



# The Downey Patriot



**Saikali leaving the Downey 'Y'**  
See Page 8



**A smile worth remembering**  
See Page 8



**A Carpenters fan shares his story**  
See Page 11

Friday, June 29, 2007

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

## Students don't hesitate to save a drowning classmate's life

BY DEVON FRANCE  
SUSSMAN MIDDLE SCHOOL

**DOWNEY** – Two Sussman Middle School students rescued their classmate when he nearly drowned at Seal Beach last week.

Five boys took a party bus trip to Seal Beach Tuesday to celebrate their eighth grade promotion earlier that day.

During a brief stop at the mouth of the San Gabriel River, three of the boys started swimming. The two who remained on the beach alerted Kyle Lewis and Antonio Vazquez that Jesus Nieto was in trouble.

At first Lewis didn't believe Nieto was drowning.

"He's a jokester. I thought he was playing," Lewis said.

But when Nieto went under again, Lewis made his way to him across a strong crosscurrent. Lewis struggled to hold up his exhausted classmate's dead weight. Vazquez took over while Lewis went ahead to find shallower water where he could stand.

From there both boys pushed and pulled their friend to the beach.

At first, Nieto walked with the help of his friends, but he suddenly collapsed, vomited water and fell unconscious. Vazquez called 9-1-1 and Long Beach lifeguards responded in five minutes. They applied a neck collar and summoned the Coast Guard for a helicopter airlift to a hospital.

Nieto's mother called Sussman Middle School the next morning. "Kyle Lewis saved my son's life," she reported to Principal Gloria Widmann.

Lewis, meanwhile, is modest about his feat.

"I wouldn't want that to be me," he said. "If I was in the water I'd want someone to get me out."

Lewis' father, Mark, praised his son, who is also Athlete of the Year at Sussman.

"Kyle's a great kid. I just pray the Lord will take care of him. He's pretty much just what you want a kid to be."

Nieto suffered two spinal cord bruises and was hospitalized overnight. He is expected to make a full recovery.



Antonio Vazquez, left, and Kyle Lewis helped save the life of fellow classmate Jesus Nieto, who almost drowned while swimming at Seal Beach last week.

## Korneff may be out as DRMC CEO

BY ERIC PIERCE  
CITY EDITOR

**DOWNEY** – Amid whispers of dwindling cash reserves and financial straits, Downey Regional Medical Center's (DRMC) Allen Korneff appears to be on his way out as president and CEO.

Ken Strople, who joined DRMC last April as executive vice president, has been appointed interim CEO and a permanent replacement is expected to be named within a month, hospital officials said in a prepared statement Wednesday.

Accounts differ as to whether Korneff resigned his post voluntarily or was fired. The statement released by the hospital said Korneff "will be enjoying his retirement."

"I believe he resigned," DRMC COO Rob Fuller told the *Patriot*, adding he did not know if the hospital's corporate board of directors voted to remove Korneff.

Multiple sources told the *Patriot* that the hospital board voted 5-4 to fire Korneff after offering him the opportunity to resign. The board is expected to meet Monday to hash out details relating to Korneff's contract and to complete the termination.

The hospital, according to the sources, is also believed to be on the hook for a hefty severance package equaling three years salary at nearly \$400,000 per year.

DRMC's administrative offices referred all questions to its released statement.

"Allen will be enjoying his retirement after so many years of successfully leading the hospital through the complexities of the healthcare environment," the statement reads. "Allen served this hospital with distinction. Healthcare and hospitals have changed dramatically over the decades, and Allen's steady leadership allowed Downey Regional to thrive through thick and thin throughout most of this time.

"Even through the recent difficult times, the culture that Allen had forged carried the hospital through and laid the groundwork for a bright future. We salute Allen for his leadership services."

The statement is signed by chairs Kathy B. Hampton and Mary Lou Schmidt.



Allen Korneff

See KORNEFF, page 2

## DMOA requests money for brand new museum

BY ERIC PIERCE, CITY EDITOR

**DOWNEY** – The Downey Museum of Art has outgrown its current abode at Furman Park and it needs the city's help to relocate and build a bigger and better museum, that's according to executive director Kate Davies.

The museum made a formal request for \$50,000 from the city this week but was rebuffed by the council, which cited insufficient financial information and sent the item back to staff for further review.

Council members praised the work of the Downey Museum of Art (DMOA), but were apprehensive that if the money was approved, other non-profit organizations would come forward to request more money as well.

The museum is already earmarked to receive \$10,000 from the city this year.

DMOA, according to Davies, is in the midst of a fundraising venture to create DMOA @ The Glidehouse, a new museum to include contemporary art exhibits and demonstrations on sustainable living, alternative energy, water conservation and green-building technologies.

## Time Traveler Industries developed during the 1880s

BY JOHN ADAMS  
EDITOR EMERITUS

The rich soil of the flood plain that is Downey lent itself to a number of agri-industries that sprang up due to the ingenuity of the settlers here in the 1880s.

The products included castor oil, wine and walnut meat.

In the fall of 1881 a castor oil plant located behind Merchant's drug store began operation. Archives of the Downey Historical Society note that a large white horse driven by Logan Rives operated the press which drew the oil from the raw castor beans. The ground here was so rich and moist that the castor bean plants grew to tree-like proportions.

The castor oil they produced was used both medicinally and as a lubricant for machinery. Large quantities were shipped to Los Angeles, and 150 gallons a week went to San Francisco.

But the handcutting was hard and costly. There were other uses for the rich soil as well.

In 1884 F.B. Weis opened a small winery south of the Southern Pacific tracks on Crawford Street. Men tramped the grapes in a large vat. The juice was then allowed to ferment in huge tanks.

Later, the Downey Fruit and Wine Co. installed a steam-powered wine press just north of the tracks on Crawford. They also used the steam engine to saw wood during the off-season, and business prospered. In the year of 1888 some 25 cars of wine were shipped from Downey's rail depot.

This bonanza was ruined, however, when a blight attacked the roots of

See TRAVELER, page 4

The Glidehouse, as proposed, would include offices, a meeting room, small theater, and exhibit space. Preliminary talks have the museum relocating to the Downey Studios property.

"Based on regional museum attendance statistics, we estimate that with a brand new museum we will have an attendance of 60-100,000 annually," Davies said in a presentation to the council.

National Public Radio and Alaska Airlines In-Flight magazine have already expressed interest in highlighting the Glidehouse when it's complete, Davies said.

Missing from the presentation Tuesday was DMOA's budget, which Davies said is being handled by a new accounting firm. She also said DMOA was willing to share their financial information with the city.

The matter is expected to be brought before the council again at a future meeting.

## Family inside Carpenter House decry attention

■ House has been subject to scrutinization and even a break-in. Family says it wishes it would stop.

BY ERIC PIERCE AND JACQUELINE MEJIA

**DOWNEY** – The family living inside the house made famous by the Carpenters have been dealing with harassment, invasions of privacy and even a burglary ever since a story was published in the *Patriot* two weeks ago detailing plans of a possible demolition, a family representative said this week.

Speculation began swirling that the house was headed for demolition after an ad for an estate sale at 9828 Newville Ave., where the famed Richard and Karen Carpenter grew up, emerged on the Internet.

Fans of the Carpenters protested and decry what they labeled as dilapidated conditions at the home.

A permit application was received by the City of Downey building and safety department in April requesting permission to demolish all but one wall of the house and construct a new two-story, three-garage house in its place.

Jessica Parra, daughter of the homeowner, told the *Patriot* her family is obeying all laws and obtaining all necessary permits from the city. She also emphasized that her father, Manuel, a Cuban immigrant, has lived in the United States for 40 years and worked hard to send her to college (she's currently attending law school).

Parra said strangers have been peering into her windows and snapping pictures. "(It's) very dangerous because it is an invasion of privacy," she said.

The house was even the subject of a break-in this week, Parra said.

Still, Parra said she allowed a 300-person sightseeing group from England to tour her home at no charge, but wished the derogatory comments and negative attention would cease.

She emphasized that the Carpenter house is not officially a historic site and it remains private property.



Bank surveillance cameras captured images of a suspected kidnapper Tuesday, shown at left with her alleged victim.

## Elderly resident robbed, kidnapped by intruder

■ Man is back home safe after police say intruder ransacked his home and tried to empty his back account.

BY ERIC PIERCE  
CITY EDITOR

**DOWNEY** – An elderly Downey resident suffering from Alzheimer's may have been kidnapped and robbed and the police department needs help in finding his abductor.

Police responded to a burglary call at a northwest Downey home at about 3:20 p.m. Tuesday, Sgt. Leslie Murray with the Downey Police Department said. Officers found the home's front door pried open and the house ransacked, Murray said.

Joe Anderson, a resident of the home, was missing along with his 1995 Buick Regal, Murray said.

An investigation found that Anderson went to a Downey bank Tuesday and withdrew a small amount of money, police said. Later that same day, he went to another bank in the city of Orange, this time in the company of a middle-aged woman, and tried to withdraw more money, but was refused by the teller, Murray said.

Anderson returned home alone at approximately 7 p.m. Tuesday, police said, but are still investigating the incident as a kidnapping.

The woman accompanying Anderson in the bank is the main suspect, police said. She is described as white or Hispanic with bleached blonde hair.

Anyone with information on the case is asked to call the Downey Police Department at (562) 904-2308 or Detective Raul Salazar at (562) 904-2332.





The Downey Blue Crew, an 8U girls fast-pitch softball team, recently swept through the Central Valley Freeze Tournament in Tulare, Calif. to finish in first place and qualify for the West World Series to be held in Stockton July 21-27. The team is currently organizing fundraisers to participate in the tournament. Sponsors are encouraged to call Coach Alfredo Roach at (562) 716-1697.

## Council puts final touches on November election

■ Voters will head to the polls Nov. 6 to decide issue of term limits.

By ERIC PIERCE, CITY EDITOR

**DOWNEY** – After a lengthy back-and-forth session on language particulars, the City Council passed a number of resolutions Tuesday ironing out details of November's special election relating to term limits.

At issue was the exact wording of the ballot measure which, if passed, would allow council members to rerun for a seat after sitting out two years.

The election is scheduled for Nov. 6 and will be held concurrently with the Downey Unified School District election.

Councilman Mario Guerra, along with Mayor Rick Trejo and Councilman Kirk Cartozian, will write an argument in favor of the measure which will appear on the ballot. Councilwoman Anne Bayer, who has opposed the measure from the outset, will write the rebuttal.

The city has appropriated \$85,000 for the election.

## Grant allows Arc to expand services

**DOWNEY** – Thanks to a grant from the Weingart Foundation, Arc of Southeast Los Angeles County has opened the Center for Human Rights, a community outreach center helping people navigate the developmental disability system.

With the grant, Arc will also establish a formalized training and leadership program to strengthen the entire agency through training and educational opportunities for direct care staff, management and volunteers.

"Arc wishes to express a special thank you to all Arc Walk for Independence supporters who have helped us make this expansion possible," Arc President Dianne Lumsdaine said. "Together we've moved forward to enrich the lives of community members."

For more information on Arc, call (562) 803-4606.

## 'Saturday Night Cruise' tomorrow

**DOWNEY** – A "Saturday Night Cruise" car show featuring automobiles pre-1978 will be held tomorrow at World of Décor in Downey, 11111 Florence Ave, from 2 to 7 p.m.

The event is a fundraiser for a youth sports team trying to raise money for a trip to Canada.

Food will be available at the event, which will include trophies for best cars and a 50/50 raffle. Entry fee is \$10.

Alcohol, burnouts, and loud music are prohibited at the cruise. For more information, call Hazel Ellis at (562) 869-1753.

## John Hume barbeque at Furman Park

**DOWNEY** – The 2nd Annual John Hume Performing Arts Foundation Barbeque will be on August 4 from noon to 5 p.m. at Furman Park.

Furman Park is located at 10419 Rives Ave. in Downey.

For information, call (562) 869-0422.



Mayor Pro-tem Dave Gafin presented Beverly Mathis with a certificate for her year of service as 2006 Soroptimist International of Downey president. Sue Potter is the incoming president.

## KORNEFF

Continued from page 1

Privately, city officials (including a former mayor) expressed relief at the departure of Korneff, who officials said had an icy relationship with City Hall.

Two former board members said DRMC is experiencing severe financial difficulties, and Korneff's derisive relationship with the city complicated efforts to right the ship.

Korneff was at DRMC's helm when the hospital engaged in a bitter court dispute four years ago with CareMore Medical Group.

Korneff also issued a statement two years ago threatening to close the hospital's emergency room due to the cost of treating uninsured patients.

"What we have here is not a 'hospital problem.' It is a problem that affects everyone in the region who may need emergency medical treatment – the insured and uninsured alike," Korneff said at the time.

Korneff joined DRMC in 1971. According to his hospital biography, he previously worked at the Stanford Research Institute, Cedars Sinai Medical Center, Presbyterian Hospital of Hollywood and Adventist Health Services West.

Fuller, meanwhile, said he would 'probably' interview for Korneff's position.

"But I'm not thinking about that right now," Fuller said. "[Korneff] provided great leadership for 35 years. He's a hard act to follow."

City Councilman Mario Guerra is a former hospital board member. He said he was confident Strople and Fuller were capable of leading DRMC until a new CEO is appointed.

"I have every confidence in Rob Fuller and Ken Strople to lead the hospital," Guerra said. "We need a hospital that will be able to serve our city. I will work on behalf of the city to help in any way I can."

"I wish Allen the very best on his retirement."



Rodolfo Farias Jr., center, received a plaque last week in recognition of nine years of perfect school attendance, dating back to kindergarten. From Lewis Elementary to Sussman Middle School, Rodolfo has faithfully attended school each day, in spite of a chronic health problem, diabetes. As a reward for his accomplishment, Rodolfo's parents rewarded him with a trip to Walt Disney World. Rodolfo is pictured with his father, Rodolfo Sr., mother, Irene, and sister, Stephanie Farias.

