59 Czech composer
- 61 Auto safety device
- 65 Former New Jersey college
- 67 MIT grad, perhaps
- 68 Pedigree org.
- 71 Human Resources holding
- 74 Storm center
- 75 Card combination
- 77 Spicy dips
- 78 New York city
- 80 At the movies, maybe
- 82 Blunted sword
- 84 Silents' star sisters
- 88 Citi Field player
- 89 Tragic
- 93 Difference of opinion
- 94 Soaring
- 97 Actor Corey
- 98 Revise, as text
- 99 Try really hard
- 106 Begley and Wynn
- 107 Successful triathlete
- 109 Pitcher Hershiser
- 110 Mex. misses
- 112 *The French Lieutenant's* Woman author
- 113 Way out
- 114 Votes in
- 118 Prefix for present
- 119 Nuclear-physics devices
- 125 Province of Spain
- 126 Exude
- 127 Drive forward
- 128 Finish with
- 129 Finished
- 130 Cake cross-section
- 131 Twangy-sounding
- 132 Orchestra section
- DOWN**
- 1 Protest singer Phil
- 2 123 Down of India
- 3 Fourth dimension
- 4 Horror-film series addr.
- 5 Haberdashery buy
- 6 Card with one pip
- 7 HS proficiency test
- 8 Southeast Asian language
- 9 Big-10 sch.
- 10 Hotel-suite amenity
- 11 Get close
- 12 Greek war god
- 13 Nutritional amt.
- 14 Some neutron stars
- 15 Biblical prophet
- 16 Theosophical concept
- 17 Desert lilies
- 18 Lacks
- 24 Complain bitterly
- 25 Gung-ho
- 30 Baseball-cap bird
- 32 "The Big Easy"
- 33 Bolshevik foe
- 34 *On Golden Pond* Oscar winner
- 35 New Deal initials
- 36 Texas city's nickname
- 37 Ancient Greek theater
- 38 Benjamin Button portrayer
- 40 Wool-coat owner
- 41 Singer Orbison
- 43 Greek peak
- 47 Piquant
- 48 With it
- 50 Witty remark
- 51 Discord
- 52 Four-time Indy 500 winner
- 53 Use a napkin
- 54 Theater divider
- 56 Tasted
- 59 Hardly likely
- 60 Asperse
- 62 Scottish hillside
- 63 Visual communication: Abbr.
- 64 Drop in on
- 66 CIO partner
- 68 With many of
- 69 East African nation
- 70 Act to limit
- 72 California county
- 73 Greenland explorer
- 76 Five-star monogram
- 79 '70s tennis star
- 81 In
- 83 Drew Barrymore's great-aunt
- 85 Keep secret
- 86 Author Bagnold
- 87 Marine NCOs
- 89 Cabinet dept.
- 90 -Mart
- 91 Barbecue fare
- 92 Part of EMT
- 95 Having difficulty
- 96 -Xer
- 100 Surfing the Net
- 101 Opportunist of a sort
- 102 Suffix for smack
- 103 Household pests
- 104 Process part
- 105 Rising higher
- 107 Poker declaration
- 108 Shakespearean teen
- 111 River near the Louvre
- 113 Nod off
- 115 Give up
- 116 Walked on
- 117 Form 1040 IDs
- 120 - polloi
- 121 Thurman of Hollywood
- 122 Audiophile's vinyl
- 123 Brewed beverage
- 124 Poorly

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

CHILI cookoffs (19 Across), generally held as fundraisers, are sanctioned by the non-profit International Chili Society. UPSALA College (65 Across), founded by Swedish-Americans in 1893, was named for the Swedish university city of Uppsala. PHOTOMULTIPLIERS (119 Across) were used in the first electric eyes, to measure interruptions in beams of light.





Animation Industry Celebrities Inspire Warren High Students

By: Deborah Won, Intern

After spending an exciting three hours with animation-industry celebrities Dan Povenmire and Tom Kenny on Nov. 5, the students of Warren's CTE Graphics and Animation class were both intrigued and inspired by the speeches and advice of these big-name guest speakers.

An old acquaintance of Povenmire, Warren's Graphics and Animation teacher Bill Austin contacted Povenmire to come and speak to the students. Povenmire is a writer and animator on many hit cartoon shows including "The Simpsons," "Family Guy," "Rocko's Modern Life," and is most recently the creator of the hit-sensation "Phineas and Ferb," which airs on Disney Channel.

Kenny is the voice of the universally loved Spongebob, as well as 50 other voices, most recently of a character in the new movie "The Terminator." The motivational lectures were truly an unforgettable event for the Graphic and Animation students of Warren High School.

"The best way you can define success in your life is to do something that you love for a living," said Povenmire during his lecture. "If you are doing something you love, it doesn't matter what you're getting paid, it will always be enough. If you are doing something you hate, it doesn't matter what you're getting paid, it will never be enough."



Photo Courtesy of Craig Karli

Both Povenmire and Kenny emphasized to the students the importance of finding a career path that they will truly enjoy being a part of. Kenny explained that he had not immediately started off in the career he is in now, and had gone through multiple jobs before finding his "soul mate" career in the animation industry. Surging motivation throughout the crowd of eagerly listening students, the speakers told of how they were able to turn a passion into a career, and encouraged the students to work hard in their education in order to succeed. In addition, they walked the students through the basic features of animation, and elaborated on the multiplicity of jobs that are available in the anima-

tion industry

"Mr. Dan Povenmire was so sophisticated and inspiring, I never was sure what I wanted to be in life, and listening to him pushed me over the edge in animation," said junior Bryce McFall. "And Tom Kenny was outright hysterical. He made me laugh even when it wasn't funny. They both persuaded me to do what makes me happy in life, and I now want to pursue animation for a living."

Students were particularly impressed when Povenmire walked up to the whiteboard and began to swiftly draw the familiar caricatures of several animation characters from "Phineas and Ferb," as he entertained the students with the story of how this show had

emerged, starting from when he had began doodling his first ideas in a restaurant.

A murmur of awe, followed by rounds of applause, arose from the students when Kenny began reading down his resume list of past voices he had done, speaking each one in the character's voice. He even sang a couple lines of popular "Spongebob" songs, as several students nodded their heads to show their familiarity with this show.

"[The lecture] showed me how a simple idea can turn into something huge, how successful you can become by pouring your heart and soul into animation," said Manuel Fuentes.

Quite evidently, the students were thoroughly impressed and inspired by both Povenmire and Kenny.

"It was a humbling experience to meet two guys who love what they do best," said senior Eric Valle. "We appreciate the time and effort Mr. Kenny and Mr. Povenmire took to share their stories and advice."

After the speeches in the library, Povenmire and Kenny were given a tour of the Graphics and Animation lab, and gave suggestions for program improvements. In addition, both have agreed to serve on Downey's local advisory board, which will meet annually to give private sector business and industry advisement.

Dance Contract Hoopla

By: Joseph Apodaca, Intern

Since Downey had their annual Homecoming dance October 23rd, students couldn't go anywhere without listening to media coverage regarding what many considered a typical and harmless high school requirement: dance contracts.

For as long as anyone could remember, a contract was always a part of the deal when purchasing tickets to Homecoming, Sadie Hawkins, Winter Formal and even Prom. So, when major news networks such as ABC and CNN and newspapers like the Los Angeles Times ran stories regarding the contracts, it was greeted with confusion and shock from students.

