



The Downey Patriot

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Friday, December 23, 2005

Vol. 4, No. 35

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



EARLY CHRISTMAS – Downey children visit with Santa and enjoy Christmas presents at Rio Hondo Country Club courtesy of Downey Rotary. The gathering is a yearly tradition.

Mayor Perkins tells his goals for '06

By John Adams

DOWNEY—Newly seated mayor Meredith Perkins says he splits the challenges for the coming year into long and short term.

Long range includes a master plan to be worked out with the county on the development of the north and south campuses of Rancho Los Amigos.

And Perkins also lists the consolidation of the City's four maintenance yards under long-term goals.

Future water problem

He cites the decision on what to do about the situation on water as getting nearer, and adds that Downey has low water rates since we pump from our own City-owned wells. Coca Cola Bottling Co.'s plant here is the biggest user.

Perkins wants advanced planning on what to do when advancing plumes of pollution reach us and treatment becomes necessary.

Short-term

In terms of short term goals, he addresses Downey Landing, portions of which (Elephant Bar, Best Buy and Old Navy) are already open for the holidays.

And he lists the completion of much of the Lakewood Boulevard Improvement Project in 2006 and the continued progress on the construction of the Learning Center and Park under short-range planning.

He closes with "We are fortunate to live in a city with good leadership in the elected area as well as the people who work for-the city. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!"

Cartozian

Councilman Kirk Cartozian was prompt in responding to the Downey Patriot's request for goals in 2006. He leads off with the need for a fair and balanced resolution of the residential building code. No. 2 for Cartozian is a concentrated City effort to stimulate mixed-use development in the Downtown.

Rancho development

As No. 3, he asks for a specific plan for partnership with the County to develop the 40 acres on the south campus of Rancho Los Amigos. He adds that this is a rare opportunity to transform this into a major economic development project.

No. 4 for Cartozian is a continued emphasis on incorporating the proposed Orange Line including a Maglev 110 mph magnetic levitation transportation system which could drive the economic development of member cities between Santa Clarita and Irvine.

And lastly, he wants to put to rest the overstated differences between himself and City Manager Gerald Caton. "Though we have had differences in the past about City priorities, we put those behind us a long time ago and currently have a healthy working relationship for the betterment of the City of Downey.

Gafin

Councilman Dave Gafin said he wished he could drive down Lakewood Boulevard "without needing my car realigned." And he wished the Kaiser Hospital pile drivers would take a day off so he could sleep.

"But, seriously, I wish Bonnie Kehoe (Community Services Director), Ron Yoshiki (City Planner) and John Finch (Chief of Police) much joy in their retirement," said Gafin. "I wish for the continued economic growth we have experienced. For this growth is what will provide additional police officers for our safety and additional services for our residents. I wish for our residents to continue to reinvest in their homes, (for) pride and a sense of community follows. I wish for our schools to maintain their high level of achievement: our youth is our future and our future leaders.

"I wish for cooperation within our City Council to do what is right for the future and not just for today. Most of all I wish all citizens of Downey a safe, joyous and prosperous New Year."

'Polar Wonderland' needs decorating help

DOWNEY—The Downey Rose Float Association is once again requesting volunteers to come to Rancho Los Amigos 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.

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.

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When it comes to gifts, DVDs the way to go

By Eric Pierce

I took the easy way out this Christmas.

After years of actually putting thought and effort into my Christmas shopping list, that is spending time in malls and flipping through thick volumes of shopping catalogs, I realized I was doing things the suckers way. Why not, I asked myself, do all my shopping online?

DRMC decorating contest full of spirit

DOWNEY—Grand prize winner of the annual Downey Regional Medical Center Decorating Contest, in which 14 departments competed, was the Endoscopy department, which transformed its area into a whimsical winter wonderland, complete with "penguins quacking holiday tunes and pictured at an igloo hospital, with giant snow globes, northern lights overhead and even a colon-shaped wreath reflecting their gastrointestinal humor."

The winners were announced on Dec. 16, at the hospital's annual employee holiday luncheon.

"As always, it was tough for us to select the grand prize because of the stiff competition," said Deacon Mario Guerra, a DRMC board member and one of the contest judges. Judging the holiday displays with him were fellow board members Deborah Massaglia, Beverly Mathis and Hop Morrison. Guerra added, "All of the participants are winners."

The Memorial Trust Foundation won for "Best Use of Space," Patient Financial Services for "Best Use of Materials," while Volunteer Services won for "Best Use of Theme." (This year's theme was "Shine!"). The Staffing Office earned a "Most Original" award for their around-the-world handcrafted creation; Admitting's Latin decorations landed them "Santa's Choice" award, and Ambulance Services took home the "Best Small Department" award with a clever cardboard gingerbread house.

Switchboard's array of holiday trimmings earned "Most Unique" honors, while Respiratory Services received the "Most Whimsical" nod for their snowmen surroundings. In the Intensive Care unit, a hand-painted nativity scene and hand-drawn holiday art throughout the unit led to their "Most Festive" award. Radiology was also a top contender with their "Night Before Christmas" portrayal, complete with stuffed animals and toys under a Christmas tree: these will be donated to Children's Hospital of Orange County.

The Emergency Care Center's Polar Express was labeled "Most Contemporary Design." Last year's grand prize winner, Health Information Systems, adorned their walls with a Nutcracker theme that earned them the "Judge's Choice" award. Rehabilitation Services showed off their new family and artistic talents with a "Twelve Days of Christmas" entry that took the "Best Classic Design" award.

The judges, meanwhile, freely admitted to accepting bribes of Christmas cookies and goodies along the way.

Stated CEO Allen Korneff: "The holiday spirit is clearly alive and well in our hospital. Even though we have been very busy with a high patient-census, our folks went above and beyond this year, spending their own time and money to bring good cheer, and they tell me they've had a lot of fun in the process."

Even more, why not buy everybody DVDs? They seem to have taken over fruitcake as the prerequisite crappy gift anyway.

There are thousands, probably millions, of titles available and the trick is to find a title that intimately corresponds with a particular relationship. For example, when shopping for a mother, you may want to consider the films "Mr. Mom," "Serial Mom," "Don't Wake Mom," or, my personal favorite, "Please Don't Hit Me, Mom," probably a surefire hit at one time on the Lifetime Network.

Dads can't escape the wrath of DVDs either: "Invisible Dad," "Dad on the Run," "Getting Even With Dad," and the Joanna Kerns classic "No Dessert Dad, 'Til You Mow the Lawn." Merry Christmas, indeed.

The actual quality of the movie isn't important; all it needs is a snazzy title that will get you a cheap laugh and off the hook.

The worst trend is that of DVDs of television shows. (If I get the complete first season of "Gilligan's Island" on DVD this year, I swear I'm celebrating Kwanzaa next year.) There's nothing like putting free TV on discs and trying to sell it for \$39.95.

Of course, the "true meaning of Christmas" is not gift giving at all but spending time with family and friends while drinking a lot of eggnog. And let's not forget the birth of Christ either, for I remember he has some small role in the holiday also.

But gifts will be given and DVDs are the way to go this year. Besides, a little "Girls Gone Wild" never hurt anybody.

Hospital names adult health care center chief

DOWNEY—Lourdes Birba, born in Cuba but who has been in Southern California most of her life, was named executive director of Adult Health Care for Downey Regional Medical Center.

Since coming on board in December, Birba has been working on the opening of the facility located at 12130 S. Paramount Blvd.

The Center will provide the frail elderly with primary care, social services, restorative and recreational therapy, transportation, meals and other supportive services. A multi-disciplinary team of professionals will work collaboratively to establish and implement consistent treatment plans enabling clients to remain independent and at home rather than move into nursing homes.

Birba has an extensive background in healthcare and social services program development and operations. She holds an MS in gerontology, and BA in Psychology, both from USC. She has since 1993 provided consulting services in healthcare management and operations, training and group facilitation, through Birba Consulting Group, (562) 904-5448.

"A lot has been accomplished, but there's still much to be done," said Birba, referring to the Center. "We have a beautiful, completely remodeled building, and most policies and procedures have been developed. To become operational we must be a licensed facility and Medi-Cal certified. In addition, we will need to implement the infrastructure which includes the interior layout, network connectivity, hiring of staff, establishment of vendor contracts and getting the word out to the community."



SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF DOWNEY – Collected toys for the annual city of Downey holiday toy drive. The toys will be distributed by PTA HELPS to needy Downey children. “It is a pleasure to participate in such a worthy cause,” said Ellie Eck, a Downey Soroptimist member.

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.

