

Downer Patriot



'Discovery' of a good name See Page 2



Superintendent knows her stuff See Page 8



Music brings rivals together See Page 3

Friday, July 20, 2007

Vol. 6 No. 13

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

A little Latin flavor coming our way

Popular group Mariachi Divas to perform here Wednesday

CONTRIBUTED BY THE DOWNEY THEATRE

DOWNEY – The famous Mariachi Divas, the all-female mariachi ensemble, will perform at Furman Park next Wednesday at 7 p.m. as part of the free Furman Park Twilight Summer Concert

Founded by Cindy Shea in 1999, Mariachi Divas are a unique multi-cultural ensemble, and over the years have represented the women of Mexico, Cuba, Samoa, Argentina, Columbia, Panama, Puerto Rico, Peru, Japan and other countries.

"Music is a way of uniting our cultural backgrounds," Shea said.

Mariachi Divas has been featured at the Arrowhead Pond, Universal Amphitheatre, Staples Center, Greek Theater and the Santa Barbara Bowl. They also performed at the Forum for the 2005 "Premio La Gente" live TV awards show and at the Shrine Auditorium for the 2006 Alma Awards.

They were recently invited to perform at the Tucson International Mariachi Concert, Fresno Radio Bilingue Mariachi Show and at the Santa Barbara Bowl alongside Mariachi Vargas and Nati Cano's Mariachi Los Camperos.

They have even accompanied Grammy-winning artists such as Joan Sebastian, Jenny Rivera, Marco Antonio Solis, Pablo Montero and Paulina Rubio.



The Mariachi Divas are an all-female mariachi ensemble popular particularly among the Hispanic community, although the group has included members of varying nationalities. Photo courtesy Downey Theatre

Since 2001 the Divas have showcased their innovative sounds every year at the NAMM Show in Anaheim.

In 2005 the Divas premiered at the Las Cruces International Mariachi Conference alongside Mariachi Cobre and Linda Ronstadt. They also performed, and were featured as one of the main televised acts, for over 500,000 people on the streets of Downtown Los Angeles at the 14th and 15th Annual Fiesta Broadway 2003 and 2004.

They have appeared at the L.A. County Fair numerous times, most

Time Traveler

By John Adams, Editor Emeritus

The announcement that the new school to be constructed by the

Downey Unified School District in front of West Middle School

will be called Old River Elementary raises memories of the origi-

Only the oldest Downey veterans may recall the original Old River School, built in 1889 and used as a school house for 50 years. The old

In 1946 it was moved to Quill Drive near Paramount Boulevard where it housed the congregation of the new Grace Baptist Church, Rev. Romey

Today the old building at 7948 Quill Drive stands at the rear of the

Jung Bu Young Nak Presbyterian Church. While it now bears a coat of

stucco on its exterior, the original walls date to 1887. Those of a historical

bent say that if you stand quietly beside it you can still hear the echoes of

countless classes of young Downeyites who got their early education

The sons and daughters of farmers walked or rode horses to school there.

to raze the old building were made. But the need for housing necessitated

Mrs. J.L. Stalker; Mrs. A.E. Comstock; G.L. Fishel; and Robert M. Davis.

by the war years saved it. And in 1946 it was converted to a church.

When first built in 1887 the old school house served a strictly rural area

Just before World War II a new school building was erected, and plans

Church officers of that Baptist post-World War II congregation included

Old River School Superintendent was Roland Adams when the old

The sale was a blessing in disguise, as it actually saved the old struc-

The religious school decided to move, and sold the land to housing

ture, which outlasted the structures erected to replace it. In 1979 the "new"

Old River School at 7547 Quill Drive had become the Ambassador

developers who subsequently built 18 homes there. The "new" Old River

(Pacifica) Christian School on 3.25 acres of valuable campus.

School building came down to make way for progress.

But the original older structure is still with us today.

there, now become our grandparents and great- grandparents.

The first Old River

School still stands

nal Old River District school house which still stands.

building later became a church.

building was sold and moved.

Originally published August 9, 1996

E. Black pastor.

recently in 2003 performing as part of the famous Mariachi USA.

The Divas have traveled throughout the country, including shows in Utah, Arizona, New Mexico, Nevada, Idaho and Wyoming. Internationally, they performed in Tampico, Mexico, in

Mariachi Divas has performed four times at the John Anson Ford Theater, including a celebration of the "Day of the Dead," a "Women in Jazz" concert in 2004, and in 2005 and 2006 in which they were the headliners.

The Divas also appear in the

documentary, "Viva El Marichi."

The Divas had the honor of playing at the inauguration of Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa two years ago; they also played Arnold at Schwarzenegger's inauguration in

Since 2003, the Divas have performed at Disneyland and Disney's California Adventure.

Most recently, they've been invited to perform at the upcoming 14th Annual Latin Awards Show in Las Vegas.

See DIVAS, page 4



Kids can't get enough Harry Potter, and neither can the Downey City Library, which celebrated "Harry Potter Week" all this week. Photo by Art Montova

A week of magic and wizardry at the library

By Brooke Karli, Staff Writer

DOWNEY – Over 25 kids formed a line around tables and through bookcases at the Downey City Library on Tuesday, anxiously holding their

No, Hannah Montana was not going to be performing.

And no, Shia LaBeouf of "Transformers" was not stopping by to sign

Instead, all the excitement was over "Hogwarts Trivia Game," one of many activities taking place during Harry Potter Week.

In celebration of the July 21 release of "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows," Children's Librarian Gina Orello decided to create a week's worth of events and activities for Harry Potter fans to enjoy

See HARRY POTTER, page 4

Johnie's Broiler case trudging through court

■ After a series of postponements, continuances and noshows, the pretrial hearing is set for Aug. 29.

> By Eric Pierce CITY EDITOR

DOWNEY – Ardas Yanik, the man police say illegally tore down Johnie's Broiler earlier this year, has yet to stand trial as a series of continuances and delays have repeatedly pushed back his trial date.

Below is a rundown of the case as it has transpired:

April 4: Yanik is arraigned in Downey Municipal Court and charged with five counts, including illegal construction work, illegal dumping, illegal electrical equipment, plumbing with no permits and failure to maintain

Yanik, appearing by himself, pleads not guilty to all counts, which are all misdemeanor offenses and carry possible fines and jail time as punish-

The arraignment is continued to April 18 to give Yanik time to hire a lawver.

April 18: Yanik still doesn't have a lawyer and the matter is pushed to May 8.

May 8: Yanik does not appear in court, but is represented by his newly-hired counsel, W. Ronald Seabold. Arraignment is now considered complete and the next court date is scheduled for June 13, a pretrial hear-

June 13: Neither Yanik nor Seabold attend the pretrial hearing, prompting Judge Dale Pomerantz to issue a bench warrant on Yanik, who has been free on his own recognizance.

June 20: Yanik appears in court a week later and the bench warrant is recalled. A pretrial hearing is again set, this time for July 3.

July 3: Seabold asks the court for more time, and the pretrial hearing is rescheduled for July 18, this past Wednesday.

July 18: Both Yanik and his attorney appear in court. They file a con-

The pretrial hearing is now scheduled for Aug. 29 at 8:30 a.m. at the Downey courthouse.

Bands rocking out in name of charity

■ Local jazz and rock bands have formed Moving Union. a series of concerts aimed at helping Downey charities.

> By Mary Forney **CONTRIBUTOR**

DOWNEY - Jazz and rock music boomed from the Epic Lounge on Second Street as teens and young adults gathered June 13 to listen to area bands play for charity.

Known as the Moving Union and hosted by The Bellflowers, the bands donated the proceeds from the evening to La Casita de Las Mamas Rehabilitation Center in Downey.

This was the second charitable event held by the newly-formed Moving Union, which hosted its first jam in May at the First Presbyterian Church of Downey. The proceeds from that event went to Warren High School's Relay for Life efforts in June.

"We are a group of bands wanting to do something good for our community," said Paulie Pesh, lead singer for The Bellflowers. "We are not promoters - we are just a bunch of guys wanting to get together to do something greater than ourselves."

See BANDS, page 7

Erickson's innovative idea paying dividends

By Henry Veneracion STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY—The world of business really prizes innovation. Just ask Downey native David

Monday, June 11, Erickson was in New York City with his wife and two kids, as an honoree of the 2007 American Business Awards (also known as the Stevies, the business world's Oscars) held at the Marriott Marquis in Times Square. He was one of several awardees recognized for their various excellences. He received the Best Executive Award. Entrants represented more than 2,000 businesses, big and small, from around the country. Other awards: "Best Overall Company," "Best Corporate Social Responsibility Program," etc.



ERICKSON

Born in Downey in 1965, Erickson graduated from Warren High in 1983. While growing up here, he worked at several part-time jobs including the original McDonald's, Pat's Baker, Rockview Dairy and Downey Parks and Recreation.

Fifteen years ago, Erickson, the son of an architect father and a teacher mother, moved to Long Beach, beginning a series of entrepreneurial

See ERICKSON, page 7

Page 2 Friday, July 20, 2007 Community

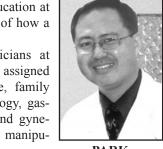
Doctors honored as 'great role models'

DOWNEY – Dr. Manuel Chon was recently honored as Attending Physician of the Year by Downey Regional Center Family Practice Residency Program residents, and Dr. Jung M. Park was named Attending Physician of the Year by DRMC interns.

Both physicians are DRMC medical staff members specializing in obstetrics and gynecology and both practice with Pioneer Medical Group from offices in the Downey Regional Medical Plaza at 11480 Brookshire Ave.

"Both of these doctors have gone above and beyond in teaching clinical skills and compassion," Dr. Natalie Nevins, director of medical education at DRMC, said. "They are great role models of how a physician should be.'

Currently, nearly 50 attending physicians at DRMC work with the interns and residents assigned to rotations in surgery, general medicine, family practice, emergency medicine, anesthesiology, gastroenterology, plastic surgery, obstetrics and gynecology, infectious diseases and osteopathic manipu-



PARK

CHON

The program is affiliated with Western University of Health Sciences, a private college of osteopathic medicine and medical school located in

More than 200 residents have graduated from DRMC's Family Practice Residency Program, now in its 20th year.

'CPR for Family & Friends' at DRMC

DOWNEY - Health education instructors at Downey Regional Medical Center are offering a "CPR for Family & Friends" class on August 7 from 6 to 10 p.m.

Taught by an American Heart Association-trained instructor, the class will cover how to recognize life-threatening emergencies and how to perform CPR techniques on adults, infants and children. The class is not for certification.

Cost is \$25 per person or \$40 per couple. For information, call (562) 904-5580.

Chamber honors businesses of the year

DOWNEY - A Volunteer Award Luncheon, presented by the Downey Chamber of Commerce, will take place July 27 at the Rio Hondo Country Club.

The chamber will honor its small and large businesses of the year, outstanding committee persons of the year, director of the year and volunteer

The event starts at 11:45 a.m. and cost to attend is \$25 per person. Reservation deadline is today, July 20. RSVP by calling (562) 923-2191.



Andrew and Diana Ramirez of Downey have announced the marriage of their daughter, Christina D. Ramirez, to Second Lieutenant Elijah Nemier. Christina attended Maude Price Elementary School, Griffiths Middle School and graduated from Warren High School in 1999. She recently graduated from James Madison University in Vriginia, receiving her bachelor's in accounting. Nemier recently graduated from the University of Virginia, receiving a bachelor's in psychology while also being commissioned as an officer in the U.S. Army. He previously served four years in the Army and was deployed to Iraq.

