



The Downey Patriot



Frances Conger funeral service
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An astronaut in the making
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These 'chumps' are rocking out
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Friday, August 31, 2007

Vol. 6 No. 19

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

Police, firefighters honored with Medal of Valor



Police Sgt. Ed Kelly, Cpl. Christopher Kurtz, Cpl. Kevin McCaster, Cpl. Nathan Weinrich, and Fire Captain Mike Scannell were each awarded a Medal of Valor for their heroism in confronting a shotgun-wielding murderer in June 2006. Two firefighters and a police dispatcher were also recognized for their bravery. Photo by Eric Pierce

4 police officers, 1 firefighter presented with Medals of Valor

DOWNEY – Four police officers and one firefighter were presented with the Medal of Valor this week for their heroism during a shooting last year that left one Downey officer wounded with a shotgun blast to the face.

Two other firefighters were awarded the Certificate of Merit while a police dispatcher received an Award of Merit.

On Friday, June 16, 2006, shortly after 5 p.m., Sgt. Ed Kelly with the Downey Police Department was shot and critically injured by a gunman who had, only hours earlier, murdered two members of his own family. Cpl. Chris Kurtz exchanged fire with the gunman. Neither the suspect nor Kurtz was injured in the gun battle.

The gunman barricaded himself inside an East Downey apartment. After hours of failed negotiations with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's negotiation team, the gunman turned the shotgun on himself and took his own life.

The incident began in South Gate, where Cesar Iniguez, 25, murdered his father and 10-year-old brother. Using his father's pick-up truck, he fled to Washburn Road in Downey.

Iniguez went to his ex-girlfriend's apartment, armed with a shotgun. Confronting her, he attempted to force his way into the apartment and a struggle ensued over control of the shotgun. When her father came to her aid, the suspect hit him in the head with the shotgun, knocking him to the ground. The shotgun discharged during the struggle, but no one was hurt.

Failing to get in through the door, Iniguez climbed into the apartment through the kitchen window. As he entered, his ex-girlfriend ran out the front door. After hearing a second gunshot, she and her mother ran to a neighboring apartment where they called the Downey Police Department. Her father lay on the ground outside the apartment bleeding from his head. Downey police received several 9-1-1 calls from residents of the complex who heard gunshots.

Cpl. Nate Weinrich was first to arrive, and found the father standing to the front of the apartment, bleeding profusely from his head. On the ground next to him were two spent shotgun shells. Weinrich, believing the father had been shot, directed him away from immediate danger. The father gave Weinrich a description of Iniguez and told him he had run into the apartment complex.

Within moments, Sgt. Ed Kelly, Cpl. Kevin McCaster and Cpl. Chris Kurtz arrived on scene. Kelly assumed command of the incident and the four officers entered the apartment complex to search for the suspect and

See VALOR, page 11

Time Traveler

This week's 'Time Traveler' can be found on page 4

Medal of Valor

Police Sergeant Edward Kelly
Police Corporal Christopher Kurtz
Police Corporal Kevin McCaster
Police Corporal Nathan Weinrich
Fire Captain Mike Scannell

Award of Merit

Public Safety Dispatcher Margarita Wells

Certificate of Merit

Fire Department Engineer Kevin Kim
Firefighter Sergio Zavala



Alleged drunk driving accident kills Downey teen

BY ERIC PIERCE, CITY EDITOR

DOWNEY – A 17-year-old Downey girl was killed Saturday when the truck she was riding in crashed and flipped over several times on the 605 Freeway, police said.

The driver of the truck was arrested on suspicion of drunk driving.

The L.A. County Coroner's office said Frances Conger, 17, was illegally riding in the open bed of a 2005 Ford Ranger driven by 18-year-old F. Mora of Downey when he allegedly lost control of the vehicle on the southbound 605 north of Alondra Boulevard, crashing into the center divider and flipping the truck several times.

Conger, along with two other male passengers, was ejected from the truck and may have been struck by another vehicle. Authorities pronounced her dead at the scene.

The two passengers, including a 15-year-old boy from Downey, suffered broken shoulders, police said.

Mora was arrested and charged with felony drunk driving, causing death and great bodily injury, police said.

Motorcyclist killed when bike collides with SUV

BY ERIC PIERCE, CITY EDITOR

DOWNEY – Twenty-three-year-old Norwalk resident Luis Rivas was killed Tuesday when the motorcycle he was riding on collided with an SUV on Telegraph Road at True Avenue in Downey, police said.

Trenton Henderson, 41, of Downey, was driving his 2004 Toyota Highlander westbound on Telegraph, Traffic Detective Rosie Gutierrez said. As he made a left-hand turn onto southbound True, Henderson collided with Rivas.

Rivas, who was wearing a helmet, was taken to a local hospital where he died, Gutierrez said.

The cause of the collision is still under investigation, Gutierrez said, and charges may be filed.



Sister Merlyn Catherine Galway died Sunday in a traffic collision. Services will be held Saturday at noon at St. Raymond's Church.

Former principal dies in traffic collision

■ Sister Merlyn Catherine Galway served six years as principal of St. Raymond's School.

BY ERIC PIERCE, CITY EDITOR

DOWNEY – Services will be held tomorrow for former St. Raymond's School principal Sister Merlyn Catherine Galway, who died Sunday in a traffic collision at Paramount Boulevard and 5th Street that may result in criminal charges against the other driver.

According to police, Sister Galway, known to some as Sister John Mark, was driving a 1997 Nissan Sentra westbound on 5th Street at about 11:45 a.m. when she collided with a 2004 Toyota Highlander that was traveling northbound on Paramount.

The driver of the Highlander, 42-year-old Huong Willis, of Downey, ran a red light, according to witnesses.

Sister Galway was transported by paramedics to Downey Regional See GALWAY, page 11

Council pays tribute to police, fire personnel

BY HENRY VENERACION, STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY—Before a jam-packed crowd of fellow officers, family members and other well-wishers, Downey Police Chief Roy Campos and Fire Chief Mark Sauter Tuesday handed out medals and awards of merit to their courageous and composed colleagues for their parts in responding to the 9-1-1 call on June 16, 2006 that nearly cost one gallant police officer's life.

The incident was precipitated by a gunman who had earlier murdered two members of his own family, went to his ex-girlfriend's apartment on Washburn Road armed with a shotgun, and, when confronted by the police officers under the command of Sgt. Edward Kelly, fired his shotgun at two of the officers, critically wounding Sgt. Kelly and placing the lives of the other involved participants in extreme peril.

After hours of failed negotiations with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Special Enforcement Bureau, the gunman subsequently took his own life.

For their acts of "heroism and coolness under fire," Medals of Valor were awarded Sgt. Kelly, Cpl. Christopher Kurtz, Cpl. Kevin McCaster, and Nathan Weinrich, all of the Downey Police Department, as well as Downey Fire Department's Capt. Mike Scannell.

Awards of Merit went to Eng. Kevin Kim and Firefighter Sergio Zavala of the Downey Fire Department, and Public Safety Dispatcher Margarita Wells.

In other action, the Council:

- After a public hearing, adopted a resolution finding the city to be in conformance with the Congestion Management Program (CMP) and adopted the CMP Local Development Report, in accordance with California Government Code Section 65089. Conformance assures the continued flow to the city of its allocation of Prop. 111 state gas tax monies, which for FY2006-07 is estimated at about \$691,000;

- After another public hearing, adopted a resolution finding and determining the public interest and necessity for acquiring and authorizing condemnation of a portion of real property located at 8845 Imperial Highway (at the northwest intersection of Imperial Highway and Lakewood Blvd.) that has been leased to Conroy's Flowers, for purposes of effecting improvements at the intersection of Lakewood Blvd. and Imperial Highway. The city's proposed acquisition price of \$178,000 for the property portion under discussion is still under negotiation;

- Set a public hearing for Sept. 11 for the appeal of the denial of Zone Variance No. 07-84, a request to deviate from the maximum allowable amount a detached accessory structure can encroach into the required rear yard setback, for property located at 13108 Cornuta Ave., zoned R-1 5,000 (Single-Family Residential);

- Approved the 2007-08 agreement with the Downey Unified School

District to jointly fund the School Safety Police Program, with the city contributing no more than \$30,000 and DUSD's share not to exceed \$50,000. Counting the \$32,000 Gangs Out of Downey (GOOD) donation for the year, total policing program amounts to \$112,000;

- Approved the policy and the appropriate form that all non-profit organizations requesting financial assistance for the improvement of city-owned facilities must complete;

- Approved the plans and specifications and granted authority to advertise for bids on Cash Contract No. 632-2—covering Phase 1c and Phase 2 (from Meadow Road to Gardendale St.) of the Lakewood Boulevard Improvement Project;

- Approved a License and Encroachment Agreement with NextG Networks of California, Inc., for the installation and operation of telecommunications equipment upon city-owned traffic signal poles;

- Approved an amendment to the professional services agreement with Delphi Productions in the amount of \$630,000 for fabrication of exhibits for the Columbia Memorial Space Science Learning Center;

- Adopted a resolution approving the final subdivision map of Tract Map No. 66731 (9236 Hall Road), located west of Woodruff Ave. and east of Coldbrook Ave., by approving an agreement with the subdivider and accepting a subdivision improvement performance bond as surety;

- Adopted a resolution prohibiting the parking of vehicles on both sides of Paramount Blvd. between Gardendale St. and Stewart and Gray Rd. from 6-9 a.m. and from 3-6 p.m., and restricting parking to two hours maximum, during all other hours;

- Adopted a resolution prohibiting parking along the north side of Firestone Blvd. between Paramount Blvd. and Rives Ave.;

- Adopted a resolution directing the Planning Commission to initiate a study of parking requirements in the R-2, R-3 and R-3-0 zones, including the number of required parking spaces, guest spaces, size of units and number of bedrooms being built;

- Adopted a resolution approving the destruction of certain obsolete records of the Finance Department;

- Adopted a resolution approving the destruction of certain obsolete records of the City Clerk Department;

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

- Adopted a resolution approving the final subdivision map of Parcel Map No. 62918 (8077 -8111 Florence Ave.) by approving an agreement with the subdivider and accepting an irrevocable standby Letter of Credit as surety.

The next regular public meeting of the City Council will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 11, at City hall, 11111 Brookshire Ave., Downey.

Doty: Get your child to attend 1st day of school

■ School district is sending out phone messages reminding parents the importance of good attendance.

BY HENRY VENERACION, STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY—With the first day of school fast approaching, Downey Unified School District Superintendent Dr. Wendy Doty says she's doing everything to "pump attendance," as she believes in its supreme importance in setting the tone for the rest of the year.

It is on the first day of school, she emphasizes, that the teacher unveils the course work, sets standards and expectations, issues instructions, and otherwise lays out his/her program for bringing forth maximum effort from each student.

She hopes of course that attendance by each student on the first day of school, which is Wednesday, Sept. 5, is but an initial step towards achieving the holy grail of every school district—perfect attendance. As everybody should be aware, 80 percent of the school budget comes from Average Daily Attendance (ADA)—actual attendance, not enrollment.

Thus on Aug. 23, Doty sent a personalized voice message to the 19,000 district households using a new Web-based mass notification engine called "Connect-ED," an NTLI service capable of sending 1 million phone calls in an hour. Usage of the new technology is reportedly gaining increasing acceptance in schools and universities across the U.S.

This is what greeted the parents on Aug. 23: "Hello, DUSD parents, this is Wendy Doty, Superintendent, calling to welcome you to a new school year. School starts for all students on Wednesday, Sept. 5. Our staff has been working hard in preparation for what promises to be a great year. Let's kick off the school year with a renewed determination to create the most positive and challenging learning environment for all our students.

"For our part, we will offer a first-rate educational experience and in return ask that you ensure your child's regular attendance. We also ask that you make a genuine effort to be involved in your son's or daughter's school throughout the year. Let's work together so that everyone wins: parents, teachers, and students. I look forward to seeing all Downey students on Sept. 5."

Doty plans to follow this up with another message, to be transmitted right before school starts, most probably on Tuesday, Sept. 4. This time, says Doty, it will be addressed to the returning students themselves. The exact message hasn't been composed yet as of presstime.

Meanwhile, to further reinforce DUSD's overall call for greater daily student attendance and improved academic performance for the coming year, a written letter signed by both Doty and DUSD board president Willie Gutierrez, is ready for distribution in the week following.

The letter highlights three main themes: 1) the academic value of attendance, 2) how daily attendance affects school funding, and 3) how parents/guardians can help.

The letter concludes with the following exhortation, touching on by-now familiar motifs: "Let us work together in making daily attendance at school a top priority so that students gain valuable classroom instruction and schools receive needed financial support. Most importantly, all students benefit from daily school attendance."

Police officers returning to Downey high schools

BY ERIC PIERCE, CITY EDITOR

DOWNEY—Downey police officers will continue to be a presence on local high school campuses, after the city and Downey Unified School District officially entered into an agreement this week to share the costs of the School Safety Police Program.

The agreement calls for a police officer to be on the campuses of Warren, Downey and Columbus High Schools. An officer will be at Downey and Warren High School for up to four and a half hours per

school day, up to 22.5 hours per week. An officer will patrol Columbus High School up to four hours per day, up to 20 hours per week.

The cost of the safety program is \$112,000. Gangs Out of Downey made a \$32,000 donation to partially fund it, while the City of Downey will pay \$30,000. The school district will pay the remaining \$50,000.

The School Safety Police Program is now in its 10th year. It was originally funded by state and private grants, but state funding was eliminated in recent years.

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Saturday | September 8 | 10:00 am
Lakewood Regional Medical Center, Conference Room

PREVENTATIVE MEDICINE

Speaker: Vinita Chaudhary, MD, Family Practice

Is understanding prevention, better than knowing the cause? Dr. Chaudhary will discuss about living a healthy life style.

Wednesday | Sept 12 | 10:00 am
Weingarten Senior Center, 5220 Olivia Avenue, Lakewood

TALKING TO YOUR DOCTOR

Speaker: Ramiro Rosero, MD, Family Practice

How can you tell if your pain is Osteoarthritis? Should you be in an exercise program? What about medication? Will surgery help control your pain?

