



CareMore wins
big award
See Page 2



August teen fashion tips See Page 9



Charter Ball gets its chair See Page 8

Friday, August 1, 2008

Vol. 7 No. 15

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

In preparation of a disaster



A Downey Fire Department fireman checks the injury status of a train derailment and chemical spill victim during a mock disaster preparedness exercise at Downey Regional Medical Center. *Photo by Mary Forney*

Terrorism drill tests community responsiveness

By Mary Forney, Staff Writer

DOWNEY – A man, distraught from his mother's death, places a call to Downey Regional Medical Center to warn personnel he is on his way to shoot them.

He finds all of the hospital doors are locked and only after identifying himself as Henry Frometa, DRMC's safety department coordinator, is he allowed entry

Frometa was playing the role of a shooter in a mock terrorist disaster drill Wednesday and will use the experience to help identify weaknesses and strengths with the hospital's security procedures.

"Once we entered the hospital, it took us about three to five minutes to find him and take him down," said Sgt. Brian Baker of the Downey Police Department. "It's good training to become more acclimated to the rooms in the hospital, and we are always looking for areas to train in the community."

While this scenario was taking place inside the hospital, a train derailment and chemical spill reenactment was happening outside. Parking lots were filled with victims, fire trucks and tents as the Downey Fire Department and Community Emergency Response Team practiced gross and technical decontamination procedures.

Administrators from Port Blue and Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center observed as the Department of Homeland Security's newly refined Hospital Incident Command System (HICS) was reenacted, along with a couple of new tricks to keep hospital staff members on their toes.

Changing the command station was one of the surprises awaiting the staff and participating community departments.

"We are going to watch the hospital staff's thought processes while

"We are going to watch the hospital staff's thought processes while they figure out what to do," said Monica Lueke, DRMC director of education. "We always have to be prepared for what to do if our plans in place aren't possible."

Having a shooter terrorize the hospital was another new experience for the staff, as well as having two mock disasters going on simultaneously.

"Communication is always the big issue in an emergency," said Frometa. "It's great that we have a lot more community response with this drill, and we have seen a quicker response from the staff as they were thrown curve balls today."

There are 79 hospitals in Los Angeles County that participate in the HICS training program.

Friends of library soliciting ideas

DOWNEY – Downey residents are invited to submit ideas and recommendations for bus excursions, guest authors, or any library related programs for the upcoming year to the Friends Book Store located inside the Downey City Library.

The Board of the Friends of the Downey City Library will hold their annual meeting this Wednesday when they will consider the proposals.



Officials from Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center were on hand to observe Wednesday's disaster drill, which included participation from a decontamination crew. *Photo by Art Montoya*

Homeless find little refuge in Downey

By Mary Forney, Staff Writer

DOWNEY – A man emerges from the riverbed on the border of Downey and Norwalk. Dirty and hungry, he seeks food from the Dumpsters behind stores like Food 4 Less and Smart and Final.

Declining to give his last name, he said his name is Anthony and that he is 53 years old. The riverbed has been his home for four years.

When Anthony is finished finding food in the morning, he uses public restrooms to take a "bird bath" and visits the Salvation Army once a month for a change of clothes.

Anthony's days are spent panhandling – standing on street corners and medians holding up a piece of cardboard that says "I'm homeless – please help." The passersby respond with mixed attitudes.

"Some people are very nice. Others judge me and yell 'Why don't you get a job?' when they don't even know my story," he said.

Anthony is a former truck driver who was denied disability after injuring his back.

"Times were hard for me and my girlfriend, but we were making it," he said.

Then, Anthony came home one day to find his long-time companion

dead from a heart attack.

"I stopped caring about myself, started taking drugs to dull my gri

"I stopped caring about myself, started taking drugs to dull my grief and back pain, and I ended up missing my appointment to appeal for disability. I went downhill fast and suddenly found myself out of money and sleeping on the riverbed," he said.

See HOMELESS, page 3

Car wash planned for Downey wrestler

By Scott Cobos, Staff Writer

DOWNEY – The Downey High School wrestling team will be holding a car wash tomorrow on the school's campus to help raise money for the family of former teammate Noah Armendariz who died July 20.

The car wash will be held from noon to 4 p.m. and all proceeds will go toward the funeral services of the 17-year-old wrestler.

Armendariz died from methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA), an antibioticresistant form of staph infection.

Armendariz began developing flu-like symptoms and a rash after he returned from a wrestling camp in Lake Arrowhead in June.

Doctors first thought the symptoms were from an allergic reaction caused by the pain medication he was taking for a dislocated shoulder or possibly chicken pox.

Armendariz's condition grew progressively worse and he started hav-

ing trouble walking. After tests were run, the infection was discovered and he was immediately put on medication.

His condition remained stable for a week, but he then contracted pneu-

monia and was put on a respirator after he was hospitalized at Children's Hospital of Orange, where he passed away on July 20.

"Noah was a respected and popular member of the Downey High

School wrestling team," said Stan Hanstad, Downey Unified School District Assistant Superintendent.

The young wrestler competed in the heavyweight division and was showing much promise as a possible star athlete, said Downey wrestling

coach Miguel Soto.

Donations can be mailed to: Coach Miguel Soto, c/o Downey High School, 11040 Brookshire Ave., Downey, 90242. Checks should be made out to Downey Wrestling N.A. Fund.

A viewing for Armendariz will be held today, Aug. 1, at the Sky Rose Chapel at Rose Hill Memorial Park in Whittier from 1 to 3 p.m. Funeral services will immediately follow, concluding with burial at 4:15 p.m.

Symphony elects new slate of officers

By Joyce Sherwin, Downey Symphony

DOWNEY – As celebrations commemorating the Downey Symphony's 50th anniversary year come full circle this summer, the Symphony Board is proud to announce its newly-elected officers and the events that will launch the orchestra's second half-century.

Officers who will lead the Symphony Board for 2008-09 are Larry Lewis, president; Nick Frankart, vice president; Bill Hare, treasurer; and Ruth Hillecke, secretary.

Board members include Mark Artusio, Betty Bryan, Gloria Crum, Ellie Harrington, Pauline Hume, Mary Alice Mandeville, Patti McMullen, Lorine Parks, Joyce Sherwin, Mary Stevens and Harold Tseklenis.

The annual Concert in the Park on Wednesday, Aug. 13, will feature the wind, brass and percussion sections of the orchestra in a fine traditional band concert under the Symphony's new conductor, Sharon Lavery. Kids 12 and under will again have the opportunity to hop onto the podium to lead the musicians in stirring marches that conclude the program.

Invitations to a Sept. 14 Garden Party at the home of Dr. Walter Kelley will be in the mail soon, a lovely evening to benefit the orchestra; concerts in the regular season begin in October; Music in the Schools presentations again will reach out to every elementary school in Downey; and enthusiasm and ideas bubble at meetings of the Symphony Guild.

So the Symphony is rolling along, and the community is invited to come with us as we enter our 51st year.

Catching up with Doris Patterson

By Henry Veneracion, Staff Writer

Por years, Doris Patterson's trademark trait had been her abundant energy. She had worked in Personnel for 40 years, 31 years of that for a Downey fastening plant, retiring as Personnel Director in 1990 when the plant closed down.

Her involvements in community affairs before or since were legion and, later, close to legendary. She was active with Citizens for Downey, the Downey Rose Float Association, Downey Museum of Art, Downey Women's Symphony Guild, the OLPH Guild, the Downey Coordinating Council, and the Downey Historical Society.

"I was serving on seven boards," she was to write later in a 2003 article she submitted to *The Downey Patriot*. Her activities included service on the Foundation Board of Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center, serving as president in 2000 and likewise for its Amigos Fund ("which is dear to my heart") for a stretch of years, as well as doing stints as president of the Downey Chamber of Commerce, Keep Downey Beautiful, and the Downey Rose Float Association. This is not counting her many years of service on the board of the Woman's Club of Downey.

See PATTERSON, page 4

Page 2 Friday, Aug. 1, 2008 Community



President Rick Rodriguez presents CareMore's Leeba Lessin with the Large Business of the Year award.



Marlene Dowls of Jesse Blessings Promotional Solutions, received the Volunteer of the Year from Rodriguez.



Lettie and Robert Zavala of Freedom Vacations were honored as Small Business of the Year.



Joe Becker from Nordic Fox restaurant was honored as Director of the Year.

CareMore honored by Chamber as 'Large Business of the Year'

DOWNEY – CareMore won the Large Business of the Year award at the Downey Chamber of Commerce's annual awards luncheon held last Friday at the Rio Hondo Event Center.

This year's ceremony was themed, "Chamber Idol," with Chamber members playing the parts of different personalities from the hit Fox TV show.

Freedom Vacations, owned by Robert and Lettie Zavala, was awarded the Small Business of the Year award. Robert Zavala is cochairman of the Downtown Downey Committee, in addition to serving on the Membership Events/Concert Committee. He has also served on the Mentoring Committee.

He is current chairman of the newly-formed Business Watch program, and together the Zavalas support the American Cancer Society and Downey Civic Light Opera.

CareMore has been a Chamber member for 15 years. They have sponsored and donated to many Chamber and community events, including the Holiday Lane Parade, Downey Theatre Travel Film Series, Furman Park Summer Twilight Concerts, American Cancer Society's Relay for Life, and more.

CareMore was this year's Platinum Sponsor of the Downey Street Faire.

Also receiving awards Friday were Joe Becker of Nordic Fox restaurant (Director of the Year) and Marlene Dowls of Jesse Blessings Promotional Solutions (Volunteer of the Year).

Becker serves on the Chamber's board of directors and the Street Faire Committee. His restaurant also hosts Rise 'N Shine Networking meetings twice a month.

Dowls serves on the Membership Events/Concert, Ambassadors and Golf committees. She also designs the concert programs for the Chamber's yearly benefit show.