Family-friendly film series this summer

DOWNEY – Krikorian Premiere Theatres in Downey will offer children-friendly films every week throughout the summer with tickets priced at only \$1.

Films will be either G or PG-rated and will show Mondays at 10 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Tickets will be sold on a first-come, first-serve basis. nedule is below:

series will run through Aug. 27. The scho					
July 23	"Shrek 2"	(PG			
July 30	"Monster House"	(PG			
Aug. 6	"Open Season"	(PG			
Aug. 13	"Zoom"	(PG			
Aug. 20	"Ice Age 2"	(PG			
Aug. 27	"Garfield 2"	(PG			

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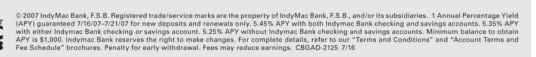
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Encino	818.817.5320	North La Verne	909.392.5868		





Eric A. Torices (shown above with his mother Marilu), a resident of Downey since 1987, successfully passed the California BAR Examination and was sworn-in as an attorney for the State of California on June 7, 2007. Eric graduated from Downey High School class of 1997 with High Honors. After high school, he attended UCLA where he received a Bachelor's degree in Psychology and a Bachelor's degree in Spanish in 2002. Eric then attended Loyola Law School where he completed his academic studies and graduated in December 2005. He will soon be opening his own private practice in Downey at 12139 Paramount Blvd. (562-861-3335) and will be specializing in Immigration and Criminal Law.

Hazardous waste roundup in Downey

DOWNEY - Downey residents can get rid of their household hazardous waste at a roundup Sept. 8 at the Los Angeles County Office of Education in Downey.

The event is an opportunity for residents to dispose of unused pharmaceuticals, antifreeze, car batteries, used motor oil, paint, pesticides, batteries, fluorescent light bulbs, TVs, monitors, computers, VCRs, stereos, and

Up to 15 gallons or 125 pounds of household hazardous waste per vehicle will be accepted.

"The roundups offer County of Los Angeles residents a convenient way to discard common household products, e-waste and universal waste such as household batteries and fluorescent light bulbs that are hazardous to people and the environment if not properly disposed of," said Los Angeles Supervisor Don Knabe. "And, even though old computer monitors and keyboards can be reused, refurbished, or recycled, electronic waste is a growing problem."

The roundup will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Los Angeles County Office of Education is located at 9300 Imperial Hwy.

Keep cool at library or community center

DOWNEY – In order to keep cool this summer, the City of Downey has designated the Barbara J. Riley Community and Senior Center and the Downey City Library as cooling centers.

The two locations will serve as cooling centers during the summer's heat. Heat exhaustion, cramps and heat strokes can result from prolonged heat exposure and the City advises citizens to drink plenty of water and wear loose, lightweight and light-colored clothing as ways to stay cool.

Each facility will also offer a variety of programs and services during their operating hours. The Barbara J. Riley Community and Senior Center is open Monday and Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Tuesday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The Downey City Library is open Monday through Thursday from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For information, call (562) 904-7236.



Mayor Rick Trejo (second from left) presented a certificate of appreciation at the last council meeting to Downey resident Carmen Herrera (left) in recognition of her winning park naming contest entry "Discovery." Also pictured are Herrera's children Anthony, Ariana, and Bianca, and husband Richard. The new park is scheduled to open

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Community Page 3 Friday, July 20, 2007

The clashing sound of friendship and rivalry

■ Warren and Downey band members, once rivals, learn to share the same musical stage.

By Brooke Karli STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY – It doesn't matter what grade you're in, what sport you play, or how high your grade point average is – if you go to either Downey or Warren, well, you pretty much despise anything and everything from the opposing school.

Unless you're Bruno Cilloniz.

You may have seen him walking around Downey's campus wearing a Warren Bears T-shirt, or walking on Warren's campus wearing a Downey Vikings T-shirt.

He has become one of very few common denominators between the two schools. And all in the name of music.

Since 2001, Bruno has served as the District Percussion Director for both Downey and Warren's marching bands.

"At first, the kids were afraid when they found out I worked at both schools," said Bruno, a 1989 graduate of St. Paul High School. "They weren't quite sure what I was up to.'

From day one, Bruno's goal has been to not only win, but also maintain a high level of talent while having fun and establishing relationships.

"I don't let students from one school talk bad about students from the other school," said Bruno. "It's more than a rivalry...it's about coming together and sharing the same passion – music.'

Until this year, both drumlines have been in the same division. This past spring, Downey's drumline advanced to competing in the World Division – one division higher than Warren's Open Division.

Bruno said it's not because he instructs one group better than the other, but rather because Downey's drumline just happened to have more talent.

"Kids sometimes give Bruno a hard time, but he does a good job of not having favorites and stresses the importance of establishing friendships versus rivalry," said Kasim Idrees, Warren High senior.

The spring semester is Bruno's favorite time of year because he is able to focus and concentrate strictly on percussion, which includes the drumline keyboard, mallet, piano, cymbals, and more. Spring and summer practices prepare the squads for the fall semester, when they unite with colorguard and the marching band to compete and perform.

One of the biggest events, as you may know, is the Downey/Warren football game. Regardless of where the game is played, both bands come together to perform the national anthem, followed by the two drumlines coming together to perform.

"Sometimes we get the weirdest looks," said Bruno. "But it's really fun and the kids look forward to it every year."

Also, for the first time ever, Downey's squad performed at this year's Warren Spring Concert at the Downey Theatre. However, Warren's squad did not perform at Downey's Spring Concert for unknown reasons.

"Working together is both good and bad," said Christy Cooln, Downey High junior. "I've made a lot of friends, but we are still very competitive." During their off-season, Bruno will sometimes allow students from

"Letting them spy on the other group allows them to see that I teach consistently, not favoring one school over another," said Bruno. "What's ironic is that because they spend so much time at the other school, they begin to form friendships and relationships with those students.'

Elite Soccer teams host fundraiser

both schools to "spy" on the other squad.

DOWNEY - The Boys Under 13 and Under 14 Elite Soccer teams will be hosting a "Stateline Day Trip" fundraiser on Aug. 25.

The bus will be departing from the Embassy Suites at 6 a.m. and returning around 11 p.m.

Cost is \$30 per person and includes a sack lunch on the bus, as well as

a buffet at the casino. For information, call Denise Juarez at (562) 396-7551.

Football team holding fundraiser

DOWNEY - The Downey High School varsity football team will conduct a car wash fundraiser next Saturday, July 28, on the school's campus from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

A longtime tradition of the team is to have a group meal before Friday night football games. The fundraiser will help pay for those meals



Percussion members at both Downey and Warren say that their relationship with each other is more about friendship and sharing their love for music rather than a rivalry. Photo by Art Montoya



Local fifth graders recently participated in an essay contest sponsored by the Downey Sertoma Club, with the topic being, "Why I Love America and What Can I Do to Make it Better." Students were under the guidance of Old River School Principal Teresa Medina and a total of \$600 was awarded. Pictured above are the contest winners and Judi Thomas, chairperson of the Sertoma National Heritage Essay Program.

John Hume reunion barbecue Aug. 4

DOWNEY – The John Hume Performing Arts Foundation will host a reunion and barbecue Aug. 4. The day will be similar to the events held by the Downey Children's Theatre in the 1950's and 60's.

The reunion is open to all general members and friends of the John Hume Performing Arts Foundation, their families, and alumni from the Downey Children's Theatre, Downey Teen Theatre, Downey Experimental Theatre, Downey Marionette Theatre and Downey Civic Light Opera.

There is no admission charge and the Foundation will prepare and proide hamburgers, hot dogs and soft drinks. Visitors, however, are request ed to take a side dish to share that will serve about 8-10 people.

RSVP to the John Hume Performing Arts Foundation, 10312 Birchdale Ave., Downey, 90241, or call (562) 869-0422.

Dinner to honor Temple past president

DOWNEY - Temple Ner Tamid invites the community to a fullycatered chicken dinner this Sunday at 6 p.m.

The dinner will be honoring Howard Brookfield, Temple past president. Donation is \$20 per person and reservations are required. For information, call the Temple office at (562) 861-9276.

'Shabbat Under the Starts' tonight

DOWNEY – Temple Ner Tamid will be hosting a Shabbat Devarim Service ("Shabbat Under the Stars") tonight at 7:30 p.m.

The service will be conducted by Rabbi Len Muroff and Cantor Ellen

A reception will follow, with desserts and beverages provided by the Temple Sisterhood.

The community is invited to attend.

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

Chiropractor offering free screenings

DOWNEY – The CHER Clinic at 7444 Florence Ave., #H, in Downey is offering free spinal screenings and evaluations for children from now until the end of August.

The clinic is the health facility of the Chiropractic Health Education and Research (CHER) Foundation and was founded in 1984 to offer alternative health care services to lower-income individuals and families.

"Chiropractic is for everyone, not just for those who have insurance or the income that will afford them this beneficial and life-saving service," said Dr. Gerald L. Coy, found and administrator of the CHER Foundation.

Over the years Coy has conducted thousands of postural and scoliosis screenings for children in the Downey Unified School District.

Children who are showing symptoms of poor health or who are frequently ill with colds and the flu, as well as kids with poor posture, should be evaluated, said Coy. No child will be turned away.

To set up a screening appointment, call (562) 776-1727.



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Page 4 Friday, July 20, 2007 Community

HARRY POTTER -

Continued from page 1

On Monday, kids discussed books one through six, talking in depth about characters, plots, and even made their predictions as to what book seven would unfold.

The kids' knowledge of Harry Potter was tested in numerous rounds of "Hogwarts Trivia Game" on Tuesday, being sorted into "houses" by "The Sorting Hat."

On Wednesday, kids became "Seekers" and searched for the "Golden Snitch."

The kids were then transformed into wizards on Thursday after they created their own wizard robe, hat and wand.

And today, with whatever "money" they accrued throughout the week while participating in certain activities, the kids can go shopping in "Diagon Alley."

Harry Potter Week will conclude tomorrow, with the release of the book. A drawing will also take place, with a free copy of the book as the

The Harry Potter movies were also shown throughout the week.

According to Library Assistant Angie Macias, Gina is a huge Harry Potter fan and knew that many in the community – young and old – were fans as well. So, instead of just hosting a release party, she decided to turn the release into a week-long celebration.

Although the kids that participated were in grades third through ninth, Angie said many wished they were young enough to participate.

Because the week's events were free, many of the items accentuating the week – posters, costumes, banners, games, etc. – were either purchased with funds provided by the library's budget, or by the profits made at the Friends of the Library Bookstore.

Thus far, the library has purchased 30 copies of the book to be checked out and, as of Tuesday, 91 holds were recorded.

"Many people will read the whole book in one sitting, so it shouldn't be too much of a wait for people on the hold list," said Angie.

Because the week was such a success, both librarians hope they can host similar events with upcoming book releases - Harry Potter or not.

Harry Potter Grand Hallows Ball tonight

DOWNEY – Borders Express at Stonewood Center is hosting a Harry Potter Grand Hallows Ball tonight at 7 p.m.

Participants will be able to create and take home their very own snitch, as well as compete in the "Potter Spelling Bee" and "Silence Foes at the Great Snape Debate," and play "Snape Bingo," "Snape, Snape, Harry," and "Name that Spell." A costume contest will also take place.

Prizes will be given away, including a copy of "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows."

Participants will receive glow-in-the-dark wands while supplies last and will receive a poster with the purchase of the new book.

For information, visit www.shopstonewoodcenter.com, or call Lisa Galvan at (562) 861-9233.

DIVAS

Continued from page 1

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Registration is required. Ask the front desk for more information.

