



The Downey Patriot



Charter Ball raises \$125K
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Vikings no match for mighty Bears
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iPods big this holiday season
See Page 4

Friday, November 9, 2007

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

A collection far more valuable than its worth

■ Action figure collection pays tribute to military heroes past and present.

By BROOKE KARLI
STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY – If you had the time and money to invest in collectibles, what would they be? Would you collect baseball cards? Postage stamps? Barbie dolls?

Well, Vicente (Vince) Diaz, Jr., a Vietnam-era veteran, spends his time and money on collecting wartime action figures, more commonly known as G.I. Joe's. His collection includes 120 1/6th-scale military figures, spanning American warfare from the Revolutionary War to the present War in Iraq. The collection also consists of wartime weapons, equipment and vehicles.

Although Vince, 54, liked G.I. Joe's as a child growing up in the sixties, he didn't start his collection until 2001, when he realized how fond he was of the wartime figurines.

"G.I. Joe's are no longer considered toys, but rather museum-quality collector's items," said Vince, a 20-year Downey resident.



"They represent part of who I am and part of what many men and women represent in our military."

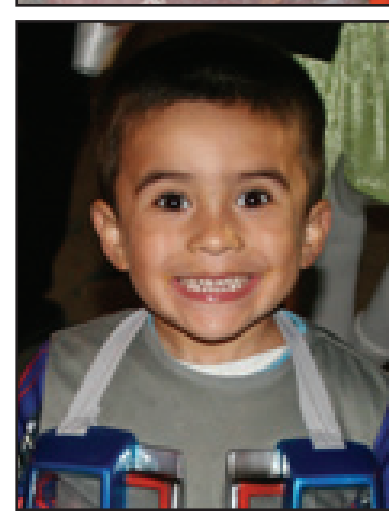
Vince often purchases the figurines at conventions, where Internet distributors provide a wide range of selection. When he started his collection six years ago, figures cost, on average, \$30. Now, the going rate is \$100.

"I collect them because I like them, not because of the monetary value," Vince said. "My collection is worth over \$5,000, but it's worth so much more than any dollar amount."

For the past three years, in honor of Veterans Day, Vince has displayed part of his collection at the Norwalk Regional Library.

See **TRIBUTE**, page 3

Snapshots from the pumpkin patch



Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center drew thousands of children to its Halloween pumpkin patch this year. The annual event is touted as a safer alternative to trick-or-treating and featured food, games, and of course, lots of candy. The patch was sponsored by the Optimist and Soroptimist Clubs of Downey. Photos by Greg Waskul

Margo Hoffer Hall dedicated at DHS

By HENRY VENERACION
STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY — Talking about Margo Hoffer, his "dear friend and colleague for 23 years" and after whom a spanking-new science building was about to be dedicated at Downey High School on Oct. 24, DUSD board member Donald La Plante said: "In her years on the board, Margo was always a steady and calming influence on the district, as well as a force for the issues she was passionate about."

These issues included, said La Plante, making sure the district was enabling every graduating student to go to the college of their choice, and that it brought in the right persons to "take Downey Unified to even greater heights" (as in the choice of Dr. Ed Sussman for the superintendent's position, or in championing Dr. Wendy Doty's

return to Downey when he retired). Among her great qualities, he said, was she never failed to pay tribute and thank members of the community for their contributions. Also, she used the time afforded her by her husband's successful career to serve on numerous boards and committees throughout the community.

Summing up her service on the board, LaPlante said Margo served in all of the board officer positions—clerk, vice-president and president—at least four times, while also serving as treasurer of the Los Angeles County School Trustees Association. The two came to the DUSD board of education together in 1979.

"When I called her to inform her of the naming of the building," LaPlante said, "Margo was her See **HOFFER**, page 3



DUSD Superintendent Dr. Wendy Doty, left, and school board member Donald La Plante flank Margo Hoffer, after whom Downey High School's new hall is named after. Photo courtesy Stan Hanstad



Students at East Middle School participated in a "Jog-A-Thon" to raise money for victims of the Southern California wildfires. The kids, which received assistance from faculty members including P.E. teacher Mike Greene, left, have raised \$10,000 and counting. Photo by Brooke Karli

Students run for a cause close to home

■ East Middle School students excited to help victims of Southern California wildfires.

By BROOKE KARLI, STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY – Uniforms were on. Shoelaces were tied. Ponytails were tightened. They were off and running. Shouting their numbers as they passed the check point – "351," "24!," "56!" – another lap was recorded.

This particular class was one of many participating in East Middle School's Jog-A-Thon, benefiting victims of the Southern California wildfires.

Following some of the most devastating wildfires in California history, the school's Physical Education Department decided to host an event that would not only benefit those in need, but also promote physical fitness.

"Every student was affected by the fires," said Sheri Martin, East Middle School P.E. teacher. "Some had relatives that lost their homes or were displaced, and every student felt the effects of not being able to participate in outdoor activities due to poor air quality."

Every P.E. class participated in last Friday's event, with at least four – but no more than six – classes on the field at one time. Each lap was just shy of a quarter-mile and students could run, walk or jog each lap, as long as they were constantly moving. Students could run as much as they wanted, but had to run a minimum, a number provided by their teacher.

"I think it's good for everyone to run and help the people that lost their homes," said Sara Hemsath, East Middle School seventh grader. "It feels good to know that we are helping."

Some of the kids were so excited, they came to school in their P.E. uniforms, bypassing the time normally used to change and heading straight for the field, Martin said.

See **JOG-A-THON**, page 2

Drugs, guns & thugs: A day with Downey PD

By ERIC PIERCE, CITY EDITOR

DOWNEY – When Downey police officer J. Gomez received the call from dispatch of three people breaking into cars at Doug's Tug, a towing service on the outer reaches of East Downey, near the SEAACA animal shelter, he first suspected transients living along the adjacent riverbed, which encroaches into Norwalk.

But when the description squawked over the radio and blinked on the monitor of his in-car laptop, "three males, 15-20 years old, shaved heads and wearing plaid shirts," Gomez changed his mind.

It could be meth addicts, scrounging for car radios they could pawn for quick and easy cash. Riding shotgun with Gomez, I nodded my head and eagerly concurred – we had learned all about methamphetamine addicts in the Downey Police Department's Citizens Academy.

This past Monday, I was on a late night police ride-along with Gomez for an unfiltered view of crime on Downey streets.

As we made our way to the tow yard, more and more information trickled in from dispatch. The crooks had apparently punched the witness who called 911, and took off running eastbound.

A sergeant on duty ordered a perimeter be established. Gomez stationed himself at Regentview and Downey-Norwalk Road, while his partners staked the San Gabriel River. The Sheriff's Department, listening in on the radio frequency, offered their help and dispatched a helicopter.

An officer on foot spotted somebody ducking between vehicles at the CalMet plant on Downey-Norwalk Road. The perimeter tightened.

A CalMet employee reported hearing footsteps on the roof, and a door was found kicked in. The Sheriff's helicopter swooped down low for a birds-eye view and swept the property with its bright light, but found nobody.

Officers would have to go in on foot.

Gomez unlocked the MP5 sub-machine gun fastened inside his car

and cradled it in his arms as he huddled with fellow comrades for a strategy plan. The CalMet plant, an expansive triangle of land ripe with wooden shacks and industrialized buildings, was still busy even at 6:30 p.m., with the last of its lingering employees walking about, wrapping up the day's business.

In a team of three, the officers canvassed the sprawling property. There was a myriad of places for the thieves to hide – underneath dump trucks, inside Dumpsters, behind storage sheds – and the officers were having little luck in finding them.

After more than an hour of fruitless hunting, the search was grudgingly called off. The thieves, police had to concede, had gotten away.

And just like that, Gomez and I were back in his Unit 33 squad car, back to patrolling Downey streets, back to being (more often than not) a reactive force to local crime.

The next couple of hours were mundane compared to the high-adrenaline moments experienced with hunting down a cowering sus-

pect. There was a call from J.J.'s Burgers on Imperial Highway about a group of rowdy kids, a resident on Nada Street reported his car being pelted with eggs and shaving cream, and a couple of lovebirds were found nestling in a steamed up car at Crawford Park.

But things became interesting again after 911 dispatchers received a call about a burglary at Ward Elementary School. We were at Treasure Island Park the time the call came through, driving through the commons and looking to drive out any late night pot smokers.

By the time we made it across town to Ward, the search for the burglar had moved south to the 105 Freeway where witnesses claimed to have seen a black man carrying a tan backpack jump into the freeway shrubbery. The underbrush was incredibly thick and prickly. Again, other law enforcement agencies offered their help.

The California Highway Patrol (CHP) closed off the 105 onramp to Lakewood Boulevard, while the Sheriff's Department sent three K- See **POLICE RIDE**, page 11



Cody McAlister, 16, will be honored at an Eagle Court of Honor ceremony tomorrow at 7 p.m. at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 10511 Paramount Blvd. McAlister is a junior at Warren High School.



The Patchwork Players will present "Ghost Stories and Not So Scary Stories" at the Downey Library on Thursday at 7 p.m. as part of Children's Book Week.

JOG-A-THON

Continued from page 1

Students raised money by seeking sponsorships from family, friends and neighbors. Those interested in helping could do so by providing a flat donation, or donating a certain amount per lap.

Thus far, the students raised \$10,000, all of which will be donated to the Salvation Army, who will in turn donate 100 percent of the proceeds to wildfire victims.

Students that raised the most money were Andrew Morales, Anthony Sanchez, Anne Choi, James Ziegenbein, Erica Chon, Ravi Patel and Shelsey Padilla.

The event gained school-wide support, as well as support from the community. The school's cafeteria provided orange slices for the kids and many of the teachers sponsored the students. Parents and siblings of some of the students, as well as Downey firefighters, also participated in the event, either running alongside the students or cheering them on.

Community sponsors, who either donated money or products, include Alin Paper Co.; Downey Federal Credit Union; Downey Fire Department Station #4; Frantone's Pizza and Spaghetti Villa; Hollywood Video; Hometown Buffet; Majestic Trophy; Mimi's Café; and the medical staff of Pacific Hospital of Long Beach.

Business author featured at Nordic Fox

DOWNEY – The Nov. 27 Rise 'N Shine Networking Group will feature guest speaker Sanford Kahn, business author and speaker.

Kahn will discuss "13 Great Economic Business Myths That Dominate Our Lives." The meeting starts at 7:30 a.m. at Nordic Fox.

Cost is an order from the menu.

To RSVP, or for information, call (562) 923-2191.

Network group talks banking, travel

DOWNEY – Leigh Clausen of Gateway Business Bank and Robert Zavala of Freedom Vacations will be speaking at the next Rise 'N Shine Networking Group on Tuesday at 7:30 a.m. at Nordic Fox.

Cost is an order from the menu.

To RSVP, or for information, call (562) 923-2191.

Bar celebrates two years with mixer

DOWNEY – George's Restaurant & Bar will be hosting a 2nd Year Anniversary Celebration on Nov. 15 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

The Downey Chamber of Commerce Mixer will include refreshments, entertainment, and prizes. Admission is free.

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

Library celebrates Children's Book Week

DOWNEY – The Downey City Library will celebrate Children's Book Week Nov. 12-16.

Children will be able to visit with "The Pokey Little Puppy" on Tuesday and Wednesday from 10 to 10:30 a.m. and 11 to 11:30 a.m.; Thursday from 7 to 7:30 p.m. and 8 to 8:30 p.m.; and Friday from 3 to 3:30 p.m.

Special events during the week will also include a preschool storytime on Tuesday at 10:30 a.m., as well as a bilingual storytime on Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. Children ages 3 to 12 are invited to attend "Ghost Stories and Not So Scary Stories," performed by the Patchwork Players, on Thursday from 7 to 7:45 p.m. And finally, on Friday, children ages 5 to 12 are invited to watch "Bridge to Terabithia," a movie based on the book written by Katherine Patterson.

For information, call (562) 904-7360, ext. 4.



A Warren High School student tries to grab as much money as possible as it swirls around in Downey Federal Credit Union's "Grab for Cash" promotion.

Students 'grab for cash' during lunch break

DOWNEY – Downey Federal Credit Union sponsored a \$500 "Grab for Cash" promotion on Oct. 30 using a money machine at Warren High School during the school's two lunch periods.

The promotion coincided with the opening of the credit union student branch on campus.

Wearing safety goggles, 43 Warren High School students had the opportunity to grab for \$250 in bills swirling around the machine within a 20-second time period during each of the two lunch periods. Students were allowed to take only what they could grab with their hands as the bills swirled around the seven-foot machine.

The purpose of the event was to promote the credit union and to encourage students to deposit their winnings in a Downey Federal Credit Union account.

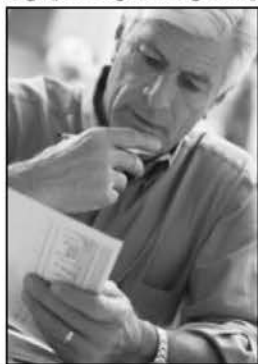
"Downey Federal Credit Union and Warren High School have formed a community partnership with the student branch and the opportunity to educate students on financial literacy," said Warren High School Assistant Principal Don Rounds.

"We are happy to be on the campus of Warren High School where our presence can make a difference in the community with students, parents and teachers," said Barbara Lamberth, president and CEO of Downey Federal Credit Union.

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The new Margo Hoffer Hall at Downey High School boasts 31 classrooms, two computer labs, a teacher's lounge, teacher's workroom, and a storage room. It cost \$10 million and was paid for through a bond measure approved by voters in 2002. Photo courtesy Stan Hanstad

HOFFER

Continued from page 1

usual modest self. There were others who were more deserving. She really didn't want this honor. She hadn't earned it. I told her we had already decided, and that there was no point in arguing. She finally acquiesced to our decision. It was a good thing. The only thing I had left was to tell her that we had already ordered the letters and unless she could find someone whose name was an anagram of Margo Hoffer, she was stuck."

The new Margo Hoffer Hall reportedly boasts 31 science and math classrooms, two computer labs (one donated by Kiwanis), a teacher's lounge, a teacher's storage room, and teacher workrooms.

"It's a beautiful building," gushed Asst. Superintendent-Personnel Services Stan Hanstad, "and properly landscaped. What's more, it was completed on schedule and on budget."

At a cost of \$10 million, funding came, said Asst. Superintendent-Business Services Kevin Condon, from a local bond, Measure D, passed in 2002, and matched by the state building program funded by a statewide school bond measure under Prop. 39.

Among those in attendance were former board members Grace Horney, Betty Ferraro, and Cheryl Andresen, and the 96-year old family patriarch, Dr. Hoffer.

The honor accorded Hoffer, Doty said in her concluding remarks, "was well-deserved."

TRIBUTE

Continued from page 1

"I enjoy sharing my hobby," said Vince, a U.S. Navy veteran who served in the Philippines from 1971-75, attached to Coastal River Squadron 1. "I want my collection to reach kids and educate them on our country's history, which is rich in war."

The display, which opened on Nov. 2 and will remain open until the end of the month, also includes information pertaining to the year and area of conflict each figure represents, as well as wartime photographs and newspaper clippings.

"My dad was a WWII veteran who served in Korea and I have his picture, as well as the Western Union telegram notifying my grandmother of his injury, in the display to see if anyone recognizes him," Vince said.

Vince admits his collection focuses heavily on the Second World War, but makes sure to cover all the bases.

