

# The Downey Patriot



**To the moon and beyond**  
See Page 2



**Don't forget the Ball Hogs**  
See Page 9

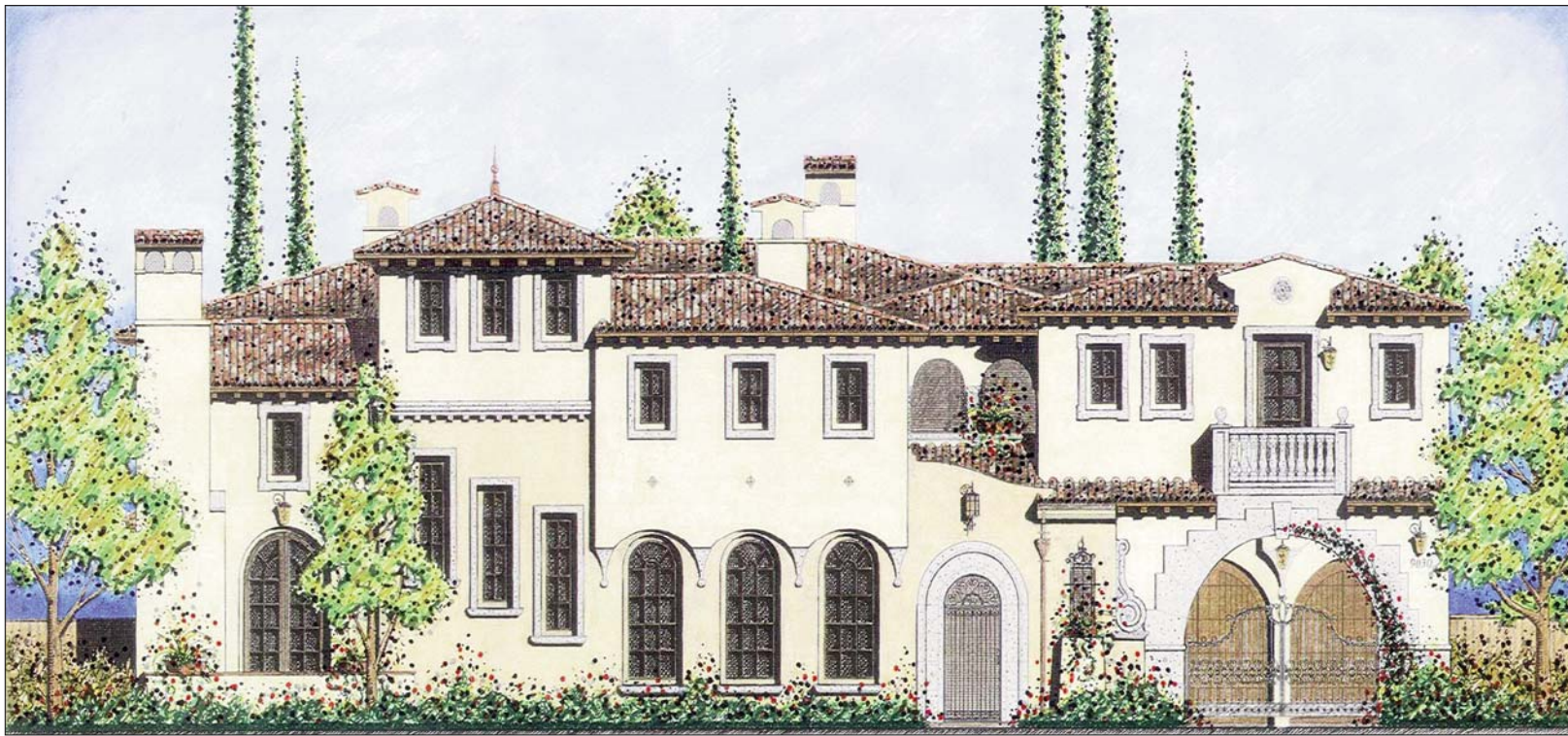


**Autistic man goes missing**  
See Page 3

Friday, August 29, 2008

Vol. 7 No. 19

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



Villa Lubec, a six-bedroom, eight-bathroom Italian Renaissance estate, will be built at 9030 Lubec St. after an appeal seeking to halt its construction was denied by the City Council this week.

