

**Micro** marathoners See Page 3



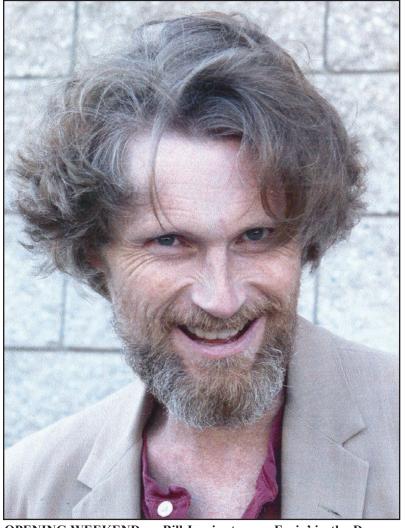
Tilley lobbies in Washington See Page 2



**Small business** gets big honor See Page 11

Vol. 6 No. 6 Friday, June 1, 2007

11525 Downey Ave., Suite A, Downey, CA 90241



OPENING WEEKEND — Bill Lewis stars as Fagin' in the Downey Civic Light Opera Association's production of "Oliver!" which opens this weekend at the Downey Theatre. Lewis is a theater veteran, having appeared in "Sweet Charity," "Cabaret," and, most recently, "Hello Dolly." For tickets to "Oliver!", call (562) 923-1714 between 1 and 5 p.m., Tuesday through Friday.

# By their speech ye shall know them

■ Gang slang in Southern California remains relatively unchanged, says local gang expert.

By Henry Veneracion STAFF WRITER

**DOWNEY**—We asked Ernest Caldwell, program director of the 10-20 Club, Downey's "non-profit juvenile intervention organization that tends to the needs of youth and young adults between the ages of 10 and 20 years whom society may classify as at-risk or delinquent," if gang slang has changed much over the years. After looking at some samples of the language used by gangs, vintage 1991, he said, "No."

"The hood" still refers to the neighborhood, a "wanna-be" still means someone who wants to be a

gang member, a "homeboy" or "homie" is one of the boys from the neighborhood/a partner or friend, "gavachos" means Anglos," "truck driver" means an unappealing girl, "kibbles and bits" are crumbs of cocaine, "bo" is marijuana, "get down" means fight, "ask your momma" is self-explanatory, "pull your coattail" means tell you something, "raise" means leave, "Turkish" is heavy ornamental gold necklace, and so on.

Caldwell adds these from personal knowledge: "SOD" means See SLANG, page 8

# Time Traveler How John Downey bought the rails here

By John Adams **EDITOR EMERITUS** 

The story of how the railroad came to Downey is filled with intrigue **I** and is intricately intertwined with Los Angeles.

The genius of the story is John Downey, former governor and organizer of the land company which established modern Downey where it is

But the farmers of Los Nietos (as the area was then called) were not enough alone to attract the railroad, nor was the pueblo of Los Angeles. It took some mighty lobbying to get the rail magnates of the north to see the value that lay inherent in Southern California.

Topography was against them. Los Angeles and the rich farmlands of the San Gabriel Valley lay surrounded by mountains that required expensive tunneling before rails could be pushed through.

The first plan envisioned by the big four of the Central Pacific-Leland Stanford, Colis P. Huntington, Mark Hopkins and Charles Crocker-was for a Southern Pacific Rail line to run south through the San Joaquin Valley but then shoot eastward across the Colorado River somewhere near

This was subsequently modified southward to Yuma, but still did not contemplate piercing the ring of mountains surrounding the Los Angeles Basin or the San Gabriel Valley.

See TRAVELER, page 4

# No big surprises in proposed budget

#### By Henry Veneracion STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY-Except for a recommended addition to the Public Works Department budget of \$175,000 for a sewer pump system (\$45,000), an asphalt patch truck (\$45,000), and a front-end loader (\$85,000), there were no marked deviations from the proposed City of Downey budget of \$137,803,674 for 2007-08 as submitted for review by City Manager Gerald Caton in Tuesday's City Council special budget study session.

The proposed budget is up 7 percent over last year's budget of \$128.7 million.

The Police Department still has the biggest chunk of the General Fund (which Caton referred to as the "meat and potatoes" of the budget), which totals \$67,383,394. The department's share is \$28,919,766, comprising 41 percent of total. It is up 6 percent over last year's.

The Fire Department has the next biggest share of the General Fund, \$17,096,203, up 10.6 percent over last year's, followed by Community Services, whose budget is \$7,816,511, up 18 percent this year, followed by Public Works at \$5,304,342 (up 9.7 percent),

Government General \$4,775,250 (up 7.7 percent), and Development Services, \$3,471,322 (up 11 percent).

The amounts follow traditional distributions.

This is one way of looking at the budget, of course. The other way is by splitting the budget into two main parts: operating and cap-

The proposed operating budget amounts to \$95,954,895, while the proposed capital budget amounts to \$41,848,779.

Using the first method of looking at the city budget, which is divided into different parts called funds, each fund has its own budget with its own expenditures and revenues. These different funds are interrelated.

As Caton and his staff indicate in the foreword to the humongous budget, it establishes a budget for a city with 113,587 residents, over 800 employee positions, 459 of them full-time. The budget has to comply with various state and federal regulations that "often dictate our activities and budget practices."

The proposed budget, said See BUDGET, page 7



Members of the Downey High School Art Club painted a mural inside the SEAACA building where animals are photographed.

# Art Club lends talent to animals at SEAACA

■ Downey High School students paint mural inside SEAACA to help abandoned pets get adopted.

**DOWNEY** – The Downey High School Art Club visited the SEAACA animal care center in Downey last week armed with brushes, rollers and gallons of paint after agreeing to complete a class project that involved painting a mural on the wall where shelter animals are photographed.

"We photograph all our animals and place their picture online, so we thought that sprucing up the photo area might help our animals show a little better," said Aaron Reyes, director of operations at SEAACA. "The staff and animals are very grateful."

SEAACA approached teacher and Art Club advisor Vivian Durkee about the project and she immediately agreed.

The mural, a peaceful landscape setting consisting of rolling green hills and a clear blue sky, has not only made the animals' online

pictures look better, it is also soothing for the staff who take the photos, according to SEAACA.

"These young art professionals were amazing to watch as they transformed a dull wall into an area with a very nature-like feel," Reyes said. "It will take a few days before the animals impounded and photographed in front of the new mural can be seen line at the top of the list. We have many pets that are already here – and displayed first online - which were not photographed in the newly decorated area, since it was just completed on Tuesday.

Downey High School students who participated in the project include Vileana De la Rosa, Beenish Malik, Brenda Calderon, June Boonprom, Karina Gordon, Karen Melgar and their advisor.

## **KEY BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS**

The proposed City of Downey budget is \$137,803,674, including more than \$29 million for the police department and \$17 million for the fire department.

#### WHAT THE BUDGET INCLUDES:

- · Funds for three new police officers and two new positions for Neighborhood Watch, and \$200,000 for a fence around the police department employee parking lot.
- More than \$200,000 to study future projects on the Rancho Los Amigos property.
- A public information officer in City Hall.
- \$25,000 to the Downey Chamber of Commerce, \$21,500 to PTA HELPS, and \$10,000 each to the Downey Rose Float Association, Downey Museum of Art and Downey Symphony.

#### WHAT THE BUDGET LACKS:

- Money to operate the new Columbia Memorial Space Science Learning Center which, according to the budget, is now slated to open
- Money to study possible future developments at Downey Studios.
- The budget dedicates no money to the development of the vacant CitiBank property at the intersection of Lakewood and Firestone Boulevards, although construction at the intersection is anticipated later this year.
- The City's storm drainage and aging sewer lines are not addressed. According to the budget, "the problem concerning storm water remains outstanding." Source: 2007-08 City of Downey Preliminary Budget

# Downey woman killed in Long Beach collision

By Eric Pierce CITY EDITOR

LONG BEACH – A 62-year-old Downey woman was killed in Long Beach last week in a traffic collision police called "a horrible accident."

Theresa Pennington was making a U-turn at Conant Street just before 7:30 a.m. on May 24, police said. Her 2000 Honda Civic was reportedly traveling very slowly when it was struck by a 1993 Lexus GS300.

Pennington was not breathing when paramedics and firefighters arrived, police said. She was transported to Long Beach Memorial Medical Center where she died, police said

# Pedestrian killed by street racing motorist

By Eric Pierce CITY EDITOR

**DOWNEY** – One person was killed and another injured when a 2005 Subaru Impreza police say was engaged in an illegal street race hit two pedestrians at the intersection of Imperial Highway and Brookshire Avenue in Downey last Saturday.

Adam Gutierrez, 26, of Downey, was racing a newer model black Hondo Civic when he struck the two pedestrians, who were crossing in the crosswalk at Imperial Highway and Brookshire Avenue at about 6 p.m., police said.

The Honda did not stop and continued eastbound on Imperial.

Twenty-year-old Downey resident Carlos Parga was treated for a broken leg at Downey Regional Medical Center and released. The other victim, a 19-year-old friend of Parga's whose name was not released, was taken to Saint Francis Hospital where he died, police said.

Gutierrez was arrested and booked for vehicular manslaughter. He was being held on \$50,000 bail and was arraigned Wednesday at Downey Superior Court.

Anyone with information on the black Honda Civic or the accident is asked to call Traffic Detective Rosie Gutierrez with the Downey Police Department at (562) 904-2339 or the Downey Police Department Watch Commander at (562) 904-2308 and reference case no. 07-33369.

# Robber shoots himself in restaurant hold-up

By Eric Pierce, City Editor

**DOWNEY** – An armed robber accidentally shot himself after he and another man held up the Lucky Boys #2 restaurant in Downey on Tuesday. According to police, two men entered the restaurant located at 12801 Bellflower Blvd. at approximately 7:20 p.m. One suspect pointed a blue steel handgun at the cashier and demanded money. The second suspect

was armed with a revolver tucked inside his waistband, police said. The cashier handed over the cash drawer and the suspects removed the money, police said. The robbers then turned around and tried to run out a

side door, but it was locked and the two men ran into each other, police One of the guns accidentally discharged, striking one of the men. Both suspects then ran away, police said.

The first suspect was described as a light skinned male, about 19, possibly Hispanic, 5 ft. 6 inches tall and 150 pounds. The second suspect was also male and Hispanic, 5 ft. 11 inches tall, with a thin build.

# Page 2 Friday, June 1, 2007 Community

# John Tilley lobbies for pharmacy owners

■ Tilley, owner of five Downey pharmacies, traveled to Washington for legislative conference.

WASHINGTON D.C. – Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard (CA-34) met with Downey pharmacy owners John and Karen Tilley, their daughter Erin, and Downey Pharmacist Robert Fox during a visit to our nation's capital for the National Community Pharmacists Association's (NCPA) National Legislative Conference.

As part of the conference, the pharmacists lobbied members of Congress about legislative issues affecting independent pharmacy owners.

John Tilley, owner of five pharmacies in Downey, was recently installed as president of the NCPA, representing the professional, political and business interests of community pharmacists throughout the United States.

The Tilley family moved to Downey in 1953, with John graduating from Downey High School in 1971. He then attended Whittier College and the Idaho State University College of Pharmacy, graduating in 1977.

In 1984, John became the owner of three Zweber pharmacies, which were started in 1957 by then owner Roman Zweber.

Tilley currently owns the Zweber Pharmacies, as well as Downey Plaza Pharmacy and Pacific Pharmacy. This year, the Zweber Pharmacies celebrated their 50th year in Downey.

Tilley began his association with NCPA in 1992 when he was installed as 5th vice president. In 1994, he was awarded the prestigious "Bowl of Hygeia" for outstanding community pharmacy practice.

He was also president of the California Pharmacists Association in 1997 and was awarded California Pharmacist of the Year in 2001.

He was outstanding Alumnus of Idaho State University in 1997, appointed to the California State Board of Pharmacy by Governor Davis in 2001, president of the Downey Chamber of Commerce in 2002, and inducted into the Downey High School Hall of Fame in 2004.

Throughout the years, Tilley has testified before congressional committees on Medicare Part D, Generic Substitution, and Prescription Drug Pricing. This year Tilley has also been called upon to speak at various National and State Pharmacy Association meetings to give updates regarding national issues.