"My daughter got on me for not having any women figures," Vince said. "So I made sure to include women in the Desert Storm section of the collection."

Some of the figures, if you look closely, are modeled after celebrities such as Buzz Aldrin, John



Downey veteran Vince Diaz Jr. has been collecting G.I. Joe action figures since his early childhood. His collection, which spans countless wars, conflicts and generations, is currently on display at the Norwalk Regional Library through November. Photo by Brooke Karli

Wayne and Charlie Sheen. Vince's collection also includes four figures that actually speak at the push of a button.

"The display is not to promote war, but rather showcase the people that fought for our freedom and

made history," Vince said. "It's a great way for our children and grandchildren to see what those who fought for our country looked like."

Vince has been a tools and parts clerk for the U.S. Postal

Service for the past 30 years. He and his wife, Maria, have three children and four grandchildren.

The Norwalk Regional Library is at 12350 Imperial Hwy. For information, call (562) 868-0775

West Middle School honored for TV news show

DOWNEY – The Downey Unified School District will be honored at the 28th Annual Golden Bell Awards program of the California School Boards Association on Dec. 1.

West TV, an entirely student-run daily live news program that incorporates information on school events, world news, universities, nutrition and state standards at West Middle School, won the award in the Technology category. The news program is under the direction and efforts of Mike Brown, Ron Legaspi, Dina Carter, Sara Maples, Phil Davis, Craig Bertsch, Gene Friese, Jeff Collier and Robert Kaplinsky.

"When you take passionate educators and put them to work with a talent-rich student population like the one in Downey, you get to witness unbelievable accomplishments," said Craig Bertsch, West Middle School principal. "We have great students and great teachers working in great schools!"

The award will be presented at a ceremony during CSBA's Award Luncheon at the San Diego Marriott Hotel & Marina from 11:45 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. The event is held in conjunction with the CSBA's Annual Education Conference.

The CSBA Golden Bell Awards program promotes excellence in education by recognizing outstanding programs in school districts and county offices of education throughout California. The goal of the awards program is to contribute to the development and evaluation of curriculum, instruction and support services.

Principal to speak at Citizens for Downey

DOWNEY – Downey Adult School Principal Roger Brossmer will be the guest speaker at the Citizens for Downey meeting on Wednesday at 7:15 a.m.

Brossmer will discuss the variety of programs offered to adult citizens, as well as the opportunities provided by the Downey Unified School District.

The community is invited to attend the meeting at the Rio Hondo Event Center. A buffet breakfast will be served at 7 a.m. No reservations are required.

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Hallums prepares for busy times at Stonewood

BY HENRY VENERACION, STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY—Early holiday sales figures at Stonewood Center show a four percent increase over last year's, and this is definitely good news, says the mall's senior property manager Charles F. Hallums. But this was before members of the Hollywood Writers Guild struck, and before state budget cuts, once thought safely removed from consideration, were recently announced. What the impact these developments will have on the holiday spending picture nobody as yet knows, except that the troubling developments have come on the heels of the slowdown in the real estate mortgage market and the rise in oil prices.

That these related forces will affect the pocketbook during this holiday season is beyond question. The real question is how much. Anticipating customers' reduced purchasing power, already there is talk the retailers may resort to more and greater discounts as extra incentives to lure customers into the stores.

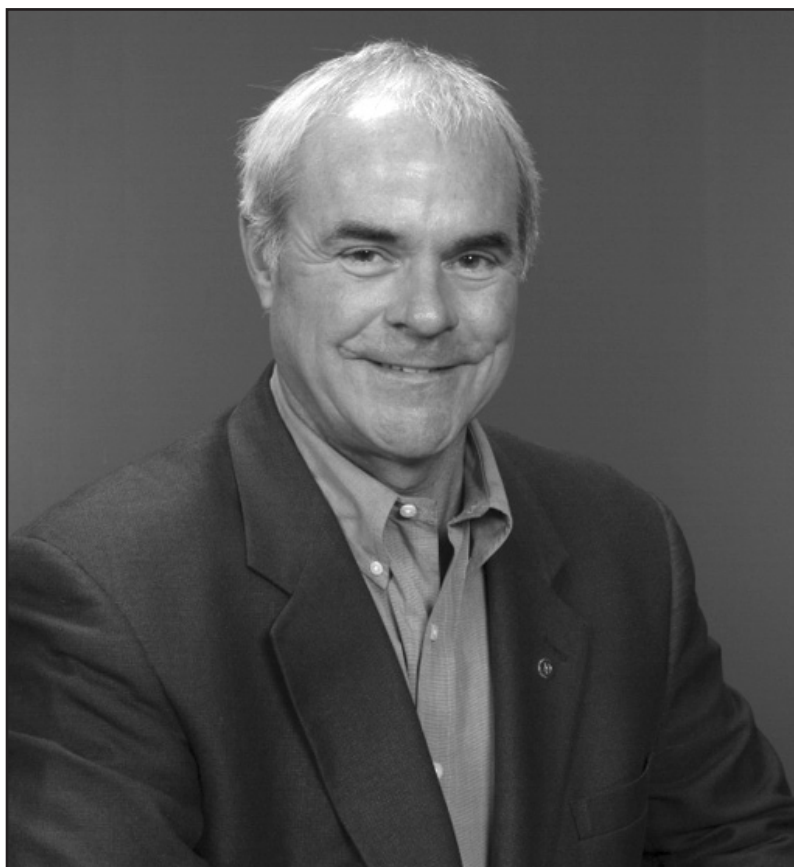
At any rate, if we are to believe economists' earlier pronouncements, the economy is basically strong, and, as resilient as it is vouchsafed to be, these economic aberrations will eventually right themselves out. A robust, merry Christmas is still much the general expectation.

As far as Hallums is concerned, he reports that gift cards, iPods ("Nano" and "Touch"), and cell phones—in that order—are this year's hot Christmas items at the mall. He also notes that he noticed a reduction in foot traffic at the mall when the Downey Landing first opened, but the traffic has since returned. (One keen observer commented that one can negotiate the entire (covered) Stonewood Mall on foot, while one has to drive to the different establishments that comprise the Landing.)

Prior to relocating to Stonewood in May of last year, Hallums worked at Lakewood Center for 25 years, first serving as general manager starting in 1981, before being appointed regional manager for all of California in June of 1985. He was to serve in this Lakewood-based capacity for 16 years. The constant travel figured in his opting out to revert to the position of senior property manager at Lakewood Center in 1999. He continues to operate as senior property manager in Stonewood. A 1976 graduate of the University of North Florida with a BS in land economics (plus "two months of graduate school"), he has been with Macerich since 1978.

There is much that impresses him in Downey. "There are some really neat people here in town," he says. "This is an exceptionally-run city, very much like Lakewood. There is good interaction between the city council, the police, business, service organizations, the school district, and the community. There seems to be a closeness that has developed among these groups. Because we're dealing with people, it is important for Stonewood to put something back into the community. This is part of our corporate (Macerich) philosophy, and I came aboard to do this."

This is an added dimension to his job as property manager, he says, one that he welcomes. "The closeness one can develop especially in



Stonewood Center Property Manager Charles F. Hallums predicts iPods and cell phones will be big sellers this holiday season.

business relationships," he says, "speaks very well of the spirit of volunteerism in the community. People want to contribute, for the community's benefit."

He cited his recent experience at the Rotary/YMCA Pancake Breakfast, where he was one of several Rotarians who prepared the fat-free sausages and pancakes. He says he was impressed at the turnout. And his sense of belonging was strengthened.

Of course, he says, "My number one responsibility as property manager is collecting rent monies on time. I approve the bills, monitor the lease contracts, and with the help of my staff maintain the property, i.e., making sure the parking lots are swept, graffiti is cleaned up, faulty air conditioning units are fixed, leaking roofs are maintained/replaced, and so on."

With his long and varied experience in property management (he started out as a runner responsible for two shopping centers for a construction firm in Jacksonville), he has developed a sharp eye analyzing contract "options." Every Macerich management team, he says, consists of a leasing, a marketing, and the property manager.

Having a Navy pilot for a dad, he says, necessitated "our moving every three years. We went to Massachusetts, to Maryland. We lived abroad even, in Naples, Italy, when I was about six." He recalls being around priests and nuns in second and third grade in Jacksonville. His dad was from Ashland City, Tennessee while his mom originated from Louisville, Kentucky.

"I once had an encounter with the Louisville Lip, Muhammad Ali, some 10 years ago at a book signing. At one point, due to some remark I made or whatever, he rose as if to hit me with a left uppercut. He was just teasing me, of course. I found him to be a very nice guy."

His wife of 29 years, Harriet, is a residential realtor with Coldwater Banker. As a Colee, she belongs to the historical Colee family whose ancestors formed a colony in South Florida in the 1590s.

Being familiar with the St. Augustine area, it's not surprising that Hallums has developed a sense of history. The Pacific Theatre in WWII holds a special fascination for him. He just finished reading "Iron Coffins" by Herbert Werner; the book is about surviving German soldiers in the Battle of Stalingrad. Architecture is another refuge. Graduating from baseball and track in high school (Jacksonville High), Hallums went for scuba diving and some snow-skiing "back in the days." A major passion today is tinkering with his 1967 Jaguar ("Some vintage have *this* character"); as a member of the Los Angeles Jaguar Owners Club; he says he takes it to car shows all over the place.

The couple resides in Irvine with their 17-year old son, Charles, who is a junior at Irvine High School.

"I've enjoyed working here in the past year in this wonderful town," Hallums says. "On the job, every day is different. You can't beat that."

The Poets' Corner

Yard Philosophy

I trim branches. The birches wish I could make something of the beautiful wood. A horse perhaps? A wooden horse.

Some of the peach limbs I lop off too. Peach wood is different - harder - the branches just out like stilettos.

How do these trees feel? Like I'm trimming their tresses and not chopping off arms?

Rain made the grass seed grow - so did the manure. When horses eat hay is it their purpose to re-seed? The horse is a valuable machine; hay in one end, fertilizer out the other.

I'm glad the Lord lets me tend this small plot of land. Someone else could take my place - do these chores. I'd miss the renewal in my bones - the sprouting in my soul.

The birches and the peach trees are glad I lop off their limbs when, at springtime, they show me new growth.

--Margaret Hehman-Smith, Downey

Reality Over Lies

Reconsider your vote hear me out hear this quote Truth be told by eyes and ears But where is the truth that lies for years places afar or nearer to home Soon discovered unearthed like fossils and bones How many ticks and tocks must it take A death and hurt belong to truth told late Why does truth dare to wait Fear, laziness, hate, and advantage must serve its plate

--James Hernandez, Downey

Davila graduates from basic training

DOWNEY - Army Reserve Pvt. Jonathan M. Davila has graduated from basic combat training at Fort Jackson in Columbia, S.C.

During the nine weeks of training, Jimenez studied the Army mission, history, tradition and core, and physical fitness. He also 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 and more.

Davila is a 2006 graduate of Columbus High School and is the son of Maria Saucedo of Downey.

Pancake breakfast tomorrow morning

DOWNEY - Downey Memorial Christian Church will be having their annual pancake breakfast tomorrow morning from 7 a.m. to noon.

Breakfast includes pancakes, sausage, orange juice, coffee or milk. Cost is \$4.50 for adults and \$3 for children under 12.

There will also be a holiday boutique, with baked goods, handmade crafts and holiday nuts.

The church is located at 8441 Florence Ave. in Downey.

Parents learn about preschool literacy

DOWNEY - The Downey City Library will be offering "Every Child Ready to Read" on Nov. 13 from 10:40 to 11:10 a.m. in the Children's Room.

Instructor Claudia Dailey will provide parents with techniques for helping preschool children to read and develop early language skills through picture books.

For information, or to register for the free class, call the Adult Desk at (562) 904-7360, ext. 23.

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

The advanced form of gum disease known as "periodontitis" occurs when sticky plaque on and around teeth hardens into calculus (tartar). As it does so, the gums begin to pull away from the teeth, and pockets form between teeth and gums. In time, this can lead to disintegration of gum tissue and bone to the point where teeth loosen and fall out. To avoid this outcome, teeth may be subjected to the standard treatment for periodontitis known as scaling and root planing. It involves first scraping the surface of the tooth below the gumline. Then, root planing removes the bacteria-contaminated surface of the root to clean it and make it more acceptable for gum and tissue reattachment.

We take a comprehensive approach to your dental health and wellbeing. Oral health is critically important to general health as well as to personal appearance and self-image. We want you to not only have strong, healthy teeth, but to look good and feel good as well. If you have concerns or questions about the well-being of your teeth and gums, call us today at (562) 923-3714. Please don't let unwarranted fears keep you from maintaining your dental health. Your chances of needing expensive treatment in the future because of neglect today are a far greater concern. The key to dental health is routine preventive care. We're located at 10800 Paramount Blvd., Suite 307, where we are currently accepting new patients.

P.S. Scaling and root planing may be accompanied by treatment with antibiotics.

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Your kids owe me

By Eric Pierce

If you can believe it, two weeks from today Thanksgiving will be over and the mad dash towards Christmas will have begun.

If you have children, this is the time they start sucking up and doing extra chores around the house, like raking up leaves and washing your cars. I don't have kids, but I know this to be true because I practiced it myself as a child.

As a matter of fact, I still do it. Except now my mom is more apt to buy me underwear than an Xbox 360.

Because I still consider myself a big kid at heart, I compiled some nifty tips for parents as they prepare for their holiday shopping. Be forewarned: some of these gifts are pricy. But can you really put a price on your child's eternal love?

Don't answer that.

Tip 1: Kids love video games. But avoid anything with "Pokemon," "Mario," or "deep bass fishing" in the title. Instead, think "Smackdown" and opt for games with lots and lots of gratuitous violence. Sure, it may not be your best moment as a parent, but it'll keep the kids out of your hair for hours.

Tip 2: Don't forget the batteries. There's nothing more disheartening than unwrapping a shiny new toy and not having any batteries to power it. And please don't wrap the batteries and try to pass them off as gifts... That's just mean.

Tip 3: Clothes always come in flat, rectangular boxes. Kids have known this since the beginning of time and you're not fooling anyone.

Tip 4: Contrary to what you may have learned as a child, fruit is NOT an appropriate stocking stuffer. Neither are pencils and schools supplies. But cheapie toys from the 99 Cent Store are OK.

Tip 5: Be prepared to wake up at 6 a.m. on Christmas day. It's not fair to torture the kids by telling them you're sleeping in till noon.

Tip 6: Cash is very tacky and informal... But it will be accepted nonetheless.

Orientation offers information on adoption

SANTA FE SPRINGS – Aspira Foster and Family Services will be hosting an orientation for those interested in receiving information on adoption, through foster care, on Nov. 17 at 10 a.m. in recognition of Adoption Awareness Month.

The orientation will be held at 10350 Heritage Park Dr. Ste. 202 in Santa Fe Springs.

For information, call (562) 941-6967.

Letters to the Editor:

A war worth fighting

Dear Editor:

In response to "Cut Off Funding" (The Downey Patriot, 11/2/07), here we go again, now President Bush wants to start another war against those silly freedom fighting radical fundamentalist Islamic extremist. I suppose all he really needs to do is give them more freedom to express themselves with negotiations and peace talks. I'm sure they didn't mean to blow up our embassies, attack the USS Cole, attack the World Trade Center in 1993 and bring it down in 2001, take 217 passengers on their last swim, plummeting their plane into the ocean chanting a peace-loving Qur'anic prayer, running our planes filled with passengers into the Capitol Building and Pentagon – should I go on?

