

# The Downey Patriot



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Thursday, January 20, 2011

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

## City leaders not fazed by Brown's plan

■ Officials say Downey will be minimally impacted by governor's plan to eliminate redevelopment agencies.

BY HENRY VENERACION,  
STAFF WRITER

**DOWNEY** – Gov. Jerry Brown's proposal to do away with redevelopment agencies, as part of his proposed budget which he unveiled last week, has entrenched parties up in arms but it doesn't scare Downey officials at all.

According to Mayor Luis Marquez, Downey's two project areas administered by the Community Development Commission (aka the Downey City Council), comprising a) the Firestone Boulevard corridor running east to west of city limits, including the downtown core area, and b) the Woodruff Avenue commercial/industrial area comprising 168 acres from Stewart & Gray Road south to just north of Imperial Highway, has a budget totaling only \$4.5 million.

This compares with cities like Paramount, Glendale, Long Beach and Cerritos which are "heavily dependent on redevelopment revenue" in luring and retaining business investment to the designated areas.

In fact, it's not unusual for a city such as Cerritos, Marquez said, to declare practically the whole city as a redevelopment area. Indeed, in a statement attributed to community development manager Brian Saeki, Cerritos in one fiscal year enjoyed redevelopment funds referred to as tax increments amounting to \$32 million

(and responsible, it can be deduced, for the city's projects such as its huge auto center). These are monies representing the increase in assessed property values above a base year.

A further reason why Downey's Community Development Commission gets by with its modest FY2010-11 \$4.5 million budget to fight blight, upgrade infrastructure, build affordable housing, promote job creation and otherwise spend on projects and programs designed to spur business investment and economic growth in the two areas, adds assistant city manager Gilbert Livas, can be traced to Downey's genes.

"Historically, Downey has had no appetite for redevelopment. The word, usually associated with blight, carries a stigma, affecting property values in the area. There was also always the threat of eminent domain, and the idea turned people off," he said. "Besides, Downey hasn't really been afflicted with too much blight. There are more single-family homes here, residents are more aware of aesthetics, property values are higher here, and therefore, these translate into higher assessments."

Bond payments on the Firestone Boulevard project area, said Livas, are about to end in one or two years. Servicing the debt on the Woodruff Avenue project area will take several more years.

City staff has been instructed to study possible scenarios if redevelopment agencies are abolished. Eminent domain is hardly a consideration nowadays. Meanwhile, new businesses that have been attracted

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## Looking back on... STONEWOOD CENTER

■ Shopping center opened in 1958 but its history goes back much further.

BY CHRISTIAN BROWN,  
STAFF WRITER

**DOWNEY** – During the mid-20th century, Huntington Park was the place to shop.

Adorned with high-end department stores, popular auto dealerships and first-rate cinemas, Pacific Boulevard, a swanky, Beverly Hills-like thoroughfare in Huntington Park's downtown district, offered fine merchandise to a constant stream of working-class locals in the 1940s and early 50s.

With few national fashion retailers available in southeast Los Angeles County at the time, Pacific Boulevard became what the New York Times referred to as an "apotheosis of the postwar California dream."

Eager to live out their middle-class aspirations, working-class families from the neighboring cities of South Gate, Bell, Cudahy and Downey often found themselves shopping in the busy downtown commercial district.

However, with community leaders always striving to elevate Downey to the forefront of innovation and quality of life, Mr. and Mrs. William Lansdale took on the task of establishing Downey as the next mecca of fashion, entertainment and retail business.

In February 1953, the couple announced their intentions to construct, design and develop a nearly 63-acre shopping center near the corner of Firestone and Lakewood boulevards.

The almost \$12 million venture, known today as Stonewood Center, would eventually become the largest commercial and professional development in the community's history, one of the first regional shopping centers in Southern California, and the seventh shopping mall facility built in Greater Los Angeles.

Though it may be difficult to imagine the large acreage as anything but a shopping center, Stonewood was at one time a forested tract of land, filled with gourds and sugar beets, owned by one of Downey's pioneer families: the Jenisons.

It was 1877 when John E. Jenison, co-founder of a thriving general merchandise business, arrived in Downey, purchasing extensive plots of land throughout the newly-formed community, including more than 100 acres from Florence Avenue to Firestone Boulevard, between Lakewood Boulevard and Woodruff Avenue.

By the early 1950s, the majority of the Jenison land had been subdivided into residential developments, while the original Jenison Ranch, acquired by Jenison's daughter-in-law, Jewell, in the 1930s, sat undeveloped for years.

However, in 1953, after spending years declining numerous offers for the prized land, Jewell Jenison signed a 99-year lease agreement with the Lansdales, a young, Downey couple, who immediately envisioned a large, open-air retail business center on the property.

Following the example of newer retail centers, like the



STONEWOOD CENTER PHOTO

Stonewood Center caters to a younger crowd today than it did when the mall originally opened more than 50 years ago.



PHOTOS COURTESY DOWNEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

A photo of WT Grant's grand opening in 1958.



The Broadway Restaurant, a 24-hour coffee shop at Stonewood Center.

Lakewood Shopping Center, which opened in the city of Lakewood in 1951, Lansdale and his partner, E. Morris Smith, began designing the Downey mall, originally referred to as the Lansdale Shopping Center. Later, the name changed to Stonewood, an abbreviation of the shopping center's location – Firestone at Lakewood, once one of the busiest intersections in the world.

In February 1956, construction began with a 24-hour coffee shop and restaurant, which was eventually named Stonewood Restaurant. The \$750,000 eatery was followed by the addition of Downey Stonewood Community Bank and a 40,000-square-foot Shopping Bag supermarket.

When the 390,000-square-foot, open-air shopping center opened on Thursday, October 9, 1958, it

featured nearly 40 stores including a new J.C. Penney, W.T. Grant, F.W. Woolworth's, Thrifty Drug Store, Hardy Shoes, Miller and Miller West Men's, Downey Music and Hollander Cafeteria.

By 1966, Stonewood Center was being advertised as a "city within a city" as the number of stores jumped to nearly 65 with the addition of Farrell's Ice Cream Parlour, Showcase Cinemas, a small twin theatre, Radio Shack, and a 3-level, 143,400-square-foot The Broadway, which opened in 1965. The Broadway also originally featured a restaurant, coffee shop, but was later closed and utilized as additional shopping space. In the 1970s, Stonewood continued to grow consuming more of the original 63 acres, offering almost 80 stores at the shopping center. In 1981, Stonewood constructed a

new 2-story Mervyn's on the north side of its lot, adding yet another nationally-recognized anchor to its list of competitive stores.

Stonewood, which slowly took the place of Downey's once vibrant downtown, eventually played host to Hollywood. With its classic 60s architecture and ambiance, the shopping center proved perfect for an early episode of the TV show "The Wonder Years," which filmed inside Stonewood Center in 1988. Nevertheless, the late 80s proved to be a transitional period for the still open-air mall, which was becoming less appealing as new, fully-enclosed venues were increasing in popularity. In December 1986, the property was sold to Newport Beach-based Hughes Investments, which promised a completely

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## Featured soloist



Francesco Camuglia is currently a junior at the Colburn Conservatory in Los Angeles, studying with Jim Walker. An avid orchestral musician, he is currently playing with the Boise Philharmonic for their 2010-11 season. He will be the featured soloist at a Downey Symphony concert Jan. 29 at the Downey Theatre. See story, page 3

## Flu blamed for 3 deaths in L.A. County

Health officials urge residents to get vaccinated after recent deaths.

**LOS ANGELES** – At least three people died from flu in the past two weeks, marking the first deaths of the 2010-11 influenza season, L.A. County public health officials have announced.

In an average flu season, which lasts from fall to late spring, flu claims an estimated 1,000 deaths in L.A. County, health officials said.

"This is an unfortunate reminder that flu is a serious, potentially deadly illness that is also vaccine-preventable," said Jonathan Fielding, MD, director of public health for Los Angeles County. "We're approaching the time of year when we typically see peak numbers of flu cases. There is still time to get a flu shot or the flu mist nasal spray vaccine and to protect yourself, your loved ones and those around you from this illness. The flu season does not end with the winter holidays, and flu can circulate as late as May."

The three people who died were a 48-year-old man, a 29-year-old woman, and a 4-year-old boy. The adults were both obese, which is a newly-described risk factor for complications from influenza, health officials said.

According to county officials, the three died from a vaccine-preventable strain of the flu. It was not immediately known whether any of them had received a flu vaccination.

In an unrelated incident, public health officials also recently investigated an outbreak of what they say appears to have been flu at a local school. More than 50 students fell sick with flu-like symptoms, three of whom tested positive for the flu.

"We reiterate that if you or your child is sick, stay home," Fielding said. "Some individuals who get sick are able to treat themselves at home with over-the-counter medications, drinking plenty of fluids and resting. Others may develop severe symptoms requiring hospitalization, or may develop complications such as pneumonia."

Health officials encouraged residents to contact their regular doctor for recommended vaccinations. This season's flu vaccine protects against H1N1, H3N2 and an influenza B strain.

Supermarkets, pharmacies and community clinics throughout the county are offering seasonal flu vaccine for a low fee.

While the influenza vaccine is now recommended for everyone (except infants under six months of age), certain groups should be vaccinated because they are at greater risk of developing complications from the flu or because they live with or care for others who are at greater risk of developing complications.

These groups include pregnant women; children younger than five, adults age 50 and older; people of any age with chronic medical conditions such as heart disease or diabetes; people who live in nursing homes or long-term care facilities; people who live with or care for those at-risk for complications from the flu, including health-care and daycare workers.

Influenza accounts for up to 200,000 hospitalizations and an average of 24,000 deaths in the U.S. each year, according to the Centers for Disease Control. Symptoms of influenza include fever, cough, headache and muscle ache within the first three to five days of illness.

The flu is extremely contagious and everyone is urged to practice basic hygiene to help reduce the chances of catching either the flu or other illnesses. These healthy habits include washing your hands frequently, especially after using the restroom and before and after eating; covering your nose and mouth with a tissue or your sleeve when you cough or sneeze; not touching your nose, mouth or eyes to prevent the spread of germs; staying home from work or school when sick.

For information on low-cost flu vaccines, visit [www.publichealth.lacounty.gov](http://www.publichealth.lacounty.gov) or call 211 from any landline or cell phone in the county.

## Mayor's assignments don't go over easy



HENRY VENERACION

**DOWNEY** – A lively, almost heated, exchange of words erupted at the Jan. 11 city council meeting when Mayor Luis Marquez announced subcommittee assignments as part of the calendar during his mayoral term.

Putting himself with Councilman Roger Brossmer on the Downtown Subcommittee didn't sit well with Councilman Mario Guerra, who said he thought it was made very clear way beforehand that he, Guerra, who has been on the subcommittee for the past four years, was to continue in the post. Guerra said Marquez earlier indicated to him that he was interested in other assignments.

Councilman Fernando Vasquez even got into the act, saying that he too wanted to be on the subcommittee. Reacting sharply, Guerra said, "It won't happen because of conflict of interest," referring to Vasquez' prior employment and involvement with National Community Renaissance, which almost derailed his election chances. A member of the planning commission at the time, National Community Renaissance won the bid to build the city's 50-unit affordable apartment building at 8314 Second St.

After turning down Brossmer's offer to give up his seat in favor of the mayor, Marquez said that, in the interest of harmony ("I'm a team player"), he was willing to acquiesce to Guerra's preference.

The council approved the rest of the subcommittee assignments (names appearing first are the primary reps., the alternates second) without further incident, including:

- California Contract Cities Association: Guerra and Brossmer;

- Chamber of Commerce board of directors city reps.: Councilman David Gafin and Vasquez;
- City-School Coordinating Committee: Brossmer and the remaining council members;
- Columbia Memorial Space Center Foundation: Marquez and Brossmer;
- Downey Regional Medical Center Foundation board of directors: all council members;
- Downey Police and Fire Foundation: Marquez and Guerra;
- Gangs Out of Downey: Gafin and Guerra;
- Gateway City Council of Gov. Executive Committee and I-710 Executive Committee (with a \$100 stipend for each meeting attended): Marquez and remaining council members;
- Gateway Cities Council of Governments: Gateway Cities SR-91/I-605 Needs Assessment Study Corridor Cites Commission (\$100/meeting): Marquez and Gafin;
- Interstate 5 Consortium Cities Policy Bd. re I-5 (\$150/meeting): Gafin and remaining members;
- L.A. County Sanitation Districts 2 and 18 (\$125/meeting): Marquez and Guerra;
- League of California Cities (L.A. County): Marquez and Brossmer;
- Orangeline Development Authority (\$100/meeting): Marquez and Guerra;
- Southeast Area Animal Control Authority (\$200/meeting) Marquez and Vasquez;
- Southeast L. A. County Workforce Investment Policy Board: Vasquez and Brossmer (\$75/meeting);
- Southeast Water Coalition Policy Board (\$150/meeting): Brossmer and Guerra;
- Downey Landing Re-use: Marquez and Gafin;
- Emergency Preparedness: Gafin and Vasquez (from hereon in, both names are primary reps.);
- Rancho Los Amigos Property: Marquez and Guerra;
- Branding: Brossmer and Guerra;
- Civic Theatre Review: Brossmer and Gafin; and
- Veterans Memorial: Brossmer and Guerra.

## DUSD reports donations over the holidays

Kiwanis donates \$50,000; Porto's Bakery gives \$7,200 in baked goods.

BY HENRY VENERACION, STAFF WRITER

**DOWNEY** – Cash and in-kind donors to the Downey Unified School District were extra generous as last Christmas approached, which the Board gratefully acknowledged, with the Downey Kiwanis Foundation donating \$50,000 to West Middle School to be used for technology, while

\$4,500 was gifted by the Alameda PTA, \$5,000 was donated by Carpenter PT, and \$9,000 came from Gallatin PTA—all for field trips, with a portion of Carpenter's \$5,000 earmarked for a fifth grade party.

Other large and small donations included \$7,200 worth of baked goods from Porto's Bakery, along with various other generous donations from a number of donors, benefiting the TLC Family Resource Center; \$2,000 worth of art supplies from Barbara Gorman, for use in the art classes at Downey

High School; \$2,000 from the Ellen and Clarence Peterson Foundation for eyeglass frames and lenses for needy students; a donation of a photo enlarger worth \$1,500 from Michael Kalas to be used in the photo class at Downey High; a donation of three portable bleachers likewise valued at \$1,500 from Downey Studios for use at Warren High; as well as a combined \$2,114 from several DUSD employees via voluntary payroll deductions in support of TLC Family Resource Center.

Meanwhile, the Board:

- Received the audit report on all district funds and accounts by its long-time auditors, Vavrinek, Trine, Day & Co., which gave an 'unqualified opinion' (meaning "A-OK") on the district's accounting/budgeting procedures;

- Approved and ratified routine district business including: the payment of convention and conference expenditures and other fees; special education placements; purchase orders by the purchasing department; the issuance of payroll orders for hourly, overtime, and Civic Center performed by classified personnel, Adult School and Food Services; B warrants covering the month of December; the

See DUSD, page 10

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**DR. JERRY FLORO HONORED AS SUPER DOCTOR FOR SECOND STRAIGHT YEAR**

Downey, CALIFORNIA – January 2011 – Pioneer Medical Group (PMG) is pleased to announce that Dr. Jerry Floro has been selected as a 2011 Southern California Super Doctor for the second straight year by Los Angeles Magazine.