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## Fireworks in Downey

The City of Downey issued 18 permits to various organizations to sell fireworks this year. According to law, fireworks can not be sold before noon on July 1.

- Optimist Club of Downey**  
11111 Florence Ave.
- Downey A.Y.S.O.**  
9200 Lakewood Blvd.
- NW Downey Little League**  
8008 Firestone Blvd.
- Downey High Cheer Booster**  
7814 Firestone Blvd.
- United Methodist Church**  
7502 Florence Ave.
- Jobs Daughters**  
13525 Lakewood Blvd.
- St. Raymond Catholic Church**  
12270 Paramount Blvd.
- American Legion**  
11269 Garfield Ave.
- Downey High Waterpolo**  
11837 Lakewood Blvd.
- Warren High Band Boosters**  
7900 Imperial Hwy.
- Downey High Football Boosters**  
7915 Florence Ave.
- Warren High Football Boosters**  
7955 Firestone Blvd.
- Calvary Chapel Church**  
8718 Imperial Hwy.
- Pop Warner Football**  
8626 Firestone Blvd.
- Downey Elks #2020**  
11233 S. Woodruff Ave.
- Moravian Church of Downey**  
9020 Firestone Blvd.
- Downey Rose Float Association**  
7676 Firestone Blvd.
- West Downey Little League**  
7399 Stewart & Gray Rd.

Source: Downey Fire Department

## Fire departments may see improved reception

By ERIC PIERCE  
CITY EDITOR

**DOWNEY** – The Downey Fire Department will soon transition from VHF radio frequency to UHF, a change expected to improve communication between various local fire departments, fire officials said this week.

As part of the conversion, a new antenna will be placed atop the Embassy Suites to receive and transmit radio information. The fire department placed a flag – in the approximate area where the antenna will be located – on top of the eight-story hotel over a month ago to gauge public reaction and reported no complaints.

An antenna is currently located on the roof of the Downey Theater and at Fire Station One.

The Downey Fire Department operates and manages the Joint Powers Communications Center, which coordinates communication between the fire departments of Downey, Compton, Montebello and Santa Fe Springs, an area covering more than 35 square miles.

Switching from VHF to UHF is expected to improve transmission quality between the departments, officials said.

The Embassy Suites is not charging the fire department for use of their roof and the cost for new equipment will be paid by a state homeland security grant.



At the 104th Annual Installation of Officers and Directors luncheon on June 22, Steve Allen (left) handed over the gavel to new Downey Chamber of Commerce President Jaime Garcia.

## Celebrating safely on the Fourth of July

Contributed by the Downey Fire Department

**DOWNEY** – The Downey Fire Department would like to remind the public of the Fireworks Ordinance. The highlights are as follows:

- Fireworks shall only be discharged within the city boundaries between 3 and 10 p.m. on July 4th. It shall be unlawful to discharge fireworks at any other time or date of the year.
- Fireworks may not be discharged upon any city property or public right-of-way (included streets and sidewalks).
- The discharge of "Safe and Sane" fireworks shall be in the presence of a responsible adult 18 years or older. No fireworks shall be sold to any person under the age of 18 years.
- Anyone found to be discharging fireworks in the manner contrary to their intended use would be in violation of the code.
- The sale of fireworks shall not begin before noon on July 1, and shall not continue after 8 p.m. on July 4. Regular hours of sale are July 1 and 2 (noon to 10 p.m.), July 3 (10 a.m. to 10 p.m.), and July 4 (8 a.m. to 8 p.m.).

Last year, 73 citations were issued with a 100 percent conviction rate. The minimum total cost of a citation is approximately \$700 by the time all applicable fees are paid. Please obey the laws – they are for your protection.

In preparing for a safe celebration for the 4th of July holiday:

- Residents should remember to prepare a spot in daylight hours for discharging fireworks. This area should be free of combustibles and overhead hazards.

- Consider placing a piece of drywall (plasterboard) under the discharge area to protect the lawn or driveway.

- Place the viewing area at least 15 feet away from the discharge area. An adult needs to be present at all times.
- Keep a water supply and a fire extinguisher nearby.
- Soaking discharged fireworks in a bucket overnight before placing in a trash receptacle will prevent trash receptacle fires.
- Do not allow children to light fireworks. This sends a clear message to all children that fireworks are to be respected and not misused.
- Use "Safe and Sane" fireworks approved by the California State Fire Marshal (look for a State Fire marshal Seal). Any firework that propels into the air is illegal in Downey. Possession of this type of firework is a crime. Do not alter or modify fireworks as this is also a violation.
- Due to the Federal Storm Water Act, fireworks may not be discharged in places that drain into the storm drain system (city streets, curbs, sidewalks).
- Keep streets clear for emergency vehicles and traffic.

### Warren student lands scholarship

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – Warren High School student Jose Sandoval has been awarded the Horatio Alger Association's California State Scholarship to assist in funding his college education.

The scholarship program is one of the largest need-based financial aid programs in the country. The scholarships are awarded to students who have demonstrated "integrity and perseverance in overcoming adversity and hardships in their lives while demonstrating strength of character, strong academics, commitment to pursue a college education and desire to contribute to society."

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## District education board OKs 2007-08 budget

BY HENRY VENERACION, STAFF WRITER

**DOWNEY**—The Board of the Downey Unified School District at its regular meeting Tuesday adopted its budget for the upcoming 2007-08 fiscal year, totaling \$237 million for all funds, including Adult Education, Food Services, Capital Reserve, and School Construction funds.

The district's General Fund budget is approximately \$175 million. In his brief rundown of the budget highlights, Asst. Superintendent for Business Services Kevin Condon said the budget is predicated on a State Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) on an unrestricted base revenue per pupil of 4.53 percent. This revenue makes up over 74 percent of all General Fund revenues.

With anticipated declining enrollment, the net change is about 3.5-3.8 percent.

A bifurcated COLA for Special Education programs, Condon said, is only about 2.8 percent, versus 4.53 percent for basic education.

He said further that because the State and Federal governments only provide about 7.4 percent of Special Ed revenue (Special Ed programs make up about 11 percent of total General Fund expenditures), an encroachment of about \$6.6 million on the General Fund must make up for the shortfall from basic per pupil funding.

State lottery income is about 2 percent of income. It comes out to \$137 per pupil for the General Fund.

The budget includes a multi-year analysis. It shows two previous years and projects the next three years based on the best information available from State and County sources. At present the projection predicts some deficit spending if the pupil enrollment continues to decline, although major emphasis is increasingly placed on the ratio of attendance to enrollment, to lessen the impact.

Meanwhile, the Board:

- Approved the State Allocation Board form SAB 40-20, Deferred Maintenance Five-Year Plan;
  - Received the "Energy Lighthouse Award" from Energy Education Inc. in recognition of the district's achievement as the first school district in the nation to realize over \$5 million in energy savings in only a five-year period, through a combined education and conservation program established in 2002;
  - Heard a presentation by LifeCare Resources Inc. on the potential benefits of implementing a district-wide "Employee Wellness Program";
  - Heard an update on the bond construction program by Buck Weinfurter, director of Maintenance/Operations & Transportation, in which he cited the completed projects in Alameda, Lewis, Unsworth, Downey High and Warren High, as well as the ongoing active, and future funded, projects in both high schools;
  - Heard a presentation honoring the following Superintendent's Award winners in the area of Parent/Community Relations: Downey High School volunteers Helen Hampton and Louise Haupt, Gauldin volunteer Alex Gaytan, and Annie Casey, volunteer at Ward, Sussman Middle School and Downey High School over the years; it also received the 2006-07 annual report of the Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee from chair Casey.
- In other action, the Board:
- Accepted with gratitude donations in cash and in kind from Starbucks, Downey Savings and Loan Association, Delta Kappa Gamma Society, Downey Church of Religious Science and Albertson's, for various beneficiaries;
  - Authorized payment of expenses for convention and conference attendance;
  - Ratified a general agreement with Cinnamon Hills Youth Crisis Center through June 30, 2007;
  - Ratified payments for special education placements;
  - Approved the revisions to BP and AR 2230—Promotion/Retention—and deletion of BP and AR 2240—Retention-Grades K-8;
  - Approved the revisions to AR 3126, Graduation;
  - Approved Part I of the consolidated application for funding Categorical Aid programs, and authorized submission of the application to the State Department of Education.

- Approved the English Language Acquisition Program (ELAP) application for funding, FY 2007-08, and authorized submission of the application to the State Department of Education;

- Authorized signatories, as presented, to become effective July 1, 2007, and to remain in effect until subsequent action is taken by the Board of Education;

- Approved the monthly mileage allowances for ten-month, eleven-month, and twelve-month employees for 2007-08, as submitted, at an estimated annual cost of \$59,295;

- Approved the amended District memberships for the 2007-08 fiscal year;

- Approved the amended Adult School memberships for the 2007-08 fiscal year;

- Ratified purchase orders by the Purchasing Department;

- Ratified payments for hourly, overtime, Civic Center work performed by classified personnel, Adult School, and Food Services for April;

- Ratified B warrants for payment of authorized purchases or obligations incurred by law or district policy for May;

- Ratified an amendment to the construction management services agreement with Douglas E. Barnhart, Inc., effective Jan. 1, 2007 through Jan. 1, 2010;

- Approved addendum to the Workers' Compensation Self-Insurance Service Agreement with Southern California Risk Management Associates, Inc., through June 30, 2008;

- Ratified student teaching agreement with CSU-Dominguez Hills, beginning Jan. 1, 2007 through Dec. 1, 2010;

- Ratified agreements between the Downey Adult School and Roger Mecum, M.D. Office, and Kaiser Permanente for particular services;

- Approved the Prevention and Intervention Program (PIP) services agreement with the Los Angeles County Probation Department through June 30, 2008;

- Approved contract with Los Angeles County Office of Education for Bilingual Teacher Training Program curriculum and instructional services through June 30, 2008;

- Approved contract with the Los Angeles County Office of Education for PeopleSoft Financial Systems, effective though June 30, 2008;

- Approved the purchase of specific excess workers' compensation insurance for the 2007-08 fiscal year, from ARCH (Wexford) Insurance Company, at a premium rate of \$0.1895 per \$100 of Payroll;

- Authorized the advertisement for bids for concrete products;

- Approved the final year renewal of bid for improvements and repairs to concrete areas, with 3-D Concrete of Downey, in the annual estimated amount of \$350,000;

- Approved the 3rd year renewal of bid for the purchase of electrical equipment and supplies as needed, with AAA Electrical Supply of Montebello, and with B&K Electric Wholesale of Downey, in the estimated amount of \$600,000;

- Approved the bid renewals for roof repairs, pipe and plumbing supplies, irrigation supplies and equipment, and fencing work with various regular vendors, in varying amounts;

- Approved various change orders;

- Accepted as complete projects (paving, repairs to concrete areas, electrical, modernization work at Warren High) done by various vendors;

- Approved the adjustment of the 2006-07 Adult School Fund restricted and unrestricted budgets;

- Approved the adjustments of the 2006-07 County School Facilities Fund, Deferred Maintenance Fund, and the General Fund, as well as the Self-Insurance Fund-Health and Welfare, reflecting increases/decreases in their restricted and unrestricted budgets;

- Approved the destruction of Class 3 disposable District records; and appointed Katrina Juarez-Lorenzetti, Clerical Assistant, as document destruction coordinator;

- Approved routine Personnel items until subsequent action is taken by the Board of Education;

- Accepted the names of those classified employees who are eligible to receive the Professional Growth Award for the 5-year period ending June 30, and approved payment thereof;

- Approved the waiver application of Article IX, Section N of the Master Agreement with the Downey Educators Association (DEA) for Sussman Middle School;

- Endorsed the actions taken by the Superintendent on several student cases; and

- Heard a presentation by Phil Davis, director of Support Programs, held in the district office's Teacher Training Center, on the video and television programs at Old River Elementary, West Middle and Warren High schools.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, July 17, in the Grace E. Horney Board Room of the Gallegos Administration Center, 11627 Brookshire Ave., Downey.

## The Poets' Corner

### Friendships and Roses

Two roses by the pond  
Stay silently for nights  
On and on  
Days go by  
Things die  
But  
Their friendship keeps them  
Going strong  
They built a friendship  
Strong  
And that helps everyone  
Become strong  
-- Jocelyn Prado,  
Price Elementary

## Council approves amended city budget

BY HENRY VENERACION, STAFF WRITER

**DOWNEY**—The Downey City Council has at its regular meeting Tuesday adopted a FY2007-08 budget of \$129,394,184 based on the proposed budget document provided to it in May and reviewed during the May 29th study session.

The following four items omitted from the proposed original budget document were added by staff: Quill Drive Sewer Line (\$45,000); Wheel Loader (Public Works), \$239,141; Asphalt Paving Truck (Public Works), \$151,550; and Street Sweeping waste expense, \$33,000.

It was made clear that the budget may also be amended via Council action at future City Council meetings.

Apart from the allocation of \$39,639,234 for capital projects, the Police Department lays claim to the largest chunk of the budget in the amount of over \$29 million, followed by Public Works (\$17.4 million), Fire (\$17.1 million), and Community Services (\$14.4 million).