Mariachi Divas have made several television appearances on shows such as "Despierta America," "Control," "Visa L.A.," "Primer Impacto," "Escandalo," "L.A. TV's 'Adelante Hispanos'," "Sabado Gigante," "Off the Roof," "De Todo Un Poco," "Bienveido A Casa" "BBQ with Bobby Flay," "Primera Edicion," "Latination," "Atrevete," "Futbol Mania," "12 Corazones," and more. The Divas have also taken the role as actors, working on two independent films, "Dead Man's Shoe" and "La Dentista," where music from the Divas' CD was used as the movie's soundtrack.

Mariachi Divas' three CDs are represented by East Side Records and Shea Records and will soon be available nationwide.

The Downey Museum of Art will be open before the concert and the

Downey Rose Float Association will be selling food.

For more information on the summer concerts, call the City of Downey Community Services Department at (562) 904-7238.

DUSD board meeting Tuesday on cruise control

By Henry Veneracion, Staff Writer

DOWNEY—The Board of the Downey Unified School District at its regular meeting Tuesday, one of the briefest on record:

- Accepted with gratitude donations in cash and in kind from various donors, including \$19,600 from Kaiser Permanente to provide counseling services at the TLC Center and also funds to extend the working period for
- Authorized the payment of expenses for convention and conference
- Authorized signatories, to remain in effect until subsequent action is taken by the Board of Education;
- 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 May-

• Ratified B warrants for payment of authorized purchase obligations incurred by law or district policy for June;

- · Ratified agreements between Downey Adult School, and Tri City Regional Medical Center and Dr. Heidi A. Winkler Medical Office for practical experience purposes;
- Approved the agreement for vocational training programs for minors with Arc, from Sept. 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008;
- Ratified the contract with Los Angeles County Office of Education for facilities, supplies and services, special education programs, effective June 1,2007 through May 31, 2008;
 - Accepted the Quarterly Uniform Complaint Report Summary;
- Authorized the advertisement for bids for improvements and repairs to asphalt and concrete areas, to be funded by General, Bond, and/or Deferred Maintenance Funds;
- Extended the bid with Terra Pave of Whittier for improvement and repairs to asphalt and concrete areas, from July 1, 2007 through Aug. 31,
- Approved the second year renewal of bid for maintenance equipment rental on an as needed basis, with different companies;
- Approved the third-year renewal of bid for the purchase of electrical equipment and supplies as needed, with various companies;
 - Approved various change orders with different entities;
- Accepted as complete projects (paving, electrical, carpentry, acousti-
- Ratified routine Personnel items until subsequent action is taken by
- Authorized the service of the teacher, as submitted, assigned a subject area not listed on her credential for the 2007-08 school year, pursuant to Education Code, Section 44268;
- Ratified the establishment of one new limited term position with duties corresponding to the current classification of Attendance/Records Clerk, assigned to Warren High School, through Aug. 3, 2007;
- Approved the abolishment of one vacant Maintenance Electronics Technician position, and the establishment of one new position with duties corresponding to the current classification of Computer/Network Support
- Received, opened and closed hearing for the initial bargaining proposals for the Successor Agreement from the California School

•Approved the addendum to the employment contracts for the Superintendent, Asst. Superintendent of Business Services, Asst Superintendent of Instructional Services, and Asst. Superintendent of Personnel Services, to extend contracts to June 30, 2011. Except as specifically amended thereto, all provisions of the current contract for employ-

• Endorsed the actions taken by the Superintendent on student cases.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 21, at the Gallegos Administration Center, 11627

cal ceilings, fire sprinklers, fencing work) done by various vendors; the Board of Education; Technician, effective July 17, 2007; Employees Association, Chapter 248; ment shall remain in full force and effect; and Brookshire Ave., Downey. Learn how to cook healthy and tasty meals in our... **Food Demos** Good food is central to overall good health. Our certified nutritionist will boost your knowledge of nutrition and invite you to try tasty samples. Health Intervention Program for Adults and Kids The H.I.P. program is designed to offer participants the support they need as they make the commitment to lead a healthier lifestyle through

The Poets' Corner

My Mother

My grief is so, it at times is hard to bare The thought of you gone, no life to share. My nights are long, no sleep I can do All because of missing you. I wish you were here

Just one more word to say, which is I love you dear. I know it will get better, the nights will subside My sorrow and all the tears I've cried. I take it day by day

And have faith in God's way. For we will always remember that tragic day That my beautiful mother was taken away. For comfort heals the pain we feel

Knowing you are safe and happy and pain free. No goodbyes for now cause it's just too hard, We will smile again in time to come hold each other in our arms.

So here's a kiss to you I send From all our family so our hearts will mend.

-- Ricki Wenz, **Downey**

Ponce graduates basic training

FORT KNOX, KY. - Army Pvt. Christopher Ponce has graduated from basic combat training at Fort Knox, Ky.

Ponce received instruction in drill and ceremony, weapons, rile marksmanship, chemical warfare, armed and unarmed combat, and more. Ponce is the son of Downey resident Carmen Torres.

Downey High students are top fundraisers

■ Students raise more than \$30,000 for leukemia fundraiser, tops in Los Angeles area.

DOWNEY - In a campaign about kids helping kids, students at Downey High School raised \$33,375.77, making them the top fundraisers in Los Angeles Chapter of The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's School & Youth Programs for 2006-07.

Downey High has been the top fundraising school in the chapter for the last nine years, raising a total of \$164, 583.35.

Nationally, more than 21,000 schools - kindergarten through high school – participated and raised over \$18 million to help the Society fund blood cancer research and patient services. Locally, 544 schools completed the program in the Los Angeles Chapter, raising just over \$900,000.

"It's really heart-warming to see how enthusiastic these kids are about helping others," said Clare Cameron, campaign director of School & Youth Programs in the Los Angeles Chapter. "This is such a meaningful program for kids because leukemia causes more deaths than any other cancer among children and young adults under the age of 20. These students are helping the Society fill a critical need by funding research and patient education and support programs. Every penny really does make a difference."

School & Youth's Pennies for Patients, HOP for Leukemia & Lymphoma and Olive Garden's Pasta for Pennies are designed to teach children the value of community service in a fun way. Students spent three weeks during the 2006-07 school year contributing their spare change and participating in other fundraising events, such as bake sales and talent show competitions.

Winning classes receive a free Domino's pizza party or, in this case of Pasta for Pennies, a free lunch courtesy of The Olive Garden Italian Restaurant. Top schools in each area win prizes like microwave ovens, or school supplies. Since its inception, School & Youth Programs have raised more than \$100 million for blood cancer research and patient





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problems that extend far beyond the teeth, gums, and mouth. In fact, bacteria in the mouth can lead to problems that reach throughout the body, including heart disease, diabetes, blood infection, and even low birth-weight babies. The usual culprit is gum disease. People with gum disease (periodontal disease) are suffering from a chronic low-grade infection. This problem, which affects four of every five Americans, can exacerbate a wide range of health problems. In fact, gum disease is thought to introduce bacteria into the bloodstream. As these bacteria flow from the mouth to other parts of the body, they spread inflammation. To avoid this potential problem, brush and floss regularly and get frequent dental

A growing body of research suggests that good oral health, including brushing and flossing daily, not only cuts down on gum disease and tooth decay, but may prevent serious health problems. We utilize all available resources and procedures to provide the dental health care our patients deserve and expect. When was the last time you a comprehensive examination? We're located at 10800 Paramount Blvd., Suite 307, where we're currently accepting new patients. Please call (562) 923-3714 to schedule an appointment. We're here to help.

P.S. Blood infections from gum disease can cause joint replacements to fail by aiding the body's efforts to reject the artificial implant.

Paid Advertising

Sailing Dreams

By John Adams

The last of the stragglers are crossing the finish line in the Transpacific Yacht Race from Long Beach to Hawaii and the parties both hale and hearty are still underway celebrating the finish.

Sailing takes money. Boats are often referred to as holes in the water to shovel money into. Don't go into yachting unless you can afford it.

I remember long-ago days in San Francisco when there were often cheap live-aboards available and occasional openings to help crew a vessel in a race. There were always odd jobs to be found in the boatyards such as Sausalito, and cheap meals at such havens as Juanita's Galley.

Romance and time often cloud reality. I ran into Juanita years later in Point Richmond. The galley had burned twice and she was looking for a new location.

The best boat I ever owned was a Pivor Lodestar 32-foot trimaran which I sold since I could not afford the rigging. So much for romance, but I can still dream can't I?

Meanwhile, the dreams of those who can afford them were controlled by the winds, which lured some of the competitors to a northern route, then shut off the nothern winds leaving them to struggle to mak up lost time.

Letters to the Editor:

Pleased over use of reclaimed water

Regarding my letter ("All Wet Over New Planters", 7/6/07) and the responding, "A Smart Use of Water" (7/13/07):

I was pleased to learn of the intended use of reclaimed water. Now, that

I do, however, feel fixing the streets to be a bit more reasonable especially at the intersection of Lakewood Blvd. and Imperial Hwy.

-Geraldine Pooler,

Reaction to Jehovah's Witness story

I have very much been enjoying your series on "Faith in Downey." I think that Brooke Karli has done an excellent job of outlining various churches here in Downey.

Last Friday's story on "faith" ("Faith in Downey: Jehovah's Witnesses," 7/13/07) brought back some memories though, because I used to be a Jehovah's Witness. My parents, brother, aunt, and a host of extended family remain part of the Watchtower organization today. Although your article listed some of the main points regarding their belief system, it did not address what I call "the dark side" of the Watchtower organization.

I wanted to comment on a couple of the items you had listed as part of their doctrine:

• No Clergy Class – Your article states that they have no clergy, but this is incorrect. They may not call their leaders "clergy", however, they do have a very highly organized set of leaders. Each Kingdom Hall has a body of Elders. The head elder is called the "Presiding Overseer." There are also positions akin to bishops and archbishops called "Circuit Overseers" and "District Overseers." Watchtower headquarters in Brooklyn has what is called a "Governing Body." These leaders have control over the average "rank and file" Jehovah's Witness from the cradle to the grave. This means that they have the power to judge their members and kick them out of the organization (disfellowship) for various perceived infractions such as smoking a cigarette, receiving a blood transfusion, or having a disagreement in doctrine.

• High Moral Standards – Although your article states that they have love for one another and practice "the fruits of the spirit," you probably didn't know that's where it all ends. If a person who is a Jehovah's Witness decides to leave this religion, he cannot leave with any dignity. There is no honorable way out of this organization and you are trapped there for life unless you want to lose all of your friends and all of your family. What kind of "high moral standard" in a religion tells you to shun your brother, sister, mother, father or close friend because of a disagreement in doctrine? Shunning is probably one of the cruelest things that can be practiced. I know, because my own family shunned me for many years, and my brother still shuns me. Let me tell you, it does hurt. In my experience, it has led many former Jehovah's Witnesses to commit suicide.

Today, I belong to a mainstream Christian church and I also facilitate a support group for former Jehovah's Witnesses who seek help because they have been ostracized and shunned by their former friends and families. We meet once a month at Light and Life Christian Fellowship in Downey for a monthly potluck luncheon. The purpose of our group is to talk, share and fellowship with one another in a Christian-based setting without fear of judgment. All former Jehovah's Witnesses are welcome to join us. For further information, please contact Light and Life Christian Fellowship at (562) 862-0910.