## Mansion gets OK from city

BY ERIC PIERCE, CITY EDITOR

**DOWNEY** – The so-called “mansions” of the city of Downey continues. Whether or not that is a bad thing depends on whom you ask.

Plans for a new six-bedroom, eight-bathroom Italian Renaissance mansion in northeast Downey were given the go-ahead this week after the City Council denied a citizen-driven appeal to halt its construction.

The vote was 3 to 1 with Councilwoman Anne Bayer voting in favor of the appeal and Councilman Kirk Cartozian abstaining.

The mansion, dubbed “Villa Lubec” by its architect, will be erected at 9030 Lubec St., east of Lakewood Boulevard. The two-story estate will encompass more than 7,000 square feet and include two two-car garages in addition to a separate carport area.

Building officials said the mansion, zoned for a single-family residence, conforms to the city’s current zoning laws and code restrictions.

Blueprints for the home were approved by the city’s Design Review Board in May. Resident George Redfox appealed the decision on the basis that the home would violate Downey’s Municipal Code, specifically Section 9110.14, which states “the architecture and general appearance of the building shall be in keeping with the character of the neighborhood...”

The Planning Commission denied the appeal last month, leading Redfox to the City Council on Tuesday.

“The character of the entire

neighborhood is being changed,” Redfox, a photography teacher at Warren High School, said. “This house will cause irreversible harm to Downey neighborhoods.”

Daniel Cano, a realtor with Covina-based Premier Real Estate, represented owner Damon Bottoms, a Perris resident, at Tuesday’s meeting. He said his client adhered to all city rules and regulations, without the need for any variances or special allowances. He said he and Bottoms were being unfairly singled out.

“We’re sympathetic to residents, but we followed the rules,” Cano said.

City Council members said they hesitated to block the mansion’s construction because its plans conformed to city codes. Denying the owner his right to build would open the city to potential litigation, said Mayor Pro Tem Mario Guerra.

“These people seem to have done everything we asked of them,” Guerra said. “They’ve gone through every step they were supposed to. It’s a clear-cut decision.”

Mayor David Gafin said the Lubec Street neighborhood was in a state of architectural transition.

“[But] maybe we do need to change the codes,” he said.

Councilman Rick Trejo said he would “listen to the people” and vote against the mansion’s construction, but ultimately changed his vote. He did not return calls for comment.

Bayer raised fire safety concerns and said a five-foot setback along the home’s sides may not be large enough.

### Speaking out

About a half dozen Downey

residents joined Redfox in speaking out against the mansion, including neighbors of the Lubec Street property.

David Frederick lives at 9024 Lubec St. He said he worried about street parking, and wished the house could be built on a bigger lot.

Maria Larkin said the city made the Embassy Suites change their exterior paint color when the hotel first moved into the city.

“Right now it seems like the Council doesn’t hear what the people want them to do,” Larkin said, who is a candidate for the City Council this November.

Richard Pridham said he thought the city had spent money on a study to curb the mansion problem, but nothing happened.

Records show the city spent \$38,660 on Sept. 13, 2005 to hire a consulting firm to help develop new city design codes purportedly to deal with mansions.

### The mansion

Blueprints show the mansion would be luxurious, if not outlandish, when complete. The home’s first floor would include: one bedroom, two baths, living and dining rooms, kitchen, family room, library, wine room, alfresco living area, and a porte-cochere (carriage porch).

The second floor calls for: one master bedroom and bath, three bedrooms, five baths, one guest room, theater, terrace, and a laundry room.

See MANSION, page 3

## City saves school policing program

**DOWNEY** – The City Council this week agreed to heavily finance a school policing program that was in danger of shutting down due to far-reaching state budget cuts.

The School Safety Police Program provides for a Downey Police officer to be assigned to Warren, Downey and Columbus High Schools on an overtime basis.

The city will pay \$80,000 to keep the program operational. Last year, the city contributed \$30,000 while the Downey Unified School District paid \$50,000.

