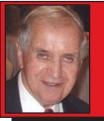




Prokop to dish on Rose Float See Page 2



Not a better couple to honor See Page 4



Banquet hailed as a milestone See Page 9

Friday, October 5, 2007

Vol. 6 No. 2

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

## 'Oklahoma!' musical premieres tonight

**DOWNEY** – The Downey Civic Light Opera's production of "Oklahoma!" opens tonight at 8 p.m. at the Downey Theatre, running through Oct. 21.

Rodgers and Hammerstein's first collaboration remains, to many, their most innovative, having set the standards and established the rules of musical theatre still being followed today.

Set in a Western Indian territory just after the turn of the century, the high-spirited rivalry between the local farmers and cowboys provides the colorful background against which Curly, a handsome cowboy, and Laurey, a winsome farm girl, play out their love story.

Although the road to true love never runs smoothly, with these two headstrong romantics holding the reins, love's journey is as bumpy as a surrey ride down a country road.

That they will succeed in making a new life together we have no doubt and that this new life will bring in a brand-new state provides the ultimate climax to the triumphant "Oklahoma!"

The production is directed by Marsha Moode, conducted by Eddy Clemens, and choreographed by Miriam Nelson. The musical includes "People Will Say We're in Love," "Kansas City," "Can't Say No," and, of course, the title song, "Oklahoma!"

Tickets can be purchased by calling the box office or by calling (562)

## DUSD launches 'Quest 4 Health' program

■ Voluntary program educates employees on disease prevention through early detection.

By Henry Veneracion, Staff Writer

**DOWNEY**—Beginning October 1, the Downey Unified School District has begun in earnest to provide assistance to all employees in all matters affecting their over-all health.

The comprehensive "wellness" program, approved by the Board in its Sept. 18 meeting, is called "Quest 4 Health." In addition to supplying a back-up structure to already available employee medical, dental and vision plans, "Quest 4 Health" seeks to provide employees and their dependents with an on-site program to improve their health through increased health literacy, disease prevention through early detection, and disease management

The program, contracted with LifeCare Resources, Inc., will be administered by a registered Nurse Practitioner, Carla Stewart, and is based at Pace Elementary School. It is believed that DUSD is one of the first few school districts in the state to subscribe to such a program. Part of her initial tasks is a tour of all the schools in the district for a situational look-see.

A Nurse Practitioner can provide many medical services, such as giving a wide array of shots, and screenings for blood pressure, cholesterol, glucose, body composition and weight, etc., thereby saving the district and employees time and money.

The program is voluntary, but it is expected that most employees will participate and increase their focus on healthy lifestyles. The services of the Nurse Practitioner involve no out-of-pocket costs to DUSD employees

Like other employers, the district has had significant increases in healthcare costs over the past decade. According to Kevin E. Condon, DUSD Assistant Superintendent-Business Services, reducing costs with Preferred Provider Organizations (PPOs) and HMOs may be helpful, but the real problem is the demand for healthcare services due to preventable illnesses. Studies indicate that 75 percent of illnesses as a result of poor nutrition, lack of physical fitness and inability to identify health problems in their earliest stages when they are the least expensive to treat, are preventable. Condon says LifeCare's wellness clientele includes corporate giant Coca-Cola and the state of Michigan.

It is the Board's expectation that not only will health care costs be reduced, but there will be a reduction in costs for substitute employees resulting from a reduction in absenteeism, in no small measure due to preventable illnesses and better-coordinated doctor's appointments.

Each employee will be receiving a Quest 4 Health packet announcing the program and introducing the Nurse Practitioner.



The trial of Ardas Yanik, the tenant accused of ordering the demolition of Johnie's Broiler, will begin this Tuesday at Downey Municipal Court. Proceedings will begin at 8:30 a.m. in Division 3.

### The Bears have eyes



Warren wide receiver/defensive back Armando Gomez eludes La Serna defenders after recovering a fumble in the Bears' 22-17 victory last Friday. Gomez was eventually brought down just short of the end zone (story on page 10). *Photo by Art Montoya* 

### Downey doctor provides care without borders

**DOWNEY** – Unlike many vacationers who long to escape the rigors of everyday life, Downey physician Susan Kawakami goes on vacation to change lives and remind herself of why she became a doctor.

Kawakami has just returned from a medical sojourn to Africa, where as part of a medical mission she helped build a medical clinic. Her medical missions are a way to remind herself of the basic elements of being a good human being – giving back to those who have nowhere to turn.

"We saw more than 580 patients in five days," Kawakami said. "People came to the make shift clinic, which was under construction, from miles and miles around. Some trekked more than a day, many with sick children in tow."

Kawakami's medical missions are part of a church group effort by the Foursquare Church. She's also made medical trips to Mexico and Armenia.

"There is no water or electricity, so the medical care is very rudimentary," she said. "But to them it means everything in the world. Cases of malnutrition and dehydration were rampant as were infections. Many pregnant women walked miles just to see a doctor because they were bleeding."

Despite their medical ills, the men, women and children of the country of Burundi, Africa were very gracious and respectful of the contributions of the American doctor and the whole team. She said translators helped bridge the language gap and helped provide instructions to patients who needed to know how to take their medicine.

"Many had never seen a medicine bottle or blister card pill packs so we had to make sure they knew how to open it and take their medicine," Kawakami said. "It was an unforgettable experience."

Kawakami, a member of the AppleCare Medical family in Downey, has practiced in the community for more than 10 years.

"It is very eye-opening to go to another country where medical care is scarce," said Dr. Vinod, president of AppleCare. "I admire Dr. Kamakami's passion for helping others. I think it makes her such a special



Dr. Susan Kawakami traveled to Burundi, Africa to treat disadvantaged citizens there. The experience, Kawakami said, was "eye-opening." *Photo courtesy Susan Kawakami* 

doctor to her patients when she can relate to third-world conditions. Here, we can see a doctor or emergency room fairly easily. There, the sacrifices that must be made to obtain medical care demonstrate the best of the human condition."

Kawakami said she was happy to be back home, and was ready to get back to work in Downey.

"I always return to my practice enthusiastic about seeing patients each day, knowing the impact we had on patients across the globe," she said. "It makes one appreciate the friendships and relationships we have with our patients, special bonds that go on for generations. That's what makes practicing in Downey unique but sometimes it takes a trip around the world to make one appreciate it."

### Midstokke brings passion as City Clerk

By Henry Veneracion, Staff Writer

**DOWNEY**—To the casual observer, the job of Downey City Clerk seems humdrum and unexciting. Not to those in the know, though, and certainly not to Kathleen L. Midstokke.

The Los Angeles-born Midstokke, whose deceased Norwegian-descended father from North Dakota saw action with the Navy in Iwo Jima and whose English mother still finds time today to tend the family farm in Newton, Kans. (she resides in Temecula), had already logged five years as City Clerk (1984-89) and four years (1989-93) as Councilmember for the city of Hermosa Beach (area: 1.3 square miles; current pop. 20,000), well before she assumed the position vacated by Judy McDonnell. Midstokke was Hermosa Beach's mayor in 1991-92.

She also did paralegal work for two legal firms (1990-99) and served as Chief Deputy City Clerk (1999-2001) for the city of Redondo Beach

immediately prior to coming to work for Downey in mid-May 2001. But it was her experience of working from both policy-making (as mayor) and administrative (as city clerk) standpoints, she says, that has given her a unique perspective on matters of municipal law and government. "I have seen both sides," she says.

Midstokke gets revved up when talking about the three main functions of the Office of City Clerk, as when in her first few weeks in office in a "Know Your City" presentation before a service group, she delineated them for their elucidation and guidance. Highlights of that presentation follows:

As, first, the keeper of the official city records, she said, the City Clerk, among other things, oversees the preservation and protection of the city's

See MIDSTOKKE, page 4

## Page 2 Friday, Oct. 5, 2007 Community



The staff of John McAllister, D.D.S., will observe Breast Cancer Awareness Month throughout October by wearing pink ribbons, pink gloves and pink bibs. They will also use pink tooth brushes and pink prophy angles. Five percent of the office supply bill will also be donated to fund breast cancer research.



Howard, Malia, Heather and Cassie Phillips each participated in the Avon Walk for Breast Cancer, walking 26.2 miles on Day 1 and 13.1 miles on Day 2. The family, who walked in honor of the late Sue Phillips, are also coordinating a fundraiser dinner tomorrow at the Downey Masonic Lodge.

### Breast cancer fundraiser tomorrow

**DOWNEY** – A fundraising event to raise money for the Avon Walk for Breast Cancer will be held tomorrow at the Downey Masonic Lodge starting at 6 p.m.

The event will offer an Italian dinner for a donation of \$20 and bingo for a donation of \$15.

RSVP by calling (562) 861-4165.

### Prokops tell stories of Rose Float

DOWNEY - Mike and Joyce Prokop will share stories and information relating to Downey participating in the annual Tournament of Roses Parade at this Monday's OASIS meeting at Downey Adult School.

'They will also be giving us a sneak peek at Downey's 2008 Rose Float," said program director Harriett Paine.

The Downey Rose Float Association was founded in 1952. Downey has had a float in the parade every year since.

Mike Prokop is a former president of the Association while Joyce has assisted with the Miss Downey and Miss Teen Downey Courts.

The OASIS program is held inside the Downey Adult School cafeteria. The class opens for enrollment at 3 p.m. while the program begins at

A ticket for an optional full-course dinner following the program may be purchased at the time of enrollment.

Downey Dial-a-Ride can provide transportation to those who qualify. For more information, call (562) 940-6200.

### Ordination this Sunday at Messiah

**DOWNEY** – Messiah Lutheran Church invites the community to the ordination and reception for Michael E. Hayes this Sunday at 3 p.m.

Child care will be provided during the service. The church is located at 10711 Paramount Blvd. in Downey.

### Business expo at Stonewood Center

DOWNEY - The Downey Chamber of Commerce's 2007 business expo will be held this Wednesday from 4 to 7:30 p.m. at Stonewood

Vendor booths are still available and cost \$100 for Chamber members and \$175 for non-members.

Businesses will be displaying their products and services, telling their company stories and networking with other businesses and clients. For more information, call the Chamber at (562) 923-2191

### Chamber plans 'Anniversary Mixer'

DOWNEY - The Downey Chamber of Commerce will host an "Anniversary Mixer" Oct. 25 at the Embassy Suites.

The mixer will start at 5:30 p.m. and feature refreshments, live entertainment and raffle prizes. Admission is free.

For more information, call the Chamber at (562) 923-2191.

### Don't sleep on this grand opening

DOWNEY - STAT Diagnostic Service, a diagnostic clinic specializing in sleep disorders and pulmonary function testing, will celebrate their grand opening with the Downey Chamber of Commerce on Oct. 11.

The company will celebrate with a ribbon cutting at noon and festivities, including food, drink and a raffle, until 2 p.m.

STAT Diagnostic Service is located at 11411 Brookshire Ave., suite 505, across the street from Downey Regional Medical Center.

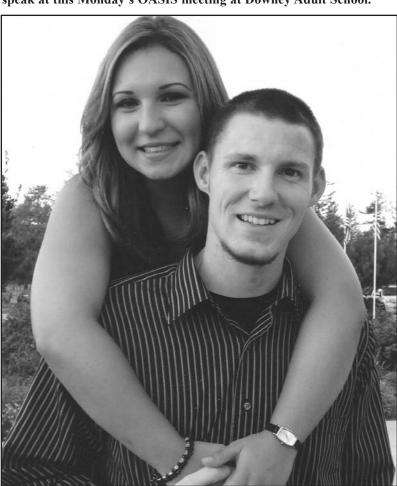
### Newcomers Mini Fair this Monday

DOWNEY - The Downey Newcomers Club will host their annual Mini Fair this Monday at Los Amigos Country Club starting at 10:30 a.m. For sale will be books, hand-made items (including greeting cards), baked goods, and white elephant items. An optional lunch will be served

Reservations for lunch are required and can be made by calling Vicki Winter at (562) 921-0471.



Harriette Paine, Mike Prokop and Dr. Mary Stauffer stand behind a miniature replica of Downey's 2008 Rose Float entry. Prokop will speak at this Monday's OASIS meeting at Downey Adult School.



Cristina Domingo and Bryan Shore, both 2003 Warren High School graduates, have announced their engagement. Cristina is employed as an escrow assistant at Mid Cities Escrow while Bryan is employed by ADP and attends Cal State Fullerton. The bride is the daughter of Manuel and Iris Domingo. The groom is the son of Dathan and Terry Shore. The couple will marry June 15, 2008, in Whittier.

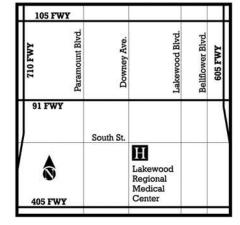
## TAKE YOUR BEST SHOT!

