



# The Downey Patriot



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Friday, August 17, 2007

Vol. 6 No. 17

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

## Downey's bridges safe, but need work

### 3 Downey bridges cited as being 'structurally deficient'

**BY ERIC PIERCE, CITY EDITOR**  
**DOWNEY** — Three Downey bridges have been identified as being "structurally deficient" and five others "functionally obsolete," according to a review of records maintained by the National Bridge Inventory (NBI), an arm of the Federal Highway Administration.

The findings, however, don't necessarily mean the bridges are unsafe, officials were quick to point out.

The Imperial Highway bridge spanning the San Gabriel River, connecting Downey to Norwalk, scored the lowest score out of all Downey bridges, garnering a 65.7 percent sufficiency rating, records show. Its deck condition was listed as being in "poor condition", but all other inspection points met safety standards.



Three Downey bridges have been labeled "structurally deficient" by Caltrans and the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works, including the one above on Imperial Highway, crossing over the San Gabriel River. Officials, however, stressed that the bridges are safe. Photo by Eric Pierce

The estimated cost to improve the bridge would be about \$3.1 million, NBI records show.

The bridge at Imperial Highway and Erickson Avenue, linking Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center to Downey Municipal Court, scored 87.5 percent, but its deck was listed in "serious condition," landing it a "structurally deficient" rating.

The third bridge found to be

deficient was the 5 Freeway overpass at the Rio Hondo River, just on the northwest Downey limits. That bridge, which carries an average of 237,000 cars per day, scored 82 percent, but its deck was also found to be in poor condition.

"None of our county bridges are unsafe," said Don Wolfe, director of the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, which maintains and inspects all

county bridges, including those in Downey.

Wolf said a bridge cited as structurally deficient is a priority for rehabilitation and replacement, but are not unsafe. He said 10 Los Angeles County bridges have been deemed deficient.

According to Wolf, bridges are inspected a minimum of every two years by either Caltrans or the Los Angeles Department of Public

Works. While Caltrans inspects all state highway bridges and bridges in the City of Los Angeles, Public Works inspects county bridges.

Officials said the greatest threat to bridges in Downey are earthquakes, noting that approximately 71 bridges in the County of Los Angeles are in need of seismic retrofitting. Proposition 1B, passed

See BRIDGES, page 3

## Raymond Michael gets the crowd 'all shook up'

CONTRIBUTED BY KEVIN O'CONNOR  
DOWNEY THEATRE

**DOWNEY** — Raymond Michael will perform at the Furman Park Twilight Summer Concert Series this Wednesday at 7 p.m. The concert series is free and held at Furman Park, 10419 Rives Ave.

Michael was a freshman operatic voice major and football player at California Lutheran University in Thousand Oaks when he was asked to represent the football team for a hypnotist show on campus. The hypnotist asked Michael to perform as Elvis Presley.

He did, received a standing ovation, and has been performing as Presley ever since.

In fact, Michael has just returned from a tour commemorating the 25th anniversary of Presley's death. A highlight for any fan, this mid-western tour found Michael performing in the same venues Presley did 25 years ago during his last concert tour.

Michael has performed in main showrooms in Las Vegas, Lake Tahoe and Reno; on national, international and cable television shows; toured throughout the United States and around the world; and has performed 10 summers at Knott's Berry Farm and five summers at Six Flags Over Texas (as well as five other Six Flags Parks).

He was also featured in the "Where's Your Moustache?" milk print advertisement, and just last winter served as technical advisor and performer for a national Blockbuster Video television commercial featuring the likeness of Presley.

Michael performs in numerous corporate shows, has been featured in several MTV music videos, and has had his own hour-long, national TV

See ELVIS, page 4

## Time Traveler When 'The Baron' taught school here

BY JOHN ADAMS, EDITOR EMERITUS

The man who called himself "The Baron" and threatened to steal most of Arizona with a fake land grant in the 1880s once worked as a school principal in Downey.

James Addison Reavis duped railroads and gold mines, and lived like a king until his adventurous scheme was unmasked. He served as a principal at Gallatin School for two years before he sprang his mega-scheme. Later, after six years in a Santa Fe prison, he returned to Downey where he raised vegetables and lived until 1913, often in the county poorhouse. At the height of his scheme, Reavis cut a powerful figure. He proclaimed himself, "The Baron of Arizona" in the 1880s, and might have duped everyone. It took a special federal court and years of investigation to unmask him.

His story is so colorful it was dramatized in a motion picture, "The Baron of Arizona," starring Vincent Price.

But the real story is richer than any Hollywood movie. Reavis actually negotiated with the United States Government for a settlement of \$25 million for his claim that he was the husband of the heir to the Peralta Land Grant. The Gadsden Purchase, by which the U.S. acquired title to Arizona from Mexico, guaranteed such old deeds. And Reavis tied the U.S. Government up in knots for seven years with his bogus document.

Historians suggest Reavis, a native of Missouri, apparently learned to forge papers while in the Confederate army. His popularity was based, it is said, on his ability to forge military passes for his friends.

After the war he appeared in Santa Fe, where he told the locals he had been sent by the San Francisco Examiner to look into "business possibilities."

The Territory of Arizona was vast, and there was obvious difficulty in determining just how far some of the old hidalgo grants extended.

Reavis was a stickler for detail. He studied old land grants and worked

See TRAVELER, page 7



Elvis impersonator Raymond Michael will perform this Wednesday at Furman Park. The concert is free and starts at 7 p.m.

## Chief Roy Campos equal to challenge

BY HENRY VENERACION, STAFF WRITER

**DOWNEY**—When newly-minted Downey Police Chief Roy Campos took over the Downey Police Department on October 28, 2005 from his predecessor John Finch, he saw his role as "continuing to recruit high-quality individuals to staff the department and making sure they have the best training and equipment possible." He also said, "This will allow the Downey Police Department to do their job safely and productively, resulting in the department's ability to provide superior service to the residents and businesses of Downey."



He hasn't deviated from this double-barreled approach. On the one hand, quality personnel and equipment; on the other, optimum service to the community. It's no coincidence that the biggest chunk of the city's general fund goes to the police department. The city's safety and protection from those who would disturb the peace come first. It's a formidable task: the battle against crime is never-ending. But Campos has prepared himself well for his leadership role, and, understanding that skills and attitudes in the department can always be improved, his emphasis on staff training remains a top priority.

Thus, almost two years into his role as the city's top law enforcer, he says: "I'm most proud of the tremendous work ethic of our police officers and our civilian employees. I've looked at the quality of people in the department, and how much they care, and I'm honored to lead them. Our people are truly of the highest quality, and we don't ever want to lower our standards."

See CAMPOS, page 4

## Term limit vote pushed back to February

■ Special election rescheduled for Feb. 5, 2008 to coincide with California Primary.

BY ERIC PIERCE, CITY EDITOR

**DOWNEY** — The controversial special election to decide whether to amend the city charter as it relates to city council term limits has been pushed back to Feb. 5, 2008.

The election, originally scheduled for Nov. 6, had been consolidated with the Downey Unified School District board elections, but that election was canceled because no incumbent was being challenged.

Moving the special election to Feb. 5, also the date of the California Primary, would ensure a higher turnout of voters, council members said.

Under law, the council had until Wednesday to withdraw or make changes to the election. The action passed by a unanimous vote.

The special election has been a controversial subject matter ever since Councilman Mario Guerra introduced the proposal months back. Voters will decide whether to amend term limits in Downey, allowing council members to serve three consecutive terms and then re-run after a two-year waiting period.

Presently, council members are limited to two terms, or eight years, and cannot serve again.

In addition to Guerra, Mayor Rick Trejo and Councilman Kirk Cartozian have backed the measure. Mayor Pro-Tem Dave Gafin and Councilwoman Anne Bayer opposed it, calling it self-serving.

## Residents warned not to confront taggers in the act

BY ERIC PIERCE, CITY EDITOR

**DOWNEY** — Residents are being warned not to confront any taggers they may spot illegally defacing property and instead call the police.

The directive comes a week after a Pico Rivera grandmother was fatally wounded while confronting a tagger as she drove home last Friday night.

"You should absolutely not confront a tagger. You should call the police," Lt. Carl Charles with the Downey Police Department said. "Be a good witness — see what they are wearing, what direction they're traveling in, and what kind of car they have. Get a license plate number if possible, but do not confront them."

Charles said it is "extremely difficult" to catch a tagger spraying graffiti in the act. Many times police rely on other evidence, including a computer program that catalogs neighborhood graffiti, to make arrests.

If the property damage exceeds \$400, the suspect can face felony charges, Charles said. If convicted, the suspect can be ordered to pay restitution.

Charles said there are usually no witnesses to graffiti because most of the work is done overnight.

Downey is one of five Southland cities sponsoring a county program called Aware Teens Against Graffiti (ATAG). The program, expected to be implemented by the end of the year, would give courts the option of sending first-time teen offenders to a weekend diversion program with counselors and officials with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

Taggers, police officials said, are generally non-violent, but can be protective over "turf."

Anybody who spots a tagger in the act is asked to call the Downey Police Department at (562) 904-2308. To report graffiti, call the Graffiti Hotline at (562) 923-4484.

## City Council to review zoning in Pangborn area

■ Council denies application for zone change without prejudice, requests comprehensive staff report.

BY HENRY VENERACION  
STAFF WRITER

**DOWNEY**—After a long and at times acrimonious discussion of the proposed zone change from Parking Buffer (P-B) to Medium Density, Multi-Family Ownership (R-3-0) on the property at 11016-11020 Pangborn Avenue, the City Council Tuesday, after a public hearing in which the applicant, Janice Wineke, articulated her views on the matter, denied the zone change for now, without prejudice, and directed staff to review the zoning situation in the entire immediate area and come back with a comprehensive report and recommendation.

The intent is to allow zoning in the whole area, and not just a localized group of property units, to conform with the General Plan.

In other action, the Council:

- Set a public hearing for Aug. 28 to consider adopting a resolution which self-certifies that the city of Downey is conforming with the Metropolitan Transportation Authority's Congestion Management Program;

- Appropriated \$6,000 for the purchase and installation of two replacement televisions at the Rio Hondo Golf Club (Hacker's);

- Approved the sole source acquisition of a communications system from Motorola and Comserco for a contract price of \$435,000;

- Re-appropriated \$64,800 for reimbursement of Fire Department training costs associated with the 2006 Urban Area Security Initiative Grant;

- Accepted and appropriated \$17,000 in grant funds and approved the contract with Los Angeles County Emergency Medical Services Agency for an electrocardiogram (EKG) machine;

- Appropriated \$20,000 from the Golf Course Fund for purchase of two 70' above-ground-length wooden poles for the Rio Hondo Golf Course;

- Introduced an ordinance amending Section 3186 of the Downey Municipal Code relating to the speed limits for Suva Street;

- Adopted an ordinance amending Article V, "Sanitation," of the Downey Municipal Code by adding Chapter 8 - "Construction and Demolition Waste Management";

- Adopted an ordinance adopting a negative declaration and approving Code Amendment No. 07-72, thereby adding Section 9166.05 to the Downey Municipal Code to require a Conditional Use Permit for new structures and additions to existing structures, except in the R-1 or R-2 zones or R-1 or R-2 uses in R-3 zoned property;

- Heard a presentation by Downey Regional Medical Center COO Rob Fuller of the ramifications arising from the closing of the King-Harbor Hospital and its joint efforts with the Downey Fire Department in marshaling resources to meet anticipated surges in hospital care. Future updates of planning and operational strategies were promised;

- Decided on Feb. 5 as the date set for the ballot measure on the proposed Charter Amendment on term limits; and

- Presented Finance Director John Michicoff with a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association.

The next regular public meeting of the City Council will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 28, at City Hall, 11111 Brookshire Ave., Downey.



Martha Sodetani (left) was the featured speaker at the Aug. 8 Downey Christian Women's Club luncheon. She spoke about PTA HELPS and expressed how giving changes lives. Alta Morelli was the event's hostess and was more than happy to have Sodetani share at the luncheon.

Photo by Brooke Karli



The Ukulele Ladies provided entertainment at the Downey Christian Women's Club luncheon on Aug. 8. They played songs that complemented the event's tropical theme. Photo by Brooke Karli

## Sodetani speaks on giving and Bareng shares her life

BY BROOKE KARLI  
STAFF WRITER

**DOWNEY** - At the tropical-themed luncheon hosted by the Downey Christian Women's Club on Aug. 8, the topic at hand was "A Time of Giving."

Martha Sodetani, a member of the executive board for the Downey Council PTA Health Education Local Pantry Service (HELPS), began her feature by getting into the tropical spirit and taking off her shoes and replacing her reading glasses with a pair of sunglasses.

Sodetani talked about what exactly the PTA HELPS group does for the community, explaining that since the 1940s, they have provided a food bank for families in need of food and toiletry products.

"We can't imagine how hard it would be for a child to sit in school with an empty stomach," said Sodetani.

With that being said, she shared that over 600 families are helped each year. Those in need are eligible if they live in Downey or have children that attend school within the Downey Unified School District. Families receive baskets of food, which usually contain non-perishables and bread, once a month. Families also receive a card similar to that of a credit card, which contains a certain amount of money to be used towards additional grocery store purchases.

Sodetani went on to say that PTA HELPS also provides Thanksgiving and Christmas dinner baskets to those in need, as well as a Christmas gift for each child under the age of 17. The program hosts a dental program, established in 1948, that provides students in 1st, 3rd and 5th grades with free dental check-ups, and PTA HELPS also supports the all-night Grad Night celebrations at both Downey and Warren High Schools.

All programs, including the dental program, are run by volunteers. Any family in need can receive services by filling out an Emergency Referral Form, which can be obtained at Downey City Hall or at any of the school offices in Downey.

"We all have the quality of giving," said Sodetani. "It's wonderful to give and it feels good to give."

Following Sodetani's motivational message on giving, guest speaker Bee Bareng of Stonecroft Ministries spoke on the determination of a young girl traveling to America from the Philippines, who found that life was not about the country you were a citizen of, but rather *who* your citizenship was to be given to.

Through her talent of dancing, Bareng shared how she came to accept Jesus Christ in America - the "land of milk and honey," as she would put it. She found that citizenship did not guarantee purpose and success, but having a relationship with God would.

As she spoke of the different names used to describe God throughout the Bible, she created a bouquet of flowers, adding flowers and greenery at her leisure. The end result - a beautifully arranged bouquet - went to show that although we may start off with nothing, we are made perfect and whole in God's image.

The event in its entirety was a wonderful one at that. Attendants dressed in tropical garb and were treated to a delicious lunch, complemented by the sound of Ukuleles (courtesy of the Ukulele Ladies).

The Downey Christian Women's Club will be hosting their next luncheon, "From Brokenness to Joy," on Sept. 12 at the Los Amigos Country Club at 11:45 a.m.