The one thing Tilley stresses to pharmacists across the country is, "Above all, we are patient advocates. With regard to issues involving healthcare, we must always put what is best for the consumer - our patients – at the forefront."

Tilley has been married to wife Karen for 27 years, who is also a longtime Downey resident and graduate of Warren High. They have four children - Alyson, Kirk, Shannon and Erin.

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Pictured are (left to right) Robert Fox, John Tilley, Erin Tilley, Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard and Karen Tilley. The Tilley family, as well as Fox, visited the Congresswoman while participating in the National Community Pharmacists Association's National Legislative Conference.



Sonia Pineda (seated), one of Long Beach's Freedom Writers, recently visited Ms. Warzybok's sixth period ELD class at Sussman Middle School. Photo by Debbie Powers

# Freedom Writer visits Sussman Middle School

CONTRIBUTED BY DEVON FRANCE SUSSMAN MIDDLE SCHOOL

**DOWNEY** - On Friday, May 18, one of Long Beach's Freedom Writers visited Sussman Middle School to share the message she learned as part of that famous group: "It's all up to you."

Sonia Pineda, who now works for the Freedom Writers' Foundation, came to Karin Warzybok's sixth period English Language Development (ELD) class at Sussman. Since Ms. Pineda attended English as a Second Language (ESL) classes from third through eighth grade herself, she was anxious to encourage the students to plan to graduate from high school.

The class had read *The Freedom Writers Diary* and wrote letters inviting Ms. Pineda to visit. Excitement was high in Ms. Warzybok's classroom, where a sunny, yellow banner decorated by the students welcomed their guest. Cake and punch stood ready for a reception after the event.

Ms. Pineda began by showing a video of a 1998 Prime Time segment about the Freedom Writers and their teacher, Erin Gruwell. She then related her experiences coming to the United States from Mexico at age seven, struggling to escape ESL classes and to be heard.

"I didn't think that I had a voice," she said of her early years sitting at the back of the classroom.

Pineda played the "Line Game" with the students to learn how their experiences compared with her own. While Pineda rode three buses to school, Sussman's students are all local residents. Pineda grew up on Long Beach's east side amid gangs and violence. Only one Sussman student thought he lived in a "tough neighborhood." However, all the students know someone who has been "jumped," many have run away, and most know someone who has been shot.

Learning that most of the students had seen the movie made from the book, she shared that her greatest opposition to the movie being made was that kids would see in two hours what took four years to accomplish and "think they can't do it." After a question-and-answer session, students read their reflections of how reading The Freedom Writers Diary changed their thinking. They also presented a poem they wrote, Ode to the Freedom Writers: In Honor of Sonia Pineda.

Warzybok explained that many of the students give up easily, not completing assignments or setting goals for themselves. In answer to that, Pineda said, "I can't preach to you. All I can say is change is up to

## Downey PTA celebrates graduates

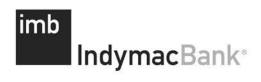
**DOWNEY** – The Downey Council PTA invites the community in celebrating the young men and women of Downey Unified School District's graduating classes.

The celebration will take place on June 4 at 8:30 a.m. at the Barbara J. Riley Neighborhood Center.

The Sacramento Safari Students State Report will be featured, as well as the introduction of new Downey Council PTA officers.

Breakfast will be served for a \$5 fee.

To RSVP or more information, call Annie Casey at (562) 633-5275.





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# Community

# Teacher celebrating 25 years of dancing

■ Cliff Gewecke hosting party to celebrate long career of teaching dance in Downey.

DOWNEY - Cliff Gewecke taught his first dance class at Rio San Gabriel Park in Downey on June 8, 1982. That day, one student – a man – showed up

Next Friday – some 30,000 students and many waltzes, tangos and swings later - Gewecke will hold a party celebrating his 25th year of teaching dance, as well as his 75th birthday.

Almost 100 former and current students and friends are from his classes in Downey, Fullerton, La Habra, La Mirada and Long Beach are expected to attend.

"It's been a wonderful run," Gewecke said. "I've met a lot of nice people, I've had fun, and I've learned as much from the students as I'm hoping they've learned from me."

Any former students would like to attend and have not received an invitation can contact Gewecke at (626) 331-5524 or via e-mail at cliff91722@yahoo.com.

# Chamber looking for 'Business of the Year'

■ Nominations due June 29 for Downey Chamber of Commerce's annual award.

DOWNEY - The Downey Chamber of Commerce is soliciting nominations for their Business of the Year Award, due to be awarded July 27. Two businesses will be honored: one in the 1-10 employee category

and another in the 11+ category. The nomination deadline is June 29. To be eligible, businesses must be in Downey or have a Downey

branch; have been in business in Downey for over five years; be a member of the Downey Chamber of Commerce, shown leadership on civic issues that positively effect the entire business community; contributed to a variety of local organizations through personal time or resources; and have "substantial staying power."

Entry forms are available inside the Downey Chamber of Commerce office. Forms should be submitted with a one-page statement describing the business's contributions to the community and why they should be honored as Business of the Year.

Entries without the statement will not be accepted.

The Chamber's board of directors will choose the winners. For more information, call the Chamber at (562) 923-2191 or visit their office at 11131 Brookshire Ave.

| Past recipients of the Business of the Year Award: |                       |                           |  |
|--|-----------------------|---------------------------|--|
|  | <b>Small Business</b> | Large Business            |  |
| 1989   | Ed DiLoreto           | Yale Engineering          |  |
| 1990   | Andy Cardono          | Cardono Square, Ltd.      |  |
| 1991   | Hoag Realty           | Dixon & Associates Ins.   |  |
| 1992   | L'Abri Management     | Wallar's Appliances       |  |
| 1993   | Morrie Adnoff         | Calsan                    |  |
| 1994   | Dominick DiMario      | DiMario's Builders Supply |  |
| 1995   | Joyce & Mike Prokop   | Classic Closets           |  |
| 1996   | Saywell Florists      | All American Home Center  |  |
| 1997   | Dave Gafin, CPA       | JC Penney                 |  |
| 1998   | Johnny & Co.          | Sam's Club                |  |
| 1999   | Lopez Insurance       | Calsan                    |  |
| 2000   | Century 21 My Real    | DRMC                      |  |
| 2001   | Don Moniz, Joan Wynn  | Rio Hondo Country Club    |  |

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## Youth football sign-ups at Furman

None awarded

DOWNEY - Downey Youth Football will hold registration for football, flag football and cheerleading tomorrow at Furman Park from 11 a.m.

Spaces are limited and waiting lists will be established when teams reach their roster limits. Children will be placed on a first-come, first-paid

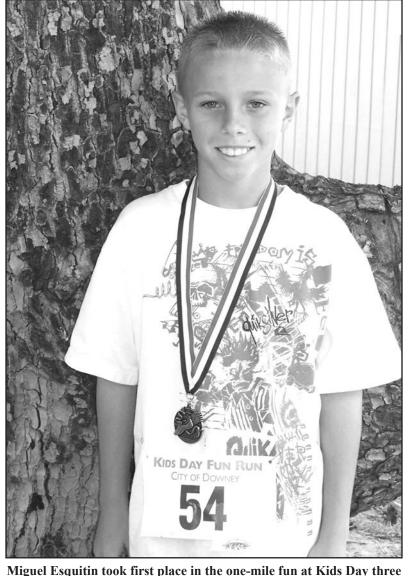
The last day for cheerleaders to sign up is June 9; cheer uniform fittings are on June 10.

Raffle tickets are available to help off-set the cost of registration. For information, call Mike Baumann at (562) 889-1183 or Louis Morales at

For information on cheerleading, call Kamela Cherry at (562) 928-9150.



Alexandra Gurrola of Lewis Elementary School was inducted into the Kids Day Hall of Fame last month. Alexandra is eight years old and is a member of Brownie Girl Scout Troop 378. She frequently helps her school through community service.



weeks ago. It was the second year in a row that Miguel has won the event, held at Furman Park.



Katie Vaca, Raziel Caro Ramirez, Nawal Nabulsi and Marissa Gurrola, all of whom attend parent-child classes at Downey Adult School, were the youngest participants in the recent St. John Bosco 1K Marathon. The kids are all three to four years old.

# Memorial Day observed at Downey Cemetery

By John Adams **EDITOR EMERITUS** 

**DOWNEY** – Veterans and their friends gathered at historic Downey Cemetery Monday to honor those who have served their nation in uniform. Former Downey mayor Diane P. Boggs, a member of the cemetery district board, opened the ceremonies. She was followed by Police Chaplain and City Councilman Mario Guerra who led the invocation.

American Legion Post 270 under the command of James T. Higuera then presented the colors and a salute to the flag was led by Kenneth Becker, a D-Day veteran. The National Anthem was led by Sandra Eatherly. Boggs then read some poetry by a deceased Downey poet and World War II veteran Clark S. Beardslee.

Eatherly led the group in song, "Let There Be Peace on Earth," followed by a rifle salute. The event closed with Taps featuring trumpeters Stacey Neacato, Dan O'Donnell and Devin Schirm.

The cemetery, which contains graves dating to the Civil War, is located at Lakewood Boulevard and Gardendale Street.

### Lacrosse camp at Downey High School

DOWNEY - Boys interested in learning and refining their skills in lacrosse are invited to Downey Viking Lacrosse Camp 2007, featuring top area coaches and college players.

Downey High School lacrosse coach Scott Witkin will lead the camp. He'll be joined by Mike Allan, head coach at UC Santa Barbara and offensive coordinator for the Los Angeles Riptide, and Pete Clark, a defenseman at Amherst College and assistant coach at Deerfield Academy.

The camp will be held June 25-28 from 9 a.m. to noon each day at Allen Layne Stadium at Downey High School. Players must have their own equipment and payment of \$200 (cash or money order) is due before the start of camp.

Players need proof of medical insurance in order to participate.

Sign-ups are being taken at www.downeylacrosse.com.

### Free dance classes for children

**DOWNEY** – Beginning this month, the Athletic Arts Academy will offer a series of free Monday evening dance classes for children ages 3 to

Students will learn the fundamentals of dance and choreography and will participate in shows, competitions and annual showcases.

Classes will begin this Monday. Children ages 3-5 will meet from 4:15 to 5 p.m.; ages 6-8 will meet from 5 to 6 p.m.; and ages 9-10 will meet from 6 to 7 p.m.

All classes will be held at Sky Dance Studios, 12405 Woodruff Ave., in Downey. For information, call Gretel at (562) 745-5869.

#### Networking group meets June 12

DOWNEY - The Rise 'N Shine Networking Group will listen to speakers Rick Rodriguez of RMI International and Colleen Turner of Lakewood Park Manor at the June 12 meeting at Nordic Fox restaurant.

The meeting starts at 7:30 a.m. The cost is an order from the menu. RSVP by calling (562) 923-2191.





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# Page 4 Friday, June 1, 2007 Community

## **TRAVELER**

Continued from page 1

The southland needed a lure. That lure turned out to be the little Los Angeles and San Pedro Railroad Company formed by Downey and business partners Phineas Banning and others. They put up half the capital and convinced Angelinos to raise the other half through a bond issue. Some 20 miles of track was laid from Los Angeles to the wharves of San Pedro.

Farmers complained when it was completed in 1869, claiming the small engine set their fields afire, but the rails proved a valuable lure in the end.

The Southern Pacific of the big four WAS coming south, but slowly, and not far enough south to suit Downey and Banning.

And the big four had a nasty habit of running rails where it was cheap and easiest. They bypassed Visalia by seven miles!

Visalia had refused to offer the rail company a subsidy. Downey and Banning had got the message.

A "Committee of Thirty" was formed in Los Angeles to negotiate the subsidy, which was to amount to 5 percent of the county's assessed valuation-a part of which was to be the tiny railroad.

# **CONGRATULATIONS**



#### ON RECEIVING YOUR DOCTORATE

Jennifer Hines-Burpo has received her DVM (Doctor of Veterinary Medicine) from Western University of Health Science. Phi Zeta Honor Society has recognized her for being in the top 25% of her class. Jennifer attended local Downey Schools starting at Gallatin Elementary and East Middle School. She graduated with honors from Downey High School in 1997. Her Bachelor of Science Degree was earned at California State University Long Beach where she graduated Summa Cum Laude.

Dr. Burpo will begin her practice at the Animal Hospital of Huntington Beach specializing in small animal medicine. Her family and friends are very proud of her and say

CONGRATULATIONS JENNIFER. WELL DONE!!!