Wednesday | September 12 | 12:30 pm
Lakewood Weingarten YMCA, Conference Room
5835 Carson Street, Lakewood

CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE

Speaker: Kartik Thaker, MD, Cardiology

Knowing the risks of cardiovascular disease could potentially save your life. Come learn the basics from Dr. Thaker.

Tuesday | September 18 | 1:00 pm
Cerritos Senior Center, Conference Room
12340 South Street, Cerritos

GLUCOSE SCREENING

Tuesday | September 25 | 8:15 am
Mayfair Park, John Todd Community Center
5720 Clark Avenue, Lakewood

COMPLICATIONS WITH UNCONTROLLED DIABETES AND GLUCOSE SCREENING

Speakers: Charles Holzner, MD, Endocrinologist & Ronald Fischman, MD, Nephrologist

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Tuesday | September 25 | 9:00 am
Mayfair Park, John Todd Community Center
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NUTRITION FOR DIABETES

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Thursday | October 18 | 3:00 pm

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Lakewood Regional Medical Center, Conference Room

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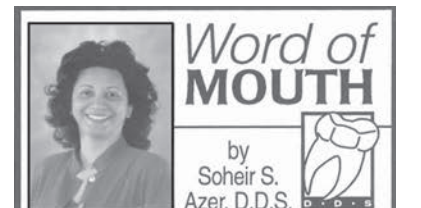
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Local teen on his way to being an astronaut

■ Downey student Eric Siryj completes realistic astronaut training, hopes to do more.

HUTCHINSON, KANS. – Eric Siryj, of Downey, has graduated from level 1 of the Future Astronaut Training Program (FATP) at the Kansas Cosmosphere and Space Center.

Siryj was one of only a few FATP graduates to attend the camp on a scholarship.

The week-long introductory astronaut camp is for students entering grades 7-10 and emphasizes teamwork, leadership and problem solving. Developed by Cosmosphere staff, FATP is a nationally-recognized camp that motivates campers to seek careers in space-related industries.

During the week, campers test camp simulators – the centrifuge, multi-axis trainer, space shuttle simulator (“Falcon III”), Manned Maneuvering Unit and stress simulator. They also launch homemade rockets, direct a robotic mission and learn solar observation techniques.

The centrifuge is a rotating device that tests people’s reactions to forces encountered during space launches; the multi-axis trainer is a backwards, forwards and sideways-turning device replicating the angles a person’s body turns in space; the space shuttle simulator is a device that replicates a shuttle mission around Earth; the Manned Maneuvering Unit is a device that replicates spacewalking; and the stress simulator replicates stressful situations sometimes encountered in space.

The FATP has four levels, each lasting five days. Levels 1 and 2 are held at the Cosmosphere; level 3 is held at the Cosmosphere for two days and then at Johnson Space Center in Houston, Tex. for two days; and level 4 is held at Kennedy Space Center in Florida for all five days.

Campers must complete the lower level before progressing to the next. Siryj is the son of Roman and Margaret Siryj of Downey.



Eric Siryj completed Level 1 of the Future Astronaut Training Program.



The USTA tennis program held at Independence Park concluded Aug. 16. The USTA is a first-time player program partially funded by the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics. Back row, left to right: Instructor Linda Gomez, Giovanna Angulo, Genesis Ojeda, Bianca Bolanos, Briana Landeros, Allyssa Allen, Emily Aubel, and instructor Silvana Consuegra. Middle row: Leslie Otanez, Hannah Kroger, Noel Calderon, Tommy Saghbini, Valentino Herron and A.J. Saghbini. Front row: Ceasar Angulo, Isaac Landeros, Alexandra Menendez, and Amber Herron.

Recycling is serious, profitable business

BY GWYNN GUSTAFSON, KIWANIS CLUB OF DOWNEY

DOWNEY – The City of Downey is very proud of its recycling effort and no one is more involved in this than Kathy Simmons, Integrated Waste Coordinator. Simmons shared her 22-year history in the Downey Public Works administration at a recent Kiwanis Club of Downey meeting, telling the members about one program in particular called the “Used Oil Recycling Calendar Artwork Contest.”



Funded by a grant from the California Integrated Waste Management Board, it is an outreach and education program about oil recycling awareness. The message is directed to the elementary school grades as it is widely believed that teaching the youth about the use and abuse of used motor oil will make an immediate and long-term difference on the health of our oceans.

After attending an educational assembly, the children translate their newfound knowledge into works of art, expressing in pictures and words how to save our oceans. Twelve exceptional artworks are selected to appear in the City’s annual calendar. Another winning art piece appears on the cover.

Recycling is serious business, but can also be fun, profitable and easy, according to Simmons. City Hall has free disposal containers and a list of 11 drop-off locations, including locations to recycle used motor oil. Simmons emphasized recycling centers that pay cash for aluminum cans and plastic bottles.

Simmons also reminded the audience to use their blue barrels for all recyclable items, including newspapers, cardboard, egg cartons, glass, cans and more.

The Los Angeles County Office of Education on Imperial Highway, Simmons said, will host a waste roundup on Sept. 8 for local residents wishing to drop off recyclable items.

In closing, Simmons said playground equipment at Apollo Park was made from reclaimed containers, and the same concept will be used with equipment at the Discovery Sports Complex. The efforts were made possible through a state grant.

If you would like to join Kiwanis, visit their weekly Thursday meetings at noon at the Rio Hondo Events Center.

Library will be open Sundays

DOWNEY – Effective Sept. 9, the Downey City Library will be open Sundays during the school year.

Offering a full range of services, the library will be open Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m.

“Providing access to the library on Sunday is a real benefit to students and busy families,” said City Librarian Nancy Messineo. “Getting a free library card for everyone in your family is a great way to begin the new school year.”

Library patrons can also return books in library bookdrops during closed hours, renew books by phone or visit the library website at www.downeylibrary.org.

For more information, call (562) 904-7360.

Downey cheerleaders giving clinic

DOWNEY – The Downey High School cheerleaders will offer their annual cheerleading clinic on Oct. 6 from 8:30 a.m. to noon at the Downey High cafeteria.

Girls between the ages of 5 to 13 will learn game-action cheers and perform during halftime of the Downey High School varsity football game on Oct. 12.

The cost of the clinic is \$25, which includes a T-shirt and two admission tickets to the Oct. 12 football game. For information and registration, call Kim Buss at (562) 822-4265.

Square dancing classes starting up

DOWNEY – The Downey chapter of the Bachelors ‘n’ Bachelorettes Square Dance Club is beginning its annual beginner’s square dancing class in September.

Classes will begin Sept. 10 from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Open enrollment will also be held Sept. 17 and 24. Classes are at Downey United Methodist Church, 10801 Downey Ave.

Line dancing will also be taught at 7 p.m. for anybody interested. Singles, as well as couples, are invited to attend.

The cost is \$5 per person, per session. Children ages 8-16 are \$3.50 each, with a parent or guardian. Classes will run approximately 26 weeks. For more information, call (562) 943-5735 or (323) 219-4735.

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Time Traveler

Inferno proved need for fire department

BY JOHN ADAMS
EDITOR EMERITUS

The well-equipped Downey Fire Department of today owes its formation and support to a long-ago disaster that imprinted the need for professional firefighters on the local community.

It was April 21, 1922 when a worn drag chain meant to dissipate static electricity didn't work and a static spark set off a gasoline tanker and trailer that was refueling Downey's main gas station at Downey Avenue and New Street.

Nine were killed and 20 received disfiguring burns in the desperate fight to control the flames that followed.

By the end of the following year the Downey Fire Protection District had been formed, with a new engine and professional firefighters to replace the volunteer brigade that had previously served the community.

In all, 2,400 gallons of gas burned in that 1922 deluge, 1,770 of it in the truck and the rest in the tanks of the razed gas station that belonged to Newbold and Speaker.

One survivor of the blaze, attorney Haygood Ardis, told of people rushing to fight the spreading blaze while others stood on nearby rooftops and watched.

The small volunteer fire department headed by shoe store owner Carl Krueger was equipped with a 42-gallon hand-drawn chemical tank, funded through public contributions. It was no match for the inferno.

Ardis was quoted later. "I was carrying a tubful of water with Freddie Robinson when suddenly the truck blew up. The blast showered us with burning gasoline and set off the big tank trailer that was hitched onto the rear of the truck."

Ardis said many who ran from the first blast were caught by the flames from the exploding trailer. He said he ran nearly to Fifth Street before collapsing. He still had enough sense to roll, putting out his burning clothing.

Beginner yoga class starts Tuesday

DOWNEY – Yogi Ramesh will start a new yoga session, "Yoga for Beginners," on Sept. 4 at the Barbara J. Riley Community & Senior Center in Downey.

For more information, call (562) 716-9367 or visit www.universalyoga.org. Ramesh's television show featuring Downey students can be seen on Time Warner's "On Demand" for the next three weeks.

Citizens for Downey gets fired up

DOWNEY – Fernando De La Torre with the Downey Fire Department will address community group Citizens for Downey on Sept. 12, where he will explain the department's duties beyond fighting fires, including emergency services and inspections of new buildings under construction.

The community is invited to the meeting, which starts at 7:15 a.m. at the Rio Hondo Events Center. A breakfast buffet will be available for \$5.

Blood drive Sept. 11 at Century 21

DOWNEY – Century 21 My Real Estate, in association with the American Red Cross, will host a blood drive Sept. 11 in its front parking lot from 1 to 7 p.m.

Donors of all blood types are needed, especially those with Type O. To schedule an appointment or for more information, call Roger Nordin at (562) 927-2626 or visit www.givelife.org and use sponsor code CENT21.

His ear was nearly burned off, his hands badly burned and he was temporarily blinded, but he said he lived because he had held his breath and not breathed the flames.

Others were not so lucky. Among the dead were Walter Pulley, brother of druggist Leamon Pulley; Fred Bigby; Clyde Weirbach; Guy Rieman; Harry Johnson, Jr.; and Edward Vandegrift.

The many injured included Frank Boheim (who was so badly hurt he lived just a few months); Lester Witherspoon; Fred Thompson and his son, Roy; James Stamps; Lawrence Manning; Raymond Strine; Frank Zamboni; George Clark; Jerome McGurn; L.E. Price and W.E. Harry.

There was no hospital in Downey at that time. Community Hospital was founded two years later just two blocks from where the fire took place.

Some of the most severely injured were taken to Los Angeles and some went to Artesia Hospital. For the rest, they were patched up at the old Downey Hotel whose second floor became an emergency ward.

Downey Avenue (then known as Crawford Street) was barricaded on both sides of the hotel to keep traffic noise down and not disturb the injured.

The whole town went into mourning, then decided to pay for a fulltime fire department.

Today, the statue of the Virgin outside the Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church stands about where the blaze took place.

Those who lived through the fire will never forget it. (The recent controversy over an effort to disband the Downey Fire Department brought this "Time Traveler" column which appeared previously in the pages of The Downey Eagle to mind. Thus, we reprint it.)

Originally published December 5, 1997

Schools gearing for football season

DOWNEY – The 2007 CIF Southern Section football season will unofficially get underway this weekend with zero week games. Schools will officially open the season on Sept. 6.

A total of 383 member schools will compete in 11-man football. Seventy-eight leagues will compete for 15 CIF Southern Section titles.

Dominguez High School of the San Gabriel Valley League has been ranked No. 1 in the Western Division. Downey and Warren High Schools were unranked.

U.S. presidents rated and analyzed

DOWNEY – The Ezra Center for Mature Adults will meet Sept. 18 at Temple Ner Tamid of Downey. The program, scheduled from 10 a.m. to noon, is entitled, "Dr. Donald Schwartz Continues: Rating the Presidents of the 20th Century."

Schwartz is affiliated with the History Department at Cal State Long Beach. His presentation will explore what and why specific ratings were assigned by historians to each of our presidents.

Schwartz discussed the first part of this two-part series earlier this month.

A kosher lunch will be served afterwards at a cost of \$6 for Ezra members and \$7 for non-members.

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

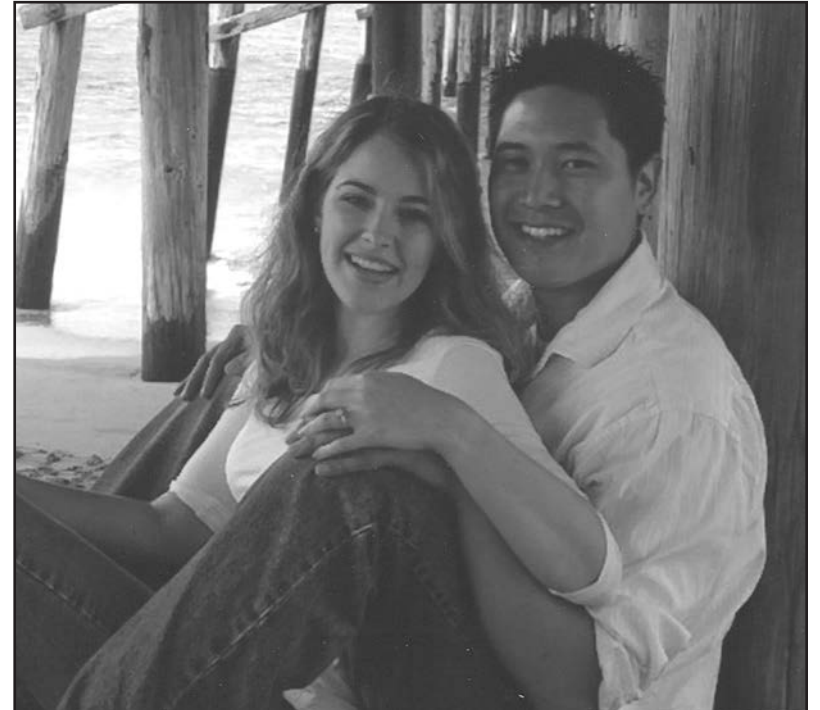
The Poets' Corner

The Beach

By day a blue sky
By night a black sea
By day a hot sun
By night a cool breeze
By day in the water
By night on the sand
By day a mere friend
By night holding her hand
-- Michael Remquist,
Downey

A Loss of Voice

I can't be right for poem writing, face it
No pen will menace meeting aid against
it But hardly ever do thoughts arise as ardent
Instead a claim, a day in life inspired are meant
To take control of writing skills withdrawn as potent
Behaving basic under stress and unit measure great fulfillment
A rhyme depends on sounds, and limits the choice
Altogether a rhyme must in face re-inhibit the voice
-- James Hernandez,
Downey



Jennifer Alexander, a 2000 graduate of Warren High School, will marry Robert Reyes, a 1998 graduate of Warren High School, in a Sept. 29 wedding in Long Beach. Jennifer graduated from UCLA with a B.A. in History and from UC San Diego with a M.A. in History. Robert is a Cal State Fullerton graduate with a B.A. in Business. Jennifer is the daughter of Darrell and Paula Alexander of Downey. Robert is the son of Freddie and Aurora Reyes of Downey.