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# Kirkwood Christian Schools

Four programs to serve our families in the community, by providing a loving and nurturing environment for your children to grow and mature. All programs are open from 6:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and the school is open 52 weeks a year

<p><b>Preschool (ages 2 - 5)</b> The preschool aged child enjoys an individualized program that was developed over the past 30 plus years by William J. Kirkwood, Ph.D.</p>  <p>The children have a variety of activities which include arts and crafts, physical education, Bible, music, and science time provided for them. Breakfast, lunch and two snacks are served daily.</p>	<p><b>Elementary (K - 3<sup>rd</sup> grade)</b> Our individualized program is the 30 plus year vision of Dr. Kirkwood. Because of our state of the art computerized program and classrooms the children learn through a multitude of various methods and activities throughout the day and school year. The children enjoy daily individual time with their teacher, reading groups, Bible, labs, free play, physical education, and arts &amp; crafts.</p> 
<p><b>Rio San Gabriel / Gallatin Before and After School Extended Education Program (1<sup>st</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> grade)</b> Transportation to and from school is provided. The campus is open for full day use on teacher prep days, local holidays, Christmas, and Easter break</p> <p>Breakfast is served until 7:45 a.m. and snack is served when the children return to campus. There is time for homework, Bible, and play.</p> 	<p><b>Summer Program (K - 5<sup>th</sup> grade)</b> Our summer program offers children a place to learn and explore. The children enjoy our individualized academic program that helps students stay sharp during the summer months, while also helping them get ahead.</p> <p>The children also participate in swimming, crafts, music, cooking and other activities that go along with each week's theme. Some of the weekly themes are cooking, ocean, the planets, and animals.</p> 

www.kirkwoodchristianschools.org

**Preschool Office**  
10822 Brookshire Ave.  
Downey, CA 90241  
562-862-4251

**Elementary School Office**  
11115 Pangborn Ave.  
Downey, CA 90241  
562-861-4419



Chris Barragan, a customer service representative for Indy Mac Bank in Downey, took The Downey Patriot with him on a trip to the Western Wall in The Old City of Jerusalem. Barragan was visiting for the Foursquare International Convention held July 16-26.



Assemblymember Hector De La Torre honored 12 local students, including one each from Warren and Downey High Schools, at a ceremony and dinner at Le Chef Restaurant in South Gate.

## Assemblyman honors top students with special dinner

**SOUTH GATE** – Two Downey Unified School District graduates received college scholarships along with 10 other area students at a dinner ceremony sponsored by Assemblymember Hector De La Torre at Le Chef Restaurant in South Gate on July 26.

Theresa Fiddler, a graduate of Warren High School, and Umeamara Butt, Downey High School graduate, received \$1,000 and \$250, respectively, from the Southeast Student Scholarship Program, an annual competition for students living or attending high school in the 50th Assembly District. Fiddler will enroll at UCLA and Butt will attend Cerritos College.

Scholarship applicants completed a written application, submitted a creative presentation, completed a brief essay on the benefits of education in the community, and were interviewed by a panel. Nine of the recipients were recent high school graduates and the other three currently attend community college.

In the high school category, a \$1,500 scholarship was awarded to Edson Ramos from South Gate High School, who will attend UCLA. Three \$1,000 scholarships were given to Daysi Alonzo, Sergio Garcia (both graduates of South Gate High School and attending UCLA) and Adilene Lopez (St. Joseph's High School, attending UC Berkeley).

Claudia Velasco (South East High School, attending Cal State Long Beach) received \$500 and half-sisters Liz Azura and Flor Medina (South East High School, both attending Cerritos College) each won \$250 awards.

In the community college group, East Los Angeles College (ELAC) student Mario Flores won a \$1,500 scholarship. He is planning to transfer to Cal Poly Pomona. In addition, Evette Santana (ELAC) received \$500 and Ana Hernandez (ELAC) was awarded \$250 to continue their studies.

De La Torre has sponsored the scholarship program for three years. He took over the program at the request of retired Senator Martha Escutia, who founded the program in 1992.

This year's scholarships were sponsored by contributions from Verizon Wireless, the Personal Insurance Federation of California, the American Chemistry Council and T-Mobile. The program's non-profit partner and financial manager is the California State University Foundation.

## Do You Have Untreated Diabetes?

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 Multani Medical Group  
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 Downey, CA 90241



This bridge, spanning Imperial Highway between Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center and Downey Municipal Court, garnered an 87.5 percent sufficiency rating, but was listed as "structurally deficient" because of "serious" deck concerns. Photo by Eric Pierce

## BRIDGES

Continued from page 1

by voters last November, includes \$125 million for local agencies to match federal funds to complete the seismic retrofit program in Los Angeles County, Public Works officials said in a statement.

Caltrans, for their part, said they have "one of the best bridge inspection programs in the world." They said they have already inspected all bridges in California that were similar to the one that collapsed in Minnesota, and that bridges are repaired and replaced based on deterioration forecasts and "peer reviews."

Downey's bridges scored comparatively high to other bridges and overpasses in Los Angeles County, where several scored in the 50 percentile. The American Society of Civil Engineers rated California's infrastructure a D-plus in an infrastructure report last year. Los Angeles County bridges scored a C, the *Pasadena Star-News* reported.

The five Downey bridges rated "functionally obsolete" are all on the 605 and 105 Freeways. These bridges are structurally safe, but may be sources of traffic jams or lack enough clearance to allow for an oversized vehicle, officials said.

## Chinese reading, writing class offered

**DOWNEY** – The Fa-Kwang Chinese School, 12110 Pomeroy Rd. in Downey, will offer free Chinese speech, reading and writing classes beginning in September.

"Conversational Chinese" will be offered every Saturday from 1 to 3 p.m. "Chinese Reading and Writing" will be offered Saturdays from 3 to 3:30 p.m.

Both courses run from Sept. 15 to June 14, 2008. For information, call (562) 927-3945.

## DHS class of 1957 reunion set

**DOWNEY** – The Downey High School class of 1957 will host a 50th reunion celebration Oct. 13 at the Rio Hondo Events Center. The cost is \$80 per person for the Saturday night dinner.

Members of the class will also meet at Downey High School on Oct. 12 at 3 p.m. for a tour of the campus before attending that night's football game against Paramount High School.

The Saturday night reunion starts with a 6 p.m. reception. Attire is "dressed casual." For information, call Carolyn Jo (Ward) Weigand at (714) 971-0948 or Karlene (Sibley) McDowell at (714) 871-5805.



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## Downey's Bridges

**5 Freeway, crossing the Rio Hondo River**  
 Year built: 1953, reconstructed in 1982  
 Average daily traffic: 237,000  
 Sufficiency rating: 82%  
**Structurally deficient**

**Imperial Highway, crossing the San Gabriel River**  
 Year built: 1952, reconstructed in 1971  
 Average daily traffic: 32,700  
 Sufficiency rating: 65.7%  
**Structurally deficient**

**Imperial Highway and Erickson Avenue**  
 Year built: 1973  
 Average daily traffic: 33,000  
 Sufficiency rating: 87.5%  
**Structurally deficient**

Sources: National Bridge Inventory and the National Institute for Computer-Assisted Reporting at the University of Missouri.

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All training is provided free of charge by professional responders of the Downey Fire Department.



**Who can join CERT?**  
 Anyone 18 years of age or older who is interested in helping his or her community in preparing for a disaster and provide assistance afterward.

**Classes:**  
 Are held on three consecutive Saturdays, September 8, 15, and 22, 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM. Location to be announced. There is a one hour lunch break.

**What is CERT?**  
 The City of Downey has become part of a national network of CERT communities. Community based preparedness planning allows us to prepare for and respond to anticipated disruptions and potential hazards following a disaster. With training and information, individuals can be prepared to serve as a crucial resource capable of performing many of the emergency functions needed in the immediate post-disaster period. Participants of the CERT program are registered as Disaster Service Workers and are protected under workers compensation guidelines.

The CERT program is designed to prepare you to help yourself, your family, and your neighbors in an emergency. Rescue services may not be able to provide help immediately. The impact of a major disaster on the city of Downey should be a concern to everyone who lives here. Your training in responding to emergencies in the event of a disaster is essential to our City's ability to recover.

CERT training covers basic skills such as first aid, fire extinguisher use, light search & rescue, and how to protect yourself from becoming a victim.

## ELVIS

Continued from page 1

special.

His "Tribute to the King of Rock 'n' Roll" is also popular at city centers, and county and state fairs. He owns over 30 jumpsuits that are exact replicas of Presley's — many of which are designed by Gene Doucette, who also designed Presley's jumpsuits. Dick Clark selected Michael as one of the best Elvis tribute acts in the world (Michael also does a tribute to Tom Jones, which is part of his Casino Superstars Show).

When not performing, Michael teaches chorus and musical show production at Moorpark High School. Recently, he was honored with NBC-4 Television's Crystal Apple Award for Teaching Excellence. And, when time permits, Michael will take to the stage as the lead in a musical or opera.

Michael lives in Moorpark with his wife, Pam, and sons, Raymond, Jr., Joseph, Jonathan, and Ethan.

The Downey Rose Float Association will be selling food, including nachos, hamburgers, chili, chili dogs, popcorn, cake and ice cream, before the concert. The Downey Museum of Art will also be open to the public, at no charge.

The concert begins at 7 p.m. Call the City of Downey Community Services Department with questions.



**Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard met with the Vidarte Family of Downey in the 34th Congressional District prior to a tour of the U.S. Capitol led by a member of the congresswoman's staff. Pictured, left to right: John Vidarte, Stefanie Vidarte, Roybal-Allard, Jessica Vidarte and Debbie Vidarte. Stefanie is a senior at UC Irvine and is interning in the D.C. office of the Attorney General in the Civil Litigation department.**

## CAMPOS

Continued from page 1

Campos' daily routine starts with a careful review of the previous day's log of events, noting the nature of the day's depredations and looking for crime patterns/trends, if any. A meeting with his three captains, representing the department's three divisions — administrative, field operations, and detectives — evolves into a strategy session to map out the day's major focus.

The police chief acknowledges serious crime occurs in Downey but says, "This is true as well throughout the Southern California region. The important thing is how we respond to it, how we prevent it." He's on the mark here, of course, as experts have always stressed crime *deterrence* as a linchpin of police work. He's also quick to point out that crime in Downey today is less than what it was 10 years ago — a sign that police efforts are succeeding. He also says, "It's my job to make sure that my police officers are diligent and, in plain terms, nosy." It's not his intention to mislead anybody, he points out, and that whenever he speaks to service groups he tries to paint an accurate picture of the peace and order situation in the community.

He notes that that "the job of a police officer today is more difficult than when I first started. The job is more complex, more demanding. One difference is the level of belligerence [among lawbreakers] that our police officers encounter everyday. This is the challenge today. We've got to deal with this. I've got to support my personnel, deal with the offenders, take them into custody, and let the criminal justice system handle it."

Campos was with his friend seated in class one day at Cerritos College back in 1977, and still undecided about a career, when the latter suggested he take a look at two books he had brought about the police. Campos did, and curiosity turned into interest, and interest turned into taking a police class. As it happened, vivid memories of his youth growing up in Norwalk bubbled up to the surface: he did in those impressionable years look up to the uniformed deputies as they drove around in the neighborhood as they worked their beats.

He says one of the proudest moments of his life was when, at age 19, he was admitted by the LAPD as a police student worker. The program enabled young people like him to go to college while working part-time in the department. Hired fulltime in 1978 as a Deputy Sheriff with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, he graduated first in his academy class to earn distinction as Honor Cadet. After six months (he didn't like working in the jails, he says), he joined the Downey Police Department as a patrol officer in 1979. In 1985 he was promoted to Sergeant, serving details in Patrol, Special Operations, and Administration. Another promotion, to the rank of Lieutenant, came in 1990.

In the meantime, in his off hours, he earned his B.S. in criminal justice in 1985 (President's Academic Honor List, 1984), and a master's (with honors, 4.0 GPA) in public administration, both from CSU-Long Beach.

He was again promoted to Captain in 2002, serving as Patrol Division Commander. When Finch retired in 2005, "the best job I've ever had" fell onto his lap.

Campos credits his parents and siblings (five brothers, three sisters) for shaping his character and outlook. His dad, a native of Brownsville, Tex., met his mom (from Jerome, Ariz.) during the Depression, and served in the Army in the Pacific Theatre during World War II. He narrates: "My

## The Poets' Corner

### Yoo-Hoo, Reggie, Where Are You?

Discovered swimming in a lake was Reggie,  
hiding from sharp-eyed paparazzi.  
People lined the bank to get just a glimpse.  
Croc hunters were summoned to fish him out,  
but that wily Lizard of the Nile managed to elude them too.  
Enjoying his personal swimming hole,  
for weeks he hid from one and all.  
Where did he come from?  
No one knows, or if known, aren't telling.  
Then one day we see his snout wrapped in towels and taped shut!  
Reggie got caught!  
He is being released to the zoo, the towels and tape come off.  
We sigh with relief.  
But wait! What is this?  
A news flash! Reggie escaped!  
He has flown the coop.  
That guy just wants to do it his way and he will find a way.  
Has a reward been posted? What is this outlaw worth?  
Just one word of caution, Reg old boy -  
don't try to cross the 110 at six p.m.  
Good luck, you comedian, til you find another deep water hole  
and start the "Saga of Reggie" all over again.  
-- Rosalie Sciortino,  
Downey

dad in 1952 moved the family from Texas to Compton, with no money, no job, no home. He was blessed with foresight, though. He noticed that perhaps the family would be better off moving to a better neighborhood. He chose Norwalk."

Born in Compton, Campos was second to the youngest. He says he was never in trouble in school or with the law. His parents were very strict and, absent his parents, his older brothers and sisters kept him in line. All attended Norwalk public schools, and all are graduates of Norwalk High School. "I'm proud of all of them," he says. "It's because of them that I am here today."

Sometime in the mid-80's, his parents were recognized by the city of Norwalk, with the whole family honored as "Family of the Year." "When I was brand-new in Downey," he says, "my sister Olivia, who had just gotten a job as administrative assistant at the White House, asked me if I could escort her to their Christmas Party. Of course I did. I met President Jimmy Carter and the First Lady, Roslyn. I got to dance in the East Room."

A middle brother, Gilbert, a retired educator after 34 years with the Rialto School District and the first one to graduate from college, "had the biggest influence on me," he says. "He encouraged me with my studies." Come spring or early summer next year, another proud family event will happen: brother Randy, attending St. John's Seminary in Camarillo, will be ordained to the priesthood. "He'll be the first priest in the family," says Campos. "You bet all of us will be there."

Married to his wife, Jeanie, a registered dietitian, for 24 years, they have two children: 21-year-old daughter Marisa, a student at Cal State Fullerton, works as a production assistant in the summer for the Judge Judy TV show; and Michael, 19, a student at Mount San Antonio College. This year — on Sept. 11 — Campos celebrates his 50th birthday. He is an early riser and a devotee of physical fitness, as well he should be. He gets up at 4 a.m. and walks 3-1/2 miles 4-5 days a week, and does stretching and calisthenics. "With no handicap to speak of," he has nevertheless made a hole-in-one, in 2006, during a California Police Chiefs Conference Golf Tournament held in Palm Springs. He is an ardent Angels fan, and watches college and professional football, notably Western Conference teams—the San Francisco 49ers, the San Diego Chargers, the Oakland Raiders, and Seattle Seahawks.

He has accumulated a bunch of honors and citations, of course, a testament to his idealized qualities of respect, empathy, and dignity—traits he says that, when practiced, produce the best results when dealing with lawbreakers.

Campos has nothing but praise and gratitude for the "tremendous" cooperation afforded the department by other entities in the community—namely, DUSD's Wendy Doty and the Downey Superior Court's presiding judge, Ana Luna ("She's wonderful to work with"), to mention but two. And he pays tribute to the support he has received from the City Council and the City Manager's office.

Finding himself in the prime of life, he's surely aware that his best years are still ahead of him. Guiding him is a sound, pragmatic view of life: "Since there is no guarantee for the future, we have to have the ability to plan for it. And since we don't know what the future holds for us, we should enjoy each stage of our lives. We should take what life gives us. Enjoy the moment."

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# Return to Sender

By Eric Pierce

Next time, pay cash. A married man is suing 1-800-FLOWERS after the florist inadvertently revealed his affair to his unsuspecting wife.

The man is now suing the online floral company for \$1 million for "emotional distress" and "pain and suffering."

The married man, named Leroy, apparently sent his girlfriend a bouquet of red roses using his credit card. After the delivery, 1-800-FLOWERS sent Leroy a routine letter at home thanking him for his purchase.

Whoops! Leroy's wife found the letter and, not remembering receiving any flowers recently, called 1-800-FLOWERS, who faxed her a receipt of the order (one dozen long-stemmed red roses) and the note Leroy attached: "Just wanted to say that I love you and you mean the world to me!"