Downey found negotiations rough. Stanford at first felt the only thing Los Angeles had to offer was cattle, and he felt they could be driven to San Bernardino and picked up at a rail head there.

But the plum was the little rail link to the port. Downey knew that if it was given to the railroads the big four would control all freightrates, both by land and sea.

He was willing to do this. And the offer proved effective.

For the \$602,000 in stock in the little railroad plus other bonds, the Southern Pacific agreed to lay (within 15 months) 25 miles of rails from Los Angeles north toward the San Fernando Mission, and another 25 miles of track east from Los Angeles toward San Bernardino. This as a good faith gesture that the main rail link would come all the way south.

Another bidder, Tom Scott of the Pennsylvania Railroad, made a last minute effort to build a link south from L.A. to San Diego under the title of the Texas Pacific.

Local farmers in Los Nietos actually favored the latter proposal, but the majority of L.A. finally voted(on Nov. 5, 1872) for the builder with the proven track (pun intended) record.

Stanford kept his promise. Although the farmers of Los Nietos had largely opposed him, he began the rail link to Anaheim from the Florence Station in Los Angeles on June 28, 1873. He was a good businessman and realized there was money to be made hauling the rich Los Nietos (Downey) crops to mar-

It should be said that Downey got the rails to run right through the middle of his own real estate holdings here, avoiding the two established communities of Gallatin to the north and the College Settlement to the south. The rails came through where they are today, and thus established a new center of a new city which eventually included the older areas.

Originally published November 25, 1994

**3** 

### PowerPoint presentation at library

**DOWNEY** – The Downey City Library will present "Introduction to PowerPoint" tomorrow from 10:30 a.m. to noon in the computer lab.

The free workshop will help students organize and design professional presentations using graphics and text. Students will learn how to create and edit individual slides, add animation and use transitions; instructor Nancy Munoz will show how to print slides for handouts or overheads.

For information, call (562) 904-7360, ext. 32.

Congratulations OS Brooke Karli



Class of 2007 California State University, Long Beach

Brooke received her Bachelor of Arts in Journalism and a Minor in Communications from CSULB on May 31, 2007 Brooke is a local Downey product, graduating from Warren High School in 2002. She worked at the Downey YMCA as a swim instructor, and is currently a Staff Writer at The Downey Patriot.

> We're so proud of you! Love, Dad, Mama, Cee. & Phil

## The Poets' Corner

## Silent Myrtle

She burrows under trees and bushes Thinks she's hiding; all but her tush is Feels she's completely out of sight

There is a saying in the Bible If I misquote it, I'm not liable But I think itis not right

"The voice of the turtle is heard in the land" What land breeds vocal turtles? I believe it's an oversight

> No voice has this turtle Speechless is our Myrtle All the day and through the night

But if a tortoise could utter Even a scaly, squeaky mutter Then the Bible might be right

> -- Rosalie Sciortino, **Downey**

# Poetry contest winners announced by club

DOWNEY - Writers' Workshop West President Ralph Cohen has announced the results of the May light verse contest.

Winning first prize for her entry "Delicacy Supreme" was Zaida Ramos. Rosalie Sciortino won second place for "Silent Myrtle" and Rosalie Carpenter, third, for "Vegan Song."

Winners were awarded cash prizes and certificates. The next competition will be for a non-fiction article or essay to be submitted in July for final judging in August.

Writers' Workshop West has been meeting at Stonewood Travel for the past three and a half years but will soon be relocating.

"We are all most appreciative and extremely grateful to [Lorine Parks, owner of Stonewood Travel] for her interest and generosity in providing, for all this time, her colorful office for our meeting place," Cohen said. "But because of the increase in membership we are in need of a larger room. We are pleased to announce that our June 19th meeting and future meetings will be held in the Downey High School library."

For information on Writers' Workshop West, call (562) 862-3106.

## Downey residents receive scholarships

NORWALK - The Cerritos College Foundation awarded a number of scholarships to its students, including many from Downey, at its bi-monthly meeting on May 10. In all, more than \$2,400 was presented to Cerritos College students.

Anna Maria Julianelli received a \$300 John Pelloni Scholarship, which was established in memory of cosmetology professor John Pelloni, and is awarded to outstanding students in the Cerritos College Cosmetology Department.

Sang Pok received a \$250 Yamaha Music Scholarship, which wass established by Yamaha Corporation of America and is awarded to outstanding students in the Cerritos College Music Department.

Vanessa Villalobos and Gail Briney each received a \$150 Assistive Technology Scholarship for Students with Disabilities. This scholarship was established by Mary Hunt, a specialist in the Disabled Students Programs and Services Program at Cerritos College.

"We're tremendously proud to award these scholarship funds to our well-deserving students," said the Honorable Peter P. Espinoza, chair of the foundation and Superior Court of Los Angeles County judge.

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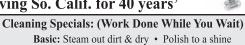
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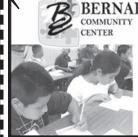
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# Editorial Page 5 Friday, June 1, 2007

# Say what?

By Eric Pierce

As I write this, I'm preparing to depart for West Middle School, where I'll be speaking to students in the AVID program as part of their first annual Career Day.

I have no idea what I'll say. I have no fancy presentation lined up, no colorful printouts to distribute and no cool pens to give to the kids.

Gosh, I'm not even wearing a tie.

What I'll do is tell the kids how important it is to stay in school. Education is not everything, but it's a stepping stone to success and a valuable tool in achieving success. Education is a tool – take advantage of it.

We live in the greatest country in the world, and you can be anything you want to be if you're willing to work hard at

And if you want to be a journalist or writer, you have to read. Read everything you can get your hands on. On Friday nights, when your friends are at the movies, read a book. And while you're at it, read a newspaper too.

Read things you don't want to read. Read National Geographic, Time and the Wall Street Journal. (Avoid the National Enquirer.) And take note of the different styles, tones and connotations.

Digest the headlines and sub-heads of newspapers. Ask questions. Why was that article placed there? Why is this story on the front page and that story buried in the back?

Favoritism? Bias? Prejudice?

It exists in newspapers and on television if you learn how to spot it.

While your at it, acquire yourself a good role model. I'm not talking about rappers, basketball players or, heaven forbid, Paris Hilton. I'm referring to your parents, teachers, aunts, uncles or, here's a suggestion, our troops overseas.

Find a penpal serving in Iraq or Afghanistan and tell them what you want to be. Ask them why they're doing what they do. How did they get in the position they're in? Did it require training or hard work?

I hope the students enjoy what I have to say. Whatever it is that I say.

#### **Letters to the Editor:**

### Disbelief at comment

Dear Editor:

The April 27th issue of The Downey Patriot included an article entitled "Falling in Love" by Eric Pierce. It was witty and enjoyable; enjoyable until near the end where you write, "I would have gladly purchased a car from one of the many dealerships along Firestone Blvd., but my Spanish

Upon reading that statement, my initial reaction was that of disbelief that our very own city editor would make such a statement — a statement that implies that the car dealerships on Firestone Boulevard are unable to serve the local community because their salespersons do not speak English (or do not speak it well enough to communicate with you). Not only is this an inaccurate and negative statement about our local dealerships, but it also reflects negatively on our local businesses in general.

Then I thought, perhaps Mr. Pierce is just being honest based on personal experience and he knows that the salespersons of our local dealerships don't speak English very well; therefore, I went to two of the main dealerships on Firestone Boulevard. As it turns out, every single person I spoke to at both establishments, from sales personnel to managers, spoke to me in perfect English, not broken English or hard-to-understand English, but perfectly clear English.

So then I had to ask myself, why would Mr. Pierce make such a remark? In my opinion, such a remark only serves to dissuade Downey residents from shopping in Downey, not only at our local dealerships but potentially at other businesses in Downey as well, because their "Spanish isn't great."

For the well being of our city's economy, I would think we would want our local businesses to succeed and flourish. But remarks and negative attitudes as demonstrated by your remark can only serve to do the opposite. I am disappointed that someone who is highly visible and respected in our community was not responsible in considering this before making such a statement.

I am not employed by any of our local dealerships, or any other dealership. I am only a concerned Downey resident. But if I were a salesperson at a local dealership, I would be offended and angered by the false accusation that I am unable to do my job adequately and serve the needs of the local community.

Therefore I believe that those salespersons and the dealerships on Firestone Boulevard deserve an apology.

— Arcelia Davis,

**Downey** 

## The Downey Patriot

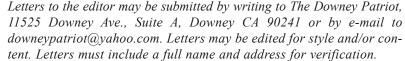


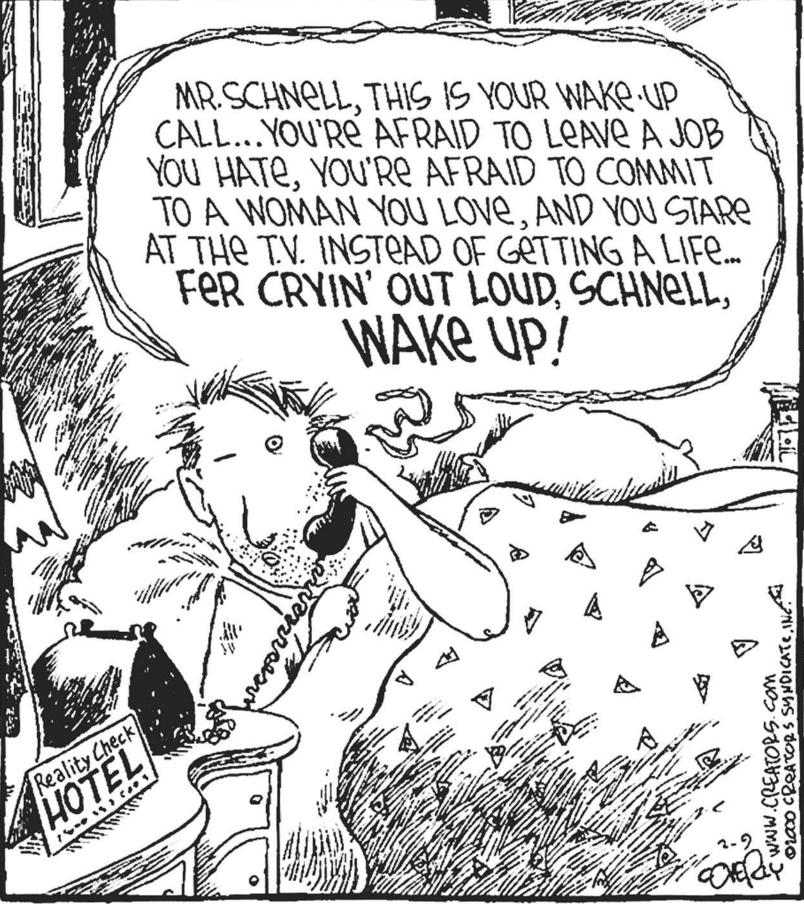
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## Letters to the Editor:

## Had it with graffiti

Dear Editor:

Please, oh please, tell me why Downey Business owners do not remove graffiti from their businesses? I'll tell you why...because it's expensive! Can anyone explain to me why Downey business owners would leave the graffiti on their windows? Is it because they are afraid?

Fight back! Don't let Downey become like East Los Angeles. Have you ever driven through East Los Angeles? You'll have to drive fast...but the graffiti is everywhere! You can't miss it. I agree with K. McLeroy ("Disgusted by Graffiti," 5/25/07) – Downey is beginning to get it's share of graffiti and the citizens of Downey need to be aware this is the first sign your city is going down! Down to the level of the graffiti artists. Don't allow Downey to become a giant billboard for gang signs and messages. Erase their work immediately! It is a message to other gangs in the area (that's all it is)...and if we allow this to continue, we might as well sell spray paint and razor blades on every corner.

The Downey City Hall must prepare a plan to eradicate all "taggers" from their city territory. Or at least fine them or their parents! Wipe out all graffiti before it becomes common place. There is absolutely no reason why citizens need to endure the public display of graffiti. It's senseless dribble amongst gangs. Like we need to care or read what's going on in the gang society? No, we do not care about such dribble. And by the way, learn to spell if your going public.

The Downey City Council needs to address these issues immediately! How is the City of Downey planning to handle such an increase of graffiti? Maybe that issue should be brought to light on their "broadcasted" meetings.

