



The Downey Patriot

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Friday, October 28, 2005

Vol. 4, No. 27

11525 DOWNEY AVE., SUITE A, DOWNEY, CA 90241

The Schmidts Charter Ball honorees tomorrow

DOWNEY—Don and Mary Lou Schmidt of Downey will be Downey Regional Medical Center's Memorial Trust Foundation honorees tomorrow at the Charter Ball, as the persons selected for having "a profound impact on community progress."

The black tie gala, held each fall, takes place at the Hyatt Regency Huntington Beach Resort and Spa, and will star Don Rickles and Three Dog Night. The affair will raise funds for new patient care monitors in the DRMC Outpatient Surgical Center.

Mary Lou Schmidt, who began a two-year term as the DRMC Board Chair in 2004, has served on the board since 1998. Born and raised in South Gate, she got her Bachelor of Science degree from Pepperdine University. She began her career as a Program Director with the Downey YMCA. Under her direction the Tri-Hi-Y and Jr. Tri-Hi-Y programs grew to become the largest YMCA girls program in the Western United States. She was a member of the California State advisory committee on the YMCA Youth in Government and received a special citation from the Governor for her service to youth.

She then retired to become a full-time mom to her son, Tim. Her community involvement began when Tim volunteered her to bake cookies and be room mother to his class. As Tim grew so did her involvement in PTA, YMCA and youth sports programs.

Her membership in the Assistance League began 26 years ago. She has held many offices and chairmanships with the philanthropic organization. During her chairmanship of the Housing of Medical Emergencies (H.O.M.E.), she guided the project from final fundraising and construction to completion. This 10-unit apartment complex adjacent to Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center is used to temporarily house families of patients undergoing treatment at Rancho, at a minimal cost to families.

Mary Lou was honored as the "Outstanding Woman of 1998" for the city of Downey by State Senator Betty Karnette. In 2004 she received the Soroptimist International of Downey "Woman of Distinction" award and the Volunteer Award from Rotary International of Downey.

Don was born and educated in Alabama. He moved to California to take a position at the South Gate Firestone Tire and Rubber Co., where he worked for 25 years as their Warehouse Manager until the plant closed. He went on to work as a Distribution Center Director with California Distribution until his retirement three years ago.

Don was active as a youth baseball coach while raising their son. He now has time to devote to his favorite pastime, golf, and just recently had his first hole-in-one. Mary Lou calls him the kindest person that she knows, and a great source of strength for her and their entire family. He has always encouraged her to be involved in the community, never complains and even helps with the cooking now that he's retired, she says. Both Mary Lou and Don cite their marriage as their greatest accomplishment and raising their son as their most rewarding and fun experience.

"They are truly an inspiration to their family and their many friends," states DRMC Executive Vice President of Fund Development Jim Klosterman. "For Mary Lou's tireless efforts on behalf of the hospital and our community; her courageous leadership during challenging times in the healthcare industry; and her warmth that has encouraged others to give of their time, talents and treasures to the hospital; and for Don's constant and considerable behind-the-scenes support of her efforts, we are very pleased to have Don and Mary Lou Schmidt as our 2005 Charter Ball honorees."

Money raised at Charter Ball will go towards the purchase of new patient monitors in DRMC's Outpatient Surgery Center (OPSC). DRMC has already "test-driven" the patient monitors which are manufactured by Nihon Kohden, Japans's leading developer and distributor of medical electronic equipment.

DRMC has been leasing the monitors for the Short Stay Unit.

They will replace the 18-year-old devices for which replacement parts are no longer available. A total of 18 monitors estimated to cost a total of \$230,000 will be purchased by the hospital and are expected to last at least 10 years.



RESTAURATEUR GREGORY ANDRO—Who conducted his annual cooking demonstration at the Embassy Suites Hotel to benefit the Music in the Schools program, enjoyed a significant following in Downey for his culinary showmanship.



NO TRICKS, JUST TREATS—Children from local preschools and kindergartens enjoyed the Pumpkin Patch outside the Sav-on store on Florence Ave. this week.

Verderber running for new college term

DOWNEY—Bob Verderber, longtime Downey resident and member of the Board of Trustees at Cerritos Community College, is running for his fourth term on the Nov. 8th ballot.

Verderber told The Downey Patriot Wednesday that he truly enjoys his association with the college and its award-winning faculty and staff. And he adds he enjoys the challenge of being a board member.

He came to California in 1961 from the small town of Euclid, Ohio, just on the outskirts of Cleveland. He went to work at North American Aviation as a project engineer on the Apollo Program.

Bob obtained a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from Cleveland State University and later a masters degree in systems engineering from USC.

His father was a tool-maker, an inventor and founder of a tool-making company that was highly respected in the industrial midwest. His mother was a classically-trained violinist, who, while raising a family, helped found the Cleveland Women's Symphonic Orchestra. Bob's brother, Roy, is a retired lawyer and a "practicing" philosopher. His sister, Anne, is a registered nurse and is now a nurse-practitioner. She also has a PhD in education from USC, and is a professor at San Diego State University.

While working in the aerospace industry, Bob taught evening courses at a number of local colleges. He specialized in teaching in engineering and industrial management. He quickly learned that he loved the college atmosphere—the teaching, the students, his fellow faculty members. That is what led him to run for a seat on the Cerritos College Board in 1993. He won, but barely.

Bob retired from engineering in 1995. He plays golf, tennis and shuffleboard, but it was not enough. He took the state test for an Emergency Teaching Credential and passed. He was hired by the DUSD in 2001 as a substitute teacher.

Learning that the Emergency Credential would no longer be valid under the "No Child Left Behind" Act, in the fall of 2001 Bob enrolled at CSU-Long Beach in a course leading to a full credential to teach mathematics. He can now stay in the classroom and teach.

See **VERDERBER**, page 4

Chef Gregory Andro passes away at age 69

PHOENIX, AZ—Funeral services were held on Oct. 25 at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Mountain View Ward in Phoenix, AZ for Gregory Joseph Andro, who owned a number of Gregory's Restaurants, including the one located inside the Embassy Suites Hotel on Firestone Blvd. in Downey.

Interment followed at Phoenix's Desert Hills Memorial Park Cemetery.

He was born Dec. 29, 1935 in Kenosha, Wisconsin to Joseph and Lucille Andro, and passed away on Oct. 20 at his home in Phoenix. He was 69.

He spent two years in the National Guard and attended the MIT Culinary School in Milwaukee, WI. He was a member of the Elks Lodge. He is survived by his wife, Iva; daughter Jean (James) Kelleher; son Richard (Jodi) Andro; brother Ralph Andro; half-brother Ron Andro; and 11 grandchildren.

It was requested that memorial contributions be made to Hospice of the Valley, 1501 E. Flower St., AZ.

Amended agreement for Downey Landing

By Henry Veneracion

DOWNEY—The City Council has approved an amended agreement for Downey Landing and the completion of the remaining work on Stewart and Gray Road after negotiations with the developer, Eclipse Development Group.

The vote was 3-2, with Mayor Pro Tem Meredith Perkins and Councilmember Kirk Cartozian voting no. In this connection, Perkins asked City Atty./Economic Development Director Charles Vose what would happen if the developer were to again fail to complete the remaining work on Stewart and Gray as stipulated, given that they had already been given 45 days to complete the work prior to this amended agreement. Vose said if that were to happen, the City could then convert the \$800,000 it was already holding as a cash deposit for project completion to a \$1 million performance bond and it would be up to Council to change the contract.

This is in addition to forfeiture of the \$250,000 bond guaranteeing that the project would be completed in 60 days from contract signing.

The agreement, approved at Tuesday's regular council meeting, includes a sum to be reimbursed to the City for public improvements along the frontage of the site at Lakewood Boulevard, and a schedule of performance for work on Stewart and Gray.

The problems that threw Stewart and Gray behind schedule included one of the wettest winters ever recorded here.

The amended agreement includes:

*A schedule of completion of the remaining work on Stewart and Gray within 60 days of the date of the amendment.

*A guarantee of completion of the work on Stewart and Gray, and the said requirement of a \$250,000 deposit to be forfeited to the City if Stewart and Gray is not completed within 60 days.

*Inclusion of a reclaimed water line along Stewart and Gray at an additional expense to the developer of about \$75,000.

*The developer has agreed to pay the City \$550,000 as full payment of public improvements fronting on Lakewood Boulevard.

In other action the City Council:

*Presented the Mayor's Service Award to Corporal Terence Goeckner of the Downey Police Department.

*Presented Downey Police and Fire Foundation 15th anniversary

See **AGREEMENT**, page 4



RETIRING POLICE CHIEF JOHN FINCH (right) – Leaves the Downey Police Department in good hands with Roy Campos.

Campos sworn in as new police chief

DOWNEY – Downey's past and present's finest gathered at city council chambers for the swearing in of new Police Chief Roy Campos Thursday, Oct. 27.

Campos a 26-year employee of the Downey Police Department, succeeds retiring Police Chief John Finch.

Candidates running hard for DUSD seats

DOWNEY—Two seats will be contested on the Board of the Downey Unified School District at the polls Nov. 8.

In Area 1 the candidates are educator Joseph A. Serrano and educator Martha Sodetani, a mother of six, three of whom have graduated and three of whom are still attending Downey schools.

In Area 5, there are three candidates, Luis H. Marquez, a deputy to State Senator Alan Lowenthal (D) Long Beach and Downey; Ricardo A. Salazar, a railroad employee; and Nancy Swenson, a management systems analyst and graduate of Warren High School, as are her two children.

In Area 7 incumbent Barbara Samperi is running unopposed.

In a separate race, Downey's Bob Verderber is running for re-election to the Cerritos College Board of Trustees.

November bus tour to the Wax Museum

DOWNEY—The Downey Historical Society will offer its traditional bus tour on Saturday, Nov. 12 to the Hollywood Entertainment Museum and the Hollywood Wax Museum, both of which are on Hollywood Boulevard, and are loaded with exhibits from original movie sets of the past.

There are also 180 wax figures of famous stars. The bus leaves the south parking lot at Apollo Park (half a block north of Imperial Highway) at 9 a.m. and will return there by 5 p.m. Cost of the tour is \$20.

The Hollywood Wax Museum opened in February 1965 and is the only wax museum dedicated to Hollywood celebrities. Thousands of tourists visit the museum each year to view the likenesses of Harrison Ford, Mike Meyers, Katherine Hepburn, Julia Roberts, Marilyn Monroe and more.

For information on the tour, call (562) 862-2777.



FERNANDO MICHAELS – Founding member of the Bogota Centro Historico Rotary Club, presents his club flag to Carol Pearce, Downey Rotary president, and Robert Freeman, club secretary. Michaels asked for the Rotary's assistance in combating Chagas Disease in Latin America, which results in 50,000 deaths each year, he said. For information on Rotary membership, call Pearce at (562) 622-1425.

Tchaikovsky offered tomorrow in concert

By Joyce Sherwin

DOWNEY—Russian composer Peter Tchaikovsky was not a happy man. His Symphony No. 4, completed in 1878, is freighted with melancholy and torment, sometimes bright but mostly brooding, always emotionally charged, happiness glimpsed, happiness snatched away.