Commence "pain and suffering."

Leroy's wife, who already was going through an amicable divorce with her husband, was not amused. She went to her attorney and immediately asked for a \$300,000 divorce settlement, in addition to child support.

"That thank-you note is going to cost him money," Leroy's attorney is quoted as saying.

1-800-FLOWERS, for their part, released a statement saying "we are not responsible for an individual's personal conduct."

True, but should they have revealed information about the purchase to Leroy's wife? That's the \$300,000 question.

Of course, good boy Leroy could have avoided the entire mess by simply not cheating on his wife in the first place, and waiting for the divorce to be finalized.

...

Downey Regional Medical Center officials were at this week's city council meeting, giving a rundown on how the hospital was prepared to handle an increase in patients with the recent closure of Martin Luther King Jr.-Harbor Hospital.

I don't think the visit would have happened three months ago. Kudos to DRMC executives for doing that.

# Price controls are a prescription for disaster

CONTRIBUTED BY THE AYN RAND INSTITUTE

The prices of many U.S.-made prescription drugs are lower in places such as Canada, Australia, and Europe than in the United States. In order to allow Americans to take advantage of these lower prices, the House recently passed a bill that would permit the re-importation of these cheaper drugs to the U.S.

But according to Dr. Yaron Brook, executive director of the Ayn Rand Institute, "The supporters of the measure fail to ask one crucial question: why do prescription drugs cost so much less in other countries?"

"The answer is that, unlike the U.S., countries such as Canada impose price controls on prescription drugs, forcing drug companies that want to do business there to sell their products for less than they would in a free market. Drug re-importation schemes, like the one passed by the House, are in effect 'back-door' price controls. They enable Americans to buy the foreign price-controlled drugs at a lower price than their U.S. counterparts — just as if the U.S. government itself had capped prescription drug prices.

"But price controls violate the rights of drug makers. Neither the Canadian government nor the American government has a right to tell drug makers what prices they may charge for their products.

"Proponents of prescription drug price controls claim they are necessary in order to protect consumers from 'excessive' drug prices. But if a consumer determines that a drug price is 'excessive,' he already can protect himself — by refusing to buy the drug. He has no right to buy the drug for less than the drug company is willing to sell it, anymore than he has a right to buy a car for less than a car dealer is willing to charge.

"Indeed, the ultimate result of forcing drug makers to offer their products for less is to ensure that fewer such products are available. As with any commodity, price controls lead inevitably to shortages, as it becomes unprofitable for companies to produce enough drugs to meet the rising demand created by the artificially low price. And such controls hamper the creation of new life-saving medicines, as drug companies find it less profitable to invest the millions upon millions of dollars necessary to discover new drugs and bring them to the market.

"The sole reason Canada has been able to institute its price controls without severely hampering the discovery and production of prescription drugs in because it is 'free riding' on the backs of Americans. It is only because the American market is free from price controls that drug companies are able to recoup their enormous R&D costs, and thus find it profitable to sell additional units of the drugs at a lower cost in other, price-controlled countries. Should America impose price controls either directly or by proxy, the house of cards will collapse.

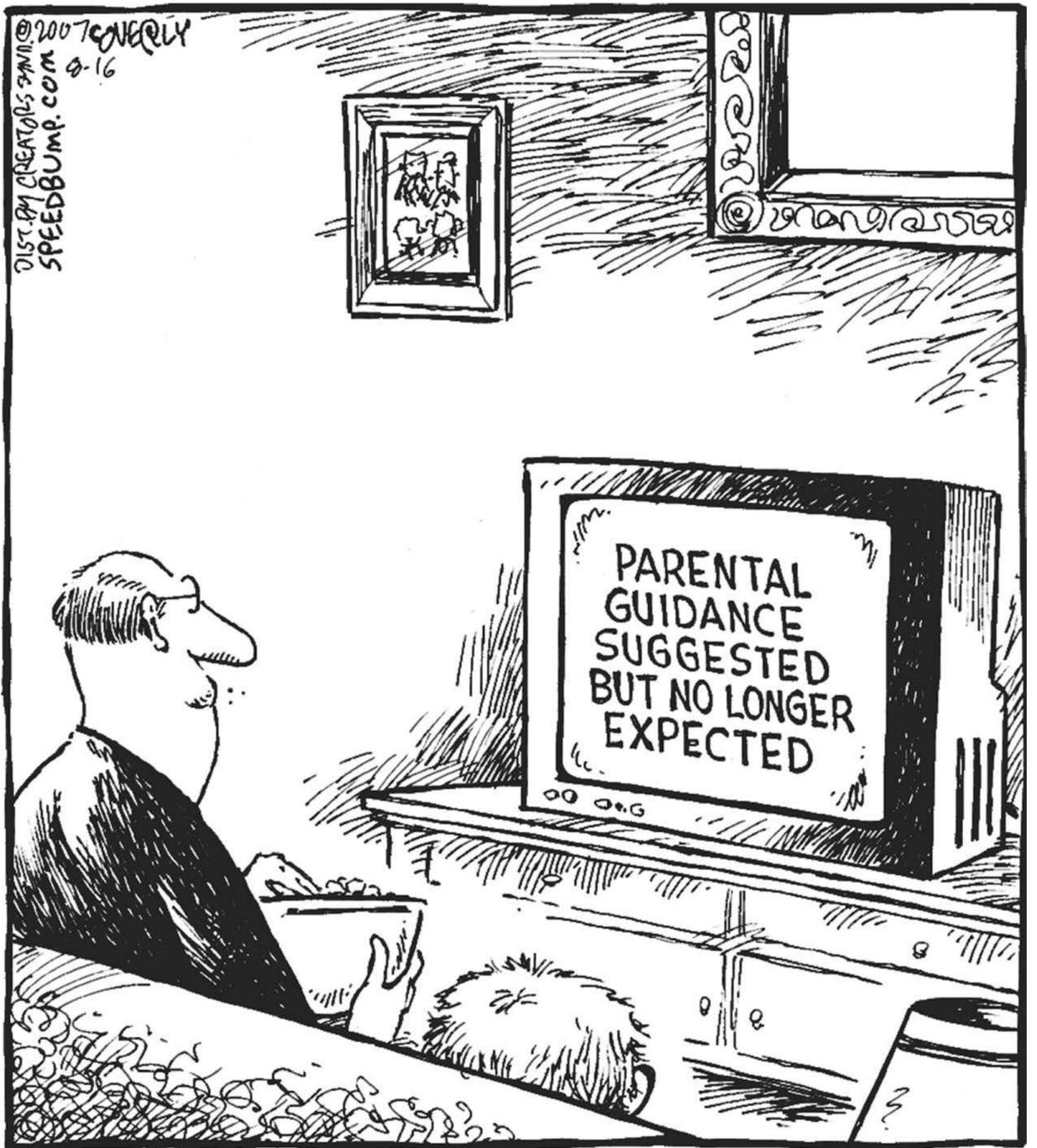
"We should protect the rights of pharmaceutical companies — and the welfare of consumers — and demand an end to price controls, direct and indirect."

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

## The Downey Patriot

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## Letters to the Editor:

### Modern day prohibition?

Dear Editor:

I was somewhat disturbed by the article by Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard and Congressman Ted Roe ("Keep Minimum Drinking Age Where It Is," 7/27/07), because of its irrational and misguided support of the drinking age. It initially mentioned the fact that the 21 minimum drinking age was signed into law by Ronald Reagan, which should have been the first indication that it was a misguided prohibition attempt. But unfortunately, this was not the case. Despite the other grievous failures of the Reagan administration, the elevated drinking age was heralded as a success, despite the fact that it clearly is not.

History has taught us that prohibition does not work, and many supporters of the 18th Amendment did not realize how badly their attempts at it would fail. The current prohibitionists have also failed to realize this.

Supporters of the drinking age often cite various sources and statistics, unaware that the interpretations of these studies are misleading and deceptive, and in many cases, thoroughly erroneous. Some of these include the National Center for Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University (CASA) and their blatant and deceptive misuse of government data through their over-sampling of 12 to 20 year olds by 25 percent, the false claims and misapplication of data in a National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, and also the misuse of various statistics by the severely misguided group Mothers Against Drunk Driving (although they might appropriately be called Mothers Against All Drinking) in their false claim that raising the drinking age saved more than 20,000 lives. In reality, raising the drinking age did not save more than 20,000 lives, but merely transferred the amount of deaths from the 18-20 category to the 21-24 category, as proven by a study done by researchers Peter Asch and David Levy. Thus, about the same amount of lives are still being lost, with the major difference that in this case, taxpayer dollars are being thrown away on efforts at prohibition enforcement.

MADD frequently flaunts this NHTSA data that supposedly proves that the higher drinking age is beneficial and saved over 20,000 lives. However, MADD conveniently forgets to mention that the statistics are based on studies of rats and severe alcohol abusers.

As for the false claims concerning Canada, alcohol-caused fatalities among the age group to which alcohol is prohibited here have fallen by a similar proportion, despite the fact that Canada's drinking age is still 18.

As for the false claim that "all underage drinking is unsafe drinking," this is simply not true. Orthodox Jewish males are frequently given a small taste of wine on the day of their circumcision, which occurs only eight days after their birth. And yes, there is of course, the Europe factor. Contrary to the false claims of worse drinking habits in Europe, their youth are gradually introduced to wine and are thus taught moderation, unlike in this country, where a rigorous standard of prohibition prevents moderation.

These false claims of drinking problems caused by the lower drinking age lack merit, and one would have to be rather naïve to simply blindly believe these supposed "studies."

—Julian E. Gutierrez,  
Downey

### Lash is a woman endeared by many

Dear Editor:

Thank you for highlighting Mary Lash on the front page ("Mary Lash is Last of Lewis Family Line," 8/3/07). She is not only from a Downey pioneer family, a well-respected home economics teacher at Paramount High, and a dedicated 4H leader, but she is also my Gamma Zeta Chapter sister of Delta Kappa Gamma Society International (an honorary society of women educators).

Your article noted that she was president of this organization, but she also held many other offices, including treasurer, for years. She's a busy lady, but one we can count on to offer her home and hospitality for meetings and support for our many activities.

Mary has many friends in Downey, but now the rest of the city knows about this special lady. Thank you.

— Irene Lonergan,  
President, Gamma Zeta Chapter  
Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

# Stop rationalizing terror performed by doctors

BY ADAM FREDERIC DORIN, MD

In a July 16, 2007 edition of the New England Journal of Medicine (NEJM), author Simon Wessely attempts to confront the issue of doctors as terrorists in a way that mirrors the thinking of most in the educated, "ruling class" of American medical leaders — he rationalizes the motivations for terror. It is for this reason, in fact, that the recent "doctor terrorist" scare in the United Kingdom will certainly repeat itself at some point here in the United States.

In essence, Dr. Wessely apologizes on behalf of the whole human race for the terrorists, and goes on to emphasize that historical, Western medicine owes more to Islam than any other religion.

How sad that the NEJM should succumb to the predictable left-wing dribble about how "humanity" — not individuals (or radical, but widely held religious beliefs) — is to blame for the "coincidence" of doctors being terrorists. A more mature, even-handed, and prudent position would be to acknowledge that radical Islam is a real and grave danger to societies everywhere.

Health care serial killers (or terrorists, if you'd like) have been active in Western society for a long time (and no, they are not exclusive to one religion or another); our job as medical professionals should not be to explain away this new threat of religiously-motivated madmen, but to identify those safety and security weaknesses inherent in our health care system which could be exploited to create disaster and claim innocent lives.

To this end, we should stop making excuses for our enemies, and start implementing new ways to minimize risks to our national security. In the context of our medical infrastructure, this means moving away from the paradigm of "preparedness" (i.e., being able to attend to catastrophes after they have already occurred) and toward an emphasis on prevention.

Adam Frederic Dorin, MD, is the author of "Jihad and American Medicine," available this fall through Greenwood Publishing Group.

### Bernabé Center needs volunteers

**DOWNEY** — Downey's Bernabé Community Center is searching for volunteers at least 15 years old to help the youth sports program a couple of hours per week.

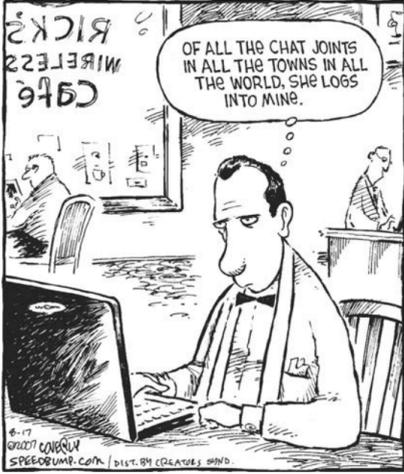
The Center is in need of football, soccer, basketball and softball coaches. To volunteer, call Dennis Dennehy, Director, at (562) 863-1899.

### Jerry Lewis Telethon needs volunteers

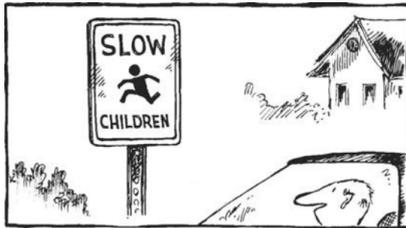
**LOS ANGELES** — The Muscular Dystrophy Association is currently seeking telethon volunteers for the 2007 Jerry Lewis Labor Day Telethon scheduled for Sept. 2-3 in Los Angeles.

The show will air from 6 p.m. Sunday to 6 p.m. Monday. Volunteer applications are available by calling (310) 450-9032.

## SPEED BUMP



## DAVE COVERLY



## Downey Community Calendar

### Events For August

Mon. Aug. 20: **Hot Dog on a Stick fundraiser**, Stonewood Center  
Tues. Aug. 21: **"Rating the Presidents of the 20th Century,"** Temple Ner Tamid, 10 a.m.  
Wed. Aug. 22: **Raymond Michael performs**, Furman Park Concert Series, 7 p.m.

### City Meetings

1st Tuesdays, 6:15 p.m.: **Redevelopment Project Area Committee**, Cormack Meeting Room at Downey Library.  
1st & 3rd Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.: **Planning Commission**, Council Chamber at City Hall.  
1st Tuesday, 4:00 p.m.: **Recreation and Community Services Commission**, Council Chamber, City Hall.  
1st Thursday, 9 a.m.: **Traffic Committee**, Training Room, Second Floor of City Hall.  
2nd & 4th Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.: **City Council/Community Development Commission**, Council Chamber.  
2nd & 4th Wednesday, 6 p.m.: **Design Review Board**, Council Chamber at City Hall.  
3rd Thursday, 3:30 p.m.: **Parking Place Commission**, Second Floor Training Room at City Hall

### Regularly Scheduled Meetings

#### Mondays

6:30 p.m.: **Metropolitan Masonic Lodge #352 dinner**, mtg., for information call 426-6786.  
6:30 p.m.: **Overeaters Anonymous**, at Downey Regional Med. Center Conf. Room A, for info. call 426-6786.  
1st Mon., 4 p.m.: **2nd Century Foundation**, at City Hall, 1st floor, call 927-9790.  
2nd Mon., 11 a.m.: **American Legion Auxiliary #270**, at United Methodist Church, for info. call 923-2481.  
2nd Mon., 3 p.m.: **Keep Downey Beautiful**, at City Hall, for more information call 904-7159.  
3rd Mon., 7 p.m.: **American Legion Post 270**, Los Amigos Country Club, call 869-1053.  
4th Mon., 7:30 p.m.: **Downey Numismatists**, at Downey Retirement Center, call 861-3989.