**LAKEWOOD REGIONAL** MEDICAL CENTER

will host a

## FREE FLU SHOT CLINIC\*

Saturday October 27th from 8:00 am to 10:00 am



In the Hospital **Parking Lot** 3700 E. South St. Lakewood 1-800-813-4345

### Lakewood Regional Medical Center

\*Flu vaccines are for individuals 18 years or older and are available to the first 1000 attendees.



Help our City get rid of E-Waste the right way by diverting it from the landfills to a proper recycling process!

- · Electronic discards are one the fastest growing segments of our nation's waste stream.
- · 56% of American households have functional e-products that they will no longer use.
- ·Less than 10% of e-waste is currently being properly dismantled or recycled. · 70% of heavy metals, 40% of lead & mercury contents found in today's landfills come from e-waste.

**E-Waste Collection Event** Friday & Saturday Oct 12 & 13, 2007 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

> Stonewood Center (Behind Sears in Parking Lot)

251 Stonewood Street, Downey, CA 90241

For more information on the e-waste collection event, please feel free contact us at (562) 861-9233 or go to www.shopstonewoodcenter.com

### What is "E-waste"?

E-Waste is defined as any consumer electronic equipment that has reached its 'end-of-life' or 'end-of-usage'; whether in full- or non-working condition. Most electronics or electronic equipment with a cord or circuit board such as: Computer Monitors, Television sets, Printers, PC Systems, Laptops, Copiers Scanners, Fax Machines, Toner Cartridges, UPS & PDAs, Tower Supplies, Main Frame Units, Networking Equipment, Mother Board Systems, VCR/VCD/DVD Players, Home Entertainment Systems, Landline and Cellular Phones, & Small Portable Devices. We also accept car batteries.

ARC also provides a door-to-door pick up service for a minimal fee; please feel free to contact us for further details at Toll Free: 877.2.E.WASTE / 877.239.2783

## Community Page 3 Friday, Oct. 5, 2007



Kiwanis Club of Downey held its annual Members Only Putt Putt Tournament in memory of Bob Henderson. Henderson, a Kiwanian for over 30 years, was as passionate about Kiwanis as he was about golf, friends said. Half of the proceeds from the tournament will go to future club-sponsored events. Photo contributed by Gwynn Gustafson, Kiwanis Club of Downey



Bob Brazelton, right, president of Downey Los Amigos Kiwanis, recently presented a \$500 donation to Martha Sodetani in support of the PTA HELPS (Health Education Local Pantry Service) program. PTA HELPS works year-round, but is now preparing to prepare Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets, which are distributed to local needy families. To make a donation, visit PTA HELPS at 7830 Quill Drive, Suite S, on Wednesdays and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Their phone number is (562) 861-9833.

### Downey High students excel on AP exams

DOWNEY - Sixty-six students at Downey High School have earned the designation of Advanced Placement (AP) Scholar by the College Board in recognition of their achievement on the college-level Advanced Placement Program exams.

The College Board's Advanced Placement Program offers students the opportunity to take challenging college-level courses while still in high school, enabling students to receive college credit, advanced placement, or both for successful performance on AP exams.

Students took AP exams in May 2007 after completing courses at their high schools. The College Board recognizes the following students from Downey High for their several levels of achievement:

- One student, Eleni Christidis, qualified for the National AP Scholar Award by earning a 5 (on a 5-point scale) on all nine AP exams she took during her sophomore, junior and senior years.
- Fifteen students qualified for the AP Scholar with Distinction Award by earning an average grade of at least 3.5 on all AP exams taken, and grades of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams. These students are: Anthony Alires, Matthew Anzueto, Staphany Chacon, Eleni Christidis, Louis Gordon, Christianne Lambert, Luis Mendez, Sean O'Neill, Daniel Ortiz, Ankush Patel, Lisset Pisfil, Katherine Ruiz, Lisbeth Ruvalcaba, Jeanwon Yang, and Kun-Hoo Yoo.
- Nine students qualified for the AP Scholar with Honor Award by earning an average grade of at least 3.25 on all AP exams taken, and grades of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams. These students are: Michelle Barsky, Larissa Diaz, Martha Izquierdo, Dania Jimenez, Eunice Kim, Ioannis Koumoudouros, Crystal Maranan, Andrea Serna, and River
- Forty-two students qualified for the AP Scholar Award by completing three or more AP exams, with grades of 3 or higher. They are: Iris Aguilar, Jonathan Asas, Veronica Azcarate, Melyna Campos, George Carson, Timothy Castillo, Andrea Chita, Adela De Soto, Jimmy Diaz, Tran Dinh, Emmad Farooqui, Andres Gonzalez, Karina Gordon, Rachel Graham, Brian Han, Hyun Kim, Jasmine Kim, Ratha Lai, Amanda Lee, Joyce Lee, Susan Lee, Victoria Lee, Dinora Llamas, Stephanie Lopez, Lucy Lucano, Patrick McCarthy, Michelle McLain, Paula Morris, Jesus Rodriguez, Jill Roman, Sergio Sanchez, Sharonjit Sandhu, Addison Sandoval, Jessica Trejo, Krystal Vazquez, and Jeffrey Vides.

### Aerospace forum open to the public

LOS ANGELES – The U.S. Department of Labor will host a forum Oct. 24 focusing on the modern challenges affecting supplier-manufacturing relationships and innovative solutions for enhancing worker performance through new ideas and methods.

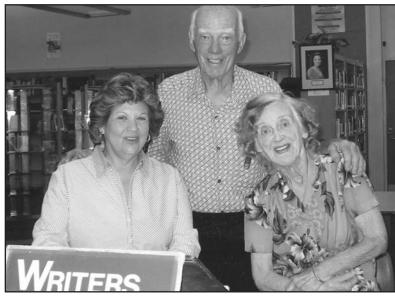
The keynote speaker will be Dr. Wanda Austin, President (effective January 2008) of The Aerospace Corporation.

Notable companies participating in the forum include NASA, Lockheed Martin, Boeing, Northrop Grumman, and others.

The event is free and open to the public, although limited to the first 100 registrants. For more information, call Christine Purcell with the California Space Authority at (310) 283-7323.



City Councilman Mario Guerra was recently honored by the Republican National Assembly of Greater Los Angeles as "Non-Partisan Elected Official of the Year." The award was presented by County Supervisor Mike Antonivich at a reception last week. In his remarks, Antonivich praised Guerra and commented how local government has the most opportunity for immediate impact on quality of life issues. Guerra, left, is shown with Antonivich, center, and his wife, Ann.



Award winners of the annual non-fiction contest conducted by Writers' Workshop West, which has been active in Downey since 1962, were determined at its August meeting. They are, pictured left to right, Yolanda Adele ("Pizza and Tears"), Don Niemand ("Global Warming"), and Rosalie Carpenter ("Shopping Spree"). Niemand was the first place winner, and Adele and Carpenter tied for second. Writers' Workshop West meets on the third Tuesday of every month at 7:30 p.m. at the Downey High School library. For information, call (562) 862-3106.



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## Page 4 Friday, Oct. 5, 2007 Community

### Tony and Joyce Dusich: volunteer icons

By Brooke Karli, Staff Writer

**DOWNEY** – There are many volunteers throughout our community, but none are more deserving of the Margene Glenn Award than Tony and Joyce Dusich.

Tony, 86, and Joyce, 80, have been married 58 years and have lived in Downey since 1953. When they first moved to Downey – before having children - Tony and Joyce were involved in the Downey Elks Lodge and Downey Emblem Club, where Tony was the Charter Chaplain and Joyce served as Marshall Corresponding Secretary. Joyce also participated in the Women's Auxiliary at then-known Downey Community Hospital.

Following the arrivals of children Larry and Nancy, Tony and Joyce became involved in numerous organizations, including Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Blue Birds, Campfire Girls, and YMCA Gray-Y. The couple also taught Sunday school and were active choir members at St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Downey.

In 1967, after Larry and Nancy auditioned for "Bye Bye Birdie," Tony and Joyce began volunteering at the Downey Children's Theatre, Inc. Larry was immediately cast in the musical, but Nancy, however, was not. And when asked by John Hume, founder of the Children's Theatre, if Tony - who was a police officer at the time - would play an officer, he bargained.

"You can have me if the musical will have Nancy," Tony told Hume. And so it was - not only did Tony, Larry and Nancy get roles, but so did Joyce. Following numerous performances together as a family, Joyce later became Hume's production secretary, also becoming involved with the Theatre's Administrative Council and Board of Directors. In addition, Tony and Joyce volunteered their time working concession stands, assisting in wardrobe, transporting supplies and cast members, documenting productions, and opening their home for rehearsals. They also acted as chaperons and financial supporters for the Children's Theatre.

The couple concluded their time with the Children's Theatre in 1993, after 26 years of volunteer work.

"We had served our purpose," said Joyce. "Even though it was a great time in our life, it was just time to move on."

The couple did just that - they moved on. They continued volunteering for "The Baker to Vegas Run," a 120-mile relay from Baker, Calif. to Las Vegas, Nev. They helped maintain checkpoint stations through a chapter of the Good Sam Club for RV owners called "Color Us Gone." And because the relay is put on by law enforcement agencies, Tony held each relay near and dear to his heart. He was a Los Angeles Police Department officer for 10 years, retiring after breaking his knee in seven places during a motorcycle accident while on duty.

After 10 years of volunteer work with the relay, Tony and Joyce were awarded trophies for their work.

Tony and Joyce are also avid square dancers - and have been for almost 20 years. They volunteered at the Orange Coast Lariats, a square dance club in Orange County, serving as officers on the board. They have danced for seasonal performances at numerous malls, entertained at retirement facilities, and have promoted square dancing activities at such events as the Orange County Fair. Most importantly, they act as mentors to new dancers

"Ever since our friends introduced us to dancing, we fell in love with it," Joyce said. "We are always learning and having fun."

Although Tony and Joyce have retired from volunteering, their work will surely not go unnoticed.

The John Hume Performing Arts Foundation will be honoring Tony



Tony and Joyce Dusich - along with their children - were cast roles in the Downey Theatre's 1967 production of "Bye Bye Birdie." The couple have logged more than 26 years of volunteer service with the the-

and Joyce with the Margene Glenn Award, an annual recognition of outstanding volunteer service to the community. Margene Glenn was also very active with the Children's Theatre and upon her death, the Foundation decided to honor her by naming a volunteer award after her.

Tony and Joyce will be honored on Oct. 13 at Granata's Italian Villa at 12:30 p.m.

The community is invited and encouraged to honor Tony and Joyce for the very work that made Downey part of what it is today.

### MIDSTOKKE

Continued from page 1

records, which include City Council minutes, resolutions, ordinances (the applicable ordinances are bound into a book, called the Municipal Code, which contains the laws of the city), contracts, agreements, bonds and assessment documents. It is the job of the City Clerk, she said, to ensure that these and other municipal records are readily accessible to public officials, administrative staff and the general public.

As, second, legislative administrator, Midstokke said the City Clerk, in her role as a key staff member for Council meetings with the rank of department head, plays a

critical role in the decision-making process of the City Council, as the Office prepares the legislative agenda and information packet, verifies the posting or publication of the required legal notices, and ensures the smooth and effective conduct of Council meetings. Moreover, while recording and maintaining a full and true record of all proceedings of the City Council, the Clerk is entrusted with the responsibility of recording the decisions which, she said, constitute "the building blocks of our representative government."

And, third, as elections officer, she said the City Clerk, in accordance with the City Charter and the State of California Election Codes, manages election procedures for city elections, again among other things assisting candidates in meeting their legal responsibilities "before, during and after an election," and advising the public on election matters including assistance in exercising their right to vote.

Midstokke is a big advocate of the injunction, "Every vote counts." She once got embroiled, while City Clerk of Hermosa Beach, in a controversy regarding hanging chads, when the outcome of a proposed hotel construction in Hermosa Beach hung on three successive appellate court deliberations, for which she was interviewed by the Wall Street Journal.

She has a ready list of instances when one vote decided the fates of individuals and the course of history. A sampling: "One vote gave Adolf Hitler control of the Nazi party and changed the destiny of the world." "In 1845 one vote brought Texas into the Union and in 1850 one vote made California part of the U.S." "In 1876, one vote in the electoral college gave Rutherford B. Hayes the presidency of the United States." "In 1948, Harry Truman was re-elected by a margin of one vote per precinct in California, while in 1960 three votes per precinct made John F. Kennedy president instead of Richard Nixon." "In 1776, when American colonists were deciding on the new country's official language, just one vote decided that Americans would speak English rather than German."

"I'm very passionate about all this and work very hard," she says. "I get a lot of reward being City Clerk." She gives full credit to her small but "well-trained, competent and efficient" staff: Certified Municipal Clerk Joyce Doyle, who has worked for the city 17 years, is Chief Deputy Clerk, while Susan Domen, who is working on her Municipal Clerk certification, serves as Secretary to the City Clerk. ("Susan and I are members of the Association of Parliamentarians.") Midstokke not too long ago attained second-level membership in the Master Municipal Clerk Academy, the highest professional designation awarded a city clerk.