Funding for these outlays comes mainly from the General Fund of \$67.4 million. The city's cash cow, the golf course, will generate almost \$3 million. In other action, the Council:

- Adopted a resolution establishing a uniform Schedule of Fees;
- Approved a cash contract for the Stewart and Gray Road Pavement Rehabilitation, and accepted the improvements and maintenance responsibility attached in the contract, and approved the final construction contract amount of \$1,042,549.82;
- Approved a FY2007-08 agreement with the Downey Chamber of Commerce for \$24,500 to promote the welfare and growth of the city. Councilman Mario Guerra voiced a strong plea that the promotion campaign emphasize a business-friendly approach;
- Approved an agreement with Hilton Hotels for a wireless communications antenna;
- Renewed the contract with Stephen Wright for building inspection services for the Discovery Sports Complex, Columbia Memorial Space Science Learning Center, the Kaiser site and Downey Studios;
- Approved the contract with the city of Los Angeles for the disbursement of 2006 Urban Area Security Initiative Grant funds;
- Adopted a resolution approving and adopting the annual appropriations limit for FY2007-08;
- Adopted a resolution authorizing the Police Department to enter into a grant agreement with the California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control for acceptance and expenditure of grant funds;
- Set aside for further review and discussion the question of eminent domain, as it relates to the Downey Redevelopment and the Woodruff Industrial Redevelopment Project Areas;
- Introduced a city ordinance amending Section 1200 of the Downey Municipal Code related to parking enforcement;
- Adopted a city ordinance amending Section 52309(d) of the Downey Municipal Code related to residential solid waste services;
- Passed a resolution calling for a special election on November 6, 2007 for purposes of a proposed Charter amendment regarding term limits, with another resolution requesting the County Board of Supervisors to consolidate such election with the school and district's election, together with other appropriate considerations, and appropriating \$85,000 from FY2007-08 General Fund budget for the election;
- Tabled a proposal by the Downey Museum of Art for consideration concerning a possible relocation, the matter to be studied further by the Community Services Department;

- Heard Fire Chief Mark Sauter present certificates of appreciation to a number of Downey Fire Explorers and Fire Auxiliaries; and
- Presented certificates of appreciation to students Kyle Lewis and Antonio Vasquez, for their act of heroism in saving the life of fellow student and friend, Jesus Nietos.

The next regular public meeting of the City Council will be at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, July 10 at City Hall, 11111 Brookshire Ave., Downey.

## TRAVELER

*Continued from page 1*

the vines, effectively killing off the wine industry here.

While small bootleg growers continued through Prohibition, wine never attained its former stature following the blight.

English walnuts were also a popular local crop. The trees were first introduced in 1877 or 1878 and prospered, along with those who grew them and harvested them.

The local variety were known as softshell or papershell.

In 1899 the walnut growers formed an association which lasted for 40 years. Peak years saw shipments of up to 71 cars from the rail depot.

The agricultural interests of the area soon started fairs and other meetings at which they could gather. Each area had a baseball team which represented it. Downey's was known at the "Stemwinders" and keen competition was offered from the "Alhambra Nine," and teams representing other areas.

The County Fair was actually hosted by Downey in 1884. It must be noted that Orange was at that time part of Los Angeles County. The fairs of those days were very similar to camp meetings, with participants coming in by wagon from miles around to meet during the four days of the event. The Downey Fair site was between Third street and Fifth just west of Crawford. Those who traveled to the fair made it their vacation for the entire year.

Beautiful horses, as well as livestock were displayed, and the girls wore their best ruffled hoop-skirts and flower-trimmed hats. The men often sported canes and high hats. Patent leather shoes were much in fashion. These were happy times.

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www.johndds.com



## Can You Hear Me Now?

By Eric Pierce

Okay, I'm no longer a little kid, so how the heck did I contract tonsillitis?

I thought tonsils were only a problem for children, but boy, was I wrong. My tonsils inflamed to the size of golf balls last week, swelling to the point where I couldn't eat, sleep or talk. Swallowing was laborious and painful and my meals consisted entirely of Jamba Juice smoothies.

So off I went to my doctor, Dr. Aaron Kern in Lakewood, who I thought would patch me up quick as a daisy but instead took one horrified look down my throat and shipped me to Lakewood Regional Medical Center, where I spent three drug-induced days with an IV stuck in my arm.

Hospitals, of course, are not fun. You can't go to the bathroom without dragging the entire IV unit behind you (still beats using a bed pan though) and nine times out of ten, when your bedside phone rings, it's your case manager haggling you about your insurance.

Novels have been written about how horrible hospital food is and they're all right...it stinks.

After Day 3 I was on the mend. When my nurse, a rather large man named Sam, offered me a sponge bath, I knew it was time to leave.

I'm out now, feeling a whole lot better, thank you, but still on antibiotics and steroids, which I'm told make me moody. My tonsils have not been removed - yet - but I'm hopeful they will be out very soon. I plan to personally flush them down the toilet and into the deep fiery pits of Tonsil Hell.

I'm also looking forward to a new Barry White voice and eating a whole lot of ice cream.

Oh, baby.

## Letters to the Editor:

### Fond of Carpenter House

Dear Editor,

As a Carpenters fan, I'm greatly surprised and saddened that the former Carpenter family home on Newville Avenue is being demolished. For fans, 9828 Newville Avenue is more than just an address or a house - it is the place where Karen and Richard Carpenter developed their career, their lives, and their values. Even after Karen and Richard moved away, they still considered this house their home base, visiting their parents often. It is well known that this is also the place where Karen passed away.

Fans from around the world, such as myself, have gone out of their way to visit this location as it has become so recognizable to us from the cover of their "Now and Then" album, as well as from documentaries and the movie, "The Karen Carpenter Story."

This home is significant and meaningful to Carpenters fans. I urge the Downey City Council to take pride in their community's connection to the Carpenters' legacy and stop the demolition.

— Linda Thibert,

Windsor, Ontario, Canada

### Sign of the times

Dear Editor:

As I drove down Paramount Boulevard I was surprised to see the very tall sign for IHOP. I thought that signage for Downey businesses could not be taller than the roofline. (Years back I recall that the business owner of Arthur's was required to remove his sign as it exceeded the allowed height.)

I hope this is an oversight as the new IHOP sign really stands out and has created a very different look to this street as compared to the others within Downey.

— Renee Santana,

Downey

### Opening a can of worms

Dear Editor:

As far as the article "City 'On the Fence' with Cable Broadcasts" (The Downey Patriot, 6/15/07), here is my opinion:

I think that broadcasting city meetings will be like opening a can of worms, but if the city wants to be in "the 21st Century" and does broadcast I think that (1) you should have the high school students do most of the work, through ROP classes, and (2) that it should be a pay per view show, so that you get some money back from the viewers who watch it (minus the elderly and handicapped who can't get to the meetings because of health issues).

—Christy Almquist,

Downey

### Nice improvements, but...

Dear Editor:

I am writing about the new Lakewood Blvd. and Stewart and Gray Rd. They take care of the traffic much better but the one thing they forgot to do is paint the crosswalks. Another thing I noticed every time I went by there was water in the street. Strange - the water is below the drain in the curb.

I am sure the city can take care of this.

— John Bassent,

Downey



6-26  
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### Johnie's an eyesore

Dear Editor:

Six months ago the City of Downey suffered a slap in the face when criminal-minded, greedy people decided to desecrate one of our own historical landmarks, Johnie's Broiler. Since then all we hear about anything being done about it is court hearing extensions.

I was raised in the Downey area, as was my mother. My grandparents settled in Downey in 1942, and I am grateful they didn't live long enough to see such a memorable place being destroyed.

I work in Downey, and as I drive through town every day I see the demolition site, and it looks like a bomb went off right in our city. It seems like a slap in the face every time I see it...it never gets any easier. Couldn't someone have the decency to put a construction privacy fence around this property?

— Debra Oropeza,

Downey

### Council's (in)action

Dear Editor:

I applaud you for taking the city council to task on their decision to select the name for the new city park. In my opinion, two important events covered [in the June 15] paper raised some issues regarding the actions (and inactions) taken by our council in the last few months.

I was shocked to read about the sad state of the Carpenter House. I had stopped by there about a month ago when I was showing it off to relatives visiting from Ireland (by the way, they thought it was the most exciting part of their tour of Downey!). I could tell at that time that the former home which had been split and subdivided in recent years looked neglected and I had a horrible feeling that someone might decide to "remodel" (i.e., demolish) it.

2007, our city's 50th anniversary, began with the semi-demolition of a Downey landmark and I was happy with the council's response to salvage history. The Carpenter House looks as if it is headed for the same fate as Johnie's. What is next? The Rives Mansion? What has happened to the Downey Historic Preservation Ordinance? What is the council waiting for? We were told a few months back that it was moving forward. Where is it now?

Their inaction indicates to me that they really don't value the historic sites that are left in our city.

Their actions at the last council meeting also seem to show that they don't value the time, creativity, or enthusiasm of citizens who want to participate in their city and demonstrate civic pride. Over 400 names were submitted for the contest, all carrying that bit of hope that their name would be chosen. Maybe I didn't see the fine print, but did the rules say that in the event that the council didn't like any of the names they could just choose their own?

In an era when our schools have to teach that Character Counts, what kind of message does this send to our children? I know most people my age grew up learning that "actions speak louder than words." I believe that still applies to all of us, including our city council members.

— Kathy Perez,

Downey

### We never turn down patients

Dear Editor:

In response to Ms. Irving's letter ("Who Does Downey Regional Serve?," 6/15/07), allow me to respond to her questions and comments.

Downey Regional Medical Center has an extremely busy emergency department that has not "closed its doors" in the 28 years I have been a physician here. We will see nearly 50,000 patients this year, a good indication that we are here to serve Downey residents and those in our surrounding communities.

Patients attended to by paramedics may meet certain trauma center criteria, and if so, are directed to the nearest trauma center which in our community is St. Francis Hospital. I suspect that was the case in instances you noted.

Regarding the teacher that was slated to have been "turned away" and had to "drive herself" to St. Francis Hospital - we never turn down patients who present to our department. All are medically screened and treated appropriately.

With a volume of 50,000 patients per year, and over 600 patients admitted monthly through our department, I assure you we do have a regional medical center to be proud of. It has been my pleasure and honor to have served on the emergency department's staff for all these years, and to have been the medical director for the last nine.

We hope you do not require the services of the emergency department, but should the need arise, rest assured there are highly trained and dedicated personnel here 24 hours a day to assist you.

—Richard P. Guess, M.D.,  
 Medical Director, Emergency Care Center  
 Downey Regional Medical Center

### What you need to know about DRMC

Dear Editor:

Thanks for publishing the letters of some concerned citizens in the last two weeks. The writers' concerns regarding the DRMC Emergency Room operations are understandable. The members of our community deserve a thorough explanation of the emergency medical care system provided for them by the city. The process for providing complete emergency care for the members of our community involves a number of steps, procedures, practices and the collaboration of a number of different agencies.

The police department receives all 9-1-1 calls, including those from cellular phones. Ideally, all emergencies are called in via a "land-line" phone - this option gives the operator the caller's address and phone number immediately and speeds the dispatching of emergency personnel. Cellular phones can be programmed for Downey numbers (904-7313 for Fire, 861-0771 for Police). Pre-programming cellular phones with the direct number sends calls to Downey operators immediately.

The Downey Fire Department provides the Emergency Medical Service for all 9-1-1 callers in the community. Emergency calls for assistance are transferred in seconds after the police operators get the initial 9-1-1 call.

The fire department transports about 4,000 patients needing emergency care each year. Once on scene, firefighters and paramedics routinely contact their base station hospital (St. Francis Medical Center) for confirmation of patient treatment orders and for approval of the receiving hospital. Typically, the paramedics recommend the patient be transported to the closest hospital. In most cases, DRMC is the hospital of choice. The staff at DRMC is professional and the ER is well-equipped. Our paramedics work with the DRMC staff everyday, so the transition of care hap-

See LETTER, page 9

## The Downey Patriot



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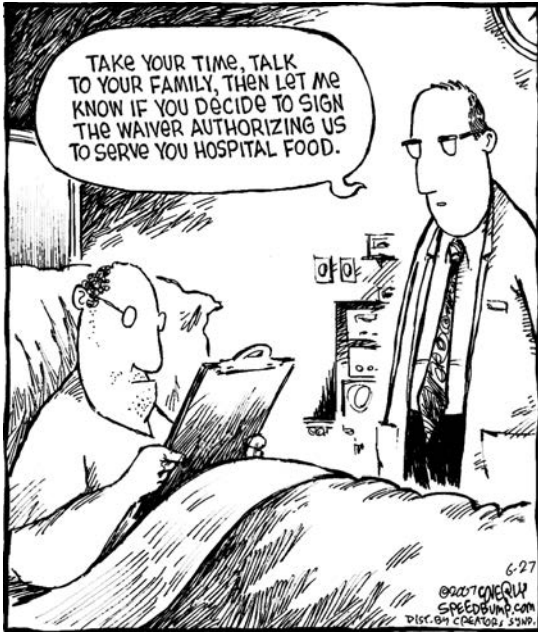
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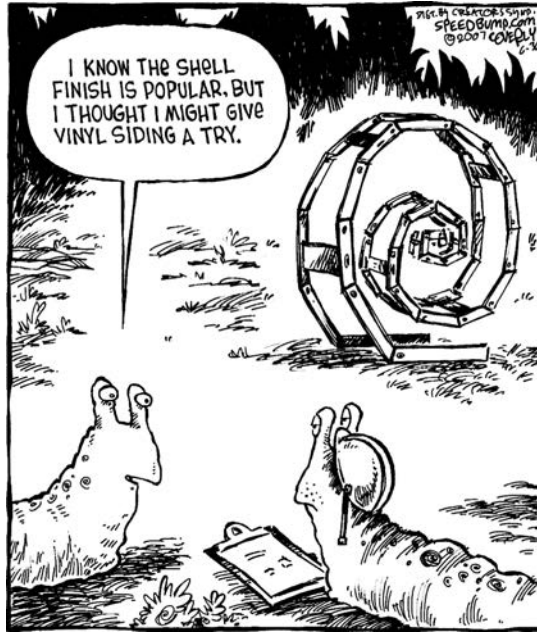
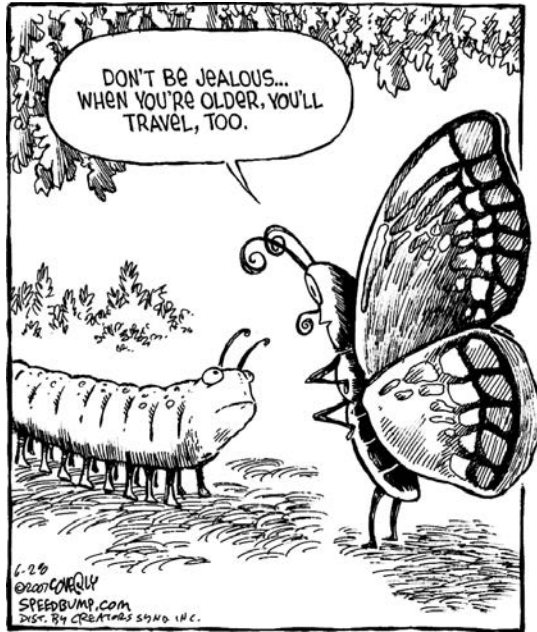
Letters to the editor may be submitted by writing to The Downey Patriot, 11525 Downey Ave., Suite A, Downey CA 90241 or by e-mail to downeypatriot@yahoo.com. Letters may be edited for style and/or content. Letters must include a full name and address for verification.



