



The Downey Patriot



School buses fill up on CNG
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Friday, June 20, 2008

Vol. 7 No. 9

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



West Middle School teacher Marlene Camacho wrote a journal documenting her beginning days as an educator. *Photo courtesy Downey Unified School District*

Marlene Camacho one willing BTSA trainee

BY HENRY VENERACION, STAFF WRITER

Because it is an art, teaching doesn't have a single formula that guarantees success. Some are good at it. Many more settle down to a mindless mediocrity, exhibiting neither creativity nor passion in an undertaking that, especially in the elementary grades, constitutes a primal force in shaping young minds.

The leadership at Downey Unified School District is doubtless aware of this. Over the years it has insisted on hiring only the best teachers available (and compensating them accordingly). Moreover, once it gets them, it gives them further training. In areas that pertain to their individual interests, and in other areas that heighten their effectiveness even more. Training is comprehensive, functional, focused. And it never stops.

The goal: to give the kids the best possible education.

Nowhere is this more evident than in its BTSA (Beginning Teacher Support & Assessment) Induction Program. Now mandated by the state, by which new teachers can achieve their clear credential, the two-year program is propped up by the input of teacher specialists—in literacy, in math/technology, in EL/ELD. The support providers, at times outnumbering the participants, play an even more significant role. These veteran teachers all work on-site to give all manner of assistance to the beginning teachers.

There is even a power-laden 15-member Induction Advisory Committee headed by a Leadership Team composed of Director of Elementary Education Denise Takano, and the three teacher specialists Judy Glaister, Mimi Yusem, and Dalyn Miller-Geiser, that reviews, assesses, and suggests new avenues of action, new areas of exploration. Curiosity and initiative are encouraged; and outstanding effort, sooner or later, is recognized.

(Because of BTSA, Takano says DUSD enjoys a 95 percent teacher retention rate. She says an 80-85 percent rating is considered good.)

The aforementioned attitude, this approach is replicated in the district's other programs. It makes for a lean, mean district machine.

See BTSA, page 8

Community split on gay marriage ruling

BY BROOKE KARLI, STAFF WRITER

At the steps of the Beverly Hills Courthouse, in front of hundreds of cameras and reporters, and broadcast as the top-of-the-hour news story on almost all major television stations, Robin Tyler and Diane Olson became the first same-sex couple to be married in Los Angeles County this past Monday, an event made possible by the California Supreme Court's decision to lift the ban on same-sex marriage.

The couple is the first among many expected to apply for marriage licenses and partake in civil marriage ceremonies throughout the state.

Downey resident Guy Koukal, 51, said he and his partner, 47-year-old Jose Fajardo, were never ones to get involved in politics and fight for same-sex marriage.

"We always respected the laws of California and felt that we didn't necessarily need a marriage license to proclaim our love for each other," said Koukal, who has been with Fajardo for more than 14 years. "But when we found out the ban was lifted, [Fajardo] surprised me and asked me to marry him."

"We plan on marrying each other, but we also know there's a possibility it can be overturned in November. Either way, it really won't affect us because we will love each other no matter what."

As stated in the California Family Code Section 300(a), the definition of marriage is such: "Marriage is a personal relation arising out of a civil contract between a man and a woman, to which the consent of the parties capable of making that contract is necessary."

The California Supreme Court, however, found that definition to be unconstitutional on May 15, stating in a news release that "California legislative and initiative measures limiting marriage to opposite-sex couples violate the state constitutional rights of same-sex couples and may not be used to preclude same-sex couples from marrying."

The release went on to explain that the "court concluded that permit-

See GAY MARRIAGE, page 8

Violent crimes and car thefts on the decline in Downey

■ Downey Police Department's Annual Report shows drop in murders and rapes last year, but other crimes, including thefts, robberies and burglaries, continue steady climb.

BY ERIC PIERCE, CITY EDITOR

DOWNEY – Police responded to fewer calls of violent crimes and auto thefts in Downey last year, but assaults, thefts, and other crimes are on the rise, according to the Downey Police Department's 2007 Annual Report, released this week.

According to the report, which culled its statistics using the FBI Crime Index, three murders and 17 rapes were reported in Downey last year, both decreases from 2006.

Reports of car thefts also dropped significantly, down to 1,033, their lowest level in half a decade.

But other types of crimes saw a marked increase in occurrences from previous years, including robberies (288), aggravated assaults (208), burglaries (669), and thefts (2,173).

"What we're seeing is a lot more street robberies, or what we call 'i-crimes,'" said Police Chief Roy Campos. "People walking down the street are being robbed of their iPods, CD players, and things like that."

In all, a total of 4,391 crimes were reported in Downey last year. Police responded to 31,985 emergency 911 calls and arrested nearly 4,000 people, including over 1,100 juveniles.

Traffic

Police officers issued their highest amount of traffic citations for moving violations (17,191) in eight years. The result was an across-the-board decrease in traffic collisions and related injuries and fatalities.

Campos pointed to nationwide studies that show fewer traffic accidents occur in cities where more citations are issued.

"Downey is no different," he said.

Six people were killed in 1,392 traffic collisions in Downey last year. There were 488 reports of injury and 665 instances of property damage, not including 233 hit-and-runs.

In 2006, when police issued a comparatively low 15,278 citations for moving violations (speeding, illegal turns, etc.), nine people died in traffic accidents, tied for an all-time high.

The report

The Annual Report is a comprehensive "year in review" as it relates to the Downey Police Department. This year's report includes a timeline of the department's advancements over its 50-year existence, and a closer look at its accomplishments in 2007:

•Downey narcotic detectives worked with the Drug Enforcement Administration last year to arrest five people and seize 3,300 pounds of marijuana, which carried an estimated street value of more than \$7 million.

See POLICE, page 3

Gafin decides he wants second term on council

BY ERIC PIERCE, CITY EDITOR

DOWNEY – Mayor David Gafin, a four-year council member who has used his time in office to push for increased public safety and promote a greater quality of life for Downey residents, will seek reelection this November.

Gafin, who represents Downey's District 1, made the not unexpected announcement this week.

"When I was elected to the council four years ago, I didn't know if I could really make a difference. I didn't want to be just another cog in the machine," Gafin said. "But I have seen things happen and problems get fixed. There's been a lot of progress."

In Gafin's case, the progress has been measurable. Since his election in 2004, he has spearheaded an initiative to increase the Downey Police Department by 12 sworn officers, and voted to install new state-of-the-art video recording systems in police cruisers.

"I'm hoping we'll be able to fill the open police officer positions soon," Gafin said.

A past president of Gangs Out of Downey, he has supported the use of police officers on local high school campuses and authorized an additional truck and crew for graffiti removal in the city.

Last year, Gafin was the driving force behind the reintroduction of Neighborhood Watch in Downey, which has proven to be popular with residents. And earlier this year he pushed city staff to develop a traffic calming policy to reduce the number of speeding drivers.

"Traffic has always been a concern," Gafin said. "Improvements along Imperial Highway, Lakewood Boulevard and Bellflower Boulevard have not only added beauty to the area, but will aid in increasing traffic flow."

See GAFIN, page 7



David Gafin



Traffic collisions in Downey fell to 1,392 last year, the city's lowest total in four years. The gold Nissan pictured above was involved in a two-car collision at Downey and Florence avenues last Friday, careening into a traffic signal and ending up on the sidewalk. No one was seriously hurt, police officials said. *Photo by Mary Forney*

Downey Crime Statistics 2007

Homicides	3
Rapes	17
Robberies	288
Aggravated Assaults	208
Burglaries	669
Larceny-Thefts	2,173
Auto Thefts	1,033
Total	4,391
Arrests	
Adult	2,879
Juvenile	1,109

Source: FBI Crime Index, Downey Police Department's 2007 Annual Report

Marquez lands major endorsements in quest to win council seat

BY ERIC PIERCE, CITY EDITOR

DOWNEY – The race to succeed Kirk Cartozian on the City Council is growing more crowded, with another resident emerging from a growing pool of candidates to challenge for the District 5 city-wide seat.

Luis Marquez, the senior district representative to Sen. Alan Lowenthal (D-27), confirmed his candidacy for the City Council this week.

As senior field deputy and the official liaison between the senator and several Southern California cities, including Downey, Marquez has become a familiar face to local government officials.

He has more than a decade of experience working in public and private sectors with federal, state and local government, and has worked extensively with non-profits and community and education advocacy groups.

In fact, Marquez has already secured an impressive line-up of endorsements. In addition to Lowenthal and Cartozian, the councilman he is trying to replace, the list includes Assemblymen Hector De La Torre and Charles Calderon, council members David Gafin and Mario Guerra, and others.

Marquez ran unsuccessfully for the Downey school board in 2005, capturing 31 percent of the vote but losing out to Nancy Swenson. Still, he

See MARQUEZ, page 7



Luis Marquez

Warren coach hosting summer basketball camp in July

DOWNEY – Warren High School varsity basketball coach Brent Willis will offer his annual summer basketball camp July 1-24.

The camp will run Tuesday through Thursday from 10 a.m. to noon in the Warren gym. Willis's camp is open to all local students ages 8 to 14 as well as prospective incoming freshmen players.

Willis will be joined by his basketball staff and conduct drills, games, and a camp tournament. The camp will include special instruction from scheduled guest speakers, including an advanced scout from the Cleveland Cavaliers, a representative from the Los Angeles Clippers, and an assistant coach from Whittier College.

The camp will also feature instruction and a summer league for incoming freshmen players. Freshmen players will begin their training Monday from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Pre-registration is \$100 and due by June 27. On-site registration will be \$120. Fees include a Warren basketball jersey.

Registration forms are available in the Warren High School front office.

For more information, call Willis at (562) 869-7306.

Downey basketball camp starts Monday

DOWNEY – Downey High School varsity basketball coach Larry Shelton will host a month-long basketball camp beginning this Monday.

The camp will feature daily basketball instruction, games and tournaments, a summer league for incoming freshmen, and more.

The camp is open to boys and girls entering grades 4-9. Shelton, a coach at Downey High School for 20 years, will lead the camp along with two other award-winning coaches.

The cost to attend the camp is \$120, which includes Downey basketball shorts and a jersey. The camp will be conducted in the Downey High School gym from 8 to 10 a.m., Monday through Thursday. Registration will be held Monday beginning at 7:30 a.m.

For more information, call Shelton at (562) 412-7528 or (562) 806-7013.



Warren High School student Kevin Robert Saul was recently announced as a California Scholarship Seymour Memorial Award finalist. Saul has been the California Scholarship Federation (CSF) president at Warren for six semesters. In addition to his presidential responsibilities, Saul started a CSF Annual Book Drive, which supports local elementary schools. "[Saul's] leadership style is somewhat of a hybrid," said CSF sponsor Christa Murphey. "As a leader, he is a visionary who is participative and directive at the same time. His organization, enthusiasm, and genuine sense of humor put others at ease. Therefore, students respond to [Saul] and want to work for him and with him."

'Let's Go Play' offers summer activities

DOWNEY – The city of Downey Department of Community Services is offering free activities to kids ages 6-12 from June 23 to Aug. 15 at parks located throughout Downey.

"Let's Go Play" will be offered Monday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Apollo, Dennis the Menace, Furman, Golden and Rio San Gabriel Parks. Programs will also be offered at Brookshire and Crawford Parks Monday through Friday from 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

There are approximately eight activities per day and a daily schedule of activities is available at the Community Services Department.

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

Football registration continues

DOWNEY – Downey Youth Football will hold registration Saturday morning at Furman Park.

Cost is \$185 for tackle football, \$130 for flag football, and \$100 for cheerleaders. Football equipment will be distributed the week of July 21, the first day of practice is July 28, and the season's first game will be on Sept. 6.

There are no try-outs and everyone plays.

Registration will be held between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. at Furman Park. For more information, call Louis Morales at (562) 928-6081.

Stonewood hosting community event

DOWNEY – Stonewood Center is hosting a free event tomorrow "encouraging kids to learn about their community through interactive crafts and entertainment."

The event, titled "Kids Care...About the Community" will include an educational and interactive presentation on water conservation at 1 p.m. A wall of art will feature crafts created at the event.

Stonewood Center will also be collecting new underwear, socks and bathing suits to benefit Su Casa, a non-profit organization assisting battered women.

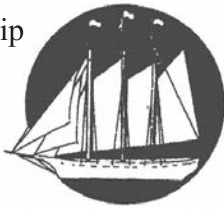
The Downey YMCA, Gangs Out of Downey, Keep Downey Beautiful and the city of Downey Community Services Department are also participating in the event.

The event will be held Saturday from noon to 2 p.m. in the Macy's Court. For more information, call (562) 904-1832.

have fun this summer!

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The importance of water

Human health cannot be overemphasizing. Not providing your body with adequate amounts of water can be devastating to your health. A rule of thumb for water is that the body needs a minimum of half your weight in ounces every day. (Example: If you weigh 150 lb., you need 75 ounces of water per day.) Ask Your Doctor!

Downey Aquatic Center

The pool opens for Recreational Swim on June 30 from 1 to 4:30 daily \$2 admission

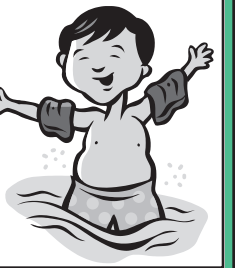
Family Two-light Nights at the Pool start on July 11 from 7pm to 9pm \$2 admission per person.

Bring the entire family to the pool to cool off and have a little family fun. Special activities will be offered for everyone.

Pack a picnic dinner or buy a few snacks at the snack bar.

11040 Brookshire Ave. (562) 869-2300

Swim lessons available for all ages; contact the City of Downey Community Services Department at 562-904-7238.



Camp Whittle Summer Resident Camp

July 26th - August 2nd 2008



Got Camp?

Join the Downey YMCA as they enjoy a week in the beautiful San Bernardino Mountains. Sign-up by Saturday May 31st, 2008 and save \$25!

Activities include:

- Mountain Biking
- Banana Boats
- Rock Climbing
- Canoeing
- Camp Carnival
- Arts & Crafts
- Swimming
- Hiking
- Dances
- Media Center
- Archery
- Campfire
- High/Low Ropes Course

Sign-up Today!

\$325.00 Facility Members \$350.00 All Others



Contact person:

Cecilia Butler

Camp Program Director

(562) 862-4201 ext. 1740

Se Habla Español!

Financial Assistance:

The Downey Family YMCA has special funds available to assist families in managing the cost of camp. Financial Assistance (Camp Scholarship) applications can be picked up at the main YMCA facility, and should be turned in to the Downey Family YMCA Camp Program Director, Cecilia Butler.



We build strong kids, strong families, strong communities



Basketball Camp

At Downey High School

June 23 - July 17 (no classes July 3)

Monday thru Thursday

8:00 - 10:00 A.M.

in the Downey High Gym

Registration: Monday, June 23

Beginning at 7:30 A.M.