Along with their routine duties, the main component of which is pre-Council and post-Council meeting preparation (regular Council meetings are held every second and fourth Tuesday of the month), the staff is gearing up for a special municipal election on Feb. 5, 2008 to decide a measure amending term limits; it is consolidated with the statewide Presidential Primary. Another major upcoming event is the next general municipal election slated for November, 2008 when the election of councilmember candidates for Districts One, Three and Five, whose incumbents are Mario Guerra, Mayor Rick Trejo, and Kirk Cartozian, respectively, will be decided—consolidated with the Presidential election.

"I especially like working with candidates running for office for the first time," Midstokke says. "Giving them a thick packet and helping them

### The Poets' Corner

### Mirror's Reflection

Mirror, mirror on the wall Tell a tale so very tall. Reflect a face that's wrinkle-free, An age that's only thirty-three.

Reveal someone with eves real bright, A row of teeth a pearly white, And a waistline in inches of twenty-four So I'll again look young once more.

I muse at this absurd request And vow that I must do my best To concentrate on worthwhile things And all the joy that they might bring.

A bit of grooming and an attitude bright Are much more important that teeth real white. I must thank the Lord for each new day And all the blessings that come my way. -- Martha J. Morrissy, **Downey** 

#### Horned-toad

Once when I was young, I held a horned-toad in my hand and he spit blood that ran dark through the crevasses of my palm like blood rushing from a wound. I looked into his ancient eyes and did not understand the meaning.

Now, standing where I held him captive, there is no sign of his offspring and no place where they could ever be, My hands are as clean as this concrete landscape that replaced his home but I feel ice where his blood once stained. --Richard Thormodsen, **Downey** 

### Children's Academy inaugural auction

DOWNEY - The Children's Academy of Success' Inaugural Silent Auction Gala will be held Nov. 9 at 7 p.m. at the Rio Hondo Event Center. To donate items or services, call Gemma Martinez at (323) 481-8945 or Diana Facio, (562) 381-3714.

along in becoming a council official can be a little overwhelming. You see these different personalities, and they run on different platforms. They spend different amounts of money. A lot of things that come up are unpredictable. Even when the candidates are up for re-election, they become first-time candidates to me. I have to look at them objectively, as though they were running for the first time. Thus the information given them is the same for everyone. The work is always interesting."

Having said this, Midstokke is all gratitude for the tremendous support afforded her by the City Council: "I've worked for eight City Council members now and each one has totally supported my efforts, in education and improvements in the office. They've OK'd funds for equipment upgrades and I'm very grateful for their support. They've truly been very helpful to me. I've enjoyed excellent working relationships with all of

She also gets a kick dealing with residents: "I get a lot of satisfaction helping the ordinary citizen with their concerns. When they gain access to information about their local government and procedure, it's truly democ-

She says it may sound corny, but "I still get goose bumps when I recite the Pledge of Allegiance."

Midstokke, one of the three city officials appointed by the City Council—the other two being the City Manager and the City Attorney has a year and a half left for her bachelor's at CSU-Long Beach. "You never stop learning," she says. "And since my daughter has a master's degree in speech communication, the least I can do is get my bachelor's. Besides, I want to set a good example to my grandchildren. When I finish, I'll be the first one in my family of four sisters and one brother to earn a college degree."

She and her staff, too, have good opportunities to "continue our education through conferences, educational programs, and the like."

She says her parents instilled in her a strong work ethic: "I've been working since I was 16, never been on unemployment." In addition to a predilection for travel to small towns seeking small bookstores that offer local historical stuff (she's a member of the Downey Historical Society), she admits to being "a total Beatles nut": she was a screaming fan when John Lennon and the Beatles performed in the Hollywood Bowl in 1965. Midstokke, who relaxes by gardening, says she's kept all the Beatles albums (the British versions). Her ex-husband, she says, played the guitar and played all the Beatles songs. Biographies and John Grisham are a favorite reading fare. Son Tim, 37, is an electrician at LAX, while Gretchen, 31, an account executive for Chase Financial, is getting married in January.

Among her proudest accomplishments, Midstokke points to her work, the blue "A Citizens Guide to Participating in the City Council Meeting Process," which encapsulates the workings of the Council and its meetings, the nature of public hearings, what is permissible in the non-agenda public comment portion, the consent calendar, the administrative reports, etc. She also mentioned the new digital recording system for the council meetings, and otherwise all the technological upgrades, including a computerized indexing system for the city's agreements and contracts that track expiration dates, insurance requirements, etc., etc. A future project is a new document imaging software and equipment which will scan city records into an image, store it, and retrieve it at any time. Midstokke says such storage "in some safe secure facility outside the city" is ideal for disaster retrieval, should a disaster occur.

A measure of her standing in the fraternity/sorority of city clerks is when she was invited to join a task force in June called the Post-Election Audit Standards Working Group, created at the behest of California Secretary of State Debra Bowen. The group spent an intensive four weeks reviewing a variety of studies, examining post-election audit models and talking to national experts in the field of election auditing, for the ultimate purpose of providing voters with the confidence, according to Bowen, that "every vote is counted as it was cast." The group included experts in the fields of computer science, financial auditing, statistical analysis, election reform advocacy, and city and county government. Midstokke, City Clerk of the City of Downey, represented all the city clerks in the state.

Her aim, she says, then and now, is to "provide excellent service to the citizens of Downey."

### Happy Anniversary!!!

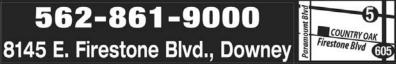


Sweet Betty dearest love, It has been a great 50 years. I would do it all over with you if I were to choose again, You have made my life complete. I'm looking forward for many more years to come, here & in the hereafter With all my love, Mick

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## Editorial Page 5 Friday, Oct. 5, 2007

### High Times

By Eric Pierce

Why are kids getting high?

After sitting through a three-hour speed class (courtesy Downey Police Department) on the ills of illicit drugs, it's hard to imagine why people today - armed with the facts that we know - still choose to get high.

Downey is a great city, but it's not immune to drugs. No city is. I implore you to read my story on page 7 if you don't believe me.

Teens today are getting high for the same reasons kids got high in the '60s, '70s and '80s: social pressure, escape from reality and just plain boredom.

Capitalizing on this are drug lords at the top of very corporatelike enterprises, raking in millions of dollars in profits as our kids kill themselves slowly and methodically.

But why do kids really get high? It's difficult to grasp. Social pressure is tough, but what happened to just saying no? What happened to walking away, when being "straight edge" put you in the majority, not the minority?

Cheerleaders are getting high to lose weight. AP students are getting high to stay up late studying. Straight-laced kids are getting high at parties where somebody whips out a blunt and passes it around.

It doesn't help when political leaders admit to having done drugs, inhaling or not. And it certainly doesn't help when today's leading hip-hop artists flaunt their drug use in rap lyrics.

Teens abusing and selling drugs need to know the honest truth:

- 1.) You will get caught.
- 2.) You will go to jail.
- 3.) You will die.

We should be blunt about it (no pun intended). Drugs lead to jail. Drugs ruin lives. Drugs kill.

This information is not new. The damning effects of illegal drugs have been documented for years.

So why do people continue to abuse?

Illegal drugs are a drain on our society and users don't belong

They deserve to be locked in jail, if only for their ignorance.

### Contractors expand activity in California

SUN VALLEY - Tower General Contractors, contractors for the Columbia Memorial Space Science Learning Center in Downey, is expanding its business in the California market, becoming the largest minority-owned general contractor in Los Angeles County.

In 2007, the company is working on projects totaling more than 200,000 square feet with an aggregate value of \$75 million. Despite an uncertain economy, the company anticipates continued growth in all sectors, including its strong hold on the healthcare market.

Tower General Contractors has a long history of successful projects, ranging from EMR facilities, to clinics. Some of the company's current healthcare construction projects are listed below:

• New Economics for Women Health Clinic – Conversion of a 20,000square-foot building to a state-of-the-art community health clinic.

- Arroyo Vista Family Health Center Conversion of a 20,000-squarefoot Chinese restaurant into a full-service community clinic.
- Henry Mayo Newhall Memorial Hospital A not-for-profit medical
- facility located in Valencia, Calif. • Lakewood Regional Medical Center - Remodeling of the existing
- emergency department, including all aspects of the interior. • USC Health Science Campus Parking Structure to Norris Cancer
- Center Connecting Pedestrian Bridge Construction of a bridge to allow access from the adjacent parking structure to the Cancer Center.
- St. John of God Construction of a 30,000-square-foot Alzheimer's Clinic in downtown Los Angeles.
- Occidental College Renovation of Newcomb and Pauley Residence Halls completed fro fall semester 2007.
- Huntsman Design and construction of the 40,469-square-foot Chemical Manufacturing Building to be completed in 2008.
- Pirates of the Caribbean Ride at Disneyland Expansion to meet ADA Regulations.
- Union Bank of California Four bank branches in Simi Valley, La
- Cañada, Marina Del Rey, and Apple Valley, Calif. •Cabot & Sons - Remodeling and construction of the company's 95year-old Pasadena headquarters.

• A Multi-Unit, Loft Style Retail Complex with Rooftop Parking - The

downtown Los Angeles complex will be opened for the 2007 holiday season. "Tower is pleased to be a part of the landscape of the vibrant Southern

California community," said Nato Flores, president of Tower General Contractors. "We expect to continue our expansion and growth across a broad spectrum of construction projects, particularly those that are highly technical and on tight schedules. Our size and experience allows us to move quickly and find creative ways to construct facilities on budget that have unique requirements."

### Voter registration deadline approaching

NORWALK - The deadline for Los Angeles County residents to register for the upcoming Nov. 6 elections is Oct. 22.

Persons wishing to register must be a United States citizen, resident of Los Angeles County, not in prison or on parole for conviction of a felony, and at least 18 years old by Election Day.

Voter registration forms are available at libraries, post offices and city clerk offices. To register to vote online, visit www.lavote.net.

### The Downey Patriot



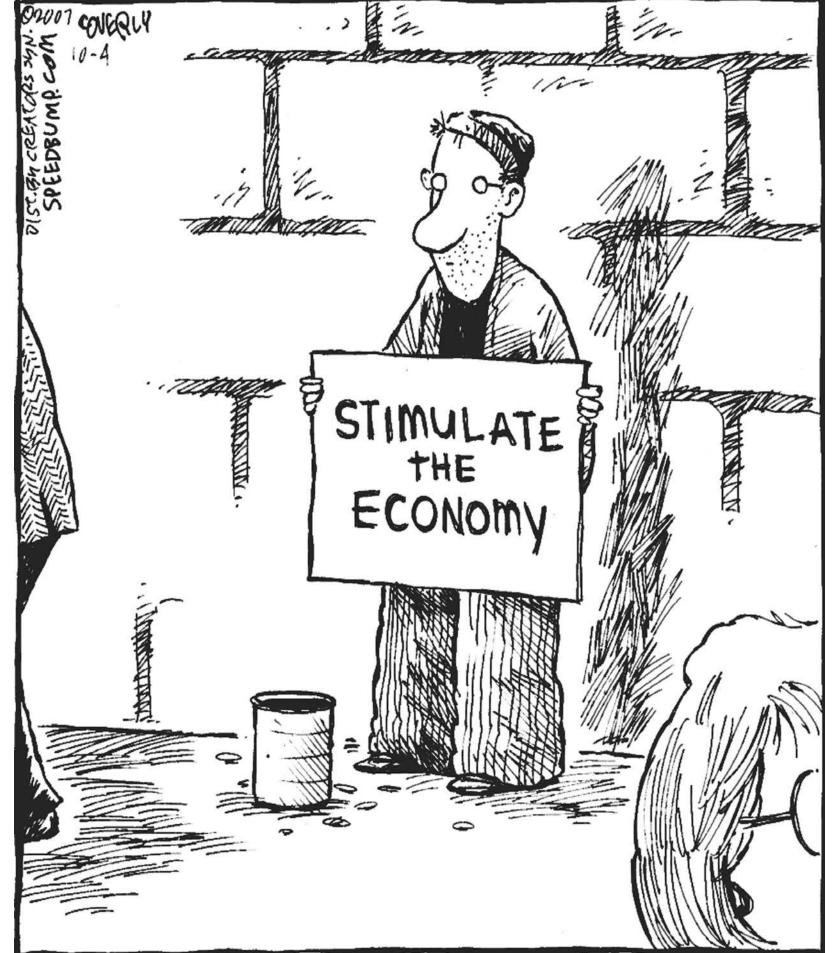
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### Letters to the Editor:

### Let go of the Carpenter house

The thought occurred to me that nobody could be a bigger Carpenter fan than I am since I first heard them on the radio in 1970 with their first hit, "Close to You." I have followed them ever since and, like everyone else, still cannot believe Karen is no longer with us.

The Carpenters were the most talented group in my lifetime and Karen in my opinion was the most talented female singer ever for so many reasons – and always will be. Richard is a genius but we all know that anyway. Their music is timeless and current when others we liked during the '70s sound dated now.