## SPEED BUMP



## DAVE COVERLY



## Downey Community Calendar

### Events For June/July

Sat. June 30: "Saturday Night Cruise," World of Décor, 2 p.m.  
 Thurs. July 5: Downey Museum of Art Concert, Furman Park, 7:30 p.m.  
 Sun. July 8: Bingo Luncheon, St. Raymond's Catholic Church, 1 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 & 4th Wednesday, 6 p.m.: Design Review Board, Council Chamber at City Hall.  
 3rd Thursday, 3:30 p.m.: Parking Place Commission, Second Floor Training Room at City Hall

### Regularly Scheduled Meetings

#### Mondays

6:30 p.m.: Metropolitan Masonic Lodge #352 dinner, mtg., for information call 426-6786.  
 6:30 p.m.: Overeaters Anonymous, at Downey Regional Med. Center Conf. Room A, for info. call 426-6786.  
 1st Mon., 4 p.m.: 2nd Century Foundation, at City Hall, 1st floor, call 927-9790.  
 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.  
 4th 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.

#### Thursdays

7:30 a.m.: Soroptimist Int'l of Downey, for information, call Pat Heineke, 904-3534.  
 7:30 a.m.: Connections Networking, at Nordic Fox 10924 Paramount, for information call 869-1414.  
 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.  
 7 p.m.: Troop 351, Boy Scouts of America, at First Baptist Church, for information call 776-3388.  
 4th Thurs., 7:30 p.m.: Downey Historical Society programs, at Community Center. Call 862-2777.  
 2nd Thurs., 7:30 p.m.: Beaming Rebel Foxes Collectors Club, for more information call Carl D. Jones at 923-2400.

#### Fridays

7:30 a.m.: Pro Networkers, at Mimi's Cafe, for information call 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.

## On This Day...

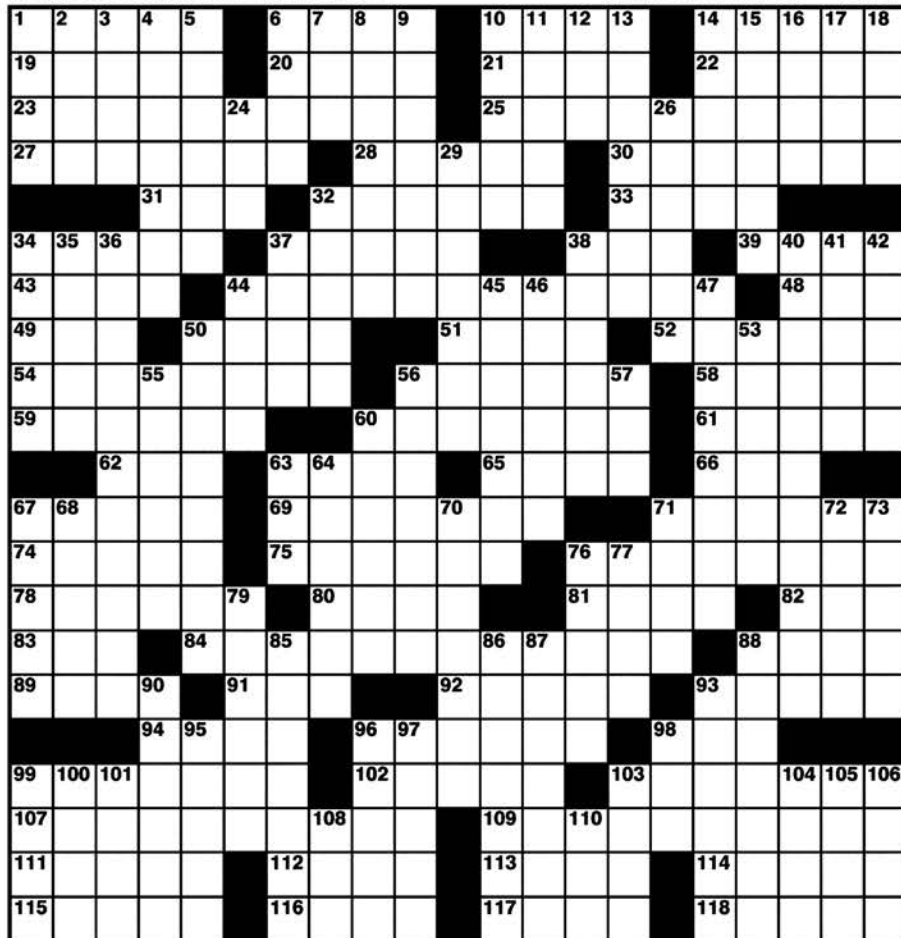
June 29, 1951: Joseph Ratzinger is ordained as a priest. Ratzinger would go on to become Pope Benedict XVI.  
 1967: Actress Jayne Mansfield and two male companions are killed in an automobile accident in New Orleans. Mansfield was 34.  
 2002: Presidential powers are transferred to Vice President Dick Cheney for more than two hours while President George Bush undergoes a colon screening.  
 2003: Academy Award-winning actress Katharine Hepburn dies at age 96.

## THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com)  
 "W" AS IN WORDPLAY: Sounds like fun  
 by Randolph Ross

- |  |  |                                     |
|--|--|-------------------------------------|
| ACROSS                                 | 67 Woman's hat                         | 5 Like a Miss Universe contestant   |
| 1 Some modern art                      | 69 Small vials                         | 6 Artist Cézanne                    |
| 6 One of the Three Bears               | 71 One way to learn                    | 7 He "stung like a bee"             |
| 10 Party guy                           | 74 Blow one's top                      | 8 Frozen dessert                    |
| 14 As such                             | 75 Annoy                               | 9 Feeler                            |
| 19 Susan's                             | 76 Corners, in geometry                | 10 Invites to one's apartment       |
| All My Children role                   | 78 ___ Pieces (E.T. nosh)              | 11 Earth tone                       |
| 20 Oscar-winner Arkin                  | 80 Band dates                          | 12 Good sign for Broadway producers |
| 21 It may be a lot                     | 81 Night author Wiesel                 | 13 Extremes                         |
| 22 Poem in 24 books                    | 82 "___ a living"                      | 14 Provoke to action                |
| 23 Shot from a small water pistol?     | 83 Stooze name                         | 15 Gets away from                   |
| 25 Brief tremor?                       | 84 Tic-tac-toe ploy?                   | 16 Qum coin                         |
| 27 Pitcher Paige                       | 88 Draft status                        | 17 H.H. Munro's pseudonym           |
| 28 Thighbone                           | 89 Nine-digit IDs                      | 18 Utopia                           |
| 30 Sadly sentimental                   | 91 FedEx rival                         | 24 Math-proof letters               |
| 31 Set the pace                        | 92 West Side Story character           | 26 Stun guns                        |
| 32 Party snack                         | 93 Warren Beatty film of '91           | 29 Play in the afternoon            |
| 33 Words from a fortune-teller         | 94 Auction caveat                      | 32 Managed                          |
| 34 Had a long face                     | 96 No Exit playwright                  | 34 Parisian's world                 |
| 37 Shared                              | 98 Singer Garfunkel                    | 35 Go around                        |
| 38 L.A.-to-Burbank direction           | 99 Accept blame with shame             | 36 Compliment for Her Majesty?      |
| 39 Tiny fraction of a 21 Across: Abbr. | 102 Come before                        | 37 Actor Gyllenhaal                 |
| 43 Gold and silver, e.g.               | 103 Stains from eating calamari?       | 38 Large rodent                     |
| 44 Eccentric starship leader?          | 107 Left The Tonight Show in the '80s? | 40 First-round KO strategy?         |
| 48 Spanish article                     | 111 Vital sign                         | 41 Navel type                       |
| 49 Magic org.                          | 112 Architect                          | 42 Like bad weather                 |
| 50 Earn                                | 113 Org. for the Williams sisters      | 44 Lloyd Webber score               |
| 51 Neither fem. nor masc.              | 114 "I second that!"                   | 45 Many anchors                     |
| 52 1960s protests                      | 115 Black Sea resort                   | 46 London lines                     |
| 54 Was autocratic                      | 116 Graded item                        | 47 Memory unit                      |
| 56 Underground network                 | 117 "Electric" sensors                 | 50 Cane cutters                     |
| 58 Permissible                         | 118 Goes after, as files               | 53 Cassiterite                      |
| 59 Sense of right and wrong            |  | 55 Traffic troubles                 |
| 60 Halloween costume                   |  | 56 Spend, spend, spend              |
| 61 Musically accurate                  |  | 57 Cardinal insignia                |
| 62 "Uh-huh!"                           | DOWN                                   | 60 Family helper                    |
| 63 Aretha's music                      | 1 GOP rivals                           | 63 Tool with teeth                  |
| 65 Repast                              | 2 Magic Flute solo                     | 64 Last letters                     |
| 66 Move like a buoy                    | 3 Dryer fuzz                           | 67 Contract points                  |
|  | 4 Eaves droppers                       |                                     |

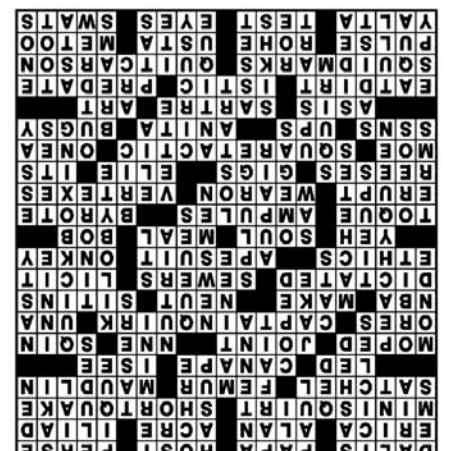
CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2007 STANLEY NEWMAN WWW.STANXWORDS.COM 6/24/07



- |                                      |                               |  |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| 68 Sweet sandwiches                  | 86 Roadshow item              | 100 Sea shade                          |
| 70 Letter writing, as some would say | 87 Frenetic and showy         | 101 18th-century agricultural inventor |
| 71 ___-a-brac                        | 88 Had better attendance than | 103 School support groups              |
| 72 Henri's heads                     | 90 Cruel one                  | 104 Nick and Nora's pet                |
| 73 Social Studies assignment         | 93 Flatfishes                 | 105 Horn sound                         |
| 76 T-Bird alternative                | 95 Half of a record           | 106 Baseball great                     |
| 77 Director Kazan                    | 96 Turbaned sect              | Slaughter                              |
| 79 Wait uncomfortably                | 97 Useful thing               | 108 Shad delicacy                      |
| 85 Parvenu                           | 98 Soap-opera story line      | 110 Suffix meaning "resident"          |
|                                      | 99 Cable TV sports award      |  |

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

ALAN ARKIN (20 Across) won a Best Supporting Actor Oscar for his role in the 2006 film "Little Miss Sunshine." Baseball great Leroy "SATCHEL" Page (27 Across) got his nickname from an early job as a baggage handler. Cassirite (53 Down) is the chief ore of Tin; major tin producers include Bolivia, Malaysia and Russia.





## Helen Marie Daily was involved in community

**DOWNEY** – Helen Marie Daily, a resident of Downey, passed away on June 16 at the age of 84.

Daily graduated from Cameron High School in Cameron, Mo. She then worked on an 1850-acre farm with her husband Glenn. Their family left Missouri and came to Downey in 1963, becoming involved in many church and community organizations. She worked as a manager for GRB Investments until retirement.



She was preceded in death by son Bobby Glenn.

Daily is survived by her husband Glenn; children Anna Marie (Bob) Brown and Ronald Ned Daily; grandchildren John (Lisa) Petit, Ted (Janet) Petit, Megan Daily, Michelle Daily and Joshua Daily; great-grandchildren Kamryn Marie and Chloe Ann.

Funeral services were held on June 20 at the Downey United Methodist Church, followed by the burial at Rose Hills Memorial Park.

The family was assisted by Miller-Mies Mortuary.

## Judy Ann Bauer-Chavira attended Downey schools

**DOWNEY** – Judy Ann Bauer-Chavira, longtime Downey resident, passed away on June 16 at the age of 55.

Bauer-Chavira was born on Dec. 25, 1951 and was raised in Downey. She attended Roger Casier Elementary School, Griffiths Middle School and Warren High School before graduating from the University of California, Los Angeles with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. Following her graduation, Bauer-Chavira worked for Los Angeles County, caring for newborn babies as a nurse practitioner. She was also an active member of Our Lady of Perpetual Help and the Downey Dog Obedience School.



