

# The Downey Patriot



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Friday, April 2, 2010

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



## For Livas, preparation meets opportunity

BY HENRY VENERACION,  
STAFF WRITER

If Gilbert Livas were a numerologist, he'd have a field day with the number "7". In the admittedly charmed existence he finds himself today, the number keeps cropping up.

Consider this: he is the 7th child (of 10 children), born on the 7th day of the 7th month and, barring any cataclysmic event, slated to become the 7th city manager of Downey in 2012.

And, oh, he hitched his wagon to Downey's star in '07. This was the year he turned down offers to become a city manager in two neighboring cities and instead chose to become the city of Downey's community development director, something not ordinarily done in the scheme of things.

But he said he based his decision on a number of factors: 1) having worked in his chosen field of community development for over 20 years in both the private and public sectors, he knew Downey has always been regarded as belonging in the top tier of L.A. county's 88 cities; 2) he knew current city manager Gerald Caton's reputation as "one of the best city managers around" and he couldn't pass up an opportunity to "learn from somebody who's been in the business of governing a city for a long time"; 3) "Besides my wife's family lives here, and I have friends here, so I've always had a connection with Downey."

Three years on the job, since last January as assistant city manager of Downey, haven't dimmed his vision, Livas said: "Even while I was serving in Bell Gardens a second time as community development director before I came to Downey in 2007, I knew I was capable of being a city manager somewhere. Now I'm here, doing something that's very fulfilling. I love my work. But this is beyond my wildest dreams, and I must admit that, rough patches and all, it's been quite a beautiful journey."

His parents, who still reside in Highland Park, taught him the virtue of hard work. His father was a cabinet maker, his mother a stay-at-home mom. Things didn't come easy. Livas worked his way through high school and college. During these times he wrestled and played "some baseball."

In 1988, he graduated from UCLA ("I was the first in the family

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## Space Center hosts VIP guest

■ Astronaut Jose Hernandez visits Space Center, takes questions from kids.

BY HENRY VENERACION,  
STAFF WRITER

**DOWNEY** – Summing up his space trip as the flight engineer in the STS-128 Discovery shuttle mission to the International Space Station Aug. 28-Sept. 11, 2009, visiting NASA astronaut Jose Hernandez said, "It was just an amazing experience."

Hernandez, who acknowledged his humble beginnings and said he didn't learn how to speak English until he was 12 but later earned a master's in electrical and computer engineering in 1986 from UC-Santa Barbara on a full scholarship, was a guest speaker Monday at the Columbia Memorial Space Center.

He obtained his bachelor of science degree in electrical engineering in 1984 from the University of the Pacific, which in 2006 conferred on him an honorary doctorate.

The visit coincided with the center's student volunteer recruitment day, with the center actively seeking student volunteers to assist in its science- and space-oriented programs and activities.

"The recruitment was successful," said executive director Jon Betthausen. "We are looking at some five to six very good candidates right now. This is just a start, so we hope to have more."

Another special guest was Rep. Lucille Roybal-Allard (D-34), who, before she introduced Hernandez to the collection of officials and parents who came along with their kids, briefly recounted Downey's rich aerospace history and said, "I'm glad to see the kids with their parents today."

Saying he was honored to be present at the event and likewise complimenting the city ("This place is unique"), State Assemblyman Hector de la Torre sounded the day's dominant theme



Jose Hernandez, an astronaut onboard the STS-128 Discovery space shuttle, toured the Columbia Memorial Space Center on Monday.

PHOTO COURTESY CITY OF DOWNEY

of early hardships and eventual achievement as he recounted how his parents from Mexico didn't have a college education either, but he was able to get one and got elected to the state legislature.

"All this because of education," he said.

The youngest of four children and growing up in a migrant farming family from Mexico, astronaut Hernandez recalled his childhood: "We traveled 'the California circuit', gong from Mexico to southern California each March, then working northward to the Stockton area by November, picking strawberries and cucumbers at farms along the route. Then we would return to Mexico for Christmas, and start the cycle all over again come spring."

Born in 1962 in French Camp, California, Hernandez considers Stockton, CA to be his hometown. Hernandez said it took years from the time he dreamt of actually becoming an astronaut to when he

was selected (out of an initial roster of 100 aspirants) for the astronaut training program in 2004. More years of training were to follow until "I finally went into space" in 2009. (His inspiration was Franklin Chang-Diaz, the first Hispanic-American chosen to travel into space, whom he was later to meet face-to-face as he was being interviewed for the program).

"My first view of earth from space gave me an incredible feeling," he said, noting how thin the atmosphere is that surrounds planet earth. "We really have to take care of it."

Also, if our leaders can go up there and see that our continents are connected, I'm sure there'll be less conflict in this world." He said the same thing when he was a guest of Oprah.

In the Q & A that followed, Hernandez patiently fielded questions mostly from the young ones. To the question, "What was the scariest part of the space flight?,"

he said it was the blast-off when he had to cope with the increased G-force. Asked if he saw any space debris out in space, Hernandez answered in the affirmative and at one point the crew had to maneuver the space shuttle to avoid a potential threat. What food did you eat? "We ate dehydrated food, just like camping food."

And so it went, with Hernandez pointing out the awesome fact that among the activities the STS-128 mission conducted were doing three spacewalks and transferring over 18,000 pounds of supplies and equipment to the orbiting station, all accomplished in 217 orbits of the earth, traveling over 5.7 million miles in 332 hours and 53 minutes, finally landing at Edwards Air Force Base due to weather conditions.

His message to the kids: "If I can do it, you can do it, too. Go after your dream and back it up with a good education."



## Mayor hopeful despite 'tough times'

■ Mayor Anne Bayer uses State of the City address to express hope, optimism.

BY CHRISTIAN BROWN,  
STAFF WRITER

**DOWNEY** – On a sunny, spring afternoon last Friday, Mayor Anne Bayer encouraged city officials, community members and local business leaders to remain hopeful despite a sluggish economic recovery for the city and its residents alike.

Dozens of residents were present at Rio Hondo Event Center as Bayer shared a brief State of the City address, highlighting forthcoming projects from each city department as well as acknowledging Downey's current economic outlook.

"It's tough times out there for businesses and people," said Bayer who shared that the city's unemployment rate hovers near 10.7 percent. "Sales tax is down and the [city] hiring freeze is still in place, but we're doing better than the county and better than the state."

With layoffs and furloughs becoming the norm in many city governments across the state, Bayer praised both current and past city staff members who doubled the city's general fund reserves that have sustained city services and jobs since the economic downturn.

"We are doing fabulous in a time that's not so fabulous," Bayer said. "It's because we have good people living here supporting our businesses."

Though optimistic, Bayer said more budget cuts might have to be made if the city's economy continues to lag.

In addition to city finances, Bayer also acknowledged many new features and programs that will be unveiled by the city including the use of automatic license plate recognition technology by the Downey Police Department.

After recognizing Fresh and Easy Neighborhood Market and Porto's Bakery, which are expected to open this year, Bayer did comment on Tesla Motors, applauding the automakers' most recent steps towards opening a 51 acre plant on the former NASA site.

Bayer also highlighted the city's revamped website, which launched on Thursday.

## Looking back on... Downey Ford

BY CHRISTIAN BROWN,  
STAFF WRITER

**DOWNEY** – Today, while leading car companies slowly stagger out of bankruptcy and dubious automakers continue closing unprofitable dealerships from coast to coast, it might be hard to imagine a time when cars cycled out of dealerships almost as soon as they arrived, but in the 1960s and 70s, that was the reality, especially in Downey.

From Sachs and Sons Lincoln-Mercury to Paramount Chevrolet, Downey could boast an elite class of auto dealerships that all enjoyed record car sales in the decades following World War II.

Like many dealerships during that time, local businessmen owned and operated the majority of Downey's car dealerships, relying on sales from community members and commercial businesses.

Downey Ford, located on the corner of Lakewood Boulevard and Gallatin Road, is a prime example of a family-owned car dealership that grew from obscurity to

become a competitive 21st century dealership until its closure last year.

Downey Ford's history begins with a man named James H. "Dutch" Kindelberger. Chairman of the Board of North American Aviation from 1948-1962, Kindelberger is credited as one of America's greatest pioneers in aviation and aerospace technology. Kindelberger's contributions, along with those of other pioneers, helped put the first man into space.

In 1948, Ford Motor Company executive Ernest Breech, while visiting with Kindelberger, told him Ford's plan to release a new model car that would be a huge commercial success.

"Too bad you're not in the car industry," said Breech.

To which Kindelberger responded, "why not?"

Soon after their meeting, Kindelberger invested in two small dealers, one in Downey named Burns Ford and another in downtown Long Beach.

The 1949 Ford was released the following year with a sleek, fresh



PHOTO COURTESY JIM GRAHAM

Downey Ford, as seen in this 1958 photo, relied on sales from community members and commercial businesses.

design that was indeed very successful with American consumers; however, Kindelberger continued to focus on aviation.

While Kindelberger managed North American Aviation, his son-in-law, Ralph Graham, began developing an interest in Burns Ford. In 1951, Graham, a WWII

veteran and mechanical engineer, began working at Burns Ford with Mel Burns in Downey.

Two years later, Kindelberger decided to make a deal with Burns and Graham and Burns purchased Kindelberger's dealership in Long

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## Ford: 1980s recession was a turning point.

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Beach, while Graham remained at the Downey dealership, which was located on Firestone Blvd. between Paramount Blvd. and Old River School Rd.

Graham named his new dealership Graham Ford and operated it from this Firestone Blvd lot until 1956. That same year, Graham received a proposal from the owners of Sachs and Sons to relocate Graham Ford to Lakewood and Gallatin, adjacent to other dealerships to help draw more customers.

Graham agreed to the plan and in 1956, after a persimmon grove was removed, the Ford dealership relocated to its current location where it has resided for more than half a century. Now closer to the Santa Ana Freeway, Graham Ford's business began to flourish along with its neighbors Sachs and Sons Lincoln-Mercury and Yeakel Plymouth-Chrysler.

Looking to humble his successful son-in-law, Kindelberger in 1957 suggested that he change the name of the dealership to Downey Ford or Downey Auto Center. Obediently, the name Graham was dropped from the buildings and Downey Ford was added.

"Downey Ford was a money machine in the 60s and 70s - that corner became the Cerritos Auto Square of the 1970s," said Jim Graham, son of Ralph Graham and grandson of Dutch Kindelberger.

"That dealership was always profitable. We sold in total about 120,000 new and used cars and trucks while we were there."

After graduating from college in the 70s, Jim Graham came back to Downey Ford to work with his father until his death in October 1986.

In the early 80s, Downey Ford experienced one of its first major stumbling blocks as the economy began to sour and recession lingered. As local industrial plants in South Gate, Commerce and Pico Rivera began to close and workers were let go, Downey Ford began to lose revenue.

"All these big employers closed," said Graham, president of Downey Ford until 1997. "Business got better but it did not return as much as it had been in the 70s and I realized that every time the economy cycled down it did not seem to come back as high as it had been."

With this in mind, Jim Graham after attempting to move the dealership to a neighboring city, decided to build a new Ford facility in Rancho Santa Margarita and sell the Downey property to two partners, one of which was Bob Remy.

"I couldn't own Downey Ford and this place [Rancho Santa Margarita Ford]," said Graham who is now president of Rancho Santa Margarita Ford. "But I want-



Graham Ford in 1957.

PHOTO COURTESY JIM GRAHAM

ed to move - I always saw Downey Ford as my dad's business, not mine."

On Jan. 18, 2009, Downey Ford, while owned by Remy, closed and 63 employees were let go after Ford Motor Company shut down hundreds of its dealerships following its bankruptcy.

Nevertheless, Jim Graham keeps his father's legacy alive as black and white photos of his father and Downey Ford line the walls of his Rancho Santa Margarita Ford dealership.

"My dad was a great guy. He

taught me a lot and I miss him a lot," said Graham. "He was lucky enough to be in the right place at the right time. The car business was expanding. He was trained as a mechanical engineer, but it turned out that he was a good businessman too."

Although closed, Downey Ford will be remembered as one of several powerhouse car dealerships in the city that sold thousands of vehicles to the growing number of middle class families settling into an evolving suburban Los Angeles County.



PHOTO BY ERIC PIERCE

Gilbert Livas, speaking at the Porto's Bakery groundbreaking in November, is slated to become Downey's seventh city manager in 2012.

## Livas: 'What gets measured gets done.'

Continued from page 1

to go to a university") with a bachelor of arts degree in political science ("I love history") with a major in international relations, with thoughts of entering the foreign service. But he disabused himself of the idea when he figured being assigned to foreign posts might be rough if he was to want to raise a family.

He attended the LBJ School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas in Austin on a scholarship, but after about a year, he decided to come home to California "because I was in love." He would of course eventually marry his inamorata, Hedy (who's a legal secretary), but not before he earned a master's in public administration at CSU-Long Beach and working, first, as a private consultant and starting his public service career by working for the city of Bell Gardens initially in the redevelopment area.

"She is the foundation of our family," he said of wife Hedy. "My daughter Anissa, who's 16, attends La Serna High School in Whittier (where the family resides), while our son Gabriel, who's 12, goes to St. Mark's in Hacienda Heights."

"I'm very, very lucky," he said. "I have good parents, a good family, a good wife, good kids. My family is my real pride and joy. I'm truly blessed."

"Believe me, Downey is really a well-run city," Livas said. "We have a great City Council, a great city administration, a great staff to work with. I consider it of critical importance, granted that we first take care of the essentials, safety, public works, community development, community services, and so on, how we treat the public. And thus the importance of customer service."

"A lot of what I do now is help the city manager implement the courses of action mandated by Council policy and those naturally arising from day-to-day functional demands. In this, in interacting with Council and the department heads, effective communication is key. I see myself as a conduit

between these elements, but ready to offer new thoughts and ideas to further Gerry's programs. Because of my background, I can contribute my inputs while he's still here."

"The idea of a Bob's Big Boy or a BJ's or Potro's or hopefully Tesla," Livas continued, "is to enable the city to provide, say, dining and entertainment options downtown. This will bring in tax dollars. It's economic development in action, in that it provides resources such as a strong public safety component. We're fortunate we have a great management staff and we've practiced fiscal responsibility, and thus despite the tight budget environment, we've been able to provide the public with a high level of service. I believe the economy is bottoming out, and we can look forward to a gradual upturn."

Livas expressed a predilection for management by objectives, empowering people to be able to get things done. "Give them responsibility," he said, "but also the authority to carry it out and holding them accountable for it. I'm very goal-oriented. What gets measured gets done."

Lucky? Blessed? What else can you say about Livas? Have you noticed how many letters there are in "Gilbert"?

## Networking at Bob's Big Boy

**DOWNEY** - Two speakers have been lined up for the April 13 meeting of Rise 'N Shine Networking at Bob's Big Boy in Downey.

Dr. Joel Bird of Advanced Wellness and Chiropractic and Jim Panthaki of Mutual of Omaha Insurance Company will speak at the meeting, which offers members of the local business community an opportunity to network.

