

# The Downey Patriot



Prepping for the Greek Festival See Page 3



Our nation's first ladies
See Page 10



Award-winning
photographs
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Friday, May 30, 2008

Vol. 7 No. 6

8301 E. Florence Ave., Suite 100, Downey, CA 90240

### -Musical Opens Tonight-



Heather Nichole White makes her second appearance with the Downey Civic Light Opera as Philia in "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum," which opens tonight and runs until June 15. The 1963 musical won a Tony Award and was made into a movie in 1966. White has appeared in numerous Southern California musicals and is currently working as Cinderella and Snow White at Disneyland. For tickets to "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum," call (562) 923-1714.

## Golf tournament gets major league support

By Scott Cobos, Contributor

**DOWNEY** – Former Dodger Kenny Landreaux and two-time-baseball all star Hubie Brooks headlined the list of players at the annual Gangs Out of Downey (GOOD) Golf Tournament at the Rio Hondo Golf Club Wednesday afternoon.

Landreaux and Brooks helped support GOOD and the 10-20 Club's cause by participating in the tournament, which was expected to bring in approximately \$7,000 in funds, according to outgoing GOOD president Darrell Jackson.

GOOD, an extension of the 10-20 Club, identifies kids from the Downey Unified School District and other youth in Downey that are showing early signs of gang behavior.

The organization provides early intervention and immediate intervention with current gang members and helps kids stay away from gangs and gang-related activity.

Their goal is to get them through high school and then help with employment or scholarships if they choose to continue in their education.

"I think it's a good cause for something that is definitely necessary because after all, these young people need to see the light at the end of the tunnel," said Brooks, a former player for the New York Mets and Los Angeles Dodgers. "These things like we're doing today can help get that light, and it can't be wrong."

GOOD also provides around the clock crisis intervention for families who don't have the ability to reach out to school districts for help. According to Jackson, this is the biggest function of the organization.

The two organizations have become a staple in the community and help separate the city of Downey from other cities, according to Mayor Pro Tem Mario Guerra.

"I think that GOOD and 10-20 is what sets us off and what makes us different in our local community," Guerra said. "I think it's a proactive way of looking at gangs, it's a very proactive way at looking at public safety for our city, and it's a great combination of the public sector, private sector, the school district and everyone being involved to come out proudly.

"I think we are way ahead of our time, the city of Downey, by having GOOD and the 10-20 Club to help our kids in the long run."

While Jackson founded the 10-20 Club, Landreaux helped play a part in what is a very effective organization.

"A while back I used to work with the GOOD committee," Landreaux said. "Darrell and I a while back started the youth program. I was working with him a little bit and we helped the youth in crisis' in school. GOOD raises funds to help kids that need help to go to school with scholarships."

The organizations also help fund a graffiti hotline that is manned by Downey city employees.

Normally the crew responds to phone calls no later than 48 hours after

Normally, the crew responds to phone calls no later than 48 hours after they are received. GOOD also helps fund a school police program.



Downey Regional Medical Center officials celebrated the charitable gift of Art Morris, center, whose donation helped the hospital purchase a state-of-the-art CT scanner, the world's most advanced CT system. From left: CEO Ken Strople, Marjorie Parsons, Downey Regional Auxiliary President Nan Goldstein, Art Morris, Mary Morris (Art Morris' daughter), and COO Rob Fuller. Back row: Dr. David Wohlmuth, Tony Aldana, Dr. Ivan Barrett, and Downey Regional's Vice President for Ancillary Operations Bill Stein. *Photo courtesy Downey Regional Medical Center* 

### Downey Regional gets million dollar upgrade

**DOWNEY** – The city of Downey and Downey Regional Medical Center designated May 23 as "J. Arthur Morris Day" in recognition of his contributions to the city and the hospital.

Morris, whose father was instrumental in founding Downey Regional Medical Center, is the owner of J. Arthur Morris Photography in Downey. He has been a member of both the hospital and Memorial Trust Foundation boards of directors for many years, and a major contributor to the hospital

Most recently, Morris contributed \$1 million towards the purchase of a 64-slice CT scanner. The most advanced CT scanner currently available, Toshiba's Aquilion 64 CT can capture precise images of any area of the human body in as little as 10 seconds.

The rapid scanning capabilities offer the benefit of a quick and accurate diagnosis, hospital officials said. A chest exam, which takes 20 to 30 minutes using a standard CT scanner, can now be performed in just 19 seconds.

The increased image quality also allows physicians to see internal



Thanks in large part to corporate and community sponsors, this year's Gangs Out of Downey Golf Tournament is expected to raise \$7,000. The tournament was held Wednesday at the Rio Hondo Golf Club. *Photo by Scott Cobos* 

# Winners announced in digital photo contest

**DOWNEY** – The first campus-wide Downey Adult School (DAS) digital photo contest – "The World As I See It" – sponsored by CCAE and Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center, was a huge success, organizers said, with more than 400 people attending the photographer's reception on May 14.

"You rarely see a turn out like this in the first year of an event," said vice principal Wayne Diulio. "It was as if this contest was in its 10th year. We are so proud of the participants, as well as the coordinators of the event."

Archive and Communication System allows doctors ordering CT exams to have immediate access to their patients' images electronically from their offices.

With the new CT scanner, a greater number of Downey Regional's

With the new CT scanner, a greater number of Downey Regional's patients will also be able to avoid select surgical procedures, officials said. The system can more accurately detect certain types of heart disease in situations where a surgical procedure may have previously been required. The system also has an advanced cardiac package which can be used to analyze the heart and its associated vessels.

injuries and disease in greater detail, and Downey Regional's Picture

"We thank Mr. Morris for his years of tremendous support, and particularly for this most recent gift, which allowed Downey Regional to purchase this important piece of equipment," said hospital president and CEO Ken Strople. "The new CT scanner will allow us to provide technology typically found at much larger hospitals. We truly appreciate Art's significant and heart-felt generosity."

## Mayoral rotation guidelines passed after lively debate

■ Bayer says Guerra "should have been a man" and declined mayor pro tem nomination.

By Henry Veneracion, Staff Writer

**DOWNEY**—After much discussion, at times reaching fever-pitch, the matter of orderly rotation of mayor and mayor pro tem was finally resolved Tuesday on a 4-1 vote, with Councilman Rick Trejo dissenting.

The proposed policy to afford all council members an opportunity to be mayor during his/her first term of office was predicated on the following four factors: 1) The mayor pro tem shall rotate to mayor; 2) Newly-elected council members shall wait one year before serving as mayor pro tem unless earlier rotation is required to meet the above-named primary objective; 3) New council members voted in at the same election will draw lots to determine their order in the rotation to be mayor pro tem; and 4) Once the primary objective has been accomplished, rotation to mayor pro tem shall be based on the length of time a council member has served since last holding the position of mayor, with the longest tenured council member being placed next in the rotation sequence.



Anne Bayer



Mario Guerra

Based on the above guidelines, the city clerk will submit a proposed sequence of rotation to be approved by the City Council each year at the time of reorganization. Further, if for any reason a nominee for mayor or mayor pro tem does not accept the nomination, the council member next in order will be the nominee.

See COUNCIL, page 10

# Page 2 Friday, May 30, 2008 Community \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ The Downey Patriot



Longtime Downey resident Francis Bradshaw, left, celebrated his 100th birthday on Sunday. Bradshaw was born on May 25, 1908 in Arkansaw, Wis. He married his wife, Irene, in 1935 and they moved to Downey in 1943. The couple has been parishioners of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church for more than 45 years.



Andrew and Patricia Colenzo are celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary today. The couple currently resides in Downey and has owned Coyle Trophies in Downey for more than 20 years. They have five sons, 13 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. The couple plans on celebrating their anniversary on an Alaskan cruise in August.

## Summer heat and stagnant water attracts purveyors of West Nile virus, officials say

CONTRIBUTED BY THE GREATER LOS ANGELES COUNTY VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT

SANTA FE SPRINGS – Los Angeles County residents planning barbecues, hiking trips, and other outdoor activities this summer are strongly advised to take precautions against mosquito bites.

Two crows collected within the last month by the Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District, based in Santa Fe Springs, have tested positive for West Nile virus. The first dead crow was found in Santa Clarita on April 28. Most recently, on May 21, the District confirmed a West Nile virus-positive dead crow collected in Woodland Hills.

This second bird was confirmed on the heels of a major resurgence in West Nile virus activity in Orange County. Recently, the Orange County Vector Control District announced that 13 birds collected earlier this month were confirmed positive for West Nile virus by two separate labo-

"Based on evidence we have on West Nile virus activity in Southern California, we're anticipating another busy year," said Minoo Madon, scientific-technical services director for Greater Los Angeles Vector Control District. "We are doing everything we can to protect residents against this public health risk."

West Nile virus can be transmitted to humans and other animals through the bite of an infected mosquito. Symptoms include fever, headache, body aches, nausea, and/or a skin rash. These symptoms can last for several weeks or months. Severe cases can result in paralysis, coma, and even death.

In 2007, the California Department of Public Health reported three West Nile virus-related human fatalities in Los Angeles County.

"Mosquito season is definitely here and that means residents should start thinking proactively," said Truc Dever, public information officer for Los Angeles County's Vector Control District. "If you are planning to spend your [summer] outdoors between dusk and dawn, make sure you take the necessary precautions."

Residents can protect themselves and their families by playing an active role in mosquito prevention and following a few simple steps:

- Inspect front and backyards. Eliminate standing water in clogged rain gutters, rain barrels, discarded tires, buckets, watering troughs or anything that holds water for more than a week to break the mosquito life cycle. • Ensure that swimming pools, spas, and ponds are properly main-
- Change the water in pet dishes and replace water in birdbaths week-
- Fix leaky faucets and sprinklers that may create puddles.
- Wear long-sleeve shirts and pants outdoors at dawn and dusk when mosquitoes are most active.
- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends using mosquito repellents containing DEET, Picaridin, or oil of lemon eucalyp-
- Keep tight-fitting screens on doors and windows to prevent mosquitoes from entering your home.
- Request free mosquito fish from your local vector control district for placement in out-of-order swimming pools, spas, and ponds to control

· Report any mosquito activity near vacant or foreclosed homes and abandoned swimming pools in your neighborhood.

The public is encouraged to report dead birds to help with West Nile virus surveillance and control efforts, as birds play an important role in maintaining and spreading the virus. The California Department of Public Health's toll-free hotline is (877) WNV-BIRD, or visit online at www.westnile.ca.gov.

For more information, call the Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District at (562) 944-9656, or visit www.glacvcd.org.



Abandoned and neglected swimming pools can act as magnets to mosquitoes, some of which may carry the West Nile virus. Two cases of the disease have already been reported this year, officials said. Photo courtesy Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District

### Warren hosting track championships

**DOWNEY** – The Southern California Municipal Athletic Federation will host their Track and Field Championships tomorrow at Warren High School.