But I suppose all of us fans have a reason to be sad that this part of what we have to hold onto (the house) is slipping away. I have often said that our country tends to tear down the past to build the future, but I am not sure that applies to the Carpenters house.

Richard sold this home and obviously did not have any need to have stipulations for its future. He apparently did not see it as a landmark for the Carpenter's namesake or he may have taken different steps with the family property. He may have been the last original Carpenter alive when the home changed hands so maybe we should respect his wishes. Maybe he needed to heal and move on as I am sure he has. I bet he had good memories in the home on Newville as well as bad memories. I feel for the current owners because they have their right to privacy but at the same time, it has been rumored that they advertised Carpenters belongings for sale, so they have invited the traffic up and down the street by treating this as an opportunity for profit.

I hope the fans will eventually let go of the issue as it would be impossible to treat this home as a lasting museum, especially since it is in the middle of a residential neighborhood. We have the music and that is something no one can ever take away from us.

Thanks, Richard and Karen. It was not really the Newville Avenue home that you were famous for.

- James O. Thompson,

Lakewood, Colo.

### More bad grades

Dear Editor:

Re: Our congresswoman, Lucille Roybal-Allard, receiving a zero rating of representing taxpayers ("Roybal-Allard Receives a Zero," 9/28/07). Alas, not surprising then to learn the Prestigious Americans for Better Immigration gives her an F, one of eight F's given out.

It looks like she's never met an illegal alien she didn't love to spend

taxpayers' money on.

- Bill Spetnagel,

### Where's the Farmer's Market?

Why is it that every city around has a weekly Farmer's Market except for Downey? Has our city council denied them a permit?

It is hard to believe they are in every other city and have chosen not to hold one in Downey. Hopefully the "swap meet" held at Warren High School every Saturday is not considered Downey's Farmer's Market – I am talking about fresh fruits and vegetables, not swap meet items. Janet Minnig,

**Downey** 

### Bringing drug coverage to America's seniors

By Grace-Marie Turner

When it comes to prescription drug coverage for seniors, there's yet more good news to report.

Just last month, the University of Michigan Institute for Social Research reported that Medicare Part D – the federal government's prescription drug benefit – has helped increase prescription drug coverage among Americans aged 65 and older from 75 percent in 2004 to more than 90 percent in 2006.

In other words, it's taken just two years to bring prescription drug coverage to almost every senior in America – rich and poor alike – thanks largely to Part D.

Part D provides federal subsidies to allow private plan managers to compete for the best bargains from drug manufacturers. This creates incentives for providers to offer a variety of plan options. Seniors can shop around for the plans that best fit their needs. And no law limits the number of drugs each plan can offer.

Thanks to this structure, the drug benefit offers more and better choices of both drugs and prices than anyone imagines. Some plans, for example, cost as little as \$10 a month. Others have eliminated deductibles before coverage kicks in. And some provide partial or full coverage in the infamous "donut hole" so that seniors don't experience a gap in coverage between moderate and high drug expenses.

When it comes to saving money, Part D has exceeded expectations. The average plan now costs less than \$24 a month – significantly lower than the \$37 average that Congress anticipated when the program was

Part D is the first significant federal program to rein in runaway medical spending. It did this by restoring savings incentives and personal responsibility to Medicare. Also, by leveraging the power of private-sector competition, Part D provides more prescription drug choices than the much-vaunted Department of Veterans Affair (VA) plan.

The VA plan is often compared to Part D because they're both federally funded drug programs – one is for military veterans, the other is for seniors.

But the real difference is that under the VA plan, which is a more traditional government program, there's only one type of coverage – a narrowly defined insurance package withy no choice whatsoever. The VA controls costs by limiting the number of drugs available to seniors – so the formulary includes just 19 percent of medicines approved by the Food and Drug Administration since 2000.

By contrast, Part D allows members to choose from a broad array of private health plans. Seniors have access to virtually all FDA-approved medicines. And prices stay low because the private insurance providers compete fiercely.

According to a survey by the Meciare Rx Education Network, 78 percent of the 29 million seniors enrolled in Part D are satisfied with the plan.

More importantly, 20 percent of polled enrollees say the new benefit has enabled them to stop skipping or reducing the medications their doctors have prescribed. And according to the Michigan study, the vast majority of the 10,175 seniors interviewed said they were confident that they made a good decision and would sign up for Part D again the following year.

The results from the University of Michigan validate what seniors have been saying for two years – that Part D works.

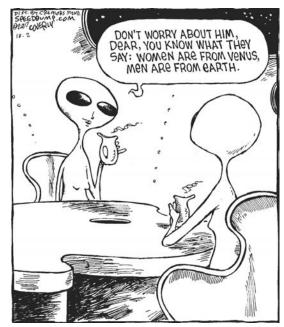
Grace-Marie Turner is president of the Galen Institute, a non-profit research organization focusing on free-market solutions to health reform.

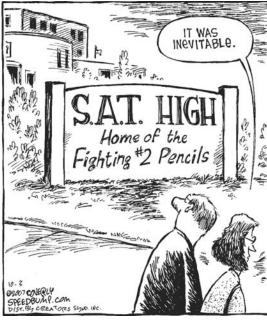
## Page 6 Friday, Oct. 5, 2007 Comics/Crossword

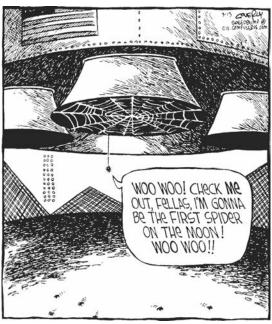
### SPEED BUMP

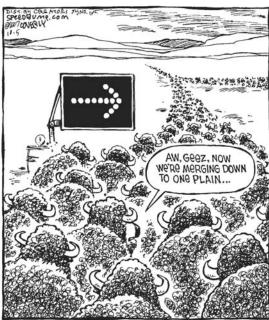
### DAVE COVERLY













Oct. 5, 1922: Cartoonist Bill Keane, illustrator of the long-running comic strip, "The Family Circus," is born. Also born Oct. 5: Clive Barker (54), Bernie Mac (50), Daniel Baldwin (47), Grant Hill (35), Kate Winslet (32), and Nicky Hilton (24).

1947: President Harry S. Truman, in the nation's first televised White House address, urges citizens not to eat meat on Tuesdays and poultry on Thursdays to stockpile grain for hungry people in Europe. 1953: Earl Warren, over whom Warren High School is named after, is sworn in as the 14th chief justice of the United States.

**1962:** The first James Bond movie is released, "Dr. No."

**1970:** PBS begins broadcasting.

### **Downey Community Calendar**

#### Events For October

Fri. Oct. 5: "Oklahoma!" Opens, Downey Theatre, 8 p.m.

Sat. Oct. 6: Breast Cancer Fundraiser. Downey Masonic Lodge, 6 p.m.

Mon. Oct. 8: Annual Mini Fair, Los Amigos Country Club, 10:30 a.m.

Wed. Oct. 10: Business Expo. Stonewood Center, 4 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 862-6666.

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 a.m. - Downey Christian Women's Club, at Los Amigos CC, Call 927-8488.

**3rd Weds., - Downey Dog Obedience Club** Apollo Park.

WWW.STANXWORDS.COM

3rd Weds., 6 p.m. - American Business Women's Association, Rio Hondo Country Club, Call Barbara Carlson 863-2192. 4rth Weds., 12:00 noon: Retired Federal Employees, at Furman Park West Bldg., call 943-5513. Wed.& Fri., 10:15 a.m.: Senior Bingo, at Apollo Park, for information call 904-7223.

### **Thursdays**

7:30 a.m.: Soroptimist Int'l of Downey, for information, call Pat Heineke, 904-3534.

7:30 a.m.: Connections Networking, at Nordic Fox 10924 Paramount, for information call 869-1414.

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

12 p.m.: Downey Christian Businessmen's Committee, for information call 928-4153.

**12 p.m.: Optimist Club of Downey**, at Sambi's, for information call Steve Allen at 622-7655. 12:30 p.m.: Take off Pounds Sensibly, at First Christian Church, call (800) 932-8677.

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

7 p.m.: Troop 351, Boy Scouts of America, at First Baptist Church, for information call 776-3388.

4th Thurs., 7:30 p.m.: Downey Historical Society programs, at Community Center. Call 862-2777.

2nd Thurs., 7:30 p.m.: Beaming Rebel Foxes Collectors Club, for more information call Carl D. Jones at 923-2400.

### **Fridays**

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

9/30/07

### THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com) SNIPPETS: With 117 Across in common by Fred Piscop

### **ACROSS**

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- 15 Night fliers \_-garde Net notes
- 22 Truant GI 23 Navigation aide 25 Bit of verbal fanfare

Gift-tag word

- 26 Delhi wrap 27 Lash out at Damascus' land: Abbr.
- Track best Filmmaker Buñuel 33 Bob Cratchit's job
- Show uncertainty 35 36 Ticks off 40 Bell sound

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- 72 Senate gofers 74 Walt Kelly possum

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- 98 Pearson "Beat it!" 100 Exact copy 101 Dreadlocked one
- 107 Volcanic flow 109 Golden
- Marrying men: Abbr. Canadian statesman
- (Drake's ship) Went like heck 112 B-school subj. 113 Boorish 114 Hobo fare 117 La-la lead-in

118 Wander (about)

You can contact puzzle editor

Stanley Newman at his e-mail

address: StanXwords@aol.com. Or

write him at P.O. Box 69, Mass-

apequa Park, NY 11762, Please

send a self-addressed, stamped

"star," is used in dance as a term

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the New Deal era. ETOILE (5

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Buñuel (31 Across) worked for

Spanish-born director LUIS

for prima ballerina.

envelope if you'd like a reply.

PUZZLE PRIZE CONTEST! Try Stan Newman's WordWit Puzzle™ at www.StanXwords.com

### 'No way I'll ever let a dope dealer outsmart me'

By Eric Pierce, City Editor

DOWNEY - Narcotic detective Robert Del Rio has pretty much seen it all in his 18 years with the Downey Police Department. Like most of the veterans on the force, he's seen things on duty that would make your skin crawl; things that would quite literally make you want to vomit.

Del Rio has seen meth addicts stick dirty syringes directly into their necks, in search of a fresh vein, desperate for a high.

He's seen 12-year-old kids smoking dope and popping Vicodin, sleeping on the railroad tracks.

Worst of all, he has seen dead bodies hallowed out and stuffed with heroin, smuggled into the U.S. across the Mexican border.

It's an ugly, putrid and dangerous job. The leader of a local drug cartel once put a \$10,000 bounty on Del Rio's life; the FBI had to follow Del Rio home for a week. (How tough is Del Rio? He said it was "no big deal.")

Drug enforcement is Del Rio's job, but it's also his passion. He shared details of what he does and how Downey PD handles narcotic enforcement with the Downey Police Department's Citizens Academy this week in what may have been the Academy's most disturbingly realistic presentation to date.

It may not be outwardly visible or obvious, but drugs are running rampant on Downey's streets, as they are in all cities. Gone are the days when crack houses were limited to one-bedroom shacks with the shingles falling off the windows; drug houses can now be multi-million dollar homes, with elaborate security systems, pit bulls in the front yard, and gated entries.

In fact, Del Rio said, without divulging much information, some of Downey's mansions have been and are under continued investigation for possible narcotic trafficking. (Members of a rap group recently moved into a North Downey mansion and were caught moving marijuana, Del Rio said.) Realtors have even been investigated for helping facilitate real estate transactions for drug dealers, falsifying pay stubs when the dealers could only pay in suitcases filled with cash.

Del Rio, middle-aged and medium build, often works undercover, participating in stings that many times result in the confiscation of millions of dollars.

Just this week, Del Rio said, an investigation led to the discovery of 3,200 pounds of marijuana inside a Downey home. The stash was piled high inside a three-bedroom house, every room brimming with bricks of Mexican weed. At an estimated cost of \$700 per pound, the marijuana had an estimated street value of \$2.4 million.

Del Rio also recalled working an undercover operation where he was to meet a dope dealer outside the Acapulco restaurant in Downey. The dealer was delivering a kilo of heroin worth \$60,000. The dealer showed up, but with four friends in tow, all wearing loose, untucked shirts and obviously packing heat.

As the exchange was made, one of the men reached for a gun. Del Rio's backup burst out of a van just in time to quite possibly save his life.

Del Rio has encountered drugs of all types on Downey streets. Increasing in popularity, according to Del Rio, is high-end marijuana, manufactured in British Columbia and smuggled into the U.S. This marijuana is considered the cream of the crop, Del Rio said, with no seeds or twigs and can fetch \$3,000 to \$4,000 per pound.

But despite marijuana's soaring popularity, locking up dealers - at least for reasonable stretches of time – can be challenging because "court systems have yet to recognize marijuana as a serious offense," Del Rio said.

As an example, Del Rio pointed to a Downey man detectives had under surveillance for months. The man rented an empty warehouse, invested \$20,000 in lights, and set out to grow 300 plants.