She is survived by parents Karl and Armilla Bauer; husband Emilio Chavira, Jr.; sisters Karen Marie Billings and Nancy Bauer-Gonzales; aunt Alice Luginbuhl; uncle Norm; and niece Sierra Karla Gonzales.

Funeral services were June 21 at Our Lady of Perpetual Help, followed by the burial at Resurrection Cemetery.

The family was assisted by Miller-Mies Mortuary.

## Winner announced in park-naming contest

**DOWNEY** – The City Council will honor Downey resident Carmen Herrera as the winner of its recent park-naming contest, which ended two weeks ago with the selection of "Discovery Sports Complex."

Herrera, a graduate of Warren High School and a kindergarten teacher in the Montebello School District, submitted the name "Discovery." One other person also submitted "Discovery" but left no contact information.

"The park and adjacent Columbia Memorial Space Science Learning Center are places where the youth of our community can discover. Whether on the sports field or in the Challenger Learning Simulator, the goal is to educate and facilitate discovery in the youth of our community," Mayor Rick Trejo said. "Naming the park Discovery once again reinforces the impact Downey has made in the space program."

Herrera said she submitted "Discovery" because she "wants kids to discover the world and discover their surroundings."

## Teens invited on trip to Science Center

**DOWNEY** – Young adults ages 13 to 19 are invited to register for a free all-day excursion to the California Science Center in Exposition Park July 7, sponsored by the Friends of the Downey City Library.

Teens will see the museum's permanent displays and a special exhibit, "Goosebumps: the Science of Fear," as well as an IMAX movie.

To attend the excursion, teens must register in the library's Teen Summer Reading Program, which runs through Aug. 3. Permission slips are required and students must attend a trip orientation July 5 from 2 to 4 p.m.

For more information, call the Adult Information desk at (562) 904-1360 ext. 3.

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## Bessie Adragna helped operate family business

**DOWNEY** – Bessie Adragna, a 72-year Downey resident, passed away on June 15 at the age of 99.

Adragna was born in 1907 in Trinidad, Colo., moving to Downey when she was 27 years old.

She was married to her husband Sam for 48 years and helped run a family-owned market for several years.

She is survived by her son Joseph.

Funeral services were held on June 20 at Miller-Mies Mortuary, followed by a graveside service at Rose Hills Memorial Park.

The family was assisted by Miller-Mies Mortuary.



## Albert 'Al' Moreno emigrated from Cuba

**DOWNEY** – Albert "Al" Moreno passed away in his sleep June 13 following a long illness. He was 80.

He and his wife, Milagros, along with their three eldest children, emigrated from Cuba in 1961. The family purchased their first home in 1964 in Huntington Park and lived there for 14 years. During that time Moreno held various sales positions with different employers, including Carnation Dairy Company.

In the early seventies Moreno established MIR Glass & Construction with two other partners. The business was located in Maywood for 25 years. While in Maywood Moreno served a stint as president of the Maywood Chamber of Commerce. His business facilitated the family's move to Downey in 1978.

Moreno is survived by his children, Arlene (Raul) Lopez, Ariza Perrine, Jorge (Lisa) Moreno and Javier (Susie) Moreno; grandchildren, Adriana (Ron) Thibodeaux, Alex Lopez, Kristin Perrine and Anthony Moreno; great-grandchild Madeline Thibodeaux; and many extended family members.

He was predeceased by his wife, Milagros, in 1993.

Per his request, Moreno was cremated June 22. His ashes were spread over the Pacific Ocean in a private ceremony June 28.



## Class teaches kids healthy eating habits

**DOWNEY** – Kaiser Permanente is accepting sign-ups for its Kaiser Permanente Kids in Dynamic Shape (KP KIDS) program, a six-week healthy lifestyle course designed to help kids with possible weight management issues.

The classes will teach students how to properly read food labels, how to make healthy choices when eating out, and creative ways to engage in physical activity. Classes will be led by a registered dietitian and a licensed social worker.

The classes are open to children ages 5 to 12 with possible weight issues. Classes will meet weekly starting July 9 through Aug. 13 from 4 to 5:30 p.m. at the Kaiser Permanente Imperial Satellite Building, 12200 Bellflower Blvd., in Downey.

Cost of the class is \$95 for Kaiser Permanente members and \$135 for non-members. The fee includes a pedometer, notebook and instruction. To register, call (562) 622-4150.

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## Nutrition class at Downey Regional

**DOWNEY** – The community is invited to a healthy heart nutrition class July 11 at Downey Regional Medical Center (DRMC).

A DRMC-registered dietitian will teach healthy food habits to reduce three major risk factors for heart disease – high blood cholesterol, high blood pressure and excess body weight. The class is one hour long, starting at 3:30 p.m.

Registration is required by calling (562) 904-5580.

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## An award-winning smile

**DOWNEY** – Marlene Parada was May's winner of the monthly drawing in the Brace Connection "Get Your Smile On!" contest.

The 2007 contest launched on April 28 and is in search of the "Best Smile in Downey." Every month through December, there will be a prize drawing for a \$50 Stonewood Center gift Card. The winner of the year-long contest will receive a \$4,000 scholarship, a Playstation 3, and an iPod Nano.

To enter, parents of children 5 to 17 years of age are asked to submit an application, a picture, and a short paragraph about why their child has the best smile in Downey. Smiles with or without braces are welcome.

Applications are available at [www.smiledowney.com](http://www.smiledowney.com), or can be obtained at the Brace Connections office, located at 10800 Paramount Blvd., Suite 204, in Downey.

## Concert Series lineup announced

**DOWNEY** – The 2007 season of the Furman Park Summer Concert Series has been announced. The series will include the following concerts:

Date	Band
July 11	The WiseGuys Big Band
July 18	Andy Rau Bluegrass Band
July 25	The Mariachi Divas
August 1	Sapadilla Steel Drum Band
August 8	Downey Symphony
August 15	Susie Hansen Latin Band
August 22	Raymond Michaels
August 29	3rd Marine Aircraft Wing Band

Concerts will take place on Wednesday evenings at Furman Park. For information, call (562) 904-7230.

## Nathan Hubbard to perform July 5

**DOWNEY** – The Downey Museum of Art will be hosting a concert on July 5, presenting Nathan Hubbard and Everything After.

The ensemble offers slow melodic movements based around the long ringing tones of the vibraphone, complemented by the flute and bass clarinet.

The ensemble is comprised of musicians Ellen Weller (flute, Bb clarinet, soprano sax); Gabriel Sundry (Bb clarinet, bass clarinet); Nathan Hubbard (vibraphone, tunes); Scott Walton (acoustic bass); Brad Dutz (percussion).

The concert will be held at the Downey Museum of Art, located at 10419 Rives Ave., in Furman Park, at 7:30 p.m.

Admission is \$10 for seniors, \$5 for students, and \$1 for Downey students. For information, call (562) 861-0419.

## Fireworks at the Queen Mary

**LONG BEACH** – The Queen Mary in Long Beach will have a day's worth of festivities this Wednesday, July 4, in honor of Independence Day.

Family entertainment will begin at 10 a.m. and run until 10 p.m. and will include live bands ranging from Latin to a Beatles tribute. A fireworks show will start at 9:15 p.m.

Tickets range in price from \$11.95 for children to \$25.95 for adults. For more information, call (562) 435-3511.

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Marlene Parada was the May winner of the monthly drawing in the Brace Connection "Get Your Smile On!" contest.

## New Entertainment this week

### CD Releases

**Smashing Pumpkins** - *Tarantula*  
**Velvet Revolver** - *Libertad*  
**T.I.** - *T.I. vs T.I.P.*  
**Kelly Rowland** - *Ms Kelly*  
**Face the Music** - *Face the Music*  
**Sara Bareilles** - *Little Voice*  
**Marvin Sapp** - *Thirsty*  
**Andre 3000** - *Class of 3000: Music Volume One*  
**Pastor Troy** - *Tool Muziq*  
Source: Amazon.com

### Concerts

FRIDAY, JUNE 29

**Lauryn Hill** - Pala Casino  
**Prince** - Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel  
**Super Soul** - Grove of Anaheim  
**Breaking Benjamins, Sick Puppies** - HOB Hollywood  
**69 Eyes** - Galaxy Theatre  
**Alison Krauss** - Greek Theatre  
**Brad Paisley** - Coors Amphitheatre  
**Feist** - Wiltern

SATURDAY

**Steve Winwood** - HOB Hollywood  
**Breaking Benjamin** - HOB Anaheim  
**Fair to Midland** - El Rey Theatre  
**Los Tuscanes de Tijuana** - Gibson Amphitheatre  
**Prince** - Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel  
**Cyndi Lauper** - Greek Theatre

SUNDAY

**Fall Out Boy** - Coors Amphitheatre  
**Steve Winwood** - HOB Anaheim

MONDAY

**Fall Out Boy** - Honda Center  
**Riders in the Sky** - Hollywood Bowl

TUESDAY

**Riders in the Sky** - Hollywood Bowl

WEDNESDAY

**Riders in the Sky** - Hollywood Bowl  
Source: Casenet

### DVD Releases

MOVIES

**4 Life**  
**Driving Lessons**  
**How You Look to Me**  
**Puccini for Beginners**

TELEVISION/MISC.

**George Lopez** - *American's Mexican*  
Source: Box Office Mojo

### Video Game Releases

**Metropolismania 2** - PS2  
**Vampire Rain** - X360  
**Ninja Gaiden Sigma** - PS3  
Source: ebgames.com

## Entertainment news brought to you every week by The Downey Patriot

Source: barnesandnoble.com

## George Saikali has soft spot for DowneyYMCA

BY BROOKE KARLI  
STAFF WRITER

With his recent departure from the Downey YMCA, George Saikali, 48, recalls his first experience with the YMCA organization.

"When I was 13 years old, my mom caught me smoking in the restroom," said George. "And I remember her telling me I had to do something better with my life – and off to the YMCA summer camp I went."

That was when George still lived in Lebanon. When he came to the United States at age 21, he recognized the YMCA emblem right away while attending the University of North Carolina, Charlotte. It was then he began his career with the Y, working as a lifeguard and martial arts instructor in downtown Charlotte.

After graduating with a bachelor's degree in political science in 1985, George moved to California, working full time as a fitness director, aquatic director, and associate general director for the Burbank YMCA.

"At the time of graduating, I never thought I would have a career with the YMCA," said George. "But once I knew what I wanted, there was no better option than the Y."

He remained on staff at Burbank until 1991, when he became the executive director at the Gardena Carson YMCA.

In 1997, George returned to the Burbank Y, serving as the general director for six years.

Then, in 2003, George applied for the executive director position at the Downey Family YMCA.

After being welcomed on staff, George used his experience to better the Downey Y, helping increase membership enrollment by 25 percent, after school care enrollment by 20 percent, and preschool enrollment by 58 percent. He also envisioned and implemented the Kids Zone and Teen Zone with virtual reality equipment, and took part in Downey's Y being one of the first YMCA's nationwide to open a women only express workout area.

While serving as executive director, George has also been the group vice-president for the YMCA of Metropolitan Los Angeles since 2005, as well as a member of the Downey Noon Rotary Club, Downey Chamber of Commerce, and Character Counts Coalition.

According to George, the Downey Family YMCA Board of Managers has been the backbone of the Y's success. The board, which includes such notable figures as Kirk Cartozian, Tod Corrin, Christine De La Torre, Wendy Doty, Mario Guerra, Kevin Mac Donald, Meredith Perkins, Mark Sauter and Mary Stauffer, has not only supported the Y financially, but also with their involvement in the community and their vision for the future.

"We have one of the top boards of any Y," said George. "They are the black belt of boards."

George said the Downey Y is very fortunate to have partnerships not only with the community, but also with corporate sponsors such as Kaiser Permanente, ARCO and more.


"It's a marriage between businesses and community leaders," said George. "We all have one common denominator – to make a difference through the YMCA."

Now, after four years of service in Downey, he is venturing on to East Valley YMCA, due to "personal reasons."

"I will always have a soft spot for the Downey YMCA," said George. "I don't know of any other Y that is more involved with the community than that of Downey."


For now, George hopes to strengthen East Valley's programs, facilitate their new building, and make the most of their resources. And in his spare time, he will continue to spend time with his children – 15-year-old Laura and 12-year-old Michael – and wife Mary, as family is the most important aspect of his life.

"The Y has always been my home away from home," said George. "And I've never felt more prestigious than I have working for the Downey YMCA."

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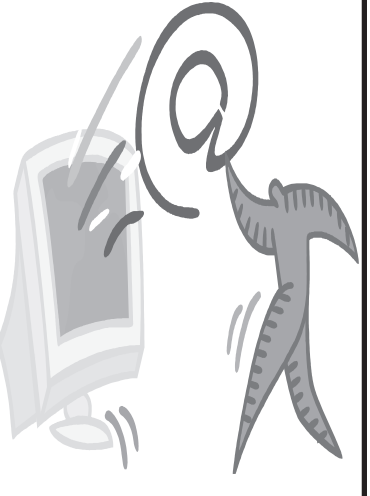
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# Johnny Croshaw's career(s) as colorful as they come

By HENRY VENERACION, STAFF WRITER

**DOWNEY**—The first time he ever sang in public, Johnny Croshaw, who is equally known in these parts for his Downey Avenue beauty salon and his singing, was “scared to death,” so he says.

The year was 1984. The place: the Downey Theatre. It was a cancer benefit staged by Janet Baker Follies. The song he sang: “If Ever I Could Leave You,” popularized by Robert Goulet. The program called for him to sing it three times. He had been taking vocal lessons during this time from Bellflower’s Michael Clement.

The verdict, both the critics’ and his? “It left a lot to be desired,” says Croshaw, who would proceed to develop that lyric baritone voice of his and become a popular fixture at Rotary meetings and sundry functions in and around town. His vocal training with Clement lasted 10 years.