Italian Catholics hosting bingo luncheon

DOWNEY – The Italian Catholic Federation of St. Raymond's Parish is hosting a "Bingo Luncheon" on Sept. 9 at 1 p.m. in the Msgr. Robert Gipson hall, 12348 Paramount Blvd., in Downey.

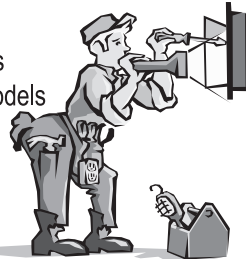
The cost is \$10 which includes one Bingo card, door prizes and lunch. The event will include a raffle of a \$25 money tree and other prizes. For tickets or information, call Aline Amatisto at (562) 693-9430.

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Rock the Boat

By Eric Pierce

The media sometimes tends to exaggerate and sensationalize news. Worse yet, the media sometimes make their own news, purposely stirring up dust in the interest of a hot story.

Shocking, I know. The Associated Press recently reported on a story, picked up by several media outlets around the country, on former NBA player Latrell Sprewell and how his boat had been repossessed by the bank for failure to meet the monthly payments.

It's a fairly interesting bit of information, but is it news? Do people really care that Sprewell's boat was repossessed? I know I don't. Doesn't that kind of stuff happen every day?

Michael Vick financing a major dog-fighting enterprise from his own backyard? News. Latrell Sprewell falling behind in boat payments? Not news.

And let's dissect this ESPN.com headline: "Garnett, Lucas among mourner's at Griffin's funeral." (The story dealt with the funeral of former basketball player Eddie Griffin, who was killed when his SUV collided with a freight train.) The headline implies that Griffin's funeral alone is not worthy of a news story – but splash the names of high-profile athletes in the headlines, and now it's news. And maybe more people will now click the story.

And more clicks equal more money. Does advertising influence what you read in the papers and on-line? The answer is a resounding "yes."

The Los Angeles Times is ferociously tracking City Hall and top-level administration. The Times even published how much water each councilperson consumes per month, numbers that were not particularly outstanding.

Is that really what readers want? Do readers want us to publish how much electricity Mayor Rick Trejo used last month? Or what Mayor Pro-Tem Dave Gafin's gas bill was in June?

Unless there's specific reason, I don't think the community particularly cares, or needs to know. In fact, I think it borders on tabloid journalism.

With newspaper revenues nose-diving in recent years, some publications are seemingly resorting to desperate measures for new readers. But truthful, honest reporting, with stories for all ages and demographics, I believe will trump any flash-in-the-pan gimmick a marketing department may concoct.

Demand an end to unnecessary deaths

SUBMITTED BY THE AYN RAND INSTITUTE

The Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit recently ruled that terminally ill patients do not have a right to take medicines that have not been approved by the FDA.

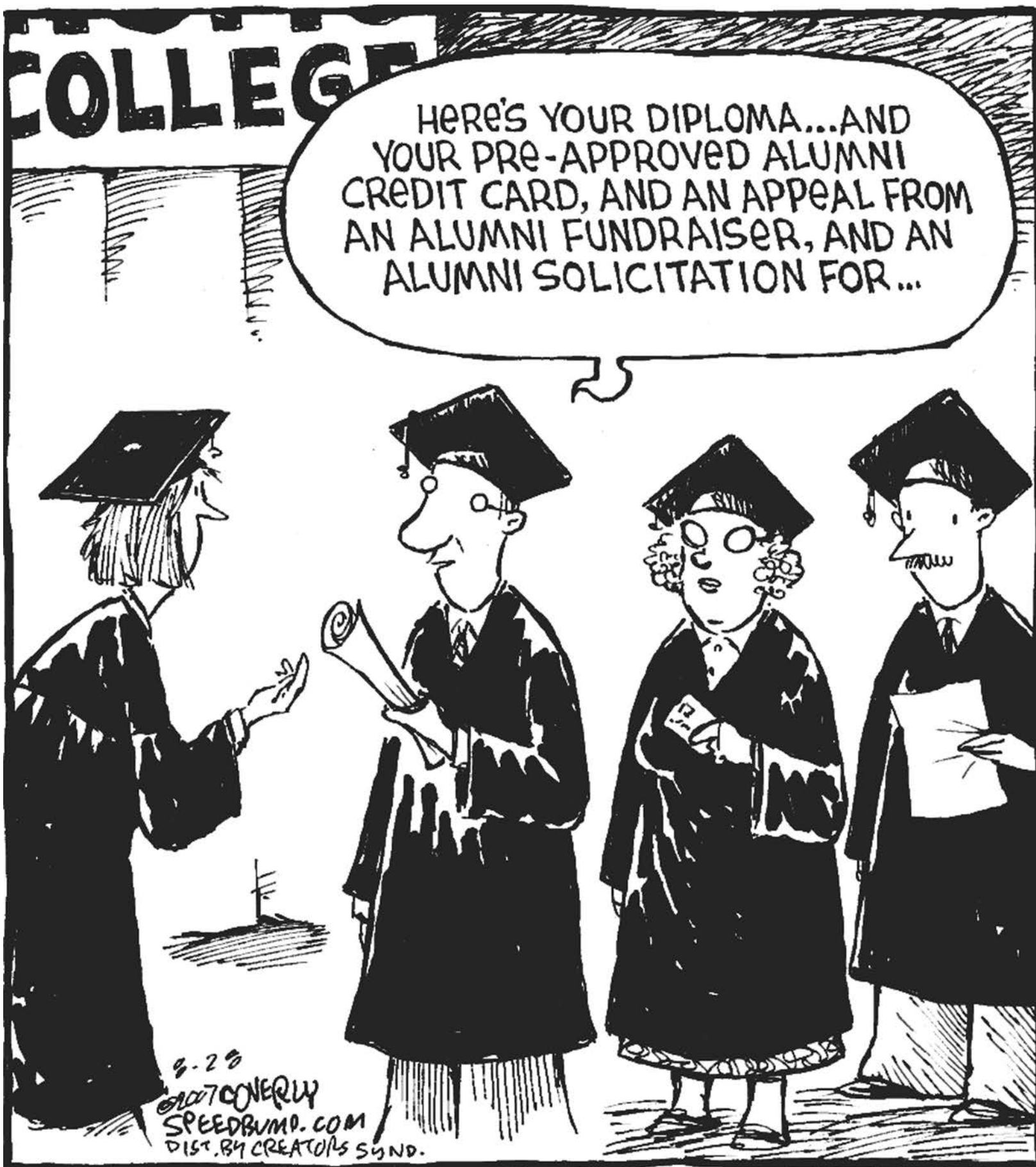
"Barring individuals from choosing what medicines to take is immoral and destructive," said Dr. Yaron Brook, executive director of the Ayn Rand Institute.

"The decision about what drugs to put in one's body rightfully belongs to each individual, not to FDA bureaucrats. To deny individuals this right is to impose a death sentence on those who, in the face of certain death, would rationally choose to accept the risks of an experimental treatment, but are barred from doing so until the urgently needed drug completes the FDA's onerous, years-long approval process. Indeed, this case was initiated by a group founded by the father of a girl who died after she was denied access to an experimental anti-cancer drug the FDA later approved.

"Individuals, in consultation with their doctors, should be free to assess the evidence of a drug's effectiveness and safety, taking into account their own personal context (such as their unique risk factors, or the fact that they are certain to die without the treatment). Some people may take ineffective or harmful drugs, but FDA approval does not eliminate such risks. The individual always assumes some level of risk when deciding on a course of treatment, and it is capricious – and too often deadly – for the FDA to usurp the individual's right to decide which risks it is in his interest to accept.

"Some claim that allowing individuals to take unapproved drugs will make effective clinical testing impossible, since, as they say, no rational person would willingly submit to the double-blind, randomized tests that are currently used in clinical trials required by the FDA. In such tests, some of the participants are unknowingly given a placebo, which, it's said, no one would chance if he could ensure that he received the drug by paying for it. But, contrary to those who make this argument, individuals are not lab rats who may be blackmailed by the government into becoming test subjects. It is chilling that defenders of the FDA's current trial system are, in effect, advocating as an incentive to take part in such trials: 'join or die.'

"Anyone who values human life, and the freedom of judgment required to maintain it, should oppose this disgraceful ruling – and demand an end to the unnecessary deaths caused by FDA drug regulations."



Letters to the Editor:

Let's focus on real issues

Dear Editor:

This letter is in response to the "elephant in the church" that is apparently plaguing our great nation ("The Elephant in the Church," 8/24/07). It is completely ridiculous for anyone to believe that the church is acting unlawfully in protecting working class people from being deported because the system they are operating under deems them, as historically before, now undesirable and a "threat" to the nation's "security."

Ah, yes, but of course, that doesn't matter, right? We forget the reasons in which people migrate here, documented or undocumented. Remember pilgrims, Protestants, and Old World Puritans, no one is illegal. After all, it was the European who invaded native territory last time I checked.

The letter completely ignored the connection of world migration to the United States (and other parts of the world) to globalization, First World imperialism (the U.S. too), and the basic need to survive. And do you really believe these "illegals" would risk their lives crossing over if they, 1) could live above the level of poverty in their hometown, or 2) not have been sold the mirage of the "American Dream?" (TV is a powerful tool!)

And when was the last time an undocumented Canadian or European was deported? Food for thought.

It is beyond ridiculous, if not an unfortunate series of logic, to conflate "illegal aliens" with thieves, molesters, murderers as equivalent lawbreakers. If the church has stepped in, it is because they understand the failure of the American system and the fact that deporting any family who have built their lives in this nation, working in sectors most native born Americans would never contemplate entering, is a slap in the face to the real backbone of this nation – scapegoating to be precise. I'm curious if the same folks arguing for the government to stampede through churches and "drag the lawbreakers out of the door of the church" would have been the same people who over 100 years ago would have posited the same argument with respect to escaped slaves seeking refuge in churches.

The next time you go to a restaurant, go out to a theme park, go to a festival, pass by beautiful landscape, hit your favorite supermarket, or purchase those clothes in season, think about who labored intensely to make sure everything's pretty and you don't pay more than what you should really be paying.

Seriously, why don't we focus on why the troops aren't home yet, why Bush isn't impeached, or why we're still lingering in Iraq. You know... the real issues.

— Giovanni Hortua Vargas, Downey

Traffic study quickly needed

Dear Editor:

I just saw the second of two serious traffic collisions in two hours at the corner of 5th and Paramount on Sunday afternoon, Aug. 26. I understand from witnesses at the scene of both collisions that the first one involved a fatality.

The intersection of 5th and Paramount is not aligned and has blind spots for oncoming traffic in both directions on 5th. The accident I saw involved a van traveling east on 5th which collided head-on with a car traveling west on 5th attempting to turn south on Paramount. I had just cleared that intersection on my motorcycle seconds before the collision.

The city engineer and police chief should conduct a traffic safety study of that intersection and report findings and recommendations to Council for action within 60 days. Let's hope in the meantime no one else is seriously injured or killed in a collision at the intersection.

— Brian Heyman, Downey

Not an island paradise

Dear Editor:

The island on Imperial Highway between Paramount and Bellflower is a nice project. It will be good for traffic and for school children. However, about two weeks ago a little concrete island was put on the southwest corner of Imperial and Downey – it blends with the street and cannot be seen by drivers going east on Imperial and making a right on Downey.

The concrete island has been hit by car tires. This island has to be removed and will be removed – it's only a matter of time.

— Mike Sandoval, Downey

People today are outliving nest eggs

BY BARBARA KASOFF, PRESIDENT OF WOMEN IMPACTING PUBLIC POLICY

With people today living longer than ever at the same time that the traditional pension plan is fast becoming a relic of the past, our notion of retirement is at a crossroads. There are few issues more critical to the long-term economic vitality of the United States today than that of retirement security. Especially at risk are women, many of whom do not have access to retirement plans through work. And, since women often spend less time in the work force than men, they also accumulate fewer benefits and savings.

Three key measures demonstrate loud and clear why Congress needs to make retirement security a front burner issue. First, Americans are living longer in retirement with the life expectancy of the average 65-year-old American now 83, four years more than the average in 1960. For women, the average life expectancy is even longer with one-third of retired women expected to live into their 90s and having a one in 30 chance of living to age 100. That means these women will have to have enough financial savings to stretch out over 30 or 40 years in retirement. This creates a real risk that many retirees could outlive their savings.

Second, while Social Security remains the center of financial health for most American retirees, the monthly Social Security check today replaces only approximately 42 percent of pre-retirement income. As a result, Social Security recipients receive a significantly smaller portion of their pre-retirement income than retirees in the last 25 years or so, meaning Americans must turn to other substantial forms of retirement income to supplement Social Security or face declines in their standards of living.


Lastly, the traditional defined-benefit retirement plans, like pensions, are falling by the wayside. Pensions provide retirees with regular payments and the peace of mind of knowing their income stream will not run out. Indeed, in 2006, only 21 percent of workers were offered pensions by their employers, and 44 percent of female workers lack a pension from any employer, compared to 36 percent for male workers.