Citizens of Downey need to come to the rescue. Downey business owners, don't allow graffiti to stay upon your property for more than 24 hours. It's repulsive and degrading. Do something. Have a meeting, seek help though City Hall, do "something." But don't do nothing...it provides a breeding ground to more illegal acts to occur. Put your foot down now. Stop graffiti in Downey now. Be aware and report such activities to the Downey Police and City Hall, but also be prepared to remove it as well. It cost money to remain in business...I know of one Downey business owner who actually chased one of these graffiti displaying hoodlums to his capture on foot. She cares about her city. Now that's someone who cares about

Keep Downey beautiful and graffiti free. Don't allow graffiti to enter your neighborhood or business area. Fight back!

#### -Stacey Rodgers, **Downey**

Dear Editor:

As a 55 year resident of Downey, I am in complete agreement with Mr. McLeroy ("Disgusted by Graffiti," 5/25/07) regarding the graffiti issue in our town. If there is anything that degrades the landscape, it is graffiti. I am almost ashamed to take visitors on freeways thru Los Angeles because of the disgusting graffiti. Hopefully our city will never mimic the

#### —Frank Myers,

horrible spectacle that is found over most of the city of L.A.

## Students show big hearts

Dear Editor:

Kudos, hats off and congratulations to Downey High School students. Last week I was in the gymnasium and was in awe by the line of students entering the gym. They were not going to a basketball game or volleyball tournament or an assembly or even a concert. There were students from all walks of life, laughing and smiling and enjoying the time together and they had all come to the gym to donate blood.

As I waited patiently for my blood to fill the pint-size bag, I was thrilled to witness so many young people coming together for a common reason. They will never know the recipients of their donation but they were all still willing to give unselfishly.

The final count was 320 pints of blood donated to the American Red Cross and it was wonderful to witness Downey High students participating in such a worthy cause.

— Martha Michael,

**Downey** 

## Appreciates "Faith in Downey"

I am writing to thank you for the "Faith in Downey" series. I appreciate the addition to the paper.

The articles about the Catholic churches and the Baptist church were well done. I look forward to reading more.

Faith is an important part of my life and I am glad to see it presented in a positive light in our Downey paper.

Thank you. —Colleen Edmondson,

**Downey** 

## Josh Wright: a great example

Your excellent story about Josh Wright was a pleasure to read, especially in time for the Memorial Day weekend. ("Josh Wright: A Heart as Big as His Patriotism," 5/25/07)

Josh is a great example of our finest young Americans who appreciate the hardships our troops must endure to keep us safe and free.

#### -Vicki Brown Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Editor:

I saw your story about Josh Wright. A friend of mine, Susan Warren also sends care packages and she knows Josh.

Thanks for doing what you do.

-Alan Gray, **Editor** 

newsblaze.com

### Johnie's still an eyesore

Has anyone been by Johnie's lately? What a disgrace! Broken windows, graffiti, and more destruction. I don't believe any of the councilmen who say there have been no changes since the initial demolition took place. Just drive by and see for yourself.

We have to wait for a one-year moratorium for any work to be done on that eyesore. What happened to the moratorium of the mansion building in Downey? Just go down any street and you will see one or two going up. —Elaine Langsdorf,

**Downey** 

# Page 6 Friday, June 1, 2007 Comics/Crossword \_\_\_\_\_\_ The Downey Patriot

## SPEED BUMP

## DAVE COVERLY

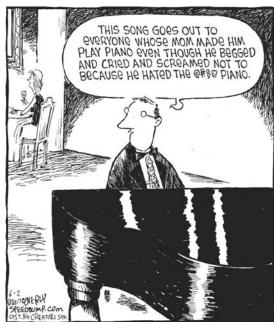












# On This Day...

June 1, 1879: Napoleon Eugene, the only son of former French Emperor Napoleon III, is killed in the Anglo-Zulu War of 1879. He was the last of the Napoleon dynasty.

**1925:** Lou Gehrig plays the first game in his streak of 2,130 consecutive games.

**1926:** Andy Griffith and Marilyn Monroe are born. Also born on this date: Pat Boone (1934). Morgan Freeman (1937), Heidi Klum (1973) and Alanis Morissette (1974).

**1968:** Hellen Keller dies just short of her 88th birthday.

1980: CNN, the Cable News Network, goes on the air.

# **Downey Community Calendar**

#### Events For June

Fri. June 1: "Oliver!" opens at the Downey Theatre

Sat. & Sun. June 2-3: Greek Festival. St. George Greek Church

Sat. June 2: Middle School Track Meet, Downey High School, 8:30 a.m.

Tue. June 5: CPR, Downey Regional Medical Center, 6 p.m.

#### 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 Tuesday, 4:00 p.m.: Recreation and Community Services Commission, Council Chamber, City Hall. 1st Thursday, 9 a.m.: Traffic Committee, Training Room, Second Floor of City Hall.

2nd & 4th Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.: City Council/Community Development Commission, Council Chamber. 2nd & 4 th 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

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.

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. 3rd Mon., 7 p.m.: American Legion Post 270, Los Amigos Country Club, call 869-1053.

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 Nadine Morris at 923-9422.

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 Darren Dunaway at 806-5400.

**12 p.m.: Exchange Club of Downey,** at Sizzler, for information call Don Hollister at 927-5871.

6:00 p.m.: Toastmasters Club 587, at First Baptist Church, for info call 928-2658.

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. 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 at Downey High School library, for info call 862-3106. 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.

1st Weds., 10 a.m.: Woman's Club of Downey, for information call Barbara Briley-Beard 869-7618.

1st Weds., 11:30 a.m.: Downey Coordinating Council, 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.

4rth Weds., 12:00 noon: Retired Federal Employees, at Furman Park West Bldg., call 943-5513. Wed.& Fri., 10:15 a.m.: Senior Bingo, at Apollo Park, for information call 904-7223.

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. **12 p.m.: Kiwanis Club of Downey,** at Rio Hondo Events Center, call Roy Jimenez 923-0971.

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 622-7655.

12:30 p.m.: Take off Pounds Sensibly, at First Christian Church, call (800) 932-8677.

**6:30** p.m.: **Downey United Masonic Lodge** # **220**, 8244 3rd St., Call 862-4176.

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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.

7:30 a.m.: Pro Networkers, at Mimi's Cafe, for information call Harry Sacks at 319-1063 3rd Fri., 8:30 a.m.: Women's "In His Glory" Ministry at Los Amigos C. C. (562) 622-3785.

#### THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com) COMPUTER CONNECTIONS: With a certain high-tech commonality by Merle Baker

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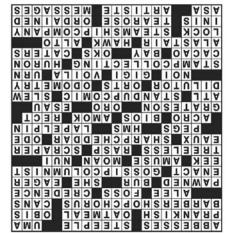
- "Understood!", hippie-style 79 Diamond flub 80 Ed and Keenan
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- remarks) 94 Long-tailed finch 96 Ideal spot
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address: StanXwords@aol.com. Or write him at P.O. Box 69, Massapequa Park, NY 11762, Please send a self-addressed, stamped envelope if you'd like a reply. Recovery Center.

You can contact puzzle editor

Stanley Newman at his e-mail

or DLO (55 Down), to the Mail name of its Dead Letter Office, years, the USPS changed the official a smaller panel. In 1992, after 215 the judges of a court, rather than refers to the hearing of a case by all The legal term EN BANC (4 Down) published when he was 15 years old. FOSS' (26 Across) first work was Composer/conductor/pianist Lukas



The Downey Patriot \_\_\_\_\_\_ Page 7 Friday, June 1, 2007

### Middle School Track Meet set

**DOWNEY** – The Downey Unified School District will hold its 33rd annual Middle School Track Meet tomorrow from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Downey High School.

The meet brings together sixth, seventh and eighth grade representatives from all four Downey middle schools. Approximately 400 boys and girls will compete in track and field events.

Field events are scheduled to begin at 8:30 a.m., followed by running events at 9:15.

Team scoring will be on a 6-4-3-2-1 basis for first through fifth place in each event.

The public is invited to attend and admission is free.

# Stroke screenings available June 22

**DOWNEY** – Stroke screenings using ultrasound technology will be offered to local residents at the Los Amigos Country Club on June 22. Appointments will begin at 9

Life Line Screening will also offer bone density and osteoporosis screenings.

For more information on the screenings, including prices, call (877) 237-1287 or visit www.lifelinescreening.com. Pre-registration is required.

# SAT preparation classes offered

**DOWNEY** – Downey High School is hosting summer sessions for students wanting to prepare for the SAT I and PSAT.

To participate students must have successfully completed Algebra I (evidence required), and have a photocopy of a report card that includes their first semester or third quarter course grade in their most recent math class.

The sessions are being offered by the Assistance League of Downey and will be held from 8 to 10 a.m. beginning June 25. The instructors are Josette Bean (English) and Dalyn Miller-Geiser (math).

Students should expect daily rigorous homework assignments and no more than two excused absences will be allowed.

For more information on the sessions, including specific dates, call Alice Yamada at (562) 861-2318.

# James 'Jim' Doran was regular at St. Raymond's

**DOWNEY** – James F. Doran, a longtime resident and parishioner of St. Raymond's Catholic Church, died May 22, shortly after helping his church coordinate its annual festival.

He was born to Patrick and Sarah Doran on Dec. 28, 1953. He attended St. Raymond's School and St. Pius X High School, working as a box boy at the local "Boys" market. He was eventually promoted to manager and continued to serve in that capacity when Ralph's took the market over.

Doran retired from the grocery business after

many years and later became an electrician for Robarge Electric.

His Irish heritage played an important part in his life – he hosted an

annual St. Patrick's Day party where everyone was invited.

Doran is survived by his sister, Margaret Turner; brothers, Patrick and William; and nieces and nephews, Patrick, Paul, Troy and Amanda Doran,

and Megan and Kelly Turner.

Vigil services will be held today, June 1, at 7 p.m. at St. Raymond's. A funeral mass will be held tomorrow at 10 a.m., also at St. Raymond's.

# David Charles Brown II was WWII veteran

**DOWNEY** – David Charles Brown II, a Downey resident for 50 years, died May 20. He was 80

Brown was a corporal in the United States Air Force during World War II. He attended Westminister College, New Wilmington and Duquesne University and worked as an insurance broker with his business in Los Angeles and Pasadena for over 41 years.

He was also an avid sportsman, enjoying hunting, fishing, camping, boating and was also a gourmet cook.

Brown is survived by his wife of 48 years, Jean; daughters, Susan Dallan of San Clemente and Francine Meza of Irvine; sister, Cleora Laursen of Peoria, Ariz.; five grandchildren and one great-grandson.

He was preceded in death by his son, David C. Brown III, and a sister,

A Celebration of Life will be held June 6 at 10 a.m. at the Downey Senior Center, 7810 Quill Dr. with the service conducted by the Rev. Steve Mitchell, chaplain at Downey Regional Medical Center. Interment will be at the VA National Cemetery in Riverside on June 7 at 10:15 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests a donation be made in his name to a charity of your choice.

## Hospital offering CPR class June 5 at Downey Regional

**DOWNEY** – Health educators at Downey Regional Medical Center (DRMC) will teach an adult, infant and child CPR class on June 5 from 6 to 10 p.m.

Taught by an American Heart Association-trained instructor, the class will teach students how to perform CPR techniques. Ways to help prevent injuries, recognizing and treating cardiac emergencies as well as choking in infants and children will also be covered.

The class is not for professionals seeking certification, and is recommended for parents and grandparents.

The class will be held in the hospital's lower-level conference rooms at 11500 Brookshire Ave. The fee is \$25 per person or \$40 per couple and reservations are required by calling (562) 904-5580.

## **BUDGET**

Continued from page 1

Caton, finds the city of Downey in happy circumstances. The budget reflects the second year of positive revenue growth after three years of depressed revenues and state-mandated revenue reductions. After the state cut-backs ended in 2005, the local economy has been performing well, said Caton.

Further, the city's revenue base is growing and adequate to support existing municipal services. This augers well for expansion in the areas of police and Public Works expenses.

There are a few caveats as well. While the city's current budget situation is very healthy, according to Caton's report, there are challenges ahead that are not fully addressed in the proposed budget and will "require significant attention during the next two years."