The paths of Elvis Presley and Croshaw intersected also at one point. Croshaw, saying how he was “at the right place at the right time,” had just mustered out of the Marines in 1963 from a “top secret base” in Las Vegas and was doing security duty at the Sahara when he accepted to join vacationing Elvis’ security detail. The job lasted only three months, but it provided a rare glimpse of a young Elvis, also just out of the Army and who was at the time making the movie, “Viva Las Vegas.”

There have been a few other “right place, right time” occasions in Croshaw’s life. It was because of his hairdresser first wife, he says, that he became one; and it was because of Roberta, his second wife of 26 years, “that I sing today.”

Born in 1941 in Ft. Sam Houston, San Antonio, Texas, of Irish-English-Mexican parentage, Croshaw grew up as an Army Air Force brat. He narrates: “My youth was pretty much like Huckleberry Finn’s. We were kids, we acted the part and grew up as kids. We had a good time. We lived in Long Island, N.Y., in Connecticut, in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, and then back to Texas.” His dad was a U.S. Air Force colonel who served in Intelligence (G-2) under Gen. Eisenhower, and took part in the Normandy invasion. For his bravery, he was awarded the Bronze Star.

Croshaw says his parents emphasized school, but he dropped out in his senior year in high school and joined the Marines in 1959, just as the Laotian conflict was starting. His Marines service took him to San Diego (boot camp), Camp Pendleton (infantry training), Washington State (Naval Ammunition Depot Guard station), back to Camp Pendleton (M.P. training), then to his last military stop in Las Vegas (at the aforementioned “top secret” base). A few months later, he was working for Elvis Presley.

With his Elvis stint over, Croshaw got restless again and moved to California where he stayed with his older brother. He came to Downey in 1964 and worked as a bartender for 2-1/2 years at Del Rio Lanes, where he met his first wife (they were to be divorced 10 years later). It was at her urging that he became a hairdresser himself. He took his license in 1965, as well as his instructor’s license, and trained in advanced cutting in 1973-74 under Vidal Sassoon in San Francisco. Sassoon, like Croshaw, was in his 30’s. Croshaw, now 66, has been in the cosmetology business for 42 years. Today he works two days a week at the salon to cut hair for his loyal customers.

He purchased his “first and only salon” in 1976, on Downey Avenue, and narrates: “I kept it until 1980, sold it to Pat Gomez, and stayed working there. I bought it back from Pat 17-1/2 years later. I had met Roberta in 1978, and we had a good marriage.”

“Even before I could sit down one day after work, Roberta said we had to go see this guy (Clement),” says Croshaw. “She apparently thought I could do something with my voice. I liked to sing to the music on the car radio.” He was to undertake vocal training for 10 years under Clement. “Before this, I did not even think of such a thing.” Roberta passed away of lung cancer in 2004.

Croshaw’s repertoire today covers classical, standard, rock ‘n’ roll, Broadway, and country tunes. Singers he admires include Enrico Caruso and Mario Lanza, plus such Broadway luminaries as John Raitt and Gordon MacRae. The singer who’s had a great influence on him, though, is Robert Goulet.

He sang Monday before 150 seniors at Downey Adult School’s OASIS program, belting out old favorites, “It Had To Be You,” “All Of Me,” “Come Back to Sorrento,” and singing a duet with the Phantom of the Opera. He said the performance was “great, well-received.”

Time with his grandkids, consisting of three boys and three girls, provides another precious outlet (he has three stepchildren—two girls, one boy). They reside in Temecula, Chino Hills, Malibu, and Houston, Texas.

He also relaxes by revving up his gleaming Harley-Davidson and taking it for a spin. He says he doesn’t get to ride his motorcycle as much as he’d like. Months after Roberta’s passing, he motorcycled six hours a day for seven days with his brother in the Texas Hill Country. Otherwise, he says the farthest he’s been on his machine was a trip down the coast towards San Diego and back.

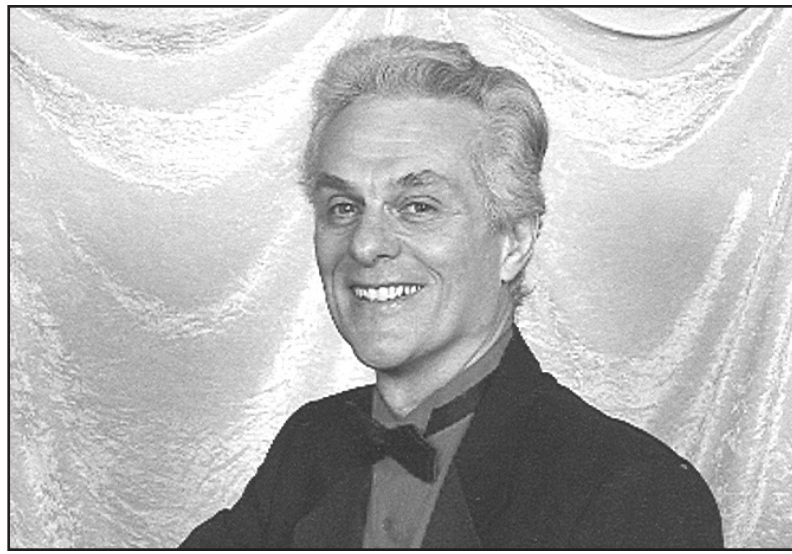
Not your inveterate traveler, he says he has gone on cruises to Vancouver and the Mexican Riviera, as well as visited London. He says he has one pet peeve: graffiti.

Besides the Rotary, for which he served on the board of directors for seven years, he had also been on the board of the Chamber of Commerce for several years and the City Redevelopment Committee for three years. He also sings as a volunteer every Tuesday morning for the Adult Day Care Center at Rancho Los Amigos.

Croshaw says 7-7-7 (July 7, ‘07) will be a special day. That’s when he is getting married—for the third time—to Cynthia Walters, who works with special ed children at Downey High School as an Inclusion Assistant. His many clients, admirers and friends wish him the best.



Johnny Croshaw and his fiancée, Cynthia, will be married July 7. Croshaw has long been a fixture at Johnie & Co. hair salon on Downey Avenue.



Popular local music entertainer Gary Myers will give a patriotic performance this Monday at the Downey Adult School as part of the OASIS program starting at 3:30 p.m. The program is free; an optional hot dog dinner will be available for \$3.50.

## LETTERS

Continued from page 5

pens efficiently. However, there are times when the “beds are full” at DRMC and a Downey patient must be taken to another qualified receiving hospital ER.

Transferring patient care duties to the staff at the DRMC ER keeps our paramedic squads in Downey. This practice means our paramedics are usually ready for another response right away. Some hospitals in the county have a tough time taking over patient care from fire department paramedics because of staffing problems and patient overcrowding. This problem keeps paramedic squads tied up for extended periods of time. Downey paramedics usually don’t experience delays when they bring patients to DRMC.

DRMC is also centrally located in the city. With the two paramedic squads responding to an average of nearly twenty emergencies a day, the location and efficiency of patient transfer are important for the patient being treated and for the next patient as well.

The fire department paramedic program has been operating for over thirty years. One of the tenets of the program is the speed and delivery of care. This is why the paramedics call ahead before they transport a patient to a hospital. If a hospital is overcrowded with patients, hospital treatment of the patient may be delayed. Surprisingly, a patient may get cared for more quickly at a more distant ER. When DRMC is “full” of patients, it doesn’t make sense to take patients there. Keep in mind patients arrive at ERs in many ways (i.e. walking, private auto, emergency and non-emergency transport, etc.). Once a patient arrives at a hospital, the hospital staff must attend to the patient. This is a federal law. As a result of this, hospital ERs can find themselves very crowded with patients who don’t necessarily arrive as emergency patients under paramedic care.

Another tenet of the paramedic program is sending the patient to the right “treating” facility. As noted in the recent letters to the editor, most critical pediatric patients and trauma patients are not transported to DRMC. Long Beach Memorial Hospital has been recognized for their outstanding pediatric care for decades. They have done an outstanding job in the training of their staff and in obtaining specialized equipment. St. Francis Medical Center retains specialized staff 24/7 for the treatment for trauma patients. Sending patients to these two facilities makes sense, in some cases, as they are both well-prepared and experienced. It is important to note that DRMC is not unlike the majority of ERs in the county system. There are only a limited number of specialized pediatric and trauma centers. The demand for specialized services is limited as well. As much as we would like to have DRMC be the end-all in care for every type of medical and trauma problem, the reality is they must weigh the ability of the community. It is obvious, all communities have a vital need for predictable/top-rate ER and hospital services.

Finally, having a local ER open for business 24/7 is a blessing for the community. A great number of community members are walk-in patients there. Without DRMC, our residents (and those who are transported by the fire department) would have to travel considerably farther to find an open ER. A few years ago there were concerns over the potential closure of the DRMC ER. Thankfully, those concerns passed. However, with the potential closure of King-Harbor Hospital, DRMC will likely face a few more patients each day. With the number of patients increasing, the ER staff (and all DRMC personnel) will have to again find ways to process patients more efficiently to keep up with the flow of patients arriving each day at the ER doors.

—Mark Sauter,  
Downey Fire Chief

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RATATOUILLE G	(11:15 2:10) 5:05 8:00
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★ LIVE FREE OR DIE HARD PG-13 (10:00, 10:45, 1:00, 1:45, 4:00, 4:45), 7:05, 7:50, 10:05, 10:45  
1408 PG-13 (10:05, 12:35, 3:05, 5:30), 8:00, 10:30  
EVAN ALMIGHTY PG (10:10, 11:40, 12:30, 2:10, 3:00, 4:30, 5:10), 7:00, 7:45, 9:25, 10:10  
FANTASTIC FOUR: RISE OF THE SILVER SURFER PG (10:15, 12:40, 2:50, 5:00), 7:15, 9:45  
SURF'S UP PG: Fri to Sun: (11:35, 2:00, 4:40), 7:00, 9:15; Mon: (11:35, 4:40), 7:00  
KNOCKED UP PG: Fri to Sun: (11:00, 1:55, 4:50), 7:40, 10:35; Mon: (1:55, 4:50)  
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# Faith in Downey: Revolution Church

BY BROOKE KARLI  
STAFF WRITER

Revolution Church is unlike any other – at least in Downey, that is. While many churches are traditional in worship, Scripture and practices, Revolution Church stretches boundaries in a contemporary, creative way.

For example, an average Sunday morning – with over 100 adults and kids in attendance – usually consists of energetic worship, a 25-minute teaching film, and a 10-minute application and challenge session.

The vision behind Revolution Church lies within Lead Pastor David Trotter, who back in 2003, desired starting a church that would connect people to God and each other in a non-traditional manner.

“Church isn’t about a building,” said Trotter. “It’s about people connecting with God, loving one another and serving the community.”

With 12 people, Revolution Church was started, meeting in the fellowship hall of the El Dorado Park Community Church in Long Beach.

By 2006, the church grew larger, having to meet at Artesia High School.

Trotter’s vision then went deeper, hoping to plant seven churches in seven years – not including the already up and running Lakewood site (Artesia High School). Thus far, the Lakewood site, as well as the Downey site (Columbus High School), are well under way. Future sites will be opening in North Long Beach, Downtown Long Beach, Belmont Shores, Compton, Carson and San Pedro – with the Carson site opening next in September 2008.

The Downey site was opened on Easter of this year, with 35 adults in attendance. As Trotter said, “It is a very multi-ethnic, multi-life stage church...there is a variety of people – it’s beautiful and everyone is welcome.”

Although they are a part of the Reformed Church in America denomination, they are uniquely their own. Their denomination is part of their heritage, but according to inneedarevolution.com, their emphasis is on the following:

- **A Fresh Start** – Many of us wish we had the opportunity to make a fresh start – to discover a place where we are accepted for who we are and can grow into who we want to be. Perhaps you went to church in the past and have gotten out of the habit. Or, maybe you’ve never been to church at all. Wherever you find yourself, Revolution is ready to help you make that fresh start. You will find people who are discovering and growing together.

- **Real People** – At Revolution, you’ll find real people – in other words, people just like you. It is not about a building, a place, or an organization – our church is about people! Some words that describe the people at Revolution are “friendly, warm, open, accessible, and loving.” Come as you are, and be yourself.

- **Casual Atmosphere** – You don’t need to get dressed up to come to Revolution. Wear whatever you want – shorts, t-shirts, sandals – it doesn’t matter to us.

- **High-Energy Music** – Every week, our worship leader and dynamic musicians will lead us in high-energy music. Without even realizing it, you’ll find yourself clapping and singing along. Plan to have fun and be re-energized for your week.

- **Practical Messages** – Each week we’ll present creative messages from the Bible that will easily apply to your life. We want you to walk out of revolution with a greater understanding of God’s plan for your life and how you can practically live that out during the next week. If you are just checking out what Christianity is all about, you’ll easily understand what we’re talking about. If you’ve been a follower of Jesus Christ for years, plan to be challenged in your faith. Believe us – your window of opportunity to take a nap will never open at Revolution.

- **Authentic Relationships** – At Revolution, church isn’t just a once a week event – it is about relationships. We’re excited about the newly forming

friendships that are happening at our church. We know that authentic relationships are hard to come by, and that’s why we’re making them a big emphasis.

- **Exciting Children’s Ministry** – Children are a gift from God, and we treat them that way. Every week, we offer children’s ministry for birth through 5th grade at the same time as the adult service. Our gifted team of teachers prepare a fun, interactive program for the kids every week – stories, crafts, games, and snacks – all in a safe environment. We think your kids will love it!

- **Conviction** – We hold certain truths to be non-negotiable – truths that have been held precious by followers of Jesus through the ages. You’ll find our approach is to “major on the majors” and “minor on the minors.”