Woman’s Club releases Pechanga trip schedule

DOWNEY – Due to the success of their monthly bus trips to the Pechanga Entertainment Center in Temecula to benefit their Scholarship Fund, the Woman’s Club of Downey has released their 2006 all-Monday schedule: Jan. 9, Feb. 6, March 6, April 3, May 1, June 5, July 10, Aug. 7, Sept. 11, Oct. 2, Nov. 6 and Dec. 4.

The club’s first-class bus, provided by Pechanga, leaves at 8 a.m. and returns to Downey between 5:30-6 p.m. Each guest receives a \$5 voucher for casino play and visitors are encouraged to register for a “Rewards Card” at the casino for additional benefits.

Bingo is played on the bus going and returning, featuring a grab bag of prizes.

Cost of each trip is \$6 for Woman’s Club members, \$11 for non-members. Guests must be at least 21 years of age. The Woman’s Club opens at 7 a.m. on trip days to sell donuts and coffee.

All reservations must be paid at least one week prior to departure date. No refunds will be made for last-minute cancellations.

For reservations or more information, call Jeanine Keys at 923-6620 or Doris Patterson at 869-0377.

YMCA searching for volunteers

DOWNEY – The Downey YMCA is in need of volunteers for both morning and evening hours working all departments. Call 862-4201 for more information.



DOWNEY ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS—Recently donated \$1,000 to the Downey Music in the Schools program. From left, Larry Lewis of the Downey Symphony, and Francisco Gomez and Steve Roberson of the Realty Board.

Hospice training scheduled for January

DOWNEY—Hospice Touch, Inc. is seeking caring individuals to share their “Heart Work,” by providing friendly visits, running errands, sharing music or Therapy Pet visits with terminally ill patients and their families in the area. Other opportunities include providing patients with knitted, crocheted or sewn lap blankets, shawls, slippers or comfort pillows.

Free training is scheduled in Downey in January. Contact Ginger Askew, (866) 553-5553 or gaskew@hospicetouch.com to get more information/register for training.

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. You may contact Marty Krumm, manager, at (562) 401-7667 or (562) 401-7218.

Worship at Christ Lutheran

DOWNEY – Christmas worship services will be conducted Dec. 24 and 25 at Christ Lutheran Church, 7707 Florence Ave., Downey.

The 7 p.m. service on Saturday, Dec. 24 will feature the “praise team,” handbells, carols and choir singing, with lessons and a candlelight closing.

A traditional form of worship will be used on Christmas Day, Sunday, Dec. 25 at 9:30 a.m. with carols and choir singing and Holy Communion. Rev. Nancy Hamm is pastor of the local congregation.

For information, call 927-4421.

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SUPER KIDS – Alameda Elementary students, parents, and staff collected enough money to provide 46 holiday meals, and spread Christmas cheer, to those less fortunate.

Children invited to learn tennis basics

DOWNEY—Downey Community Services is beginning a new tennis program for youth ages 6-18 at Independence Park, 12334 Bellflower Blvd., starting Monday, Jan. 9.

The program is geared to the youth in the community as they are getting out of school, as a way to promote physical fitness, tennis techniques, the basics of match play and just plain fun.

There will be 12 classes for the six-week session – Mondays and Wednesdays or Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 3:30-5 p.m.

Fee for each session is \$100. For information, call 904-7238.

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.

Preparedness Committee meets Jan. 25

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

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

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.

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.

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.

Volunteers needed for Rancho Gift Shop

DOWNEY—The Rancho Gift Shop at Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center is in need of volunteers to work in the shop.

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

DowneyLINK operating new route

DOWNEY – Information on DowneyLINK's new southeast route is available by calling 529-LINK. The bus system operates Monday through Friday from 6:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

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PICTURE PERFECT – Downey Federal Credit Union hosted a reception for local photographer and Warren High School teacher George Redfox, displaying his black and white photos of historic Downey. Pictured with Redfox is Barbara Lamberth, president/CEO of Downey Federal Credit Union, and Dr. Ed Potter, chairman of the board of directors.

Rise 'N Shine dark until January

DOWNEY—There will be no meeting Tuesday, Dec. 27 at the Nordic Fox Restaurant of the Downey Chamber of Commerce's Rise 'N Shine Networking Group due to the holidays. Meetings resume in the New Year, on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month, at 7:30 a.m.

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.

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Cerritos College taps into new millennium

The following is the final article chronicling Cerritos College's first 50 years. Find previous stories at www.thedowneypatriot.com.

NORWALK — By the beginning of the new millennium, education had changed dramatically since the college first opened its doors. Computers terminals and related technology are now common in many classrooms, and more students are enrolling for online classes.

The decade began with several changes in college leadership. In 2000, Dr. Fred Gaskin left Cerritos College to become chancellor of the Maricopa Community College District. In the years to follow Dr. Morgan Lynn (former vice president of Academic Affairs), Dr. Jane Harmon (former president of Adirondack Community College in New York) and John Grindel (former vice president of Academic Affairs) would occupy the president/superintendent chair until the appointment of Dr. Noelia Vela in 2004.

Budget Cuts

In February 2003, Governor Gray Davis proposed a \$215 million mid-year budget cut to community colleges, resulting in a \$7.4 million reduction in funding to Cerritos College for the 2002-2003 fiscal year. This forced the college to look for creative ways to cut costs without limiting service to students or closing classes.

Staying focused on students, the college attempted to combat the budget cuts by a more sparse use of adult hourly employees, elimination of all classified overtime except for emergencies, a reduction of all non-instructional equipment and all site building improvements, and the elimination of almost all of the remaining travel and instructional equipment budgets.

The college made it through the crisis with flying colors, and Governor Davis was recalled and replaced by actor Arnold Schwarzenegger. Ironically, in the fall of 2003—the year that it was to take the hardest financial hit—the college reached an all-time high enrollment of 24,000.

Distance Learning

In the fall of 2002, the college took its technological commitment to a new level by offering online registration, allowing students to register from the comfort of their own home, or on campus without having to wait in lines. Following this, TalonNet—the Cerritos College in-house course management system—was introduced allowing students to attend classes via the Internet without being on campus. These classes filled quickly and were ideal for students with full-time jobs and children.

Athletics Teams Going for the Gold

As recently as the 2004-05 school year, the Falcons saw 9 of their 19 teams win conference championships, led by the men's soccer team which advanced to the state championship game for the first time in school history. The Falcons beat previously undefeated, the nation's #1-rated team, Santa Rosa College in the semi-finals. Although unable to win the state title, the soccer team concluded the year ranked #3 in the country and #2 in the state.

The men's water polo team also made history with their first conference title in over 20 years, and reached the state championship tournament for the first time since winning the 1966 title. Under second-year head coach Joe Abing, the Falcons set a new school record with an 18-game winning streak in 2004.

Student athlete Christopher Richardson became the second person in California community college history to win the decathlon state title two years in a row. And, female decathlete April Brown won the 100 meters in both 2002 and 2003 to become the first woman to accomplish this.

Early in the spring of 2000, Baseball America Magazine named retired baseball coach Wally Kincaid the National College Baseball Coach of the Century. Later this same year the football team was ranked #4 in the nation. In December 2002, the wrestling team won the state championship, tying the school record by winning four individual state championships. Two years later the softball team won their first South Coast Conference championship in 14 years. Additionally, the women's tennis team was undefeated for the second consecutive season and won their second straight conference championship.

Cerritos College Foundation

In its twenty-five year history, the Cerritos College Foundation has experienced substantial growth. Today the foundation offers more than 65 scholarships and financially supports numerous programs, while continuing to work closely with the business community.

In 2002 the Cerritos College Foundation received a \$125,000 grant from the Boeing Charitable Trust to partner with Boeing on two events—Summer Science Camp and Educator Enrichment Day. The camp is a six-day program for students in grades K-12 that provides hands-on activity during every ten minutes of lecture. In a week-long camp, students receive a year of science training. Educator Enrichment Day is essentially the same program—but for college or K-12 teachers. The program encourages teachers to experience and think about their subject in new and challenging ways.

In 2003, Cerritos College was one of 12 community colleges in the nation selected as a Microsoft IT (Information Technology) training site. The college received a \$75,000 grant for the five-day program with the primary focus on giving community college faculty high-tech training.



DRMC BOARD MEMBERS—Hop Morrison, left, and Deacon Mario Guerra tour the Endoscopy department during the annual DRMC Decorating Contest judging.

A third prestigious partnership was established that same year between the college and Lockheed Martin. The Cerritos College Center for Applied Technologies (CACT) and the Cerritos College Composites Training Center (CTC) provide composites training for both new and current Lockheed Martin employees. Lockheed Martin is a leading manufacturer in military airplanes for both the United States and its allies. The partnership proved to be fruitful for both Lockheed Martin and Cerritos College students.