Yet audiences have loved Tchaikovsky's 4th for more than 125 years, and the world's leading orchestral conductors list multiple recordings of the work. Now it is time for Downey listeners to revel in its four tempestuous movements, in a program of Russian music performed by the Downey Symphony tomorrow evening, Oct. 29th at 8 p.m. in the Downey Civic Theater. This marks the first regular concert of the orchestra's 48th season.

Under Thomas Osborn, Artistic Director and Conductor, the orchestra will also play the "Troika" from Prokofiev's "Lieutenant Kiji, and will accompany soloist Richard Todd in Reinhold Gliere's Concerto for French Horn, which premiered brilliantly in 1951. Osborn's preview discussion of the evening's works will be offered at 7:15.

Tickets from \$10 to \$25 are available at the theater box office tomorrow (Saturday) from 6 p.m. until performance time, or by phoning (562) 403-2944. There is ample free parking surrounding the theater, located at 8435 Firestone Blvd. (at Brookshire).

Youth Fishing Day at Wilderness Nov. 5

DOWNEY—The city of Downey and the California Department of Fish and Game have teamed up to provide youth a great opportunity to fish on Saturday, Nov. 5 from 8 a.m.-12 noon, rain or shine, at Wilderness Park, located at 10999 Little Lake Road.

"Downey Youth Fishing Day" is designed for kids ages 15 and under. The event is free to youngsters and will consist of learning stations, safety procedures, safety tips and casting. They will also learn about different types of fish, what happens to the lake environment when it is not clean, and how to be a responsible angler.

A supply of bait, fishing rods and reels will be available on loan in a limited quantity for those who attend the stations. The youth who participate need to have a parent with I.D. to check out the fishing equipment. The youth who do have their own fishing rods are encouraged to bring them. A junior fishing license will be given to every child who participates.

In addition, the event will offer other fun activities. The Police and Fire Departments will be in attendance with their vehicles. There will be free T-shirts for the first 200 youth, and giveaways. A demonstration of fly tying will be provided by the Fly Fishers Club. A breakfast consisting of pancakes, sausage patties and a drink will be provided for a small fee of \$1 for a child plate and \$3 for an adult portion, while supplies last.

For more information, call 904-7238.

Luncheon to salute country's veterans

DOWNEY—The Woman's Club of Downey and American Legion Post 723 are joining to present the "A Salute to Veterans" program and luncheon to be held Saturday, Nov. 12 at 9813 Paramount Blvd. in Downey.

American Legion Post 723's Wade T. Murdoch, Capt., will lead an Honor Guard at 11 a.m. in front of the Veterans Memorial, followed by the luncheon and the program, a trip down memory lane with The Sentimental Sisters, and Jay C. Munns at the piano. These talented ladies and Jay recreate the Big Band sounds, especially the songs of the Andrews Sisters. "The event promises to be a memorable day," says Doris Patterson. "We have lots of prizes and fun in store. A great way to salute our veterans. John Vincent of the Downey Historical Society will provide displays of our rich heritage."

Tickets are \$20 per person. For tickets/information, contact Patterson at (562) 869-0377.

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Friday, November 4th 11:30 a.m. Szechwan 11010 Paramount Blvd., Downey	Tuesday, November 8th 8:30 a.m. Hometown Buffet 6257 Atlantic Ave., Bellflower
Tuesday, November 8th 9:00 a.m. Hometown Buffet 3102 E. Imperial Hwy., Lynwood	Monday, November 14th 11:30 a.m. Sizzler 10315 Lakewood Blvd., Downey

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DOWNEY REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER CEO—Allen Korneff with Joan Warner-Plettinck, executive director of the Downey Chamber of Commerce, at the Oct. 20 Business Expo.



KAHTY BEE (right)—Host of Changing Lives and a DRMC board member, and Chamber Ambassador Jan Scott drop by one of the Pioneer Medical Center booths, one of three dozen tables decked out for the Business Expo last week.

Adult School plans Welk Resort tour

DOWNEY—Downey Adult School's Creative Learning Tours is still accepting registrations for the upcoming Lawrence Welk Resort "Musical Christmas Show" extended tour. The tour departs Tuesday, Nov. 29 for holiday shopping at Bate's Nut Farm and Belle Marie Winery before checking into the hotel in Escondido. An early dinner at San Marcos Quail's Inn will be followed by a slow trip around Del Mar Racetrack, the better to enjoy their "spectacular" Holiday Parade of Lights. The next morning after a continental breakfast, the group heads to the Welk Resort for some shopping in their special shops and a visit to the museum. Then the resort welcomes the group with a buffet luncheon before the performance of the "Christmas Musical" in the theater. For more information/registration, call Bernice Madariaga, 940-6213.

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VOTE NOV. 8

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—PARTIAL LIST— PAID FOR BY THE COMMITTEE TO ELECT NANCY SWENSON (CDE-3356294, COM# 4 127344)

Lowenthal meets with Downey voters

By John Adams

DOWNEY—State Senator Alan Lowenthal (D-Long Beach and Downey), held a "community meet and greet" gathering Saturday, Oct. 22, at Third Street Coffee, 8221 E. Third St., Downey.

The event was attended by about 40 persons who listened as Lowenthal outlined his vision of the current political battle for the state's direction.

Lowenthal does not align himself with either the Governor nor the political forces which are challenging Arnold Schwarzenegger, but is attempting to find some means of restoring order to the state's governance.

After outlining where he stood on major points, Lowenthal fielded questions from his politically savvy audience, which included such well known local figures as the Downey School Board's Betty Ferraro, Dr. Mary Stauffer, the Downey Planning Commission's Michael Murray, Charles Ana of the Community Emergency Response Group, and many more.

Among many topics covered, Lowenthal discussed the problem of air pollution, of which he is considered a tireless advocate for clean air. He discussed the problem of truck and rail traffic to and from the ports, and warned that the two ports, Los Angeles and Long Beach, today handle 45 percent of all cargo entering the U.S.

He does not favor the reform package advocated by the governor in the November election, saying they are too simplistic. He does favor a panel of judges to deal with redistricting, as in Prop. 77, but does not like the timing of the measure, saying it would have to be repeated in two years if done now. He says he would rather wait and do it right.

The Senator worked well with his audience, and promised to hold more such meetings in future. His district office phone is (562) 529-6659.

Woman's Club holiday boutique Nov. 5

DOWNEY—The Woman's Club of Downey, 9813 Paramount Blvd., is holding its annual Holiday Boutique on Saturday, Nov. 5 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m., featuring handmade items, home-baked products, candies, jellies, blankets, purses, ornaments, and much more.

Honorary dinner at St. Raymond's

DOWNEY—St. Raymond's Catholic Church will be kicking off their 50th Anniversary Celebration with a dinner and reverse raffle tomorrow, October 29 at 7 p.m.

The dinner will be honoring the ministries serving at the church. Tickets are \$50. For information, call (562) 923-4509.



ALL AMERICAN PRESIDENT—Larry Gertler, left, hands two checks, one from the company's associates and the other from the family, to Red Cross representative Stephanie Milano. A few of the company's associates watch from behind.

Home Center good for hurricane relief

DOWNEY—The All American Home Center's associates raised over \$3,000 which was matched dollar-for-dollar by the company's owners, the Gertler family, for hurricane relief in the Gulf Coast region.

The company is well-known for its philanthropic outreach, supporting hundreds of local organizations throughout its trade area. All American's associates also hold throughout the year fundraising drives most of which are matched by the company's owners.

The home center, which has been a Downey landmark since 1959, was one of America's first home centers and reportedly has the highest sales volume of any single home center store in the United States.

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- Robert Winningham
- Woman's Club of Downey
- Dr. Donna Wong

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 - Joan Whitmore

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- Dr. Mary Stauffer



CENTURY 21 MY REAL ESTATE COMPANY PAYS TRIBUTE



October 2005

CENTURY 21 Real Estate Management Team Pays Tribute To CENTURY 21 My Real Estate Associates, our support staff and the Downey Community for helping in their 2005 Coat Drive. Pictured are Daisy Galvan and Michelle Lima, two assistants at CENTURY 21 My Real Estate who helped sort and distribute coats to Downey organizations. "We know as cool weather makes its return to California we start to see the coats come out of the closet. We wanted to assist those who might be in need of a warm coat," stated Laurie Mac Isaac, Vice, President of Relocation & Marketing. The team at Century 21 My Real Estate, along with donations from the community, came together to donate 75 coats to ARC and 25 coats to the TLC Center of Downey.

DOWNEY'S BEHIND THE SCENE SUPERSTARS

Agreement

Awards to Foundation board members Jack Campbell and City Manager Gerald Caton.

Rose Float

*Viewed the presentation to Downey by the Pasadena Tournament of Roses of a portrait of Downey's 2005 float. The Downey Rose Float Association was represented by Julie Swender, Gary de Remer, and Kelley Roberts.

*Accepted improvements and maintenance responsibility for Downey Avenue Sidewalk System, Traffic Signal improvement, and approved the final contract sum of \$472,000.

*Approved improvements and maintenance responsibility for Paramount Boulevard and Gallatin Road pavement rehabilitation.

*Approved the application by the Chamber of Commerce for the Holiday Lane Parade to be held on Downey Avenue Dec. 4, 2005.

*Set a public hearing for Nov. 8 for consideration of a Public Arts Ordinance including the formation of a Public Arts Committee and development fees.

*Adopted a resolution approving the final subdivision map for property at 9755-9769 Imperial Highway including an agreement with the subdivider and the acceptance of a cash deposit as surety.

*Adopted a resolution adopting a memorandum of understanding between the City and Downey Police Officers' Association.

*Adopted the 2004 edition of the California Electrical Code by reference with amendments, and introduced an ordinance amending a portion of the Downey Electrical Code, while setting a public hearing to allow public testimony before final adoption.

*Adopted an ordinance approving an amendment to the City's Comprehensive Zoning Map, changing property at 11610 Lakewood from General Commercial (C-2) and Parking Buffer (P-B) to Professional Office (C-P).

*Adopted an ordinance amending the Comprehensive Zoning Map, changing zoning of property at 8121-23 Conrad Street and 8118-32 Orange Street from R-1 (single family) to R-2 (two family).

In non-agenda public comment, resident Fred James voiced his displeasure at his perceived "unfriendly treatment" of handicapped persons arising from lax City enforcement of handicapped parking regulations, particularly at Rio Hondo Golf Club.

Members of the City Council one by one commended departing Police Chief John Finch for his "exemplary" performance and service and wished him well in days ahead.

The next public meeting of the City Council will begin at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 8 at City Hall, 11111 Brookshire Ave.

Verderber

His community affiliations are numerous:

*Cerritos College Board of Trustees (1993 to present. (President 1997 and 2003). Received the Golden Falcon Award from the students (1995).

*Downey Planning Commission (1982-88), Chairman (1987).

*Downey Chamber of Commerce since 1979. (President 1988-89).

*California Board of Professional Engineers 1990-94. Appointed by Gov. Deukmejian.

*1984 Olympic Committee, Technology Manager, Field Hockey Event, 1983-84.

*Technical society activity, served as national officer and/or local officer more than 60 times for seven different national societies.

*Member, Cardinal & Gold—US Athletic Support Group.

*Supporter of the Downey Civic Light Opera; Downey Symphonic Society; Downey Art Museum.