Committee Persons of the Year were Jan Scott of Pacific Western

Bank, Mike Murray of Downey Used Cars, George Zoumberakis of Trilogy Financial Services, Maria Larkin of Advantage Real Estate, Steve Hoffman of the Law Offices of Steven J. Hoffman, and Jeannie

In keeping with the "Chamber Idol" theme, awards were presented by "Ryan Seacrest" (Steve Roberson), "Randy Jackson" (Robert Zavala), and "Simon Cowell" (Rowena Dominguez).

Fundraiser dinner at Masonic Lodge

DOWNEY – The 2nd Annual Sue Phillips Memorial Fundraiser will be held tomorrow at 6 p.m. at the Downey Masonic Lodge, 8244 3rd St. The benefit dinner will be catered by Pina's Pizza House and will

include a silent auction and Walko (a version of bingo). The fundraiser is in memory of Susan Phillips, who lost her battle with

breast cancer in 2002. Phillips' family will participate in the Avon Walk for Breast Cancer in September.

Tickets to the dinner are \$35. For more information, call (562) 861-

Fundraiser at Rubio's Aug. 18

DOWNEY – Rubio's Fresh Mexican Grill at Downey Landing is hosting a fundraiser for the GINA for Missing Persons Foundation on Aug. 18. Rubio's will donate 20 percent of all transactions taken between 5 and 9 p.m. to the foundation. Customers must present an event flyer when

Flyers are available at Johnny & Co. hair salon on Downey Avenue, or by e-mailing salsa.limey2@verizon.net.

Mardi Gras cool coming to Furman

■ The Side Street Strutters up next at Furman Park summer concert series.

CONTRIBUTED BY THE DOWNEY THEATRE

DOWNEY – Bonjour, y'all! Are you ready for a Mardi Gras party? The Side Street Strutters have cooked up a recipe with all the right ingredients for a tasty Southern party. The band includes some of the finest musicians this side of the Mississippi, and sweet as pralines, every last one

Their music is better than a hot bowl of gumbo and a pile of wigglin' crawfish and their personalities will lay on you like sugar on a hot beignet.

The Side Street Strutters know how to capture the spirit and festiveness of New Orleans Jazz. After all, they've been playing it since 1983. Their newest show, "Back to Bourbon Street," features all the classic melodies played in the French Quarter, such as "South Rampart Street Parade," "Basin Street Blues," Hello, Dolly!" and "Just a Closer Walk with Thee.'

Oh, but these boys take it one step farther than the usual Dixieland fare! Throw in colorful costumes, tap dancing, a bead toss, rare and unusual musical instruments and you've got a genuine Mardi Gras celebration. End it all with the most famous spiritual tune of all time and before you know it, folks will be waving hankies, clapping their hands, and singing "When the Saints Go Marching In."

So what are you waitin' for? It's time to spin the bin and light up the stage with the sights and sounds of jazz, America's musical heritage!

In 1983, this group of talented musicians attending Arizona State University in Tempe, Ariz. formed a musical ensemble whose artistic focus centered on the musical traditions of early New Orleans jazz. They possessed a burning desire to explore the colorful nuances and creative challenges of this indigenous American art form. In tribute to the quaint little side streets where jazz was first heard in the French Quarter, the band decided to call itself The Side Street Strutters.

Shortly after the ensemble's inception, they were accepted onto the Arizona Commission for the Arts Touring Roster and represented the state at the Cervantino International Music Festival in Mexico. In 1984, the group was awarded first place honors at the International Association of Jazz Educators Jazz Competition and made numerous television appearances, including the "Today Show," "Merv Griffin Show," and Jerry Lewis' national telethon.

They also accepted an invitation to perform for former president Ronald Reagan at the White House.

The ensemble's innovative jazz style and magnetic audience appeal led them to Disneyland, where guests have been enjoying their weekly performances since 1985.

With the Los Angeles area as their new home, The Side Street Strutters continued to gain popularity and attract a burgeoning audience. In 1986, the ensemble received a "Recommended" artistic rating from the National Endowment for the Arts for international touring and conducted their first of many European tours.

They have since shared their music throughout Holland, Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Belgium and Sweden.

In 1991 the ensemble received first place honors at the prestigious Breda for the Arts and the United States Information Agency. Later that year, The Side Street Strutters were accepted onto the California State Touring Arts Roster.

The ensemble recently embraced two new musical challenges as they debuted their Symphony POPS Orchestra program and completed their seventh CD recording project.

The Side Street Strutters have now performed over 500 concerts and school outreach programs in 49 states and nine countries.

The concert will be held at Furman Park this Wednesday at 7 p.m. The Downey Museum of Art will be open before the performance and the Downey Rose Float Association will be selling treats.

Upcoming concerts include: the Downey Symphony, Aug. 13; "Yesterday Once More" - A Musical Tribute to Richard and Karen Carpenter, Aug. 20; and the Marine Corps AGCC Band, Aug. 27.

The Downey Patriot is the official media sponsor of the Furman Park Twilight Summer Concert Series.

For more information on the concerts, call the city of Downey Community Services Department at (562) 904-7238.

Amateur radio club meets Thursday

DOWNEY - The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Downey Amateur Radio Club will be Thursday at 7:30 p.m. at Downey First Baptist Church, room 120, on 2nd Street east of Downey Avenue.

Residents do not need to be a club member, or even be licensed, to attend the meeting. Visitors are welcome.

For more information, call (562) 861-6069.

Bingo luncheon planned Aug. 10

DOWNEY – The Italian Catholic Federation of St. Raymond's Parish is presenting a bingo luncheon Aug. 10 at 1 p.m. in the Msgr. Robert Gipson Hall, 12349 Paramount Blvd., in Downey.

Cost is \$10 and includes lunch, door prize and one bingo card. A \$25 money tree and other prizes will also be raffled off.

For tickets or information, call Aline Amatisto at (562) 963-9430 or Charlene Drobeck at (562) 928-1937.



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Community Page 3 Friday, Aug. 1, 2008

Homeless: Waiting list for public housing currently at five to seven years.

Continued from page 1

"It's hard to pick yourself back up once you are homeless. It costs so much to rent even a one bedroom apartment. I can't work a manual job because of my back and I can't work in an office because I only have a tenth grade education."

. Every day, Paul Garcia and his wife, Michele, drive the streets on the lookout for people like Anthony.

"This has been our mission for 20 years," Garcia said. "We hand out fresh food, blankets, clothes, and bible tracts to give people hope. If someone is broke down, we have equipment to fix a tire or jump start their vehicle. We are here to help whoever God puts before us."

Not affiliated with a non-profit organization or sponsored by a church, the Garcia's pay for the supplies out of their personal funds and purchased a Jeep specifically for their private "Soul Mission Rescue" operation.

"We are a frontline ministry," Garcia said. "We stop and furnish what we can and then refer people to whatever resources might help them. We spend from our own pockets to help them because we found the Lord always provides for us. It's something we do in faith."

The Garcia's are among the citizens who find it necessary to reach out personally to the local homeless because there are no local immediate housing solutions.

The city of Downey currently supports various county homeless programs, but the Downey Police Department used to work with the Ministerial Alliance's voucher program to provide temporary safe lodging and food. Despite Downey's history of being peppered with homeless individuals, the voucher program remains unrevitalized.

For years, Downey residents



Paul and Michele Garcia operate the "Soul Mission Rescue Vehicle," providing food, blankets and clothing to transients they find on the streets.

who suddenly found themselves homeless, with no friends or family to assist them, have been forced to seek shelter beyond the city limits or stay hidden outside at night.

The waiting list for local housing assistance is five to seven years.

"Everything has a waiting list," said Ed Velasco, housing manager for the Department of Building and Housing. "Once you become homeless we have programs – but they are limited in capacity."

Downey's homeless provisions aren't enough according to Nancy Hamm, pastor of Christ Lutheran Church and member of the Interfaith Alliance, once known as the Ministerial Alliance.

"The Interfaith group does come together to see what we can do about helping the homeless. We centralized the food bank, but in terms of providing shelter, we have yet to become successful in Downey," Hamm said.

"Many of the homeless can't make it to the shelters outside of Downey – those who can often fear the risk of being raped, robbed, or catching a communicable disease," she said.

Christ Lutheran Church is one of the Downey churches that doesn't believe in turning away the homeless and allowed one woman to sleep in their church for more than three years.

"I have to give credit to the members of our church for being so open and generous. We get hung up on sexuality being mentioned in the Bible two or three times, but the poor are mentioned about 900 times – I believe we're supposed to

pay attention to them," Hamm said.

"We have to be more creative in helping the homeless, but first we have to consider them. I think a good housing solution is needed to make them feel safe. Many are expected to call shelters by a certain time, but how can they when they don't have a phone? Many of the things the homeless are required to do are challenging to them," she said.

According to Anthony, there are about 100 homeless people sleeping on the riverbeds and behind bushes from Firestone Boulevard to Carson Street every

On the Web: www.lahsa.org

Custom cars at Gourmet Cafe

DOWNEY - Gourmet Cafe, 8250 Firestone Blvd., hosts "Cruise Night" the second Saturday of every month from 4 to 7 p.m.

The night features custom cars from the Midnighters Customs Southern California car club. There are also awards and 50-50 raffles. For more information, call Mike at (661) 264-2539 or Frank at (562)

Downey High Class of 1988 reunion

DOWNEY - The Downey High School Class of 1988 will celebrate their 20-year reunion Saturday from 6:30 p.m. to midnight.

The reunion will be hosted at the Hilton Hotel located at 3050 Bristol St. in Costa Mesa

To RSVP, call Creative Reunions at (800) 700-6607, or visit www.lvreunions.com. For room reservations, call (714) 540-7000.

Jewelry discussed at Christian meeting

DOWNEY - The Downey Christian Women's Club invites the community (including men) to their Aug. 13 lunch meeting at Los Amigos Country Club.