— Cynthia Hampton,

Downey

The Downey Patriot

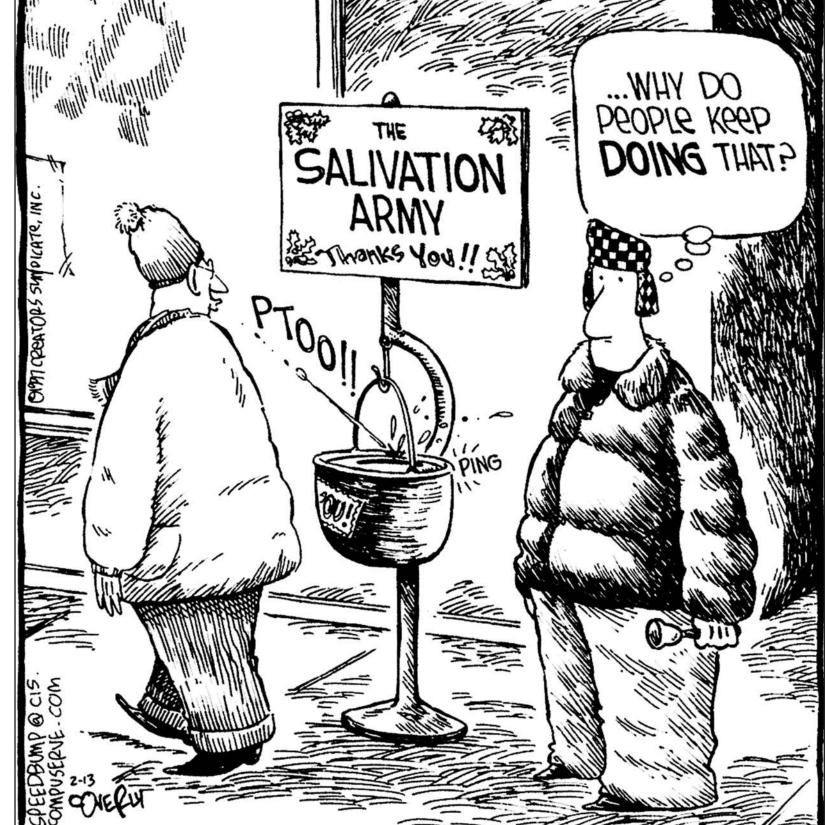


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The Downey Patriot is published weekly by Jennifer DeKay-Givens Controlled Distribution, 25,000 copies printed. Distributed by Great Western Advertising Distributors, Inc., Los Angeles, CA.



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Dear Editor:

I was very surprised that the dark and sinister side of this religion was not even mentioned.

Are you aware that they do not report allegations of sexual abuse to the authorities? And they strongly discourage the victims from going to the authorities on threat of shunning.

And since being one of Jehovah's Witnesses means you must engage in the door-to-door work, even admitted and/or convicted rapists and pedophiles are sent out among the other (often unsuspecting) Witnesses and the unwarned public. (www.silentlambs.org/index.cfm)

Jehovah's Witnesses claim there is no clergy and while it is true that there are no paid clergy locally, the elders control even intimate aspects of peoples' lives. If a member decides they no longer hold to the teachings of the Watchtower Bible and Tract Society, their family members are forced to shun them or be shunned with them. This cruel practice tears families apart causing divorces and suicides.

The article did say they do not believe in blood transfusions and I appreciate the right of any adult to refuse medical treatment. But are you aware that many babies and children die each year because their parents refuse to allow them to have life-saving blood transfusions?

Canada and Japan are working on legislation to stop this practice, just as the United States has long been stepping in and taking care of the child's best interest when the parents refuse to do so.

It is a religion based on works that wrecks homes and destroys lives by protecting the guilty and shunning the innocent. I hope that some day soon you will allow room in *The Downey Patriot* for the other side of the story on Jehovah's Witnesses.

- Linda Davenport, Sedalia, Mo.

Dear Editor:

I appreciate your fine reporting, but up close and personal Jehovah's Witnesses can be wolves in sheep's clothing.

Think about this: When the devil comes knocking on your door he may not have the 'dark goth look.' They could be smartly dressed and wielding the Christian Bible.

I have Jehovah's Witnesses family in the United States who practice the Watchtower enforced ritual shunning that I have not seen or heard from in 15 years.

The world has Internet now and there are tens of thousands of web pages up from disgruntled ex-Jehovah's Witnesses like myself who have been abused by the Watchtower cult.

The Watchtower is a truly Orwellian world.

- Danny Haszard,

Downey

Dear Editor:

The article written by Brooke Karli was done very nicely. She wrote what Jehovah's Witnesses believe in and showed the Scriptures to back it up. She did not downgrade them and wrote it as to the facts that she had gathered on them. It is nice to see that honesty is being published in your

You have a good staff writer at your newspaper; she is worthy of hold-

Manuel Martinez, **Downey**

Roybal-Allard: Support H. Res. 499

Lately I've seen the Patriot push a few puff articles of our congresswoman for life Lucille Roybal-Allard – did I get it all?

Yes, she is saving a few dollars here on the water district or more dollars for cops there, while voting for years to give U.S. taxpayer money by the billions to foreign criminals breaking our laws everyday.

Like the "broken window theory," this only attracts more crime. So, Lucille Roybal-Allard..

Who voted for you? U.S. citizens or illegal aliens? I'm just a little curious because at times I find it difficult to answer that question given your voting record. You can dispel these worries by co-sponsoring H. Res. 499.

The lesson from the Senate debate on immigration is clear: Americans want to see the enforcement that has been promised us time and again. You can help us by co-sponsoring H. Res. 499, which will send a message to the Bush administration that it is time to follow through on those promises.

H. Res. 499 would ask President Bush to enforce current immigration law – something, it is clear, that his administration has been loath to do. It wouldn't ask for new laws, but simply ask that the ones already on

the books designed to keep our country safe, secure, and prosperous are implemented and enforced.

Help the millions of Americans that are out of work.

There are currently thousands of unemployed Americans in our district. Yet, there are plenty of employed illegal aliens. Americans are on the dole (mostly because the borders are not secured and enforcement and verification procedures are lax). We suffer while the government sleeps.

Please co-sponsor H. Res. 499. -Bill Spetnagel,

Downey

Congresswoman votes to ease passport backlog

WASHINGTON D.C. - Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard voted in favor of legislation in the U.S. House of Representatives on July 16 to ease the backlog that has made it difficult for Americans to receive passports, the congresswoman's office has announced. The legislation was approved by the House and awaits further action by the U.S. Senate.

The Passport Backlog Reduction Act gives the State Department the authority to hire retired former staffers who are trained and authorized to process passport applications. Current law denies retirement benefits to these retirees if they exceed strict wages earned and hours worked caps. The legislation approved by the House waives these requirements and makes it possible for the retired workers to return to work and help ease the passport shortage. Currently, applicants are having to wait 10 to 12 weeks or more - nearly double the usual time - to receive their passports.

In response to the backlog, the U.S. Departments of State and Homeland Security made the following June 8 announcement to temporarily ease the rules to better accommodate travelers: "U.S. citizens traveling to Canada, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Bermuda who have applied for but not yet received passports can nevertheless temporarily enter and depart from the United States by air with a government issued photo identification and Department of State official proof of application for a passport through September 30, 2007. The federal government is making this accommodation for air travel due to longer than expected processing times for passport applications in the face of record-breaking demand."

Page 6 Friday, July 20, 2007 Comics/Crossword ______ The Downey Patriot

SPEED BUMP

DAVE COVERLY

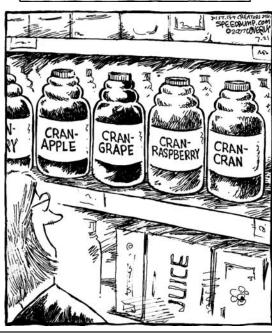












July 20, 1881: Sioux Indian leader Sitting Bull surrenders to federal troops following the Battle of

1926: The Methodist Church allows women to become priests.

1944: German dictator Adolf Hitler survives an assassination attempt. The resulting criminal investigation led to the arrest of 5,000 people and the execution of about 200 people.

1969: Neil Armstrong becomes the first man to walk on the moon.

1973: Martial arts expert and actor Bruce Lee dies in Hong Kong.

Downey Community Calendar

Events For July

Fri. July 20: Harry Potter Grand Hallows Ball, Borders (Stonewood Center), 7 p.m. Wed. July 25: Mariachi Divas Perform. Furman Park Concert Series, 7 p.m. Thurs. July 26: "Weird California" Book Discussion. Downey Library, 2 p.m.

City Meetings

1st Tuesdays, 6:15 p.m.: Redevelopment Project Area Committee, Cormack Meeting Room at Downey Library. 1st & 3rd Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.: Planning Commission, Council Chamber at City Hall.

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

2nd & 4th Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.: City Council/Community Development Commission, Council Chamber. 2nd & 4 th Wednesday, 6 p.m.: Design Review Board, Council Chamber at City Hall.

3rd Thursday, 3:30 p.m.: Parking Place Commission, Second Floor Training Room at City Hall

Regularly Scheduled Meetings

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. 4rth Weds., 12:00 noon: Retired Federal Employees, at Furman Park West Bldg., call 943-5513.

Wed.& Fri., 10:15 a.m.: Senior Bingo, at Apollo Park, for information call 904-7223.

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.

THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com) **BOXING DAY: Eight more boxes than usual** by Fred Piscop

Certain pugilist,

Public outburst

ACROSS

- Slap the cuffs on Rock of comedy 12 Towel stitching
- 15 DC lobby A Little Rascal China-shop purchase
- Unlock, to a poet Charlottesville inst. Player in a sandbox 25 Fuel holder
- Turn down 28 Fetch, beg, etc. 30 Pizazz
- 31 Across, for example One and only Corleone patriarch

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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. best recruiting sergeant."

President Lincoln to call him "our

support of the Civil War prompted

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WELTERweight boxer (73 Across)

game-show host Gene Rayburn. A

was assisted as announcer by future

Show," STEVE ALLEN (43 Across)

As the first host of 'The Tonight

You can contact puzzle editor

'Weird California' discussed at library

DOWNEY - Greg Bishop, author of "Weird California," will be speaking during an author talk at the Downey City Library on July 26 from 2 to 3 p.m. in the Cormack Room.

"Weird California" is a travel guide to some of the state's oddities and best-kept secrets. Bishop's book also reveals that beneath the streets of Los Angeles' financial district lies "The City of the Lizard People."

The book includes a chapter on unexplained phenomena such as UFO sightings near Topanga Canyon and creatures such as "Tessie, the Monster of Lake Tahoe." Some of California's roadside attractions include the Cabazon Dinosaurs and the "World's Largest Thermometer" in Baker.

There will be a raffle to win autographed copies of Bishop's book.

The free event is geared towards adults and teens.

For reservations or information, call (562) 904-7360, ext. 3.

ERICKSON

Continued from page 1

endeavors in the construction, financial services, and technology sectors. In 1995, for instance, he began a three-year stint as president and founder of vDesk Corporation, where he created a call transfer and switching system for voice, video and data over what is referred to as the ISDN network. At vDesk, he was responsible for operations in the USA, UK, and Holland (here he developed strong partnerships for vDesk with the Advance Technology Division of Cap Gemini—now Ernst and Younglocated in Utrecht, Netherlands.

From 1998 to 2006, he and two engineers from Bell Labs developed and marketed a firewall-friendly version of Microsoft's NetMeeting.