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

For details, call the Chamber of Commerce at (562) 923-2191.

## Student aid bill OK'd by House

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** - Rep. Lucille Roybal-Allard joined her congressional colleagues in voting in support of sweeping legislation she says will make college more affordable for students and their families.

The legislation was part of a package of adjustments to the health insurance reform legislation signed into law on March 23.

The Student Aid and Fiscal Responsibility Act was included in the Senate amendments to health care reform. The legislation passed the House by a vote of 220-207.

It now heads to President Obama for his signature.

The Student Aid and Fiscal Responsibility Act will boost Pell Grant Scholarships, keep interest rates on student loans affordable and create "a more reliable and effective financial aid system for families - and at no cost to taxpayers," Roybal-Allard said in a statement.

"The Student Aid and Fiscal Responsibility Act expands affordable, quality, educational opportunities for students in our country. The legislation increases the maximum Pell Grant scholarship, strengthens community colleges and training programs, significantly increases government college grant assistance

and lowers monthly student loan payments for borrowers with modest incomes," the congresswoman said. "Making sure our young people have the ability to attend college or get career training is a critical step toward rebuilding the American economy and ensuring that our country's workforce remains strong and competitive for many years to come."

According to information provided by Roybal-Allard's office, the new legislation will:

- Invest \$36 billion over 10 years to increase the maximum annual Pell Grant scholarship to \$5,550 in 2010 and to \$5,975 by 2017. Starting in 2013, the scholarship will be linked to match rising costs-of-living by indexing it to the Consumer Price Index. This includes an investment of \$13.5 billion to fund a shortfall in the Pell Grant program due to increased demand for the scholarship.

- Invest \$750 million to bolster college access and completion support for students. It will increase funding for the College Access


Challenge Grant program, and will also fund innovative programs at states and institutions that focus on increasing financial literacy and helping retain and graduate students.

- Make federal loans more affordable for borrowers to repay by investing \$1.5 billion to strengthen an income-based repayment program that currently allows borrowers to cap their monthly federal student loan payments at 15 percent of their discretionary income. These new provisions would lower this monthly cap to 10 percent for new borrowers after 2014.

- Invest \$2.55 billion in historically black colleges and universities and minority-serving institutions, including \$100 million per year for 10 years for Hispanic-serving institutions, to provide students with support to stay in school and graduate. Hispanic-serving institutions are defined as public or private nonprofit institutions of higher education with at least 25 percent ore more Hispanic student enrollment. Local Hispanic-serving schools with students from the 34th Congressional District include Cal State L.A., East Los Angeles College and Cerritos College.

- Invest \$2 billion in a competitive grant program for community colleges to develop and improve educational or career training programs.

According to the Congressional Budget Office, the legislation will save taxpayers \$61 billion over 10 years. The savings generated by switching to the cheaper Direct Loan program will be redirected to fully pay for the federal funding increases to the other educational programs.



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Proceeds from this event benefit scholarships for women and youth and our local community organizations  
 check us out [www.sidn.caminorealregion.org](http://www.sidn.caminorealregion.org)



## Egg hunts Saturday at parks

**DOWNEY** – Children up to age 12 are invited to Downey parks tomorrow to participate in free activities, including egg hunts, crafts and face-painting.

The Easter Bunny will also be available for photos. Visitors should bring their own cameras.

Apollo, Dennis the Menace, Furman and Golden parks will host the fun from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. The egg hunts begin at 11:30 a.m.

The event is made possible by a \$1,000 donation from Downey Los Amigos Kiwanis and volunteers from the Miss Downey and Miss Teen court, Volunteers, Downey Police Explorers and employees from the Starbucks at Downey Landing.

For more information, call (562) 904-7238.



PHOTO COURTESY CITY OF DOWNEY

Children can enjoy arts and crafts, face-painting and egg hunts at several local parks tomorrow.

## Lions Club installing first officers

**DOWNEY** – The Downey Lions Club will install its new charter officers at a gala event April 15 at the Rio Hondo Event Center.

Cindy Galindo will be installed as president. Other officers include Elliott Bradley, first vice president; Connie Coll, second vice president; Leonard Zuniga, secretary; Pam Powers, treasurer; Jeannie Wood, lion tamer; and Nancy Barrera, tail twister.

The Downey Lions Club recently formed and has enrolled more than 20 members. Some of their future projects include emergency preparedness, youth leadership, and the helping the blind and visually-impaired.

Other projects will be considered as the club grows, officials said.

The Downey Lions Club is currently being sponsored by the Bellflower Noon Lions and the Whittier Host Lions clubs.

The Downey Lions Club meets the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month at 5:30 p.m. at Café N Stuff in Downey.

Membership is open to all members of the community.

For more information on becoming a member or attending the April 15 gala, call Sandy Esslinger at (310) 491-8989.

## Animal shelters open Sunday

**DOWNEY** – Los Angeles County animal shelters will be open Easter Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The shelters recently expanded their Sunday hours and will open on Easter “to accommodate families looking for a new pet.”

“Opening on Sundays gives us an additional opportunity to showcase the many wonderful animals at our shelters,” said department director Marcia Mayeda.

The Downey shelter is at 11258 S. Garfield Ave.

## Blood drive Monday

**DOWNEY** – Downey Regional Medical Center will host a blood drive Monday from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. to benefit the American Red Cross.

The blood drive will take place in Conference Room B, located in the hospital basement.

To register, go to [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) and enter sponsor code “dowreg.” Appointments are also accepted by calling (562) 904-5321.

## Story of the Yiddish language

**DOWNEY** – Old wives’ tales will be discussed when the Ezra Center for Mature Adults meets April 20 at Temple Ner Tamid in Downey.

Ann Nanes, founder of the Yiddish Club at the Ezra Center in Anaheim, will entertain with stories and anecdotes about Jewish life and the Yiddish language as it once was and is now being rediscovered in the 21st century.

The program begins at 10:30 a.m. and is open to the public. A catered kosher lunch will be served at 12 p.m. Cost is \$6 for Ezra members and \$7 for non-members.

For more information, call Miriam Brookfield at (562) 943-3170.

## Easter Bunny at Stonewood

**DOWNEY** – The Easter Bunny will be at Stonewood Center until tomorrow for photos with children.

The Easter Bunny will post for photos from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., with scheduled breaks from 1:15 to 2 p.m. and 5:15 to 5:45 p.m.

For more information, including photo pricing, go online to [www.shopstonewoodcenter.com](http://www.shopstonewoodcenter.com).

# Drug bust linked to Mexico

Downey narcotics unit confiscates 100 pounds of heroin linked to Jose Antonio Medina.

By ERIC PIERCE, CITY EDITOR

**DOWNEY** – Downey narcotics officers played an integral role in the arrest of Mexican druglord Jose Antonio Medina, captured March 23 in the western Mexican state of Michoacan, law enforcement officials have announced.

Medina, who is currently awaiting extradition to the U.S., had a “major distributor” in Downey, Downey police officials said.

Narcotic officers from the Downey Police Department seized approximately 100 pounds of heroin, 40 pounds of methamphetamine and an undisclosed amount of U.S. currency.

The local seizures were made at different locations in Downey, said Lt. Phil Rego of the Downey Police Department.

At a news conference in Ventura on Monday, authorities said wiretaps and surveillance led to two “midlevel” dealers in Downey and Oxnard with direct ties to Medina, who is known in Mexico as the “King of Heroin.”

Medina, nicknamed “Don PePe,” was the subject of a U.S. law enforcement investigation dating back to December 2006. Medina and his drug trafficking organization is alleged to have supplied “substantial quantities” of heroin and methamphetamine to dealers in Los Angeles and Ventura counties, San Jose and San Francisco, Oakland, and parts of Oregon and Washington.

The investigation has yielded more than 50 arrests thus far, authorities said, along with the seizure of 278 pounds of tar heroin, 47 pounds of methamphetamine, four pounds of cocaine, “numerous” weapons and nearly \$304,000 cash.

Downey’s Narcotics Unit is led by Sgt. Gil Toledo.



PHOTO COURTESY EPA

Jose Antonio Medina, known as the “King of Heroin” in Mexico, was arrested March 23. He allegedly had a major distributor in Downey.

## Crime Report

### Thursday, March 25

At 4:20 p.m., Downey officers assisted the Bell Gardens Police Department with apprehending two males wanted in connection with a shooting in their city. The suspects were taken into custody and a firearm was recovered from inside the suspects’ vehicle.

### Saturday, March 27

At 3:00 a.m., officers arrested a 17 year-old male Downey resident after he was seen vandalizing a car with spray paint in the 9300 block of Washburn. He was booked for vandalism and later released to his parents.

At 2:15 p.m., officers arrested a 22 year-old male Downey resident after he assaulted his 17 year-old sister at their apartment in the 11700 block of Coldbrook. The suspect resisted arrest, but was restrained by officers who then took him into custody. The suspect was booked for assault and resisting arrest.

### Sunday, March 28

At 8:30 a.m., it was discovered that Gallatin Elementary School had been burglarized after someone noticed two computer monitors lying on the grass inside the school ground. No suspects were located, but detectives are investigating.

At 9:30 a.m., a local resident discovered an attempted burglary at Griffith’s Middle School. Investigators located eight (8) classrooms with signs of an attempted break-in, but it did not appear that the suspect(s) had gained entrance to any of the rooms. Detectives are investigating.

At 10:40 a.m., officers arrested a 32 year-old male resident of Bell for burglary after he was caught breaking into a garage in the 11500 block of Adco. The suspect was later transported to the Los Angeles County Jail.

### Tuesday, March 30

At 9:00 p.m., officers responded to the 8200 block of Puritan regarding an individual who had injured himself while illegally discharging a rifle inside his garage. The suspect was transported to a local hospital for medical treatment. The suspect is facing a criminal charge of negligently discharging a firearm.

Courtesy Downey Police Department

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 See you March 26, 2011



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## Letters to the Editor:

### Arc Walk's success

Dear Editor:

Our step-granddaughter is in the Arc program. My family and I walked the three miles to support the program.

To tell you this is a well-organized affair is to say the least. They really know how to put on a program.

A very big thank-you to all the volunteers, to all the young people from the two high schools and middle schools, to the police department, fire department and to Acapulco restaurant for a very nice breakfast, and to anyone else I may have omitted.

Thanks again to everyone involved in putting this together.

— **Angela Crowe,**  
Downey

### Obamacare

Dear Editor:

Today, insurance companies have to set aside 65 percent for claims and 45 percent for salaries, administration costs, etc. Obamacare will require they set aside 85 percent for claims, leaving just 15 percent for salaries, administration costs and taxes, which will virtually wipe out private insurance companies and force us to buy government insurance.

Some say they will move to Costa Rica with doctors and hospitals who refuse to accept the 21 percent cut in Medicare payments and more taxes.

There are as many as three times more people who have survived cancer and other major operations in the U.S. than in Canada and other countries. With tens of thousands of our doctors and hospitals closing, where will we find quality treatment then?

Eighty-four hospitals closed in 2009 before Obamacare, how many will close because of it?

Like they say, if it isn't broken, fixing it will make it worse, as we will see.

— **James Hawkins,**  
Downey

### Who's teaching who?

Dear Editor:

As a parent of a small child, I took great offense to the content of the article "Gallatin Kids Learn Benefits of Green" (3/26/10) in which the author states that the goal of the pilot program authorized by the City Council and DUSD superintendent is to "empower Downey students to teach their parents about the significant environmental benefits of reusable shopping bags."

So let me get this straight: Our local government officials think it is appropriate to indoctrinate our children into a way of thinking that our kids are then supposed to teach us parents at home? This sentiment reeks of – dare I say it – Nazi tactics.

It's a parent's job to teach their kids, not the other way around. Why doesn't the city spend the money trying to teach adults about the benefits of reusable bags? Because adults know how inconvenient reusable bags are to the average, stressed out working parent who has a million things to do every day and can't always remember to have their children bring everything they need to school, much less grabbing a handful of reusable grocery bags to take to the store. Besides, who says plastic bags aren't reusable? I use them to clean up after my dog on walks and to take my lunch to work.

I'm very disappointed in the Downey leadership that thought this would make a good pilot program to expand into DUSD schools.

— **Alaina Niemann,**  
Downey

### Community spirit

Dear Editor:

As I read that Citizens for Downey disbanded (3/12/10), I felt sorry as we lost another asset of Downey's integrity and ethical foundation that is slipping away.

While I was not an active member of Citizens for Downey, I had the honor of meeting and knowing many of them during my campaign for City Council in 2008. In spite of the fact that many of them were supporting another candidate running for the same seat I was seeking, I still admired their commitment, loyalty and care to keep Downey beautiful, safe and friendly while reserving its integrity.

One of the reasons their membership declined is our attitude towards those who work and help our community silently. Not only do we not recognize them, but also we sometimes insult them as they support another idea or person different than ours.

In contrast, we appreciate, applaud and reward those who work with loud voices, colored-photos and in the spotlight when and where we can feed their big and growing ego.

I am asking the citizens of Downey and all those that care about Downey to regroup and vitalize or actually resuscitate our ethics, integrity and high-standard foundation. May the Heavenly Father that sees in secret reward them in public as He finally did to the great person, Dr. Mary Stauffer, who is an icon, a treasure and light of the world.

— **Dr. Shahira A-Malek,**  
Downey

Letters to the editor may be submitted by writing to The Downey Patriot, 8301 E. Florence Ave., Suite 100, Downey, CA 90240 or by e-mail to downeypatriot@yahoo.com. Letters may be edited for style and/or content. Letters must include a full name and address for verification.

### Fear mongering

Dear Editor:

I have to tell you, that letter praising Glenn Beck made me laugh. It was, in essence, a joke. (Letters to the Editor, 3/26/10)

Our current president was left with such a mess and is dealing with so much that making today's issues "easy and fun" should raise a red flag to anyone even remotely interested in today's politics. Moreover, having a worse-example-of-a-Republican mouthpiece like Glenn Beck be the person to help someone "understand" anything is, well, disturbing.

I have seen for myself what Glenn Beck has to offer. His diatribes are often composed of misinformation ("We have the best healthcare system in the world"), accusations ("This president [Obama] has a deep-seeded hatred for white people"), and self-serving topics (while on the air, asking his TV viewers to buy gold, without disclosing he is a paid spokesman for a company that sells gold).

I understand everyone is entitled to his/her opinion, but not everyone has a show on a highly-rated national cable network. His broadcasts have done nothing but fan the flames of bigotry, hatred, confusion and disdain for our fellow citizens of this great country.

With so many of us too busy to take the time to research the issues, Beck's fear-mongering and right-wing propaganda is nothing but irresponsible.

— **Mark Rodriguez,**  
Downey

Dear Editor:

My mouth flew open when I read your Letter to the Editor regarding the virtues of Glenn Beck.

There are various things about Glenn Beck that don't add up. Number one, Beck is classified as a "wing nut" by all the responsible stations on television.