Melinda Green of Cross My Heart Jewelry will be the event's special feature, while Pattie Reinhart will speak on "Taking Charge in a Chaotic

The meeting starts at 11:45 a.m. Cost is \$12 for the buffet lunch. Reservations are requested by calling Sonja at (562) 862-4347 or Delores at (562) 868-7135.

Church plans inaugural golf tournament

DOWNEY – Light and Life Christian Fellowship in Downey will host their inaugural golf tournament fundraiser Aug. 4 at the Rio Hondo Golf

Cost to participate in the 18-hole, four-player best ball scramble is \$95 per person. Sponsorship opportunities are also available, ranging from \$250 to \$2,000.

The event will include putting, closest to the pin, longest drive and hole-in-one contests.

Registration and lunch starts at 11 a.m., followed by golfing at noon and a barbecue dinner, auction, raffle and awards ceremony at 6 p.m.

For more information, call (562) 862-0910, or visit www.lightandlifedowney.org.

Proceeds from the event will be used for the church's community outreach efforts and facility improvements at the church campus, located at 9245 Florence Ave.

Museum raffling expensive prizes

DOWNEY – The Downey Museum of Art is sponsoring a series of raffles for cars and cash prizes in celebration of its 50th anniversary.

Now through Aug. 27, residents can purchase \$100 tickets for a chance at a new 2009 Toyota Venza, 2008 Lexus RX 400h, Toyota Prius, or Ford Escape hybrid.

No more than 10,000 tickets will be sold. Other prizes include: 10-day luxury cruise to the Galapagos Islands, Best Buy electronics, and cash. Money raised from the raffles will benefit the museum.

For more information, call (866) 688-1011 or go online to www.downeymuseumraffle.com.







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Page 4 Friday, Aug. 1, 2008 Community



Doris Patterson's family, taken during the Chamber of Commerce's 110th Anniversary Mixer held in June at the Woman's Club. Doris is seated in front, and, standing, left to right: Pat, Sue, and Michael.

Patterson: Rancho Los Amigos, Woman's Club remain near to her heart.

Continued from page 1

For these roles and efforts, of course, she received her share of honors and recognition. In 1989, for example, she was named Volunteer of the Year by Rancho. She was twice nominated for Manager of the Year by the Rockwell Management Group, and received recognitions from such groups as: the Rotary Club, the Downey Coordinating Council, the city of Downey, Don Knabe's office, etc. "My life was full and couldn't be sweeter," she wrote.

"I was as active as one can be in the community," she continued, "until one fateful day in July 2003 when my world, as I knew it, came to a screeching halt."

"That day I woke up vomiting," she said, "with severe pain radiating down my right leg. When I couldn't stand, I knew something was radically wrong. For about one year before this, I had been experiencing piercing pain down this leg. My primary doctor felt it was a pinched nerve, and referred me to an orthopedic specialist who gave me a cortisone shot in my knee. This stopped the piercing pain to some degree. However, the pain continued in my right foot and I was unable to sleep.... [Thus], already plagued with a familial tremor in my neck, the pain, lack of sleep and lack of appetite seriously hampered my volunteer activities."

The familial tremor was hereditary, and it had affected her mother and her brother, she later revealed.

A harrowing sequence of events occurred on that day in July. After being admitted to ER, Doris underwent tests, and otherwise "I remembered little of the five days I was [in the hospital]," she said. At one point, though, her condition looked bad (she had been diagnosed with peripheral neuropathy). It looked so bad the doctors advised her husband, Pat, and sister, Betty, to notify the rest of the family as she had "only a 50/50 chance of surviving."

"Our kids, siblings, their families, friends and neighbors gathered and prayer services were held all over the hospital," she said.

Fortunately for all concerned, Doris' condition stabilized, and although she was still to suffer through two-and-a-half months of agonizing discomfort ("I was placed in a wheelchair for hours on end without attention"; "I was served milk in a scratched glass that looked unclean, and generally cold pureed food"; "many times I lay in my own urine for up to 18 hours"; etc.), she eventually lucked out and gained admittance to the facility she longed for: Rancho Los Amigos.

She had sought the assistance of some longtime associates, and in the process was given an extra assist from Don Knabe ("He always comes to the rescue. He's really one of the few good ones.") who knew of her vol-

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Other World

While mundane earthlings sleep illusory time gives me a world where shadowy shapes swiftly pass through feather walls, they slip away. Yearning to communicate, my shadow self, content to dream and wait. - Terese Akins Anthony,

The Summer Symphony

Lakewood

Listen very closely And you just might hear, The glorious summer symphony, Bringing outbursts of cheer.

Dutifully, the children --The main percussion team --Cannonball into the pool, Making many a lifeguard scream.

Neighbors moan, disgusted by the racket, As kids protest, "Let's have FUN!" Rolling their eyes, older sisters sigh, Getting tanner by soaking up the sun.

Frantic laughter plays a key part. Friends sleep over at night. The banter isn't taken to heart. The kids party all night.

The Summer Symphony -- a splendid orchestra Of lounging around under the sun! It'll never tire, never cease a day, For as long as there is summer, The orchestra will play! - Shaina Marie C. Sta. Cruz, **Downey**

Poems can be submitted to The Downey Patriot at 8301 E. Florence Ave., Suite 100, Downey, CA 90240 or downeypatriot@yahoo.com

unteer activities at the facility and elsewhere).

Her stay at Rancho (she was admitted on October 1, 2003) was in marked contrast to her previous treatment facility.

"At Rancho," she says, "there was a complete transformation. A team of experts took over. I was taught to exercise, use a walker without aid, to bathe myself, to wash myself, and otherwise do all the things I used to take for granted. Twenty-four days I stayed in the facility. I gained 18 pounds. The care was superb. By Oct. 24, I was back in my own home."

"Today," she went on, "though I walk with a cane, I am once again active and serving my community. I thank my sister Betty, my husband Pat and Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center for helping me along that bridge to independence."

"Little did I know that I, who worked as a volunteer at Rancho, would become a patient there. I saw both sides," she added.

Since her release from Rancho, Doris remained active serving on the board of the Amigos Fund (known for its welfare patient work) and generally made herself useful. As for her role with the Woman's Club, she was instrumental in conducting its Bingo fundraising activities, whose proceeds are split between Rancho and the Woman's Club; in the construction of the Women's Veterans monument; in the conduct of its many philanthropic and humanitarian projects; and continues to take part in the monthly bus trips to Pechanga which according to her makes \$500 in profit on the average every trip, the proceeds going directly to the club's scholarship

Last year, Doris fell and broke her shoulder, necessitating that she stay in rehab (again) for a while. Then, "when I could walk with a walker," she picked up (somewhat) where she left off, and has managed to attend Woman's Club's board meetings regularly, go to Pechanga, and even get her hair done.

All this with the help of 61-year-old son Michael, who gave up his job in Syracuse, New York to be with his stricken mom and who now does the groceries and drives her around.

"My wonderful husband, Pat, who was fondly known as 'Mr. Popcorn' for years and years for making popcorn for the Downey Rose Float Association, hovers over me and is always there with a twinkle in his eyes," she says. Her daughter Sue, who lives in Denver, can be counted on to come over when needed. So is her sister Betty, who resides in Santa Monica. A neighbor and dear friend, Jeanine, fills up any slack.

Together, Doris' family, being very Irish, forms a formidable - and happy – bunch.

"We laugh a lot," says Doris. "You've got to look at the bright side of things. There's always a good side to everything." A source of goodnatured ribbing is the fact that Doris' grandma was a native of Dublin, Ireland while her grandpa was from Protestant Belfast (he later converted to Catholicism). "Grandma used to tease him as 'the Shanty Irish.' She loved him dearly, though," she says).

A number of other endearing strands courses through Doris' family's bloodlines. Noticeable are, as already mentioned, their closeness, then their sense of humor and ability to laugh at themselves, and a tradition of giving.

"The secret of their marriage," Michael began, with Pat finishing the thought, "is by saying 'Yes, dear. Then I do what I damned please." To which Michael adds, as an aside: "It costs him sooner or later, though."

They delight in pointing out some contrasts between the couple as contributing to their 62-year marriage's success: Doris is Irish Catholic; Pat is Irish Protestant (in obvious reference to their parents' lineage); Mom is management (a Personnel Manager; worked during the day), Dad is Teamsters (Pat worked "suds" in the brewery, and worked graveyard); Mom is a city girl (Doris was born in L.A., Dad was a farm boy from Spalding, Nebraska (he was called Little Jim, then); and, to top it all off, Mom is a Republican, while Dad is a Democrat.

As far as giving was concerned, Doris says, "My mom's personal effects could fit into a shoebox. I remember growing up during the Depression. We had old toys repainted so we could give them away."

Doris has fond remembrances of her school days and growing up on 32nd/Jefferson St. near the USC campus.

Doris was re-appointed last year to the city's Public Facilities Financing Corporation for District 4. She was also honored on May 2 by Rancho Los Amigos with a certificate saluting her for her reaching 7,200 hours of volunteer service.

"The Amigos Fund Board," says Doris, "has scheduled a Rancho Art reception for Oct. 12 at the Embassy Suites' Firestone Grill, in concert with Marsha Moode's presentation of 'South Pacific.' The fundraiser will benefit both our programs."

"Otherwise," Doris says, "I'm taking each day as it comes."

Warren band camp begins soon

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

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

The Warren Band and Color Guard will also host a preview concert on Aug. 29 at 7 p.m. at Justice Stadium.

The community is invited to attend and will get a preview of the 2008 field show, "Winter Sketches."

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

William Deichman services tomorrow

DOWNEY - William Deichman died in his sleep July 25 ending a long bout with cancer.

Deichman was born April 11, 1949, in Los Angeles to William and Geraldine Deichman. He moved with his parents to Downey in the 1950's and graduated from Downey High School in 1967. It is there he met his wife of 38 years, Terry Ann.

After moving away for a short time, they returned to Downey and purchased a home here in 1981.

He owned William Deichman Construction, and traveled Southern California framing gas stations and mini-marts.