(Member: Citizens for Downey; Downey Rose Float Association; Friends of the Downey Library; Downey Kiwanis Club.)

Red Cross needs blood drive volunteers

DOWNEY—The American Red Cross announced it is in immediate need of volunteers to assist with the blood drives it conducts in Downey every Monday from 12:30 - 7 p.m. at the Masonic Temple. No experience is necessary and training is provided.

Volunteers assist the collection staff by greeting and registering donors, instructing donors to read necessary paperwork, providing refreshments, looking for donor reactions and promoting public relations. For more information, call Zeidy Cabrera, Recruitment Representative, American Red Cross Blood Services, 1-800-498-9910, ext. 7.



SOUTHEAST SAPPHIRES CHARTER CHAPTER—Founder Lois M. Miller, left, with Mayor Anne Bayer, center, and Chapter president Marina Amezcua.

ABWA chapter celebrates anniversary

DOWNEY—The Southeast Sapphires Charter Chapter, official Downey chapter of the American Business Women's Association (ABWA), recently celebrated its 20th anniversary at a gala Hawaiian-themed party, at the same time honoring its founder, Lois M. Miller, for her "dedication and service" to the community.

Among the 40-plus attendees were: Mayor Anne Bayer (inactive Sapphire) who presented a Proclamation of Congratulations to the chapter; Bobbie Reece, past District VI vice president; Dee Kirtley, general chairman of the 2006 National Convention; JoAnn Osby, Impact Council VP; and Bev Carette, Councilwoman of the year.

The Sapphires honored their founder with a huge floral bouquet, plus a \$50 gift certificate, to show their appreciation and affection.

ABWA is a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping women, "one woman at a time." For more information about the organization, call (323) 567-6562.

Friends' 'holiday marketplace' Nov. 5

DOWNEY—The Friends of the Downey City Library will hold their Holiday Open House and Marketplace from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. in the library Cormack Room Saturday, Nov. 5, offering unique handcrafted items, Fall and Christmas decorations, baked goods, first edition books, Walt Disney videos and quality recycled gift items.

A one-day only raffle for filled gift baskets will be held. All proceeds will support library programs and services. Guests will enjoy free hot was-sail punch.

For information, contact 904-7360, ext. 30. The library is located at 11121 Brookshire Ave.



MELISSA MARTINEZ—A senior at Connelly High School in Anaheim and Downey resident, has been nominated for the coveted Wendy's High School Heisman Award. Similar to the collegiate Heisman, the award honors the nation's top high school seniors who best exemplify a "supreme scholar-citizen-athlete." Melissa will now continue in the competition for State and National winners.

The poets' corner elegy for a bird watcher (for Jean Beaton)

alas haste brought you to this
where was your meticulous care
you who distinguished at fifty paces
a merlin's bands from a kestrel's pleated chevrons
why could you not
observe the highway markings
heed the double yellow line

you who found your way so steadily
faultlessly tracking through marshland and meadow
why on the asphalt
did you lose control

so it happens as time accelerates
if nothing else neither swift raptor
nor cunning trap
takes down the trap
then simple chance
disease of reason
any lesser guiles suffice

you who soared in the bright day
we fold your wings pinion them across your chest
play twilight music
respect the silence which night brings

but no display of hatchments no device
no ritual brings back your quick wit
no sighting of sharp-shinned hawk nor glimpse of harrier
will set you striding through the pale blue chicory
nor find you brushing aside burdocks to see a nest of towhees
listening for their quick repartee

—Lorine Parks,
Downey

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:

For Proposition 75

Dear Editor:

The job of the teachers' union is to negotiate for better salary, working conditions, etc., but something that has angered me during my teaching career, is that my union is involved in politics and I have never had a choice in how my union dues are spent for political causes.

Every year I have requested in writing that the part of my union dues that pays for political lobbying be refunded to me. Every time I am told the union does not refund any part of the dues and the part that would be used for political purposes would be transferred to the general fund. Since I am still getting bombarded with expensive brochures and television ads telling me how to vote, I know the teachers' union is still spending lots of money, and probably tapping that general fund where there is a shortfall. Everytime I get a raise the union dues go up, so for this one teacher the dues have amounted to \$810 a year with a percentage of that going to political causes.

Now I have hope that the status quo will change. I can vote yes for Proposition 75. If it passes, public employee unions will have to get consent before deducting money from paychecks for political causes. The TV ads say public employees will be silenced, but what the unions are afraid of is that they won't have the money to spend on their political agendas and they will be silenced!

When it comes to politics, every person should be allowed the opportunity to use their own money the way they choose.

—Irene Lonergan,
Downey

More letters to the editor on page 5

Sephardic Jew speaks at EZRA Center

DOWNEY—Art Benveniste, a Sephardic Jew whose family has lived for 400 years on the island of Rhodes and who has, for many years, traced and studied Sephardic culture in many parts of the world as it evolved after the expulsion of all Jews from the Iberian Peninsula, will be the 10 a.m.-noon program speaker when the EZRA Center for Mature Adults meets Tuesday, Nov. 1 at Temple Ner Tamid of Downey, 10629 Lakewood Blvd.

Benveniste will share some of the history as well as many fascinating stories of how Crypto-Jews are rediscovering their heritage of practices that have been handed down from generation to generation through the centuries, without their knowing the roots of these customs.

The meeting starts with registration, coffee/tea and refreshments at 9:45 a.m. For information, call the Temple office, (562) 861-9276.

After school program available for kids

DOWNEY—An after school program for the youth is being offered by the City of Downey Community Services Department this fall at the local parks.

"A Safe Place to Play" is a free program held Monday to Friday from 3-6 p.m. at Apollo, Dennis the Menace, Furman, Golden and Rio San Gabriel Parks.

There are activities offered each day. Monday through Thursday is Homework Help; Thursdays is a craft activity. Other activities include lan-yards, soccer skills and dodgeball.

The Fall Community Services Guide is available, with a list of youth and adult activities, at the Community Services Department, library, and the local parks. For more information, call 904-7238.

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www.TheDowneyPatriot.com

Prop. 77 significant to residents here

By John Adams

DOWNEY—This snug community of about 114,000 residents has been ripped in half by gerrymandering which resulted in ending the career of a moderate Republican who had done much to serve it in the U.S. House.

The end of Rep. Steve Horn's career was orchestrated by a political bargain struck by an agreement by both parties that the way to ensure that neither party lost too much was to gerrymander, including the division of Downey down the middle at Stewart and Gray Road and attachment of the parts to predominantly Democratic areas to the west and north.

Horn's old 38th District ended up predominantly Democratic and made up of voters who had no idea who Horn was.

The scholarly Horn, who had upset three straight Democratic opponents, saw the district he was left with was hopelessly gerrymandered and retired from politics.

Lost to Downey was the man who made sure a \$300 million flood control project was completed fully funded and on schedule. Lost was the congressman who shepherded the transfer of the NASA land to the City of Downey for development in the wake of Boeing's closure. All because the state legislature could not allow fair redistricting and insisted on a sweet-heart bargain to ensuring their return to office.

Now comes relief from a most surprising corner, Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, whose package of referendum bills on the November ballot include Prop. 77, which would have the districts redrawn (more fairly one hopes) by a team of three retired judges.

Under the state constitution the districts must be redrawn to reflect population growth or movement once every 10 years. While it is true the judges would have to rely on old population figures if it is done now, advocates argue this is better than letting the legislators do the job again with the same old result. (The legislators) picked the voters instead of the voters picking the politician. They turned the system upside down," was the way Schwarzenegger described it.

A recent study by the Rose Institute at Claremont McKenna College predicted that Prop. 77 would result in 10 more competitive congressional seats statewide, seven additional state senate seats and four newly competitive assembly districts.

Critics say the study has political ties to Schwarzenegger. They cite a Los Angeles based Center for Governmental Studies survey that claims Prop. 77 won't change that much.

What do you think?

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:

Call for dialogue

Dear Editor:

For some it may come as a surprise that Downey has been experiencing a shift in its demographics over the last 5-7 years. This is not an ill comment on the diversity (which should be welcomed) taking place in Downey. My family is of Latin American background and I practically grew up here. The city has provided me with an excellent education through its middle and high school. I am thankful to have two loving parents that worked incessantly to establish themselves in this city.

However, it pains me to see how certain parts of South Downey are consistently being vandalized. Specifically, I've noticed how Golden Park is consistently "tagged" by whoever believes that the city—or wall space—belongs to them. The city spends, I'm assuming, good tax money on repairing and repainting [these objects].

This is ridiculous. I'm not advocating that we need more policing in our city, but I believe that we need to reassess what the city itself is doing to minimize the vandalism. Afterschool programs for the youth is one solution. Strict penalties for violators is another. Perhaps adequate park supervision—as opposed to teenagers in charge—would be a realistic solution.

This commentary is meant to open dialogue among Downeyites on the love that we share for this city.

—Giovanni Hortua,
Downey

Already living a nightmare

Dear Editor:

I had to chuckle after reading the letter about code enforcement and Downey "looking like the cities to the west." [10/21] You need to live in my part of Downey.

I live in the "Downey triangle." We have graffiti sprayed on all of our curbs and on the street signs, trash in the streets, cars on the lawn, trash cans everywhere. I have to assume that because we are annexed from the main part of the city by the 605 freeway, looking like one of those cities in the west is irrelevant for us since we already are—although I will admit, that of giving parking tickets on street sweeping day is not ignored. But then, again, most cars [sit] on the lawns.

I guess the advantage over here is, first, we never have to worry about the ongoing discussion of mansionization: heck, the people here won't even paint their homes or fix their roofs. Secondly, we don't have problems with those little yellow yard sale signs on our street poles—no one here bothers to get them. Why should they? No one checks anyway.

Now, there are some code inconsistencies!

—Ronald Zrodlo,
Downey



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:

How to lose votes

Dear Editor:

"Meet & Greet Sen. Alan Lowenthal" should have read, "Come to East 3rd St. in Downey and Sen. Alan Lowenthal may or may not want to meet you." But then again that wouldn't be good "PR," although that's how the event turned out to be perceived.

That was how I felt on Oct. 22. Sen. Alan (since I was there I believe we might as well be on a first-name basis) walks into the coffee shop, begins to greet those who have arrived, stops at the table directly in front of me, shakes a couple of hands, motions over to the table where I am seated with my husband. So Alan walks directly towards me, with not even a nod of acknowledgment, and as he reaches over, which I presume may be a gesture of greeting, he is actually reaching for a pastry located directly behind me. Maybe I should have sat, oh, I don't know, outside...? Because that might as well have been better for me.

Ok, so it's nine forty-ish a.m. on a Saturday morning and it's possible the man is hungry, so I say to myself, "Let the man eat his pastry."

Frankly, I was not impressed, I was simply disgusted by such blatant disrespect, not only for ignoring my presence but by directly looking and gesturing toward my area, as he begins to speak and mentions how this Meet & Greet thing he does is coming out of his pocket and there may be some of us in the coffee shop who do not understand why he is there, but clearly implies it can [just] be for coffee and pastries. I maintained my decorum, stayed for approximately 45 minutes and then quietly stepped out.