Featuring...

- Daily Basketball Instruction
- Games & Tournaments
- Fun
- A summer league for all incoming Freshman

Cost - \$120

For boys and girls - incoming grades 4-9

(Possibility of 13 Games versus other schools)

Instructors...

- Larry Shelton and staff
- Downey H.S. Varsity Coach (20 Years)
- 2-time L.A Times Coach of the Year
- 4-Time San Gabriel Valley League Coach of the Year

Includes:
Downey Basketball Jersey and Shorts

Any Questions?

Contact Larry Shelton

(562) 412-7528 (Cell) (562) 806-7013 (Home)

Summer Fun at Downey Parks

The City of Downey offers a variety of camps for all ages and abilities



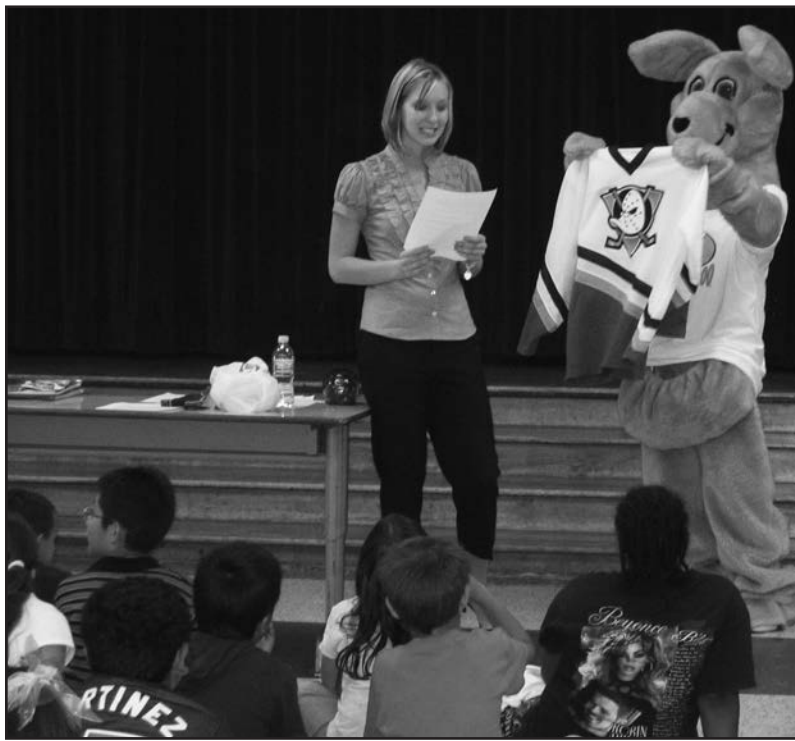
- Camp Hollywood at Furman Park (ages 8-13yrs)
- Wilderness Camp at Wilderness Camp (ages 6-10 yrs)
- Adventure Camp at Independence Park (middle school aged)
 - Little Buddies at Wilderness Park (ages 4-5 yrs)
 - Sports Camp at Apollo Park (ages 8-12 yrs)
- Camp for Champs at Furman Park (ages 6-18 yrs)
- Summer Soccer Camp at Apollo Park (3-16 yrs)
- Skate Independence Camp at Independence Park (ages 8-12)

Most camps hours 9:30 to 3:30 and extended care is offered at an additional fee from 7am to 9:30 and 3:30 to 6pm.

Camp fee covers excursions, swimming, mini trips, snacks and all cooking and craft supplies.

All Camps start on June 23 except Summer Soccer Camp and Camp for Champs

For more information call the City of Downey Community Services Department at 562-904-7238



"Kirby Kangaroo," the official mascot of Downey Federal Credit Union, visited Ward Elementary School last week to teach children the importance of saving.

Credit union stresses the importance of saving to kids

DOWNEY – Ward Elementary third-graders were treated to a visit from "Kirby Kangaroo" last week, the mascot of the youth savings account at Downey Federal Credit Union.

Kari Johnson, the credit union's business development representative, introduced Kirby to approximately 130 kids, as she discussed what credit unions are and the things they have to offer.

Johnson also encouraged the children to begin saving money for the future, and read stories to illustrate how Kirby saved for items he wanted.

"The credit union encourages young people in the community to start saving for the future," said credit union CEO Barbara Lamberth. "By providing financial education to Downey's youth, we can help create financially responsible citizens of tomorrow."

Several of the third-graders had previously visited Downey Federal Credit Union during a school field trip.

Federal employees meet for luncheon

DOWNEY – The National Association of Active and Retired Federal Employees (NAARFE) will hold its annual luncheon this Wednesday at 1 p.m. at the Woman's Club of Downey, 9813 Paramount Blvd.

The catered meal will feature a choice of three entrees, dessert and drinks. Cost is \$6.50 and door prizes will be offered, as well as a raffle for a doll made by Sara Knerr.

For reservations, call chapter president Bob Knerr at (562) 943-5513.

Health screenings at Masonic Lodge

DOWNEY – Stroke and osteoporosis screenings will be offered July 1 at the Downey United Masonic Lodge Post 22, 8244 E. 3rd St.

The screening package now includes a heart rhythm screening. Screenings help identify potential health problems such as blocked arteries and irregular heart rhythm, abdominal aortic aneurysms, and hardening of the arteries in the legs, which is a strong predictor of heart disease. A bone density screening to assess osteoporosis risk is also offered and is appropriate for both men and women.

All screenings take 60 to 90 minutes to complete. Pre-registration is required. Screenings will begin at 9 a.m.

For more information, or to schedule an appointment, call (800) 697-9721, or visit www.lifelinescreening.com.

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Introducing Rev. David E. Norczyk

The Senior Board and the congregation of the **First Baptist Church of Downey** are excited to announce to our community that we have called a Senior Pastor to shepherd our flock. Rev. David E. Norczyk preached his first sermon from our pulpit on Sunday, May 4, 2008. Rev. Norczyk graduated from Dallas Theological Seminary in 2003 with a Masters of Theology before continuing his graduate studies in Church history at King's College at the University of Aberdeen, Scotland.

Rev. Norczyk brings a unique view of church history and contemporary culture to his sermons, always grounded in biblical fact. He also brings to Downey his lovely wife, Stephanie, and their six children ranging in age from 14 to 2 years. He is excited to be here to lead the church in obedience to God's call to make disciples who love God and love others!

Our church family extends an invitation to you, the people of Downey and surrounding neighborhoods, to join us on Sundays for worship at either 8 AM or 11 AM at 8348 East Third Street in Downey.

Downey Crime Statistics

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Homicide	7	6	9	4	5	1	4	0	7	4	3
Rape	30	24	17	11	20	17	23	19	30	21	17
Robbery	303	269	228	177	208	195	216	238	250	248	288
Aggravated Assault	133	136	127	148	200	270	257	192	161	177	208
Burglary	763	635	681	499	490	556	589	548	579	584	669
Larceny-Theft	1,965	1,890	1,606	1,430	1,793	1,595	1,818	2,109	1,848	1,897	2,173
Auto Theft	1,247	1,186	978	811	999	1,064	1,178	1,113	1,102	1,144	1,033
Totals	4,448	4,146	3,646	3,080	3,715	3,698	4,085	4,219	3,977	4,075	4,391

Source: FBI Crime Index, Downey Police Department's 2007 Annual Report

Police: More than 76 background checks resulted in 15 new hires.

Continued from page 1

•Code Enforcement officers, which fall under the police department's jurisdiction, responded to 2,132 cases related to code violations in Downey.

•Police department employees received approximately 8,000 hours of training, including a two-day management conference held in Temecula.

•Detectives began using the Computer Voice Stress Analyzer, a computerized lie detection system that measures inaudible body tremors superimposed on the human voice.

•The department received a \$29,900 grant from the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control to

increase enforcement of local liquor laws.

•The forensics department processed 1,666 crime scenes last year. Using their automated fingerprint identification system, they identified 96 suspects.

•The police department conducted 76 background investigations on potential employees, including 46 on police officer candidates. The department hired 15 new employees, nine of which were for police officer positions.

•To commemorate its 50th anniversary, the department hosted its first open house on May 12.

•The department conducted its 12th annual Citizens Police Academy (which this newspaper

participated in), a program originally launched in 1996.

•Officers Michael Galindo, Edward Hano and Timothy Lau were promoted to corporals, while forensic specialist Jean Pominville and secretary Lynette Williams also received promotions.

•Members of the police force were recognized last year with various awards and recognitions from the community. Detective Sam Gatfield, Cpl. Sean Penrose and Code Enforcement Officer Amir Zia were each recognized for their public service by the Downey Masonic Lodge; Cpl. Daniel Samano was presented with the American Legion Award for his community service; Officer David

Aldridge and volunteer Bette Taylor each were recognized by Metropolitan Lodge #352; and officers Jason Klevos, Jaime Llamas and Justin Prentice won the CHP Stolen Vehicle Recovery Award for their work in recovering stolen vehicles.

Klevos, Aldridge and Lau will also join fellow officers Peter Mendoza, Noah Nagel and Sam Phillips in a recognition from Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) for apprehending 190 drunk drivers last year.

The Downey Police Department includes 122 sworn personnel, 72 non-sworn employees, 18 police explorers, three chaplains, and one volunteer.

Summertime good time for children to read a book

DOWNEY – The Downey City Library's summer reading program for children up to age 12, "Catch the Reading Bug," will run from June 23 to Aug. 2.

During that time, children may check out books and read them at home to earn prizes. Children who read 20 books, or 1,000 pages, receive a free book, as well as additional prizes for every five books they read.

Sponsored by the Friends of the Downey City Library and community donations, the program also features "Wonderful Wednesday," which discovers the world of insects every Wednesday at 2 p.m. for children ages 5-12.

Middle school students may attend "Monday Madness," which will include crafts from June 30 – July 28.

On the program's kick-off day, this Monday, kids who register for the program are invited to attend "Bugs, Bugs and More Bugs," an interactive program at 10:30 and 11:30 a.m. in the Cormack Room. Free show passes will be distributed 30 minutes before show time.

"Children who participate in a summer reading program make more reading gains during the school year," said Children's Librarian Gina Orello. "This program is an exciting way to incorporate reading into your family fun this summer."

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

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Almost one-fifth of DUSD's bus fleet now running on compressed natural gas

BY HENRY VENERACION,
STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY—Visit DUSD's school bus depot at the rear of the Downey Adult School/Columbus High compound at the corner of Woodruff and Imperial, and you will find their brand-new CNG (Compressed Natural Gas) filling station. It was completed and started dispensing CNG only last February.

The CNG filling station is the latest in the district's ongoing energy saving/efficiency program. Eight of DUSD's 36 buses serving its network of 13 elementary, four middle, and three high schools are now equipped with CNG tanks. Twenty-two of the remaining buses run on diesel, six on gas. As we're all aware, the price of diesel fuel currently clocks at about \$5 a gallon, and the price of gasoline is getting more and more atrocious by the day. CNG costs half, as a conservative estimate.

The burning of gasoline of course produces pollution; diesel fuel likewise emits cancer-causing particulate matter that contributes to smog formation. Aware of this, and to protect vulnerable populations—particularly California's school children—from the harmful effects of said air pollution, the state's Air Resources Board (ARB) started its Lower-Emission School Bus Program in 2001.

ARB's initial funding appropriation amounted to \$50 million, which provided grants to upgrade the state's aging school bus fleet through its program aimed at reducing school children's exposure to smog-forming and cancer-causing pollution. Partnerships and working relationships were encouraged with local air and school districts.

A report indicates that state funds totaling just over \$100 million over the past seven years have replaced 600 of the oldest, most polluting public school buses, and equipped about 3,800 other diesel buses with ARB-verified pollution control equipment. The worst offenders were the pre-'80s buses. DUSD had three of these—one 1969 model, one a 1972 model, and a 1979 model.

The 1969 model, according to DUSD Transportation Supervisor Jose Cruz, had to be destroyed, as well as the other two buses—but these latter two got funding from AQMD to retrofit with CNG tanks. For the pre-'87 buses, the district had to pay \$25,000 with the balance funded by AQMD. (A brand-new CNG-configured bus costs \$160,000). DUSD now has eight buses using CNG.

The district, says, Cruz, has two '87s left, and should be retrofitted to take in CNG. The post-'87s will be "very expensive."



Eight of the Downey Unified School District's fleet of 36 buses now fill up using CNG. The rest operate on diesel and regular unleaded gasoline. Photo courtesy DUSD

It takes time, a lot of time, to fill each CNG bus. "We turn on the CNG pumps at 6 p.m.," says Cruz. "When the psi reaches 3500, they automatically stop pumping. The filling stations right now number eight."

Since the compressor uses a lot of power, data is being collected, he says, to compare CNG-generated savings vs. electricity costs. Preliminary figures should be ready next month.

ARB says its work is not yet

finished, and additional funding to build on its program has been secured through Prop. 1B, the "Highway Safety, Traffic Reduction, Air Quality, and Port Security Bond Act of 2006." The bond act has allocated \$200 million to the School Bus (Lower Emission) Program.

For sure, Transportation Director Buck Weinfurter and staff are trying to figure out how to share in the pie.

Chinese artist sharing work at Furman Park

DOWNEY – The Downey Art League will welcome artist Ying Liu when they host their general meeting this Tuesday from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. at Furman Park.

Liu was born in China, where she lived until immigrating to the United States in 1987. She completed graduate studies at Ohio State University, USC and UCLA before pursuing her passion for art, particularly drawing and painting.

Drawing inspiration from Joaquin Sorolla, Anders Zorn, John Singer Sargent and many other contemporary artists, Liu's work has been described as a "strong, loose, yet richly-toned realist style." In recent years, Liu has expanded her range of subject matter and includes watercolor

and pastel to her primary medium of oil.

She studied "life drawing" and watercolor painting at Long Beach City College in 2003, and recently at Cal State Long Beach. She has also studied drawing in Florence, Italy.

Liu has been juried into many shows, including Oil Painters of America, Allied Artists of America, Watercolor West and a group show in Florence. Her work has been recognized with many awards, including Best in Show at the Sunset Beach Annual Art Festival.

Tuesday's meeting will be the Downey Art League's last until September. The community is invited to attend.

Community Center releases summer schedule

DOWNEY – The Barbara J. Riley Community & Senior Center invites the community to participate in their numerous events planned to take place this summer.

Family Fun Events

Tickets are now on sale for the 5th Annual Senior Follies on June 27 at 6 p.m., June 28 at 3 p.m., and June 29 at 3 p.m. Twenty-five performers will dance, sing and perform comedy at the event. Tickets are \$5 per person.

Pre-School (Ages 2-6)

Clap, sing and move is part of the "Rhythm, Rhyme and Fun" five-week class at the center for kids ages 2-4. The class starts on June 28 and cost is \$28 per child.