Opening ceremonies begin at 9 a.m. while the first event is scheduled for 9:30. For more information, visit www.scmaf.org.

### Methodist nursery school director retires

DOWNEY - Cheryl Evans, nursery school director for Downey United Methodist Church, is retiring after serving 13 years as a teacher and 10 years as director.

An open house reception will be hosted in her honor on June 6 from 6 to 8 p.m. at the church, located at 10801 Downey Ave.

For more information, call Karen Hopson at (562) 201-1002.

Speaker Nancy Sand, MD

Tuesday June 10 1:00 pm

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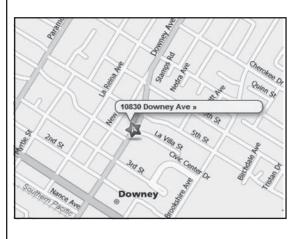
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# Community Page 3 Friday, May 30, 2008



The Avenue Theatre in Downtown Downey, shown above during a remodel in the 1960s, was recently acquired by the city of Downey. Potential redevelopment plans will be discussed by members of the Downey Redevelopment Project Area Committee this Tuesday at the Downey City Library at 6:30 p.m. The public is invited to share their input. Photo courtesy Downey Historical Society

### Avenue Theatre acquisition discussed

**DOWNEY** - The Downey Redevelopment Project Area Committee (PAC) will discuss the city's recent acquisition of the Avenue Theatre this Tuesday in the Cormack Room of the Downey City Library at 6:30 p.m.

The PAC will explore the city's reasons for purchasing the property as well as consider recommendations for its redevelopment.

The community is invited to attend the meeting.

### History major lands \$500 scholarship

NORWALK - Downey resident and Cerritos College student Gloria Gallardo received the \$500 Randy and Elmer Dobson Scholarship at the school's board of directors meeting on May 8.

The inaugural scholarship is intended to recognize "outstanding history majors."

Gallardo was one of 10 students to receive scholarships May 8. A total of \$11,100 in scholarship money was awarded to students that day.

### Library planning trip to museum

**DOWNEY** – The Downey City Library is organizing a June 28 trip to the Bowers Museum in Santa Ana.

The museum features the Terra Cotta Warriors, guardians of China's First Emperor. A docent-lead tour of the museum will be included.

Cost for the trip is \$22. Register in the Friends' Shop inside the library or call (562) 904-7360, ext. 132.

### Chamber hosts 'Island Fare' June 27

**DOWNEY** – The Downey Chamber of Commerce invites the community to attend "Island Fare," the 105th Annual Installation of Officers and Directors Luncheon, on June 27 at the Rio Hondo Event Center.

The luncheon will honor Jaime Garcia, outgoing president, and Rick odriguez, incoming president.

Check-in is at 11:30 a.m., followed by the program at noon. Cost is \$35 per person and Hawaiian attire is suggested. Reservations are due by June 20. For more information, call (562) 923-2191.



The ladies of St. George Greek George in Downey will again be preparing homemade baklava, loukoumades, souvlaki, and other traditional favorites for the annual Greek Festival, this year scheduled for June 7-8. The photo above was taken last year. Photo courtesy St. George Greek

### Community invited to feast with the Greek

**Greek Festival** 

When: June 7-8, 11 a.m. to 10

Where: St. George Greek

Orthodox Church, 10830

How much: \$2 admission;

seniors and children under 12

p.m. both days

Downey Ave.

free

By Brooke Karli, STAFF WRITER

**DOWNEY** – To the Greek, it's known as "panigiri" - a festival, a gathering of people in honor of a patron saint involving food, drinks, music, and dancing. To Downey, it's known as the annual Greek Festival, taking place next weekend, June 7 -

Hosted at the St. George Greek Orthodox Church the past 23 years, the festival will once again immerse the city of Downey in the rich tradi-

ing time of festivities, Pelonis said.

tions of the Greek culture. According to Petros Pelonis, festival co-chair, "panigiria" have taken place for thousands of years, setting time aside from everyday life to celebrate and honor the ancient gods and deities. The Olympics, which were originally held in honor of Zeus and still continue to be celebrated throughout the world today, mandated that even warfare would cease dur-

Although current warfare may not come to a halt during this year's festival, one thing is for sure – it's going to be one heck of a party.

No matter your age, ethnicity, or religion, the festival welcomes everyone to join as they honor St. George, a soldier in the Guard of Emperor Diocletian in the Roman Empire, who was also regarded as a martyr.

Yes, there will be dancing. Yes, there will be wine. And yes, there will be presentations of Greek history and culture. But really, who are we kidding – many of us will be there for the food.

The weekend will provide the smells and tastes of traditional Greek dishes such as Arni, roasted lamb; Gyro, thinly sliced barbecued meat; Souvlaki, marinated tender cuts of pork; and of course, Baklava and Loukoumades, two popular Greek desserts made with honey.

More than 8,000 people are expected to turn out at this year's festival, all of which will either learn a bit about Greece, or walk away with a plate full of goodies.

General admission is \$2 and seniors and children under 12 are free. Festival hours are 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. on both days and parking will be available at local businesses and churches.

For more information on the Greek Festival, call (562) 862-6461.

### Guitar quartet performing at Downey Museum of Art

**DOWNEY** – The community is invited to attend the next New Music @ DMOA program, featuring the David Pritchard Acoustic Guitar Web site and archives. Quartet, on June 5 at 7:30 p.m.

Featured guitarists include David Pritchard, Ken Rosser, Kevin Tiernan, and John Storie. The concert will also include guest singer Meaghan Boeing.

The performance will also be recorded for a podcast for the DMOA

Admission is \$10 for students, \$5 for seniors and free for Warren High School and Downey High School's music departments.

The Downey Museum of Art is located at 10419 S. Rives Ave. For more information, call (562) 861-0419.



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June-July, 2008

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instructor Roselyn Smith 714-319-4267 or prep4baby@sbcglobal.net) **Breastfeeding Workshop** Tuesday, July 14 - 7 to 9:30 p.m.

DRMC Conference Room C - \$10 per person

SUPPORT GROUPS

**Grief and Loss Program:** First Saturday of each month, 2 to 4 p.m. Contact: Jim at 562-949-3399

**Overeaters Anonymous:** Every Monday, 6:30 to 8 p.m. Contact: Alice at 562-927-0887

Sarcoidosis: Last Saturday of each month, 1 to 3 p.m. Contact: Sarcoidosis Network at 562-809-8500

Restless Legs Syndrome of Southern California: 3 meetings held each year on Sundays from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. - Contact: Janis at 714-633-0123 (unless otherwise noted), please call 562-904-5580.



**Healthy Heart Nutrition Class** Wednesday, June 11 or Wednesday, July 9 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. DRMC Conference Room A or B



# Page 4 Friday, May 30, 2008 Community

## A semester in New Zealand opens her eyes

NORWALK - It was her interest in international relations and other cultures that brought Jasmin Gonzalez to halfway across the world.

Gonzalez, a 20-year-old political science and history major from Norwalk, spent a semester studying international relations at International Pacific College (IPC) in Palmerston North, New Zealand as the first exchange student from Cerritos College to study at IPC.



The most challenging part of her exchange experience was that she had no friends, family or any familiar comforts 8,000 miles away from home. As terrifying as it may sound, it also thrilled her because of all the possibilities of making new friends, enjoying new experiences and exploring new places.

"The first thing I did as soon as my luggage was unpacked was put on my hiking shoes and explore the amazing green hills surrounded by the mountain ranges near the campus," said Gonzalez. "I was never a hiker back home, but just being in a different country like New Zealand and adopting a 'let's try anything' mentality made me want to try new and unexpected things like hiking, cave abseiling, jumping into Lake Taupo, one of the biggest lakes in the North Island, and gliding from tree to tree on a fox trot glider.

"Going to New Zealand with a positive and open-minded attitude helped me in experiencing the most of what New Zealand has to offer, from a valuable education, to meeting new people, and gaining new experiences."

IPC has been a prime institution for cross-cultural interaction, according to Nick Kremer, executive dean of Cerritos College's Community, Industry and Technology Education division. Kremer was instrumental in negotiating an exchange agreement with the college several years ago.

So far, Cerritos College has accepted three IPC students and sent one student, Gonzalez, to IPC.

"I am delighted to hear that her experiences at IPC has increased her awareness of what's happening around the world," said Kremer. "We will continue to provide students with the opportunities to study overseas at our partner institutions."

Danita Kurtz, coordinator of International Student Services at Cerritos

"The semester Jasmin spent at IPC is invaluable," said Kurtz. "Studying abroad gives students self-confidence and opportunities to learn new cultures, customs and politics firsthand."

Cerritos College has another link with IPC - a program called the Global Consortium. Led by the history professor Dr. John Haas, the Global Consortium gives students the opportunity to participate in teleconferences with students from other college and universities all over the world, including IPC.

Gonzalez has been involved in almost all the teleconferences Haas has done. When she heard of the study-abroad opportunity with IPC, she knew it was meant for her.

According to Gonzalez, the international relations classes at IPC presented the history and politics of various countries. Her study at IPC sharpened her career focus in political science.

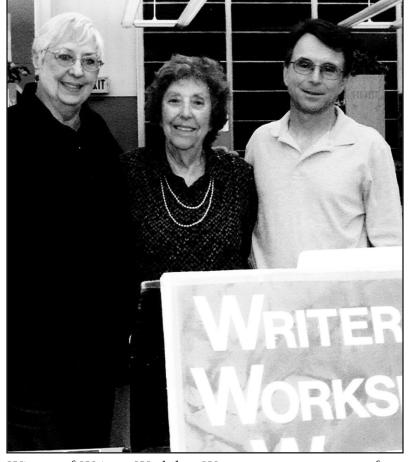
"The idea of study abroad can seem overwhelming," said Gonzalez. "But in reality, it is very rewarding and, in my opinion, is something that every student should experience at least once in their educational career.

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Winners of Writers' Workshop West's poetry contest were, from left: Jan Larvin, Rosalie Sciortino and Frank Kearns. The writing group meets the third Tuesday of every month inside Downey High School's library.

### Poetry contest winners announced

**DOWNEY** – Ralph Cohen, president of Downey's Writers' Workshop West, has announced the winners of the May 2008 poetry contest.

Frank Kearn's "Echoes of Southland Industry" was the first place winner. "Reflections of Leone's Eyes" by Rosalie Sciortino won second place, and Jan Larvin's "The Boy" placed third.

Writers' Workshop West meets at 7:30 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month at the Downey High School library.

Writers at all levels of expertise are invited to join the group of beginning and seasoned writers. Fiction, non-fiction and poetry contests are held throughout the year. Initiation fees and annual dues are "minimal" and are used to award cash prizes and to provide material of interest to

For more information, call (562) 862-3106.

### Independence Park hosts skate camp

**DOWNEY** – The city of Downey Community Services Department will be hosting a skate camp this year, "Skate Independence," at Independence Park from June 23 - Aug. 29 for kids ages 6 - 15.