I'm sure they were just expressing their frustration, in a loving way, toward President Bush and his "bullyness" about our silly desire to be free from primitive murdering savage animals.

Why not cut funding for all of our troops in every country and bring all of them home to live in loving, peaceful harmony singing Cumbaya? We could take all that money for the troops and silly weapons and make peace pipes and print sheet music to learn love songs in our new language – Arabic, Pharse, or whatever it is their spewing out.

Oh, I forgot to mention, while you were sleeping, again – the radical peace-loving savage animals have just stormed into your White House and declared the United States as their new "Republic of we hate Americans and want you dead."

So yes, write your senators and representatives and tell them to let President Bush do what he does best – protect our country so we can keep speaking our language – English.

While you're at it, how about a thank you letter of gratitude for the freedom to write letters like I'm writing now.

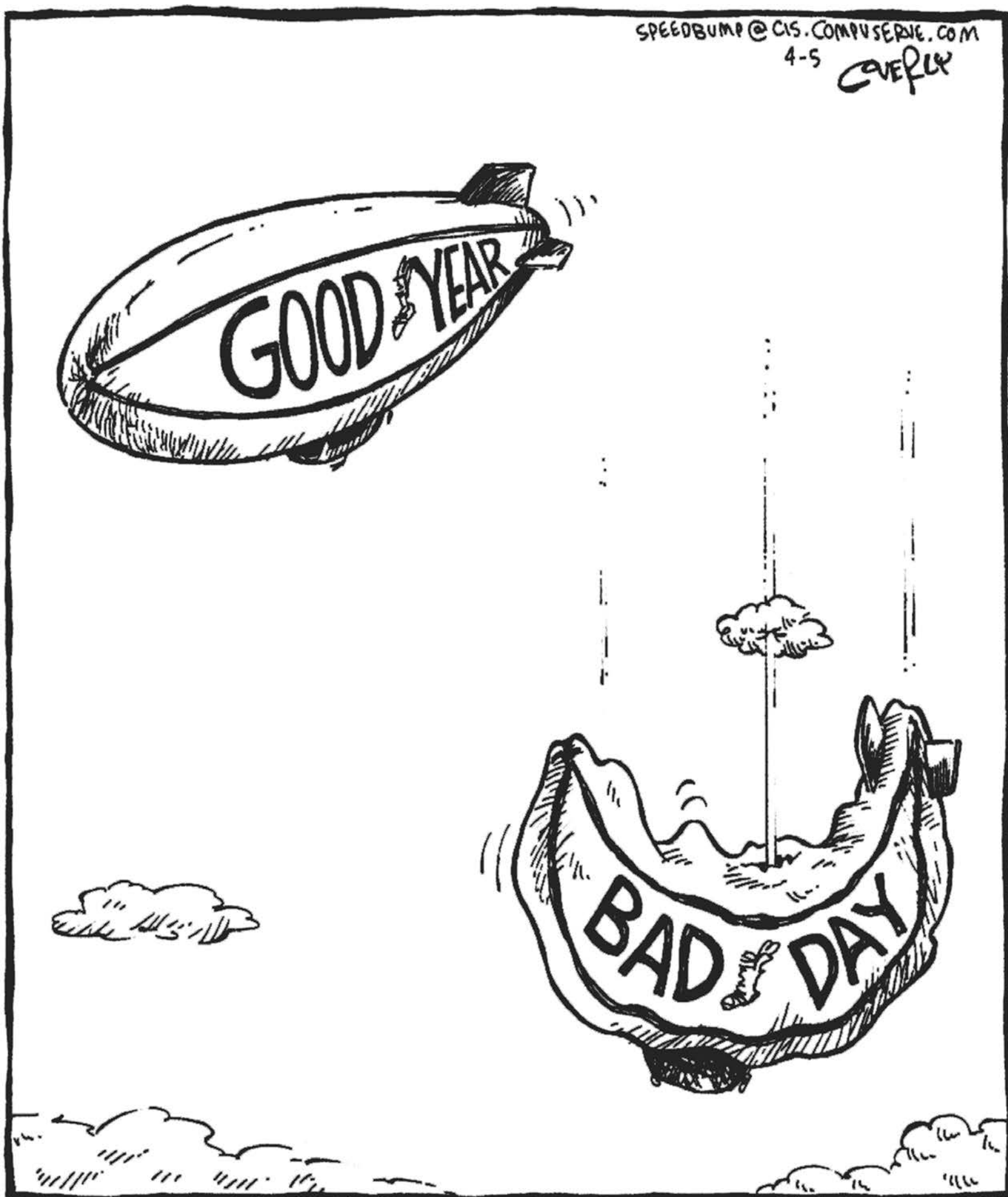
They wanted war with us, so war is what they are getting.

Fight on American soldiers!

—Tim Smick,

Downey

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



Disappointed in our coverage

Dear Editor:

The recent granting of Teacher of the Year awards at the Downey Unified School District was an inspiring and well-attended event. The full audience consisted of many teachers and administrators, present and former colleagues of the honorees, as well as proud friends and family members.

Many photos were taken of the fine educators with district officials and board members. The beautiful plaques given in recognition of truly exceptional accomplishments were prominent. It was a proud and happy occasion.

Imagine our disappointment to find all this relegated to a very brief, inner-page story with only two small pictures of the winner's faces. Front page coverage was given to events of relatively less importance, such as a food eating contest.

I enjoy the Patriot and have happily watched you develop good journalistic principles. What were you thinking?

—Shirley Mize,
Downey High School Foreign Language Chair

Seeing is believing

Dear Editor:

China has sent an astronaut around the Earth in 2003 and has sent two astronauts around the Earth for five days in 2005.

Now China has launched its first Lunar Orbiter on Oct. 24. It will spend a year circling and studying the lunar surface. NASA must be worried that China might state publicly that they can't find the six landers or the three moon rovers. Then what?

I just hope that China can find them and prove that it's all true that NASA did do what they said they did. Seeing is believing.

I would like to see some pictures from China's Lunar Orbiter to prove that NASA was telling us the truth and that it was not a hoax.

—Mike Sandoval,
Downey

Citizens reminded to change batteries

DOWNEY – Although the daylight savings time change came a week late this year due to a congressional act in an attempt to save energy, the Downey Fire Department would like to remind the citizens of Downey to make another change – in their smoke detectors.

Communities nationwide witness tragic home fire deaths each year. An average of three children per day die in home fires and 80 percent occur in homes without working smoke detectors. Non-working smoke detectors rob residents of the protective benefits home fire safety devices were designed to provide. The most commonly cited cause of non-working smoke detectors? Worn or missing batteries.

Changing smoke alarm batteries at least once a year is one of the simplest, most effective ways to reduce tragic deaths and injuries. In fact, working smoke alarms nearly cut in half the risk of dying in a home fire.

"The peak time for home fire fatalities is between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m., when most families are sleeping," said Mark Sauter, Downey Fire Department chief. "Smoke alarm maintenance is a simple, effective way to reduce home fire deaths. Children and senior citizens are most at risk, and a working smoke detector can give them the extra seconds they need to get out safely."

So remember, "change your clock, change your battery."

Understanding and preventing diabetes

BY CONGRESSWOMAN LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD AND VICTOR H. GONZALEZ, MD

What is diabetes and could you have it without knowing it?

Diabetes is a leading cause of heart disease, stroke, kidney disease, blindness, and lower limb amputation. It is a disease in which the body does not produce enough insulin or does not properly use the insulin that is produced. In Type 1 diabetes, which was previously known as juvenile diabetes because it is usually diagnosed in childhood, the body does not produce insulin. In Type 2 diabetes, either the body does not produce enough insulin, or the cells ignore the insulin. Type 2 diabetes accounts for 90 to 95 percent of all diabetes cases.

Shockingly, nearly one-third of the 20.8 million American children and adults in our country who have diabetes are not even aware of it. Another 54 million Americans have "pre-diabetes," meaning their blood glucose (sugar) levels are higher than normal but not high enough for a diagnosis of diabetes, putting them at high risk of developing the disease.

So who is at risk for diabetes and why?

Risk factors include a family history of diabetes, being overweight, lack of regular exercise, and low HDL cholesterol or high blood pressure. In addition, seniors over age 55 account for approximately half of all diabetes cases.

Racial minorities continue to have a higher incidence of the disease and are often less able to obtain the care they need to manage their diabetes. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have estimated that by 2050, 50 percent of minority adults will have the disease. Already an estimated 2.5 million members of the Latino community who are 20 years or older have this serious disease. Mexican Americans, in particular, the largest Latino subgroup, are 1.7 times as likely to have diabetes as non-Hispanic whites.

While there currently is no cure for diabetes, it is proven that people can prevent the disease's serious complications with proper management and treatment. Further, those at risk for developing Type 2 diabetes can take steps and make lifestyle choices to delay or prevent its onset. These steps include getting a physical to determine your risk for developing diabetes, getting early access to quality treatment and making healthy choices like eating right and staying active.

As we observe American Diabetes Month this November, we urge you to visit a doctor and find out if you are at risk for developing diabetes, and what steps you can take to live a longer, healthier life. Please encourage your loved ones and friends to do the same. Early detection and treatment are vital to preventing or delaying the onset of diabetes or its complications.

At the same time, we need to make diabetes research, education and prevention programming a priority. We must work to bring attention and much needed funds to the Division of Diabetes Translation within the CDC. This critical agency is a key tool in the prevention of, and education about, diabetes, yet it is currently underfunded.

Our own California Diabetes Program, which provides valuable consultation and training programs, is primarily funded with a grant from CDC. The program serves as a valuable resource for educational materials on preventing and controlling diabetes, many of which come in multiple languages such as Spanish. With additional CDC funding, the program could better address the diverse needs of our state.

You can learn more about diabetes by visiting www.diabetes.org, or by calling the American Diabetes Association at (800) DIABETES.

The Downey Patriot



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SPEED BUMP



DAVE COVERLY



Downey Community Calendar

Events For November

- Sat. Nov. 10: **Pancake Breakfast**, Downey Memorial Christian Church, 7 a.m.
- Mon. Nov. 12: **Children's Book Week**, Downey City Library
- Wed. Nov. 14: **Citizens for Downey**, Rio Hondo Event Center, 7 a.m.
- Thurs. Nov. 15: **Downey Chamber of Commerce Mixer**, George's Restaurant & Bar, 5:30 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.

Tuesdays

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

Wednesdays

- 7 a.m.: **Kiwanis Club**, at Rio Hondo Events Center. Call Steve Roberson at 927-2626.
- 1 p.m.: **Women's Bocce Club**, for information call 869-8782.
- 1st Weds., 10 a.m.: **Woman's Club of Downey**, for information call Barbara Briley-Beard 869-7618.
- 1st Weds., 11:30 a.m.: **Downey Coordinating Council**, at Community Center, for information call 923-4357.
- 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.
- 2nd & 4th Weds., 11:00 a.m. - **AARP**, at Barbara J. Riley CC, Call Lorene Frazier 861-6075.
- 3rd Weds., - **Downey Dog Obedience Club** Apollo Park.
- 3rd Weds., 6 p.m. - **American Business Women's Association**, Rio Hondo Country Club, Call Barbara Carlson 863-2192.
- 4th Weds., 12:00 noon: **Retired Federal Employees**, at **Furman Park West Bldg.**, call 943-5513.
- Wed. & Fri., 10:15 a.m.: **Senior Bingo**, at Apollo Park, for information call 904-7223.

Thursdays

- 7:30 a.m.: **Soroptimist Int'l of Downey**, for information, call Pat Heineke, 904-3534.
- 7:30 a.m.: **Connections Networking**, at Nordic Fox 10924 Paramount, for information call 869-1414.
- 12 p.m.: **Kiwanis Club of Downey**, at Rio Hondo Events Center, call Roy Jimenez 923-0971.
- 12 p.m.: **Downey Christian Businessmen's Committee**, for information call 928-4153.
- 12 p.m.: **Optimist Club of Downey**, at Sambi's, for information call Steve Allen at 622-7655.
- 12:30 p.m.: **Take off Pounds Sensibly**, at First Christian Church, call (800) 932-8677.
- 6:30 p.m.: **Downey United Masonic Lodge # 220**, 8244 3rd St., Call 862-4176.
- 7 p.m.: **Troop 351, Boy Scouts of America**, at First Baptist Church, for information call 776-3388.
- 4th Thurs., 7:30 p.m.: **Downey Historical Society programs**, at Community Center. Call 862-2777.
- 2nd Thurs., 7:30 p.m.: **Beaming Rebel Foxes Collectors Club**, for more information call Carl D. Jones at 923-2400.

Fridays

- 7:30 a.m.: **Pro Networkers**, at Mimi's Cafe, for information call Barbara Briley Beard at 869-7618
- 3rd Fri., 8:30 a.m.: **Women's "In His Glory" Ministry** at Los Amigos C. C. (562) 622-3785.

On This Day...

- Nov. 9, 1872: A fire tears through the heart of downtown Boston, killing at least 20 people. More than 65 acres of Boston's downtown were burned, including more than 700 buildings.
- 1906: Theodore Roosevelt becomes the first sitting U.S. president to travel outside the country when he paid a visit to the Panama Canal.
- 1921: Albert Einstein is awarded the Nobel Prize in Physics for his work with photoelectric effect.
- 1965: Much of the Northeast United States and parts of Canada go up to 12 hours without electricity in the Northeast Blackout of 1965.
- 1967: The first issue of *Rolling Stone* magazine is published.