The district discontinued funding for the program this year as it

grappled with an \$8 million budget deficit.

Gangs Out of Downey will contribute \$12,000 towards the program, down from \$32,000 last year.

Officers assigned to Warren and Downey High Schools work up to 4.5 hours per school day, with a maximum of 22.5 hours per school per week. An officer at Columbus High School will work up to 4 hours per day, with a maximum of 20 hours per week.

The program was initially funded through state and private grants before the school district took over funding.

## Homeless cats facing euthanasia

■ Cats at abandoned Rancho property may be put down if no homes are found.

BY MARY FORNEY, STAFF WRITER

**DOWNEY** – It has been five months since Los Angeles County said that the feral cats living on the south property of the Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center need to go to make room for a \$68 million high-tech data center.

Homes have been found for 30 cats, but the feline count remains around 150.

“We are just coming out of kitten season,” said Sheranne Jaeger, founder and director of Fail-Safe 4 Felines Inc. “The count will shrink but then it rises again because of the kittens. It’s hard to take steps forward when people aren’t taking responsibility and keep dropping off their cats.”

Jaeger has been tackling the problems associated with caring for the cats for more than three years. Her involvement began when residents contacted her organization for help.

The Fail-Safe 4 Felines team started trapping and neutering the cats, as well as providing food, vaccinations, microchips and veterinary care when needed.

Establishing an adoption center

at PetSmart in Downey Landing, Jaeger also looks for volunteers to foster the kittens and tame cats.

“There is nothing we can do for the feral cats except ask people to take them to their homes and keep them in their yards. All they have to do is throw them a little food and water,” Jaeger said.

Acting as an advocate for the cats, Jaeger has been under pressure to find a home for the felines since December 2007 when a mass extermination was ordered by the L.A. County Chief Executive Office due to a complaint regarding fleas.

Jaeger stepped in and with the support of the Southeast Area Animal Control Authority of Downey, Capstan was introduced to the cats to kill the fleas and alternative options were presented to the county.

By moving the feeding places, the cats have now migrated to the south side of Imperial Highway – away from the Crime Lab which complained of the flea infestation, and away from the child care center where it was feared the cats were defecating in the sand box.

“At least we now have a healthy population,” Jaeger said. “They aren’t sickly and they are well cared for. They are far enough from Rancho not to infest them with anything.”

See CATS, page 3



Mayor Pro Tem Mario Guerra, left, was one of 30 elected officials who joined Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger in Los Angeles Wednesday urging legislators to pass a state budget.

## Local officials urge budget compromise

■ Proposed budget includes temporary sales tax increase.

**DOWNEY** – Sixty days into the state’s new fiscal year, and California still doesn’t have a budget.

And that irks city officials throughout the state, including Downey Mayor Pro Tem Mario Guerra, who joined Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger in Los Angeles Wednesday to urge the passage of a budget that will protect local government funds.

Thirty elected officials representing the Independent Cities Association and Contract Cities Association, agencies that represent more than 9 million residents, organized the event.

Guerra is a board member of

the Independent Cities Assoc. He said he supported the governor’s proposed budget, which includes a temporary sales tax increase.

“It’s time to sign a budget. Gov. Schwarzenegger’s Compromise Budget has enough in it for both sides to agree on,” Guerra said. “It offers solutions and protects local government. Given the choice between borrowing from local governments and temporarily increasing the sales tax, it’s clear that the temporary sales tax -- which is ultimately a tax decrease -- is the fiscally responsible choice.”

“The governor is still opposed to increasing taxes but believes that it is fiscally responsible -- as opposed to more borrowing or raiding local government. I agree with this position and urge everyone to let our legislators know that it is time to make the tough, but right, decision for our citizens.”

## Insurance broker charged with grand theft

BY MARY FORNEY, STAFF WRITER

**DOWNEY** – The arraignment of insurance broker Prakash Akatrai, aka Peter Akatrai, 48, has been reset for 8 a.m. Sept. 4 in San Bernardino Superior Court.

Earlier this month, Akatrai was arrested for six counts of felony grand theft by embezzlement and released on 50,000 dollars bond. Akatrai, owner of Friends Insurance Services on Lakewood Boulevard in Downey is accused of issuing a false certificate of insurance in addition to other charges.