He is survived by his parents, Geraldine and William; wife Tracy; brother Robert; and children Kyle and Kristofer.

Services will be held tomorrow at Miller Mies Mortuary at 11 a.m.

Peggy Barrus Linden mourned by family

DOWNEY - Peggy Barrus Linden passed away at home July 25 after losing her battle with Parkinson's disease. She was 67.

A lifelong Mormon, she was born in Salt Lake City, Utah on Oct. 22, 1940 but moved to California after marrying her husband, James, almost 48 years ago. She was a stay-at-home mom, but served her church as a Sunday school teacher, home teacher and with the Relief

She is survived by her husband, James H. Linden Sr.; children David Liden, James Linden Jr., Scott (Gloria) Linden, Deanna Guzman,

Robin Dale Linden, Vel (Michael) Akseven, Wendy Linden (Rick Hinkel), Misty (Stephan) Hausmann, Pixie Linden, and Dutch Kessler (Gena) Linden; 31 grandchildren, 22 great-grandchildren.

A memorial service was held July 31 at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints at the Stake Center in Downey.

Cards and condolences can be sent to 12551 Downey Ave., Downey, 90242.



Editorial Page 5 Friday, Aug. 1, 2008

Long Series

By Eric Pierce

radmit I didn't realize the massive commitment this newspaper was taking on when we launched "Downey in Action," a weekly profile of the various clubs, groups and organizations that help make Downey an active and vibrant community.

There are clubs and groups for just about anything: from bocce ball to billiards, Harley-Davidson to Ford Model T.

And that's not counting the local high schools and their long lists of clubs and activities.

But we're trekking on, and open to any ideas you think would help improve "Downey in Action." A few readers have already e-mailed recommendations for clubs to be highlighted, and they have been added to the list.

And a "thank you" to the clubs who have so far been very welcoming.

To my disappointment, the Starbucks in Baker, Calif. is on the list of stores slated to close by the end of this year. Located just off the I-15 and featuring a handy drive-thru, this Starbucks was a favorite pit stop of mine on the drive to

The Starbucks was a particularly welcome sight after two hours of driving through windy desert. It was a comforting oasis surrounded by vast nothingness, and I will miss it.

All three Downey Starbucks, thankfully, are safe.

Also safe are McDonald's restaurants in Downey. All seven of them.

I swear Hugh T. Hoskins isn't on our staff (see "Traffic Problems" on this page) but he's absolutely correct in his description of the dangerous intersection at Florence and Downey avenues, where our office is located.

From personal observation, the intersection is notorious for red light runners and traffic accidents.

I hope this isn't one of those situations where somebody needs to die in order to get the problem fixed.

Letters to the Editor:

Wishes Brooke well

I'm sorry to see that Brooke Karli is leaving ("I'm Not Poor," 7/25/08). I enjoyed my communication with her, as well as the story she did about me a while back. I wish her well.

— Gary E. Myers,

Downey

Stop means stop

Dear Editor:

The letter "Yield to Gas Prices" (7/25/08) cites a TV program which dealt with a city installing stop signs. The letter writer states that this action was definitely entrapment and goes on to say that the city was pressured to change the signs to read "yield" and in some way reduced gas consumption. The letter writer ends his letter by stating that many intersections in Downey would benefit also changing in the same manner, and to "remember the car on the right has the right of way."

I feel that the letter was lacking facts. It did not explain why the town felt it was necessary to erect the stop signs. Maybe, like Downey, many of their streets have been turned into drag strips, like Brookshire between Florence and Gallatin.

Next the insinuation that the stop signs were entrapment is absurd. Whether it be a signal or stop sign, stop means stop. Should we also change signal lights as well?

Finally, the theory that each driver will "just remember to yield to the car on the right" is laughable. Since many drivers learn to drive on our streets rather than in the classroom, the fine nuances of driving are never learned. Things such as believing that a yellow light means speed up and not slow down, parking on a corner, passing a school bus while their emergency lights are flashing, speeding down residential streets, not pulling to the curb and stopping when an emergency vehicle is approaching, rolling stops and thinking that applying the directional signal gives the driver a right to change lanes.

There is also the lack of driver courtesy, double parking and then leaving the car to walk their child to the school yard, without any regards for others following, not yielding the right of way, entering the school bus only driveway and making the school bus wait until they unload their children, and of course, not obeying the speed limit.

To think that if Downey was to remove its stop signs gas would be saved and each intersection would become a corner of courtesy when two cars arrive is a little naive.

- Ed Romero, **Downey**

The Downey Patriot



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www.TheDowneyPatriot.com

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Letters to the Editor:

Traffic problems

The recent item requesting input to the city regarding problems with traffic speed gave no indication as to how any confirmed problems might be addressed. Will the city put in speed bumps, or block off streets, or increase patrols?

The item also noted that it pertained only to streets which were already posted for 25 MPH. I have not done a survey of the entire city, but I cannot recall ever seeing a posting that low except of school zones during

On the north part of Downey Avenue, the traffic seems to have always sped by at freeway speeds, and not too long ago the city raised the posted speed limit from 35 to 40 – apparently without there ever having been a creditable survey.

Noting the recent property damage at 8300 and 8129 Florence Ave. caused by errant driving, it would seem prudent to reduce the speed limit on that stretch and to enforce it. Owing to the rate of running red lights on Florence and Downey avenues, it would seem similarly and additionally prudent to invoke a delayed green there.

The city seems to be always willing to install medians which impede the flow of traffic and consume water and gardening services, but elsewise appears to pay little attention to obvious needs of controlling the safe flow of traffic. Perhaps Grand Prix-like K-rail barriers along the curb would be in order.

- Hugh T. Hoskins,

Downey

Obesity awareness

After reading the article "The Skinny of Gastic Bypass Surgery" (7/25/08), I recognized the need for an obesity awareness and prevention program in my neighborhood.

In Downey, fast food restaurants from burger joints to Thai food are located almost at every corner. Advocating our citizens, especially our children, to make healthier decisions in the selection of foods and to get adequate physical activity is extremely essential. This simple yet rather difficult choice will only make a positive impression on individuals who choose to abide to this concept.

As the rate of the overweight and obesity increases, there is a holler for an educational movement for this hazard in the city of Downey.

— Jennifer Son,

Downey

Credit card fees shoot consumers in the foot

By James Terry, Consumer Rights League

mericans hold nearly \$1 trillion in credit-card debt, according to data just released by the Federal Reserve. Now Congress wants to make that burden even heavier. Some misguided lawmakers are pushing legislation that would saddle consumers with fees that retailers don't want to pay.

Under the deceptively named "Credit Card Fair Fee Act," Congress would effectively fix the rates that merchants pay to accept credit cards. That'd be good news for retailers. But it would be disastrous for consumers, who could see the fees on everything from their credit cards to their checking accounts rise.

To see why congressional intervention would harm consumers, it's important to understand how credit- and debit-card transactions work.

When you swipe a card at the local store, the storeowner typically keeps just over 98 percent of the purchase price. The remaining two percent goes from the retailer's bank to the bank that issued your card, or perhaps your local bank or credit union. It's called an "interchange fee."

Why do retailers accept this cost?

For starters, credit card transactions are guaranteed and secure. Storeowners don't have to worry about a consumer's check bouncing, extending credit, or having huge sums of cash on hand.

Credit cards also reduce labor costs. Clerks don't have to waste time counting change or tabulating receipts. Transaction records are automatically stored on a computer system, making accounting a breeze.

And credit cards are popular with consumers. About 40 percent of all transactions are conducted using plastic.

Despite all the advantages of credit cards, storeowners would obviously prefer to avoid that two percent fee. So they've decided to put pressure on Congress to lower their costs.

Specifically, they've lobbied the government to give them a special anti-trust exemption. If such a law were passed, all the retailers could form

Payment systems and retailers would be forced to negotiate for 90 days over interchange fees. If they did not come to an agreement, retailers could then collectively boycott an entire credit card network. In other words, consumers would be denied the ability to pay with their preferred method.

Retailers claim such "negotiation" is necessary to lower prices for shoppers, who supposedly pay higher prices at the checkout counter to offset interchange fees.

But that's a misleading argument. In truth, if retailers collude to negotiate lower interchange fees, consumers won't see any savings. Instead, retailers will simply pocket the difference.

Ordinary banking customers would also suffer. Do you have a free checking account? If so, there's a good chance that it's partly subsidized by interchange fees on debit cards.

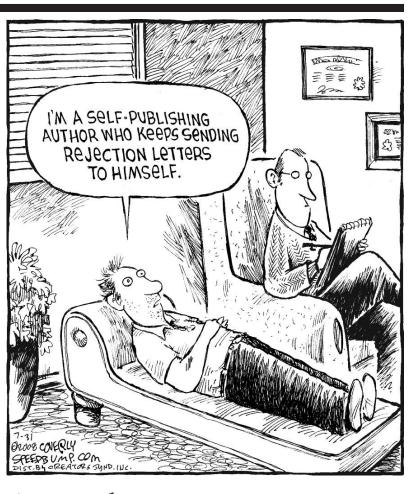
Banks make money on free checking accounts by pairing them with debit cards. If politicians render that arrangement unprofitable, banks will simply stop offering free checking. And you'd have to pay the bank to maintain an account.

This measure would also hurt those without bank accounts. At lowwage jobs, it's increasingly popular for employers to issue paychecks on pre-paid debit cards. These "payroll cards" provide enormous benefits. They eliminate hefty check-cashing fees, reduce the need to carry cash, and offer employees the ability to make purchases just about anywhere.

It's understandable that Congress wants to help Americans in debt. But our politicians have completely misdiagnosed the problem – which isn't credit card companies, but people living beyond their means. Giving retailers more money through regulation of interchange fees won't solve

Allowing retailers to form a cartel is special-interest politics at its worst. And shifting fees from merchants to consumers will do nothing but drive shoppers further into debt. Simply put, there's nothing fair about the Credit Card Fair Fee Act.