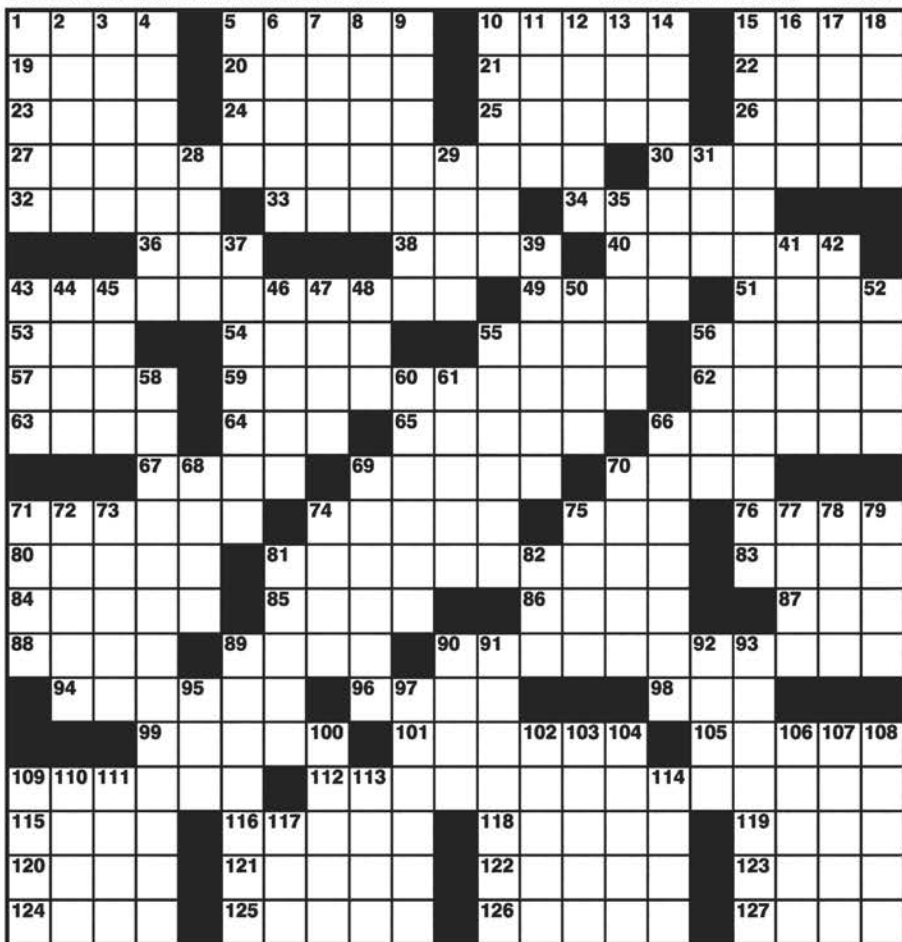
THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com)

SEW WHAT: Putting it all together
by Gail Grabowski

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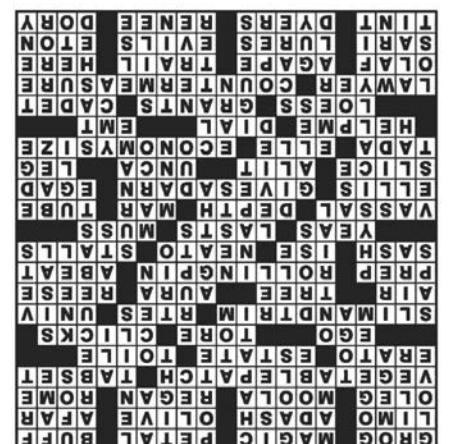
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You can contact puzzle editor Stanley Newman at his e-mail address: StanXwords@aol.com. Or write him at P.O. Box 69, Massapequa Park, NY 11762, Please send a self-addressed, stamped envelope if you'd like a reply.

The word GROC (1 Across) is derived from the nickname of the 18th-century British admiral who first ordered it to be served to had been a practicing LAWYER and Mississippi state representative before becoming a best-selling author. Edgar Allan POE (95 Down) character Auguste Dupin is generally considered to be the first fictional detective.



Paging Dr. Alan Frischer...

BY DR. ALAN FRISCHER

Well, the sniffle season is upon us yet again, and it seems as though everyone is sick and miserable. Although it may be difficult to think beyond our boxes of tissues and soft blankets, let's explore the two culprits that could be causing your distress: bacteria and viruses. How can doctors tell the difference between these two nasty buggers when making a diagnosis? Once we do know which one is at fault, how is it relevant to your treatment and recovery?



independent living creatures. They cannot be "killed" in the same sense as bacteria. In fact, the usual treatment for viral infections is no treatment at all. The disease runs its course while the body mounts a defense on its own. Anti-viral treatments are still largely experimental, and the most deadly viral diseases such as AIDS and Ebola still kill huge numbers of people worldwide every year.

As noted above, a vast majority of all known bacteria (99 percent) are harmless, or even perform useful functions, such as breaking down organic matter or protecting the body from harmful parasites. Most viruses, on the other hand, serve no beneficial purpose. Their sole mission is to reproduce, creating more viruses to ensure the survival of the strain. The harmful or even deadly effect a virus may have on its host is merely an incidental byproduct of its survival.

Let's start with some of the basic differences on a cellular level. Bacteria are completely self-contained and self-reproducing units. They are organisms made up of just one cell, with the ability to multiply by cell division. Bacteria exist everywhere; they cover the surface of our bodies and live inside. Ninety-nine percent of these bacteria are completely harmless, and some are quite useful. Others, however, can cause diseases, either because they end up in the wrong place in the body, or because they are designed to be harmful to us on contact.

Viruses, on the other hand, can't multiply without assistance. They invade our cells and hijack their reproductive capabilities. A virus consists of genetic materials (DNA and RNA) surrounded by a protective coat of protein. It may lie dormant (preserved in hibernation) for mere moments or for thousands of years before coming into contact with a suitable host. The virus then finds and penetrates cell walls, where it does its damage.

The cells of our mucous membranes, such as those lining the respiratory tract, are particularly susceptible to viral attacks because they are not covered by protective skin. Once inside a living cell, a virus replaces the cell's original DNA or RNA instructions with its own genetic instructions, which then command the cell to make copies of the virus. When the host cell is no longer useful to the virus, the cell explodes and sends out thousands of copies of the virus to other cells.

Because viruses and bacteria are so different, the way we treat them differs considerably. Doctors prescribe antibiotics in order to kill bacteria. Bacteria, however, can eventually develop a tolerance, so the prudent use of antibiotics is a critical social and medical issue. Remember that antibiotics, while effective for most bacterial infections, have no effect upon viral infections such as colds or flu. Overuse of antibiotics for non-bacterial infections has led to resistant strains of bacteria, including staphylococcus. Many of us are familiar with the growing global threat posed by MRSA. There are only a few antibiotics that can kill this resistant bacterial infection. By limiting the use of antibiotics and letting the body rid itself of viral infections, we can help prevent bacteria from becoming even more resistant to antibiotics.

So just how does your doctor tell the difference between a viral and a bacterial infection? The only absolute way is to take a culture of the infected site (a throat culture, for example) and wait three days for growth and identification by a lab. Clearly, it is not practical to get cultures routinely in your doctor's office and wait for the results. Instead, the type of complaints and symptoms a patient presents generally give enough clues to determine whether it is a virus or bacteria causing the problem.

colds and flu. Runny nose, achy muscles, headaches, dizziness, dry cough and laryngitis are all likely to be caused by viral infections and are rarely caused by bacteria. A fever can indicate either a virus or bacteria, but rapid onset of fever likely indicates a bacterial infection. A cough with thicker and darker phlegm is more likely to be bacterial. Viruses cause most sore throats, but strep throat is bacterial. Ear or sinus infections often require antibiotics, but bacteria do not cause all of them. Urinary and lung infections are often bacterial, as are many skin infections.

For all of their differences, bacteria and viruses are essentially spread in the same way: through coughing, sneezing, touching or shaking hands with people, touching food with dirty hands, or through bodily fluids such as saliva, blood, or semen. Prevention is the key:

- Wash your hands frequently
- Don't shake hands with someone who is obviously ill
- Store vegetables and meat separately and prepare them on separate cutting boards
- Cook meat thoroughly, preferably well-done
- Remember that food containing these invisible organisms may not have any particular "bad" smell.
- While treatment for bacterial infections involves choosing the appropriate antibiotics (selected by your doctor), a virus is fought by the body's own immune defenses. Help your body fight either type of infection:
 - Drink plenty of water
 - Stay home when you are sick in order to avoid spreading your infection to others or exposing your weakened immune system to another infection
 - Get vaccinated against viral diseases.
 - Keep your body strong and resistant by following my advice from earlier articles, especially those that addressed good nutrition, sleep, exercise, stress reduction, and diligent hand washing.

I wish you all the best of health this winter season!

Dr. Alan Frischer is former chief of staff at Downey Regional Medical Center. Write to him in care of this newspaper at 11525 Downey Ave., suite A, Downey, CA 90241

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Downey Regional Medical Center has been announced as the major sponsor of the 56th Holiday Lane Parade, which will take place on Dec. 2 at 1:30 p.m. Pictured are Ken Strople, DRMC CEO; Maria Larkin, parade chairman; and Robert Risher, Jr., DRMC director of ambulance services.

LRMC offers women hysterectomy alternative - no surgery needed

■ Lakewood Regional Medical Center now offers Uterine Fibroid Embolization (UFE), a hysterectomy alternative providing relief and rapid recovery.

CONTRIBUTED BY LAKEWOOD REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

LAKEWOOD – Approximately 25 million women in the United States suffer from uterine fibroids – non-cancerous growths that cause symptoms such as heavy bleeding and pelvic pain. Between 30 and 50 percent of women over the age of 40 have fibroid-related symptoms, some so debilitating that their quality of life is greatly diminished. For decades, the most common treatment for symptomatic fibroids was a hysterectomy, a surgical procedure that removes the uterus. About 30 percent of the 600,000 hysterectomies performed in the United States each year are for fibroids.

Uterine Fibroid Embolization (UFE), a minimally-invasive alternative to hysterectomy, combines symptomatic relief with rapid recovery time and no surgical incision. Sven E. Rose, M.D., a Board Certified Interventional Radiologist at Lakewood Regional Medical Center explains that fibroids are benign tumors and that while many women with fibroids have no problems, others experience heavy or prolonged menstrual periods, pelvic pain or an enlarged uterus. Other problems can arise with fibroids such as anemia from heavy bleeding and making it more difficult to become pregnant.

As awareness of UFE increases, a growing number of women such as Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, who in November 2004, underwent this procedure, are opting for this alternative to relieve the symptoms caused by fibroids.

"UFE is revolutionizing the way in which women with fibroids are being treated," said Rose. "Unfortunately many women still don't know about the procedure. There are many women who undergo hysterectomies never knowing they had an option. That is why we are committed to getting the word out."

Miriam Mackovic-Basic, M.D., a Board Certified Obstetrician-Gynecologist at Lakewood Regional Medical Center, agrees that women with fibroids should be made aware of all treatment options.

"UFE offers gynecologists a broader set of options to optimally manage their patients' medical conditions," Mackovic-Basic said. "Patients have alternatives, now more than ever, to the traditional hysterectomy and myomectomy in treating their symptomatic fibroids. I encourage my patients to educate themselves and work with their physicians to determine the option most suitable for their condition and lifestyle."

Lakewood Regional Medical Center is located at 3700 East South St.

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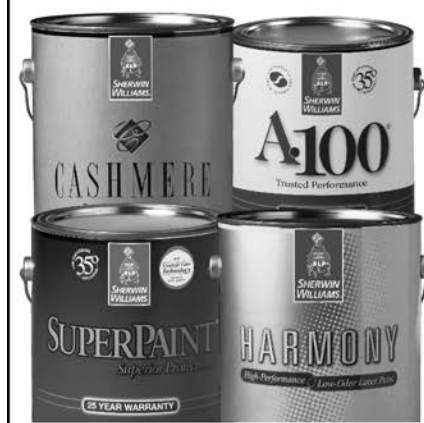
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T-Mobile solutions or problems?

By MARY FORNEY, CONTRIBUTOR

Since my children are grown and live in different states, I am always looking for ways we can communicate cost-effectively. T-Mobile Solutions cell phone family plan seemed to be a good idea so I recently signed us up.

My youngest daughter and I purchased identical phones which didn't have identical reception. I struggled with failed phone calls, dropped calls or going into emergency-only mode while my 18-year-old stood next to me chattering away to her friends or sisters on her phone.

Trying to exchange my cell phone for one that worked was more frustrating than trying to place a call on it. It only took 20 minutes for me to purchase the phones and service - it took four hours and four trips to the mall for me to return it.

I first tried to return my phone two days after my purchase because it was stuck in emergency mode. My daughter called customer service and was told the phone was defective and I needed to return it.

There must be good reception surrounding the cell phone company booths in the mall because it suddenly worked when I handed my phone to the sales person. She gave it back to me and said there was nothing wrong with my phone.

I fought with the phone for three weeks until I decided this wasn't right and I was wasting my money. I went to the T-Mobile Solutions booth in the mall and the sales girl said, "I'm sorry, but you didn't buy your cell phone here - I've never seen this type phone before."

Now, there are times when I don't remember where I've left my reading glasses and sometimes I don't remember if I turned my coffee maker off before leaving the house, but I always recall where I purchased major items.

Feeling my blood pressure rise, I was about to open my mouth and say something ugly to the sales girl when my daughter said, "Look, Mom - there's the guy we bought the phones from."

The young man had just walked up to the booth and said he remembered us so I told him my phone didn't work. He rudely asked, "Did you pay your bill?"

"What are you talking about?" I said. "It's a new service - it's not time for me to pay my bill yet."

With his head tilted down and glaring at me over the top of his glasses he loudly repeated, "Did you pay your bill? People's cell phones don't work when they don't pay their bill."

That was the wrong thing to say to me since I spent more than \$300 for a non-functioning phone and poor service. I proceeded to sound off and just when I thought using every cuss word I know was making me feel better, he asked, "Where's your contract? I can't process your return without a copy of your contract."

I stopped interjecting and asked him why he couldn't look my information up on the computer. He said he still needed my copy of the contract so I was forced to return home to get it.

With the copy of the contract in my hand, I turned right around and returned to the mall, convinced this trip would finally result in my walking out with a working phone.

I was wrong. I was greeted with, "Where's the box it came in? I can't process your return without the box."

My shoulders slumped as I thought about once again going out in the heat and driving in the weekend traffic. I was exhausted and not sure if we had even kept the boxes. Luckily, I found them quickly so with new resolve I began my third trip to the mall that day - now toting my phone, the contract and the box.

When I returned to the booth, I was told I could only be helped by the salesman who had sold me the phones and he was now working at another booth at the end of the mall. I was told I had to go down there so I trudged to the other booth where he was nowhere in sight. I was

told he was working at the booth I had just come from and that I needed to go back.

Not willing to take another step without a new phone, I proclaimed I had enough of this runaround and insisted on the name and phone number of the manager.

My insistence on obtaining the manager's name and a telephone number prompted someone to call the salesman on his cell phone and within minutes he appeared. I told him it was great that the employees' cell phones work but not the customers.

The salesman sheepishly grinned and said he was giving my daughter and me two great Razors at no extra charge. I told him all I care about is the reception and he promised I wouldn't be experiencing the same problem with the replacement because what I had been given before was an old phone.

"Didn't you have the responsibility of telling me you were giving me an old phone before I purchased it?" I asked him.

He nodded his head and said he was making it up to me by giving us the two nice new phones.

Shouldn't I have gotten the nice new phones and good service when I first went to the mall and shelled out more than \$300? The salesman acted like he was giving me a gift by giving my daughter and I what I had already originally asked for (and paid for) weeks ago.

With this terrible cell phone experience behind me, I happily pulled out the charger which came with my Razor after I came in to work on Monday. Plugging it in beside my desk, I noticed it wasn't charging my cell phone.

I unplugged the charger and looked at it. On the side is written "Blackberry"...

Rose Parade tickets on sale

DOWNEY - The City of Downey Community Services Department has been assigned grandstand seating for the 2008 Rose Parade, where Emeril Lagasse will preside as Grand Marshall.

Tickets are \$66 each and there is no limit on the amount of tickets to be purchased. The bus will depart from the City Hall flag pole area on Jan. 1 at 6:30 a.m. and will return around 2 p.m.