A press release from the California Department of Insurance said from October 2005 to March 2006, Akatrai submitted five applications to insurance companies, and policies were issued, but he failed to forward the required down payments he had collected from his customers. This resulted in cancellation of their policies.

Akatrai finally sent in the earned premium payments four to six months after the policies had cancelled because a broker representing the insurance companies made numerous attempts to collect

the money.

In Nov. 2005, Akatrai also collected a down payment from a woman but didn’t submit an application or the funds to an insurance company. Instead, he kept the money and issued her a fake certificate of insurance.

“We cannot allow the trust between insurance brokers and consumers to be violated,” said CDI Insurance Commissioner Steve Poizner. “These victims procured insurance to protect themselves against liability and were allegedly defrauded.”

Akatrai’s license is pending

CDI action and he faces a maximum of three years in prison.

“I have made fighting fraud one of my top priorities, and I will continue to work hard to make sure that scam artists are put behind bars,” Poizner said. “Akatrai’s acts placed his victims in great financial jeopardy and exposed the public to uninsured losses.”

The felony complaint from the San Bernardino County District Attorney’s Office lists Akatrai’s victims as being Ana Lopez, Irma Zapata, Daniel McGuire, Harwood Garland, Mary Elliott, and Vireshbhai Patel.



Thirty-seven students from Downey Adult School were awarded certificates of accomplishment for successfully completing the school's Brain Fitness program, a course designed to increase memory retention and improve focus.

## Students polish up on brain exercises

**DOWNEY** – How can you think faster, remember more, and focus better? There are now 37 graduates of Downey Adult School's Brain Fitness program who can tell you how.

On July 30, instructors Kelly Holt and Lynn Hauer awarded certificates of accomplishment to students who invested over 45 hours each to exercise their brains, recover memory loss, and reverse the effects of age on the brain.

The graduation ceremony was attended by more than 50 guests. Principal Roger Brossmer helped present the certificates and shook the hand of every graduate.

The Brain Fitness program was the vision of Brossmer. The course uses computer technology to help the brain process information faster,

### Warren planning 40-year reunion

**DOWNEY** – Warren High School class of 1968 will host a reunion Sept. 13 at Doheny State Beach from 9 a.m. to midnight.

For information, call Michael Murray at (562) 862-7197 or Tom Mumford at (760) 789-7873.

### Bingo luncheon set Sept. 14

**DOWNEY** – The Italian Catholic Federation of St. Raymond's parish will host a bingo luncheon Sept. 14 at 1 p.m. in the Msgr. Robert Gipson Hall, 12349 Paramount Blvd.

Cost is \$10 which includes one bingo card, door prizes, and lunch. 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.

while increasing memory retention and improving focus.

"This is something we can do to really serve our Downey neighbors," he said.

Computer experience is not required to enroll in the class.

"Brain Fitness is very popular particularly with our senior students as it provides important mental stimulation which is proven to offset the effects of aging on brain function," said Holt. "[But] it is useful for students of all ages."

The next Brain Fitness class will begin Sept. 8 at 10:15 a.m. and 6 p.m. at Downey Adult School. To enroll, or more information, call (562) 922-6200 or visit [www.das.edu](http://www.das.edu).

### Fall boutique at Methodist Church

**DOWNEY** – Downey United Methodist Church will host their annual fall boutique Sept. 13 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The boutique will include a granny's attic and baked goods. All boutique items will be homemade by the church's women and Busy Bees.

Residents are invited to the church's café for lunch and dessert following the sale.

### Residents may qualify for free toilets

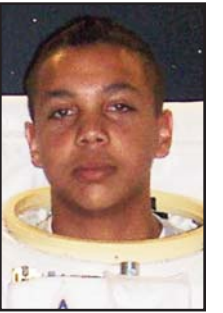
**DOWNEY** – Downey residents with an old toilet in their home may qualify for a free high-efficiency toilet through a program by the Central Basin Municipal Water District.