The January 2011 issue of the magazine features the top 5% of doctors in Los Angeles and Orange Counties as determined through peer nominations (with ballots mailed to more than 30,000 doctors in Los Angeles and Orange counties), a blue ribbon panel review process, and independent research on candidates. The listing also appears online at [www.superdoctors.com](http://www.superdoctors.com).

A board-certified cardiologist, Dr. Floro received his undergraduate degree from USC and attended medical school at Vanderbilt University, completing his training at Vanderbilt and Harbor General – UCLA Medical Center.

Dr. Floro practices at PMG's Lakewood and Downey locations. To schedule an appointment, please call (562) 904-8144.

Pioneer Medical Group is a multi-specialty health care provider with locations in Downey, Bellflower, South Gate and throughout the Southeast Los Angeles area. For more information, please call (562) 229-9452, ext. 1455 or (888) 752-1174.

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**Walk Starts** 8:30 a.m.  
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Arc is a private non-profit organization serving over 400 people with intellectual and other developmental disabilities every day in 14 different programs.

## Mozart wrote beautiful music despite disdain for flute

■ Orchestral musician Francesco Camuglia to play Mozart's acclaimed piece.

BY JOYCE SHERWIN,  
DOWNEY SYMPHONY

**DOWNEY** – It is said that Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart did not think highly of the flute as a musical instrument. He played organ, piano, violin, viola. He composed, he concertized, he conducted. He did not play the flute. But his genius as a composer was such that, in his works for orchestra and for opera, he wrote perfectly for the flute, understanding its abilities and demands, its voice.

When Mozart was 22, with concertos for piano or violin already under his belt, he got a commission to write something for solo flute. Well, no reason to hesitate. He could do it and he needed money (a perpetual state), so he produced two concertos for flute and orchestra which today have been performed and recorded by every eminent flutist in the world. And the first of these will be played on Saturday evening, Jan. 29, by soloist Francesco Camuglia and the Downey Symphony in our Downey Theatre.

Francesco Camuglia is a junior at the Colburn Conservatory of Music in Los Angeles, with credentials for an important career. He



Mozart was 22 when he wrote Concerto No. 1 for Flute and Orchestra, which will be performed by soloist Francesco Camuglia on Jan. 29 at the Downey Theatre.

describes himself as "an avid orchestral musician," currently playing with the Boise Philharmonic, but he has racked up solo engagements as well with the Colburn Orchestra and the Las Vegas Philharmonic.

Last year Camuglia won the Downey Symphony's Young Artist Competition, originated by our music director, Sharon Lavery.

In addition to Mozart's Concerto No. 1 for Flute and Orchestra, the Jan. 29 program includes Gustav Holst's "St. Paul's Suite" and Tchaikovsky's "Serenade for Strings." Concert

time is 8 p.m., and Sharon Lavery will give a pre-concert talk about the music at 7:15 p.m.

Tickets are priced at \$25 and \$30, students \$10, and may be reserved by calling the Symphony Office at (562) 403-2944. Or you may purchase tickets directly at the theater box office on Wednesday, Jan. 26, between 12-4 p.m., and on the evening of performance. Another contact is our website: [www.downeysymphony.org](http://www.downeysymphony.org).

Downey's Civic Theatre is located at 8435 Firestone Blvd. at the corner of Brookshire Avenue, and surrounding parking is free.

## Shuttle service to Hollywood Bowl

**DOWNEY** – Fans of the Los Angeles Philharmonic's summer concerts at the Hollywood Bowl can continue to take a shuttle and avoid the hassles of driving and parking.

Shuttles depart from 14 outlying lots across Los Angeles County, including a park-and-ride lot in Downey.

Cost to ride the shuttle is \$8 per person.

"The Hollywood Bowl is a historic venue that has seating capacity for 18,000 but only has parking for 2,800 vehicles," said Los Angeles County Supervisor Don Knabe. "The express bus service lets L.A. residents enjoy the Hollywood Bowl experience without the stress of driving in traffic and finding parking."

Shuttle service will be available throughout the entire 72-event concert season from June through September.

## EZ Lube is hiring

**DOWNEY** – EZ Lube, the quick lube retailer, will hold a job fair next week as it attempts to fill 200 jobs.

Positions are available for technicians, customer service associates, cashiers and store management.

EZ Lube did not reveal pay scales but the company offers medical and dental insurance 90 days after hire.

Interviews will take place Jan. 26 from 12-5 p.m. at the Embassy Suites in Downey. Applicants should make an appointment by calling (855) 4EZ-JOBS (439-5627).

## Roybal-Allard hosting art competition for students

**DOWNEY** – Local high school students are invited to participate in Rep. Lucille Roybal-Allard's 2011 Congressional Student Art Competition.

Deadline to submit entries is Feb. 3.

The congresswoman sponsors the competition every year. Students in grades 9-12 and who reside in the 34th congressional district are eligible. (All of Downey falls in the 34th congressional district.)

The winning entry will hang at the U.S. Capitol for one year as part of a national exhibit. The winning student will also be awarded a \$1,000 scholarship, gift certificate for art supplies, a cash prize, and travel arrangements for two to attend the opening exhibit in Washington, D.C.

Artwork must be two-dimensional, no larger than 26 inches by 26 inches, no smaller than 8 inches by 10 inches, and must be an original concept. Printed digital entries will also be accepted.

Entries, along with completed entry forms, should be delivered to Roybal-Allard's district office at 255 E. Temple St., Suite 1860, in Los Angeles, by 5 p.m. on Feb. 3.

Complete guidelines and entry forms are available online at [www.34thcdsac.org](http://www.34thcdsac.org) or by calling Angelita Ramirez at (213) 628-9230.

Winning entries will be unveiled during a gallery reception April 9 in Los Angeles.

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**PLACEMENT EXAMINATION**  
January 22, 2011  
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**OPTIONAL PLACEMENT TESTING:**  
Mathematics 9:00am  
Foreign Language 11:00am  
May 7, 2011

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## Fundraiser to benefit symphony guild

**DOWNEY** – The Downey Symphony Guild will hold its annual gala fundraiser to benefit Music in the Schools and the Downey Symphony Orchestra on Feb. 11 at the Columbia Memorial Space Center.

The event, which begins at 5 p.m., will feature hors d'oeuvres, desserts and drinks.

There will also be a silent and live auction, and other activities to be announced later.

Reservations at \$50 for adults

and \$20 for children 12 years and younger should be sent to Downey Symphony Guild, 9700 Garnish Dr., Downey, CA 90240.

Deadline for reservations is Feb. 4.



## Downey Police Officers' Association

P. O. Box 4255 • Downey, CA 90241-1255

[www.policedonations.com/downey](http://www.policedonations.com/downey)

# THANK YOU!

The Downey Police Officers' Association would like to thank all citizens who donated to our annual mail program.

Please know that your contribution is helping to make a difference in our community.

On behalf of our entire group, we hope you have a safe and prosperous year. Please find comfort knowing we are there to help you when needed.

Sincerely,  
Cpl. Mike Pope  
DPOA President  
(562) 861-0771 ext. 353





Cities typically use state redevelopment funds to enhance blighted and underdeveloped areas, as Downey did with Johnie's Broiler (above) and Porto's Bakery.

## FUNDING: Downey has not depended on redevelopment funds.

Continued from page 1

to the city and benefited from local redevelopment funding include Porto's Bakery, Bob's Big Boy, Champion Dodge, etc. They of course boost Downey's tax base.

Brown's proposal includes filling a budget gap of \$25.4 billion through a combination of cuts on health care, social services and higher education spending amounting to \$12.5 billion, and revenues of \$12 billion if enough lawmakers and eventually the voters will be willing to approve another 5-year extension of soon-to-expire (this June) temporary income, sales and vehicle taxes. If people are willing to "share the pain," Brown says he'll be able to plug the \$25.4 billion budget hole in 18 months.

But initial indications are that elimination of redevelopment agencies and/or extending the extra taxes on income, sales and vehicle fees will be a particularly hard sell. Assuming his proposal wins approval, the re-directed redevelopment funds of \$1.7 billion would go to counties, school districts and the state.

Joining the strident backlash to reject Brown's proposal for the elimination of redevelopment agencies is Councilman Mario Guerra who also serves as chair of the California Contract Cities Association's (CCCA) legislative committee. Present in Sacramento when Brown delivered his speech last Monday, Guerra promptly fired

off a letter to the governor emphasizing CCCA's main themes of job creation, investment of local dollars and the strengthening of local economies as the main benefits of local redevelopment agencies.

Among Guerra's arguments, which shed further light on the value of redevelopment:

"In these difficult times, the governor's proposal to eliminate or cut redevelopment is short-sighted public policy that will damage our economy and bring little budget relief to the state. The proposal:

- Will not provide expected budget relief to the state or local governments after bond issues and contractual obligations are repaid;
- Will destroy billions of dollars in local economic activity and hundreds of thousands of jobs;
- Will kill the state's leading program to provide affordable housing; and
- Will harm our efforts to grow responsibly by focusing on urban and infill development."

He further writes: "Redevelopment agencies issue bonds to finance redevelopment activities, which must be repaid with interest. Under the federal and state constitutions, these contractual obligations must be met before revenues are made available to any other entities or purposes. Agencies currently hold over \$20 billion in bonded indebtedness.

"Redevelopment contributes over \$40 billion annually to California's economy in the gener-

ation of goods and services, including increasing the state's construction sector output by about \$19 billion.

"Redevelopment is the second largest funder of affordable homes in California after the federal government. Over 98,000 units of affordable housing have been constructed or rehabilitated since 1993. Twenty percent of property tax revenues generated from redevelopment activities must be spent on affordable housing.

"This proposal runs completely contrary to the governor and legislature's stated goals of realigning state services to provide more responsibility and funding locally. "Redevelopment funds are already locally-generated property tax dollars (agencies do not receive state funding) directed toward community projects and programs directed by locally-elected officials with input from citizens. The proposal wipes out the only tool local governments have to drive economic growth, build up tax revenues, and grow sustainably."

Guerra's arguments are echoed by a cacophony of voices up and down the state opposing Brown's proposal.

As can be expected, much still remains to be done and resolved before a compromise on the state budget involving all parties concerned can be reached. As usual, as to what happens next, we'll just have to wait and see.

## Watercolor artist to share work

**PARAMOUNT** – Ying Liu, an accomplished watercolor originally from China, will give a demonstration of her work at a Downey Art League meeting Sunday at Progress Park in Paramount.

Liu came to the U.S. in 1987 to pursue graduate studies at Ohio State University, USC and UCLA. She had previously taught English at her hometown university in China.

By the end of 2003, after completing her teaching graduate studies, Liu began to embrace her passion of fine art in the form of drawing and painting.

According to a biography provided by the Downey Art League, it was "about this time she developed a strong, loose, yet richly-toned realist style, tailored to suit her love of the California sunlight. Her desire to paint an expanding range of subject matter, primarily in oil, watercolor and pastel, increased."

In the fall of 2003, Liu began taking classes in life drawing and watercolor painting at Long Beach City College and Cal State Long Beach. She also independently studied various artists via videos, books and demonstrations, and took part in a two-week summer art program in Florence, Italy, sponsored by California State University.

Upon returning, one of Liu's paintings was selected to hang in the chancellor's office in a rotating exhibition within 23 CSU campuses. Her paintings also hang in private collections across the nation.

Liu's presentation Sunday begins at 2 p.m. in the plaza at Progress Park and the public is invited. There is no charge to attend.

Progress Park is at 15530 Downey Ave., south of Somerset Boulevard.

## Two killed in wrong-way crash

**ANAHEIM** – Two people died Wednesday when their vehicle was hit by a Mercedes traveling the wrong way on the 91 Freeway.

Multiple eyewitnesses reported a 2006 Mercedes C220 sedan driving "at an unknown high rate of speed" in the eastbound carpool lane before it collided with a 2006 Toyota Scion XB that was heading westbound, the California Highway Patrol reported.

The collision, which occurred at about 12:47 a.m., killed the Scion's two occupants, who died at the scene. The victims were identified as a 26-year-old Alan Reyes, of Diamond Bar, and his 24-year-old girlfriend, Vanessa Cease, from Long Beach.

The driver of the Mercedes, Anthony Louis Fragoso, a 21-year-old South Gate resident, suffered "major injuries." He was placed in custody and is being treated at UCI Medical Center.

## Camp teacher to be sentenced for fights

**PASADENA** – A former juvenile probation camp teacher accused of staging fights between students from opposing gangs pleaded no contest to six felony counts of child abuse on Tuesday.

Stephen Wesley, 44, will be sentenced April 14. He is expected to receive 180 days in county jail and one year of anger management.

Wesley was a substitute teacher at Camp Karl Holton, a juvenile probation camp located in the foothills of the San Fernando Valley, where he taught math and science to teenage boys.

On Aug. 8, 2008, he allegedly matched up six students from rival gangs to fight. The incident was captured on video.

Camp Holton has since shut down.

## Tax board searching for non-filers

**SACRAMENTO** – The state's Franchise Tax Board has begun to contact more than 900,000 people who did not file a 2009 state income tax return.

The tax board finds non-filers by using income records it receives each year from third parties such as the IRS, banks, employers, state departments and other sources.

They also use occupational licenses and mortgage interest payment information to detect others who may be required to file a state tax return.

Last year, the tax board collected more than \$550 million by contacting people who did not file a tax return.

People contacted by the tax board have 30 days to file a tax return or show why one is not due. When a required return is not filed, the tax board issues a tax assessment using income records to estimate the amount of state taxes owed.

The assessment includes interest, fees and penalties of up to 50 percent.

## Police officer charged with hit and run

**TORRANCE** – A Manhattan Beach police officer accused of causing a traffic collision and failing to stop at the scene pleaded not guilty Wednesday at Torrance Superior Court.

Richard William Hatten II, 35, allegedly did not stop at a traffic collision he caused in Manhattan Beach on Jan. 31, 2010, prosecutors said.

The driver of the other two vehicles involved sustained minor injuries.

Hatten could receive one year in county jail if convicted.

## STONEWOOD: Shopping center has evolved with the times.

Continued from page 1

remodeled and expanded Stonewood Center.

Hughes' \$100 million proposal came to fruition during the fall of 1990 when a fully-enclosed, Post Modern shopping center opened its doors. Along with it came a brand new 2-level, 150-square-foot May Company, 40 to 50 other new stores and two popular eateries, Acapulco Restaurant and Olive Garden.

Despite the extensive remodel, Stonewood maintained many of its original tenants, but soon trendier

stores began to emerge including Foot Locker, Warehouse Records, Charlotte Russe and Champs Sports. With more than 150 stores inside, Stonewood Center had garnered nearly 940,000 square feet by the mid 1990s.

In 1993, the May Company became Robinson's-May while The Broadway, Stonewood's first major anchor store, folded in 1996; Sears acquired the location and later constructed a freestanding Sears Auto Center nearby.

In August 1997, Santa Monica-based Macerich Company purchased Stonewood after buying Lakewood Center almost 20 years prior. Macerich acquired Los


Cerritos Center in 1999. Today, Macerich markets the three malls as a regional group of unique yet related shopping experiences.

When Robinson's-May folded in 2006, Macy's soon replaced it. In September 2009, Kohl's opened at Stonewood after the Great Recession tanked retail giant Mervyns.