- **A ‘Down to earth’ Pastor** – Every week, you’ll hear how he is seeking to live out the message – openly sharing the ups and downs of life. His desire is to see you connect with God in a way that is life-changing. He wants you to experience the life that God longs to give you – a life full of hope, meaning, and love.

- **Fun** – We believe that life (and church) should be “fun.” Life isn’t always easy, but living life together can be an incredible journey. High-energy music, practical messages, and real relationships – now, that’s fun!

“Ultimately, the message is permeated through everything we do,” said Trotter. “Our desire is to follow Jesus and help people follow Jesus. And we want to minister to our community and surrounding communities, as well as join forces with other churches.”

In addition, Revolution shares many of the same beliefs as other churches. They consist of the following:

- There is one true and living God existing in three persons – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. God created humans perfect and free to make choices. They chose to disobey their Creator. Turning away from God, humanity fell into sin. All of the suffering and evil in the world is because of this sin.

- Even though we have turned away from God, God still loves all people and wants our lives to be full of joy and peace. Right from the beginning, God had a plan to make this happen.

- God’s plan was to send His Son Jesus Christ, who lived a life of perfect obedience to God and who died to pay the price for all people’s sins. God raised Jesus back to life. He is in heaven now, but he has promised to return to earth someday. When he comes again, he will resurrect all believers and take them to be with him in heaven.

- Believers are people who accept that Jesus Christ is God’s Son, who believe that Jesus died for their sins and rose from the dead, and who do their best to follow his teachings and example. Together they form the church, which is called Christ’s body on earth, and which has a responsibility to continue Christ’s work.

- Living the Christian life is not always easy, but believers receive guidance from the Bible and from the teachings and example of Christ; and they receive encouragement and power from God’s Holy Spirit.

Revolution Church in Downey has also already become involved in the community, providing water and refreshments at the recent Relay for Life. On July 28, the church will be participating in “Serve Day” – a day when numerous churches tackle community projects. So far, Revolution is hosting nine projects, one being a clean-up project in Downey with over 40 volunteers who will be picking up trash, cleaning windows, and more.

“We value service,” said Christopher Lytle, Downey campus pastor. “We are here to serve and help Downey as much as we can.”

Worship services are held at 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. on Sundays and throughout the week for student ministries.

**Revolution Church at Columbus High School**  
12330 Woodruff Ave.  
(562) 546-0012  
www.inneedarevolution.com



Revolution Church in Downey opened on Easter Sunday of this year, with 35 adults in attendance. Now, over 100 adults and children meet on an average Sunday morning at Columbus High School. Photo courtesy Revolution Church

## A message from the congregation:

### An Open Letter of Apology from Revolution Church...

**To Those Who Have Given Up on Church:**  
It has come to our attention that there are many people who have given up on church – but not necessarily God. We have come to the conclusion that many Christians (including us) and local churches have acted like self-righteous, judgmental jerks.

For this - we apologize.  
We apologize for not welcoming you into our community of faith. We apologize for being more concerned about our church programs and less concerned about your needs. We’re sorry for telling you how to live without modeling it in the process.

We apologize for creating Sunday services that are boring and lifeless. We’re sorry for using language that you don’t understand and blaming you for misunderstandings. We regret using the Bible as a weapon to make our points.

We apologize for being racist, homophobic, antagonistic, belligerent, and critical. We’re sorry for not loving like Jesus calls us to. There is no excuse for our behavior.

We’re sorry for not being authentic and for acting like our lives are perfect. We’re sorry for not being honest about how God is helping us through our own struggles. We’re sorry for not asking how you are doing.

Once again – we apologize.  
We apologize for begging for your money, telling you that the devil is going to get you, and yelling that you’re going to Hell. We’re sorry for leaving behind a tract instead of giving you a nice tip. We feel awful about any negative experience that you have had with a local church or anyone who calls themselves a Christian.

Will you forgive us?  
Would you be willing to give us another chance? If you won’t, we totally understand...but we hope you will. We’re not perfect, but we’re doing our best to follow Jesus, love our community, and impact the world at large in a positive way.

**Sincerely,**  
**Revolution Church**

**Rescue Zone Day Camp**  
July 9-13, 2007 \$110  
Students entering 1st thru 5th grades.  
(includes daily lunch, T-shirt, 2 special bus trips)  
Extended day care available  
7 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. \$40 additional

**Children’s Western Adventure with Mr. J**  
**Tales From the Gold Mine** August 13-17, 2007  
FREE! 6 - 9 p.m. 3 year olds - 5th Grade Parents of 3 - 5 year olds must remain on campus  
Sharpen your parenting & money management skills at our FREE classes.  
\*\*Family Dinner 5:15 - 5:45 p.m. \$3 per person, \$10 for immediate

First Baptist Church of Downey **Children’s Ministries**  
8348 Third Street-90241 (562)923-1261  
Stop by the church office M - F: cash, check (To: FBCD), or credit cards (8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. in main office only)

**Old Fashioned Community Ice Cream Social**  
SATURDAY, June 30<sup>th</sup>  
1:00- 5:00 PM  
City of Downey Police & Fire Engine Summer Safety Tips Fingerprinting  
Inflatable Jumper for Kids  
Display of: Vintage Cars Custom Motorcycles Hot Rods  
Variety of Live Music  
Lots of Ice Cream  
BRING YOUR LAWN CHAIR AND THE KIDS  
Celebrating our 121<sup>st</sup> Year in Downey!  
ON THE LAWN... First Presbyterian Church 10544 Downey Ave. Downey  
YOU CAN HELP! Bring a Cass (ready-to-eat type) for Deacon’s Pantry  
7th Street Firestone Blvd. Downey  
Need More Information? - 562/ 861-6752

## Revolution Church talks about the ‘s’ word

**DOWNEY** – On July 8, Revolution Church will be hosting a “sex party,” launching a multi-week series on sexual intimacy called “SEX.GOD.”

“The truth is that God loves sex. God created it, everybody wants it, but the church rarely talks about it,” said David Trotter, Revolution Church lead pastor. “Usually the only time a church talks about sex is when they tell you what not to do.”

The series is designed to help singles and married couples understand God’s plan for a great sex life. Over the course of the series, attendees will develop an understanding of the connection between sexuality and spirituality. Each week’s Sunday service will also feature a multi-sensory presentation with a combination of creative film, teaching from the Bible, music and visual arts.

“We want to celebrate this amazing gift of sexual intimacy that God has created for us,” said Christopher Lytle, Revolution Church (Downey) pastor. “Rather than staying quiet about something that’s so important, we want to understand why God created sex and God’s desire for us to have a great sex life.”

Due to explicit content and sensitive material, parents are encouraged to take advantage of the children’s and youth ministries during the services.

For information, call the Revolution Church office at (562) 546-0012, or visit www.GodLovesSex.com.

### ‘Save a Life Sunday,’ July 8

**DOWNEY** – Downey First Christian Church will be hosting the American Red Cross and their Bloodmobile on July 8, designated by the Red Cross as “Save a Life Sunday.”

The Bloodmobile will be at the church, located at 10909 S. New St., from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Appointments are recommended but walk-ins are always welcomed. For information or appointments, call the church office at (562) 862-2438.

## First Presbyterian celebrates with ice cream

**DOWNEY** – The First Presbyterian Church of Downey will be hosting an old-fashioned Ice Cream Social on June 30 from 1 to 5 p.m. for the residents and neighbors of Downey.

Kids will be able to enjoy an inflatable jumper, and the City of Downey Fire and Police Departments will be highlighting children’s safety with fingerprinting, fire safety and summer safety tips.

Vintage and custom cars, as well as motorcycles, will be on display. The “Bellflowers” will perform a variety of live music, as will Ruby Sanchez.

Ice cream is free as part of a yearlong celebration of the 121st year anniversary of the founding of the First Presbyterian Church in Downey. However, donations of ready-to-eat canned goods will be accepted for the charity food pantry.

For information, call (562) 861-6752.

## Temple installs new officers

**DOWNEY** – Tonight, Temple Ner Tamid will be hosting Shabbat Balak (traditional) services at 7:30 p.m., followed by the Annual Installation of Officers of the Board of Directors.

Officers being installed are: David Saltzman (president); Marc Mandel, Ruth Beck, Lynette Austin and Sandra Dickinson (executive vice presidents); Mildred Mandel (financial secretary and treasurer); Jim Hansen (recording secretary); Michael Barsky, Joe Kaufman, Libby Lazarus, Jim Pinsky, Shelly Krantz and Shirley Hershkowitz (trustees); and David Levreau and Sheba Levine (members at large).

Sisterhood officers being installed are: Ruth Beck (president); Dora Silvers (recording secretary); Edie Baker (corresponding secretary); and Mildred Mandel (financial secretary and treasurer).

Refreshments will follow the installation of officers.

Temple Ner Tamid is located at 10629 Lakewood Blvd. in Downey. For information, call the Temple office at (562) 861-9276.

downtypatriot@yahoo.com

Revolution Church presents:  
**SEX . GOD**  
God loves it. Everybody wants it. Let’s talk about it - starting July 8th...  
2 locations and 4 services - more info @ **GodLovesSex.com**



# A rare glimpse inside the famous Carpenter House

Ken Bertwell, a childhood friend of Karen and Richard Carpenter, spent many days and nights inside the famed Carpenter House in Downey. Now, as the house heads towards possible demolition, he opens up and shares his memories.

CONTRIBUTED BY KEN BERTWELL

I now live in Austin, Tex. but was born and raised in Downey. My folks were friends with Mom and Dad Carpenter, my brother attended Downey High School with Richard Carpenter.

Richard played the piano and my brother played the organ. Dear Mrs. Walta used to let me tag along with my older brother to rehearsals and concerts and Karen Carpenter used to tag along with Richard at the same events. Being six years younger than Karen, she was assigned by Mrs. Walta to "keep an eye on me." Having an incredible sense of curiosity, I used to get into some terrific jams at Downey High and Karen was always chasing me around, threatening me within an inch of my life.

She had an awesome sense of humor and we used to just get the giggles and get into more trouble.

From the time the house on Newville Avenue was built, it became an important place in my life. I feel like half of my growing up years were spent equally between my family's home on Farm Street and at 9828 Newville Ave. You could always count on Dad Carpenter to have an extra Coke and Mom Carpenter was never out of stock on oatmeal cookies. Even after Richard and Karen "hit it big", that home remained a very fun place to hang out. Lois, the house secretary, was the kindest lady I'd ever met. She would always be happy to take my stacks of Carpenters merchandise and have Karen and Richard autograph it all when they were back in town. She and Rosina ran the office and used to give me the most priceless photos and tell me the latest interesting happenings in the lives of "The Carpenters."

Once upon a time in 1973, I was a senior in high school and Karen and Richard knew my choir teacher from their days at Long Beach State College. Karen and Dad Carpenter arranged an afternoon for me to bring some of my choir friends over to the house. It was a swim and barbecue thing and Karen was just in a wicked mood. She acted like one of the high school kids and hung out with us all afternoon. The swim portion of the afternoon began when Karen decided to push me in the pool - fully dressed! Two of my buddies came up and grabbed her from behind and all three of them fell into the pool, laughing and coughing water.

That was the Karen Carpenter I knew. To hear now that the pool and backyard are in a state of decay just rips me apart - the memories are so strong.

Dad Carpenter was just about the nicest, funniest man in Downey - we all just adored him. He would always make sure my family knew of upcoming concerts and events and help arrange tickets and such for us. He had a Carpenters "roadie" jacket made for me for my 17th birthday. Needless to say, I was a very popular guy in high school. Dad Carpenter was always out in front of the front yard at 9828 Newville Avenue, washing the cars and the Carpenters van, watering the garden or just hosing down the driveway - and he loved to sit on the front porch and just wave at people as they drove by.

Mom Carpenter was a little on the stern side but she had a heart of gold and she took us kids under her wing as if we were her own. My folks both worked so I was sort of a latch-key kid and always felt welcome in her home - but our shoes always had to be taken off. Now, to hear that the floors and walls and carpet are just destroyed and smelly with mold and mildew, breaks my heart. Mom C. was a housekeeper. That house always smelled fresh and clean and now it has fallen into a bad state.

Karen loved to come down and go to the Hotel Laguna in

Laguna Beach and sit out on the ocean deck and watch the sunset. She'd wear these big hats and huge sunglasses to be "incognito." She couldn't have been more obvious and would always attract attention and people would come up and ask, "Aren't you..." and she'd act terribly surprised. She was always happy to sign autographs - she didn't like photos taken but always signed autographs.

One February 4, 1983, I had a job interview in Newport Beach and was driving down Pacific Coast Highway at about 9:45 a.m. when a DJ broke into a song and announced that "an unconfirmed report says Karen Carpenter has died in Downey - no, now we have confirmation - Karen Carpenter has indeed died in Downey." I was in shock. I managed to get to a payphone (in the rain) and called my folks who said it was true - Karen had died.

Karen's funeral service was held at Downey United Methodist Church with the interment at Forest Lawn in Cypress. It was an absolutely surreal morning and one I will never forget as we all gathered to say goodbye. After the interment, we went to the Carpenter House at 9828 Newville. There were some old friends there, mixed with very nice celebrity friends of Karen and Richard's. Dad C. was playing doorman and coat check; Mom C. stayed pretty close to the kitchen and food. She seemed to be moving outside of her own body, just trying to keep it together.

I remember talking with Olivia Newton John out by the pool and Dionne Warwick in the kitchen.

9828 Newville is loaded with memories - mine and those of so many other people who ventured into it. I realize it is just a house, but that house deserves better than it has gotten. The people that now inhabit that shell of a house (now divided in two) didn't have the opportunity to know it as the Carpenter House. They bought a house with a lot of somebody's stuff in it and are now attempting to cash in on its fame.

Its fame isn't what 9828 Newville is all about. It's a house where two of the most successful kids in show business history made history themselves - taking so many of us along for the ride.