Looking for ways to expand its sphere of influence, the college has pursued additional partnerships and programs that will expand the college's relationship with the local community and beyond. On October 1, 2002 Cerritos College received a one-year \$300,000 grant from the United States Department of Education for its partnership with the Pacoima Learning Center (PLC). The grant was awarded through the highly competitive Community Technology Center Program and was used to establish an online AA (Associate of Arts degree) program within Pacoima.

Faculty Excellence

Cerritos College faculty have shined as their achievements are recognized on a local and national level. In 2000, Bob Colgan received both the Educator of the Year Award from the Woodworking Machinery Industry Association (a national award), and the Vocational Educator of the Year award from the Los Angeles County Industrial Technology Education Association (LACITEA). Colgan simply says he is "passionate about teaching and building, whether it's a chair, a winning team or the finest woodworking program in the country." Colgan is former Professor of Woodworking Manufacturing Technologies.

In 2003, The California Association for Postsecondary Education and Disability (CAPED) recognized Professor of the Physical Therapist Assistant Program Marijean Piorkowski as Teacher of the Year at its annual convention. Presented each year, this award is given to an outstanding instructor who recognizes their responsibility for the education of all learners, and has made extraordinary efforts to meet the needs disabled learners in their classroom through the use of innovative instructional techniques and accommodations.

Sue Parsons, Director and founder of Teacher TRAC, received the Association of Community College Trustees Outstanding Faculty Member of the Year award in 1999, and in 2005, she received the CSULB Distinguished Alumni award. During her career, Parsons has secured more than \$2.5 million in state and federal grants. She, along with her Teacher TRAC colleagues, celebrates the "insightful perspectives brought to the teaching profession by students who complete the Teacher TRAC program."

Only ten years earlier Diane Keenan, Professor of Economics, was named the Carnegie Professor of the Year for community colleges in the United States. In 2001, Keenan played a significant role in the development of the college's Women's Studies program and Associate of Arts degree.

Innovative Programs Focus on Student Success

In 2002, Cerritos College was awarded one of only 33 Department of Education Title V Grants given to developing institutions where at least 25 percent of the population is Hispanic. The grant amount is over \$2.1 million (\$2,126,774) for a five-year period.

This grant enabled the college to develop and launch Project HOPE (Health Opportunities and Pipeline to Education). Project HOPE is designed to support under-represented students in math, science and health courses. The project works to expand the pipeline of students entering and succeeding in these courses, as well as provide these students a career track into the health professions.

In 2000, Cerritos College and California State University, Long Beach were awarded a four-year \$1.3 million PT3 grant by the U.S. Department of Education to implement teacher preparation improvements. Nationally, 127 colleges and universities were awarded the PT3 grant as part of the Preparing Tomorrow's Teachers to Use Technology program. "Our Teacher TRAC faculty will be able to model a technology rich curriculum for our students, and we hope that our future educators will become teachers who can use technology in their classrooms as easily as they use chalk and a chalkboard," explains Professor Cheryl Shimazu, PT3 Grant Director.

In 2005, the American Association of Community Colleges recognized the Teacher TRAC program for its excellence in K-12 teacher preparation.

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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The poets' corner

Payload of Angels

without faith Fra Angelico's angels
would be going barefoot
trudging through a muddy Florentine landscape
the hems of their robes dragging in the frescoed margins
trying to deliver the good word of Christmastide

what a fine disregard the Middle Ages had
for this business of flying if kept in proportion and scale
these frilly wings should be big as gothic windows
or the angels smaller so they could shoulder their own weight
the way swans do or eagles

whereas today my holiday wishes
propelled on the plummage of modern technology
lift off and soar through the aether transparent as email
needing neither miracle nor muscle to propel them
every byte as joyous as those brought by the gold-tipped angels
Hosannah and Happy Landings for the year Two Thousand and Six

—**Lorine Parks,**
Downey

America's Christmas

May I put Old Glory
On my Christmas tree
As I have carried her on my chest
Ever since I came to America and be blessed.
As the same flag the Marines raised for all
The Twin Towers fell and transformed America's spirit,
May Peace, Love and Freedom be with you this Christmas.

—**Linh Duy Vo,**
Downey

Only 10 community colleges in the nation were chosen for this honor.

Scholars' Honors Program

The Scholars' Honors Program (SHP) enrolls talented and motivated Cerritos College students who plan to transfer to four-year institutions. Program benefits include enrollment into honors sections of important classes; an opportunity to work one-on-one with top faculty members; and guaranteed upper division admission to such institutions as University of Southern California (USC), University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), and UC Irvine, Santa Cruz and Riverside.

In addition, successful SHP students receive priority registration privileges and are automatically accepted into honors programs at local campuses of the California State University system.

Through the SHP program, many students have the opportunity to apply for and receive several prestigious scholarships. In 2001, Jose Cardoza and Kelly Kang both received the USC President's Scholarships worth \$12,000 per year for two years; Joshua Shelton and Juliette Vo each received Dean's Scholarships from USC for \$6,000 per year for two years.

"Yes" on Measure CC

In 2004, as the college continued serving students while the state reduced its budget, the board of trustees asked the surrounding district communities to vote "yes" on a \$210 million bond measure for campus modernization.

Demonstrating support for the college and its mission to serve the community, local citizens cast their vote to support bond approval and the bond passed in March 2004. College President, Dr. Noelia Vela, will lead the campus transformation and position the college for greater success in the next fifty years.

Campus improvement had already begun with construction of the new Science and Math complex in fall of 2004, and in February 2005 the college formally dedicated a state-of-the-art Health Occupations Skills Lab (built with budgeted funding). The new 23,000-square-foot facility includes 23 hospital beds, an 18 exam table clinic, a mock pharmacy fronted by a service counter donated by Longs Drugs, a speech language pathology clinic with seven therapy cubicles and a computer lab.

A Bright Future

During its first 50 years of excellence, Cerritos College has grown, matured, expanded, improved, adopted new technology and teaching techniques, won championships, served its community, and always supported students. The college has remained true to the vision of its founders and has provided generations of students with the opportunity to further their education and realize their dreams.

Working with the board of trustees and the Strategic Planning Committee, Dr. Vela is now working to revitalize and focus the college purpose. This includes the establishment of the first computer funding and replacement plan, the adoption and board approval of a strong strategic plan, and a new declaration of the college mission and vision statements.

Early in 2005, the board of trustees adopted a newly revised mission statement: "The mission of Cerritos College is to serve the community by building futures through learning."

Looking toward the future, education will no doubt experience innovative changes, new challenges and budgetary questions and limitations. Without reservation, however, the college remains dedicated to its founder's vision of service to the local community and affordable education for students. Many things will change in the future, but this commitment to student success will remain constant and strong, guiding every decision and shaping the next fifty years.

Cerritos College celebrates the 2005-06 school year as its 50th anniversary in serving as a comprehensive community college for southeastern Los Angeles County.

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FAX: 924-2559

NORWALK
12253 Imperial Hwy.
(562) 929-9988
FAX: 929-6588

City names winners of home decorating contest

DOWNEY — The 2005 City of Downey Holiday Home Decorating Award winner were announced this week. Below are the final results.

Mayor's Awards

| | | |
|--------|------------------|-------------------------------|
| Area 1 | 12131 Brookshire | Milligan, Bryan, Jerry & Inez |
| Area 2 | 7619 Nada | Boyles Family |
| Area 3 | 8129 Brookgreen | Ellen Doulos |
| Area 4 | 9828 Newville | Jessica Parra |

City-Wide Awards

| | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|---|
| Christmas Magic | 12060 Samoline | Nolveris & Claudia Frometa |
| Santa's Award | 10257 Mattock | Messer/Hughes Family |
| Christmas in Motion | 9401 Dalen | Robert Prestwood, Steve Claude |
| Santa's Workshop | 10940 Rio Hondo | Karla Ann Metzger, Patrick & Christina Chung & Mary Ann Metzger |
| North Pole Award | 10945 Hasty | Mike Boyd |
| Holiday Fantasy | 11923 Rives | Jones & Beckham Families |
| Toyland Fantasy | 7504 Muller | Carl & Maggie Jackson |
| Christmas Spirit | 9726 Meldar | Grahame F. Wright |
| Holiday Splendor | 10324 Pomeroy | Orozco Family |
| Victorian Christmas | 10302 Mattock | Mary Melcarek |
| Holiday Delight | 10509 Clancey | Jimmy, Carey & Jeff Dufton |

Area 1 Awards

Best Use of Lights

| | | |
|-----------|-------------|---------------|
| 1st Place | 12230 Dolan | Hector Juarez |
|-----------|-------------|---------------|