The giveaway will take place in Downey on Sept. 13. For details and eligibility restrictions, call (877) 732-2830.

## Teen may become a future astronaut

**HUTCHINSON, KANS.** – Downey teen Nathaniel Franklin has graduated from Level 1 of the Future Astronaut Training Program at the Kansas Cosmosphere and Space Center.

The week-long introductory astronaut camp is for students entering grades 7-10 and emphasizes teamwork, leadership and problem solving. The program is a nationally-recognized camp that encourages campers to seek careers in space-related industries.



Throughout the week, campers train in space simulators – the centrifuge, multi-axis trainer, space shuttle simulator (Falcon III) and stress simulator – and practice spacewalk rescues, launch homemade rockets, direct a robotic mission and learn night sky observation techniques.

The centrifuge is a rotating device that tests people's reactions to forces encountered during launch and reentry; the multi-axis trainer spins riders 360 degrees in multiple axes while simulating tumble-type maneuvers that could be encountered in spaceflight; the space shuttle simulator is the most realistic shuttle simulator outside of NASA, simulating launch, orbit, satellite deployment, reentry and landing; and the stress simulator incorporates external stimuli into a mission to replicate stressful situations encountered in spaceflight.

Campers also tour the Cosmosphere's Hall of Space Museum and watch shows in a planetarium and IMAX theater.

### Symphony fundraiser to be lively

**DOWNEY** – A beautiful garden setting, delicious hors d'oeuvres, tempting desserts, wine, champagne, entertainment by the USC Brass Quartet, a live auction, and a chance to meet Sharon Lavery, Music Director of the Downey Symphony...a wonderful way to celebrate the opening of the 2008-09 Downey Symphonic Society concert season.

The event will take place Sept. 14 from 4 to 7 p.m. at the home of Dr. Walter Kelley. The price is \$75, which will help support our Downey Symphony.

For reservations, call Ruth Hillecke at (562) 861-7921.

— *Contributed by Downey Symphony*

### Library in need of literacy tutors

**DOWNEY** – The Downey City Library needs volunteers to teach an adult to read through its Adult Literacy program.

Training sessions for tutors will be given Sept. 15, 22 and 29 from 6 to 8 p.m. and Sept. 20 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the library's Cormack Room. Tutors may also attend ongoing literacy support meetings.

"By volunteering two or more hours per week, you can give an adult the skills they need to become a successful worker, parent or citizen," said Claudia Dailey, literacy coordinator for the library. "Both tutors and students find this program rewarding: it changes lives."

To register, call the Literacy and Training Office at (562) 904-7360, ext. 123 or e-mail [cdailey@downeyca.org](mailto:cdailey@downeyca.org).

# September's RED HOT COUPONS

**Avant Garde Salon** 562.869-4044  
**MONTH OF SEPTEMBER SPECIAL**  
**20% DISCOUNT\***  
 NOW OPEN ON SUNDAYS  
 10810-A Downey Ave Downey, CA  
\*Can not be combined or used towards product purchase. First visit only. With select stylists. Must present coupon upon visit.

**Blizzberry** Grand Opening!  
 All Natural Frozen Yogurt, Smoothies, Ice Blended Coffee & Waffles  
 10033 Paramount Blvd. E Downey CA 90240 (in front of CVS)  
 Bring in this ad for \$1 OFF  
 Bring in this coupon and receive \$1.00 off any Yogurt or Smoothie purchase  
[www.blizzberry.com](http://www.blizzberry.com)

**ECLIPSE COFFEE** 8255 Firestone Blvd. & Downey Ave. \$1.00 OFF  
 Fresh Coffee • Sandwiches • Salads • Gelato • Fresh Juices • Patio Dining  
 Free Wi-Fi  
 Tel: (562) 450-4525  
[www.eclipsecoffee.us](http://www.eclipsecoffee.us)  
 \$1.00 off any drink or food item  
\*Must present coupon at time of purchase One coupon per customer • Expires 9/30/08