A piece of legislation called the Retirement Security for Life Act has been introduced in Congress to help address these complex challenges. This legislation would facilitate access to retirement tools such as lifetime annuities, which, with pensions disappearing, are the only other retirement tool besides Social Security that provides a guaranteed stream of income that lasts as long as the policyholder lives – essentially serving as a "pay-check" for life.

More specifically, the bill would provide a 50 percent tax exclusion on the annual income from a lifetime annuity up to \$20,000, saving an American in the 25 percent tax bracket who excluded this amount from income about \$5,000 in taxes.

Retirement policy should once again be made a priority in Congress because helping Americans save and plan for their golden years is the right thing to do.

The Downey Patriot

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SPEED BUMP



DAVE COVERLY



Downey Community Calendar

Events For August/September

Tues. Sept. 4: **Yoga class**, Barbara J. Riley Community Center, 6 p.m.
Wed. Sept. 5: **First day of school**, for DUSD students
Fri. Sept. 7: **Medicare meeting**, at Downey Retirement Center, 10 a.m.
Sun. Sept. 9: **Downey City Library**, begins Sunday hours, 1 p.m.

City Meetings

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

Regularly Scheduled Meetings

Mondays

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

Tuesdays

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

Wednesdays

7 a.m.: **Kiwanis Club**, at Rio Hondo Events Center. Call Steve Roberson at 927-2626.
1 p.m.: **Women's Bocce Club**, for information call 869-8782.
1st Weds., 10 a.m.: **Woman's Club of Downey**, for information call Barbara Briley-Beard 869-7618.
1st Weds., 11:30 a.m.: **Downey Coordinating Council**, for information call 927-9790.
1st Weds., 7:30 p.m.: **Downey Stamp Club**, at Maude Price School cafeteria, for information call 928-3028.
1st Weds., 7:30 p.m.: **Downey Emblem Club #309**, at Downey's Elks Lodge, for information call 868-4386.
2nd Weds., 7:30 p.m.: **Downey Model A Club**, at Gallatin School Cafeteria, for information call 928-4132.
2nd Weds., 7:30 p.m.: **Downey Sister Cities Ass'n**, at Maude Price School, Call 862-7197.
2nd Weds., 11:45 - **Downey Christian Women's Club**, at Los Amigos CC. Call 927-8488.
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 Sambi's, for information call Steve Allen at 622-7655.
12:30 p.m.: **Take off Pounds Sensibly**, at First Christian Church, call (800) 932-8677.
6:30 p.m.: **Downey United Masonic Lodge # 220**, 8244 3rd St., Call 862-4176.
7 p.m.: **Troop 351, Boy Scouts of America**, at First Baptist Church, for information call 776-3388.
4th Thurs., 7:30 p.m.: **Downey Historical Society programs**, at Community Center. Call 862-2777.
2nd Thurs., 7:30 p.m.: **Beaming Rebel Foxes Collectors Club**, for more information call Carl D. Jones at 923-2400.

Fridays

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

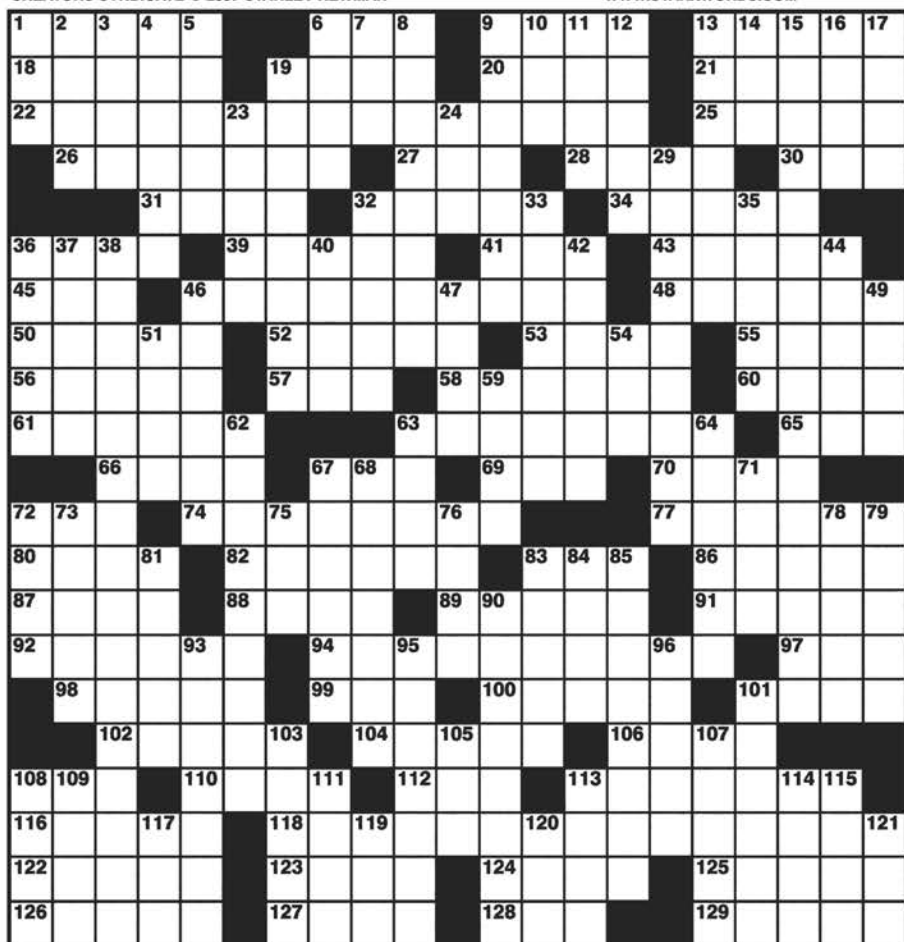
August 31, 1886: An earthquake kills 100 people in Charleston, South Carolina.
1888: Mary Ann Nichols, the woman believed to be the first victim of English serial killer Jack the Ripper, is found murdered in London.
1897: The Kinetoscope, an early motion picture exhibition device, is patented by Thomas Edison.
1963: Walter Cronkite begins as host of the "CBS Evening News."
1997: Princess Diana dies in a Paris car accident.
2006: Edvard Munch's famous painting, "The Scream," is discovered more than two years after it was stolen.

THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com)
CINEMATIC FORECASTS: A.k.a. Movie Meteorology
by Robert H. Wolfe

- ACROSS**
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 - 20 "Very funny!"
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 - 22 Poitler film of '61
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 - 120 Writer Levin
 - 121 PBS "Science Guy"

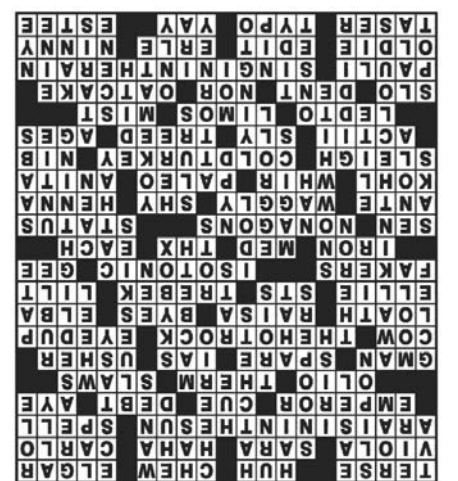
CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2007 STANLEY NEWMAN WWW.STANXWORDS.COM 8/26/07



- 63 Revered one
- 64 What Polo called China
- 67 Tricks and illusions
- 68 Chinese-food item
- 71 French city
- 72 5th Avenue store
- 73 ___ Gay (WWII bomber)
- 75 "Uh-uh!"
- 76 Big Apple force
- 78 Loosen
- 79 Alternatives to Volvos
- 81 Special group
- 83 Talks unclearly
- 84 On Earth
- 85 Team member
- 90 One with a JD
- 93 More lightheaded
- 95 Not being honest with
- 96 Mrs. Bunker
- 101 Some video games
- 103 Start
- 105 Me, to Miss Piggy
- 107 Play part
- 108 Locate
- 109 Song syllables
- 111 Substantial, as sums
- 113 Just
- 114 German philosopher
- 115 A as in Aachen
- 117 Recline
- 119 Touch of frost
- 120 Writer Levin
- 121 PBS "Science Guy"

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

The TERM (32 Across), a unit of heat energy equal to 100,000 BTUs, is generally used to measure natural gas usage. In ISOTONIC (63 Across) exercise, constant tension is maintained while the length of muscles decrease. OATCAKE is a typical accompaniment for the traditional Scottish dish haggis.



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Ana Esparza, Real Estate Executive

Ana Esparza has been servicing the City of Downey since 1991. She is involved in many organizations and currently serves as President of the Downey Association of Realtors. Ana believes that purchasing Downey Real Estate is a great investment whether you are purchasing your first home, second home, or commercial property. Ana believes when you are buying or selling in today's real estate market, it is important to have confidence in your Real Estate Professional. Ana is committed to provide specialized service that her clients deserve. If you are considering buying or selling a home, or commercial property, or would like to have additional information about real estate in your area. Please contact Ana Esparza at (562)756-8870

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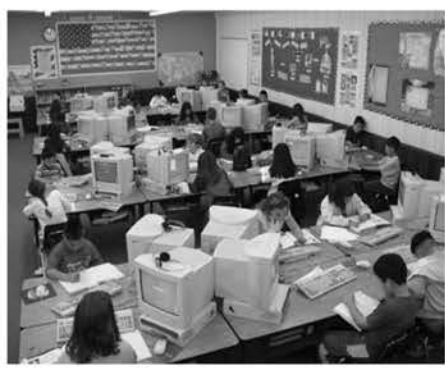
Our Mission: "Our Goals are to provide top quality customer service, support a healthy business environment, improve the quality of life for others, and promote goodwill within the communities we serve." For over 30 years My Real Estate Co. has put those words into action, supported by a solid and experienced staff and the latest technology. Supporting the community: Easter Seals, American Red Cross, ARC, YMCA, Gangs Out of Downey, Downey Chamber of Commerce, Fire and Police Assoc., Kiwanis, and Character Counts to mention a few. **Featuring Today:** My Real Estate School - Downey's only organization that is approved and qualified by the Department of Real Estate to offer a resident real estate course. The courses offered are "...equivalent in quality to the same real estate course offered by the colleges and universities accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges. A full service real estate company providing: My Escrow, My Mortgage, My Real Estate School, My Property Management, and My Commercial Investments. 562-927-2626.

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Chump Change - They can't drive, but they can jam!

BY BROOKE KARLI
STAFF WRITER

This summer has been quite eventful for Furman Park. In addition to the 2007 Furman Park Twilight Summer Concert Series that took place every Wednesday evening throughout the summer, the City of Downey Community Services Department hosted two "Battle of the Bands" contests, also at the park.

On July 21, four Downey-based bands - Parabola, Chump Change, The Repented, and Mandragon Authority - competed for a chance to return to the next contest.

Chump Change and "Mandragon Authority" were invited to return, and on Aug. 25, competed against "Rayah," a band from Pasadena (another band, RD Demolish, of Arcadia,

were scheduled to perform but did not show up).

All three bands were not only competing for a 1st Place trophy and a \$100 reward, but also, essentially, bragging rights.

Chump Change, much to my surprise, is a three-member band, all of which are 14 years old. Ivo Rubio, Fabian Chavez and Branden Vasquez decided to start a band when, after performing together for a Griffiths Middle School honors night, knew they had to keep performing together.

That was a year and a half ago, and now, they are doing whatever they can to get noticed on the talent radar. Although they do write some of their own music, they also like covering songs, especially songs from "Rage Against the Machine."

Since forming, the band has

performed nine gigs - two of which were the "Battle of the Bands" contests. But now, as they prepare to enter Warren High School, they have decided to take the month of September off, to get used to extracurricular activities, honors courses, and band practices, said Branden.

The band admits that it's a little intimidating to compete against older bands that have better equipment and more experience, but know that they too will be there someday.

"We just love seeing the crowd get into our music and we want audiences to enjoy our music for as long as possible," said Fabian.

And as far as their name is concerned: "We chose our name because chump change is more than you think sometimes," said Ivo.

While performing, the band did a great job of getting the crowd to participate and continued to play gracefully through technical difficulties. But because the group is so young, they lacked originality in song choices and have a lot of maturity to gain in songwriting and vocals.

However, if this band continues to stay together, I have no doubt we will be hearing them over the airwaves.

Chump Change can be seen and heard at www.myspace.com/chumpchange9.

Mandragon Authority, a three-member band straight out of high school, celebrated their one-year anniversary the day of the contest.

Mike "Mandragon," Glen "Authority," and Alex Banton attended high school together and decided to create a rock 'n' roll band that would stray away from the typical "emo band,"

Mike said.

The band said they write all of their own music, finding influence and inspiration from "The Ramones" and "Johnny Thunders."

The group has performed four gigs in the past year and said that being in a band is all about jammin'.