"To be honest, it surprises me that it's such a big deal since we all complete [the contracts] with no problem, no questions asked," said senior Hope Gettler. "I thought every school had one."

The contracts are rather cut and dry, easy enough for students to understand why the need to fill them out in the first place. Photo identifications are required upon entry of the dance, no profane language, and the possibility of being searched are all clearly detailed in the contract. In addition, drafters of the contract explicitly request that dancing in sexual means be prohibited. Many students, to some surprise, are happy to oblige.

"It shouldn't look like students are acting sexual on a dance floor," said senior Dominique Diaz.

"There should be some level of censorship at the school dances."

The use of the dance contracts has become such a routine at Downey that many students actually find it quite laughable that reputable news outlets have spent so much time to cover it as a story. Many argue that with major issues such as the H1N1 vaccine, school budget cuts, and the economic nature of our state, that there might be more important things to talk about.

"It was just very weird because, it's just a dance contract," said senior ASB member Serro Park. "I believe that keeping [dances] appropriate is perfectly normal for a school event. It's not that news worthy."

With the overwhelming amount of students that attend such dances and sign the contracts multiple times throughout the year, one must wonder what was all the fuss about?

The dance contracts seem to be an extremely effective way regulating behavior at dances. In what can be thought of as an overblown story, students are welcoming of the dance contracts and haven't had any heavy protests against them. But while they are not generating massive objections, there are still a few who don't agree with them.

"There are always the ones who don't follow the rules," said Hope Gettler. "And those are the ones who get caught."

Downey Students attend MLS Game

By: Alyssa Wynne, Intern

Downey students were part of the crowd to watch the Los Angeles Galaxy and Chivas USA battle it out at the Home Depot Center on Nov. 1, after being given free tickets by the organizations.

"Most of us don't even know why they did this," said Downey senior Mariana Mejorado. "I guess they were filling seats to make it look more crowded on TV. It just really gave me something to do though, and I had a lot of fun."

Mejorado was wrong however, as were many of the students that attended the game. The event, which was organized by Downey vice principal Horacio Freijo and USA Chivas representative Alisia Mendoza, was for a college scholarship called School of the Game.

California State University Dominguez Hills, Downey High, and Chivas USA are united in this organization and awarded varsity soccer player Antonio Roman a \$250 college scholarship and varsity soccer coach Steve Barber a \$75 gift card to Staples.

"I nominated [Roman] due to his excellence in character on and off the field," said Freijo. "He is a very dedicated player and exemplary student. He needed to be recognized. I hope that this gives him the courage to continue his college career."

Freijo hopes that this event will bring a partnership with everybody and he is going to try and continue the organization to help bring fundraising and scholarship opportunities to the school and its students.

"It was seriously a life changing experience," said Downey junior Stephanie Gutierrez. "I hadn't been to a game since I was five years old. [As a Galaxy fan] it was kind of cool to see how Beckham actually moves, like how he has different strategies to score a goal. It was something different, something new."

Students also received excellent seats, considering the tickets were free. Many of them arrived hours early to the game just to be sure that they would be able to actually watch the game. Downey senior Monica Rodriguez was lucky enough to sit five rows away from the field, and, being a Chivas fan, this was definitely a plus for her she said.

Downey Students Help Special Ed Grow Garden

By: Gabriela Coya, Intern

Since the summer, the botany class at Downey has helped special education students cultivate a vegetable garden.

According to Downey principal Tom Houts, botany students worked with the special education students in mending the soil and planting vegetables. The special education students then tend the garden and use the grown vegetables in class to make a meal.

This project began when Houts and science teacher Greg Pittenger discussed building a garden in front of the X-building for the special education students.

"We decided to use wood already here for the botany program, construct and install wooden frames, and add soil and compost so they could plant," said Pittenger.

Teachers and students alike have seen positive results from the project.

"The general education students were really kind to my students," said special education teacher Charlotte Mann. "It's a really good project and my students get excited when they see the plants growing."

"It was a good experience," said botany student and senior Bianey Valdez. "They were so eager to help. We helped them work in the flower beds to get them ready for planting. They all looked so happy. I felt fulfilled because I was able to make their day better."

"The botany students get just as much out of it [as the special education students]. I think they now see them in a different light as more of a defined person with strengths. They are more real to my students than before when they just saw the special education students separated," said Pittenger.

The growing, maintaining, and harvesting of the vegetable garden

is also beneficial to special education students because it is part of the Individualized Education Program (IEP) and helps build a sense of responsibility.

"It's really good for them because they have IEPs and their IEPs teach them goals such as growing a plant," said Mann.

"Education psychology experts said it is a good idea to build responsibility by allowing them to plant things," said Pittenger.

Houts, Pittenger, and Mann hope to continue this project in the upcoming years. The botany students will help the special education students with the garden when it needs taking care of.

"We'll help with the big things whenever the garden needs rehabilitation. The garden belongs to them," said Pittenger.

Gay - Straight Alliances at Downey High

By: Joanna Quintana, Intern

Though fighting opposition from various directions, the Gay Straight Alliance club, or GSA, at Downey seeks to inform students interested in the gay cause, creating a safe place where open discussion and differences are welcome.

Listed under various names, GSA is a nation-wide program with the same intention to inform students who are interested in supporting each other and a community that has faced many forms of opposition. Though this organization is widespread, it has only just begun at Downey as a club where open discussions are held between students, some who are heterosexu-

al and homosexual. No matter what sexual preference a student holds, all are welcome to come and talk about any issues of interest, as well as ask questions.

"It's a gay and straight alliance, gay and straight people come to the meetings," said GSA president Rodolfo Mendoza. "We try to offer a place where they can feel comfortable and we don't ask anyone to name their sexual preference. It's really students helping other students, a support group, even."

Though faculty members of Downey may not particularly believe in the same cause as GSA,

most of the administration and staff at this large high school have shown their acceptance of the club as simply another organization led by students on campus. Essentially, this is the sort of equality GSA hopes to continue receiving.

Focusing on a cause with such a strong history of controversy, however, is almost certain to be met with an opposition unknown to a majority of other high school clubs. Opposition has not failed in rearing its ugly head at the infant club through several members of

the community. However, GSA hopes to persevere and intends to focus mainly on establishing itself so that a safe haven may continue to be provided for all curious students of any religion and sexual preference.

"We try to promote understanding," said Jennifer King, Downey mathematics teacher who provides the location for GSA meetings. "(There are) a lot of questions. A lot of it is curiosity, and a lot of Christians show up to this club just to support their friends. That is what I promote."

2009-2010 Interns for
The Downey Patriot

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 Gabriela Coya
 Joanna Quintana
 Deborah Won
 Joseph Apodaca - Sports
 Alyssa Wynne - Sports
 Paul Heidecker - Photographer
 Carlos Ontiveros - Photographer

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It's duck hunting season! Warren thumps Downey, 49-14

■ Jesse Callier leads the way with three TDs.

BY SCOTT COBOS,
STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY – In a game that started out messy for Warren, it was quite the opposite the rest of the way in their 49-14 blowout win at home against cross-town rival Downey, last Friday night.

The win avenges last year's upset loss at Downey and completes Warren's sweep through the San Gabriel Valley League. Putting their record at 9-1 before entering the playoffs, the win will certainly give the Bears a No. 1 seeding come playoff time, and most likely a first round home game.