"Tots of Fun – Parent & Me" is a five-week class that introduces preschoolers to numbers, colors, and children's literature and craft projects. Cost is \$30 per child plus a one-time material fee of \$5. The class begins on June 28 at 10:30 a.m.

The circus is in town at the Honda Center in Anaheim and registration is being taken for a pre-school trip for kids ages 2-6 and their parents to the "Greatest Show on Earth" on Aug. 1 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tickets are \$15 for children and \$18 for adults.

Youth (Ages 5-12)

"Painting for Kids" is a five-week class that introduces youth between the ages of 7-12 to using acrylic and egg tempera to create still life, portrait and landscape painting projects. Cost is \$40 per student and class schedule selection is Mondays starting June 23 from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m., or Fridays starting June 27 from 4 to 5 p.m.

"Hands on Science: Investigating the Invisible" is a five-week class for kids ages 6-12 and will be held on Thursdays starting June 26, from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Cost is \$50 per student. The class will teach participants about

physical and chemical properties of matter, atoms and molecules.

The center will also offer a new youth class for Lego lovers. "Legos Workshop: Engineering Fundamental" is a hands-on, mind-on workshop that will introduce kids to design and building motorized machines, catapults, demolition derby cards, truss and suspension bridges. Students will explore concepts in physics, mechanical and structural engineering while playing with their favorite creations. The week-long workshop is offered at a cost of \$155 per child. Participants can attend class the week of July 28-Aug. 1, or Aug. 18-Aug. 22. Kids ages 5-7 will have class from 9 a.m. to noon and kids ages 8-12 will have class from 1 to 4 p.m.

The city of Downey Licensed Child Care Program is offering summer full-day day care from June 23-Aug. 2 for all school-aged youth in grade kindergarten through fifth. Cost is \$105 per child per week, plus a one-time registration fee of \$20 and a \$6 T-shirt fee, which will be collected at the time of registration. Fee includes daily snacks, all-day care (6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.), arts and crafts, games, on-site interactive activities and a mid-week excursion. To register, call Imperial Elementary School at (562) 904-7234, or Gallatin Elementary School at (562) 861-5052, Monday through Friday between 2 and 6 p.m.

Adult Classes (Ages 18+)

"Total Body Sculpting" is a new four-week class offered at the center on Mondays and Fridays starting June 23 from 5 to 6 p.m. The class is designed as a high intensity and interval training workout routine rotating through a series of stations combining aerobic and resistance training. Cost is \$56 per person.

An "Authentic Indian Cooking" workshop will be held on Aug. 14 from 6 to 8 p.m., demonstrating how to cook with spices and oils, while

See COMMUNITY, page 8

The Poet's Corner

The Immigrants

Turn back a page of memory
Back to another year,
When lives were plain and simple
And foreigners came here,
From many countries near and far
They came with hopes held high,
Coming to America
The land of golden dreams
A "Goldmish Medina"
The place where they could stay
Striving each to forge ahead
Driven in every way,
Freedom fixed in every mind,
They labored long and hard,
Slaving through the sweatshops,
Learn and toil each day
Then, doctors, lawyers, they could be
Their children now, at last maybe
Could vote and live the good life,
"America Gonnif" here is good,
The greenhorn found his way.
This became their heritage
The land of all dreams,
Stars and stripes and apple pie
Were held in high esteem.
Maybe someday Danny could be the president
Maybe someday Becky could be somebody too.
Give us the chance to show them all
That we can make it thru.
We'll be the best, we'll stand the test,
We'll show the world someday.
America, place for new blood,
America, place for me.
America, land of immigrants
New land where we are free.
– George Geller,
Downey

An Outward Act

Who is to blame
When all proceed to dine the same?
Feeling reckless inside my head
I feel that torches and rage will follow
My words dread Given its match it sparks
to invite fights or worse death
Plots plague the mind of change
For those who seek for weeks but fall too short
of reign Hope remains around the corner
Recite for laws in order Until there's nothing left
except for marks of bar road dirt Ask why
No one can answer so they got to tell you sad lies
I'm kept baptized And if there isn't any change
Only we are to blame
Don't tell me to mind my business
You affect me so I'm counter part of your business
See the connection
No need for infrared detection
Every line of mine is perfection
Not really but I like to think its so
Mind on my goals and my clothes
my outward appearance makes me
rearing to go.
– James Hernandez,
Downey

Five

You can be mine
And I can be yours
Our bond can be as pure and as simple
As the fish in the sea
When the sun comes up
Our souls collide
When the moon shines
Our bodies are one
The risks we take
The bumps in the road
The crashes that await us
Cannot be conquered alone.
As one,
We are safe and strong
And free and pure
And innocent
A rebirth of the most sensational kind.
– Valerie Osegueda,
Downey

Aching to see us?

- Neck Pain
- Back Pain
- Sciatica
- Headaches
- Arm & Leg pain
- Carpal Tunnel
- Sports Injuries
- Work Injuries
- Auto Accidents
- Chronic Pain
- Arthritis

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Grad life

By Eric Pierce

Dear class of 2008, Congratulations, you did it. You are one step closer to realizing your dream of enrolling in college, earning a degree, landing a job, and working until you're 65 or dead, whichever (mercifully) comes first.

Again, congratulations. Sorry, sorry, I know I sound jaded, but I'm not. Really, I only wish to offer you a few sage words of advice. Take it from me, a person who has been there, done that, and is looking to fill 10 column inches of newspaper space in the matter of an hour.

Godspeed,
Eric

10 tips for the class of 2008 – Heed thy advice

- 1.) Don't take a year off after high school. That year will turn into two years, and then three, and then four...
- 2.) Whatever you do, don't major in journalism. The job market stinks right now and the outlook isn't any better... Did we learn nothing from *Downey Magazine*?
- 3.) Make Craigslist your new best friend, especially when it's time to finally move out of your mom's house. Just avoid the "personals" section, lest you find yourself the lead story on the 5 o'clock news.
- 4.) Don't trust anything you read on Wikipedia, unless you're looking for in-depth information on lightsabers and their immense contributions to mankind. To write an intelligent college term paper, be prepared to crack open a book.
- 5.) Save your money and buy your first car in cash. Don't, and the monthly car note and insurance, not to mention inflating gas prices, will leave you hurting.
- 6.) Contrary to popular advice, you SHOULD open a credit card account. But just one. And use it sparingly for small purchases, making sure you pay off the balance in full every month. If you max out a Best Buy credit card and plan to pay it off making the minimum monthly payments, trust me, you never will.
- 7.) No, that piece of Arkansas swampland Erik Estrada is pitching on TV would NOT make a good investment to raise your future family one day.
- 8.) And no, college life really isn't as it appears on "Girls Gone Wild." (If it is, call me.)
- 9.) Be prepared, because soon after graduation one of your close friends will pass away. It will probably be in a car accident, and alcohol will probably play a factor. I'm not trying to be funny; it's true. Tragedy, unfortunately, is part of growing up. But drinking and driving shouldn't be.
- 10.) Kids will be kids. So have fun, but be safe, work hard, think smart, and make no excuses. The world, as they say, is yours.

An unfathomable impasse

By Henry Veneracion

The state faces a \$15.2 billion budget deficit. The Republicans and the Democrats should have resolved this by June 15, but they were unable to do so. Democrats contend it's OK to raise taxes, or eliminate tax breaks (say, on boats, planes or motorhomes bought out of state), to raise money with which to plug the deficit, as well as allow spending cuts (on education, health, welfare, environment); Republicans are totally opposed to the idea.

Republicans favor relaxing environmental and labor laws; Democrats, and die-hard environmentalists, are in no mood to yield their ground on the issue of greenhouse gas emissions. Don't delay the implementation of emissions caps, they say, due to take effect in Jan. 2010. "The sickness they will prevent and the boost they will give to 'green' technologies promise to be far more helpful to California's economy than a delay in their implementation," so goes the reasoning.

A second deadline is up ahead, on July 1st, when the new fiscal year begins. If there is still no budget, we're looking at Sept. 1, after the state legislature ends its 2008 session on Aug. 31.

A prolonged budget impasse (a two-thirds majority is needed for passage) means state payments to hospitals, state prisons, etc., could be delayed, as well as remittances to municipalities and school districts. Further, it may force the state to borrow, to maintain its cash flow; the borrowing though will incur higher interest rates. It might resort to issuing so-called Revenue Anticipation Warrants, a step that could conceivably cost in the hundreds of millions of dollars and jeopardize the state's credit rating in the process.

Gov. Schwarzenegger, meanwhile, is advocating for more tax breaks (incentives) to the movie and TV industry, if they film in California.

The impasse is causing nervousness all around, especially with a slumping economy, with rising food and gas prices, not to mention unemployment. Shall we see statesmanship in the legislature, or shall we be condemned to debilitating drift for God knows how long?

Letters to the Editor:

Code blue

Dear Editor:

Over the past few years the Downey Homeowners Association has fought hard to preserve Downey neighborhoods and keep our city looking the best that it possibly can. Countless hours were spent at council meetings discussing what should be done about the growing problem of mansionization in Downey. We took the city at its word when they said they would put restrictions on the "McMansions" and we waited for the results, but they never came.

With that said, I have just learned that the city, in all of its misguided wisdom, is proposing the removal of Downey City Code 9110.14, which states "the architecture and general appearance of the building shall be in keeping with the character of the neighborhood and such as not to be detrimental to the general welfare of the neighborhood in which they are located." This is the very code our founding fathers installed to keep the city stable and truly a "City of Gracious Living."

They said they would take care of the mansionization problem. Did they really do anything? I think not.

I find it very disheartening that the city would not alert the public on such an important topic of interest to the people of our community. In my opinion, the mansions that are being built today look just as they did before – out of place, out of character, and out of code. This is not right!

I was present at the public zoning code meeting a few weeks back at the Downey City Library, where the topic for the night was housing. I brought up the importance of Code 9110.14. The staff at no time mentioned the proposed removal of Code 9110.14, even after the topic was open for discussion. This would have been the time for staff to tell the public of their plan to remove or change this code, but they chose not to.

Deception after deception is not the way city government or any government should work. This city belongs to the people, not the staff's short-sighted wisdom. If this code is removed, the city of Downey's identity is at stake. It will cause irreversible harm to our neighborhoods and we must not let this stand.

If you would like more information, or you are interested in helping this cause, please contact me at preservedowneyhomes@yahoo.com.

—George Redfox,
Downey Homeowners Alliance
The Downey Conservancy

More homework required

Dear Editor:

Three weeks ago I took umbrage to someone comparing same sex union to pedophilia ("Gay Marriage," 5/30/08).

I purposely stated that my opinion on this matter was of no consequence. How does that support gay marriage ("Slippery Slope," 6/13/08)? Perhaps some additional homework was required by this author.

—Javier Moreno,
Downey

Dear Editor:

I would like to respond to the letter, "Slippery Slope," in the June 13 edition of *The Downey Patriot*.

I empathize with the writer that change can cause "great sadness." In fact, many "Letters to the Editor" reflect the difficulties in adjusting to issues that we all face. Self-serving politicians, illegal immigration, and even the demise of Johnnie's Broiler have stirred the emotions of many in our community.

The writer singled out same-sex marriage as a path to "social decay." My partner and I have lived in Downey for over 10 years. I had no idea that we were part of a "radical homosexual community" wanting to force residents to "accept the homosexual lifestyle."

On the contrary, we have lived a quiet, conservative life. We take care of each other and our families, work hard and keep our personal business private, just like all our neighbors.

Will same-sex marriage lead our country toward social decay? The writer makes no arguments as to how this might happen and simply warns readers not to be "foolish and believe the lies that same-sex marriage is about love and legal rights."

Same-sex marriage will not bestow any additional legal rights to my partner and I. California legalized domestic partnerships over eight years ago; marriage by another name.

So I must respectfully disagree with the tone and content of the letter. Despite what was written, same-sex marriage is about love, which my partner and I will again validate next week.

After we are married, we will still live our quiet, conservative lives. And I am sure that the writer of the letter and all other California residents will continue to be equally free to live their lives.

So much for the radical agenda.

—Guy Koukal,
Downey

Looking for green

Dear Editor:

All through spring and up until about a month ago it was an absolute delight to drive on Paramount Boulevard between Imperial Highway and Gardendale Street. The trees were beautiful and even the previously butchered Liquid Amber trees were recuperating somewhat. And then came the day when our tree-destroying crew was let loose on them once again. These trees are young and not big enough to be in anyone's or any vehicle's way and yet they had to do their thing.

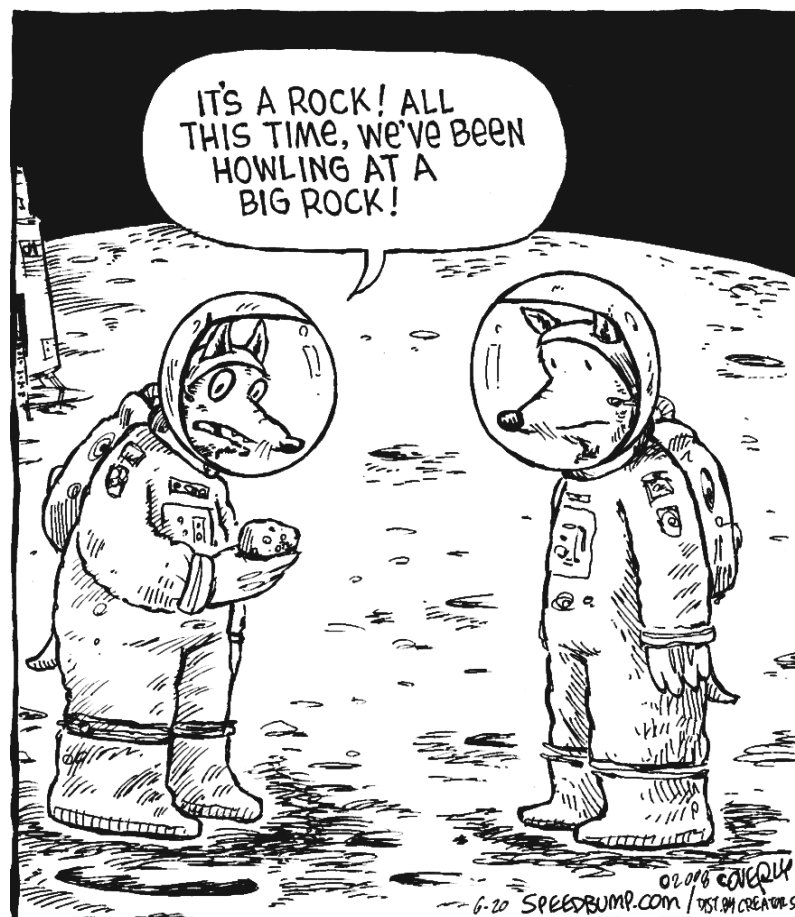
While the trees looked full and green before, they now stand there sort of naked like skeletons where some important parts are missing. They cut out so many branches in between and on some of them they cut almost the whole side facing the street. On the median, some trees were planted that have lovely swaying branches; well, all of those branches were cut back and nothing sways.

