



The Downey Patriot

Help flower the float
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College turns 50
See Page 11

Miss Downey is coming
See Page 2

Friday, December 16, 2005

Vol. 4, No. 34

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

Downey Landing opens in time for the holidays

DOWNEY—Although still missing a number of food and retail establishments that are not scheduled to open until early next year, the new 400,000-sq. ft. Downey Landing Shopping Center, located at the old Boeing site bordered by Lakewood and Stewart & Gray, has been open for business for some time now, drawing holiday shoppers.

Tenants able to open in time for the holiday shopping season include clothing retailers Old Navy, Marshalls and Ross Dress for Less; consumer electronics/merchandisers Best Buy, Staples, GameStop and Verizon Wireless; food/drink establishments Elephant Bar & Grill, Starbucks, Cold Stone Creamery, Rubio's and Jamba Juice; home décor specialist Bed Bath & Beyond; and PetSmart.

Retail tenants due to open next year include DSW, Pier 1, Chili's Grill & Bar, Bally's Total Fitness, Michael's, Quizno's and Johnny Carino's Italian.

Board bids goodbye to Verderber and Gutierrez

NORWALK—The Cerritos College Board of Trustees, at its annual re-organizational meeting Wednesday, Dec. 7, bid farewell to two departing members: Bob Verderber, a 12-year veteran of the board who did not win one of the three open seats, and Eric Gutierrez, who served for one four-year term and did not seek re-election.

On behalf of the board, Dr. Ted Edmiston, board president for 2005, honored both Verderber and Gutierrez with commemorative plaques for their years of service. "You have built a legacy during 12 years as a trustee here at Cerritos College," said of Verderber. "We will certainly miss your involvement in leading this campus, and we wish to thank you for your continued commitment and dedication."

"We know that a man of your character and abilities is destined for lifelong leadership," he said of Gutierrez. "So we say goodbye for now, knowing well that you will continue to be involved and effective within our community."

The board also welcomed and conducted swearing-in procedures for re-elected member Bob Epple—appointed to the board in July 2004 to complete the term of Cherry Epple, his wife, after her unexpected death—and newly-elected members Dr. Bob Hughlett and Carmen Avalos.

Following these acknowledgments, the board elected officers of the board: John Moore, a member since 1988, was elected president; Tom Jackson, immediate past secretary and member since 2003, was elected vice-president; and Bob Arthur, a past board president, as secretary. The board presented outgoing board president Edmiston, a trustee since 1991, with an honorary plaque for his year of dedication and service to the board.

"We have all appreciated Bob's tremendous leadership skills and dedication to the district," said outgoing board president Edmiston of Arthur. "He has seen this college and its administration through very challenging times, and for that we thank him."

In addition to serving on the district board of trustees, Edmiston also serves as president for the Los Angeles County School Trustees Association (LACSTA). A chiropractor, he is a strong advocate on the board for the use of technology to enhance the instructional process. He is a catalyst for entrepreneurial initiatives and has also been named an honorary member of Cerritos College's chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the International Honor Society of two-year colleges.

Moore, the board member with the most seniority having served since 1988, is a marketing representative for a major corporation. Over the years, Mr. Moore has worked diligently to ensure that the image of Cerritos College is consistently cast in a positive light. Mr. Moore has also served as a board member of the statewide California Community College League.

Cerritos College may be visited online at www.cerritos.edu, while a celebratory site honoring the college's 50 years may be found at www.cerritosw.edu/c50.



ASSEMBLYMEMBER HECTOR DE LA TORRE—Presents certificate of appreciation to Betty Ferraro Dec. 6 for "15 years of service to the children of Downey."



SCENES LIKE THIS—Are sure to be repeated over and over with the coming of Christmas, lifting up hearts and nourishing hope.

Merry Christmas

(The Downey Patriot and John Adams pay tribute to some of the singular personalities and institutions that make our city the busy and interesting place it is today.)

If your name is listed you have touched the newspaper and Adams in some singular way that has made him include you in his verse. If you are not mentioned, you have an entire year to let him know the error of omission. In any case, read on with a good humor and spirit of holiday giving.)

Our School Board, finally a full panel restored,
Promises much with a moral accord,
But we will miss Betty Ferraro and Cheryl Andresen,
They both were examples of good sense and reason.
The new board members, Nancy Swenson and Martha Sodemani,
Both humbly acknowledge their predecessors positions,
and vow to stand firm against wild-eyed transitions.
The DUSD School Board, is now a full seven members with a new president in Donald La Plante,
Who cuts through all the Sac'to garble and cant,
William Gutierrez has a keen eye for sports,
And closely reads every staff report.
Tod Corrin adds balance and years with the YMCA,
Mark Morris wants more math in each student's day.
Barbara Samperi, a woman for all seasons,
has an ear for all and urges all to reason.
Superintendent of Schools is Dr. Wendy Doty,
Who makes certain no one rocks the boat-ie.
The serenity experienced on the school side of the City,
Alas, is not reflected by the City Council "Five,"
Like the Martins and the McCoys,
These fearless Mountain boys,
Vow to bury each other in controversy.
I can't remember when a council split so many votes,
Yes, the Council this year is again an unruly beast,
Any hope for accord here is more famine than feast.
Kirk Cartozian is still at odds with the City Manager,
A bird he finds stranger than oriole or yellow winged tanager.
Meredith Perkins wants fiscal responsibility,
The key he insists to eventual tranquility.
Anne Bayer who just finished her stint as mayor,
Has turned out to have a talent and judgment fair.
Dave Gafin, the latest council addition,
Is often the swing vote, a key position.
Rick Trejo rides the waves made by others,
Until every so often he gets his druthers.
and quietly holding this leaky ship of state together,
Jerry Caton keeps an eye out for stormy weather.
And the city staff, hard working each and every one,
They have at each task until it is done.
Bonnie Kehoe, alas, is leaving the city,
Her talents will be sorely missed, and that's a real pity.
Desi Alvarez, an expert on all things with water,
His special skills rival those of an otter.
Lee Powell, assistant city manager, who crunches numbers for the City,

See POEM, page 5

Tentative pact for pipeline here

By Henry Veneracion

DOWNEY—After a public hearing, the City Council has tentatively approved an oil franchise agreement with BP West Coast Products, LLC, and introduced an ordinance granting an oil pipeline franchise to that company.

The action at Tuesday's regular council meeting was taken after a public hearing which had been continued twice from, earlier Council sessions.

The pipeline will generate revenue of \$20,028 to the City, and is the result of a franchise ordinance originally granted in 1995 to Atlantic Richfield for the right to install and operate pipelines for the transportation of oil, gas and petroleum within the streets of Downey. In 2001 ARCO transferred its west coast marketing assets to BP West Coast Products LLC.

The result is this agreement for a 10-year franchise for an eight-inch pipeline. The pipeline will be accompanied by liability insurance amounting to \$20 million.

In other action the City Council:

*Recognized student winners of the 2006 Used Oil Recycling Calendar School Art Contest.

*Presented a Certificate of Appointment to Brent Gable, to the Emergency Preparedness Committee representing District 1.

*Recognized the Financial Partners Credit Union for its support of the Oral History Page of the Columbia Memorial Space Learning Center website.

*Approved a cash contract for \$41,300 for demolition work at 9255 Imperial Highway and allocated \$60,000 from the Gas Tax Fund for over-all costs.

*Granted authority for soliciting bids for improvement of audio system of the Council Chambers and appropriated \$57,000 from the General Fund for the project.

*Authorized staff to enter an agreement with HdI companies for the collection of documentary transfer taxes.

See PIPELINE, page 4

Love of language spells happiness for Winslow

By Judy Brunkala

"I cannot describe the wonderful feeling I had to be in a free country — after the German occupation of Hungary during World War II. And I felt with one dollar and twenty-five cents— I felt (I was) the richest person in the world."

And so began Downey resident Anna Winslow's life in the United States. Since that time in 1956, Winslow has used her love of languages and music to write the text operas, called librettos, and interpret for other Hungarians in medical, legal and financial fields.

Born Anna Egyd in Budapest, Hungary, as she grew up and progressed—in school, she studied several languages including English. She settled in Cleveland, Ohio with her parents, and received a scholarship to attend John Carol, a Jesuit university in Ohio.

She also took a job to pay expenses with a company which offered her a welcomed transfer to Southern California, and at which she stayed 13 1/2 years. When the company offered her a transfer to Kentucky, she declined. She went to work for Hughes Aircraft instead, where in 13-plus years, she advanced from a specification writer to a staff engineer to a senior scientist and met the man who became her husband.

"And I proposed to him!?" Anna stated in a testament to her decisive and assertive nature.

It was during that time that Winslow also wrote articles for a local Hungarian newspaper. She has since retired from Hughes, because, she said, "My heart was always with writing."

One unique article of hers about a Hungarian concert caught the attention of the late Eugene Zador, a Hungarian born composer and conductor who later in his life became the music director of MGM Studios. So impressed was Zador with Winslow's article, that he contacted her and asked if she could write an opera for him. Loving opera, but not knowing much about writing one, Winslow nevertheless replied. "Oh, yes, of course I can write it!"

Winslow spent time observing Zador, and learned how to write the libretto by "seeing what he used and what he discarded." She then wrote the text for "Yehu", a story of the legend of Christmas. Winslow said it was published by the world's largest music publisher, Carl Fischer, and premiered in 1976 through the Los Angeles Bureau of Music.

"You know, but of course the ultimate happiness is to see it produced."

And she has been very fortunate in this regard. Yehu had more than 40 performances from New York to California. It was even performed in the Downey Theater by the then orchestral conductor Louis Palarge.

Once, when visiting Budapest, Winslow approached a Hungarian composer who was the artistic director of a conservatory there and asked him to perform Yehu. He agreed, and Winslow translated it from her original English text to Hungarian, and she was pleased with the performance. That led to Winslow being asked to write four operas, two oratorios (musical compositions for voices and orchestra, telling a sacred story without costumes, scenery or dramatic action). And a cantata (a vocal and instrumental composition comprising choruses, solos and recitatives), all of which have been produced in Budapest and other countries. Winslow has received many rewards for her writing.

See WINSLOW, page 4



DOWNEY FAMILY YMCA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR—George Saikali, left, and Board Vice Chair Steve Roberson, right, receive a \$2,000 Washington Mutual check from WM Vice President Irma Salgado, in support of their new 2006-2007 California YMCA Model Legislature & Court program. Also known as Youth & Government, the program prepares teens for responsible leadership in the American democratic process by providing guidance, training and experience in the theory and practice of determining public policy.

Food for fines at library thru Dec. 30

DOWNEY—During the month of December, patrons of the Downey City Library have the opportunity to clear their overdue fines by giving canned and packaged staple goods instead of paying cash.

“There are many families in need at this time,” say Downey PTA H.E.L.P.S. volunteers, who distribute the goods. Goods used in payment for fines will be accepted through Dec. 30 at the library Circulation desk.

The value of each item will be 50 cents. The library is located at 11121 Brookshire Ave. For information, call 904-7360, ext. 28.

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Miss Downey pageant applications available

DOWNEY—Applications for the Downey Rose Float Association's 2006 Miss Downey/Miss Teen Downey Pageant are now available at the following locations: Downey and Warren High Schools; Griffiths, East, Sussman and West Middle Schools; Gold N' Baked Hams; Downey Rent-A-Tux; Downey City Library; and the Downey Chamber of Commerce.

Applications are due by Jan. 13, and are to be mailed to: DRFA, Attn: Pageant, P.O. Box 765, Downey, CA 90241, along with a \$15 application fee.

A mandatory orientation will be held from 2-4 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 15 at the Woman's Club of Downey, 9813 Paramount Blvd.

DRMC hosts blood drive for Red Cross

DOWNEY—Downey Regional Medical Center, 11500 Brookshire Ave., hosts a “Save a Life Season” Blood Drive Wednesday, Dec. 21 from 8 a.m.-8 p.m., made possible through the efforts of the hospital's Volunteer Corps.

It will be held in the hospital's lower-level conference rooms and conducted by the American Red Cross. All blood donors will receive a certificate to Cold Stone Creamery.

Because the Southern California American Red Cross (SCARC) reports a critically low blood supply, community members are urged to donate blood. As a major blood collection and distribution center, SCARC serves a metropolitan area of over 12 million people and provide blood services to more than 150 hospitals in Los Angeles, Orange and San Diego counties.

To schedule an appointment, go to the www.givelife.org site and pick the exact desired time. Then enter the sponsor code, dowreg. Those without Internet access can call the DRMC Volunteer Office, (562) 904-5321.