**GOLDEN TOBACCO**  
 Cigarettes Cigars Pipe Tobacco Accessories  
 Hudge Walk in Humidor of Best Selection tobacco in Town  
 15% off w/this coupon \*Cigarettes not included  
 "guaranteed lowest price cigarettes in town"  
 We beat any competitors prices  
 9202 Lakewood Blvd. Downey CA, 90240  
 Tel. (562) 904-3404  
(Same Corner as Ralph Supermarket)  
 "We are open seven days a week" We Accept:

**H. Salt Seafood of Downey**  
 10339 Lakewood Blvd., Downey CA 90241  
 (562) 861-8714  
 Open 7 Days a Week  
 11:00 am to 8:00 pm  
 Fri. & Sat. 11:00 am to 9:00 pm  
 Now Serving Lemon Herb Rice or White Rice

2 Piece Fish & Chips	5 Piece Fish & Chips	21 Mini-Shrimp
\$3.99	\$9.99	\$4.99

**We Love Our Community and are here to stay!**  
 Bring this Coupon to receive 10% off any purchase over \$20.00  
 11018 Downey Ave. (562) 622-7373 Exp. 9-30-08

**NARAI THAI**  
 AUTHENTIC THAI CUISINE  
 FREE DELIVERY\* (562) 928-4632  
 This Coupon good for \$2.00 off orders over \$20.00 Exp. 9/30/08  
 Sun - Thurs 11am - 9:30pm Fri - Sat 11am - 10pm  
 7611 Firestone Blvd. Downey, CA 90241 [www.naraithai.com](http://www.naraithai.com)

**Reloon** 10822 LAKEWOOD BLVD., DOWNEY • 862-0223  
 Next to Stonewood Mall  
 Your choice of any item on the Dinner or Pasta section of our menu. valid only with purchase of two beverages 2 coupons per table • No take-out  
**BUY ONE DINNER AT REGULAR PRICE GET ONE DINNER FREE!**  
 of equal value or less (with coupon only)  
 Offer Good through 9-30-08 Not good with any other offer

Experience Downey's Premier Cuban Bakery & Café  
 Present this coupon and receive a free coffee and pastelito!  
 (Cuban espresso or american coffee and a guava pastry)  
 Not valid with other offers  
**CUBAN COFFEE HOUSE**  
 562.806.8343  
 10218 PARAMOUNT BLVD. DOWNEY, CA 90241

**Kela Café** GUATEMALAN COFFEE HOUSE  
 There is a new place FOR YOU to enjoy your favorite Coffee Drink.  
 12012 Paramount Blvd Downey, CA 90242  
 Share it with a friend  
 Bring this coupon and receive \$1.00 off your order Exp. 9/30/08

**DON'T MISS OCTOBER'S RED HOT COUPONS**  
 SEPTEMBER 26, 2008  
 TO RESERVE YOUR SPACE PLEASE CALL DOROTHY MICHAEL OR MARY FORNEY  
 (562) 904-3668

## Cats: County plans to redevelop former Rancho property.

Continued from page 1

At first, the county tried to trap the cats and boarded up the vacant buildings taken over by the felines. The boards were removed at the end of the day after a cat was struck by a car because it didn't know where to go.

In March, L.A. County announced its Project Barn Cat initiative which entailed placing the cats in local barns and equestrian environments. To date, Project Barn Cat has been unsuccessful so Fail-Safe 4 Felines Inc. continues advocating alternatives to killing the cats.

"The county has offered to provide a facility to house the cats for a temporary period, but then I would have a choice to make. I would have to either find a home for them or they would be put down," Jaeger said.

"I have found a place with a woman who has acres and acres of land, and a paid staff to care for the cats. The county is willing to transport the cats, but now it's a matter of gathering the funds to pay for their upkeep."