The camp is designed to challenge skaters with activities conducted by trained personnel.

Camp hours are from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., with extended hours available. Weekly excursions to locations such as Catalina Island, Soak City, Medieval Times, Big Bear, and Knott's Berry Farm will also take place.

Cost is \$80 per person. Enrollment is on a first come, first served basis and registration can be turned into the Downey Community Services Department Office at Downey City Hall. Proof of participant's age must be provided at time of registration.

For more information, call (562) 904-7238.

### Polynesian dancers to perform July 30

DOWNEY - Longtime Downey resident and Polynesian dance instructor Akemi Welsh will be performing alongside the Academy of Polynesian Performing Arts on July 30 at Furman Park.

Welsh and her professional touring group, The Polynesian Paradise Dancer, has performed throughout the United States, as well as in Japan, China, Guam, and the Marshall Islands. Welsh has also performed for the U.S. troops and their families stationed in and around the Pacific.

Welsh currently teaches Polynesian dance at Polynesian Paradise, a performing arts studio located in Santa Fe Springs.

Polynesian Paradise is located at 8541 Wellsford Pl., Ste. B.

For more information on Welsh, visit www.polynesianparadise.net, or call (562) 945-2599.

### The Poet's Corner

### Toxic Mold

I used to have a life once upon a time before I lived with Stachybotrys who made me lose my mind At first it was little things that made me feel sick sore throats, sinus infections, flu-like symptoms and then the real kick Your memory is gone, stress level is zero Your child is dying and Mommy's their hero? I can't even stand it, the pain is unreal slow death is my answer 'cause that's how I feel As I sit and watch my daughter's death too I plead with God, Lord, what should I do? Will our home be our coffin or do you have a plan? Well, it's now been six years and I still fight man! - Kelly Escobedo,

### Mushrooms

**Downey** 

They sprout like giant, multi-colored mushrooms --Castles, space ships, bouncing rooms. I want to call across the way, "Can I come over and play?" Oooh! They look like such fun! Where were they when I was nine plus one? - Arlene Scott,

**Downey** 

### To Francis

Indulgent mood, I reminisce The years dance in review Revealing tears and laughter On rainbowed paths with you --Courtship, marriage, happiness Days filled with zest and fun: Despite financial worries, We raised a handsome son. Hard work, hard times,

The driving years, with illness interspersed, You brushed aside the cobwebs... Heartaches could have been much worse. Now, we've approached the golden years Still happy, still in love Endowed with health, our larder full And faith in God above.

Thus, richly blessed, and hand in hand, We will follow our rainbow's bend As the colors merge, and soften, and fade But never, never end.

- Irene Bradshaw,

**Downey** 

Written to her husband, Francis, on occassion for his 100th birthday

### So you Believe

On the contrary to popular belief I wish to describe what lies beneath not for grief but simply to turn a leaf In the emergence of this seat of brief I'm sorry but I am no killer, a lazy man nor a thief Notice I mentioned man And because a man's dream requires a plan and nothing defers a dream more than suspension can I must work in hours of murk and forever

worry wherever they may lurk You may see lips that are lame but hear never a groan Because we don't work hundreds of lawns today are mown Non of which whos properties we own So selfish we are that we

care for others Our heart is not here and there but smothers

So you believe... - James Hernandez,

**Downey** 

Poems can be submitted to The Downey Patriot at

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Downey Quick Print

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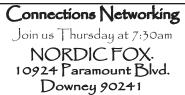
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## Editorial Page 5 Friday, May 30, 2008

### **Letters to the Editor:**

### Making Downey distinctive

Before I get to two topics of possible reader and community interest, I'd like to say that I don't think it's a smart idea to publicly vilify members of the City Council. I've been impressed with their professionalism and patience in dealing with public issues. Correspondingly, I've seen people at council meetings who show up only to complain. You see it in their bitter faces. Cranks, soreheads, people who think that public officials are somehow responsible for their personal emotional problems rather than devising and implementing city policy. Politicians are certainly accountable, but it serves no constructive purpose to abuse them unjustifiably. It only makes them less responsive.

That having been said, they haven't shown much imagination in dealing with the general decline of quality-of-life issues in Downey, or in developments that could bring the city distinction and revenue. The Downey Patriot reports that the city has paid nearly \$16,000 for consultants to advise on how to use the space available for redevelopment at the old Boeing site, and then states that residential units, high-scale retail outlets, restaurants, etc. will go up on the available acreage. ("Outside Consultants Hired to Assist with Redevelopment Details at Downey Studios," 5/16/08) If it's already pre-determined what's going to occupy the space, why hire consultants?

This appears the same mentality that hired a consultant, at tens of thousands of taxpayer dollars, to advise on the nuisance of McMansion-building - to no effect. Those pretentious eyesores are still going up (albeit more slowly), and nobody has money to buy them.

The former NASA site is one of the few parcels of its size to come available in the urban southland. To build another crummy residentialcommercial complex (virtually all of Downey's new public construction results in greater pollution and congestion) in the face of a prolonged, deepening recession and an oil price crisis that will only get worse, does-

It seems to me that better esthetic, commercial and even progressive uses can be made of that land. A professional sports facility, an arts complex, an international research and development center, Silicon Valleystyle, for cutting edge technology in new alternative-energy and environmental preservation solutions, these are but a few considerations that could make Downey distinctive once again. More of the same, as we're getting now, is making the city a worse place to live.

The other matter is the Avenue Theater. That marquee space is probably the only one of its kind left in Southern California. Couldn't it be refurbished for higher-quality films rather than the general run of kid stuff seen at the Krikorian? It certainly would make a great site for independent and international film festivals (which would bring broad cultural interest to Downey, and revenue). The parking issue should certainly be negotiable.

My point is that we and our representatives could be more ingenious and resourceful when it comes to planning decisions that affect us all. Sometimes those soreheads do have legitimate cause for complaint.

— Lawrence Christon,

### Stroke education

May is National Stroke Awareness Month, and yet, I am disappointed that the Patriot has not attempted to educate the community in strokerelated prevention and symptom recognition. By just educating the public in stroke symptoms, not only can the community reduce the number of stroke deaths, they gain a sense of knowledge to "Act F.A.S.T." The following is some vital information regarding strokes, noted by the National Stroke Association, that I believe would benefit the community:

Every 45 seconds, someone in the United States has a stroke. Yet, despite being the third leading cause of death and the leading cause of adult disability in this country, fewer than one in five Americans can recognize a symptom of a stroke. While a stroke can happen to anyone regardless of age, gender or race, women are uniquely affected.

Consider these facts about strokes:

•Four out of five American families will be touched by a stroke.

•For every minute that brain cells are deprived of oxygen during a stroke, the likelihood of brain damage increases.

•Treatment can be more effective if given early on.

•TIA (transient ischemic attack) is a risk factor of a stroke and a call to action to prevent a stroke.

The good news is that 80 percent of all strokes can be prevented. With proper attention to stroke risk factors, the impact can be greatly reduced.

The first step to take control of your health is to ask your doctor about stroke. It's never too late to lower your risk factors by making necessary lifestyle changes such as not smoking (women who smoke and take birth control pills are four times more likely to have a stroke), drinking alcohol in moderation, exercising regularly and eating a healthy diet low in salt and fat. But most importantly, recognizing the signs and symptoms of a stroke, and "Acting F.A.S.T." to seek life-saving treatment can save lives.

F (Face) – Ask the person to smile. Does one side of the face droop? A (Arm) – Ask the person to raise both arms. Does one arm drift down-

S (Speech) – As the person to repeat a simple phrase. Does the speech sound slurred or strange?

T (Time) – If you observe any of these signs, then it's time to call 911. Time is critical, so it is important to know stroke symptoms in order to seek immediate medical treatment that can save lives and reduce disabilities. There are also certified stroke centers across the country that specialize in the treatment of strokes. For more information on stroke and stroke

prevention, call the National Stroke Association at 800-STROKES. Chantal L'Herault,

La Mirada

### The Downey Patriot



Jennifer DeKay-Givens..... Publisher/Adv. Director John Adams..... Editor Emeritus Eric Pierce.....City Editor Henry Veneracion..... Staff Writer Brooke Karli.....Staff Writer Dorothy Michael..... Display Advertising Mary Forney......Display Advertising Linda Larson......Classified Advertising Jonathan Fox.....Production Gibran Latif......Webmaster

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www.TheDowneyPatriot.com The Downey Patriot is published weekly by Jennifer DeKay-Givens

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Dear Editor:

It is very difficult for me to believe that the "environmentalists" really care about the planet when their solutions involve higher taxes and more regulations that do nothing to solve the problem of greenhouse gases. Have you actually read the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change? I skimmed it and found it loaded with words like "perhaps," "maybe," "possibly," and "could be." Does that sound like scientific proof to you?

This claim that all scientists agree that man is the cause of global warming is nonsense. And the warmest year on record was in the 1930's. So wouldn't that mean that over the last 80 years we have experienced global cooling?

be called faith, but the scientific community cannot influence public policy based on faith.

I'm tired of this constant attempt to paint religious conservatives as anti-science because we question "the word of science." The truth is that science constantly evolves, meaning very few ideas since Galileo theorized that Earth was not the center of the universe has become fact.

ly not one to which we should pray, tithe, and worship.

Alaina Niemann,

**Downey** 

Dear Editor:

Julian Gutierrez's error-laden and indignant letter requires a rational response. ("Bible is No Science Book," 5/23/08)

Gutierrez claims "right wingers" are "covering their ears" to the threats of "global warming." It's not that anyone is covering anything. It's that we've heard similar apocalyptic predictions from the "overwhelming majority of scientists" before.

Beginning with the 1968 book, "The Population Bomb," written by Stanford professor Paul Ehrlich, we were told time and time again over the following decade that overpopulation and a dwindling food supply would soon lead to widespread famine and death across the globe. (That's if, of course, a "nuclear winter" didn't wipe us out first.) Needless to say, this didn't happen. Forty years later, we now pay farmers not to grow food because we have so much.

In 1975, Newsweek magazine propagated the forecast of a "little ice age." The article stated, "[Meteorologists] are almost unanimous in the view that the [cooling] trend will reduce agricultural productivity for the rest of the century. If the climatic change is as profound as some of the pessimists fear, the resulting famines could be catastrophic." Here's another "almost unanimous" prediction from scientists that was simply wrong.

And who can forget the AIDS scare in the 1980's and 1990's? Scientists predicted we were all doomed. Countless magazine covers, television stories, and newspaper articles portrayed a frightening culture. The hysteria was such that Oprah Winfrey told her national audience in February of 1987, "One in five heterosexuals could be dead from AIDS at the end of the next three years." Oops. Wrong again.