Why do we plant particular trees if we do not want them to look like they are supposed to? And if anyone tells me that the trimming is being done to give the trees a better shape later, how does this tree-wrecking crew know better than the tree what it should look like.

We, as a city, must have spent a tremendous amount of money to plant all the trees along streets and boulevards in the city. I dare anyone to drive up and down these streets and find one decent looking tree that the city of Downey is responsible for. Most of them are ugly with twisted miserable looking trunks and with some scrawny branches left on top.

Trees are supposed to provide shade and beauty to the area where they are planted and we are not able or willing to accomplish this with the methods we currently employ. Where is the Keep Downey Beautiful committee in this? Once again I have to recommend that we send our people down to downtown Paramount so that they can see how trees should look and what beautiful trees can provide.

—Irma Landesfeind,
Downey



An unsightly scene

Dear Editor:

I have to laugh at the fact that I'm actually writing to the paper about this, but it's just so puzzling. Maybe someone can answer this for me: just how long does it take the city of Downey to remove a dead possum – or is it opossum? – and a computer monitor from a public sidewalk?

For well over a week a dead possum lay next to an abandoned computer monitor on the east side of Lakewood Boulevard just north of Cherokee Drive. Someone or something moved both the possum and monitor a time or two, but there they remained – on the sidewalk.

Finally someone disposed of the possum but left the monitor. Then a few days ago I noticed that all but the shell of the monitor was missing, and the shell had found its way up to the roof of an adjacent storage area in someone's backyard where it still resides today.

I guess our city lost federal funding for the "Dead Possum and Discarded Computer Monitor Removal Department" along with all the other budget cuts?

—Sue Courtney,
Downey

Award-winner

Dear Editor:

I have known Marsha Moode for quite a while and she has without a doubt produced and directed some of the best shows of the Downey Civic Light Opera. I have been fortunate enough to have worked on three of them and I had the time of my life doing so.

I'm not sure if the *Patriot* has done any stories on Marsha or better yet if she has received any recognition for her tireless hours she puts into putting on the best performances that she can. I really believe that she should get some kid of award for doing so.

I am asking the city of Downey to show Marsha that you care enough for her and give her the due diligence that she is very worthy of. I am asking all Downey citizens, if you haven't had a chance to see great performances, come and support the DCLO for the new upcoming season. You'll really enjoy yourself.

Marsha is putting on three great shows: "South Pacific," "Dames at Sea," and "42nd Street." You will see first hand how all the hard work that goes into putting the shows together will equal great fun for all.

—David Sedillo,
Downey

Don't be scared off of real estate opportunities

You can run from the risk and hide your head in the sand or you can face the next phase of the real estate market...and steer your destiny in the direction of success." Those are the words of Craig Rozema, real estate investment specialist, leading portfolio manager and author of the new book, *The Next Hot Real Estate Market*.

It's no secret the bubble has burst on American real estate. Foreclosure, the word that only affected deadbeats a few years ago, is now so common everyone knows someone who has lost his or her home. Huge banks are being bailed out by the government because of the mortgage crisis. Ripple effects from the housing crunch have affected unemployment, the stock market and average Americans.

So how is it that as banks, investors and Americans are going broke, some savvy people are making more money than ever?

"Despite the damage that has been done (by the sub-prime mortgage mess and unscrupulous investors) the overall picture is still sunny and bright," says Rozema.

The National Association of Realtors would agree with Rozema's "Pollyanna" outlook. The latest available research reports the fifth highest number of home sales in our nation's history were in 2007. Over 20 percent of those near-record home sales were to investors, who Rozema calls "People who realize that now is one of the best times in the history of our country to buy and invest in real estate."

So how do you capitalize on the crisis? Here are Rozema's guidelines:

Invest. Don't Speculate. Speculators buy property based on "gut" or "rumors." Investors don't care if their cousin's brother says the property is a great deal in an "up and coming" neighborhood. Investors run comparables and put money on facts, figures and fundamentals. "Investing is planning for the future, speculation is gambling with it."

Don't Restrict Yourself to Your Own Backyard. Buying an investment property nearby may be helpful for the real estate newbie because you know your area, but to truly maximize your return you need to look nationwide.

"In stocks, you don't want to invest in a company just because they are located in your hometown; you want to invest in the company that has the best chance to bring you financial success. The same is true for real estate."

We all know the story of F.W. Woolworth and his five-and-dime stores making a fortune during the 1930's depression. Rozema says you can be the next subject of folklore.

Craig Rozema is the managing member and spokesman for Craig Martin Investments. His Web site can be found at www.craigmartininvestments.com.

The Downey Patriot



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SPEED BUMP



DAVE COVERLY



Downey Community Calendar

Events For June

Sat. June 21: **Diabetes Health Fair**, DRMC, 9 a.m.
 Mon. June 23: **"Bugs, Bugs and More Bugs,"** Downey City Library, 10:30 a.m.
 Tues. June 24: **Downey Art League features Ying Liu**, Furman Park, 7:30 p.m.
 Wed. June 25: **NAARFE luncheon**, Woman's Club of Downey, 1 p.m.

City Meetings

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

Regularly Scheduled Meetings

Mondays

6:30 p.m.: **Metropolitan Masonic Lodge #352 dinner**, mtg., for information call 426-6786.
 6:30 p.m.: **Overeaters Anonymous**, at Downey Regional Med. Center Conf. Room A, for info. call 426-6786.
 1st Mon., 4 p.m.: **2nd Century Foundation**, at City Hall, 1st floor, call 927-9790.
 2nd Mon., 11 a.m.: **American Legion Auxiliary #270**, at United Methodist Church, for info. call 923-2481.
 2nd Mon., 3 p.m.: **Keep Downey Beautiful**, at City Hall, for more information call 904-7159.
 3rd Mon., 7 p.m.: **American Legion Post 270**, Los Amigos Country Club, call 869-1053.
 4th Mon., 7:30 p.m.: **Downey Numismatists**, at Downey Retirement Center, call 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.
 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-Bear 869-7618.
 1st Weds., 11:30 a.m.: **Downey Coordinating Council**, at Community Center, for information call 923-4357.
 1st Weds., 7:30 p.m.: **Downey Stamp Club**, at Maude Price School cafeteria, for information call 928-3028.
 1st Weds., 7:30 p.m.: **Downey Emblem Club #309**, at Downey's Elks Lodge, for information call 868-4386.
 2nd Weds., 7:30 p.m.: **Downey Model A Club**, at Gallatin School Cafeteria, for information call 928-4132.
 2nd Weds., 7:30 p.m.: **Downey Sister Cities Ass'n**, at Maude Price School, Call 862-7197.
 2nd Weds., 11:45 a.m. - **Downey Christian Women's Club**, at Los Amigos CC, Call 927-8488.
 2nd & 4th Weds., 11:00 a.m. - **AARP**, at Barbara J. Riley CC, Call Lorene Frazier 861-6075.
 3rd Weds., - **Downey Dog Obedience Club** Apollo Park.
 3rd Weds., 6 p.m. - **American Business Women's Association**, Rio Hondo Country Club, Call Barbara Carlson 863-2192.
 4th Weds., 12:00 noon: **Retired Federal Employees**, at **Furman Park West Bldg.**, call 943-5513.
 Wed. & Fri., 10:15 a.m.: **Senior Bingo**, at Apollo Park, for information call 904-7223.

Thursdays

7:30 a.m.: **Soroptimist Int'l of Downey**, for information, call Pat Heineke, 904-3534.
 7:30 a.m.: **Connections Networking**, at Nordic Fox 10924 Paramount, for information call 869-1414.
 12 p.m.: **Kiwanis Club of Downey**, at Rio Hondo Events Center, call Roy Jimenez 923-0971.
 12 p.m.: **Downey Christian Businessmen's Committee**, for information call 928-4153.
 12 p.m.: **Optimist Club of Downey**, at Sambis, 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.

Sundays

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

On This Day...

June 20, 1893: New England spinster Lizzie Borden is found innocent of the ax murders of her father and stepmother.
1947: Gangster Benjamin "Bugsy" Siegel is shot dead in a Beverly Hills home.
1967: Muhammad Ali is convicted of violating Selective Service laws when he refuses to be drafted.
1967: Academy Award-winning actress Nicole Kidman is born. Also born on June 20: Brian Wilson (66), Bob Vila (62), Lionel Richie (59) and John Goodman (56).
1975: "Jaws" is released in movie theaters nationwide.
1994: O.J. Simpson pleads "absolutely, 100% not guilty" to charges of double-homicide.

THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com)

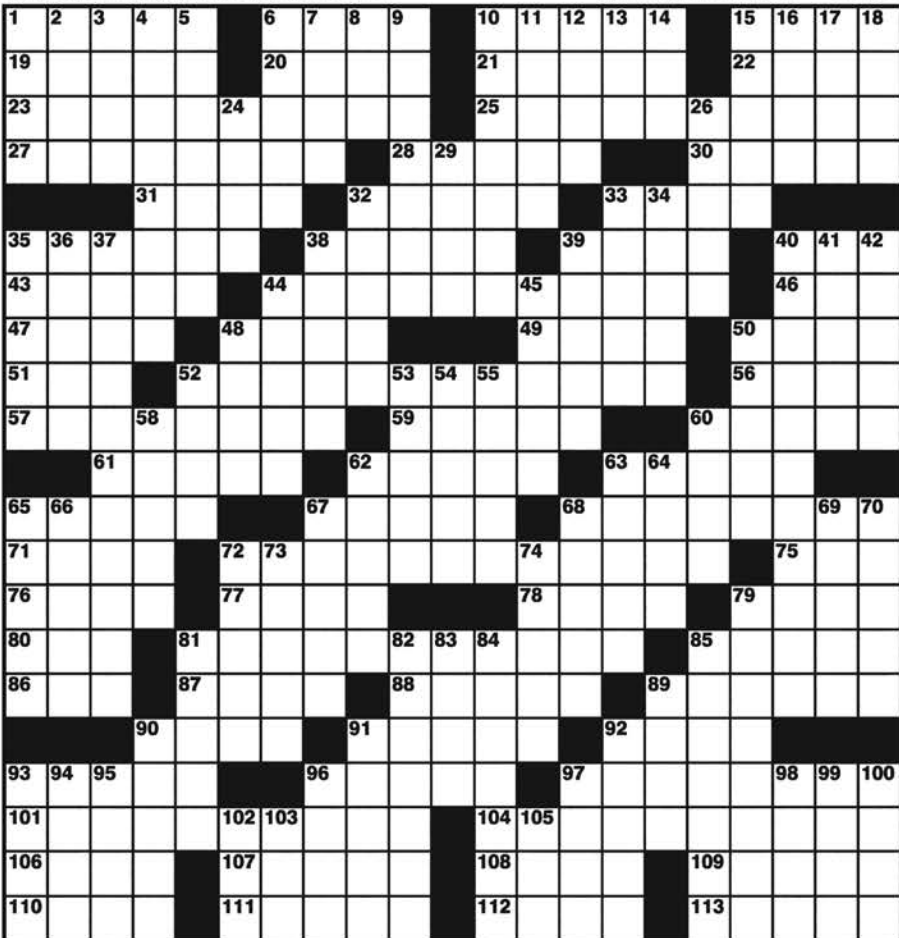
FATHERS DAY: Of the pioneering sort
by S.N.

- ACROSS**
- 1 Speedy
 - 6 Bit of wood
 - 10 Dollars, so to speak
 - 15 Long story
 - 19 Albee title character
 - 20 Find out (about)
 - 21 Pizazz
 - 22 Was in the red
 - 23 Father of Science Fiction
 - 25 Father of Nuclear Physics
 - 27 Where George Washington Carver studied
 - 28 Where *Whistler's Mother* "lives"
 - 30 Is in charge of
 - 31 I-80, for one
 - 32 Prepares to take off
 - 33 Be visibly happy
 - 35 Ancient center of philosophy
 - 38 Stood up to
 - 39 Cruel
 - 40 Joke around
 - 43 Nursery noises
 - 44 Father of Fitness
 - 46 Keogh alternative
 - 47 All ears
 - 48 Hungarian dog
 - 49 Lake fed by the Cuyahoga River
 - 50 Pull apart
 - 51 Uncommon sense
 - 52 Father of Comedy
 - 56 Russian-born artist
 - 57 Something to tie
 - 59 End of a Stein line
 - 60 Made up
 - 61 Serious wrongdoing
 - 62 Plum part
 - 63 Uplift

- 65 Emerald measure
- 67 To be encountered
- 68 Hod carrier of fiction
- 71 "Sorry to say..."
- 72 Father of the Constitution
- 75 Actress Madigan
- 76 Second glove
- 77 Oklahoma Indian
- 78 Yoked beasts
- 79 Leave the pier
- 80 Poetic preposition
- 81 Father of Modern China
- 85 McDormand Oscar film
- 86 Chant syllables
- 87 Disney boss
- 88 Went wrong
- 89 "Ahem!"
- 90 Tar, in Tampico
- 91 Dog bane
- 92 Singer Irene
- 93 Minimum wage
- 96 Indonesian entrée
- 97 Choices of colors
- 101 Father of Modern Astronomy
- 104 Father of Television
- 106 Mars alias
- 107 Turk neighbor
- 108 Having some mileage on it
- 109 Tummy trouble
- 110 Highlands loch
- 111 Release writer
- 112 Unlikely to exert oneself
- 113 Hit the roof

- 6 Not easily eaten
- 7 Queen of Olympus
- 8 Actor McKellen
- 9 Retail assortment
- 10 Bullfight, in Barcelona
- 11 Prima or Pasteur
- 12 Balance nos.
- 13 Speed meas.
- 14 Any ship
- 15 RAF, to Churchill
- 16 MP concern
- 17 Rudiment
- 18 Throws in
- 24 Altar exchanges
- 26 Geneva's river
- 29 Skating leap
- 32 Unspoken but understood
- 33 Aladdin aide
- 34 Traffic pathways
- 35 Lots of lots
- 36 Foolish talk
- 37 Father of Medicine
- 38 Erroneous
- 39 WWI battle locale
- 40 Father of Existentialism
- 41 In a huff
- 42 Had the nerve
- 44 Invigorate, with "up"
- 45 Car dealer's offering
- 48 British baby buggy
- 50 Annoying one
- 52 Landed
- 53 National Book Award winner for them
- 54 Type of golf tourney
- 55 Kia alternative
- 58 Obliterate
- 60 Sawyer's associate
- 62 Brightness
- 63 Gotten out of bed
- 64 Poetic adverb

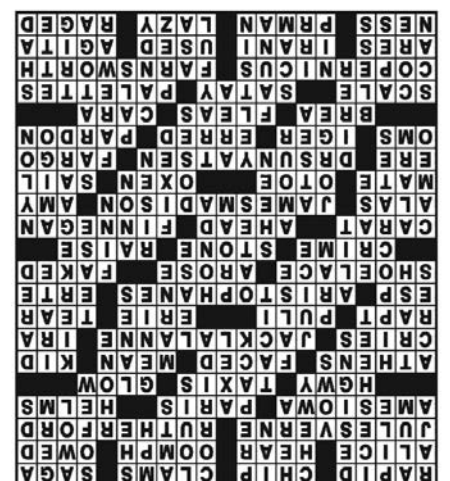
CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2008 STANLEY NEWMAN WWW.STANXWORDS.COM 6/15/08



- 65 Small role
- 66 Distress
- 67 French romance
- 68 Unchanging
- 69 Compadre
- 70 Parachute material
- 72 Novelist Amado
- 73 Out of port
- 74 Prescribed amounts
- 79 Where Burgoyne was beaten in 1777
- 81 More disastrous
- 82 Putin predecessor
- 83 Zone
- 84 Bunch of brooches, perhaps
- 85 Airline news
- 89 Comrades
- 90 Approve of
- 91 Flora's partner
- 92 Cinema sales
- 93 Quick read
- 94 Planetary center
- 95 Primatology study
- 96 Swindle
- 97 Top banana
- 98 Branch of math
- 99 Relative of -ule
- 100 Herring kin
- 102 Touch of frost
- 103 Factory second: Abbr.
- 105 Hungry-bear connection

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.