No, thank you, Alan, I'll pay for my own coffee and pastry, thank you. Come to think of it, I also pay for your coffee and pastry, don't I? After all, it takes quite an amount of votes to elect a Senator, right? Democratic Hispanics may or may not be a priority on his agenda but we do have a right to be treated equally. Of course, with all due respect, it was a little overcast, so maybe that's why he didn't see me. No, wait, he did—I was the one in front of the pastries.

—Maria Franco,
Downey

'They deserve better'

Dear Editor:

My husband, a Downey native and devoted Downey Fire Department veteran of 21 years, along with his fellow firefighters, deserve more than the outrageous treatment they have received from the Chiefs of the Downey Fire Department, assisted by the City Manager's complaisance. The people of Downey have a right to know when a grave injustice has been committed, especially if it is being committed and/or encouraged by the "leaders" Downey citizens place their trust in.

This is how it started: Several days after Hurricane Katrina, on Aug. 21, Battalion Chief Chuck Seely forwarded an e-mail to all the fire stations regarding a request for fire service emergency assistance to work with FEMA/DHS on Operation Katrina. 1,000 two-person firefighter teams were requested. The request stated that, "Teams will need to be physically fit and capable of working in very austere conditions for an extended period of time, sleeping on the ground, eating MREs...working for at least a 30-day period..."

Without thought of personal gain or safety, six of Downey's finest volunteered within hours after the request came from Downey's chiefs to assist in Operation Katrina. Within twenty-four hours after their chiefs' approval, these men were on an airplane headed for Mississippi. From Sept. 2 through Oct. 2 Downey's heroes served their country.

The firefighters' immediate commitment to this call demonstrated the bravery we expect from our protectors for they had no detailed understanding of what their actual duties would be. After several days of travel the volunteers received their assignments. The assignments consisted of administration and field work, requiring the Downey crew to work tirelessly organizing and working with hundreds of firefighters from across the nation to set up emergency centers and a number of related functions. Rather than appreciation and pride, the Downey Fire Department led by Mark Sauter swelled with jealousy and resentment. The unprofessional and dishonorable treatment toward the selfless volunteers would resonate through the fire department.

The families of the Downey heroes were being told by their husbands about the firefighters they met from other states and from neighboring departments such as Santa Fe Springs. These firemen received telephone calls from their proud chiefs thanking them for their volunteer service. Also, the firefighters' families had been contacted several times by the department chiefs (personally) to ensure that the families were doing okay during their husbands' long absence. After the 30-day duty ended, the non-Downey firemen arrived home to a heroes' welcome. Typically they were greeted at the airport by their department and all taken to a homecoming celebration at the main station with families, friends, and fellow firefighters. Santa Fe Springs gave their men two-shifts off and made sure each man had a physical, before coming back to their regular shifts.

What did Downey do? The department stations were consumed with what amounted to sibling rivalry with gossip over sour grapes. This despicable behavior was allowed and encouraged by the Downey Chiefs who showed no allegiance to their own city and the men who protect it. Downey Chiefs didn't contact the men or their families during this long period of time. FEMA's Chief of Department & Director of Emergency Management James Russo sang the praises of the Downey teams and requested that they be granted an extension of one week. Mr. Russo, a 30-year veteran of the Fire Service was not given the courtesy of a response by the City Manager, Gerald Caton.

The Downey heroes came home to a department where the chiefs game them the cold shoulder. Instead of praise, they were met with disdain. Downey Fire has gone from a brotherhood led by the best, to a Department that for whatever depraved reasons, has turned heroism into a political, immoral travesty of what these brave, selfless men originally set out to do.

It is with a heavy heart that I have submitted this information, but the continuing abuse of fine men whose only crime was to volunteer, has become unbearable.

—(Mrs.) Cynthia Croom,
Downey

Fundamental change needed...

Fellow Downeyites!

Wake up and smell the coffee! The cat has been out of the bag since the 1950s! What's the number one reason for our current population density? If you answered mansionization, go to the back of the class. What is the answer? Just take a walk or bike ride through the city. What do you see on just about every street? Income property! Duplexes, triplexes, apartment houses, etc. In some locations, there are so many cars parked on both sides of the street in the early morning and evening that there's insufficient room for two cars to pass each other. What's the solution? Easy! Sherman, set the "Way-Back" machine for 1956! We're going to change the city charter!

With apologies to Rocky & Friends,
—John Marinelli,
Downey

The Downey Patriot



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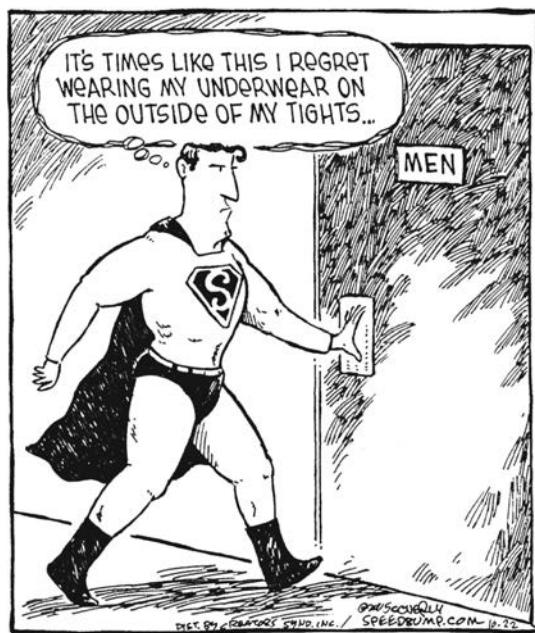
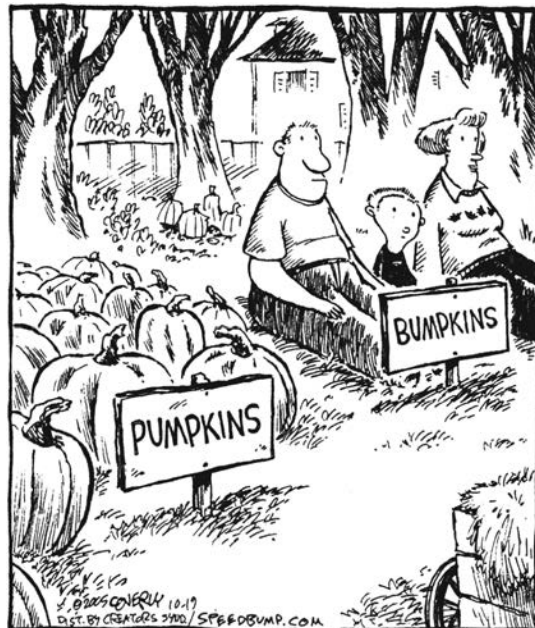
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SPEED BUMP



DAVE COVERLY



Downey Community Calendar

Events For October

Sat. Oct. 29, 10:00 a.m.: **Annual Holidays Bazaar** hosted by the women of Downey Moravian Church, 10337 Old River School Rd. Crafts, boutique, baked goods and food. For information call 927-0718.
 Sat. Oct. 29, 8:00 p.m.: **Downey Symphony Orchestra** performing an all-Russian classical program under the direction of Thomas Osborn at the Downey Theater, 8435 Firestone Blvd. For tickets and information call 403-2944.

City Meetings

1st Tuesdays, 6:15 p.m.: **Redevelopment Project Area Committee**, Cormack Meeting Room at Downey Library.
 1st & 3rd Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.: **Planning Commission**, Council Chamber at City Hall.
 1st Wednesday, 11:30 a.m.: **Downey Coordinating Council**, at Riley Center. Call Lois Buchanan 927-9790.
 1st Thursday, 9 a.m.: **Traffic Committee**, Training Room, Second Floor of City Hall.
 2nd & 4th Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.: **City Council/Community Development Commission**, Council Chamber.
 2nd & 4th Wednesday, 6 p.m.: **Design Review Board**, Council Chamber at City Hall.
 3rd Thursday, 3:30 p.m.: **Parking Place Commission**, Second Floor Training Room at City Hall

Regularly Scheduled Meetings

Mondays

6:30 p.m.: **Metropolitan Masonic Lodge #352 dinner, mtg.**, for information call 426-6786.
 6:30 p.m.: **Overeaters Anonymous**, at Downey Regional Med. Center Conf. Room A, for info. call 426-6786.
 1st Mon., 4 p.m.: **2nd Century Foundation**, at City Hall, 1st floor, call 927-9790.
 1st Mon., 7 p.m.: **American Legion Post 270**, Los Amigos Country Club, call 869-1053.
 2nd Mon., 11 a.m.: **American Legion Auxiliary #270**, at United Methodist Church, for info. call 923-2481.
 2nd Mon., 3 p.m.: **Keep Downey Beautiful**, at City Hall, for more information call 904-7159.
 4th Mon., 7:30 p.m.: **Downey Numismatists**, at Downey Retirement Center, call 861-3989.

Tuesdays

9 a.m.: **Downey Bocce Club**, at Apollo Park, for information call Vince Zoida at (714) 761-4439.
 9:30 a.m.: **Downey Seniors Club**, at Apollo Park, for information call Dorothy Parizek at 927-5437.
 9:30 a.m.: **Adventure with the Bible**, at the First Baptist Church Call 928-4153.
 12 p.m.: **Rotary Club**, at Rio Hondo, for information call Doug Baker at (714) 229-2266.
 12:00 p.m.: **Exchange Club**, at Sizzler Restaurant. Call Don Hollister 927-5871
 7 p.m.: **Boy Scout Troop 2**, at Downey United Methodist Church, for information call 869-6478.
 7 p.m.: **Boy Scout Troop 441**, at Apollo Park Activities Room, for information call 923-3659.
 7:30 p.m.: **Southland Harmony Chorus of Sweet Adelines**, at Downey's Woman's Club, for information call 947-6802.
 1st and 3rd Tues., 6:30 p.m.: **Quota International Southeast Cities**, for information call (323) 569-2854.
 2nd Tues., 8:30 a.m.: **Women's "In His Glory" Ministry** at Los Amigos C. C. (562) 622-3785.
 2nd and 4th Tues., 7:30 a.m.: **Chamber "Rise&Shine" Networkers**, at Nordic Fox. for info. call (562) 923-2191.
 2nd and 4th Tues., 6 p.m.: **Sertoma Club**, at Bakers Square. for information call (562) 927-6438.
 2nd Tues., 7 p.m.: **Downey Fly Fishers**, at Apollo Park, for information call 943-3904.
 3rd Tues., 7:30 p.m.: **Writer's Workshop West**, at 9968 Lakewood Blvd., for info call 862-3106.
 3rd Tues., 1:30 p.m.: **Huff and Puff Respiratory**, at DRMC Support Group, call 904-5355.
 Last Tues., 11:00 a.m.: **Los Companeros Service Club**, at Los Amigos Country Club, for info call 863-1549.