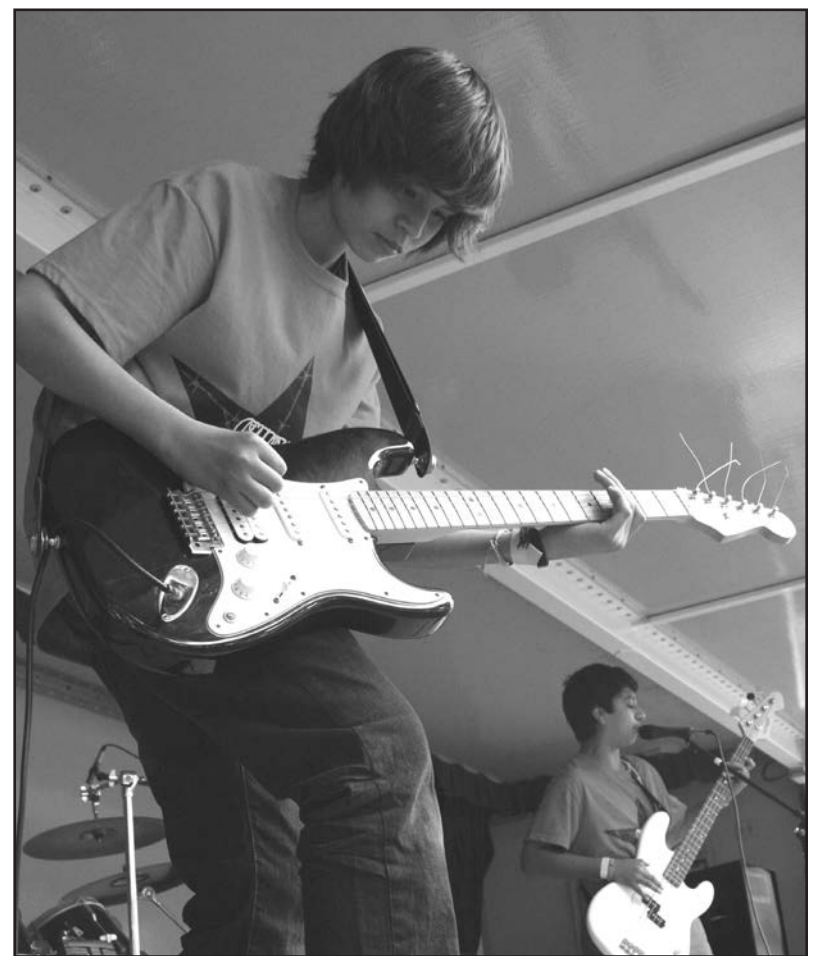
Although the group jammed hard at the contest, they lacked connecting with the audience and a drawn-out guitar solo lost most of the crowd. However, their sound, which I also found comparable to that of "The Strokes," was far from the typical rock-alternative genre - refreshing in the least.

More information on "Mandragon Authority" can be found at www.myspace.com/mandragonauthority.

And in case you're wondering, neither of the Downey bands won the contest. Instead, "Rayah" walked away with the trophy - and rightfully so. The band was original, in synch with each other, reflected an entertaining stage presence, and got the audience to participate - all things the judges were looking for. Although it was hard to make out their screaming lyrics, they screamed them well.

Overall, the contest was very entertaining and provided for a breezy Saturday afternoon at the park. Concert staff sold candy, sodas and t-shirts to those in attendance and family members brought hamburger patties and hot dogs to barbeque.

It was a great opportunity for young musicians to get their music heard and an even better opportunity for the community to support their local talent.



Chump Change guitarist 'rocking out.' Photo by Eddie Blanck.



Chump Change, a three-member band. Photo by Brooke Karli

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MR. BEAN'S HOLIDAY (10:10, 12:20, 2:40, 5:10), 7:15, 9:30

THE NANNY DIARIES (11:00, 1:40, 4:20), 7:05, 9:45

WAR (11:45, 2:20, 4:50), 7:30, 10:05

SUPERBAD (11:30, 2:10, 5:00), 7:50, 10:30

RUSH HOUR 3 (12:00, 2:30, 4:55), 7:20, 9:40

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Greg Brown - *Yellow Dog*
Andre Rieu - *Live from Radio City Music Hall*
New Model Army - *High*
Chiodos - *Bone Palace Ballet*
Suzy Bogguss - *Sweet Danger*
Source: Amazon.com

Concerts

FRIDAY, AUGUST 31

X - HOB Anaheim
Barrington Levy - Galaxy Theatre
Heart - Pala Casino
Heavyweights of Comedy - Gibson Amphitheatre
Toby Keith - Verizon Wireless Amphitheatre

SATURDAY

Beyonce - Honda Center
T.I. - Gibson Amphitheatre
X - HOB Anaheim
Atreyu - Verizon Amphitheatre
Cecilio and Kapono - Coach House

SUNDAY

Beyonce - Honda Center
Korn - Verizon Amphitheatre
James Hunter - Coach House
T.I. - Gibson Amphitheatre
Zoe - HOB Anaheim

DVD Releases

MOVIES

Delta Farce
Georgia Rule

TV/MISC.

Nip/Tuck - Season 4
Source: Box Office Mojo

Video Game Releases

Naruto Uzumaki Chronicles 2 - PS2
Medal of Honor: Airborne - X360
Pool Party - Wii
Source: ebgames.com

Book Releases

"Giving: How Each of Us Can Change the World" by Bill Clinton
"Songs without Words" by Ann Packer
"Brother, I'm Dying" by Edwidge Danticat
"Mummy Case" by Elizabeth Peters
"Things I Overheard While Talking to Myself" by Alan Alda
"Heartsick" by Chelsea Cain
"Tree of Smoke" by Denis Johnson
Source: barnesandnoble.com

Book Releases

"The Dynamic Path: Access the Secrets of Champions to Achieve Greatness Through Mental Toughness, Inspired Leadership and Personal Transformation" by James M. Citrin

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LADRON QUE ROBA A LADRON PG13 (11:35 2:10) 4:45 7:20 9:55
BALLS OF FURY PG13 (12:15 2:40) 5:05 7:30 9:55
WAR R (10:20 12:45 3:10) 5:35 8:00 10:25
ILLEGAL TENDER R (10:35 1:10 3:45) 6:20 8:55
SUPERBAD PG13 (11:45 2:25) 5:05 7:45 10:25
RUSH HOUR 3 PG13 (11:15 1:50 4:25) 7:00 9:35
THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM PG13 (10:45 1:35 4:25) 7:15 10:05
UNDERDOG PG (14:00 3:55) 6:10 8:25 10:40
RATATOUILLE G (10:45)
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RESURRECTING THE CHAMP PG13 (1:15) 6:10

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Laraine Turner: A writer all of her life

By Brooke Karli
STAFF WRITER

Do you remember what you wanted to be when you were 12 years old? I remember wanting to be the first female president, a dolphin trainer, a Women's National Basketball Association (WNBA) all-star and a pediatrician — like Dr. Gonzales at Gallatin Medical Center.



Unfortunately for me, I wasn't willing to go to medical school or take on the pressures of being the president, and I wasn't good enough in basketball to even play for a college team.

But for Laraine Elizabeth Turner, 52, she stuck to what she wanted to be — a fiction writer.

At 12 years old, Laraine was busy writing songs and fictional stories, which, ironically, have been the secret to her success as a published author and notable songwriter.

In 2001, Turner's release of "The Rise and Fall of the Witch on the Bayou" was a life-long dream come true, considering she began writing the story when she was only 12. Her other books, "Spanky," "The Little Rosebud" and "Return to the Bayou: Phantoms of the Past," were also based off childhood ideas and are currently awaiting publication.

Recently, Turner was a finalist for VHI's Song of the Year contest — for the third time. In 2005, Turner's "The Thorns of the Rose" was a finalist in the pop category and in 2006, "Long, Long Ago" was a finalist in the folk category. Her recent entry, "Never the Same Again," was a finalist in the pop category.

"My dad always encouraged me to write songs," said the mother of two. "So I've always been very proud of my songs and try to write them as often as possible."

But, like many motivated authors and songwriters, Turner has had to overcome many obstacles.

Turner was one of twelve children, and in an effort to ease the load for her mom, she tended to her younger brothers, becoming more of a mother figure than a sister.

Her family then decided to move from Indiana to California when she was 17 years old. At 19, she attended Pacific Union College in Angwin, Calif., receiving her bachelor's degree in journalism. Ten years later, Turner found herself working as an editor for *The Drill Sergeant*, the Army Reserves' newspaper.

Following her six years with the Reserves, Turner worked for Western Temps in San Francisco, later becoming a long-term secretary at Hunters Point Naval Shipyard. While working in San Francisco, Turner also participated in community theatre in Santa Rosa.

Turner later took a job working for a kinder-care, deciding to pursue a career in teaching. She began attending California State University, Long Beach, graduating in 1995 with a teaching credential. While subbing for the Downey Unified School District, Turner pinched a nerve, leaving her bed-ridden. During that time, she began to write "The Rise and Fall of the Witch on the Bayou."

Up until that point, Turner had not really written anything. It was with the encouragement of her husband, Tony, and the Lord, that she was able to finish and publish her first book, Turner said.

Now that she was back into writing fiction, Turner was busy with new stories and songs and working as a 3rd grade drama teacher for a magnet-arts school in Bell.

And almost two years ago, Turner had twins, Elisha and Thelma. She also has three stepchildren, Xavier, Tony III and Kimberly.

So, now, as a mom and pastor's wife, she is finally settled. "I always want to have a vibrant, wild imagination," said Turner. "I want to be entertaining, but I also want to provide a positive message."

Turner still substitutes for the Los Angeles Unified School District on occasion and hopes to someday write a Western novel.

But most importantly, she is living out what she wanted to be when she was 12 years old — and not many of us can say that we've done the same.

Oldies concert at Downey Theatre

DOWNEY — The Downey Chamber of Commerce will delve back into time when it presents an oldies fundraiser concert Sept. 15 at the Downey Theatre.

The Beach Toys, a tribute to The Beach Boys, will headline the show. Also performing will be Pleasant Valley Sunday, a musical comedy tribute to The Monkees, and Paperback Writer — The Beatles Experience.

Tickets are \$25 and on sale now at the Downey Chamber of Commerce, 11131 Brookshire Ave. or by calling (562) 923-2191.



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The new faces of Stonewood

Local teens win contest based on style

DOWNEY — Stonewood Center, Lakewood Center and Los Cerritos Center have finally found their crew members for the "Teen Life of Style Crew."

The three centers held an open casting call last month for local teenagers ages 16-18 in the 10-12th grades. Over 150 teens auditioned and 25 were welcomed back for a "Style Challenge" where they were given \$150 to show a panel of judges what their fashion trends were and why they should be a member of the "Teen Life of Style Crew."

This past weekend the 25 semi-finalists strutted their stuff at the three centers; three winners were announced at each center.

The winners, making up the 2007-08 Teen Life of Style Crew Members, include two Downey High School students. The complete crew includes:

Nicole Hamilton attends Downey High School where she is currently working on graduating with honors. She is also involved in drumline. Clothes are important to her because she feels that "if you don't feel comfortable and confident with what you're wearing it brings your self-esteem down; and nobody should feel that."

Kristine Urzua is a senior at Downey High School where she is a varsity cheerleader. Urzua has also been in numerous pageants and currently holds the title of Miss Teen L.A. County Int'l. She is a current delegate for the Miss Teen California Int'l pageant.

Priscilla Balcaceren is a senior at Bellflower High School where she is part of ASB, filling the position of Commissioner of Public Relations.

Travion Davis is a senior at Gardena High School and is



Bottom row, right to left: Matthew Garcia, Travion Davis, Chad Pierce, and Joshua Hunter. Top row, left to right: Kristine Urzua, Carlee Rasmussen, Priscilla Balcaceren, Nicole Hamilton, and Brianna Williams.

interested in fashion designing and dancing. In his spare time he designs shoes and paints them various colors.

Matthew Garcia attends La Mirada High School. He would like to be an actor, in addition to modeling and writing.

Chad Pierce attends Marina High School and is on the swim team. He recently took fifth place in the 50-yard freestyle sprint. He also plays baseball, basketball and football.

Carlee Rasmussen is a senior at Long Beach Poly. She has been on the varsity dance team for three years and on a competitive dance team for eight years. She is involved with numerous organizations, including Soul II Sole, Long Beach Junior Volunteers, and Heartbeats for Tom Rasmussen.

Brianna Williams is a junior at Dominguez High School. She

runs track and, in her spare time, listens to music and shops. She will start the nursing academy at her school this fall.

Joshua Hunter is a senior at St. John Bosco and is on the varsity soccer team. He is also the vice president of the Jr. Statesman of America. He is also a member of the "100 Black Men of Orange County."

Nicole Hamilton and Joshua Hamilton will also serve as the Southern California teen spokesmen for Macerich, which owns all three shopping centers.

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Faith in Downey: Calvary Chapel of Downey

By BROOKE KARLI
STAFF WRITER

Chances are, if you haven't attended Calvary Chapel of Downey, you've heard of it. Currently, Calvary Chapel of Downey is the biggest church in Downey, hosting 5,000 to 6,000 people on an average Sunday.

The church, which started with 12 people meeting at Furman Park in 1973, experienced many moves before settling on the corner of Imperial Highway and Woodruff Avenue. The congregation moved from Furman Park to a small building on Downey Avenue and 4th Street, calling the church New Life Fellowship.

Two years later, in 1975, the congregation outgrew the little building and the church moved to a former tax building on Firestone Boulevard. It was after this move that the church was renamed Calvary Chapel of Downey. Then, the church experienced a strong growth in attendance and began renting out the Downey Theatre, offering 750 seats.

Finally, in 1978, the church purchased the White Front/flea market building, giving the congregation a 12-acre lot to renovate and add-on. Now, that same property not only houses a church, but also a private school.

Their private school, Calvary Chapel Christian School, has over 1,200 students from kindergarten to 12th grade enrolled for the upcoming school year.

Although the church participates in multiple missionary projects throughout the year, Calvary Chapel of Downey is best known for the variety of ministries offered to those who attend.

Within the 40 ministries offered, some include the "Becoming One Marriage Ministry," designed to strengthen those who are newly engaged to those celebrating silver anniversaries and beyond; the "New Hope Support & Addiction Ministry," designed to help and support those overcoming addictions; the "Singles Serving Fellowship," designed to unite and introduce singles within the church community; the "Shields of Faith Ministry," designed to encourage police officers and firefighters, as well as their spouses; and the Children's, Junior High, High School, and College & Career Ministries, all designed to tailor to the needs of the community's youth.

"Every ministry is crucial to the specific group of people being ministered to," said Neil Matranga, administrator and assistant pastor. "And at every gathering, our emphasis is teaching the Word of God."

Calvary Chapel of Downey also offers a Spanish Ministry, which meets Tuesdays at 7 p.m. and Sundays at 6 p.m.