Number two, he is classified as an entertainer on the level of Rush Limbaugh rather than a news analyst.

Number three, Beck only discusses issues that demonize one of the political parties...never the other.

Number four, Beck does not always speak in realistic terms.

Number five, Fox News is the only television channel that seems to carry Beck in the Los Angeles area.

Number six, if you watch Glenn Beck you do so with tongue in cheek.

Number seven, he is not worth your time watching. You have better things to do.

— **George Morris,**  
Downey

Dear Editor:

Your reader last week who praised Glenn Beck apparently doesn't get the joke.

Watching his show this week for the first time in a while, I see that Beck remains a gaudily-dressed clown, whose contributions to his viewers' understanding are incidental to his quest for ratings. Like Stephen Colbert's "Colbert Report," Beck's show is primarily a comedy show, in which the host remains continuously in character. But while Colbert focuses irony on the conservative pundits he parodies for the benefit of his mostly young, liberal viewers, Beck does for conservative political philosophy what L. Ron Hubbard is said to have done for religion – he exploits his subject for money by feigning seriousness.

No serious, educated person can study either for very long without realizing that there is a contradiction between what is professed and what is real. Yet both create a compelling and powerful social ethos that can be difficult to escape.

Beck targets those frustrated by our economy, and seeks through his entertaining, exaggerated stage behavior and verbal images to persuade them that those who pursue progress, who seek to improve the social order and their own place in it, are their enemies – that our current system will magically allow everyone who really tries to become rich enough to solve all problems, if only we keep with policies that help the rich get richer, and scorn the poor. Like the rest of the Fox menagerie, he advocates fiscal policies that no Republican has seriously attempted to put into practice since Herbert Hoover, and scorns our current president (and occasionally his predecessor) for failing to follow Hoover's example.

Beck uses a blackboard and other tools of the academic lecturer with complete and open disdain for the subjects of logic, journalism, economics, science, political philosophy, or the actual meaning of the Constitution. He is an expert at using quotes and snippets of facts out of context, and playing on the emotions and hot buttons of his audience to build a hokey, folksy case that has nothing to do with reality. Persuasion is his milieu, and the game that he and the puppetmasters who control Fox "News" pursue is to see how many devoted viewers they can accumulate, and spin into unflinching, emotional belief in right-wing talking points, with utter disregard for truth or actual knowledge. The real joke is on Beck's viewers.

— **Matt Filler,**  
Downey

### Charitable kids

Dear Editor:

I have a feel good story I'd like to share with you.

I'm a third grade teacher at Rio Hondo Elementary. This is the second year that I've been trying to make my class be more aware of their carbon footprint so we recycle. By collecting glass, aluminum and plastic, we've earned a lot of money, enough to buy some games, pillows, a pencil sharpener and reserve a pizza party for June.

When we had earned another chunk of money, I wanted them to vote again on what they wanted to spend this on. I suggested a pizza party now, a treat, more games, another pencil sharpener (they always break), or to save it for something big later on. One student suggested that we donate it to someone who needs it.

I was so touched to hear that an eight year old would think of someone else. The class voted for donating, but next we had to decide to whom.

It was narrowed down to children or Haiti earthquake relief. A discussion started in one corner of the room and quickly spread that if we donate it to Haiti, a lot of children there would be helped, too.

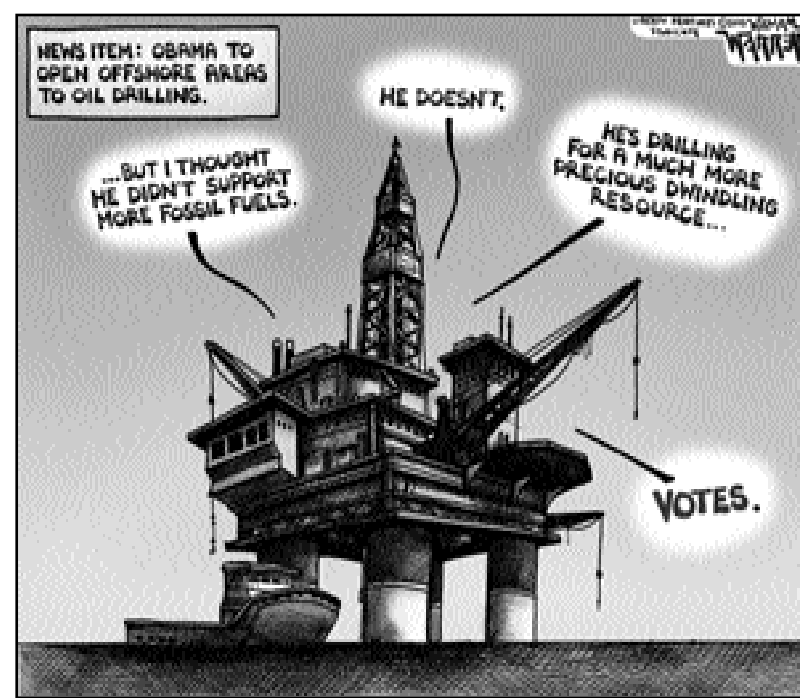
A representative was chosen to announce to the school what we were doing. Other donations began to come in from around the school, including several parents of the students in my class.

Our grand total came to \$157 to be sent to UNICEF for Haiti Earthquake Relief.

I wanted to share this with you since it's easy to generalize that the world is a bad place with little hope for change yet here is a class of eight year olds who are working hard to help kids they'll never meet or know. They just wanted to reach out and show that they care.

Some of my own negative attitudes about the state of the world today and worry about future generations just crumbled away and took on a sunnier view.

— **Maggie Stava,**  
Teacher, Rio Hondo Elementary



Correction: A production error last week led to an incorrect photo running alongside a story announcing Lakewood Regional Medical Center's new governing board. The correct photo can be found on Page 15 of this week's issue.

### Fireworks show

Dear Editor:

Thank you for covering last week's City Council action regarding the Downey 2010 Fourth of July Celebration. ("Would You Help Pay for a Fireworks Show?", 3/26/10)

I thought it would be helpful to share some of the planning we have already done. As of this writing, we believe the event would be held at Downey High School. We believe the celebration will be an all-day event with sports and holiday type activities for the community and local teams. It should be a great and healthy day for families and community members. We also plan to have the swimming pool open for use. There will likely be entertainment in the afternoon as well. There will be local food groups offering their specialties for all in attendance. Downey High School has quite a bit of parking and there are many options for mass transit too. Please know there may be changes as we proceed.

Many of us working on the 2010 event either worked on or attended the 2009 celebration and saw first hand how nice it was to come together as a community for a day. Many people remarked the event reminded them of a reunion. Those working on this year's event would like to continue what was (re) started in 2009.

Fundraising...so far I have had positive feedback from last year's sponsors. I have also had some success with new sponsors. However, we have a long way to go. The economy is not easy on anyone right now. With a fundraising goal of \$40,000 and a timeline of 40 days, the slope is a steep one. Last year we had a number of families and local businesses donate \$100. We recognized all of these sponsors on the event T-shirt. I am hoping some of the current *Downey Patriot* readers will consider pledging a donation to the 2010 event.

Interested parties can contact me at ready@downeyca.org or call 562-904-6107.

— **Mark Sauter,**  
City of Downey

### Message of hate

Dear Editor:

I am so thankful to the Democrats who just passed historic healthcare reform and I am thrilled it will help more than 32 million people get health insurance, including my son, who is a substitute teacher, and my niece, who is a full-time student and housewife.

I have listened to Sarah Palin and the "tea party" activists who are trying to oust Democratic Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid. I liked their message that everyone should get out and vote. That is what this country is about, being able to express our opinions in a peaceful and reasonable way. What I don't understand is when that message gets turned into a pass on being rude or worse, encouraging domestic terrorism – such as those "Christian" militia members just arrested who were planning to plant IEDs at a police officer's funeral in order to kill as many policemen as possible. How is it possible that we are attacking those who are here to protect and serve us? How does a political rally or talk show turn into a message of hatred against innocent people, especially by those who say they are Christians?

— **Anita Rivero,**  
Downey

### Pedestrian safety

Dear Editor:

The recent letter from Juan Flores was right on the mark – as far as it went. ("Child Safety," 3/26/10)

The concern for child safety should be everyone's paramount concern. However, there seem to be too few parents who teach their children proper responsibility for themselves and respect for others when crossing the street.

Rather it appears that many parents feel that it is the responsibility of others to avoid their children regardless of where they are or how fast they are moving or appear on the scene from out of sight, and thus by precept and example their children pick up the same concepts and often act irresponsibly. Also many parents seem to consider any such education to be the schools' responsibility; perhaps the schools' attempt to teach pedestrian safety, but from the actions around schools it would seem that it has not been successful.

Another breakdown in the chain of prudence is that some crossing guards foster irresponsibility by stopping traffic before the children even get to the curb and then coach them to hurry across with reckless abandon and lack of concern – all the while rushing the stragglers into the crosswalk; this gives the children a dangerous false sense of security in that they don't need to wait and watch. One improvement would be for the guards to have the pedestrians wait on the curb until a fair group accumulates and then to stop traffic (so as to avoid trapping motorists in the intersection) and coach them to walk across at a responsible speed while cautiously observing their surroundings and watching the vehicles.

Accepting responsibility will foster greater caution and save heartache and irritated nerves. My drivers' education instructor used to teach us that the other guy might be wrong, but that responsible defensive actions prevent injury and damage.

— **Hugh T. Hoskins,**  
Downey

## The Downey Patriot

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## SPEED BUMP



## DAVE COVERLY



## Downey Community Calendar

### Events For April

Sat. April 3: **Egg hunts**, Apollo, Dennis the Menace, Furman & Golden parks, 10:30 a.m.  
 Mon. April 5: **Blood drive**, DRMC, 7 a.m.  
 Wed. April 7: **Coordinating Council open meeting**, Barbara J. Riley Senior Center, 12 p.m.

### City Meetings

1st Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m.: **Redevelopment Project Area Committee**, Cormack Meeting Room at Downey Library.  
 1st & 3rd Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.: **Planning Commission**, Council Chamber at City Hall.  
 1st Tuesday, 4:00 p.m.: **Recreation and Community Services Commission**, Council Chamber, City Hall.  
 1st Thursday, 9 a.m.: **Traffic Committee**, Training Room, Second Floor of City Hall.  
 2nd & 4th Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.: **City Council/Community Development Commission**, Council Chamber.  
 3rd Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.: **Library Advisory Board**, at Downey City Library.  
 3rd Wednesday, 7:00 p.m.: **Water Board**, at City Hall.  
 4th Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.: **Emergency Preparedness Committee**, at Fire Station No. 1.

### Regularly Scheduled Meetings

#### Mondays

8:00 a.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

9:30 a.m.: **Downey Seniors Club**, at Apollo Park, for information call Nadine Morris at 923-9422.  
 10 a.m.: **Downey Bocce Club**, at 7850 Quill Drive, for information call John Fiorenza at 652-4399.  
 12 p.m.: **Rotary Club**, at Rio Hondo, for information call Brian Saylor at 927-2000.  
 6:00 p.m.: **Toastmasters Club 587**, at First Baptist Church, for info call John McAllister 869-0928.  
 7 p.m.: **Boy Scout Troop 2**, at Downey United Methodist Church, for information call 869-6478.  
 1st Tues., 7:30 a.m.: **Gangs Out of Downey**, at City Hall training room.  
 2nd and 4th Tues., 6 p.m.: **Sertoma Club**, at Cafe 'N Stuff, for information call 425-7936.  
 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.  
 Tues., Thurs. & Sat., 10 a.m.: **Downey Bocce Club**, at 7850 Quill Drive, for info. call John Fiorenza 652-4399.

#### 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 7850 Quill Drive, for information call Marie Puch at 869-4366.  
 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 Pearl Koday 633-4355.  
 2nd & 4th Weds., 5:30 9.m.: **Lions Club**, at Cafe & Stuff, for information call 803-4048.  
 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...

**April 2, 1513:** Spanish explorer Juan Ponce de Leon landed on the southeastern coast of the United States. He called this new place La Florida.  
**1917:** President Woodrow Wilson asked Congress to declare war against Germany.  
**1932:** Aviator Charles Lindbergh paid \$50,000 ransom for the return of his kidnapped son. The child was found dead the following month.  
**1992:** A New York jury convicted mobster John Gotti of murder and racketeering.  
**2005:** Pope John Paul II died in his Vatican apartment. He was 84.  
**Birthdays:** Baseball Hall of Famer Don Sutton (65), 'Law and Order' actor Chris Meloni (49), police beating victim Rodney King (45) and rapper Yung Joc (27).

## THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

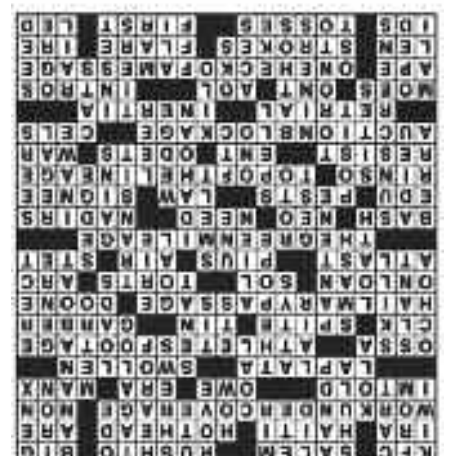
Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com)  
**TIME ON END:** With a little something added  
 by David W. Cromer

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

INERTIA (103 Across), the tendency of an object to be motionless unless acted on by an outside force, is the subject of Isaac Newton's first law of motion. At its 1950s peak, the A AND P (5 Down) supermarket chain had over 1,000 U.S. stores. Mexican-born Lorena OCHOA (36 Down) has been the world's #1 ranked female golfer since April 2007.







## Sitting With The Stars

By JOSEPH APODACA, INTERN

**DOWNEY** – Just when you thought the world wasn't small enough, it just got smaller, and mingling with some of the biggest names in young Hollywood can be made possible with just the click of a mouse and a little patience.

Flashback to Saturday March 27, the day of Nickelodeon's biggest live event, the Kid's Choice Awards. Scheduled to appear, among others, were Disney starlet Selena Gomez, The Office's Steve Carell, iCarly's Miranda Cosgrove, and Joseph Apodaca?! Through the power of the Internet and perfect timing, three friends and myself were just four of many members of the audience that night known as "seatfillers".

As seatfillers, we filled the chairs the camera would easily catch and project on the screen, so that when the stars were receiving awards and arriving to their seats it would appear the show was packed. Depending on how lucky we got, the odds of sitting next to or near a celebrity were pretty good. Before the show even started, we sat in arms reach of actress Maria Bello and actor John Leguizamo, who were there with their kids, and young stars like iCarly's Noah Munck who gave autographs and took pictures with about 20 child fans.