#### Tuesdays

9 a.m.: **Downey Bocce Club**, at Apollo Park, for information call Vince Zoida at (714) 761-4439.  
9:30 a.m.: **Downey Seniors Club**, at Apollo Park, for information call Nadine Morris at 923-9422.  
9:30 a.m.: **Adventure with the Bible**, at the First Baptist Church call 928-4153.  
12 p.m.: **Rotary Club**, at Rio Hondo, for information call Darren Dunaway at 806-5400.  
12 p.m.: **Exchange Club of Downey**, at Sizzler, for information call Don Hollister at 927-5871.  
6:00 p.m.: **Toastmasters Club 587**, at First Baptist Church, for info call 928-2658.  
7 p.m.: **Boy Scout Troop 2**, at Downey United Methodist Church, for information call 869-6478.  
7 p.m.: **Boy Scout Troop 441**, at Apollo Park Activities Room, for information call 923-3659.  
7:30 p.m.: **Southland Harmony Chorus of Sweet Adelines**, at Downey's Woman's Club, for information call 947-6802.  
2nd and 4th Tues., 7:30 a.m.: **Chamber "Rise&Shine" Networkers**, at Nordic Fox. for info. call (562) 923-2191.  
2nd and 4th Tues., 6 p.m.: **Sertoma Club**, at Bakers Square. for information call (562) 927-6438.  
2nd Tues., 7 p.m.: **Downey Fly Fishers**, at Apollo Park, for information call 943-3904.  
3rd Tues., 7:30 p.m.: **Writer's Workshop West**, at at Downey High School library, for info call 862-3106.  
Last Tues., 11:00 a.m.: **Los Companeros Service Club**, at Los Amigos Country Club, for info call 863-1549.

#### Wednesdays

7 a.m.: **Kiwanis Club**, at Rio Hondo Events Center. Call Steve Roberson at 927-2626.  
1 p.m.: **Women's Bocce Club**, for information call 869-8782.  
1st Weds., 10 a.m.: **Woman's Club of Downey**, for information call Barbara Briley-Beard 869-7618.  
1st Weds., 11:30 a.m.: **Downey Coordinating Council**, for information call 927-9790.  
1st Weds., 7:30 p.m.: **Downey Stamp Club**, at Maude Price School cafeteria, for information call 928-3028.  
1st Weds., 7:30 p.m.: **Downey Emblem Club #309**, at Downey's Elks Lodge, for information call 868-4386.  
2nd Weds., 7:30 p.m.: **Downey Model A Club**, at Gallatin School Cafeteria, for information call 928-4132.  
2nd Weds., 7:30 p.m.: **Downey Sister Cities Ass'n**, at Maude Price School, Call 862-7197.  
2nd Weds., 11:45 - **Downey Christian Women's Club**, at Los Amigos CC. Call 927-8488.  
3rd Weds., - **Downey Dog Obedience Club** Apollo Park.  
4th Weds., 12:00 noon: **Retired Federal Employees**, at **Furman Park West Bldg.**, call 943-5513.  
Wed.& Fri., 10:15 a.m.: **Senior Bingo**, at Apollo Park, for information call 904-7223.

#### Thursdays

7:30 a.m.: **Soroptimist Int'l of Downey**, for information, call Pat Heineke, 904-3534.  
7:30 a.m.: **Connections Networking**, at Nordic Fox 10924 Paramount, for information call 869-1414.  
12 p.m.: **Kiwanis Club of Downey**, at Rio Hondo Events Center, call Roy Jimenez 923-0971.  
12 p.m.: **Downey Christian Businessmen's Committee**, for information call 928-4153.  
12 p.m.: **Optimist Club of Downey**, at Samb'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 Barbara Briley Beard at 869-7618  
3rd Fri., 8:30 a.m.: **Women's "In His Glory" Ministry** at Los Amigos C. C. (562) 622-3785.

## On This Day...

**August 17, 1969:** Iconic music and art festival Woodstock concludes in Bethel, New York.  
**1969:** Hurricane Camille hits the Mississippi coast, killing 248 people.  
**1987:** Adolf Hitler confidant Rudolph Hess commits suicide at the age of 93.  
**1992:** Actor/director Woody Allen admits to a romantic relationship with Soon-Yi Previn, the adoptive daughter of his longtime girlfriend, Mia Farrow.  
**1998:** President Bill Clinton admits to an "improper physical relationship" with White House intern Monica Lewinsky.  
**1999:** A 7.4-magnitude earthquake kills more than 17,000 people in Izmit, Turkey.

## THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com)

**DUKING IT OUT: A heavyweight challenge**

by Doug Peterson

### ACROSS

- 1 Money in 17 Down
- 5 Svelte
- 9 Keep from collapsing
- 15 Tibetan ascetic
- 19 Wilson of Cars
- 20 Lunar effect
- 21 Arroyo
- 22 Tax shelters, briefly
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- 25 NYSE morning ritual
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- 46 Western Indians
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- 58 Seascape playwright
- 60 First Bond movie
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- 63 Former House majority leader
- 64 Tilted
- 66 It means "image"
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- 70 Bookbinder's tool
- 71 Controversial ruling of 1857
- 76 Rink official
- 78 \_\_\_ rule (generally)

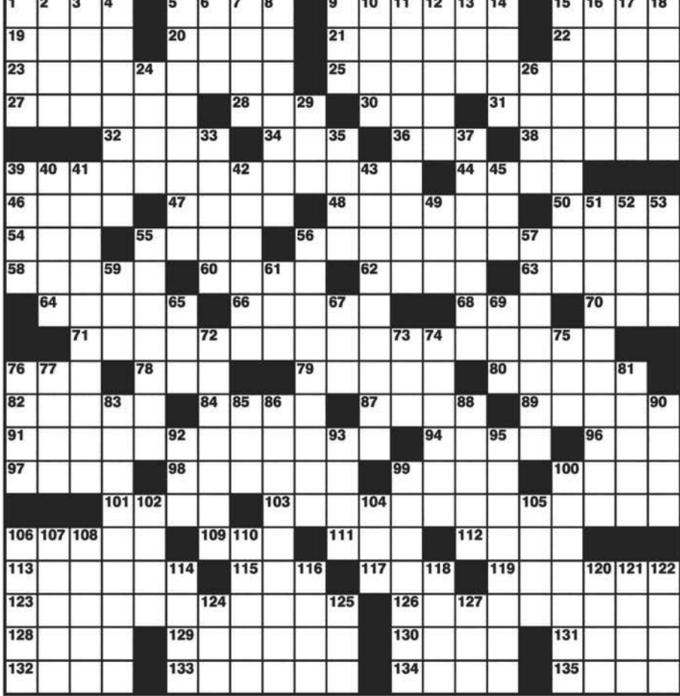
- 79 Fictional detective Vance
- 80 What dieters may cut
- 82 That is, to Trajan
- 84 Baylor's locale
- 87 Pointed ends
- 89 Bellini opera
- 91 Pacifier alternative
- 94 Trick-or-treaters' sounds
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- 132 Colorants
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- 4 Silky-haired cats
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- 11 WWI tune
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- 65 NFL scores
- 67 Utmost
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- 72 Shortened, as a board
- 73 Quarterback Manning

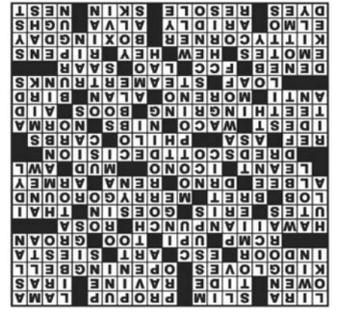
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- 74 Mend, as moccasins
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- 76 With 98 Across, *West Side Story* star
- 77 Shangri-la
- 81 Smug grin
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- 85 Cabinet dept.
- 86 Music marking
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- 90 Contributes
- 92 "\_\_\_ Yankee Doodle Dandy"
- 93 Yuletide
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- 102 Don't disregard
- 104 Sound of satisfaction
- 105 Death Valley rarity
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- 107 A Brontë sister
- 108 Denier's words
- 110 Rock of comedy
- 114 *Lion King* villain
- 116 Ably
- 118 Omelet ingredient
- 120 Upper hand
- 121 Slangy turndowns
- 122 Part of GPS
- 124 It lacks refinement
- 125 Manhattan ingredient
- 127 IV squared

You can contact puzzle editor Stanley Newman at his e-mail address: [StanXwords@aol.com](mailto: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.

Actress RENA SOFER (62 Across) was a regular on the soap operas "Loving" and "General Hospital." time series "24." Fictional sleuth PHILLO VANCE (79 Across) appeared in 12 novels written by S.S. RITA MORENO in the 1920s and '30s. Supporting Actress Oscar for "West Side Story," is one of the few performers to win an Emmy, a Grammy, an Oscar and a Tony.



## 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 cell phones.

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.

## TRAVELER

Continued from page 1

out a plan to fake one. Not a land grant that was already known, but a new one created by his imagination combined with hard work and skill at forgery.

He even forged a stone monument in a remote area of the desert. But he needed a grantee to whom he could link his claim. From the myths of the past he invented Miguel de Peralta, an alleged friend of King Ferdinand of Spain.

For seven years he crossed Mexico, Portugal and Spain. Even the monks and holy fathers who guarded the documents of old Spain were duped into granting him access.

Eventually he spotted documents on two continents to authenticate Don Miguel and the fake family tree that allegedly sprang from him.

But he still had to establish a connection between the bogus noble family and himself. Reavis had no Spanish blood.

He used George Willing, a man he met in Prescott, Ariz. He created a story that Willing had bought the deed to the vast land grant for \$1,000 from a poor Mexican, who was allegedly the rightful heir to the fake grant.

Then Reavis claimed Willing had sold it to him for \$30,000.

Curiously, Reavis recorded his deed, Willing died that night, and Reavis "found" papers in Willing's attic the next morning substantiating the claim, according to later investigators.

He then began to terrify the landowners for hundreds of miles by posting his bogus claim. He ordered them to settle with him at once for the rent of their land, or face eviction.

The ruse was nearly perfect. Even the mighty Southern Pacific Railroad and its lawyers blinked.

The Reavis claim was 225 miles long and 75 miles wide, and was equivalent to half of the state of Indiana. Lawyers looked into the case and shook their heads. They were attorneys, not experts on Spanish nobility.

The railroad and Silver King Mine actually capitulated. Many major ranchers did as well. They began to pay, and some major interests in the territory actually became Reavis's allies, hoping to benefit from his expected victory.

But he still needed a final piece for the puzzle. He hoped to end any question of his purchase of the grant. He did it through marriage, picking a 14-year-old waif from a San Bernardino, Calif., ranch. He made her his bride, and set about authenticating a claim in her name that she was the last Peralta.

He trained her to act as a noblewoman, a heritage she wasn't entitled to at all. And he then laid claim to the title he said was due him through the marriage-Baron of Arizona.

It was 1884. While Reavis traveled the world spending the money frightened landowners paid him, the U.S. Surveyor General studied. And studied. Finally, in 1890, it published a critical report pointing up certain errors in Reavis's documentation.

In 1891 the U.S. Court of Private Land Grant Claims was established. It was the beginning of the end for Reavis.

The camera proved useful. The court's investigators traveled to Europe and photographed and tested documents that Reavis had handled years before.

Chemicals were used to test parchment. Marks of a steel pen were found where a quill should have been used. And most damning of all, certain documents carried modern water marks.

Reavis was brought to trial in 1895 and was sentenced to six years in the Santa Fe penitentiary.

The story does not end there. On his release, Reavis came to Downey, living for many years in the county poor farm which later became Rancho Los Amigos Medical Center.

William McKellar, lifetime resident, wrote in his memoirs, "About 1913 James Addison Reavis, former claimant of the Peralta land grant, was residing in Downey where he made his living growing vegetables and doing odd jobs.

"The school boys in town used to, upon meeting Reavis, mock him and call him 'The Baron.' I recall him well . . . we boys always considered him crazy, for he still talked of his huge estate."

Reavis had first come to Downey during his wanderings when he was still putting together his land grant plot.

Judie McKellar, also a lifelong Downey resident, recalled Reavis when he first came to Downey in 1876. He was principal of the old Gallatin School here.

She wrote that Reavis taught history, math and other subjects, and was very proud in his appearance.

Reavis taught a while in Gallatin's two room school house, then left to make his outlandish run at history.

He must have liked Downey. For after riches, after prison, he came back to spend his later years on the poor farm.

Originally published December 6, 1996



**Downey High School student Amanda Flores spent a week in Washington, D.C. participating in the National Young Leaders Conference, with included a visit with Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard, who represents Downey.**

## Downey student a young leader

**DOWNEY** – Downey High School junior Amanda Flores visited with Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard (CA-34) during her weeklong stay in Washington, D.C. as a participant in the National Young Leaders' Conference.

Roybal-Allard, who represents the 34th District which includes Downey, said she was proud of Flores' involvement in the program and success in school.

"The National Young Leaders' Conference is a unique opportunity for young people to learn first-hand how our government operates," Roybal-Allard said. "Amanda is among the many bright students with leadership potential from across our country who will hopefully take what they've learned as part of this program and return home more knowledgeable about the process and better prepared to one day serve their communities and make a difference."

The conference was sponsored by the Congressional Youth Leadership Council, which is a non-profit, non-partisan leadership and educational organization that helps young people develop leadership skills.

Flores, who was in the nation's capital from July 21-30, was among more than 380 juniors and seniors from throughout the nation participating in the conference and one of approximately 40 students from California.

Flores and the other students visited with members of Congress during the week, conducted mock congressional and presidential deliberations and spent time sightseeing around the area.

Amanda is the daughter of Downey residents Pam and Oscar Flores.

## Adult classes offered throughout August

**DOWNEY** – Temple Ner Tamid will be offering adult classes every week throughout the month of August.

On Aug. 21 at 7:30 p.m., Cantor Ellen Jaffe-Gill will talk about the "Music of the High Holidays." The next day, at 10:30 a.m., Rabbi Len Muroff will review "What Does it Mean to Repent?," "Can You Forgive Others?," and "Study of Selected Prayers."

On Aug. 28 at 7:30 p.m. Rabbi Len Muroff will focus on "Themes of the Mahzor/Prayer Book."

Advanced registration is required.

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

## Picnic followed by service under the stars

**DOWNEY** – Temple Ner Tamid will be hosting a Shabbat Shoftim service as part of the "Shabbat Under the Stars" outdoor series tonight at 7:30 p.m.

A bring-you-own-dinner Temple picnic will take place at 6 p.m.

Services will be conducted by Rabbi Len Muroff and Cantor Ellen Jaffe-Gill. An Oneg Shabbat reception will follow the services, with desserts and beverages provided by the Sisterhood of the Temple.

The community is invited to attend.

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

## Presidents discussed at next Ezra meeting

**DOWNEY** – The Ezra Center for mature adults will be meeting on Aug. 21 at Temple Ner Tamid at 10 a.m.

Registration and refreshments begin at 9:45 a.m., followed by "Rating the Presidents of the 20th Century," a presentation by Dr. Donald Schwartz from 10 a.m. to noon.

The two-part presentation will explore what and why specific ratings were assigned by historians to each of our presidents. Part one will focus on presidents Teddy "Rough Rider" Roosevelt through Franklin Delano Roosevelt, highlighting the successes and failures of each. Part two will continue on Sept. 18 and will focus on presidents Harry S. Truman through Ronald Reagan.

A catered Kosher luncheon will be served after the program. Cost is \$6 for Ezra members and \$7 for non-members.

For information, call Miriam Brookfield at (562) 943-3170.

## Golf tournament raising cancer awareness

**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 (OCCA).

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 year.

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.

Various contests will be held, as well as raffles, silent and live auctions, and a dinner. Check-in time is 10 a.m.

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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**Word of MOUTH**  
by Soheir S. Azer, D.D.S.