Total Display

| | | |
|--------------|------------------|-----------------|
| 1st Place | 13243 Stanbridge | Vrab Family |
| 2nd Place | 8409 Priscilla | Ruiz Family |
| 3rd Place | 12507 Bellder | Jesse Willis |
| Hon. Mention | 8535 Fontana | Emmett Fletcher |

Lawn/Roof Display

| | | |
|-----------|---------------|------------------------------|
| 1st Place | 8553 Orange | Browns & Barlows |
| 2nd Place | 8531 Orange | Robert, Ryan, Dad Shiekh-Ali |
| 3rd Place | 12642 Verdura | Nancy Arroyo |

Area 2 Awards

Total Display

| | | |
|---------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| 1st Place | 7821 Brookmill | Alba Family |
| 2nd Place | 12336 Horley | Iacovitti's |
| 3rd Place | 7712 Phlox | Carlos Soler |
| Hon. Mentions | 7950 Comollette | Garber Family |
| | 7703 Rundell | Marcelia M. Jimenez |
| | 7525 Sarabeth | Paula Mejia |

Lawn/Roof Display

| | | |
|-----------|---------------|----------------|
| 1st Place | 7711 De Palma | David Williams |
|-----------|---------------|----------------|

Religious Display

| | | |
|-----------|--------------|-----------|
| 1st Place | 12307 Julius | Ivan York |
|-----------|--------------|-----------|

Area 3 Awards

Best Use of Lights

| | | |
|-----------|-------------------|--------------|
| 1st Place | 7359 Via Rio Nido | David Rivas |
| 2nd Place | 10336 La Reina | Kei H. Ozaki |

Animated Display

| | | |
|-----------|-------------|-----------------------|
| 1st Place | 8617 Parrot | Maria & Charles Smock |
|-----------|-------------|-----------------------|

Religious Display

| | | |
|-----------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1st Place | 10933 Paramount | Jane Hendricks |
| 2nd Place | 7811 Harper | Rosemary Molina |

Total Display

| | | |
|---------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| 1st Place | 7803 Birchcrest | Regina Chavez |
| 2nd Place | 7612 Glencliff | Rider Family |
| 3rd Place | 7509 Muller | Robert Reneall |
| Hon. Mentions | 9360 Samoline | Fred E. James |
| | 7342 Hannon | Jerry & Elida Del Rio |

Area 4 Awards

Best Use of Lights

| | | |
|-----------|---------------|----------------------|
| 1st Place | 9830 Manzanar | Erasmus N. Rodriguez |
| 2nd Place | 9622 Stamps | Loreto Tabori |

Window Display

| | | |
|-----------|----------------|----------------------|
| 1st Place | 11018 Marbel | Reno & James Earwood |
| 2nd Place | 9545 Firestone | Josie Weymouth |

Religious Display

| | | |
|-----------|--------------|--------------|
| 1st Place | 9219 Stoakes | Gary Stevens |
|-----------|--------------|--------------|

Animated Display

| | | |
|-----------|--------------|---------------|
| 1st Place | 9535 Stoakes | Pamela Potter |
|-----------|--------------|---------------|

Handcrafted Display

| | | |
|-----------|----------------|-------------------|
| 1st Place | 9215 Clancey | Harmony & Jackson |
| 2nd Place | 10545 Chaney | Roger Family |
| 3rd Place | 10348 Newville | Alicia O. Ramirez |

Total Display

| | | |
|---------------|----------------|----------------------------|
| 1st Place | 10316 Pangborn | Daphne Smith |
| 2nd Place | 9228 Downey | Robin Rotell & Richard Poe |
| 3rd Place | 10337 Mattock | Olivares Family |
| Hon. Mentions | 9817 Newville | Ernest & Daisy Garcia |
| | 9196 Cecilia | Consuelo Sierra |
| | 11242 Quinn | Alex & Tracy Sanchez |
| | 9062 Passons | Gloria Rodriguez |

Former library director is guest speaker

SEAL BEACH—Cordelia Howard, former Director of Libraries for the City of Long Beach Libraries, will be the guest speaker at the Jan. 7 meeting of the Long Beach Branch of the American Association of University Women.

The meeting starts at 10 a.m. at Old Ranch Country Club in Seal Beach. Call (562) 430-8688 for reservations.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:

Calls for a boycott

Dear Editor:

I am very pleased with El Bee and J. Hawkins' reaction to my letter, "Cheap labor and illegal immigrants," (*The Downey Patriot*, 12/09/05).

The main point of my letter was that illegal immigrants cross the borders because we give them jobs. This situation gives us a very effective tool to stop illegal immigrants far better than Minutemen or border guards could do.

I invite Bee and Hawkins and all concerned Americans to join me in a boycott of businesses that employ illegal immigrants.

Start in the car wash and check with your building contractor, roofer, plumber and gardener and don't do business with them if they cannot prove to you that all their employees are legal residents. Stop buying at Wal-Mart, which, according to the Wall Street Journal, has used illegal immigrants in their cleaning crews.

If we all do our share and force all businesses to stop hiring illegal immigrants, the problem will disappear in a relatively short time. That would be an example of safe and effective citizenry's action.

—**Jorge Montero, Downey**

More mansionization

To the Editor:

The general consensus of those who attended Council meetings regarding mansionization is that mansions do not increase the value of neighboring homes for several reasons. They reduce the homey communality of a bedroom community. Privacy for neighboring homes is lost with upper floors able to look down on families in their yards, and in their houses. They are not affordable for most single families as they cost more than \$1 million. Thus, most become virtual hotels for multiple families and their multiple cars overwhelm available street parking.

Lately, there is a growing concern that more families are buying over their heads and causing a sharp increase in bankruptcies. Mansions are a contributing factor.

—**J. Hawkins, Downey**

This holiday season special

Dear Editor:

This Christmas marks 30 years I have been a Rancho employee and a Downey resident. This holiday season is special for me and my family. I want them to be thankful for my having been the first Vietnamese-speaking employee of Rancho. I was hired on Dec. 22, 1975: I just turned 19 then. My memory [of that time] is of the kindhearted employees there who tried to see if there was another Vietnamese refugee to help me with the loneliness. There was no one but me.

I wonder if there's a possibility this can be authenticated. This would be a precious Christmas gift for my three children and those who come after them.

To you, the city of Downey and my fellow employees at Rancho, I am deeply indebted.

Wishing you a Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year.

—**Linh Duy Vo and Family, Downey**

A real Santa

Dear Editor:

I have discovered a real Santa. It is you, the editor of *The Downey Patriot*.

You know and remember who have been naughty and who have been nice. You honor the nice in your wonderful annual Christmas poem.

You report the good and bad in the *Patriot* with equal emphasis and accuracy. The *Patriot* is an excellent place to thoughtfully discuss the issues of Downey. You are a very positive and important force in our community. Thank you very much and to you I wish a Merry Christmas and a Wonderful New Year.

—**Mary Stauffer, Downey**

Resource center to help employers

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard has announced the final approval in Congress of a provision she authored to create a national resource center to help employers address the consequences of domestic violence and sexual violence in the workplace.

The provision, which was approved on Dec. 17, is part of the broader Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) which was incorporated into HR 3402, the Department of Justice Authorization Act.

"I congratulate my colleagues on the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), and I am very pleased it includes the national resource center provision I authored," said Roybal-Allard. "Every year, thousands of women lose their jobs as a result of domestic violence. This forces them to stay in abusive relationships because they are unable to provide for themselves and their children. The national resource center will provide employers with the needed expertise and tools to assist employees who are victims of domestic violence while keeping them employed. And it will assist employers who, according to the Bureau of National Affairs news service, lose \$3 to \$5 billion annually in lost time and productivity."

The center is authorized to receive \$1million annually for five years starting in fiscal year 2007.

VAWA, the underlying bill, which included the national resource center proposed by the Congresswoman, is a landmark legislation credited with enhancing law enforcement's response to crimes involving violence against women, increasing the prosecution of perpetrators of domestic violence, and providing many critical services and programs to assist victims of such violence.

Congresswoman Roybal-Allard is the author of HR 3185, the Security and Financial Empowerment Act (SAFE) which includes far-reaching measures, including the creation of the national resource center, to help victims address the financial and employment impact of domestic violence.

Red Cross seeks helps with blood drive

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 Zeidy Cabrera, Recruitment Representative, American Red Cross Blood Services, 1-800-498-9910, ext. 7.