But first, some celebration was in store for the thumping the Bears delivered to the Vikings.

"Oh man it feels great," said Warren running back Jesse Callier. "And in my senior year, but we have playoffs though. But now we beat them Ducks."

On Warren's first possession Callier tossed the ball behind Jamil Magee on an option play and Downey recovered the ball. But Downey ended up not getting anything off the turnover and ended punting the ball away.

The very next play after the Downey punt, Callier busted out of the backfield for a 50-yard touchdown.

Downey responded with a drive that ate up much of the clock in the first quarter and a few minutes in the second quarter.

Quarterback Steven Cervantes marched his team down the field and capped the drive with a 5-yard hand off to running back Steven Williams who punched in the touchdown.

It went downhill for Downey from there. The Bears started to pour it on with another big play from Callier, this time a 67-yard touchdown rush. Then two possessions later, the dagger came from a 32-yard pass from quarterback Sam Bettencourt to Bailey Cowins for a third touchdown in the half.

Warren's defense locked up Downey, who looked like they didn't expect some of the defensive schemes that were thrown their way by Warren head coach Chris Benadom and crew. But then again, it's possible they hadn't seen Warren run these defenses before.

"Defensively we had a couple new tricks in the bag and [Jamil Magee] seemed to find those right places," Benadom said.

Magee played a key part in keeping Downey's offense off balance, taking away a huge part of the Vikings' attack by picking off two of Cervantes' passes. Magee

returned one of his picks for a touchdown in the beginning of the third quarter and the rout was on.

In their first possession of the second half, Bettencourt again connected for a 34-yard touchdown pass after a spectacular one-handed catch by Cowins in the end zone. With practically no room to move, Cowins stuck out his hand, caught the ball with the other hand pinned down, and managed to keep one foot in bounds to complete the pass.

On their next drive, Callier finished off his scoring on the night with another big play from the backfield, this time a 30-yard trot down the sidelines for his third touchdown of the game.

Callier finished his night with 282 yards and three touchdowns on 22 carries and didn't play most of the fourth quarter. Cowins had four catches for 104 yards and two touchdowns, including the fantastic catch in the third quarter.

Bettencourt completed four of his six passing attempts, all thrown at Cowins, for 104 yards and two touchdowns.

The loss for Downey means no playoffs and a season that saw them start out promising in league play to only stumble to the finish line with three straight losses. Instead of slipping into the playoffs with an upset win at Warren like last year, they will be going into the off season trying to figure out what happened, think especially about why they weren't able to stop Callier this year.

"It was all about attitude last year [in stopping Callier]," said Downey head coach Will Capps. "Last year, we were motivated, but this year, [Warren's] juniors from last year were motivated."

Amongst many things that went wrong, Downey wasn't able to cover Cowins in the game even though they saw it coming.

"We figured they'd go to [Cowins]," Capps said. "We didn't think we wouldn't cover him."

Capps also said that they tried to get the running game going but weren't able to get it started which really hurt their normally very balanced attack. The Vikings ran the ball 24 times for 112 yards with a chunk of those yards coming when the game was out of reach in the fourth quarter.

The only weapon Downey had was Cervantes' arm that only passed for 114 yards and no touchdowns. He completed just over half of his passing attempts and the two interceptions really hurt Downey's offensive flow.

Downey's game overall wasn't one of great execution and in the end is what beat them according to Capps saying they were just beat by a better team.



PHOTO BY ART MONTOYA

Jesse Callier will be relied upon as Warren High School opens CIF playoffs tonight at home.

For Warren, the real season begins tonight

■ West Torrance High School is a relative unknown.

BY SCOTT COBOS,
STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY – The win against Downey to wrap up the regular season 9-1 was nice, but tonight is what the Bears have been working toward all season long as they host their first round CIF playoff game against West Torrance tonight at 7 p.m.

There isn't much known about the No. 3 seed out of the Bay League. Coming out of league play with a 3-2 record means they were basically in the middle of the pack when it comes to their division, and having a 7-3 record means they were successful in non-conference play.

But what can be noted are the teams that they did play. The Bay League is not known to be a powerhouse conference such as the Moore League or any division that has the likes of a Mater Dei, Mira Costa or Santa Fe. However, they did play one team that Warren has played this year.

The only game we have to judge the West Warriors from is their game against Torrance, the same Torrance that was drubbed by Warren. West defeated Torrance by the narrowest of margins 17-6 at home.

If there's one thing that West has been able to do all season, it's win at home. Their 4-1 record at their house helped keep them afloat during the season. They also played a team that Warren is familiar with but has not played yet this year in Mira Costa.

Against Mira Costa, West didn't fair too well losing 28-3 on the road. Visiting teams has been a problem for West as they broke even 2-2 this season. They'll have to revisit the winning strategies on the road this year in order to pull the first round upset, or they'll have to do what every other team is trying to do against Warren: stop Jesse Callier.

The Bears are coming off the best season they've had in decades. The last time a Warren team went undefeated in league was in 1978 when the Bears managed to advance to the semifinals of the playoffs.

Hopefully this season will be much more of the same if not more successful. The only way they're going to do that is if Callier explodes like he's known to be able to.

Callier on the year is averaging 263 yards per game on close to 16 carries per game. As of the last game of the season, he has already passed his yards in a season mark from last year and has 38 touchdowns.

The scariest thing about Callier is that in about four of the games played, including the first game of

the season against Torrance, he played only three quarters because he wasn't really needed.

At the beginning of the season, Warren head coach Chris Benadom answered questions on Callier's quest of 3,000 yards and 50 touchdowns. He said while that was a great goal to have, Callier was only going to be used as much as he is needed, meaning that if Warren was up by 40 points, Callier would find himself on the sidelines cheering for his teammates.

Benadom said the purpose to that was to make sure his legs are fresh come CIF playoff time. Now, the reason why it's scary to know that he only played three quarters in some of the games is because now there's no mercy.

Look for Warren to make sure that the games played are out of sight if they're winning, meaning a big dose of Callier.

But Warren is a "duel threat" as Benadom called them last week after the Downey game. It comes without any surprise that Warren indeed has a great wide receiver in Bailey Cowins.

Cowins showed his talents last week when he caught four passes for over 100 yards and two touchdowns, both on challenged fade routes. The uncommonly used wide out is quarterback Sam Bettencourt's main target averaging 19.42 yards per catch. On only 26 catches, Cowins has collected seven touchdowns and 505 receiving yards.

Warren's defense relies on the pressure that can be put on opposing team's quarterbacks and Cowins and Jamil Magee's ability to jump passing routes. Augafa Vaaulu and David Del Toro lead Warren's defensive line and team in sacks and are the main focuses when offensive lines prepare for coverage.

Cowins and Magee though lead the team in interceptions and are the two guys that tighten the screws in Warren's secondary. When everything is clicking, Warren's defense is rather vaunting. They do have a tendency to only lock down one facet of an opposing team's game. There has yet to be a game this season where Warren has completely locked down a team's running and passing in a complete game.

But in the only game we can compare the two teams to, there was one specific thing that should be pointed out. West Torrance against Torrance was a grind until the end, as noted in a 17-6 victory. Warren's game against Torrance was a laughter with Callier and Cowins only playing three quarters. Also, Torrance didn't score until the final minutes of the game when the junior varsity defense was substituted in.