The dental restorations known as "inlays" and "onlays" are usually applied to back teeth that have endured significant damage due to decay. The difference between them is that an inlay fits within a prepared cavity while an onlay covers the tooth's entire biting surface and most of the cusps in addition to fitting within the prepared cavity. This added coverage affords the tooth more protection of whatever little tooth structure remains. If an onlay is intended for a tooth that has undergone root canal therapy or a previous filling, the onlay's edges will rest on the tooth's entire outer circumference to protect it from further fracture. Most inlays and onlays are made of an alloy of metals that ensures durability.

At the initial consultation the dentist will determine whether the tooth can be repaired using an inlay or onlay procedure or whether a more extensive treatment, such as a crown, is needed. Our family oriented practice encourages comprehensive complete care with emphasis on prevention through early detection. We'll be sure to review your oral and general health history and give you all the options available to you. Your dental health is our number one priority. Please call (562) 923-3714 to schedule an appointment for gentle dental care. We're located at 10800 Paramount Blvd., Suite 307, where we are currently accepting new patients. P.S. Inlays and onlays can last for one to two decades, and longer.  
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Burbank	818.525.3760	Laguna Hills	949.470.8160	Santa Monica-New!	310.917.4900
Camarillo	805.465.1053	La Verne	909.593.4944	Torrance	310.891.6240
Cerritos	562.916.7260	Long Beach	562.668.5050	Tustin	714.368.2100
Chino Hills	909.631.2560	Manhattan Beach	310.727.5660	Ventura	805.677.2300
City of Industry	626.961.3486	Mission Viejo	949.347.7014	West Covina	626.859.4200
Covina	626.331.0651	Monterey Park	323.767.1180	Whittier	562.968.2360
Downey	562.658.4460	Newport/Costa Mesa	949.764.6420		
Encino	818.817.5320	North La Verne	909.392.5868		

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## Acclaimed fiddler, cellist inaugurate concert series

**COSTA MESA** – Master fiddler Alasdair Fraser and cellist Natalie Haas will offer a journey through the rich Scottish music tradition when they inaugurate the World Currents Series on Sept. 16 at the Orange County Performing Arts Center.

World Currents Series is an eclectic new series “designed to showcase international artists of varying perspectives and heritages who uniquely demonstrate the ability of music and performance to transcend cultures and borders.”

Tickets to see Fraser and Haas are \$36, and go on sale this Sunday. They're available by visiting the Performing Arts Center box office at 600 Town Center Drive in Costa Mesa, or by calling (714) 556-2787.

Alasdair Fraser, long regarded as one of Scotland's premier musical ambassadors, will be presenting the music of his homeland. His dynamic fiddling, engaging stage presence and deep understanding of Scotland's music have created international demand for his solo appearances and concerts, organizers said. His repertoire spans several centuries of Scottish music and includes his own compositions.

Besides his solo career, Fraser performs with the Celtic fusion group, Skydance, directs the 100-member Scottish Fiddlers Orchestra and plays for Scottish country dancing with Muriel Johnstone. He has also been featured on more than 100 television and radio shows and has made guest appearances with groups ranging from the Los Angeles Master Chorale to The Chieftains, as well as with Itzhak Perlman.

Haas first met Fraser when she was 11 and attending the Valley of the Moon Scottish Fiddling School. She began performing in concert with Fraser just four years later. She has since joined the staff at several of Fraser's music sites, including the Valley of the Moon School, Glasgow's Celtic Connections, Sabhal Mor Ostaig on the Isle of Skye and the Ceilidh Trail School in Cape Breton, Canada.



Ann Peck McBride will return to the Downey Civic Light Opera for her 13th production as “Aunt Eller” in “Oklahoma!”, opening Oct. 4 and continuing until Oct. 21 at the Downey Theatre. The theatre box office will open Aug. 21 from 1 to 5 p.m. to sell early tickets. For information, call (562) 923-1714.

## Teens strut their stuff at fashion show

**DOWNEY** – Stonewood Center will be hosting a “Teen Life of Style Crew – Back to School Fashion Show,” on Aug. 26 at 2 p.m.

The fashion show, which will also be held at Lakewood Center (Aug. 24, 7 p.m.) and Los Cerritos Center (Aug. 25, 2 p.m.), will feature a live fashion show produced by James Campbell, fashion show mixes by DJ Shy from KIIS-FM, and the latest styles from Anchor Blue, d.e.m.o., Vans, Hot Topic, Windsor Fashions, Finish Line, Beachworks, Up Against the Wall, Wet Seal, Ziba Beauty Center, and Scandalous Cosmetics.

The 25 teen models are competing to become a part of the Teen Life of Style Crew. Nine of the 25 will be selected to join the team. Prizes include concert tickets, a \$250 One Great Gift Card, and a chance to become the teen fashion representative for all three shopping centers.

## Harvest Festival in Long Beach

**LONG BEACH** – An Elvis impersonator on stilts will be just one of the many attractions at the Long Beach Harvest Festival Original & Craft Show scheduled for Sept. 14-16 at the Long Beach Convention Center.

The Lee Westenhofer Trio will perform in the food court each day during lunch time, and other acclaimed musicians from the L.A. area are scheduled to perform as well.

Other strolling acts, artists, crafts and gifts make up the family-friendly Harvest Festival.

Tickets are \$8 for adults, \$7 for seniors and \$4 for teenagers. Kids 12 and under are free. Tickets are valid for re-entry all weekend.

Visit [www.harvestfestival.com](http://www.harvestfestival.com) for tickets and more information.

## Ghostfest II aboard Queen Mary

**LONG BEACH** – Ghostfest II, the second annual Queen Mary paranormal weekend, is scheduled for Sept. 28-29, presented by the Queen Mary and “Beyond Investigation Magazine.”

Erika Frost, the Queen Mary's own paranormal researcher, will serve as hostess for the event.

Ghostfest II is a scientific and spiritual exploration of poltergeists, psychic phenomena and ghost research, with special after-hours and late-night tours, lectures and readings.

Activities will begin Sept. 28 at 8 p.m. and continue into the early morning hours. Saturday activities begin at noon, and the last investigative tour, conducted by Pat Wheelock of “Beyond Investigation Magazine,” will depart into the depths of the legendary ship at 1 a.m.

General admission is \$22.95 for adults, \$19.95 for seniors and military, and \$11.95 for children. Additional charges will apply for tours and readings.

## ‘Visual artist’ displaying creative works

**NORWALK** – A selection of work by artist Alex Donis spanning 12 years of his creative production will open Aug. 21 at the Cerritos College Art Gallery. The exhibition will run through Sept. 25.

Donis is a Los Angeles-based visual artist whose work “examines and redefines the boundaries set within religion, politics, race and sexuality.” He has worked extensively in a variety of media including painting, installation, video and works on paper.

“Alex Donis: Selected Works 1995-2006” includes work from his series, “Altar de Amor,” “My Cathedral,” “War,” “Heroina,” and “Pas de Deux.”

Donis has exhibited his work at the Armand Hammer Museum of Art and Culture; the Santa Monica Museum of Art, the Longwood Art Center, New York; the Geffen Contemporary; the Laguna Museum of Art; Los Angeles Contemporary Exhibitions; the Mexican Museum, San Francisco; Randolph Street Gallery, Chicago; Galeria de la Raza, San Francisco; Columbia University, New York; and Artspace, Sydney, Australia.

The Cerritos College Art Gallery is located on the Cerritos College campus. For more information, call Gallery Director Christina Fernandez at (562) 860-2451, ext. 2620.

## ‘Private Lives’ an intimate comedy

**LONG BEACH** – “Private Lives,” a comedy by Noel Coward, will open at the Long Beach Playhouse Studio Theatre next Friday and continue until Sept. 29.

In brief: Elyot and Amanda, once married and now honeymooning with new spouses at the same hotel, meet by chance, reignite the old spark and impulsively elope. After days of being reunited, they again find their fiery romance alternating between passions of love and anger. Their aggrieved spouses appear and a roundelay of affiliations ensues as the women first stick together, then apart, and new partnerships are formed.

Tickets are \$22 for adults and \$20 for seniors. Student ticket prices are \$12 Fridays and Saturdays.

Tickets are available by calling the box office at (562) 494-1014.

## Sebastian Sidi live at OC Pavilion

**SANTA ANA** – Downey musician Sebastian Sidi will be performing live at the OC Pavilion Performing Arts Theatre Sept. 8.

Orchestra seats are sold out but Front Theatre and Back Theatre section seats are still available, priced at \$30 and \$25 respectively.

Tickets can be purchased by calling the OC Pavilion box office at (714) 550-0550 Mondays through Friday between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m.

## New Entertainment this week

### CD Releases

**Josh Ritter** - *The Historical*  
*Conquests of Josh Ritter*  
**Joe Bonamassa** - *Sloe Gin*  
**Rilo Kiley** - *Under the Blacklight*  
**The New Pornographers** - *Challengers*  
**Darren Hayes** - *This Delicate Thing We've Made*  
**Talib Kweli** - *Ear Drum*  
**Thelonus Monk** - *Monterey Jazz Festival Live 1964*  
**M.I.A.** - *Kala*  
**Ratt** - *The Very Best of Ratt*  
**Travis Tritt** - *The Storm*  
 Source: Amazon.com

### Concerts

FRIDAY, AUGUST 17

**Colin Hay** - Galaxy Concert Theatre  
**Diana Krall** - Hollywood Bowl  
**Los Lonely Boys** - Greek Theatre  
**Lost '80s Live** - HOB Anaheim  
**Maze** - Gibson Amphitheatre  
**Paul Rodriguez** - Grove of Anaheim  
**Richie Furay** - Coach House

SATURDAY

**311** - Coors Amphitheatre  
**Cured** - Galaxy Concert Theatre  
**Diana Krall** - Hollywood Bowl  
**George Clinton & the P-Funk All-Stars** - Greek Theatre  
**Hilary Duff** - Grove of Anaheim  
**Lisa Lampanelli** - Wiltern  
**Maze, Los Temerarios** - Gibson Am.  
**Pat Dulce** - Skirball Center  
**Richie Furay, Chris Hillman** - Malibu Performing Arts Center  
**Stevie Nicks, ZZ Top, Sugar Ray** - Verizon Wireless Theatre  
**Wild Child** - HOB Anaheim

SUNDAY

**311** - Verizon Wireless Theatre  
**Beastie Boys** - Greek Theatre  
**Dave Koz** - Hollywood Bowl  
**George Lopez** - Honda Center  
**Hi-5** - UCLA  
**Shannon McNally** - HOB Anaheim

MONDAY

**Beastie Boys** - Greek Theatre  
**Bawling for Soup** - HOB Anaheim

TUESDAY

**Beastie Boys** - Wiltern  
**Michael Buble** - Greek Theatre  
**Ted Nugent** - HOB Anaheim  
**UB40** - Grove of Anaheim

WEDNESDAY

**Bruce Hornsby** - Hollywood Bowl  
**Michael Buble** - Greek Theatre  
**Zappa Plays Zappa** - HOB Anaheim

THURSDAY

**Cecilia Noel & the Wild Clams** - Skirball Center  
**Circa** - Coach House  
**Clint Black** - Cerritos Center  
**Donnia Osmond** - HOB Anaheim  
**Zappa Plays Zappa** - Wiltern

Source: Casenet

### DVD Releases

MOVIES

**The Ex**  
**The Lives of Others**  
**Perfect Stranger**  
**Redline**  
**The Ultimate Gift**  
 TV/MISC.  
**Robocop - 20th Anniv. Edition**  
 Source: Box Office Mojo

### Video Game Releases

**Brunswick Bowling** - PS2  
**BioShock** - X360  
**Two Worlds** - X360  
**Ghost Recon: Advanced Warfighter 2** - PS3  
**Mercury Meltdown: Revolution** - Wii  
 Source: ebgames.com

### Book Releases

“*Still Summer*” by Jacqueline Mitchard  
 “*Letters to a Young Teacher*” by Jonathan Kozol  
 “*The Sanctuary*” by Raymond Khoury  
 “*Power Play*” by Joseph Finder  
 “*Away*” by Amy Bloom  
 “*Ike: An American Hero*” by Michael Korda  
 Source: barnesandnoble.com

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RUSH HOUR 3 PG13	(11:15 1:50 4:25) 7:00 9:35
RUSH HOUR 3 PG13	(12:15 2:50) 5:25 8:00 10:35
STARBUCKS PG13	(10:15 1:15 4:15) 7:15 10:15
DADDY DAY CAMP PG	(11:45 2:10 4:35) 7:00 9:25
SKINWALKERS PG13	9:25
THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM PG13	(10:45 1:35 4:25) 7:15 10:05
UNDERDOG PG	(10:45 1:00 3:15) 5:30 7:45 10:00
THE SIMPSONS MOVIE PG13	(11:00 1:15 3:30) 5:45 8:00 10:15
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## Steve Clay: An accomplished artist by any definition

BY BROOKE KARLI  
STAFF WRITER

American Congregational preacher Henry Ward Beecher once said, "Every artist dips his brush in his own soul, and paints his own nature into his pictures."

Such is true when observing the art of Steve Clay.

In every piece mastered by Clay, it is evident that he has a passionate nature and a vibrant soul.

Clay, 62, has been in love with art since he was seven years old. He would intently watch his cousin draw and doodle in sketchbooks and, as he would put it, "was hooked from then on."

Clay grew up in Chicago, Ill., and after moving to the south side of the city, he began to realize that his African American-Native American-German heritage would work against him – especially when pursuing a career in art.

Following his sophomore year in high school, Clay left the school he had been attending to attend the junior Art Institute of Chicago.

"Once I got into art, everything fell into place," said Clay about his move to the junior institute. "I began focusing a lot more and getting better grades."

Graduating in 1962, he and a friend beat out 500 applicants for the Art Institute of Chicago, receiving a full-ride scholarship. His time there was faced with adversity, struggling to prove himself – and his work – to Caucasian colleagues and professors.

He later switched to the American Academy of Art in Chicago, studying illustration, advertising design, and watercolors. He graduated in 1965 with an Associate of Arts degree.

His professional career began with a job working as an apprentice for a small commercial art studio. But with having to support his wife, and with a child on the way, Clay needed a more stable position.

"It was difficult finding a job in my field because I was too good to be an apprentice, but not good enough to be a layout artist," said Clay.

He then got a job designing window displays for Marshall Field & Company in Chicago. In pursuit of a career in illustration, he left the department store after three years of service to work as an illustrator and graphic designer for the Encyclopedia Britannica Educational Corporation.

His experience accrued at the encyclopedia company led him to a new position at CBS/WBBM-TV in 1968. Working as a graphic designer and illustrator, he created courtroom illustrations for television, developed on-air graphics for local news, and designed advertising for the station.

Having later left CBS, Clay worked as a freelance illustrator, working for such clients as Johnson Publishing Company; Hart; Shaffner and Marx; Scott Foresman & Company; Burrell Advertising, Inc.; Avon Books; Anheuser Busch Brewing Company; Paramount Pictures; and the American Medical Association.

One of the most rewarding projects that Clay has worked on was in 1988 for Empak Publishing Company, an African American Educational firm. The project consisted of 30 paintings, all depicting the history of African Americans. Many of the paintings were featured in the film, "Made in America," and the Montel Williams television series, "Matt Waters." Clay also created three poster series that received recognition as one of the most popular and extensive Black History educational tools used in classrooms throughout the United States.

After moving to California in 1995, Clay collaborated with publisher Paloma Editions to create paintings that would become a series of limited edition prints dedicated to the Black West.

Unfortunately, after completing only two of these paintings, Clay suffered a stroke, leaving him without the use of his right, painting hand and arm, as well as his right leg.

"I thought it was over," Clay said.

Upon receiving rehabilitation services at Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center, he moved to Downey.

Clay went through two years of vigorous rehab, and four years as an outpatient.

With the loss of his right hand, Clay knew he had to find a way of being able to paint.

"I remember opening a sketchbook and drawing Johnny Cochran with my left hand," Clay recalled. "It was rough and shaky, but at least I knew I could draw with my left hand."