Sign-ups will be taken at the City Hall Community Services Department, as well as at the Barbara J. Riley Community and Senior Center from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

For information, call (562) 904-7238.

www.thedowneypatriot.com

New Entertainment this week

CD Releases

- Alicia Keys - *As I Am*
 - Celine Dion - *Taking Chances*
 - James Taylor - *One Man Band*
 - The Killers - *Sawdust*
 - Seal - *System*
 - Duran Duran - *Red Carpet Massacre*
 - Trisha Yearwood - *Heaven, Heartache, and the Power of Love*
 - George Strait - *22 More Hits*
 - Boyz II Men - *Motown A Journey Through Hitsville USA*
 - Now That's What I Call Music! - *NOW 26*
 - Nelly - *Brass Knuckles*
 - Sobrenatural - *Alexis & Fido*
- Source: Amazon.com

DVD Releases

- Amazing Grace
 - Ocean's Thirteen
 - Shrek the Third
 - TV/MISC.
 - The Addams Family - Entire Series
 - Christmastime in South Park
 - Gilmore Girls - Season 7
 - Melrose Place - Season 3
 - Miami Vice - Entire Series
 - Northern Exposure - Entire Series
 - Prison Break - Season 1
- Source: Amazon.com

Video Game Releases

- WWE Smackdown vs. Raw 2008 - PS2, X360, PS3, Wii
 - Need for Speed Pro Street - PS2, X360, PS3, Wii
 - Dragon Ball Z: Budokai Tenkaichi 3 - PS2
 - Daisenryaku 7 Exceed - PS2
 - Petz Catz 2 - PS2, Wii
 - Petz Horsez 2 - PS2, Wii
 - Boogie - PS2
 - Dancing with the Stars - PS2
 - Fire Pro Wrestling Returns - PS2
 - Godzilla Unleashed - PS2, Wii
 - King of Fighters XI - PS2
 - Luxor: Pharaoh's Challenge - PS2, Wii
 - Monster Jam - PS2, X360, Wii
 - NeoGeo Battle Coliseum - PS2
 - Puzzle Quest: Challenge of the Warlords - PS2, Wii
 - Avatar: The Burning Earth - X360
 - BlackSite: Area 51 - X360
 - Assassin's Creed - X360, PS3
 - Beowulf: The Game - X360, PS3
 - Soldier of Fortune: Pay Back - X360, PS3
 - America's Army: True Soldiers - X360
 - Army of Two - PS3
 - Cars: Mater-Nation - Wii
 - Cruis'n - Wii
 - Spongebob: Atlantis Squarepants - Wii
 - Medal of Honor Heroes 2 - Wii
- Source: ebgames.com

Concerts

- FRIDAY, NOV. 9**
- Vicente Fernandez - Gibson Amp.
 - ZZ Top - Greek Theatre
 - Bad Manners - Galaxy Theatre
 - Dave Mason - HOB Anaheim
 - Eek A Mouse - Galaxy Theatre
 - Joanna Newsom - Walt Disney Concert Hall
 - Strange Civilians - El Rey
 - M.I.A. - Wiltern
 - Paramore - Grove of Anaheim
 - She Wants Revenge - Henry Fonda
 - Tommy Shaw - Coach House
- SATURDAY**
- Dada - Coach House
 - Evanescence - Greek Theatre
 - She Wants Revenge - Henry Fonda
 - Swell Season - Wiltern
 - Vicente Fernandez - Gibson Amp.
- SUNDAY**
- Fall of Troy - Wiltern
 - Evanescence - Santa Barbara Bowl
 - Vicente Fernandez - Gibson Amp.
 - Gin Blossoms - Coach House
- MONDAY**
- Feist - Gibson Amphitheatre
 - Little Brother - El Rey Theatre
- TUESDAY**
- Hell Yeah - Galaxy Theatre
 - Queen Latifah - Segerstrom Hall
 - Tim Reynolds - Coach House
- WEDNESDAY**
- Misfits - Galaxy Theatre
 - Paramore - Wiltern
 - Silverchair - HOB Anaheim
 - Suzanne Vega - El Rey Theatre
 - Tim Reynolds - Coach House
- THURSDAY**
- Bayside - HOB Anaheim
 - Celilio & Kapono - Coach House
 - Thursday - El Rey Theatre
- Source: Casenet

Book Releases

- "Double Cross" by James Patterson
- "AgeLess Face, AgeLess Mind: Erase Wrinkles and Rejuvenate the Brain" by Nicholas Perricone, M.D.
- "Confessor" by Terry Goodkind
- "The Dark-Hunter Companion" by Sherrilyn Kenyon
- "Personal Stand: Observations and Opinions from a Freethinking Roughneck" by Trace Adkins
- "Snakehead" by Barnesandnoble.com

Video Game Releases

- Pokemon Pocket Pokedex Vol. 2 - Wii
- Rayman Raving Rabbids 2 - Wii
- Resident Evil Umbrella Chronicles - Wii
- Soul Calibur Legends - Wii
- Geometry Wars: Galaxies - Wii
- Super Mario Galaxy - Wii

New & noteworthy titles at the Downey City Library

Fiction

- "Garcia's Heart": by Liam Duncan. In this intelligent thriller, a neurologist turned biotech entrepreneur travels to the Hague to witness his mentor's war crimes trial.
- "Garden Spells" by Sarah Anderson Allen. In a tale about an enchanted apple tree and the extraordinary people who tend it, this is the story of two very different sisters and their family ties.
- "High Season" by Jon Loomis. This debut crime novel blends high suspense and dry wit in a whodunit about life and death on Cape Cod.
- "Man of the Month Club" by Jackie Clune. This is a funny, edgy novel about a would-be single mom, whose quest to find the right man at the right time meets with unexpected - and entertaining - consequences.
- "Mozart's Sister" by Rita Charbonnier. This historical novel takes readers on a tour of 18th century Europe and into the fascinating life of a gifted woman musician, perhaps even more talented than her younger brother.

Non-Fiction

- "The Abs Diet for Women" by David Zinczenko. The author offers advice, exercises and diet tips to help flatten your belly and firm your body for life.
 - "Fair Game: My Life as a Spy, My Betrayal by the White House" by Valerie Plame Wilson. A central figure in the CIA leak investigation, the author tells about her life in the agency and the case that convicted the vice-president's chief of staff.
 - "How to Raise an American: 1776 Fun and Easy Tools, Tips and Activities to Help Your Child Love This Country" by Myrna Blyth and Chriss Winston. From red, white & blue grab bags, to classroom checklists and dinner table debates, here are tips to inspire patriotism and American pride.
 - "Trump: Never Give Up; How I Turned My Biggest Challenges Into Success" by Donald Trump. One of the world's most successful businessmen shares the lowest moments and worst mistakes in his life and the lessons he learned.
 - "Yes You Can Still Retire Comfortably: The Baby Boom Retirement Crisis and How to Beat It" by Ben Stein and Phil Demuth. The authors outline the steps you can take today toward a secure financial future.
- Visit the library at 11121 Brookshire Ave. or www.downeylibrary.org or call (562) 904-7360 ext. 3 to check out or reserve these new titles.

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FRED CLAUSE PG	(11:40 2:30) 5:20 8:10
P2 R	(12:15 2:45) 5:15 7:45 10:15
AMERICAN GANGSTER R	(11:00 2:30) 6:00 9:30
AMERICAN GANGSTER R	(12:00 3:30) 7:00 10:30
BEE MOVIE PG	(11:15 1:40 4:05) 6:30 8:55
BEE MOVIE PG	(12:15 2:40) 5:05 7:30 9:55
MARTIAN CHILD PG	(11:20 2:00 4:40) 7:20 10:00
SAW IV R	(12:00 2:30) 5:00 7:30 10:00
30 DAYS OF NIGHT R	(11:10 2:00 4:50) 7:40 10:30

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FRED CLAUUS	PG	(11:00, 11:45, 1:40, 2:25, 4:25, 5:10, 7:10, 7:50, 9:55, 10:35)
AMERICAN GANGSTER	R	Fri (11:00, 11:45, 1:40, 2:25, 4:25, 5:10, 7:10, 7:50, 9:55, 10:35)
AMERICAN GANGSTER	R	Fri (11:00, 11:45, 1:40, 2:25, 4:25, 5:10, 7:10, 7:50, 9:55, 10:35)
BEE MOVIE	PG	(11:30, 12:15, 2:00, 2:45, 4:30, 5:15, 7:00, 7:45, 9:30, 10:15)
THE MARTIAN CHILD	PG	(11:10, 1:45, 4:35, 7:05, 10:05)
DAN IN REAL LIFE	PG-13	(11:40, 2:10, 4:45, 7:20, 9:45)
SAW IV	R	(12:00, 2:35, 5:00, 7:30, 9:50)
LAKE DEAD	R	Fri (4:25); Sat 6:30; Mon (4:25); Tue 6:30; Thu (4:25)
BORDERLAND	R	Fri 10:30 PM; Sat 6:30; Mon 10:30 PM; Wed 6:30; Thu 10:30 PM
CRAZY EIGHTS	NR	Sat (4:25); Sun 10:30 PM; Tue (4:25); Wed 10:30 PM; Thu (2:00)
MULBERRY STREET	R	Fri (2:00); Sat 10:30 PM; Mon (2:00); Tue 10:30 PM; Thu (2:00)
NIGHTMARE MAN	R	Fri (11:50 AM); Sun 8:30; Mon (11:50 AM); Wed 8:30; Thu (11:50 AM)
TOOTH & NAIL	R	Sat 8:30; Sun (2:00); Tue 8:30; Wed (2:00)
UNHEARTED	R	Fri 8:30; Sat (11:50 AM); Sun (4:25); Mon 8:30; Tue (11:50 AM); Wed (4:25); Thu 8:30

Times for Friday-Thursday, November 9-15, 2007

Bargain Matinee () Advance ticket sales Special Engagement/No Passes * www.kptmovies.com

Third-graders treated to 'spooky' music

By Joyce Sherwin, Downey Symphony

DOWNEY – Downey's third-graders are a great theatre audience. They dress up because the occasion is special. They arrive on time and find their seats quickly. They have boned up on stuff to be presented so they can listen with understanding. Understanding heightens their appreciation. Appreciation generates enthusiasm and their enthusiasm spills over to the delighted performers on stage who, in this instance, are the members of the Downey Symphony Orchestra.

The concerts presented for all Downey Unified third-grade classes took place in the Civic Theatre the week before Halloween, and guest conductor Sharon Lavery announced some "spooky, scary music," to cheers and clapping. When she donned a long, black witch's cape and pointy hat to conduct "Night on Bald Mountain," the audience was eating from her hand.

To involve the kids still more in this music, she set the scene of a city on Halloween night beleaguered by witches, who spend a lot of time gossiping (busy work from the string section).

"When you hear that theme," Lavery told the students, "wiggle your fingers in front of your face." Six-hundred twenty kids try out their hand wiggles.

"Now, the head witch really means business," she warned them. "When you hear this second theme, grab your hair in fear of her." All arms rose and grabbed.

"But there are knights protecting the city, represented by the brass section. When you hear that music, put your fist over your heart." Thumps.

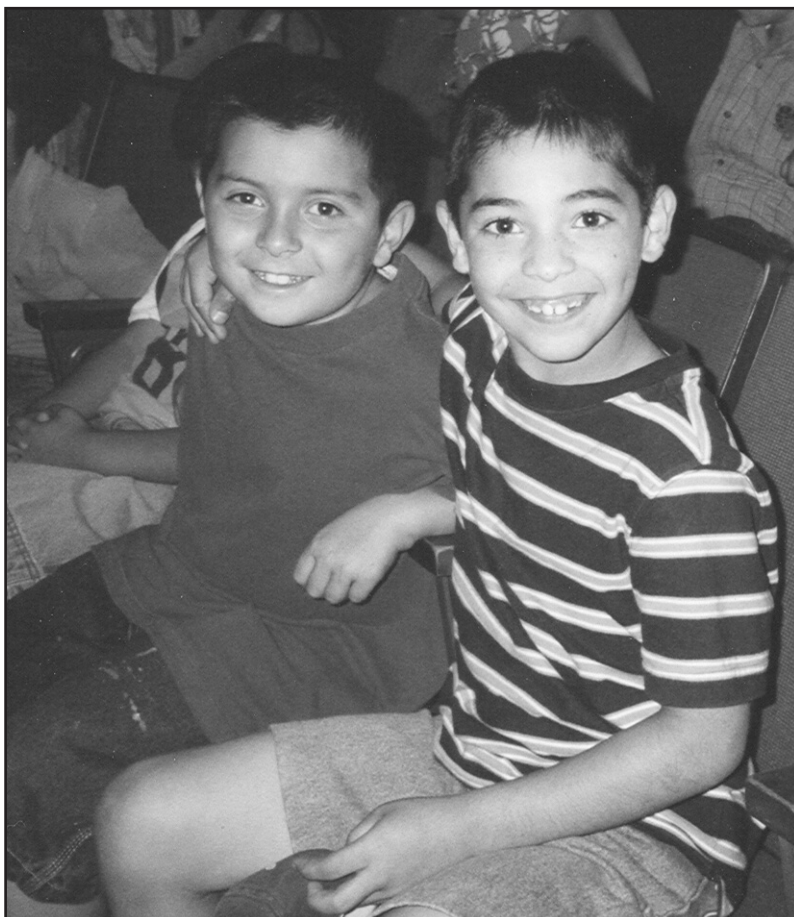
During the three concerts presented that morning, one right after the other because the theatre can't hold 1,609 kids, Lavery introduced the instruments of the orchestra, proceeding from one section to the next, smallest size first, asking the players to lift the instruments high. Amazingly, at each concert the kids' reactions sounded the same: Oh's of appreciation grew through the string section to shouts for the enormous string basses, taller than a man. Then on to the trumpets ("O-o-h"), trombones ("O-o-o-o-h-h"), and then the huge, gleaming silver tuba, hoisted mightily overhead. That brought the house down. Then they heard, and understood, an extended work for orchestra illustrating the instruments' sounds, narrated by violinists Joyce Osborn.

To complete each performance, Lavery chose Tchaikovsky's "Marche Slav," and said to her audience, "Now I need you to count how many times we play the main theme. This is what it sounds like." As the work progressed and she turned once or twice, just slightly, to cue the kids a little, but soon there was a flurry of recognition whenever they heard the theme. At the end, she asked how many times it was played. "Five! Five!" they called out.

"Five! Good for you!" she said, grinning. "Five times is right – an excellent job! Thank you for sharing your hearts and your ears today. You are a great audience."



Third grade students were all smiles with Dr. Walter Kelley (standing), Symphony Board member, and Art Morris (sitting), whose affiliation with Downey Savings and Loan helped gain their support of \$17,000 to make the concerts possible.



Kevin, left, and Walter, third grade students in the Downey Unified School District, enjoyed a complimentary Downey Symphony concert last month. The show introduced the kids to classical instruments and featured music from Tchaikovsky. Photos by Joyce Sherwin

Winter camps for kids starts Dec. 26 in Downey

DOWNEY – The City of Downey Community Services Department will be offering two winter camps from Dec. 26 to 28, and Dec. 31 to Jan. 4 at Wilderness Park for youth ages 6 to 14 and "Camp for Champs" for ages 6 to 18.

Cost is \$80 a week and \$75 for an additional child from the same family. Weekly fees include supervision, lunch and beverage, daily snack, and a weekly excursion, which will be to Krikorian Theatres the first week and the Long Beach Aquarium the second week. Camp hours are from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and extended care is available from 7 to 9:30 a.m., and 3:30 to 6 p.m. Extended care costs \$35 a week and \$30 for a second family member.

The camp will give youth an opportunity to make new friends and participate in holiday crafts, activities and weekly excursions.

"Camp for Champs" is a comprehensive camp for youth who have permanent physical and mental disabilities that limit their mobility and inhibit their participation in able-bodied programs. The children represent a wide variety of diagnoses, including spina bifida, autism, down syndrome and other disabilities.

Registration begins on Nov. 19 at the Community Services Department, 11111 Brookshire Ave. F or information, call (562) 904-7238.