Other career stops include: president of Rapid Curb Inc., where the company developed mechanical curb and gutter extrusion equipment from scratch, capable of pouring thousands of feet of concrete curb and gutter with a single machine in one day (his high-tech approach in a low-tech industry won the young company several large contracts; president of Automated Payroll Systems (APS), where he designed and implemented computerized payroll systems for small to medium-sized business; and director of L.A. Finish and Stair, where he engineered and implemented a computer estimating system that reduced the bidding process from 8 hours to one hour allowing the company to bid more work and close more deals. Never enamored of academics except math (he tried pursuing the traditional course at Cerritos College, but lasted only 1-1/2 years), he thus plunged into business projects chiefly guided by his logical instincts and a nose for business.

He is not scared of hard work. "I give it my best," he says. "I work hard. I love what I do. Meeting challenges is fun for me." He and his four sibling brothers (one passed away) were given free rein by their supportive father, he says, and given wide latitude in the choice of a career. Two brothers followed his dad into the architectural profession. Another brother is an entrepreneur like himself.

His Long Beach-based Free Conferencing Corporation of America, which he started in 2001 and for which he won the Stevie Award in New York, according to the company's promotional brochure, offers a free, convenient communications tool that eliminates the conferencing costs associated with paid providers, and offers higher quality than non-paid offerings. Unlike other solutions, it does not require a teleconference connection charge. Users simply call a dial-in number to participate in a teleconference. By eliminating the connection charge, users only pay for the call, which is typically a few cents per minute depending on calling plans and carrier charges. Thus, it offers substantial savings for the user. The service provides a virtual conference room where professionals and workgroups can conduct business, exchange ideas, and collaborate with colleagues, customers, and prospects. It allows up to 96 callers at a time.

It is, in short, a true innovation. Says Erickson, "We're doing stuff that's never been done before." He says his company handles conference call traffic from 127 countries in the order of more than 5 million calls a month, and currently enjoys a 5 percent share of market, both domestically and worldwide. To arrange a conference call, users need only to go to the web site, www.freeconferencecall.com, provide an e-mail address, and have access to a telephone or cell phone. Within seconds, users are given an account.

Erickson turned 42 on Wednesday. He was featured in the front business page of the Long Beach Press-Telegram on June 18. To celebrate his New York award, he treated his family to a week in the Bahamas. His business travels take him around the country, as well as Europe where he has business contacts, particularly Paris, the Netherlands, and Germany. He has an important contact in the Ukraine, which he has yet to visit. In the absence of pressing obligations, he can take time out to enjoy surfing, jet skiing and canoeing—favorite pastimes of his.

Not bad for a Downey native.

BANDS

Continued from page 1

The local groups performing at the Epic Lounge were: Ruby, Anaheim; Alex Gobloots, Pico Rivera; Matt Watts Band, Long Beach; Suffice, Long Beach; Boris Smile, Long Beach; and The Bellflowers, Downey.

Pesh, 21, who's given name is Talip Peshkepia, Jr., grew up performing at the First Baptist Church of Downey and started a band called The Briefcases. Taking missionary trips to Brazil, Pesh said he is thankful the church supported the group so the members could grow spiritually and musically. Now working as the assistant music worship leader of First Presbyterian Church of Downey, the idea to form a Moving Union stemmed from a conversation Pesh had with his pastor, Candie Blankman.

"She asked me what I could do in my community for my community." What I do is music – from teaching to performing – so I was challenged by the idea of how music could be used to help solve things in our community," Pesh said. "We are not putting on a show to put on a show – we are trying to set a model for how our actions can speak louder than our

Pesh credits singer and philanthropist Bono from the rock band U2 as being his role model.

"We're living in a time when people want to be active and change something. Bono gives way beyond his words through his actions – giving to those in need – and we are trying to see where the needs are in our area so we can help," Pesh said.

Joining Pesh as The Bellflowers band members are: Hugo Gomez, Downey; Jason Chavez, Whittier; and Andy Sollario, Downey.

The Bellflowers shared the stage with Clint White and the Black Days, Tracing Ambers and others just this week at the Cobalt Café in Canoga Park. They will also be appearing with Sarah Chambers July 27, 8 p.m., at the Bluebird Arthouse in Whittier.

The group is planning to host another Moving Union concert in September at the First Presbyterian Church in Downey.

"We are so blessed and need to take advantage of the opportunity we have to give to our community. I want people to walk away from our concerts encouraged to do the same thing - using what you have to help others," Pesh said.



Cleo Latimer is a mainstay at the Downey City Library, where she volunteers a lot of her time. She retired from teaching in 1980.

Cleo Latimer has lots of stories to tell

By Henry Veneracion STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY—Cleo Latimer, who is into her second year as head of the Friends of the Downey City Library, was born in Aberdeen, South Dakota, next to the youngest of 11 children, four of whom died in infancy. She was only two when her dad, who hailed from Kilkenny, Minn., died. Her mom, who Cleo says was a "very powerful, wonderful woman, a fabulous manager and a wonderful cook," was an immigrant from Austria. Of the seven adult survivors, only she is left.

Growing up in Minneapolis, where it was "hot and humid in the summer and cold in the winter," Cleo recalls "we didn't have much, money was scarce" but "I never thought I lacked anything." Life during the Depression meant "walking 18 blocks to school, and back. I see these kids today who whine about this and that—what is wrong with them? A nickel and a dime were a lot those days.'

"For 10 cents," she goes on, "my sister and I could go to the movies. We watched the tap dancers Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers, and Joan Crawford. A lot of our entertainment was in church. My mom was a woman of great faith. When we walked the seven to eight blocks to church in icy wind conditions, she shielded us as we walked behind her. She took the brunt of the wind."

"In the summer, in the park, we did crafts. In winter, the fire department flooded the park, put a warming house up, and we skated on the formed ice. This was our entertainment, and it didn't cost us a penny."

Cleo continues: "Mom was filled with faith. I told her I wanted to be an elementary teacher in the worst way, and she encouraged me to achieve my goals. My oldest brother paid my way. When I graduated from the University of Minnesota in 1939, I was the first one in the family to get a college degree.'

She remembers her mom as a "very knowledgeable woman. She was always reading. That's why I love reading. When I was a senior, 'Gone With the Wind' came out, and I had a test in geometry. I failed the geometry test, but I finished 'Gone with the Wind."

"I also took French at the University of Minnesota, but I had trouble with speaking it. So for the first time in my life, I failed a class. My mom sent me back to the university. I passed it. Now, I've retained enough French to help me solve crossword puzzles.'

After teaching school in Wells, Minn. from 1941 to 1943, and in Eau Claire from 1943 to 1945, Cleo followed her siblings to Southern California and landed a teaching job in Lynwood from 1945 to 1947. Then she took time off when she met and married her husband, Warren, who just got back from the service. The couple recently celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary.

Daughter Laura is a dentist with the ADA in Chicago, while other daughter, Louis, is a product development manager at Taco Bell in Irvine (she developed Taco Bell's "Crunch Wrap Supreme"). Their three sons are: Joey, the information officer at Idyllwild Arts high School; Larry, who is active with the Aerospace Legacy Foundation; and Rick, who is with Vistar Gear Machine Shop.

All of the children are graduates of Downey schools-Old River school, Rives, Imperial, West Middle, and Warren High. The extended family numbers 10 grandkids, and two great grandkids. Daughter-in-law Rose (Larry's wife) teaches at Warren High.

A resident of Downey since 1950, Cleo started teaching kindergarten at Old River School that same year. All in all, she says, she has taught for 40 years, 30 of them full-time, 10 years on a part-time basis. She says Downey schools have maintained their high standards all these years.

After retiring from teaching in 1980, Cleo's first volunteer job was with the Woman's Club of Downey in 1981. The second volunteer organization she joined was Friends of the Library. She has been a mainstay with them for years.

Her main preoccupation today, besides bridge, which she has enjoyed playing since her teenage years? You guess.

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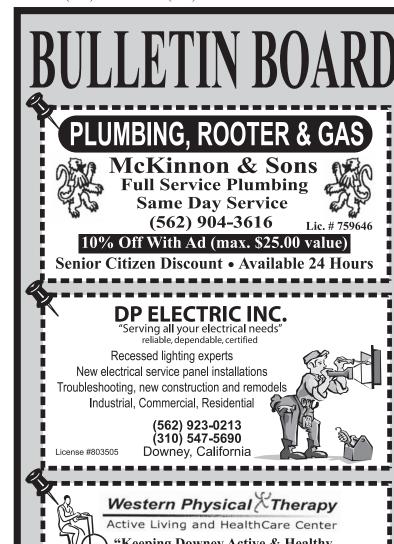
DOWNEY – The Elizabeth Miller Memorial Golf Tournament will be held at the Rio Hondo Event Center on Aug. 29, with all proceeds going towards the Ovarian Cancer Orange County Alliance (OCOCA).

The event, now in its second year, will honor Elizabeth Miller, a wife and mother of five who lost her eight-year battle with ovarian cancer last

The event is open to men and women and will be a four-person scramble format, offering 18 holes of golf, on-course contests and an awards dinner. The tournament is limited to 144 golfers. Sponsorships are available, ranging in price from \$100 to \$6,000.

The cost for golf and dinner is \$150 per person; dinner only is \$30. Final day for registration is Aug. 22.

To register for the tournament or for more information, call Gene Miller at (949) 588-5879 or (562) 896-5481.



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Page 8 Friday, July 20, 2007 Dining/Entertainment____ The Downey Patriot

Soroptimist International of Downey recently installed their new officers for the year. Sue Potter was named incoming president.

Family theatre series presents 'Robin Hood'

LONG BEACH – The International City Theatre at the Long Beach Performing Arts Center presents "Robin Hood" on July 21 at 11 a.m. as part of the free "Saturday Family Theatre Series."

Admission is free and parking is \$8.

The Long Beach Performing Arts Center is located at 300 East Ocean Blvd. in Long Beach.

For information, call (562) 495-4595, ext. 12, or visit www.ictlong-

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Dr. Wendy Doty: DUSD is a perfect fit

By Henry Veneracion STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY—Downey Unified School District Superintendent Wendy Doty couldn't have shaped her career as an educator any better. She began as a substitute teacher in 1974 after getting her B.S. degree in child development from San Diego State University, taught elementary and middle school (later serving as principal at Griffiths as well as vice principal at Warren High), and served as director of curriculum and instruction (K-12) for the district from 1991 to 1998.

Already armed with two master's degrees from Whittier College, one in reading, the other in education, and while serving as a teacher specialist for the district, she embarked in 1984 on her doctoral program in education administration at USC. She would get her Ed. D. degree in 1992. It was while at USC, she says, that the dream of becoming a school superintendent formed in her mind. She figured being a superintendent would wield the greatest influence in educating students. Since she already filled various vital roles at DUSD and had drunk its nurturing, invigorating culture, she also decided it was here that she belonged.

But first a little baptism of fire elsewhere. From 1998 to 2001, she served as asst. superintendent for curriculum, instruction, and personnel at Laguna Beach Unified School District. Then the realization of her dream in 2001, when she became superintendent at El Segundo Unified School District. Then it happened. Ed Sussman stepped down as DUSD head in 2003, and, sure enough, Doty was ready and waiting to take over at the helm. Her stints at Laguna Beach and El Segundo proved to be an ideal prelude to what is turning out to be a glorious turn at the wheel.

Under her leadership, the district—teachers, administrators, staff, board, she personally—has been accumulating a staggering hoard of honors and awards from a host of appreciative audiences, all of them welldocumented in *The Patriot*. A few of her personal favorites: key to the city of El Segundo, "Woman of the Year" awards from Sen. Alan Lowenthal, from Delta Kappa Gamma, CIF "Champion for Character" award (she sits soon for a two-year term on the CIF Executive Board—Southern Section), "Superintendent of the Year," Title I Achieving School awards.