Today, Stonewood caters to a much younger, trendier consumer base than ever before. The 21st century has brought with it new names in retail such as Aldo, Aeropostle, Hollister Co. and Forever 21. In 2009, the shopping center welcomed BJ's Restaurant & Brewhouse and expects to offer even more entertainment and dining options this year.

Moreover, William Lansdale's simple business idea has become just what he envisioned: a modern shopping convenience, a hub of entertainment and dining options, and a valued regional staple that brings back treasured memories for generations of Downey natives.


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## Give it a try

By Eric Pierce

Like many residents, I'm clamoring for a Trader Joe's in Downey. I'm tired of driving to Cerritos or Whittier for my fill of fat free ricotta cheese and two buck chuck – in fact, I now refuse. Call it laziness or stubbornness, but the long car ride takes away from the joy of a Trader Joe's experience. (Nothing worse than arriving home with soggy cheese and warm wine.)

It was with apprehension that I tried Fresh & Easy, also known on Facebook as "the other store." Fresh & Easy has the unsavory reputation of being Trader Joe's diminutive little brother, but it is nonetheless popping up on street corners everywhere at lightning pace.

I admit, I walked in with an arrogant, standoffish attitude. Fresh & Easy, after all, is a *British* company. British! I don't know exactly why, but I've been taught to raise my nose at anything British.

Funny thing is, although I had every intention of loathing Fresh & Easy, and was ready to predict its eventual demise, I actually liked it. The store has a wide variety of pre-made, ready-to-heat dinners and a fine selection of wine and beers. They also carry fruits and vegetables in convenient lunch-size packaging. It was nothing I had ever seen before.

My loyalty to Trader Joe's demanded I reject Fresh & Easy, but I was instantly drawn in by Fresh & Easy's desire to be different from the chain supermarkets. Fresh & Easy dares to be different – without being over-the-top trendy – and I like it.

Something similar happened with Tacos El Gavilan on Paramount and Florence. In my eyes the white stucco building screamed low-class, and while I still have reservations about the aesthetics, the food rivals that of King Taco.

Tacos El Gavilan is also leading the way in connecting with customers via social networking. The restaurant routinely solicits critiques on its Facebook page, and has even sponsored contests to give away Laker tickets. That tells me the company cares about its customers.

Lesson learned: don't judge a book by its cover and give all things a chance.

I have never been to a Payless Supermarket, but when they open sometime this year, I'll be one of the first in line.

Everyone deserves a chance.

\*\*\*\*

On another note, I think Charles Barkley should replace Regis Philbin. Or Ray Romano. Really anyone but Ryan Seacrest.

## Letters to the Editor:

### Oil independence

Dear Editor:

In April 2008 the U.S. Geological Service issued a revised report that we had a source of oil larger than all foreign oil reserves combined. An area, called The Bakken, has massive reserves estimated at 503 billion barrels of prime light, sweet oil.

Also, hidden 1,000 feet beneath the surface of the Rocky Mountains, is the largest untapped oil reserve in the world, more than 2 trillion barrels. On Aug. 8, 2005, President Bush mandated its extraction, but despite 3 1/2 years of high oil prices, no extraction has begun.

"60 Minutes" revealed we have enough oil impregnated sand, called tarsand, that could also make the U.S. independent on foreign oil. Canada extracts so much oil from tarsand they sell oil to the U.S.

We have inside our borders eight times as much oil as the largest producer, Saudi Arabia, yet we have closed down offshore platforms, and onshore production locations, and made the U.S. so dependent on foreign oil they could shut the U.S. down at any time they so desired.

Why?

-- James Hawkins,  
Downey

### Next stop: Spain

Dear Editor:

It's always nice to hear from someone who took notes in his Ethnic Studies class at Cal State L.A. ("Deport to Europe," Letters to the Editor, 1/6/11)

We have heard from Mr. Gutierrez before. His theme always seems to be the same. We Anglos are encroaching on somebody's homeland. Article 73 and 74 of the Iroquois Constitution is a myth. Leave that for another discussion.

The East Coast Native Americans were set upon by a group or several groups who were mostly farmers, trappers, traders and plain old explorers. The Native Americans of South America, Mexico and California were set upon by a group that was determined to plunder the country. The Seven Cities of Gold was a ploy to get the Spaniards out of the neighborhood. I am sure that the Northern Indians did not appreciate the trick. De Leon was tricked out of the neighborhood by the fountain of youth. I am sure that the alligators did appreciate the trick.

When you speak of the California Native Americans of 1492 you are speaking of a total population of about 130,000. This is a little more than the population of Downey today. They were broken up into groups of around 500 individuals spread over the entire state. They had no written language, practiced no agriculture and lived by hunting, gathering and fishing.

Mr. Gutierrez and I agree upon one thing (no, not that silly constitution myth). The Native Americans of both North and South America have been treated badly. Mr. Gutierrez, judging by his surname, is a descendent of the Spanish conquerors. I am sure that he can start the exit of non-Native Americans for Europe by getting everybody with a Spanish surname in both South America and North America to pack up and go to Spain.

-- Kenneth Stallcup,  
Downey

## Letters to the Editor:

### Response from DRMC

Dear Editor:

This letter is in response to Ms. Maggie Allen's correspondence of Dec. 30, 2010 ("Take Me to Lakewood," Letters to the Editor, 12/30/10).

It was unfortunate that our Emergency Department was quite busy on Christmas night and she was treated elsewhere. While we strive very hard to quickly see each patient, the most ill of course must be given priority. Nearly 50,000 visits to our department last year, I believe, testifies to the confidence Downey and surrounding community's citizens have in our department and Downey Regional Medical Center.

We are extremely proud of the care we provide, and constantly work to improve our services. Our emergency physician staff is well-trained, all board certified, and deals with both minor illnesses and life-threatening diseases 24 hours a day, 365 days a year (yes, including Christmas). Our nursing and support staff are competent, hard working and caring individuals often in the face of great difficulty and emotional stress.

I'm proud of the care our hospital and department provide, and we'll continue to care for our population in a caring and competent manner. We are one of the busiest Emergency Departments in Los Angeles County. Paramedics, police and the public depend on us to provide the care they need and we'll continue to do so.

-- Richard P. Guess, MD,  
Medical Director, Emergency Department,  
Downey Regional Medical Center

### Firestone traffic

Dear Editor:

As a longer time Downey resident, I agree with many of the comments on your website about Firestone Boulevard. Firestone Boulevard has always been a highly-congested street, but with all the recent business developments over the past few years, the street is a virtual death trap.

The street has poorly-timed street lights, run down pavement, pot holes and traffic lanes that are far from adequate for the amount of traffic currently running through our city. The pavement alone between the Downey Theatre and Downey Avenue resembles that of a moonscape.

Stewart and Gray Road was often a short cut used by many of Downey's residents to avoid the horrendous traffic on Firestone. Over the past five years, Stewart and Gray has turned into a freeway. Most times of the day the traffic on Stewart and Gray is worse than that on Firestone.

Those of us who live on Stewart and Gray Road have had to suffer the consequences of a money hungry, egocentric City Council, who's only concern seems to be how to bring in as many pharmacies and retail establishments into the city without taking into consideration the quality of life for Downey residents. All the while the city council members continue to stoke their own egos on the front page of *The Downey Patriot* and virtually break their arms patting themselves on the back.

I have personally seen numerous accidents on Stewart and Gray between Paramount Boulevard and Downey Avenue over the past few years by vehicles that are blatantly breaking the posted speed limit, including vehicles traveling in excess of 50 MPH in a school zone. A personal friend of mine was almost killed over a year ago and today remains permanently disabled due to a speeding driver and the lack of any crosswalk between Downey Avenue and Paramount Boulevard.

I have begged and pleaded with two different police chiefs to please station a police car on Orizaba Street and Stewart and Gray Road in an effort to help reduce the speeding drivers but my requests have fallen on deaf ears. I challenge our city officials to focus more on the quality of life for our city's residents and less on their political careers. If they are truly concerned about the quality of life in this city, then perhaps they should focus on the important issues, the small things, like reducing and controlling the flow and speed of traffic through our neighborhoods.

In my opinion, all of these issues relate back to the fact that our elected officials have failed us. It is clear and simple. Personal gain and stature above the needs of the community. It remains to be seen if this new city council and mayor will make any real changes to the city charter that will help reverse the excessive urban sprawl which has really reduced the quality of life in Downey. One can only hope that this current council and mayor will be less concerned about bringing in more business and money to fill the city coffers while disregarding the wishes of long-term Downey residents and, maybe, just help reduce speeding, traffic congestion and fix our broken streets and infrastructure.

-- Moises Alonso,  
Downey

### Skating rink

Dear Editor:

There is a site at Florence Avenue and Studebaker Road, previously World of Decor but also the former home of large stores such as Pace and, going farther back, Gemco. I have a bit of fun attempting to "foresee" successful business endeavors in vacant locations.

This time I asked my teenage daughter, who was in the car with me when we drove by all of that vacant land, what she thought would do well there. "A skating rink," she replied. "All of the kids at school have to go to different cities to go skating, whether it be ice or roller skating. We all travel to different cities to do anything because there is nothing for kids in Downey. This place would be perfect for skating."

I thought, how brilliant. What a perfect spot for a roller or ice skating venue. And I pondered my 16-year-old's comment. There really is not much to do in Downey for the youth. As much as this city is flourishing and the big plans that city officials have for its future, all that is here for our kids so far is movies and food, which is really not healthy if it's not balanced with some kind of activity. We see this when we look around at many cities' overweight populations of youth and adults alike.

Our kids are also susceptible to drinking/drug use at younger ages due partly to the lack of healthy activities that surround them and/or programs that teach abstinence and give them other options, and the set of standards that "Hollywood" sets the bar at: nice car, stereo system, cute girl, bottle of expensive booze, and da night club, and this is the life.

I just think that Downey should consider a skating rink at Florence and Studebaker as much as they consider, approve and collect fees and taxes on another huge mansion or compounds to be built and sold (and in demand) in this city (while we are in a real estate recession, no less?), as much as they want to build new restaurants and revamp the Downey scene with entertainment and a housing project. A skating venue would be hugely successful, a win-win situation.

How could our city officials and planners leave the youth out of Downey's future for so long? The youth are our future and they are falling at the wayside. And sorry, but a run-down Golf 'N Stuff doesn't cut it.

-- Dee Cee Carrasco,  
Downey



### Free speech

Dear Editor:

Because I predict Ms. Rivero's inflammatory letter will inspire multiple responses, I'll be unusually brief. ("Words Have Consequences," 1/13/11)

For every example of violent right-wing rhetoric, I can give three examples of violent left-wing rhetoric, including a feature film depicting the assassination of President Bush.

Do we really want to play this childish, tit-for-tat game? I guarantee there will be no winners. Besides, there is zero evidence to back Ms. Rivero's outrageous allegations.

So let's all take a deep breath, stop these lame attempts by the left to stomp all over the First Amendment rights of conservative Americans, pray for Rep. Gabrielle Gifford's full recovery, and focus on a flawed mental health system that allowed this lunatic to slip through its cracks.

-- Alaina Niemann,  
Downey

Dear Editor:

I saw it coming, yet I didn't say anything. I called for calm, but only after beating the other parties' beliefs like a child's pinata.

There is much hypocrisy on both sides of the political spectrum. I, like most readers, am politically in the middle. We are saddened at the political discourse, and the loss of civility in society. I spent over 20 years in public service before being forced to retire from injuries I received in the line of duty. I understand pain and frustration.

Much to my 7-year-old pain, I listen to both sides equally on television and on talk radio. Sadly, I find it funny how I hear the hate from both the left and the right slanted media outlets. If you don't agree with us you're evil., well if you don't agree with us you're a racist. Well that is just "psycho talk." I am beginning to believe that the truly partisan apparently only hear the opposing sides tolerance. Thank God my son usually tells me to turn it to kids programming after only a few minutes.

If you doubt me listen to Chris Matthews, Thomm Hartman, Ed Schultz, Mark Thompson and let's not forget Mike Malloy on the left. Then listen to Rush Limbaugh, Sean Hannity, Andrew Wilkow and Glen Beck. Then you will fully come to understand why there is road rage and a general coarsening in our society.

So before you take out that pinata stick to bash those you don't agree with politically, take a second and think of us in the middle who think that the zealots on either side are equally to blame. Then please look in the mirror at yourself.

-- Lawrence Luther,  
Downey

Dear Editor:

I take great umbrage with Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky's opinion to cool the rhetoric. ("A Time to Cool the Rhetoric," 1/13/11) I find it deplorable that he would use the tragic event in Tucson to try and make a point about being more civil in our nation's political discourse.

I, for one, do not believe that we need to make changes based upon the actions of one deranged individual. If we as a nation need to worry that any action we take might set off or push over the edge any mentally unstable individual, and that this should be the new standard for political discourse, you are very mistaken.

I see this new call for civility as nothing more than censorship, and not censorship of all political speech, only the ones that you disagree with. For the standards of many liberals they cannot be uncivil by definition because they are correct in what they say. Only those that disagree with you are uncivil.

Our country was built upon lively debate, the debates of old played out on the front pages with far more incendiary language than we use today. Mr. Yaroslavsky and other leaders are trying to capitalize on a tragic and emotional tragedy. He is trying to implicate that the anger that drove many citizens to the polls last November is the reason for this tragedy. How very one-sided and politically motivated his comments were.

Yaroslavsky and the president lecture us on being civil, when what they really want is for those that disagree with them to be quiet. What Yaroslavsky and the president are doing is taking a tragic event and turning it into a political opportunity, a pep rally.

The person to blame is the deranged gunman, and to insinuate otherwise is just political rhetoric.

-- Edwin Huber,  
Downey

### Broken promise

Dear Editor:

Last Monday on Martin Luther King Day I realized if he were still alive today he would try hard to convince President Obama that he should have kept his promise to bring our troops home.

Instead Obama has broken that promise.