‘Mommie & Me’ florist class at DAS

DOWNEY—The Downey Adult School, 12340 Woodruff Ave. offers a “Mommy & Me” Christmas florist class Saturday, Dec. 17, where a child and parent can learn to make a flower arrangement. Arrangements are designed in keepsake containers.

The class is taught by florist Terrie Mercurio, and is scheduled from 1-3 p.m. Pre-registration is required. A \$14 fee includes the class, flowers and container. For information, call DAS, (562) 940-6200.

Yard sale permits available at City Hall

DOWNEY – Two-day permits for garage/yard sales are available for \$10 by visiting the Cashier's window at City Hall.

Permits are issued only to the person who resides at the address of the sale. For more information, call 904-7331.



NEW POLICE CHIEF ROY CAMPOS—Receives a check for \$5,000 from Gangs Out of Downey (GOOD) president and East Middle School principal Brent Shubin. The money will be used in support of the nationally-recognized school policing program in the DUSD high schools.



BOB BELCHER—President of Downey Los Amigos Kiwanis Club, started his term in October 2005 and will run through September 2006. Kiwanis is one of the service groups that support the young people of Downey. For information about Kiwanis, call Belcher at (562) 861-9294.

Volunteers needed for Rancho Gift Shop

DOWNEY—The Rancho Gift Shop, a major source of income for the Amigos Fund which has provided funding for physical, social and recreational services forming the core of the rehabilitation process at Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center since 1954, is in dire need of volunteers to work in the shop. It is located next to the historical Harriman building on the grounds of Rancho. It opened in 2002.

The Amigos Fund has dedicated itself to improving the lives of both inpatients and outpatients at Rancho. Served are adults and children with severe disability that follows spinal cord injury, brain injury, stroke neurological disorders and birth defects.

The shop is looking for anyone who can volunteer for a minimum of four hours each week. Contact Marty Krumm, manager, at (562) 401-7667 or (562) 401-7218.

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MARILYN AND AL ORLANDO—Residents of Downey for 39 years, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Dec. 10 with dinner and dancing at Rio Hondo Event Center attended by over 123 guests. DJ Peter Papazian also showed a 15-minute video of their lives. Marilyn's special surprise for her husband, a belly dancer, was said a great hit.



MISS DOWNEY ROBYN GUGGIANA—Rides DRFA float, "Polar Wonderland," during inspection on Dec. 11.

'Polar Wonderland' needs decorating help

DOWNEY—The Downey Rose Float Association is once again requesting volunteers to come down and help decorate its 2006 entry, "Polar Wonderland," which depicts polar bears coming to life from inside a broken snow globe.

It will be ready for decoration starting Monday, Dec. 26 from 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Groups wishing to come and volunteer should contact the president, Julie Swender, at (562) 201-3367, to arrange times.

All volunteers are reminded to dress in old clothes. Anyone under 18 must have a permission slip signed by a parent or guardian. Permission slips and volunteer applications forms may be found on the website, www.downeyrose.org.

This year's float was designed by Jared Sweeney. Construction chair is Kelley Roberts.

SEAACA accepting toy donations

DOWNEY - The Southeast Area Animal Control Authority (SEAACA), 9777 Seaca St., is accepting donations of toys for their animal population, part of their ongoing program called Environmental Enrichment.

The program's goal is to reduce the stress of newly arriving pets. Call 803-3301, ext. 223 or 221, for more information.

Holiday activities offered at city parks

DOWNEY—The city of Downey Community Services Department is offering children ages 6-11 a chance to enjoy holiday activities at the parks through their drop-in program, "Holiday Haven," Monday, Dec. 19 through Friday, Dec. 30.

The program will operate from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. with several activities per day, the first beginning at 11:30 a.m. at Apollo, Brookshire, Dennis the Menace, Rio San Gabriel, Furman, Crawford and Golden. (The program will run from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Friday, Dec. 23). Activities include: Deck the Halls, Lunch with the Leaders (children bring their own lunches), Carroms, Snowball Play and crafts. At Brookshire Park and Crawford Par, the program will operate from 12:30 -4:30 p.m.,

The program is free, but registration is required. Registration can be completed at the parks Monday-Friday from 3-6 p.m. If there is inclement weather, the program will not operate. For information, call 904-7238.

Newcomers to hold coffee and tour

DOWNEY—Downey Newcomers Club members and friends are invited to a Christmas coffee at Beverly Mendenhall's home, 9363 Bigby St. Monday, Dec. 19 at 10 a.m. The special gathering provides an occasion to invite potential members to join the club.

Meanwhile, Vickie Augimeri, DNC tour chairman, has arranged a special tour and tea presentation Wednesday, Dec. 28 at 11 a.m. in one of the Victorian homes in Lakewood. Its owner is opening its doors for a home tour and a butler-served tea service. The Victorian home will be decorated in holiday style.

Price is \$15 per person. Call Augimeri at 862-7562 for reservations.

Warren grad completes combat training

SAN ANTONIO, TX—Army Reserve Pvt. Ashley S. Bryan, a 2004 Warren High graduate, has completed basic combat training at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C.

She is the daughter of Robert Bryan of Downey and Debra Parikh of Norwalk.

Preparedness Committee meets Jan. 25

DOWNEY—Due to the Christmas holiday, the Emergency Preparedness Committee will not meet on Wednesday, Dec. 28, its regularly scheduled day.

The Committee next meets Wednesday, Jan. 25 at 6:30 p.m. at the Fire Department EOC, 12222 Paramount Blvd.

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.

Tuesday meetings are held at 7 p.m. while Wednesday sessions meet at 1:30 p.m. Call 401-7991 for more information.



SANTA—Will go over children's (ages 3-5) Christmas wish list Dec. 20 at Downey City Library.

Santa visiting preschool storytime

DOWNEY—Children ages 3-5 are invited to bring their Christmas wish list to share with Santa Claus Tuesday, Dec. 20 from 10:30-11:30 a.m. in the Cormack Room of the Downey City Library, when Santa, an avid reader himself, interrupts his busy holiday schedule and visits preschool storytime. The event is free.

After listening to holiday stories read by library staff, kids can meet St. Nick in person—and even share their favorite book with him. "This is a perfect photo opportunity," said Children's librarian Gina Orello. "Parents and grandparents are invited to bring their cameras for a holiday picture."

The library is located at 11121 Brookshire Ave. for information, call 904-7360, ext. 27.

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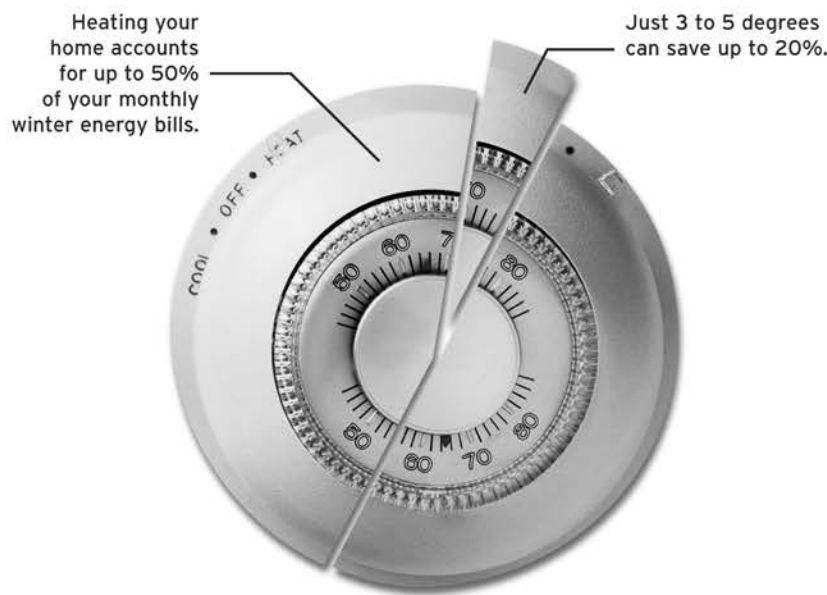
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Winslow

Another of Winslow's accomplishments is that after coming to this country, she took and passed the State Department test, and later the California Judicial Council training and tests. This allows her to secure jobs interpreting for and escorting Hungarian dignitaries who come here at the invitation of the U.S. government.

"I don't do that anymore," Winslow said. "But I do interpreting for the courts and depositions for attorneys' offices for Hungarians who need assistance with the language.

Winslow realized English was not the only language she'd need for this type of interpreting and she enjoys the excursions into the world of languages she must take.

"It's not only English to Hungarian. Hungarian to English. We have so many sub-categories. The language of an attorney. The language of a doctor. During a deposition. The language of Wall Street, where you deal with finance."

Winslow explained, "There are so many areas and aspects of interpreting, you have to keep up with your linguistic skills really, all the time, and so—so my constant companion, in addition to my husband, is the English Language Dictionary, Thesaurus, you know the slang dictionary, and the idioms. The English language is beautiful...and it's a joy to work with it.

"Life is full of infinite surprises," Winslow said. For the interpreter and the accomplished librettist, those surprises have been and continue to be good ones, indeed.

Pipelines

*Appropriated \$191,221 from the Equipment Replacement Fund for the Fire Ladder Truck Lease Payment.

Police security

*Appropriated \$16,300 from the Asset Forfeiture Fund to update and improve the Police Department's Closed Circuit Camera System.

*Approved an agreement with Health First Medical Group for pre-employment and annual fitness physicals.

*Approved establishment of a 20-day period of Dec. 14 2005 through Jan. 6 2006, for public review and comment on the city's application for a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Brownsfield Cleanup Grant.

*Set a Public Hearing for Jan. 10 for an appeal of a zone variance to allow tandem parking for a medical office building located at 10800 Paramount Blvd.

*Accepted \$204,000 in Federal Fire Act Grant Funds and appropriated those funds along with \$51,000 from the city General Fund for fire department radio equipment.

Underground work

*As part of the Public Works Bellflower Boulevard Underground Utility District 20, approved a joint-use agreement, grant of easement, replacement of overhead with underground distribution facilities agreement with Southern California Edison, and appropriated \$450,000 in General Funds for payment to that company and Verizon for underground work.

*As part of the Public Works Yard Consolidation Project, approved a professional services agreement for preparation of an Environmental Impact Report with David Evans and Associates, and appropriated \$212,541 in Prop. A Funds.

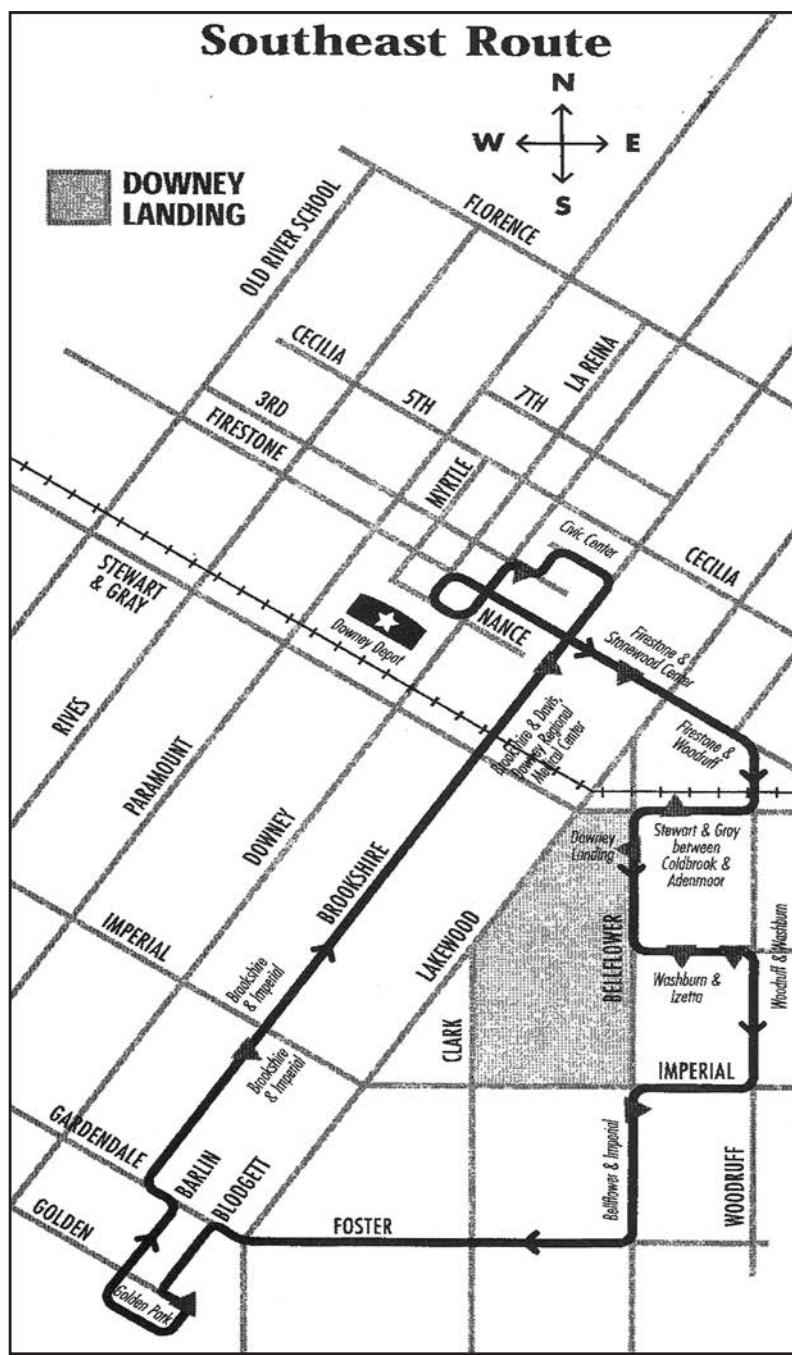
*Adopted a resolution for a Memorandum Of Understanding between the City and the Downey Public Safety Auxiliary Association.