This game shouldn't be any different and barring any injuries or upsets, Warren should beat West Torrance and move on to the second round.



PHOTO BY CARLOS ONTIVEROS

A Warren High School player celebrates after his team's 49-14 victory over Downey last Friday. The Bears now look ahead to the post-season and will host West High School tonight at 7 p.m.

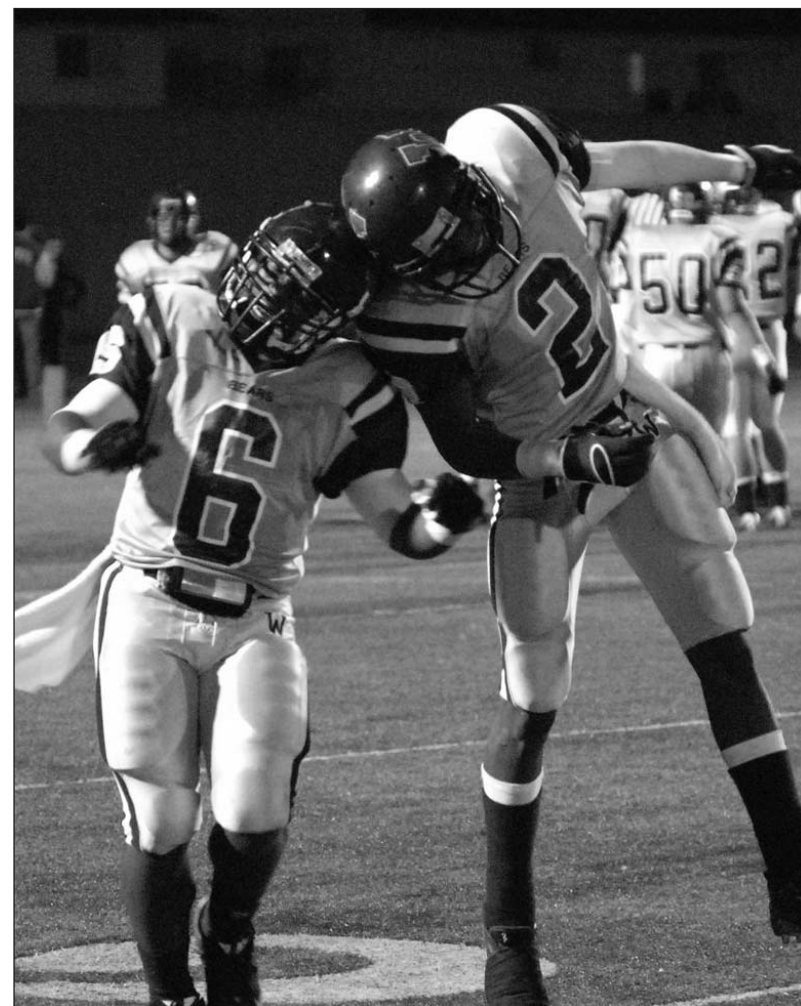


PHOTO BY ART MONTOYA

Jamil Magee, left, and Bailey Cowins celebrate after a Warren touchdown last Friday.

Downey fails to qualify for playoffs

BY JOSEPH APODACA,
SPORTS INTERN

DOWNEY – The Friday night lights have dimmed on a season of high hopes and major upsets for Downey football this season.

After losing 49-14 to the Warren Bears in their last game of the year, the Vikings' season has come to an end, with no hope of making the playoffs this year. They finished 2-3 in league and 3-7 for their overall season.

While the goals of entering the playoffs and defeating their biggest rival fell short, there's no doubt that the Vikings managed to keep everyone on their feet in an exciting season of football.

There were high hopes for the Vikings at the beginning of the season, coming off their first win of 17-13 against La Serna High School. However, due to the ineligibility of a Downey player, that game was forfeit-

ed.

The Vikings walked away from their pre-season games winning only one against Schurr and losing three additional games to La Habra, Kennedy and Santa Fe.

After a lackluster pre-season, the Vikings seemed to be turning their game around, winning their first two San Gabriel Valley League games against Gahr and Paramount. After teasing us with hopes of a possible streak, the Vikings lost their last three games of the season against Dominguez, Lynwood and Warren.

While the team as a whole didn't match up against their competitors, many of the players still managed to stand out on the field. Quarterback Steven Cervantes, who sat out three games this season due to a shoulder injury, was 103-for-172 passing this season, totaling 1,317 yards. Full back Joseph Ortiz rushed the most yards for team honors, with 107 carries totaling 703 yards. Tight end Isaac Dan



PHOTO BY PAUL HEIDECKER

received the most passes, catching 29 passes for 506 yards. Linebacker Justin Haro made the most tackles of the season, with 38 tackles and 64 assists totaling 102 total tackles.

Head coach Will Capps had high hopes for his team this season, with the addition of many new members to var-

sity. Dedicated and eager to learn they remained, with the help of Capps and his assistant coaches. Capps' "treat the game like a class" strategy benefited his team, who though they didn't always make the grade, were prepared for "the big test on Friday."

Bears tennis stopped in second round

■ San Marino proves too tough.

BY ALYSSA WYNNE,
SPORTS INTERN

DOWNEY – At the end of the San Gabriel Valley League tournament, Warren's girls' tennis team started their CIF tournaments with the first match against Millikan and then against San Marino.

Warren High qualified as a wild card team and played Millikan last Tuesday. After a long and strenuous match against Millikan, the Bears came out on top tying 9-9 but earning individual points of 74-71. In a previous match against this opponent, Warren fell short, earning a mere 16-2 loss.

Obviously, the ladies stepped up their game, and with the help of Nicole Kosakowski, they were able to step out on top and achieve their goal of winning.

The ladies then moved on to their second round Saturday against San Marino High School. This school located in the Rio Hondo division had a lot to offer to Warren and unfortunately, the ladies could not match the skill. They lost their match 16-2.

Now that Warren is no longer in the CIF matches, they have more time to focus on No. 1 singles player Nicole Kosakowski who has qualified for the individual CIF competition after winning the league tournament in her place. Kosakowski will be playing today.

Downey golfer advances to finals

DOWNEY – Downey High School senior Jonathan Strang went undefeated again this year to help the L.A. County Juniors win their regional qualifier at El Cariso Golf Course in Sylmar.

Strang won three junior tournaments over the summer but finished in second place, one stroke behind the winner in the PLGA Junior Boys Championship after shooting a 3-under par 69 at Mount Meadows Golf Club in September.

At El Cariso, Strang was paired with PLGA girls champion Arica Rodriguez, of Whittier, who made a number of long putts to secure their matches.

Strang and Rodriguez will next participate in the L.A. County/PLGA Partner's Cup Final to be held Sunday at Mountain Meadows. Four regional winners will go head-to-head.

The Partner's Cup is a yearly event that matches 20 men's club teams from the L.A. County Public Links Golf Association, including Downey's Los Amigos Men's Club, in a team match-play golf tournament. One of the teams is comprised of junior golfers from L.A. County.



Four Warren runners finished in the top 10 at a CIF preliminaries last Saturday at Mt. San Antonio College.

PHOTO BY ART MONTOYA

Moreno leads Warren to CIF finals

■ CIF finals tomorrow at Mt. SAC.