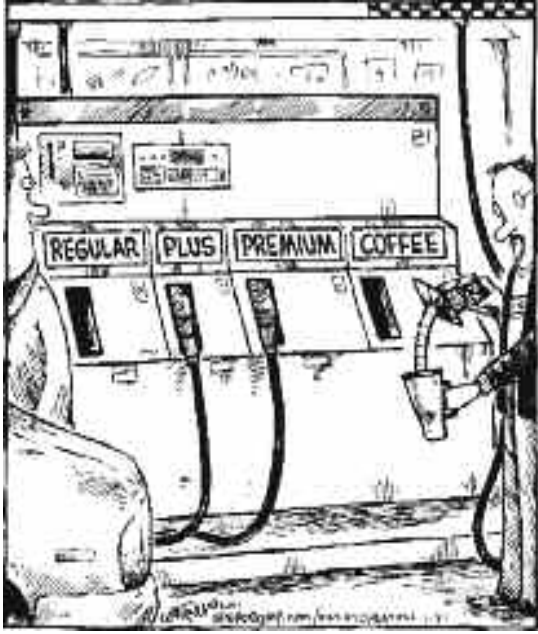
-- Mike Sandoval,  
Downey

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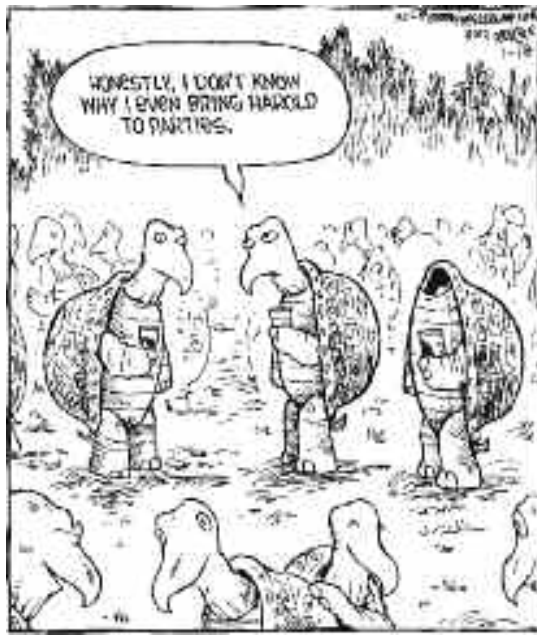
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## SPEED BUMP



## DAVE COVERLY



# Downey Community Calendar

### Events For January

- Fri. Jan. 21: **Comedy Night**, Downey Theatre, 8 p.m.
- Sat. Jan. 22: **E-waste collection**, St. George Greek Orthodox Church, 9 a.m.
- Sat. Jan. 22: **Tutor fair**, Sussman Middle School, 9 a.m.
- Tues. Jan. 25: **Space shuttle Challenger remembrance**, Columbia Memorial Space Center, 5 p.m.
- Wed. Jan. 26: **EZ Lube hiring event**, Embassy Suites, 12 p.m.
- Wed. Jan. 26: **Memory discussion**, Barbara J. Riley Community and Senior Center, 1:30 p.m.
- Thurs. Jan. 27: **Historical Society meeting**, Barbara J. Riley Community and Senior Center, 7:30 p.m.

### City Meetings

- 1st Tuesday, 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 Tuesday, 6:00 p.m.: **Emergency Preparedness Committee**, at Fire Station No. 1, 12222 Paramount Blvd.
- 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.

### Regularly Scheduled Meetings

#### Mondays

- 2nd Mon., 11 a.m.: **American Legion Auxiliary #270**, at United Methodist Church.
- 3rd Mon., 7 p.m.: **American Legion Post #270**, at Rio Hondo Event Center, for more info. call (626) 445-2582.
- 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 Ingrid Martin at 413-4001.
- 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 Tues., 3 p.m.: **Keep Downey Beautiful**, at City Hall, for more information call 904-7159.
- 2nd and 4th Tues., 6 p.m.: **Sertoma Club**, at Cafe 'N Stuff, for information call (562) 927-6438.
- 2nd Tues., 6 p.m.: **Downey Fly Fishers**, at Apollo Park, for information call 425-7936.
- 3rd Tues., 6:30 p.m.: **Community Emergency Response Team meeting**, Fire station 1, 12222 Paramount.
- 3rd Tues., 7:30 p.m.: **Writer's Workshop West**, at 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-Bear 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., 11:30 a.m.: **Christian Women's Club**, at Los Amigos Country Club, call Sonja 862-4347.
- 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 p.m.: **Lions Club**, at The Palms, for information call 803-4048.
- 3rd Weds., - **Downey Dog Obedience Club**, at Apollo Park, for info. call Gina 869-5213 or Valerie 420-2972.
- 3rd Weds., 10 a.m.: **Los Angeles County Quilters Guild**, at Women's Club, for information call 426-2418.
- 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 Bob's Big Boy, for info., call Nick Smith, 861-5222.
- 7:30 a.m.: **Soroptimist Int'l of Downey**, for information, call Mia Vasquez, 806-3217.
- 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.

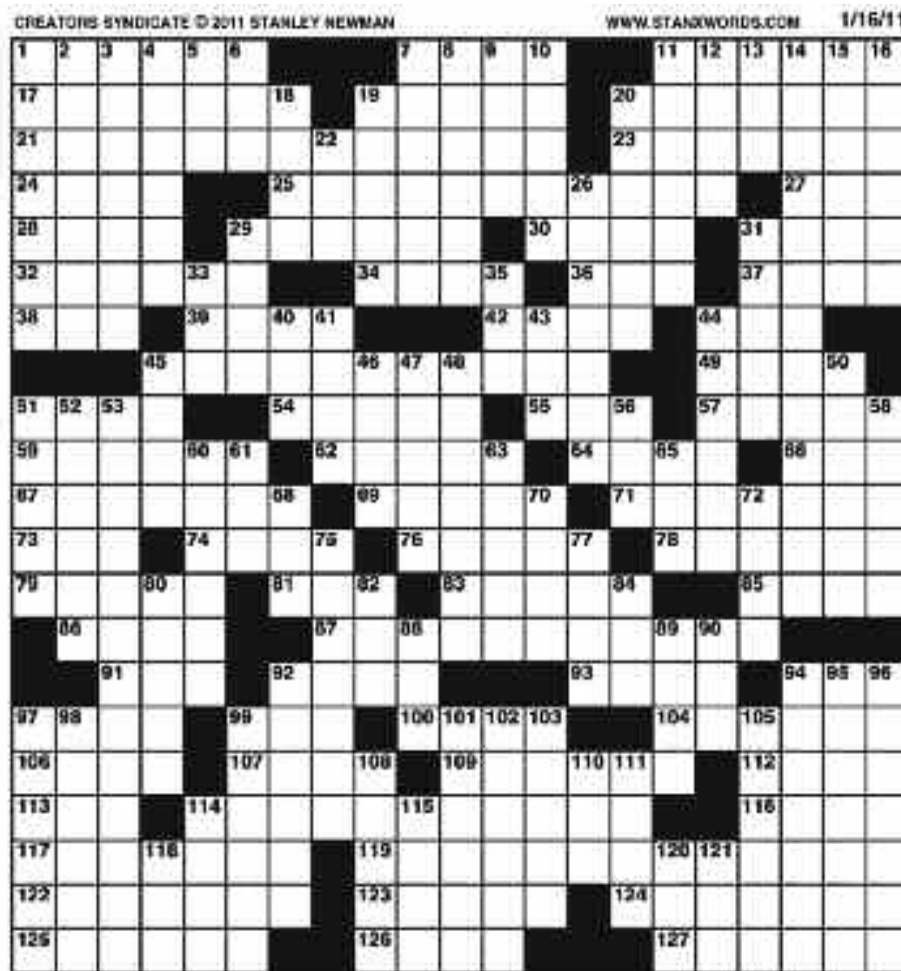
## On This Day...

- Jan. 20, 1801:** John Marshall was appointed chief justice of the United States.
- 1887:** The U.S. Senate approved an agreement to lease Pearl Harbor in Hawaii as a naval base.
- 1961:** John F. Kennedy was sworn in as the 35th president of the United States.
- 1981:** Iran released 52 Americans held hostage for 444 days.
- 1993:** Actress Audrey Hepburn died at age 63.
- 2009:** Barack Obama was sworn in as the first African-American president of the United States.
- Birthdays:** Astronaut Buzz Aldrin (81), comedian and talk show host Bill Maher (55), actor Lorenzo Lamas (53), baseball manager Ozzie Guillen (47), TV personality Melissa Rivers (43), baseball player David Eckstein (36) and basketball player Jason Richardson (30).

### THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com)  
**WHAT'S COOKING:** Featuring an appropriate pair  
 by Clive Probert

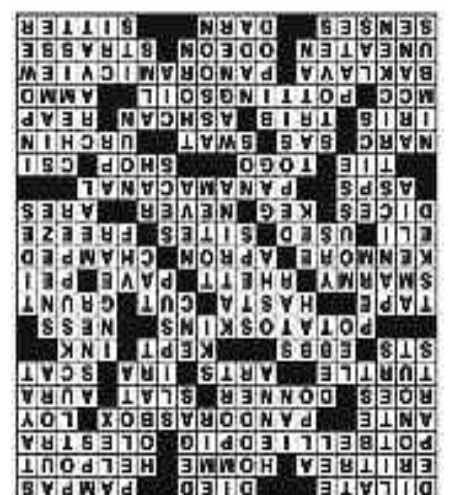
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| 39 Wanes                        | 116 Barrel filler                   | 44 Out of neutral                           |
| 42 Didn't toss                  | 117 Greek dessert                   | 45 Salon request                            |
| 44 Octopus defense              | 119 Wide-angle shot                 | 46 Workplace safety agcy.                   |
| 45 Cheese-covered appetizer     | 122 Like leftovers                  | 47 Dance lessons                            |
| 49 <i>The Untouchables</i> hero | 123 "Solitude" (Pope poem)          | 48 Hurricane of 2005                        |
| 51 Crime-scene barrier          | 124 Berlin thoroughfare             | 50 Sound heard in <i>Snow White</i> ...     |
| 54 "...la vista, baby!"         | 125 Feels intuitively               | 51 Sounded disdainful                       |
| 55 Directors' directive         | 126 "Rats!"                         | 52 Hilary Swank biopic of '09               |
| 57 Sound of discomfort          | 127 Junior watcher                  | 53 Much more than worried                   |
| 59 Overly ingratiating          |                                     | 56 Second of three X's, perhaps             |
| 62 Butler of fiction            |                                     | 58 Navigator's concerns                     |
| 64 Cover with cobblestones      |                                     | 60 Hair holder                              |
| 66 Chinese-born architect       |                                     | 61 Many moa.                                |
| 67 Sears appliance brand        |                                     | 63 Souvenir of Alaska                       |
| 69 Stage part                   | <b>DOWN</b>                         |   |
| 71 Blit impatiently             | 1 Exits the premises                |   |
| 73 Pro quarterback              | 2 Settle                            |   |
| Manning                         | 3 Make a mess, maybe                |   |
| 74 Put to work                  | 4 Most favorably                    |   |
| 75 Venues                       | 5 Three, in Tuscany                 |   |
|                                 | 6 Slippery one                      |   |
|                                 | 7 Shake                             |   |



- |                           |                          |                                |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 65 Band used by FM radio  | 90 Loan stat.            | 105 Dressy neckwear            |
| 68 Sound of surprise      | 92 Kill pattern          | 108 Rifle support              |
| 70 St. Petersburg's river | 94 Marie Curie, for one  | 110 Org. based in Langley, VA  |
| 72 Chicken feed           | 95 Short-haired cat      | 111 Charitable contribution    |
| 75 ATM transaction        | 96 Holding office        | 114 Top of the head            |
| 77 Brief moments          | 97 Rain cloud            | 115 Zilch                      |
| 80 Grief for DeMille      | 98 Esoteric              | 118 — Cruces, NM               |
| 82 Comic bit              | 99 Log-cabin centerpiece | 120 Part of TGIF               |
| 84 Encouraging word       | 101 Lohengrin composer   | 121 Dernier (the latest thing) |
| 88 Figs.                  | 102 Part of ASAP         |                                |
| 89 Any thing              | 103 Cactus protector     |                                |

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

The Horn of Africa (17 Across), of which ETHIOPIA is a part, is the easternmost projection of the continent. Specifically, the APRON of a stage (69 Across) is the part that extends beyond the curtain line. "ODE ON SOLITUDE" (123 Across) was written by Alexander Pope at the age of 12.





## Things to do this weekend:



**Coachella**  
**When:** April 15-18  
**Where:** Coachella, Calif.  
**How much:** \$269 (3-day pass)

Yes, Coachella is still four months away, but tickets go on sale Friday, Jan. 21. Layaway is also available at coachella.com. Duran Duran, The Stokes and Kanye West headline.



Warren High School student Christopher Quevedo used roses to ask Lauren Vrab to Winter Ball. (She said yes.)

PHOTO BY RAISA QUEVEDO

## Warren changes name of its Winter Formal

ASB votes to change the name of its annual dance to "Winter Formal"

BY DEANNA KIM, INTERN

**DOWNEY** – Warren High School's winter dance, originally referred to as "Winter Formal," is now known as "Winter Ball" and has added a senior Winter Court.

Winter Formal was recently changed to Winter Ball unanimously by ASB to give a twist to the dance.

"I think it should have stayed as Winter Formal because a lot of people still refer to it as that," said senior Louis Bravo.

But not everyone agreed.

"The title Winter Ball sounds so much more exciting," said senior Stephanie Alegria. "Winter Formal seems stuffer and bland.

Winter Ball has an enchanting touch to it. Lets hope it lives up to its title."

As well as a change in the name, Warren also added a Winter Court where teachers, not the student body, nominate their students of choice. The teachers were all emailed a ballot asking to nominate both a girl and boy student that is a senior with good character. The seniors did not have to be enrolled in the teacher's class but had to have grades above a "D" or an "F" to qualify.

Students that attend the dance on Jan. 29 at The Reef in Long Beach are going to vote on the Winter Ball King and Queen.

The princes for court are Eddie Posadas, Felipe Hernandez, Hector Rivera, Matthew Caswell and Esteban Garcia. The princesses are Deborah Won, Desiree Greenhouse, Heather Haddon,

Samantha Castellanos, Savannah Vilaubi and Nicole Kosakowski.

The nominees will each receive a complimentary ticket to Winter Ball's "An Enchanted Evening." The princes are also going to receive a free tuxedo rental from Downey Rent-A-Tux.

Winter Court was proposed by Alison Davis, an English teacher. She thought of the idea because when she attended Downey High School as a student they had a Winter Court where teachers nominated students.

"I think it is a good thing," said Cindy Miyada a biology teacher. "It shows more diversity. People who may not always be recognized have a chance to shine."

Deanna Kim is co-commissioner of dance for Warren High School ASB.

## Downey High seniors can see the finish line

Seniors are making final preparations for the end of their high school careers.

BY NICHOLE HAMILTON, INTERN

**DOWNEY** – For many high school seniors in Downey, adjusting to being back in school after their winter recess marks the final stretch in their high school careers.

With the first semester coming to a finish, many students look forward to the last downward stretch of the school year. For seniors, this time is especially treasured, due to all of the momentous events that await them, such as prom, the various senior activities, and of course, graduation.

With all of these events approaching, some seniors are looking forward to specific events more than others.

"I'm definitely looking the most forward to prom," said Downey High School senior Breana Alcantara. "I've only been to a few of the school dances, but they're so much fun! Prom is the last one, and will hopefully be the best, especially since this year it's at Universal Studios."

Prom seems to be one of the most popular responses given, the reasons varied from student to student, with some students having their own unique reasons for choosing the event.

"This is kind of embarrassing, but I have yet to ask someone out to a dance," said Downey High School senior Phil Kong. "I suppose my goal this year is to ask

someone out by the end of the semester."

While students spend their time looking forward to their senior events, many students also feel that they have yet to accomplish everything they hoped to in their high school careers. These students hope to fit all of it in by the end of their final semester.

"This last semester, I want to try to go to a lot of my friends' sporting events," said Alcantara. "I had a lot of support during my volleyball season, and I want to return the favor to my friends."

While some students hope to achieve something more specific, other students have broader goals in mind.

"One thing left for me to accomplish in the remainder of the semester is to leave my mark on

Downey High," said Downey High School senior John Franco. "Whether it's in ASB or Newspaper, I plan to do something great. I want the people that will take my jobs in those clubs to know exactly what to do, and make it even better. I want to accomplish my goal of leaving a mark, a good one of course, so that future generations can learn and build on what my class has done."