*Adopted a Memorandum Of Understanding between the City and the Downey Police Management Association.

*Adopted an ordinance approving a parking lease agreement between the City and 3627 Tweedy, LLC (8350 Firestone Blvd.).

*Appointed Mayor Perkins to the Greater L.A. County Vector Control Board.

The next public meeting of the City Council will be at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 10 at City Hall., 11111 Brookshire Ave. (It is anticipated that the meeting Dec. 27 will be adjourned due to lack of a quorum.)



3 NEW STOPS—Have been added to DowneyLINK's Southeast Route, to accommodate riders to the newest shopping and dining opportunities within the city. The map above shows the new configuration, linking Stonewood and Downey Landing together.

New stops added to LINK's route

DOWNEY—In anticipation of Downey Landing's completion, the city of Downey has added three new stops to DowneyLINK's existing Southeast Route to accommodate riders to the newest shopping and dining opportunities within the city.

The new stops include a shared MTA stop at Bellflower Blvd. just south of Stewart & Gray for pedestrian access into Downey Landing, another is on Stewart & Gray between Coldbrook and Adenmoor, and a third on Washburn at Izzetta. Including these stops will add approximately five minutes to the Southeast route, but the integrity of the "pulse routing system" will remain, so riders may seamlessly move from one line of the DowneyLINK to another.

For purposes of DowneyLINK's fixed "pulse routing system," the city of Downey is divided into four quadrants, or cloverleaves with each leaf a quadrant, with a bus route in each quadrant (Southeast, Southwest, Northeast, and Northwest). Each bus line meets at the Downey Transit Depot at 8150 Nance St., by the railroad tracks, so riders may transfer from one line to another and get anywhere the DowneyLINK travels.

By adding the above alteration to the DowneyLINK route, riders can take any of the other three routes and transfer to the Southeast route to arrive at the Downey Landing. In fact, the Southeast route links both the Stonewood Mall and Downey Landing together as the Southeast route goes by each destination, in addition to the downtown destination.

City offers Holiday Camp for youth

DOWNEY—The City of Downey Community Services Department is offering Holiday Camp for children ages 6-14 that will give them the opportunity to make new friends, learn new activities (games and crafts), and take a weekly excursion. The camp will be conducted by trained personnel at Wilderness Park for two weeks.

Week I will cover Dec. 19-23 with a movie excursion to Long Beach Towne Center. Week II is from Dec. 26-30 with an excursion to Huntington Beach for ice and roller skating. Camp hours are 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., with extended hours available to assist working parents. The extended hours program is from 7 a.m.-9:30 a.m. and 3:30-6 p.m. each day.

Cost for each week is \$75 for the first family member and \$70 for each additional family member. Extended camp fee is \$35 for the week, and \$30 for each additional family member.

Camp fees include materials, supervision, lunch beverage (campers are to bring a sack lunch each day), daily snack and excursion.

For information, call 904-7238.

Volunteers for cancer society sought

DOWNEY—The American Cancer Society Downey Rio Hondo Unit needs volunteers to help in the office. Training is provided. For information, call 776-0201, option 3.

The poets' corner

December Snow

In my city, a small smug one in California we do not have the glittering bouncy flakes that fall upon the burnished shingled rooftops sleeked with icy ashen wetness. Nor does one see them cascading down in rhythmic neatness of delicate dripping crystals that somehow manage to get caught unto window panes and hedges before being vanished by the sun.

No, in my town, a sunny impervious one, there is none of the nestled cotton snow clustered upon the pines so tall nor is there the ready mass of white rounded in smooth glacial ivory for spirited throwing. All the while glowing in gloved palms of unruly boys and painting a life-like scene from Currier & Ives in our very lives.

More so the pity in my city for we have learned to compensate at an alarming rate for this environmental lack and try with fervid pace through artificial means, to create what we deem a panorama of gleaming snow when we absolutely know it really is quite unreal.

But despite our illusions, this is our December snow and maybe through these delusions we can almost feel the crunch of icy crush beneath our boot and believe we see a street streaked with snowy soot and almost taste with extended tongue the frosty blossoms slush of December snow.

—Maria Ariza
Downey



COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR BONNIE KEHOE—Who recently spoke before the Downey Rotary Club, presents the first set of signed books donated by the club to Thad Philips, City Librarian. The club recognizes its weekly speaker by having him/her sign a children's book or books being donated to the Downey City Library.



NEW DUSD BOARD OF EDUCATION—President Donald E. LaPlante administers oath of office to incoming Board members Martha E. Sodetani, Barbara R. Samperi, and Nancy A. Swenson Dec. 6, which also saw the retirement of erstwhile Board member Betty Ferraro.

Pro Networkers meets Fridays

DOWNEY—Pro Networkers, a Downey-based professional business networking group, meets every Friday at 7:30 a.m. for breakfast at Mimi's Cafe, Firestone at Brookshire. For information call Barbara Briley Beard at 869-7618.



GEORGIA COVELL AND SASHA VITHOULKAS—Were chairpersons at the boutique and luncheon held on Dec. 3 by the Ladies Philoptochos Society of the Greek Orthodox Church of Downey. The festive event included carolers, children explaining how each country celebrates Christmas, and door, as well as raffle, prizes.

Keep Downey Beautiful numbers

DOWNEY—Keep Downey Beautiful, a functional arm of the City of Downey Public Works Department, has provided the following Hotline Numbers for the public's use:

- Graffiti
562-923-4484
- Shopping Carts
800-252-4613
- Illegal Dumping
562-904-1161
- Household Hazardous Waste
1-800-CLEAN-LA

Bocce every Tuesday at Apollo Park

DOWNEY—Downey Bocce Club meets at Apollo Park for games on Tuesdays at 9 a.m. Join the group by calling (714) 761-4439.

STOCKING STUFFERS
20% to 50% OFF Selected Items

Diamonds - Gold
Precious Gems
Rings- Pendants
Necklaces

ZAIN'S JEWELRY
10337 S. Lakewood Blvd., Downey
562-862-4410 - Monday to Saturday 10a.m. to 6p.m.

Y

We build strong kids,
strong families, strong
communities.

CALL 862-4201

**CLASSIFIED ADS AT
PIGGY BANK PRICES!**
904-3668

Poem

When he speaks out is actually wise and even witty.
 Roy Campos, the new Police Chief of Downey,
 Has high standards of excellence for our little towney.
 His counterpart, Mark Sauter, the Downey Fire Chief, keeps an eye on
 the weather to offer relief.
 Then there are the faces of the private sector,
 Where better to start than our "Drama Director?"
 Martha Moode who does good things with the Downey Civic Light
 Opera on stage,
 Makes sure the dramatic among us are all on the same page.
 Jane Hendrick and Joe Becker of the Nordic Fox fine,
 Offer a novel delightful place to dine.
 Harold Tsklenis serves on many city committees,
 while making it look easy as he hums a Greek ditty.
 And let us not forget the YMCA,
 With its many fine programs and games to play.
 And who could omit the Andrews Family so proud,
 Their talents and deeds stand out in any crowd.
 To John Vincent, historian, poet and so much more,
 We wish all the prizes and kudos galore.
 To Diane Boggs, still active in many local adventures,
 We wish none but the best and a profitable debenture.
 To Bob Verderber who lost his college board seat,
 "Take a rest, Robert, there are other beats."
 To Sally Havance who attended a recent School Board meeting,
 Your past accomplishments in the Assembly are worth repeating.
 To Dr. Mary Stauffer a philanthropist for sure,
 Your good works are numberless, your name will endure.
 As will that of Art Morris also known for giving,
 And Helen Hoag whose gifts are used to help the art of living.
 Other cultural forces for community well being,
 Include Steve Roberson of Century 21 for good works exceeding.
 And the Berdelis family of Prudential Real Estate,
 Should get something special on their holiday plate.
 And don't forget Carol Pearce of real estate renown,
 Her giving ways should earn her a popular crown.
 Include Downey Regional Medical Center, CareMore Medical, Financial
 Partners, and Downey Federal Savings, all of which help the community
 remain afloat.
 Each has contributed something of note.
 And let's not forget the great rehabilitation work at Rancho Los Amigos
 Center,
 The miraculous recoveries there will have few dissenters.
 To all who wish to participate in this wonderful holiday,
 and read this long poem in search of a jolly-day.
 To the service clubs, the Rotary and Elks ever ready,
 to step in and do a good deed oh so heady.
 To the tiny army of workers who help put out this paper,
 And allow me the excess of this annual poetic caper,
 And to each of our readers so learned and bright,
 Merry Christmas to all,
 and to all a good night!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:


Students get to 'mix-it-up'

Dear Editor:
 On Tuesday, Nov. 15, Sussman Middle School sponsored its first ever Mix-It-Up event along with other schools across the country. Estela Salas, a charismatic language teacher, is responsible for bringing the event to the school.
 Mix-It-Up is popular for its ability to ease the tensions sometimes felt by students representing different interests, ages, ethnicities, and so on. It aimed to foster a sense of community and caring among Sussman's sizable student population, and, as such, tied in nicely with Sussman's recent adoption of Character Counts, a character-building curriculum.
 The food and popular music helped to create a celebratory mood that nurtured positive interactions among students. An emcee encouraged those in attendance to challenge their own preconceptions of others by introducing themselves to those that they may have never considered getting to know otherwise. Several name tags were given to the students with the hope that they would trade them with each other. By the end of the event, students proudly displayed name tags, each of which represented someone new they had met. Although the long-term effects of Mix-It-Up are as yet unknown, the immediate ones aren't. When the bell rang to return to class, many students made their way through the halls with those who, just an hour before, were complete strangers.
 Who knows? For some, Mix-It-Up might prove to be the beginning of a lifelong friendship.
 —**Drew Beliakoff,**
Downey

Red Cross seeks volunteers for area

DOWNEY—The American Red Cross immediately needs volunteers to assist with blood drives in the Rio Hondo area which covers Downey and Norwalk. No experience is necessary; training is provided. Bilingual volunteers are highly encouraged to apply.
 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 1-800-498-9910, ext. 7.