Wednesdays

7 a.m.: **Kiwanis Club**, at Rio Hondo Events Center. Call Steve Roberson at 927-2626.
 1 p.m.: **Women's Bocce Club**, for information call 869-8782.
 6 p.m.: **Downey Space Toastmasters Club 513**, at Rancho Los Amigos Medical Center, for info. call Mark at 803-5203.
 1st Weds., 10 a.m.: **Woman's Club of Downey**, for information call 927-0271 or 861-3493.
 1st Weds., 11:30 a.m.: **Downey Coordinating Council**, for information call 927-9790.
 1st Weds., 7:30 p.m.: **Downey Stamp Club**, at Maude Price School cafeteria, for information call 928-3028.
 1st Weds., 7:30 p.m.: **Downey Emblem Club #309**, at Downey's Elks Lodge, for information call 868-4386.
 2nd Weds., 7 p.m.: **Downey Jr. Chamber of Commerce**, for information call 867-1087.
 2nd Weds., 7:30 p.m.: **Downey Sister Cities Ass'n**, at Maude Price School, Call 862-7197.
 2nd Weds., 11:45 - **Downey Christian Women's Club**, at Los Amigos CC. Call 927-8488.
 3rd Weds., 7:00 p.m.: **Diabetes Support Group**, at DRMC, for more information call 622-2088.
 Wed.& Fri., 10:15 a.m.: **Senior Bingo**, at Apollo Park, for information call 904-7223.

Thursdays

7:30 a.m.: **Soroptimist Int'l of Downey**, for information, call Pat Heineke, 904-3534.
 7:30 a.m.: **Connections Networking**, at Nordic Fox 10924 Paramount, for information call 869-1414.
 9 a.m.: **Senior Californians of Downey**, (a social activities club for senior citizens), for information call 803-6887.
 12 p.m.: **Downey Christian Businessmen's Committee**, for information call 928-4153.
 12 p.m.: **Optimist Club of Downey**, at Samb's, for information call Steve Allen at 806-3701.
 12:30 p.m.: **Take off Pounds Sensibly**, at United Methodist Church, call (626) 965-9991.
 6:30 p.m.: **Downey United Masonic Lodge # 220**, 8244 3rd St., Call 862-4176.
 7 p.m.: **Troop 351, Boy Scouts of America**, at First Baptist Church, for information call 776-3388.
 4th Thurs., 7:30 p.m.: **Downey Historical Society programs**, at Community Center. Call 862-2777.
 2nd Thurs., 7:30 p.m.: **Beaming Rebel Foxes Collectors Club**, for more information call Carl D. Jones at 923-2400.

Fridays

7:30 a.m.: **Pro Networkers**, at Mimi's Cafe, for information call Joe Becker at 869-1414.

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 by Frances Burton

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| Lewis | 124 Ham it up | 50 Nautical direction |
| 60 Amble | 125 Lamer of cosmetics | 53 Space-bar neighbor |
| 63 Ego | 126 Declare untrue | 55 Seam maker |
| 65 Coup d' _ | 127 Examiner | 57 Style of type |
| 66 Diner dessert | 128 War sword | 59 French royal house |
| 68 Modern pentathlon | 129 Stinks | 60 _ culpa |
| need | | 61 Chose not to |
| 69 Intrigue, so to speak | DOWN | participate |
| 71 Military address | 1 Plummet | 62 Stood for |
| 72 Aug. follower | 2 Jai _ | 64 Drake the navigator |
| 73 Throat-clearing sound | 3 Called up | 67 CPR expert |

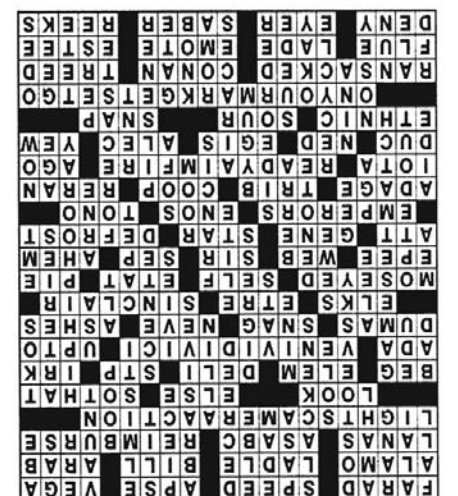
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70 Yogi of baseball	92 Mature	111 "Arrivederci, _"
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84 Den furniture	105 Apt to pry	addr.
86 Assistant	106 Shoe fabric	118 Pub quaff
88 Emphatic phrase	108 In and of itself	119 Abbess
90 Lager beer	110 Approve of	subordinate

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 FARAD (1 Across), a unit of electrical capacitance, is named for British physicist Michael Faraday. Sinclair LEWIS (58 Across) won the 1930 Nobel Prize in Literature; he was the first American to do so. The volcano EL MISTI (14 Down) is adjacent to Peru's second-largest city (after Lima), Arequipa.



Neil Simon comedy playing in Long Beach

LONG BEACH—The Broadway hit, "Laughter on the 23rd Floor" written by Neil Simon, has begun its run at the Long Beach Playhouse Studio Theater, 5021 East Anaheim St. in Long Beach. It closes Nov. 26.

The comedy is a homage to the author's early days in show biz when he worked as a junior jokesmith for Sid Caesar's "Your Show of Shows." He was stuck in a room with a bunch of the looniest comedy writers ever, who grew up to be the likes of Mel Brooks, Larry Gelbart and others. The play is a memoir told by Neil Simon's alter ego, Lucas. As the writers try to top each other with gags while competing for the attention of head madman Max Prince (the Sid Caesar character), Max contends with the NBC brass who fears his humor is too sophisticated for middle America.

Tickets are \$20, \$8 for seniors and students. Ticket information is available by calling the box office at (562) 494-1014. Tickets are also available online through www.lbph.com.

Meanwhile, "The Amorous Ambassador" was voted by the Playhouse patrons Playhouse's "best production" at its 2nd annual *Taste of the Playhouse* event held on Oct. 16. The event honored excellence in outstanding performances with the Ethel Case Award. Ethel Case was the first administrator of the Playhouse as well as a frequent performer during the theater's inception.

The "Amorous Ambassador's" David Colley won the 'lead actor' award, with Yvonne Robertson winning the 'lead actress award' for "Don't Dress for Dinner." Famous movie and TV actresses Beverly Garland and Lee Meriwether presented the awards. The Long Beach Playhouse is celebrating its 77th year of continuous operation.

Christmas comedy at La Mirada Theater

LA MIRADA—"Sister's Christmas Catechism," a Southern California premiere production of the La Mirada Theater for the Performing Arts, 14900 La Mirada Blvd. in La Mirada Nov. 4-20, is a "hilarious forensic examination of the 'mystery of the Magi's gold,'" according to a spokesman. Maripat Donovan, the originator of the role, will play "Sister."

It's "CSI goes to Bethlehem" as Sister delivers side-splitting holiday laughs when she involves audiences in the creation of a living nativity in her search for the missing gold. Sister hunts under the manger and over camel humps, always looking for that "teaching moment." Along the way she gives the audience a lesson about the origins of nativity sets and lets it in on a few assumptions and secrets no one could have imagined.

"We know Mary used the frankincense and myrrh as a sort of potpourri — they were in a barn after all." But what became of the gold? "Mary and Joseph could have afforded a hotel room if they had it."

Performance times are Tuesday-Thursday, 7:30 p.m.; Friday, 8 p.m.; Saturday, 2:30 and 8 p.m.; Sunday, 2:30 and 7 p.m. Tickets are \$40 and \$32 and are available online at www.lamiradatheatre.com or the box office at (562) 944-9801 or (714) 994-6310.

The McCoy Rigby Entertainment Broadway Series continues in January with "Over the River and Through the Woods."

Bellflower Art Association meets Nov. 7

BELFLOWER—David Musser will be the demonstrator Monday, Nov. 7 at the regular meeting of the Bellflower Art Association. The meeting, which is free to the public, takes place at 7 p.m. at Thompson Park, 14001 Bellflower Blvd. in Bellflower. Information: (562) 925-1414.



CABARET DINNER SHOW — Local favorite Sebastian Sidi will perform in a cabaret type dinner concert on Friday, Nov. 18 at 8 p.m. at Rio Hondo Country Club, 10627 Old River School Rd., Downey. Doors open at 7 p.m. Admission is free, but there are fees for dinner and drinks. The show is sponsored by Colin Clarke of Century 21 Jervis and Associates. Admission is by reservation only. To RSVP, call 904-6652.

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★ THE LEGEND OF ZORRO PG Thur. (11:00, 1:55, 4:50, 7:45, 10:40) (ON 2 SCREENS)
★ PRIME PG-13 (11:20, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 9:50)
★ SAW II R Fri to Wed. (11:35, 12:45, 2:00, 3:15, 4:20, 5:35), 7:10, 8:00, 9:40, 10:25 (ON 2 SCREENS)
★ SAW II R Thur. (11:35, 12:45, 2:00, 3:15, 4:20, 5:35), 7:10, 8:00, 9:40, 10:25
★ DOOM R (11:15, 1:50, 4:25), 7:35, 10:15
★ DREAMER: INSPIRED BY A TRUE STORY PG (11:25, 2:05, 4:45), 7:25, 10:00
★ NORTH COUNTRY R (12:00, 2:55), 7:00, 10:05
★ STAY R Fri to Wed. 7:40, 10:20, Thur. 10:20 PM
★ THE FOG PG-13 (11:45, 2:30, 5:10), 7:55, 10:30
★ WALLACE & GROMIT: THE CURSE OF THE WERE-RABBIT G (11:30, 2:10, 4:40), 7:05, 9:35
★ TIM BURTON'S CORPSE BRIDE PG (11:10, 1:15, 3:10, 5:20)

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SAW II R	(10:25 12:50 3:15) 5:40 8:05 10:30
PRIME PG13	(11:25 2:05 4:45) 7:25 10:05
"G" R	(11:30 2:00 4:30) 7:00 9:30
DOOM R	(11:00 1:40 4:20) 7:00 9:40
DOOM R	(12:00 2:40) 5:20 8:00 10:40
NORTH COUNTRY R	(10:30 1:30 4:30) 7:30 10:30
STAY R	(11:50 2:25) 5:00 7:35 10:10
THE FOG PG13	(12:15 2:50) 5:25 8:00 10:35
KIDS IN AMERICA PG13	(10:20 3:10) 8:00
CORPSE BRIDE PG	(12:45) 5:35 10:25
FLIGHT PLAN PG13	(11:45 2:15 4:45) 7:15 9:45

'Concrete Underground' hits Cerritos

NORWALK—Cerritos College's Music Business class, taught by Music Department chair Gary Pritchard, presents "Concrete Underground," a series of three rock showcases scheduled throughout the semester featuring local music acts.

The class is readying its second concert, featuring hip hop music, for Thursday, Nov. 3 at the campus amphitheater. The concert begins at 11 a.m.