Whether students are looking forward to their high school graduation or prom, or figuring out how they're going to leave their final mark on Downey High School, many students did agree on one thing.

"It definitely has been memorable," said Kong.



**Bone Thugs -N- Harmony**  
**When:** Jan. 21-22  
**Where:** House of Blues Hollywood  
**How much:** \$30



**Comedy Night**  
**When:** Jan. 21  
**Where:** Downey Theatre  
**How much:** \$25, \$40

Comedians Lamont Bonman, Jimmy Burns and Gilbert Esquivel, ventriloquist act Willie Brown and Woody, impressionist Scott Wood and actor/comedian Mark Christopher Lawrence, who currently stars in NBC's "Chuck." And free food from Porto's Bakery after the show.



**Blake Griffin vs. Golden State Warriors**  
**When:** Jan. 22  
**Where:** Staples Center  
**How much:** Starting at \$15 (or free from your couch)

Right now, nothing is more entertaining than watching Blake Griffin play basketball.

**2010-2011 Interns for The Downey Patriot**

**Joseph Apodaca**  
**Jennifer Cho**  
**Nichole Hamilton**  
**Rebekah Jin**  
**Deanna Kim**

•

**Photographers**  
**Paul Heidecker**

## Winter Formal

**Downey High School**

January 27, 2011

8:00 pm - Midnight

**Knotts Berry Farm, Buena Park**

Winter Formal Court:

Janette Rico	Isaac Dan
Katie Medina	Steve Pascual
Amanda Doss	Ivan Garibaldo
Jeannette Gonzalez	Brandon Pineda

**Warren High School**

January 29, 2011

8:00 pm - Midnight

**The Reef, Long Beach**

Winter Bell Court:

Deborah Won	Hector Rivera
Savannah Vilaubi	Eddie Posadas
Nicole Kosakowski	Felipe Hernandez
Heather Haddon	Esteban Garcia
Desiree Greenhouse	Matthew Caswell

Samantha Castellanos

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## Coach unhappy with team defense

■ **GIRLS BASKETBALL:** Vikings win despite 'worst game of the season.'

BY JENNIFER CHO, INTERN

**DOWNEY** – Downey head coach Raymond Walker called the second half of Wednesday's game against Dominguez the "worst of the season," with the Lady Vikings unable to match their "best first half of the season."

Even with a home court advantage, and hosting one of the weakest girls' basketball team in the San Gabriel Valley League, Downey won by a fairly disappointing 54-38.

Irma Urzua led an exciting first

quarter, making consecutive 3-pointers in the opening seconds of the game giving Downey a 6-0 lead.

Rayana Villalpando had a field goal followed by two free throws well into the middle of the quarter. Villalpando pitched in with three more field goals in the first quarter. Andrea Acosta's three-pointer and Demetria Love's solid defense added icing to the cake, closing the first quarter 21-8.

Urzua started off the second quarter the same she had began the first, with a three-pointer. Kaylan Lane contributed to Downey's 3-point streak putting them up 27-8, and Love assisted for Villalpando's drive for a field goal. An impressive Viking bench dominated the

second quarter, and although a turnover at 37-15 resulted in points for the Dons, Downey's consistent defense covered for a relatively sloppy offense.

Now at 37-17, Downey shifted its focus to strong offensive play in the second half. However, the Vikings only added 6 points to their total in the third quarter. Villalpando had 4 points, and Kristin Johnson chipped in 2 points. The third quarter ended 43-27, with Downey still holding a sizable lead.

Poor defense and three fouls on Downey made up the fourth quarter. With 6:25 left in the quarter, the Vikings fouled twice on the Dons, giving away free points. Villalpando and Johnson each

clinched a field goal, and Johnson came to the free throw line three times and successfully turned them into easy points for the Vikings. Jasmine Gomez secured Downey its win with a free throw.

Walker complimented on his team's first half, but could not say the same about the second half, especially the "bad" third quarter.

"We didn't play well at all in the second half," he said. "It was the worst second half of the season."

The Lady Vikings are now 2-1 in league and 12-8 overall. Downey travels to Lynwood Friday, and will host Warren next Wednesday at home. Game times are 5:15 p.m.

## Speed too much for Warren to overcome

■ **BOYS BASKETBALL:** Bears lose despite 23 points from Cejay Anderson.

BY SCOTT COBOS, STAFF WRITER

**LYNWOOD** – Speed never slumps and Warren witnessed that in a 65-59 loss against Lynwood on the road last Friday night.

"It's hard to stay in front of these guys," Warren head coach Ryan Hart said. "They're a quick team and well coached. But the second quarter I think we only gave up [11] points and that was huge. But you know, closing the game. The toughest thing to do is close the game and we had a couple chances but the ball just didn't bounce our way."

Warren had trouble initially with Lynwood's speed in the first quarter and didn't really feel any comfort until the second quarter when they started matching Lynwood step for step.

Bears' Chad Corapi hit a 3-pointer at the buzzer before halftime to give his team a 32-31 lead.

"I thought the second quarter we picked it up," Hart said. "I think the first quarter, it seemed like the game was too fast for them, then they realized they could play with

Lynwood. Things got a little more interesting in the second quarter. We had a lead at the half."

Offense was difficult to come by though in the second half with Warren only scoring 9 points in the third quarter. Turnovers became a problem as well with Lynwood's full court press forcing six turnovers in the quarter.

Warren turned the ball over 21 times and only forced 14 Lynwood turnovers, something that has been a little uncharacteristic of the Bears this season.

Warren's Cejay Anderson helped keep the Bears close, scoring 23 points and pulling down nine rebounds for the Bears.

The night wasn't made easy for the Bears who also have been a little dinged up with guard Rene Bagaygay playing with a dislocated shoulder. Even with the loss, Hart didn't question his team's effort.

"They played real hard tonight," Hart said. "I mean Bagaygay has dislocated his shoulder three times already this season. We played hard."

Warren will be at home Friday night for the next San Gabriel Valley League game versus Gahr. Game time is 7 p.m.

## Second chance points doom Bears

■ **GIRLS BASKETBALL:** Warren outrebounded as Lynwood wins, 62-49.

BY SCOTT COBOS, STAFF WRITER

**DOWNEY** – Rebounding was an issue for Warren girls' basketball team in the first meeting of the year

between them and league rival Lynwood last Friday night in a 62-49 loss on the road.

Lynwood out-rebounded Warren 43-35 but more importantly 14-9 in offensive rebounds that led to many second chance points for the Knights.

"We were playing a great defensive game I felt," said Warren head

coach Rachel Palmer. "Offensively we couldn't come through."

While rebounding was key to Warren's loss, it was a very odd night that saw center Franny Vaalu foul out and guard Tahja Matthews, considered one of the best if not the best shooter on Warren's squad, hitting only one shot.

Vaalu fouled out in the fourth quarter with 3:14 to go in the fourth quarter and Matthews didn't see much action in the entire second half after scoring an early bucket in the first quarter then missing her next eight shots with a handful of them not even drawing iron.

"Tahja couldn't hit a bucket," said Palmer. "That was the difference. Add her offense in the game, and it wasn't like they were denying her the ball. She just didn't score."

Another oddity in the game involved Vaalu's offense in the first half, or lack thereof. Vaalu didn't really get involved in the offense until some second half adjustments by Palmer that got Vaalu going.

"I think the first half we didn't utilize her," Palmer said. "We weren't getting her the ball. Second half, we started pounding the ball to her and it made a difference."

Vaalu finished the night with only 9 points and nine rebounds, well below her season averages.

Warren point guard Danielle Rodriguez helped keep the Bears close the entire night, being the only real source of offense. Rodriguez was able to get to the basket many times and get to her spots on the court to hit mid-range jumpers.

She finished the night as one of two Warren players with double digit scoring. Rodriguez had 20 points and five rebounds. Guard Tania Ayala was the other with 10 points.

Warren did have a brief lead going into halftime after a made free throw by Rodriguez but Lynwood pushed the ball up and down the court, getting easy transition buckets. You felt the momentum swinging in Lynwood's favor midway through the third quarter.

"I feel like in the second half when [Lynwood] started pushing a little bit, there was a two minute period where it changed the game," Palmer said. "It changed the momentum of the game. That's where I feel we got beat. Other than that I think we beat ourselves."

Lynwood guard Shahana Zeigler and forward T'keya Mason were the keys to the Knight's offensive outburst in the second half scoring a combined 31 points in the game. Zeigler scored 13 points and Mason had 18.

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### The Case of the Lost Mileage Log and the IRS Auditor

On top of the desk of an IRS auditor is a glass jar filled with red fluid. When asked, "What is the red fluid in that jar?" The IRS auditor retorted, "Oh we're real proud of that here. It's blood from a turnip."

What's worse than facing an IRS auditor? It's losing your paper work, which backs up your deductions.

When you don't have your paper work, what do you do? Well, don't say, "My dog ate it." Call a tax specialist and bring them everything you do have. For example an outside salesman found he had lost his mileage log and this is what we did to prepare for his audit.

The case study you are about to read is a true story. Only the name of my clients have been omitted to protect their privacy.

First we had him bring us all his auto repair bills for the year and his appointment book. The auto repair bills had his odometer mileage. Looking at the recorded mileage from January through December gave us his total miles driven for the year. **TAX TACTIC: keep your auto repair bills in your tax files.** His appointment book told us where he traveled throughout the year. From that we used the internet driving directions to get the miles driven. The internet miles driven were nearly equal to his business miles reported on his tax return. **TAX TACTIC: buy a mileage logbook, use it every day.**

Commuting miles are not deductible. Commuting miles are defined as the roundtrip miles driven from home to work. Our outside salesman's roundtrip commuting miles were 10,000 miles per year. In reviewing his business trips we discovered that he did not include the business stops he made on his way to work – thinking those were commuting miles. But those business stops are considered temporary work sites. Thus those miles are now deductible business miles. Those business stops increased his total business miles by 2500 miles. This caused the IRS auditor to give him a refund. **TAX TACTIC: on the way to work, make a legitimate business stop, to convert commute miles to business miles.**

**Warning conducting business in your car does not convert commute miles to business miles.** Stop making business calls on your cell phone while commuting. Concentrate on driving, to prevent an accident. The deductions that you don't want to take are medical deductions.

**Review:**  
1. Keep your auto repair bills in your tax files.  
2. Buy a mileage logbook, use it every day.  
3. On the way to work, make a legitimate business stop, to convert commute miles to business miles.

I hope you have found this information helpful. If you have any tax questions please visit our web site at www.BarIRS.com, or please e-mail me at brian@barirs.com.

**TAX TACTIC: do your tax planning at the beginning of the tax year, not at your IRS Audit.**

Submitted By:  
Brian A. Regalbuto  
8221 3rd Street • Suite 206 • Downey • California • 90241  
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PHOTO BY PAUL HEIDECKER

## Vikings edge Dominguez

■ **BOYS BASKETBALL:** Garrett Neilan hits clutch FTs to seal win.

BY JENNIFER CHO, INTERN

**DOWNEY** – Head coach Larry Shelton said he was very frustrated with Downey's 50-47 victory over the visiting Dominguez Wednesday night.

Garrett Neilan, Dami Adefeso and Dallas Lopez opened up the

game with a string of field goals to put the Vikings up, 6-2. Free throws mostly helped pad Downey's points in the first quarter, thanks to Neilan, Dakari Archer, Vincent Quigg, and Adefeso.

Leading 16-6, the Vikings had hot shooting in the second quarter. Archer made a clean 3-pointer for a 23-9 lead, and Isaac Okebiurun had a field goal to push the lead to 25-12. Neilan shot for a 3-pointer later in the quarter for a 30-14 score, followed by Archer's field goal for 32-14. The Vikings turned over the ball too many times, leading to points for the Dons, but still maintained a lead at the end of the first half, 32-20.

The Vikings had poor offense and defense in the third quarter, and the offense could not score from 33-25 until 35-31. Quigg added a free throw, 36-31, and Neilan's three-pointer closed out a less-than-thrilling quarter at 39-35.

Archer simultaneously redeemed Downey's defense and offense for back-to-back steals and a field goal, 43-37. Neilan's three-pointer for 46-39 and Adefeso's steal and free throw in the critical seconds of the game were a sigh of relief for the Vikings. Rebounding became critical in the final seconds, but Neilan safely guarded Downey's victory.

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## Car show at Bob's Big Boy Saturday

**DOWNEY** – The third annual "Jeff's Fun Run," a car show and ride to support cancer research, will begin Saturday in Buena Park before finishing at Bob's Big Boy in Downey.

The ride begins at 8:30 a.m. at Ken Grody Ford at 6211 Beach Blvd. in Buena Park. The event will include food, raffles and other entertainment.

Participating vehicles will then drive to Bob's Big Boy.

The event is open to all vehicle makes and models, but no loud music, alcohol, racing, burnouts or barbecues are allowed. Cost to participate is \$25 per vehicle.

For more information, visit [www.jeffsfunrun.com](http://www.jeffsfunrun.com).

## 'Spring Awakening' opens

**HOLLYWOOD** – "Spring Awakening," the 2007 Tony Award winner for Best Musical, will open at the Pantages Theatre on Feb. 8 for eight performances only.

Set against the backdrop of a repressive and provincial 19th century Germany, "Spring Awakening" follows a group of young students as they navigate through teenage self-discovery and coming-of-age anxiety.

It is based on the 1891 Frank Wedekind play, the landmark production described as a "stirring combination of sexuality, morality and rock and roll that has captivated audiences across the nation like no other musical in years."

Tickets for "Spring Awakening" start at \$25 and are now on sale. They can be purchased online at [www.BroadwayLA.org](http://www.BroadwayLA.org), at all Ticketmaster outlets, and by calling (800) 982-ARTS.

## Beatles memorabilia up for auction

**DOWNEY** – Silent auction items, including memorabilia of the world's most famous rock group, are now on display in the Downey City Library foyer.

Items include Beatles memorabilia such as an issue of "Life" remembering John Lennon in photographs, "The Beatles Music/1962-1966" two-CD set and "The Beatles Music/1967-1970" two-CD set; "Franklin – The Essential Founding Father" by James Srodes, "described as a fascinating study of the man of ceaseless energy and remarkable accomplishments; "The Green Pharmacy" by Dr. James A. Duke, offering new discoveries in herbal remedies for common diseases and conditions.

Bids can be placed inside the Friends Bookstore until Jan. 29. Proceeds will benefit the library.

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Thursday Afternoon  
Games start at Noon  
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## Shed unwanted pounds, save the planet

By JEFF FELDMAN,  
SPECIAL TO THE DOWNEY PATRIOT

As I replace my 2010 "America's Scenic Wonders" calendar with the 2011 version received as a free gift by mail from the National Wildlife Federation, I realize it's that time of year again. It's time to resolve to somehow improve myself in the New Year.

In 2011, I'm focusing on weight loss. I just read that we Americans gained a startling average of 41 pounds last year! Those pounds piled up almost daily, escalating during the holiday season. They came as pre-approved credit card offers, sweepstakes entries, car insurance promotions, sale fliers, coupon mailers, and oh my, the catalogs.

Yep, we get sent 41 pounds of junk mail annually!

As New Year's resolutions go, shedding 41 unwanted pounds of junk mail is an easy target, and one with far reaching good effects. Americans receive almost four million tons of the stuff every year. That's a sacrifice of roughly 100 million trees and more than 25 billion gallons of clean water.