BY SCOTT COBOS,
STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY – Warren's Dani Moreno finished second in her race in the CIF Division I preliminaries on Saturday at Mt. San Antonio College, and Warren registered the second best team time in their heat, qualifying them for the finals tomorrow.

Moreno's 18:04 race time was only 11 seconds behind Catrina McAlister of Arcadia who won the race. Moreno's 6:01 mile pace was also second to McAlister's 5:58 pace.

In the race, Warren had four girls finish in the top 10 with Monique Diaz finishing fourth with an 18:22 race time, Melissa Quintero finishing seventh with an 18:31 race time, and Danielle Rodriguez finishing tenth with an 18:400 race time.

Warren's 92:45 team time was also one of the top times in their division, finishing only five seconds behind Dana Point's 92:45.

The team will race tomorrow at 9:45 a.m. at Mt. San Antonio College in the team finals against powerhouse programs such as Trabuco Hills and Great Oak.



Warren's Dani Moreno finished in second place Saturday.

PHOTO BY ART MONTOYA

Boys qualify for finals

DOWNEY – Warren High School's boys cross country team has advanced to CIF finals for the first time in school history.

The boys will compete tomorrow at Mt. SAC. The Bears qualified last week despite the absence of sophomore Omar Torres, the team's top runner, who was out with food poisoning, said coach Ramon Miranda.

"I was really proud of the way the other boys stepped up," Miranda said.

While the Warren girls will participate in their fifth CIF finals this decade, the boys have never made it this far.

The team is led by Torres, junior Christopher Enriquez and sophomore Alec Dominguez. –Eric Pierce

Downey, Warren both eliminated from playoffs

BY SCOTT COBOS,
STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY – Both Downey and Warren girls volleyball have been eliminated from the CIF playoffs.

At home, the Warren girls were able to eliminate Campbell Hall, beating them 25-21, 25-22, 17-25, 27-25. Being able to win the first two

sets helped Warren keep the momentum in their quarterfinal match and ultimately put away Campbell Hall for good.

Warren, however, was eliminated by Los Altos on Tuesday in the semifinals.

Downey, a team with high hopes and expectations this year, advanced to the quarterfinals but fell to Palm Springs, 25-22, 25-22, 25-22.

The straight sets loss elimi-

nated Downey and ultimately ended their season. The turning point for the Downey girls was the upset loss against Warren in their final game of the season.

With the loss, Downey had to split the league championship and was given the No. 2 seed in the CIF playoffs after tie breakers.

Downey water polo achieves goal, makes playoffs

■ But lose in opening round, 15-6.

BY JOSEPH APODACA,
SPORTS INTERN

DOWNEY – After losing 15-6 in the first round of CIF against Arroyo Grande, the Downey boys' water polo team completed their season achieving almost every goal they set out to achieve.

Under the direction of head coach Shaun Delhousay, the Vikings ended their season 3-2 in league and 12-13 for their overall season record.

Starting out fresh and turning a team of mostly new members into athletes were two things the Vikings succeeded in this season. Returning varsity veterans Serro Park, Derek Dodson, and Derek Klotzer continued to shine as standouts throughout the season, proving each game that they had what it took to start on varsity.

Klotzer reigned supreme as the team's sprint, who despite facing off against tough opponents managed to gain control of some of the toughest games by winning sprints.

Team captain Park stood out as a leader, leading the offense to the best of his abilities throughout the season. Dodson set a Downey school record this season with an impressive 126 total goals. As a junior, Dodson is well on his way to leading the team next year and setting a new school record.

New additions to varsity Juan

Rivas, Richard Gomez, Andrew Caero, and goalie Matthew Sims rounded out the starting lineup. It took Sims time to adjust to his new position as goalie, but as league games approached, he continued to improve. Rivas, Gomez, and Caero all contributed to scores often making unexpectedly against some of their toughest opponents.

Some of the varsity boys' strongest points of the season came from their offensive strategies. After struggling at times during the first half of games, the Vikings usually managed to turn everything around by communicating with each other and passing the ball around rather than going straight for a goal. Six-on-five plays benefited the team immensely, where they had more manpower and control of the game.

Defensively, the boys still managed to give it there all. Despite the new members not having the same amount of strength and experience of the season players, they held their own against physically aggressive teams, doing their best to defend the goal from shots.

While the team achieved their hopes in making it to the first round of CIF, their hopes of beating cross-town rival Warren came close, losing 7-6 at the latter half of the fourth quarter after previously beating the Bears 15-3.

The season may be over, but the training continues as a majority of the team will be participating in the swim season that is right around the corner starting in the spring.

St. Bonaventure too much for Vikings

■ Downey singles surprised by loss.

BY JOSEPH APODACA,
SPORTS INTERN

DOWNEY – In their first CIF tennis match of the season last Tuesday, Downey played St. Bonaventure and lost, 10-8.

"St. Bonaventure was a really strong team and a good team to play against," said No. 2 doubles player Christine Tran. "The loss was, of course, disappointing, but it was great just being able to go to CIF."

Many of the points that the team lacked came from the singles team. No. 1 player Sandra Lee earned her set scores of 5-7, 6-1, and 1-6. Lee was surprised to have lost against the her No. 3 ranked opponent but it is to be considered that she was tired after putting up a fight in her first two sets. No. 2 player Christina Arsenescu had set scores of 1-6, 6-0 and 0-6 and was also shocked to lose against the

player below her. No. 3 player Irene Saavedra's sets were similar to those of her teammates, 0-6, 6-0, and 1-6.

With No. 1 doubles partners Katie Medina and Janette Rico to the rescue, Downey was able to earn most of their points, 6-0, 6-1, and 6-0. Unfortunately, the remainder of the doubles team was not as lucky. No. 2 partners Caroline Tran and Tran had set scores of 5-7, 6-2 and 1-6 and No. 3 partners Claudia Guzman and Rosanna Calderon earned the scores of 1-6, 6-1, and 3-6. Once again, the ladies encountered a No. 3 ranked team that appeared to be better than each of the other players.

This loss in the first CIF round eliminates the ladies to advance to the next game and thus their season as a team is over.

However, Medina and Rico will be attending the individual CIF doubles matches after earning 2nd place in the San Gabriel Valley League Tournament last week. These matches will begin today.

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Euripides' Troades caters to Greek

BY HENRY VENERACION,
STAFF WRITER

Euripides' play, "Troades" (the Trojan Women), was performed at the Downey Theatre on Nov. 14 attended by nearly a full crowd of Greek Americans who came

from all corners of Los Angeles County and beyond.

It was the only performance in the Los Angeles area. The Leonidas Loizides Theatrical Group responsible for its U.S. tour had already cut a swath across selected parts of the country, and was on its final leg that started from Seattle, proceeding to Oregon, then San Francisco, then here to Downey.

San Diego was to be its last stop before going back home to its home base in Athens.

The Trojan Women is about the women and children of Troy, left husbandless and fatherless and without hope right after the end of the Trojan War.

The key characters in the play are Andromache, the wife of the slain Trojan hero, Hector, and the mother of the boy Astyanax who, as a further spiteful punishment by the Greeks, was soon flung to his death from the battlements; Cassandra, Priam and Hecuba's daughter who was given the gift (and curse) of prophecy (she foretold the fall of Troy, among other things, but no one believed her); Hecuba, king Priam's former queen, who bore 19 children, including Paris, Hector and Cassandra; Helen, "the

face that launched a thousand ships" and the cause of all the troubles that came before, during, and after the Trojan War; Thalthybius, herald of the Greeks; Menelaus, king of Sparta and husband of Helen who was abducted by Paris; and the chorus of captive Trojan women.