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VOTE FOR

MARTHA SODETANI TUESDAY NOVEMBER 8TH

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 - Mayor Pro Tem Meredith Perkins
 - City Councilman Kirk Cartozian
 - Former Mayor/City Councilman Robert Winningham
 - Cerritos College Dean of Health Occupations Jenine Nolan
 - Cerritos College Foster Program Director Patricia Robbins
 - Adele Alexander
 - Marie Augimeri
 - Dion Bassano
 - Don Bellinger
 - Judy Berg
 - Don & June Boemer
 - Ron & Pam Box
 - Stacy Brabant
 - Dawn Brousema
 - Lois Buchanan
 - Una & Angelo Cardono
 - Annie Casey
 - Beth Corrin
 - Marian Curtis
 - Richard Daggett
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 - A. A. & Johnnie D'Alessandro
 - Dulce Delgado
 - Julia Desalernos
 - Marvel Dodson
 - Eleanor Eash
 - Eric & Christine Eberhard
 - Kathy Eubank
 - Kenneth N. Ferraro, D.D.S.
 - Jessica Flores
 - Joan Frey
 - Beth Gendreau
 - J.B. & Shirley Girardin-Gibson
 - Mark & Julie Gross
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 - Randy Headley
 - Helen Hoag
 - Mary Hoelscher
 - Arlene Hofmayer
 - Norma Hollis
 - Betty Hunter
 - Jean & Roger Jones
 - Keith & Diana Jowett
 - Ron & Angel Kellogg
 - Linda Kennedy
 - Jean Kiskadden
 - Ron Kolar
 - Henry & Shu Kuo
 - Guillermo & Leora Leon
 - Larry & Marge Lewis
 - Katrina Lorenzetti
 - Mary Loya
 - Diane Markey
 - Sam & Beverly Mathis
 - Nancy Mirabella
 - Dr. & Mrs. Peter (Chloe) Mocciano
 - Rich & Janet Molinaro
 - M.D. & Karol Morrison
 - Ted & Susan Neff
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 - Carol Pearce
 - Dorothy Pemberton
 - Mario & Kelly Persico
 - Mike & Joyce Prokop
 - Gail Raabe
 - Ron & Kimberly Rapp
 - Tracy Riley
 - Lucy Rivero
 - Carol Rowland
 - Ann Marie Sannebeck
 - Elise Saylor
 - Don & MaryLou Schmidt
 - Lee Ann Sears
 - James & Joanna Shull
 - Larry & Jeannette Smock
 - Gordon Sodevani
 - Melissa Sodevani
 - Elna Southward-Levin
 - Ida Stallchup
 - Dr. Mary Stauffer
 - Yoli Strickland
 - Marilyn Stromberg
 - Yvonne Swain
 - Saul Toledo
 - Gus & Naomi Valdez
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 - Leonard Zuniga

VOTE TO ELECT

MARTHA SODETANI

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'WELCOME BACK TEA'—Presiding at the Downey St. George Greek Orthodox Philoptochos Society "Welcome Back Tea" on Oct. 22 were new officers, from left, Elpida Giannikopoulos, secretary; Maria Kantounias, vice president; Georgia Efstathiou, president; and Vasso Papantonopoulos, treasurer. The afternoon saw parish women socialize and enjoy tasty appetizers, a luncheon, and Greek pastries. Some lucky souls won a door prize and raffle.

'Youth Explosion' at Fellowship Church

DOWNEY—Bishop Leon and Jacqueline Martin and the New Generation Youth Ministry invite the community to their Youth Explosion Sunday, Oct. 30 at 10 a.m. and 3:30 p.m., and continuing Monday-Friday, Oct. 31-Nov. 4 at 7 p.m. at the Love, Peace and Happiness Family Christian Fellowship Church n Downey.

Theme for the Explosion, which will be attended by young people from near and far, is "Empowering the Saints for Purpose." Special guest speaker for the week will be Evang. Martin Johnson of Atlanta, GA. There will be Gospel singers, dancers, food, prizes, and "lots of fun." Parents are advised to bring their children to the event.

The church's address is 11022 Old River School Rd./Firestone Blvd. Information: 806-9890.

DUSD board candidate lists his endorsements

DOWNEY—Luis Marquez, a candidate for the Downey School Board, Trustee Area 5, announced he has received the following major endorsements in his campaign: Downey Councilmembers Rick Cartozian and David Gafin; Downey School District Classified Employees CSEA Local 248; and Steve Hoffman, attorney and Downey business owner. He says he already has the support of State Senator Alan Lowenthal as well as Assemblymembers Betty Karnette and Hector De La Torre.

He quotes Councilman Cartozian: "I am supporting Luis Marquez in his campaign for the open Downey School Board seat because I believe in his commitment to Downey, our schools and our students."

Marquez said: "I am honored to have the support of our school employees and community leaders. Their support in my candidacy is a reflection of my experience and commitment to represent our students and community in assuring that we provide the highest quality education."

Marquez is running against Nancy Swenson for the seat being vacated by Betty Ferraro.

OLPH School hosting holiday boutique

DOWNEY – The Italian Catholic Federation will hold a holiday boutique Sunday, Nov. 6 at Our Lady of Perpetual Help School from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Breakfast and lunch items will be available throughout the day. Admission is free.

For information, call (562) 569-2109.

Industrial building sells for \$7 million

DOWNEY—A 159,992-sq. ft. industrial building in Downey, a two-tenant facility located at 12021-12023 Woodruff Ave., has been sold by Cambridge Leasing, LLC to Freeway Drive, LLC for \$7 million. GVA DAUM, a member of GVA Worldwide, handled the sale.

The building will retain its two current tenants, KMC Acquisition Corporation, a manufacturer of plumbing repair parts, and the Kong Company, a manufacturer of pet toys.

Founded in 1904, GVA DAUM has 11 offices throughout Southern California and Arizona.



CLEANUP CREW – Forty-two Downey residents turned out to participate in Keep Downey Beautiful's latest one-hour cleanup along Florence Ave. The volunteers cleaned up litter from Old River School Rd. to Paramount Blvd., including private and public parking lots. Stonewood Center sponsored the event and donated gift certificates for raffle. The next cleanup is scheduled for Nov. 19 at 9 a.m. at the Super A's parking lot at Gardendale and Downey Ave.

Women's golf club seeks new members

DOWNEY – The Rio Hondo Women's Golf Club, which enjoys a weekly tee time Tuesday mornings starting at 8:30 a.m. at the Rio Hondo Golf Course, 10627 Old River School Road in Downey, is accepting applications for membership.

General meetings are held on the first Tuesday of every month, after golf.

For more information, contact the Rio Hondo Golf Course at (562) 927-2420.

Norwalk church holds Fall Faire Oct. 29

NORWALK—Trinity Lutheran Church, 11507 Studebaker Road in Norwalk, is having its Fall Faire tomorrow, Oct. 29 from 9 a.m.-3 p.m., where you can "do some holiday shopping."

The fair will feature craft booths, food, kids' crafts, plants, a silent auction, and more.

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1st CLASS PRIVATE SKYLER L. BRYANT—Of the 4th Division U.S. Cavalry 710 Infantry based at Fort Hood, Texas is getting ready to tour Iraq this November for one year. This April he received 3 medals, one for Accommodation and 2 for Achievement. A Warren High School graduate, he attended Cerritos College and worked for the city of Downey as a Police Aide. His family and friends wish him and all the men and women “who are serving in a time of conflict” a safe and speedy return home.

DNC to elect 2006 officers at luncheon

DOWNEY—The election of a new board of officers for 2006 will be on the agenda for the Downey Newcomers Club’s luncheon meeting Monday, Nov. 11 at 11 a.m. at Los Amigos Country Club on Quill Drive, even as the club celebrates 43 years of “friendship and service to the community.”

The club’s first luncheon was held Nov. 2, 1961 as the “Welcome Wagon” welcomed all ‘new comers’ moving into Downey by introducing them to the local merchants. The first president was Mrs. Lee Heisenger. DNC adopted “Friendship Unlimited” as its motto, which has endured through the years.

Volunteers sought for community disaster drill

DOWNEY—Downey Regional Medical Center is looking for 150 people to volunteer for a disaster drill occurring on Thursday, Nov. 17 from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Participants of all ages are needed, primarily to act as patients and concerned family members. Some volunteers will be moulaged (given simulated injuries) and some will serve as concerned family members. Participants must remain in their roles for the entire time they are involved in the exercise.

In this, California’s 7th annual statewide Medical and Health Disaster Exercise, many hospitals, clinics, ambulance providers, public health and local governments will voluntarily participate. The goal of the drill is to prepare communities to respond in the event of a mass-casualty disaster. The scenario for the exercise will involve a terrorist event, with an improvised explosive causing mass casualties at a major public gathering.

All volunteers must be pre-registered to participate and attend a brief information session prior to the drill. Each will receive a complimentary lunch and Certificate of Participation.

To volunteer, call 904-5580.

Students to meet allergists at meeting

ANAHEIM—The American College of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology (ACAAI) and the Asthma & Allergy Foundation of America (AAFA) are sponsoring a High School Student Asthma and Allergy Expo Thursday-Wednesday, Nov. 3-9, in conjunction with ACAAI’s annual meeting in Anaheim.

The Expo will allow the students to interact with some 4,000 scientists, physicians, nurses and other health care professionals to learn the latest on a variety of asthma and allergy-related topics. Hands-on demonstrations will include lung function testing, the correct use of medicines, up-close and personal views of various allergens and irritants, as well as several exhibits where students will be challenged to apply what they’ve learned.

The Expo will be held at the Hilton Anaheim Hotel.

Report illegally dumped garbage

DOWNEY – Illegally discarded items may be reported for pickup by calling 904-1161. If you have items of your own to be picked up, call Calmet at 869-0901.



AIR FORCE AIRMAN—Matthew S. Thomas, son of Stephen and Sheila Thomas of Downey, has completed basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas. He is a 2005 graduate of Warren High School. The intensive training took six weeks, and earned Airman Thomas credits toward an associate degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

Hymn Festival in Long Beach Nov. 6

LONG BEACH—The Long Beach Chapter of the American Guild of Organists and Bethany Lutheran Church of Long Beach will co-host a Hymn Festival Sunday, Nov. 6 at 3 p.m. at the church, 4644 Clark Ave. in Long Beach.

The Hymn Festival, a celebration of hymns, organ, choir and congregational singing, is open to the public. The festival will consist of the singing of hymns by the 80-voice Bethany Choir separately and in combination with the audience. Special organ music enhancing the singing will be performed by Ladd Thomas, professor of organ at USC. The choir will be conducted by Carol R.S. McDaniel, minister of music at Bethany Lutheran Church.

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Elizabeth Buechler, 93, was a longtime resident

DOWNEY—Elizabeth Buechler, a resident of Downey for 50 years, has passed away at the age of 93. A retired seamstress, she was born in Yugoslavia and died at home on Oct. 25.

She was a member of Our Lady of Perpetual Help and St. Stephens, Los Angeles.

She is survived by sons Adam and Rudolf Buechler; daughters Katherine (Martin), Pillar, and Elsa (Bruno) Metzger; sisters Katherine (John) Schneider of Wisconsin, and Julieta Wagner of Germany; eight grandchildren; 12 great grandchildren; and one great great grandchild.

Complete funeral details as of press time were pending, except services will be held at St. Stephens, and interment has been scheduled at Calvary Catholic Cemetery. Contact Miller-Mies Mortuary (562-861-1274), who are handling arrangements, for further information on dates and times.

Stroke awareness event at hospital

DOWNEY—On Tuesday, Nov. 1 from 9-10:30 a.m., community members are invited to Downey Regional Medical Center (DRMC), 11500 Brookshire Ave., to learn strategies for preventing stroke, the third leading cause of death and a major cause of disability in Los Angeles County.

Making a presentation on "Understanding Aspirin Therapy" will be DRMC medical director Dr. Bill Kim. Deborah Massaglia, president of the Roxanna Todd Hodges Foundation, will explain what a stroke is, warning signals to watch for and ways to prevent a stroke.