The man was turning a \$40,000 profit every three months.

When Downey narcotic investigators finally gathered enough evidence and busted him, he ended up serving only one day in jail.

It's for that reason that many law enforcement agencies don't want to deal with marijuana any more; it's simply not cost effective. But Downey is not one of those agencies, Del Rio said, observing that marijuana is

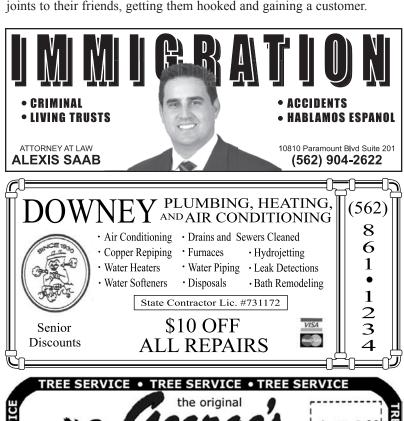
often a gateway to other more lethal drugs. Which leads to methamphetamine, or meth, a crude and dangerous narcotic gripping many of today's drug addicts. Meth users, Del Rio said, will break into your home and into your car in search of a way to pay for their next fix. They'll steal from their family and sell their personal

belongings without a second guess, if it results in getting high. Meth, deathly addictive and produced from toxic chemicals including antifreeze, offers a six-hour high at a relatively cheap price. It's popular with teenagers, especially teenage girls looking to lose weight because it suppresses appetites.

A meth lab was recently found inside a house across the street from Lewis Elementary School, Del Rio said. The lab so contaminated the house that the property had to be razed and rebuilt from scratch.

Meth, marijuana and most drugs are easily available in schools, Del

Rio said. Kids, as young as the seventh or eighth grade, will offer free joints to their friends, getting them hooked and gaining a customer.







Jose Malverde, a drug dealer in the early 1900's, is commonly worshipped among drug traffickers today, who pray to his spirit for guidance in avoiding capture. Det. Robert Del Rio said shrines, like the one pictured above, are often surrounded by meth, cocaine and heroin, sacrificed by the dealers. Photo courtesy Wikipedia

Popular today are kids stealing Vicodin and prescription drugs from their parents and selling them, thinking they can't get busted for selling legal drugs. (They can and will be arrested.)

As scary as this all sounds, residents should rest easy knowing Downey police are ahead of the curve.

"We're proactive, not reactive," Del Rio said. "We're out there every day staying one step ahead...No way I'll ever let a dope dealer outsmart

That's a tall order, considering how cunning some dope dealers can be. A Downey officer recently detained a driver on narcotics violations – the dealer in his car had rigged a compartment in the floorboard underneath the gas pedal. When the car was put in reverse, and the brake tapped three times, a solenoid would open the compartment. Inside were 10 bags of crystal meth, worth hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Six months ago, another Downey officer stopped a car carrying \$3 million cash in drug money. The cash was divided into three separate bags, each holding \$1 million.

The dealer offered the officer one of the bags if he would let him go.

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### Niz-Maldonado finishes basic training

FORT JACKSON, COLUMBIA, S.C. - Army Pvt. Maria Niz-Maldonado has completed basic combat training at Fort Jackson.

Niz-Maldonado completed nine weeks of training, studying the Army mission, history, tradition and core values. She also took part in physical fitness exercises and received instruction and practice in basic combat skills, military weapons, chemical warfare and bayonet training, drill and ceremony, marching, rifle marksmanship, armed and unarmed combat, map reading, field tactics, military courtesy, first aid, the military justice system, and more.

She is the daughter of Ines Martinez of Downey.

### Alley Cats featured at SCRS fundraiser

**DOWNEY** – The Southern California Rehabilitation Services (SCRS) will be featuring The Alley Cats at their "Rockin' & Rollin' Back to the 50's" fundraiser Oct. 12 at the Cerritos Park East Community Center.

The Alley Cats are a mixture of musical talent and comic timing. Their interaction with audiences, combined with their spontaneous humor, makes each show refreshing and exciting. Tight harmonies, universal humor, and a cappella energy have made The Alley Cats "America's Premiere Doo-Wop Group."

The event will also include a buffet dinner, awards ceremony, and silent auction. All proceeds will benefit the programs and services of SCRS.

Tickets are \$50 per person or \$350 for a table of eight and are tax deductible. Checks can be made payable to SCRS and mailed to 7830 Quill Dr., Downey, CA, 90242.

For information, or to purchase tickets over the phone, call (562) 862-

### Homebuyers invited to 'Lobby Days'

DOWNEY - Downey Federal Credit Union is sponsoring "Real Estate Lobby Days" for members and potential members in the lobby of its main branch on a monthly basis.

First-time homebuyers, or homeowners seeking refinancing, can speak to a lending representative between 9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. The next

"Lobby Days" are scheduled for Oct. 31 and Nov. 15. Downey Federal Credit Union offers second trust deeds and home

### 'Jewish Themes in Opera' discussed

**DOWNEY** – The Ezra Center for Mature Adults at Temple Ner Tamid will have their next meeting on Oct. 16, featuring a presentation on opera by Louis Bernstein.

Registration, coffee and tea, and refreshments begin at 9:45 a.m., with the program to follow at 10 a.m.

The program with discuss "Jewish Themes in Opera," presented by Bernstein, who will also discuss L.A. Opera's salute to Jewish composers, whose music was suppressed by Hitler. The Opera Company calls this program "Recovered Voices," two one-act operas of Ullman and Zemlinsky, which will be presented later in the season.

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

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

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## Page 8 Friday, Oct. 5, 2007 Dining/Entertainment\_\_\_\_ The Downey Patriot

### Jill Van Velzer returns to DCLO

By Brooke Karli, Staff Writer

DOWNEY - Jill Van Velzer, whose last performance in "Oklahoma!" was in junior high, will return to the musical as "Laurey" in the Downey Civic Light Opera's production of the 1943 classic.

For as long as she can remember, Van Velzer has been inspired by theatre. Growing up in England, she remembers seeing West End productions with her family on a regular basis. Her parents, who are both trained musicians – her dad a vocalist, her mom a pianist – made sure music was prevalent in their home, volunteering Van Velzer to sing in choirs. And unlike many children her age, she watched musicals instead of the typical cartoons.

Van Velzer later went on to college, receiving her bachelor's degree in theatre from Pepperdine University. Although she knew she wanted to act and sing, it was a semester abroad in London that really made her passionate for her career.

"Going back to where I first fell in love with theatre just confirmed that acting was what I was supposed to do," said Van Velzer, a resident of North Hollywood. "I was so obsessed with theatre [while in London] that I spent all my food money on theatre tickets."

And she wasn't kidding – she saw over 65 shows in eight months. Although Van Velzer performed as "Gretel" in "Hansel and Gretel" in the 2nd grade, and "Laurey" in "Oklahoma!" in the 7th grade - which was actually a high school production allowing anyone in 7th to 12th grades to perform – her first "real" job was straight out of college and onto a cruise ship. Her first musical theatre job was in a Los Angeles production of "Meet Me in St. Louis." And her first job as a member of the Actors' Equity Association, a professional actors' union, was playing "Guenevere" in "Camelot."

Other notable credits include "Anna" in a national tour of "The King and I' and "Fiona" in DCLO's 2002 production of "Brigadoon." Van Velzer recently played "Mrs. Irene Molloy" in "The Matchmaker" and "Diana Bateman" in "Lend Me a Tenor: The Musical" at this summer's Tony Award-winning Utah Shakespearean Festival. And in 2004, Van Velzer received an Ovation Award for best featured actress in a musical for her role as "Abigail Adams" in "1776."

In addition to her stage work, she has also filmed numerous commercials and cable segments.

Currently, Van Velzer is looking to squeeze in one more show before the holidays and hopes to be on the East Coast by next spring to perform in "Lend Me a Tenor: The Musical."

As far as her experience with DCLO is concerned, she had nothing but great things to say: "Marsha's just got such great energy and practically runs the show single-handedly," Van Velzer said. "The theatre has a genuine community spirit and it's wonderful to be a part of."

"Oklahoma!" opens tonight at 8 p.m. at the Downey Theatre and will run through Oct. 21. Tickets can be purchased by calling the box office, open daily from 1 to 5 p.m., at (562) 923-1714.







Accomplished actress Jill Van Velzer will take on the role of "Laurey" in the DCLO's stage production of "Oklahoma!," opening tonight at the Downey Theatre. The role won't be unfamiliar to Van Velzer: she played "Laurey" back in middle school.

### Bellflower chorus needs more members

**BELLFLOWER** – The Bellflower Civic Chorus is recruiting singers for its 45-member mixed ensemble. Most urgently needed are altos, bass and tenors.

The chorus is comprised of men and women who enjoy singing in 4-6 part harmony. Rehearsals are held every Tuesday from 7 to 9:30 p.m. at Simms Park, 16614 Clark Ave., in Bellflower.

Rehearsals are currently being held for their upcoming Christmas concert, "It's Christmas."

For more information on joining the chorus, call Shirley at (323) 569-5930 or Beverly at (562) 869-5947.

### New dance program begins at Gretel's

**DOWNEY** – Gretel's Dance Studio will be offering a new dance program beginning Oct. 15 at 4:15 p.m.

The program includes an open creative movement class for 3-year-olds at 4:15 p.m., a pre-dance class for girls and boys ages 4 to 6 at 5 p.m., and a beginners dance class for boys and girls ages 7 to 9 at 6 p.m. The classes will teach students basic body movement, coordination, balance, and interaction with other students.

The studio, located at 12405 Woodruff Ave. in Downey, offers three classrooms with equipment, ballet barres, and hardwood-sprung floors. Dance curriculum includes ballet, tap, jazz, and mime.

For information, call (562) 745-5869.

### Book club reading 'Suite Française'

**DOWNEY** – The public is invited to discover the best in literature by joining the Downey City Library Book Lover's Club. The free monthly book discussion group will meet Oct. 11 from noon to 1 p.m. in the Cormack Room.

This month the group will discuss "Suite Francaise" by Irene Nemirovsky. Set during the German occupation of France in 1941-42, the book contains two novellas detailing the lives of French villagers.

Nemirovsky, a Jewish Russian immigrant, wrote the works in 1942, planned as part of a five-part "suite" before she was arrested and sent to her death in Auschwitz.

"Join our discussion of this recently-discovered work by a fine writer," said Senior Librarian Jan Palen.

New book club members are welcome at the meeting and light refreshments will be served. Reservations are recommended by calling (562) 904-7360, ext. 32.

### New Entertainment this week

#### CD Releases

Josh Groban - Noel Eric Clapton - Complete Clapton LeAnn Rimes - Family Kid Rock - Rock and Roll Jesus The Cult - Born Into This Alter Bridge - Blackbird Sara Evans - Greatest Hits **Jennifer Lopez -** *Bridge* 

Vanessa Carlton - Heroes & Thieves Puddle of Mudd - Famous Lil Wayne - Lil Weezy-Ana, Vol. 1 Source: Amazon.com

### DVD Releases

28 Weeks Later

Reign Over Me Surf's Up TV/MISC. Alfred Hitchcock Pres.- Season 3 CSI:NY - Season 3

**Evan Almighty** 

Family Ties - Season 2 Murder, She Wrote - Season 7 **Roots - The Next Generation** Whose Line Is It Anyways? -Season 1, Volume 2

Source: Amazon.com

#### Video Game Releases World Champion Paintball - PS2 Looney Tunes ACME Arsenal -

PS2, X360, Wii Honda: SBk-07 Superbike - PS2 Mountain Bike Adrenaline - PS2 FIFA Soccer 08 - PS2, X360, PS3,

Half-Life 2: The Orange Box -

Sega Rally Revo - X360, PS3 Juiced 2: Hot Import Nights - PS3 Folklore - PS3 Bleach: The Shattered Blade - Wii

#### Source: ebgames.com Book Releases

"Clapton: The Autobiography" by Eric Clapton

"World Without End" by Ken Follett "I Am America (and so Can You!)" by Stephen Colbert "A Lifetime of Secrets" by Frank

"Inside the Helmet: Life as a Sunday Afternoon Warrior" by

Michael Strahan "Come on, People!: On the Path from Victims to Victors" by Bill

Source: barnesandnoble.com

#### Concerts

FRIDAY, OCT. 5 Bronx, Death by Stereo - Galaxy Concert Theatre

George Carlin - Gibson Amp. Jethro Tull - Lancaster Performing Arts Center

Metric - Henry Fonda Theatre Morrissey - Hollywood Palladium **They Might Be Giants - HOB** Anaheim

Twelve Girls Band - Greek Theatre Underoath - Wiltern SATURDAY

Daddy Yankee - Gibson Amph. Beethoven's Nightmare - El Rey Theatre Finntroll - Galaxy Concert Theatre

Heaven and Hell, Alice Cooper, Queensryche - Verizon Amph. Jethro Tull - Thousand Oaks Civic Arts Plaza