Throughout the show, we had a bird's eye view of all the celebrity arrivals and awards acceptances. The crowd went wild just minutes before going live, when Twilight star Taylor Lautner walked into the room and to his seat, but not before posing for a quick photo with Will Smith. Just in time to see Rihanna perform a medley of her hits "Hard", "Rude Boy", and "Don't Stop the Music", the Jonas Brothers and Demi Lovato were able to sneak in without making a huge fuss. Tina Fey, Katy Perry, and host Kevin James were among the celebrities who got slimed by Nickelodeon's signature green mess, along with dozens of kids in front of the stage. "Bieber Fever" was evident at the show, where at the mere mention of the name Justin Bieber caused a mass eruption of shrieks and screams.

For my friends, myself and several other seatfillers, this was not our first time getting our 15 minutes of fame. My brother and I attended last summer's ESPN Espy awards, where we filled the seats of Olympians Michael Phelps and Shawn Johnson and sat next to football players Terrell Owens and Hank Baskett with his reality-TV star wife Kendra Wilkinson. My two other friends have attended the Teen Choice Awards, where stars

## Power 106 Celebrity Basketball Game

By DEBORAH WON, INTERN

**DOWNEY** – Convivial events are always occurring at Warren, but the Power 106 Celebrity Basketball Game, held on Thursday, March 25, was perhaps one of the biggest events that attracted enough attendees to saturate the entire stadium. Although the doors opened at 6:30 p.m., inordinate amounts of students were standing an hour beforehand at the gate to buy the \$10 tickets for the game, even though many students had previously bought pre-sale tickets for \$5.

"We do basketball games every Tuesday and Thursday the entire school year, that's 82 games a year," said Mitchell DeGuzman from the Power 106 Flava Union, the M.C. of the night. "But Warren High School is one of the dopest schools and we love coming here. We appreciate that they show us love and support, and so much, and they're always enthusiastic. So we thank you."

Although the Warren team, consisting of various teachers and a few students, the game ended with a loss for the Bears against the Power 106 All Stars, with an ending score of 43 to 37. Despite the loss, many students enjoyed their time at the game, particularly with the most anticipated segment of the night, the halftime entertainment show.

In addition to the many members of the Power 106 family that appeared at the game, there were four main artists that debuted on the court for halftime. Mann was the first performer of the night, singing his record "Text."

"Shout out to Warren High School, for being receptive to the record. Much love, Mann," said the guest celebrity after his performance.

The Rangers followed up as they interacted with the crowd and "jerked," a popular dance move, and even tumbled across the floor and off of the wall. The well-known Far East Movement group, soon to be touring with the infamous Lady Gaga, sang "Girls on the Dance Floor," as acclamation rose from the entire stadium as students sang along.

Last but definitely not least, there was Frankie J, who received the highest applause of all, and particularly the squeals from eagerly awaiting girls. As he sang "Obsession" and a newer record

like David Cook and Blake Lively were just steps away.

Signing up to be an award's show seatfiller is quick and easy. Creating an account takes minutes and you can pick what shows you wish to attend as they approach. Some are more difficult than others to attend, with each show asking for specific age groups, attire, and quick response time. If you like celebrities, have plenty of patience, and enjoy doing new things for free, seatfilling might just be for you.



PHOTOS COURTESY DEBORAH WON

called "Crush," swarms of girls engulfed him as they pushed and shoved to hug him. Surprisingly, unlike previous years, there were no security guards to block off the mass of fanatic girls from rushing towards him.

"Oh my God I hugged Frankie

J!" said junior Allison Norgren, one of the lucky fans that were able to reach Frankie J amidst the pushing mass.

"He looked into my eyes as he was singing!" said junior Brenda Garcia, smiling from ear to ear. "When I hugged him I got butter-

flies."

The artists weren't the only ones in the spot light during the halftime show. The boys' powder-puff cheer squad caused quite a scene as they danced a spunky routine in matching cheer skirts, with stunts and kick line included. The boys truly fulfilled their titles as male cheerleaders, for the entire stadium was roaring with laughter and applause.

After the entertainment, Power 106 picked one lucky winner to try and attempt the half-court shot for a chance to win \$1,000. That lucky winner was senior Alexandra

Gonzalez.

"It was sort of embarrassing, but I met Yesse Ortiz so I was excited because I listen to her every morning," said Gonzalez when asked how she felt after she missed the half-court shot.

Clearly, the students attended the game mainly for the mid-game entertainment, for after the halftime show nearly three-quarters of the stadium rushed out to get a last glimpse of the celebrities. Regardless, the annually held celebrity basketball game was another successful event for the Bears.

## Accepted!

By JOANNA QUINTANA, INTERN

**DOWNEY** – The source of tears, stress, and hopes for nearly all students in their senior year has reappeared more real than ever as college entrance letters are received via email, phone, and snail mail.

After four agonizing months of waiting to hear from the colleges applying students dream to attend, answers are being sent and read, and college plans are being set into motion. It would seem that a student is either made or broken by these innocent letters that carry so much of the future with them by a student's anxiety and apprehension when, in fact, a student has many options and not all of them consist of a university with a big name right away.

"There is so much pressure to get into schools like Berkeley, like the UC's," says senior Mariana Mejorado. "Everyone wants to get into those schools and so you hate it if you don't and you're really disappointed if you don't when, in reality, any college is a good thing because you're still going to college and getting an education."

For the most studious students who are in the top percentage of their schools, big-named universities may have already alerted them of their acceptance through the Eligibility in the Local Context, or ELC, program made available for California high school seniors. Universities such as that of Santa Barbara, Riverside, Irvine, Merced, and Davis were all involved in the ELC program and sent out letters of congratulations earlier than nor-

mal. High school senior recipients include Yaheli Aguilera.

"I thought it was a big relief going into it, but in a way, it kind of reflected on my application because I already knew I would be accepted so it allowed me to try a little less," says Yaheli Aguilera. "It gave me a reassurance in the UC system but I also felt like I tried less."

Even though some students may have been reassured through the ELC program, they were also found amongst the others waiting in anticipation for either the refusal or acceptance of their dream universities, private and public. Only those who planned to attend a Junior College before transferring found some solace in the fact that they were not waiting anxiously by the door, the phone, and the computer.

"Having known that I was going to attend a JC gave me some piece of mind," says DHS senior Carmencita Sarahi Escalante. "Although many of my friends were waiting anxiously, I was able to bring a serene attitude and brighten up the mood."

Though seniors have been in a tense state of mind for these past several months, their JC bound ward peers have allowed them to take a step and consider their options if what they thought was the worst, occurred. Whether a letter of acceptance comes from a top-notch university or a local JC, every student will have the opportunity to further their education and become the person they want to be.

## SPRING BREAK FUN



**SKATE DEPOT**  
**SPRING BREAK**  
 April 5, 2010 Monday 6:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.  
 April 5-9, 2010 Monday - Friday 12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
 11113 183rd St. Cerritos, CA 90703  
 Phone: 562-924-0911  
**\$6.75 Admission & \$2.50 Skate Rental**  
**2 for 1 Passes**  
 Buy one admission and get one free  
 Through: April 5-9, 2010  
 From: 12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

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**2009-2010 Interns for The Downey Patriot**  
 Gabriela Coxa  
 Joanna Quintana  
 Deborah Won  
 Joseph Apodaca - Sports  
 Alyssa Wynne - Sports  
 Paul Heidecker - Photographer  
 Carlos Ontiveros - Photographer



## Health seminars around town

**DOWNEY** – Pioneer Medical Group is hosting a series of educational health seminars in the local area. The complete schedule of seminars appears below:

**Oh My Aching Knees** – The knee is a vulnerable joint that bears a great deal of stress from everyday activities such as lifting and kneeling. Many knee problems are the result of the aging process and continual wear and stress on the knee joint.

Dr. Todd Stockwell will lead the lecture on common knee conditions. The lecture will contain important information on knee pain resulting from osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis and other medical conditions. The doctor will discuss prevention, diagnosis and treatment of many knee problems.

*Cerritos Senior Center, April 14 at 8:30 a.m.*

**Living with Osteoarthritis** – Join Thilan Fernando, M.D., for an informative lecture on osteoarthritis. Fernando will explain how arthritis is diagnosed and treated, and offer tips on how to stay active with arthritis.

*Barbara J. Riley Community & Senior Center, April 14 at 12:15 p.m.*

**Living with Rheumatoid Arthritis** – Learn how to still enjoy daily activities and get the most out of life by following some simple steps. Lindsay Hutchinson, P.A., will discuss the diagnosis of rheumatoid arthritis, medications, proper home care management and simple exercises that can help you enjoy living with this condition.

*Cypress Senior Center, April 15 at 10:30 a.m.*

**Diabetic Foot Problems and You** – People with diabetes can develop many different types of foot problems. Even ordinary problems can get worse and lead to serious complications. Foot problems most often happen when there is nerve damage called neuropathy. Join Dr. James Lee, podiatrist, for an informative lecture and get the facts on how your feet can last a lifetime.

*Cerritos Senior Center, April 28 at 1 p.m.*

## Do you properly fit into your car?

**DOWNEY** – A team of trained technicians and health professionals will be available Wednesday to make sure older drivers properly fit into their vehicles.

The technicians will be at Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Appointments are available every 20 minutes.

Appointments are free for drivers age 55 and older and available by calling Shenette Davis at (562) 401-7464.

## Mellana hits the campaign trail

■ Mellana hopes to restore principals he says Sacramento has lost.

By **CHRISTIAN BROWN,**  
STAFF WRITER

**DOWNEY** – With voter frustration on the rise and an anti-establishment sentiment lingering in the air, 50th District Assembly candidate P.J. Mellana hopes his message of limited government and lower taxes will resonate with apprehensive voters who will elect a new assemblyman this November.

“The people in this district are looking for something different,” said Mellana, one of six candidates vying for Hector De La Torre’s assembly seat. “There will be a strong contrast this year; the people will have a choice.”

Since entering the Assembly race last year, the 31-year-old republican from Bellflower has taken to the streets of the district rallying supporters and raising funds.

“I’m enjoying it,” said Mellana. “Our message is taking shape; I’m talking to people, walking the precincts. It’s very time consuming – I wouldn’t be running if I didn’t believe in what I’m running for.”

Mellana hopes his campaign restores several principles that he believes Sacramento has lost.

“Limited government principles – that’s the best way to create jobs,” Mellana said. “Big government is not working – the data

proves that big government has failed California and has doubled our spending.”

Citing a 2009 study, which revealed that state regulations cost California billions of dollars and millions of jobs, Mellana criticized the regulations and mandates.

“We need to limit taxes on all businesses – it’s not the government’s job to pick and choose the winners and losers,” he said. “All of these mandates and environmental requirements are pushing businesses out.”

For Mellana, the solution for unemployment is tied into better business policies. If state taxes and regulations are reduced for California businesses, Mellana believes businesses who have left the state will return along with their jobs.

“The true engine to the economy is business,” Mellana said. “We need a business-friendly environment for all businesses – if businesses are growing, jobs are growing.”

Despite a slow economy, Mellana’s campaign has already raised nearly \$9,500 in contributions from the community. Although far less than some of the democratic contenders, who have support from large corporations and political action committees, Mellana maintains that all of his donations are from individuals and small local businesses.

“We’ve done small scale fundraising events,” said Mellana. “We’ve not raised as much money



PHOTO COURTESY MELLANA CAMPAIGN

P.J. Mellana, shown above with his family, is one of two Republican candidates vying for the seat of Assemblyman Hector De La Torre.

as our opponents, who are holding big fundraisers, but just check and you’ll see where their money is coming from.”

On June 8, Mellana will face former assembly candidate Gladys Miller in the general primary for the republican party’s nomination. In November, either Mellana or Miller will face the winner of the democratic primary, a crowded race that includes Downey Mayor Pro Tem Luis Marquez, South Gate City Clerk Carmen Avalos, former Bellflower Councilman Art Olivier and Ricardo Lara, a legislative aide

to Los Angeles Assemblyman Kevin De Leon.

“I don’t have to spend a day in the shoes of a middle class person – I’m living this everyday,” said Mellana. “The state belongs to the people – no more gimmicks. There can only be one assemblyperson – I’ll fight tooth and nail for what I believe in.”

The 50th District includes the communities of Bell, South Gate, Bell Gardens, Commerce, Cudahy, Bellflower, Lynwood, Florence Graham, Walnut Park and a portion of Downey.

## Learn how to support local organizations

**DOWNEY** – The public is invited to an open meeting of the Downey Coordinating Council this Wednesday at noon at the Barbara J. Riley Community and Senior

Center.

The program will include speakers from the Downey Rose Float Association, Downey Symphony Guild, Living Help

Center and True Lasting Connections. Representatives will share the history of their organization, population they serve and how residents can contribute.

“I strongly encourage you to put this on your calendar and attend. Who knows, you may even want to get involved with a com-

munity organization,” said Leonard Zuniga, president of Downey Coordinating Council. “We have many other [organizations] for you to choose from. Volunteering is definitely a growing and rewarding experience, especially in Downey.”

For more information, call Zuniga at (562) 869-5444.

### AllAboutDowney.com

A free City Web Site that offers information about:  
Downey’s Community Calendar - Local Businesses -  
Job Opportunities - Downey’s Schools - Downey  
Churches - Kids Section - Lost/Found Pets -  
Sports and Entertainment - About Health - Real  
Estate - Seniors - Home Improvement - Downey  
Emergency Preparedness and lots More -  
Site Contact Bev Baumann @ 562-244-3241

# Plan your own home remodel...

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Downey Adult School introduces a brand new class that allows you to **Draft Anything with AutoCAD**. Using Computer Aided Design and Drafting (CADD), you will produce drawings that can be used to build anything from furniture to machine parts to houses. You don’t need special math skills or technical experience to take this 8 week course. CADD is the modern version of manual drafting (using a pen and T-square) and it will open many opportunities for you in industrial design, engineering, manufacturing, architecture, interior design and many more fields.

### Also introducing

### LEED Accreditation Exam Training Your First Green Step/LEED Associate Exam Prep

Prepare yourself for a green job by becoming a LEED Green Associate- the green credential sought by architects, engineers, contractors, property managers, real estate professionals, bankers, waste management and any other profession dealing with buildings, land, air, water, heating or cooling. To prepare for this career-defining exam, you will be provided with strategies and tools to give you test taking confidence, including the essential information you must know and effective memorization tricks. In addition to preparing for the exam, you will also learn how to navigate the complicated process of registering for the exam, what reference materials to buy, and how to save green in the process. The LEED Green Associate Accreditation is the first step.



For more details and to apply, please visit our website: [www.das.edu](http://www.das.edu)  
Don’t delay. Classes begin April 12th and space is very limited.

Need more assistance? Please call 562-940-6200.

Believe in yourself





## Downey swimmers beat El Rancho

■ **SWIMMING:** Downey adds to impressive season with wins over El Rancho.

By **JOSEPH APODACA,**  
SPORTS INTERN

**DOWNEY** – The Downey Vikings continue to keep getting stronger and faster in the water, with both the boys and girls teams adding a win against El Rancho High School under their swimsuits.