There are a few flies in the ointment, of course. A chronic concern has been the matter of declining enrollment, which this year blipped at one percent. At this point in time, this is exacerbated by the rumored budget cuts coming from Sacramento affecting public education. Last year, the attrition rate was half a percent, but because of virtuoso financial management by the district, there were neither cuts nor school closures.

"If there are no major changes in the state budget, then we'll be okay," she says. "If there are, we will have to make adjustments in ours." In a way this is nervous time, she says, because the budget has consequences in union negotiations (in the fall), teachers' salaries, program funding, etc.

In any event, the board of education has articulated its goals for 2007-

- Explore and develop appropriate educational intervention programs for at-risk elementary, middle and high school students including credit recovery for 9th and 10th graders, expansion of summer school, and supplemental instructional programs;
- Seek additional ways to incorporate Character Counts into school discipline, safety, and attendance improvement programs ("We've had opportunities to talk with community leaders, especially leaders of the sports organizations, who have received training in the signature 'Pursuing Victory with Honor' program");
- Aim for 80 percent of 10th graders passing each section (mathematics and English/language arts) of the California High School Exit Exam
- Aim for schools meeting their State Academic Performance Index (API) Growth Target. In addition, work on schools meeting their Federal Annual Yearly Progress (AYP) targets for numerically significant sub-
- Provide professional development to administrators and teachers on the implementation and administration of BTSA (beginning teachers)
- Induction, special education, and categorical programs; • Develop a three-year to five-year strategic plan to integrate career-
- technical education paths at the secondary schools; • Create a certificated substitute teacher training program that will assist new substitutes to develop the skills necessary to become more successful in their daily assignments;
 - Increase the number of substitute employees to meet district needs;
- Evaluate and select a new Student Information System that will improve services for students, parents, and employee users;
- Explore district health cost reduction strategies, including the possible establishment of a comprehensive employee wellness program;
 - Implement the online non-stock materials requisitioning system for

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Dr. Wendy Doty, superintendent of the Downey Unified School District, has two master's degrees from Whittier College.

use by all schools and departments by the summer of 2008;

• Complete the modernization of phase two classroom wings at Warren High Schools (Bldgs. C-H). Continue progress on construction of twostory classroom buildings at Warren and Downey High Schools.

Doty says these goals reflect yearly incremental improvements districtwide based on "our vertical and horizontal articulation of concerns and programs at all levels"-with input from teachers, staff, administrators, and members of the board of education, within the context of the needs of the students and their families, and the community as a whole ("We maintain open lines of communication, and I have an open-door policy"). She enthusiastically took part in this year's beautification efforts at the schools ("A good, well-organized environment-including a clean restroom—is a good learning environment for the kids").

"The state of California has some of the highest academic standards in the nation," says Doty, whose ancestry is Italian (her mom, now 82, lives in Mission Viejo) and German, "but at the same time, we have the most difficult, most challenging population to teach." She referred to the ethnically diverse student population mix in the state, offspring of immigrants, and often as not occupying the lower economic strata, which necessitates increased funding for English learners, emphasis on hiring more quality teachers (especially with bilingual skills), on quality educational programs that target the needs of at-risk students. "We're not funded adequately for these," she says.

"Anyway," she says, "we need programs to motivate the average student and push forward the high-achieving student. We want every child to be developed to their fullest potential. After all, in order to have a successful democracy, you need an educated citizenry."

Doty's fondness for travel has taken her all over Europe, to the Middle East (Israel, Egypt, Turkey), and on Mediterranean cruises. Two years ago, she went on an African safari in Tanganyika, Kenya. In November, she plans to go China (Beijing, Shanghai, Xian), and possibly Australia. "What I'd really like is travel to all the seven continents—Europe, South America, North America, Africa—which I've already done, and travel to Asia, then Australia, then, maybe Antarctica, although I doubt if I want to go there."

"I've been in education for 33 years," says Doty, who was born in Minneapolis, Minn. "It's been a fabulous career for me. It's been wonderful to work for the board of education. These fine men and women always make the best decisions for the best interests of our students.'

"How honored I am to be the Superintendent. I love what I do," she goes on. "I have achieved my goal. I am more of a people person. Nothing matters more to me than having good relationships with my family, friends, colleagues. And I love the city of Downey, the people in it, the administrators I work with."

"I happily drive everyday to work," she says.

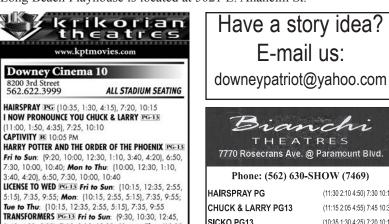
Youth group presents 'Charlotte's Web'

LONG BEACH - A youth theatre production of "Charlotte's Web" will be presented at the Long Beach Playhouse Mainstage Theatre from Aug. 3 through Sept. 1.

Charlotte's Web is the story about relationships between numerous enchanting characters: Wilbur, the irresistible young pig who desperately wants to avoid the butcher; Fern, a girl who understands what animals say to each other; Templeton, the gluttonous rat who can occasionally be talked into a good deed; the Zuckerman family, the Arables, and, most of all, the extraordinary spider, Charlotte, who proves to be "a true friend and a good writer.'

Tickets are \$15 for adults 16 and up and \$10 for children under 15. Tickets are available by calling the box office at (562) 494-1014. The Long Beach Playhouse is located at 5021 E. Anaheim St.





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5:10), 7:45; **Mon**: (10:10, 2:50, 5:10), 7:45; **Tue to Thu**: (10:10, 12:25, 2:50, 5:10), 7:45

SHREK 2 PG Mon: [10:00 AM, 12:30 PM]

Phone: (562) 630-SHOW (7469) HAIRSPRAY PG CHUCK & LARRY PG13 SICKO PG13 (10:35 1:30 4:25) 7:20 10:15 CAPTIVITY R (10:40 1:00 3:20) 5:40 8:00 10:2 ARRY POTTER 5 PG13 HARRY POTTER 5 PG13 (12:40 3:50) 7:00 10:10 TRANSFORMERS PG13 (11:30 2:50) 6:10 9:30 TRANSFORMERS PG13 RATATOUILLE G (10:15 1:10 4:05) 7:00 9:55

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LIVE FREE OR DIE HARD PG13

The Downey Patriot ■ Page 9 Friday, July 20, 2007

'Go, Diego, Go!' live in Orange County

COSTA MESA - Beloved children's character action-adventurer Diego brings his brand-new live stage show, "Go, Diego Go, Live! The Great Jaguar Rescue," to the Orange County Performing Arts Center's Segerstrom Hall Aug. 22-26.

Tickets to "Go, Diego Go, Live!" are now on sale by calling (714) 556-2787 or online at www.ocpac.org.

During his quest to help Baby Jaguar, Diego enlists the audience to help rescue animals, navigate through the rainforest and pass a giant waterfall on his way to the Animal Carnivale. Featuring familiar songs and popular characters from the award-winning television show that fans have come to love, this live-action theatrical production takes preschoolers on an interactive, high-stakes journey inspired by the exotic environments of Latin America and the animals that make their homes in those habitats.

The "Go, Diego, Go!" television show on Nick Jr. features Diego, an eight-year-old bilingual animal rescuer and nature expert who has the ability to talk to animals. In each episode, flavored with Spanish words, Latin American music, folktales and tradition, Diego and his friends encourage children to use scientific thinking and investigative strategies to help animals in trouble.

New Entertainment this week

Anaheim

CD Releases

Prince - Planet Earth Sum 41 - Underclass Hero Tegan & Sara - The Con Billy Ray Cyrus - Home at Last Yeah Yeah Yeahs - The Is Is Marc Anthony - El Cantante Peter Criss - One for All Talib Kweli - Ear Drum The Doors - Live in Boston The Simpsons Movie - Soundtrack Hanson - The Walk Slayer - Christ Illusion

Johnny Cash - The Great Lost

Performances

Source: Amazon.com

DVD Releases

MOVIES

Cashback The Host Live Free or Die The Number 23 Perfume - Story of a Murderer Renaissance **Slow Burn** Zodiac

TV/MISC. Benson - Season 1 Woody Woodpecker & Friends

Source: Box Office Mojo Video Game Releases

NASCAR 08 - PS2, X360, PS3 Shin Megami Tensei: Persona 3 -

Guitar Hero Encore: Rock the 80's - PS2

NHRA Countdown to the **Championship** - PS2 Alien Syndrome - Wii Escape from Bug Island - Wii Source: ebgames.com

Book Releases

"Secret Servant" by Daniel Silva "Psychic Children: Revealing the Intuitive Gifts and Hidden Abilities of Boys and Girls" by Sylvia Browne

"Thursday Next: First Among Sequels" by Jasper Fforde "Justice Denied" by J.A. Jance

Source: barnesandnoble.com

Concerts

FRIDAY, JULY 20 Blue October, Plain White T's - OC Fair Missing Person - Grove of Anaheim Shys - Coach House Sonic Youth - Greek Theatre Sweet & Tender Hooligans - HOB

SATURDAY Ozzfest - Hyundai Pavillion Jazzfest West feat. Brian McKnight - Bonelli Park (San Dimas) Jaguares - Gibson Amphitheatre Hot 92 Soul Jam - Greek Theatre Weird Al Yankovic - OC Fair Daft Punk - L.A. Sports Arena Damon Aaron - Skirball Center **Dickies** - Galaxy Concert Theatre Dicky Betts -Coach House **Erasure** - Grove of Anaheim World Wrestling Entertainment -Honda Center

SUNDAY American Idol Live - Honda Center Jazzfest West feat. Erykah Badu -Bonelli Park (San Dimas) Queens of the Stone Age - OC Fair Snow Patrol -Greek Theatre

MONDAY American Idol Live - Staples Center Snow Patrol -Greek Theatre

TUESDAY Lynrynd Skynyrd - OC Fair WEDNESDAY

Tribue to ABBA - HOB Anaheim Aerosmith - Mid-State Fair (San Louis Obispo)

Guster - OC Fair Page McConnell - HOB Anaheim Rush - Verizon Wireless Theatre **Shawn Colvin -** Grove of Anaheim

THURSDAY

Bob Dylan - OC Fair Buffalo Tom - El Rey Theatre Ely Guerra - HOB Anaheim Hootie & the Blowfish - Pechanga Lyle Lovett - Greek Theatre Tribaliazz - Skirball Center

CSULB concerts this summer

LONG BEACH - Cal State Long Beach will present the 31st season of its Concerts in the Grove series with four Saturday night performances at the Hollywood Bowltype atmosphere of the campus' Soroptimist House terrace.

Admission for each of the concerts is \$30. The gates open at 6 p.m. for concert-goers who wish to bring a picnic dinner prior to the 7:30 show.

This year's dates and bands are: July 21 - The Elm Street Band performs vintage Top 40 and popular tunes from the 1940s through the 1970s. Fans of Elvis, the Beatles and the Eagle will particularly enjoy this band.

July 28 - Ramfunkshus is a seven-piece group that gets down with dance favorites covering Motown, classic rock and disco. The band displays funky takes on favorites of the '80s and today.

Aug. 18 – Tommy Tassi and the Authentics performs many of the popular hits from the 1950s, '60s and '70s.

Aug. 25 - Knyght Ryder, a group "from the mean streets of Long Beach," is an 80's tribute band playing Rick Springfield, Huey Lewis, AC/DC and more.

For tickets or more information, call the CSULB Alumni Relations office at (562) 985-5252.

'Mamma Mia!' returning to the OC

COSTA MESA - The smash hit musical "Mamma Mia!" will return to the Orange County Performing Arts Center this August for a two-week run.