**Kingdom 6** - HOB Anaheim L.A. Weekly Detour Festival -Downtown Los Angeles Morrissey - Hollywood Palladium Shins - Santa Barbara Bowl Steve Miller Band - Greek Theatre SUNDAY

Last Comic Standing - Grove of Anaheim

Ne-Yo - Wiltern Shins - Greek Theatre

Turbonegro - Henry Fonda Theatre MONDAY John Prine - Cerritos Center

Lucky 21 - El Rey Theatre Morrissey - Hollywood Palladium The Used - Grove of Anaheim TUESDAY

Aiden, Drop Dead Gorgeous, 1997 -El Rey Theatre Twelve Girls Band - Grove of

Anaheim

WEDNESDAY Emmylou Harris - Cerritos Center Jars of Clay - HOB Anaheim

Jose Gonzalez - El Rey Theatre THURSDAY **Annie Lennox -** Wilshire Theatre

Pat Benetar - Cerritos Center Rogue Wave - El Rey Theatre

### Book Releases

"Clapton: The Autobiography" by Eric Clapton "Blonde Faith" by Walter Mosley

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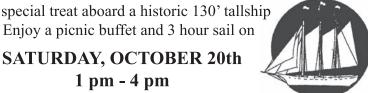
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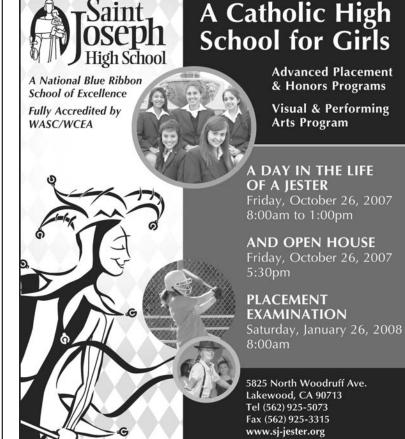
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THE SEEKER PG THE GAME PLAN PG THE KINGDOM R RESIDENT EVIL: EXTINCTION R GOOD LUCK CHUCK R MR. WOODCOCK PG13 (10:50 1:10 3:30) 5:50 8:10 10:30

THE BRAVE ONE R DRAGON WARS PG13 HALLOWEEN R

(10:20 1:15 4:10) 7:05 10:00 (12:05) 5:15 10:25 (2:30) 7:40 RUSH HOUR 3 PG13 (11:15 1:50 4:25) 7:00 9:35



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THE KINGDOM R (11:10, 12:00, 1:55, :45, 4:40, 5:25), 7:20, 8:00, 10:05, 10:50 **EASTERN PROMISES ®** (2:40), 7:50 GOOD LUCK CHUCK R (11:50, 2:25, 4:55)

RESIDENT EVIL: EXTINCTION ® (11:40 2:10, 4:45), 7:15, 9:45 THE BRAVE ONE R (11:45, 5:00), 10:25

MR. WOODCOCK PG-13 (12:20, 2:50, 5:05), 7:25, 9:50

## The Downey Patriot \_\_\_ Dining/Entertainment Page 9 Friday, Oct. 5, 2007

### Banquet celebrates symphony milestone

By Henry Veneracion STAFF WRITER

**DOWNEY** — Some 180 dressed-to-kill members and guests of the Downey Symphonic Society celebrated 50 golden years (1957-2007) of the Downey Symphony Orchestra in regal and happy style Friday at the Rio Hondo Events Center, as the bouncy jazz rhythms performed by the 18-member Downey High School Jazz Ensemble under the direction of Cory Olariu gave way to a haunting rendition of "Music in the Night" by singer/entertainer Don Snyder abetted by piano accompanist Nick Fryman, even as the dinner crowd enjoyed a hard-to-fault, sumptuous Gala Golden Jubilee Banquet befitting the occasion.

In the midst of it all shone the emcee for the evening, Harold Tseklenis, who I have decided after seeing him at various informal and formal functions, actually quite resembles Arturo Toscanini. He was at his best that night, I thought, and if I may say so, in his element, as he caused the proceedings, which could easily have sputtered considering such a big, celebratory crowd, to move along.

He at the same time voiced the sentiments of the organizers and the Symphonic Board, as he acknowledged the support of fellow symphony enthusiasts and donors, both local residents and out-of-towners. No one was more vocal in her appreciation of this fact than the widow of Tom Osborne, Joyce, who repeatedly thanked her perennial guests, family friends who "never failed" to come all the way from Burbank to attend performances and functions such as Friday's. She and daughter



Left to right: Sid and Jerry Elicks, and Mary Alice Mandeville. Jerry and Conductor Thomas Osborn founded the orchestra's successful "Music in the Schools" program approximately 13 years ago. Mandeville created more than 60 silent auction baskets for last week's fundraising event.

Carolyn, violin soloist for the Nevertheless, commendation goes orchestra, sat in the same table as us; and, prompted by a question about the circumstances of her late husband's demise, Joyce proceeded to recount their "moment of triumph and fulfillment" at the North Pole after an uncomfortable and unusual "cruise" aboard a Russian icebreaker, to the final moments at LAX when her husband suddenly collapsed dead.

Far be it for me to minimize the contribution made by the silent and live auctions, offering as they did many enticing items and its money equivalents so vital to the Society's operations, still, at least for me, they seemed so post-facto.

to auctioneer and Symphonic stalwart Bill Hare for conducting the auctions like a pro.

Symphonic members and supporters get to celebrate its 50th anniversary all year long, as Downey City Mayor Rick Trejo proclaimed August 2007 through August 2008 as "the Downey Symphony's Golden Jubilee Season." In his proclamation, one of many, Trejo reminded everyone of the Downey Symphony Orchestra's first concert in 1957 held at the Avenue Theater on Downey Avenue. He paid tribute to the symphony orchestra for "presenting wonderful symphonic

music" to the Greater Downey community these past 50 years.

Don Knabe while commending the Society for bringing its "Music in the Schools" program to nearly 22,500 students in the Downey Unified School District, in his proclamation stressed the Society's laudable determination to "continue to provide excellence in the programming and performance of fine music" to the community.

In the end, above the din and hum of the celebration floated, one sensed, a collective, silent wish that the Downey Symphony Orchestra endure for another 50 vibrant years.

### Learn to create letters and flyers

**DOWNEY** – "Beginning Microsoft Word," a free class to teach adults how to quickly compose a simple letter or create a flyer using a home computer, will be offered by the Downey City Library on Oct. 17 from 10:30 a.m. to noon in the computer lab.

Students will learn how to create, select and modify text, as well as how to edit and save documents.

"This class is ideal for the beginning user," said instructor Claudia

For information, call the Adult Desk at (562) 904-7360, ext. 3.

### New book releases at the Downey City Library

#### Fiction

- •"Away" by Amy Bloom. In 1924, a young Jewish immigrant arrives in New York in search of her daughter and a new life in America.
- •"The Bone Garden" by Tess Gerritsen. Julia Hamill is gardening one afternoon when her blade strikes something soft and unyielding - not a rock, but a human skull.
- •"Can't Take My Eyes Off of You" by Jusith McNaught. Years after falling in love, getting married and then divorced, a man and a woman are given a second chance to rebuild their relationship.
- •"Critical" by Robin Cook. A surge of drug-resistant staph infections at several hospitals threaten patients lives as well as the career of Dr. Angela Dawson.
- •"Run" by Ann Patchett. Struggling with single parenthood and a failed political career, Bernard Doyle encounters a violent accident that forces his family to examine their priorities.

### Non≯Fiction

- •"Bad Dogs Have More Fun" by John Grogan. From the author of "Marley and Me," this is a series of newspaper columns with wit and wisdom about pets, family and life.
- •"Come on People: On the Path from Victims to Victors" by Bill Cosby. The beloved entertainer encourages people to move forward in their lives by overcoming low self-esteem, fear and anger.
- •"Here If You Need Me: A True Story" by Kate Braestrup. After the tragic death of her husband, who was a State Trooper and aspiring minister, Kate inspires others by becoming a chaplain for search and rescue missions.
- •"Katie: The Real Story" by Edward Klein. This is a new biography of television journalist Katie Couric, including her career from The Today Show to the CBS Evening News.
- •"My Grandfather's Son: A Memoir" by Clarence Thomas. Justice Thomas recounts his life from his childhood in Georgia and his struggle to get an education to his controversial confirmation to the Supreme Court.

Downey City Library 11121 Brookshire Ave., Downey (562) 904-7360 www.downeylibrary.org

DINING-OUT

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### Fundraiser's success draws praise and thanks

BY JOYCE SHERWIN, DOWNEY SYMPHONY

**DOWNEY** – There was a lot of glitter in the beautiful banquet rooms of Rio Hondo Event Center last Friday evening, glittering gowns, candlelight, the shimmer of satiny table settings, little gold iridescent mesh bags filled with 50 gold M&Ms at each place, brimming auction baskets swathed in ribbon and reflecting cellophane. Friends greeting friends, laughter, a wonderful feast, high spirits.

It was the celebratory Golden Jubilee Banquet, recognizing the 50th year in our community of the Downey Symphony Orchestra. And the hosts, board members of the Symphonic Society, hope that much of that glitter will turn to gold to support the orchestra's continuing presence for the current concert season and for many years to come.

Praise for the fundraiser's success goes to many:

Harold Tseklenis, the genial emcee, coordinated a long roll of introductions, commendations, announcements, prize drawings, and thank

Bill Hare's enthusiastic auctioneering generated lively response from all parts of the room.

Mary Alice Mandeville and Gloria Crum lived and breathed silent auction baskets for weeks, pulling together and coordinating enticements for bidders. The resulting competition was gratifying.

Downey High School's Jazz Ensemble, directed by Cory Olariu, opened the evening with an excellent performance from his 18 instrumentalists, a vivid example of how Downey students' involvement with music can begin in elementary school with the orchestra's Music in the Schools program, co-founded by our late conductor, Tom Osborn, and Jerry Elicks, who was an honored guest.

Singer Don Snyder and accompanist Nick Fryman entertained after

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dessert with panache, warmth, nostalgia, easy professionalism. Mark Shelton and his staff provided watchful yet unobtrusive service

### for each table, and must relay kudos to the kitchen – great food!

A Unique Florist's Terri Head provided inspired centerpieces, silken, airy white orchid plants floating above celadon cachepots.

Pauline Hume sang a traditional Moravian table blessing. Ellie Harrington arranged historical displays. Will Hare's photograph of the orchestra, taken during last year's spring concert, is an outstanding portrait. Symphony President Larry Lewis accepted proclamations from local, country and state politicians.

And the guests. The guests glittered.

The Symphonic Society hopes everyone had a very good time.

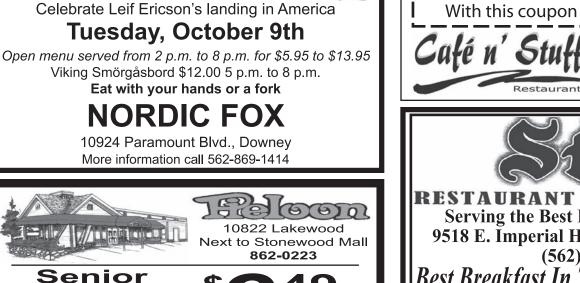
### Harvest Festival tomorrow at church

**DOWNEY** – The Downey United Methodist Church will be hosting their Annual Harvest Festival tomorrow from 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Admission is free and the festival will include a rummage sale, white elephant exchange, baked goods, and food booths. There will also be a children's section with a jumper, sponge toss, face painting, and more.

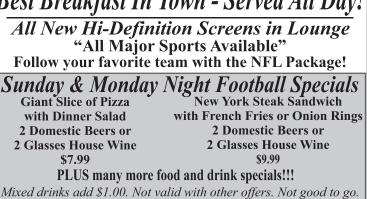
The Downey United Methodist Church is located at 10801 Downey Ave. in Downey.















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## Page 10 Friday, Oct. 5, 2007 Sports

### Razorbacks position themselves for playoffs

By Mike Baumann, Downey Youth Football

**DOWNEY** – As the Razorbacks entered league play in week four, the lower division teams, MityMite (Red and White) and Jr. PeeWee, played poorly against Culver City and Redondo Beach, endangering their chances for playoff berths while the upper division teams (Jr. Midget and Midget) completely outclassed their Culver City Steelers opponents.

The PeeWee Razorbacks got off to a slow start against the Steelers, falling behind 14-0. But the normally strong defense awoke late in the game with an interception of a Steeler pass by Darren McCaughan and a fumble recovery by Tristan Esparza. The offense, led by the running of Esparza, scored two touchdowns of their own. The Steelers held on one of the point after attempts and the Razorbacks fell 14-13.

The Junior Midgets won their third game in a row with a 30-0 thrashing of the Steelers. David Saenz scampered for two five-yard TD's and capped the day with a 20-yard dash for another score. Late in the game, a fumble recovery by Andrew Zepatos led to the final Razorback score, a seven-yard dash by Jared Williams. The Jr. Midgets are now 3-1 for the season, and have scored 30 points or more in the last two games.