According to the church's board, the congregation at Calvary Chapel of Downey believes the following:

- The only true basis of Christian fellowship is His (Agape) love, which is greater than any differences we possess and without which we have no right to claim ourselves Christians.
- Worship of God should be spiritual. Therefore, we remain flexible and yielded to the leading of the Holy Spirit to direct our worship.
- Worship of God should be inspirational. Therefore, we give a great place to music in our worship.
- Worship of God should be intelligent. Therefore, our services are designed with great emphasis upon teaching the Word of God that He might instruct us how He should be worshipped.
- Worship of God is fruitful. Therefore, we look for His love in our lives as the supreme manifestation that we have truly been worshipping Him.
- All fundamental doctrines of orthodox evangelical Christianity.
- Inerrancy of Scripture, that the Bible, Old and New Testaments is the inspired, infallible Word of God.
- God is eternally existent in three separate persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- God the Father is the personal, transcendent, and sovereign Creator of all things.
- Jesus Christ is fully God and fully human, that He was born of a virgin, lived a sinless life, provided for the atonement of our sins by His vicarious death on the Cross, was bodily resurrected by the power of the Holy Spirit, ascended back to the right hand of God the Father, and ever lives to make intercession for us.
- After Jesus ascended to Heaven, He poured out His Holy Spirit on the believers in Jerusalem, enabling them to fulfill His command to preach the Gospel to the entire world, an obligation shared by all believers today.
- All people are by nature separated from God and responsible for their own sin, but that salvation, redemption, and forgiveness are freely offered



Calvary Chapel of Downey, which started in 1973 with only 12 members, has grown to become Downey's largest church. Photo courtesy Calvary Chapel of Downey

Calvary Chapel of Downey
12808 Woodruff Ave.
(562) 803-5631
www.ccdowney.com

to all by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. When a person repents of sin and accepts Jesus Christ as personal Lord and Savior, trusting Him to save, that person is immediately born again and sealed by the Holy Spirit, all his/her sins are forgiven, and that person becomes a child of God, destined to spend eternity with the Lord.

The gifts of the Holy Spirit mentioned in the Scriptures are valid today if they are exercised within the spiritual guidelines. We as believers are to covet the best gifts, seeking to exercise them in love that the whole Body of Christ might be edified. We believe that love is more important than the most spectacular gifts, and without this love, all exercise of spiritual gifts is worthless.

Church government should be simplistic rather than a complex bureaucracy, and we depend on the Holy Spirit to lead, rather than on fleshly promotion.

We await the pre-tribulation rapture of the church, and we believe that the Second Coming of Christ with His saints to rule on the earth will be personal, pre-millennial, and visible. This motivates us to holy living, heartfelt worship, committed service, and diligent study of God's word.

We seek to teach the Word of God in such a way that its message can be applied to an individual's life, leading that person to greater maturity in Christ.

We reject: (1) the belief that true Christians can be demon possessed; (2) "S-point Calvinism"; (3) "positive confession," the faith movement belief that God can be commanded to heal or work miracles according to man's will; (4) human prophecy that supersedes the Scripture; (5) the incorporation of humanistic and secular psychology and philosophy into Biblical teaching; and (6) the over-emphasis of spiritual gifts, experimental signs and wonders to the exclusion of Biblical teaching.



The image of a dove serves as the church's logo, and is featured behind the church altar. Photo by Brooke Karli

A message from the congregation:

God heard my cry when I was in darkness and gave me hope and a purpose. I feel like David in Psalm 40:2-3, "He has brought me out of a horrible pit, a miry clay and set my feet upon a Rock (Jesus Christ) and He has established my goings. He has put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto my God; many shall see it and fear and shall trust in the Lord!" Now I tell others to come and see this man, Jesus, who will forgive your past and transform your life if you will believe in Him.

This is what really goes on at Calvary Chapel of Downey – thousands of hopeless lives are being transformed by the love of Jesus! Come and see a man who will deal with your past, give you strength for today, and hope for tomorrow. Jesus said, "Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. . . Learn of me and you'll be blessed. . ." (Matthew 11:28-29).

Please come visit us, so I can meet you and introduce you to Jesus, who can transform your life too!

—Rev. Jeff Johnson,
Calvary Chapel of Downey



Calvary Chapel offers 40 ministries, catering to different ages and topics. Photo by Brooke Karli

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Temple celebrating High Holy Days

DOWNEY – Temple Ner Tamid of Downey, a Reform Congregation, will be celebrating the High Holy Day season, with services conducted by Rabbi Len Muroff and Cantor Ellen Jaffe-Gill.

The service schedule appears below:
Rosh Hashanah Sept. 12 7:30 p.m.
Rosh Hashanah Day 1 Sept. 13 10 a.m.
Rosh Hashanah Day 2 Sept. 14 10 a.m.
Kol Nidre Sept. 21 7:30 p.m.
Yom Kippur Sept. 22 10 a.m.

All services will take place in the sanctuary of Temple Ner Tamid, 10629 Lakewood Blvd. in Downey.

Those interested in obtaining High Holy Day tickets and/or Temple membership should call the Temple office at (562) 861-9276.

Christian Club plans busy meeting

DOWNEY – "From Brokenness to Joy" will be the theme of the Downey Christian Women's Club Sept. 12 meeting at the Los Amigos Country Club.

The day's special feature will be presented by J. Pacific International Inc., a wholesale designer of handbags. Singer/songwriter Gina Alston will provide music and be a guest speaker.

Cost to attend is \$12, which includes a buffet lunch. The community, including men, is invited. Reservations are requested by calling Sonja at (562) 862-4347 or Delores at (562) 868-7135.

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Temple Ner Tamid

Rabbi Len Muroff
Cantor Ellen Jaffe-Gill
Our Professional High Holiday Choir

Erev Rosh Hashanah, September 12 at 7:30 p.m.
First Day Rosh Hashanah, September 13 at 10:00 a.m.
Second Day Rosh Hashanah, September 14 at 10:00 a.m.
Kol Nidre, September 21 at 7:30 p.m. Sharp
Yom Kippur, September 22 at 10:00 a.m.

For Tickets, Membership or Information
Call 562-861-9276
10629 Lakewood Boulevard, Downey
(Freeway close, north of Firestone Boulevard)

Temple Ner Tamid of Downey is a Friendly, Warm Reform Congregation



A former St. Raymond's School principal, Sister Merlyn Galway died Sunday. Services will be held Saturday at noon at St. Raymond's.

GALWAY

Continued from page 1

Medical Center where she was pronounced dead.

Willis was treated for minor injuries and released.

Traffic Detective Rosie Gutierrez said charges are pending against Willis while officials recreate the accident and await the coroner's report. The district attorney, Gutierrez said, will ultimately decide whether charges are filed.

The Catholic community in Downey, meanwhile, mourned over Sister Galway, who was St. Raymond's School principal from 1990-96.

"She was so dedicated. Dedication would have to be her strong, strong quality," said Sister Miriam Harney with St. Raymond's Catholic Church. "She organized and planned her classes so well. Her biggest concern was the children and that they were taught well.

"Obviously we're very shocked, but we've received tremendous support from the community. From parishioners to local churches, the support has been tremendous."

Sister Galway was Irish. Her father, 88, remains in Ireland along with other family.

Sister Galway had just returned from a trip to Ireland to visit her family.

"Her family was very important to her," Sister Harney said.

Prior to coming to St. Raymond's, Sister Galway served as principal for four years at St. Linus School in Norwalk. She was principal at St. John of God, also in Norwalk, from 1996-97 and was a teacher at St. Emydius in Lynwood for the past nine years.

She was preparing to take over a class this school year that had just lost a teacher to cancer, church officials said.

"We join the Sisters of the Holy Faith in their shock, mourning and grief," Fr. John Higgins of St. Raymond's Church wrote in an e-mail. "This is such a loss and a burden that no one should have to bear. Yet, many have endured such tragedy and with them, we share this deeply felt grief.

"With all of the people of St. Raymond Church, I ask for your prayers for Sr. Merlyn, her family and, most importantly, the sisters that embraced her in the communal life, the Sisters of the Holy Faith."

"I also request your fervent prayers for more vocations to the priesthood and religious life," Higgins continued. "At times like these, at the passing of a priest, deacon, religious sister or brother, we wonder what will come of the ministry we have grown so accustomed to over the years. May we have the courage to look within our own families and in our community and see if there are daughters, granddaughters, God-daughters and nieces that may wish to begin a process of discernment in a vocation of loving service to Christ's Church in the professed life of a religious sister."

Sister Galway resided with the Sisters in a home on Rives Avenue.

She is survived by her father, Robert; sister, Ruth; brother-in-law, Walter; nephews, Mark and Paul; and niece, Clarie.

Funeral services will be held tomorrow, Sept. 1, at noon at St. Raymond's Church, 12348 Paramount Blvd. A reception will follow in the Msgr. Gipson Hall. Burial will take place in Dublin, Ireland.

The intersection of Paramount Boulevard and 5th Street is awkwardly aligned, compared to other streets in the city, and has been the source of numerous traffic accidents in recent years, according to police records and witness accounts.

Police records show eight serious accidents have occurred at that intersection dating back to 2005, not including fender-benders where drivers simply exchanged information. Half of those eight accidents resulted in an injury.

In fact, a second accident occurred at the 5th/Paramount intersection just a few hours after the fatal collision involving Sister Galway.

"What happens is people get confused and they don't know whether to go or not," said Benjamin Ibarra, office manager at Gallatin Dental Group, which resides at that corner intersection. "I see people stop, pull forward, not knowing what to do."

Ibarra said he didn't witness Sunday's accident but has witnessed previous collisions from his office, which has a clear view of 5th/Paramount.

Employees at Security Land Escrow Company, 10805 Paramount Blvd., also said they have witnessed their share of accidents and numerous close calls.

"At least once a week, if we don't get an accident there's screeching tires or horns honking," said Larry Garces, an escrow officer and public relations employee with Security Land Escrow Company. "What the intersection needs is a green turn signal or a three-way light."

Other office employees estimated witnessing or hearing three crashes in the past six months, and often help the people involved in the accidents.

The intersection of 3rd Street and Paramount Boulevard, in contrast, aligned in a similar manner to 5th/Paramount, has not had any serious traffic collision in the past two years, according to police records.

VALOR

Continued from page 1

other possible victims.

As they neared the ex-girlfriend's apartment, they saw blood on the ground outside the door. They also saw the kitchen window screen torn and the window open. Unsure of Iniguez's whereabouts and concerned another victim may have been inside the apartment, McCaster tried the door and found it locked.

A child standing atop a stairway motioned for the officers to help him. McCaster and Weinrich moved toward the child as Kelly and Kurtz positioned themselves to the front of the apartment.

Kelly and Kurtz peered inside the window and saw Iniguez walk out of the bedroom toward the front of the apartment. They pointed their weapons at the suspect and ordered him to raise his hands. Iniguez refused and retreated into the bedroom and out of sight. Suddenly reappearing in the doorway, Iniguez fired his shotgun at Kelly and Kurtz.

The shotgun blast struck Kelly in the face and right hand. Kelly fell to the ground. Kurtz took cover and returned fire. Weinrich ran to Kelly and dragged him out of the line of fire. Upon hearing the gunfire, McCaster grabbed the child on the stairway as well as the gunman's ex-girlfriend and her mother, shielding them from potential gunfire, and guiding them to safety.

As this happened the gunman turned off the bedroom lights and again fired the shotgun at Kurtz. Kurtz returned fire and retrieved the handgun which had fallen from Kelly's hand when he was struck by the shotgun blast. The gunman retreated out of sight.

Kelly, although severely wounded, maintained his poise as well as command of the incident by telling officers, "I'll be alright; I need you to stay focused, do what I know you can do and stay calm."

During the entire event, all radio traffic and emergency response from supporting units and neighboring agencies was coordinated by Public Safety Dispatcher Margarita Wells. Her poise, professionalism and clear communication under extreme, emergent and stressful conditions was exemplary.

Even more remarkable is the fact that her husband, a sergeant with the Downey Police Department, was on-scene at this incident and Wells had no way of knowing if her husband was the officer shot or injured.

Using the police radio to ask if her husband was the officer injured could have compromised the successful handling of this incident. Knowing this, she refrained from doing so.

Officers managed to contain Iniguez to the single apartment and evacuated the remainder of the complex. As fire personnel arrived on scene they assisted officers in the evacuation of residents. One firefighter volunteered to don a ballistic vest and assist officers inside.

Downey Fire Department's response

Downey fire units responded to a reported patient with a gunshot wound immediately after the incident was reported via 9-1-1. An engine company and a paramedic squad were advised to "stage-out" until the scene was secure.

Captain Mike Scannell, Engineer Kevin Kim and firefighter Sergio Zavala were the engine company crew. Scannell directed the crew to stop just before they arrived in front of the apartments, disregarding the "stage-out" directive from dispatch. As the crew arrived, they observed a man sitting in the courtyard of the building, bleeding from a head injury.

Scannell immediately directed his crew members to the safety of the rear of the fire engine as he, alone, approached the patient to evaluate his condition and to determine the security of the location. Police Cpl. McCaster stood by with his gun drawn for protection in the open courtyard where officers were performing their initial search. Just as the patient evaluation started, shots rang out. Scannell saw the police sergeant fall to the ground.

Scannell, knowing he now had two patients in danger, immediately moved the first patient to the protected area behind the fire engine where firefighters Kim and Zavala were waiting. The firefighters immediately started treatment. As soon as Scannell transferred care of the first patient, he returned to the front of the apartment building and looked for the fallen officer. Unbeknownst to him, the officer had been ushered out of harms way by his colleagues and was in the safety of the paramedic squad that had just arrived.

Downey firefighter/paramedics Steve Davis and Jorge Villanueva took over care of the injured officer and immediately started life-saving treatment. After quickly stabilizing the officer, the paramedics set off for the trauma center at St. Francis Medical Center in Lynwood, with a police escort. The paramedics only needed six and a half minutes to do their miraculous work on-scene before beginning the transport of the officer.

As the paramedics were transporting the injured officer to the trauma center, the crew of Scannell, Kim and Zavala continued to treat the first patient. The crew then escorted the patient out of the immediate area and returned again to assist police officers who were evacuating the apartment buildings. Fearing the exposure of the residents to potential gunfire, the residents were removed from their apartments through the back windows of the first floor and from second floor by firefighters using fire department ladders.

The engine crew worked with the police officers to ensure the safety of the residents was never compromised.

After the holed-up suspect's apartment had been tear-gassed, firefighter Zavala offered to don his breathing apparatus to assist officers in the search of the apartment.