Sadly, a staggering 93 percent of junk mail gets tossed away almost immediately, without so much as a look. But it still costs nearly \$300 million annually to dispose of it. A quarter million homes could be heated with just a single day's supply of unwanted solicitations!

If you'd like to shed your unwanted pounds of junk mail, and reduce the associated environmental impacts, you can choose between two paths: fee-based junk mail reduction services and the do-it-yourself method.

41pounds.org is a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping people reduce their junk mail glut. They charge \$41 for a five-year membership, and guarantee an 80-95 percent reduction in the junk mail your household receives after 16 weeks. You provide some basic information and they do the rest, registering you with all the necessary "do not mail" organizations to ensure that junk mail stops hogging space in your mailbox and recycling bin. As a bonus, more than a third of your fee is donated to the environmental or community organization of your choice. Visit [www.41pounds.org/faq](http://www.41pounds.org/faq) for more info.

If you prefer the do-it-yourself junk mail diet, there are several organizations you'll need to contact. To eliminate unsolicited credit card offers, go to [www.optoutprescreen.com](http://www.optoutprescreen.com). Sign up online and you're free and clear for five years.

The Direct Marketing Association's Mail Preference Service exists solely for the pur-

pose of providing direct marketers with the names and addresses for consumers who wish to be removed from mailing lists. Add your name to the DMA's do-not-mail list by registering at [www.dmachoice.org/dma/member/regist.action](http://www.dmachoice.org/dma/member/regist.action).

The National Do Not Mail List is managed by directmail.com, another direct mail marketing outfit. Though similar to the DMA's list mentioned above, it never hurts to double-dip on these things. Register at [www.directmail.com/directory/mail\\_preference](http://www.directmail.com/directory/mail_preference).

If you find nothing of value in those periodic ValPak mailers, opt out by registering at [www.coxtarget.com/mail suppression/s/DisplayMailSuppressionForm](http://www.coxtarget.com/mail suppression/s/DisplayMailSuppressionForm).

Catalogs require a more selective approach, as many are not entirely unsolicited, but based on your past purchases. The best strategy is to call each company as soon as you receive an unwanted cata-

log, and ask to be removed from their mailing list. For catalogs you enjoy but would like to receive less frequently, call and ask to be cut back to a once or twice per year mailing.

Freeing yourself from the junk mail monster demands persistence and patience. Direct mail advertisers don't always give up easily. So your first attempt to remove yourself from a mailing list may be met with a "we know you don't really want to leave us, let's try one more shot at winning you over!" approach.

Also, bulk mail is printed and processed months in advance and your efforts may not catch up with pieces already in the system or on their way to your mailbox. Be aware too that your name may appear in multiple variations or under several account numbers with catalog companies. You may need to remove several versions of yourself from catalog mailings before you're free of them. Stick

with it, and you will overcome.

So if you're still seeking a meaningful, and relatively easy New Year's resolution, try shedding 41 pounds. Think of the time, trees, and tons of waste you'll save. Imagine a life without junk mail: good for you, good for the planet. Best wishes for being a few pounds

lighter 2011!

Jeff Feldman runs GreenPath Consulting, a green building consulting firm. He lives with his wife Kristin Alexander in a strawbale home in Berkeley County, WV. To comment on this column go to [www.blueridgepress.com](http://www.blueridgepress.com) or to our Facebook page. © BRP 2011.

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Saturday, January 22nd  
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Bring your friends & support our Church  
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# DUSD: Routine business approved.

Continued from page 1

agreements between the Downey Adult School Career and Education Center and several clinics/medical groups to furnish practical training in the dental assistant, medical assistant, and medical billing and coding programs; accepting as complete fencing, concrete, and electrical work performed by various contractors; adjustments to the unrestricted and restricted 2010-11 general and adult education funds, as well as to the restricted budget of the cafeteria fund; and the establishment of limited-term positions (with duties generally aligned with those of senior instructional assistant) assigned to different schools; and

•Ratified the general agreement with Hillside Education Center to provide special education and/or related services to DUSD students with 'exceptional' needs;

•Ratified BP and AR 3150 which aims at helping Title I students (those needing supplementary services to meet challenging academic standards) to attain proficiency on state standards and assessments;

•Ratified the second amendment to the Restated Ground Lease Agreement between lessor DUSD and lessee Brookshire Partners, effective Dec. 1, 2010 through April 30, 2060, regarding the real property bounded by Iowa St. on the north, Davis St. on the south, Brookshire Ave. on the east and Dolan St. on the west;

•Ratified the legal service agreement with Dannis Woliver

Kelley, a professional corporation, to be used on an as needed basis only, effective Jan. 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012;

•Ratified both the student teaching and placement agreements with Whittier College;

•Authorized the advertisement for bids for the construction and installation of an addition to the Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) fueling station, Transportation Services Department;

•Awarded the winning bids for different kinds of stock paper (standard bond white paper, standard color stock paper, and astro-bright paper) to three bidders (Unisource Worldwide of La Palma, Xpedx of Fullerton, and Quill Corp. of Lincolnshire, Illinois);

•Reviewed the proposed new BP and AR 2109 on Open Enrollment Act (the "Romero Bill") transfers, which allows pupils attending the 1,000 lowest-achieving schools (now referred to as 'open enrollment schools') to apply to higher achieving schools, regardless of their residence; the subject elicited much discussion among board members and management staff, a common concern being the possible influx of 'unwanted' or 'disruptive' students; in any case, it was agreed that a further review and study of the proposed required policies and regulations be made; and

•Endorsed the actions of the superintendent on student cases. The next meeting of the Board will be at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 8, 2011 at the Gallegos Administration Center, 11627 Brookshire Ave.



Brent Lugo is pictured above with Downey High School principal Tom Houts and Councilman Fernando Vasquez.



Eileen Garrido, also pictured with Houts and Vasquez, attends Rio San Gabriel Elementary.

# Two examples of kids helping others

Downey students honored for volunteerism, commitment to helping others.

**DOWNEY** — Brent Lugo, a sixth grader at East Middle School, and Eileen Garrido, a fifth grader at Rio San Gabriel Elementary, recently were recognized with the Downey Youth Service Award, sponsored by the Downey Kiwanis Club and The Downey Patriot.

Brent is active with Boy Scouts Troop 979, having begun scouting as a Webelo three years ago. He has earned the Arrow of Light and has aspirations of becoming an Eagle Scout.

This past summer Brent volunteered at Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center and he recently completed a six-month term as Assistant Senior Patrol Leader.

He was also very active in the Boy Scouts' annual food drive,

collecting food and non-perishable items from family and friends. He has also shown leadership in keeping the community free of pollution.

Brent averages A and B grades and was presented with the Silver Presidential Award at his fifth grade graduation. Last October he received a \$100 scholarship from the Mary Stauffer Foundation.

"I am very honored to have received this award and I will continue to do my best to help my community to the best of my abilities," Brent said.

Eileen Garrido has dedicated her young life to helping raise money to help sick children in the community.

Eileen was born March 10, 1999. The following day, doctors diagnosed her with tetralogy of fallot, a complex heart condition that can be fatal if left untreated.

At the age of 5 weeks, Eileen underwent her first heart surgery at

Children's Hospital in Los Angeles. She underwent her second heart surgery at 13 months.

Although the surgeries were successful, today Eileen still has severe leakage in her left ventricle which doctors continue to monitor closely.

The heart condition has done nothing to slow Eileen down. In January 2007, at age 7, she began taking voice lessons and in December 2007 she recorded her first CD titled, "Part of Your World," which consisted of Disney classics.

Her second CD, titled "Angel of Music," was recorded in July of 2009. It contains music from her favorite Broadway musicals and a song she wrote called "Melody."

Last October, Eileen founded the Beating Hearts Foundation (www.beatinghearts.org.), which helps raise money to benefit children with cardiovascular illnesses. Through CD sales, performances and fundraisers, she raises money in support of Children's Hospital L.A.

This past summer, she formed the Beating Hearts Children's Advisory Board, composed of six children from local schools to serve on her foundation to provide them a "philanthropic mentality" and encourage volunteerism in their community. Over the past year, Eileen is credited with raising more than \$3.8 million for children's charities.

Eileen has been featured on radio stations, including 104.3 MY-FM, where she performed her song, "On My Wings of Flight." The performances prompted a call from a nurse at Children's Hospital

Orange County who claimed the song brought her "hope and joy" after she had been diagnosed with lupus earlier that year.

Eileen also performs regularly at local functions. She sang at the tree lighting ceremony at City Hall in December and also at the July 4 festivities at Discovery Sports Complex.

Last February, Eileen was inducted into the Kids Day Hall of Fame and in July she was the national winner of the Kohl's Kids Who Care scholarship contest for her foundation work.

Just last month Eileen hosted a fundraiser dinner at the Barbara J. Riley Community and Senior Center that raised more than \$5,000 for Children's Hospital L.A., and this month, Family Magazine inducted Eileen into its hall of fame.

In addition to her community involvement, Eileen is also a very good student, having made the honor roll as a member of the GATE program. Since kindergarten, Eileen has missed only one day of school, and that was because she was performing in Las Vegas on behalf of the Children's Miracle Network.

"Receiving the Downey Youth Service Award is very special to me because it is such a huge honor coming from my city," Eileen said. "It proves that with hard work and dedication you can accomplish anything. I truly enjoy school and serving my community and receiving this award is wonderful and encourages me to do more."

Councilman Fernando Vasquez, a Kiwanis board member, said Downey's future "looks promising" thanks to kids like Brent and Eileen.

"These young leaders are great examples of youth service making a difference in our city," he said.

# BULLETIN BOARD

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## Physician named 'Super Doctor'

**DOWNEY** – Dr. Jerry Floro, a board-certified cardiologist practicing out of Downey and Lakewood, has been selected as a 2011 Southern California Super Doctor for the second straight year by Los Angeles Magazine.

The January 2011 issue of the magazine featured the top 5% of doctors in Los Angeles and Orange counties as determined through peer nominations (with ballots mailed to more than 30,000 doctors), a blue ribbon panel review process and independent research on candidates.

The listing also appears online at [www.superdoctors.com](http://www.superdoctors.com).

Floro received his undergraduate degree from USC and attended medical school at Vanderbilt University, completing his training at Vanderbilt and Harbor General-UCLA Medical Center.

He is affiliated with Pioneer Medical Group, a multi-specialty health care provider with locations throughout the Southeast Los Angeles area.

For more information, call (562) 229-9452, ext. 1455.

## St. Francis trauma center passes review

**LYNWOOD** – The trauma center at St. Francis Medical Center has been verified as a Level II Trauma Center by the American College of Surgeons (ACS), meaning the hospital not only has the resources necessary for the treatment of a traumatic injury, but the "entire spectrum of care" to address the needs of all injured patients, including rehabilitation.

St. Francis Medical Center underwent an on-site review by a team of experienced reviewers to earn the designation.

"St. Francis Medical Center opened its Trauma Center in 1996 at a time when many trauma centers and emergency departments were closing their doors," said Tchaka Shepherd, MD, the hospital's medical director of trauma services. "This verification validates the life-saving work that is performed here each day and our dedication to ensuring critical health care access for our community."

## Author signing books March 12

**DOWNEY** – Author Francis French will sign copies of his books, "Into that Silent Sea" and "In the Shadow of the Moon," at a book-signing event March 12 at the Columbia Memorial Space Center.

Admission is \$5 and books will be sold in the first floor gift shop.

RSVPs are required by calling the space center at (562) 231-1200.

## Young ice skater competing for chance at Junior Worlds

■ Vanessa Lam balances school and her desire to professionally ice skate.

BY REBEKAH JIN, INTERN

**DOWNEY** – Downey High sophomore Vanessa Lam manages to be an exemplary honors student while traveling around the world to participate in ice skating competitions.

"I started skating when I was five years old," said Lam. "I tagged along with my older sister Nina, who wanted to skate after she saw Nancy Kerrigan on television. After our first time on the ice, we continued to skate because it felt like a gravity defying activity."

In 2010, Lam won many awards that have established her as a determined athlete. The United States Figure Skating Association (USFSA) awarded Lam for passing all of the eight required free skating tests. She received a gold medal at her first international competition in Ostrava, Czech Republic, and a subsequent first place win at the Pacific Coast Sectionals qualified her for an upcoming nationwide competition.

Lam is inspired by Yuna Kim, who won the 2010 Olympic gold medal with a record score.

"Yuna Kim motivates me in so many ways," said Lam. "On the ice, she is one of the best skaters in history with her triple-triple combinations. Off the ice, she is a perfect role model by being humble in any situation. If I become a well-known skater, I hope to be as good of a role model to others as Yuna Kim is to me."



PHOTO BY REBEKAH JIN

Vanessa Lam will compete in the U.S. Figure Skating Championship tournament this month.

With hours of practice to prepare for competitions, how does Lam find time to keep up with her studies? By taking five classes and fulfilling her physical education requirement with ice skating, she uses the extra hour every day to do homework on the way to the ice rink.

Honors English teacher Teresa Hill is one of Vanessa's five teachers who help to plan out schoolwork with her busy schedule.

"Vanessa is unique because she's the first student I've taught who has been competing in a sport both nationally and internationally," said Hill. "I admire Vanessa's

talent so much. I love watching the Olympics, and figure skating is my favorite Winter Olympics sport. When Vanessa returns to class from competitions, she is immediately ready to jump into class discussions. Her work ethic is among the best I've ever known."

Lam is currently training for the 2011 U.S. Figure Skating Championship, which will be held this month in Greensboro, North Carolina. If she performs well, the USFSA selections committee might give Lam the option of competing at Junior Worlds in Korea—her goal for this season.

## JoAnn Haselroth dies peacefully

**DOWNEY** – JoAnn L. Haselroth died peacefully at home with her family by her side on Jan. 15.

She was born in Okawville, Ill., to Adolph and Johanna Niemeier-Brammeier on Jan. 18, 1934. She moved to Downey in 1959 and married Oliver W. Haselroth on Nov. 21, 1959. They bought their home together in 1962 where they had resided for the past 48 years.

JoAnn worked as a waitress at Del Rio Lanes for 20 years and retired in 1992.

She is survived by her husband of 51 years, Oliver W. Haselroth; sisters, Betty Wallace of Carlyle, Ill., and Lucille Moeller of Richview, Ill.; son, Don Dotson and his wife, Theresa Dotson, of Calimesa, Calif.; daughter, Lynn Walker and her husband, Norman Walker, of Louisville, Ky.; nine grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her granddaughter, Kristie Dotson.

Funeral services will be held Jan. 20 at Weaver-Hughes Mortuary in Yucaipa.



## Margarita Flores mourned by family

**DOWNEY** – Margarita Flores, born in El Paso, Tex., on Oct. 28, 1926 to Emeterio and Maria Cortez, passed away Jan. 18 at age 84.

Flores, a Catholic, enjoyed riding her bike, dancing, watching the Dodgers, going to casinos and being with her family.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Narciso, and her daughter, Margarita Ocegeda.

She is survived by her sons, Alfredo (Diana), Lorenzo (Maria) and Michael (Maria) Flores; daughters, Gloria (David) Sanders, Angelina (Gilbert) De Leon and Estela (Tony) Flores-Smith; 18 grandchildren; and 25 great-grandchildren.