The Downey Patriot



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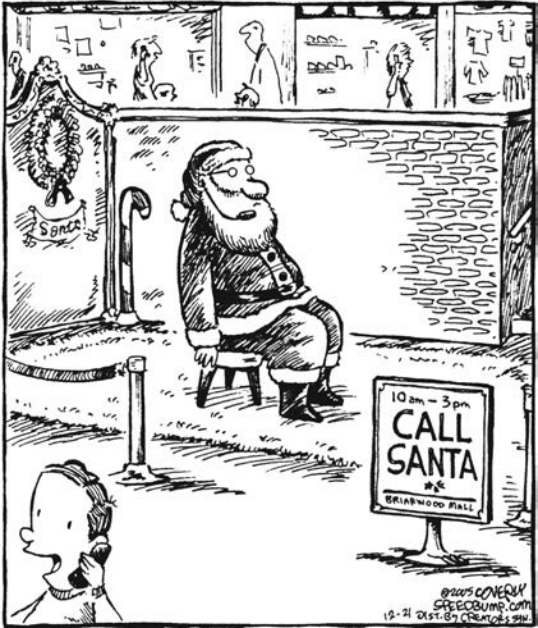
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The Downey Patriot is published weekly by John Adams.

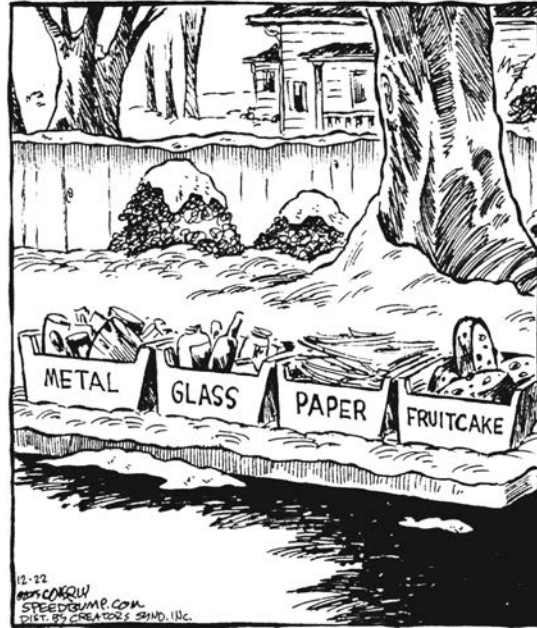
Controlled Distribution, 25,000 copies printed. Distributed by Great Western Advertising Distributors, Inc., Los Angeles, CA.



SPEED BUMP



DAVE COVERLY



Downey Community Calendar

Events For December

Sun. Dec. 25, 8:00 a.m.: **Christmas Worship Service** with Holy Communion at Messiah Lutheran Church, 10711 Paramount Blvd. Pastor Norm Stoppenhagen speaking. Also at 11 a.m. with a service in Spanish at 9:30 a.m. Rev. Ramon Contreras speaking. For information call 923-1215.
 Mon. Dec. 26, 10:00 a.m.: **Rose Float Decorating** assisting the Downey Rose Float Ass'n. for the Pasadena Rose Parade. Theme is "Polar Wonderland." Call to arrange times at 201-3367. Dress in old clothes.

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

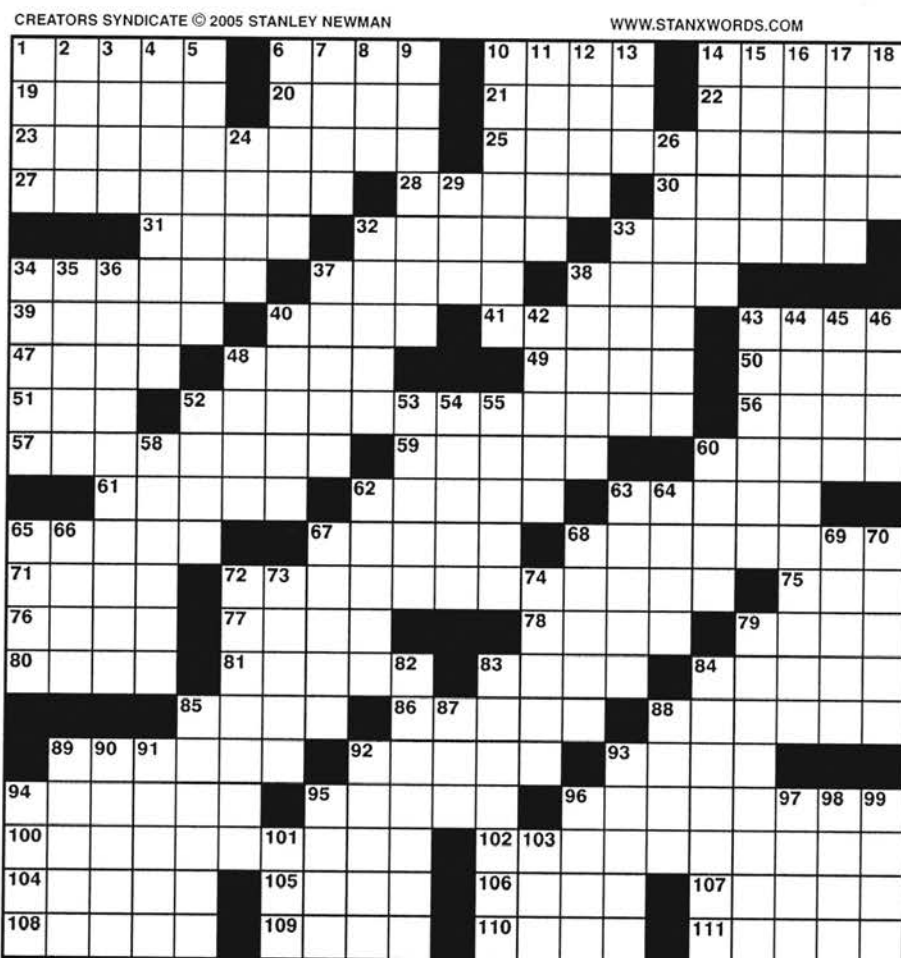
7:30 a.m.: **Pro Networkers**, at Mimi's Cafe, for information call Joe Becker at 869-1414.

**WANT TO GET INVOLVED?
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THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

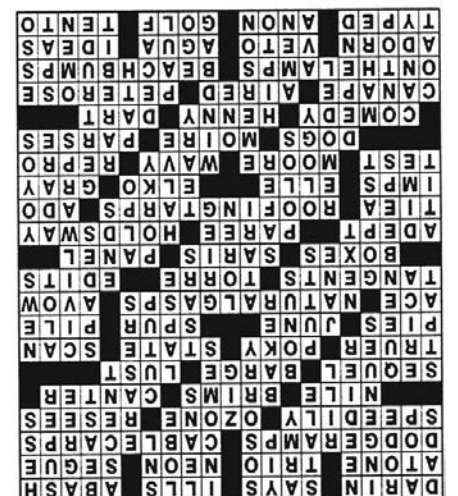
Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com)
AFTERTHOUGHTS: Last-minute wordplay
 by Patrick Jordan