James Terry is the Chief Public Advocate of the Consumers Rights League, a non-profit, non-partisan, educational organization dedicated to preserving consumer choice in the marketplace.



Accept nuclear power

Dear Editor:

Every time that I fill the tank of my car I moan the fact that this country does not have an energy policy.

At the same time, I recognize that as a society we probably are not prepared to make the sacrifices that an energy policy designed to reduce our dependence in foreign oil would require. Imagine a scenario where everybody is required to drive ethanol fueled subcompact cars and where buildings are equipped with motion sensors that turn off the electricity when no motion is detected. This is what is done in Brazil which has basically eliminated its dependence on imported oil.

The Great Generation was better prepared to make those sacrifices. I sincerely doubt that the baby boomers or the Generation X-er are geared to face this type of crisis.

Fortunately, there is an alternative that we could consider and that is to start using nuclear generated power. Many countries in Europe, led by France, are already doing it successfully and there is no reason why we could not do it also. I can already hear people screaming against this alternative, claiming that it is dangerous or that terrorists will overtake a nuclear plant to acquire fuel for atomic bombs.

To those pundits I say that nuclear power has a history of being safe. More people have died from overeating than from a disaster at a nuclear power plant. The atomic energy rods used in power plants are also useless in an atomic bomb.

So let's put our fears aside and join the 21st Century and accept nuclear power and all of its benefits. We and the country will be better off if we

- Jorge Montero, **Downey**

Your company can survive this recession

CONTRIBUTED BY RACHEL FRIEDMAN

The recent economic downturn looks to be claiming its first corporate victims. Among the list of once strong retailers scurrying for bankruptcy protection are industry giants Linens 'n Things, Bombay Company, Sharper Image and Steve & Barry's.

This raises a frightening question: can your company make it through? "Absolutely," says Dr. Tom DeCotiis, author of the new book "Make it Glow" (Greenleaf Book Group Press). "In a down economy people focus their spending on companies they trust. As consumers get choosy, mediocre choices fall by the wayside for one reason: These companies have not earned enough customer loyalty to survive a challenging economy."

Here are DeCotiis' five essential tips to propel your company through this recession and prepare for even more success:

1.) Focus Your Employees on Creating Positive Customer Transaction. Insist that your employees provide a great experience every time and teach them how to do it. Train every employee in proper customer service procedures and ensure they clearly understand the importance of the customer to the company's, and their own, survival. In difficult times, companies do not get a second chance to make a good impression on their customers.

2.) Ensure Your Customer Feels Valued. Customers need to be valued, not just for their money, but for who they are. In order to do this, make sure that your company is addressing your customers' need for a strong sense of belonging and significance. For example, make sure that your staff is positive and proactive with complaints rather than negative

3.) Set Your Customers Expectations. It is not a matter of exceeding customer expectations, but guaranteeing that your customers are never disappointed. Use your company's unique selling point (USP) to shape your customer's expectations. Saks Fifth Avenue sells their consumers on their exclusive and elegant shopping experience, and when customers go into their retail outlets they are not disappointed.

4.) Ensure That Your Employees Understand Your Company's **Values.** People are drawn to integrity whether it comes from another person or a company they buy from. If your employees understand what your company stands for and is trying to accomplish, then they will accomplish it.

The result of this communication chain is a lack of consistency and alignment with the original values of the company. Spot check different locations of your business with "secret shoppers," people posing as customers who will report to you their experiences. This will tell you exactly how your company's values are being adhered to.

5.) Evaluate How Cutting Costs Will Affect Your Customer. There is a big difference between cutting and managing costs. What you never want to do is cut quality. A company lives or dies by its reputation, and quality is at least one-third of its reputation.

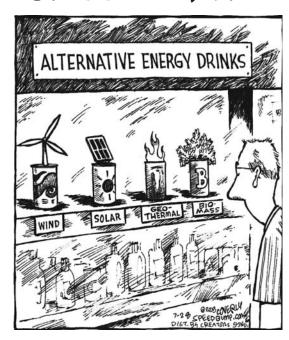
"Focus on keeping your company worthy of your customers' loyalty," says DeCotiis. "If you do, then you will propel your business through this downturn and create a solid foundation from which to grow in the future."

Dr. Tom DeCotiis received his Ph.D. in industrial and organizational psychology from the University of Wisconsin in 1974. He joined the faculty of Cornell University before moving to the University of South Carolina, College of Business in 1980.

Page 6 Friday, Aug. 1, 2008 Comics/Crossword ______ The Downey Patriot

SPEED BUMP

DAVE COVERLY

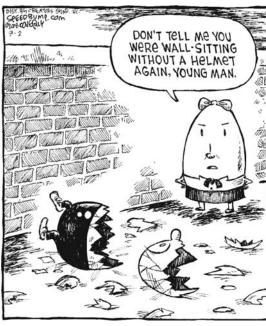












August 1, 1790: The United States' first census shows a population of 4 million people.

1914: Germany declares war on Russia.

1933: Actor, comedian and chef Dom DeLuise is born. Also born Aug. 1: Yves Saint Laurent (72), Chuck D (48), Coolio (45) and Tempestt Bledsoe (35).

1936: Adolf Hitler presides over the Olympic's opening ceremony in Berlin.

1981: MTV debuts on cable television. Its first music video: "Video Killed the Radio Star."

Downey Community Calendar

Events For August

Sat. Aug. 2: <u>Downey High Class of '88 Reunion.</u> Costa Mesa Hilton, 6:30 p.m. Mon. Aug. 4: <u>Light & Life Golf Tournament</u>, Rio Hondo Golf Club, 11 a.m.

Wed. Aug. 6: Side Street Strutters. Furman Park, 7 p.m.

Thurs. Aug. 7: Amateur Radio Club Meeting, Downey First Baptist Church, 7:30 p.m.

City Meetings

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

2nd & 4th Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.: City Council/Community Development Commission, Council Chamber.

2nd & 4 th Wednesday, 6 p.m.: Design Review Board, Council Chamber at City Hall. 3rd Thursday, 3:30 p.m.: Parking Place Commission, Second Floor Training Room at City Hall

Regularly Scheduled Meetings

6:30 p.m.: Metropolitan Masonic Lodge #352 dinner, mtg., for information call 426-6786. 6:30 p.m.: Overeaters Anonymous, at Downey Regional Med. Center Conf. Room A, for info. call 426-6786.

1st Mon., 4 p.m.: 2nd Century Foundation, at City Hall, 1st floor, call 927-9790.

2nd Mon., 11 a.m.: American Legion Auxiliary #270, at United Methodist Church, for info. call 923-2481.

2nd Mon., 3 p.m.: Keep Downey Beautiful, at City Hall, for more information call 904-7159.

3rd Mon., 7 p.m.: American Legion Post 270, Los Amigos Country Club, call 869-1053.

4th Mon., 7:30 p.m.:Downey Numismatists, at Downey Retirement Center, call 862-6666.

Tuesdays

9 a.m.: Downey Bocce Club, at Apollo Park, for information call Vince Zoida at (714) 761-4439.

9:30 a.m.: Downey Seniors Club, at Apollo Park, for information call Nadine Morris at 923-9422. 9:30 a.m.: Adventure with the Bible, at the First Baptist Church call 928-4153.

12 p.m.: Rotary Club, at Rio Hondo, for information call Darren Dunaway at 806-5400.

12 p.m.: Exchange Club of Downey, at Sizzler, for information call Don Hollister at 927-5871.

6:00 p.m.: Toastmasters Club 587, at First Baptist Church, for info call 928-2658.

7 p.m.: Boy Scout Troop 2, at Downey United Methodist Church, for information call 869-6478. 7 p.m.: Boy Scout Troop 441, at Apollo Park Activities Room, for information call 923-3659.

2nd and 4th Tues., 7:30 a.m.: Chamber "Rise&Shine" Networkers, at Nordic Fox. for info. call (562) 923-2191.

2nd and 4th Tues., 6 p.m.: Sertoma Club, at Bakers Square. for information call (562) 927-6438.

2nd Tues., 7 p.m.: Downey Fly Fishers, at Apollo Park, for information call 943-3904.

3rd Tues., 7:30 p.m.: Writer's Workshop West, at at Downey High School library, for info call 862-3106.

Last Tues., 11:00 a.m.: Los Companeros Service Club, at Los Amigos Country Club, for info call 863-1549.

Wednesdays

7 a.m.: Kiwanis Club, at Rio Hondo Events Center. Call Steve Roberson at 927-2626.

1 p.m.: Women's Bocce Club, for information call 869-8782.

1st Weds., 10 a.m.: Woman's Club of Downey, for information call Barbara Briley-Beard 869-7618.

1st Weds., 11:30 a.m.: Downey Coordinating Council, at Community Center, for information call 923-4357. 1st Weds., 7:30 p.m.: Downey Stamp Club, at Maude Price School cafeteria, for information call 928-3028.

1st Weds., 7:30 p.m.: Downey Emblem Club #309, at Downey's Elks Lodge, for information call 868-4386. 1st & 3rd Weds., 7:00 p.m.: AfterCare Post Cencer Therapy Group, for information call 923-4800.

2nd Weds., 7:30 p.m.: Downey Model A Club, at Gallatin School Cafeteria, for information call 928-4132.

2nd Weds., 7:30 p.m.: Downey Sister Cities Ass'n, at Maude Price School, Call 862-7197.

2nd Weds., 11:45 a.m. - Downey Christian Women's Club, at Los Amigos CC, Call 927-8488. 2nd & 4th Weds., 11:00 a.m. - AARP, at Barbara J. Riley CC, Call Lorene Frazier 861-6075.

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

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

Thursdays

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

7:30 a.m.: Connections Networking, at Nordic Fox 10924 Paramount, for information call 869-1414. 12 p.m.: Kiwanis Club of Downey, at Rio Hondo Events Center, call Roy Jimenez 923-0971.