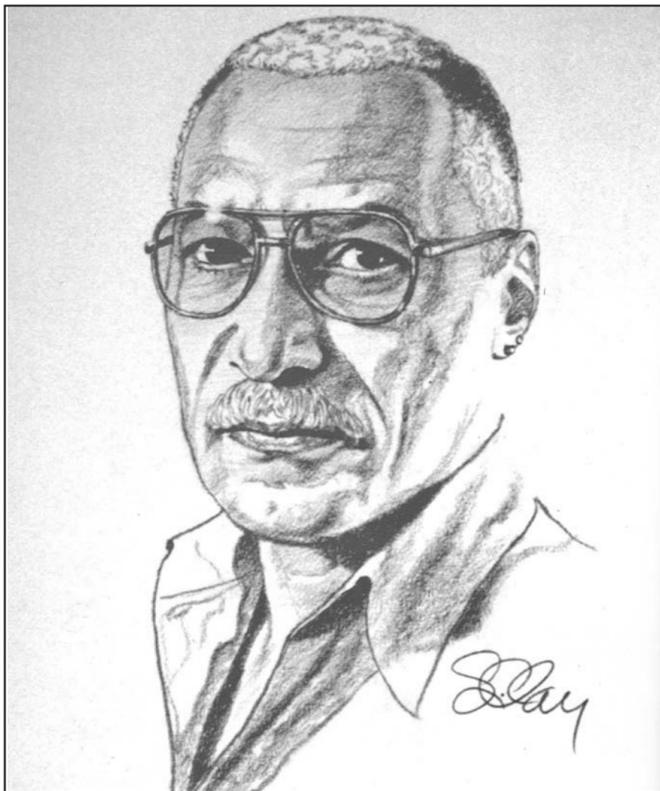
It was during that time that Clay began to believe in himself and have faith that no matter how debilitating a stroke, he could still do what he feels he was created to do – paint.

"As an illustrator, you must be able to learn and use different techniques and materials," said Clay. "It was the same with my left hand – I had to learn how to use a different resource."

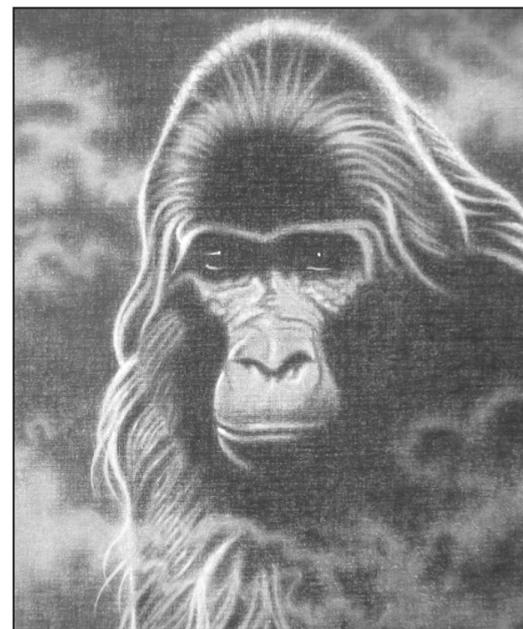
Currently, Clay uses both hands in his work and continues to volunteer at Rancho.

"They're the best [at Rancho] and have done so much for me," Clay said.

Clay recently helped establish "The Art of Rancho," an exhibit for artists with disabilities, promoting life after disabling illness or injury. He will also be teaching an art class alongside four other artists at Rancho Los Amigos starting next month. Clay's work can be seen at the next "The Art of Rancho" exhibit on November 8.



Steve Clay has been in love with art since he was seven years old. Since then, he has built an impressive portfolio, which includes a sketched self-portrait, a powerful painting reflecting his Cherokee heritage and a majestic painting of a gorilla. His work can be viewed at Rancho Los Amigos on November 8.



He was also – in conjunction with the 2005 celebration of Black History Month – commissioned to paint a tribute to the Buffalo Soldiers, a group of former slaves, freemen, and Civil War veterans formed in 1866 – also known as the first Black professional soldiers' unit in a peacetime army. His painting, titled, "The Invisible Men of Honor," was inducted into the permanent collection of the Buffalo Soldiers National Museum and Heritage Center in Houston, Texas. The painting was also sponsored by WalMart and commissioned by E. Morris Communications, a Chicago-based marketing and communications firm.

Although much can be said of a man of great talent and integrity, his website, [www.steveclayart.com](http://www.steveclayart.com), says it best:

"A master draftsman and superb painter, Steve Clay's ardent desire to share with the viewer the power, strength and grace of his subjects. He doesn't just take things as given. He makes them into something that reflects his personal consciousness...his spirit. Finding the poetry in each image is his inner passion."



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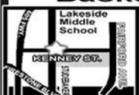
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\* **SUPERBAD** R (10:40, 11:30, 1:30, 2:15, 4:15, 5:00, 7:00, 7:45, 9:45, 10:30)  
**RUSH HOUR 3** PG-13 (12:00, 2:30, 3:10, 4:50, 7:15, 8:00, 9:40, 10:20)  
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**DADDY DAY CAMP** PG: Fri to Sun: (10:05 AM, 12:35 PM); Mon: (10:05 AM); Tue to Thur: (10:05 AM, 12:35 PM)  
**THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM** PG-13 (11:10, 2:00, 4:55, 7:45, 10:30)  
**UNDERDOG** PG: Fri to Sun: (10:25, 12:40, 2:50, 5:05, 7:15, 9:30); Mon: (2:50, 5:05, 7:15); Tue to Thur: (10:25, 12:40, 2:50, 5:05, 7:15)  
**THE SIMPSONS MOVIE** PG-13 Fri to Sun: (10:00, 12:15, 2:45, 5:10, 7:20, 9:35); Tue to Thur: (10:00, 12:15, 2:45, 5:10, 7:20, 9:35)  
**I NOW PRONOUNCE YOU CHUCK & LARRY** PG-13 9:30 PM  
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Special Engagement/No Passes \* [www.kptmovies.com](http://www.kptmovies.com)

# Faith in Downey: Downey-Florence Seventh-day Adventist Church

BY BROOKE KARLI  
STAFF WRITER

**D**owney-Florence Seventh-day Adventist Church began in the early 1900's, when a small group of Adventist believers met in Vernon, a suburb of Los Angeles. Following World War I, the group moved to a larger building in Florence, south of Huntington Park.

Although church membership grew for quite some time, membership began to decline and church repairs began to increase during the late 1940's and early 1950's. It was in November of 1953 when church members and conference officials decided to sell the present church and move to Downey.

Because the property sold sooner than planned, the Adventist congregation had to find a place to meet. First Presbyterian Church of Downey opened their doors to the congregation, sharing their facilities for Sabbath School and worship services.

Property on Paramount Boulevard was then purchased and a church was built. It was later decided upon to sell the Paramount Boulevard property and buy a new lot on Lakewood Boulevard, which is where the church currently resides. Ground-breaking ceremonies took place in November of 1956, and the church was opened in May of 1958.

According to Rev. Mitch Williams, the members of Downey-Florence Seventh-day Adventist Church have always desired to reach out to the community.

Many of the ministries offered at the church do just that.

For example, the church hosts two Boys and Girls Clubs of America, providing ethical, moral and Biblical teaching and training. Containers are also located within the church for food donations, which are donated to PTA HELPS. The church offers music and art classes, teaching community and church members how to play instruments and how to use different art techniques. There is also a lap-robe ministry, which provides lap-ropes for elderly in convalescent homes, hospitals, and more.

There are approximately 240 members at Downey-Florence Seventh-day Adventist Church, with an average Saturday morning attendance of 125.

The church is a part of the Seventh-day Adventist denomination, which according to Williams, also has the largest Protestant parochial school system. Williams went on to say that Adventists, for the most part, are vegetarians and promote exercising and thinking positively.

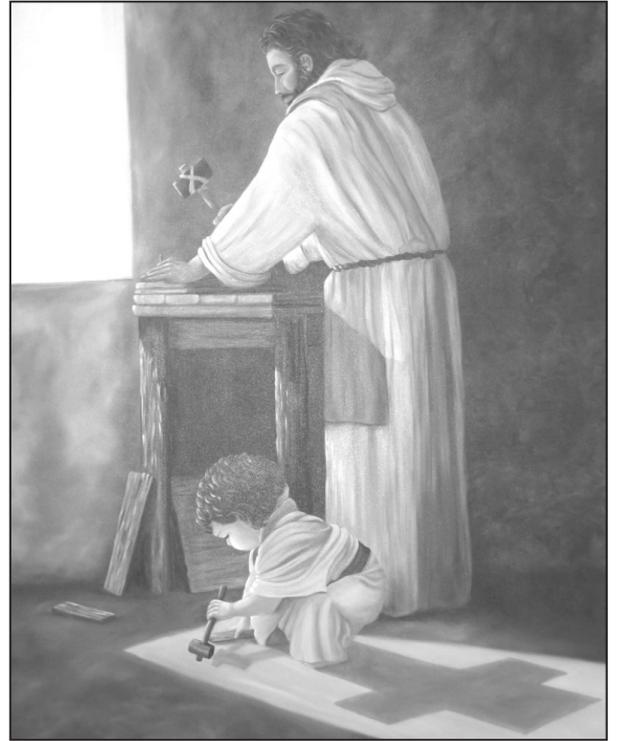


Downey-Florence Seventh-day Adventist Church has been in Downey since 1953. Currently, the church has around 240 members and are active in community programs such as PTA HELPS and the Boys and Girls Clubs of America. Photo by Brooke Karli

According to www.adventist.org, Adventists believe the following:

- **Holy Scriptures** – The Holy Scriptures, Old and New Testaments, are the written Word of God, given by divine inspiration through holy men of God who spoke and wrote as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.
  - **Trinity** – There is one God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, a unity of three co-eternal Persons.
  - **Creation** – God is Creator of all things, and has revealed in Scripture the authentic account of His creative activity. In six days the Lord made “the heaven and the earth” and all living things upon the earth, and rested on the seventh day of that first week.
  - **Nature of Man** – Man and woman were made in the image of God with individuality, the power and freedom to think and to do. Though created free beings, each is an indivisible unity of body, mind, and spirit, dependent upon God for life and breath and all else.
  - **Life, Death, and Resurrection of Christ** – In Christ's life of perfect obedience to God's will, His suffering, death, and resurrection, God provided the only means of atonement for human sin, so that those who by faith accept this atonement may have eternal life, and the whole creation may better understand the infinite and holy love of the Creator.
  - **Baptism** – By baptism we confess our faith in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, and testify of our death to sin and of our purpose to walk in newness of life.
  - **Lord's Supper** – The Lord's Supper is a participation in the emblems of the body and blood of Jesus as an expression of faith in Him, our Lord and Savior.
  - **Spiritual Gifts and Ministries** – God bestows upon all members of His church in every age spiritual gifts which each member is to employ in loving ministry for the common good of the church and of humanity.
  - **Law of God** – The great principles of God's law are embodied in the Ten Commandments and exemplified in the life of Christ. They express God's love, will, and purposes concerning human conduct and relationships and are binding upon all people in every age.
  - **Sabbath** – The beneficent Creator, after the six days of Creation, rested on the seventh day and instituted the Sabbath for all people as a memorial of Creation. The fourth commandment of God's unchangeable law requires the observance of this seventh-day Sabbath as the day of rest, worship, and ministry in harmony with the teaching and practice of Jesus, the Lord of the Sabbath.
  - **Stewardship** – We are God's stewards, entrusted by Him with the time and opportunities, abilities and possessions, and the blessings of the earth and its resources.
  - **Second Coming of Christ** – The second coming of Christ is the blessed hope of the church, the grand climax of the gospel. The Savior's coming will be literal, personal, visible, and worldwide. When He returns, the righteous living will be glorified and taken to heaven, but the unrighteous will die.
  - **Millennium and the End of Sin** – The millennium is the thousand-year reign of Christ with his saints in heaven between the first and second resurrections. During this time the wicked dead will be judged; the earth will be utterly desolate, without living human inhabitants, but occupied by Satan and his angels.
  - **New Earth** – On the new earth, in which righteousness dwells, God will provide an eternal home for the redeemed and a perfect environment for everlasting life, love, joy, and learning in His presence.
- Services at Downey-Florence Seventh-day Adventist are held on Saturdays at 9:15 (study) and 10:50 a.m. (worship).

**Downey-Florence Seventh-day Adventist Church**  
9820 Lakewood Blvd.  
(562) 869-6013  
www.downeychurch.com



A painting depicting Jesus as a young child hangs in the foyer at Downey-Florence Seventh-day Adventist Church. A bronze statue of praying hands sits on a table, also in the foyer. Photos by Brooke Karli

Downey Family YMCA  
11531 Downey Avenue, Downey, CA 90241

## Camp White's Landing Summer Resident Camp Catalina Island August 20th-24th 2007

Join the Downey Family YMCA on there voyage to beautiful Catalina Island Teen Beach Camp. Activities may include snorkeling, kayaking, tide pooling, mountain biking, ecology,, wildlife hikes, geology treks, night hikes, beach front movies, hanging out at the beach, and much.

**Contact person: Cecilia Butler, Camp Program Director 562) 862-4201 x1740**

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**Financial Assistance:**  
The Downey Family YMCA has special funds available to assist families in managing the cost of camp. Financial Assistance (Camp

## A message from the congregation:

**T**he Downey Adventist Church is a healing community. For example, when we met John and Susan (names changed to protect privacy), their relationship was fractured. Today, things are better. As they opened their hearts to God, they discovered forgiveness. Ted struggled since his youth with substance abuse trying to fill the place in his heart reserved only for God. He noticed the changes in others and how they gained strength through prayer and trusting in God. Over time, he began making better choices and embracing God's power in his life. Is he completely healed?

When we fall down, there are many non-judgmental hands to reach out and help us up as we live the faith journey together. Growth in the grace and love of God is a daily adventure and that's our goal.

Known for their hospitals like White Memorial and Loma Linda University, Adventists gained a reputation as people who care about good health. Good physical and spiritual health is important. However, the one trait we strive for is to be known as those who simply love one another (John 13:35).

Families are important to us as we offer Christian education to children, kindergarten through eighth grade, at the Adventist Union School located in Bellflower. San Gabriel Academy is our college preparatory school for high school-aged kids. In addition, we believe in training children to serve our Lord by including them in our weekly services. They might play an instrument, offer a puppet message, sing, or just come up to hear the children's story.

—Rev. Mitch Williams,  
Downey-Florence Seventh-day Adventist Church

### Shabbat services every Friday at Temple Ner Tamid

**DOWNEY** – Temple Ner Tamid invites the community to attend Shabbat services every Friday evening at 7:30 p.m.

The first Friday service of the month is a learning/teaching service; the second Friday is a traditional service; the third Friday is a family and celebrations service; and the fourth Friday is a music service.

Services are conducted by Rabbi Len Muroff and Cantor Ellen Jaffe-Gill, with Norberto Guinaldo at the organ.

Following the services, Kiddush is held (wine and challah are included). Oneg Shabbat follows in the Fellowship Hall, with refreshments provided by the Temple's Sisterhood.

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

### Elite Soccer teams host fundraiser

**DOWNEY** – The Boys Under 13 and Under 14 Elite Soccer teams will be hosting a “Stateline Day Trip” fundraiser on August 25.

The bus will be departing from 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.

### Hot Dog on a Stick helping foundation

**DOWNEY** – Hot Dog on a Stick, producer of hot dogs on a stick and fresh-squeezed lemonade, will donate 25 cents of every large lemonade cup sold on National Lemon Day – Aug. 20 – to Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation, which helps raise awareness and research for childhood cancer.

This is the second year Hot Dog on a Stick has partnered with Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation.