- ACROSS**
- 1 Beyond the Sea subject
 - 6 Emulates Simon
 - 10 Miseries
 - 14 Cause blushing in
 - 19 Make restitution
 - 20 Mother Goose's mice, e.g.
 - 21 Brilliantly colored
 - 22 Smooth transition
 - 23 Avoid inclines?
 - 25 Complaints about pay-TV?
 - 27 In quick fashion
 - 28 Endangered layer
 - 30 Sits through again
 - 31 Giza's river
 - 32 Fezzes lack them
 - 33 Equine gait
 - 34 Aliens, to Alien
 - 37 Cleopatra's craft
 - 38 A deadly sin
 - 39 Less traitorous
 - 40 Far from fast
 - 41 Quarter honoree
 - 43 Digitize artwork
 - 47 Slapstick missiles
 - 48 Popular wedding month
 - 49 San Antonio basketballer
 - 50 Tidy sum
 - 51 Royal-flush card
 - 52 Unaffected reactions?
 - 56 Make no bones about
 - 57 Conversational digressions
 - 59 2000 World Series manager
 - 60 Marks up, as manuscripts
 - 61 Cracker containers
 - 62 Punjab garments
 - 63 To Tell the Truth group
 - 65 Highly skilled
 - 67 French capital, in some tunes
 - 68 Be in charge
 - 71 "___ yellow ribbon ..."
 - 72 Canvas sheets on a house?
 - 75 Time-wasting bother
 - 76 Naughty youngsters
 - 77 Allure rival
 - 78 Nevada city
 - 79 Like rainy skies
 - 80 Dry run
 - 81 Bond after Connery
 - 83 Rife with ripples
 - 84 Copy, for short
 - 85 Beethoven and Benji
 - 86 Watery silk design
 - 88 Analyzes the grammar of
 - 92 Across's field
 - 92 Funny Youngman
 - 93 Blowgun missile
 - 94 Dinner-party tidbit
 - 95 Put on the radio
 - 96 One with a hit record
 - 100 Where shades are found?
 - 102 Buggy jolters?
 - 104 Hang ornaments on
 - 105 Presidential privilege
 - 106 Water, to Juanita
 - 107 Creative sparks
 - 108 Did some keyboarding
 - 109 Soon, in poetry
 - 110 Caddyshack sport
 - 111 600 seconds before the hour
- DOWN**
- 1 Sons' sires
 - 2 At the peak of
 - 3 Took a taxi, maybe
 - 4 Unworldly women
 - 5 More disadvantaged
 - 6 Musty
 - 7 Beetle Bailey's outfit
 - 8 Pup's bark
 - 9 Regretful comment
 - 10 Part of cash flow
 - 11 Pressures, with "on"
 - 12 Spot for a stud
 - 13 NBC show since '75
 - 14 Half of a mountaineering trip
 - 15 Last word of King Kong
 - 16 Reach an accord
 - 17 "Fabulous!"
 - 18 British classical pianist
 - 24 Small brook
 - 26 Blackboard adjuncts
 - 29 Turn sharply
 - 32 Tub occupant of rhyme
 - 33 Prankish person
 - 34 Mar. 17 celebrity
 - 35 Susan Lucci's Emmy role
 - 36 Sounds from a royal pager?
 - 37 Pleasant paycheck surprise
 - 38 Run out
 - 40 Some 110 Across strokes
 - 42 Catherine the Great's six successors
 - 43 Black suit
 - 44 Respectful bends?
 - 45 Frequently
 - 46 CNN format
 - 48 Tarzan's companion
 - 52 Succeeding
 - 53 Arcade-game name
 - 54 Matthau's bride in Grumpier Old Men
 - 55 Norwegian composer
 - 58 Exceed
 - 60 Winds up
 - 62 Not as hazardous
 - 63 "That's all folks!" sayer
 - 64 Ken-L. Ration competitor
 - 65 Working hard
 - 66 Mint product
 - 67 Informal shirts
 - 68 Divide by two
 - 69 On ___ (by challenge)
 - 70 Spinners on strings
 - 72 Do a makeover on
 - 73 Scientific suffix
 - 74 Lachrymose
 - 79 Hamlet's mother
 - 82 Friend of Thoreau
 - 83 Nonstop talker
 - 84 Welsh ___ (cheesy dish)
 - 85 Place trust (upon)
 - 87 Unified
 - 88 Way through the woods
 - 89 Trick-or-treater's haul
 - 90 Leading the competition
 - 91 1984 Olympics skier
 - 92 Aware of
 - 93 Joltless java
 - 94 Something to check
 - 95 Revival meeting shout
 - 96 Name of six popes
 - 97 Fortune-teller's tip-off
 - 98 Brief dispute
 - 99 Canadian gas brand
 - 101 Ex of Mickey and Artie
 - 103 Teamwork obstacle



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 reference at 96 Across is to the major-league career base-hit record of PETE ROSE. The last line of the 1933 film "King Kong" (15 Down) is "It was beauty killed the BEAST." The six successors of Catherine the Great (42 Down) as rulers of Russia, from Paul through Nicholas II, were all male.



O.C. Fair to have New Year's Eve celebration

COSTA MESA—As an alternative to watching the Times Square festivities on TV New Year's Eve, people can instead ring in 2006 at the Orange County & Exposition Center, 88 Fair Drive in Costa Mesa. Touted as the largest New Year's Eve party on the West Coast, *Orange County New Year's Eve (OCNYE)* will feature live music, dancing, food, exhibits and the crown jewel of the night, the "spectacular" Orange Drop to ring in the New Year.

Featured performers include Sugar Ray, Joan Jett & the Blackhearts, The Violent Femmes, the Psychedelic Furs, Berlin, The English Beat, Bow Wow Wow, Reel Big Fish, Lit, The Colour, Wax Apples, Charles Feelgood, Grant Plant, Jason Blakemore, DJ Jasen and Speaker Junkies.

Event hours are 6 p.m.-1:30 a.m. Admission is \$65 per person. VIP Skybox packages are also available. For more information, visit www.ocnye.com.

46th annual 'holiday celebration'

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.

Staged play readings at Boston Court

PASADENA—Classic and Contemporary American Plays (C.C.A.P.) has moved this season to Boston Court Performing Arts Complex in Pasadena. C.C.A.P. features staged readings of plays by great American playwrights read by some of the most proclaimed artists of theater, film and TV.

Public readings are held Tuesday and Wednesday evenings at 7:30 p.m. on the Main Stage at Boston Court, 70 N. Mentor Ave., Pasadena. Tickets are \$25, and are available at www.bostoncourt.org. Discounts are available by calling (626) 683-6883.

C.C.A.P., now in its 5th year, has presented over 20 plays, performing in a variety of venues such as (inside) the Ford, University of Judaism, Century City Playhouse and the Alex Theater in Glendale.

Scheduled Jan. 17-18 is "American Buffalo" by David Mamet with Joe Spano and Michael Weston, directed by James Eckhouse. The New York Drama Critic's Circle Awarded play is a gritty, human drama about a bungled heist of a valuable coin collection.



'NUNSENSE' COMING TO DOWNEY — Marsha Moode (right), executive producer of the Downey Civic Light Opera, has announced the next production of the local group will be the hilarious musical comedy, "Nunsense," which will be produced live on stage at the Downey Theater, Firestone at Brookshire, from Feb. 23 through March 12. She is pictured here with her mother, Florence, a familiar face to patrons as they enter the lobby of the theater. For information, call 923-1714. Group ticket discounts are available.

Sidi playing local holiday concerts

DOWNEY — Downey musician Sebastian Sidi will play Downtown Disney tonight, Dec. 23, one of a series of local performances he's playing during the holidays.

Sidi will also play the Orange County Marketplace in Costa Mesa tomorrow, Dec. 24, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Universal CityWalk Dec. 29 from 6-10 p.m.

For more information on any of the performances or other dates, call (562) 544-7774.

Political comedy opens theater New Year

LOS ANGELES — Politics get personal in "Top Girls," the latest offering by L.A. Theater Works, opening Jan. 11 at the Skirball Cultural Center in Los Angeles.

The Obie Award-winning comedy by Caryl Churchill is set in the 1980s of Margaret Thatcher's England. Amy Brenneman leads the ensemble cast.

Tickets are priced between \$25 and \$45 with special student prices available. Call (310) 827-0889 for more information.

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|---------------------------|------------------------------------|
| RUMOR HAS IT PG13 Sun. | (12:00 2:30) 5:00 7:30 10:00 |
| WOLF CREEK R Sun. | (11:30 2:00 4:30) 7:00 9:30 |
| THE RINGER PG13 | (11:45 2:15 4:45) 7:15 9:45 |
| CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2 PG | (11:15 1:50 4:25) 7:00 9:35 |
| FUN WITH DICK & JANE PG13 | (10:20 12:45 3:10) 5:35 8:00 10:25 |
| KING KONG PG13 | (10:00 2:00) 6:00 10:00 |
| KING KONG PG13 | (11:00 3:00) 7:00 11:00 |
| 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) 7:30 10:35 |
| CHRONICLES OF NARNIA PG | (11:15 2:20) 5:25 8:30 |
| YOURS, MINE AND OURS PG | (10:30 12:55 3:20) 5:45 8:10 10:35 |
| HARRY POTTER: 4 PG13 | (10:15 1:40) 5:05 8:30 |