As I drove past 9828 Newville last weekend, it was a bittersweet experience. I attempted a smile as I waved for the last time to 9828 Newville but I just couldn't hold back the tears. My mom and dad are gone now - Mom C. and Dad C. are gone now. And now, in all likelihood, the Carpenter House will soon be gone as well.

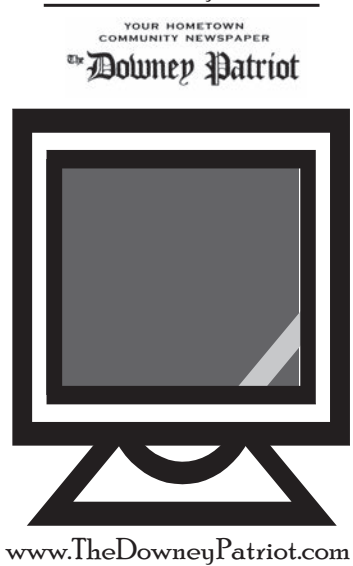


Richard and Karen Carpenter recorded 15 number one songs during their career. Their childhood home on Newville Avenue, featured on the cover of their "Now & Then" album, is rumored to be headed for demolition.

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## DUSD's Nancy Swenson steeped in family values

BY HENRY VENERACION, STAFF WRITER

**DOWNEY**—Within her extended family circle, Nancy Swenson is known for her frankness and forthrightness, and she abhors dishonesty. "No lies," she says. "Lies are too hard to remember." An aunt once quoted Nancy's mom: "Never ask Nancy a question unless you really want the answer."

Her parents, her mom especially, stressed family closeness and family unity, and the sharing and caring for one another that went with it. "Mom was a source of strength," she says, adding that she inherited her penchant for math from her ("She also loved puzzles"). She was the finance person in the family, Nancy says.

A Warren High grad by way of OLPH and St. Matthias High (Huntington Park), Nancy earned an A.A. degree as a Computer Programming Analyst from Cerritos College, and went on to get a BS degree in Computer Information Systems, with honors, from CSU-Dominguez Hills, in 1995. It was no mean achievement: she was the first to earn a college degree in the family.

And she did it as a single mother. Already divorced then, she had in the meantime secured a job at Hughes Aircraft (now Raytheon Systems) after an employment string that over several years included the House of Pies on Lakewood, Jon's Coffee Shop on Imperial, Neil's Stationery, and Downey Savings and Loan. She has now been with Raytheon for 22 years, where she says she supervises a team that's responsible for management of a multi-million dollar budget in support of the El Segundo facility's engineering computing component that numbers 6,000. Some of her team's functions: ordering, tracking and reporting on the hardware and software requirements of the engineering community. She also directs database development and drives the team to initiate and implement improvements to existing systems.

Because of the time constraints imposed on her, her community involvement at the time was confined to helping her children, nieces and nephews (of whom she had—and still has—plenty in Downey), their friends and the children of the neighborhood "whenever possible." She tutored the high school students in algebra and helped set up and operate the first computers for family members and friends in her neighborhood.

It was this combination of strong family values, mathematical and professional expertise, experience, and a winning attitude that she would bring before Area 5 voters in her run for a seat on the DUSD board Betty Ferraro was vacating. This was two years ago. She won over Luis Marques, aide to Sen. Hector de la Torre.

Nancy can't say enough about the role her predecessor played in her victory. Longtime neighbors here in Downey, Nancy and the Ferraros had formed a close friendship. It was not unusual for Ken Ferraro to borrow tools from her handyman dad who "could fix anything." If someone in the Ferraro family were to catch chicken pox, Nancy would always come to the rescue, and vice-versa.

At the time Betty was contemplating giving up her board seat, Nancy's two children (daughter Cheyenne, 32, is a second grade teacher at Gallatin, while son Sven, 30, is currently an account manager for a logistics company in Carson) were grown, and she was seriously considering joining any of a number of voluntary associations in Downey to "give back to the community." Betty, who Nancy says "knew all the organizations here," invited her over for dinner one day, and suggested Nancy run for her seat.

The timing was good. Nancy said she'd mull it over while she visited her in-laws' ancestral town in Sweden. By the time she got back from her trip, she had made up her mind.

Betty, in all sorts of ways, helped with her campaign, of course. "She's such a wonderful person. She has always been there for me," says Nancy. Her mechanical engineer boss at Raytheon, Allison Sheridan, whom she describes as "an enthusiastic person" and to whom "everything is exciting," as well as "not afraid to try anything," along with other officemates, walked with her to knock on doors during the campaign. Into technology, Allison is helping her set up a planned website for Gangs Out of Downey soon.

Two years later, with the benefit of hindsight, Nancy sees her role with the district with greater clarity. She says she shares with her district board associates the "same goal for the kids."

"They're our citizens," she goes on. "That's why 'Character Counts' is so important. This is such a key issue. This will lead our kids down a

path that leads to good citizenship, to a bright future. It's things like this that make Downey such a welcoming city. And even if we board members don't agree on everything, we're not afraid to express ourselves. It's such a good environment to work in. I was a little apprehensive at first but they make me feel welcome."

There's no ceiling on her praise for Superintendent Wendy Doty. "She has the vision and she knows where she's going with her vision. She knows how to get enthusiastic about anything, and she's not afraid of listening to divergent opinions. I think she's the heart and soul of the district right now."

"I go to the schools during the day sometimes, meet with the principals and see what's going on," Nancy says, "so I can have a better overall picture of what's going on in the schools...I'm particularly interested in the AVID and ASPIRE programs. I go to the recognition events, attend band and music events at the schools, keeping an ear out for how healthy the food dispensed at the schools is. Thus I visit the cafeteria, and so on."

To further improve their effectiveness on the board, Nancy and fellow board member Martha Soderetani plan to take the recommended Masters of Governance program in October.

Nancy was born pigeon-toed. "A correcting cast was put on my feet before I could walk," she relates. "My transportation was on wheels. So I learned to skate before I could walk. When the cast came off, I continued to skate as a way to train my feet to go straight. It was my therapy. Eventually I was able to walk straight."

She was on the Warren High drill team her junior year, making team leader the next year. "I played softball for a while when in my forties, and played in a women's league in Long Beach."

Her dad, who worked at Southwestern Steel Mill in South Gate for 40-odd years, earlier had a business that carried scuba diving equipment, including the "Kelpsuit" brand. Nancy says her dad was sure he once taught Charlton Heston how to scuba dive. Her mom disputes the story. She said it was Lloyd Bridges (of "Seahunt" fame) he taught. Following a brief stint at Fremont, Oregon, her dad went to work for Martin Marietta, from which he retired. Now 83, he lives with her in Downey.

"My only regret is that my mom is not around to see what I'm doing now. I know she'd be proud of me," she says.

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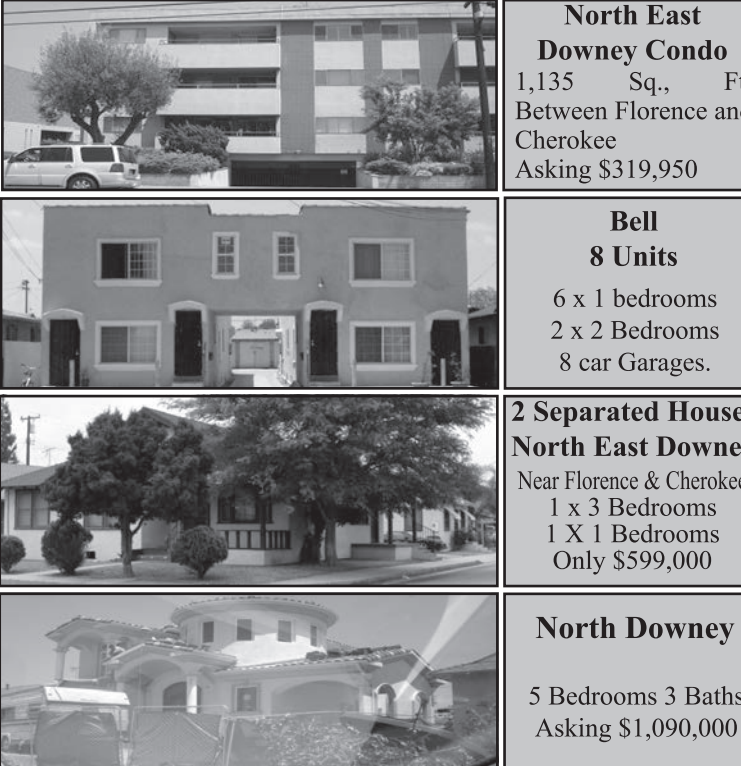


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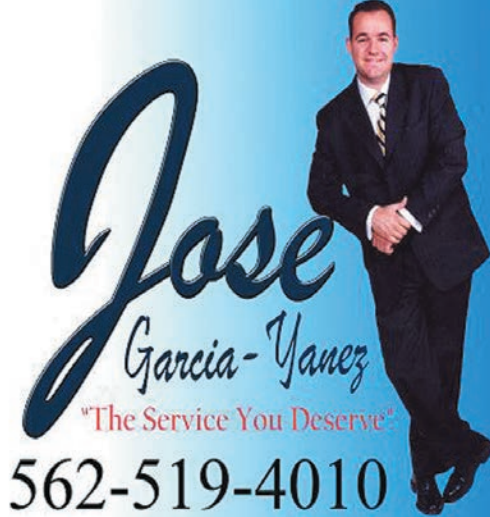


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**Downey Beauty ~ Coming Soon!**  
3 BD, 2 BA, formal dining room, freshly painted, large garage, with carport, nearly 1,700 Sq. Ft. located on a quiet cul-de-sac.  
**Call Mario Persico @ 562.533.7433**  
See Virtual Tour @ www.MarioPersico.com

**BACK-UP OFFERS!**



**North East Downey Townhouse!**  
This unit features 3 BD, 3 BA, 1,541 Sq. Ft. L Located in highly desirable "Glenbrook North" complex L Don't miss this opportunity! Call for price!  
**Call Mario Persico @ 562.533.7433**  
See Virtual Tour @ www.MarioPersico.com

**Mario: Born in Downey/Raised in Downey Lives in Downey/Worships in Downey**  
**\*\*\* SELLS DOWNEY \*\*\***

**WOW!**



**Move Right In!**  
Remodeled in 2006, this lovely home features 3 BD, 1 BA, Priced at: \$484,900  
**Call Jose @ 562-519-4010**

**N. DOWNEY**



**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**

**N.E. DOWNEY**



**Prime Location!**  
6 BD, 7.5 BA, executive office, bonus room, Approx. 6,500 Sq. Ft. 10,880 sq. ft. lot w/ pool and state of the art amenities  
**Call Jose @ 562-519-4010**

**www.Prudential24Hours.com (562) 861-7257**



**Michael Berdelis**  
"The 24 Hour Agent!"  
**562-818-6111**

**89 Homes SOLD in 2006!**

**Chairman Circle Award Winner 2000-2006!**

**FREE Market Evaluation!**

**OPEN HOUSE**



**Summer Delight!**  
This spacious floor plan includes 3 bedrooms, 2 bath, large living room, large family room, spacious backyard w/ pool and 2 car detached garage.  
**Price: \$819,950**  
Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com

**OPEN HOUSE**



**Fit for a King!**  
New construction 4 bed, 3.5 baths, Granite counter tops in kitchen and baths. 2200 sqft., central air & heat, with beautiful landscaping.  
**Price to sell @ \$789,950**  
Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com

**OPEN HOUSE**



**Won't Last Long!**  
3 BD home, w/ large yard & two car detached garage.  
**Price: \$499,950**  
Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com

**OPEN HOUSE**



**Orange Estates Beauty!**  
Large 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2300 sq ft home with guest house on large 11,000 sq ft lot near Furman Park.  
**Price: \$959,950**  
Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com

**OPEN HOUSE**



**Charm! Charm! Charm!**  
4 bed with den & bonus room, 2 baths, approx 2200 sq ft living space, near Stonewood Mall, Rio San Gabriel Elem & East Middle  
**Price: \$709,950**  
Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com

**OPEN HOUSE**



**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

**OPEN HOUSE**



**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

**OPEN HOUSE**



**N. East Downey!**  
3 bedroom, 2 bath home in Northeast Downey with Large backyard and pool!  
**Price: \$949,950**  
Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com

**OPEN HOUSE**



**Upgrades Galore!!!**  
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

**OPEN HOUSE**



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

**OPEN HOUSE**



**New Construction 2007 - on Large Lot!**  
5 Beds, 4 BA, central air & heat, Sparkling pool, 3,600 Sq. Ft. Living Space.  
**Price: \$1,249,000**  
Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com

**OPEN HOUSE**



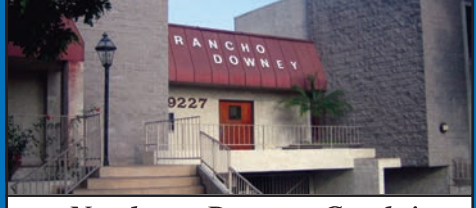
**Look No Further - Built in 2007!**  
5 BD, 4 BA newly constructed home (4729 sq ft on a 7560 sq ft lot) with master suite, gorgeous kitchen, and rock pool & spa with waterfall and slide. A must see!!!  
**Price: \$1,549,900**  
Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com

**OPEN HOUSE**



**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

**OPEN HOUSE**



**Northeast Downey Condo!**  
2 bed, 2.5 bath townhome-style condo with newer carpet and paint, remodeled bath, central air & heat. Complex includes gated pool & spa.  
**Price: \$375,000**  
Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com

**OPEN HOUSE**



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

**OPEN HOUSE**



**Pretty As A Picture!**  
5BD, 3 BA newly constructed home w/ marble floors, kitchen w/granite countertops, living room and formal dining room and large master suite.  
**Price \$899,950**  
Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com

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