Inspired by the story-telling magic of ABBA's timeless songs, writer Catherine Johnson's sunny, funny tale of family and friendship unfolds on a Greek island. On the eve of her wedding, a daughter's quest to discover the identity of her father brings three men from her mother's past back to the island they last visited 20 years ago.

Songs including "Dancing Queen," "The Winner Takes It All," "Money, Money, Money" and "Take a Chance on Me" are all featured in "Mamma Mia!"

The show will run Aug. 7-19. Tickets range from \$23-\$73 and are available by calling (714) 556-

Menopause is a laughing matter

LOS ANGELES - Menopause The Musical, the international comedy production about women and "the change," will return to the Coronet Theatre in September.

Tickets start at \$46 and can be purchased by calling the box office at (310) 657-7377.

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Price and participation may vary at some locations. Ends 7/31/07. Not valid at Callender's Grill locations.

Faith in Downey: St. Mark's Episcopal Church

By Brooke Karli STAFF WRITER

fter many gathered in homes for weekly prayer meetings, the AEpiscopalian population began to expand in Downey.

In an effort to house the growing congregation, St. Mark's Episcopal Church began meeting at Miller-Mies Mortuary.

As Rev. Elizabeth Habecker of St. Mark's put it, "they were dying to go to church.'

In 1922, a year after their first meeting at the mortuary, the congregation decided to form a mission – a request granted by the bishop. The congregation later purchased a small, steepled church for sale by the Baptists, placing the church on a house lot on 5th Street east of Downey Avenue, next to Downey Community Hospital.

The church building was later sold to Walter Knott in 1955. The church was moved to Knott's Berry Farm, where it can currently be seen as the Church of Reflections.

Meanwhile, St. Mark's continued to flourish and began raising funds to build a new church. Although the church faced opposition in trying to find a new location, they were able to purchase property on Downey Avenue, which is where St. Mark's has been since 1955.

According to Habecker, St. Mark's Episcopal Church is part of the Anglican Church (or Anglican Communion) - one of three branches of Catholicism (the other two being Roman and Orthodox). She also said the Episcopal Church uses three "traveling companions": the Bible, the Book of Common Prayer and the Hymnal. In addition, the Church also serves as a "three-legged stool," looking to have an equal balance of Scripture, tradition and reason.

'We consider all of it in order to have a balance," said Habecker. "Jesus died to take away your sins, not your mind."

According to the Nicene Creed, published in the Book of Common Prayer, the basic beliefs of the Episcopal Church include:

- Believing in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.
- Believing in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.
 - Believing that through him all things were made.
- Believing that for us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.
- Believing that for our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
- Believing he will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.
- Believing in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets.
 - Believing in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
 - Believing in one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
- Believing in the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to

It is just as important, however, to understand what the Episcopal Church is when understanding their beliefs. A brochure on the Episcopal Church states:

- The Episcopal Church is a Bible Church The Bible is the source of our belief and moral standards. As God's word to us, the Bible is the lens through which we view and evaluate other claims to truth.
- The Episcopal Church is a Catholic Church Our worship and life draw from the rich treasure almost 2,000 years of Christian experience. The catholic balance of sacrament and word in our worship is evidenced by our frequent celebrations of Holy Communion and our emphasis on Biblical preaching. The rich inheritance of the liturgical year (Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter, Pentecost), of centuries of sacred music, and solemn and festive ceremony are welcomed and encouraged in our Church.
- The Episcopal Church is a Reformed Church Much of our distinctiveness was hammered out in the Protestant Reformation in England in the 16th century. Protestantism is Christ-centered, just as the apostolic faith is Christ-centered. Corporate worship, clarity that we are saved by God's grace and not by our works, giving the laity a voice in the church life, and using Scripture to judge and inform the Church all come from our reformed Protestant heritage.
- The Episcopal Church is a Reverent Church Worship in the Episcopal Church tends to be quietly reverent and dignified. The Book of Common Prayer is the norm of our services, and the vestments worn by our clergy date back to antiquity. Our uniformity of worship, while allow-

ing for variations, serves to remind us of the universal nature of the Church.

• The Episcopal Church is a Missionary Church – The Church has been established wherever its members have gone.

St. Mark's is also home to a school, which was opened in 1964. It serves children in grades pre-school through eighth grade.

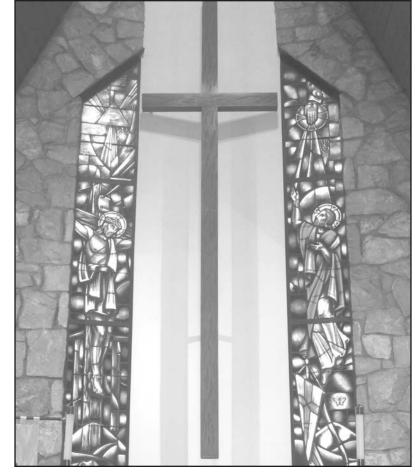
Over 200 people are members of St. Mark's Episcopal Church and

approximately 70 to 100 people attend on an average Sunday morning. Although Spanish services are not offered at St. Mark's, a Spanish con-

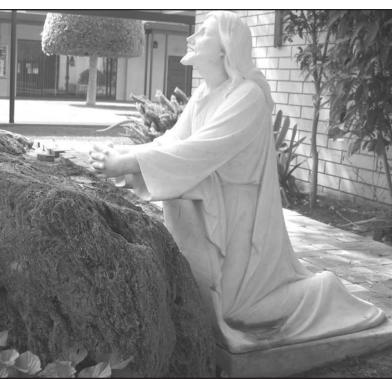
gregation, as well as a Korean congregation, use the church's facilities. During the months of July and August, only one Sunday service is offered at 9 a.m. Throughout the rest of the year, services are held every Sunday at 8 and 10 a.m.

St. Mark's Episcopal Church

10354 Downey Ave. (562) 862-3268 www.episcopalchurch.org



The altar at St. Mark's Episcopal Church is adorned with a wooden cross, stained glass windows and candles. Between 70 and 100 people fill the pews at the church on an average Sunday morning. Photo by Brooke Karli



A statue of Jesus praying sits in the courtyard at St. Mark's Episcopal Church. Photo by Brooke Karli

A message from the congregation:

St. Mark's Episcopal Church is a long time partner in the Downey community. During our 86 years here we have participated in the rural days, the high-tech days and the difficult days. We enjoy seeing Downey gain new life as people from everywhere in the world come here to live.

St. Mark's church and school very much reflect the Downey of today. We are young and old, and we are many cultures. Our school has a great reputation and we are proud of this ministry that St. Mark's has offered for 43 years. As we share the life of the children from pre-school through eighth grade, we know that we are very much a part of the world, as it exists today. Keeping up with the challenges of education in these days and creating a wholesome and inclusive multi-cultural learning environment is a very important part of what it means to be St. Mark's Church in Downey.

As one of our signs in front of the church says: "The Episcopal Church welcomes you."

The important part of being the church for today is to reach out to all people and to share the blessings of a creative and loving spiritual journey. We welcome you to join us and to share these exciting and challeng-

ing times on a spiritual journey. --Rev. Elizabeth Habecker, St. Mark's Episcopal Church





Paintings and stained glass windows depict their traditional Catholic beliefs. Photos by Brooke Karli

Former Mrs. United States Sheri Rose Shepherd Sunday, July 29th (9 a.m. and 11:15 a.m.) Florence Avenue Foursquare Church Sheri Rose Shepherd was named the # 1 show of the year on Focus on the Family with Dr. James Dobson. As a former pageant winner and founder of "His Princess Ministries", Sheri shares the appearance "trap" she faced growing up and speaks to thousands each year about God's image in each of us. Her story has been featured on NBC's Inside Edition. She has written seven books including "His Mighty Warrior," "His Princess" and "Life Is Not A Dress Rehearsal." Florence Avenue Foursquare Church Service Times Sunday 9:00 am & 11:15 am Sunday School 17:00 11457 E. Florence Ave. Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670 (562) 868–2234 www.fafc.org FLORENCE AVE dnesday 7:00 pm

'The Secret' to be shown for free

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

The film will be shown for free on July 26. Light refreshments will be offered and books, DVDs, and boutiques items will be for sale.

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

Kids get a chance to visit the 'Wild West'

DOWNEY – The Moravian Church of Downey invites children ages 3 to 12 to attend this year's Vacation Bible School, "A Wild Ride Through God's Word," July 30 to Aug. 3.

The free week-long event will take place from 9 a.m. to noon each day. For information, call (562) 927-0718.

Worship With Us @ First Baptist Church of Downey

Interim Senior Pastor, Rod Layman Sunday Morning 8 am & 11 am (Spanish bilingual @ 11am) Wednesday 6:30 pm Children/Youth programs Sept-May 8348 Third St. **(562)923-1261** fbcdowney.org

Worship With Us at Praise Chapel Christian Fellowship

Pastor Jason Neville

Sunday Morning 9:00 AM - Wednesday Night 7:00 PM Child Care, Validated Parking Available Los Amigos Country Club - 7295 Quill Drive - (562) 254-5498



at downeypatriot @yahoo.com

Mildred Beckner will be missed by family

DOWNEY – Mildred Beckner, Downey resident since 1961, passed away on June 23 at the age of 91.

Beckner was born and raised in Brunswick, Nebr. In 1936, shortly after marrying her husband Frank, they moved to California, where Mildred taught school in Compton for 30 years.

Following retirement in 1975, Beckner began volunteering at Downey Regional Medical Center and was a member of Shrinettes and Downey Panhellenic, also attending Christ Lutheran Church.

Beckner was preceded in death by her husband earlier this year.

She is survived by children Barbara (Reijer) Groenveld, Dr. Jim (Karen) Beckner, and Judy Griggs; nine grandchildren; and nine greatgrandchildren.

A memorial will be held on July 24 at 11 a.m. at Christ Lutheran Church in Downey. A luncheon reception will follow the service.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be sent to the charity of your choice.

Mary Concetta Hirsch lived in Downey 60 years

DOWNEY – Mary Concetta Hirsch, a longtime Downey resident, passed away on July 17 at the age of 96.

Hirsch was born on Dec. 8, 1910 in Manhattan, N.Y. She lived in Downey for 60 years as a homemaker.

She is survived by daughters Marie Marino and Judi Perez; three grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Visitation was yesterday at Miller-Mies Mortuary Chapel. Services are today at 10 a.m., followed by burial at Resurrection Cemetery.

David Robert Medeiros services forthcoming

DOWNEY – David Robert Medeiros, a 20-year Downey resident, died July 10. He was 74.

Medeiros was born May 18, 1933 in Tauntun, Mass.

He is survived by his wife of 44 years, Edith; daughter, Jessica; brother, Kenneth; and numerous nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by a brother. Robert.

The family was assisted by Miller-Mies Mortuary. Dates and times for an upcoming memorial service have not been announced.

Fail-Safe 4 Felines hosting dinner

DOWNEY – Fail-Safe 4 Felines, Inc. will present a fundraising beef stroganoff dinner at the Downey Elks Lodge on July 31 starting at 6:30 p.m. The dinner will include an all-you-can-eat salad bar, desert table with

The dinner will include an all-you-can-eat salad bar, desert table with coffee and tea, raffle prizes and 50/50 drawing. The cost to attend is \$20. For tickets and reservations, call (562) 708-2672.