Downey Zrelak Family Mortuary is handling services.



## Funeral set for George Cade

**DOWNEY** – George Cade, owner of Downey Welding and Manufacturing Company and a longtime member of Downey Rotary, died early Wednesday morning.

A viewing will be held Sunday from 2-4 p.m. at Chapel of Memories, 12626 Woods Ave., in Norwalk.

A funeral is scheduled for Monday at 10 a.m. at Florence Avenue Foursquare Church.

A full obituary will appear in next week's newspaper.

## Questions about pregnancy? Chat online

**SAN DIEGO** – Beginning this week, pregnant and breastfeeding women seeking information about medications and other exposures can receive help online through private instant messaging at [www.CTISpregnancy.org](http://www.CTISpregnancy.org).

The website is operated by a non-profit and is housed on the campus of UC San Diego.

The chat service will be monitored by trained, bilingual (English/Spanish) counselors who specialize in answering questions regarding medications, illicit substances and other exposures during pregnancy and breastfeeding.

Some of the most common questions pregnant women ask are: Can I color my hair during pregnancy?, I have allergies, what can I take?, Can I have a glass of wine with dinner?, Should I get a flu

shot if I'm trying to get pregnant?, and Do I have to quit taking my antidepressant now that I'm pregnant?

"This will be for women who feel like they don't have time to call us on our traditional hotline and prefer to use their computer or laptop," said Sonia Alvarado, a supervising counselor with the CTIS Pregnancy Health Information Line. "This option will also be

ideal for women who are uncomfortable talking to someone on the phone, although our services are provided confidentially and can be provided anonymously, whether by phone or chat."

Women who are pregnant, breastfeeding or planning a pregnancy can also receive advice by calling (800) 532-3749.

## James Henderson McPherson

November 24, 1961 - January 12, 2011



Jim "Jimmy" McPherson, born in Bells Hill, Scotland, passed away from cancer on Wednesday, January 12, 2011, at 10:45 a.m., less than a year after diagnosis. He was only 49 years old, but he had packed those years with exuberant living. He loved music, his family and his friends. He was passionate about being outdoors and on the move – from skateboarding to surfing, from riding horses

to motorcycles, from motocross to off-road four-wheeling; especially on the less-traveled back roads.

Jimmy was the owner and proprietor of a neighborhood bar in Downey named "The Glen." This was a legacy he inherited from his grandmother Marion McLeod who came to this country from Scotland around 1960. She passed away in 1996. Six years later Jimmy also lost his beloved mother Beatrice McPherson.

Jimmy was one of three sons of Bea. He was predeceased by his brother Simon "J.R." McPherson, and is survived by his oldest brother Larry McPherson. Simon's widow, Mary McPherson and Larry's former wife, Frances McPherson, also survive Jim, and he has always loved them as though they were his sisters.

Jim is survived by his devoted wife Jeanette, who shared his love of the outdoors and admired him and his adventurous spirit. Although never a father himself, he dearly loved the nieces and nephew given to him by his two brothers. He is survived by them all: Shawn McPherson and his wife Yvonne; their three children Kristin, David and Tiffany; and their grandchildren Katelyn James McPherson and soon-to-be-born Aubrie Star McPherson. Jimmy is also survived by his niece Michelle McPherson Martinez, husband Robert and their daughter Alicia; and his nieces Bonnie Beatrice McPherson, Mallory Dru McPherson, and Julie Ann Truax.

"Viewing" on Friday, January 21, 2011 from 4 to 8 pm at Miller-Mies Mortuary, 11015 Downey Ave., Downey, CA 90241. At 2 pm the following afternoon are the funeral services, also at Miller-Mies Mortuary. After the services, please attend the buffet and no-host bar from 3:30 to 6:30 pm, at Los Amigos Country Club in the Garden, 7295 Quill Dr., Downey (just off Old River School Road between Stewart & Gray Rd., and Imperial Hwy).

## Vera Jane "Janie" Myer

January 25, 1925 - January 16, 2011



Vera Jane "Janie" Myer, a long time resident of Downey, died in her home on Sunday January 16, after a long and courageous fight with cancer. She was eighty-five. Janie was married to James Myer for sixty-three years; together raising their children in their home on Muller St, which they purchased new in 1950 and never left.

Janie was born on January 25, 1925 in Rivera, California, where she began her schooling at South Ranchito School. She moved on to Lynwood Junior High and Compton Junior College, where she was president of the Alpha Tau Sorority, and a member of the Tartarettes and Tomorrow's Secretaries. She then became the personal assistant to the commander of the Naval Fueling Annex in San Pedro, near the end of World War II.

Janie was baptized on April 1, 1956, at the 1st Presbyterian Church of Downey, and God's love was evident in her passion for her family. Her unconditional love, unfailing assistance, good cheer and hopeful encouragement live on in her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She had only kind words for everyone and will be missed.

Janie is survived by her loving and devoted husband, Jim; her sons, Ken and Glen Myer; her daughters, Sherry Morrison and Debra Myer; her six grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Services will be held at Rose Hills Memorial Park, Friday January 21st at 9:00 am.

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## Teacher open house at space center

**DOWNEY** – All teachers are invited to attend an open house at the Columbia Memorial Space Center on Feb. 5 from 12-4 p.m.

Teachers can tour the interactive center and obtain information on field trips.

Family and friends of teachers are also welcome but must pay the admission fee. Admission is \$5 and children under 3 are free.

Teachers must show a photo ID to receive free admission.

A second open house is scheduled for April 9.

For more information, call (562) 231-1200.

## Jazz quartet in concert at temple

**DOWNEY** – The Downey High School Jazz Quartet and local soprano Julie Simpson are some of the local talent to be featured in "An Evening at Our Cabaret," hosted by Temple Ner Tamid on Feb. 5.

Local dancer Marco Sarinana will also participate in the concert, which will feature favorite musical compositions from today and the recent past.

During the event's intermission, three high-value prizes will be raffled, including a week's vacation in a fully-equipped condo in Hawaii, Canada, Australia, New Zealand or the Fiji Islands; a flat-screen HD television; and a laptop computer.

Raffle tickets are \$5 each or \$50 for a book of 12. Only 2,500 tickets will be sold.

General admission tickets are \$20; reserved seats are \$40. A no-host wine, beer and soft drink bar will be available throughout the night.

For more information, or to purchase admission or raffle tickets, call (562) 861-9276.

## Church collecting e-waste

**DOWNEY** – St. George Greek Orthodox Church will collect e-waste for recycling Jan. 22 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

All electronic waste can be dropped off for proper recycling at no charge.

Eligible electronic waste includes computer monitors, televisions, telephones, copiers, stereo equipment, digital cameras, microwaves, toasters and small household electric appliances.

For more information, call Georgia Covell at (818) 523-8396.



Christopher Carothers stars as Irving Berlin in "The Melody Lingers On," opening Feb. 17 at the Downey Theatre. Carothers has worked in film and television and toured nationally with "Jesus Christ Superstar," "The Scarlet Pimpernel" and "Grease." "The Melody Lingers On" will play until March 6. For tickets, call (562) 923-1714. Group rates are available.

## Librarian to speak on Afghan trip

**LONG BEACH** – Virginia Sanchez, general librarian with the Long Beach Public Library, will be guest speaker when the AAUW Long Beach branch meets Feb. 5 in Seal Beach.

Sanchez is widely recognized for her efforts as a U.S. Navy intelligence analyst stationed for 10 months at Camp Blackhorse outside Kabul, Afghanistan.

The meeting is open to the public and begins at 9:30 a.m. in the Leisure World clubhouse. Cost of the luncheon is \$12.

For reservations, call Pat Ferrer at (562) 597-4781.

## Doctor to talk about communication

**LAKWOOD** – Dr. William Parker will before the Hearing Loss Association's Long Beach/Lakewood chapter Feb. 10 at the Weingart Senior Center in Lakewood.

Parker's topic will be "Communicating with your Significant Other."

The meeting begins at 6:30 p.m. There is no cost to attend.

For more information, call (562) 438-0597.

## Memory loss is topic of meeting

**DOWNEY** – A speaker from the Medical Education Program will speak on memory problems Jan. 26 at the Barbara J. Riley Community and Senior Center.

The presentation begins at 1:30 p.m. and is part of the regular meeting of the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association. All residents are invited to attend.

For more information, call Bob Knerr at (562) 943-5513.

## Lunch, fashion show at Elks Lodge

**DOWNEY** – A country brunch picnic and fashion show, a fundraiser for Downey Emblem Club No. 309, will be held Feb. 5 at the Downey Elks Lodge.

The event begins with a social hour at 11 a.m., followed by lunch at noon and the show at 1 p.m.

Clothes featured in the fashion show will be available for purchase.

Admission tickets are \$15 and may be purchased by calling Mary Guzman at (562) 622-1003.

## Teens arrested on suspicion of burglary

**DOWNEY** – Three teenagers were arrested Wednesday on suspicion of burglarizing two Downey homes.

Downey police received a 911 call Wednesday at 10 a.m. from a homeowner who reported someone attempting to break into her residence on the 8600 block of Springer Street.

As officers responded, the caller told dispatchers that the suspects were leaving in a maroon-colored vehicle, police officials said.

Officers began a search of the area and a short time later spotted a vehicle matching the caller's description near Downey Avenue and Imperial Highway. The teens inside the car were identified as suspects in the original call and arrested for residential burglary, police said.

An investigation also linked the teens to a second residential burglary that had occurred that same morning on the 8400 block of Cavel Street.

Police arrested Lindsey Lee Lacey, 19, of Downey; Damone Leair Horton, 18, of Paramount; and a 17-year-old juvenile from Long Beach whose name was not released due to his age.

Anyone with information on the case is asked to call Detective Jerry Price at (562) 904-2359 or Sgt. Brian Baker at (562) 904-2304.

–Eric Pierce, city editor

## Food truck vendors target of extortion

**LOS ANGELES** – Two alleged gang members pleaded not guilty last week to charges that they attempted to extort money from food truck vendors in Los Angeles.

Miguel Morales, 19, and Dainler Baquevano, 24, each are charged with six counts of attempted extortion and one count each of vandalism.

Morales and Baquevano allegedly tried to collect \$50 a week in "rent" from vendors who operated food trucks in the 77th Street area of Los Angeles. Vendors who refused to pay were threatened and one victim had a large rock thrown through the front windshield of his truck, prosecutors said.

A criminal complaint alleges that the extortion was committed for the benefit of the 18th Street gang.

Bail was set at \$420,000 for Morales and \$255,000 for Baquevano. If convicted, Morales faces more than 35 years in prison and Baquevano more than 15 years, officials said.

## Crime Report

### Friday, Jan. 14

At 5:00 a.m., a janitor at Carpenter Elementary School (9439 Foster) found two males burglarizing the teacher's lounge. The suspects fled before police arrived.

At 3:00 p.m., a 14-year-old Downey resident was robbed of her necklace as she walked home from school in the 7800 block of Coolgrove Drive.

A 30-year-old woman from Los Angeles was cut with a knife by a 35-year-old Downey woman during a fight that occurred in the 7300 block of Emily Lane. The victim's injuries were not life-threatening. Both females were arrested.

### Saturday, Jan. 15

At 7:00 p.m., a Downey resident was stopped at the intersection of Tecum Road and Dinsdale Street when a car pulled up along side of him and the occupant pointed a handgun at him. The suspect fled the area and was not located.

### Sunday, Jan. 16

At 5:45 p.m., a 35-year-old Lakewood resident was robbed of his wallet at gunpoint by two males as he was walking in front of an apartment complex on the 12100 block of Old River School Road.

At 9:45 p.m., a 31-year-old Downey resident was robbed at gunpoint of his wallet and cell phone as he entered his apartment complex on the 8200 block of Telegraph Road.

### Tuesday, Jan. 18

At 10:00 p.m., three victims were walking in the 13600 block of Verdura Avenue when a car occupied by several subjects drove by and shot at them. No one was injured and detectives are investigating the matter.

### Wednesday, Jan. 19

At 10:00 a.m., three suspects were arrested for attempted residential burglary on the 8600 block of Springer Street. The investigation revealed that the suspects had committed a burglary in the 8400 block of Cavel. Officers recovered the loss.

At 6:30 p.m., a robbery occurred at Hall Market, located at 11543 Lakewood Blvd. The suspect simulated having a firearm and fled the location with a can of beer.

Information provided by Downey Police Department.

<b>DVD Releases: January 25, 2011</b>	
Red Sue ID (The Final Chapter) Secretariat The Girl Who Kicked the Hornet's Nest Open Season 3 Source: www.cdsongpoint.com	
<b>CD Releases: January 25, 2011</b>	
Nine Inch Nails: Live Through This Moulin Rouge: Music From the Motion Picture 2011 Grammy Nominations Various Artists Simply From Los County Lover: Garbage Source: www.cdsongpoint.com	
<b>Book Releases: January 25, 2011</b>	
The Percy Jackson and the Olympians, Book Five: Last Olympian: Rick Riordan The Iron Queen: Julie Kagawa Josh's Compass: Anne Tyler The Spark: The 28-Day Breakthrough Plan for Losing Weight, Getting Fit, and Transforming Your Life: Dominic Cole The Red Garden: Alice Hoffman Source: www.amazon.com	
<b>Concerts of the week</b>	
Callers 2011 - Don Omar, Daddy Yankee, and More STAPLES Center - Sun, 01/23/11 7:00 PM Los Angeles Philharmonic Walt Disney Concert Hall - Sun, 01/23/11 7:30 PM Motivated with Volant Theater Houses of Blues Anaheim - Thu, 01/27/11 8:00 PM My Chemical Romance The GRAMMY Museum - Sat, 01/29/11 8:00 PM Swirl Distortion Hollywood Palladium - Thu, 01/27/11 7:00 PM Source: www.thatlist.com	

# LEGAL NOTICES

### BULK SALES

#### NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF BULK SALE AND OF INTENTION TO TRANSFER ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE(S) (UCC Sec. 6105 et seq. and B & P Sec. 24073 et seq.)