One is the Columbia Memorial Space Science Learning Center, envisioned as a major landmark for the community, and due to open in early 2009. The report emphasizes that the center will become a major new expense item to the city, the actual figures not to be known until operations commence, even as anticipated revenues and expenditures have been forecast from future center activities.

If a significant General Fund subsidy is needed hence, the report

points out, this may pose a budget challenge in future years.

Another is the matter of development projects on the Downey Studio site and county-owned Rancho Los Amigos site. It appears that the project review process for these two sites will be major activities for the city during the next two years. The anticipated effort and time that will be devoted to review these projects will require a significant commitment on the part of city staff, the Planning Commission, and the City Council.

Although it is staff's intention to require the developer of the movie studio property to fund the costs for the development review process, this has not been accounted for in the proposed budget, and hence will be a "major focus for everyone."

A third main project is the Firestone/Lakewood intersection, with the narrowing of Firestone Boulevard just west of Lakewood Boulevard causing traffic congestion for eastbound traffic.

City staff has been meeting with the owners of the corner property to solve this sticky problem. It is anticipated that the city will have to commit funds for a construction project at this corner. Said funding has not been included in the proposed budget.

In following the format employed in past years, each department head Tuesday highlighted their objectives and programs, touting accomplishments and justifying respective budget increases. Because, as noted earlier, the general mood at City Hall has been upbeat, no real notes of concern were raised over its broad outlines.

One thing is sure: the figures in the proposed budget will go up rather than down. The consensus is funds will be available for such anticipated increases, bolstered by hefty property tax collections, increased sales tax revenue, and other positive increases down the line. Therefore, not to worry.

Caton concludes his proposed budget report with: "The 2007-08 proposed budget is a reflection of the expanding economy and resulting growth in city revenues.

"The city revenue picture is strong, and the city's financial condition is very healthy. This is in contrast to many cities that are facing budget deficits and struggling with financial problems. Downey's strong commitment to fiscal responsibility in the past is the big reason for our current positive financial position. This proposed budget includes many program increases and modifications that the City Council will wish to review closely."



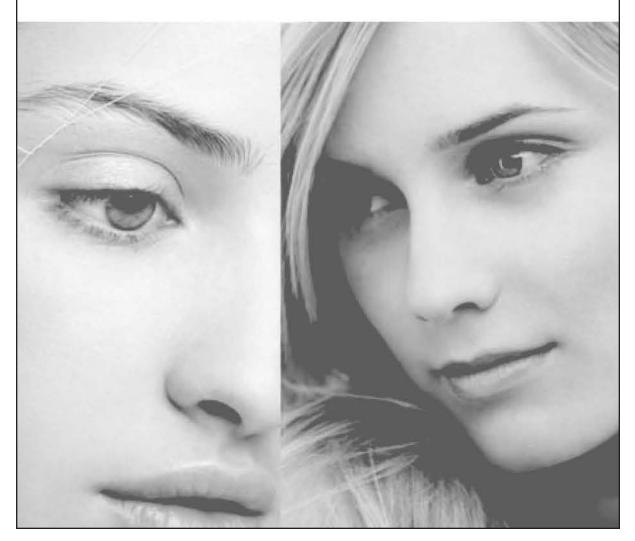
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### Clean comedy comes to Long Beach

LONG BEACH – The Long Beach Playhouse presents "Over the Hill Comedy Night" this Sunday, June 3 at 6 p.m., and every first Sunday of the month thereafter.

The evening will feature clean stand-up from comedians over 40 years of age for the entire family.

General admissions is \$5 and tickets can be purchased at the door or by calling the box office at (562) 494-1014.

The Long Beach Playhouse is located at 5021 East Anaheim St. in Long Beach.

For information, visit www.lbph.com or call (562) 494-1014.

### Bestselling author to speak at luncheon

DOWNEY - Mystery writer Jan Burke will be the featured speaker at an upcoming luncheon and book signing sponsored by the Friends of the Downey City Library, to be held June 9 at the Rio Hondo Events Center.

Winner of the prestigious Edgar Award for mystery writing, Burke is the author of 12 bestselling novels and numerous short stories. Her mystery series, featuring Southern California newspaper reporter Irene Kelly, includes, "Goodnight, Irene", "Sweet Dreams, Irene", "Bones", "Bloodlines", and her latest bestseller, "Kidnapped."

She is also the author of "Flight," featuring Irene's husband, homicide detective Frank Harriman, and a collection of short stories entitled "Eighteen."

Copies of Burke's books will be available for purchase and signing at the event, which will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tickets are \$15, which includes an author talk and luncheon with choice of New York strip steak or vegetarian plate, salad, rolls, potatoes, vegetable, beverage and

All proceeds will go towards library programs. Reservation deadline is June 2. For reservations, call (562) 904-7360, ext. 32, or visit the Friends' Shop located inside the library.

#### Library event celebrates Fridays

**DOWNEY** – The Downey City Library will be open an additional two hours June 1 in celebration of "TGIF @ the Library," a unique event to feature live music, free refreshments and more.

Visitors can take advantage of unlimited use of the computer lab for games or Microsoft Office programs while children and teens can play board games and puzzles. Library members will also be able to place their holds on "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows," due to be released in

Information about the library's summer reading programs will also be available.

"TGIF @ the Library" will take place from 5 to 7 p.m. For more information, call (562) 904-7360, ext. 32.



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Sorontimist International of Downey awarded \$4,000 in scholarships to the students above. Also pictured are Beverly Mathis, club president, and Jean Brazelton, scholarship chair. Michelle Razo of Warren High School was the recipient of the Art Scholarship Award. The Della Doyle Business Scholarship, named after the first city clerk in Downey, went to Carol Jones, a business student at Cerritos College. A Woman in Sports Award was presented to Kay Hoay, a golf champion at Cal State Long Beach. Special Achievement Awards were given to Susan Chung and Brian Walker and Vocational Scholarships went to Joshua Ejedawe, Natalie Hernandez, Crystal Case and Yvette Farfan.



Senator Alan Lowenthal was presented with the California Association of Museums President's Award at the Downey Museum of Art (DMOA) two weeks ago. Pictured, left to right, is Councilman Kirk Cartozian, Lowenthal, DMOA Director Kate Davies and Councilman Mario Guerra. Photo by George Redfox

## **SLANG**

Continued from page 1

stone(d) on drugs, "BC" is Brown Crowd, WB is West Black, and NSP means Nutty Side Paramount.

The following tagging terms

are still pretty much current coinage as well among tagging "crews," whom Caldwell described as small and loosely organized groups who roam around town mainly to cause mischief and beat their breasts every time they succeed, each trying to outdo one another: "Bomb" is putting a series of large letters on a wall usually in more than one color, to "buff" is to rub out someone else's piece (job) or to clean/remove graffiti, "def" means really good, "dis" means disrespect, "doing a heaven" refers to location of tag/high elevationon bridge, overpass-sign that gains more fame, "fade" is to blend colors, "head" is the best tagger artist in a crew, a "toy" is a beginner or tagger who writes in an amateurish manner, a "hero" is a citizen who tries to stop someone from doing their graffiti and attempt to detain them for the police, "onetimes" means the police, "pretty clean" means it is a good piece, "racking" means stealing spray paint from stores, "top to bottom" is writing graffiti/mural on vehicle from top to bottom, "wac" means a poor tag, "yards" means officially approved and designated legal tag-

ging areas, and so on. Caldwell, by his own account, has been through hell-several times over. Among other details I don't care to remember, he says he was a drug addict at age 5, been stabbed four times, has used and been on the receiving end of a shotgun, and served 21 years in the pen as an accessory to murder ("I've done it all"). He learned to read and write while inside, and was well on his way to enrolling for college when then Governor Gray Davis suddenly cut the program off.

It was two and a half years ago in a chance encounter, he says, after he'd been out of prison working at the docks and at refineries when he met Darrell Jackson, founder of 10-20 and current president of Gangs Out of Downey (GOOD), who invited him to join 10-20. It was to change his life.

Today Caldwell is happily married—to his childhood sweetheart—with five kids between them.

Right now, Caldwell says, the number of at-risk youth (and families) enrolled in 10-20's programs and services is as follows: Anger Management Awareness program for juveniles, 23; Drug & Alcohol Diversion program for juveniles, 32; Community Service program for juveniles and adults, 51; Individual Counseling/Conflict Resolution program for juveniles, 50; Family Support Parenting Group for juveniles and adults, 14; Drug Testing program (urine analysis), 30; and Crisis Intervention, where participants have to enroll in all the above programs, 10.

"We have a beautiful program here," he says. "It's such a fulfilling job. When a kid walks up to me sometimes and says, 'Mr. Caldwell, I was in your program and now I'm doing well because of you guys,' it's the best feeling in the world. No amount of money can replace it. This is my reward."

Caldwell says because of the dynamic interaction among the schools, the police department, and such agencies as GOOD and Keep Downey Beautiful, Downey today enjoys relative calm.

"Downey is still in control. As long as we work together, we should stay in control," he says. "Keeping channels of information and communication is the key. In Downey we do something about graffiti. Other cities don't, because it has probably overwhelmed them already. I think this is what keeps Downey beautiful."

He continued: "True, we are surrounded by gangs in neighboring cities, but there are only tagging crews in the city now. The Downey Police is on them so fast they have hardly time to get away from the scene."

What should we do when we see a tagger or graffiti activity? "Report it right away," Caldwell enjoins. "This will deter them from doing anything further or scare them away outright."

# Devin Clarke stays true to musical upbringing

By Brooke Karli Staff Writer

fter listening to Devin Clarke, you may compare him to the likes of AColdplay, Oasis and even Pearl Jam.

But Devin, 26, would say that people usually have a hard time "pinpointing" his sound – which is exactly what he was going for.

A Downey resident his whole life, Devin began playing the guitar at age 12, taking lessons at Downey Music with teacher Rob Hayes. His inspiration to play music: watching movies such as "Back to the Future" and "Wayne's World."

While at East Middle School, Devin was encouraged by a friend to learn how to play the drums. Then, while attending Downey High School, Devin used his abilities to play the guitar and drums to "jam" with his neighborhood buddies – all the while, learning how to play the bass.

Shortly after graduating high school in 1999, Devin began working at Hollywood Video while playing in a band by the name of "Simple." After being with the band for about two years, Devin then joined "Lesspacific," a band Devin refers to as being "very diverse." When the lead singer of "Lesspacific" took a break, Devin was challenged and inspired to write

Devin played and wrote for "Lesspacific" for about two years, a gig followed by his career in real estate (Devin currently works for Century 21 Jervis & Associates).

Then, one day, while having lunch with his father Colin – also a realtor – his dad suggested he get back into songwriting.

Considering his dad's involvement with music, as well as other family member's involvements, Devin figured his dad knew what he was talk-

"Music is genetic," said Devin. "At least in my family it is."

So Devin took his dad's advice and since then has recently released a 10-song solo album.

Everything heard on the album – from the vocals, to the drums, to the bass – is all Devin. He knew what he wanted and knew he was the only one capable of delivering it.

"I know what something is going to sound like because I thought of it,"

Devin's music, although similar to other bands (i.e. Coldplay, Oasis, Pearl Jam, Pink Floyd, Radiohead, Led Zeppelin and The Beatles), is unique mainly because of his versatile voice. For someone of his age and experience, he has quite a vocal range, allowing him the ability to sing pretty much anything.

Lately, Devin has been busy trying to market his latest album to such companies as Starbucks and Hollister, hoping to be heard and recognized in any way possible.

Devin has already played gigs at many venues including the Stardust in 2000, the Downey Street Faire in 2002, and multiple times at the Whiskey in Hollywood. But Devin is currently looking to perform at the Rancho Los Amigos Benefit Concert this summer.

To contact Devin Clarke, visit www.myspace.com/devinclarke, or call (562) 595-2643.

# Warren High student wins Prom makeover

By Brooke Karli

Staff Writer ike many other girls her age, Samantha Castillo, 18, is a fan of

Seventeen Magazine. More so, she is a fan of seventeen.com, her daily source of quizzes,

horoscopes and fashion advice. And it was that very website that inspired Samantha to enter a contest - a contest that asked in 50 words or less, why she and 25 of her friends

deserved a Prom makeover. Out of 5,000 entries, Samantha, a senior at Warren High School, was

chosen the winner. "I never thought I would win something like that," said Samantha. "All

I kept telling myself was, 'that would be nice to win."