Then a few years ago, before global warming came along, we heard about the threat of the deadly SARS virus. The BBC reported that many scientists believed "it could kill millions worldwide." Wrong...again. The latest figures show a whopping total of zero deaths from SARS in the

Meanwhile, dire predictions related to global warming have already begun to fall flat. The hurricane seasons for the past two years have been much milder than scientists predicted.

Gutierrez wants to tar Christians for the Galileo episode nearly 400 years ago. But it's his pals in the scientific community who should be put on trial for their endless parade of bogus doomsday scenarios over the last several decades.

Gutierrez also says "Proverbs 10:13" says something about the sun standing still. Look in the Bible. He's wrong on that, too. (The verse he's probably talking about is from Joshua.)

– Dave Pierre,

**Downey** 

### And science is no Bible

And as for us Christians insisting evolution is a theory and not truth, I invite you to prove us wrong. Theory and the scientific method is the foundation of science. Proof of a theory by scientific method is the result of a successful replicable test. Show me the test that proves evolution. There is evidence supporting evolution but such evidence does not negate other theories about how life began. Believing something without proof would

So true, the Bible is no science book, but science is no Bible, certain-

### Gay marriage

Dear Editor:

I have read *The Downey Patriot* religiously since I was old enough to read, but unfortunately I am becoming increasingly disgruntled with the types of letters our quaint little neighborhood paper has chosen to publish recently. It is my hope that you will begin using more discretion when it comes to publishing Letters to the Editor, especially when they are filled

Specifically, I am referring to "License to Wed" (5/23/08). The fact that [Frank Myers] basically likened homosexuality to pedophilia is beyond my comprehension. Is this the 1950's? I thought we were past such obscenely ridiculous, nonsensical and uneducated views concerning homosexuality. Apparently not.

Wanting to marry a person you are in love with — whether they are the same sex as you or not – should not be illegal and it surely isn't immoral. It is because of attitudes like these that gay teens are six times more likely to commit suicide than straight teens – which is a 30 percent suicide rate among gay teenagers in this country.

I am so thankful that the Supreme Court of California chose to overturn the ban on gay marriage. Allowing gay marriage is not a testament to a decline in morals in this country, but rather an illustration of our progress as a nation. It has been over 40 years since the peak of the civil rights movement and in hindsight, our country's treatment of African Americans was obviously barbaric, horrendous and totally uncalled for. It is my sincere belief that in the very near future we will look back at our treatment of gays and lesbians and realize that we have been just as barbaric and

Mr. Meyers, I hope you come around to the idea that following your heart and being brave enough to declare your love publicly while facing such adversity should not only be "allowed," but respected.

— Tina Vasquez,

**Downey** 

Have we become that jaded to compare pedophilia to same sex marriages or relationships? ("License to Wed," 5/23/08) Where I stand on this issue isn't important. I just wanted to point out that the author of the orig inal letter is way off base.

Pedophiles normally have a cerebral advantage over their victims (oxymoron) whereas same sex unions can involve two consenting adults that care for each other.

Javier Moreno, **Downey** 

Letters to the Editor continued on Page 8

## There's no escape from this reality

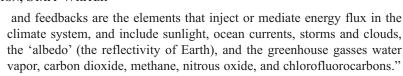
BY HENRY VENERACION, STAFF WRITER

The interest shown by this paper's readers on a subject that admits approaches from 'global warming', 'climate change', 'greenhouse gas emissions', 'energy efficiency', 'sustainability', etc., perspectives has been, well, heartwarming. For the most part, the discussions, having been encouraged and largely taking place in the "Letters to the Editor" section, have been free from fluff, to-thepoint, and well-informed. We can with reason then look forward to further aerations of carefully considered opinion as well as verifiable statements of fact.

Make no mistake about it, the subject is huge. It will, for instance, increasingly dictate how buildings in Downey - public as well as residential – or parts thereof, will be built. More and more venture capitalists are betting on its enormous profit potential, investing on new technology and talent and nothing else but the promise of the future. Its reach is global, its scope universal. It affects every living thing on this fragile, precious plan-

This is how the National Resources Defense Council posits the situation: "The latest scientific data confirm that the earth's climate is rapidly changing...The cause? A thickening layer of carbon dioxide pollution, mostly from power plants and automobiles, that traps heat in the atmosphere... Average U.S. temperatures could rise another three to nine degrees by the end of the century... Sea levels will rise, and heat waves will be more frequent and more intense. Droughts and wildfires will occur more often. Disease-carrying mosquitoes will expand their range. And species will be pushed to extinction." (View shared by such agencies as the U.S. National Academy of Sciences, the Sierra Club, Greenpeace, National Geographic, and the U.S. Congressional House leadership)

The UN Intergovernmental Panel of Climate Change (IPCC), in statements following its 1995 Second Assessment Report, reinforces the above scenario as it stands ever more firmly by its original evaluation that this human-produced carbon dioxide is influencing the climate, and is the chief cause of the global warming trend in evidence since about 1900. Its Fourth Assessment Report issued last year projects the future of global averagetemperatures using General Circulation Models (GCMs). These are computer programs that "calculate the physical manifestations of climate, including how Earth systems such as the world oceans, the polar ice caps, and the atmosphere dynamically respond to various 'forcings'. Forcings



And this from climatologist Tapio Schneider: "Atmospheric carbon dioxide concentrations are higher today than at any time in at least the past 650,000 years. They are about 35 percent higher than before the Industrial Revolution, and this increase is caused by human activities, primarily the burning of fossil fuels."

Given that "greenhouse gases occur naturally in the atmosphere," he goes on, "they act like a blanket for infrared radiation, retaining radiative energy near the surface that would otherwise escape directly to space... We know approximately how much carbon dioxide is emitted as a result of human activities. Adding up the human sources of carbon dioxide—primarily from fossil fuel burning, cement production, and land use changes (e.g., deforestation)—one finds that only about half the carbon dioxide emitted as a result of human activities has led to an increase in atmospheric concentrations. The other half of the emitted carbon dioxide has been taken up by oceans and the biosphere—where and how exactly is not completely understood: there is a 'missing carbon sink."

Why is all this so important? Or why should anybody care? Whether one is sick and tired of hearing about these things is irrelevant really: the fact is that it's a problem that must be addressed, is being addressed by knowledgeable and well-meaning thinkers, and God be praised if you do your part in its solution rather than be part of the problem.

The prospect of drought and other environmental degradation, famine, further ozone depletion, increased conflict over scarcer food and water sources and supplies, greater danger from flooding (especially in lowlying areas) due to glacier and snow cover melts, more incidence of heat waves, etc.—is too dire to contemplate.

At the same time, there is room for hope that the above evils are not irreversible. A few suggested solutions to the above include tapping "hot rock" ("Drill a 5-km. deep well into hot granite, feed it water, harvest the rising steam to spin the usual old technology steam turbine, and you get electricity"), nuclear, solar, wind, biofuel, etc., energy sources. Given focus and determination, we may still halt these worrisome trends. We shall explore these and related issues next time. Repeat...This beautiful blue planet is all we've got.



# Page 6 Friday, May 30, 2008 Comics/Crossword \_\_\_\_\_\_ The Downey Patriot

### SPEED BUMP

### DAVE COVERLY

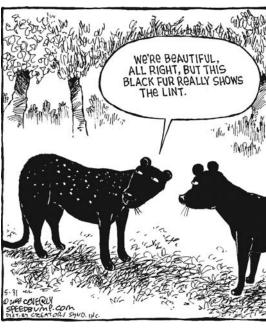












May 30, 1431: Joan of Arc is burned at the stake in Rouen, France. She would be canonized as a saint in 1920 by Pope Benedict XV.

**1539:** Spanish explorer Hernando De Soto, traveling with a reported nine ships, 620 men and 220

1883: Twelve people are trampled to death after rumor spreads that the newly-constructed Brooklyn Bridge was collapsing.

**1911:** Race car driver Ray Harroun wins the first long distance auto race in Indianapolis, Ind.

**1922:** The Lincoln Memorial is dedicated in Washington, D.C.

### **Downey Community Calendar**

#### Events For May/June

Fri. May 30: "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum" opens at Downey Theatre, 8 p.m. Mon. June 2: OASIS features "America's First Ladies," Downey Adult School, 3:45 p.m. Tues. June 3: <u>Downey Redevelopment Project Area Committee meeting.</u> Downey City Library, 6:30 p.m. Thurs. June 5: <u>David Pritchard Acoustic Guitar Quartet</u>, performs at Downey Museum of Art, 7:30 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 & 4 th Wednesday, 6 p.m.: Design Review Board, Council Chamber at City Hall. 3rd Thursday, 3:30 p.m.: Parking Place Commission, Second Floor Training Room at City Hall

### Regularly Scheduled Meetings

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. 4rth Weds., 12:00 noon: Retired Federal Employees, at Furman Park West Bldg., call 943-5513. Wed.& Fri., 10:15 a.m.: Senior Bingo, at Apollo Park, for information call 904-7223.

### **Thursdays**

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

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

**12 p.m.: Kiwanis Club of Downey,** at Rio Hondo Events Center, call Roy Jimenez 923-0971. 12 p.m.: Downey Christian Businessmen's Committee, for information call 928-4153.

12 p.m.: Optimist Club of Downey, at Sambi's, for information call Steve Allen at 622-7655.

12:30 p.m.: Take off Pounds Sensibly, at First Christian Church, call (800) 932-8677

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

7 p.m.: Troop 351, Boy Scouts of America, at First Baptist Church, for information call 776-3388. 4th Thurs., 7:30 p.m.: Downey Historical Society programs, at Community Center. Call 862-2777. 2nd Thurs., 7:30 p.m.: Beaming Rebel Foxes Collectors Club, for more information call Carl D. Jones at 923-2400.

### **Fridays**

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

5/25/08

### **Sundays**

3rd Sun. Odd # Months 1:30 p.m.: Aerospace Legacy Foundation, at First Baptist Church Room 120.

### THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com) COVERT COUPLES: They're together on the sly by Doug Peterson

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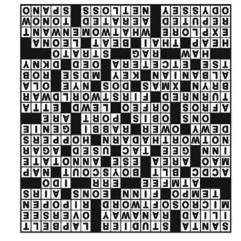
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  - 122 "Hidden" theme of the puzzle
- PUZZLE PRIZE CONTEST! Try Stan Newman's WordWit Puzzle™ at www.StanXwords.com

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.