Officers found Iniguez dead of a self-inflicted gunshot wound. (Information provided by the Downey Police and Fire Departments was used in this story.)



Downey High School senior Frances Conger has passed away. She was 17. Funeral services will be held today at St. Helen Catholic Church in South Gate.

Frances Conger, 17, mourned by family

DOWNEY – Frances Conger, a longtime resident of Southern California, died Aug. 25 in Norwalk. She was 17.

Born on Jan. 25, 1990, she was a senior at Downey High School, active in both water polo and the swim team. From the age of six, Conger was swimming for the Los Angeles County ORCA swim team, and had been a cheerleader for the South Gate Rams and a junior lifeguard at Venice Beach.

Conger is survived by her mother, Sandra Vega, of Downey; grandmother, Maria Elena Alfaro, of Downey; and aunt, Patricia Vega, of Rancho Cucamonga.

A Funeral Mass will be held today at 10:30 a.m. at St. Helen Catholic Church, 3170 Firestone Blvd., in South Gate. Interment will follow.

Funeral services are under the direction of Risher Mortuary, (562) 699-0916.

Theresa Marie Baldivia survived by family

DOWNEY – Theresa Marie Baldivia, a mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, passed away Aug. 22 at the age of 87.

She was born Feb. 21, 1920 in Los Angeles and was a 30-year resident of Downey.

She is survived by her husband of 63 years, Mel; son, Robert Baldivia; and daughters, Pat Baldivia and Barbara Rood.

Funeral services were held Wednesday at All Souls Cemetery in Long Beach.

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Aug. 25, 2007

Beda Ramirez

May 27, 1931

Aug. 25, 2007

Richard C. Schlueter

May 2, 1917

Aug. 20, 2007

Caroline Marquez

July 23, 1917

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FD# 869

Intern learns democracy from the inside out

BY ALLISON ABEL,
CERRITOS COLLEGE

NORWALK – For most college students, participation in American democracy simply means a trip to the polls every two years. But for Rhianna Lemos-Girton, 21, of Whittier, being involved goes far beyond just voting.

Rhianna works for Congresswoman Linda Sanchez, the representative for California's 39th Congressional District, and for three months this summer, she is finding out everything that goes on behind the scenes at the office of a U.S. representative – from phone calls from disgruntled constituents to hours of research on the issues.

Rhianna's interest in politics was sparked during an eighth-grade trip to Washington, D.C. One of the highlights of the trip was a meeting with Representative Grace Napolitano from California's 38th Congressional District, who discussed the ins and outs of everything that happens on the Hill. The visit made a big impression on Rhianna, who decided on her return to California to become involved in student government at her high school.

Entering college, Rhianna knew she still liked politics, but she wasn't convinced that she should major in it. She enrolled at Cerritos College, with the thought of majoring in sociology. But after taking a few political classes, she was hooked, and has never looked back.

One of the reasons for this, she says, is her professors.

"Professor Falcon made the subject interesting...he had a lot of activities to get students involved and help them know what's going on in government," she said. "There was no boring reading – it was more fun, hands-on activities."

One of Rhianna's favorite projects was being assigned to research



Rhianna Lemos-Girton spent the summer interning for Congresswoman Linda Sanchez. Photo courtesy Cerritos College

a member of Congress, and learning about their constituency and their views on issues. Each member of the class had to join "committees" and advance legislation based on their knowledge of their assigned representatives.

"We got into groups, Democrats versus Republicans, and had to come up with a plan for budget cuts to balance the federal budget. We had debates in class about it...everyone was fighting about the budget cuts."

Though Rhianna didn't know it at the time, she would soon be a lot closer to the real thing. As she neared graduation last May, one of her professors approached her about applying for an internship offered by Sanchez's office.

Originally, Rhianna applied for the internship in the congresswoman's Washington, D.C. office. Even though she missed the deadline,

those in the office who reviewed her file encouraged her to apply for the internship in the district office. She did, and was selected.

Rhianna soon was exposed to one of the challenging sides of politics; her first day on the job, she picked up the phone to get an earful from an angry constituent. It's just a part of the job, she says. In those instances, she must take down the name and concerns of the caller, and listen without giving any of her own views.

Rhianna acknowledges that her job does get emotionally exhausting at times, but she's not complaining.

"Just having the opportunity to work in the office is a prestigious position, even if I'm only an intern," she says. "It's neat working in the government."

"In the classroom you can read about government, and you can

know about it to a certain point, but it's the hands-on experience that really gives you an idea of how it works."

Something that's surprised her, she says, is the amount of time she and the other staff members spend assisting constituents.

"I didn't realize till now how much they help the people they represent," she explains.

Once her internship ends, Rhianna will enroll in CSU East Bay, where she has been accepted to the pre-law program.

Sanchez is, of course, one of her role models.

"She is getting into it, doing big things and making a name for herself, even though she's young, a minority and a woman," Rhianna says.

And, if Rhianna keeps to the path she's on now, Sanchez won't be the only one.



Former Cerritos College softball coach Nancy Kelly and Cerritos College Foundation Director Steve Richardson awarded the 2007 Nancy Kelly Academic Scholarship to Manisha Vadgama.

Golf tournament raises \$54K for Cerritos College

NORWALK – The Cerritos College Foundation raised \$54,000 in scholarship funds at its 22nd Annual Golf Classic held Aug. 6 at Friendly Hills Country Club in Whittier.

This year's title sponsor, Bovis Lend Lease, was joined by numerous corporations and local businesses in helping the Foundation achieve its goal.

"This year's tournament was a tremendous success, both in raising funds for student scholarships and in raising awareness of the significance of Cerritos College in the community," said Cerritos College Foundation Board member and tournament chairperson Dr. Gerald Roodzant. "We extend special thanks to Bovis Lend Lease and our corporate sponsors for their commitment to come alongside the Cerritos College Foundation in helping students pursue their dreams."

Underwritten by nearly 80 sponsors – 13 of which were corporate sponsors – the tournament featured support from more than 60 local businesses and individuals.

There were several competitions as part of the tournament. Most notable, Moore Flooring took home the prize for the "Business Competition."

Also at the tournament, Foundation Board members presented former Cerritos College student Manisha Vadgama with the 2007 Nancy Kelly Academic Scholarship, awarded each year to an outstanding athlete who displays high academic achievement. Vadgama, who graduated from Cerritos College in 2004, recently completed her bachelor's degree at UC San Diego and plans to enter law school.

The 23rd Annual Cerritos College Foundation Golf Classic is scheduled for Aug. 2, 2008.

Teach an adult how to read

DOWNEY – The Downey City Library needs volunteers to teach an adult to read through the Adult Literacy program. Training sessions for volunteer tutors will be given on Thursdays, Sept. 13, 20 and 27 from 6 to 8 p.m., and Saturday, Sept. 22, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Tutors will receive a total of 12 hours of training and may attend ongoing literacy support meetings.

"By volunteering two or more hours per week, you can give an adult the skills they need to become a successful worker, parent or citizen," said Literacy Coordinator Claudia Dailey. To register, call the Literacy and Training Office at (562) 904-7360, ext. 23, or e-mail cdailey@downeyca.org.

Families needed for exchange students

DOWNEY – International exchange high school students are in need of homes in Downey to stay while they study in this country during the 2007-08 school year.

The host family is responsible for providing a bed, family meals and a safe environment. Exchange students have their own spending money and health insurance. The nonprofit STS Foundation will facilitate the relationships.

For more information, call Sean at (800) 522-4678.

Dominguez Hills ranks high in diversity study

CARSON – California State University, Dominguez Hills has been recognized as one of the most racially diverse universities in the West offering bachelor's and master's degrees by U.S. News & World Report's annual "American's Best Colleges" ranking.

"Dominguez Hills is very proud to be one of the most diverse campuses in the West," said Vice-Provost Jamie Dote-Kwan. "We are bringing together students from different backgrounds and different experiences who then share their perspective with each other both in and out of the classroom. This interaction broadens their educational experience and better prepares them to meet the challenges of a global workforce – as a university we represent the face of this global society."

To determine its "Racial Diversity" category ranking, the magazine devised a 0.0 to 1.0 diversity index, with 1.0 being most diverse, that factored a university's overall mix of major racial groups – American Indian, Native Alaskan, Asian American, Pacific Islander, African American, Hispanics and white. Dominguez Hills received a 0.70.

The largest minority group on campus, according to the magazine's findings, is Hispanic, at 39 percent of the student population.

Dominguez Hills was also among 116 universities listed in the "Best Universities-Master's" category for the West. Thirteen states comprise the West in the rankings.

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Russell's fame as 'goat lady' solidifies

Column

Is America prepared for a potentially stormy future?

By CHRIS MOONEY

Coming little more than a week before the two year anniversary of Hurricane Katrina's landfall, Hurricane Dean was yet another of many wake-up calls. No, the storm didn't affect the mainland United States. But it was nearly as intense as Katrina, and the ninth most intense Atlantic hurricane ever to have its central air pressure measured. We've now seen a staggering eight Category 5 storms in the Atlantic basin in the past decade – Mitch, Isabel, Ivan, Emily, Katrina, Rita, Wilma, and now Dean – and six rank among the 10 strongest ever recorded in our part of the world.

It's pretty hard to hear names and statistics like that and *not* worry about what's next.

And yet in the years since the Katrina disaster all too little has changed. "Time" magazine recently blazoned the word "pathetic" on its cover to describe the lagging efforts to re-defend New Orleans. Residents are reoccupying and rebuilding willy-nilly, including in the most vulnerable, flood-prone areas.

Meanwhile, continuing land subsidence, coupled with sea level rise (thanks, global warming) keeps bringing the Gulf in closer. And hurricanes (thanks again, global warming) are only expected to grow more intense on average. Indeed, although debate persists over the precise relationship between hurricanes and climate change, the Atlantic's recent hyperactivity suggests that intensification may already have begun.

Who could survey these trends and do anything but predict another disaster eventually? One can easily imagine scenarios for New Orleans that would be considerably worse than Katrina – a storm that, it is too often forgotten, both weakened and swerved aside, failing to deliver its full force to the city.

And why focus on only one exposed area? If we can't do better when it comes to defending New Orleans, how will we save other coastal cities subject to dire hurricane risk – risks that have received far less national media attention than those facing the Crescent City? Consider a few scenarios that have long been predicted:

- A Category 4 or stronger hurricane strikes the Tampa Bay/St. Petersburg, Florida, area, driving a tremendous storm surge that knocks out bridges, floods downtown Tampa 20 feet deep, and temporarily turns St. Petersburg into an island.

- A mega-hurricane strikes Galveston/Houston, Texas, flooding the homes of 600,000 Harris County residents – resulting in damages approaching \$50 billion.

- We see a repeat of the 1926 Category 4 Miami Hurricane, but the storm strikes a massively wealthier and more populous coast than existed the last time around. Damages exceed \$100 billion and Katrina ceases to be the most costly hurricane in U.S. history.

Faced with such a huge array of disturbing risks, we could just shrug and wait to see what nature throws at us.

But I'd prefer a different course: Adopting an ambitious, scientifically-based, and forward-looking government program to assess future risks and launch big engineering projects capable of truly protecting our citizens.

Either we launch mega-scale national efforts to defend or redesign vulnerable places like New Orleans – as the Dutch have done – or else we confess up front that we don't have the dollars, the competence, or the will to do so.

I, for one, am still convinced that we're better than that.

Chris Mooney is the Washington correspondent for Seed magazine and author of the new book, "Storm World: Hurricanes, Politics, and the Battle Over Global Warming" (www.stormworldbook.com).



Rosalind Russell's fundraising efforts support new schools, like the one shown above, in Nepal, the second poorest country in the world, where women are generally categorized as second class citizens. Photo courtesy Rosalind Russell

By HENRY VENERACION, STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY—A chance encounter in 1988 with a 10-1/2 year old boy in Kathmandu (elev. 11,000-12,000 ft.), the capital of Nepal and gateway to the "top of the world," Mt. Everest, would change Rosalind Russell's life forever.

As main speaker in the Aug. 21 Downey Rotary meeting to raise awareness (and funds) for her pet project, the Laguna Beach resident known in her neighborhood as the "goat lady" (in part because she allows goats to trim her hedges) recounted how a bright-looking Nepalese boy, Rabin Sitauli (whom she would later refer to as her "adopted son"), persuaded her to be her tour guide by pointing out that he wanted to hone his English speaking skills.

As it happened, the pair hit it off nicely. Russell promised to return. She noted, though, the poverty of the place (Nepal is considered the second poorest country in the world, poorer than Bangladesh, with an average income hovering around \$210 a year), and social conditions—especially among women—abysmal.

Russell is an interfaith minister, with a master's degree in divinity from Arcadia University, and before she returned to Nepal in 2003, an idea had already crystallized in her altruistic mind: she would try to help these people, starting with the impoverished women of Rabin's village.

Aided by her PowerPoint presentation and laminated clippings of her efforts so far, the outlines of her Nepal project emerged: starting with a donation of a couple of pregnant or in-season goats to the women in Rabin's village, Ojhetar (two hours' ride northeast from Kathmandu), Russell envisioned empowering the village women with goats whose milk could be consumed, made into cheese, or sold (the animals could also reproduce, and their offspring sold). This would provide a livelihood to the otherwise struggling womenfolk who, in a feudal setting like Nepal, practically had no social status or economic resources to speak of; in fact, its widowed women occupied the lowest rung in the caste order.

It turned out that understanding stateside donors had seen Russell off with enough funds to purchase 89 goats. As of this date, 2,600 goats have been provided the village women, with more on the way. They cost \$135 apiece, says Russell. The amount includes the cost of vaccinations, medications, and the goat gatherer's fee.

At the center of all this is Rabin, now married, with an expectant wife. Russell made him assistant director of her Laguna Beach-based R Star Foundation (which she established in 1989) in charge of the Nepal project. Their relationship has evolved into nothing short of that of mother-and-son.