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

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

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

6:30 p.m.: Downey United Masonic Lodge # **220**, 8244 3rd St., Call 862-4176. 7 p.m.: Troop 351, Boy Scouts of America, at First Baptist Church, for information call 776-3388.

4th Thurs., 7:30 p.m.: Downey Historical Society programs, at Community Center. Call 862-2777. 2nd Thurs., 7:30 p.m.: Beaming Rebel Foxes Collectors Club, for more information call Carl D. Jones at 923-2400.

Fridays

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

7/27/08

You can contact puzzle editor Stanley Newman at his e-mail

address: StanXwords@aol.com. Or

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

apequa Park, NY 11762, Please

send a self-addressed, stamped

IX (99 Down) is the world's longest-

since 1946, Thailand's King RAMA

old film studios. Having reigned

the grounds of Charlie Chaplin's

Records (51 Down) were located on

Hollywood headquarters of A&M

for the 2001 film "8 Mile." The

for co-writing 'Lose Yourself"

ceived a Best Song Academy Award

Rapper EMINEM (27 Across) re-

serving current head of state.

envelope if you'd like a reply.

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

THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com) LAUNDRY LIST: Featuring some familiar names by Merle Baker

ACROSS

30

- 1 Three-line verse Ankle woe
- 12 Peter Pan alternative
- 15 Delighted
- 19 Songwriters' org. Reunion attendees
- Not without sacrifice 23 George Harrison tune
- 25 Wild ducks
- 26 After-tax amount 27 Oscar-winning rapper 28 Recover quickly

Alphabet series

- Pass again on the track Western Hemisphere grp.
- 34 In a contemptible manner
- More daring 39 Whole 42 Wheel shafts Riyadh resident
- Chemical ending 45 Genuine Nathan Hale alma mater
- Chapter in film history 52 Nest egg for some 53 Doctors' org.
- Delineates 58 Raucous sound 60 Costner role 61 Assume as fact Tell the world

55 It may be struck

- Horse or camel Iranian coin Put on again
- First name in cosmetics British nobl

- 74 Fruit holder 77 Haul
- 80 Put away Wet behind the ears Renee Fleming, for one Speeds up Darkroom item: Abbr.
- **Actress Hannah** Olympian's quest 90 Casino worker 92 Lead-ins Old phone-company
- nickname Narc's agcy. Balkan natives Rolls of bills

Sound of disapproval

- 102 Sophisticated 105 Songwriters' org. Be financially successful
- Bodybuilder's mantra 112 Hoarding types 113 Isaac Asimov novel 114 Cut of steak
- 115 Anti votes 116 No. on a map 117 Gunsmoke star

118 Regular people

- 1 First Wives Club
- actress 2 New York tennis stadium
- Neb. neighbor Did an usher's job
- Get ready Artifice Auto accessory
- Law & Order: SVU actor Rises from within
- 57 Tiny bit 59 Debussy's Clair de 60 Icemen's org. 62 Sling mud at Covered the costs for

50 Snack

Arboreal ape

Family Matters kid

65 Boglike

66 Bath powder

11 Early show of interest 12 Traffic trouble 13 Call evening 14 Hawking expert 15 Reaches for rudely 16 Turkish dough 17 Current choice 18 Place to work 22 Kilt feature 24 TV award 29 Sculler's need 30 Pants part 32 Bad doings 34 Ancient Yucatan dweller 35 Final, for one 36 Best Picture of 1950 37 Boxer Max 38 Reddish brown

23

26

- 39 Nantes notion 40 Alabama team Vegetable in McGregor's garden 43 Diaphanous Easy' (Ronstadt song) 46 Bridge positions 48 Bailiwick 49 Olympian's sword 51 A&M Records cofounder 54 Touched gently
- 42 58 59 108 109 110 112 113 115 68 Plant starter 86 Low spirits 99 King of Thailand
 - 73 Decorative pitcher Relates to **Aviation prefix** 75 "The __ the limit!" Locket shape **Building divider**

Short play

Sharp-resolution

broadcasting

- 89 Absconded Seine
 - Total vocabulary Spot of land in the
- The Magic Mountain author 96 Impression Collector's list 97

25

- C.S. Lewis' fantasy land
- 100 Acceptable 101 Trumpeter Al
- 103 Hurlyburly playwright 104 Life stories, for short 105 False god 106 Otter relative
 - 107 Signs 110 60 Down great

 - 111 Shine, in product
- PUZZLE PRIZE CONTEST! Try Stan Newman's WordWit Puzzle™ at www.StanXwords.com



Katelyn Catt was joined by her mother, Stacy, at Girls State.

Hazardous waste roundup in Downey

DOWNEY - Residents will have an opportunity to safely discard household hazardous waste at an e-waste roundup in Downey on Sept. 6. Hazardous household waste includes antifreeze, unused pharmaceuti-

cals, car batteries, used motor oil, paint, pesticides, TVs and monitors, computers, VCRs, stereos, cell phones, and more. The County of Los Angeles is sponsoring the roundup, which will be

held at the Los Angeles County Office of Education, 9300 Imperial Hwy., from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information, call (888) CLEAN-LA.

Local girls sponsored to attend Girls State

DOWNEY - Katelyn Catt and Parisa Mazandarani, Downey and Warren High School students, respectively, recently attended the 2008 session of Girls State at Pitzer College in Claremont, where they were joined by 27 girls from American Legion Auxiliary District 19, and 500 girls

Katelyn and Parisa were sponsored by Downey American Legion Auxiliary Unit 270. They were chosen to represent their schools based on their scholastic record, leadership qualities, and service to their school and

At Girls State, the young women studied the functions of city, county and state government through mock proceedings. Girls State programs have been sponsored by the American Legion Auxiliary for many years in

Katelyn and Parisa were honored with a luncheon by Downey American Legion Unit 270 last month, when they gave a report on their experiences.

Katelyn is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. D. Catt, and Parisa is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. M. Mazandarani.



Parisa Mazandarani and her mother, Sheila, at Girls State at Pitzer College in Claremont.

Chamber of Commerce golf outing to raise scholarship funds

DOWNEY – The 12th annual Downey Chamber Golf Classic, a tournament to raise money for local high school scholarships, will be held Sept. 29 at the Rio Hondo Golf Club.

"This year's tournament is shaping up to be the best ever," said Joe Keays, chairman of the event. "If you enjoy a great day of golf along with delicious meals and nice prizes, then please join us."

Conditioning, and Trilogy Financial Services (silver sponsor); AppleCare Medical Group, California Well Being Insurance Agency, Circle C Printing, Downey Savings and Loan, Freedom Vacations, David Gafin, Lang Roofing, Pacific Western Bank, RMI International, Southland Credit Union, Supervisor Don Knabe, Stonewood Center, and Target Plumbing (tee sponsors).

For golf reservations, tee sign sponsorships, or more information, call





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Page 8 Friday, Aug. 1, 2008 ■ The Downey Patriot



Cashmere Wielenga has been tapped to chair this year's Charter Ball, scheduled for Oct. 18 at the Disneyland

Wielenga to chair Charter Ball

DOWNEY - Cashmere Wielenga will chair Downey Regional Medical Center's 33rd annual Charter Ball to be held Oct. 18 at the Disneyland Hotel.

The announcement was made this week by Dr. Richard Guess, chair of the Memorial Trust Foundation at DRMC.

"We are pleased to continue the Charter Ball tradition, which allows us to raise greatly needed funds for the hospital," said Guess.

Proceeds from this year's Charter Ball will benefit the Family Birth Center at DRMC. The center provides comprehensive maternity care, delivering more than 1,500 newborns annually.

Wielenga, of Whittier, also co-chaired last year's Ball. She works with her husband, Dr. Robert Wielenga, a family practice physician specializing in gerontology.

Robert Wielenga is one of more than 450 physicians on staff at Downey Regional.

College students land scholarships

NORWALK - The Cerritos College Foundation awarded seven student scholarships, including a photography scholarship to a Downey resident, during its board meeting on July 10.

Katelyn Hamasaki, of Hawaiian Gardens, received a \$500 Robert C. Hughlett Scholarship for Students with Disabilities. Hamasaki maintains a 3.6 GPA and is on the Dean's List.

Cosmetology students Alecea Duran, of Rossmoor, and Amber Bustamante, of Long Beach, were selected by the cosmetology faculty to receive the \$300 John Pelloni Scholarship, in honor of the late cosmeotology professor John Pelloni.

A new scholarship presented was the "I Know What It's Like to be a Photo Student" Scholarship. Established this year by Anna Javier, a former Cerritos College photography student, the scholarship provides financial assistance to photography students.

Andrea Garcia, of Norwalk, received \$150; Marisa Klug-Morataya, of La Mirada, received \$65; Steve Rosa, of Downey, received \$55; and Melissa De Mata, of Buena Park, received \$30.

College offering day/night ESL classes

NORWALK - Cerritos College will offer day and night English as a Second Language (ESL) classes at its Norwalk campus beginning Aug.

Classes are offered at beginning, intermediate and advanced levels, and are available for \$20 per unit (most classes are three units).

Most classes meet twice a week and are available during both the 18-

week session and the first and second nine-week sessions. For more information, call Lucia Coulter at (562) 860-2451, ext. 2847.

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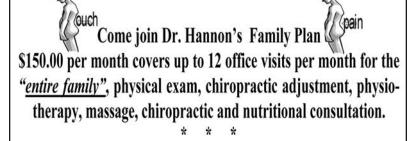
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Downey in Action:

Sertoma Club of Downey

By Mary Forney, STAFF WRITER

nita Van der Linden, blind and hearing impaired, hears a noise she has never heard before. Frightened, she listens carefully until she realizes it's the patter of her own footsteps on her newly-lain wooden floors.

Van der Linden had just returned home from receiving new hearing aids from Britt Rivers, a hearing specialist who donates his spare time promoting healthy hearing for those in need.