Both teams continue to break personal records, giving them faster CIF qualifying times. With league meets just around the corner, the Vikings are using these early meets as major practice to dominate in San Gabriel Valley League qualifying meets.

The varsity boys took home several first place times in last week's El Rancho meet. Derek Klotzer, Matt Sims, Serro Park, and Derek Dodson started the meet off with a win in the first event, the 200-meter medley relay. Klotzer later took home first places in the long distance 200-meter freestyle and 500-meter freestyle events.

Park continues to take charge in the 100-meter butterfly, an event that up until this year he had not participated in. Colin O'Conner took home two first places at the meet, one in the 200-meter individual medley and the 100-meter backstroke.

The varsity males were also able to take home two additional relay victories, one going to the team of Park, Brandon Velasco, Dodson, and Sims for the 4x50 freestyle relay and Klotzer, Abraham Gomez, O'Conner, and Anthony Silva taking the first place title for the 4x100 freestyle relay.

The varsity boys are not the only ones making serious waves in

the water; the varsity girls are doing excellent themselves. They beat El Rancho 98-71 and took home several first place records.

Captain Sarah Aguayo won the 200-meter freestyle event in addition to the rigorous 500-meter freestyle. The 200-meter individual medley event was won by freshman Meghan Nevarez, who also took home top billing in the 100-meter freestyle.

Faith Hundtoft's long arms and legs not only helped her during water polo season as goalie, but have helped her improve her time in the 100-meter Breaststroke, taking first place last week. The combination of Dominique Diaz, Jessica Badalamenti, Aguayo, and Nevarez made the 200-meter freestyle relay a success for the ladies in addition to the 400 freestyle relay team of Badalamenti, Hundtoft, Brenda Rosero, and Nevarez.

The junior varsity male Vikings also continue to impress head coach Shaun Delhousay. Overall, the varsity boys ranked 2-2 for the season and the junior varsity team ranks 3-1. While both levels have shown strengths in particular events, the most difficult events remain the 100-meter butterfly and the 200-meter individual medley, the latter consisting of all four strokes.

The JV girls also continue to improve as the season progresses, with not a single swimmer disqualified from last week's meet. Rebekah Ayon is taking the JV events by storm, coming in first place in the 200-meter freestyle event and the 100-meter freestyle.

The 100-meter individual medley was won by Kim Lopez, who also took first place in the 50-meter butterfly.



Downey High School's boys' golf team took third place in the Herald Invitational Golf Tournament held March 29 at Candlewood Country Club in Whittier. Downey scored a combined 322, with Jon Strang and Paul Heidecker shooting 77, Derrick Atwood 81 and Christian Lee 87.



The Downey United AYSO 12U girls' tournament team placed fourth in the recent San Bernardino Arrowhead Cup. The team is coached by Win Powell and Julio Garneff. Top row, left to right: Rebecca Powell, Alana Trimino, Gisselle Hidalgo, Theresa Madrigal, Eliana Garneff and Juliana Garneff. Bottom row: Mary Hernandez, Alyssa Skobis, Katherine Ham, Brinda Patel and McKenna Henao.



The Downey AYSO 10U team was crowned state champions after defeating La Quinta in the title game March 27 in Bakersfield. Downey faced the top teams in northern and central California before defeating La Quinta 2-1. The team includes Head Coach Manuel Rincon, assistant coaches Leonel Perez and Guicho Lozano; managers Emma Sosa and Darlene Correa; and players Isaac Rincon, Sebastian Perez, Bernie Sosa, Nick Correa, Alain and Brian Hernandez, Luciano Veron, Valentin Felix, Danny Lozano and Bryan Herrera.

## Registration continues at Furman

**DOWNEY** – Downey Youth Football registration will continue tomorrow at Furman Park from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The youth league is open to children ages 5-14. Registration is \$160 for tackle, \$100 for flag and \$100 for cheerleading.

For more information on registration or head coaching opportunities, call (562) 928-6081 or (562) 335-5825.

## Espindola limits Lynwood to 3 hits

■ **BASEBALL:** Downey shuts out Lynwood, 6-0, to stay undefeated.

By **SCOTT COBOS,**  
STAFF WRITER

**DOWNEY** – Downey has stayed undefeated through three games and continued to defend its San Gabriel Valley League championship while Warren has struggled in league, stumbling off to a 1-2 start.

Downey's David Espindola pitched six scoreless innings and gave up only three hits in his outing against Lynwood in a 6-0 win. He then gave way to Jonathan Grana who was able to clean up in the last inning on Tuesday.

Josh Guerra and Erick Gomez both had two hits each with Guerra driving in 4 runs and scoring a run

himself. Yamel Delgado drove in a pair of runs as well to help the Vikings stay undefeated in league.

After beating Lynwood in their first league game, the Bears are currently on a 2-game losing streak after losing 7-0 to Paramount last week and 16-1 against Gahr on Tuesday.

Against Paramount, the Bears were immediately in a 5-run hole after giving up the runs in the first inning. Warren was able to minimize the damage but were unable to get anything going offensively.

Paramount pitchers were successful in striking out seven Bears and Warren stranded seven runners on base. Warren's Daniel Catalan did collect two of the Bears' five hits in the game.

Both teams were set up for their first meeting yesterday but scores were unavailable at press time.

## Vikings optimistic despite loss

■ **LACROSSE:** Mira Costa pulls away in fourth quarter.

By **ALYSSA WYNNE,**  
SPORTS INTERN

**DOWNEY** – Though the Vikings lacrosse team suffered from a loss last Wednesday against Mira Costa High School, 12-5, the team remains in good spirits about the remainder of the season.

"The guys played much better today," said midfielder Spiro Piaratos.

Downey entered halftime with a

6-point deficit and though things looked bright in the third quarter with two goals made, the Mustangs took control of the field and stopped Downey's progress.

Attacker Joseph Silva, with two, and midfielder's George Martinez, Ian Padilla, and Franky Castellanos, with one each, made Downey's goals. Silva had five attempts on Mira Costa's goal, as did midfielder Marques Mustin, and returning player and midfielder Leo Marquez had four shots on goal, none of which succeeded.

Goalkeeper, Nathan Hanker, saved ten of the 22 shots made against him.

## Warren places third in swim meet

■ **SWIMMING:** Johns Hanein places second and third in individual events.

By **JOSEPH APODACA,**  
SPORTS INTERN

**DOWNEY** – The Warren varsity boys' swim team has a lot to be proud of this week, after taking home a third place trophy in the big Kennedy Invitational meet they participated in that hosted over 10 different schools.

The boys were able to grab several second and third place times while going up against competitive schools such as Marina, Kennedy and Woodbridge High Schools.

Josh Hanein took home second and third places overall in two separate events, the first in the 100-meter breast stroke and the other in the 50-meter freestyle. Nigel Adashefski and Jonathon Iglesias managed to place second and third respectively in the grueling 500-meter freestyle event. Dustin Yi sprinted all the way to second place in the 200-meter freestyle event. Luis Herrera took second place in the 100-meter backstroke event.

In addition to the personal victories, the relay teams made quite an impression at the invitational, taking third place in all three relays. The team of Louis Herrera, Hanein, Matthew Blanco, and Alex Rivera took the third place spot for the 200-meter medley relay for a time of 1:49:87.

Blanco, Jonathan Iglesias, David Adams, and Hanein later took third in the 200-meter freestyle relay for a time of 1:39:31 while Yi, Rivera, Herrera, and Adashefski took third in the final event, the 400-meter freestyle relay, for a time of 3:35:99.

The girls also did well at the Kennedy invitational. Daniella Flores took home a second place time in the 200-meter individual medley event and a fourth place time in the 100-meter backstroke event. Overall, the girls placed seventh with a score of 113 while the boys placed third overall with a score of 360.5.

Even with spring break coming up for the Warren Bears, practices remain a key component in their success in the water.

"Our practices depend on the day, what pool we have when we practice, how far in the season we are, and when our next meet is," said boys' head coach Joy O'Dowd. "I have long term goals I set at the beginning of the season and I modify our workouts to meet short term goals to hopefully get to where we want to be at the end."

Even with the intense practices and grueling meets, some events don't come as easy for some as they do for others.

"My younger athletes struggle with the 200-freestyle because the concept of a full sprint for 200 meters isn't something they consciously push to work during practice. The newer swimmers struggle with the specific strokes."

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**TRAFFIC RELIEF IN THE WORKS**

In November 2008, Measure R was approved, committing a projected \$40 billion to traffic relief and transportation upgrades throughout the county over the next 30 years.

Here are updates on projects in the works:

- Underground Route Considered For Regional Connector**
  - A new underground light rail alternative underneath Little Tokyo has been added to the Regional Connector Transit Corridor Study.
  - The Regional Connector would create a seamless transit link between the Metro Gold, Blue and Expo lines through Downtown LA.
- Alternatives Reviewed For Eastside Transit Corridor**
  - Community meetings have been held about two light rail transit alternatives for extending the existing Metro Gold Line farther east from East LA.
  - Routes being explored are from Atlantic Boulevard along either the Pomona Freeway or Washington Boulevard.
- Construction Underway To Link Expo Line/Blue Line**
  - Crews are installing a rail cross-over link for the new Exposition Light Rail line being built between Downtown LA and Culver City.
  - The Expo Line will share a track and two stations (7th St/Metro Center and Pico) with the Metro Blue Line as it leaves downtown.

**Metro**



## 'Treasure Island' comes to life

**RANCHO CUCAMONGA** – The MainStreet theatre Company will wrap up its fourth season of professional theater for young audience with the classic Robert Louis Stevenson tale "Treasure Island," opening May 8 at the Lewis Family Playhouse in the Victoria Gardens Cultural Center in Rancho Cucamonga.

"Treasure Island" follows young Jim Hawkins' adventures on the high seas with Captain Smollet, Long John Silver and other larger-than-life characters aboard the Hispaniola. In their search for buried treasure they encounter dangerous pirates, double crosses and friendship.

"We're excited to bring this legacy to a new audience. The play stays true to the original text and doesn't water down the action," said Mireya Hepner, producer of MainStreet Theatre Company. "And our set will transform the audience to the decks of the Hispaniola and the beaches of Treasure Island."

Tickets to see "Treasure Island" are \$16.50 for general admission, \$14.50 for seniors and \$13.50 for kids ages 12 and younger. For tickets, call (909) 477-2752.

## Play explores solitude of the mind

**LONG BEACH** – A new production by playwright Eugene Ionesco opens April 17 at the Alive Theatre in Long Beach.

"A Hell of a Mess or Oh, What a Bloody Circus" tells the story of a 'The Character' on the final day of his job. His recent inheritance from a relative he didn't know has given him enough capitol to retire early and break from his cubicle. All is well until revolution erupts and sends his suburban neighborhood into chaos. To find refuge from the war torn streets, he bars himself to the confines of his apartment and lives out his remaining years in solitude, pondering on the loves that were lost, the beauty of complacency and the boredom of Sundays.

"A Hell of a Mess or Oh, What a Bloody Circus" plays April 17 – May 8, with performances on Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m., and Sundays at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$18 general admission and \$15 for students and seniors.

For more information, visit [www.alivetheatre.org](http://www.alivetheatre.org) or call (562) 818-7364.

## Broadway musicals coming to OC

■ **'Wicked' among musicals** making stops at Orange County Performing Arts Center.

**COSTA MESA** – The Orange County Performing Arts Center has announced its 2010-2011 entertainment calendar and it includes such notable productions as "Wicked," "West Side Story," "Mamma Mia" and "South Pacific."

The center will also host a new show from Cirque du Soleil.

"The center has a great Broadway season lined up for 2010-2011, with 10 shows that encompass much-loved classics, eagerly-awaited revivals and several of the newest shows and productions that have lately taken Broadway and the musical theater world by storm," said Terry Dwyer, president of the Orange County Performing Arts Center.

All performances will be in Segerstrom Hall and season renewal information is being sent to current subscribers. Single tickets will go on sale approximately six weeks prior to the performances.

For more information, call (714) 556-2787.

**Rodgers & Hammerstein's**

**South Pacific** – Oct. 12-24, 2010

– A reinvention produced by Lincoln Center Theater, "Rodgers & Hammerstein's South Pacific" swept the 2008 Tony Awards, winning seven honors including Best Musical Revival and Best Director for Bartlett Sher. The new production features a cast of 34 and a full orchestra of 26 members – the largest orchestra of any touring Broadway production. The score's songs include "Some Enchanted Evening," "I'm Gonna Wash That Man Right Outta My Hair" and "This Nearly Was Mine."

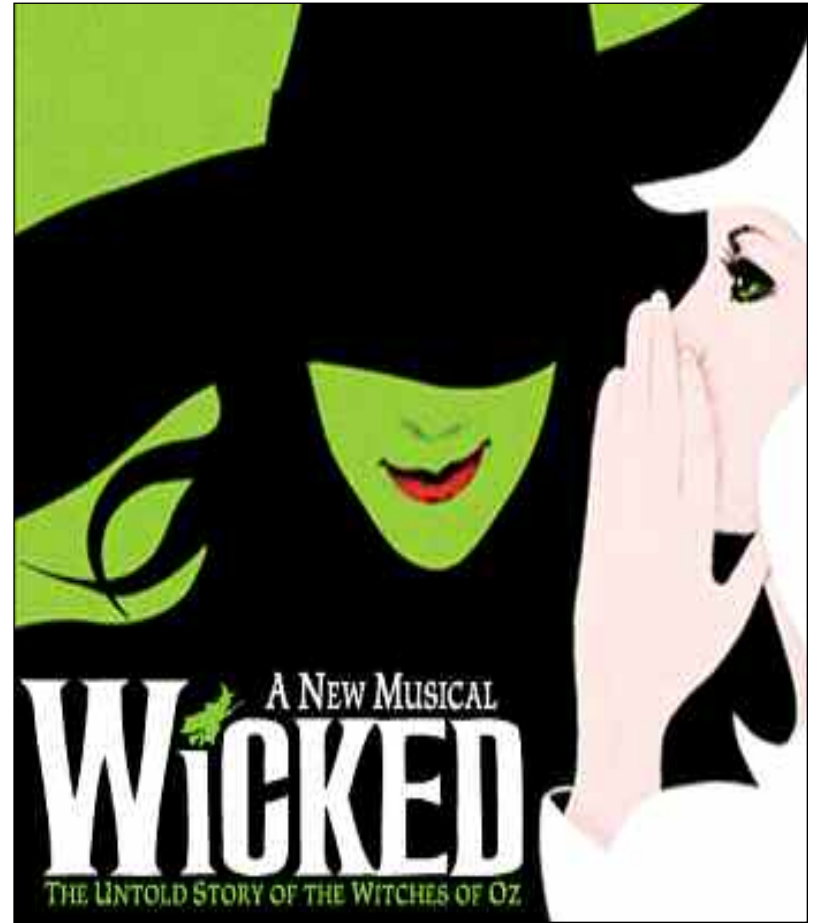
**Disney's Beauty and the Beast** – Nov. 16-21, 2010

– Disney's "Beauty and the Beast," the smash-hit Broadway musical, is based on the Academy Award-winning animated feature film. It's a musical love story filled with unforgettable characters, lavish sets and costumes, and memorable production numbers, including "Be Our Guest."