The Downey Patriot

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11525 Downey Ave., Suite A, Downey, CA 90241
 Phone (562) 904-3668 * Fax (562) 904-3124
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:

For mansionization

Dear Editor:
 I have read with detached amusement the debate about mansionization in Downey and frankly I don't understand it.
 I live next door to a mansion and I am very happy that its owners invested in this structure because it is attractive to look at, has improved the neighborhood and contributed to increase house values.
 Why would anybody object to such a win/win situation?
 I believe that what is in play are the idiosyncrasies of human nature, jealousy and envy playing a big role and then there is the issue of people living in the past and unable to accept change.
 Whatever the reasons why some people show discomfort about other people's progress and economic improvement I would simply say to them, get a life and be happy that someone is willing to invest in their properties while they apparently are satisfied with the status quo.
 —**Jorge Montero,**
Downey

For those who serve

Dear Editor:
 In today's current conditions more and more employers are coming across a new form of employee leave, military leave. Financial Partners Credit Union is no exception. This past year one of our employees was called to serve for a one-year deployment to Iraq. Our existing military leave policy was severely outdated and needed to be modified quickly to inform our employee of Financial Partners' role in support.
 Our first step was researching what we were required by law to do. Under USERRA (Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994) soldiers called to active duty status are entitled to reemployment after leave and full seniority and retirement plan credits or contributions upon reemployment. However, there is no provision for paid leave under USERRA.
 Next we gathered information regarding military pay, benefits, etc. It quickly became clear that there could be a financial hardship factor we needed to consider. The employee would experience a reduction in salary once mobilized for pre-deployment training. We researched what other organizations were doing and found that 68 percent pay for difference in salary, however only a small percentage extend that coverage past the 90 day mark.
 At Financial Partners we take great care and concern for our employees, this situation was no exception. We took this issue directly to our board of directors who unanimously decided to continue pay differential for up to two years, the maximum the employee could be deployed in a five year period, and to continue raises, bonuses and retirement benefits as if the employee never left. "We all felt strongly that our employee should not suffer financially while serving our country," stated Barbara Smith, Financial Partners Board Member. "This is not a requirement by law, but something we felt was socially responsible and represented Financial Partners as a leading employer. We are proud of our employee's personal sacrifice and wanted to go above and beyond to support her," stated Nader Moghaddam, CEO, Financial Partners Credit Union.
 Our employee returned safe and sound after serving for one year in Iraq with a new loyalty towards the organization. When we support our employees through their difficult times; they will support the organization in return.
 —**Diane Jarecki,**
Vice President, Human Resources Development,
Financial Partners Credit Union

Blames illegal aliens

Dear Editor:
 Re last week's 'Cheap labor and illegal immigrants': Illegal aliens are costing us so much, we cannot afford them. Our schools are overcrowded, illegal aliens have to be taught to speak and understand English, our teachers have to know how to speak Spanish, our hospitals are closing because illegal aliens don't pay their medical bills, our jails are overcrowded, our roadways are overcrowded and are being worn out, our communities are overcrowded, illegal aliens pack into dwellings, lowering the standard of living. Illegal aliens are having babies here and their babies are put on welfare. We are paying for all of this and we cannot afford it. As a result of these illegal aliens, our taxes are way too high. How much is taken out of your paycheck for taxes?
 A country cannot exist without borders and unenforced laws! Are we to continue to reward illegal aliens by allowing them to take our jobs for low wages? In that case, they will always take our jobs because they will always work for less money. When we give them a cheap college education they will take our professional jobs as well.
 Don't insult Americans by saying that we won't take certain low wage jobs. Who do you think does these jobs in states where there are no illegal aliens?
 —**El Bee,**
Downey

Dear Editor:
 Mr. Montero is right when he wrote, "Illegal immigrants perform an important service picking fruit, digging ditches, working in WalMart, etc., that Americans are not willing to do."
 However, an estimated 84 hospitals are closing due to non-payment by immigrants, causing doctors and nurses to quit their profession and creating a serious shortage. Mexican immigrants send home an estimated \$13 billion yearly, enriching Mexico's economy but adversely affecting ours and placing a burden on taxpayers, along with an ever-increasing number of their school children that require additional class space and teachers. With no check at the borders, dangerous diseases we had once conquered, such as malaria, have returned with a vengeance, and L.A.'s most violent gangs are 80 percent illegal immigrants, according to the police.
 Mr. Montero, this is not a racial thing, the same thing would happen if immigrants were Irish, English, etc., and overwhelmed our system. It has been said if a country can't control its borders, you and I will eventually have no country.
 —**J. Hawkins,**
Downey

Council agendas available online

DOWNEY – Complete City Council and Community Development Commission agendas and minutes can be accessed on the City of Downey website at www.downeyca.org.
 Council and commission meetings are held on the second and fourth Tuesdays of every month at 7:15 p.m. in the Council Chambers of Downey City Hall.

CORRECTION: The lady on extreme left in a photo in last week's *The Downey Patriot*, showing Curves owner Dionne Bassano handing a check donation to Brent Shubin for G.O.O.D. (Gangs Out of Downey), is not Jan Simon. We regret the error.

SPEED BUMP



DAVE COVERLY



Downey Community Calendar

Events For December

Fri. Dec. 16, 7:30 p.m.: **"The Nutcracker"** ballet presentation of the Southern California Dance Theater on stage at the Downey Theater, Firestone at Brookshire. Also playing Saturday. For information and tickets call 496-1766.
 Fri. Dec. 16, 6:30 p.m.: **Shawn Morgan entertains** at the keyboard with popular hits at Granata's restaurant, 11032 Downey Ave. Also Saturday night For information call 861-2997.

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., 7:30 p.m.: **Downey Model A Club**, at Gallatin School Cafeteria, for information call 928-4132.
 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 Sambi'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.

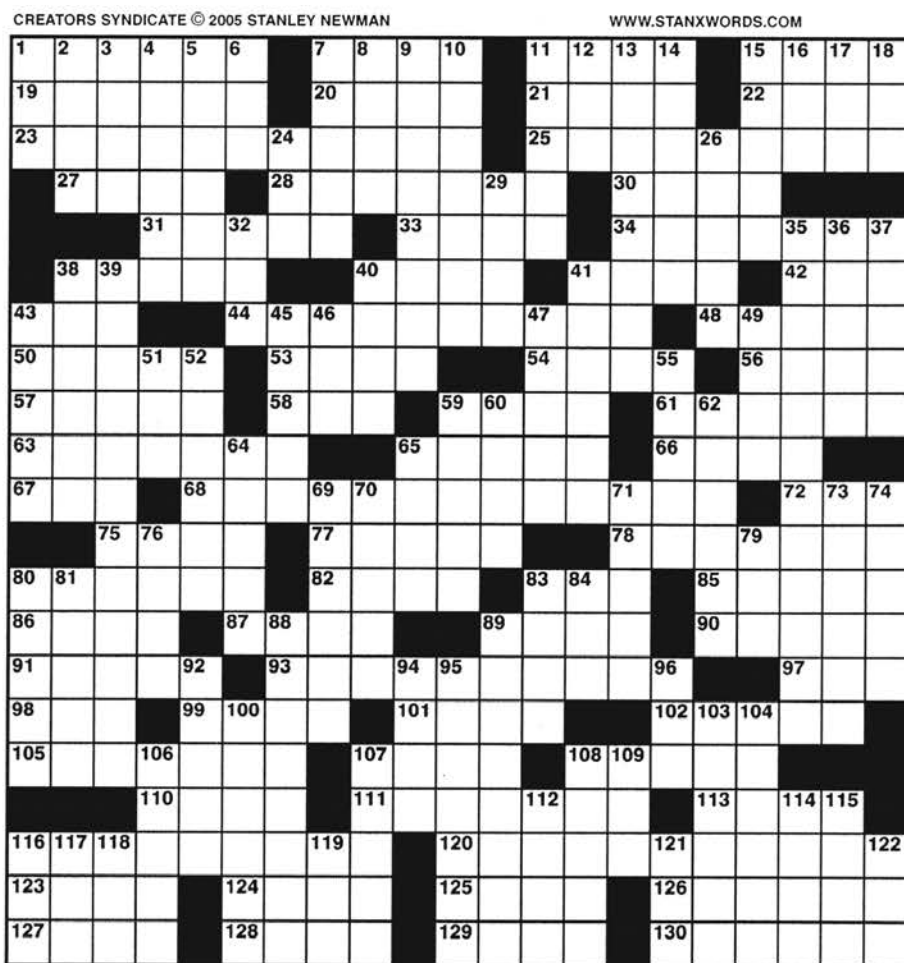
WANT TO GET INVOLVED?
VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES ARE YOURS
 CALL THE
DOWNEY FAMILY YMCA
 (562) 862-4201

THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com)

HEAD WORK: Where the theme clues have something in common
 by Fred Piscop

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| ACROSS | 75 Cape Fear's loc. | 5 Joust contestant |
| 1 Centers | 77 Box-score notation | 6 Costa del ___ |
| 7 Lobster-house handouts | 78 Lifeguard, at times | 7 Rum cakes |
| 11 Drops from the team | 80 Starlit girl of song | 8 Nest eggs, for short |
| 15 White-hat wearer | 82 Club revenue | 9 Peripheral roads |
| 19 Actor Estevez | 83 Yes, in Yokohama | 10 Very prominent |
| 20 Surface calculation | 85 "___ a stinker?" | 11 Missile in Scottish games |
| 21 "Rush!" | 86 Guessimate words | 12 Put to work |
| 22 Subtle glow | 87 Swedish import | 13 More gaudy |
| 23 RedHEAD of early TV | 89 High wind | 14 Like many churches |
| 25 Agnes MooreHEAD sitcom | 90 Helps oneself to | 15 Prickly flora |
| 27 "Keep it" notation | 91 Chewy sweet | 16 "Say what?" |
| 28 Solving puzzles, say | 93 LetterHEAD, e.g. | 17 Before, in verse |
| 30 "Phooey!" | 97 Language suffix | 18 Passing rage |
| 31 Road rigs | 98 GP grp. | 24 Prefix with gram |
| 33 Have on | 99 Ballpark receipts | 26 Chaucer collection |
| 34 Dependent | 101 Sailed through | 29 Moonshine ingredient |
| 38 "Father" word form | 102 Goolagong rival | 32 Bad start? |
| 40 Opposite of <i>avec</i> | 105 Troublesome computer programs | 35 Father-in-law of "MeatHEAD" |
| 41 ___ one's time (wait) | 107 Big galoots | 36 More cordial |
| 42 Carnival city | 108 Way up or down | 37 Whistle blasts |
| 43 Yearbook sect. | 110 Baltic feeder | 38 Magician's word |
| 44 Number of gallons commonly in a hogsHEAD | 111 Kerr of film | 39 When a foreHEAD may be marked |
| 48 Defendant of 1927 | 113 Witty Bombeck | 40 108 Across part |
| 50 Conductor born in Bombay | 116 What a thunderHEAD forebodes | 41 One of the Fab Four |
| 53 Tuckers out | 120 <i>BridesHEAD Revisited</i> author | 43 Pulverize |
| 54 Galley implements | 123 One way to run | 45 Sits in neutral |
| 56 Put an edge on | 124 "Howdy!" | 46 Top-of-dial numeral |
| 57 City on the Nile | 125 Monopoly payment | 47 Stirrs up |
| 58 Back talk | 126 Basketball position | 49 Blow away |
| 59 Slaving away | 127 Lollobrigida of film | 51 Roofer's gunk |
| 61 Group possessive | 128 Yemeni port | 52 Brutish sort |
| 63 Germ-free | 129 <i>Black Mesa</i> author | 55 68 Across, for one |
| 65 Lagoon locale | 130 Walter's concerns | 59 One of the Musketeers |
| 66 Man Friday | | 60 Promote a book, maybe |
| 67 Brick hauler | | 62 Threaten, snake-style |
| 68 Where MarbleHEAD is | | 64 "___ Theme" (<i>Doctor Zhivago</i> tune) |
| 72 Swimsuit part | | 65 Plot unit |



- | | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| 69 Make calm | 88 Minor planet | 108 Like bar snacks |
| 70 Island near Venezuela | 89 Reviews | 109 Quaker pronoun |
| 71 Judge, at times | 92 "Holy cow!" | 112 Philosopher Descartes |
| 73 Give a makeup to | 94 Sprinter's goal | 114 Trumpet accessory |
| 74 Greet the day | 95 Glacier offshoot | 115 Golden-___ (senior) |
| 76 Drain problem | 96 Assenting vote | 116 Cleaning cloth |
| 79 Secretive org. | 100 Franklin of soul | 117 "How ___ doing?" |
| 80 Comfy furniture | 103 Tube watcher | 118 Charged particle |
| 81 Hearts, at times | 104 Gofer's task | 119 Bourbon alternative |
| 83 Distribute, with "out" | 106 Fictional candymaker | 121 Sgt., for example |
| 84 Brewpub offering | 107 Jingle writer | 122 Baseball-card abbr. |

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 user's knowledge. of a computer's operation without were that can take partial control. SPYWARE (105 Across) is software that elapses between rainfalls, is one of the most arid spots on the planet. (57 Across), where years may elapse between rainfalls, is one of the most arid spots on the planet. Philharmonic and the New York Philharmonic, the Los Angeles Symphony, the Los Angeles Philharmonic and the New York Philharmonic and the New York Philharmonic has headed the Montreal Conductor Zubin MEHTA (50 Across).



'Christmas with the Choralaires' Dec. 17-18

WHITTIER—Tickets are still available for the Choralaires Barbershop Chorus' annual Christmas show, "Christmas With the Choralaires," to be held Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 17-18, at the Whittier Center Theater, located at the Whittier Community Center, 7630 Washington Ave. in uptown Whittier.

The family-oriented show features traditional music of the season including such favorites as "White Christmas," "Jingle Bells," and "Winter Wonderland," as well as many familiar sacred carols, sung in 4-part Barbershop harmony. All members of the family can join in the sing-a-long at the end of the show.