His charitable venue is the Sertoma Club of Downey - a small, yet sometimes life-impacting group of Downey residents.

"The hearing aid gifts have been some of my proudest times as a member," Rivers said.

The name Sertoma is derived from the phrase "service to mankind" which the members quietly perform throughout the com-

Rivers has been making a difference in the lives of Downey children for more than 10 years. Often referred students from the Downey Unified School District, Rivers offers free testing for needy families and provides Sertoma with refurbished hearing aids at cost which are then forwarded to the children in need.

Downey senior citizens have also benefited from the efforts of the Sertomans by visiting the audio mobile and free hearing clinics which Rivers and the club have hosted at the Barbara J. Riley Community Center.

A member since 1998, Rivers learned about the Sertoma Club of Downey from his co-worker Edith Walters who was the first hearing specialist to join the local chapter.

"I wanted to join because their emphasis is on speech and hearing disorders, and because it is a friendly, intimate club," Rivers

Chartered in 1964, the Sertoma Club of Downey was formed after the Sertoma Club of Whittier sought out a collection of local ousinessmen to form a Downey chapter. Starting out with 20 members, only one original charter member remains living.

John McKinsey's father-in-law, Harvey Clark, was one of the original members. McKinsey frequently accompanied Clark to the club's breakfast meetings and decided to join in 1970.

Retired judge to speak

on new disability issues

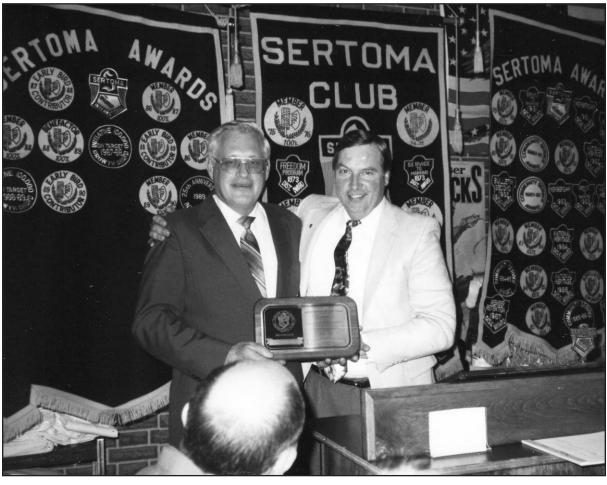
The meeting starts at 6:30 p.m. and the public is invited.

For more information, call (562) 433-6509.

LAKEWOOD – Recently retired judge Carolyn Magnuson will speak

on "New Disabilities Issues" at a meeting of the Hearing Loss Association,

Long Beach/Lakewood chapter, Aug. 14 at the Weingart Senior Center,



Left to right, John Tucker is presented the Sertoman of the Year distinction in 1991 by Maurie Thomas. Tucker is the last surviving founding member of the Sertoma Club of

"Personally, I liked them as a group of men. Business-wise, I liked them because they were successful. They had various backgrounds - like one was a realtor and one was an undertaker. They were interesting and comfortable to talk to," McKinsey said.

The men would meet and much like today, discuss needs in the community and how they could

In order to better accommodate the working members of the club who couldn't attend the breakfast meetings, the Sertoma Club of Downey now meets at 6 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month at Bakers Square Restaurant.

There are currently 29 members, but the club has seen leaner years as it went down to only three members at one point in time. The club began to grow again once women were allowed to join. Now, the club is trying to find younger members as the majority of members are seniors.

The club's motto "Little but Mighty" was created because the club has remained active no matter the member count or ages of its

One of Sertoma's yearly activities is the American Heritage Essay Contest. In the past, multiple grades participated, but now only the fifth graders at Old River School take part. The club is hoping that next year more classes studying American history will want to enter the contest.

Believing that charity is more than donating money, local Sertomans are often found volunteering personal assistance – with age being no barrier to many of the

Thomas Little is a extraordinary example. At age 80, Little has spent the last ten years planning and coaching Fantasy Baseball Camp for deaf and hearing impaired children.

Sponsored by the Sertoma Club of Downey, the campers not only get to learn how to play baseball and softball – they are treated to a practice game at Angel Stadium. This year's camp takes place August 18 - 22, and Little will be found out on the field with his clipboard, glove, and a smile.

The Sertomans can be found throughout the year participating in

the Arc Walk, the Downey Street Faire, and behind the scenes of our community.

"We hear about people in need through our churches or in the newspaper and we will contact them to help them with whatever they need," McKinsey said.

The residents living at Bell Garden Manor are especially grateful for the kindness of the Sertoma Club of Downey. Every Christmas, club members gather up personal hygiene products and entertainment items to give as Christmas gifts.

"Most of them are wheelchair bound or non-ambulatory," McKinsey said. "We discovered many of them don't have family visit them at Christmas so we have a party to cheer them up."

"Even though [all] of us are older than when we first joined Sertoma, there are people older than us in our community. We continue to hear the need and we respond - that's always been our mission."

For more information about the Sertoma Club of Downey, visit www.downeysertoma.org.

Mary Forney is a member of Sertoma Club of Downey.

Library closing for staff development

DOWNEY – The Downey City Library will only be open a half-day Aug. 8 while library employees attend a staff development workshop.

The library will be open between 1 and 5 p.m. that day. The public can return library materials at two bookdrops located near the entrance doors while the library is closed. Materials can be renewed over the phone by calling (562) 869-5723.

The library will resume their normal operating hours beginning Aug. 9. For more information, call (562) 904-7360, ext. 3.

Quilt show in Whittier this October

WHITTIER - The Los Angeles County Quilters Guild will present a quilt show Oct. 2-4 at the Ritz Gardens in Whittier.

"A Quilter's Journey" will include a merchant mall, opportunity quilt, challenge quilts and a quilt silent auction.

Admission is \$7 for adults and \$3 for children under 12. Lunch will be

Ritz Gardens is located at 11201 First Ave. For more information, visit

www.quiltguildla.org.

MDA telethon volunteers in need

LOS ANGELES - Volunteers are needed for the 43rd annual Jerry Lewis Labor Day Telethon, which will be broadcast live on TV beginning

Volunteers answer phones and take pledges on live TV. Volunteers must be at least 18 years old to answer phones and must have a friendly personality. The telethon benefits the Muscular Dystrophy

For an application, call the local MDA office at (562) 498-4923.



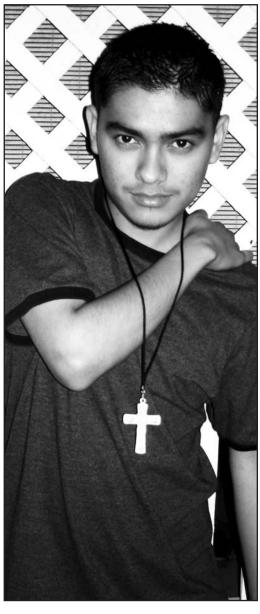


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The Downey Patriot ___ Dining/Entertainment Page 9 Friday, Aug. 1, 2008

August Fashion Tips







Kristine

Matt

Nichole

The following fashion tips are courtesy the "Teen Life of Style Crew" of Stonewood Center, Lakewood Center and Los Cerritos Center.

Matt - "Fresh Cut" - If you're like me, you change up your look every so often. To keep it firm during this hot heat, stay simple. Dark colors, long chains and a fresh cut keeps it smooth 'n easy.

It's cool to go all out with your style but sometimes makin' it minimal makes a big statement, especially with the ladies. Stay slick with

a crew cut from Regis Salons at Stonewood Center. It'll keep you masculine and in check. Orale! Kristine – "Unpredictable" – "Kristine's fashionable style is considered unpredictable because she can go from an evening gown to T-shirt and jeans." I can say that I dress according to my mood and occasion but always with a different twist of my own style.

My main tip when getting dressed is to be versatile (an outfit that can work for both day and night). For example, a good pair of denim jeans goes a long way along with a flowy, flower print blouse like this one. The key is to change the main accessories to convert a whole outfit from day to night.

For the day, you can wear a summery open-toe shoe with simple gold accessories. As for the night, you can dress it up a little with a closed-toe shoe and bold accessories. This outfit is great and fits the description of versatile. And the whole outfit can be found at Macy's at Stonewood Center for under \$100.

I leave you with one of my favorite quotes: "It is always better to be overdressed than underdressed."

Nichole – "Summer Stylin" – Summer is all about keeping cool, but also about looking great doing it! Lacy designs and intricate fabrics are definitely in right now, so this black tank top is perfect. This top is very versatile also, and could work with cute wedges, or even simple sandals.

There's a variety of colorful and unique tank tops like this one at the Mervyn's at Stonewood Center. They're \$15 and under, so what are you waiting for? Pick yours up now!

Thomas Fiscella.

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Rancho golf tournament Aug. 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.

Lovers comedy hitting the stage

(10:00 12:45 3:30) 6:15 9:00

(11:00 1:45 4:30) 7:15 10:00

(12:00 2:45) 5:30 8:15 11:00

(10:45 1:40 4:35) 7:30 10:25

LONG BEACH - International City Theatre will present "Frankie and Johnny in the Clair De Lune," a bittersweet comedy about two people who meet by chance and discover they were meant to be together, at the Long Beach Performing Arts Center beginning Aug. 29.

The production is directed by Todd Nielsen and stars Libby West and

Tickets are \$29-\$42 and are available by calling (562) 436-4610 or online at www.ictlongbeach.org.

Thursday Afternoon

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Teens reminded to pick up prizes

DOWNEY – Teenagers who register for the Downey City Library's summer reading program, "Metamorphosis," have until Aug. 2 to collect

Teens completing 700 minutes of reading will receive a free book and can attend a pizza party Aug. 1, from 1 to 3 p.m. in the Cormack Room. The party will include games and raffle prizes.

The six-week summer reading program provides teens with reading incentives, including an excursion to the Griffith Observatory and other special events, sponsored by the Friends of the Downey City Library.