Customers wishing to help the cause can visit any Hot Dog on a Stick store. Funds raised will go directly to supporting grants for research and education on childhood cancer.

# Sertoma helps fulfill baseball fantasies

■ Children with hearing disabilities get their chance to “chase their dreams.”

By MARY FORNEY  
CONTRIBUTOR

ANAHEIM – When Ed Mattson, Jr. started playing baseball in grade school, he had difficulty communicating with his coaches. Not wanting Mattson to give up on the game, his mother sent him to Fantasy Baseball Camp in Anaheim.

Now 10 years later, Mattson, 17, joined 34 other hearing-impaired children at Angels Stadium Aug. 9 to experience the dream of playing on a professional baseball field. Mattson's determination and chance to play baseball growing up enabled him to receive a baseball college scholarship.

“It's inspiring seeing these kids chasing their dreams,” said Eric Kay, communications manager for the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim baseball team.

Every year, the camp attendees are given the opportunity to play on the Angels Stadium field for one day and given free tickets to watch the Angels play. In the past, hearing-impaired Angels player Curtis Pride has frequented the Fantasy Baseball Camp with fellow teammates. This year, the campers were treated to a visit from the Fullerton Flyers on Aug. 8.

“We continue to reach our arms out to the Fantasy Baseball Camp kids because it behooves us as a major organization to do so – it's a pleasure on both sides,” Kay said.

Sponsored by Sertoma International, only a small number of children in Southern California have attended the free week-long day camp since it started in Orange County 10 years ago.

“It's because people don't know about it,” said Ed Lieber, member of Sertoma Orange Express and chairman of the Fantasy Baseball Camp. “We have the capability of having 100 children at our camp,” he said.

Lieber took on the responsibility of organizing the camp in Anaheim after he learned about a camp which had started in St. Louis for hearing-impaired children.

“When I heard the goal of Sertoma International was to put these camps in cities with major baseball teams, I thought, ‘I can do this,’ and I did,” Lieber said. Soliciting help from the Sertoma Clubs of Downey, Orange County, North Country and Whittier, Lieber and about 50 volunteers donate their time each year to run the camp.

Throughout the years, the coaches have ranged from community volunteers to high school coaches, college coaches, and semi and professional baseball players. The commonality between the coaches is love for the children, love of the game, and the challenge of teaching baseball to children with communicative disorders.

Norwalk High School special education teacher and Fantasy Baseball coach William Wenrick said sometimes when he is standing behind the children, he forgets they can't hear him so he relies on sign language interpreters to help him out.

“If you look away, you can lose their attention,” said Larry Lopez, a volunteer from the Catholic Deaf Community Organization in Orange County. Lopez discovered his challenge is keeping eye contact with several players at the same time so they can read his lips.

“Our idea isn't to make baseball players – it's about the happy faces we have out here,” said Tom Little, Fantasy Baseball Camp coach and member of the Sertoma Club of Downey. “A deaf mute will build a shield because they can't hear or speak, but playing baseball helps bring them out. The problem is that we only have them for a short while so the parents need to get involved.”

Little encourages parents to form baseball groups on their own to keep the children playing all year.

Mattson's father agrees.

“It's amazing to see them develop over the week,” said Ed Mattson, Sr. At first, some can't hit or catch or do anything, but at the end of the camp – they're playing in scrimmages and they end up becoming outgoing, athletic kids.”

# Jennifer Parker is a woman on a mission

By HENRY VENERACION  
STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY—Because her mom has had three separate bouts with cancer (luckily, she has each time overcome the disease) Warren High grad and realtor Jennifer Parker, a single mother of three, is today a woman on a mission.

She has since May been “seriously training really hard,” she says, as she prepares to run in the Nike Women's Half-Marathon (13.1 miles) scheduled for Sunday, Oct. 21 in San Francisco. She will be one of about 2,000 participants whose motivations converge, under the auspices of Team in Training, in raising funds for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Jennifer will run with the 80-member Long Beach division, alongside a friend, Michelle, likewise a single mother of three, and blonde like her, “almost a carbon copy of me,” she says. The Long Beach group belongs to the umbrella Los Angeles Group, and joined by the Orange County, Ventura County, etc. Groups.

The training regimen goes like this: Saturdays are spent in long distance running and walking; Sundays, in cross-training (bike riding, swimming, etc.); with Mondays off; Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, walking for 40-45 minutes; then taking Fridays off. “The hardest of the days is Saturday, because you're pushing yourself harder and harder,” she says. “We've already done eight miles, and this Saturday we'll aim for nine, and so on. We train in Signal Hill, the Long Beach Marina, Bolsa Chica. The more the terrain resembles San Francisco's, the better.”

She goes on: “This is my first time, so this is exciting. Eventually the goal is to do the full marathon, which will be held next year in Long Beach. I'm also not doing this just for my mom, although it's a horrible feeling to see your mom broken, and very frustrating, as she had been through a lot. Personally, I want to be as physically fit as I can. So it should work at least three ways.”

The fee to participate is \$2,800. So Jennifer has appealed to family and friends to help her with that. But her ultimate fundraising goal, she says, is \$10,000—“as a way to give back to my mom.” So she is appealing some more, “to all those I know and those that I don't. This appeal for funds is something new also for me. I'm doing it because you never know when cancer will touch your life.”

Her mom is Barbara Kooiman, who was originally from Minnesota. “She is cancer-free now,” she says. “She still gets tired, but she's pretty much like she was before. She has a very good, an optimistic, outlook. She never gave up.” Her Dutch dad came here from So. Dakota when he was 17. Daughter Maddison, 13, attends Warren, while Savannah, 11, attends West Middle. Son Bailey, 9, goes to Old River School. “My parents have always taken us to church... My maternal grandparents, Buster and Betty



Hearing-impaired children were accompanied by members of Sertoma Club of Downey as they attended a Fantasy Baseball Camp at Angels Stadium. The camp included visits from professional baseball players. Photo by Mary Forney

# ‘I love my job’—says Friends’ Carol Woods

By HENRY VENERACION  
STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY—It's been 20 years since Carol Woods, while visiting the Downey City Library to look up a phone number in one of its handy, bulky telephone phone books, looked inside the bookstore run by the Friends of the Library, and, avid reader that she was since childhood, was induced to sign on as a volunteer soon after. The year was 1987.

Three years after that fateful day, in 1990, she was asked to join the Friends Board. She has also served as Newsletter Editor since. “It's the best decision, I think, that I've made,” she says.

Over the years, she says she has “made good friends, met some really nice people at the store, learned a lot, and I can read to my heart's content. I really love my ‘job.’” Carol likes to read cozy mysteries. “Whenever I go anywhere,” she says, “I take a book with me. And whenever I go to another city, I visit the library. Of course they're never as good as the Downey Library. I also love going to used books stores.”

As the Friends' Newsletter Editor, she at first turned out the newsletter on a “swap meet-purchased light table using an electric typewriter in the type, cut, and paste method.” This was to change in 2003, when then City Librarian (now Director of Community Services) Thad Phillips showed her how to do it on the computer “through the wonderful world of Microsoft Publisher.” Printed on yellow paper, the newsletter's looks (layout and graphics) keep improving year after year.

A native Californian, Carol was born in San Pedro and grew up in Lynwood. “My first paying job was after school at the Lynwood Library branch and summers at the South Gate Regional Branch of the Los Angeles County Library,” she says. While living in Lynwood, she attended Compton Junior College and Cerritos College after moving to Downey in 1965.

For 15 years she worked at Bechtel Power Corporation, based then in Vernon, moving to Norwalk in 1967. She “supervised departments that controlled the drawings and vendor data needed for several large nuclear power plants being built by Bechtel.”

She met Bob, her future husband, while on a “girls' night out” in 1968. Carol says he was driving a green 1962 British Morgan sports car. She says it was love at first sight; Bob insists to this day it was the car Carol



Carol Woods' first paying job was at a library. She's now been a fixture at the Downey City Library for 20 years.

fell in love with, not the man. In any case, she says the two have been happily married for 37 years. They attend vintage auto races whenever and wherever they can—in Monterey, Coronado, and other California venues.

She says both Bob's parents come from Lewiston, Ill., a small town near Springfield, and they pay occasional visits there since “he has lots of cousins and relatives in the area.”

Her dad, an IBM computer operator, moved here in the '30s from Minnesota. Her mom, an executive secretary out of Los Angeles, lives with her in Downey. A brother, a former schoolteacher, resides in San Francisco and is “editing some Bay Area magazine.”

Carol's philosophy in life? She says she has always lived by this rule, passed on by her grandma: “If life gives you lemons, make lemonade.”



Jennifer Parker, a realtor in Downey and Warren High School graduate, plans to run a half-marathon in hopes of raising \$10,000 for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. You can donate by calling her at (562) 923-5507, ext. 231.

Blankenship, were in the first graduating class of Downey High.” With a few work detours along the way (Kirkwood Educational Center, Mullikin Medical Partners), Jennifer is now focused on her career as a realtor for Century 21 Home & Investment, which is owned and run by her dad.

Jennifer has planned a fundraiser at Rubio's, located at the Downey Landing, on Sunday, Sept. 30 from 4-8 p.m. If anyone wishes to assist her, she says she can be reached at: Century 21 Home & Investment, 11600 Paramount Blvd., Suite A, Downey, CA 90241, tel. (562) 923-5507, ext. 231. Her cell no.: (562) 506-7204. Donations online may be directed to [www.active.com/donate/tntgl/tntgla.JParker1](http://www.active.com/donate/tntgl/tntgla.JParker1).

“What happens after the half-marathon?” I asked. Her response was: “Probably we collapse.”

*We are thankful for the times we've shared and the priceless memories too; for those memories are a comfort now when we lovingly - Remember You.*

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# Symphony's Golden Year cause for long-awaited celebration

■ Symphony lays out plans for the year, which includes lots of fundraising.

BY BROOKE KARLI  
STAFF WRITER

**DOWNEY** – On Aug. 8, the Downey Symphony Orchestra kicked off a year of celebration by performing for the Furman Park Summer Twilight Concert Series, commemorating their 50th anniversary.

In 1957, when concerts were held at the Warren High School gymnasium, the symphony was comprised of only community members, starting off with three violinists and one trombonist, according to Lorine Parks, vice president of the Downey Symphonic Society.

It was not until 1987 when Dr. Thomas Osborn, a symphony conductor, decided to replace many of the community orchestra members with area freelance musicians. Since then, the orchestra has evolved from a group of community members that simply gathered to play music, to a group of fine professionals that play music for a living.

"They are the best we can pay to play," said Parks. All of the changes acquired over the years have been because of the decisions made by the Downey Symphonic Society and the help provided by the Downey Symphonic Guild, which was originally known as the Women's Committee.

The Society, which can be referred to as the administrative branch, raises money to withstand the orchestra by receiving grants, donations, and of course, revenue from ticket and subscription purchases. And since the death of Osborn last summer, they are also in charge of appointing a new conductor/artistic director, which has turned out to be quite a task.

The Society's Search Committee received 95 applications for the position, narrowing the number down to 17 for interviews. From the 17 interviewed, six were chosen as finalists, all participating at one time or another as guest conductors. The final decision will not be made until after the Oct. 27 concert, when one of the finalists will be guest conducting.

"We depend heavily on orchestra evaluations," said Parks. "We also get the audience involved by having them fill out evaluation forms...they need to have a part in choosing their new conductor as well."

The Guild, which can be referred to as the social and fundraising branch, donates over \$15,000 every year to the symphony. That money is used towards equipment, theater rental expenses, printing of programs, postage costs, and salaries.

Although the symphony has not always charged admission, they do whatever possible to make sure ticket prices are accessible to all members of the community, said Joyce Sherwin, Society board member.

One of the biggest programs offered by the symphony is known as "Music in the Schools," which was started 12 years ago by Osborn and Geraldine Elicks.

The program introduces music to students of all ages, providing 45-minute assemblies and educational discussions on rhythm, color and more. The students, all of whom attend Downey schools, experience the program while in kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grades. When they are in 3rd grade, they are treated to a trip to the theatre to see the orchestra perform firsthand. They are again treated to an orchestra performance in the 5th grade – a much more sophisticated concert, Sherwin said.

According to both Parks and Sherwin, the Downey Unified School District has strongly supported and cooperated with the program, providing transportation for the students.

As the symphony embarks on a year-long celebration, the Society and Guild remembers how the symphony began and hope for only the best in the future.

While many orchestras throughout the United States – both small and large – have been forced to disband due to lack of funding, the Downey Symphony has survived and is one of few professional symphonies that are located in Southern California.

In celebration, the symphony is hosting a banquet in September, with funds accrued from ticket sales going back to the symphony. Entertainment will be provided by the Downey High School Jazz Band, and singer-entertainer Don Snyder.

Silent and live auctions will take place as well, and the evening will be complemented by symphony memorabilia spanning five decades of change and growth.

The symphony will also participate in this year's Holiday Lane Parade, something the symphony has never done, Sherwin said.

Then in May, an Ice Cream Social will be held at Apollo Park. A ragtime performer will be the event's entertainment.

And in the midst of all the commotion, the symphony's regular season will be well underway, with concerts on Oct. 27, 2007, and Feb. 2 and April 5, 2008.

The year of festivities will conclude with the symphony's performance during next year's Furman Park Summer Twilight Concert Series. Putting all Christmas parades and ice cream aside, the symphony wants more to have a promising future.

Sherwin said the Guild is looking to come up with imaginative ways of seeking funds and reaching audiences, while Parks said the Society is hoping to expand audiences, find a new conductor, and ultimately, add another show to the symphony's three-concert season.

Undoubtedly, the symphony has faced its share of setbacks. But considering how those setbacks have been tackled and defeated, it is evident that the symphony's music is not only important in the schools, but also the community.

## Ototoxic medicine examined

**LAKWOOD** – The Hearing Loss Association, Long Beach/Lakewood chapter, will meet Sept. 13 at 6 p.m. at the Weingart Senior Center in Lakewood, 5220 Oliva Ave.

The guest speaker will be Robert H. Frankenfeld, MD, who will make a presentation on ototoxic medicine. Ototoxic medicine often affects hearing in older adults who take medication regularly.

The community is invited to the free presentation. For information, call (562) 433-6509.

## Hospice in need of volunteers

**SANTA FE SPRINGS** – Companion Hospice Care is in need of volunteers in the Downey area. Volunteers become friends to someone during the last phases of their lives, and sometimes help with errands and shopping.

Training sessions will be held on Saturdays, Oct. 6, 13, 20 and 27 in Santa Fe Springs. For more information, call Deanna Miles at (562) 944-2711.

## Genealogical society studying Civil War

**WHITTIER** – Gene Ortega will be the guest speaker at the Aug. 18 meeting of the Whittier Area Genealogical Society, to be held at the Whittier Masonic Lodge at 1 p.m.

Ortega's topic is, "Captain John Bell: the Reluctant Confederate." Ortega will show visitors how to add to their knowledge of Confederate Civil War ancestry.

Visitors are welcome to the meeting. For more information, call (562) 941-3184 or visit [www.cagenweb.com/kr/wags](http://www.cagenweb.com/kr/wags).

# Keep an open mind and don't judge others

BY ALEXANDRIA VINGINO, RIO SAN GABRIEL SCHOOL  
The following essay, illustrating DUSD's "Character Counts" program, won first place at Rio San Gabriel School last year, when the essay topic was "Don't judge a book by its cover." It is being reprinted as students prepare to begin school again.

I believe the meaning of this maxim is the importance of not judging someone by what is on the outside but rather by depth and quality of the inside. We have all been guilty for choosing a book because it has a great cover therefore we assume it will be a good book. Unfortunately, as we read on we are disappointed when it is a terrible book. I think that it is also easy to make the same mistake with people.