There will be two performances Dec. 17, one at 2 p.m. and the other at 7 p.m. The Sunday performance is at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$13 for adults and \$5 for children under 13 years of age. Free refreshments will be served at intermission. There will be a drawing for door prizes, donated by local businesses. All seats are reserved and the theater doors open 30 minutes before curtain time.

For tickets/information, call (562) 923-5951 or (562) 879-1404, or visit www.choralaires.org, or e-mail tickets@choralaires.org.

'A Christmas Song' tonight

BELLFLOWER—The Bellflower Civic Chorus presents its annual Christmas Concert, "A Christmas Song," at the William Bristol Civic Auditorium, 16660 Civic Center Drive in Bellflower, Friday, Dec. 16 at 7 p.m., and Saturday, Dec. 17 and Sunday, Dec. 18, both at 2:30 p.m.

To be sung in the first half of the program are such traditional carols as "Do you Hear What I Hear?", "O Holy Night," "Who's that Baby?", and "Angels We Have Heard On High." Also, to mark the season of Hanukkah, the chorus will render "Happy Hanukkah, My Friend."

The second half of the concert will feature a more contemporary sound with some fun songs, including "A Holly Jolly Christmas," "I'm Getting Nuttin' For Christmas," "Jolly Old St. Nicholas," and "'Twas the Night After Christmas."

Concert narrator will be Gregg Nighswonger, with Bill Jones directing and Chris Squires on piano and synthesizer. Adding their own instrumental talents will be Dan Kilduff on bass and Jan Pospisil on drums.

All seating is \$5. For information/advance ticket sales, contact (562) 866-4664 or (323) 569-5930.

Afternoon bingo with Woman's Club

DOWNEY—The woman's Club of Downey meets for bingo every Thursday afternoon at their headquarters, 9813 Paramount Blvd. Call 927-3000 for information.



LAST CHANCE – Playing the last time until after the holidays, Rob Syphax will entertain on Sunday, Dec. 18 at 6 p.m. at the Nordic Fox, 10924 Paramount Blvd. He sings and plays acoustic guitar with hits of the '70's and '80's. For information, call 869-1414.

'Nonsense' to play the DCLO

DOWNEY—Marsha Moode, executive director of the Downey Civic Light Opera, has announced the second production of the 2005-06 season.

"Nonsense," the side-splitting comedy about a talent show staged by the Little Sisters of Hoboken to pay for the burial of one of their own (accidentally poisoned by the convent chef), has delighted audiences Catholic and non-denominational for decades. Playing dates are February 23 – March 12, 2006.

For ticket information, call 923-1714. Group discounts are available.

Southeast Entertainment touring Vegas

DOWNEY—Southeast Entertainment is taking sign-ups for its three-day, two-night Las Vegas Tour Jan 10-12. The group will stay at the Plaza Hotel and Casino in Downtown Las Vegas.

Price is \$120 per person, double occupancy, and includes transportation, deluxe rooms, baggage handling and taxes. The bus boards Jan. 10 at 5:30 a.m. and returns Jan. 12 at 5 p.m.

For reservations, call 923-1755.

Unique gift idea offered

DOWNEY—Downey Civic Light Opera is offering special gift certificates for this season's two remaining musicals, "Hello Dolly" and "Nunsense."

Marsha Moode, executive producer for DCLO, said "Free parking and Broadway-quality productions in the Downey Theater make our gift certificates a holiday surprise friends and family will really appreciate and enjoy next year." For information, call 923-1714.

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KING KONG PG13	(12:00 4:00) 8:00
FAMILY STONE PG13	(12:00 2:35) 5:10 7:45 10:20
CHRONICLES OF NARNIA PG	(10:15 1:20 4:25) 7:35 10:35
CHRONICLES OF NARNIA PG	(11:15 2:20) 5:25 8:30
SYRIANA R	(10:25 1:30 4:35) 7:40 10:45
AEON FLUX PG13	(10:15 12:45 3:15) 5:45 8:15 10:45
IN THE MIX PG13	(12:00 4:00) 8:00
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* **KING KONG PG-13** (10:00, 11:00, 2:00, 3:00), 6:05, 7:00, 10:00, 11:00 (ON 2 SCREENS)
* **THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA: THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE PG** (11:30, 12:30, 2:45, 3:45), 6:15, 7:10, 9:30, 10:20 (ON 2 SCREENS)
SYRIANA R (11:00, 1:50, 4:40), 7:35, 10:25
AEON FLUX PG-13 (11:50, 2:20, 4:50), 7:40, 10:00
JUST FRIENDS PG-13 (11:35, 2:05, 4:35), 7:50, 10:25
YOURS, MINE & OURS PG (11:40, 1:55, 4:25), 7:15, 9:35
HARRY POTTER AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE PG-13 (11:45, 3:30), 7:05, 10:30

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

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Services today for Elizabeth D. Bullock

DOWNEY—Services will be held today, Dec. 16 at 10 a.m. at Inglewood Park Cemetery in Inglewood for Elizabeth D. Bullock, who was born in Ladysmith, Wisconsin to James and Mary Louise Dec. 15, 1915, and passed away in Hawaiian Gardens on Dec. 11. She was just shy of her 90th birthday.

She is survived by her brother Noel and his wife, Creszentia, as well as many nieces and nephews.

Downey Zrelak Family Mortuary is assisting with funeral arrangements.

Eaters Anonymous meetings

DOWNEY – Compulsive Eaters Anonymous is a group of men and women that have found relief from eating disorders of compulsive eating, Bulimia and anorexia, who hold three weekly meetings in Downey.

There are no dues or fees. The only requirement is a desire to stop eating compulsively.

For information call Marie Augimeri at 884-5799.

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KAYE PATTON—Was 64 when she passed away on Dec. 10. She was active with the Downey 1st Ward, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Services held for Kaye Patton, 64

DOWNEY—Longtime Downey resident Kaye Patton, who was an active member of the Downey 1st Ward, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, passed away at her home on Dec. 10. She was 64.

Services were held yesterday, Dec. 15 at the Ward, followed by interment at Rose Hills Memorial Park in Whittier.

Born June 24, 1941 in Provo, Utah, she held memberships in Toastmasters and Love Yourself Foundation and was a hospice volunteer.

She is survived by her husband of 35 years, Richard Patton of Downey; daughters Robyn McNair of Temecula, Holly O’Farrell of Idyllwild, Stacy Walker of Sandy, Utah and Nicole Harper of Fallbrook; sons Scott Patton of Mission Viejo and Rich Patton of Downey; and 11 grandchildren.

Assisting the family with arrangements was Allen-English & Estrada Funeral Service.

Sponsors sought for ‘adopt-a-family’

HUNTINGTON PARK—The Salvation Army-Southeast Communities Corps invites individuals and businesses to sign up as a sponsor in its Adopt-A-Family program, to spread some Christmas cheer at Christmastime.

Each year, The Salvation Army helps families in crisis enjoy Christmas. The families who seek The Salvation Army’s help face medical emergencies or financial hardships and are unable to afford a Christmas dinner or toys for their children. Some have fallen ill and have no medical insurance; others have been laid off from their jobs. The Salvation Army provides assistance for many families but they can’t help every one. Hence the Adopt-A-family program.

Sponsors 1) select a family of their choice and provide the family with gifts of food, toys, gift certificates, clothing or other items (families range from two to ten members per household: no used items, please); 2) wrap the gifts in holiday baskets or boxes. Each adopted family’s identity is confidential. An identification number is assigned to each family and every basket or box should be marked with the family’s identification number; 3) deliver the family’s gifts to Southeast Communities Corps, 2965 E. Gage Ave., Huntington Park. Delivery dates are Dec. 19-22.

For information, contact Lt. Gilbert Reyes at (323) 587-4221.

Bellflower Chorus seeks singers

BELLFLOWER – The Bellflower Civic Chorus seeks singers for its 35-member mixed ensemble. Sopranos and tenors are particularly sought.

Rehearsals are held Tuesday evenings from 7:00 – 9:30 p.m. at Simms Park, 16614 S. Clark Ave., in Bellflower.

Help clean up streets of Downey

DOWNEY – Keep Downey Beautiful is searching for volunteers to help with local clean-up projects throughout the year. Sign up to help by calling 904-7159.

Toastmasters 587 meet Tuesdays

DOWNEY – Toastmasters International, Club 587, meets every Tuesday from 6-7:30 p.m. in room 115 at Downey First Baptist Church.

TOPS meets weekly at First Baptist

DOWNEY – Downey TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) CA, whose overriding purpose is to help men and women of all ages shed excess poundage, meets Mondays from 6:30-8 p.m. at First Baptist Church of Downey, 8348 Third St.

Part of an international organization, the local chapter says there are no gimmicks, no harsh diets or exercises involved in their weight loss program – just “lots of support, motivation, and fun.” For more information, call Lou at 861-9425 or Suky at (323) 560-6576.

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Fibromyalgia?

DOWNEY – A new, free report has recently been released that reveals the “untold story” behind fibromyalgia pain. Fibromyalgia misdiagnosis and mistreatment is rampant and leads to countless years of unnecessary suffering. This free report reveals a natural procedure that is giving fibromyalgia sufferers their “lives back.”- with “miraculous” results for many. If you suffer from fibromyalgia you need this no B.S., no “gimmicks” free report that is giving hope to fibromyalgia sufferers everywhere. For your free copy, call toll-free 1-888-368-6265, 24 hr. recorded message.

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SEND DONATIONS TO:
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Social phobics sought for anxiety study

BRENTWOOD—The Child OCD, Anxiety and Tic Disorders Program at UCLA's Semel Institute seeks children and adolescents ages 7-17 with social phobia, separation anxiety or generalized anxiety disorders for a multisite study evaluating the effectiveness of psychotherapy and medication treatments.

Eligible participants will be randomly assigned for up to nine months at no cost to one of four treatment conditions: cognitive-behavioral, or talk, therapy; the medication Zoloft; a combination of cognitive-behavioral therapy and Zoloft; or placebo, a pill with inactive ingredients.

For more information, call Joyce Lee at (310) 825-4132. The study is funded by the National Institute of Mental Health. The principal investigator is John Piacentini, director of the program and professor-in-residence of psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences at the Semel Institute at UCLA. Other sites involved in the study include Columbia, Duke and Johns Hopkins universities.

Although some fears and worries are a normal part of childhood, various forms of anxiety can be a serious problem for up to 10 percent of school-aged youngsters.

Social phobia involves fear of social or performance situations. Children with social phobia usually appear as extremely shy and self-conscious with peers or with adults. They may avoid situations that might lead to embarrassment or looking foolish and this can prevent participation in common activities including speaking, eating or writing in front of others.

Some individuals with social phobia seem to lack good social or interaction skills that may contribute to their anxiety about social situations. Extreme social anxiety sometimes results in failure to speak when away from home. This is referred to as selective mutism.



THE 'DOWNEY GIRLS'—Are Downey AYSO 2005 U10 champions. From left, front row: Daniela Rangel, Braylyn Bennett, Elli Spain; middle row: Brianna Sanchez, Laura Aquije, Elvira Morales, Samantha Sandoval, Brittany Reyes; back row: Assistant Coach Jose Reyes, Tiffany Flores, Marissa Santana, Alicia Duran, Coach Dennis Spain.

Antique and collectible market Dec. 18

LONG BEACH—The Antique & Collectible Market, which offers over 20 acres of antiques, collectibles, home furnishings, decorative items and other unique bargains, is having its Christmas Sale Sunday, Dec. 18 at the Long Beach Veterans Stadium, Lakewood Blvd. and Conant St. It's open from 7 a.m.-2 p.m.

Admission is \$5; children under 12 are free. There is free parking. Information: (323) 655-5703.

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NEW LAW OFFICE OPENS—Alex Saab, a Downey resident for over 23 years, recently opened his own law practice at the corner of Paramount Blvd. and 4th St. A graduate of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, St. John Bosco H.S., UC-Irvine and Loyola Law School, his experience includes working at the I.N.S., United States Attorney's Office and the Los Angeles District Attorney's office. His practice is in such areas as immigration, criminal law, living trusts, and others. He can be reached at 904-2622.

Diverse 'holiday celebration' in L.A.

LOS ANGELES—The Los Angeles County Arts Commission presents a free, six-hour extravaganza, its 46th annual "L.A. County Holiday Celebration," Saturday, Dec. 24 from 3-9 p.m. at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion of the Music Center, 135 N. Grand Ave. in downtown Los Angeles.

Called L.A.'s biggest holiday show, it features music, song, and dance, with more than 40 musical ensembles, choirs and dance companies participating—about 1,500 performers in all—reflecting the geographic and ethnic diversity that defines Los Angeles.