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| RUMOR HAS IT PG13 Sun To Thur | (11:35 2:05 4:40) 7:25 10:10 |
| WOLF CREEK R Sun To Thur | (11:50 2:15 4:50) 7:30 10:15 |
| CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2 PG Fri | (10:05 12:25 2:45 5:15) 7:35 10:00 Sat |
| (10:05 12:25 2:45 5:15) 7:35 Sun To Thur | (11:45 2:10 4:45) 7:15 9:45 |
| FUN WITH DICK AND JANE PG13 Fri | (10:10 11:10 12:30 1:30 2:50 3:50 5:10) 6:10 7:30 8:30 9:50 10:45 |
| * FUN WITH DICK AND JANE PG13 Sat | (10:10 11:10 12:30 1:30 2:50 3:50 5:10) 6:10 7:30 8:30 9:50 10:45 |
| * FUN WITH DICK AND JANE PG13 Sun To Thur | (11:15 1:45 4:20) 7:20 9:55 Sat |
| (11:15 1:45 4:20) 7:20 Sun To Thur | (11:15 1:45 4:20) 7:20 9:55 |
| THE FAMILY STONE PG13 Fri | (11:15 1:45 4:20) 7:20 9:55 Sat |
| (11:15 1:45 4:20) 7:20 Sun To Thur | (11:15 1:45 4:20) 7:20 9:55 |
| KING KONG PG13 Fri | (10:00 11:00 2:00 3:00) 6:05 7:00 10:00 11:00 |
| KING KONG PG13 Sat | (10:00 11:00 2:00 3:00) 6:05 7:00 (ON 2 SCREENS) |
| KING KONG PG13 Sun To Thur | (10:00 11:00 2:00 3:00) 6:05 7:00 10:00 11:00 |
| THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA: THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE PG Fri | (11:30 12:30 2:45 3:45) 6:15 7:10 9:30 10:20 |
| * THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA: THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE PG Sat | (11:30 12:30 2:45 3:45) 6:15 7:10 9:30 10:20 |
| * THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA: THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE PG Sun To Thur | (11:30 12:30 2:45 3:45) 6:15 7:10 9:30 10:20 |
| SYRIANA PG Fri | (11:00 1:50 4:40) 7:35 10:25 Sat |
| (11:00 1:50 4:40) 7:35 Sun To Thur | 10:20 PM |
| JUST FRIENDS PG13 Fri | (11:35 2:05 4:35) 7:50 10:25 Sat |
| (11:35 2:05 4:35) 7:50 Sun To Thur | (10:15 AM) Sat |
| YOURS, MINE & OURS PG Fri | (10:15 AM) Sat |

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Joyce Laird Whitehurst was a longtime resident

DOWNEY—Memorial services officiated by Pastor Mike Bankhead were held Dec. 21 at the Downey United Methodist Church for Joyce Laird Whitehurst, who was born in Bonham, Texas and passed away at Coast Plaza Doctors Hospital on Dec. 15. She was 83.

A resident of Downey for 40 years, she was a retired employee of Robinsons Department Store. She held memberships in PEO, Downey Woman's Club and the Downey Symphony Guild.

She is survived by her brother, Dr. Frank W. Laird; aunt, Dotty L. King; daughter, Susan Whitehurst; and grandchildren, Whitney Van Wagner, Adam Harrison, and Megan Harrison.

Interment was at Willow Wild Cemetery in Bonham, TX. Arrangements were by Miller-Mies Mortuary.

In lieu of flowers, the family requested donations be sent to the Downey Symphony Guild.

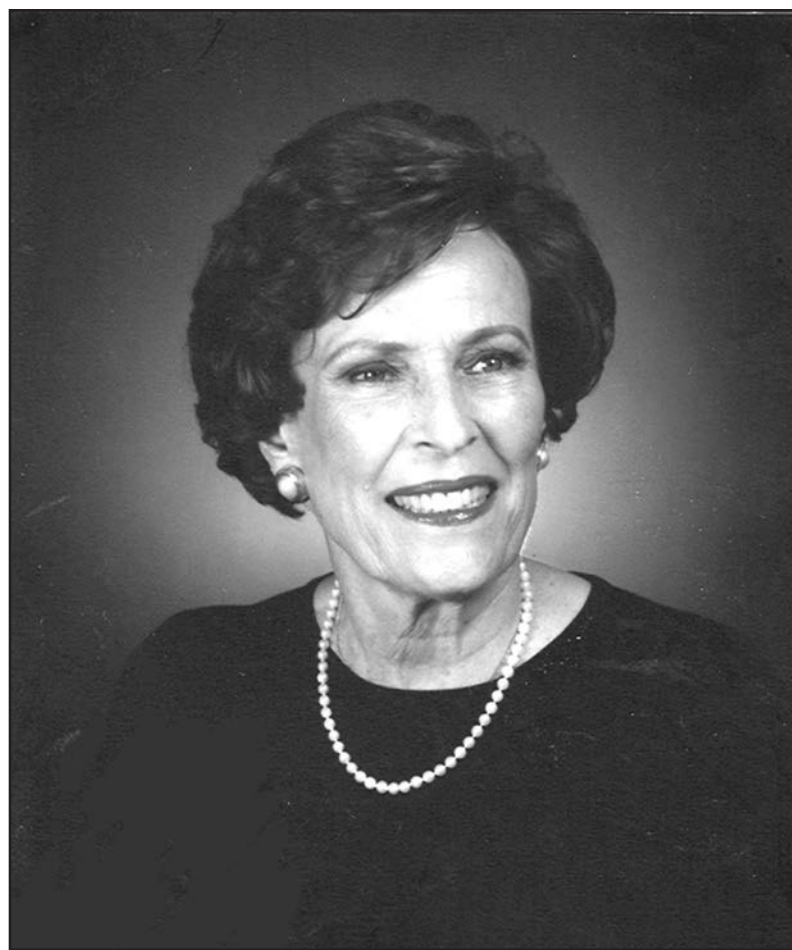
WAGS meets Jan. 21 in Whittier

WHITTIER—The Whittier Area Genealogical Society's (WAGS) next monthly meeting is Saturday, Jan. 21 at 1 p.m. at the Whittier Masonic Lodge, 7604 Greenleaf Ave. in Whittier.

The featured speaker will be Anne Browning, who will share her own family's *Orphan Train* legacy.

Between 1850 and the 1920s there over 150,000 orphaned and abandoned children sent from the East coast cities to new homes in the West.

Visitors are welcome at these monthly meetings. For information, call (562) 695-5431 or (626) 919-1713, or see www.cagenweb.com/kr/wags.



JOYCE LAIRD WHITEHURST—Was 83 when she passed away Dec. 15. A Downey resident for 40 years, her body was laid to rest in Bonham, Texas, the place of her birth.

Betty Louise Dobiesz services held Dec. 19

DOWNEY—Betty Louise Dobiesz, who was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania to J. and Sarah Phillips on Aug. 17, 1920, has passed away. A resident of Downey for 47 years, she died on Dec. 15 at the age of 85.

Services were held on Dec. 19 at St. Raymond's Church.

She is survived by her daughter Linda (Tom); her son Patrick (Elaine); grandchildren Theresa, Michael, Diana, Brian, Eric, Justin and Reyche; and 14 grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, Joseph.

Interment was at All Souls Cemetery in Long Beach. Services were entrusted to Downey Zrelak Family Mortuary.

Donald Samuel Smyser was SoCal Ed retiree

DOWNEY—Services officiated by Pastor Mike Fitts were held yesterday for Donald Samuel Smyser of Downey, who was retired from Southern California Edison and a member of First Baptist Church of Downey.

Born in Los Angeles, he died in Sonora on Dec. 17 at the age of 90. He resided in Downey for 48 years.

He is survived by his wife Ione Smyser; daughter Carol Halliburton; son John Smyser; and two grandchildren.

Interment was at Rose Hills Memorial Cemetery. Miller-Mies Mortuary assisted with arrangements.

Gene Turner demonstrates at art meeting

BELLFLOWER—Guest demonstrator at the Bellflower Art Association's meeting Jan. 10 at 7:30 p.m. at Thompson Park, 14001 Bellflower Blvd., will be Gene Turner. For information, call Lou Scott, (562) 925-1314.

Bellflower Chorus seeks singers

BELLFLOWER—The Bellflower Civic Chorus seeks singers for its 35-member mixed ensemble. Sopranos and tenors are particularly sought. The chorus has existed for more than 35 years singing favorite songs.

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

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'Smile of a Child' reaching skid row

Contributed by Trinity Broadcasting Network

It's Christmas time in Los Angeles and around the world. It's a time to give and rejoice in the birth of Jesus Christ.

This year 1000's of needy boys and girls living in LA's skid row received toys thanks to "Smile of a Child," a project begun by Trinity Broadcasting Network (TBN)'s co-founder Jan Crouch.

"All year around our ongoing goal with Smile of a Child is to provide toys to thousands of hurting children in need around the world," Jan explained. "Already we've seen toys put into the hands of children in Samoa, Haiti, Nicaragua, Chile, Namibia, Fiji, Costa Rica, India, Tonga, Kenya, China, South Africa, and many other places."

Smile of a Child volunteers join Jan and her husband, Paul Crouch, in distributing the gifts to youngsters. Jan recalls with emotion that on one trip to Haiti, she had the joy of giving a baby doll to a tiny girl who had always dreamed of having one of her own. "I'll never forget that moment," she said. "It really defines to me what Smile of a Child is all about."

Recalled Paul Crouch of that trip, "Oh, the smiles on those angel faces — the joy in their eyes — when they each received their toy, many of whom have never had a toy of their own before."

Paul also recalled their visit to an "abandoned babies" hospital in Haiti, when Jan held a precious child that was so weak from malnutrition and disease that the little one died in Jan's arms. "There are no words for that," he said.