The undefeated Midget Razorbacks did little wrong in handing Culver City a thorough thrashing. Andrew Magana's accurate passing and the strong running from the Hog running backs kept the Steelers confused all day. After a long pass/run from Magana to Jabari Ruffin, Shane Baumann began the touchdown barrage on the toss play. Dwayne Franklin followed with a 50-yard dash. Baumann followed with a 40-yard scamper, and the Hogs led 18-0 at the half.

The defensive play, particularly of Michael De La Cruz, Ruffin, and Sam Austin completely stifled the Steelers. In the third quarter, Magana's toss to Ryan McFaddin took the ball deep into Steeler territory where Derek Smith's run made the score 24-0. Another 52-yard jaunt by Dwayne Franklin made the score 32-0. Razorback James Bettencourt then picked up a loose football and the Hogs were again on their way. A Magana to Jerry Huff pass led to Dominick Cortez's driving TD, and the Hogs capped the scoring with another touchdown by Alex Martinez. The final score was

The majority of the teams travel to Cabrillo High School tomorrow to participate in league games.



The Warren High School Band and Color Guard hold up a thank you sign thanking the community for their continued support. The 139-student squad walked the neighborhoods of Downey asking for donations to help support the program. In exchange for donations, residents received a Warren High Band decal. Over the three-day Decal Drive. the program collected over \$12,800 in donations. If you missed their visit and would like to donate, send your donations to the Warren High School Band Boosters, 8141 De Palma St. Downey, 90241.

### Downey cheer clinic tomorrow

DOWNEY - The Downey High School cheerleaders will offer their annual cheerleading clinic tomorrow from 8:30 a.m. to noon inside 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

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.

### Stretching out the Win



Warren's Matt Clouser stretches out for a pass during last Friday's game versus La Serna. The Bears won, 22-17. Photo by Art Montoya

### Warren holds on late, slides past La Serna

By Scott Cobos, Contributor

**DOWNEY** – In what was expected to be a tough game, Warren High School managed to hold on in the final minutes of the fourth quarter in their 22-17 win over a tough La Serna team.

Once again, a young enthusiastic Bear defense proved to be the difference in the game, allowing only two touchdowns and forcing a safety.

At first, La Serna appeared to be pumped up and ready to go, but Warren's defense kept them quiet the whole game.

While the defense was doing their job, Warren's offense found its stride and scored often enough to bring home the win.

Quarterback Alphonso Gonzalez had another effective night behind center completing 15 of 24 pass attempts for 193 yards. Gonzalez is also starting to rack up the touchdowns, throwing for three more in this game. Sophomore Jesse Callier is filling in very nicely for injured running

back Nate Colbert. Callier ran the ball 25 times for 172 yards in what could possibly be a preview of the future of Warren's running backs.

Warren has a bye this week but will be opening up their regular season schedule next week.

Downey's fortune wasn't as great as they continue to struggle offensively and defensively. In a game that started with problems right away,

the Vikings sustained their search for an identity in a 42-13 loss. Plagued by more turnovers and penalties, the Vikings were unable to

stop the bleeding, struggling to pass or run the ball. Defensively, more problems are starting to come to surface as they gave up 40 plus points for a second consecutive game.

Downey's road is only going to get tougher as they host Santa Fe tonight at 7 p.m.

### SGVL not much different from last season

By Scott Cobos, Contributor

**DOWNEY** – If memory serves me correctly, I was not far off from predicting the final standings from last year's San Gabriel Valley League play. Last year I had Dominguez finishing at top, Downey following, Gahr third, Warren fourth, Lynwood fifth and Paramount last.

OK, so I flipped Gahr and Lynwood in the standings from last year. No one's perfect so cut me a little slack please? I'm a sports writer. If I had a million dollars for every time a sports writer was actually completely correct about something, I'd be poor. But here are my picks for this year's season if I were a betting man...which I'm not.

The Dominguez Dons look to defend their championship from a year ago with the same formula from last year, that formula being an overpowering running game, an effective passing game and a physically brutal defense. There's one thing Dominguez brings to the table every year and that's an athletic team. They're big, strong and fast. What used to be an undisciplined program has quickly turned into the pride of the division.

Dominguez has only gotten better from a year ago with returning running back Marcus Darden. Darden is averaging over 8 yards a carry and over 100 yards a game. The question is not whether they will take the division, it's who will challenge them in a game.

The young Warren Bears struggled last year under the return of head coach Jeff Welch. No one was looking for miracles last year, but now a year older and a year wiser, profits are starting to come in from the revamping of a program that had problems the year before. Warren doesn't surprise anyone with what they throw at you, but instead do it so well you can't stop it anyhow. Don't be shocked if you find yourself saying "run boy run" the whole time you're watching the Bears because that's what they're known to do offensively.

Defensively, the Bears are a young energetic group of kids who are fun to watch. They'll hit you in the teeth, brush the dirt off their uniforms and get ready to do it again. Look for the Bears to be the runner-ups.

Another very athletic team resides in the Gahr Gladiators. The boys from Cerritos take their high-flying act into league play and hope that the results are better this year than last. Gahr's passing game looks sharp again in preseason but it did last year in preseason as well. Gladiator quarterback Corey Nielson is averaging over 300 yards a game passing and completing over 65 percent of his passes. If Gahr can find the confidence in their

selves to compete in the SGVL, they will be a very dangerous team. Gahr scores a lot of points which is the good thing, but the bad thing is they give up a ton as well. I ventured a guess last year and had them as my surprise pick to finish third, and I'm going to do so again this year.

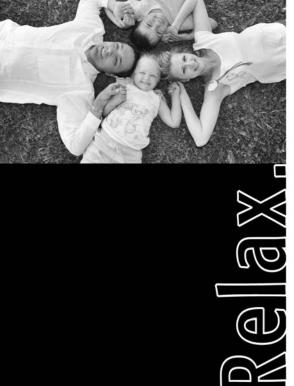
Look deeper than the 0-4 record that Lynwood sports because it's a terrible gauge of what this team can do. Granted the Knights do still have their problems, they haven't played any easy teams. Lynwood has played some heavy hitting teams and have stayed close in most of the games until losing some of them in the end. Lynwood is normally pretty scrappy and could surprise a few teams this year with their grit. A fourth place finish would only be fitting for this team.

Unless the Downey Vikings figure out their problems and fix them immediately, this could be a tough season. A new head coach, a new quarterback, the loss of an all-star running back and the loss of many defensive starters add up to many unanswered questions. Mainly, will the transition from the end of an era to the beginning of another be seamless? So far, all signs point to no. But just like last year with Warren's head coach, you can't expect miracles in a first year. The drop off does seem to be rather dramatic so far. Not only that, Downey who was run heavy last year decided to flip flop and try their luck through the air this year.

If this team figures out how to change the gears they'll be OK, but if not, we're looking at a possible fifth place finish.

Finally, the Paramount Pirates have always been a scrappy little bunch. They'll bite, scrape and beat their way to a win if they have to. Unfortunately for them, this strategy hasn't boded well for them. Without a doubt, they will frustrate teams this year but probably won't have enough firepower to score enough points to bring in the wins they need to climb out from the cellar. Sixth place stares them in the eye unless something dramatic happens.





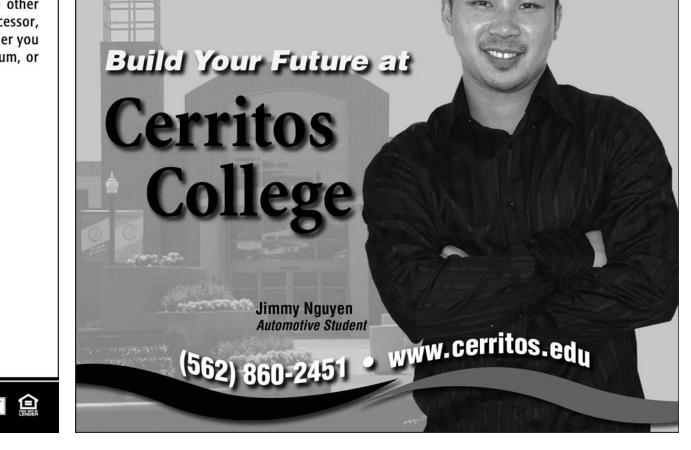
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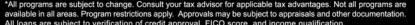


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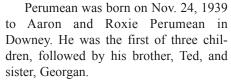




## Obituaries Page 11 Friday, Oct. 5, 2007

### Stanley Aaron Perumean survived by large family

**DOWNEY** – Stanley Aaron Perumean, a former Downey High School football player who took part in the 1956 CIF Championship game at the Los Angeles Coliseum – a game that broke the attendance record for a California high school sporting event - died June 30 from complications resulting from cancer.



Perumean played offensive and defensive tackle for Downey High School. His highlight was the 1956 CIF Championship game.

He later attended Santa Ana Junior College where he played football for two more years.

He married Carol on Aug. 15, 1959 and together they lived in Downey. They had three children, Mark, Stacy and Bob.

Perumean was in the commercial disposal business and in 1963 joined Bel-Art Paper Stock. He then became a partner in Art's Disposal Service. He managed, operated and assisted in building the company for over 25

In 1993, Perumean was placed into the leadership of the First Armeniam Pentecostal Church.

Perumean is survived by his wife of 48 years, Carol; children, Mark (Vart) Perumean, Stacy (Tom) Caines, and Bob (Stacy) Perumean; brother, Ted (Sallie) Perumean; sister, Georgan (Russell) Browning; six grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

### Madeline Iacovitti played bingo here

DOWNEY - Madeline Iacovitti, a longtime Downey resident and former employee at Gallatin Medical Center, died Sept. 24.

Iacovitti was born in Providence, R.I. on Nov. 13, 1924 and moved with her family to Los Angeles when she was 7 years old. She got her first job working for Catalina Swimsuits in Los Angeles when she was 17, and worked there until she married Tom Iacovitti, her husband of 53 years, on Oct. 25, 1953.



The family moved to Downey on July

4, 1959. After a break of over 20 years, she went back to work in the late 70's, working for a time at Chancellor Lyon-Auto Parts in Santa Fe Springs and later at Gallatin Medical Center in Downey. She retired for good in 1991 at the age of 67.

She was a member of St. Raymond's Church, and all of her kids attended school there. She enjoyed playing bingo and was a regular at the Knight's of Columbus on Tuesday evenings and later at the Woman's Club on Thursday afternoons.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Tom, who died on Jan. 7 of

She is survived by her daughter, Frances; sons, Paul (Andrea), Mike (Wanda) and Frank; and grandchildren, Christina, Matthew and Alex.

Vigil services will be held at Downey Zrelak Family Mortuary on Oct. Oct. 13 at 10 a.m.

### Service academy workshop Oct. 27

DOWNEY - Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard will host her annual "Informational U.S. Service Academy Workshop" at the Downey City Library on Oct. 27 at 8:30 a.m.

The service academy is for those interested in earning a university degree in return for five years of service in the military.

Academy representatives and current students will be at the free workshop to answer questions regarding eligibility requirements, cadet life,

academics, athletics and career opportunities after graduation. Visitors will also learn how to obtain a congressional nomination for

service academies.

### Johnie's Broiler cruise planned Oct. 14

**DOWNEY** – A "Holy Ghost Cruise" to "help rebuild Harvey's Broiler" is planned for Oct. 14. Cruisers will depart Bob's Big Boy in Burbank at 9:30 a.m., making their way to Johnie's Broiler in Downey.

The event is being coordinated by the Coalition to Save the Broiler. Bob's Big Boy is located at 4211 Riverside Dr. in Burbank. For more information, visit www.saveharveysbroiler.com.

### Sy Egge was WWII veteran in Coast Guard

**DOWNEY** – Edward Syrus (Sy) Egge, Downey resident for 44 years, passed away on Sept. 26 at the age of 91.

Egge married Gwendolyn in 1942 and during their 65 years of marriage raised a family, traveled almost all of the United States, worked with scout and church youths, and square-danced and bowled for many years.

Egge held the rank of Chief Machinist Mate in the Coast Guard during World War II. He often talked of his experiences in the Philippines as well as his service at

the Lighthouse on the breakwater in San Pedro. In 1955, he opened Egge Marine Service, an engine repair business still run by his son.

He enjoyed camping, fishing and hunting in the High Sierras.

Egge is survived by his wife, Gwen; daughter and son-in-law, Roberta and John; son and daughter-in-law, Ed and Nancy; six grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

A memorial service was held Oct. 2 at Forest Lawn in Cypress. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations to the City of Hope, Downey United Methodist Church, Glazier Elementary School Science Camp, or your favorite charity.

### William Whittaker passes away peacefully

DOWNEY - William Joseph Whittaker, a Downey resident for 50 years, died peacefully at his home Sept. 23. He was 59.

Whittaker was born Aug. 29, 1948 in Warren, Ohio. He was a selfemployed handyman.