Skin tones and face lifts discussed

DOWNEY – The El Dorado Chapter of the American Business Women's Association will have their next meeting on Wednesday at the Rio Hondo Events Center at 5:30 p.m.

Guest speaker Cynthia Rowland will demonstrate how to lift your face in seconds and renew skin tone to see immediate results.

Social hour is from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., followed by dinner.

Reservations can be made by calling Nada Kabis at (562) 884-4790, or emailing Nada2@charter.net.

DMOA celebrates 50th with tributes to founder

By Henry Veneracion, Staff Writer

As was fitting, the tributes to the founder of the Downey Museum of Art who could not be present at its 50th anniversary's Luncheon Saturday came profusely and laced with words of gratitude.

Alice Woodrow, now 91, endowed the community of Downey with her gift of vision, they said, and left a footprint to guide future generations of art lovers. DMOA executive director Kate Davies recounted how art patron and supporter Woodrow originally struck a deal with the county fifty years ago, allowing her to build and open DMOA in the county-owned park which became Furman. Woodrow later donated the building to the city when the latter acquired the park, but with the proviso that "it would always be home to DMOA."

Davies said she was finally able to speak with Woodrow "after all these years," and this is what the founder told her: "In 1957 the city came to me. They asked me to create a collection for them like I had for Gallatin School. I told them no. Then I told them that I would create an art museum and provide the building, too, if they provided the land. This was always to be for the Downey Museum of Art's use forever. And the museum was always to be autonomous. They could never tell us what to show or do. This was agreed to." The museum was to exclusively showcase modern art, the first to do so.

Davies says she is committed to the construction of a Glidhouse that would harbor "the best in art, culture and sustainable living."

Also honored at the anniversary event were Vinetta Lough, founding board member of DMOA and still a staunch supporter; the Art Angels; DMOA past and current board members; and Lillian Ashton Brooks, who was cited for her "vision, energy, great tenacity, and out-

standing leadership." Past board members included: Carl and Carol Greenwood, Janice Jamison, Margo Hoffer, Catherine Pannell, Shirlee MacDowell, Marvel Dodson, Beverly Mathis, Dr. Mary Stauffer, Bill Hare, Lois Rossi, Lorine Parks, and the late Kim Gould, Sara and Harry Garo, and Dorothy Levin. Comprising the current board are Carmela Spencer, president; Jeff Marks, vice-president; Ed Hare St., treasurer; George Redfox, Shirley Haworth, Lillian-Ashton Brooks, Ara Oshagan, Jeff Millet, and Jenny Pridham, members.

The luncheon concluded with a fashion show with the ever witty and ebullient Marsha Moode calling the action. She got an ovation when it was mentioned that it was her 18th year to conduct the show.

Models included Barbara Briley-Beard, Jenny Pridham, Dr. Mary Stauffer, and Lynn Drilling Brooks.

The Downey Museum of Art is located at Furman Park.

JOIN US FOR THANKSGIVING!

November 22nd Open For Breakfast At 6:30 A.M. Served 12-9 p.m.

Roast Turkey.....	\$9.95
(with stuffing, sweet potatoes & cranberry sauce)	
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Charter Ball 2007

■ The Memorial Trust Foundation of Downey Regional Medical Center conducted its 32nd annual Charter Ball on Saturday, November 3 at the Hyatt Regency Orange County. The event featured dining, dancing, and a performance by the World Classic Rockers. More than 700 guests attended, with net proceeds estimated at \$125,000.



The City meets the State: pictured from left are Downey City Council Member Kirk Cartozian, State Assemblymember Hector De La Torre, Downey Regional Medical Center CEO Kenneth Strople, State Senator Alan Lowenthal and Downey City Council Member Mario Guerra.



Charter Ball honorees Dr. David and Lisa Berger (center) are joined by their sons, Alex (far left) and Charlie (far right). Dr. Berger, an endocrinologist, is one of more than 450 physicians on staff at Downey Regional Medical Center.

Kaiser's project manager eats dirt...literally

BY GWYNN GUSTAFSON, KIWANIS CLUB OF DOWNEY

DOWNEY – David Chacon, senior project manager for the Kaiser Permanente Downey Medical Center scheduled to open late 2009, addressed the Kiwanis Club of Downey last week. David took on the momentous project in 2003 and has been “sleeping, breathing and eating dirt” during the past four years as crews dig below street level, pound over 2,000 seismic reinforcement piles into bedrock, and transform the 30-acre site into a premier healthcare facility.

With considerably less square footage than Kaiser Permanente Bellflower, the new center is designed to allow future expansion, while maintaining improved efficiency. Esthetically pleasing hues of apricot, tan and white accent the modular forms on the exterior and an angled covering above the driveway transforms the overall look of the center.

Phase one of the new medical center was completion of the Garden Medical Offices, which opened in 2006, while construction on the hospital and central plant continued next door. As with all hospitals, Kaiser is constructing its own backup power and water supply systems, housed in a state-of-the-art 30,000 square-foot facility.

The Kaiser Permanente Downey Medical Center will be a 352-bed hospital, as is the Bellflower center, but will offer the latest in operational efficiencies. There will be a six-story patient tower that will include labor, delivery and recovery rooms with an additional 49 beds in a Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. The Emergency Department will open with 65 beds.

If you have ever been in a Kaiser Hospital, you find out very quickly that it's easy to get lost.

“We won't have strips of color tape on the floor to direct you, but there will be a large color-coded sign outside each elevator detailing what departments are on that floor,” said Chacon.

Regardless of where you travel, and if there is a Kaiser facility nearby, digital technology now allows for immediate transfer of files so you get un-compromised excellent care. Chacon said plans are now underway to replace facilities in Fontana, Anaheim and the South Bay.

For information on the Kiwanis Club of Downey, call John Casillas at (562) 658-4460.

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Two businesswomen are at the helms of DRMC's boards of directors. Susanne Sundberg (left) serves as chair of the Downey Regional Medical Center Hospital Board, while Kathy Hampton (right) serves as chair of the Downey Regional Medical Center Corporate Board.



Jaime Garcia, left, and David Chacon, gave an update recently on the new Kaiser Permanente hospital slated to open in two years.

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GOOD's anti-crime efforts revisited

■ Jackson says gangs hesitate to form in Downey due to visible police presence.

BY HENRY VENERACION, STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY—Gangs Out of Downey (G.O.O.D.) president Darrell Jackson reminded his fellow Rotarians at their regular meeting Tuesday that the problem of crime, by its very nature, hasn't gone—and won't go—away soon. At the same time, he thanked the members for their past and continuing donations for gang prevention, suppression and intervention purposes in Downey, efforts that have contributed to the relative calm prevailing in the city.

Jackson said that G.O.O.D., and its component, the 10-20 Club, under Ernest Caldwell's direction, utilize these donations to fund the organization's programs, including scholarships especially for the city's at-risk youth, in coordination with the police department and the Downey Unified School District.

Whenever there is a gathering of retired baseball players, often in a golf tournament setting, which could include the likes of a Dave Winfield or a Rod Carew, Jackson said the first question he's asked is what he's been doing. He never hesitates in proclaiming, he said, and proudly at that, his involvement with G.O.O.D. in the forward-looking city of Downey.

Jackson acknowledged the influence and assistance that came from Stan Hanstad when at one critical juncture in his life after baseball he himself reached a crossroads, when he could have easily fallen through the cracks.

Ernest Caldwell, the once-incarcerated head of the 10-20 Club which just recently “graduated” a few kids who decided to turn their lives around, said as much, thanking the Rotarians for “doing a good job” on behalf of the kids who want to rehabilitate themselves but who need guidance and support.

“Downey is strong,” he said. “There's no gang here in Downey now. There's just ‘crews’. Gangs hate Downey because they see so many cops, and this is good. But all this has required a team effort. You Rotarians are doing your part. Please continue to do so. Let's keep our guard up.”

It's not clear yet what share Downey will get if and when the refurbished COPS (Community-Oriented Policing Services) is approved by Congress. It will be, according to presidential candidate Sen. Joseph Biden Jr. (D-Del.), who sponsored the bill, the most comprehensive anti-crime package since his own 1994 crime bill. COPS would provide up to 50,000 more police officers over six years, as well as add 1,000 FBI agents to focus on local crime-fighting.

In support of COPS, the president of the U.S. Conference of Mayors said: “You can't have homeland security without hometown security.”

Mr. Downey competition tomorrow

DOWNEY – The Downey Rose Float Association will be hosting the Mr. Downey and Little Mr. Downey Competition tomorrow at the Downey Theatre at 6 p.m.

Those competing for Mr. Downey are Sergio Arceo, Carl Johnson, Josh Perez, Jerry Martinez, Jonathon Del Rio, Brandon Pineda, Erick Hayes, Michael Aviles, Azir Akil, Billy Pizano, Olme Palancio, Chris Morfin, Jesus Martinez, Andrew Castro and George Guzman.

Those competing for Little Mr. Downey are Leo Valencia, Sebastian Padron, Dimitri Politis, George Anaya, Stavros Politis and Nicholas Cueto.

Tickets are \$20 and proceeds go towards the 2008 Rose Float, “Wild Western Days.”

Those interested in attending or sponsoring the event are asked to call Susan Domen at (562) 824-7172.

Soroptimist looks to honor young woman

DOWNEY – The Soroptimist International of Downey is seeking candidates for the Violet Richardson Award, an award that honors young women between the ages of 14 and 17, for community volunteer action, such as fighting drugs amongst the young people in our community, crime prevention, and violence awareness, cleaning up the environment, and working to end discrimination and poverty.

The Violet Richardson Award was named after the first Soroptimist president in 1921. The award program begins at the local Soroptimist club level, where Soroptimist International of Downey presents a cash award to a local volunteer. The winner then becomes eligible for one of several \$1,000 awards.

Applications for the award program are available at local high schools, Downey City Library, and other agencies where teens volunteer. Applications are due by the first week of December.

For information, call Patricia Kotze at (562) 319-0411.

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POLICE RIDE

Continued from page 1

9 units to sniff out the suspect. Like before, a Downey Police sergeant plotted his units to form a tight boundary around the suspect.

Unfortunately, as police staked out the freeway brush, and with the Sheriff's Department dog unit only 10 minutes away, supervisors called off the search. Apparently witnesses at Ward had changed their story, and seemed to now know the identity of the alleged burglar.

Again, we didn't meander at the scene. We rode off.

Gomez knows the nooks and crannies of Downey, from every dead-end street and one-way road to the Section 8 apartment units densely packed south of Florence Avenue, behind the Del Rio Lanes bowling alley. This is where Gomez drove us, on instinct, about 10 p.m. And, sure enough, trouble was looming.

A black Chevy Impala had just dropped off two male Hispanics - baggy pants, oversized white T-shirts, shaved heads - who were headed inside a gated apartment complex. "They're up to no good," Gomez said out loud, more to himself than to me. But because the two hadn't committed any crime yet, Gomez had no way of detaining them.

He whistled for them to stop but the two men (late teens to early 20's) wanted nothing of it; they ignored him and simply walked away.

Gomez wasn't discouraged. He turned his cruiser around and went for the Impala, who had driven off at the sight of us. Gomez found the car lurking in a cul-de-sac and waited a few seconds for him to drive out. Lucky for us, the Impala made an illegal right turn onto Florence, a green light for a traffic stop.

The driver of the Impala was a 17-year-old Columbus High School student. An admitted gang member, he showed off the tattoos scrawled on his back and chest: his mother's name, intertwined with thorny roses; his girlfriend's name, in delicate, cursive font; and his last name, stenciled in fat block letters.

Gomez took photos of each tattoo. He also snapped photos of the boy gesturing his gang signs, photos that would be sent to Downey gang detectives who would store and analyze the information.

Because the boy was respectful, cooperative and, above all, truthful, Gomez didn't cite him for the traffic infraction. "It's important for us to build a relationship," Gomez said of the boy. "Now he knows that I know him."

By this time the clock was creeping towards midnight. We didn't have much time to eat, so after quickly gulping down an In-N-Out burger and filling up with a tank of gas from the Public Works yard behind Independence Park, we were off to the Mobile gas station near Imperial Highway and Lakewood Boulevard, where we found a teen who had been shot at by a passing car.

The boy said he had stopped at a Bellflower liquor store where he exchanged dirty looks with the occupants of a silver Mercedes. Words were exchanged, and the teen got back inside his black Dodge sedan and drove away. The Mercedes apparently followed.

The two cars traveled north on Bellflower Boulevard. As they crossed city limits into Downey, somebody from the silver Mercedes opened fire on the Dodge. The Mercedes then hopped on the 105 Freeway eastbound and disappeared into the night.

Two bullets pierced the Dodge's rear quarter panel. One bullet came to rest in the passenger side seat, inches from the lucky teen that almost had his life snuffed out due to a perceived "dirty look."

Shootings, of course, are taken seriously. Police cordoned off the Bellflower onramp to the 105 as they searched for spent shell casings. They found two, lying in the street. An officer took measurements and photographs before collecting the evidence.

Tomorrow, it would be up to detectives to piece together the crime. In the meantime, the CHP was notified to be on the lookout for a newer silver Mercedes with paper plates.

Later that night Gomez would pull over cars for expired registrations, illegal U-turns and other petty infractions. One of the drivers he pulled over was a man driving on a suspended license, his license privileges having been taken away in 2003 for a DUI charge.

Gomez didn't arrest the man (although he could have) or impound the man's car (he could have done that too). But the man was cited and, at 2 a.m., forced to call his wife and sheepishly ask for a ride home.

When the wife showed up a few minutes later, the look on her face tells me the man was probably wishing he had been arrested after all.



Mick and Betty Collier, Downey residents since 1960, recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. Over 60 of their closest relatives and friends celebrated the event at a backyard gathering. They have two children, Kellie and Richard, and one granddaughter, Lyndsey.

Boy Scouts teaching citizenship and character

BY GWYNNE GUSTAFSON, KIWANIS CLUB OF DOWNEY
DOWNEY - "Scouting is fun while teaching children citizenship. Character-building and morals, as well as self-sufficiency," said Jim McCarthy, district director of the Los Angeles Council, Boy Scouts of America, at a recent Kiwanis Club of Downey meeting.

"Many of these objectives are learned through projects like the Pinewood Derby," McCarthy said. The Pinewood Derby is more than building a car with balsa wood and running it down a ramp. It's a decade's-long tradition that teams parent and child in a fun learning experience. Parents get to teach their children skills with tools, and the child feels a sense of accomplishment while spending special time with mom and dad.

Learning life skills may not sound fun, but consider you are a group of 10-year-olds and you get to plan a field trip, start to finish, without parents telling you "no." You select hiking and a cookout. Hike five miles and cook canned ravioli, because you don't have to catch or clean ravioli. They quickly learn canned goods are not great for backpacking trips. Life skill

learned. There are no limits to the value of scouting except, "We need parents who are ready to be involved with their child's scouting experience," said Jim. Scouting is for every child grades first through twelfth.

Each level brings families together as the Scouts plan and work toward earning Merit Badges - which can even set a child on a life path - choosing a hobby that turns into a living. For example, a child may earn a badge for plumbing and learn cleaning pipes is pretty "yucky."

"Venturing & Exploring" teaches teenage Scouts how to socialize in a co-ed situation. "Hi Adventure" brings the scouts together in competition, such as snow skiing and surfing. Many more opportunities await your child as they grow in the Scout tradition.

To learn more how your child can become a Scout, call McCarthy at (213) 413-4400, ext. 282, or visit www.boyscoutsla.org.