**Cirque du Soleil** – Dec. 7-26, 2010

– Cirque du Soleil has brought wonder to almost 100 million spectators around the globe. Its name is synonymous with innovation and exhilaration in high-quality entertainment.

**Hair** – Jan. 25 – Feb. 6, 2011



– The Public Theater's new Tony-winning production of "Hair" is the most electric celebration on Broadway. The exuberant musical about a group of young Americans searching for peace and love in a turbulent time has struck a resonant chord with audiences young and old. "Hair" features dozens of memorable songs, including "Aquarius," "Let the Sun Shine In," "Good Morning, Starshine" and "Easy to be Hard."

**Rock of Ages** – Mach 1-6, 2011 – "Rock of Ages" has the heart of a musical comedy and the attitude of a sold-out, rock arena spectacle. It's the story of a small town girl and big city dreamer who meet in L.A. and learn the Sunset Strip's great lesson: Don't Stop Believing! "Rock of Ages" features music by Journey, REO Speedwagon, Styx, Foreigner, Pat Benatar and more.

**Wicked** – March 9 – April 3, 2011 – Back by popular demand, "Wicked" first played the Center in 2006, breaking box office records and selling out in record time. Winner of 26 major awards, including a Grammy and three Tony Awards, "Wicked" tells the story of Dorothy long before she arrives in Munchkinland.

**9 to 5: The Musical** – May 10-15, 2011 – "9 to 5: The Musical" is the story of friendship and revenge in the Rolodex era. The new musical comedy, direct from Broadway, is based on the hit movie and features Dolly Parton's original hit title song along with her new Tony- and Grammy-nominated score. The book is by Patricia Resnick (co-writer of the original screenplay). The musical

tells the story of three unlikely friends who conspire to take control of their company and learn there's nothing they can't do – even in a man's world.

**Mamma Mia!** – June 21-26, 2011 – "Mamma Mia!" is the feel-good show that combines ABBA's greatest hits, including "Dancing Queen," "S.O.S.," "Super Trouper," "Take a Chance On Me" and "The Winner Takes It All."

**Mary Poppins** – July 14-32, 2011 – Next July, the world's most famous nanny will arrive in Orange County. "Mary Poppins" combines the best of the original stories by P.L. Travers and the Walt Disney Film, and features the songs "Chim Chim Cher-ee," "A Spoonful of Sugar," "Let's Go Fly a Kite" and "Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious."

**West Side Story** – Sept. 6-18, 2011 – More than 50 years, "West Side Story" changed theater forever. Directed by Tony Award-winner Arthur Laurents, "West Side Story" remains as powerful, poignant and timely as ever. The new Broadway cast album recently won the 2010 Grammy Award for Best Musical Show Album, and the Bernstein and Sondheim score is considered to be one of Broadway's finest.

## 'Sound of Music' at St. Matthias

**DOWNEY** – Students from St. Matthias High School will present "The Sound of Music" April 23-24 in the school gymnasium.

Tickets are \$8 pre-sale or \$10 at the door. Performance times are 7:30 p.m.

For more information, call (562) 861-2271.

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**DIARY OF A WIMPY KID** PG (11:00, 1:45, 4:25, 7:05, 9:45)  
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# Theater group moves into Whittier

**WHITTIER** – Blue Moon Theatre Company has announced it has been awarded a theatre residency to perform in the 340-seat performing arts center at Southern California University Health Sciences in Whittier.

For almost a century, Southern California University Health Sciences has been training future health care providers for successful careers in patient care. Offering a dual degree program in chiropractic and acupuncture/oriental medicine, the University's 38 acre campus is located at 16200 Amber Valley Dr in Whittier.

The non-profit theatre group will perform Broadway musicals, dramas, comedies, touring musicals and youth productions. The season begins with Ticket to Ride Musical, an award winning musical biography of the Beatles, from April 23 – 25.

Founded by Shawn Hillman and Andy Nagle, the Blue Moon Theatre Company's vision is to bring quality live stage productions at an affordable ticket price as well as offer a wide range of performances to the community.

"I think people of Whittier and surrounding areas yearn for well-rounded theatrical productions," said Nagle, who brings more than ten years experience in theatre management and production. "We will present shows for both seniors and younger audiences, including national touring shows," said Hillman, an award-winning producer of Broadway musicals and youth productions.

"It is important to the University to help promote community interest, support and involvement in cultural and performing arts," said Regina Webster, Vice-President of Institutional Advancement at SCUHS. "We are eager to open our performing arts venue to the public," she added.

Blue Moon Theatre, a non-profit, all-volunteer organization, anticipates utilizing between 15,000 – 20,000 volunteer hours per production. They offer an extensive volunteer program and reward workers with season passes. Volunteer opportunities range from season ticket drives, set building, set painting, ushering, kitchen, clerical, staffing fundraising events to publicity. High school and college theatre students will be trained to operate the theatre's technical equipment for all productions. Those interested in volunteering can email [bluemoontheatreco@prodigy.net](mailto:bluemoontheatreco@prodigy.net) or call Andy Nagle at 562 480-7951

The theatre opens April 23 with three shows to raise funds to seed the theatre's regular season budget. "Ticket to Ride Musical" a biography of the Beatles, runs from April 23-25. This live musical, multimedia presentation tells the story

# The Red Violin sings again

■ Elizabeth Pitcairn will play the Mendelssohn Stradivarius violin, the inspiration for the 1999 film 'The Red Violin.'

BY JOYCE SHERWIN,  
DOWNEY SYMPHONY

**DOWNEY** – Coming to Downey! One night only! At a theater near you! The chance of a lifetime!

This is hype you might not ordinarily associate with our symphony orchestra, but it's simply a modestly understated notice to alert you to a rare event.

Coming to Downey on Saturday evening, April 10, at the Civic Theatre in concert with the Downey Symphony is soloist Elizabeth Pitcairn, performing Max Bruch's Violin Concerto No. 1. Pitcairn owns and plays (gloriously) the 1720 "Mendelssohn" Stradivarius violin, the inspiration for the 1999 Academy Award-winning film, "The Red Violin."

After the master violin-maker completed this instrument, it essentially vanished for more than 200 years, swathed in mystery, and seems not to have been played publicly for longer than that. Then in 1999 the New York Times reported that the extraordinary violin, "the Red Mendelssohn," had been put on Christie's auction block in London and sold to an American buyer "who does not wish to be identified."

Guess who? Elizabeth Pitcairn's website tells us, "While some of the world's most powerful sought to win the coveted instrument, it landed in the hands of a then 16-year-old American solo violinist, Elizabeth Pitcairn. Pitcairn would remain silent about owning the violin until her rapidly burgeoning solo career brought her into the public eye on international concert



PUBLICITY PHOTO

Elizabeth Pitcairn will be in concert at the Downey Theatre on April 10. Tickets start at \$10.

stages after nearly three decades of rigorous training by the world's most esteemed violin teachers."

Much of the instrument's "original burnished red varnish remains on the violin today, and it is thought to be one of the best sounding and most beautiful of Stradivari's remaining violins."

So this concert on April 10 is an occasion indeed, and here is information you need to be present in the audience.

The Civic Theatre is at 8435 Firestone Blvd. at the corner of Brookshire; parking is free. Concert time is 8 p.m., with Music

[moontheatreco@prodigy.net](mailto:moontheatreco@prodigy.net).

The theatre's regular season will begin in June with Broadway musicals, dramas, comedies and two youth shows. The season will be announced May 1.

The theatre also offers static ads to the business community which runs on large screens before shows and during intermissions, as seen in movie theatres. The theatre is selling ad packages which include free tickets to business sponsors.

Those interested should contact Andy Nagle at (562) 480-7951 or [andy@lajollabooking.com](mailto:andy@lajollabooking.com)

# Easter Bunny at outlets

**LOS ANGELES** – The Easter Bunny will be available for free family photos Sunday from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Citadel Outlets.

Shoppers can bring their own cameras or receive a free family photo via e-mail.

The shopping center will also provide Easter treats for kids and a coloring station.

The outlets are located off the 5 Freeway at Atlantic Boulevard.



Maude Price Elementary student Juliana Gomez was awarded first place in the Primary Level in Visual Arts at the Reflection Award program held March 1 by the Downey Council PTA. Juliana won for her work "Beauty Is...In All the Colors of Nature." All winners can be seen online at [pta.dusd.net](http://pta.dusd.net).



On March 10, the city of Downey along with, Keeping Downey Beautiful coordinator Carol Rowland, invited the West Middle School Builders Club to plant trees in front of the WMS campus. Rowland bestowed a proclamation to teacher Marlene Camacho and her Builders Club members. They planted four trees, commonly named Crapemyrtle. "The city of Downey crew members had a great time demonstrating to the students how to maintain the plant for years to come," Camacho said. "It was a great way to celebrate Arbor Day."

of the "Fab Four" through song, humor and drama and never fails to bring the audience to their feet.

"New Kid in Town" is a dance musical featuring premier Eagles tribute, Hotel California, and tells a story interwoven through the lyrics of Eagles megahits like as "Take it Easy" "Heartache Tonight" , "Hotel California" , "Witchy Woman" and, of course, "New Kid in Town." The musical runs from April 30 – May 16 on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays.

World class magician John Gabriel, who has played to packed houses at Caesar's Palace and the Stardust in Las Vegas, brings his show of illusions to the Blue Moon. Gabriel was hailed by NBC as "the next hottest magician." "John Gabriel – Magic Redefined" runs May 29 and 30.

Tickets for the shows range between \$20 - \$35 and mini season ticket packages are available for the three fundraising shows. You may tour the theatre to select your season ticket by emailing [bluemoontheatreco@prodigy.net](mailto:bluemoontheatreco@prodigy.net)

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# Rancho to honor patients, staff

# Planning for an emergency - week 2

CONTRIBUTED BY THE RANCHO LOS AMIGOS FOUNDATION

**DOWNEY** – Jacquelin Perry, MD, considered the world's leading physician in rehabilitation medicine, heads an impressive list of honorees for the 24th Annual Rancho Los Amigos Foundation Amistad Awards Gala, which will be held Saturday, May 1 at the Westin Long Beach Hotel.

Proceeds will benefit patients of Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center with catastrophic disabling illnesses and injuries.

The Amistad Gala will be hosted by Los Angeles County Fourth District Supervisor Don Knabe and is co-chaired by Beverly Mathis and Debbie Tomlinson.

The Amistad Award is the highest honor bestowed by Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation, a national leader in the treatment of individuals with disabilities. Rancho is the only facility in California to be named one of "America's Best Hospitals" in Rehabilitation Medicine by *U.S. News & World Report*, an honor it has achieved for 20 consecutive years.

This year's Amistad Award honorees include:

**World-renowned physician Jacquelin Perry, MD**, who will receive the Rancho Legend Award. Dr. Perry, who will celebrate her 92nd birthday in May, sees patients in the Rancho outpatient clinic each Friday. She recently released the third edition of her classic book on gait analysis. The February issue of the *Physical Therapy Journal* was dedicated to her and her groundbreaking work.

She is perhaps more responsible for advancing the field of rehabilitation medicine than any other person throughout the world. Dr. Perry, who is truly an American treasure, celebrates 55 years of service to Rancho this year.

**Inspirational Rancho Occupational Therapist Bobbi Jean Tanberg, BS, COTA/L, ATP**, who will receive the Amistad Individual Achievement Award.



H.O.M.E.



Bobbi Jean Tangberg



Jacquelin Perry



Steve Clay



Wendy Burton

Bobbi Jean is a co-founder of Rancho's award-winning KnowBarriers program that provides life coaching and many other important services to Rancho patients. She also created the Rancho Computer Lab, which helps patients regain motor and communications skills.

Recently, she supervised a renovation of Rancho's Model home, which helps patients and their families adjust to the new realities of living with a disability. Bobbi Jean also serves on the Los Angeles Women's Commission and represented the U.S. as a member of the U.S. women's basketball team at the Paralympic Games.

**Eminent Rancho Speech Therapist Wendy Burton, MA, CCC-SP**, who will receive the Amistad Lifetime Achievement Award. Burton is director of Rancho's Communications Disorders Department. Throughout her distinguished career, she has earned the respect of her col-

leagues throughout our nation for her patient treatment skills, her mentoring, her research, and her extensive involvement in leadership activities at the local, state and national levels. Burton celebrates her 25th year at Rancho in 2010.

**The Assistance League of Downey's H.O.M.E. Project**, which provides a very low-cost place to stay for Rancho patient families while their loved ones are in the hospital. Over the last 11 years, the Housing Of Medical Emergencies (H.O.M.E.) project has provided very low-cost housing on the Rancho campus for 2,700 families who could not afford to stay in a motel or hotel. The Assistance League of Downey built the H.O.M.E. Project and underwrites all maintenance expenses for this incredibly successful project.

**Beloved Rancho Los Amigos Graduate Artist Steve Clay**. Steve Clay suffered a devastating stroke in 1995 that paralyzed his painting

hand. With the help of Rancho therapists, he learned to paint with his other hand while his treatment team was helping him regain most of the function in his right hand.

Today, he paints masterpieces with both hands. Steve also creates all the portraits for the world-famous Art of Rancho book each year and serves as an instructor in Rancho's Pediatric Arts Program.

The Rancho Los Amigos Foundation invites community members to attend the Amistad Gala on May 1 as we celebrate the contributions of our amazing honorees and raise funds to help our patients with disabling illnesses and injuries realize the power of their dreams.

For ticket information, call the Rancho Los Amigos Foundation at (562) 401-7053.

By MARK SAUTER

Taking the responsibility of being prepared for an emergency can be a daunting task. Last week we introduced a different way of addressing the issue of preparedness. Rather than 'get ready' all at once, why not commit to being ready in five months (roughly 20 weeks) and do a little each week?

While preparing for this weeks column I spoke with a Red Cross worker who mentioned a term that I hadn't heard for some time. She mentioned she was a member of the 'sandwich generation'. Not the peanut butter and jelly type but the group of people who find themselves caring for those who are older (usually parents) and those who are younger (usually their children).

In many ways, almost all of us are a member of the sandwich generation. Nearly all of us have an elder who can be more prepared if we assist them. The same can be said for the younger generation.

Suppose we don't have an elder or a youngster in our house, what about our neighbors? Many times we 'keep an eye' on our neighbor's households when they are away or watch their children while they run an errand. How about our co-workers? If those near us are not prepared for a problem, they could become an additional part of the problem after an earthquake strikes. It is best to give this issue some thought, now, rather than be surprised later.

First issue.... How did we do with our week #1 objectives?

•did we embrace the concept of preparedness and communicate our intentions of improving our preparedness with those we live and work with?

•did we find the time to make a place for emergency supplies in our living and working places?