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

New Titles at the Downey City Library

Fiction

- •"Alfred and Emily" by Doris Lessing. Nobel Laureate Lessing offers a moving meditation on parents and children, war and memory.
- •"Bobbie Faye's (Kinda, Sorta, Not Exactly) Family Jewels" by Toni Causey. In this spirited sequel to "Bobbie Faye's (Very, Very, Very) Bad Day," Francesca asks for her cousin's help in recovering valuable diamonds hidden by her eccentric mother before she vanished.
- •"Chasing Darkness" by Robert Crais. When Lionel Byrd is charged with murder, PI Elvis Cole is hired to corroborate his alibi. Then Byrd's body is found, the victim of an apparent suicide.
- •"Sea of Poppies" by Amitay Ghosh. In this historical adventure, an array of sailors, stowaways and convicts meet on a voyage across the Indian Ocean to fight China's 19th century Opium Wars.

Non-Fiction

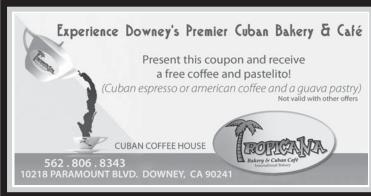
- •"Becoming a Person of Influence" by John C. Maxwell. A leadership expert teaches that if your life connects you with other people, you are a person of influence.
- "Generation Text: Raising Well-Adjusted Kids in an Age of Instant Everything" by Michael Osit. The author shows why and how our children's values are being shaped by a complex and distracting world.
- •"The Inner Tradition of Yoga: A Guide to Yoga Philosophy for the Contemporary Practitioner" by Michael Stone. An in-depth explanation of the key points of the ancient Indian philosophy.
- •"Living Like Ed: a Guide to the Eco-Friendly Life" by Ed Begley. The celebrity offers large and small ways to live a greener, better life.

Visit the library at 11121 Brookshire Ave. or www.downeylibrary.org or call (562) 904-7360 ext. 3 to check out or reserve these new titles.











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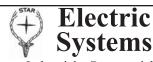
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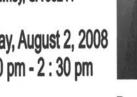
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• The fourteenth time, they accept the fact that they will buy it sometime in the future.

• The tenth time, they ask friends and

• The eleventh time, they wonder how

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• The twelfth time, they start to think it

• The thirteenth time, they start to feel

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- The seventeenth time, they make a note to buy the product.
- The eighteenth time, they curse their poverty for not allowing them to buy this terrific product.
- The nineteenth time, they count their money very carefully.
- The twentieth time, they see the ad. they buy what is being offered.

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1962 in Downey, located at 8130 Firestone Blvd. Our showroom floor dis-involved in many organizations and currently serves as President of the g L.G, Mitsubishi and Toshiba. We Downey Association of Realtors. Ana believes that purchasing Downey Real lph and Mark have been with us for Estate is a great investment whether you are purchasing your first home, secme deliveries. We stock the latest ond 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 vill find our sales staff friendly and Real Estate Professional. Ana is committed to provide specialized service that ell - unlike the Big Box Stores who her clients deserve. If you are considering buying or selling a home, or comoffer no service or product information. Come join our family of satisfied mercial property, or would like to have additional infor

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Don't pass up this exciting chance to promote your Downey business in a unique fashion

Real Estate Page 11 Friday, Aug. 1, 2008



Hilary Faith Majors, daughter of Robert and Lorna Majors, will marry Leonardo Sanchez Lopez, son of Juan and Martha Lopez, Oct. 25 at Calvary Chapel Downey. The bride, 22, is a graduate of Calvary Chapel Christian School of Downey. She attended Biola University as an English major and currently attends Cerritos College. The groom is 23 and a graduate of Downev High School. He is currently an apprentice in the Plumbers' Union. The best man is Eric Lopez, brother of the groom, and maid of honor is Melody Majors, sister of the bride.



Longtime residents Bob and Beverly Thomas celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary this past June along with their three children, Kelly, Karyn and Charlie, and 10 grandchildren. Bob and Beverly were married June 21, 1958 and purchased their first home in Downey for \$11,000. Bob joined the Downey Fire Department in 1960 where he served for 28 years before retiring in 1988 as captain. Beverly worked for North American Rockwell and later became a full-time homemaker and mother.



Mr. and Mrs. Vernon R. Lee celebrated their 62nd wedding anniversary July 22 with a special brunch at the Pierpont Inn in Ventura. They were married in 1946, and have resided in Downey since 1949 where they raised their five children, Mike Lee, Bill Lee, Ann (Millard), April (Detterich), and Tom Lee. They enjoy spending time between their homes in Downey and Leucadia.

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.

Self-help group meets on Tuesdays

WHITTIER - Recovery International, a non-profit self-help mental health organization that "provides tools and practice in changing thinking habits so individuals can gain personal control over distressing emotions and improve general well-being," conducts weekly meetings every Tuesday at 7 p.m. at Merrill Gardens, 13250 E. Philadelphia St., in Whittier. For more information, call (562) 929-2797.

Class of 1978 reuniting for 30th anniversary

DOWNEY - The Downey High School Class of 1978 will celebrate their 30th reunion on Sept. 20.

For more information, visit www.dhs1978reunion.com, call Mike Schroeder at (714) 597-9300, or email Marlene Puch Masone at mtmyl@msn.com.

Gospel/jazz concert in Bellflower

BELLFLOWER - A gospel/jazz concert featuring musician Jason Brown will be presented at the William Bristol Civic Auditorium in Bellflower on Aug. 17 at 4 p.m. Admission is \$20.

For tickets, call (562) 412-2221 or visit www.tamilyn.net.

Kirk's Korner



TIMING IS EVERYTHING!

Most people know that how you time your real estate assets' purchases and sales has the greatest and most immediate impact on your financial situation. Today, the average sales price of homes in Downey is what their comparable was selling for in March 2003. What this means is that selling your home today will generate you a profit if you purchased before that date and a

loss if you purchased after it. The fact that prices have dropped about 20-25% from highs in early 2006 would lend one to think we are close to the end of the correction. This is not to paint a rosy picture of the market but, historically, only the 1930's and 1990's experienced such depreciations. But, both were followed by record value appreciation. This is likely to occur again. As most interested buyers continue to sit on the sideline, activity will remain slow. Interest rates will eventually creep up to signal to those buyers that borrowing money will be getting more expensive. This influx of buyers and activity will begin the movement of prices upward.

Kírk Cartozían ís a Downey Cíty Councilmember and the President of Cartozían Associates Real Estate and Viking lending. Kirk is a licensed real estate broker, and holds an MBA and a Master's of Real Estate Development from the university of Southern California.

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"Daniel Bugarin did an excellent job. I am amazed at how honest and efficient Daniel is." Hella Johnson

"Michelle Secord is the best! If it weren't for Michelle and Juan Martinez doing the loan, we wouldn't have gotten this house. I am extremely happy with Michelle and Juan!" - Marge Saldana



5 New & Beautiful 3 bedroom, 3 bathroom condos, great location, fireplace, 2 car attached garage, balcony stainless appliances, granite counter tops. Virtual tour – www.towncenter.com/9759 Reduced - \$412,000



TOP LISTING Lilian Lopez Lorena Amaya



TOP PRODUCTION Maria Cibrian



TOP SALES Maria Cibrian



Pretty As A Picture A Beautiful 4 bedroom, 2 bath home, featuring a step down living toom, cook-top island, central heating and A/C, 2 car garage.

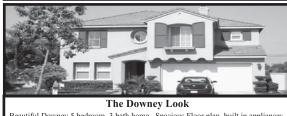


Great Hollydale area with fabulous curb appeal. Sparkling move in condition. bedrooms, 2 baths, new carpet, new paint. Updated kitchen, family room with firepla



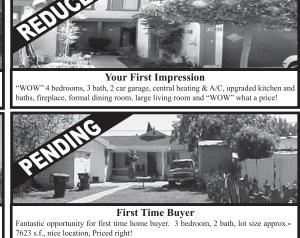


Family kitchen, formal dining area, built in china cabinet, enclosed patio, 4 be bathrooms, 2 car garage. Nice North Downey Location....



Sweet And Low

Beautiful Downey 5 bedroom, 3 bath home. Spacious Floor plan, built in applia pool w/auto chlorinator, central heating & A/C, many other features.





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Disaster drill at Downey Regional

July 30, 2008

Photos by Art Montoya and Mary Forney



Downey Fire Department firemen hook up their oxygen tanks with speed during the disaster preparedness rehearsal at Downey Regional Medical Center.



High school volunteers portray gunshot victims at Downey Regional Medical Center during the Hospital Incident Command System practice on July 30.



The Community Emergency Response Team assists Downey Fire Department personnel in a simulated technical decontamination rehearsal.



Orange Estates Jewel!

3 BD, 2 BA, 2285 sq ft, large kitchen and

living space, 8400 sq ft lot, pool & 2 car

detached garage.

Reduced to \$675,000

Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com

So Much Potential!

3 BD, 2 BA NDOW pool home w/ living

& family rooms, 1903 sq ft, RV parking

potential, ... all on a 7,850 sq ft lot.

Starts at \$499,900

4 BD, 3.5 BA North Downey home, remodeled in 2004 with newer pool & spa! Remodeled kitchen with granite counters & much more! Price: \$599,950



nouse on a 7600 sq ft lot with 2 car garage.

Many nice features - call for more details.

Price: \$550,000



Great Investment Opportunity! 2 units: 2 BD, 1 BA front unit (permitted as 1BD, 1 BA) and a 3BD, 1 BA back unit. 1615 sq ft total living space, all on a 10,854 sq ft lot. Don't miss this deal priced at \$489,000! Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com

North Downey Pool Home! BD, 2 BA pool home with extra bonus room above 2 car garage, central air & heat, covered patio, and pool. Reduced to \$410,000 Call Michael Berdelis at (562) 818-6111

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