When asked why she thought she won the contest, she said it was all in her last line of the entry: We deserve the right to have a nice memory to share with our future family.

And what a nice memory it was.

On May 26, the day of Warren's Prom, Samantha and 25 of her closest girlfriends – which she chose based on how long they have known each other and who would appreciate it the most – were treated to getting their hair and makeup done at the Warren Tricomi Salon in Hollywood.

Makeup was provided by N.Y.C. - New York Color. Makeup was not only applied to the girls, but also given to the girls as a gift. Samantha said each girl got \$25 worth of makeup. The Prom Beach Collection is a collection of beach-inspired lip gloss, blush, bronzer, eye shadow and eye

In addition, Seventeen Magazine provided sandwiches and sodas for the girls while they were at the salon. Samantha was also given three disposable cameras in which all the pictures taken will be posted on Seventeen's website.

Throughout the day, Samantha was on camera and wearing a microphone, capturing every moment of her experience. The segment will be broadcast on www.seventeen.com within the next couple of weeks.

"The whole experience made Prom an unforgettable night," said Samantha. "And I'm very thankful for everything we were given."

### 'Oceans' this year's academy theme

**DOWNEY** – The Bernabe Community Center will be hosting their 6th Annual Summer Youth Academy from July 2 – 13 for children in grades kindergarten through fifth grade. Emphasis will be placed on reading, writing and math.

This year's theme is "Oceans" and the \$35 cost will include a trip to the Long Beach Aquarium.

Registration begins on June 5 at 10801 Fairford Ave. in Downey.

For information, call (562) 863-1899.

## OASIS going 'Mad about Music'

DOWNEY - Downey Adult School's OASIS program will be going "Mad about Music" with the Bellflower Civic Chorus this Monday inside the school cafeteria.

The popular mixed-voice chorus, with director Bill Jones and accompanist Chris Squire, will perform at 3:45 p.m. The class will open for enrollment at 2:45 and a full-course dinner will be served afterward the performance (dinner tickets are \$3.50).

For information on the event, call (562) 940-6200.

# The Downey Patriot \_\_\_ Dining/Entertainment Page 9 Friday, June 1, 2007

# Filling the empty nest at home

By Mary Forney Contributor

y empty nest is now quite comfortable. For the last couple of years, I've been desperately seeking the secret to enjoying life after children fly the coop. Since I was a single parent for more than 14 years, I haven't had a mate to fill the void which suddenly engulfed me and I was left at a loss as to what to do with myself. I have been preoccupied with worry are they taking good care of themselves and will they remember how much I love them and want to visit me?

Moving from a small town in Texas to Downey a year ago has helped. I've been distracted with new sights, meeting interesting people and catching up with family members I haven't seen in years. Yet, the longing to see my children has nagged me daily.

I've begged my youngest daughter to check out the colleges here, but she's happy being on her own. She said she thinks her

parental-free college life is giving her the opportunity to grow up. While I envision her comment could translate into she wants to attend frat parties gone wild, I have to trust she hasn't forgotten the life lessons I taught her and will use good judgment with her new-found freedom.

When I get lonely for my children, I get out my scrapbook and boxes of mementos. While looking through my memory boxes a couple of months ago, I realized I had misplaced a special ring my children had given me one year for Christmas. The biggest box under the tree that year was mine and as I opened it, I discovered another box inside of it. It contained another box and another box.

My children giggled as I kept pulling out boxes until I got to the core package. Inside was a pretty little wedding ring with a card that said, "Dear Mom: Since you have always been married to your children, you deserve a wedding ring from us...Love, Richie, Lisa, Jennifer and Christina."

I cherished this ring, but I think I might have accidentally left it in a storage shed in Texas.

My oldest daughter recently decided she wanted to check out my life here in Downey so I did another frantic search for the ring. I still couldn't find it and it didn't take Lisa long to ask about the ring. I sheepishly confessed I couldn't find it, but Lisa just smiled and said, "That's ok...you've earned a new one anyways." Slipping a new pretty ring on my finger, Lisa waved her hand to show me she was wearing a matching ring.

"You're still married to your children," she said as I hugged her.

This simple gesture made me realize we are bonded no matter the distance or time spent away from each other. The new ring symbolizes the commitment my children have towards our bicoastal family and I haven't been forgotten in the least bit. With a sigh of relief, I realized they are keeping in mind what I taught them above everything else - to remember to love each other and me no matter where life takes them as adults.

Thanks to e-mail and cell phones, my children and I keep up with each other regularly. It's not the same as when we were living in the same small town where we could go grocery shopping together or host family get-togethers, but at least we're in constant communica-

I rest easier in my empty nest now and am looking forward to spending Christmas in Texas, covered with grandchildren and enjoying this new phase in my life.

All it took to fill my empty nest was a ring.

**ENTERTAINMENT NEWS DELIVERED EVERY FRIDAY BY:** 

The **Downey Patriot** 



The Downey United boys soccer team recently won an Upland Tournament (Highlander Classic) on May 20. Pictured are (top, left to right) Justin Rodriguez, Mark Broome, Sergio Valbuena, Andy Villasenor, Noel Sanchez, Francisco Rios, Allen Benitez, Edgar Haro, Garret Obeso, Assisant Coach Victor Velasco, (bottom, left to right) Coach Jaime Castillo, Christopher Cardena, Vincente Velasco, Kevin Galvan, Jonathan Herrera, Chris Macias, James Castillo and Earvin Zalazar.

#### Golf Classic includes raffle and auction

**DOWNEY** – The Downey Chamber of Commerce's 11th Annual Golf Classic will be presented Aug. 6 at the Rio Hondo Golf Club. A portion of the proceeds raised at the event will go towards local scholarships.

Individual players can golf for \$140; foursomes are \$560. Sponsorships are also available and range in price from \$100-\$2,500.

The event will include a drawing (for a grand prize of a home entertainment system, iPod, digital camera and portable DVD player) and auctions for sports memorabilia, jewelry, autographed items and more. For more information, call Joe Keavs at (562) 861-1234.

### Free hot dog on a stick June 13

DOWNEY - Hot Dog on a Stick, an international chain with a location inside Stonewood Center, will host "Free Hot Dog Day" on June 13 where all customers will receive one free hot dog on a stick from 5 to 8 p.m.

The event began last year as a celebration of the company's 60th anniversary. Last year, more than 50,000 free hot dogs on a stick were given away, a number expected to be exceeded this year.

## Oldies benefit concert Sept. 15

**DOWNEY** - The Downey Chamber of Commerce, in conjunction with Century 21 My Real Estate, will present the 4th Annual Oldies Concert on Sept. 15, with half of the proceeds to benefit Easter Seals.

Performing this year will be The Beach Toys, a tribute to the Beach Boys, Monkees and Beatles.

Tickets, priced at \$25 each, will go on sale starting in June. For information, call (562) 923-2191.

# New Entertainment this week

#### CD Releases

Paul McCartney - Memory Almost

Marilyn Manson - Eat Me, Drink

Rihanna - Good Girl Gone Bad T-Pain - Epiphany

Daddy Yankee - El Cartel **Dream Theater -** Systematic Chaos Bruce Springsteen - Live in Dublin The Police - The Police

Chris Cornell - Carry On Carl Thomas - So Much Better Elvis Crespo - Regreso el Jefe Zion - Perfect Melody

Source: Amazon.com

#### DVD Releases

Movies Coming to America (Special Ed.) Fired! **Maxed Out** 

The Messengers Norbit Trading Places (Special Ed.)

TELEVISION/MISC. The Cosby Show - Seasons 3 & 4 The Dead Zone - Season 5 The Fall Guy - Season 1 Ghosts of Abu Ghraib Hogan's Heroes - Final Season Mission: Impossible - Season 2 Rescue Me - Season 3

Source: Box Office Mojo

## Video Game Releases

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Densetsu - DS Call of Juarez - X360

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PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN 3 PG13

PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN 3 PG13

SHREK THE THIRD PG SHREK THE THIRD PG

SHREK THE THIRD PG

SPIDERMAN 3 PG13

SPIDERMAN 3 PG13

Seinfeld - Season 8

Source: ebgames.com

(10:45 1:40 4:35) 7:30 10:2

(10:00 1:45) 5:30 9:15

(11:30 3:15) 7:00 10:45

(12:15 2:50) 5:25 8:00 10:35

(11:15 2:00 4:45) 7:30 10:1

(12:15 3:00) 5:45 8:30

(11:00 2:15) 5:30 8:45

(12:00 3:15) 6:30 9:45

#### Concerts

FRIDAY, JUNE 1 Citizen Cope - HOB Anaheim Linda Perry - HOB Hollywood Handsome Devil - Galaxy Theatre SATURDAY

Jennifer Lopez, Jaguares - Verizon Wireless Theatre Pato Banton - HOB Hollywood

Berlin - Coach House Citizen Cope - Wiltern Hellogoodbye - HOB Anaheim Manu Chao - L.A. Sports Arena

Three Bad Jacks - Galaxy Theatre MONDAY Gregory Isaacs - HOB Hollywood SUNDAY

Hellogoodbye - HOB Anaheim MTV Movie Awards - Gibson Amph. TUESDAY

Los Abandoned - HOB Anaheim WEDNESDAY **Morrissey** - Riverside Auditorium

Gregory Isaacs - HOB Anaheim THURSDAY

Lindsey Buckingham- HOB Anaheim Source: Casenet

Book Releases The Harlequin by Laurell K

Hamilton Navigator by Clive Cussler United States v. I. Lewis Libby by

Murray Wass Spare Change by Robert B. Parker On Chesil Beach by Ian McEwan Undead and Uneasy by MaryJanice

Too Late to Say Goodbye: A True Story of Murder and Betrayal by Ann Rule

A Woman in Charge: The Life of Hillary Rodham Clinton by Carl Bernstein

Source: barnesandnoble.com



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Whole pie to-go. Limited time only.

## 1/2 Price Entrée

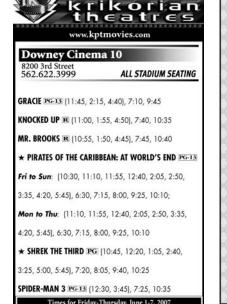
Buy any entrée and two regular beverages and get a second entrée (of equal or lesser value) for half price. Cannot be combined with any other offer, discount, or coupon. Coupon good for up two discounts per party of four. Only the lower priced entrée will be discounted. No cash value. Valid at participation locations only. Expires

Marie Callender's

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Price and participation may vary at some locations. Ends 6/30/07. For a location near you, visit www.mariecallenders.com

Remember to order your Father's Day Pies!



Page 10 Friday, June 1, 2007 \_\_\_\_\_\_ The Downey Patriot

# Faith in Downey: St. George Greek Orthodox Church

#### By Eric Pierce City Editor

St. George Greek Orthodox Church may be best known for their annual Greek Fest, but they are, in fact, more than sweet baklava, succulent gyros and barbecue lamb.

They are a church young in age but old in spirit.

They are a church joyous in celebration, yet solemn in prayer.

They are, as the Rev. Fr. John E. Constantine put it, "a very vibrant faith that celebrates life and doesn't emphasize the darkness of the world."

St. George is an assembly nearly 60 years in the making, dating back to the early 1950's when Greek Orthodox Christians first began inhabiting Downey. There was no Greek Orthodox church in Downey then, so parishioners were forced to travel to Los Angeles, Orange County and other surrounding areas to worship.

In 1982, 25 years ago, a group of Downey citizens came together in the hopes of establishing a Greek Orthodox church in the city. They rented space from nearby St. Mark's Episcopal Church and began fundraising efforts to one day build their own church.

That goal came one step closer to fruition in 1995, when the parish purchased its present-day property on Downey Avenue in Downtown Downey. Residents might recognize the Hi-Ho Market which sits on the property – the church owns that building as well.

A groundbreaking ceremony for a sanctuary was held in September 2000 and construction began the following March. Constantine was appointed priest of St. George three months later, a position he holds to this day.

On October 6, 2002, seven years after the property was purchased and countless fundraisers later, St. George Greek Orthodox Church officially opened its doors. In attendance were His Eminence Metropolitan Anthony of San Francisco and His Grace Bishop Anthimos of Olympos, in addition, of course, to hundreds of parishioners.