He is survived by his daughter, Cheryl Torres; mother, Beryl Jean Burgess; sisters, Judith Brown of Hesperia and Jamie Tapparo of Pico Rivera; three grandchildren; and 25 nieces and nephews.

Visitation was held Monday and services were Tuesday at Miller-Mies Mortuary and burial was at Rose Hills Memorial Park.

### Fredarica Thimmes traveled with husband

DOWNEY - Fredarica (Ricki) Thimmes, a Downey resident for 53 years, passed away Sept. 21 in Willow Springs, Mo. She was 84.

Thimmes was born April 4, 1923 in Summerville, Mo. to Fred and Ida Smith. She had two brothers and three sisters.

At about the age of 20, Thimmes and her brother, Buck, rode a Greyhound bus to Pasadena to live with their oldest sister, Vera. Fredarica took a job at Lockheed working on the wiring in the cockpit of planes.

Fredarica married Bob in February 1946. Together they lived in Navy housing eventually settling in Bell. In 1953 the couple bought their first and only home in Downey.

Bob worked for the Chrysler Corporation before going to work for the UAW. Bob's work required a lot of traveling, and so the couple traveled extensively.

After Bob passed away in 1972, Fredarica continued traveling with her brothers and sisters, often visiting their cabin in Landers.

Fredarica is survived by her sister, Willowdean Turner of Oklahoma; 12. A funeral service will be held at St. Raymond's Catholic Church on nieces, Sharon Bales of Mountain View, Mo. And Wanda Scher of Temecula; and friends and neighbors Wayne Chambers, Larry Reed and Maria Cortez.

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Services took place Sept. 29 at Rose Hills Memorial Park.





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### LRMC's new CT scanner reduces 'closed-in' feeling

LAKEWOOD - Lakewood Regional Medical Center (LRMC) has added the SOMATOM Sensation scanner from Siemens Medical Solutions USA to their radiology department. The new CT scanner improves diagnosis and treatment of patients in the Lakewood and Long Beach area.

The new scanner provides improved image quality while reducing Xray dose to the patient, hospital officials said. The scanner's design eliminates the closed-in feeling some patients associate with CT scanning.

"Our new CT scanner provides us with outstanding diagnostic information by enabling us to perform Multi-slice CT on a routine basis," said Janet Verdugo, Administrative Director of Radiology at LRMC. "For example, we can now scan geriatric and trauma patients in a single breath hold, which results in more accurate diagnosis while also reducing examination time and increasing patient comfort. It allows us to take care of our patients in the best way and in a patient friendly environment.

"The SOMATOM Sensation also allows the center to expand diagnostic services to substantially more patients in the region than ever before."

### Join OLPH Guild on trip to the casino

**DOWNEY** – Our Lady of Perpetual Help Women's Guild is sponsoring a day trip to Fantasy Springs Resort & Casino in Palm Springs on Oct. 16. The bus will depart at 7:30 a.m. Travelers will spend five hours at the

casino before arriving home around 5:30 p.m. The casino offers slot machines, table games, a poker room, large arcade and bowling. Various dining choices are also available, including

the Pizza Kitchen and their New York style pizza; The Café, offering salads, burgers, panini sandwiches, ribs and more; the Fresh Grill Buffet and their chocolate fountain dessert bar; and Starbucks.

The cost to attend is \$10, which includes \$10 in casino play. Visitors must be 21 or over. For tickets, call Sally Johnson at (562) 861-8370.

### San Manuel Casino trip on October 30

**DOWNEY** – The Downey Emblem Club #309 invites the community to participate in a fundraising trip to San Manuel Casino on Oct. 30.

Bingo will be played on the way to and from San Manuel Casino, with proceeds benefiting numerous Downey scholarships and organizations.

A bus will be leaving the Downey Elks Lodge parking lot at 8 a.m. and will return around 5 p.m. Cost is \$6 for members and \$11 for non-members. For information, call Nancy Watson at (562) 413-6414, or Mary Guzman at (562) 622-1003.

### Downey Sports Reunion Oct. 12

DOWNEY - A Downey Sports Reunion will be held Oct. 12 at the Embassy Suites, with a special recognition for the Downey High School 1958 CIF Championship football team.

A section of the Downey High School stadium will be set aside for members of the reunion who want to attend that night's game.

The reunion will start at 5:30 p.m. For information, call Lash Stevenson at (650) 345-5274 or visit www.lashsplace.com.



ProNetworkers of Downey Join us each Friday at 7:15am Mimi's Cafe, Downey 8455 Firestone Blvd www.ProNetworkers.com



**QWEST Homework Assistance** 11530 Lakewood Blvd. Downey, CA 90241 www.qwesthomework.com

### Volunteer

To Keep Downey Clean and Beautiful All cleanups are from 9 a.m.-10 a.m.

Join in to clean up the sidewalks and surrounding areas. Bags, gloves & safety vests will be provided Meet us in the following parking lots:

October 20 @ Lakewood Blvd. & Firestone

Parking Lot - behind Carl's Junior

November 17 @ Independence Park

12334 Bellflower Blvd.

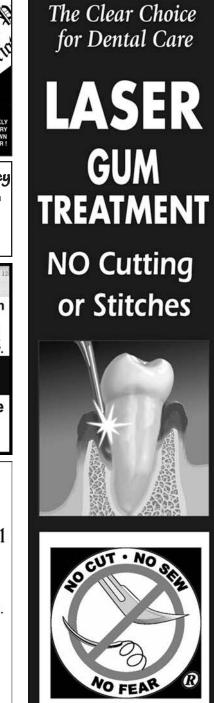
December 15 @ Los Amigos Strip Mall

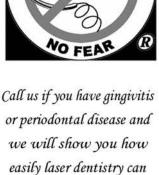
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## Page 12 Friday, Oct. 5, 2007 Classified/Real Estate \_\_\_\_ The Downey Patriot

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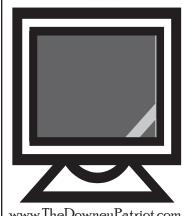
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## Real Estate Page 13 Friday, Oct. 5, 2007

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• Sun. 2 to 5 7816 Harper, Downey By Furman Park 4 bed.-3 bath asking \$799,900 • Sat. 2 to 5 11718 Old River School Road 2 bed.-2bath asking \$500,000 • Sun. 2 to 5 9734 Wiley-Burke, Downey

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**DOWNEY** 

3 bedroom, 1 bath, rumpus room, big 9000 sq ft lot. Seller will help with some closing costs. Asking \$649,500. Call for more info (562)923-5507.

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Very clean, ready to move in. 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, central A/C, remodeled kitchen & bath, laminate floors. Reduced to \$423,000.

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"Our house sold in 4 days! This is the second time we used Steve Roberson and we are very please with the results!"- Susan & Ray Medlen

"Maria Zuloaga did a wonderful job! She was always professional. I will refer my friends and relatives to her and use her for my future real estate transactions"- Melissa Hayes

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**TOP LISTING** Lilian Lopez & Lorena Amaya



**TOP PRODUCTION Edwin** Huber



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### Weekend Open Houses 2bd/1ba - 1359 E. 43rd St. – Los Angeles

4bd/2ba - 11722 Leibacher Ave. – Norwalk 4bd/4ba - 10719 Richeon – Downey

3bd/2ba - 10728 Clancey Ave. – Downey 4bd/3ba - 8554 Raviller Dr. – Downey

3bd/2ba - 10512 Julius Ave. – Downey

3bd/2ba - 10719 Haledon Ave. – Downey 4bd/3ba - 7606 Glencliff Ave. – Downey

2 Units - 8042 Madison – Paramount 3 Units - 2798 Laurel Pl. – South Gate 4bd/2ba - 9203 Garnish Dr. – Downey

3bd/2.5ba - 1312 Healther Ln. – Duarte 2bd/1ba -11820 Garfield Ave. South Gate 3bd/2ba - 5918 Otis Ave. – Huntington Park 4bd/2.5bd - 17002 Dolphin St. – Fontana 3bd/2ba - 9253 Cedartree – Downey 3bd/2ba - 10700 Cassina Ave. - South Gate 3bd/2.5ba - 14148 Orizaba – Paramount 3bd/1ba - 11022 Davenrich – Santa Fe Springs

3bd/1ba - 1341 W. 54th St. – Los Angeles

3bd/1ba - 3817 Abbott Ave. – Lynwood • 3bd/1ba - 11215 Crossdale Ave. – Norwalk • 4bd/3ba - 2578 Tuscany – Fullerton

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## Page 14 Friday, Oct. 5, 2007 Real Estate



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<u>Remodeled in 2004.</u> Recently remodeled. 1100 Sq. Ft., & a 6,750 Sq. Ft. lot. PRICED AT: \$550,000



Look No Further! 3 BD. 2 BA home near Downey on Studebaker, Price Reduced! NOW ONLY: \$414,999 all Jimmy Spathos Today @ 562 -400-2148







low vacancy rate! Reduced Price!





Corporate Owned! ,737 Sq. Ft. New roof, copper plumbing, newer central air Must see! \$565,000



Upgraded Throughout!
3 BD, 2.5 BA, N. Downey home w/ family room v/ cathedral ceilings, french doors, master suite, office 2,161 sq. ft. Priced at: \$695,000 - \$710,000





Orange Estates! on a 7,548 sq ft lot. Priced at: \$595,000 Across from Golf Course and close to everything!







**Drastic Price Reduction!** 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. NOW \$575,000 562.533.7433

see Virtual Tour @ www.MarioPersico.con



Looking For a Real Deal? 3 BD. 2 BA. remodeled kitchen & baths, hardwood floors. dual pane windows, & full copper plumbing. Sellers are motivated & need to sacrifice this home A.S.A.P. All for \$485,000 - WOW!

ee Virtual Tour @ www.MarioPersico.con



Make Your Offer Now! 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.con



562.533.7433 see Virtual Tour @ www.MarioPersico.com Born in Downey\*Raised in Downey Lives in Downey\*Worships in Downey





Condo Living! Lovely South Gate Condo with new paint, new carpet, 3 BD, 2 1/2 BA, & 2 car garage. Priced to Sell: \$379,900 Call Carrie Uva Today! @ 562,382,1252



Home Sweet Home! Charming Downey home with 3 BD, 1.75 BA, hardwood floors remodeled bathroom, lovely backyard & patio Priced to Sell: \$557,000



**Downey Duplex!** 2 units featuring 1 unit w/ 2 BD, 2 BA, laundry room, & living room. Other unit w/ 1 BD, 1 BA, & 2 car garage. 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, laundy come car garage. Priced @: \$699,900



Decorator Perfect! Gorgeous 3 BD, 1.75 BA, home in North Downey Remodeled kitchen, custom interior paint, hardwood floors, patio & lovely backyard. Priced to Sell @ \$714,900 Call Carrie Uva TODAY! @ 562.382.1252

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### Feature of the Week



4 bed, 3.5 bath home with open floorplan featuring large great room, formal dining room, spacious kitchen with granite countertops and stainless steel appliances, large master bedroom with walk-in closet and full bath, recessed lighting, central air & heat, security system, and new flooring. The property was professionally landscaped and has a long driveway with a 2 car detached garage. **REDUCED TO \$699,999!** Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com

Bed, Bath, and Beyond - with Pool! 3 bed, 2 bath, newer windows, newer roof, 1930 sq ft, 7503 sq ft lot, pool. Price: \$799,950 Call Michael Berdelis at (562) 818-6111



<u>"Welcome to the Island"</u> 3 BR, 2BA Downey home with 600 sq ft guest room, remodeled kitchen, spa, and circular driveway. Price: \$625,000 Call Michael Berdelis at (562) 818-6111



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

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



One of a Kind! 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 Call Michael Berdelis at (562) 818-6111



Classic Tuscan Country Estate 6 BD, 4.5 BA, over 5,000 sq ft, 14,600 Sq. Ft. Lot, on a private secluded street in North Downey. Price: \$1,995,000

Call Michael Berdelis at (562) 818-6111



Charm! Charm! Charm! 4 bed with den & bonus room, 2 baths, approx 2200 sq ft living space, near Stonewood Mall, Rio San Gabriel Elem & East Middle Price: \$695,000

Call Michael Berdelis at (562) 818-6111



3bed, 2 bath Downey home w/ new kitchen w/ corian countertops, hardwood floors, large master bedroom, new windows, and large yard w/ fruit trees. Price \$535,000



"Spectacular New Construction" Spectacular New Construction. 5 bed, 4 bath, 3900 sq ft, 7500 sq ft lot, many amazing upgrades. Price \$1,399,000.

Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com



**Downey 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



<u>So Much For So Little!</u> 3 bed, 2 bath pool home with extra large 2 car detached garage on quiet street in Downey.

Price: \$679,950 Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com

Home is 2,189 sq ft on a 7,380 sq ft lot.



"Guest Ouarters!" 3 BD, 2 BA, Downey home w/ large guest house including kitchen and bathroom

Priced at: \$659,900 Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com

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