Botanist George Washington Carver (27 Across) received a master's degree from Iowa State University at Ames. Originally bred in Hungary as a sheep dog, the Puli (48 Across) has hair resembling dreadlocks. The reference at 68 Across is to the title character of James Joyce's "FINNEGANS Wake."



Gafin: Will maintain open-door policy if reelected.

Continued from page 1

"New traffic signal synchronization will also aid with traffic congestion."

In his four years on the City Council, Gafin, a self-employed certified public accountant, has advocated conservative spending by the city.

"Financially, Downey is in a better position than we were four years ago," he said. "Downey Landing is open and doing well. [And] authorizing the issuance of Pension Obligation Bonds will save the city approximately \$12 million over the life of the bonds."

Downey was \$1.5 million in the red when Gafin was elected, but the city has built a \$1 million surplus the last three years.

"Maintaining a balanced budget in these times of state deficits is difficult, (but I pledge) to maintain Downey's conservative investment and spending policies," he said.

Gafin has also voted to expand the city's after-school childcare programs from eight schools to 16, create a public arts commission, open the city's first farmers market, reopen the Downey City Library on Sundays, and reduce dog license fees for low-income seniors.

"My basic philosophy...is that at a city level we are to be public servants, not politicians," said Gafin, who served on the Planning Commission for 12 years prior to his election to council.

Gafin's list of community involvement runs long. He has served stints as president of Gangs Out of Downey, Downey Los Amigos Kiwanis Club and the Downey Chamber of Commerce. He has also served as chairman of the Downey Holiday Lane Parade and the Street Faire, as well as vice president of the Downey Coordinating Council.



Mayor David Gafin is up for reelection while Luis Marquez will try to replace Kirk Cartozian on the Downey City Council. From left: Cartozian, Marquez, Gafin and Mayor Pro Tem Mario Guerra.

His other community involvements include memberships in Citizens for Downey and the Downey Rose Float Association.

Gafin also belongs to several governmental panels and commissions, including committees overseeing this city's budget, Downey Landing reuse, Lakewood Boulevard improvements, and the Columbia Memorial Space Science Learning Center.

He represents Downey in the L.A. County Sanitation District 2 and 18, I-5 Joint Powers Authority, and the Gateway Cities SR91/I-605 needs assessment study, and sits as a regional council member for the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), representing Downey and South Gate.

Gafin has been recognized as a director of the year, committee person of the year, volunteer of the year and small business of the year by the Downey Chamber of Commerce, and was selected outstanding community service volunteer by the Downey Coordinating Council.

Kiwanis named him Kiwanian of the year, and Downey High School inducted Gafin into its hall of fame last month.

"I have always maintained an open-door policy to my constituents and will continue to do so," Gafin said. "Many of the changes that have occurred this last term have been at the request of our citizens and that is for which local government should stand."

Marquez: Public safety one of his top priorities.

Continued from page 1

said working closely with Downey schools and – more importantly – investing in the city's youth is critical to the future of the city.

"We must continue to support our schools and children to make our community better," Marquez said. "If elected, I will work to support and promote the city's strong partnership with our Downey Unified School District."

In fact, Marquez said he would donate his monthly City Council stipend to establish annual scholarships for graduating high school seniors.

"Like any community, we have to invest in our youth and students," he said. "I still have to figure out the amount of the scholarships, but hopefully they'll be several of them."

A resident of South Downey, Marquez had the option of challenging Gafin in District 1, where he is seeking reelection.

Gafin appointed Marquez to the city's Parking Place Commission last year and to the Cable TV Citizens Advisory Committee in early 2006.

Background

Born on Nov. 20, 1972, Marquez was raised in a sketchy neighborhood of South Los Angeles. The second oldest of five children, he said he would often visit family members in Downey as a child and marvel at its tight-knit communities.

"I had uncles and cousins that lived here, and I always told myself that one day I would live in Downey," said Marquez, who holds degrees in Film Production and History from Cal State Northridge. "Then seven years ago I married my wife, Alma, and we decided to move to Downey and lay our foundation here. It had a great reputation as a safe place to live and raise a family."

Marquez and his wife had twins, Diego and Maya, two years ago. This, Marquez said, gives him a vested interest in the direction of the city.

"Public safety must be the top priority of our city government," Marquez said. "If elected, I will work to ensure that our Downey police officers and firefighters will have the resources they need to protect our residents and maintain Downey as a safe place to live and



Luis Marquez is the father of 22-month-old twins, Diego and Maya. He is shown with his wife, Alma, and Sen. Alan Lowenthal. Photo courtesy Office of Alan Lowenthal

raise our families."

Specifically, Marquez said he would look to support and expand Neighborhood Watch, graffiti prevention and removal programs, and Gangs Out of Downey and its affiliated 10-20 Club.

He also called for "fiscal responsibility and economic development."

"The city of Downey must continue to be fiscally prudent and support smart economic development," Marquez said.

The city should maintain proper oversight and be intelligent in their local redevelopment, Marquez said, specifically referring to Downey Studios and the abandoned south campus of Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center.

"We need smart economic development, but at the same time we need to make sure that it doesn't impact residents' quality of life," he said. "Our neighborhoods are the pride and joy of the city of Downey."

Marquez said he is a supporter of Keep Downey Beautiful, and would push to enforce city code violations. He added that Downey "must have safe and clean parks" and he would "support recreational

programs for our children and seniors."

A member of St. Raymond's Catholic Church, Marquez also belongs to the Downey Rotary Club, Downey Sister Cities Association, Friends of the Downey City Library and Downey Historical Society.

He's also an associate member of the Downey Chamber of Commerce and Downey Coordinating Council, and is an annual supporter of Arc of Southeast Los Angeles County.

Through his position with the senator, Marquez serves as a liaison to the Gateway Council of Governments, Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), Metro, and the California League of Cities.

Locally, he is the senator's senior advisor and representative when dealing with the cities of Downey, Bellflower, Paramount, South Gate, Lynwood, the unincorporated communities of Florence-Graham and Willowbrook, and their respective school districts.

Marquez's campaign can be reached via e-mail, marquez4downeycc@yahoo.com, or by calling (310) 383-6544.

Free acting classes for 'older adults'

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 explores all aspects of the industry, from getting an agent, headshots and auditioning skills, to working on a set and taking directions. The class

meets every Thursday 10 a.m. to noon at the Activity Center in La Mirada, located at 13810 La Mirada Blvd.

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 will focus on exercises to effectively cure public speaking

fears and the opportunity to work with short scenes from contemporary playwrights. The class meets Tuesdays from 10 a.m. to noon, also at the Activity Center in La Mirada.

Classes are free and are open enrollment classes accepting students on an ongoing basis.

For more information, contact Sally Greer at (562) 860-2451, ext. 2489.

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Gay marriage: Local churches stand opposed on issue.

Continued from page 1

ting opposite-sex couples to marry while affording same-sex couples access only to the novel and less-recognized status of domestic partnership improperly infringes a same-sex couple's constitutional rights to marry and to the equal protection of the laws as guaranteed by the California Constitution."

Up until Monday, same-sex couples simply filed for a Declaration of Domestic Partnership, which provides the couples with benefits similar to that of opposite-sex couples, Koukal said.

"As far as I'm concerned, getting married really doesn't give me more than I already have when it comes to benefits," he said. "We get our fair share of benefits from our employers and from the California Domestic Partnership Registry."

According to California Family Code Section 297, "Domestic partners are two adults who have chosen to share one another's lives in an intimate and committed relationship of mutual caring."

Although same-sex marriages are now sanctioned in the state of California, the federal government still does not recognize same-sex marriages, and the General Accounting Office has identified 1,138 federal benefits and civil marriage rights that will not be extended to same-sex couples, according to the Associated Press.

"I have never wanted to be treated differently or be given more than everybody else," said Koukal. "I just want to be treated equally and fairly."

The Court's decision to lift the ban on same-sex marriage, as expected, has been met with much opposition.

The Bishops of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles released a statement on Monday voicing their concerns with same-sex marriage:

"The Church cannot approve of redefining marriage, which has a unique place in God's creation, joining a man and a woman in a committed relationship in order to nurture and support the new life for which marriage is intended...When marriage is redefined so as to make other relationships equivalent to it, the institution of marriage is devalued and further weakened.

"However, persons with a homosexual orientation must be accepted with respect, compassion and sensitivity, and should be encouraged to take an active role in the faith community and to live according to its teachings."

Most local religious figures declined to comment on the issue. But some of Downey's religious leaders were more than happy to share their opposition.

"My 'barometer' of truth is based on the word of God," said Rev. Garnett Simpson-Grier of Breath of God Christian Fellowship Church. "And the word of God states that marriage is to be between a man and a woman.

"My biggest concern is how [same-sex marriage] will affect the family unit. This decision will affect our future - our school system, our family units, and more. I feel that lawmakers made more of a political decision rather than a moral decision - they haven't considered the domino effect."

Pastor Jason Neville of Praise Chapel Downey added to that, saying, "The Church needs to make a stand and not compromise what's right and wrong. Same-sex marriage is not biblical - God created Adam and Eve, not Adam and Steve."

Downey-Florence Seventh-day Adventist Church's Mitch Williams said that the Adventist Church usually refrains from talking about politics, but the congregation makes their opinions known at the ballot box.

"Our job is to help people with their relationships with God, not discuss politics. We are going to follow what the Bible says about marriage and live our lives in a biblical manner."

All of the church leaders that commented said they would not perform same-sex marriages in their respective churches. But they did say their churches were open to anybody and everybody, regardless of race, age or sexual orientation.

"I sincerely don't agree with same-sex marriage, but I respect everybody," said David Achon, leader of the Spanish ministry at Downey United Methodist Church. "Our church is based on Jesus' love and our doors are open to everyone."

Citizens living in California will have the opportunity to either uphold the California Supreme Court's ruling on same-sex marriage, or overturn it, on Nov. 4, when voters will vote "yes" or "no" on the California Marriage Protection Act, which states only marriage between a man and a woman is valid or recognized in California.

BTSA: Newly-trained teacher documents her first year at West Middle School.

Continued from page 1

Armed with a bachelor's in liberal studies from CSU-Fullerton, 28-year old Marlene Camacho was one of 93 beginning participating teachers in the school year just ended. Assigned to West Middle School to teach ELD (English Language Development) and fifth grade combined studies (reading and writing), she says she's "so lucky to be at a wonderful school, part of a great team, and teaching at a fantastic district."

Born in Los Angeles and an only child, Marlene grew up in La Puente (Sierra Middle School, La Puente High). "My mother was born and raised in Mexico," she narrates. "My first language was Spanish, and not until I went to kindergarten did I learn to speak and read English. Since I was seven, I would play teacher in our backyard with my cousins. I was always the teacher, and they were my students. I never played the student. I liked it that way."

"While in high school, I was deeply inspired by my 11th grade teacher, Mrs. Thompson," Marlene goes on. "She was my hero and motivator. She made me feel that [just being] 'normal' was boring, that I should express my individuality. Well, I did just that. My hair color changed constantly, also my style of dress. Not for nothing was I voted 'most unique' by my senior class. Like I said, Mrs. Thompson encouraged my uniqueness and let me be me. I wasn't the smartest student in the class but I loved school, and I loved to learn new and interesting things. I did get in trouble a lot, though, because I couldn't sit still. I daydreamed a lot. But I finished high school with decent grades and still wanted to pursue a career as teacher."

This started out as a suggestion from Asst. Superintendent-Personnel Services Stan Hanstad that we, for a change, chronicle the "trials and tribulations" of a beginning teacher at the district. It was also at his suggestion that we write about Marlene's progress. Her take on the BTSA program: "They want us to be well-rounded and able to meet all the needs of the students."

Well, if Marlene suffered any severe trials or tribulations in her first year of teaching, it didn't show. The nearest to something trying she encountered (as far as I was concerned) was when she assigned the novel, "Roll of Thunder," to her reading class. Her anxiety is reflected in these entries in her diary:

"**Thursday, 5/15/08:** I don't know if we will finish the novel by the end of the year. I hope we do. I have to finish my assignments in my induction folder!!! I am falling behind."

"**Monday, 5/19/08:** Monday. Back to business. I need to really push Roll of Thunder or else we will not finish in time. ELD is beginning an endangered species project. We will be in the computer lab for a few days. I can't wait to see what they come up with."

"**Tuesday, 5/20/08:** Tuesday, and I am falling behind with Roll of Thunder. I don't want to rush but we need to finish. I know they want to finish it. I need more time in the day. ELD worked well in the computer lab...they are excited to do this project."

Library organizing museum excursion

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.

Brotherhood plans a night out

DOWNEY - The Brotherhood of Temple Ner Tamid of Downey invites the community on a trip to the Hollywood Bowl on July 12.

The Hollywood Bowl's feature that night will be "Some Enchanted Evening" and will include a fireworks display.

Tickets are \$70 per person, which includes transportation, dinner at Steven's Steak House in Commerce, and the show.

The bus will depart from the back parking lot of Temple Ner Tamid at 5 p.m. For more information, call the Temple office at (562) 861-9276.

Bocce Club looking for new members

DOWNEY - The Downey Bocce Club invites the community to join their group throughout the week at the Barbara J. Riley Community & Senior Center.

Men meet on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays at 10 a.m. and women meet on Wednesdays at 1 p.m. For more information, call Pat Rooney at (562) 923-5352.