This free community event will include stroke screenings for early sign-ups, along with blood pressure and heart-rate checks after the speakers' presentations. Registration is required.

For information about future Stroke Awareness Days, call 904-5162.

Caregiver support group at Rancho

DOWNEY—Rancho Los Amigos Rehabilitation Center hosts a caregiver support group on the first Tuesday and third Wednesday of every month. Call 401-7991 for more information.

Services Monday for former congressman

SACRAMENTO—Funeral services will be held Monday, Oct. 31, for former California Congressman Edward Ross Roybal, who passed away Oct. 24 in Pasadena from complications surrounding pneumonia. He was 89.

Congressman Roybal was born on Feb. 10, 1916 in Albuquerque, New Mexico. After graduating from college, he was a public health educator for the California Tuberculosis Association. He served in the U.S. Army during WWII, returning to Los Angeles in 1945 and becoming a Director of Health Education for the Los Angeles County Tuberculosis and Health Association.

Elected to the Los Angeles City Council in 1949, and serving until 1962 when he was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives on Nov. 6, 1962, he was the first Hispanic from California to serve in Congress since the 1879 election of Romualdo Pacheco.

During his three decades of service in Congress, Roybal worked to protect the rights of minorities, the elderly, and the physically-challenged. In 1977, he was the driving force behind the formation of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus. The bipartisan caucus began that year with only five voting members. Today there are 21 caucus members.

In 1992, he chose not to run for re-election to Congress. That year his daughter, Lucille Roybal-Allard, was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives where she represents part of his old district.

"Today we mourn the loss of a true champion in the cause of civil rights, and most importantly, a loving and devoted husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather," the Roybal family said in a statement. "As with so many people who came in contact with him, our father taught us to believe in social justice and the importance of building coalitions and giving back to our community."

"Although today is a sad day for the Roybal Family, we consider ourselves blessed to have had a father that gave us boundless joy."

"We express a heartfelt thank you to the many people across the country who have sent their condolences. Your thoughts and prayers will sustain us in the coming weeks and months."

Assembly Speaker Fabian Nunez (D-Los Angeles) on Oct. 25 made the following statement regarding the passing of former Congressman Ed Roybal:

"Ed Roybal was, in every sense, a gifted public servant. He was a trail-blazer and icon of the Latino community — he paved the way to political power for today's Latino elected officials."

Throughout his distinguished career in Congress, he fought to improve the lives of the elderly and the poor, particularly in the area of health care. He dedicated his career in Congress to helping people obtain the quality health care services they need to live healthy and full lives."

Roybal is survived by his wife, Lucille Beserra Roybal, and his children, Representative Lucille Roybal-Allard, Lillian Roybal-Rose and Edward Roybal, Jr.

A vigil will be held Sunday, Oct. 30 at 7 p.m. at the Resurrection Church in Los Angeles. Funeral services follow the next day at Cathedral of Our Lady of Angels beginning at 9 a.m. He will be buried at Calvary Cemetery in Boyle Heights.

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JAVIER GODINEZ - Was traveling to Mexico when he died Oct. 3.

Javier Godinez, local harpist, passes away

DOWNEY - Javier Godinez, a professional harpist who performed extensively in Downey, died Oct. 3 in an automobile accident. He was 50. Godinez, who had been playing the harp for over 10 years, was on his way to Mexico for a performance. He was born July 2, 1955.

Juanita Margaret Weiner services today in Brea

DOWNEY - A memorial service will be held today, Oct. 28, at 10 a.m. at St. Angela Merici Church in Brea for Juanita Margaret Weiner, who died Oct. 17 of natural causes.

She was born March 5, 1916 in Indianapolis, Ind., and moved to California in 1948, residing in Downey and Whittier. She lived her last five years at Morningside Retirement Community in Fullerton.

She was a bridge player and golfed at Candlewood Country Club. She is survived by her daughter and son-in-law, Carol and Hugh Berry, from Fullerton, and son and daughter-in-law Craig and Helen Ludwick, from Downey. In addition, she is survived by 11 grandchildren and 15 great grandchildren.

Her husband, Hy Weiner, preceded her in death in February 2000.

Memorial services for Jean C. Beaton Nov. 13

DOWNEY—Memorial services will be held at 1 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 13 at the Downey Woman's Club for Jean Claire Beaton, who was born April 1, 1922 to Phillip Beaton and Wilma Whitney, and passed away on Oct. 22. She resided in Downey for over 50 years.

She was a graduate of the University of the Pacific and UCLA, with two masters—in biology and education. After college, she was employed by various school districts over a span of 37 years, 32 of which were with the Downey Unified School District. After retirement, she worked for Cerritos College for 12 years as a tour guide on weekends.

Activities included the Downey Woman's Club, the Bookies Group, Literature Travel Group and Downey Newcomers Club. She gave her time once a month to teaching children at various schools. Besides deep involvement with the Whittier Audubon Society as president and program chairman, and Bluebird Monitoring at Rose Hills Cemetery, she was also involved with the Whittier Narrows Nature Center. She also founded the Oakhurst and Yosemite Area Audubon 25 years ago.

She was the recipient of various awards for her work with the Whittier Narrows Nature Center Parks & Recreation, for which she had volunteered 3,000 hours of service. She received an Audubon Award for "Best Member" as well as the "Outstanding National Audubon Award."

Assisting the family with arrangements is Miller-Mies Mortuary of Downey.



JUANITA MARGARET WEINER - Moved to the area in 1948. Services are scheduled for today at 10 a.m.



JEAN CLAIRE BEATON—Was with the Downey Unified School District for 32 years and involved with the Audubon Society much of her life.

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10:00 a.m.—Mimi's Café
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Downey

Tuesday, November 15
10:00 a.m.—IHOP
6300 Santa Fe Ave.
Huntington Park

Wednesday, November 16
10:00 a.m.—Mimi's Café
8455 Firestone Blvd.
Downey

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This message will change your life.

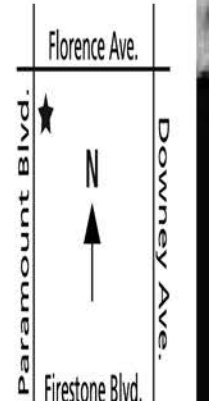


We would love to have you join us this Sunday!

October 30th 5:00 P.M.

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QUARTERBACK ALEX DIAZ (4) – Will lead Downey when his team faces Warren tonight at 7 p.m.

Downey, Warren rivalry adds new chapter tonight

DOWNEY – When Warren High School matches up against Downey in a league football contest tonight, more than the usual bragging rights will be at stake. Both teams are vying for position in the San Gabriel Valley League standings and both have legitimate shots at a postseason berth.

Warren will host the game starting at 7 p.m. The Bears hold an overall record of 2-5 – to Downey's 4-3 – but sit atop the Vikings in the standings because they won their lone league game versus Paramount two weeks ago. Downey, 1-1 in league competition, is in third place. Both teams trail Dominguez.

The Vikings rebounded from a tough two-week stretch where they were shut out by Santa Fe and Dominguez, respectively, by defeating Lynwood 24-7 last week. A win tonight and Downey can jump Warren in the standings into the number two slot.

A Downey win and Dominguez loss would give the Vikings first place, but that seems unlikely as the Dons face 1-6 Lynwood. The Vikings' best chance at snagging first place appears to be next week when, ironically, a Warren upset over Dominguez would put the Downey in first place.

For their part, Warren can cement their place in second with a win over Downey tonight. They struggled defensively last week in their loss at Lakewood, after allowing only six points Oct. 14 versus Paramount.

Their toughest game on the schedule is next week at Dominguez, a game they'll need to win to have a shot at the league title.

Cerritos auto tech program expanding

NORWALK—Officials in Cerritos College's Automotive Technology Division announced recently that the college will partner with Northwood University to provide the first west coast presence for Northwood, a private university specializing in management and entrepreneurial education.

With Northwood serving as a "campus within a campus" at Cerritos College, it will provide a means for students who have earned their associate's degree in Cerritos' Automotive Technician Training program to enroll in Northwood's program to earn a bachelor of business administration (BBA) degree.

"There is a tremendous need among auto dealers for skilled, educated employees," said Dr. Randy Peebles, dean of Cerritos College's Technology and Business Divisions. "This need extends from technicians and salespersons to marketers and managers. Together, Northwood and Cerritos College will answer this industry need by providing a step-by-step academic program that prepares future employees for success and will eventually include management-level degrees to better support this region."

Cerritos College's automotive technology training program consists of certificates, degrees and special programs in the disciplines of automotive repair, advanced transportation technology, auto collision repair, intelligent transportation systems and alternative fuel and hybrids, making it one of the most comprehensive programs in the U.S.



NEWLYWEDS – Stacy Bonasoro, daughter of Jim and Nancy Bonasoro, was wed Aug. 20 to Jimmy Johnson, son of Dennis and Julie Johnson, in a ceremony at the Clarke estate. Stacy is the granddaughter of Bill and Sharon Dodero of Mesquite, Nev. and Pete and Priscilla Bonasoro of Downey. Jimmy is the grandson of Josephine Trasowech of Whittier and Darlene Johnson of Anaheim. The couple honeymooned in Hawaii and now reside in Huntington Beach.

Prescription drug coverage clarified

DOWNEY—A speaker from Golden Outlook will make a presentation at 10 a.m. on the "New Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage—What Does It Mean to You?" when EZRA Center for Mature Adults meets Tuesday, Nov. 15 at Temple Ner Tamid, 10629 Lakewood Blvd. in Downey.

This program is very important to seniors, and will provide a clearer understanding of what will be available, and at what cost, starting Jan. 1, 2006. The community is welcome to attend.

For information, call the Temple office, 861-9276.


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STROKE AWARENESS SEMINARS



PREVENTION
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Dr. Bill Kim, DRMC Medical Director, on "Understanding Aspirin Therapy"
& Deborah Massaglia, President, Roxanna Todd Hodges Foundation, on "What is Stroke, Stroke Prevention & Warning Signals"


Stroke screenings will be offered for early sign-ups. Blood pressure & heart-rate checks will also be provided following the presentations.

'CAREGIVERS' WORKSHOP
Tuesday, November 15, 2005, 9 - 10:30 AM
Healthcare professionals from the Hospital's Stroke Program, Home Health & Rehabilitation departments will share their insights with those who care for stroke victims.


To register or for more details please contact
The Roxanna Todd Hodges Foundation,
23332 Mill Creek Rd., #120
Laguna Hills, CA 92653,
email Rthfoundation@aol.com, or call:

**562-904-5162 or
(949) 305-8450**


This free community event will be held at
Downey Regional Medical Center
11500 Brookshire Ave. at Firestone Blvd.,
Lower level Conference Rooms A & B



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New bankruptcy law: How it will affect you

By James McMahon

Senior Vice President of Lending, Financial Partners Credit Union

On October 17, 2005 the new *Bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act of 2005* went into effect. The new bankruptcy act which was signed April 20, 2005 was developed to continue to provide bankruptcy protection to citizens in need of assistance yet prevent repeat bankruptcy filers from abusing the system. To remedy this situation several changes were made to the current procedures for filing bankruptcy.