> nearly 200 times worldwide. performed the title role in "Aida" LEONA Mitchell (114 Across) has name, means "large hill" in Welsh. home of the college of the same town BRYN Mawr (87 Across), The name of the Pennsylvania free on a disk with a magazine. ware program to be distributed (23 Across) became the first soft-In 1983, MICROSOFT WORD



The Downey Patriot \_\_\_\_\_ Page 7 Friday, May 30, 2008



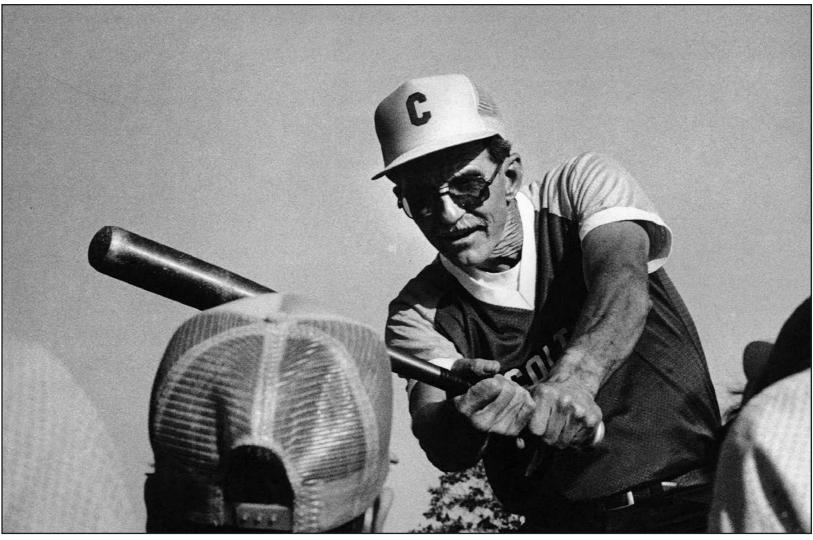
The West Downey Little League Junior Dodgers were recently named the 2008 Western Division Champions. Pictured are (front, left to right) Matthew Barela, Justin Parsley, Manuel Marquez, Diego Escalante, Brandon Volpe, Justein Ortiz, and Alex Solis; and (back, left to right) Coach John Barela, Alan Antuna, Alex Carrillo, Arthur Espinoza, Coach Hector Hernandez, Brandon Hernandez, Christian Matsuda, Andre Conde, Manager Carlos Escalante, Jr., and Coach Jesús Antuna. Not pictured are Alvin Medina and Alex Lavariega.



The Downey Gigantes baseball team recently competed in the USSSA Memorial Weekend Super Nit, where they competed in the championship game. Pictured are (top, left to right) Arron Orozco, Junior Nieves, Jeriiah Estrada, Fernando Alvidrez, Jeremy Gleason, and David Huerta; and (bottom, left to right) Bobby Macias, AJ Rios, Tony Gonzales, and Xavier Palos. For more information on the Downey Gigantes, visit www.leaguelineup.com/downeygigantes, or call Sergio Palos at (562) 774-7495.



The Downey AYSO Boys Under 10 travel team took first place in the Chino Milkcan Tournament last weekend. The team is currently undefeated and has placed first in five out of seven tournaments. They are now preparing to play in the Hawaii Aloha Tournament in July. Pictured are David Lemucchi, Phillip Caro, Robyn Ortega, Joshua Iannotti, Fabian Medina, Oskar Raymundo, Peter Torres, Kelly Cortez, Kevin Sanchez, Chris Sanchez, and Coaches Johnny Lemucchi and Felipe Caro.



Herbert Welch, a stalwart with West Downey Little League for 50 years, has coached an impressive lineup of kids through the years, including Berkeley head football coach Jeff Tedford and Tampa Bay Rays third baseman Evan Longoria.

# More than a coach: Herb Welch makes lasting impressions on Little League kids

By Brooke Karli, Staff Writer

**DOWNEY** – When Herbert Welch first learned of an injury that would prevent him from playing for the Chicago Cubs, he was crushed. But when he realized he could still put his talent to use by coaching kids, he joined West Downey Little League (WDLL) and for 50 years, has used his own expertise and passion for the game to lead others to careers in professional baseball.

Welch, 76, was drafted by the Chicago Cubs following graduation from Compton High School in 1952. During spring training however, Welch hurt his wrist while pitching and was told he couldn't play baseball. Welch came to grips with not being to play, but also knew he loved baseball too much to walk away from it completely. So in 1958, Welch joined the coaching staff at West Downey Little League, which at the time, played on fields near what is now Home Depot.

Welch, who has lived in Downey 51 years, not only saw the league expand and move from location to location, but also saw many of the league's players grow up and become mayors, police chiefs, school principals, and professional baseball players, to name a few.

"It has always been my thrill to see these kids grow up and become professionals," he said. "It's what has always made coaching so enjoyable."

Some of his previous players include Ken Miller, past assistant principal at Downey High School; Rick Trejo, past Downey mayor; Scott Devereaux of the Downey Fire Department; Jeff Tedford, who is currently head coach of the University of California, Berkeley football team; Rick Burleson, who played for the Boston Red Sox and Anaheim Angels; Evan Longoria, who plays for the Tampa Bay Rays; and our very own Scott Cobos, who contributes sports stories to *The Downey Patriot* on a regular basis

Welch also coached basketball and football for the Downey Junior Athletics Association (DJAA) from 1971-75, and was an active member at the Downey Family YMCA during the 1970's and 80's, where he served as an Indian Guides troop leader for four years. In 1975, Welch was inducted into the City of Downey Athletic Hall of Fame for his involvement in community sports.

Currently, Welch serves as an honorary board member, coaches, and maintains fields for WDLL and has no plans of stopping anytime soon. He has been married to his wife, Shirley, for 53 years and has four children, 12 grandchildren, and one great-grandchild, with another on the way.



In 2003, Herb Welch Field in Downey was named in the coach's honor. *Photos courtesy Herb Welch* 

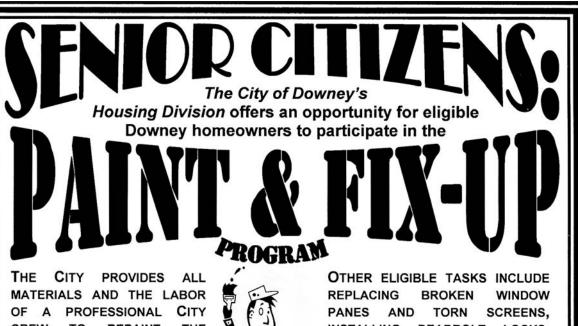
### Track athletes set to compete June 7

**DOWNEY** – The Downey Unified School District will host the 34th annual Middle School Track Meet on June 7 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Downey High School.

The meet will bring together sixth-, seventh-, and eighth-grade representatives from all four Downey middle schools. Approximately 400 boys and girls will compete in both track and field events.

Field events are scheduled to begin at 8:30 a.m., followed by the running events at 9:15 a.m.

Admission is free and the community is invited to attend. For more information, call (562) 469-8600.



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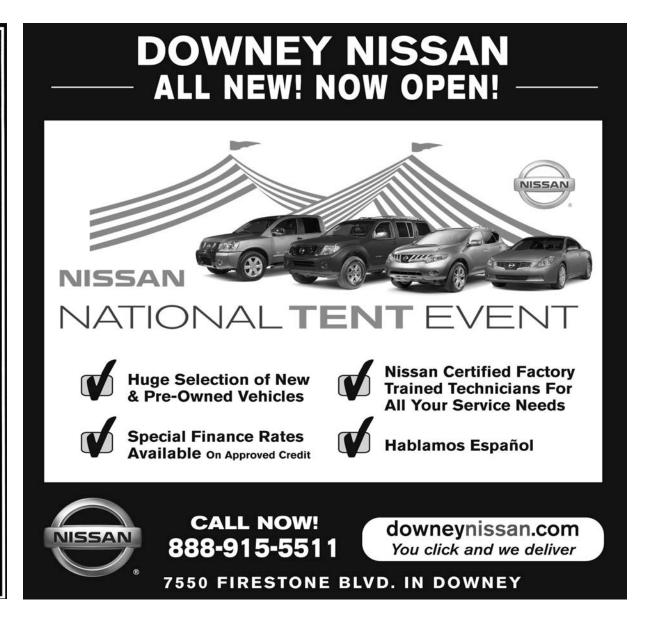
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THE CITY OF DOWNEY'S HOUSING DIVISION AT (562) 904-7167.



## Letters: Legitimate threat or baseless fear mongering? Global warming debate heats up.

Continued from page 5

Dear Editor:

Wow! Lots of lively discussion concerning global warming! I have just a couple of brief comments.

1. Julian Gutierrez mistakenly attributed the comments concerning the Bible and global warming to my letter. Oops! That was another reader's

2. My "argument" is not something I just happened to pull out of a hat. It is actually the "consensus" of numerous real scientists who happen to disagree with the man-made theory of global warming. Two insightful articles can be found in the Wall Street Journal (1/18/2000) and the Journal of American Physicians and Surgeons ("Environmental Effects of Increased Atmospheric Carbon Dioxide," 2007).

I encourage readers to study the charts, graphs and measurements to make up your own mind about the causes of global warming. Please do not just take the media, Al Gore and the Associated Press's word for it.

- Paula Mayfield,

**Downey** 

Dear Editor:

I'm choosing my words and thoughts carefully as I heard a good sermon on Sunday which encouraged me to do so.

In regards to "Bible Is No Science Book," I am in complete agreement on this: the Bible is the Word of God – not science. It's interesting that Julian Gutierrez feels the church has viciously persecuted scientists. Interestingly enough, on the other hand, Christians feel they are being persecuted by the ACLU and MoveOn.org, both organizations which he professed to belonging in a previous letter.

It is also interesting that he chose to quote the Bible, that being Proverbs in a previous letter, which was written by Solomon, who was said to be the wisest man on earth. He declares that his wisdom was given to him by God. I'm sure the quotation he used in his last letter, Proverbs 10:13, was meant to read Joshua 10:13. I wonder how scientists can explain how Isaiah knew the world was round long before science discovered it. Read Isaiah 40:22 - "It is He (God) who sits above the circle of the earth...and stretches out the heavens like a curtain."

Regarding the IPCC report that global warming is (present tense) occurring. Less than a week ago I heard a scientific report that because of two cool ocean currents, global warming will be about 10 years down the

I'm not meaning to be combative about this, and it doesn't hurt to take measures to reduce pollution, etc. However, which scientists are we supposed to believe?

Regarding the global warming comment in my letter on the "hot air" ("Global Warming A Lot of Hot Air," 5/16/08): the paper edited out quite a bit of my letter and it's probably for the best. Part of it was a "tongue in cheek" remark that suggested that a lot of "warming" was caused by the politicians when they spoke – (hot air).

I'm about as much a right-winger as anyone can be, but believe me, I'm not closing my ears and I'm certainly not pretending that all is well. All is far from well in this old world – we are in agreement that it is difficult to trust in government, be it Federal, State, etc. We have good reason not to trust government, as we have many politicians, but few statesmen!

However, I do not put my complete trust in scientists, though much good has come through scientific developments. The years have proved them wrong at times and science changes. They are human beings and are not perfect. I am a Christian and Christians aren't perfect either. The hope Christians have is eternal life, provided by a forgiving and merciful God through the death of His Son, Jesus Christ on the cross, who suffered and died for our sins.