After 50 some-odd years, Downey's burgeoning Greek Orthodox population finally had a church to call their own.

•••

So what exactly does the Greek Orthodox faith believe in? The Orthodox Church maintains Jesus Christ as our Savior who leads humanity into God's kingdom. Jesus Christ is the head of the church and the church is its body. God is the source of all things. God had such love for humanity that he sent Jesus Christ to our world as the Son of God, to redeem humanity and to live with us, teaching us goodness and compassion.

The Greek Orthodox faith, or, to be more accurate, the Eastern Orthodox faith, has a history dating back to early Christianity when the Apostles founded their first churches in Jerusalem and Rome.

The Apostles were responsible for spreading the word of God and celebrating the Church. The Apostles ordained ministers and deacons; in short, they planted the early seed of the Church, not just for Eastern Orthodox (which didn't exist yet), but for all Christianity.

For over 1,000 years Christianity worshipped as a whole – they celebrated simply as Christians. But in 1054 the church was divided into two parts (an event known as the Great Schism). The Western Patriarchate of Rome became known as the Roman Catholic Church. The remaining patriarchates, including Constantinople, Alexandra, Antioch and Jerusalem, became known as Eastern Orthodox.

The patriarchates of Moscow, Bulgaria, Serbia, Romania and Georgia, along with the Autocephalous Churches of Albania, Cyprus, Finland and Greece, later joined the Eastern Orthodox. All churches share the same communion and follow the doctrine.

Eastern Orthodox Christians follow an official statement of faith called the Nicene-Constantinopolitan Creed, which was adopted in 325 and 381 AD. The creed is also followed by



St. George Greek Orthodox Church sits on Downey Avenue. Its entrance faces south in anticipation of a future courtyard that will replace what is now Hi-Ho Market. *Photo by Art Montoya* 

Roman Catholics, in addition to most Lutheran and Protestant churches

Specifically, St. George in Downey falls under the jurisdiction of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of San Francisco, headed by His Eminence Metropolitan Anthony of San Francisco, which is, in turn, part of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America. The Archdiocese is under the jurisdiction of the Patriarchate of Constantinople headed by His All-Holiness, the Ecumenical Patriarch, Bartholomew I.

The interior of St. George in Downey is evolving. The church has three separate areas, including the Narthex, the Nave and the Sanctuary, each designed to follow specific Orthodox tradition.

As Orthodox Christians enter the church through the Narthex, they are to light a candle as a reminder that Jesus Christ is the light of the world. The Narthex

includes windows inspired by St. Anna Church in Heraklion, Crete.

The Nave is the area where parishioners gather for services. Between the altar and main seating area is a raised section known as the solea. On the solea is where services and sacraments take place, with the exception of the Divine Liturgy.

The Sanctuary, or altar, is separated from the seating area by an iconostasion, a symbol of the Temple Veil in the Old Testament which separated the Holy of Holies from the remainder of the temple. At present, the iconostasion at St. George includes renderings of Jesus Christ and St. John the Baptist on its right side, and the Virgin Mary and St. George to the left. The artwork is temporary until a permanent iconostasion is designed.

The sanctuary also houses the Holy Table, which represents the tomb of Christ. The Holy Table is draped with an ornate cloth and resting on it is the Holy Communion for the sick; the Antimension, a small consecrated icon cloth on which the consecration of Holy Gifts takes place; two white candlesticks; and the Holy Gospel.

Behind the Holy Table is a large, wooden cross bearing an icon of the body of Christ.

St. George may be best identified for its magnificent dome, a symbol of the union of heaven and earth. The dome is made of interlocking copper plates and contains 24 windows. It is 30 feet in diameter from the inside and is 55 feet from the floor below.

The dome is crowned with a cross on top. After this weekend's Greek Festival, artists will climb scaffolds and paint an image of Jesus Christ on the inside walls of the dome, to look down at parishioners during services.

Funds from this weekend's festival will go towards more remodeling at the church. Its fellowship hall will soon be torn down and completely replaced and, where the Hi-Ho Market now sits, that will be the church courtyard.

What else does St. George Greek Church have planned?

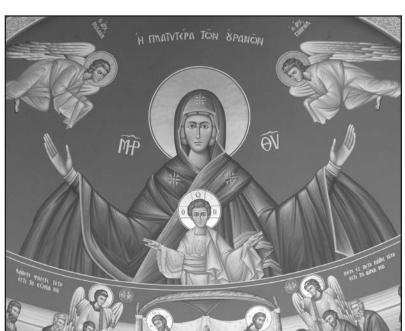
Fr. Constantine of St. George smiled.

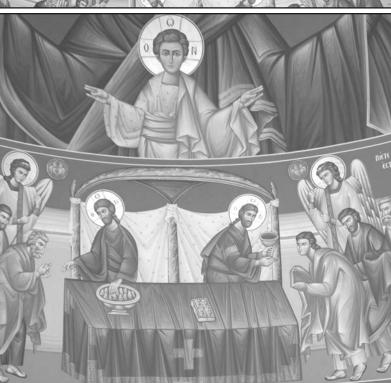
"Well," he said, "like Phillip said to Nathaniel, come and see."

Information provided by Fr. John Constantine was used in this story.

St. George Greek Orthodox Church

10830 Downey Avenue (562) 862-6461 www.stgeorgedowney.org





Photos by Art Montoya

Would you like your church featured in "Faith in Downey"? If so, call Eric Pierce at (562) 904-3668 or e-mail downeypatriot@yahoo.com To advertise on this page, call (562) 904-3668

### 'The Secret' to be shown for free

**DOWNEY** – The community is invited to see "The Secret," the controversial film discussed on "The Oprah Winfrey Show," at the Downey Church for Spiritual Enrichment.

The film will be shown for free on four dates: June 13 and 27; and July 11 and 25. Light refreshments will be offered and books, DVDs, and boutiques items will be for sale.

Donations will be accepted. For information or to reserve a space, call Yvonne at (562) 926-2445.

The Downey Church for Spiritual Enrichment is at 10000 Paramount Blvd., across from Vons supermarket.

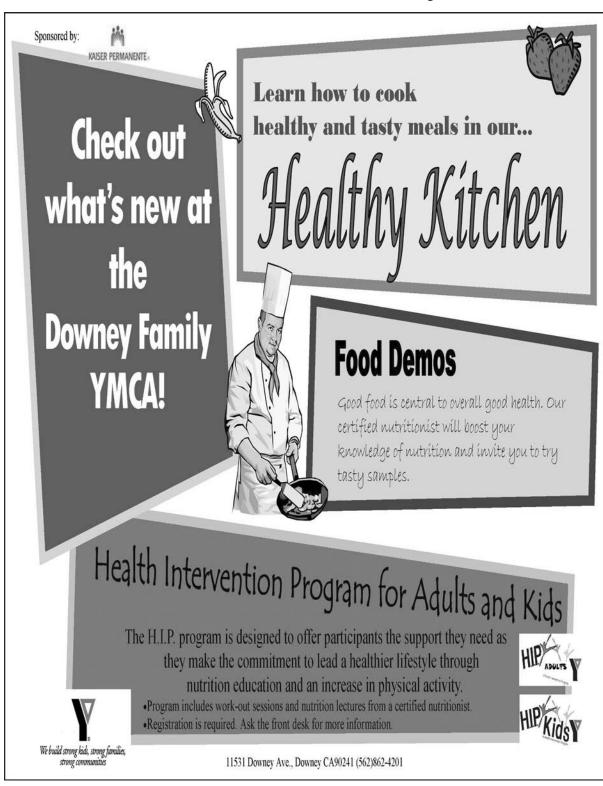
#### 'Living Word Conference' June 6-10

**DOWNEY** – The Love, Peace and Happiness Family Church in Downey will host their 2007 Annual Living Word Conference convening June 6-10. The theme is "About My Father" and the community is invited.

Scheduled to speak at the conference are Apostle Richard Taylor of Houston, Tex.; Pastor Tammie Gibson of Dominion House Ministries in Ontario; and Bishop Truman Martin of Dayton, Ohio.

The conference will commence with a Shepherd's Day Celebration at 3 p.m. with Pastor Jerry Martin of Humble, Tex. Special musical guest will be the Long Beach Mass Choir.

The church is located at 11022 Old River School Rd. For information, call (562) 806-9890 or visit www.lphfamily.org.





On May 24, Tredway, Lumsdaine & Doyle was named U.S. Chamber of Commerce 2007 Small Business of the Year. Pictured are the firm's LLP Managing Partner Matthew L. Kinley (left) and U.S. Chamber of Commerce Vice Chairman Paul Speranza.



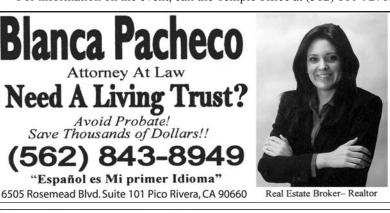
Pictured are (left to right) the 2007-2008 Auxiliary Board of Directors for the Downey Regional Medical Center Auxiliary: Shirley Sheibe (vice-president); Joanna Orsel (volunteer/orientation director); Wilma Brouwer (parliamentarian); Nann Goldstein (president); Ellia Deblois (gift shop director); Wilma Garcia (secretary); Lucy Aguero (ways and means director) and Millie Powell (treasurer).

#### Temple honoring Sisterhood this Sunday

**DOWNEY** – The Sisterhood members of Temple Ner Tamid will be having their 49th Annual Donor Luncheon this Sunday in the Presidential Suite of the Embassy Suites in Downey starting at 11:30 a.m. The cost is \$100.

The event will honor Sisterhood members who have strengthened the organization by donating their own time.

For information on the event, call the Temple office at (562) 861-9276.





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## Local teams play in All-Star Football Classic

LA MIRADA – The 40th Annual 605 All-Star Football Classic will be played tomorrow at La Mirada Stadium at La Mirada High School, with kick-off at 6:05 p.m.

Several Pac-10 players will headline this year's classic: Romeo Pellum WR (Santa Fe) - Washington State; Marlon Hawkins WR (Cerritos) -Arizona State; Joseph Redding WR (LB Poly) - Arizona State; and Brandon Johnson RB (Dominguez) - Washington State.

Other college players include: Mose Denton DB (Mayfair) -University of Nevada; Greg Francis AP (La Mirada) – Cal Poly San Luis Obispo; Jonathan Potts RB (La Serna) - San Diego State; Victor Lee LB (Cerritos) - UC Davis; Trot Muenzer PK (Long Beach Wilson) -University of Hawaii; Eric Gilbert Jr. TE (Bellflower) - Grambling University; Artis Moore FB (Dominguez) - UNLV; Johnny Tiavo TE (Paramount) - Boise State; Leslie Cooper OL (Dominguez) - Fresno State; and Porter Hill DL (Compton) – Fresno State.

Many others have signed with D-2, 3 or NAIA schools.

Junior colleges represented include Cerritos, east Los Angeles, El Camino, Fullerton, Long Beach, Orange Coast and Saddleback.

All players will be split up into two teams – East and West.

Gary Cordray of South Gate High School will coach the West Team. Cordary has won two city section championships and last played for the city section title in 2005, losing a close one to Fairfax. Joining Cordray will be Head Coach Leroy Wilson of Huntington Park High School, who has led the Spartans to a 28-7 record over the past three seasons.

Pete Gonzalez of St. Paul High School will coach the East Team. Gonzalez led the Swordsman to a quarterfinals finish during his first season.

The East Team will consist of the following teams: Artesia, California, Cerritos, Cypress, Fullerton, Gahr, John Glenn, Kennedy, La Habra, La Mirada, La Serna, Long Beach Poly, Los Altos, Mayfair, Norwalk, Pioneer, Santa Fe, St. John Bosco, St. Paul, Sonora, Whittier and HH Wilson.

The West Team will consist of the following teams: Downey, Warren, Bell Gardens, Bellflower, Cabrillo, Compton, Dominguez, Don Bosco Tech, El Rancho, Garfield, Huntington Park, Lakewood, Long Beach Jordan, Long Beach Wilson, Lynwood, Millikan, Montebello, Paramount, Schurr, St, Anthony, South Gate and Valley Christian.

In addition, coaches Ernie Johnson of El Rancho High School and Marijon Ancich of St. Paul High School were recently inducted into the 605 All-Star Hall of Fame. Both coaches will be attending pre-game ceremonies.