Escrow No. 42133-SH  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a bulk sale of assets and a transfer of alcoholic beverage license(s) is about to be made. The name(s) and business address of the seller(s)/licensee(s) are: JIMMENG TAING AND SAYCHOU TAING, 10656 ROSECRANS AVE, NORWALK, CA 90650  
Doing business as: GS FOODMART  
All other business names(s) and address(es) used by the seller(s)/licensee(s) within the past three years, as stated by the seller(s)/licensee(s), is/are: NONE  
The name(s) and address of the buyer(s)/applicant(s) is/are: 7-ELEVEN, INC. 10656 ROSECRANS AVE, NORWALK, CA 90650  
The assets being sold are generally described as: GOODWILL AND INVENTORY OF STOCK IN TRADE and is/are located at: 10656 ROSECRANS AVE, NORWALK, CA 90650  
The type of license to be transferred is/are: Type: OFF-SALE GENERAL, License Number: 21-364319 now issued for the premises located at: 10656 ROSECRANS AVE, NORWALK, CA 90650  
The bulk sale and transfer of alcoholic beverage license(s) is/are intended to be consummated at the office of: BUSINESS TITLE ESCROW, INC. 25152 SPRINGFIELD CRT, STE 285, VALENCIA, CA 91355 and the anticipated sale date is UPON THE ISSUANCE OF THE ABC LICENSE  
The bulk sale is subject to California Uniform Commercial Code Section 6106.2  
The purchase price or consideration in connection with the sale of the business and transfer of the ABC license, is the sum of \$15,000.00, including inventory estimated at \$15,000.00, which consists of the following: DESCRIPTION, AMOUNT: CASH

\$410,000.00  
It has been agreed between the seller(s)/licensee(s) and the intended buyer(s)/transferee(s), as required by Sec. 24073 and 24074 of the California Business and Professions code, that the consideration for transfer of the business and ABC license is to be paid only after the transfer has been approved by the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control.  
JIMMENG TAING AND SAYCHOU TAING, Seller(s)/Licensee(s)  
7-ELEVEN, INC, Buyer(s)/Applicant(s)  
PCTS LA157293 DOWNEY PATRIOT 1/20/11  
The Downey Patriot, #BS124251 1/20/11

### FICT. BUSINESS NAME

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File Number 20120839883  
THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) IS (ARE) DOING BUSINESS AS: (1) Downey Wholistic Center, 8201 4th St., Suite B, Downey, CA 9024, County of Los Angeles  
Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number (if applicable): AI #ON: N/A  
REGISTERED OWNERS(S): (1) Cuahtemoc Delgado, 11813 Tristan Dr., Downey, CA 90241  
(2) Sandra Montoya, 12051 Paramount Blvd, Apt. 25, Downey, CA 90242  
This business is conducted by a General Partnership  
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A  
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/Cuahtemoc Delgado, Partner  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on 12/13/10  
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

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File Number 20101922656  
THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) IS (ARE) DOING BUSINESS AS: (1) Signs Unlimited, 1912 W Burbank Blvd, Burbank, CA 91506, County of Los Angeles  
Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number (if applicable): AI #ON: N/A  
REGISTERED OWNERS(S): (1) Michael K. Mayo, 2024 Pine Hurst Ln, Hawthorne, CA 90250  
(2) Gerald D. Mayo, 10932 Morrison St, Apt 107, North Hollywood, CA 91601  
This business is conducted by a General Partnership  
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A  
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/Michael K. Mayo  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on 12/28/10  
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

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File Number 20110067633  
THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) IS (ARE) DOING BUSINESS AS: (1) A.C. Paving Company, 12623 Imperial Hwy, CA 90670  
Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number (if applicable): AI #ON: N/A  
REGISTERED OWNERS(S): (1) Blackgold Development, Inc., 12623 Imperial Hwy, #209, Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670, A California Corporation  
This business is conducted by a Corporation  
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 11/16/2005  
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/Anthony J. Curato Jr, Director, Blackgold Development, Inc.  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on 1/12/11  
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).  
The Downey Patriot, # BS124251 1/20/11, 1/27/11, 2/3/11

#### The Downey Patriot, # BS124251 1/13/11, 1/20/11, 1/27/11, 2/3/11

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File Number 20110023646  
THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) IS (ARE) DOING BUSINESS AS: (1) Clarion Creative, 10434 Tristan Dr., Downey, CA 90241, County of Los Angeles  
Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number (if applicable): AI #ON: N/A  
REGISTERED OWNERS(S): (1) Julio Martin Puma, 10434 Tristan Drive, Downey, CA 90241  
This business is conducted by an Individual  
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A  
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/Julio Martin Puma, Owner/CEO  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on 01/05/11  
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).  
The Downey Patriot, # BS124251 1/6/11, 1/13/11, 1/20/11, 1/27/11

### PROBATE

#### NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF VALDES L. ROWE aka VALDEZ L. ROWE aka VICTOR ROWE aka V. LOPEZ ROWE Case No. BP126294

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of VALDES L. ROWE aka VALDEZ L. ROWE aka VICTOR ROWE aka V. LOPEZ ROWE  
A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by Vincent L. Rowe in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.  
THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that Vincent L. Rowe be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.  
THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.  
A HEARING on the petition will be held on











## College lands grant for green careers

**NORWALK** – Cerritos College has received the second installment of an Edison International grant to provide scholarship support for students pursuing green job programs at the school.

The latest grant installment is \$100,000 and is part of Edison's \$1 million Green Jobs Education Initiative, which funds sustainable or green education and job training at 10 California community colleges.

"Edison's generous support will provide financial assistance to students in need who seek careers in ever-emerging green technology fields," said Dr. Linda Lacy, president and superintendent of Cerritos College.

The college invested the first \$100,000 installment from Edison with the California Community College Scholarship Endowment, which allowed the college to receive an additional \$50,000 match from the Bernard Osher Foundation.

The second installment will also be invested with the Scholarship Endowment to receive a second match of \$50,000, resulting in an endowment of \$300,000 for green job scholarships.

The scholarship will be distributed this year in the areas of green degree and certificate programs. The grant will provide scholarships for a minimum of 15 students with a scholarship award of \$1,000 each.

"This initiative provides a vehicle for us to create a vibrant 21st century workforce as we engage our communities and work together to address strategic needs," said Theodore F. Craver Jr., chairman and CEO of Edison International. "The Green Jobs Education Initiative also has the additional advantage of giving an economic boost to community colleges across the state coping with pressing financial needs."

## Half-price sale at library bookstore

**DOWNEY** – The Friends Bookstore inside the Downey City Library is having a half-price sale on a wide selection of books.

Included in the sale are how-to books, Christmas, travel, cooking and a variety of fiction and non-fiction books.

Proceeds from all sales will benefit the library.

## Financial seminars at CSULB

**LONG BEACH** – The office of estate and gift planning at Cal State Long Beach is offering a free, three-part seminar series titled "Protect Your Financial Assets...Today, Tomorrow and Always" at the Long Beach campus.

The series begins Jan. 25 with its opening seminar on "Protecting What You Have Now: Investment Strategies and Risk Management," followed by the second offering Feb. 9, titled "Protecting What You Will Have for the Future: Retirement Planning Ideas, Insurance and Health Care Options."

The seminar series concludes Feb. 22 with "Protecting What You Leave to Others, Estate Planning, Including Wills and Trusts."

Each of the seminars will run from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the school's Pyramid Annex Conference Center. Visitors should use the Atherton Street/Merriam Way entrance and park in Lot 13, adjacent to the Walter Pyramid.

"This three-part series will answer many of the financial planning and tax questions during this unpredictable economic climate," said Susan Berkman, CSULB's assistant vice president for estate and planned giving.

Berkman stressed that the seminar series is for educational purposes only. There is no sales pitch, and no products will be sold.

While the seminar is free, registration is required by calling (562) 985-5607 or online at [www.csulb.edu](http://www.csulb.edu).

## Chance to meet DUSD tutors

**DOWNEY** – Parents of DUSD middle school students can learn about the school district's after-school tutoring program by attending an event Jan. 22 at Sussman Middle School from 9 a.m. to noon.

Tutors will be on-site to meet with parents and answer questions.

Free after-school tutoring is available only for middle school students who receive free or reduced-price meals at school.

Sussman Middle School is at 12500 Birchdale Avenue, near Imperial Highway and Lakewood Boulevard. The event will take place in the cafeteria.



**Los Angeles County Supervisor Don Knabe helped to retire Metro's last running diesel-fueled bus on Jan. 12. "Today is a great day for Metro and the people of L.A. County because it's an excellent day for our region's air quality," said Knabe, who chairs the Metro board of directors. "With today's retirement, Metro becomes the first major transit system in the world to run entirely on clean alternative fuels. We've been working toward this day since 1993 and now just one look at our sky helps tell the story. The air is getting cleaner, in part because Metro is getting greener."**

## Community center OK'd for Montebello

**MONTEBELLO** – A \$1.86 million project to build a new community and senior center in Montebello was approved by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors on Tuesday.

The project will be financed using capital project funds and federal Community Development Block Grant monies included in the 2010-11 fiscal budget.

The community and senior center will be built at Potrero Heights Park. Plans call for a 3,000 square foot center with a multi-purpose room, exercise room, warming kitchen, office, restrooms and associated ancillary spaces. The center will include patio and other outdoor space, with landscaping immediately surrounding the building.

Acon Development, a minority-owned company, received the construction contract.

**Russell Skersick** has joined **CENTURY 21 My Real Estate Company**- Awesome is the best word to describe this dynamic Real Estate Professional. Dedication, hard work and guaranteed service, coupled with his boundless energy deliver results beyond the client's expectations.

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Skilled communication, great business sense, technology current, and constantly striving to reach a little higher, guarantees a rewarding experience for all who have the good fortune of working with **Russell Skersick**.

**To Contact Russell call: 562-927-2626**

## Brother of astronaut to visit space center

**DOWNEY** – The Columbia Memorial Space Center will commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Challenger Space Shuttle disaster when it hosts Dr. Carl McNair, brother of lost astronaut Ronald McNair, on Jan. 25.

McNair's visit will cap a day-long remembrance, beginning with a 9 a.m. event at McNair Elementary School in Compton.

The grade school, at 1450 W. El Segundo Blvd., was the first public school named in Ronald McNair's memory.

Carl McNair will be at the school where he is expected to be joined by local politicians and Air Force officials to mark the disaster that took place Jan. 28, 1986 when the space shuttle broke apart over the Atlantic Ocean, off the central coast of Florida.

All seven space shuttle crew members died.

Following the event in Compton, McNair will be at the Columbia Memorial Space Center at 5 p.m. Copies of his book, "In the Spirit of Ronald E. McNair, Astronaut -- An American Hero," will be available for purchase and signing.

Both events in Compton and Downey are free to attend and open to the public.

## Rose Float accepting float concepts

**DOWNEY** – The Downey Rose Float Association is now accepting concepts and drawings for its entry in the 2012 Tournament of Roses Parade.

The parade theme was set to be announced Thursday.

For more information, visit [www.tournamentofroses.org](http://www.tournamentofroses.org).

Float concepts should be drawn in black and white, and mailed to Downey Rose Float Association, P.O. Box 765, Downey, CA 90241. Entry deadline is Jan. 25.

## Historical society to screen videos

**DOWNEY** – Home videos recently discovered by three former Downey residents will be screened by the Downey Historical Society on Jan. 27 at the Barbara J. Riley Community and Senior Center.

The videos, taken by James Smith, Carrol and Ann Taylor, and Marie Green, had apparently been abandoned by the original families. The videos depict Downey from the mid 1950s to the late 1970s.

Residents are invited to the screening, which begins at 7:30 p.m. Anyone who may have additional information on the videos or the residents who taped the films are also invited.

For more information, call the historical society at (562) 862-2777.

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"Mauricio Barajas did a good job. Mauricio was very helpful!" – **Oscar Ramirez**

"Rowena Dominguez did an excellent and outstanding job. Rowena was knowledgeable of the area and always had our best interest in mind. I trust Rowena and have referred a co-worker to her." – **Jose Ruiz**

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<p><b>DOWNEY LOT!</b>                  11,950 sq. ft. lot in Downey, zoning is R30 can built condo's or townhomes.                  \$375,000                  Call Carrie Uva 562-382-1252</p>	<p><b>LIVE IN 1 AND RENT THE OTHER</b>                  Downey large lot, Front house: 3 BD, 1 1/2 BA, Rear house: 2 BD, 1 BA, two car garage Priced at: \$525,000                  Call for a private showing 562-618-0033</p>	<p><b>9632 KARMONT, SOUTH GATE</b>                  3 BD, 2 BA, 1,386 sq. ft Downey School District. <b>STANDARD SALE!</b>                  Call Mario For more details 562-533-7433</p>
<p><b>DOWNEY SENIOR CONDO</b>                  1 BD, 1 BA, washer &amp; dryer + more all furniture &amp; appliances included!                  \$120,000                  Call Carrie Uva 562-382-1252</p>	<p><b>WON'T LAST!</b>                  4 BD, 3 BA, 2,123 sq. ft., 9,440 sq. ft. lot.                  Call Ken Ishiki (562) 755-5010</p>	<p><b>10410 CLANCEY, DOWNEY</b>                  3 BD, 2 BA, hardwood floors, RV parking, nearly 1,800 sq. ft., 7,500 + sq. ft. lot.                  Let Mario DO IT for you too  <b>IN ESCROW IN ESCROW IN ESCROW</b></p>
<p><b>RENTALS AVAILABLE!</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 11701 1/2 Coldbrook, Downey 2 BD, 1 BA upstairs apt w/ washer hook-ups \$1,000 per month</li> <li>• 11701 Coldbrook, Downey 2 BD, 1 BA downstairs apt w/ washer + dryer hook-ups \$1,200 per month</li> <li>• 11743 Bellman, Downey 1 BD, 1 BA house w/firplace &amp; washer/dryer hook-ups \$1,000 per month</li> </ul> <p>Call Carrie 562-382-1252</p>	<p><b>9368 BIGBY, DOWNEY</b>                  3 BD, 2 BA, close to schools &amp; shopping, great neighborhood.                  Call Felix Lopez (562) 884-0378</p>	<p><b>7704 3RD ST., DOWNEY</b>                  2 BD, 2 BA, 1,815 sq. ft., 11,250 sq. ft. lot. Orange Estates                  Let Mario DO IT for you too!  <b>SOLD! SOLD! SOLD!</b></p>
<p><b>AVOID PROBATE!</b></p> <p>Living Trusts 15% Discount!                  Wills                  Call Carrie to make your Living Trust!                  (562) 382-1252</p>	<p><b>AFFORDABLE BUY!</b>                  3 BD, 1 BA, family kitchen w/ eating area, 2 car det. gar., 7,736 sq. ft. lot. Priced at: \$325,000                  Call Pam Lee (562) 618-0390</p>	<p><b>Mario Persico</b>              "Mario Did it AGAIN!"  <b>562-533-7433</b>  <a href="http://www.MarioPersico.com">www.MarioPersico.com</a></p> <p><b>BORN * EDUCATED * LIVES * WORSHIPS IN DOWNEY</b>  <b>MARIO PERSICO SELLS DOWNEY!!</b></p>

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<p><b>Splish Splash!</b>                  3 BD, 2 BA NW Downey pool home on tree-lined, quiet street. Remodeled kitchen &amp; bathrooms and refinished hardwood floors.                  Price: \$399,950                  Call Michael @ 562-818-6111</p>	<p><b>Well Kept, Well Priced</b>                  2 BD, 1 BA PLUS a cozy den with fireplace. Living area feels very spacious and current owner has taken good care of this home.                  Price \$269,000                  Call Michael @ 562-818-6111</p>
<p><b>A Hidden Treasure</b>                  3 BD, 3 BA NW Downey pool home on private street. Large master bedroom with sunken tub, formal dining room and spacious family room off kitchen.                  Price: \$469,900                  Call Michael @ 562-818-6111</p>	<p><b>WOW! What a Value!</b>                  4 BD, 2 BA house PLUS 1 BD guest house. Home has remodeled kitchen, new paint &amp; flooring and is ready to move right in.                  Price: \$319,000                  Call Michael @ 562-818-6111</p>
<p><b>Location, Location, Location</b>                  5 BD, 3 BA NE Downey pool home that has been recently remodeled. The perfect house at a great price.                  Price \$649,950                  Call Michael @ 562-818-6111</p>	<p><b>This One's Hot!</b>                  3 BD, 1 BA with den in Downey near an elementary school. Remodeled exterior with newer windows and automatic opener and gate.                  Price: \$349,900                  Call Michael @ 562-818-6111</p>

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