The one scene of the play was somewhere outside burning Troy with the wailing women awaiting embarkation to separate distant parts, the only sure thing the prospect of slavery or death at the hands of the victorious Greeks.

The play, as presented to U.S. audiences with music by composer Mikis Theodorakis (of Zorba the Greek fame) and translation by director Michael Kakoyiannis, was performed in (modern) Greek with English supertitles. This made for a very interesting situation. Anybody not conversant with Greek would naturally read the supertitles and hopefully catch the nuances of the actual drama being performed below eye level.

As it was, the whole play (which lasted about an hour and a half, which only means that the translation was tightly compressed) was one long and often loud lamentation: Andromache

bewailing her impending fate of becoming the slave and concubine of Neoptolemus, Achilles' son, as well as the sight of her son's mangled body; almost crazed Cassandra expressing her tearful grief at being claimed as Agamemnon's prize; and vengeful Hecuba's desperate cries welling from a sense of humiliation and utter loss of dignity after being allotted to Odysseus.

Otherwise the lamentations of the chorus (who essentially supplied the story's background and context), and of Hecuba, dominated the presentation. Only Helen didn't weep; she instead strongly argued her case with Menelaus that she was not to be blamed for so many deaths, and so her life was spared.

There were a number of English misspellings, but this didn't really sabotage the tone and flow of the story. All in all, it was a good show. To enjoy it, however, one must be familiar with the outlines at least of the Trojan War. And to fully enjoy it, one must know at least passable Greek.

The presentation in Downey was sponsored by the Los Angeles-based American Hellenic Society. Information: (323) 651-3507.

New Titles at the Downey City Library

Fiction

- **"Americans in Space"** by Mary E. Mitchell. Two years after she woke one morning to find her husband dead beside her, 36-year old Kate Cavanaugh is still mired in missing him, unable to move on with her life.
- **"Knit the Season"** by Kate Jacobs. The latest in the 'Friday Night Knitting Club' series is a story about the richness of family bonds and the joys of friendship.
- **"No Less Than Victory: a Novel of World War II"** by Jeff Shaara. The conclusion to Shaara's World War II trilogy vividly portrays the European war's last act, from the Battle of the Bulge to Germany's unconditional surrender--told through the viewpoints of the men at the top, including Eisenhower and Patton.
- **"To Desire a Devil"** by Elizabeth Hoyt. Bestselling author Hoyt delivers the final installment in her "Legend of the Four Soldiers" series.
- **"True Blue"** by David Baldacci. What begins as a fairly routine homicide investigation quickly turns into something complex and possibly lethal for Mace Perry--a former D.C. cop working gang narcotics--who is rebuilding her life after being framed and imprisoned for a crime.

Non-Fiction

- **"Alex and Me: How a Scientist and a Parrot Discovered a Hidden World of Animal Intelligence"** by Irene Pepperberg. From Alex's first words to his sudden death, "Alex & Me" tells the story of a delightful and mischievous parrot that rocked the scientific establishment. Yet his real story can't be found in any science journal--the story of a relationship.
- **"Andy Rooney: 60 Years of Wisdom and Wit"** by Andrew A. Rooney. Like Mark Twain and Will Rogers, Andy Rooney is a classic chronicler of America. This diverse collection brings together the best of more than a half-century of his work.
- **"Consequential Strangers: the Power of People Who Don't Seem to Matter...But Really Do"** by Melinda Blau and Karen Fingerman. Baristas, mechanics, coworkers--they populate everyone's day, but are often taken for granted. A psychologist and a journalist present the science of casual connection and chronicle the surprising impact on our lives.
- **"The Cost of Bad Behavior: How Incivility is Damaging Your Business and What to Do About It"** by Christine Pearson and Christine Porath. Two management professors argue that incivility in the workplace is not just a human resources problem: it has a financial cost.
- **"Is This Thing On? A Computer Handbook for Late Bloomers, Technophobes and the Kicking and Screaming"** by Abby Stokes. Do you feel like the only person on earth who hasn't mastered technology? This reassuring, straightforward guide introduces you to the wonders of using a computer.

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Marjorie Erwin services Monday

DOWNEY – Marjorie Erwin, a Downey resident for 50 years, passed away peacefully Nov. 14. She was 89.

She was born in Dearborn, Mich., and grew up in St. Joseph, MO before coming to Los Angeles in 1939.

She married Warren L. Erwin in 1942. They had three children and resided in Downey.

She was a secretary with the Downey Unified School District for 20 years before retiring in 1983 and moving to Torrance. She was an avid reader, gardener and traveler.

She is survived by a son, Mark (Janet) Erwin; daughters, Cathy (Jerry) Gillman and Laura (Forrest) Newhall; five grandchildren; and sisters, Helen Michalek, Carmen Valcour and Rita Sandburg.

A Rosary will be held Sunday at 7 p.m. at Rice Mortuary Chapel in Torrance. A memorial Mass is scheduled for 1 p.m. Monday at St. Lawrence Martyr Church in Redondo Beach. More information is available online at www.lafuneral.com.

In lieu of flowers, the family has requested donations to Providence Trinity Care Hospice Foundation, 2601 Airport Dr., Suite 230, Torrance, CA 90505.

Funeral services for Elenore Gasdia

DOWNEY—Elenore Lucille Gasdia, a longtime Downey resident and active member of the community, died Nov. 1. She was 84.



She was born June 9, 1925 in Los Angeles.

She lived in Downey for 56 years and was involved with the Assistance League of Downey, PEO (Philanthropic Educational Organization) and the Downey Community Hospital Auxiliary.

A memorial service will take place at 1 p.m. Tuesday at First Presbyterian Church of Downey. Pastor Candice Blankman will officiate. Burial will follow at Downey Cemetery.

Gasdia is survived by a brother, John Cairns, of Norco; son, Brian (Noreen) Gasdia; and four grandchildren, Kristin, Nicholas, Andrew and Jaclyn.

Miller-Mies Mortuary assisted with services.

Paul Riccobon was active in community

DOWNEY – Paul J. Riccobon, a former longtime resident of Downey, passed away Nov. 11 at St. Jude's Hospital in Fullerton after a short illness.



He was born May 2, 1920 in New York. He moved to California in 1946 with his wife Elizabeth and they settled in Downey in 1957, where they lived until Elizabeth passed away in 1998.

Riccobon established his own printing and office supply business, Riccobon & Co., in the Santa Fe Springs area. He was an active member of Downey Elks Lodge 2020, where he was a past exalted ruler. He was also active in his church, Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, and was involved with Rotary Club.

He ran for Downey City Council in the early 70s and later served on the city's board of Parks and Recreation.

An avid boater, he captained his boat, the "Carmen Maria," to many destinations, including Alaska and Mexico. Riccobon twice steered his boat to Hawaii as an escort vessel on the Trans-Pacific Yacht race.

He was a past commodore of the Fourth of July Yacht Club and belonged to the Long Beach Yacht Club.

In 1999, Riccobon married Dorothy Hynes and moved to La Habra Heights, where he became an active member of the Los Compadres Men's Club.