General admission is \$10 and gates will open at 5 p.m.

Information, as well as full rosters, are available at www.605allstars.com.

### Stonewood Center pledges to raise flag

**DOWNEY** – Stonewood Center will kick off its "An Old Gloryous Celebration" this weekend, a community pledge drive to raise the American flag across the country on Flag Day, June 14.

Beginning Saturday, visitors who pledge to fly the flag will receive a free stick flag and will be recognized in a pledge card display, located in the Macy's Court at Stonewood Center.

The pledge drive will be held through Flag Day, when Stonewood Center will join hundreds of shopping centers across the country and raise the flag in unison at 10 a.m.

For more information, visit www.oldgloryous.com.

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All listings can be found at www.downeyrealestate.com

#### Gordon elected to foundation board

NORWALK - George Gordon, co-owner of Century 21 Home and Investment in Downey, has been elected to the Cerritos College Foundation Board of Directors. Gordon, a part-time faculty member at the college, will help oversee the foundation's fundraising and scholarship distribution efforts.

"We're thrilled to have Gordon join the board," said the Honorable Peter Espinoza, a Los Angeles Superior Court judge and the foundation board's president. "George brings to the board his credibility and experience in our community, and that is invaluable to our organization."

Gordon has been co-owner of Century 21 Home and Investment since 1981. He served as president of the Downey Association of Realtors in 1986 and has served as the district representative for the California Association of Realtors.

He currently teaches a class in real estate principles for the Cerritos College Business Division. He also serves as chairman of the board of deacons for Downey First Baptist Church and is the church moderator.

#### 'Relay for Life' scheduled June 9-10

DOWNEY - The American Cancer Society's "Relay for Life" will be held June 9-10 at Downey Adult School.

The walk will begin Saturday at 9 a.m. The day will include games, prizes, music, a jumper for children, performances and radio stations.

A candlelight ceremony honoring the memory of cancer victims will be held at 9 p.m.

Residents, businesses and community groups are encouraged to participate. For more information, call Karina Madariaga at (562) 940-6236.

#### **WE LOVE LETTERS!**

Letters to the editor can be sent to The Downey Patriot, 11525 Downey Avenue, Suite A, Downey, CA 90241 or downeypatriot@yahoo.com



**♥**Sales



Independent Escrow Company (DOC) looking to add to its existing team. Looking for experienced officers with their own book of business.

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5 Bedrooms 2.5 Baths Asking \$1,090,000.







**Separated Houses** 1 X 3 Bedrooms

# Page 12 Friday, June 1, 2007 Classified/Real Estate \_\_\_\_ The Downey Patriot

#### PERSONALS

#### ST. JUDE NOVENA

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored and glorified, loved and preserved throughout the world now and forever. Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, pray for us. St. Jude worker of miracles, pray for us. Helper of the hopeless, pray for us.

Thank you for granting my petition. M.W.

Call Linda Larson to put your ad in The Downey Patriot Classifieds section Deadline is Wednesday at 11:00 am (562) 904-3668

#### **GARAGE SALE**

#### **50 HOMES** JUNE 2ND & 3RD

Annual neighborhood garage sale. W. of Paramount S. of Imperial.

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# Hats Off to the Graduates!

Congratulations, Class of 2007! **7** 



#### **Graduates Name**

Line 2

Line 3 Line 4

Line 5

The Downey Patriot will publish a special section dedicated to commencement and graduation ceremonies. For only \$30.00, you can honor your graduate with a 1.986" by 3" announcement. They will be listed by school and by name.

Deadlines for High School announcements is June 8 and will be published on June 15, 2007.

Include the following information:

✓ Completed Information Card

✓ Photo of the Graduate -- By Mail - photo must be 2" x 3"

-- By EMail - photo must be 300 dpi (DowneyPatriot@yahoo.com) ✓ Check payable to The Downey Patriot

The Downey Patriot, 11525 Downey Avenue, Suite A, Downey, CA 90241

#### **ACTUAL SIZE**

The Downey Patriot YOUR HOMETOWN COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

11525 Downey Avenue, Suite A, Downey, CA 90241

Line = approximately 20 to 23 characters including spaces and punctuation Line 1 (Graduate's Name)

Line 2 (School) \_\_\_\_

Line 3 (Your message here)

Line 5

Billing Information

Address: \_

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INVESTMENTS

Jervis & Associates

Please call The Downey Patriot with any questions regarding your announcement. Phone (562)904-3668

State:\_

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# Real Estate Page 13 Friday, June 1, 2007

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Powney Patriot





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"We were treated so well by Maria Menjivar during the process. Maria did a great job" - Roberto Figueroa & Janet Alvarado

"I like working with positive people and Claudia Beas was always positive and did an awesome job" – Edwin & Biby Solares





Maria

Cibrian

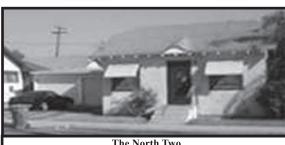


**MVPs** OF THE MONTH





**TOP SALES** Lilian & Lorena Lorena L Team L Team



Two units in a great north Downey location. 1st unit has 3 Bedrooms and 2 Bathr (562) 927-2626 century21myrealestate.com



Large lot and zoned R-3. 3 Bedrooms, 2 Bathrooms, 2 car garage, nice neighborhood (562) 927-2626 century21myrealestate.com



For this huge lot with a 2 Bedroom and one Bathroom home. Formal dinning room (562) 927-2626 century21myrealestate.co



The school is across the street and it's walking distance to shopping areas. Four separat nits. 1 unit – 2 Bedrooms, 1 Bathroom. 3 units – 1 Bedroom, 1 Bathroom. And... lot is over 10,000 sq. ft (562) 927-2626 century21myrealestate.com



This is Genuin Beautiful home with great curb appeal. Delightful living room with cozy fireplace Kitchen is bright & spacious, 3 Bedrooms 1.75 Bathrooms, move in condit (562) 927-2626 century21myrealestate



Here is an opportunity to live by the water in a gated community in the city of ount. 1 Bedroom, 1 Bathro ice neighborhood and move in condition



Here's a "high 5" you will want to see. 1 unit - 4 Bedrooms, 1 Bathroom. 4 units om. 5 carports. Live in one and rent the others. (562) 927-2626 century21myrealestate.co

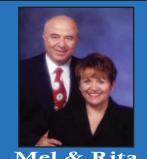


First Timers Here is one to see. 2 Bedrooms, 1 Bathroom, newer windows, newer kitchen of nove in condition and a beautiful area of Lynwood. (562) 927-2626 century21myrealestate.com



Century 21 My Real Estate - Teaming With Clients For Over 30 Years

# Page 14 Friday, June 1, 2007 Real Estate



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5 BD, 3 BA, Each room is cable ready & is capable of having 4 telephone lines. 2 of the rooms are wired for surround sound w/ monster cable. Fireplace inside and outside, perfect for entertaining. Freshly painted. Call Roger Today! Or visit www.RogerBeltran.com

 Behind on your payments?
 Owe more on your house than its worth? 3.Bankruptcy? 4.Need out?

Call today for a private consultation:









<u> Home Sweet Home!</u> 3 bedrooms, 1 ¾ baths, with premier tub, master suite w/ walk-in closet, pool, FA/CA, near Furman Park. Priced @ \$650,000 Call Vicki Spearman @ 562-367-9520



80 Ft. wide lot, 2 car detached garage, 1,264 Sq. ft. home Priced @ \$565,000 Call Vicki Spearman @ 562-367-9520









North East Downey Townhouse!! This Unit features 3 BD, 3 BA, 1,541 Sq. Ft. cated in higly desriable "Glenbrook North" comple: Must Call Mario To See! Price \$464,900 Call Mario Persico @ 562.533.7433 ee Virtual Tour @ www.MarioPersico.com



This One Has it All! 3 BD, 2 BA, Open kitchen, Living room w/ Fireplace, Master Suite, Newer roof (June 2006), Fresh Paint exterior (April 2007) Central Heat & Air (4 years new), & 1,722 Sq. Ft. & So Much More!! Call Mario Persico @ 562.533.7433 See Virtual Tour @ www.MarioPersico.com



Unbelievable Downey Opportunity! 4 BD, 3 BA, Newer Carpet, freshly painted interior Copper Plumbing & 2,111 Sq. Ft. Just Reduced to \$649,900 Send all offers! Call Mario Persico @ 562.533.7433 ee Virtual Tour @ www.MarioPersico.com



SOLD! This super clean home features 3 BD, 2 BA. hardwood floors, newer roof, freshly painted, central air, and so much more, Move In Ready!!! Call Mario Persico @ 562.533.7433 See Virtual Tour @ www.MarioPersico.com

Born in Downey\*Raised in Downey SELLS DOWNEY





Move Right In! Downey - Remodeled in 2006, featuring 3 BD, 1 BA, Priced at \$484,900 Call Jose @ 562-519-4010



<u>Fine Home at a Finer Price!</u> 3 BD & 1 BA, large family room w/ fireplace, remodeled kitchen & new paint. Priced at: \$564,900



Pool Home! 5 BD 3 BA, 3,100 Sq. Ft. of Living space on an 8,200 Sq. Ft. Lot. with pool & spa built in 2006 Call Jose @ 562-519-4010



**Prime Location!** 6 BD, 7.5 BA, executive office, bonus room, Approx. 5,625 Sq. Ft. 10,880 sq. ft. lot w/ pool and state of the art amenities

# www.Prudential24Hours.com (5



Michael Berdelis

562-818-6111

**Chairman Circle** 

**Award Winner** 

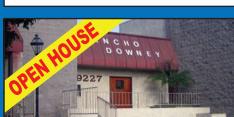
2000-2006!





13,500 sq ft lot! Price: \$939,900

Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com



Northeast Downey Condo! 2 BD, 2 BA townhouse-style condo w/ Remodeled bath, newer paint & carpet. Now at: \$399,950

Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com



*I'm Gorgeous Inside!*Spectacular 9,300 sq. ft. lot w/ pool,
Sport court, 3 BD, 2 BA home. Completely remodeled kitchen and upgraded bathrooms, too many upgrades to list.

Price \$699,950 Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com

Cute As A Button! Spacious bedrooms, den, remodeled bathroom, hardwood floors, new kitchen, large yard & covered patio. Price: \$515,000 Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com



2 bed, 1 bath, detached garage converted to guest house, freshly painted, large yard. Price: \$475,000

Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com

Honey, Stop the Car! 3 bed, 2 bath Downey home w/ guest house, newer kitchen, central air & heat and much, much more. Price: \$569,950

Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com

Move Right In! 3 bed, 3 bath, large master bdrm, NE section of Downey, 2144 sq. ft. home on a 7625 sq. ft lot. Price: \$799,950 Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com



<u>New Construction 2007 - on Large Lot!</u> 5 Beds, 4 BA, central air & heat, Sparkling pool, 3,600 Sq. Ft. Living Space. Price: \$1,295,000

Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com



**Une of a Kind!** 3 bed, 2 bath, formal dining room, RV parking. Price: \$549,000 Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com



Light & Airy! Large Downey home w/ liv rm & fam rm, RV parking, and 2 car garage & bonus room. Price: \$599,950

Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com



A-1 Neighborhood! 3 bedroom, 2 bath home in Northeast Downey with Large backyard and pool! Price: \$974,950 Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com



Look No Further – Built in 2007! 5 BD, 4 BA newly constructed home (4729 sq ft on a 7560 sq ft lot) with master suite, gorgeous kitchen, and rock pool & spa with waterfall and slide. A must see!!! Price: \$1,549,900



This spacious floor plan includes 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, and a large living room. Large backyard and 2 car detached garage. Reduced for a quick sell: \$529,950 Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com



<u> Large Lot - 10,300 Sq Ft!!!</u> 4 bedroom, 2 bath home w/ potential to add a guest house. Price: \$699,950 Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com



<u> Upgrades Galore!!!</u> 3 bed, 2.5 bath home in NE section of Downey, 2346 sq ft, 7446 sq ft lot, remodeled kitchen and baths, large master suite, loft, and hidden attic room (very neat)! Price: \$995,000

Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com



Classic Tuscan Country Estate! 6 BD, 4.5 BA, over 5,000 Sq. Ft., 14,600 Sq. Ft. Lot. Price: \$1,995,000

Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com

www.MichaelBerdelis.com Call Michael today at (562) 818-6111