Chamber installing officers 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, as well as Rick Rodriguez, 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.

"**Wed., 5/21/08:** I reviewed for the test on Chapters 1-3 for Roll of Thunder. Students are really following along well. I can't wait to finish it. Mary Jo (resident teacher she shared classroom with) is so amazing. She is constantly giving me great advice. I couldn't have made it without her this year."

"**Thursday, 5/22/08:** Andrea (Andrea Procter: her 'partner in crime', carpool buddy and best friend) made my day. I was having a stressful day and she just made me laugh laugh laugh all the way home. She is my breath of fresh air. ELD project is going great. They are going to make posters and present their findings."

"**Friday, 5/23/08:** Another Friday!!! This month is almost over. I thank my lucky stars for having a great English Department head. Elise (Elise Ragusa, head of the middle school English Department, whom she calls 'my leader and teacher') has helped me so much. She has made questions and writing assignment for every Roll of Thunder chapter. She is amazing!!!"

"**Monday, 5/26/08:** Endangered projects almost done. Roll of Thunder is rolling along. I need to finish my Induction folder. My goal for next year, is to be more organized!!!"

I have a theory why Marlene did not appear to suffer from severe anxiety attacks during her beginning year, although it entailed "a lot of work." I think she was having too much fun doing what she's always wanted to do.

She said she had many wonderful people to thank, and much to look forward to: "I've had so many amazing veteran teachers who were extremely helpful to me. As I said, Elise Ragusa has been an angel. She has guided me and never once said she was too busy to help. She is an inspiration. She has been so accommodating.

"I was a traveling teacher and had three different classrooms that I was so lucky enough to share with amazing people. Let me thank these people. Mary Jo, my guardian angel. William Holmes, my voice of reason. They have made 'traveling' an easy and enjoyable experience. Let's just say I am not the neatest or most organized person, and they were always friendly and welcoming. Mrs. Diulio, Mr. Donahue, Mr. Bertsch, Lisa, my BTSA support provider Darla Webster, and many, many more have truly made me feel like family. Thank you all from the bottom of my heart. Finally, I would like to thank Andrea Procter (who teaches 7th grade English). She has made this year such a wonderful experience. I couldn't have done it without her."

Marlene says she is now preparing for summer school. Summing it all up, she said: "My first year was amazing. I loved my students. I loved where I worked and I loved doing what I did everyday. I can't say I did everything correctly the first time, or the second time, or the third time, but I did learn everyday, and will always try to learn."

Community: Host of activities planned for coming months.

Continued from page 4

learning about the main staples of Indian cooking. Cost is \$15 per person.

Older Adults (Ages 50+)

Registration continues for adult excursions for persons ages 50 and older to visit the Los Angeles County Fair. A Senior Ditch Day excursion to the Los Angeles County Fair in Pomona will be held Sept. 17 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tickets are \$15 per person and includes admission to the fair and lunch.

Summer Cooling Stations

The city of Downey encourages all residents to take precautions in preventing heat-related illnesses associated with extreme heat. For a cool and relaxing alternative, two air-conditioned city facilities are currently available as daytime and evening cooling centers. Each of these facilities offers a variety of programs and services during their operational hours:

Barbara J. Riley Community & Senior Center

7810 Quill Dr.
(562) 904-7223

Hours: Monday and Friday 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Tuesday through Thursday 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Saturday 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Downey City Library

11121 Brookshire Ave.
(562) 904-7360

Hours: Monday through Thursday 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; and Friday and Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For additional information regarding any of the programs, call the Barbara J. Riley Community & Senior Center at (562) 904-7227.

My Problem is Your Opportunity

You could be one of the few to buy I normally would have an air conditioner at a 15% savings. purchased in the first 2 weeks of June.

I've run into a problem that I'm not used to. June is normally our boom time for replacing residential air conditioners. but cooler weather has killed our replacement business.

Well, now it looks like my problem is your opportunity.

Last week I went to lunch with one of the air conditioning manufacturers. He's faced with the same problem. I told him, "I've hired technicians for the summer rush and I've got to keep them busy." I told him that I'm willing to offer a big discount to my customers. If he'll help me. He called his office and they agreed to give me an unbelievable price cut. But their price cut ends once I make up for the air conditioners

So Here's My Offer: I'm offering you the biggest discount I've ever offered. And I hope I don't ever have to do this again.

You can save 15% off the average price of one of our air conditioners (which are the most energy efficient air conditioners you can own).

With this price it shouldn't take any time to make up for the sales I've lost. At that time this offer will end.

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Righettini gets full ride to Cal State Long Beach

DOWNEY – David Righettini, valedictorian for this year's graduating class at Calvary Chapel Christian High School in Downey, has recently been named a President's Scholar with the fall 2008 incoming freshman class at California State University, Long Beach (CSULB) and as such will receive a full, four-year scholarship from the university worth about \$45,000.



Established in 1995, the CSULB President's Scholar Program is recognized as the premier program of its kind in the state. It was created to bring valedictorians and National Merit scholars from California high schools to the Long Beach campus, and to date, 921 President's Scholarships have been awarded since the program began.

Righettini, the son of David and Evelyn Righettini of Hollywood, is planning to major in computer engineering at CSULB.

"The President's Scholars Program at Cal State Long Beach continues to be a state and nationally recognized scholarship program for many of the brightest and most talented students in California," said CSULB President F. King Alexander. "The program is extremely competitive. Each year, we receive hundreds of applications for these scholarships, but only about 50 are selected to be part of this incoming group of scholastically outstanding individuals."

Righettini was selected for the program from an applicant pool of 615 high achieving students statewide. He will be among 50 new scholars joining the university when fall classes begin on Sept. 2, bringing the total number of high school valedictorians and National Merit Scholars attending the university to just more than 300.

"The distinctive opportunity of participating in the President's Scholars Program is the product of my commitment to the work I have completed," Righettini said. "I plan to continue this level of excellence in the field of computer engineering and computer science."

As a President's Scholar, Righettini will attend CSULB on a full scholarship that covers general student fees, an annual book allowance and paid housing in the campus residence halls for four years. In addition, he will receive priority registration, personal academic counseling, and more.

The benefits for qualifying valedictorians and National Merit Scholars from accredited California high schools are made possible through the support of the CSULB Alumni Association, President's Associates and the Corporate Scholars Council.

With nearly 37,000 students, Cal State Long Beach is the third-largest campus in California and the second-largest campus in the 23-campus Cal State system, which is the largest public higher education system in the nation.

For more information, contact Valerie Bordeaux director of the CSULB President's Scholars Program, at (562) 985-8236, or via email at vbordeau@csulb.edu.

Comedy fills playhouse's new season

LONG BEACH – The Long Beach Playhouse has announced its 80th anniversary mainstage season for 2008-09:

"Auntie Mame," a comedy by Jerome Lawrence and Robert E. Lee, Sept. 19 – Oct. 25, 2008.

"The Voice of the Turtle," a romantic comedy by John van Druten, Oct. 31 – Dec. 6, 2008.

"The Rainmaker," a comedy by N. Richard Nash, Jan. 2 – Feb. 7, 2009.

"George Washington Slept Here," a comedy by Moss Hart and George S. Kaufman, Feb. 13 – March 21, 2009.

"Sabrina Fair," a romantic comedy by Samuel Taylor, March 27 – May 2, 2009.

"I Remember Mama," a comedy by John van Druten, May 8 – June 13, 2009.

"Cliffhanger," a dramatic thriller by James Yaffe, June 19 – July 25, 2009.

"The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe," a classic children's tale by C.S. Lewis, adapted by Joseph Robinette, July 31 – Sept. 5, 2009.

The Long Beach Playhouse is located at 5021 E. Anaheim St. in Long Beach. For more information, log on to www.lbph.com or call (562) 494-1014.

Sertoma inducts its first female president

BY MARY FORNEY, SERTOMA CLUB OF DOWNEY

DOWNEY – In July, Pat McCool will take her place as the first woman to preside over the Sertoma Club of Downey.

Since its conception in the 1960s, the Sertoma Club of Downey has provided hearing aids to the community. Starting out with about 20 members, the members were only male. Women wanting to contribute had to join their own group called La Sertoma.

In the mid-1980s, the Sertoma Club International granted women full membership access and today, the Sertoma Club of Downey thrives with the merge of men and women members.

McCool was inducted June 10 during a ceremony held at Sambi's Restaurant in Downey. Other officers inducted were: Maurie Thomas, chairman of the board; Cynthia Choate, vice president; Thomas Little, vice president-Fantasy Baseball; Britt Rivers, vice president-public relations; Mary Forney, vice president-media; John McKinsey, treasurer; Martha Morrissy Call, secretary; Pat Hoferer, sergeant at arms.

Call was also awarded Sertoman of the Year.

"I am pleased and honored to be the first female president," McCool said.

McCool will be overseeing the numerous fundraisers and community projects sponsored by the Downey Club of Sertoma. These events include a Christmas party at Bell Manor, the American Heritage Essay Contest for middle school age children, and Fantasy Baseball Camp.

"I hope to bring more sponsors and members to our club this year," McCool said.

Currently, volunteers and campers are needed for Fantasy Baseball Camp which will be held Aug. 18-22 at Boysen Park in Anaheim. Trained sign-language interpreters will assist in communicating instructions to deaf and hearing-impaired campers as they learn the fundamentals of baseball and softball from experienced coaches and trainers.



The Sertoma Club of Downey recently inducted new members to the club's board of directors. Pictured are, left to right, Martha Morrissy Call, Pat McCool, John McKinsey, Mary Forney, Tom Little, Cynthia Choate, Maurie Thomas, and Britt Rivers.

Open to children ages 7-17, the campers will play a short game at Angel Stadium and an awards ceremony will be held recognizing all participants for their individual achievements.

The cost is \$50 and scholarships are available. If you would like to volunteer or receive more information about the camp, call (562) 862-0922 or visit online at www.downeysertoma.org.

Teens urged to read this summer

DOWNEY – The Downey City Library is encouraging teens to read this summer through a reading program titled "Metamorphosis."

Students ages 13 to 19 can join the program, win prizes and attend special events, including a July 12 excursion to the Griffith Observatory. Teens who read for 700 minutes will win a free book and be eligible for a pizza party on Aug. 1.

"This year's program encourages teens to get transformed through reading," said Young Adult Librarian Julia Butler. "We also offer some fun events such as a program on handwriting analysis and another on personalizing your CD collection."

For more information on "Metamorphosis," call (562) 904-7360, ext. 3.

Free lacrosse camp for kids 12 and under

DOWNEY – Downey Lacrosse is offering a free Lacrosse Camp to kids 12 and under this Monday through Thursday.

The camp will be held each day from 9 a.m. to noon at Downey High School's football field.

For more information, call Gabe Carrillo at (562) 922-2377, or visit www.downeylacrosse.com.

Diabetes Health Fair at DRMC

DOWNEY – Downey Regional Medical Center will host its 2008 Diabetes Health Fair tomorrow from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The free event, which is open to the public, will feature a variety of health screenings and an opportunity to speak with professionals from both the hospital and other healthcare organizations. Guest speakers will include physical therapist Nancy Stiles, who will speak on diabetes and exercise; dietician Jennifer Miyagawa, who will present a cooking demonstration; and Dr. David Berger, who will make a presentation on diabetes news.

Stroke and glaucoma screenings will be available between 9 and 11 a.m. Other screenings will be available throughout the day, including blood pressure monitoring.

The health fair will also include special segments titled, "Ask the Dietician," "Ask the Doctor," and "Ask the Pharmacist."

For more information on the fair, call diabetes educator Elsa Saucedo at (562) 904-5578 or (562) 904-5580.

For display advertising, call Dorothy or Mary at (562) 904-3668.

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Little League baseball gets it right with mandatory pitch count

By SCOTT COBOS, CONTRIBUTOR

In 2006 Little League International implemented a pitch count pilot program for all of its 7,400 baseball programs worldwide. In this program, a pitcher would be allowed to only throw a certain amount of pitches per week rather than be allotted an amount of innings per seven days.

While this rule change blurs the game a little bit, you have to admit that with this program Little League baseball finally got something right.

The pitch count, while unpopular at first, will help save the arms of young pitchers who could possibly have nagging injuries down the road.

"Little League has historically pioneered safety innovations in general and specifically in Little League," Stephen D. Keener, president and CEO of Little League Baseball and Softball, said in a press release.

"The Little League Pitch Count Pilot Program is a test to determine if it is feasible and practical to implement a regulation limiting the number of pitches a Little Leaguer can throw in a day, and the rest required before pitching again.

"Our goal would be to educate everyone, particularly parents, on the potential injuries that can occur from throwing too many pitches, and thereby reduce those injuries."

Keener is right. When reading between the lines, he basically says that parents can sometimes go a little overboard when coaching teams and allowing their best pitchers on the team to go a little too far in games.

It was not uncommon back in the day to have the kid who threw the hardest on the team go on to the mound and just fire fastballs for six innings.

The downfall from that is the infamous "coach I have a sore arm" line. Every young player has that sore arm at some time. With injuries, even as slight as a sore arm, mechanics are changed causing for overcompensation which can lead to other injuries and bad habits.

The program according to Patrick Wilson, vice president of Little League International has said the program has started to achieve those goals.

"The Little League pitch count program has been an unqualified success, as districts and local leagues understood and embraced the important reasons for the change," he said. "Our volunteers have done outstanding work in putting the regulation into effect."

While the program is valuable in protecting the pitching arms of youths, it also brings an unseen intangible to the game. Now that players know they only have so many pitches to throw per game, it forces the player to develop a game plan when taking the mound.

Slowly yet surely you'll start to see pitchers get smarter on the mound, hitting corners of the plate with their pitches and adjusting to weaknesses of batters they may have knowledge of. This should bring the level of play up amongst all leagues within Little League International.

An argument against the pitch count program is that it changes the complete dynamic of the game. Instead of managing against a team with your full resources at your disposal, you are now throwing a wrench into managing pitchers.

Knowing if your pitcher has a bad inning can hinder future innings of the game. A pitcher can have one bad inning then start to roll after initial struggles but a pitch count can completely break the rhythm of a team.

While that may be true, the most important thing that counters that argument is this: It's only Little League baseball.

Those who want to take their game to the next level should only start worrying about that when they start playing competitive baseball outside the league and on travel teams, high school teams and so on.

Little League baseball has always been instrumental in developing young players for the future. With the pitch count rule, they have taken another step in assuring better, stronger players.



The AYSO Downey Under 16 girls soccer team recently took first place at the Chino Milkcan Soccer Tournament. Following four undefeated games, the team beat North Torrance 4-0 and was named tournament champions. Pictured are Coach Octavio Calvillo, Rebecca Flores, Alexis Clavesilla, Brandi Neilan, Lorena Ruiz, Jackie Garcia, Amanda Harrison, Jessica Rauda, Vanessa Calvillo, Vicky Correa, Assistant Coach Robert Correa, Rocio Hernandez, Amanda Hernandez, Marysol Flores, Stephanie Angulo, Karen Castillo, Robin Serpas, and tournament MVP Valeria Valadez.