Doors open at 2:30 p.m., and patrons may come and go throughout the performance. Reservations for tickets to the show or parking (both free) are not necessary. Those who can't make it to the Music Center can watch the live broadcast of Holiday Celebration on KCET.

Information: (213) 972-3099, or www.holidaycelebration.org.

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FEMA hotel/motel program extended

OAKLAND—The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) today approved the state of California's request for an extension of its program using federal funds to provide temporary hotel and motel housing for Hurricane Katrina and Rita evacuees. As one of 10 states housing a high concentration of the evacuee population nationwide, California was eligible for an additional extension. The hotel/motel program now will end Jan. 7, 2006; it was to have ended yesterday, Dec. 15, 2005, in the state of California.

Other states eligible to request the Jan. 7 extension were: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, Nevada, Tennessee and Texas.

Federal Coordinating Officer for the California recovery operation Karen E. Armes approved the extension following receipt of a housing placement plan and timeline from the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (OES). The extension was approved to accommodate efforts to move all evacuees out of hotels and into apartments and longer-term housing.

FEMA continues to reach out to evacuees through public service announcements, local media, and by distributing flyers to evacuees in hotels and motels to provide them with further information about the assistance they may be eligible for and help in finding longer-term housing as needed. Evacuees are being contacted directly by state, voluntary organizations and FEMA representatives visiting hotels and motels. FEMA has also set up a housing referral service.

Evacuees who need help finding longer-term housing may contact FEMA's housing locator service at 1-800-762-8740 or TTY 1-800-462-7585, open daily from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. EDT. For other forms of assistance and questions, evacuees may contact FEMA's help line at 1-800-621-FEMA (3362) or TTY 1-800-462-7585.

For individuals and families who were displaced from federally subsidized low-income housing by Hurricane Katrina and Rita, the Department of Housing and Urban Development has a housing program available. To learn more, call 1-866-373-9509 or TTY 1-800-877-8339.

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Fly Fishers invite residents to join club

DOWNEY – Downey Fly Fishers, a member of the Federation of Fly Fishers, invites new members to their monthly meetings, held the second Tuesday of every month at 7 p.m. at Apollo Park. For information, call 943-3904.

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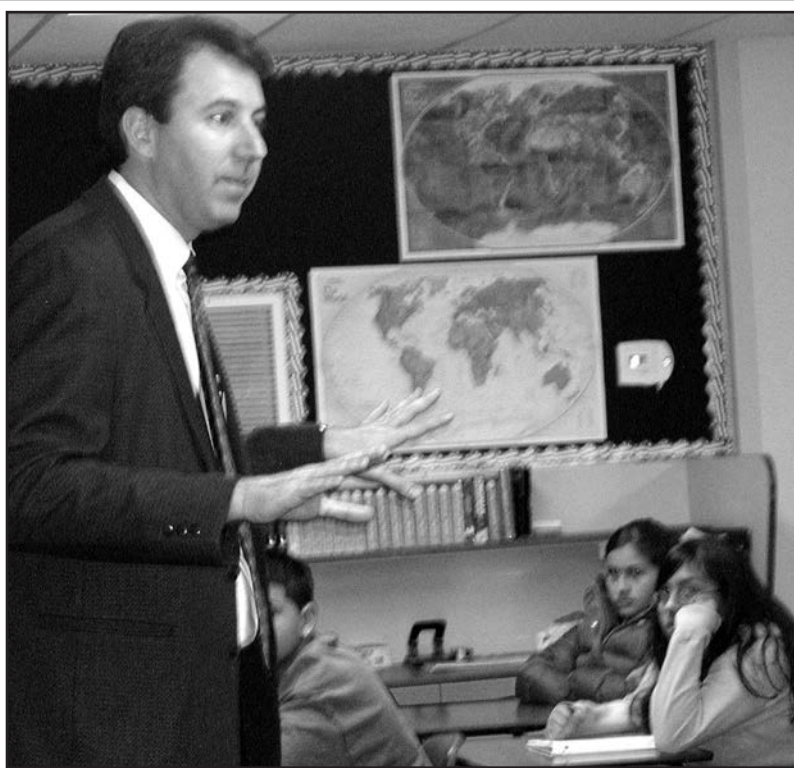
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Warren senior explores the atomic world

By Cyndi Guajardo,
 Warren High School Counselor

DOWNEY—Nanotechnology, most likely, is not the hot topic being discussed among America's high school students. Instead, one would most likely overhear the latest gossip on who's dating whom, who had the happening party, and Friday night's football game. However, when you meet 12th grader Robert Webster, the conversation takes on quite a different tone. Sure, he's also hip to whether or not his high school football, the Warren Bears, defeated their cross-town rival. But he's also incredibly aware of the latest advancements in science and technology.

Robert spent a week of his summer vacation doing something out of the ordinary. He was one of twenty-five high school students selected to participate in UC-Riverside's "Frontiers in Nanotechnology," a program which gives middle and high school students the opportunity to participate in hands-on nanotechnological projects. Thanks to the collaboration of the numerous professors specializing in nanotechnological research and affiliated fields of science, the program, sponsored by DARPA (the Defense Advanced Research Project Agency) and DMEA (Defense Microelectronic Activity Center), has allowed Robert and the rest of the high school students the ability to further their knowledge in the subject working alongside top UC-Riverside professors and college students. Robert was able to create single-walled carbon nanotubes, as well as conduct research on how to better purify methods for the nanotubes.

So what is "nanotechnology" exactly? It's basically a phrase for materials and devices that operate at the nanoscale, roughly 10-1 meters, about 50,000 times smaller than the width of a human hair. Well, if you're like most, you're probably not any closer to understanding this particular brand of science. It's probably easier to understand nanotechnology's effect on our future than to understand its meaning. As many know, with the passing of time, technology has allowed things to be smaller, hence the production of such items like the popular Apple ipod. However, there are limits as to how small humans can make things. That was until nanotechnology opened the door to the atomic world and furthered the human voyage into greater technological and biological advances.

Robert was fortunate enough to turn his week-long involvement in the program into something long-term.

"It was a case of being in the right place at the right time," says Robert. Students were given the opportunity to apply to the program and continue working with professors when the week was over. Robert, however, was lucky enough to have a cousin who attended UC-Riverside concurrently and was able to introduce Robert to his professors. He spent a few hours everyday working with his cousin after the program, and with the approval of Dr. Robert Haddon, head of the Center for Nanoscale Science and Engineering, and Dr. Mikhail E. Itkis, Senior Development Engineer, was allowed to stay the rest of the summer and work with the research group.

Robert says that the knowledge he has acquired from working with the professors and grad students at UC-Riverside has reinforced his decision to continue with his research and to eventually pursue a career in aerospace engineering, hopefully at the California Institute of Technology.

"The cutting edge technological atmosphere, along with the fact that I was able to hang out with college grad students, made the whole experience one that will impact me for the rest of my life."

Robert was recently named "Student of the Month" at Warren High, which is quite an honor when you consider he attends school with a student body of about 3,500. He is a straight A student, with a 4.6 grade point average, and has two years of nanotechnology research under his belt; it is easy to see that this future Warren High School graduate is destined for great things.



IN HIS ELEMENT—Warren High senior Robert Webster, exposed to the latest advances in nanotechnological research when he spent the summer at UC-Riverside, hopes to major in aerospace engineering at Caltech.

Darren Doherty golf tourney Dec. 23

DOWNEY – The 1st annual Darren Doherty Memorial Golf Tournament, to benefit Darren's high school, St. John Bosco in Bellflower, takes place Friday, Dec. 23 at Rio Hondo Golf Club in Downey.

Participation fee is \$100, which includes green fees, golf cart and lunch. Prizes will be offered. Tee time is 8 a.m.

RSVP to Hubert, (562) 787-2905, or e-mail Hubert7340@aol.

Diabetes support group at DRMC

DOWNEY – Downey Regional Medical Center hosts a diabetes support group the third Wednesday of every month at 7 p.m. For information, call 622-2088.

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Cerritos College celebrates 50 years in the making:

Transformation and innovation

NORWALK—The 1990s could best be described as a decade of diversity and transformation. The college continued to experience a shift in the diversity of its student population—an ongoing trend since the mid-1970s—as well as in the programs offered. “The most significant change I experienced at Cerritos was the move in demographics from an almost totally Caucasian student body to what is currently one of the most diverse of any in the nation,” says Dean Paige, a professor at the college from 1964 to 1992.

Biology professor John Boyle (hired in 1974) also experienced this change. “When I came to Cerritos, the student body was virtually 100 percent Caucasian and quite conservative. Students were primarily the sons and daughters of Dutch dairy farmers and suburbanites who had moved to the area following WWII and the Korean War. The student body today is far more diverse—ethnically, linguistically, and economically.”

The changing student body included former stay-at-home “housewives” returning to school and creating new identities in the process. This move was eloquently described in a 1987 award-winning student essay written by Dorothy “Dodie” O’Donnell, housewife, mother of four teenagers, and cancer survivor. She bravely conquered her anxiety of re-entering school.

From the beginning, she let Maureen May—who was the Re-Entry Resource Specialist/Gender Equity Coordinator at the time—know that she only wanted “to take a few classes and not get involved.” To her surprise and pleasure, O’Donnell found herself immersed in college activities and a brand new life. “So here I am: liberated, becoming educated, and more fulfilled than I ever dreamed...” she confided in her essay. Today, O’Donnell is part of the Cerritos College family as the Faculty Senate secretary.

Other women were inspired by Kathy Spillar—founder of the Feminist Majority Foundation—who gave the 1998 keynote address for Women’s History Month, urging the creation of an activist club—the Feminist Majority Leadership Alliance. The purpose of the alliance was to protest the repression of women in Afghanistan, and address other concerns of women.

Dr. Ernest Martinez emphasized the importance of responding to the changing student population and focused campus attention on diversity issues during his term as president/superintendent. He came to Cerritos after serving as president of Seattle Central Community College. “One of the reasons I chose Cerritos College was because it had such a diverse population,” Martinez said. Martinez left Cerritos College in July 1992. The following year Dr. Walter C. Magnuson served as interim president/superintendent until Dr. Fred Gaskin became president on July 1, 1993.

College gets a face lift

In the spring of 1992, the college began a major renovation of the library. The upgrades to the library included an expansion from 22,000 square feet to more than 40,000 square feet, increased student accessibility with the placement of an assistance desk at the center of the library, and the replacement of card stacks with user-friendly computer catalogs. The addition of carpeting and acoustically treated walls was expected to enhance the learning environment, along with a variety of study areas including small study rooms, study carrels, comfortable reading chairs and library tables.

Among the most impressive additions was a Teleconference Center in the east wing of the library. A state-of-the-art projection facility hooked up to a satellite dish, the center accommodates classes or events of 100 plus, enabling professors, panelists, and guest speakers to deliver their lectures or messages via satellite to a remote audience often on the other side of the world.

In 1994 the new library was dedicated and renamed the Wilford Michael Library and Learning Resource Center (LRC), honoring Dr. Wilford Michael. “The opening of the Wilford Michael Library and Learning Resource Center signaled a significant shift in the way the college intended to approach instruction. It provided an expanded platform for our use of instructional technology,” recalls John Boyle, professor of biology.

By fall 1998, equipped with more than 500 high-speed personal computers and 699 data ports, the second phase of the library renovation project was completed. The dual-level computer labs provided students with access to the latest software, the Internet, and tutorial programs. In addition, new labs for Reading, Math, English and Foreign Languages opened for student use.

The renovation of the LRC was part of a \$12 million investment in technology infrastructure to support teaching and learning that included the “wiring” of the entire campus, and the placement of a networked PC on the desk of every employee. College president Fred Gaskin began referring to the college as the “most technologically advanced community college in the state.”

Additional structural transformations occurred on campus. The Student Center was remodeled in 1995 with funding from a three-way partnership among the ASCC, the college district, and the state. The facility was completely remodeled from the main floor to the adjacent Culinary Arts food service area. The refurbishment included a multi-vendor food court with both indoor and outdoor casual dining for students.