Martin Luther King Jr. exemplified this maxim perfectly. He believed it was wrong to judge someone simply on the basis of a color. He wanted people to see past what was on the outside and look deeply on the inside. Martin Luther King Jr. was only a black man if he was judged only by the color of his skin. He was an amazing leader when he was judged by the contents of his being.

As for myself, I can only hope to reach the standards of Martin Luther King Jr. I hope to exemplify this maxim in my everyday experiences. The main one would be being careful not to judge people by what they look like. I know how it feels when people judge on appearances. Once a boy made fun of me because I wore braces. It made me feel bad. However, to my surprise, a wise teacher came to my defense and told the boy, "You shouldn't make her feel bad about having braces. Instead, you should make her feel special for being nice."

I hope to read many great books with good and bad covers. I also hope to meet a lot of people with many great qualities that I can know by knowing their insides.

# 'Ask George' – Expert answers to common DMV questions

By George Valverde, California Department of Motor Vehicles  
**SACRAMENTO** – Do you have questions about general driving related requirements or insurance? Are you unclear about laws and restrictions related to driving? The California Department of Motor Vehicles has answers. "Save Time by Going Online," at [www.dmv.ca.gov](http://www.dmv.ca.gov).

**Question:** What are the most current teen driving rules?

**Answer:** New laws and regulations can be confusing for teens and their parents when obtaining a driver permit or provisional license. The DMV has provided teens with an online resource for information about the driver license process, driver safety and even insurance requirements. The site even includes practice tests for teens and can be found at [www.dmv.ca.gov/teenweb](http://www.dmv.ca.gov/teenweb). Additionally, parents can download and review the Parent-Teen Training Guide to help their teens be better prepared for safe driving on the road.

**Q:** Are senior citizens required to re-take a driver's road test at a certain age?

**A:** The DMV does not take away driver licenses when a person reaches a certain age. The mental and/or physical condition or a person's inability to follow traffic laws and rules, regardless of age, determines whether or not a license is renewed, restricted, suspended or revoked.

However, the DMV does require that all persons over the age of 70 renew their driver license in person at a DMV office. There you will be asked to take a vision test using the wall chart. Individuals may be asked to retake a driving test if they have either failed the DMV vision test or have been referred to a Driver Safety office because of a physical or mental condition, sometimes made by a law enforcement officer or a concerned family member.

If you or someone you know is an elderly citizen that faces the prospect of retaking a driving test, it is a great idea to practice his or her driving skills by taking a driver education or training class specifically developed for older persons.

**Q:** I am going to move out of state soon. What can I do to keep from getting renewal notices from the California DMV?

**A:** Chances are, the state where you registered your vehicle hasn't notified the California DMV that you have registered your car there, or that status hasn't been updated on our records. Send a copy of your new state's registration certificate with a note explaining when and where you moved to the California DMV, P.O. Box 942869, Sacramento, California, 94269-0001. We will mark our records and you should not receive anything further from us.

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Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard recently presented the USC School of Pharmacy with a congressional tribute in honor of receiving the 2007 Pinnacle Award from the American Pharmacists Association Foundation.

## Cal State Long Beach taking over Brooks College property

**LONG BEACH** – Officials at Cal State University, Long Beach (CSULB) announced this week that the university will purchase the Brooks College campus in Long Beach for \$11.1 million, with plans to use the property primarily for student housing.

Cal State Long Beach will also use existing classrooms and computer labs to provide their own courses. Faculty housing will also be available on the 5.04-acre campus.

The university is expected to take over the operations of the property by June 2009.

"Increasing student living and learning opportunities is an important priority for our campus," said CSULB President F. King Alexander. "Acquiring the five-acre site allows us to more immediately address this growing need while also providing greater flexibility to expand academic course offerings and programming."

The Executive Board of the CSULB Foundation – the independent, non-profit arm of the university – approved the purchase on Monday following the completion of a 120-day "due diligence" phase, officials said. During this phase, campus representatives and a team of professional advisors looked over the property and completed an assessment of its facilities.

"I've made no secret of the fact that I believe the campus should have more university-run housing for our students and create new opportunities for residential living and learning communities," Alexander said. "Currently, we have a long waiting list of students hoping to live on campus or in other forms of university housing. The Brooks College site will help fill a part of that need."

Brooks College is a for-profit fashion, design and technology school owned by the Career Education Corporation. It has a lease on the property until June 2009, when it's scheduled to close. The college is no longer enrolling new students, but current students are in the process of completing their programs. The final graduation is set for March 2009.

Located at 4825 E. Pacific Coast Highway, the property is one mile from the CSULB campus. The Brooks College site includes three residential/classroom/office buildings with approximately 177,000 square feet, including 50,000 square feet of classroom and office space. There is also a building that serves as the dining hall, along with computer labs and a swimming pool.

The current housing capacity at Brooks is about 540 students. There are already nearly 200 CSULB students living on the Brooks site. University officials said they plan to modify the buildings to accommodate up to 700 students by the time they take over the property.

"The purchase of this property is an economically viable transaction for Cal State Long Beach, and it makes sense," said Bill Griffith, CSULB's vice president of administration and finance. "The site is about one mile from campus; the university has students living there now; there is already a shuttle service that gets students to the campus; and the site's current primary use is housing, which is something the university has a need for."

"Plus, because the site will be used for student housing, it will be self-supporting and not a financial drain on the university or the foundation," Griffith continued. "Finally, the project supports President Alexander's desire to increase student housing and to create comprehensive residential living and learning communities. This does so at a lower cost and lower risk. In fact, the total cost of this project will be less than one-third what it would cost to build new student housing for 700 students."

When the campus does take over the site, the university's Office of Housing and Residential Life will operate the student dorms, the 49er Shops will operate the food service, and the University Police will manage security for the property. The Parking/Transportation and Event Services Office will manage the parking and increased shuttle service to and from the campus.

## USC pharmacy receives recognition

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard presented University of Southern California School of Pharmacy officials with a congressional tribute in honor of its receipt of the 2007 Pinnacle Award from the American Pharmacists Association Foundation.

Located in Boyle Heights and Lincoln Heights on the USC Health Sciences Campus adjacent to the LAC + USC Medical Center, the USC School of Pharmacy received the award for its pioneering work delivering first-rate disease management and low-cost pharmaceuticals to underserved populations receiving care in eight Los Angeles area safety net clinics. The clinics include the JWCH Medical Clinic at the Weingart Center located in the heart of downtown Los Angeles' Skid Row in the 34th District.

Other clinics in East and South Los Angeles are: T.H.E. Clinic, Inc.; South Central Family Health Center; and the five QueensCare Family Clinics.

## CERT training begins Sept. 8

**DOWNEY** – Training for Downey's CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) program will be held on three consecutive Saturdays beginning Sept. 8. All training is provided free of charge by professional responders of the Downey Fire Department.

CERT is designed to train residents how to help their family and neighbors in the event of an emergency, when rescue services may not be immediately available. CERT training covers basic skills such as first aid, fire extinguisher use, light search and rescue, and tips on how to avoid becoming a victim.

Classes will be held Sept. 8, 15 and 22 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at a location to be announced. There will be a one-hour lunch break. The class is open to anyone 18 years old or older.

For more information, call (562) 904-7345.

## Roybal-Allard visits Goodwill

**LOS ANGELES** – Goodwill Southern California officials led Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard on a tour of their facility recently.

The tour included a glance into Goodwill's Recycling and Shredding departments, where Goodwill diverts more than 119 tons of e-waste and 98 tons of paper each month from California's landfills. The conclusion of the tour was held in Goodwill's MetroNorth WorkSource Center. Through the Center, more than 500 Angelenos with disabilities and vocational disadvantages received workforce placement in 2006.

Since 1916, Goodwill Southern California has been turning donations and retail purchases into jobs for thousands of people with disabilities and vocational challenges. More than 22,000 people benefit from Goodwill's education, job training and employment placement programs each year.

Goodwill Southern California operates 50 retail stores, 36 attended donation centers, three campuses and 18 workforce/training centers in the counties of Los Angeles, Riverside and San Bernardino.

For information, call (888) 4-GOODWILL.

## Roybal-Allard votes to provide health care

**WASHINGTON D.C.** – Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard (CA-34) joined her colleagues on Aug. 1 in voting for the Children's Health and Medicare Protection Act of 2007 (CHAMP Act). The bill, which passed by a 225-to-204 vote, reauthorizes the State Children's Health Insurance Programs (SCHIP) and includes several provisions to protect and improve Medicare for our nation's seniors and people with disabilities.

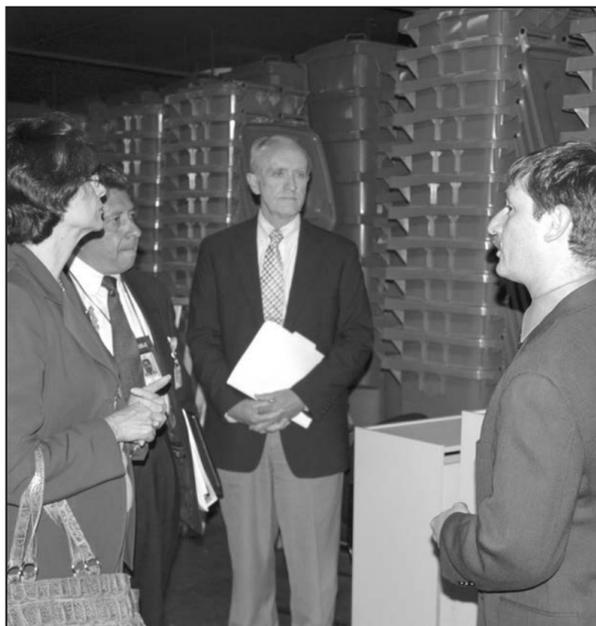
"As a proud American who cherishes the values upon which our country was founded, I believe this bill takes a giant step forward in honoring our moral imperative to ensure that age, race and income do not determine the health status of our children, seniors, and citizens with disabilities," Roybal-Allard said.

Nationwide, two out of every three uninsured children in the United States are eligible for coverage through SCHIP and Medicaid, but are not insured. Final passage of the CHAMP Act (H.R. 3162) will provide 11 million children, including five million additional children who are eligible but not enrolled in the program, with health insurance coverage across the United States.

In California, the CHAMP Act will provide an increase in federal funding of \$376.5 million over last year to provide an additional one million eligible children with health insurance coverage.



Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard (CA-34) met with members of the Rancho Southeast Association of Realtors (RSAOR) to discuss current issues affecting real estate in the southeast cities of Los Angeles County. The 80-year-old association serves Downey, Bell, Bell Gardens, Bellflower, Cudahy, Huntington Park and Maywood. Pictured are Phil Limon, RSAOR board president; Mae Brinkman, RSAOR board member; Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard; Marial Sanders, RSAOR board member; and Jonathan Tan, RSAOR director of public relations and government affairs.



Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard (left) was recently given a tour of a Goodwill Southern California facility in Los Angeles. Craig Smith, chief operating officer (middle) and Gerardo Castro, director of assembly and fulfillment (right) guided her through the tour.



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2 bed, 1 bath home 7212 Adwin St. in Downey. Offered at \$435,000 with \$5,000 credit to buyer for costs. Call Jennifer  
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2 Bed, 1 bath, det. 2 car gar. Nice Dwy area. Huge fenced yard! Cr. Ck..  
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**Beautiful Downey Home!**  
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6 bedrooms, 8 baths, master style baths, large walk-in closets, King Master bath includes jacuzzi, steam room, waterfall massage shower, beautiful living area and gourmet kitchen. 3 fireplaces, balconies. Too Much to List!  
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3 bedrooms, 2 bath, large yard. Nice neighborhood! Call Today!  
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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 development. Priced at \$650,000. Call (562) 923-5507  
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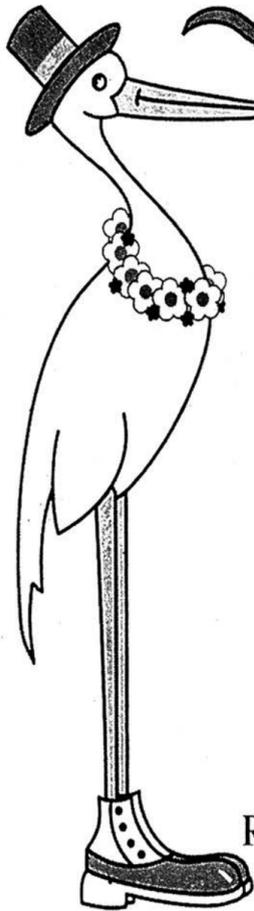
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Letters may be edited for style, space and/or content

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**#3** "Maria Cibrian went out of her way to keep us informed. She is a real good agent doing a fantastic job!" – Enrique & Cruz Chavez

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**Downey "Glenbrook North" Townhouse!**  
3 BD, 3 BA, living room w/ fireplace, master suite, central air & heat, pool & spa, 2 car garage, 1,540 sq. ft. move-in condition, Premiere Location in Complex.  
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Thank you again & God Bless!!  
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Lovely South Gate Condo with new paint, new carpet, 3 BD, 2 1/2 BA, & 2 car garage.  
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**Summer Delight**  
Charming Downey home with 3 BD, 1.75 BA, hardwood floors, remodeled bathroom, lovely backyard & patio  
Priced to Sell: \$557,000  
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**Downey Duplex!**  
2 units featuring 1 unit w/ 2 BD, 2 BA, laundry room, & living room. Other unit w/ 1 BD, 1 BA, & 2 car garage. Live in one, rent the other! Priced @: \$599,900  
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Price: \$1,995,000  
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**One of a Kind!**  
5 BD, 4 BA, large master suite, new kitchen, rock pool & spa w/ waterfall & slide, 4,729 sq. ft. on a 7,560 sq. ft. lot  
Price to SELL: \$1,495,000  
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Spectacular 5 bedrooms, 4 baths, 4000 sq. ft North East Downey, new construction on a 7500 Sq. ft lot w/ a two car detached garage.  
Price: \$1,399,000  
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**Perfect for Entertaining!**  
Wonderful 5 bedrooms, 4 baths, 3200 sq. ft home with pool/ spa, detached garage, built in BBQ, bar area and pool room w/ full bath.  
Price: \$1,299,950  
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**Quality & Elegance!- Built in 2007!**  
5 BD, (4 up & 1 down) 4.5 BA newly constructed home w/ Lg. master BA, marble floors, granite kitchen, & 2 car garage.  
Price: \$1,249,000  
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**Custom Built Beauty!**  
5 bed, 4 bath, 3100 sq ft, North Downey mini-mansion.  
Price: \$1,199,000  
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**Orange Estates Beauty!**  
Large 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2300 sq ft home with guest house on large 11,000 sq ft lot near Furman Park.  
Price: \$959,950  
Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com



**Champagne Taste, Beer Budget!**  
5 bed, 3 bath, 2800 sq ft, new construction 2006 - North Downey!  
Price: \$899,000  
Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com



**Gorgeously renovated from the ground up!**  
Amazing 4 bed, 2.5 bath, formal living room, dining room, large family room, and new kitchen with granite countertops and large island, 2682 sq ft of living space North Downey Home on a 8200 sq. ft. lot.  
Price: \$875,000  
Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com



**Honey, Stop the Car!**  
4 BD, 4 BA main house & 2 BD, 1 BA guest house on a 10,920 sq ft lot in NW Downey. Both houses have remodeled kitchens & baths.  
Price: \$824,950.  
Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com



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



**Remodeled Like New in 2007**  
4 bed, 3.5 baths, new kitchen & baths, 2200 sq ft, beautiful landscaping, & 2 car det garage.  
Price to sell @ \$749,950  
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



**North Downey Home!**  
3 Bed, 2 bath, living room & family room, new kitchen, central air, and new windows. This house has it all!  
Price: \$625,000  
Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com



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



**Such A Deal!**  
3 BD, 2 BA Downey home, den, master bath, 2 det garage, and large yard.  
Price: \$549,000  
Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com

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