Gutierrez said he puts his trust in scientists. I put mine in God. I say this lovingly – I've never known of anyone who called out for a scientist on the death bed or in a fox hole, etc., but millions have cried out to God.

If it seems I'm being hard on Al Gore, it's not only that he doesn't walk the talk. I think it's unconscionable that we take food that was meant to nourish people and put it into the tank of a car for fuel! Most in the U.S. can afford to buy bread, eggs, butter, milk, etc., but some can't. However, when a lady in Haiti was shown on TV sitting in dirt, baking bread in the sun, made from dirt, butter and salt, something is drastically wrong. I single out Al Gore, though there are many others, because he is heavily invested in corn and other commodities and I don't see him changing his largess lifestyle, though he expects others to do so.

I'm much more concerned about the moral decline in our country than I am about the possibility of global warming.

-Elsa Van Leuven, **Downey** 

### 27 Homeowners To Buy An Air **Conditioner Or Heater With No Payment For 12 Months**

...Plus a Guaranteed Energy Reduction of Twenty-Five Percent

By Jack Sorenson

For the First time, Mr. Farnik has created a program that will allow 27 homeowners to buy a new air conditioning or heating system and not make any payments for 12 months. Actually, with his program, you can probably get the entire first year FREE. In a moment, I'll tell you how this

My question for Mr. Farnik was... why would he make this offer?

"From what we've seen homeowners are investing in new air conditioning and heating systems at an increasing rate. This doesn't surprise me. You see, the new systems are reducing utility bills more than ever because of some tough government standards. We want to help the people of this area to get one of these new systems by

"We have only reserved 27 systems for this special opportunity. This means that 27 homeowners can get a brand new system installed now. but not take a cent out of their pocket for at least

After discussing the benefits available in this offer. I believe Mr. Farnik will wish he had more than just the 27 systems to sell. Many homeowen-

Here's How Homeowners Benefit: They get a new system at 2008 prices, but don't

begin paying until 2009.

· They start saving money on energy bills now • They climinate repair bills now (these new systems com with a 5 year parts AND labor warranty).

Plus one rather large advantage: at the end of 12 months, the homeowner gets a choice of either paying the system off, or making the small

Here's another very impressive concept. Mr. Farnik said "If you're replacing an old system the money you save on energy and repair bills in the first year could be enough to make your first year's payments.

This is like getting a new system in 2008, but not paying a penny until mid-2009

In fact, to help save even more energy dollars, Mr Farnik is giving a FREE Electronic Programmable Thermostat with these systems. This is the type that you just "set and forget", and are so efficient, that they'll help homeowners who are replacing a system, get a...Guaranteed Energy Reduction of twenty-five percent during the first year, or you'll get a check for the difference.

My hat goes off to Mr. Farnik for creating this exciting program. But as I've said, there are only TOTAL SYSTEMS AVAILABLE DURING THIS OFFER

Just look at everything the homeowners get: No Payments for 12 months

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Dear Editor:

It is obvious that some who respond to Letters to the Editor either haven't really read the letter or they ignored what was really said.

Lars Clutterham completely misquoted me and misinterpreted what I said ("Toying with Denial," 5/23/08). I quoted NOAA, which is the climate center for the USA, so it is not some crackpot or false information.

Regarding Julian E. Gutierrez ("Bible is No Science Book," 5/23/08), obviously he is not a scholar of the Bible. I was shocked that he actually implied that God didn't know about His own creation. What an egocentric and silly thing to say. 2 Timothy 3:16-17: "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work."

— Maggie Allen,

**Downey** 

### Unfair bail out

Dear Editor:

I don't drink champagne because I have a beer budget.

I don't buy lottery tickets because I can get better odds in Las Vegas. I go there twice a year for work but I don't gamble because I don't find losing money to be entertaining.

I keep my nose close to the grindstone, drive a 12-year old car and pay my bills on time.

I manage my business affair prudently and don't appreciate the fact that now I am expected to bail out financially irresponsible businesses and people who are in trouble because they invested in real estate at the wrong time and under the wrong conditions.

In a capitalist society like ours, it should not be the role of the government to intervene to help financial institutions and individuals who are in trouble but rather let market forces decide the outcome of their decisions.

It is unfair that those of us who live within our means and maintain financial responsibility should be required to bail out those who act irresponsibly.

— Jorge H. Montero, Downey

### The downfalls of Prop 99

Let me be uncharitably blunt: Proposition 99 is a lie. What first appears to offer protection against eminent domain abuse for California's citizens is instead a Trojan horse deployed to prevent it.

Prop 99 is one of two competing initiatives regarding eminent domain abuse that will be presented to California voters on the June 3 ballot, the other being Prop 98. They are a response to a modern evolution of eminent domain law that is considered by many to be unconstitutional. The issue is this – there are now two versions of eminent domain authority in California: one for traditional public uses such as roads, schools, and utilities, and another for economic development that allows property to be seized and transferred to another private person or entity on the assumption that the new owner will utilize the property more profitably. This is eminent domain that results in private use. To many Californians, and hopefully to you, the latter amounts to an abridgement of property rights, with the government deciding who should own what. But efforts to repeal this practice have been unsuccessful thus far.

Which brings us back to Propositions 98 and 99, both advertising that they will remedy this injustice. Only one can become law – whichever passes with more votes nullifies the other – so how you vote on each item is keenly important. Both measures address the specific practice of taking property from one private owner and conveying it to another, a marked deviation from the traditional conception of eminent domain for public use. Both claim to ban this practice. But in truth, only Prop 98 would do so.

So what does Prop 99 do? The ironically titled "Homeowners and Private Property Protection Act" prohibits the government from taking "owner-occupied residences" and transferring ownership to another private entity. This is what we want, right? But then there are the loopholes.

Only "owner-occupied residences" are protected: not businesses; not churches or other nonprofit organizations; not apartments or any other rental properties; not even rental houses. Dig deeper and you'll find that "owner-occupied" is also defined as single family, so multifamily residences are excluded as well. So much for the protection of private property; how many of you suddenly feel left out?

Don't worry, more will join you. Prop 99 does not provide protection if you've lived in your home for less than a year. It does not protect you if the government tried to take your home before you lived in it. Nor does it protect those for whom eminent domain proceedings have already begun. And if the government takes your property for public use, and then decides instead to give it to a private developer, guess what? Prop 99 states explicitly that the prohibition on transferring ownership to another private individual no larger applies. Now no one is protected.

Know what you're voting for: view the full text of Propositions 98 and 99 by visiting the California Secretary of State's election Web site at www.sos.ca.gov under the heading "Ballot Measures." I promise, they're

-Michael Hutchinson, **Downey** 

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### Little comfort

Dear Editor:

The correct perspective concerning Chris Hamilton is that he was in "the right place at the right time." ("Wrong Place, at the Wrong Time," 5/9/08) The urban terrorists who cut him down were in "the wrong place at the wrong time." Let's not blame the victim.

It must be scant comfort to Chris Hamilton's family and friends that crime was reported as down in Downey.

— Arlene Scott,

**Downey** 

### Misquoted

Dear Editor:

As much as I dislike Barack Obama's elitist liberal politics with his disastrous socialist plans for America and would love to see him finally exposed for his shortcomings and weaknesses, I have to refute most of the "quotes" presented in last week's Letters to the Editor ("Nation Divided," 5/23/08). They are the contents of a recent e-mail floating around the Internet that contain some phrases that are reworded, out of context, or even non-existent.

- Richard McAllister,

**Downey** 

Dear Editor:

I recently read a letter submitted by James Hawkins regarding some personal comments attributed to Barack Obama from his two books, "Dreams of my Father," and "Audacity of Hope."

I would hope that, being a paper of public service, you would find it within yourself to correct this unfortunate and clever warping of Mr. Obama's intent.

— Jeff Marks,

**Downey** 

Editor's note: Details on Obama's purported quotes are available online at www.snopes.com/politics/obama/ownwords.asp. We thank our readers for passing along the information.

### Resources on parade

Dear Editor:

This letter is not intended in any way to dishonor the dead. The last couple of months on my way home going past Calvary Chapel of Downey, I have observed approximately nine fire trucks, two hook and ladder trucks with the ladders raised in a "V" making a gate to pass under, three paramedic ambulances and approximately six Downey motorcycle officers. They had half of Woodruff closed from the 105 Freeway to Imperial.

The state is facing a budget shortfall of approximately \$17 billion, the County has budget problems and the (Los Angeles) mayor is raising fees and cutting jobs. As Average Joe Citizen I see this as an extravagant expense and waste of taxpayer dollars at a time when we are in financial distress. Please explain to me how we can afford this money when schools are being cut on funds, medical services to the elderly are being cut, etc.

On the next proposition to increase taxes, this citizen will vote "no" until our current batch of politicos learn how to live within their means.

— George Teats Sr.,

**Downey** 



Five semester scholar and California Junior Scholarship Federation (CISF) Vice President Mark Montero addressed his fellow scholars during Griffiths Middle School's Honors Night May 24 at First Baptist Church. Montero is a GATE student and maintains a 4.0 GPA. He has received the Stauffer Scholar Award twice and has been inducted into the Kids Day Hall of Fame twice as well. He has also achieved Life Rank for Boy Scouts Troop 2, where he is senior patrol

### Assemblyman De La Torre honors Bellflower resident

SACRAMENTO - In a special ceremony last month at the State Capitol, Assemblyman Hector De La Torre (D-South Gate) honored Retha Moye as the 2008 Woman of the Year for the 50th Assembly District. The ceremony is held annually in Sacramento to recognize women that have made significant contributions to their communities.

"Mrs. Moye is an outstanding example of volunteerism. For over 20 years, she has given her time to participate at the Bellflower Senior Center," said De La Torre. "Retha has lived in the city of Bellflower since 1951 and has demonstrated that age is not an obstacle. She is about to turn 90 years of age and despite being recently ill she has not missed one day as a volunteer."

Moye is a food server for the Meals on Wheels program and is responsible for organizing various social activities for her peers.

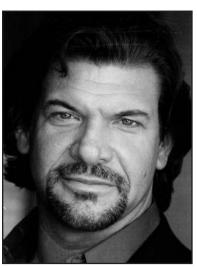
Every year the California State Legislature recognizes and pays tribute to the accomplishments and leadership that women contribute in local communities.

During the Assembly floor session all of the honored women were given a certificate by Assembly Speaker Fabian Nunez. Afterwards, the women attended a reception hosted by the Legislative Women's Caucus.

In addition to last month's ceremony, additional recognition was given at the Rio Hondo Event Center in Downey.

# Dining/Entertainment Page 9 Friday, May 30, 2008

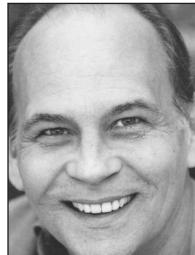
### "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum"







Heather Nichole White



George Champion



August Stoten



"A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum" opens this weekend at the Downey Theatre, featuring a stellar cast of Sam Zeller (Miles Gloriosus), Heather Nichole White (Philia), George Champion (Senex), August Stoten (Lycus), Christina Putrelo (Tintinabula), and Nick Santa Maria (Pseudulus). The musical will run through June 15 and tickets are still available by calling (562) 923-1714.