For information on the Kiwanis Club of Downey, call John Casillas at (562) 658-4460.

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Warren jumps all over Downey

By SCOTT COBOS, CONTRIBUTOR

DOWNEY – If Al Michaels and John Madden were announcing this game, they would have tired from saying the names Alfonso Gonzalez and Bailey Cowins.

Warren's dynamic duo hooked up seven times for 96 yards and three touchdowns in their 27-7 romp over cross town rival Downey High School.

The real highlight machine of the two was Gonzalez with his accuracy and efficiency completing 14 of 17 attempts for 208 total yards through the air. Gonzalez also managed to scramble for 25 yards.

"Fonzie [Gonzalez] did a great job for us tonight," said Warren head coach Jeff Welch. "Fonzie can do a great job when he focuses and gets zoned in on what he needs to do offensively. But I'm really proud of him. It was a big night for him."

Gonzalez's win over Downey marks the first time in his career he triumphed over the Vikings.

"It was amazing," he said. "I just focused tonight and dug deep in my heart and had a good game."

Warren's win could be seen as tainted by the Downey faithful as they watched one of their best players fall to injury only 6:29 into the game. Downey running back and defensive back Jeremiah Higgins was diagnosed with a broken ankle after a play on defense.

"That killed us," said Downey head coach Will Capps. "He's our best guy. That really did a number on our guys."

It's hard to see the game as off balanced due to an injury because of the odd week both teams had. Warren and Downey both played on Monday and only had three days to prepare for each other.

While Capps thought the short week didn't matter, Welch thought otherwise especially after their loss to Gahr who currently holds the second spot in the SGVL.

"I didn't show them the film," he said. "We didn't talk about the game. I told them what's done is done. We knew we made mistakes. We knew we played poorly but because Downey was here so quick, I didn't have time for negativity with them in anyway. We were just going to get ready for Downey at that point and the kids did a great job."

Warren's offense controlled the ball most of the game and chewed up precious seconds off the clock. What looked to possibly be a close game after the previous games of both teams, Warren came out and squashed any doubt they were the better team.

After the loss to Gahr, Warren's defense looked susceptible to the pass but quickly answered that question by shutting down Viking's quarterback Antonio Mendez. Mendez on the night was 11 for 25 for 110 yards and a touchdown.

Mendez accounted for most of Downey's offense as the Bears only allowed 197 yards total to Downey. The Vikings didn't score until the last quarter with 9:39 left in the game. Mendez connected with his receiver on a 9-yard fade pass in the end zone.

"They out played us and executed their game," Capps said. "We were undisciplined and they were disciplined."

With one game remaining, one team could be looking from the outside in to the playoff picture. Right now, Warren holds that edge with their victory over the Vikings. For Downey to stay alive, they need to beat Gahr this Friday on the road.

"If we beat Gahr, we're in third place," said Capps about the playoff picture. "We plan on beating Gahr."

While what Capps says is true, it's only partially true. Downey does indeed need to beat Gahr, but they also need Warren to lose to Dominguez. If that happens, Gahr, Warren and Downey gather for a coin flip to see who gets in to the post season.

"Working for an entire year to get to the playoffs, the worse thing that can happen is you have to determine it with a coin flip but if that's the way you have to get in that's the way you have to get in," said Welch. "But we're hoping we took care of our destiny tonight."

Both teams are on the road tonight. Warren wraps up their regular season at Dominguez while Downey finishes up at Gahr. Both game times are 7 p.m.

Razorbacks bid farewell to eighth grade players

By MIKE BAUMANN, DOWNEY YOUTH FOOTBALL

DOWNEY – Playoff week for the local youth tackle teams participating in the Pacific Coast Conference started last Thursday with a CIF type tie-breaker for the Downey Razorback Jr. PeeWee team (players 8, 9, and 10 years old). The tie-breaker was forced upon the teams due to the fact that there was a three-way tie for second place in the standings of the Northern League.

Downey, Santa Monica and Culver City met in the 10-yard tie-breaker format. Downey eliminated Santa Monica with a shutout in the first contest, but lost to Culver City in the second.

The Jr. Midget Razorback's (5-4), season ended in defeat to the Lakewood Longhorns in the first round of the playoffs, 42-14. Although Downey scored on their initial possession, the Longhorns scored three times in the second quarter to lead 22-6.

The Longhorns scored again in the third quarter for a 30-6 lead, and also on an interception in the fourth quarter to build their lead to 42-6. Downey's Jr. Midgets eighth grade players David Seanz, Robert Davalos, Vaughn Cuttress, Thomas Foskarino and Derek Alcantara will move on to high school next season, leaving a solid core for the 2008 Midget team.

Similarly, the 7-2 Midget Razorback's season ended in the first round of the conference playoff game with the Lakewood Titans, 22-8. The Hogs were able to move the ball well, but fumbles and penalties stymied all but their first drive, which put them ahead 8-6. In the second quarter, two off-tackle power runs by Lakewood put them ahead to stay and sent them to the second round game with the Palos Verde 49ers.

Running backs Derek Smith, Dwayne Franklin and Shane Baumann gained good yardage all game long. Andrew Magana led the Hog attack with accurate passing, but, in the end, they could not overcome the critical mistakes.

The defense, led by Eddy C. Moreno, Jabari Ruffin, Ryan McFaddin, Joseph Palacios, Refugio Quinones, Sam Austin, and Michael De La Cruz, held the Titan offense the second half, including a goal line stand. The entire Midget team is made up of eighth grade student athletes and they will be performing on Thursday afternoons next season in area high schools.

We wish all the eighth grade players on both teams the very best in their high school careers.

Downey Pop Warner will host the Conference Championship games on Saturday Nov. 17, at Downey High School.

It Wasn't Even Close...



Warren's Alfonso Gonzalez (11) led the Bears to a 27-7 victory over cross-town rivals Downey last week. Warren travels to Dominguez tonight. Photo by Art Montoya

Warren alumni return to the courts

DOWNEY – The Warren Bears Boys Basketball Program will be hosting their annual Alumni Night on Nov. 20 in the Warren High School gym.

The night will include an inter-squad scrimmage between the freshmen and junior varsity teams, followed by the alumni game, which is between the varsity squad and returning alumni. The alumni game begins at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$2 and can be purchased at the door or from any member of the Warren Basketball Program.

The community is invited to attend and will get the opportunity to meet the varsity team, as well as the coaching staff.

For information, contact Warren's athletic department by calling (562) 869-7306.

Meanwhile, the Warren High School girls basketball program will be having their annual Alumni Game on Nov. 21 at 6 p.m. in the Warren gym.

Lady Bears alumni are invited to play and the community is welcome to attend. A reception will follow the game.

For information, call Coach Shefonda Colbert at (562) 869-7306, ext. 5858.

Enjoy the view from the top, while it lasts

By JACQUELINE MEJIA, CONTRIBUTOR

Growing up in Southern California meant that the words "college football" became synonymous with the University of Southern California and University of California-Los Angeles football teams. Even in Downey, playful teasing could be heard from alumni and fans about which team would come out on top every fall.

Yet as the second weekend in November rolls by, USC is ranked 17th and UCLA is not ranked at all. Trojan and Bruin alumni and fans (along with the rest of the nation) are hushed as they stare in disbelief at the rankings.

USC and UCLA are joined by a whole group of football powerhouses that are slowly starting to see their football dynasties slip away from under them. The underdogs of football are finally receiving their time in the spotlight. The waves of change started crashing down when the unranked Stanford Cardinals beat the Trojans in September, who at that point were one of the best teams. Next came the Week 7 knockdowns of USC and Cal, along with the domination of Ohio State at No. 1. Now in the 10th week of play, the Ohio State Buckeyes still lead the rankings, and only two Pac-10 teams are in the Top 10.

Many fans from former star football schools may not be too happy with the stats, but college towns around the nation are now rejoicing in the glory that their teams are slowly attaining.

One example is Columbia, Missouri. Some stores and restaurants are closed just for game day, alumni from St. Louis and Kansas City drive two hours to see the impressive offense, and the most recognizable jersey by far this season is Chase Daniel's #10 jersey. He is the leading man for the Tigers, a junior quarterback from Southlake, Tex. who is in the running for this year's Heisman Trophy.

Tigers Lair (a special section of the stadium where enthusiastic students dress in gold shirts) is constantly pushing the morale of the Mizzou Tigers to its full potential with their passionate cheering skills.

"Columbia has shown itself to be a true football town, in the past and in [this] season. It's just an overwhelming support for Mizzou. Columbia is a die-hard Mizzou fan, especially in football," said freshman Jim Stites, a member of the Tigers Lair. This past weekend, Missouri (who is ranked 6th) was predicted to only defeat Colorado by three points, yet they proved predictions mean nothing with their rock-solid win at Boulder.

A couple of hours prior to the Mizzou game, the Navy Midshipmen were celebrating the collapse of Notre Dame's Fighting Irish, who had a winning streak against the Navy for 43 years. It has been said though that perhaps the largest upset this year belongs to Appalachian State, who beat Michigan 34-32 over Labor Day weekend.

LSU is one of the only dynamic teams that is still hanging on to their preseason presence. They are in the number two spot, a position Boston College held only a couple of weeks ago. A university known for mostly its academics, Boston College is another school joining the ranks of Kansas and Missouri as one of the Top 10 football surprises.

The teams who are on top right now better appreciate the view from up there because in this topsy-turvy time of year, they can be coming down towards the bottom 20 at any moment.

Jacqueline Mejia is a former intern for The Downey Patriot. She's currently studying journalism at the University of Missouri



Sussman Middle School girls varsity volleyball team ended their season as the undefeated champions. Picture, back row, left to right: Coach Regan, Heather Schnars, Sabrina Estrada, Lina Lopez, and Desirae Romero. Front row: Elizabeth Hernandez, Michelle Flores, Rayana Villalpando, Elizabeth Felix, and Mayra Barrajas

Warren cross country win title

DOWNEY – Warren High School's girl's cross-country finished with four girls in the top seven finishers, while Downey came in with two girls in the top seven, at a track meet last Friday in La Mirada.

The Warren girls finished the race with runners coming in second, third, sixth, and seventh places. The Downey girls finished with girls coming in fourth and fifth.

Warren boys finished with four boys in the top seven, first, second, third, and fifth places, respectively. Junior Mario Castillo finishing in first place as the San Gabriel Valley League Champion with a new course record time of 15:49.

Both Warren boys and girls finished as undefeated league champs, while the Downey girls came in second and the Downey boys came in fourth in league.

Both Warren teams, along with the Downey girls team, advanced to run Pre-lims at Mt. San Antonio College tomorrow. – Art Montoya

Submit your team's photos and stats! E-mail Eric at downeypatriot@yahoo.com

Youth sports welcome



Warren High School cross country, boys and girls, will compete tomorrow at Pre-lims at Mt. SAC. Both teams finished undefeated this season, winning the league championship.

Kenneth A. Wisner owned B & K Transfer

DOWNEY – Kenneth A. Wisner, owner and operator of B & K Transfer of Downey for over 50 years, passed away on Oct. 30 in Gun Barrel City, Texas. He was 80.

Wisner was born on March 18, 1927 in Deer Lodge, Mont. to Peter and Willimena Wisner. He lived in Downey while running B & K Transfer, also attending St. Raymond Catholic Church. He and his wife, Edna, moved to Gun Barrel City in 2004.

Wisner was preceded in death by both parents, and brother Earl.

He is survived by his wife Edna; sons Steven Lynn Wisner and William "Bill" Wisner; daughter Cindy Robin Pritchard; grandchildren Billy Wisner, Jr., David Wisner, Megan Turner, and Allen Pritchard; great-grandchildren Samantha, Justin and Amber; sister Olive Heltborg; and half-sister Barbara Brown.

Services were held last weekend in Gun Barrel City. Donations can be made in his name and sent to St. Jude Catholic Church, 172 Luther Ln., Gun Barrel City, TX, 75156. A guest registry may also be signed at www.andersonclaytonbros.com.



The City of Downey Youth Fishing Event celebrated a decade of fishing at Wilderness Park last Saturday.

Youth event teaches kids how to fish

DOWNEY – Over 1,200 youth and families attended the 10th Annual Youth Fishing Event at Wilderness Park on Saturday.

Sponsored by the City of Downey and the California Department of Fish and Game, the event included a pancake breakfast, Polaroid photos, five learn-to-fish stations, fly tying demonstration, and giveaways. The lakes at Wilderness Park were stocked with 1,500 pounds of catfish and 300 pounds of trout for the event.

Major sponsors were "Big Fish Partners," who provided t-shirts, supplies and fish for the event. Other sponsors included All American Home Center; Andrews Rancho; Blauvelt Signs; Bradley's Plastic Bag Company; C.A. State Lodge Fraternal Order of Police; California Department of Fish & Game; Classic Graphix; Coca-Cola Bottling Company; Domino's Pizza; Downey City Employees Federal Credit Union; Downey Federal Credit Union; Downey Fire Management Association; Downey Firemen's Association; Downey Fly Fishers; Downey F.O.P. Lodge 20; Downey Police Officers Association; Finch Family; G.O.O.D. Committee; Golf N' Stuff; Hometown Buffet; Imperial Catfish; In-N-Out Burger; Izaak Walton League; Knights of Columbus; L.A. F.O.P. Lodge 1; Maintenance Services Division; McDonald's; Nationwide Security and Building Services; Penske Toyota Scion; Public Safety Auxiliary Employees Association; Raasch Contracting Services; Rubio's (Downey); Savon Tackle; Southern California Gas Company; Stonewood Center; Target (Norwalk); Togo's (Downey); Wal-Mart; and World of Décor.

Volunteers and community groups that contributed to the event included the California Department of Fish and Game; City of Downey Community Services; City of Downey Maintenance Services; City of Downey Volunteers; Downey Fire Department; Downey Fire Explorers; Downey Fly Fishers; Downey Police Department; Downey Police Explorers; the Izaak Walton League of America; and the South Bay Lady Anglers.

Roy Thomas Wright was WWII veteran

DOWNEY – Roy Thomas Wright, Downey resident for 44 years, passed away on Oct. 12 at the age of 83.

Wright was born on Jan. 27, 1924 in Los Angeles. He served in WWII as an ambulance driver while stationed in Germany, and owned a skin diving shop in Long Beach during the fifties. He also worked as a steel mill roller for over 45 years.

He was preceded in death by wife of 63 years, Edna.

He is survived by children Eileen Mitchell, Doug Wright, Nancy Swenson and Donna Bernard; grandchildren Cheyenne and Sven Swenson, Sara Rivas, Adam Rocha, Jenalee Vesneski, Drew Bernard, and Kevin and Erin Wright; and great-grandchildren Genieve and Joseph Rivas, Elise Sophia Bernard, and Marley Lee Vesneski.

Services were held on Oct. 18 at Holy Cross Cemetery in Culver City.



Bellflower High School's JROTC color guard presented the colors and led the pledge of allegiance at the annual service academy workshop at the Downey City Library. Pictured are, left to right, Cadet Major David Ramirez; Cadet Lieutenant Stephanie Martinez; Cadet Lieutenant Adrienne Wilson; Cadet Captain Shawn Pelham; Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard (CA-34); and Lieutenant Colonel Gerry Fox, JROTC Senior Army Instructor and 1967 West Point graduate.