•did we have the time and resources to obtain the recommended supplies?

•did we take the time to learn more about basic first-aid (or at least look for some information on first-aid)?

Objectives for week #2.....

If any of the questions above need action, please begin to take

steps to address them.

Assess the specialized needs of your household, family, neighborhood and workplace. Should a disaster occur and you find yourself without the items you rely on, what will it take to maintain your day-to-day lives. Develop a list of the supplies or services you will need to fill those needs. What does this mean? Beyond food and water, what other items are necessary? Are there children in the house that need diapers or special foods? Do people in your household need daily medications? Are there dependent parents or elders in the house or neighborhood? What about pets? How about eye glasses? Obtain the following:

-heavy cotton or hemp rope. This can be used for lots of actions after a disaster

-duct tape. Are there many items that have more uses?

-Flashlights with batteries. Recommend two, at least, keep the batteries next to the flashlight if you don't use the flashlight all the time. Obviously helpful in most any emergency.

-matches in a waterproof container. Could be wooden matches, a couple of packs of matches in a zip-lock bag or something more sophisticated.

-pet leash and carrier in easy access location.

-one item from the special needs list developed from Objective #2. Could be diapers, eye glasses, medications, over the counter medications like aspirin, etc. Whatever you obtain, it will be the first step towards addressing your specialized needs.

Other things to consider...the flashlights noted above could be the power-station type that don't require batteries. These units are readily available and some even charge cell phones. You will need to crank them like a fishing reel or squeeze them like a hand gripper, but they work and they are dependable.

If you have questions or comments about preparedness or this column, please e-mail me at: ready@downeyca.org.

Mark Sauter is deputy city manager in charge of emergency preparedness for the city of Downey.

# Tax Directory

While most tax return preparers provide excellent service to their clients, the Internal Revenue Service urges people to be very careful when choosing a return preparer this filing season.

"Income tax return preparers occupy a unique position in our system of taxation. Their position is unique in that they are trusted by their clients to help them pay the least amount of tax allowed under the law and they are trusted by the IRS to follow the law," said Leslie P. DeMarco, Special Agent in Charge of IRS - Criminal Investigation's Los Angeles Field Office. "The key is the law. Those return preparers that violate the law, for their own benefit or for the benefit of themselves and their clients, will be prosecuted. As a part of its national strategy, IRS - Criminal Investigation is committed to identifying, investigating, and prosecuting those income tax return preparers who exploit our nation's tax laws and violate the public trust for their own personal financial gain."

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Helpful Hints When Choosing a Return Preparer

- Be cautious of tax preparers who claim they can obtain larger refunds than other preparers.
- Avoid preparers who base their fee on a percentage of the refund. Use a reputable tax professional who signs the tax return and provides a copy.
- Consider whether the individual or firm will be around to answer questions about the preparation of the tax return months, or even years, after the return has been filed.
- Check the person's credentials. Only attorneys, certified public accountants (CPAs) and enrolled agents can represent taxpayers before the IRS in all matters, including audits, collection and appeals. Other return preparers may only represent taxpayers for audits of returns they actually prepared.
- Find out if the preparer is affiliated with a professional organization that provides its members with continuing education and resources and holds them to a code of ethics.

Reputable preparers will ask to see receipts and will ask multiple questions to determine whether expenses, deductions and other items qualify. By doing so, they are trying to help their clients avoid penalties, interest or additional taxes that could result from an IRS examination.

Recently, a Gardena return preparer was sentenced to spend 72 months in federal prison after being convicted of aiding and assisting in the preparation of false income tax returns, causing a loss to the government of more than \$2.7 million. Additionally, a National City return preparer was sentenced to 65 months in prison for preparing false tax returns.

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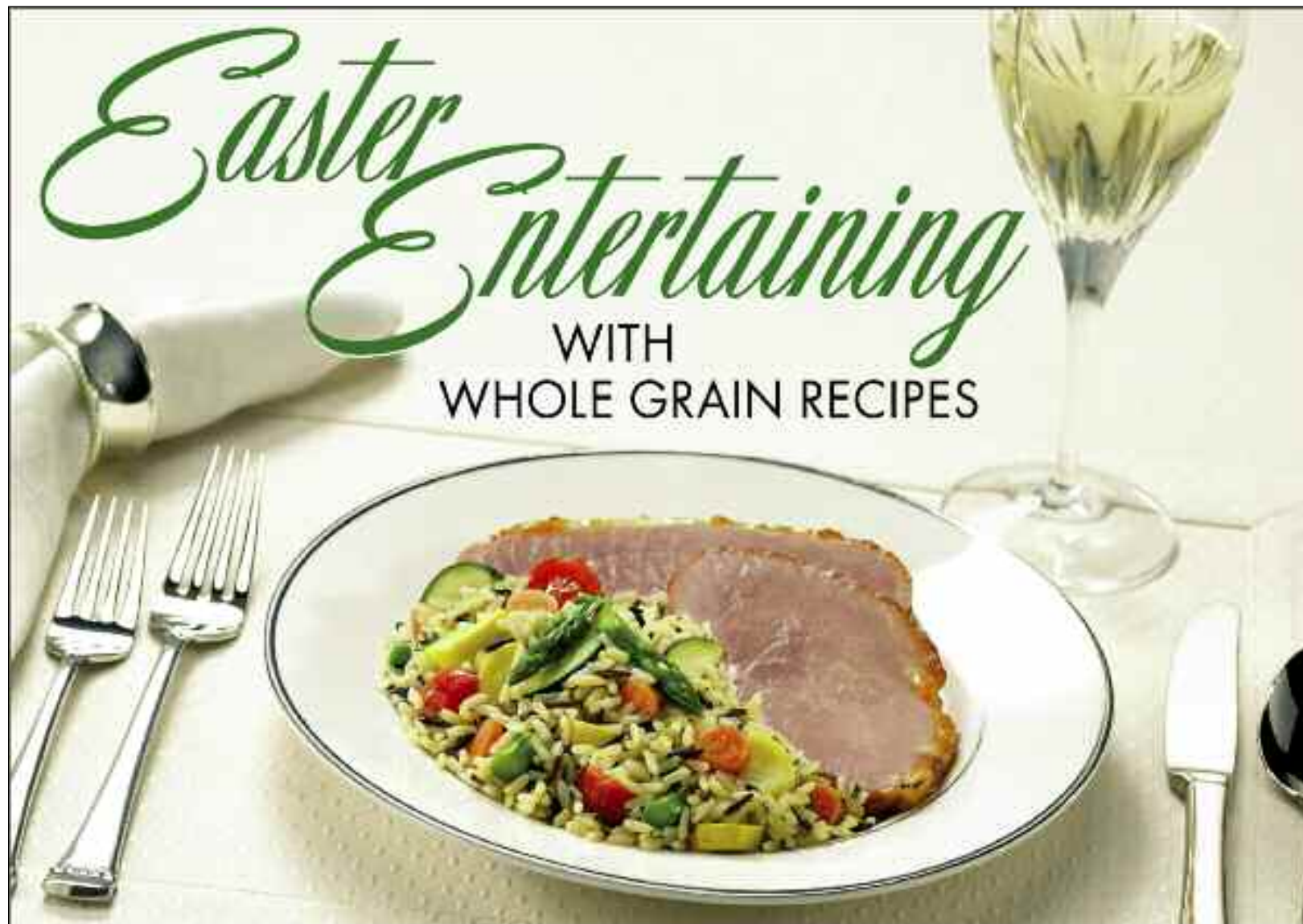
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## Easter Entertaining

WITH WHOLE GRAIN RECIPES



**Celebrate Easter With Us**  
 7:00 am Sunrise Service  
 8:00 am Easter Breakfast  
 8:30 am Easter Egg Hunt  
 10:00 am Festival Worship  
**Good Shepherd Lutheran Church**  
 13200 Clark/Columbia Way,  
 Downey  
 (562) 803-4459

Join us as we celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord!

**Easter Sunday 10:00 AM**  
 Followed by Easter Brunch

**Christ Lutheran Church**  
 7707 Florence Avenue, Downey 90240

### Heart-healthy ideas the whole family will enjoy

There's nothing quite like a delicious Easter dinner with the family... except maybe one that's heart-healthy and full of whole grain benefits.

"It's great to gather around the dinner table and spend quality time with your family, but there's no need to break the bank on calories or raise cholesterol levels," said Michele Prosser, R.D. and chef, on behalf of Uncle Ben's. "These recipes allow you to celebrate and not feel guilty the next day because each is heart-healthy and packed with many vegetables or fruit."

For more recipe ideas, visit [UncleBens.com](http://UncleBens.com).

**Wild Rice Primavera**  
 Prep Time: 10 minutes  
 Cooking Time: 20 minutes  
 Serves: 6

- 1 box (6 ounces) Uncle Ben's Long Grain & Wild Rice Original Recipe
- 2 cups fat-free, reduced sodium chicken broth, divided
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 1 teaspoon Italian seasoning
- 1 cup baby carrots, cut into small coins
- 1 cup zucchini, cut into half moons
- 1 cup yellow squash, cut into half moons
- 1 cup cherry tomatoes, halved
- 1 cup asparagus, sliced



Long Grain & Wild Rice, Lentil and Pomegranate Pilaf

**Mediterranean Stuffed Portobello Mushrooms**  
 Prep Time: 5 minutes  
 Cooking Time: 40 minutes  
 Serves: 6 to 8, depending on the size of the mushrooms

- 1 cup Uncle Ben's Natural Whole Grain Brown Rice
- 1 tablespoon oil
- 1 cup onion, diced
- 1/2 cup green peppers, diced
- 2 cups low-fat, reduced sodium chicken broth
- 1/2 teaspoon dried oregano
- 1 can (2.25 ounces) sliced black olives, sliced
- 1/2 cup cherry tomatoes cut into small pieces
- 1 cup reduced fat feta cheese
- 1/4 cup parsley
- 6 to 8 portobello mushrooms

**Long Grain & Wild Rice, Lentil and Pomegranate Pilaf**  
 Prep Time: 30 minutes  
 Serves: 8

- 1 box Uncle Ben's Long Grain & Wild Rice Herb Roasted Chicken
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 cup chopped onion
- 1/2 cup plus 2 tablespoons chopped garlic
- 1/4 teaspoon ground cumin
- 1/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/4 teaspoon ground allspice
- 3/4 cup lentils, rinsed and picked over
- 3 cups water
- 1/4 cup chopped parsley
- 1/2 cup plus 2 tablespoons chopped dried cherries or fresh pomegranate seeds\* from 1 pomegranate
- 1/4 cup toasted pine nuts\*\*

- Other easy ideas to get whole grains on the dinner table**
- Substitute: Instead of pasta, add whole grain rice to soup and chili, or when making casserole dishes.
  - Salad Spin: Use whole grain rice in marinated grain salads.
  - Stuff Your Vegetables: Use whole grain rice as a base for stuffed vegetables such as bell peppers, zucchini, portobello mushrooms, eggplant, tomatoes and artichokes.
  - Combine Food Groups: Add whole grain rice to homemade meatballs to add flavor and fiber.
  - Lower the Fat: To make a liver fat quiche, use brown rice for the crust instead of using a regular pie crust.
  - Create a Pilaf: Cook brown rice in low-sodium broth and add toasted nuts and dried fruit.
  - Mix and Match: Mix brown and white rice together to introduce whole grains to kids.
  - Whole Grain Dessert: Make creamy rice pudding with whole grain rice for a tasty dessert.



Mediterranean Stuffed Portobello Mushrooms

**Downey First Christian Church**

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

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

encouraging message ~ uplifting music ~ outstanding childcare  
 casual atmosphere ~ friendly people ~ free breakfast 8:30am - 12pm

**Easter Services**  
**Sunday, April 4th**  
 9:30am & 10:45am  
 english language (562) 862-2438  
 12:30pm  
 spanish language (562) 862-7418

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



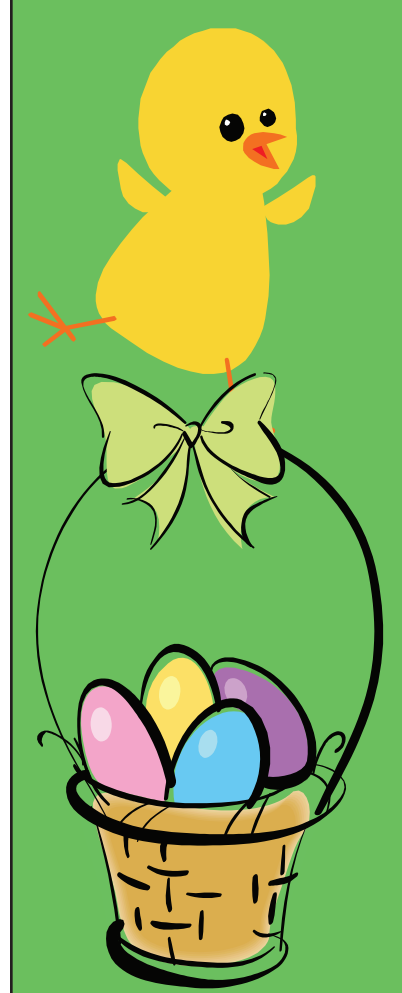
**Desert Reign Assembly of God**

11610 Lakewood Blvd., Downey

**"Come to Life...this Easter!"**  
 Sunday, April 4, 10:00 a.m.

- Pre-service coffee & pastries (Come early!)
- Special music
- Easter message
- Easter Egg Hunt for children
- Nursery care

562-861-6011  
[www.desertreign.org](http://www.desertreign.org)



**Holy Week**  
**Messiah Lutheran Church**  
 10711 Paramount Boulevard • Downey • CA  
**Good Friday Tenebrare Service**  
 April 2, 7 p.m.  
**Easter Sunday Services**  
 April 4, 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.  
 Breakfast will be served between services at 9:15 a.m.  
 and an Easter Egg Hunt for 12 & younger  
**For more information call (562) 923-1215**

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

**Join Us For Easter Celebration**  
**Saturday April 3,**  
 Easter Vigil Service 8:00 PM  
**Sunday April 4,**  
 Easter Day Service 10:15 AM

**Sunday Festive Choral Eucharist**  
 Childcare  
 Egg Hunt  
 Brunch

Praise Chapel Downey invites you to our **Easter Services**

**Easter Sunday Service April 4th**  
 9:00am or 11:15 am services

*Jason & Jackie Neville*  
 Lead Pastor

7340 Firestone Blvd. STE 127 Downey, CA 90241  
 children's church and child care provided. For more info call (562) 254-5498 or visit [www.pcdowney.com](http://www.pcdowney.com)

**an EASTER LOVE STORY**





**LEGAL NOTICES**

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT**  
**File Number 20100303134**  
 THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) IS (ARE) DOING BUSINESS AS:  
 (1) D Tech Truck Auto, 12036 Carson St., Hawaiian Gardens, CA 90716, County of Los Angeles  
 Name of registrant(s): Robert Castro, 5522 Orange Ave. #A, Cypress, CA 90630  
 This business is conducted by an Individual Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name(s) listed above. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime.) S/Robert Castro, Owner  
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on March 5, 2010. NOTICE-In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the County Clerk, except as provided in Subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A New Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration.  
 The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (see Section 14411 et. seq., Business Professions Code).