He is survived by his wife, Dorothy; four daughters, Jeannette Haberman, Susan Simon, Linda Martinelli and Lisa Garrison; son, Paul J.G. Riccobon; 15 grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. He is also survived by his wife's family, including daughters Tara and Cindy, daughter-in-law Connie, and five grandchildren.

Funeral services and interment will take place today at Queen of Heaven Chapel and Cemetery in Rowland Heights beginning at 11 a.m.

William Grant was longtime Elk

DOWNEY – William Lawson Grant, 83, passed away Nov. 14 in Downey with his family by his side.



He and his wife, Beverly, moved to Downey in 1950. They were involved in a variety of clubs and volunteer groups.

Grant was a member of the Hollywood Yacht Club and the United States Power Squadron the past 60 years and was the youngest district commander in their history. He was also a member of Downey Elks for 49 years.

He was in the printing industry and owned his own company for several years. He changed careers in the 1980s to be closer to his passion – the ocean – and became a tugboat captain for the L.A. Harbor, where he was licensed to bring in 100-ton ships.

He is survived by a son, Gary (Charleen) Grant, of Huntington Beach; a daughter, Rhonda (Mike) McConohy, of Dublin, Calif.; grandchildren, Danielle McConohy, of Dublin, and Chaz, Eric and Cara, of Huntington Beach.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Beverly Elain Grant.

Services were held yesterday at Miller-Mies Mortuary Chapel. He will be laid to rest next to his wife at Inglewood Park Cemetery in a private graveside service at a later date.

Razorback teams advance in playoffs

■ Playoffs continue tomorrow in Downey.

By Mike Baumann, Downey Youth Football

DOWNEY – The Downey Razorback youth tackle football teams faced difficult opposition in the second round of the Pacific Coast Conference playoffs last Saturday and three out of five teams are in contention for the championship game in two weeks.

The MityMite Razorbacks upset Lakewood 13-12 in the quarterfinal game. Connor Freire ran 15 yards for the Hogs' first score and Julian Velasquez added the PAT. Lakewood led at the half 12-7.

In the fourth quarter Velasquez scored on a 2-yard QB keeper for the winning score.

Downey's defensive team, led by Joshua Williams, Justin Cardenas, Andrew Talavera, Daren Marquez, Richard Suastegui, Julian Arellano and Matthew Gomez, shut down Lakewood the remainder of the game to ensure the victory.

The MityMites will play No. 1 seeded Santa Monica at 9 a.m. at Banning High School in the semifinal game Saturday.

The Lakewood Junior PeeWees, last year's champion MityMite team, shut out the Downey Junior PeeWees 20-0. The loss eliminated the Hogs from the playoffs.

The PeeWee Razorbacks advanced to the PCC semi-finals with a 6-0 victory over Gardena. The Hogs defense held Gardena twice in the first half with first and goal situations.

The D-line, led by Jesse Saenz, Sunny Gill, Anthony Campos, Fernando Vides, Manny Ramirez and Aaron Ramirez, held Gardena's running game all after-

noon. When the Mohicans tried to go to the air, outstanding plays by Jacob Diaz, Ian Sonico and Eddie Preciado did not allow a completion all day.

In the second half the Razorbacks' offensive line comprised of Beto Lara, Anthony Campos, John Boik, Joaquin Guerrero and Drew Gonzales made it easy for the Hogs to take control. With 9:00 left in the game, the Hogs took over on their own 25-yard line and began a seven minute drive. Ramirez and Preciado got two first downs in a row and a 40-yard run by Kiefer Enslin led to first and goal. Two plays later Enslin scored the game winner.

The PeeWee Hogs will play Long Beach tomorrow at 1 p.m. at Downey High School.

The undefeated Downey Junior Midget Razorbacks (9-0) won their quarter final PCC playoff game at Serra High School by thrashing the Gardena Mohicans 42-0. The win propelled the Hogs into the semi-final game against the Santa Monica Vikings Saturday at 3 p.m. at Downey High School.

Downey's wingbacks Justin Huff, Joshua Medina, Jelani Dozier-Jones and Miguel Esquinin and the Hog offensive line displayed a potent running attack which was no match for Gardena. Huff scored on a textbook double wing counter play of 35 yards in the first quarter to begin the scoring. Justin Commodore added the two point PAT.

In the second quarter, fine defensive plays by Jose Rosales Austin Espinosa, Joshua Palacios and Huff completely stifled the Mohicans. The Hog offense soon upped the tally with a 48-yard scamper by Huff.

When the Hog offense next took to the field, fullback Nicholas Luna had two nice runs to get the ball near midfield. Speedy Joshua Medina then tore off a 55 yard

sweep to make the score 20-0. Quarterback Rafael Rodriguez' toss to Anthony Menendez set up Medina's second touchdown, a run of 20 yards, making the score 26-0 at the half.

The intermission had no effect on the Razorbacks. The defense, led by ends Jonathan Haik and Espinosa, did not let up. In the final quarter, Dozier-Jones' interception set up what was the most spectacular play of the game, a 85-yard trap, in which Huff broke through a huge hole created by pulling guard Angel Luevanos, bowled over one defensive back at midfield, then outran the entire Gardena team.

The Downey Midgets encountered the No. 1 seed in the division

in facing the Tri-City (Harbor City, San Pedro, and Lomita) team. The Hogs were no match for the undefeated Falcons and lost 34-6. The Loss eliminates the Razorback Midgets from the playoffs.

On Sunday the Downey cheer-leading teams competed in their championships at the Pyramid in Long Beach. The MityMite cheerleaders (ages 7-9) placed third in the conference, the Junior Midgets also placed third, and the Midget cheer team came in second place in their division.

Downey Youth Football will be hosting a portion of the semifinal playoff games at Downey High School Saturday. The first kickoff is at 9 a.m.

Police search for missing man

DOWNEY – Police are searching for a 60-year-old Downey man with mental health issues who disappeared Saturday.

Family members took David Lewis from his adult day care facility for a trip to Downey Landing at about 11 a.m., police said.

At some point, Lewis became angry and walked away. He was last seen walking towards Lakewood Boulevard.

Lewis suffers from several mental health issues and has attempted to commit suicide before, family members said. He requires daily medication.

He is described as a white male, 6 ft. tall, 180 pounds, with gray hair and hazel eyes.

Anyone with information on Lewis' whereabouts is urged to call the Downey Police Department at (562) 904-2308.



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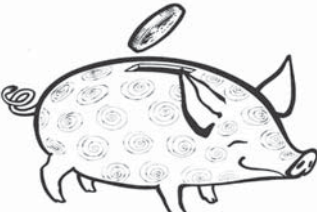
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Downey barefootin'

By Ben Platt

Can going barefoot at the park feel priceless? Can it bring the 'sweet life'? There's no ticket. I pay no sales tax or gratuity. No waiting in line for souvenirs, hot dogs or churros. I don't need a parking ticket, because my feet are my wheels. I do it alone, or with my girlfriend, Karolin, here more than anywhere else. Walk with me.

At Furman Park, doing the loop, see my face light up on the third lap. Near those tennis courts, hear my blackened feet pound a hard sandy path. Now look at that soft sea of green - I feel earth's energy shooting up its veins into my soles. Near the baseball diamonds, three 30 foot oak trees tower over us. I lean on the earth. Each step I take gets stronger, feels sharper - barefoot. Red sunsets turn crimson and yellow sunlight turns gold. Do the mockingbirds, sparrows and crows make an orchestra? Does the honeysuckle smell like love? My senses light up, turn on and burn. Tag it - priceless.