The Downey Ponytail 14-Under All Star team recently took second place at a tournament in Ventura, where more than 15 teams competed. Pictured are (front, left to right) Katherine Martene, Elizabeth Hernandez, Hayley Pascual, Sarabeth Schibler, and Vanessa Aranda; (back, left to right) Ariana Duran, Lillian Sandoval, Mayra Barajas, Hailee Visser, Sabrina Walker, Melyssa Rivas, and Kimberly Pena.

Kiwanis Club of Downey honors longtime members

By GWYNN GUSTAFSON,

KIWANIS CLUB OF DOWNEY

DOWNEY – The Kiwanis Legion of Honor is comprised of Kiwanis club members who have dedicated 25 years of continuous service to their community. Kiwanis Club of Downey is fortunate to now have 11 of its members in this elite group as Jeff Funk, DDS, and Gary Nesbitt, CPA, join the ranks.

The festivities began with a sad note as those in attendance remembered Dr. David Jackson, a 37-year member, who died the week prior. There was an open seat at the dais to honor his belief that this Kiwanis Club was truly essential to the growth of Downey. Rev. Steve Jordan gave a eulogy after which he performed select pieces on saxophone while accompanied by his wife Patricia.

As the celebration continued, Cliff Mills, the eldest Legion of Honor member, was introduced. A Downey Kiwanis member for 54 years, Mills regaled those attending with stories of how he met his wife and how he served his country during World War II.

The 10th to be inducted into the Legion of Honor, Dr. Jeffrey S. Funk came to Kiwanis on Aug. 18, 1983. Funk is a Downey native, born and raised and schooled here. After graduating from John Bosco High School and compelling his medical studies at USC, he opened his dental practice in Downey. Funk was immediately recruited by Dr. Schulyer Strang to join this community-service club, for which he currently serves as treasurer.

Funk's other interests include Harley Davidson motorcycles, motor home trips, participating in Bull Terrier clubs and competitions, and yes, his wife of 25 years. As Funk was receiving his 25-year recognition, he quipped, "Carmen, I remember it's our 25th anniversary because we married the same year I joined Kiwanis." That brought a roar of laughter from the men, as the women just rolled their eyes. Funk closed by saying,



Pictured (left to right) are members of the Kiwanis Club of Downey Legion of Honor: Jeff Funk (25 years); Gary Munger (26 years); Dick Holmes (47 years); Gary Nesbitt (25 years); Cliff Mills (54 years); Ed Schneeberger (30 years); and John Casillas, Kiwanis president.

"Thanks for the honor today. I've really enjoyed these 25 years."

Gary Nesbitt, CPA, became the eleventh Legion of Honor member. Nesbitt's business was thriving and he was looking for a community-service organization. A client – longtime Kiwanian Bob Henderson – invited him to check out his club. Nesbitt found what he was looking for and joined Aug. 18, 1983.

As a dedicated Kiwanian, Nesbitt has been treasurer, president and served on the board of directors as well as the Downey Kiwanis Foundation. His dedica-

tion to Kiwanis includes membership in the George F. Hixson Fellowship, established to honor Kiwanis' first president, and the William A. Dunlap Fellowship, established to honor Kiwanis founder and past Kiwanis governor. Nesbitt's service to Downey extends to the YMCA board of managers. As he was recognized for his accomplishments, he said, "It is a pleasure and an honor to be a Legion of Honor member."

For more information on the Kiwanis Club of Downey, visit www.downeykiwanis.org.



The West Downey Little League Junior Dodgers were recently named District 29 TOC champions. Pictured are (top, left to right) Coach John Barela, Matthew Barela, Alan Antuna, Alex Carrillo, Christian Matsuda, Arthur Espinoza, Brandon Hernandez, Alex Solis, Andre Conde, Manager Carlos Escalante, Jr., and Coach Jesus Antuna; (bottom, left to right) Manuel Marquez, Justin Parsley, Justin Ortiz, Brandon Volpe, and Diego Escalante.

Summer concert schedule released

DOWNEY – The city of Downey Community Services Department has released their 2008 Twilight Summer Concert Series schedule, which includes a musical tribute to Richard and Karen Carpenter.

Performances take place Wednesdays at Furman Park at 7 p.m. The Downey Museum of Art will open at 5 p.m. before each concert. Admission to the concert and museum is free.

The city is still accepting concert sponsorships. Sponsors of \$50 or more will be listed in the concert program, and donors of \$100 or

more will receive special recognition. Donations should be made payable to the City of Downey and sent to Summer Concert Series, c/o Downey Theatre, 8435 Firestone Blvd., Downey, CA 90241-3843.

For more information on concert sponsorships, call Downey Theatre Manager Kevin O'Connor at (562) 904-7230.

The summer concert schedule is as follows:

July 9: Mariachi Divas – the celebrated all-female mariachi group.

July 16: Captain Cardiac and the Coronaries – the greatest oldies

rock 'n roll showband. July 23: The Wiseguys Big Band – the swinging sounds of the big band era.

July 30: Polynesian Paradise – music from the Pacific Islands.

August 6: Side Street Strutters – Disneyland's favorite jazz band.

August 13: Downey Symphony – Downey's own orchestra.

August 20: "Yesterday Once More" – a musical tribute to Richard and Karen Carpenter featuring Robin Kelly and her band.

August 27: Marine Corps AGCC Band – the Air Ground Combat Center Band.

Vicki Jean Armstrong was Miss Downey in '67

DOWNEY – Vicki Jean Armstrong, a longtime Downey resident, passed away on June 11. She was 59.

Armstrong was born on Jan. 11, 1949 in Huntington Park to H.J. and Rose Lee. She grew up in Downey, where she met her husband Jim while playing the piano at Downey First Baptist Church. In 1990, the couple moved to Santa Maria, Calif. with their daughters, where she taught at May Grisham Elementary School.



She taught music for more than 32 years in Beverly Hills, Downey and Orcutt, and was known for the musical programs she directed. She was crowned Miss Downey in 1967 and was a longtime member of the Downey First Baptist Church.

She is survived by her husband of 28 years, Jim; daughters Meagan Armstrong of Los Angeles and Caitlin Armstrong of Santa Maria; Meagan's fiancé, Ryan Lloyd; sister, Pamela (Ron) Box of Santa Maria; father-in-law, Bob Armstrong of San Luis Obispo; numerous aunts, nieces and nephews; and her golden retriever, Jack.

Graveside services were held on Monday at Rose Hills Memorial Park. A memorial service will be held on Thursday at Grace Baptist Church in Santa Maria at 3 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the American Cancer Society, or the American Diabetes Association.

Networking group discusses resources

DOWNEY – This Tuesday's Rise 'N Shine Networking meeting at Nordic Fox at 7:30 a.m. will highlight Larry Lee and Marjean Glenn of SELACO WIB, who will discuss, "Leveraging Resources." To RSVP, or for more information, call (562) 923-2191.

Gaylon D. Wessman was a longtime resident

DOWNEY – Gaylon D. Wessman, Downey resident for 47 years, passed away on June 11 at the age of 83. He was born on July 21, 1924 in Cokato, Minn.



He was preceded in death by his son, Don. He is survived by his wife, Delores; daughter, Doris (Dave) Anderson of Ontario; sons, Roger (Phyllis) Dietrich of LeRoy, Minn. and Bob (Maricellah) Dietrich of Las Vegas; sisters, Marvis (Ed) Hansen of Iowa and Vernetta Wessman of Minnesota; brother, Laurel "Bud" (Kathy) Wessman of Hemet; and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Services will be held on Monday at Rose Hills Memorial Park at 11 a.m.

Supplies needed for overseas troops

DOWNEY – The Armed Forces Recruitment Center in Downey is accepting supplies for care packages that will be sent to troops deployed in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Supplies that can be donated include beef jerky, socks, gum, hard candy, baby wipes, eye drops, ChapStick, and cookies.

The Armed Forces Recruitment Center is located at 8566 Firestone Blvd.

Discounted senior lunches available

DOWNEY – The Human Services Association provides nutritious lunch for seniors over the age of 60 Monday through Friday starting at 11:30 a.m. at the Barbara J. Riley Community & Senior Center.

The cost of the congregate meal is \$2 per person.

Lunch reservations are required by calling (562) 862-8800.

Everett Lee Coe, Jr. was an esteemed engineer

DOWNEY – Everett Lee Coe, Jr., Downey resident since 1950, passed away on June 6. He was 88.

Coe was born on April 2, 1920 and was raised on a farm in South Dakota and received a degree in electrical engineering from Oregon State University in 1941. He then began working for General Electric in Lynn, Mass. In the Aircraft Supercharger division during World War II, where he met his wife Catherine, whom he married in 1943.

During the 1970's, Coe worked in the design and development of electrical control systems, which also led him into the industrial pollution control business.

He was preceded in death by his wife Catherine in 2007 and his son George in 1968. He is survived by sons, Frederick (Linda) and James (Judy); daughter, Kathleen (Bob); three grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Richard Johnson owned DLJ Manufacturing

DOWNEY – Richard Del Johnson, who once owned DLJ Manufacturing in Downey, died at his Murrieta home Sunday. He was 55. Johnson was born in Lynwood and lived in Downey from 1953 to 2006. He graduated from Downey High School in 1971.

With his father, he was a partner in DLJ Manufacturing, eventually taking it over completely. The company constructed wood and metal patterns for die-cast mold shops.

He is survived by his parents, Delbert and Margaret Johnson; sisters, Connie (Charles) Russell, Judy (Ralph) De La Torre, and Carla (Mark) Solis; and nephew, Joseph De La Torre.

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Call Linda Larson to put your ad in **The Downey Patriot Classifieds** section. Deadline is Wednesday at 11:00 am. **(562) 904-3668**

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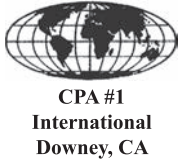
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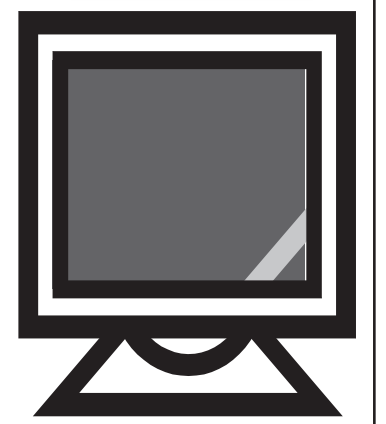
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Downey Business Review

The Downey Patriot will be publishing a special advertising section in the August 29, 2008 edition that will focus on businesses that service the City of Downey. Participating businesses will tell you in their own words what makes them unique, whether it's exceptional customer service, one of a kind parts, or being in business more than 50 years.

Downey Business Review

Tabberts TV & Appliance

Tabberts TV & Appliance is a Family owned Business established since 1962 in Downey, located at 8130 Firestone Blvd. Our showroom floor displays Plasma, LCD, and DLP, featuring L.G. Mitsubishi and Toshiba. We service what we sell. Our technicians Ralph and Mark have been with us for over 35 years. We also do our own in-home deliveries. We stock the latest in appliances, featuring Maytag, Frigidaire, L.G. and others. We have same day delivery on all our products. You will find our sales staff friendly and knowledgeable about the products we sell - unlike the Big Box Stores who offer no service or product information. Come join our family of satisfied customers. (562) 861-0948

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Lourdes & Alfonso Cotaya, Realtors

When Lourdes Cotaya looks back on her 18 years as a real estate agent, it is the dreams she has helped to come true, that bring a smile to her face. The new family looking for a home, or the older couple looking to downsize, in the neighborhoods she knows so well. Lourdes is committed to making sure her clients are satisfied in her efforts to provide all the latest technology and tools to make their dreams come true. Her clients must be satisfied because a large percentage of her business is repeat or referral clients. For a full pro-active marketing plan, or to discuss your real estate needs, please contact Lourdes or Alfonso Cotaya at (562)261-2856

Ana Esparza, Real Estate Executive

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

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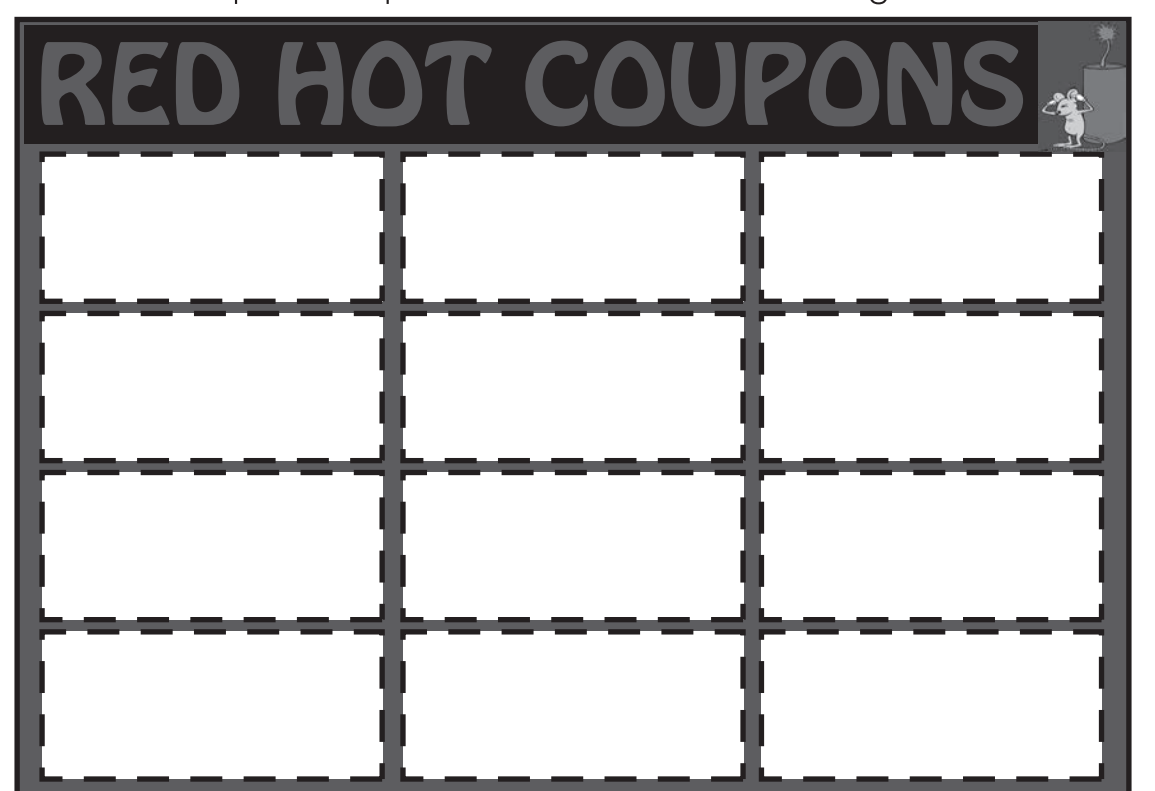
Established itself as a successful, well-rounded office specializing in residential, residential income (1031), and commercial transactions all over Downey and other Southern California Area. Our Real Estate Professionals work together making a powerful sales force dedicating their expertise, time and money for the betterment of our client/customer. Winning distinguished awards reflects our agent's dedication to client, community and professional organizations. There is a strong commitment with each of our agents to uphold the professional Standards and Ethics that govern our industry. We stand committed to these ideals because we're not in business for the fast sale, we want our customers FOR LIFE! Many companies have tried to imitate our success, but just can't duplicate our people.