Gary Munger (second from left) was recently inducted into the Legion of Honor of Kiwanis International. A 25-year member, Munger has thus far been Kiwanis Club of Downey president for two years, secretary for four years, chairman of eight Kiwanis International Committees, and is currently on the Board of Directors, also serving his third year as division secretary. Also pictured are (left to right) Secretary Ashvin Patel, President Roy Jimenez and incoming Vice-President Bob Jacobs.



On July 12, five physicians - with the help of registered nurses and emergency medical technicians - adminstered complimentary sports physicals at Downey Regional Medical Center. Over 150 athletes ages 5 to 14 from the Downey Youth Football and Cheer received the basic examinations, with everyone passing. Their first practice is on July 30.

Day-trip to San Manuel Casino

DOWNEY – The Downey Emblem Club #309 will be taking a day-trip to San Manuel Casino on July 24.

The bus will be departing at 8 a.m. from the Downey Elks Lodge parking lot and returning at approximately 5 p.m.

Cost is \$6 for members and \$11 for non-members.

For information, call Mary Guzman at (562) 622-1003 or Nancy Watson at (562) 413-6414.

Carolyn M. Shields was longtime resident

DOWNEY – Carolyn M. Shields, Downey resident since 1951, passed away on July 12 at the age of 80.

Shields was born in Northwestern, Calif. and attended elementary school in Petaluma, junior high in Modesto and high school in Bell. She graduated from Bell High School in 1944, later enrolling in the Stanford University Nursing Program.

After marrying husband Gordon in 1946, they resided in San Carlos until 1951, when Gordon's job relocated him to Downey.

During the 1950s, Shields was a member and officer of the Downey Junior Women's Club. She later became a volunteer driver for the Cancer Society, taking patients for treatment to UCLA, City of Hope and Scripps in San Diego, as well as many local hospitals and clinics.

She was also a Little League team mother and a Cub Scout den mother. Shields was preceded in death by son Greg and daughter Sharon.

She is survived by her husband; sons Gary and Steve; six grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; brother John; sister Myra; and niece Terry.

A memorial service will be held today at 1 p.m. at Miller-Mies Mortuary in Downey.

Betty Werner was active at Downey Memorial

DOWNEY – Betty Werner, a parishioner of Downey Memorial Christian Church, died July 12.

She was born in Hollywood to Rex and La Verne Simpson. Her father worked for the railroad and the family moved frequently until finally becoming established in Kansas City.

She married Frank Werner on March 21, 1958. They had three children in Kansas City before moving to South Gate in 1965.

Werner worked 28 years at Stanford Avenue School and was active with the PTA and Woman's Club. She attended church in Downey.

Werner's hobbies were collecting Elvis Presley and Betty Boop memorabilia and making trips to Las Vegas and Laughlin.

Werner leaves behind her husband, Frank; daughter, Betty Louise; son, Frank Robert; grandson, Robert Franklin Sims; great-granddaughter, Faith Sims; her mother, La Verne Simpson; sisters, Jeanette Riley and Loraine Simpson; brothers, Boyd and Arnold Simpson; nephews, Todd and Wesley Miller; and niece, Alex Simpson.

A daughter, Linda Sue, preceded her in death.

Memorial services will be held today, July 20, at Downey Memorial Christian Church at 1 p.m.

Adult School hosts Advisory Meeting

DOWNEY – The Downey Adult School Office Skills Center will be holding an Advisory Committee Meeting on July 27 at 8 a.m. at Mimi's Café. The meeting will provide an opportunity to examine the subjects and

software being taught within the Office Skills Center. To RSVP, call (562) 940-6247.

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Page 12 Friday, July 20, 2007 Classified/Real Estate ____ The Downey Patriot



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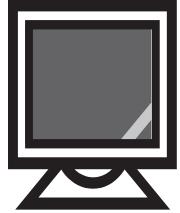
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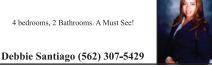












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Real Estate Page 13 Friday, July 20, 2007

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Home Of Many Possibilities...

Large home on huge corner lot-Spacious master with bath over 3 car garage-plus 2 main floor masters, formal living rm., family rm./hearth fireplace-or 3 main floor bedrms,3 baths, 2nd story bonus rm. (inlaw suite) Pool, lots of storage & upgrades. Priced to sell at \$925,000

Open House Sunday 1 pm - 5 pm 9239 Appleby, Downey

For further information or private viewing, please call **Red Carpet Heritage Realty** (562) 923-5401

All listings can be found at www.downeyrealestate.com



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Only \$319,000

Downey

North Downey

Beautifull 2 Story 4 Bdrs 2 Baths, Family

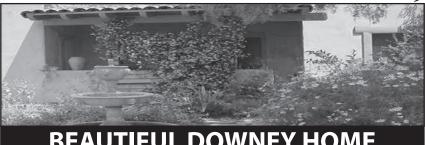
North East Downey

1 Bdrs 1 Bath

New Listing 4 Bdrs 2

North Downey -**Fixer** 2 Separated Houses 3 Bdrs 2 Baths and a

IF YOU'RE THINKING ABOUT BUY



BEAUTIFUL DOWNEY HOME

2 bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths, romantic European charm, hardwood floors, antique fixtures. Asking \$659,000. Call for more details (562) 923-5507

La Reina

BELLFLOWER HOME

Ready to move in. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, central air/heat, new paint. Close to schools and shopping. Asking \$545,000. Call (562) 923-5507 Nichols

2 ON A LOT **IN DOWNEY**

2 bedrooms, 1 bath each Asking \$665,000. Call for more info. (562) 923-5507

SANTA FE SPRINGS

Very clean, ready to move in. 3 bedrroms, 1 bath, central A/C, remodeled kitchen & bath, laminate floors. Asking \$490,000. Call for more info. (562) 923-5507

BRAND NEW HOME IN LOS ANGELES

3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 1,200 sq. ft. Ready to move in. Owner may help with some closing costs. Asking \$385,000. Call for more info. (562) 923-5507

development. Priced at \$650,000. Call (562) 923-5507

HUGE LOT!!!

Nice Downey home on a corner lot. 2

bedrooms, 1 1/2 bath, 10,200 sq.ft.lot.

3 1/2 car garage, new carpet, fireplace,

parking for large RV. Site for potential

TODAY... (562) 923-5507



HOME AND INVESTMENT 11600 PARAMOUNT BLVD.

SUITE A

DOWNEY



"Lilian Lopez and Lorena Amaya did an excellent job and what made it even better they are such nice people." - Arby Garrido

"I see why Valarie Reese is so successful. Valerie knows how to focus and be proactive" - Gerald &

"It was a very pleasant experience working with Brian Holden. Brian is one of those good agents." -Patricia and Tom Hoge



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TOP PRODUCTION Lilian Lopez & Lorena Amaya



TOP SALES Maria Cibrian



Bedrooms, 3 Bathrooms, 2 car garage, 4 parking spaces, built in 2003, 4 parking paces, approx. 2414 sq. ft., nice area in Paramount (Downey Ave. & Somerset (562) 927-2626 century21myrealestate.com



Beautiful corner lot home with 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, central A/C, fireplace, 3 ca arage, formal dining room, close to schools, move in condition (562) 927-2626 century21myrealestate.com



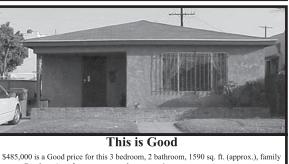
A Beautiful 3 Bedroom, 2 Bath home built on an approx. 8098 sq. ft. lot. Central A/C, ar garages, sprinklers, and a Guest house with full bath. kitchen. and heat (562) 927-2626 century21myrealestate.com



North Downey (562) 927-2626 century21myrealestate.com



formal dining room, private back yard, close to schools, nice neighborhood, (562) 927-2626 century21myrealestate.com



oom, Gazebo w/spa, 2 car garage, ready to move in. (562) 927-2626 century21myrealestate.com



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Page 14 Friday, July 20, 2007 Real Estate



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<u>Look No Further!</u> BD, 3 BA, large master bedroom w/ attached bath newer windows, electrical & copper plumbing, R.V. parking, Price Range: \$700,000-\$750,000 Call Jimmy Spathos Today @ 562 -400-2148



Splish Splash! 3 BD, 1 BA, Gated pool, professional landscaping, big/ park-like yard, R.V. parking, 1,092 sq. ft., 8,770 Sq. ft. lot Priced at: \$550,000







Bedrooms, 1 Bath each! Close to Whittier College

Low vacancy rate! Priced @ \$799,900



Marie Picarelli

"The Intelligent Choice"

562-618-0033

This is a developers dream! 3 separate parcels form an exquisite yard w/ rock pool, waterfall, & tennis court Main résidence plus guest house in North East Downey









Mario Persico Downey, Cul-de-sac! N. Downey home 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. Priced at \$634,900 Call Mario Persico @ 562.533.7433 ee Virtual Tour @ www.MarioPersico.com 9232 Horley Ave. Downey 3 BD, 2 BA, Open kitchen, Living room w/ Fireplace, Master Suite, Newer roof (June 2006), Fresh Paint exterior (April 2007) Central Heat & Air (4 years new), & 1,722 Sq. Ft. & So Much More! Call Mario Persico @ 562.533.7433 ee Virtual Tour @ www.MarioPersico.com



<u>Fantastic Downey Duplex!</u> 1st home is 4 BD + 3 BA / 2nd home is 3 BD + 3 BA Built in 1978, total Sq Ft. is 3,884 It's Like getting 2 homes for \$475,000 each! Call Mario Persico @ 562.533.7433 ee Virtual Tour @ www.MarioPersico.com



3 BD, 2 BA, living room w/ fireplace, 2 car garage water softener, central heat & air, large covered pation copper plumbing, 1,354 sq. ft. living space Call Mario Persico @ 562.533.7433 See Virtual Tour @ www.MarioPersico.com Born in Downey*Raised in Downey





Condo Livina!!! New painted, new carpet, 3 BD, 2 1/2 BA South Gate Condo. Priced to Sell @ \$409,900



Summer Delight!

3 BD, 1.75 BA, hardwood floors, remodeled bathroom, lovely backyard & patio. Priced to Sell @: \$557,000



Downey Duplex

2 units featuring 1 unit w/ 2 BD, 2 BA, laundry room, & living room. Other unit w/ 1 BD, 1 BA, living room, 2 car garage. Live in one, rent the other. Price \$624,900



2 Units in Downey! Lovely Duplex in Downey each unit has 2 BD & 1 BA, laundry room & one car garage. Priced @ \$699,900



SELLS DOWNEY www.Prudential24Hours.com



Michael Berdelis

562-818-6111

Chairman Circle Award Winner 2000-2006!



Feature of the Week



Remodeld North Downey Home!

3 bedrom, 2 bath, freshly painted interior, large living room & family room w/ hardwood floors, updated kitchen w/ granite countertops, recessed lighting, central air & heat and full copper plumbing. Updated master bath, automatic sprinklers front & rear, and large backyard w/ deck. Price: \$ 625,000

Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com



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

Price \$699,950

Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com



Affordable Buy!

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



Move Right In! 3 bed, 3 bath, large master bdrm, NE section of Downey, 2144 sq. ft. home on a 7625 sq. ft lot.

Price: \$799,950 Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com



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



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 @ \$749,950

Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com



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



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



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



<u>So Many Extras!</u> 3 bed, 2 bath, family room, extra detached bonus room, RV parking Price: \$565,000

Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com



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: \$695,000

Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com



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: \$799,950

Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com



Honey, Stop the Car! 4 BD, 4 BA home, large living room w/ fireplace, central air & heat, remodeled kitchen w/ granite counter tops and amazing cabinets, RV parking, and a complete 2 BD, 1BA guest house! Your house hunting is over! Price: \$824,950.

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