Chapter 7 vs. Chapter 13

In a Chapter 7 bankruptcy debt is discharged and forgiven. Under the new bankruptcy act, if a consumer is capable of paying off their debt, s/he will be required to file Chapter 13, rather than Chapter 7. A Chapter 13 bankruptcy includes a payment plan to pay back creditors. Under the new law, if a consumer's annual income is more than the state average, (in California it is \$60,000 for a single household), and s/he can pay at least \$100 a month, the consumer will be required to enter into an up to a five year pay back plan under Chapter 13. Also, under the new act, attorneys filing Chapter 7 bankruptcies will be held accountable for the accuracy of the consumer's information. Therefore, filing a Chapter 13 limits the bankruptcy attorney's risk of exposure.

Debt Repayment

When a consumer files Chapter 13 a standard IRS (Internal Revenue Service) formulation will be used to determine the consumer's ability to pay back based on the state's average cost of living. When calculating monthly expenses the IRS will not consider common items such as cell phones, cable, Internet, entertainment, etc.

Financial Management Training

The new law requires training to help consumers avoid the habits that led to their overextending themselves. 180 days prior to filing for bankruptcy, the consumer must contact an approved non-profit budget and credit counseling service. After filing, but prior to discharge, s/he must complete a financial management course.

Changes to Filing

The number of times a consumer can file has been reduced. The new law stipulates a two year waiting period for Chapter 13; the old law had no limit. The Chapter 7 waiting period has also been altered from 6 years to 8 years. Automatic Stay, which prohibits contact from creditors for a set period of time, has been reduced to 30 days for anyone who has filed any kind of bankruptcy within the past 12 months. Previously, Automatic Stay was six months, which encouraged abuse by repetitive filers who obtained a six month stay every time they filed.

Debt settlement negotiation

As consumers, we all pay when someone defaults on their debts. Sometimes due to life situations such as divorce, major illness, etc. consumers need short term help. In the past bankruptcy may have appeared to be the perfect long term solution, but bankruptcy has long term negative consequences that can take up to 10 years to correct. A bankruptcy will affect your ability to obtain new credit; low auto insurance rates; low loan interest rates; and even employment opportunities. The new changes to the bankruptcy law make bankruptcy even less appealing. It's no longer the "easy out" it may have appeared to be in the past. Consumers, who can repay their debts, under the new law, will be required to complete a repayment plan. However, consumers will still be able to negotiate a settlement with most creditors first. After all, most creditors want to work with their customers rather than have them use bankruptcy as such a drastic step.

If you are in a situation where you are considering bankruptcy, there is help available. Please call your creditors to discuss alternative solutions to bankruptcy. Other options include California based non-profit counseling service By Design Financial Solutions who offers programs to assist consumers in avoiding bankruptcy.

For more information contact By Design by visiting www.bydesignsolutions.org or call 800.750.2227. For more information on the new bankruptcy law, visit <http://www.uscourts.gov/rules/interim.html>

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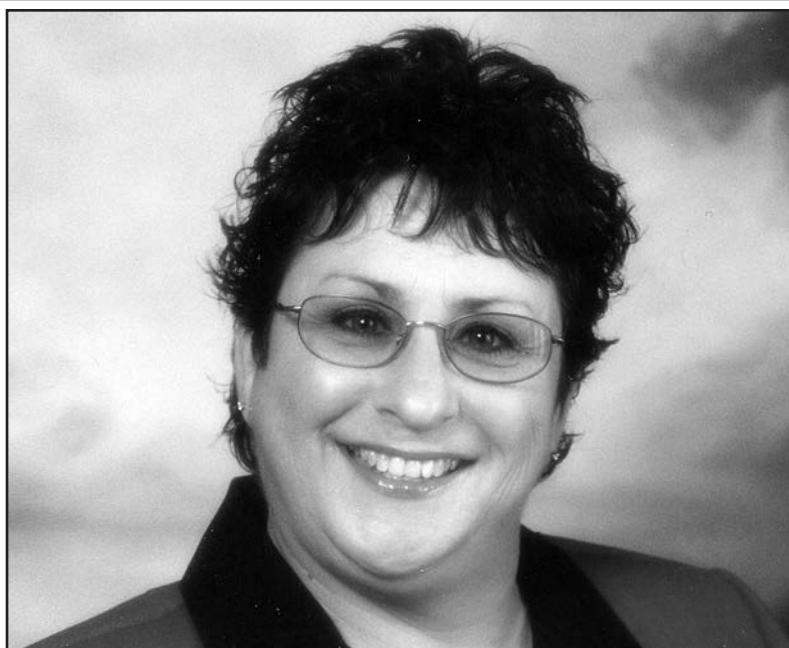
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MILA ALBERICO - Along with Ian Martinez, both agents at Prudential 24 Hour Real Estate, have sponsored Ward Elementary School for Red Ribbon Week. "It has been a great experience to work with the faculty there, who are supportive of such an amazing community program," Alberico said. "As well as to reach out to our children and encourage them to be 'Drug Free.'" Both Alberico and Martinez are lifelong Downey residents.

Limousine company ribbon cutting

DOWNEY—A First Class Limousine & Transportation Company, assisted by the Downey Chamber of Commerce, will hold a Ribbon Cutting on Monday, Nov. 7 at 2 p.m. The family business is located at 11917 Paramount Blvd., Suite H, Downey.

Each of the four owners brings a unique background to A First Class Limousine & Transportation Company. Miguel Corona does video and photography, and Roslyn Corona has a career in a financial institution. Devi Prasad does real estate and loans, is a Notary Public, involved in Travel & Tours and is a co-owner of DSS Audio Video Installations. Shay Prasad is the owner of DSS Audio Video Installations.

Moravian holidays bazaar tomorrow

DOWNEY—The women of the Moravian Church of Downey, 10337 Old River School Road in Downey, are holding their Annual Holidays Bazaar Saturday, Oct. 29 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

The bazaar will feature a boutique, baked goods, handmade crafts, Moravian items, Christmas decorations, pumpkin pies, and a soup and salad luncheon. There will also be a Grandma's Attic.

Cost of the luncheon of soup, chili, salad and dessert is \$6 per person. To place an order for pumpkin pies/for more information, call the Church office at 927-0718.

YMCA has volunteer openings

DOWNEY—The Downey YMCA is in need of volunteers for both morning and evening hours. Call 862-4201 for information.



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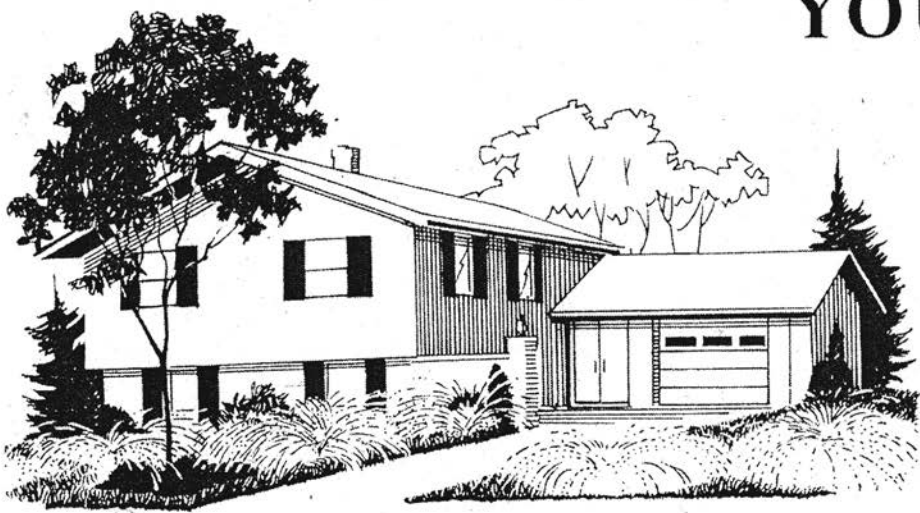
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 Immaculate 3 bedroom, 1.75 bath home on a 8,980 sq. ft. lot. The home has refinished hardwood floors, freshly painted interior & exterior and inside laundry. The enormous yard includes plenty of grass, a covered patio, and a 2 car detached garage.
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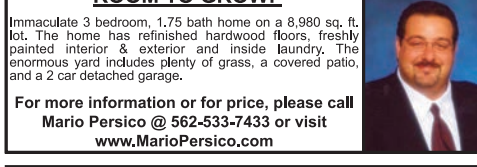
PERFECT FOR ENTERTAINING!

 This North Downey home has wonderful living room with fireplace, plus a large formal dining room with built in cabinets for your china and crystal! Park like yard has large covered patio off kitchen! 3 bedrooms, new tile in bathroom, central air and heat, in great location! Value range pricing at \$598,000-\$620,000!
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Oh! What a Feeling!
 Completely remodeled in 805. This gorgeous home features 4 bedrooms, 3 full bathrooms, master suite includes walk-in closet and spa-like bathroom with a beautiful step-up Jacuzzi. Large state-of-the-art kitchen features granite counter tops, stainless steel appliances, a large island and much much more!
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SOLD!

LOCATION! LOCATION!!
 Great location near Orange Estates, Rio Hondo Country Club, Rio Hondo Elementary School and Furman Park. Great 3 bedroom home with fireplace and large enclosed patio. Wonderful backyard with avocado, plum and orange trees. Eating area in kitchen and dining area off living room. Great home to add on to or remodel.
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New Listing

Downey Landing Area
 Beautiful remodeled home, granite countertops in kitchen, pengo floors, bath w/ Jacuzzi. This one has it all! 2 bedrooms and 1 bath with an extra large family room, 1,227 sq. ft. of living space on a 8,100 sq. ft. lot.
\$549,900
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Townhouse
 This 1,250 sqft. two story townhouse is located in a beautiful area of Baldwin Park. It features 3 large bedrooms and 2 1/2 bathrooms.
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COMING SOON!

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JUST SOLD!

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 2 bedroom, 1 3/4 bath single level condo in Bellflower with recent updated kitchen, private patio, 2 car garage, close to schools and the 605 freeway. Sold for \$345,000.
 For more information, call Mary Jane Lee @ 562-618-0390

Orange Estates

 This lovely home is located in desirable Orange Estates and features 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, formal living-room and large family-room. 1,528 sqft. of living space on a 7,600 sqft. Lot. LOTS of space for a pool.
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Home of Distinction!

 This magnificent, colonial-style home includes a 3-bedroom, 2.5-bath main house, large guest house, 3-car garage, and huge backyard with pool & spa on an impressive 11,625 sq. ft. lot. The home features an elegant formal living room with crown molding & fireplace, spacious formal dining room, large family room with wet bar & fireplace, sunny kitchen with newer appliances & large pantry, spacious bedrooms, a playroom, and a solarium. You'll love the private master suite with its cedar-lined walk-in closet, large bathroom, retreat area, and fireplace. The pool & spa, with its automatic cover, can be used year round. Price: \$1,275,000.
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OPEN HOUSE Sat & Sun

Charming Home in Orange Estates!
 This traditional-style 4 bedroom, 3 bath home has been upgraded on the inside with remodeled bathrooms and kitchen. The large upstairs master bedroom has an elegant bathroom with separate tub and shower. The home features a formal dining room, living room, and large family room with a view of the spacious backyard. Home includes 1 downstairs bedroom and 3 bedrooms upstairs. Price: \$899,000
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OPEN HOUSE Sat & Sun

Quality & Elegance!
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