Russell's Nepal project doesn't end with the goats. Her foundation has already spent \$20,000 on a two-story schoolhouse in Ojhetar, with another \$20,000 earmarked for seven teachers' salaries, desks, school materials, etc. Phase I of school construction is already done, Phase II is now underway: when completed, the school will teach the basics of reading, 'riting and 'rithmetic—in Nepalese and eventually English—to 200 children and over 400 adults.

The rudiments of commerce, with the help of a micro-bank, have also been introduced, where the women could borrow a little money, craft something or buy a foot-driven sewing machine, say, and realize some profit. The village women are also slowly taking advantage of free healthcare available in the "big city," Kathmandu. (In Nepal, men traditionally enjoy more rights than women, thus Russell's focus on the latter). Because of her determined efforts, there has been a blurring of caste distinctions as well.

The wonder of all this is that, while all these wonderful developments are taking place, Nepal is in the midst of civil conflict, and Russell has had to navigate her way among three ruling factions: the royal authorities, the police, and the Maoists. Thus she has had to summon all her diplomatic skills to secure permits, authorizations, papers, etc. If she were to dwell on the dangers inherent in her undertakings, she says, she would freeze in inaction.

But so far, so good, she says, the various political segments have allowed her to operate in peace, and seem to appreciate what she's doing for the villages. She's looking forward to visiting the place in November, where she can expect a resounding welcome befitting an esteemed "goat lady."

If you wish to make a donation to her cause, you are asked to direct it to: The R STAR Foundation, P.O. Box 4183, Laguna Beach, CA 92652. For more information, call Russell at (949) 497-2545, or send an e-mail to rstar@pacbell.net. You may also visit www.therstarfoundation.com.

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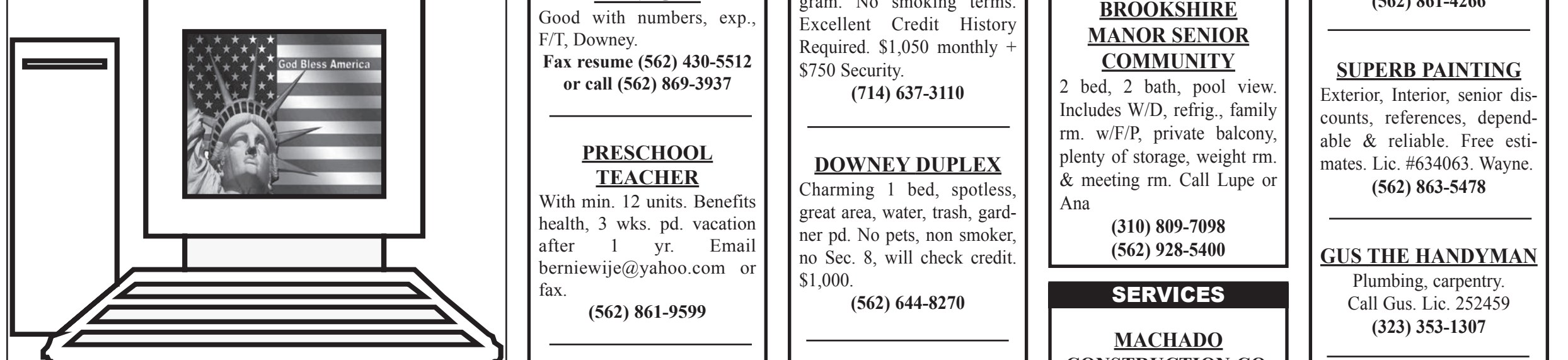



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Can a general contractor install my solar panels?

BY JAMES MILLER, CALIFORNIA CONTRACTORS STATE LICENSE BOARD

Do you have questions about hiring and managing building contractors? The California Contractors State License Board (CSLB) has answers. For more information, or to check out a contractor's license, bond and workers' compensation insurance information, visit the CSLB website at www.cslb.ca.gov.

Q: One of my friends said you have to hire a contractor with a specialty license to carry out specific jobs like plumbing or electrical work. I am very interested in 'going green' and having solar panels installed on my roof. Is there a specific classification for contractors that specialize in green building or solar panel installation?

A: Yes, the Contractors State License Board issues a C-46 classification license to solar contractors. This type of contractor installs, modifies, maintains and repairs active solar energy systems. Most commonly, it includes forced air systems, forced circulation water systems, photovoltaic cells and rock bed cooling systems.

It's a good idea to keep in mind that solar contractors can only work on solar systems and cannot perform any other type of home improvements or repairs. If you decide that adding a solar system will be a part of a larger remodeling project, you should hire a general contractor to oversee the entire remodeling project and a solar contractor to install the panels.

Learn more about CSLB's 43 different classifications by visiting www.cslb.ca.gov. Click on "Consumers" and scroll to the bottom to view a description of each classification.

Q: I recently read in a magazine that remodeling a laundry room will help increase the value of my home even more so than a remodeled bathroom or kitchen. So, I've decided to hire a contractor to redo the laundry. I don't want to end up with a contractor who will leave me high and dry. Do you have any advice or suggestions?

A: Get at least three bids from three different contractors. Be sure to give them the same project details so you can easily compare their bids. Also check their references and go see their work, if possible. Visiting a

previous job will give you an excellent idea of the quality of their work.

Make sure you have a detailed contract. It should describe the materials to be used, work schedule, a payment schedule and deliverables. Any project changes should be added into the contract in writing and signed by both you and the contractor. You can check the license status of a contractor and download the publication "What You Should Know Before You Hire a Contractor" at www.cslb.ca.gov or by calling (800) 321-2752.

Q: We want to get a swimming pool built in the backyard for the kids. There have been stories about customers of a local pool company being stuck with all kinds of problems because the company went out of business before they completed the work. In some cases, clients lost tens of thousands of dollars or had to pay twice to avoid a lien on their home. How do I make sure the pool company I hire will be around to finish the job?

A: The most important (and often overlooked) step to ensuring your pool project runs swimmingly is to do your research. Ask your friends, relatives or neighbors to recommend a contractor. If they don't know of any, try a trade association or the Better Business Bureau. You can get information on how to prevent mechanic's liens at www.cslb.ca.gov.

Be sure to get at least three bids. Also, be flexible; remember that good contractors are usually very busy and have several jobs lined up. As a result, they may not be able to start work right away.

Q: A contractor came to my door yesterday and offered to landscape my front yard for a very reasonable price. He showed me his license and a photo I.D. I still feel uneasy about hiring him because he said he moves around a lot. How can I make sure he doesn't just take my money and run?

A: A little research will go a long way to prevent remorse when you hire a contractor. To verify that a license is legitimate with the correct classification, call (800) 321-2752.

Also, don't overlook the contract. And never let yourself be pressured into hiring a contractor that comes unsolicited to your door.

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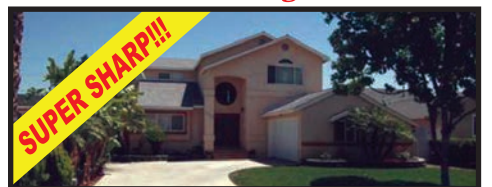
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Simply put...the best deal in Downey for this type of home. A great opportunity at this price. 3,000 sq ft, 5 BD, 3 BA in N. Downey that is perfect for entertaining! Take a look at virtual tour at www.RogerBeltran.com. Words do not do this home justice. \$779,900
Call Roger Today! Or visit www.RogerBeltran.com



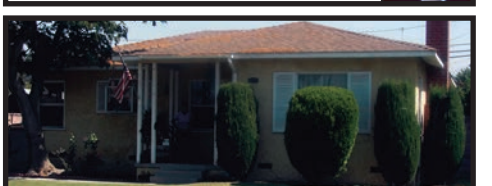
9805 Tweedy Ln, Downey
4 BD, 3BA, 2800 Sq. Ft., N.E. Downey home on an 8500 Sq. Ft. lot, fresh paint, hardwood floors, dual French doors (up & downstairs) large living room & family rm, formal dining rm & large kitchen. \$815,000
Call Roger Today! Or visit www.RogerBeltran.com



Look No Further!
1 BD, 1 BA Condo, with large Patio. Located in beautiful Whittier. Priced @ \$324,999
Call Russell Skersick @ 562-619-8280



490 E. Avenue 28, L.A.
2 Bedrooms, 1 Bath 890 Sq. Ft. Living Space 6,500 Sq. Ft. Lot, Classic Hardwood floors, Spacious Yard & much more! \$399,900
Call Frank Moreno @ 562-949-8139



Look No Further!
Downey Fixer! 3 Bedroom home in Ideal location of Orange Estates! 1,138 sq ft home on 7,548 sq ft lot. Across from Golf Course and close to everything!
Call Zeke Pinaya @ 562-746-8840

Marie Picarelli
"The Intelligent Choice"
562-618-0033
www.MariePicarelli.com



Deal Or No Deal!
North Downey 3 bedroom, 2 bath with family room! 1737 sq ft, fireplace, patio, A/C, copper plumbing. Reduced to \$575,000!
Call Marie Picarelli @ 562-618-0033/ www.MariePicarelli.com



DOWNEY FIXER!
YES! 4 bedrooms, hardwood floors, 1432 sq ft. 2 1/2 car garage, large rear yard!
In DOWNEY...only \$490,000 - \$499,000
Call Marie Picarelli @ 562-618-0033/ www.MariePicarelli.com



"Seller Motivated!"
3 Bedrooms, 1 1/2 Baths, Master suite w/ walk-in closet, 80 ft wide lot, 2 car detached garage, 1,264 sq ft home. Priced @ \$499,900
Call Vicki Spearman @ 562-367-9520



SUPER BUY!
3 bedroom, 2 bath DOWNEY home with OVERSIZE 4 car garage, living room w/fireplace, hardwood floors, 1868 sq ft, sparkling pool & spa, open kitchen and roomy den. A MUST SEE!
Call Ben and Stephanie @ 562-217-8384



Home Sweet Home!
3 Bedrooms, 1 1/2 Baths, Living Room w/ Fireplace Family Kitchen w/ Eating Area, 2 Car Garage, 1,610 Sq. Ft. Priced @ \$699,000
Call Mary Jane Lee @ 562-618-0390

Mario Persico
"Mario Moves You...24 Hours a Day!"
562-533-7433
www.MarioPersico.com



10330 Downey Avenue #30!
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! Call for Reduced Price!
562.533.7433
See Virtual Tour @ www.MarioPersico.com



N. Downey... Original Owner!
N. Downey 3 Bed, 2 Bath, Living room, Spacious Family room Master Suite, Newer roof (June 2006), Fresh Paint exterior (April 2007) Central Heat & Air (4 years new), & 1,722 Sq. Ft. & So Much More!
562.533.7433
See Virtual Tour @ www.MarioPersico.com



Move Up In Downey!
Downey 3 BD, 2 BA, formal dining room, freshly painted, large garage, with carport, nearly 1,700 Sq. Ft. of living space, large lot, located on a quiet cul-de-sac.
562.533.7433
See Virtual Tour @ www.MarioPersico.com



Garden Grove 20,000 Sq. Ft Lot!
3 Bed 2 Bath Home with 4 Car Garage PLUS 4 Space Carport is a Car Collector's or Mechanics Dream Huge Lot has many opportunities!
562.533.7433
See Virtual Tour @ www.MarioPersico.com



Commercial Lot In Downtown Downey
Corner lot is 7,257 sq. ft. & zoning is C3
Call Carrie Uva for more info!
Call Carrie Uva TODAY! @ 562.382.1252
www.CarrieUva.com

Carrie Uva
"Let's Talk Real Estate...and Law, Too!"
562-382-1252
www.CarrieUva.com



Condo Living!
Lovely South Gate Condo with new paint, new carpet, 3 BD, 2 1/2 BA, & 2 car garage.
Priced to Sell: \$409,900
Call Carrie Uva Today! @ 562.382.1252



Summer Delight
Charming Downey home with 3 BD, 1.75 BA, hardwood floors, remodeled bathroom, lovely backyard & patio
Priced to Sell: \$557,000
Call Carrie Uva Today! @ 562.382.1252



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
Call Carrie Uva Today! @ 562.382.1252



2 Units In Downey!
Lovely Duplex in Downey. Each unit has 2 BD, 1 BA, laundry room & one car garage. Live in one, Rent the other! Priced @: \$699,900
Call Carrie Uva Today! @ 562.382.1252



Commercial Lot In Downtown Downey
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"The 24 Hour Agent!"
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89 Homes

SOLD in 2006!

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Award Winner
2000-2006!

FREE Market Evaluation!



A Great Buy!
Clean 2 bed, 1 bath N. Downey home with large yard, dog run, and covered patio. Priced to sell fast @ \$420,000!
Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com



Warm and Cozy!
3 bed, 2 bath pool home with extra large 2 car detached garage on quiet street in Downey. Home is 2189 sq ft on a 7380 sq ft lot.
Price: \$699,950
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: \$519,999
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



North Downey Home
3 Bed, 2 bath, living room & family room, new kitchen, central air, and new windows. This house has it all!
Priced at: \$699,950
Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com



"Guest Quarters!"
3 BD, 2 BA, Downey home w/ large guest house including kitchen and bathroom
Priced at: \$675,000
Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com



Remodeled Like New in 2007
New construction 4 bed, 3.5 baths, Granite counter tops in kitchen and baths. 2200 sqft., central air & heat, with beautiful landscaping.
Price: \$749,950
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: \$849,950
Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com



Northeast Downey Pool Home!
4 bedrooms + office, 2.5 bathrooms, remodeled kitchen, living room & family room with fireplaces, formal dining room, large master bedroom, & pool / spa.
Price: \$1,149,950
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



New Construction 2007!
5 BD, 4 BA, central air & heat, Sparkling pool, 3,600 Sq. Ft. living space.
Price: \$1,199,950
Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com



Custom Built Beauty
5 bed, 4 bath, 3100 sq ft, North Downey mini-mansion.
Price: \$1,199,000
Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com



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
Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com



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
Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com



Coming Soon!
Spectacular 5 bedroom, 4 baths, 3,900 sq. ft North East Downey, new construction on a 7500 sq.ft lot w/a two car detached garage.
Price: \$1,399,000.
Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com



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
Priced to SELL: \$1,495,000
Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com

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