Smile of a Child, which has taken more than 47,000 toys to needy children globally, is a not-for-profit organization. The project not only distributes toys to needy kids, but also has contributed to other projects such as feeding children and building hospitals.

"Right now we are 75 percent complete on a \$3,000,000 hospital in Haiti," Paul Crouch explained. "And we're finishing up a \$200,000 hospital in Costa Rica."

Smile of a Child also funds reconstructive surgery for needy children. Recently, the ministry brought medical attention to a Kenyan girl whose face had been terribly mauled by a hyena.

In addition to these efforts, on Christmas Eve, December 24th, the new Smile of a Child Television Network will sign on and begin broadcasting quality Christian children's programming 24 hours a day. "This wonderful new network is really an extension of the vision God gave me for Smile of a Child," explained Jan "to pour the love of God into the hearts and lives of children all over the world. Television is a perfect tool to do that."

Smile of a Child is ready to accept your donations of dolls and trucks at its California headquarters. You simply purchase the toys at one of your local retail outlets, pray God's richest blessing over the children who will receive your gifts, and then mail them to:

Smile of a Child
P.O. Box 10700
Santa Ana, CA 92711-0700

"We make sure a message of the love of Jesus is placed around each toy," said Jan, "and then we take them to needy children all over the world. Only eternity will reveal the impact this simple gesture of God's love will have on these who are so precious in His sight."

For more information on Smile of a Child, log on to www.smileofachild.org.



FIGHTING THE FLU – Downey Federal Credit Union, in partnership with Downey Regional Medical Center, offered flu shots to its employees. Pictured from the credit union are Anita Pena, Jackie Perseke, Shelly Smith, Cynthia Guajardo and Caryn Pirano. Sadie English, RN, Staff Supervisor at DRMC and Gloria Harper, RN, DRMC Home Health Department, helped administer the shots.

Local students graduate from Asuza Pacific

DOWNEY—Local residents Julie K. Yu, Mary Esther Rizalla, and Tracy Fitch graduated from Asuza Pacific University on Dec. 17. They were joined by more than 500 graduates at the winter commencement exercises.

Yu graduated with a Master of Arts degree in Education (Teaching); Rizalla graduated with a Master of Arts degree in Education (Educational Counsel); and Fitch graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Organizational Leadership.

Asuza Pacific is a Christian, evangelical university whose main campus lies 26 miles northeast of Los Angeles in the San Gabriel Valley. The university offers more than 50 areas of undergraduate study, 21 master's degrees, and five doctorates to a total student population of more than 8,100.

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.

Snow play trip for youth/middle school

DOWNEY—The city of Downey Community Services Department offers a "Snow Play" trip for Youth and Middle School to Big Bear Village – Alpine Slide, Monday, Jan. 16 from 8 a.m.-6:30 p.m.

The fee of \$25 includes supervision and admission. All trips are supervised by adult recreation leaders.

Registration is now taking place at Downey City Hall in the Community Services Department. Sign-ups are limited. For information, call 904-7238.

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.

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TOPS meets weekly at First Baptist

DOWNEY – Downey TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) CA 63, 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.

For more information, call Lou at 861-9425.

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. For information call 923-2191.

New Year's party

DOWNEY – Nordic Fox restaurant will again this year host a New Year's Eve party on Saturday, Dec. 31 from 9:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m.

There will be music, food, dancing, party hats, noisemakers, and a champagne toast at midnight, according to Joe Becker, manager of the local eatery. Admission will be \$10 pre-paid reservation before Dec. 31 or \$15 at the door.

In addition, a Christmas smorgasbord will be held on Christmas Eve. Nordic Fox is located at 10924 Paramount Blvd., Downey. For information call 869-1414.



LOURDES BIRBA—Was named Executive Director of Adult Health Care for Downey Regional Medical Center. Since coming on board in December, Lourdes has been working on the opening of DRMC's Adult Day Health Center (ADHC) at 12130 S. Paramount Blvd. She holds an M.S. in Gerontology, and B.A. in Psychology, both from USC.

Keep Downey Beautiful hotline 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

Free hotline magnets, courtesy of Keep Downey Beautiful, are available at City Hall's 2nd floor at the Public Works counter.

Merry Christmas

AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR!

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Keep Downey Beautiful seeking street help

DOWNEY—Keep Downey Beautiful, an independent community beautification group, is seeking groups and individuals as volunteers to maintain clean roads and thoroughfares in Downey.

The Adopt A Street program allocates streets in the city to groups and individuals who provide the labor and \$225 (\$325 if KDB provides the cleanup crew).

Carol Rowland, director of the program, said a sponsors period runs from Sept. 1 to Aug. 31, during which a designated section must be cleaned and debris picked up and removed at least four times. Street sections range from a half mile to mile in length. After the first pickup KDB will install Adopt A Street signs, one each for each direction, indicating the name of the business or individual.

If KDB recruits the volunteer such as a local church group, school or civic club, their names will be listed. For more information, call (562) 904-7159.

Judge issues statement on nomination

LOS ANGELES—Following is a partial statement issued by Central District of California U.S. District Court Chief Judge Alicemarie H. Stotler on the nomination of Magistrate Judge Stephen G. Larson to be U.S. District Judge for the District:

"Today (Dec. 15) President Bush nominated Magistrate Judge Stephen G. Larson to be U.S. District Judge for the Central District of California. Mr. Larson knows the Central District well. He grew up in the Central District, leaving briefly to attend Georgetown University where he received his undergraduate degree. He returned to attend the University of Southern California where he received his law degree. For most of his legal career, he has served the Central District, first as an Assistant U.S. Attorney and then as a Magistrate Judge.

As an Assistant U.S. Attorney, he was widely recognized for his skills in managing complex organized crime cases. His expertise in this area led to his appointment as the chief of the Organized Crime Section of the U.S. Attorney's Office.

Mr. Larson's energy, legal expertise and management skills stood out among the dozens of applicants for the position for magistrate judge when he applied. This court welcomed the opportunity to appoint him to the position in 2000 and he has served admirably since that time."



REALTORS LEND A HAND—Downey Association of Realtors recently donated \$1,500 to Downey PTA HELPS. From left, Steve Roberson and Francisco Gomez representing the realtors, and Kim Rapp of Downey PTA HELPS.

Cancer support group at DRMC

DOWNEY — Downey Regional Medical Center hosts a free cancer support group each Wednesday from 4 to 5 p.m. For more information call 806-2790.

Diabetes sufferers meet at hospital

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

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. For information call Marie Augimeri at 884-5799.

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.

Masonic Lodge meeting every Monday

DOWNEY — Metropolitan Masonic Lodge #352 meets every Monday at 6:30 p.m. at 8244 3rd St for their dinner and meeting.



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Happy Holidays!

Marie de Hertoghe, Chuck Gugliuzza, Fran Johnson, Vaughn Jones, Marina Martin, Anthony Mendez, Alyce Perau, and John Waters wish you a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

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COLIN'S CORNER
By Colin Clarke

Sold 2,3,4!

Hooray! You've sold your home and handed the keys over to the new owners! Now what? Do you need to buy another home and move? The agent who sold your home may be a likely candidate to help you locate another, but buying and selling require different skills. If you're moving some distance, you might want a referral for another agent who knows your new area well. If you cleared a good deal of cash from your sale, consider putting it in a safe, although possibly temporary, spot. While Money Market Accounts aren't earning exactly astronomical returns at the moment, they are safe, usually guaranteed, and give you easy access to your money and check writing. Now what about all the paperwork you amassed during your listing and sale? Hold onto it, because you'll need it for next year's tax return. And hold onto it after that, in case (shudder) your return should be audited. Since you can add the cost basis, you may still need all those repair and improvement receipts to document your capital gains formulations. Be sure to keep up with changing tax laws and changing life situations (like a promotion, a baby, or a divorce) that could impact your next purchase decision and tax return. Preparation before your sale makes life afterward even more satisfying!

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December 2005

In recognition and gratitude for keeping Downey and the surrounding communities well informed and in the know, CENTURY 21 My Real Estate pays tribute to the team at The Downey Patriot. From the old and wise to the young and energetic, this home paper keeps everyone watching and reading. We appreciate the venue it gives businesses to advertise, the civic and educational mechanisms to be spotlighted, as well as the delightful community spotlights on people, places and things. We applaud their energy, the enthusiasm, the resourcefulness and skill that keeps the wheels of this media source turning. Pictured are (left to right): Eric Pierce, David Becerra, Jerry Brady, Jonathan Fox, Brooke Karli, Robert Tolentino, and Henry Veneracion (seated).

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