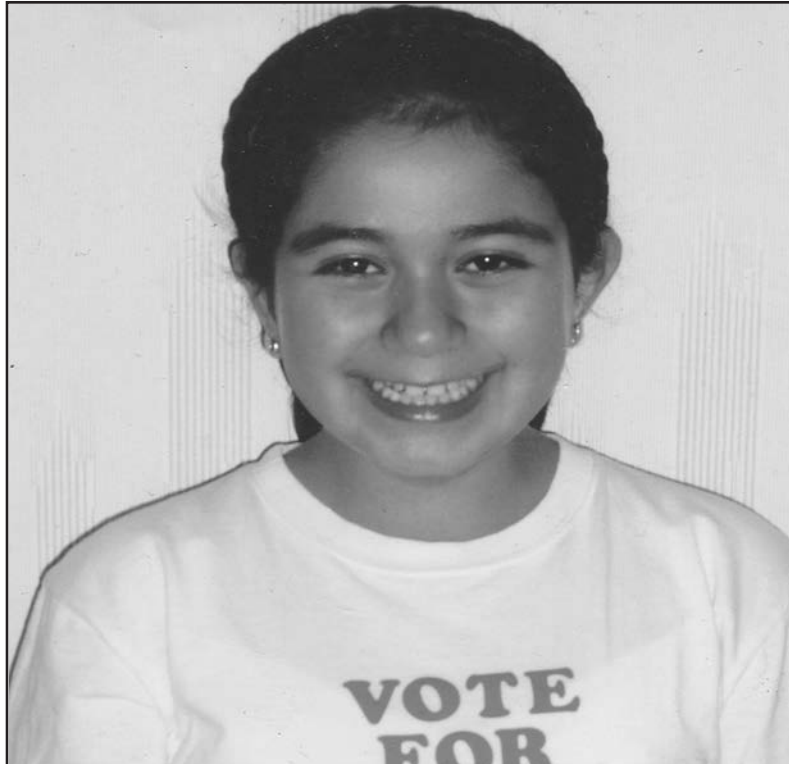
The College continued its surge of renovations to improve student service and access. In fall 1998, the campus opened the “One-Stop” Student Services Center. The new center housed a variety of student resources including Admissions and Records, Academic Counseling, Financial Aid, the Scholars’ Honors Program, Veteran’s Affairs, EOPS (Extended Opportunities Programs and Services), and the Transfer Center. In addition, the Career Services and Job Placement Centers were relocated within a short distance of the “One-Stop,” making this the central hub of Student Service and enrollment activities.

The “One-Stop” renovation demonstrated the college commitment to a student-centered campus, making student service and the enrollment experience more centrally located and convenient. “The Student Services areas blossomed and offered a multitude of services outside the classroom that help make students more successful inside the classroom. Student Services became more closely linked to learning,” says Dr. Fran Newman, former vice president of Student Services (1972-1992).

In 1999, the ASCC underwrote the development of Falcon Square, which had been a large, empty concrete space at the center of the campus. The renovation of Falcon Square created areas where students could relax, socialize, or study, and added a central fountain with sitting space. This renovation project also created a 300-seat outdoor amphitheater adjacent



THE SILVER BLAZERS—Are the 2005 Downey AYSO (Under 10 Boys, Division 5) champions. From left, top row: George Wickens, Andrew Madrigal, Christian Gonzales, Nestor Calderon, Jonathan Zarate, Coach Carlos Madrigal; bottom row: Jacob Ruiz, Antoni Ramirez, Isaias Rodriguez, Issac Lopez, Jonathan Gonzalez.



ELECTION WINNER—With her slogan “Makes cents to vote for” and her promise to “keep the cash flowing,” Mariah Montero was elected Treasurer of the Student Council at Rio Hondo Elementary School. She is on the school’s honor roll and has been elected a Good Citizen for four consecutive years.

to the music building. According to professor emeritus Juliette Venitsky (1957-1984), “These additions were among the original plans foreseen by Dr. Burnight.”

On the court

College sports were off to a great start in the early 1990s as the women’s volleyball team earned successive South Coast Conference (SCC) titles and became the reigning state champions by fall 1992. During the team’s journey to the top, Falcon volleyball co-coaches Jeanine Prindle and Nancy Welliver were acknowledged for their achievement with a Co-Coach of the Year award in the SCC. It was the second time in three years the two coaches had earned this distinction.

Additionally, several international student-athletes made their way to Cerritos College to compete in wrestling. During this time, three international student-athletes were named All-American, while six earned state championships. The college continued to lead the state in all-time state champions as its total increased to 37 by the end of the decade.

Dominating the 1990s, the women’s basketball team became a state power. Led by Head Coach Karen Welliver, the team finished no lower than second place in the conference nine out of 10 years, winning the conference championship three times.

Falcon football opened with two championships in the new Mission Conference. The 1990s also saw the creation of the Cerritos Strawberry Bowl and four bowl championships for the college. Five former players came back to the program to serve as assistant coaches. Also, the football program sent 162 players on to four-year universities in the decade, including offensive lineman Tupe Peko (1997-1988), now playing for the NFL’s Carolina Panthers.

The decade also included the retirement of men’s basketball coach Jack Bogdanovich at the conclusion of the 1998 season. In his 15-year career, he led his Falcon teams to three state championships, 10 conference championships and a 411-91 record. Another legend in the athletic program, Nancy Kelly, also retired as softball’s head coach. She ended her 23-year career with 502 wins and five conference titles. Later, Coach Kelly’s dedication to the softball program she had founded, as well as her devotion to students, prompted the college in February 2001 to rename the softball field the Nancy Kelly Field.

Global impact

With the aid of technology, the college began to cultivate global partnerships. In 1999, a partnership began between Cerritos and the University of Wisconsin Stout (UW-Stout), which allowed both colleges to hold joint classes in real time with the use of a TV screen and the Internet. History class discussions focusing on the Civil Rights movement were particularly interesting as students from the diverse community at Cerritos had the opportunity to share perspectives and opinions with their predominantly Caucasian UW-Stout counterparts.

In addition, this partnership with UW-Stout—and four years later another with International Pacific College in New Zealand—presented a handful of Cerritos students with an opportunity to visit these partner campuses and experience the cultural differences first hand.

In May 1999, Cerritos College partnered with CSU-Long Beach to establish the Teacher TRAC (Training Academy) program. Once they have transferred to CSULB Cerritos students have the opportunity to complete their Bachelor of Arts degree, student teaching, and teaching credential in two years, instead of the traditional minimum of three years. Sue Parsons, director of Teacher TRAC, ensures that this program is designed to help students realize their goal of becoming a teacher—wherever their journey at Cerritos begins.

“The Teacher TRAC students are my inspiration,” says Parsons. “Their dedication and perseverance is incredible. There is a saying, ‘To teach, is to touch lives, forever.’ The Teacher TRAC students touch our lives as I know they will touch the lives of many children.”

Teacher TRAC faculty are committed to the recruitment and preparation of quality teachers to address the local, state, and national teacher shortage. The growth and success of the program are predicated on a number of important factors, beginning with dedicated faculty, strong institutional support, community relationships, a clearly defined curricular pathway, and technologically-rich learning environments.

Manufacturing industry getting a boost

CERRITOS—The Southeast Los Angeles County Workforce Investment Board (SELACO WIB), a private nonprofit agency located in Cerritos, was recently awarded \$2.3 million to provide training for the beleaguered manufacturing industry in Southern California.

This is SELACO’s 8th two-year agreement with the California Employment Training Panel, and it has seen its budget increase with each contract. Using topnotch training vendors such as UCLA, UC-Riverside, UC-Irvine, Lexicon Training Services, and Kirkpatrick Enterprises International, as well as its own instructors, SELACO provides classes throughout the state in such diverse areas as Computer Skills, Frontline Supervision, Lean Manufacturing, Vocational English, Customer Service Project Management, and a number of others. Most classes are delivered at the employers’ site; all are customized to the employer’s needs, and are designed to increase both productivity and profitability.

SELACO justifies the need for manufacturing-specific training thus: Since 2001 California has lost more than 283,000 manufacturing jobs—16 percent of its workforce. Outsourcing poses a real danger; manufacturers must continually strive for peak performance to compete.

A study conducted by CSUN indicated that workers who participated in the State-sponsored training showed a 20 percent higher wage average compared to those who did not. Further, 97 percent of the participants were still employed one year after completing their training.

On average, every training dollar spent on the program was shown to yield a \$5 return to the State, highlighting the effectiveness of the program.

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SPIRIT OF GIVING – Re/Max Online associates collected more than 10 boxes of food that will be donated to the needy in Downey.

Re/Max Online helps feed the less fortunate

DOWNEY – Associates at Re/Max Online, with office locations in Downey, Santa Fe Springs and Pico Rivera/Montebello, collected and delivered over 10 boxes of non-perishable groceries to Our Lady of Perpetual Help School on Nov. 23, so that the students could prepare food baskets for area needy.

Re/Max Online associates are now collecting toys for Children's Hospital of Los Angeles and blankets and coats for the homeless at the Los Angeles Mission. Toy donations will be accepted at any Re/Max Online location through Dec. 22 and coats and blankets will be accepted through Jan. 13, 2006. Scheduled pick-ups may be made by calling (562) 261-1978.

"Our agents are long-time supporters of Children's Miracle Network and the children of Children's Hospital of Los Angeles," said Phil Limon, broker and co-owner of Re/Max Online. "Re/Max has been the official real estate sponsor for Children's Miracle Network since 1992 and it is our pleasure to assist in this way during the holiday season."

Hard of Hearing People to meet Jan. 12

LAKESWOOD—Self Help for Hard of Hearing People, a support group for people who are hard of hearing and their families, offering education on coping skills and resources to help them survive in a hearing world, meets Jan. 12, 2006 at the Weingart Senior Center, 5220 Oliva Ave. in Lakewood. The meeting starts at 6:30 p.m. and is free.

Questing Heirs Genealogy group meets

LONG BEACH—The Long Beach Questing Heirs Genealogy Society holds its annual Holiday Potluck Sunday, Dec 18 at 1:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall of the Resurrection Lutheran Church in Long Beach. For information, call Chuck Mitchell, (562) 961-8895.

City Affairs committee meets

DOWNEY – The City Affairs Committee of the Downey Chamber of Commerce meets the second Wednesday of every month at 12 noon in the boardroom of the Chamber, 11131 Brookshire Ave. For information call 923-2191.



THE KIWANIS CLUB OF DOWNEY—Welcomes new member Joe Olson. Olson runs the ARC Thrift Stores and has joined the Kiwanis to lend a helping hand to Downey children. For information about Kiwanis, call Bob Belcher at (562) 861-9294.

Ask the Contractors Board

(Experts answer common home improvement questions)

By Bert Sandman, Chair, California Contractors State License Board

Q: My home was recently damaged in a wildfire. I need to have my home repaired as soon as possible but I am hesitant because I have never hired a contractor before. I also heard that some contractors take advantage of people in disaster areas. What can I do to protect myself?

A: You are correct; it's not unusual for unlicensed or unscrupulous contractors to come out of the woodwork to take advantage of those who are the victims of a disaster. The best way to avoid these fraudulent workers is to not let yourself be pressured into hiring the first individual that comes along to fix your home. Don't rush into hiring without getting bids from three different contractors, getting references from those contractors and checking their license status with the Contractors State License Board.

Be especially aware of people who show up at your door offering construction services, especially if they say they can offer you a great deal with materials left over from a previous job and will offer to work on your home for a discounted rate. Transient operators and other unscrupulous workers often travel in groups. Many of these operators will damage property, leave unfinished work or steal from homeowners, and then leave town. Remember the old adage that any deal that sounds too good to be true probably is.

Q: I am interested in having some work done on my kitchen. I'm unsure about what type of contractor I should hire. Are there contractors who specialize in certain areas of the home?

A: Yes, in California the Contractors State License Board issues licenses in 43 different classifications, including general and specialty contractors. General building contractors usually oversee projects and coordinate subcontractors for specific jobs. Subcontractors specializing in a certain trade are hired to do single jobs on the larger project. For example, a general contractor hired to remodel a kitchen may hire a subcontractor specializing in plumbing to install the kitchen sink.

A general contractor can be licensed to do special work, but if a job requires multiple specific tasks to be completed, then it is best the general contractor hires subcontractors to perform those specific jobs.

So, the first thing for you to do is hire a licensed, reputable contractor. Look at what you want to have done to your home. If it requires multiple jobs, discuss this with your general contractor to ensure he/she hires the appropriate subcontractors to carry out the specialty work. Check out all the different licensing classifications on the CSLB's website: www.cslb.ca.gov.

Q: I just hired a gardener to trim hedges, mow my lawn and weed the flowerbeds. I didn't ask to see their license. Does a gardener need to be licensed?

A: No, if you hire a gardener to tend to your property on a regular basis, they do not need to be licensed by the CSLB. But, if you wanted the gardener to install a new sprinkler system for you, he/she would have to have a license. A good rule of thumb is that anyone who'll be installing any sort of permanent addition to your property will have to be licensed. Also, your gardener will have to be licensed if they're going to trim any trees taller than 15 feet.