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

Red Hot Coupons

The Downey Patriot is creating a Coupon page that will run the last Friday of every month with coupons for the following month. This will allow residents to clip the coupons and use them the following month.



Call Dorothy or Mary for more information (562) 904-3668

Catherine M. Rue was co-founder of LivingHelp

DOWNEY – Catherine M. “Katie” Rue, a lifelong Downey resident, passed away on June 14. She was 83.



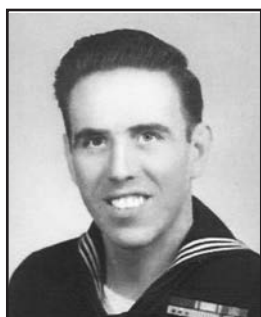
Rue was a past president of the Women’s Guild at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church, founder of the Sir Thomas More Clinic’s School for Husbands and Wives, and co-founder of the LivingHelp Center. She was active in the Christian Family Movement, Marriage Encounter, Cana, and the Thomas More conferences. She was also named a distinguished graduate of St. Anthony’s High School in Long Beach.

She is survived by her husband, Jim; daughters, Victoria (Kathryn), Valerie (Tom), Mary (Roger), Monica (Neil), and Diana (Timothy); sons, Vincent (Susan), Theodore (Deborah), and Timothy; sisters, Winnie and Louise; brother, John; eight grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

A rosary will be held tonight at 7 p.m. at Downey Zrelak Family Mortuary, followed by a mass tomorrow at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church at 9:30 a.m. A private mass will also be held on Sunday for immediate family.

Phillip Paul Lowery served in the Navy

DOWNEY – Phillip Paul Lowery, Downey resident for 53 years, passed away on June 3. He was 77.



Lowery was born on June 22, 1930 in Fullerton and was in the U.S. Navy for 22 years.

He is survived by his wife, Yvonne J. Lowery; daughters, Tami Jo Masters and Cheryl L. Robitaille; grandsons, Matthew and Jeffery Robitaille; and granddaughter, Stacey Masters.

Services were held June 10 at Miller-Mies Mortuary, followed by burial at Riverside National Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the American Cancer Society, Downey-Rio Hondo Unit, 9901 Paramount Blvd. Ste. 245, Downey, CA, 90240.

Annual Golf Classic set for August 11

WHITTIER – The Rancho Los Amigos Foundation’s 18th Annual Golf Classic will take place on Aug. 11 at the Friendly Hills Country Club in Whittier.

The event is in need of corporate sponsors, foursomes, individual players, tee sponsors and auction/door prize sponsors.

For more information, call the Rancho Los Amigos Foundation Office at (562) 401-7053.

Simple tips to maintain a healthy computer

CONTRIBUTED BY CHIP REAVES

Whether we are part of a small business, a multinational, or are just trying to find a recipe online at home, we seem to spend just as much time fixing ‘issues’ and ‘conflicts’ on our computers as we do working on them. For the home user this is merely an inconvenience, but to a business it can add up to tens of thousands of dollars lost to decreased productivity or repairs.

Although the mere thought of trying to ‘fix’ a computer would cause a cold sweat to break out in most of us, it is in fact the simple little things that even the most timid technophile could prevent, which cause the majority of our desktop woes.

“Malware, viruses, identity theft and spyware account for about 80 percent of all computer issues resulting in downtime,” reveals IT guru Chip Reaves. “It is estimated that the lost productivity cost due to these alone is around \$50 billion, and the associated IT costs of dealing with it has skyrocketed from \$20 billion to \$198 billion in the last five years.”

That is a lot of money and a lot of work-time lost. But Reaves, the National Director of Computer Troubleshooters, explains that there are certain simple tips everyone could adhere to – businesses and individual computer users alike – that will keep our computers (and wallets) in tip-top shape.

1. Old Hardware. “Studies have shown that the likelihood of physical problems with computer equipment goes up significantly after 24 to 36 months,” says Reaves. “Consider replacing computer systems every three years – considering how inexpensive computers have become, one major repair bill could easily cost more than purchasing an entire new system.”

2. Power Protection. “Surges and power drops can cause data loss and are always damaging to sensitive components, reducing their lifespan. Most people do use surge protectors, but what many don’t realize is that surge protection wears off over time. For the best protection make sure that the surge protectors for all your computer equipment are replaced every two to three years.”

3. Illegal Software. “Many businesses don’t realize that they don’t ‘own’ software; just the licenses to use it on a specific number of PC’s.

Many software programs automatically report their usage via the Internet, and breach-of-license letters and audits from software manufacturers to businesses are on the rise.”

4. Training. “Having to spend money training your staff might sound like a waste, but most employees understand less than 20 percent of the software packages they use. The gain in productivity far outweighs the training costs.”

5. Firewall and Security. “The Internet is full of hackers who regularly try to access computers for nefarious purposes. If they get in (either directly or with the help of exploits from malware or viruses) the list of problems they can cause is pretty big; including stealing files or customer records, and deleting important data. It’s important to be sure that all computers in your organization are updated with the latest security patches from Microsoft or Apple, and that firewalls are installed and maintained properly.

6. Backup Data. “It sounds so obvious but most companies fail to keep 100 percent of their important data backed up 100 percent of the time – there are often gaps in what’s being backed up which are only discovered when it’s too late. The consequences of lost data can put a company out of business on the spot, and data retrieval is frighteningly expensive.”

7. Spam, Viruses and Spyware. “Eighty percent of all Computer Troubleshooters’ service calls worldwide are from people with problems directly linked to these issues. You should consider good virus protection, spam filters and anti-spyware programs as mandatory if you want a trouble-free computer.”

With a small amount of common sense, weekly maintenance (much of which we can set our computers to do themselves) and some small financial outlays, we can have many more trouble-free workdays and spend far less on the IT repair man. This will allow us more ‘up’ time to complete our work and give us the chance to explore the myriad other technology opportunities that can help us improve our businesses, or our lives. Now that’s technology in action.

Chip Reaves’ Web site can be found at www.comptroub.com.

Students can eat for free at schools

DOWNEY – The Downey Unified School District will be offering free meals to students at various schools and parks throughout the summer. All children ages 3 to 18 are eligible for the meals. Meal service is provided Mondays through Thursdays. For more information, call the Department of Nutrition Services at (562) 469-6672.

The following is a list of locations and times where meals will be provided:

Golden Park	12:30 - 1:15 p.m.
Imperial Elementary	9:40 - 9:55 a.m.
Lewis Elementary	9:45 - 10 a.m.
Rio Hondo Elementary	9:30 - 9:45 a.m.
Unsworth Elementary	9:30 - 9:45 a.m.
East Middle School	10:15 - 10:45 a.m.
West Middle School	10:15 - 10:45 a.m.
Sussman Middle School	10:15 - 10:40 a.m.
Downey High School	10:30 - 11 a.m.
Warren High School	10:30 - 11 a.m.

Summer SAT classes start next week

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 District.

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 \$50, which includes materials. Students are asked to bring a photocopy of a report card that indicates his/her first semester or third quarter course grade in their most recent math class.

For more information, or to register, call Alice Yamada at (562) 861-2318.

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“Lilian Lopez and Lorena Amaya are very professional and did an excellent job.” – Yesenia Torres

“Roman and Judith Flores did a terrific job. Things got tough and were intense, but Roman really followed through and got the job done. I will recommend Roman and Judith to others.” – Monika Ritte

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3 BD, 1 BA, large living room, 2 car garage, 5,000 Sq. Ft. Lot!
ONLY \$379,900

OPEN HOUSE



SUPER DOWNEY VALUE!
3 BD, 2 BA, nearly 1,800 Sq. Ft., new A/C, paint, Turnkey!
Call Mario @ 562-533-7433
MARIO DID IT AGAIN!

ACT FAST!



SWEET & LOW!
Lovely 3BD, 2 BA, Downey Home w/ living room & fireplace. For \$429,900

ACT FAST!



FIXER UPPER!
4 BD, hardwood floors, 2 1/2 car garage.
PRICED AT: \$399,999

OPEN HOUSE



NORTH EAST DOWNEY!
4 BD, 4 BA, 3,000 Sq. Ft. LV., 11,000 Lot, List Price \$1,099,000
SOLD! SOLD! SOLD!



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Amparo@Prudential24Hours.com



Best Wishes Chavez Family!
Congratulations and have fun creating memories! -Jason

OPEN HOUSE SAT & SUN 12-5PM



BUILT IN 2008!!!
5 BD, 4 BA, over 9,000 Sq.Ft. Lot.
CALL FOR MORE DETIALS!

3 UNITS!



3 UNITS IN SOUTH GATE!
New windows, central A/C, Seller will help w/ closing cost! ONLY \$530,000



Thinking About A Career In Real Estate?
GET A REAL ESTATE LICENSE NOW!
✓ CLASSES NOW FORMING!
✓ COMPLETE IN ONLY 8 WEEKS!
✓ ALL 3 COURSES JUST \$299
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REDUCED!



MOVE RIGHT IN!
3 BD, 2 BA, 4,996 Sq. Ft. Lot.
PRICED AT \$399,900

A MUST SEE!



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OPEN HOUSE



Custom Built Beauty!!
6BD, 5.5 BA, 5,380 sq. ft. lot. Features several upgrades that won't be seen in any other new construction, beautiful pool & spa & a large covered patio. This is an entertainer's dream house. Proudly presented at \$1,749,000
Call Michael Berdelis at (562) 818-6111

OPEN HOUSE



North Downey Executive Condo
3 BD, 2 BA top level condo in N Downey, 1968 sq ft living space - plenty of room for a great price!
Price: \$385,000
Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com

OPEN HOUSE



Classic Tuscan Country Estate!
6 BD, 4.5 BA, over 5,000 Sq. Ft of living space, on a 14,600 Sq. Ft. Lot.
Price: \$1,799,000
Call Michael Berdelis at (562) 818-6111

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FREE Market Evaluation
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OPEN HOUSE



Warm and Friendly!
3 BD, 2 BA home with large living room, family room with fireplace, formal dining room, and master bedroom!
Price: \$499,950
Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com

COMING SOON



Splish! Splash!
3 BD, 2 BA Downey pool home with extra bonus room above garage.
Price: \$449,950
Call Michael Berdelis at (562) 818-6111

OPEN HOUSE



Fun in the Sun!
4 BD, 3.5 BA North Downey home, remodeled in 2004 with newer pool and spa! Remodeled kitchen with granite counter tops and much more!
Price: \$599,950
Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com



Guest House!!
3BD, 2BA main house and a 1BD, 1BA guest house. Backyard has a patio, grass area, and an in-ground spa!
Call Michael Berdelis at (562) 818-6111

Let's Make a Deal!
5 BD, 4 BA, 3800 sq ft, pool and spa, 3 car garage.
Priced @ \$1,099,000
Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com

OPEN HOUSE



Bank Repo
New Construction 2007- 5 bed, 4 bath, 3,250 sq. ft. living space, many fine upgrades and touches.
Price: \$999,000
Call Michael Berdelis at (562) 818-6111

PENDING



This One's Hot!
5 BD, 3 BA newly-constructed (2006) home with 3,205 sq ft living space. A great find @ \$799,950
Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com

Corporate Owned!
Reposessed 5 BD + loft, 4 BA, 3750 sq ft, pool and spa.
Priced to sell at \$1,049,000
Call Michael Berdelis at (562) 818-6111

Let's Make a Deal!
4 bed, 3.5 baths, new kitchen & baths, 2,200 sq ft, beautiful landscaping, & 2 car det garage.
Call Michael for price and more details.
Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com

OPEN HOUSE



Custom Built Beauty!!
6BD, 5.5 BA, 5,380 sq. ft. lot. Features several upgrades that won't be seen in any other new construction, beautiful pool & spa & a large covered patio. This is an entertainer's dream house. Proudly presented at \$1,749,000
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Price: \$1,799,000
Call Michael Berdelis at (562) 818-6111

View these homes at: www.MichaelBerdelis.com

Kirkwood Christian Schools

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

Preschool (ages 2 - 5)

The preschool aged child enjoys an individualized program that was developed over the past 30 plus years by

William J. Kirkwood, Ph.D.



The children have a variety of activities which include arts and crafts, physical education, Bible, music, and science time provided for them. Breakfast, lunch and two snacks are served daily.

(Cost: \$126 per week)

Rio San Gabriel / Gallatin Before and After School Extended Education Program (1st - 5th grade)

Transportation to and from school is provided. The campus is open for full day use on teacher prep days, local holidays, Christmas, and Easter break

Breakfast is served until 7:45 a.m. and snack is served when the children return to campus. There is time for homework, Bible, and play.



(Cost: \$63 per week)

Elementary (K - 3rd grade)

Our individualized program is the 30 plus year vision of Dr. Kirkwood. Because of our state of the art computerized



program and classrooms the children learn through a multitude of various methods and activities throughout

the day and school year. The children enjoy daily individual time with their teacher, reading groups, Bible, labs, free play, physical education, and arts & crafts.

(Cost: \$124 per week)

Summer Program (K - 5th grade)

Our summer program offers children a place to learn and explore. The children enjoy our individualized academic program that helps students stay sharp during the summer months, while also helping them get ahead.

The children also participate in swimming, crafts, music, cooking and other activities that go along with each week's theme. Some of the weekly themes are cooking, ocean, the planets, and animals.



(Cost: \$124 per week)

www.kirkwoodchristianschools.org

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

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

KIDS CARE... ABOUT THE COMMUNITY

JUNE 21
12PM - 2PM
MACY'S COURT



Join us for an afternoon of free crafts and entertainment encouraging kids to learn and care about our local communities. Receive special giveaways from Bakker's Cookies, Crazy 8, Hot Dog on a Stick, Robeck's and more!

When you donate any new underclothing, socks or swimsuits for boys and girls of all ages you will receive a FREE GIFT, while supplies last (one per family, please). All donated items will benefit Su Casa, an organization that empowers individuals and families to live free from domestic abuse and builds partnerships with communities to end domestic violence.

Other community partners include City of Downey, Keep Downey Beautiful and Downey Family YMCA.

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