Easter Seals receives grant from Weingart

LOS ANGELES – The Weingart Foundation has awarded a \$500,000 grant to Easter Seal Southern California (ESSC). The grant, funded at \$250,000 per year for the next two years, will assist the organization to further establish innovative employment services to support people with disabilities to find and keep paid jobs. Specific goals associated with this grant include increasing the vocational skills of more than 1,100 adults supported by Easter Seals during the next two years, supporting at least 300 individuals to secure or maintain paid employment, supporting at least ten individuals to develop their own business and providing employment services education and training to all associates.

"This very generous grant by the Weingart Foundation directly impacts the people we support across Southern California in a positive way," said Mark Whitley, Easter Seals president and chief executive officer. "We can now increase services to more individuals and train front-line associates and other leadership staff to meet our goal of ensuring people with disabilities have equal opportunities to work."

Adults with disabilities have the same desire to work as other adults; however they are rarely given the opportunity to do so. The unemployment rate of working age – 18 to 64 – people with disabilities is 65 percent. In a survey of more than 1,200 constituents, Easter Seals found that at least 85 percent of individuals receiving services who were surveyed would like to work on their own, in a group, or start their own business. In addition, national statistics show that two out of three people with a disability want to work but do not because they are not hired for jobs and may have accessibility issues.

"People with disabilities want real jobs with real pay that give them the same choices as their non-disabled peers," said Beverly Mendez, ESSC chief operating officer. "The inability to find employment robs people with disabilities of their chance to gain financial security, equal social standing, self-confidence and the opportunity to be contributing tax-paying members of society."

For information, call Kim Cohn or Marianne Tomich in the Easter Seals Marketing Communications Department at (323) 330-0160.

Martha Puszczewicz passes away at 76

DOWNEY – Martha Jane Puszczewicz, Downey resident for over 50 years, passed away on Oct. 26 at the age of 76.

She is survived by sons David and Teddy; daughters Sandra and Kitty (Kirby); and three grandchildren.

Services were held on Nov. 1.

Christian club celebrates Thanksgiving

DOWNEY – The Downey Christian Women's Club will have their next meeting, "Happy Thanksgiving," on Wednesday at 11:45 a.m. at the Los Amigos Country Club.

The day will include a special feature by Music Boxes, music by Beverly Madra and guest speaker Donna Jacobson, who will discuss, "Chosen Twice for Adoption."

Cost is \$12 and includes a buffet lunch. Reservations are requested to be made by Monday.

For information, call Sonja at (562) 862-4347, or Delores at (562) 868-7135.

Class helps adults with Microsoft Word

DOWNEY – The Downey City Library will be offering "Beginning Microsoft Word" on Wednesday 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 beginner user," said instructor Claudia Dailey. "Our computer classes offer students time to practice and ask questions as they learn."

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

Money tree raffled off at bingo luncheon

DOWNEY – The Italian Catholic Federation of St. Raymond's Parish is having a "Bingo Luncheon" on Sunday at 1 p.m. in the Msgr. Robert Gipson Hall.

Donation is \$10, which includes one free bingo card, door prizes and lunch. A \$25 money tree, as well as other prizes, will be raffled off.

For tickets or information, call Aline Amatisto at (562) 693-9430, or Charlene Drobeck at (562) 928-1937.

Temple fundraiser at Golden Palace

DOWNEY – Temple Ner Tamid will be hosting a Chinese family-style fundraising dinner on Wednesday at the Golden Palace Restaurant at 6 p.m.

Donation is \$6 and reservations are required.

For information, call (562) 861-9276.

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Academies represented at workshop

DOWNEY – Service academy representatives met with area students and parents to discuss the academy's admission requirements and application process at Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard's annual service academy workshop at the Downey City Library.

Following a competitive admissions process, which includes a nomination from the congresswoman, academy students receive a free college education in return for serving at least five years in the military after graduation.

Representatives from all five of our nation's service academies – the U.S. Military Academy (West Point), U.S. Naval Academy, U.S. Air Force Academy, U.S. Coast Guard Academy, and the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy – were in attendance.

For more information about the application process, call the congresswoman's Los Angeles office at (213) 628-9230, or visit www.house.gov/roybal-allard.

Sisterhood meeting includes luncheon

DOWNEY – The Sisterhood of Temple Ner Tamid of Downey will hold its regular monthly board and general meeting on Wednesday at 11 a.m.

The meeting will be led by President Ruth Beck, followed by a Potato Latke (Pancake) Luncheon. Donation is \$6.

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

Children's Academy inaugural auction

DOWNEY – The Children's Academy of Success' Inaugural Silent Auction Gala will be tonight 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.

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CONTRIBUTED BY GWYNN GUSTAFSON, KIWANIS CLUB OF DOWNEY

DOWNEY – Dr. Gerald L. Coy spoke candidly on the value of chiropractic care at last week's Pro Networkers of Downey meeting, where he shared his passion for natural health services and the CHER clinic he began nearly 30 years ago.

Coy grew up in Cerritos, graduated from Bellflower High School and attended Palmer College of Chiropractic, earning his Doctor of Chiropractic degree in 1965. He has practiced in Downey for 38 years.

Most people in pain go right to the medical doctor, who treats the symptom of the problem (the pain) with medicine, said Coy. A chiropractor goes to the source of the pain, often caused by nerve interference, and treats by releasing the compromised nerve.

A patient might feel instant relief while oftentimes it takes a series of treatments – along with recommended strengthening exercises – to exact permanent relief, Coy said.

"We know that billions of dollars are spent annually treating illness, but little is invested on prevention. That is why I began Coy Chiropractic Institute, the only known public non-profit corporation, and CHER Foundation in 1978," Coy said. "We address problems that afflict the young, such as scoliosis, at a time when the problem can be corrected with chiropractic care, not with braces or surgery. This results in a better quality of life for them as adults."

Coy stressed that chiropractic care should be made available to everyone regardless of insurance or financial status. CHER, Coy said, is designed to help the uninsured; everyone receives care for free or is charged according to their ability to pay.

The CHER Foundation screens up to 500 patients per year, successfully treating many people who have suffered for years, Coy said.

"You don't swallow health. Health comes through proper nutrition, exercise and mental attitude," Coy said. "What you think will manifest itself in your life. Please send those who are in pain and need care to us. The CHER Clinic is here to serve you."

For more information on CHER, call (562) 776-1727 or visit them at 7444 Florence Ave., suite H.



Barbara Briley Beard, president of Pro Networkers, thanks Dr. Gerald L. Coy for speaking to the networking group last week.

Soroptimist helps women pay for school

DOWNEY – The Soroptimist International of Downey is currently offering Women's Opportunity Awards, worth \$750 each, to help women obtain additional skills or training to update their employment status. This year, Stonewood Center is partnering with the Soroptimist Club, offering an additional \$750 award.

Applicants should be head of the household and in the process of completing an undergraduate program or preparing to enter a vocational technical program. Applications are available at the Downey City Library and in the financial aid office at Cerritos College. Applications must be completed and mailed prior to Nov. 22.

For information, call Jean Brazelton at (562) 862-4768.

'Celebrate the Season' Nov. 18

DOWNEY – The Assistance League of Downey's Annual Christmas Tree Brunch, "Celebrate the Season," will be on Nov. 18 at 10 a.m. at the Long Beach Hilton.

Festivities include door prizes, drawings, hand-crafted items, collectibles, homemade treats and "spirit baskets." There will also be a silent auction and clothing and jewelry vendors, as well as an opportunity to win decorated Christmas trees.

The Citrus College Singers will be the event's entertainment.

Tickets are \$60 for adults and \$30 for children 12 and under, and must be purchased by Nov. 10.

Proceeds from "Celebrate the Season" will be used to fund Assistance League of Downey projects such as HOME, Operation School Bell, Kids on the Block, Books on Wheels, Hug-A-Bear, and more.

For information, call the Second Tyme Around Shoppe at (562) 869-0232.

OLPH Guild to view 'Dead Sea Scrolls'

DOWNEY – The Our Lady of Perpetual Help Women's Guild is sponsoring a day trip Nov. 14 to the San Diego Museum of Natural History to view the "Dead Sea Scrolls."

The group will board the Amtrak train at the Fullerton station for the two-hour trip.

Museum admission is \$20 while the roundtrip train ticket is \$40 for adults or \$32 for seniors. All fees must be paid to the Guild in advance.

There will also be an additional cost for the 2 1/2 mile taxi ride to and from the San Diego train station to the museum.

Guests need to find their own way to the Fullerton train station; carpools are being formed and drivers can volunteer by calling the OLPH Guild. The train will depart Fullerton at 9:02 a.m. and depart San Diego at 4 p.m.

For reservations, call Charlene McCluskey at (562) 776-1177 or (562) 884-7704.

Help serve Thanksgiving dinner to needy

DOWNEY – Volunteers are needed for the 16th Annual Thanksgiving Outreach Dinner to be held Nov. 16 at the Barbara J. Riley Community & Senior Center. Volunteers are needed to help prepare and serve a hot meal, set-up, decorate and more.

The dinner is being organized by Pastor Garnett Simpson-Grier and the Breath of God Christian Fellowship, in conjunction with the Aggressive Community Training and Services (ACTS) Foundation.

Food donations are also needed for the 100-plus baskets that will be prepared and distributed through Downey schools.

To volunteer or donate food, call the church office at (310) 767-9620.

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- "Maria Zuloaga was very professional and did a good job. All is well." **Odilon Hernandez**
- "Don Kay and Cheryl Olson did a tremendous job and truly exceeded my expectations. I would recommend them to anyone interested in selling or buying a house." **Bonita Brown**

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- 4bd/4ba - 9167 Dinsdale, Downey
- 3bd/2ba - 8612 Nada, Downey
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- 3bd/1.5ba - 16221 Queenside, Covina
- 2bd/1ba - 10226 Garfield, South Gate
- 3bd/3ba - 2115 S. Rosewood, Santa Ana
- 2bd/1ba - 11415 Bombardier, Norwalk
- 5bd/3.5ba - 10620 Shellyfield, Downey
- 4bd/3ba - 11722 Leibacher, Norwalk
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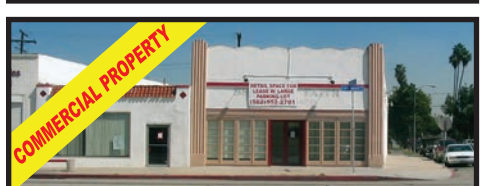
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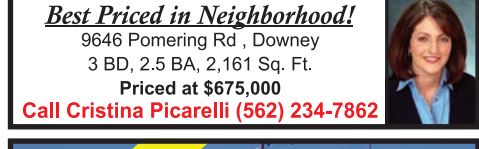
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3 BD, 2 BA, 2,000 Sq. Ft. of living space! Built in 1974.
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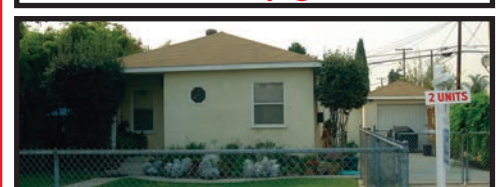
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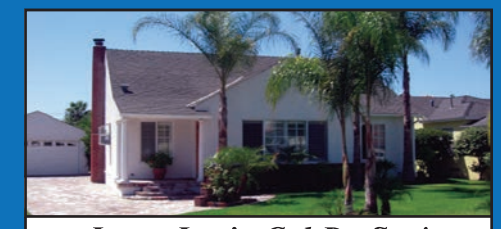
Such a Charmer!
3 bed, 2 bath, 1627 sq ft on a 7560 lot near Maude Price & Griffiths Middle School. Features include a formal living rm, large family rm, central A.C, updated kitchen & hardwood floors throughout. Boasting a park-like backyard w/lots of trees and Koi pond.
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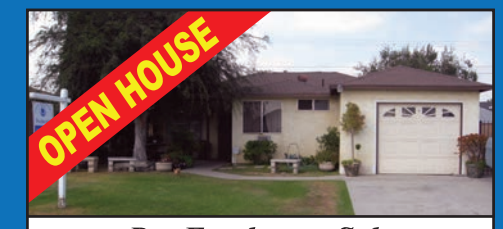
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New Construction - 2007!
New construction 4 bed, 3.5 baths, Granite counter tops in kitchen and baths. 2200 sqft., central air & heat, with beautiful landscaping.
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Spectacular New Construction
Spectacular New Construction. 5 bed, 4 bath, 3900 sq ft, 7500 sq ft lot, many amazing upgrades.
Price reduced to \$1,249,900.
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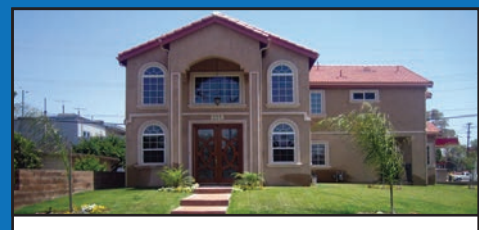
Large Lot in Cul-De-Sac!
3 bed, 2 bath, 1622 sq ft house in Downey, 7940 sq ft lot, remodeled kitchen, 2 car detached garage, plenty of storage space.
Price: \$649,900
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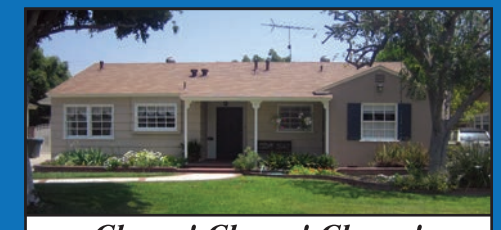
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3 bed, 2 bath Norwalk home with living room, family room, and master bedroom. Close to 5 freeway and Santa Fe Springs.
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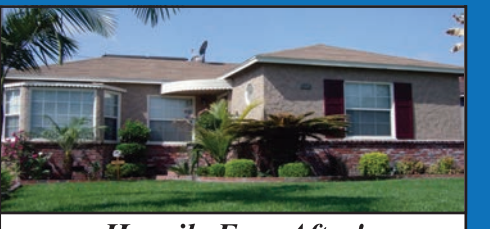
Champagne Taste, Beer Budget!
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4 bed with den & bonus room, 2 baths, approx 2200 sq ft living space, near Stonewood Mall, Rio San Gabriel Elem & East Middle
Price: \$675,000
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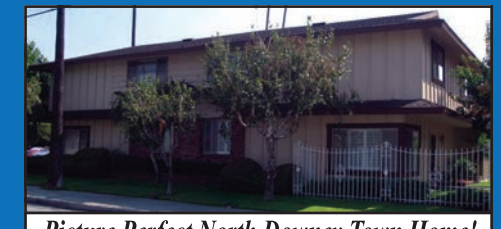
So Much for So Little!
3 bed, 2 bath pool home with extra large 2 car detached garage on quiet street in Downey. Home is 2,189 sq ft on a 7,380 sq ft lot.
Price: \$649,900
Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com



Happily Ever After!
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
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Too Many Upgrades to List
New Construction 2007- 5 bed, 4 bath, 3250 sq ft living space, many fine upgrades and touches.
Price \$1,249,950
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Picture Perfect North Downey Town Home!
3bed, 2.5 BA plus family room w/wet bar. The gourmet kitchen & breakfast room opens up to the lovely tiled patio.
Value Range Price: \$499,950-\$529,950
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OPEN HOUSE
"Welcome to the Island"
3 BR, 2 BA Downey home with 600 sq ft guest room, remodeled kitchen, spa, and circular driveway.
Price \$599,950
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