### New & noteworthy titles at the Downey City Library

#### Fiction:

•"The Venetian Betrayal" by Steve Berry. As agent Cotton Malone researches the death of Alexander the Great, he is drawn into a worldwide mystery that could destroy or save millions of people.

•"All the Sad Young Literary Men" by Keith Gessen. In a comedic and honest novel, the author takes us into the lives of three men who revisit their college years in an effort to move on with their lives.

•"Bound by Blood" by Rick Nelson. Set among the bayous and great houses of New Orleans, Detective Jack Brenner must solve two similar murders which take place 30 years apart.

•"Three Shirt Deal" by Stephen J. Cannell. In an attempt to free an inmate who claims his confession was coerced, Detective Shane Scully comes up against Los Angeles power brokers and politicians.

•"Fall of Frost" by Brian Hall. This novel, based on the life of the poet Robert Frost, looks at how difficult circumstances in his life led him to become one of America's most well-known poets.

### Non-Fiction:

•"Lord, Save Us From Your Followers: Why is the Gospel of Love Dividing America?" by Dan Merchant. The author travels throughout the world interviewing people and asking the question, "What are Christian

•"Putting Our House in Order: A Guide to Social Security and Health Care Reform" by George P. Shultz and John B. Shoven. While acknowledging the current difficulties with both social security and health care, the authors present solutions and suggestions for making both these programs fiscally sound.

•"200 Creative Crafts for You & Your Home" edited by Megan Hiller. This book shows you how to make everything from jewelry to room decorations using patterns, how-to instructions, and various craft techniques.

•"A Remarkable Mother" by Jimmy Carter. Our 39th president creates a loving portrait of his mother Miss Lillian Carter.

•"Make This Your Lucky Day: Fun and Easy Feng Shui Secrets to Success, Romance, Health, and Harmony" by Ellen Whitehurst. Broken down into days, events and specific life situations, this book helps you make today your lucky day.

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.

### Playhouse offering summer youth workshop

LONG BEACH - The Long Beach Playhouse is offering its 24th Annual Summer Youth Workshop in acting, music and dance for youth ages 7 - 16, June 30 - Aug. 1.

Enrollment is limited to 60 students. The classes have a studentteacher ratio of 20 students per teacher. Each day, students will have an hour of music, an hour of dance, and an hour of acting with professional instructors.

Acting classes include improvisation and scene study; dance classes consist of musical comedy dance techniques; and music classes include vocal projection, enunciation, song preparation and performance.

Classes will be held at the Long Beach Playhouse, 5021 E. Anaheim St. in Long Beach,

Workshop applications are available at www.lbph.com.





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### Veterans urged to share details of historical encounters

TAMPA, FLA. - As recently noted in Ken Burns' World War II PBS documentary, "The War," discussing combat experiences can be a tough and therapeutic process for America's veterans. Each has their own valid reason for not sharing their specific story - ranging from the events being too painful to recall to not wanting to appear as a boaster.

Leo E. Ours, Jr., author of the new book, "Hospital on Wheels: World War II MASH," believes it is important to document each veteran's personal perspective of historical episodes. Ours' father served as a medical and surgical technician in World War II, but remained silent about his experiences for 63 years.

"My father told us little about his participation in the war with the 662nd Medical Clearing Company following Patton's 3rd Army across Europe," Ours said. "On some occasions he would relate a humorous memory, but usually when asked he would say he did not want to remember those days."

The catalyst for Ours' father opening up was the recovery of his military duffle bag, which had been lost for 54 years.

"I was so moved and intrigued by his stories that I felt compelled to record an oral history, and later a written history with the book, of his service to our country," Ours explained. "Americans cannot forget the heroes who died on the battlefields so we must gather the spoken history of our service people and their families to fully document the details of our history."

Recalling memories of those lost in battle can be extremely hard to dis-

"As they returned home, many veterans simply wanted to resume the lives they had postponed and to participate in the freedom they helped to guarantee."

As potential remedy for their hesitancy to share their recollections, Ours developed a number of ideas that could serve as an "ice-breaker" to open the floodgates: •Ask if they would like to discuss the war so their family will have a

record of their service for future generations; •Find a movie of the war or battle they may have taken part in and use

it to stimulate discussion by asking if it portrays the events correctly;

•Inquire about the men and women in old military photos and explore what was going on when the picture was taken;

•Detailed questions about uniforms and medals can spur on dialogue about military service; and

•Use a recent war news story to spark a discussion about their war. "If you hit a sensitive subject, back off and have a secondary list of topics the veteran may feel more comfortable discussing," added Ours.

For more information on "Hospital on Wheels: World War II MASH," visit www.hospitalonwheels.com.







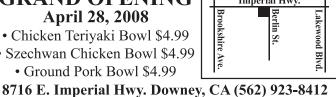


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Page 10 Friday, May 30, 2008 The Downey Patriot

## Council: Policy elevates mayor pro tem to mayor at annual transition.

Continued from page 1

Some repressed emotions bubbled up to the surface as Councilwoman Anne Bayer, presumably still smarting from being passed over in the last reorganization for what would normally have been her turn as mayor pro tem but instead trumped by current mayor pro tem Mario Guerra, spoke against the adoption of the policy, precipitating a protracted backand-forth argument among the council members.

"You could have been a man and refused the [mayor pro tem] nomination last December," Bayer told Guerra, who responded by saying, "how dare you question my character."

Bayer said certain council members "push people to get to the Councilman Rick Trejo said he was disappointed in the way the issue was being handled.

"I'm really flabbergasted with how we're dealing with this right now," he said. "The ultimate thing we're doing is to make sure we're doing the right thing."

The traded barbs prompted City Manager Gerald Caton to acknowledge that it was he really who

authored the proposed policy, with salient input from City Attorney Ed Lee, because of his wish to prevent the chaotic mayoral rotation machinations in other city councils from happening in Downey.

In other action, the Council:

•Approved the amendment to the agreement with iturasec (formally KPN Networks, Inc.) for network and firewall security maintenance services for the City Hall, Library and Police Department;

•Approved the renewal of the Fire Department instructional contract with Rancho Santiago Community College District;

•Awarded a lump sum contract totaling \$33,900 to Gallegos General Engineering for the construction of sewer improvements (8-inch sewer main extension) along the south side of Quill Drive, just west of Old River School

•Approved the settlement agreement with Westchester Fire Insurance Company and authorized payment of \$50,159.17 for the settlement of Stop Notice Claims;

•Adopted a resolution approving the application for grant funds



The City Council, with an eye towards revitalizing and reinvigorating the Downtown Downey area, this week authorized the purchase of the vacant Verizon building on 2nd Street. Photo by Brooke Karli

from the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy for the Treasure Island Park Renovation Project;

•Adopted a resolution approving the application for pedestrian funds for FY2007-08 authorized under Transportation Development Act, Art. III;

•Proclaimed the month of May as Motorcycle Awareness Month;

•Scheduled the study session to review the proposed 08-09 budget for this Tuesday, June 3, at 6:30

The next regular public meeting of the City Council will be on June 10 at 7:30 p.m. at City Hall, 11111 Brookshire Ave., Downey.



Dr. Virginia Baxter will be the guest speaker at Monday's OASIS (Older Adults Seeking Information and Skills) at the Downey Adult School cafeteria. An American History professor at Long Beach City College, she will speak on "America's First Ladies."

### Author luncheon scheduled June 7 at Rio Hondo

**DOWNEY** – The public is invited to the Friends of the Downey City Library's annual meeting and author luncheon on June 7 at the Rio Hondo Event Center, where guest author D.J. Waldie will discuss his highlyacclaimed book, "Holy Land: a Suburban Memoir," which tells about living in Lakewood.

The dean of the Harvard School of Architecture used "Holy Land" as a textbook in his classes on the history of American cities. Waldie will have copies of his book available for purchase and signing at the event.

Tickets are \$15 each, which include choice of several menu options. Reservations can be made at the Friends' Store inside the Downey City

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

### Warren announces band camp dates

DOWNEY - The Warren High School Band and Color Guard will be hosting band camp Aug. 11 - 15; Aug. 18 - 22; and Aug. 25 - 29.

The camp is mandatory for all students participating in band or color guard. The camp will take place at Warren.

The Warren Band and Color Guard will also host a preview concert on Aug. 29 at 7 p.m. at Justice Stadium. The community is invited to attend and will get a preview of the 2008 field show, "Winter Sketches."

For more information, call Band Director Dave Niemeyer at (562) 869-7306.

### Class of '58 reunion Oct. 11

DOWNEY - Downey High School's class of 1958 will celebrate their 50-year reunion Oct. 11 at the Long Beach Yacht Club.

A Downey Sports Reunion will be held the previous night, Oct. 10, at the Embassy Suites in Downey.

For information on the sports reunion, e-mail lashrffox@mac.com.

### Presidential first ladies discussed at OASIS

DOWNEY - Dr. Virginia Baxter, executive director of the Long Beach City College Foundation, will discuss "America's First Ladies" at this Monday's OASIS meeting at Downey Adult School.

Since 1972, Baxter has taught a course entitled, "History of American Women," in which she conducted extensive study and research on the history of presidential wives.

"First Ladies are the most influential, unapproved elected person in the United States," Baxter said.

All older adults are welcome to the meeting. Enrollment is free and begins at 2:45 p.m., at which time visitors can purchase an optional dinner ticket for \$3.50. The program will start at 3:45, followed by dinner at 5.

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

## Hats Off to the Graduates! Congratulations Class of 2008!

## Photo Here

**Graduates Name** 

Line 2 Line 3

Line 4

Line 5

### **ACTUAL SIZE**

Send to: The Downey Patriot, 8301 E. Florence Avenue, Suite 100, Downey, CA 90240

The Downey Patriot will publish a special section dedicated to commencement and graduation ceremonies. For only \$25.00, you can honor your graduate with a 1.986" by 3" announcement. They will be listed by school and by name.

Deadlines for High School announcements is June 6 and will be published on June 13, 2008.

Include the following information:

- ✓ Completed Information Card Photo of the Graduate
- - -- By Mail photo must be 2" x 3"
- -- By EMail photo must be 300 dpi (DowneyPatriot@yahoo.com)
- ✓ Check payable to The Downey Patriot

Father's Name Line 2 Line 3

> Line 4 Line 5

**ACTUAL SIZE** Send to:

The Downey Patriot, 8301 E. Florence Ave., Suite 100, Downey, CA 90240

The Downey Patriot will publish a special section dedicated to Father's Day. For only \$25.00, you can honor your father, grandfather or that someone special with a 1.986" by 3" announcement.