Shoes don't do service to earth's power. Barefoot, there's no insulation. I could step on a thorn or shard and feel the pain. Like real life and its challenges. But usually, my feet get tougher and so do I. Tag it - priceless.

Gallatin, in Downey, became the first school I went to that had grass. Before I went to Hamlin, in Los Angeles City Terrace - all blacktop. Nothing grew there, not even weeds. The air reeked of tar from a factory. I thank my dad. He got a teaching job here and I found a fresh new world - grass. I love Downey. Warm down-to-earth people here throw me hellos more than anywhere else I've lived. That's why my shoes come off here more. No one, no thing can take my light. They say if you want to feel wealthy, count the things you have that money can't buy. Going barefoot is one of mine.

Now I've counted three laps. A thin overcast sky serves up 68 degrees and I walk in my shirt-sleeves. A half-breed Dalmatian curses me a hundred times. A jogger who never lost his breath passes me five.

I walk tall, a growth of the earth like the three monster oak trees at Furman. I possess the earth, my personal endowment. My toes rub over new blades of crabgrass, Bermuda grass and yes - thorns too. Earthworms, ants and gophers belong to me. I own the grass and that moment as much as Kobe Bryant, Bill Gates or the President would if they walked with me. No one could fill those seconds more fully than I. You lasted three laps with me for some reason. Call it whatever you want, I tag it - priceless.

Holiday Helpers

Recipes for the Season

FAMILY FEATURES

The holidays are upon us, which means not only are you preparing those huge meals, but you also have an endless stream of other fun and festive get-togethers with hungry guests. To help you whip up those extra special dishes during the holidays, the folks at Carnation have created some rich and creamy holiday recipes.

For the early birds in your family, try Eggnog-Spiced French Toast. The added touch of eggnog spices puts just the right holiday touch on traditional French toast.

To use those leftovers, try Turkey & Cranberry Encore Salad - the combination of the uniquely creamy cranberry dressing along with fresh greens and succulent turkey make the perfect post-holiday entrée. You'll be happy for the leftovers.

Fun Mexi-Meatball Kabobs are party perfect and easy to prepare. Use skewers to make them easy to eat.

Want to be a hit at the next potluck buffet? Bring along this perfect bake and take dish, Loaded Potato Potluck Favorite. It gets its creamy texture from Carnation Evaporated Milk, which is fondly referred to as "The Cooking Milk." Did you know you can substitute it for drinking milk in any of your favorite recipes?

These rich and creamy recipes are perfect for any entertaining you'll be doing this holiday season. Find even more recipes at TheCookingMilk.com.



Eggnog-Spiced French Toast



Loaded Potato Potluck Favorite



Turkey & Cranberry Encore Salad



Mexi-Meatball Kabobs

Eggnog-Spiced French Toast

Makes 4 servings

- 2 large eggs
- 1 can (12 fluid ounces) Nestlé Carnation Evaporated Milk
- 2 tablespoons granulated sugar
- 2 teaspoons rum extract
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/4 teaspoon ground nutmeg
- 8 slices (1/2-inch-thick) firm, day-old bread, *divided*
- Nonstick cooking spray
- Powdered sugar
- Maple syrup (optional)

BEAT eggs, evaporated milk, sugar, rum extract, cinnamon and nutmeg in shallow dish until well blended. Place 4 slices bread into egg mixture turning over to evenly moisten both sides.

MEANWHILE, spray large skillet with nonstick cooking spray; heat over medium heat. Transfer prepared bread to skillet in single layer. Cook for 3 minutes on each side or until golden brown. Remove slices to serving platter. Repeat with remaining bread slices, spraying skillet with cooking spray if necessary. Sprinkle with powdered sugar. Serve immediately with syrup.

Loaded Potato Potluck Favorite

Makes 16 servings

- 8 medium potatoes (about 2 1/2 to 3 pounds total), peeled and cut into 1-inch chunks
- 1 cup Nestlé Carnation Evaporated Milk
- 1/2 cup sour cream
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon ground black pepper
- 2 cups (8-ounce package) shredded cheddar cheese, *divided*
- 6 slices bacon, cooked and crumbled, *divided*
- Sliced green onions (optional)

PLACE potatoes in large saucepan. Cover with water; bring to a boil. Cook over medium-high heat for 15 to 20 minutes or until tender; drain.

PREHEAT oven to 350°F. Grease 2 1/2- to 3-quart casserole dish.

RETURN potatoes to saucepan; add evaporated milk, sour cream, salt and pepper. Beat with hand-held mixer until smooth. Stir in 1 1/2 cups cheese and half of bacon. Spoon mixture into prepared casserole dish. BAKE for 20 to 25 minutes or until heated through. Top with remaining 1/2 cup cheese, remaining bacon and green onions. Bake for an additional 3 minutes or until cheese is melted.

Turkey & Cranberry Encore Salad

Makes about 8 servings

DRESSING

- 2/3 cup (5-fluid-ounce can) Nestlé Carnation Evaporated Milk
- 1/2 cup jellied or whole-berry cranberry sauce
- 1/4 cup Italian salad dressing

SALAD

- 1 bag (10 ounces) mixed salad greens of your choice (about 10 cups)
- 2 cups (about 10 ounces) cooked turkey, cut into 1/2-inch pieces
- 1/2 cup (2 ounces) crumbled blue cheese
- 1/3 cup dried sweetened cranberries
- 1/2 cup chopped toasted walnuts (optional)

FOR DRESSING: PLACE evaporated milk, cranberry sauce and Italian dressing in small jar or container; cover tightly with lid. Shake for 1 to 2 minutes. Makes about 1 1/2 cups. (Dressing can be made in advance and refrigerated for up to 2 days. Shake well before using.)

FOR SALAD: TOSS greens, turkey, blue cheese and 3/4 cup dressing in large bowl. Sprinkle with cranberries and walnuts. Serve immediately and with additional dressing, if desired. Refrigerate any remaining dressing.

Mexi-Meatball Kabobs

Makes 30 servings, 2 skewers each

- Nonstick cooking spray
- 3 pounds lean ground beef
- 2 cups quick oats
- 1 can (12 fluid ounces) Nestlé Carnation Evaporated Milk
- 2 large eggs
- 1/2 cup ketchup
- 2 packets (1.25 ounces each) taco seasoning mix
- 1 teaspoon ground black pepper
- 3 large bell peppers (any color), cut into 60, 1-inch pieces
- 60 4-inch wooden skewers
- Salsa and sour cream (optional)

PREHEAT oven to 350°F. Foil-line 3 baking sheets and spray with nonstick cooking spray.

COMBINE ground beef, oats, evaporated milk, eggs, ketchup, taco seasoning and black pepper in large bowl until just mixed. Form mixture into 120, 1-inch meatballs. Place on prepared baking sheets.

BAKE for 15 to 20 minutes or until no longer pink in center. Drain on paper towels, if needed.

THREAD two meatballs and one piece of pepper on each skewer. Place on large serving platter. Serve with salsa and sour cream.

To get your free Carnation "Holiday Houseful" Recipe Guide (while supplies last), go to TheCookingMilk.com.



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Downey-Warren Faculty Basketball

Downey 61, Warren 53

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