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<p>South Gate Excellent opportunity, 2 units, live in one and rent the other. front unit 3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths, 2 Car garage Back unit 2 Bedrooms, 1 Bath, 2 Car garage, separate driveway. Araceli Madrid (562) 499-9406</p>	<p>4 Units Great condition 2 Bed. and 1 Bed. and 2 Singles Excellent condition, One story complex and long driveway lots of parking space. Next to school. Asking only \$ 529,900. Celio Duran (562) 806-3780</p>	<p>Investment Property 3 Units 3 Units In Lynwood, 1 Two bedrooms One bath 2 One bedrooms One bath. Great corner property located close to shopping centers. Also has very good earning Potential. Don't let this great Opportunity pass you by Alex Chavez (323) 236-1497</p>	<p>Home in the Clouds! This 4 bedroom 3 bath gated community home is great for a family with small children. With spacious bedrooms and tile flooring you will feel right at home when you first see it. The jacuzzi is a great amenity for a hard working family Art Aviles (888) 499-9788 ext. 8601</p>
<p>Bell Gardens Home 2 bedrooms, 1 bath home, den & 1 car garage. Close to schools, shopping and freeways. Perfect for first time buyers. Letty Galvan (562) 261-1924</p>	<p>PHILLIPS RANCH CONDO! Ready to move in, 3 bedrooms, 2 bath, 2 patios beautiful kitchen, eating area and living room area with central heat & air conditioning with pool & jacuzzi for more info call. Jaime Arteaga (562) 307- 0755</p>	<p>Commercial Vacant Lot Attention Developers: Great Opportunity for development, Good location: Artesia Blvd. between Cherry & Paramount easy fwy. access. Motivated seller! Delia Chaidex (562) 244-8964</p>	<p>South Gate - \$599,900 This 4 bed. 2 bath home in 1530 sq.ft with a swimming pool on a 8237 lot size is currently under remodeling. Call me today for all the details. Hurry!!!! Freddie Diaz (562) 261-2809</p>
<p>Spacious 3 Bedroom Home 3 spacious bedrooms, 1 full remodeled bath, beautiful ceramic floors, remodeled kitchen, double detached garage, 2 R.V. spaces, bonus room, across from school, 6,980 Sq. ft lot Teresa Arana (562) 569-1499</p>	<p>Hesperia Horse Property Beautiful two story home 4 bedrooms 3 baths, huge lot, with rave parking. Beautiful views of the Mountains. Alfred Gutierrez (714) 390-9992</p>	<p>Two For The Price Of One 3 Bedrooms, 1.5 Baths, Large family room, marble flooring Remodeled kitchen, Lots of Granite, White Wash cabinets, Includes Guest House with 2 bedrooms 1 bath living room lots of built in cabinets. Listed at \$749,900 Maria Fernandez (562) 577-1104 (562) 261-1912</p>	<p>Monterey Park-SFR (Like 2 Units) Fully Remodeled! Freshly painted inside & out. Travertine flooring in Kitchens, bathrooms & shower walls. Double glazed windows, kohler bathtubs & 2 Double car garages. 2 Brand new water heaters, wall heaters & much, much more! \$695,000 Freddie Diaz (562) 261-2809</p>



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7403 Via Rio Nido, Downey \$629,900

3 bedroom 1 3/4 bath. Home on cul-de-sac with central a/c, 8200 sq. ft. lot. 2 car garage. Large backyard.

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This house is super sized with 6 Bedrooms and 4 Bathrooms - Gorgeous home, a must see, large master suite with spa, tub, nice new roof, carpet and entry way. All new window framing, sophisticated surveillance and alarm system. Interior central vacuum system, RV parking in the back., full copper plumbing, hardwood floors, C/A & C/H.

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Well-kept 2 Bedroom home, with a guest house - 2 Bedrooms, 1 Bathroom. Feeds into Downey schools.

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A Lot of Lot

Huge lot - 12, 610 - could build another home on the lot, currently has 3 Bedrooms, 2 Bathrooms, 1,406 square feet.

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-- Thedla Franklin.
- "The team of Lilian Lopez and Lorena Amaya did a good job helping me find a home. I am very happy and I will use Lilian and Lorena again." -- Roman Carranza
- "Bob Becerra did a very good job as my real estate agent. He helped me find the right home. Bob also did more than I expected." -- Horacio and Eusebio Alcalá

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November 2005

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 Edwin and Adriana Huber (562) 419-4942	 Marlene Rodriguez (562) 824-7333	 Maria Cibrian (562) 746-8832

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Call Larry Farr at (714) 851-4289



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Opportunity is knocking! Super sharp beauty salon - 6 stations, 3 shampoo bowls, 2 facial rooms, 5 baths, product inventory, 2 hydraulic facial beds of top quality, all new furniture, business is ready to grow and flourish.

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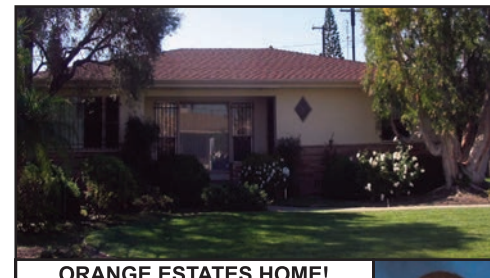
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8635 Florence Ave., Suite 101
Downey, CA 90240



SACRIFICE!
Owner will consider all offers! 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 life in bathroom, central air and heat, in great location! Priced at \$569,000. Bring Offers!! Call now for an appointment!
For more information, please call Marie Picarelli @ (562) 618-0033 or visit her website at www.MariePicarelli.com



OPEN HOUSE SAT. & SUN 12-4 P.M.
A RARE FIND!
Beautiful Orange Estates home features 3 bedrooms and 3 bathrooms with an office that could be 4th bedroom, fireplace in living room, bright kitchen, family room, huge master suite, hardwood & tile floors, fresh paint, sparkling pool, park-like backyard, patio, 2,575 sq. ft. on a 13,300 sq. ft. lot, located on a cul-de-sac, 8660 Quinn, Downey.
For more information and price, please call Carmen Provencio @ 562-413-3367.



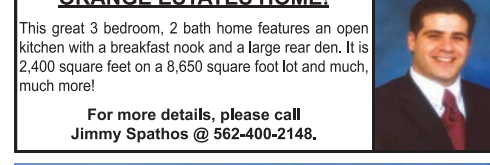
ORANGE ESTATES HOME!
This great 3 bedroom, 2 bath home features an open kitchen with a breakfast nook and a large rear den. It is 2,400 square feet on a 8,650 square foot lot and much, much more!
For more details, please call Jimmy Spathos @ 562-400-2148.



MOVE TO NORWALK!
This family home has 3 bedrooms, remodeled bath and huge family room with fireplace! Family kitchen has wood cabinets. Large backyard with covered patio, 2 car detached garage, 2 blocks from Downey! (Only \$475,000!)
For more information or for price, please call Marie Picarelli @ (562) 618-0033 or visit her website at www.MariePicarelli.com



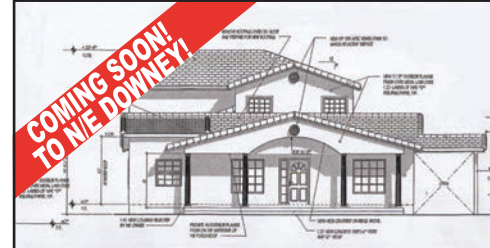
COMING SOON! TO NIE DOWNEY!
NEW CONSTRUCTION IN DOWNEY!
This beautiful Downey home features 5 bedrooms, 3 full bathrooms, kitchen with stainless steel appliances, hardwood, marble & granite throughout, heated pool and spa, built in BBQ, 3,202 square feet of living space. Awesome N/E Downey location, under construction, much, much more! \$1,295,000.
For more information please call Mario Persico @ (562) 533-7433 or visit his website at www.MarioPersico.com



VIEW! VIEW! VIEW!
Gorgeous 4 bedroom, 3 bath home in North Friendly Hills area with spectacular 180 degree city view and golf course view. Home has large living room with fireplace, formal dining room, large family room, downstairs bedroom, plus lovely patio with gorgeous views. Too many features to mention.....Call Carrie for an appointment to view this Home 562-382-1252!!!! This home is Priced @ \$1,500,000
For more details, please call Jimmy Spathos @ 562-400-2148.



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This family home has 3 bedrooms, remodeled bath and huge family room with fireplace! Family kitchen has wood cabinets. Large backyard with covered patio, 2 car detached garage, 2 blocks from Downey! (Only \$475,000!)
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INCOME PROPERTY!
GREAT INCOME POTENTIAL!
This 14,520 Sq. Ft. "ready-to-build" lot with a newly built home has plenty of room for another income unit. The existing 5 bedroom, 3 bath home was built this year. Includes oversized 2 car garage. Great price!
For more details, please call Brandon & Shannon Fackler @ 562-761-3628.



JUST SOLD!
NEW DOWNEY UNITS!
This lovely 2 story condo features 3 bedrooms and 2.5 baths, indoor laundry, spacious living room with beautiful gas/wood fireplace, large closets with lots of storage space and a 2 car garage with direct access.
For more details, please call Frank Moreno @ 562-949-8139



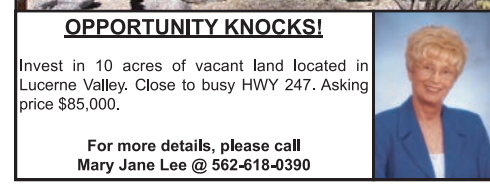
OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS!
Invest in 10 acres of vacant land located in Lucerne Valley. Close to busy HWY 247. Asking price \$85,000.
For more details, please call Mary Jane Lee @ 562-618-0390



INCOME PROPERTY!
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For more details, please call Frank Moreno @ 562-949-8139



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Open House Sunday 12-4
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This elegant English Manor built in 1986 is located in prime North East Downey. The 4,286 sqft. home on a 10,000 sqft. lot features 3 bedrooms (3 master suites) 4 bathrooms, library, gourmet kitchen with subzero refrigerator and freezer, beautiful custom pool with spa and cascade and much much more. Call Jose for a private showing of this magnificent estate.

55+ Condo
This completely remodeled condo located in Downey's most popular 55+ building features 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom, inside laundry and private terrace. Close to restaurants, banks, pharmacies, medical buildings and Downey Theater. Offered at \$199,900.



Open House Sunday 12-4
OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS!!
Just minutes from Downey this home features 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, jacuzzi in master bathroom, and tile and carpeting throughout. With 1,170 sqft of living space and a 4,465 sqft. corner lot.
Offered at \$494,900
The Price can't be beat!

55+ Condo
This completely remodeled condo located in Downey's most popular 55+ building features 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom, inside laundry and private terrace. Close to restaurants, banks, pharmacies, medical buildings and Downey Theater. Offered at \$199,900.



Open House Sunday 12-4
A Super Buy!
3 bedrooms and 1 bathroom, newer roof, new windows, drywall in garage, spa, tile flooring, carpet, 1,125 sq. ft. of living space on a 7,371 sq. ft. lot.
Offered at \$479,900-509,900.
Call for a private showing, this won't last long.

OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS!!
Just minutes from Downey this home features 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, jacuzzi in master bathroom, and tile and carpeting throughout. With 1,170 sqft of living space and a 4,465 sqft. corner lot.
Offered at \$494,900
The Price can't be beat!

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Room To Grow!
Immaculate 3 bedroom, 1.75 bath home on a 8980 sq. ft. lot. The home has refinished hardwood floors, freshly painted interior and exterior, & inside laundry. The enormous yard includes plenty of grass, a covered patio, and a 2 car detached garage. Price: \$625,000
Call Michael @ 562-818-6111



New Construction In Northeast Downey
This 5 bedroom + office, 4 bath custom-built home is almost 4000 sq ft and is located on a 7548 sq ft lot. Features new kitchen and bathrooms, hardwood floors, granite counter tops in kitchen and baths, dual central air and heat, copper plumbing, recessed lighting, curved/texture-coated walls, and professionally landscaped front and back yard. The home includes a very large master bedroom with walk-in closet and private bathroom and includes a spacious family room. You want to miss this work-in-progress? (Completed by February 2006) Price: \$1,349,000.
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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.
Call Michael @ 562-818-6111



Spanish Style Beauty
Beautiful Spanish-style 5 bedroom, 3.5 bath home rebuilt in 1993 in the wonderful NE section of Downey. The property has a 2 car det. garage, long driveway with carport, and large pool-size yard that's perfect for entertaining. The custom-built home has an impressive living room with vaulted ceiling, formal dining room and den, and a downstairs master bedroom with large bathroom. The upstairs has another master bedroom, 2 other bedrooms with Jack-&-Jill bath, and bonus room with balcony. Price: \$1,149,000.
Call Michael @ 562-818-6111