Deadlines for announcements is June 9 and will be published on June 13, 2008.

Include the following information:

- Completed Information Card
- Photo

Father's Day is June 15!!!

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The Downey Patriot!

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Line 5			
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Phone:			

## Contest: Students take part in first annual photo contest.

Continued from page 1

Twelve digital cameras and trophies were given to the winners of the different divisions and outstanding photo certificates, as well as graphics software, was given to runners-up and teacher's choice recipients. A special award was also presented to Dr. Mary Stauffer for her funding the digital camera classes at both the high school and adult school.

"It was such a fun event because it included so many different populations," said Bonnie Bowater, a senior who entered the DAS photo contest. "The cafeteria was filled with teenagers, senior citizens, politicians, students with disabilities, employees from both the high school and adult school, and teachers and staff."

The following is a list of first place winners, as well as certificate and runner-ups:

55+ Division: Gary Rosales, Digitally Mastered Photo; Frances Earhart, Traditional Photo; DAS Student Division: Sarah Jamison, Digitally Mastered Photo; Shawn Pena, Traditional Photo; Columbus High School Division: Jose Paez, Digitally Mastered Photo; Angie Martinez, Traditional Photo; CHS/DAS Staff Division: Dee Dee Wilcox, Digitally Mastered Photo; Gary Stott, Traditional Photo; DAS/Rancho Division: Magdalia Ortiz, Digitally Mastered Photo; Anna Dunham, Traditional Photo; Best in Show: Justin Rivas, Columbus High School; Melissa Solis, Downey Adult School; Principals' and Presidents' Choice Awards: Sarah Saxell, Columbus High School Principals' Choice Award; Kathy Succa, Downey Adult School Principals' Choice Award; Catherine Vanderlip, Columbus High School Presidents' Choice Award; Runners-Up Columbus High School: Yasmeen Cardenas, Digitally Mastered Photo; Briana Chavez, Traditional Photo; 55+: Bonnie Bowater, Digitally Mastered Photo; Marjorie Hille, Traditional Photo; Downey Adult School - Student: Rizza Rivera, Digitally Mastered Photo; Carol Daley, Traditional Photo; Rancho/DAS: Richard Daggett, Digitally Mastered Photo; Susan Yi, Traditional Photo; CHS/DAS Staff: Gloria Klug-Morataya, Traditional Photo; Teachers Choice: Mia Reed, DAS Staff; Ed Gomez, CHS; Valerie Torillo, CHS; Maria Contreras, Rancho/DAS



This photograph by Columbus High School student Briana Chavez was a runner-up in the "Traditional Photo" category. Awards were handed out last week inside the Downey Adult School cafeteria, where the works were put on display for the public.

### Ruthmae Wheeler lived in Downey 45 years

DOWNEY - Ruthmae Wheeler, Downey resident for 45 years, passed away on May 25. She was

Wheeler was born on Oct. 18, 1919 in Souix City, Iowa and resided at Downey Care Center at the time of her passing. She served as a homemaker and minister and was a member of the Huntington Park and South Gate Foursquare Church. She was also involved with the Downey Chapter 160 Eastern Star.



She is survived by her daughters, Shirleyann Borger and Normajean McDonald; grandchildren, Michelle Rodriguez, Brett McDonald, Robin Logan and Sheri Borger; and two great-grandchildren.

Visitation was held yesterday at Miller-Mies Mortuary and services are today at noon, also at Miller-Mies, followed by private graveside services.



The OLPH Catholic Women's Guild installed their new slate of officers for 2008-09 following Sunday's 8:30 a.m. mass at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church. Back row, left to right: Irma Saavedra, Terry Ramirez, Paula Mayfield, Joyce Prokop and Christine Pohlen. Front row: Bette Lloyd, president Charlene McCluskey and Lucy Guastella.



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## Real Estate Page 13 Friday, May 30, 2008



Dean Stivers, a graduate of UCLA, has joined Century 21 My Real Estate. Stivers received his bachelor's in economics and minored in philosophy. "Dean is very motivated and has an excellent attitude," said Steve Roberson, owner and broker. "He has excellent education, outstanding people skills and a strong desire to succeed."



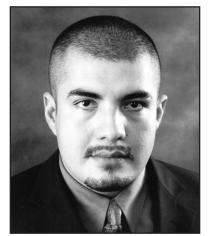
Josef Aguirre has joined the staff at Century 21 My Real Estate. Aguirre is bilingual, has an associate's degree from Los Angeles City College, and is a patient advocate at Los Angeles County Hospital. "Energetic, motivated, and a real self-starter are just a few words to describe Josef, one of the new agents joining our team," said Angie Pierce, office manager.



Century 21 My Real Estate has welcomed Eugenia Conte to its office. Conte served as vice president for Pro-Tech Machine for many years. "Eugenia has proven herself to be a multi-talented woman," said Roberson. "Her ability to assist clients and provide the needed services will greatly benefit her real estate endeavors."



Dorothy Pemberton, a graduate of California State University, Long Beach, has joined Century 21 My Real Estate. Pemberton holds a teaching credential andhas worked with CPA #1 International Real Estate and is currently a substitute teacher with Downey Unified School District. "Dorothy has a dedication to community service, outstanding organizational and computer skills, and a solid real estate experience which will provide her clients accurate and top quality service," said Roberson.



Century 21 My Real Estate has added Javier Fernandez. Fernandez is currently completing a degree in business administration and is an appliance specialist at Home Depot. "Javier has many strengths and enjoys working with people which will enhance his overall service provided to his clients," said Pierce.



The husband and wife team of Robert and Michelle Secord have joined Century 21 My Real Estate. Robert is a FedEx Ground contactor and Michelle has experience working with Century City Doctors Hospital.

### San Antonio Guild hosts fashion show

**DOWNEY** – The San Antonio Guild of Childrens Hospital Los Angeles is having their annual Fashion Show Luncheon tomorrow at the Rio Hondo Event Center.

The theme for the event is "Under the Tuscan Sun" and will include an Italian buffet, which begins at 11 a.m., followed by the program at 2 p.m. Entertainment will include an auction and fashion show, with fashions provided by Draper's & Damon's of Seal Beach.

Tickets are \$35. For more information, call Rosie Shelton at (562) 928-

### Pancake breakfast benefits local troops

**DOWNEY** – The Old River Men's Club will have its annual Pancake Breakfast tomorrow from 8 a.m. to noon at Apollo Park.

The breakfast will include pancakes, eggs, sausage, and a beverage. Suggested donation is \$3, which will benefit Boy Scout Troop 441 and Cub Scout Pack 805C.

For more information, call (562) 533-1630 or (562) 920-6141, or visit www.downeyboyscouts.com.

### CalMet picking up extra green waste

**DOWNEY** – During the month of June, CalMet Services will be picking up extra bags of clean green waste from Downey residents.

Items such as bags of leaves or bundles of branches (up to 4 feet in length and under 50 pounds) will be accepted. Residents may place up to five bundles or bags out at the curb.

Residents can schedule a pick-up by calling 24 hours in advance of their regular service day. The special service will be available June 2-30 for Downey residents.

For more information, call CalMet customer service at (562) 259-

### Christian club hosting patriotic meeting

DOWNEY - "Flag Day" is the theme of the Downey Christian Women's Club June 11 lunch meeting at the Los Amigos Country Club. Led by Mary Ann Cordova, the club will discuss "Packages of Gratitude" and their shipment of gifts to troops in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Hermina Vink will provide the meeting's music and Mary Nixon will be the guest speaker. Her topic is "How to step on a crack without cracking up."

Men are invited to the 11:45 meeting. Price is \$12 and includes a buffet lunch. Reservations are requested by calling Sonja at (562) 862-4347 or Delores at (562) 868-7135.

### Class designed to prepare for SATs

DOWNEY - The Assistance League of Downey is offering SAT I/PSAT preparation classes the weeks of June 30 and July 7 at Downey High School for sophomores and juniors in the Downey Unified School

Prerequisites for those wanting to participate include successful completion of Algebra I, with a recommended completion of Geometry. In addition to the two sessions taking place June 30 - July 3, and July 7 - 10, students may also participate in a follow-up session on Oct. 11 from 8:30 a.m. to noon. Regular sessions will take place from 8 to 10:30 a.m.

All sessions meet prior to SAT I administration on Nov. 1 and PSAT administration on Oct. 18.

Cost is \$35, which includes materials. Registration increases to \$50 after June 7. Students should bring a photocopy of a report card that indicates their first semester or third quarter course grade in their most recent

Enrollment is limited and registration will be accepted in the order received. For more information, or to register, call Alice Yamada at (562) 861-2318.

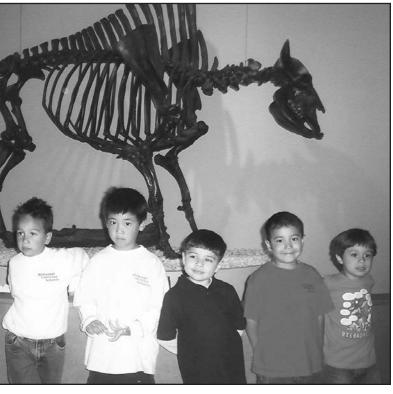
### Free acting classes for seniors

NORWALK - The Cerritos College Older Wiser Learner (OWL) Program is now offering two new acting classes.

The "Acting for Commercials and TV" class offers tips for working in the world of television and commercials. The class meets every Thursday 10 a.m. to noon at the Activity Center in La Mirada.

The "Acting for Stage plus Overcoming the Fear of Public Speaking" class helps students to be a more effective communicator and develop a better appreciation of theatre and the performing arts. The class meets every Tuesday from 10 a.m. to noon, also at the Activity Center.

Classes are free and are open enrollment classes accepting students at any time. For more information, contact Sally Greer at (562) 860-2451,



Students from Kirkwood Christian Schools recently enjoyed a field trip to the La Brea Tar Pits and Page Museum, where they studied the dinosaur exhibits. The trip was one of a handful of excursions students enjoyed during the year.



Downey resident John Haddad is congratulated by Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard on his admission into the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Md. Haddad, 20, earned the appointment after successfully completing a 10-month course of instruction at the Preparatory School (NAPS) in Newport, R.I. Haddad is the son of Hussam and Abeer Haddad (shown on left). He is a graduate of St. John Bosco in Bellflower. "I am extremely proud of John. He is an exceptional young man who earned admission to one of our nation's most prestigious service academies through his hard work, commitment, and leadership abilities," said Roybal-Allard. "I'm certain that John's self-discipline, strong motivation to succeed and eagerness to serve our country will enable him to become a fine commissioned officer and leader that our community and nation can be proud of."

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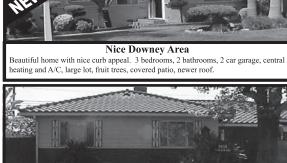


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# Page 14 Friday, May 30, 2008 Real Estate



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