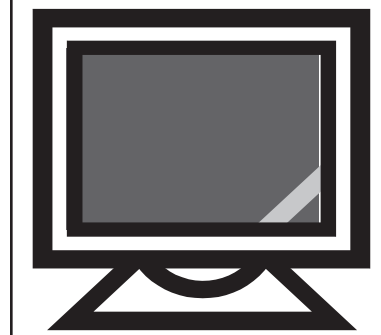
Published in:  
 The Downey Patriot #VS019238  
 3/12/10, 3/19/10, 3/26/10, 4/2/10

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**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**Rancho Los Amigos Oral History Project**

The County of Los Angeles and Sapphos Environmental, Inc. are conducting oral history interviews to document the history of Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center. Potential interviewees may be past employees, residents, and other individuals who possess substantive knowledge, including letters, photographs, or memorabilia, regarding the history of Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center from its founding to 1952. If you have information regarding the Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center and would like to participate in the Rancho Los Amigos Oral History Project, please call Marlise Fratinardo, Senior Cultural Resources Coordinator, Sapphos Environmental, Inc., at (626) 683-3547 or e-mail your contact information to mfratinardo@sapphosenvironmental.com. For more information about Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center, please visit: <http://www.rancho.org/>

Published in The Downey Patriot #BS124251  
 3/26/10, 4/2/10, 4/9/10, 4/16/10

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**The Downey Patriot**  
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 SUITE 100, DOWNEY 90240  
 FAX: (562) 904-3124

Letters may be edited for style, space and/or content



## Skate competition next Friday

**DOWNEY** – Independence Park will host a skate competition April 9 from 7 to 10 p.m. for residents of ages 4 to adult.

Madrid Skateboards is organizing the competition. Entry fee is \$1 and will be collected at the event.

Helmets, knee and elbow pads are required to skate in the park.

Registration forms are available at the skate park office Monday – Friday. For more information, call (562) 904-7238.



## Jervis recognized for production

**DOWNEY** – David Jervis was recently recognized with the Double Centurion Producer Award for sales production with Century 21 Jervis & Associates.

The award is presented to Century 21 associates that achieve \$418,000 in sales production or close 120 transactions with a calendar year.

“David is a consummate professional who continues to exceed the expectations of our clients in order to provide an unmatched level of service and peace of mind during the real estate transaction,” said Jerry Jervis, broker of Century 21 Jervis & Associates. “David is a leader and innovator and (we are) extremely proud to recognize this accomplishment.”



## Carnival at local nursing home

**NORWALK** – Southland Care Center in Norwalk will host a springtime carnival April 10, with proceeds benefiting the Ensign Foundation and Habitat for Humanity.

Food, games and prizes will be available from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Southland is at 11701 Studebaker Rd.

To assist with the carnival as a volunteer or vendor, call (562) 868-9761.

## IRS rep to speak April 27

**DOWNEY** – Keith Kershner, stakeholder liaison with the Internal Revenue Service, will speak at the April 27 meeting of Rise ‘N Shine Networking.

Kershner will speak on “Business Incentives and Credits from Recent Federal Legislation.”

The meeting begins at 7:30 a.m. at Bob’s Big Boy. Cost to attend is an order from the menu.

For information, call (562) 923-2191.

## New board at Lakewood hospital

**LAKWOOD** – Lakewood Regional Medical Center (LRMC) has announced the appointment of two new community members to its Governing Board: Joe Esquivel and John Kelsall.

The LRMC Governing Board is comprised of community members and medical staff. The board is responsible for recommending and implementing hospital policy, promoting quality patient care, providing for the organizational management of the hospital and ensuring that the mission, vision and values of the hospital are fulfilled.

Joe Esquivel, who is currently serving as Mayor of Lakewood, was first elected to the Lakewood City Council in 1990. In addition to his service to the city, Esquivel is a volunteer basketball and football coach. He is also a coordinator for the Rotary Club’s annual Project



Shepherd, a holiday assistance program for families.

John Kelsall is the President of the Greater Lakewood Chamber of Commerce. He is also on the board of the Lakewood YMCA, the Long

Beach Education and Business Advisory Council, the Rotary Club of Lakewood and SELACO Workforce Investment.

Two Downey Bocce Club teams took first and second place at the commencement of the 2010 Southwestern Bocce Association Tournament schedule, which was held in Downey on March 21. The first place “Downey 1” team included (top photo, from left) Mike Oreb, John Fiorenza, Pat Limatola and John Masone. The second place “Downey Mix” team consisted of Amadio Egizii, Theresa Robarge, Alfredo Persico and Miguel Tamagno.

**ATTENTION BUSINESS OWNERS:**  
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Price: \$725,000 Northeast Downey Dream Home Breath taking - 5 BD, 3 BA, 2 Car Gar, backyard with Pool, Spa, BBQ, 2,753sqft & 10,149 lot.  
Price: \$380,000 Location, Location, Location 3 BD, 2 BA, 1,604 sqft, 4,368 lot. Very cozy single story. A must see!  
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**FEATURED PROPERTY**  
Virtual Tour – [www.towncenter.com/7818](http://www.towncenter.com/7818)  
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**First Time Condo Opportunity**  
Fantastic value. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, granite countertops in kitchen, fireplace in living room, formal dining area, 2 car garage. Call for price.

**Great Starter**  
This is a beautiful home in desirable neighborhood, 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom, granite counter tops, tile floors throughout.

**Cute Home**  
This is a well maintained 3 bedroom, 1 bath home. Conveniently located. Short Sale

**Not A Short Sale!**  
A very nice two story home with 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, and 2 car garage, newer kitchen with granite counter tops and close to freeways and shopping.





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 <p><b>Carrie Uva</b> "Let's Talk Real Estate &amp; Law Too!" <b>562-382-1252</b> <a href="http://www.CarrieUva.com">www.CarrieUva.com</a> Lic. 01152047</p> <p><b>AVOID PROBATE!</b> Living Trusts Wills Call Today to make Your Living Trust!!! <b>CALL CARRIE TODAY!</b> (562) 382-1252</p>	 <p><b>Marie Picarelli</b> "The Intelligent Choice!" <b>562-618-0033</b> <a href="http://www.MariePicarelli.com">www.MariePicarelli.com</a> Lic. 00610605</p> <p><b>SOLD!</b> <b>CALL ME TO GET YOUR HOME SOLD!</b> 3 BD, 2 BA, 1916 SQ. FT 8,008 LOT Listed at \$499,000 Call Marie Picarelli @ 562-618-0033</p>	 <p><b>Mario Persico</b> "Mario Did it AGAIN!" <b>562-533-7433</b> <a href="http://www.MarioPersico.com">www.MarioPersico.com</a> Lic. 01341121</p> <p><b>REDUCED!</b> <b>ORIGINAL OWNER</b> Lovely N. Downey home w/ 3 BD, 2 BA, newer roof, paint, A/C, over 1,700 sq. ft., Standard Sale! Call Mario for a private showing 562-533-7433</p>
<p><b>REDUCED!</b> <b>AFFORDABLE BUY!</b> 2 BD, 1 BA home in E. LA on a R-3 Lot Priced at \$160,000 Call Carrie Uva 562-382-1252</p>	<p><b>CALL NOW!</b> <b>ROOM TO GROW!</b> 4 BD, 2 BA, master suite, 2 car gar., 1,722 sq. ft., 7,500 sq. ft. lot. Call For Price. Call Sonia Banuelos (562) 972-7115 Lic. 01835516</p>	<p><b>MUST SEE!</b> <b>EXTRAS! EXTRAS! EXTRAS!</b> 4 BD, 3 BA, over 2,500 sq. ft., Move in Ready, North Downey, Standard Sale. Call Mario for a private showing 562-533-7433</p>
<p><b>BUDGET BEATER!</b> Cerritos condo w/ 1 BD, 1 BA, living room &amp; kitchen. Priced at: \$174,900 Call Carrie Uva 562-382-1252</p>	<p><b>JUST LISTED!</b> <b>CUSTOM BUILT BEAUTY!</b> 3 BD, 2 BA, family rm w/ fireplace, BBQ area, 2 car gar, 2,366 sq. ft. living space. Call For Price! Call Christina Davilas (562) 761-6080 Lic. 01062471</p>	<p><b>WOW!</b> <b>OWNER MAY CARRY!</b> 3 BD, 3 BA, nearly 2,300 sq. ft. of living space, + rumpus room HUGE 14700 sq. ft. lot! Virtual tour at <a href="http://www.MARIOBERSICO.COM">www.MARIOBERSICO.COM</a> Call Mario for a private showing 562-533-7433</p>
<p><b>OFFICE EXCLUSIVE LISTING!</b> 2 BD, 1 BA, South Gate home w/ 1,270 sq. ft. Priced at: \$239,900 Call Carrie Uva 562-382-1252</p>	<p><b>EQUESTRIAN COMMUNITY!</b> 3 BD, 3 BA, 2 car gar., R.V. parking, assigned house stable, assoc. clubhouse &amp; pool, 5,720 sq. ft. lot. Priced at: \$495,000 Call Maria Elena Serrano (562) 400-3373 Lic. 01312084</p>	<p><b>MARIO DID IT AGAIN... IN ESCROW</b> <b>6240 NOROCO DR. PICO RIVERA</b> 3 BD, 2 BA, 1,490 sq. ft., on a 7,000 sq. ft. lot. Let Mario DO IT for you too! <b>IN ESCROW! IN ESCROW! IN ESCROW!</b> <b>ATTENTION!</b> <b>MARIO IS NOW TAKING LISTINGS!</b> 100's of Buyers <b>TOP \$\$\$ FOR YOUR \$\$\$!!</b> Call For a <b>FREE CONSULTATION!</b> (562) 533-7433 <b>MARIO PERSICO SELLS DOWNEY!</b> Born Educated Lives Downey!</p>
<p><b>SOLD!</b> <b>8321 COLE ST., DOWNEY</b> Charming 2 BD, 2 1/2 bath Downey condo, w/ 2 car garage &amp; patio. Priced at: \$250,000 Call Carrie Uva 562-382-1252</p>	<p><b>DOWNEY!</b> <b>HOME SWEET HOME!</b> 4 BD, 3 BA, family room w/ fireplace, 10,000 sq. ft. HUGE LOT Priced at: \$589,000 Call Pam Lee (562) 618-0390 Lic. 01750256</p>	<p><b>TOP \$\$\$ FOR YOUR \$\$\$!!</b> Call For a <b>FREE CONSULTATION!</b> (562) 533-7433 <b>MARIO PERSICO SELLS DOWNEY!</b> Born Educated Lives Downey!</p>

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<p><b>JUST LISTED!</b> <b>Bonus Points For This One.</b> Wonderful 2,452 sq ft home w/ 4 bd, 3 ba, formal living rm, lg family rm, spacious kitchen, formal dining rm, lg pool, a nice view of backyard from several areas of the home! All on a 13,000 sq ft lot! Price: \$665,000 Call Michael @ 562-818-6111</p>	<p><b>JUST LISTED!</b> <b>New NE Downey Listing!</b> 4 BD, 3 BA, formal living room and dining room with new laminate floors, remodeled master &amp; hall bathrooms, cozy family room and bright kitchen w/ granite countertops. Price: \$699,000 Virtual tour at <a href="http://www.MichaelBerdelis.com">www.MichaelBerdelis.com</a></p>	<p><b>JUST LISTED!</b> <b>A Rare Find!</b> Unique 3 bed, 2 bath home that features a large living room, master bedroom that has a sauna room, and it even has a solar powered system that makes your electrical bills practically non-existent! Price \$575,000 Virtual tour at <a href="http://www.MichaelBerdelis.com">www.MichaelBerdelis.com</a></p>
<p><b>A-1 Neighborhood!</b> Lg 3 BD, 2 BA home in the NE Dow area boasting an open floorplan w/ almost 2,000 sq ft living space &amp; a master BD and BA. This 7,500 sq ft lot is perfect for RV parking! Reduced Price: \$495,000! Virtual tour at <a href="http://www.MichaelBerdelis.com">www.MichaelBerdelis.com</a></p>	<p><b>NE Downey Development!</b> 5 BD + loft (possible 6th BD) 4 BA w/ 3,839 sq ft, large re-landscaped backyard &amp; 4 car att. Garage. Price: \$990,000 Virtual tour at <a href="http://www.MichaelBerdelis.com">www.MichaelBerdelis.com</a></p>	<p><b>Fabulous Custom-Built Home!</b> 5BD, 5BA home on a large lot near Rio Hondo Country Club and Furman Park. Features: Master suite with wet bar and fireplace, intercom and surveillance system. Price: \$1,225,000 Virtual tour at <a href="http://www.MichaelBerdelis.com">www.MichaelBerdelis.com</a></p>
<p><b>The Perfect Palace!</b> 6 BD, 7BA, 7,500 sq ft, 10,890 sq ft lot, dual-staircase entry, Vegas-style master suite, and resort-like backyard. Price: \$1,249,000 Call Michael @ 562-818-6111</p>	<p><b>Northeast Downey Prize!</b> 5 BD, 4.5 BA, 5200 sq ft home with amazing kitchen and master bathroom, excellent attention to details, and backyard with pool, spa, and BBQ. Price: \$1,025,000 Virtual tour at <a href="http://www.MichaelBerdelis.com">www.MichaelBerdelis.com</a></p>	<p><b>Positive Cashflow!</b> 4 units in LGB - 2519 sq ft total living space w/ 4 car garage in rear! W/ min. down, property will bring positive cash flow when fully rented. Price \$399,000 Call Michael @ 562-818-6111</p>

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 <p><b>Downey Home</b> 2 BR, 1 BA, large back yard Call Jose 562-519-4010</p>	 <p><b>DOWNEY POOL HOME</b> 4 BR, 3 BA 2,162 sq. ft. Call Waleed 714-745-7575</p>	 <p><b>4 UNITS, \$3,500 INCOME</b> 1 BED 1 BA per unit Call Amparo 562-445-7375</p>	 <p><b>Remodeled Downey Pool Home</b> 3 BR, 2 BA priced at \$379,900 Call Rudy 562-743-1400</p>
 <p><b>2 UNITS, \$3,400 INCOME</b> 4 BR, 2 BA home and back unit Call Amparo 562-445-7375</p>	 <p><b>\$275,000</b> 3 BR, 2 BA, 7,373 Sq. ft Lot Call Jose 562-519-4010</p>	 <p><b>NEW PRICE</b> N.E. Downey built in 2008 6 BR, 6.5 BA, Pool &amp; Gazebo Call Yola 818-667-4698</p>	 <p><b>Beautiful Pool Home</b> 4 BR, 2 BA \$175,000 Call Claudia 323-459-5182</p>

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