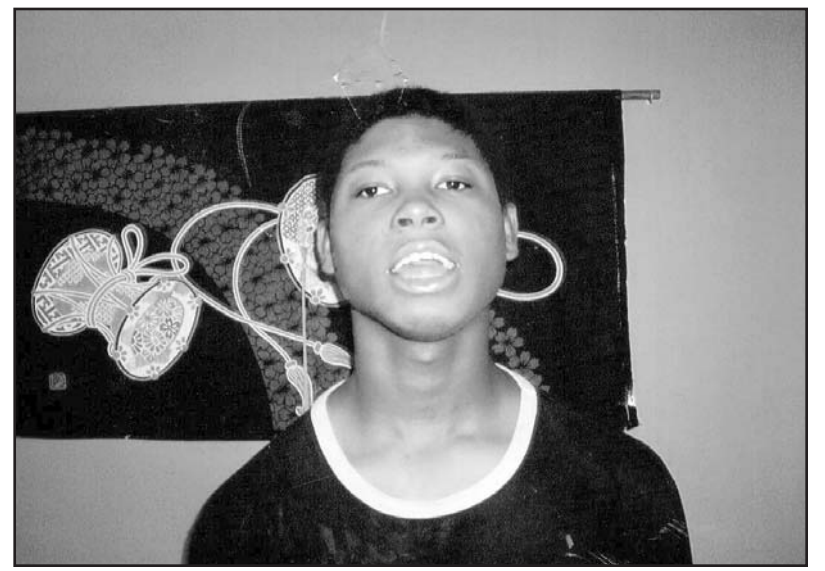
According to Jaeger, the cost is \$2,000 per cat for life.

To help defray the costs of caring for the cats, Fail-Safe 4 Felines Inc. will host a spaghetti dinner fundraiser at the Elks Lodge on Sept. 16 at 6 p.m. For tickets, call Sheranne at (562) 708-2672.

"These aren't my cats," Jaeger said. "This is the city's problem and if we hadn't been there, there would be thousands of cats. It takes everybody to solve this and euthanasia isn't the answer. If 100 people took home one or two cats, there would no longer be a problem."



A group of regular volunteers feed the cats at the former Rancho property off Imperial Highway. Photo by Eric Pierce



Trayvion Thomas, 21, wandered away from home on Tuesday. Thomas suffers from autism and other disabilities.

## Police need help finding missing autistic man

**DOWNEY** – Police are seeking the public's help in finding Trayvion Thomas, 21, who wandered away from his Dalewood Avenue home Tuesday at about 11:25 a.m.

Thomas suffers from autism and other developmental disabilities, said Sgt. Jeff Calhoun with the Downey Police Department.

Thomas is described as black, 5 ft. 11-in., 200 lbs., with black hair and black eyes. He was dressed in jean shorts, a red Angels jacket, and white shoes.

About three weeks ago, Thomas walked away from his group home before turning up in West Los Angeles, according to Calhoun.

Anyone with information on Thomas's whereabouts is asked to call the Downey Police Department at (562) 904-2308 or Det. Raul Salazar at (562) 904-2332.

## Mansion: Neighbors worry of privacy.

Continued from page 1

The mansion will be painted a cream color, with "yellowish cream" accents and a brown door. A clay tile roof would also be brown in color.

### Inspiration

On June 24, architect Theron Pate submitted a letter to the city detailing his inspiration for designing Villa Lubec. He said he drew inspiration from several sources, including another Italian Renaissance home at 9489 Raviller Dr. in Downey that was listed at \$3.247 million.

"Although the architectural inspiration for Villa Lubec came from a wide range of sources...it was Villa Philbrook, located in Tulsa, Oklahoma, that provided the initial spark that revealed the emotional essence of well-proportioned Italian Renaissance architecture," Pate said. "With Villa Philbrook being of such grand scale and truly representative of the most positive connotations of the word 'mansion,' the design objective with Villa Lubec was to take this aforementioned emotional essence and infuse it into a

structure of much more appropriate 'un-mansionlike' scale befitting its location and surroundings. And in doing so, break the massing of the overall structure into individual elements of residential proportion sensitive to the architectural character of the neighborhood."

Pate continued: "Upon approaching the main entrance, the sound of a fountain's playing water can be heard through the ornamental iron gate, which upon entering leads to the architectural intrigue and tranquility of the

entry portico and entry loggia. As for the vehicular entry, a motor court has been screened from view by a porte cochere element wide enough for only one vehicle to pass through at a time.

Consequently, the garage doors themselves have been pulled away from the street as far as possible, in an effort to entirely eliminate their negative impact on the front elevation street scene."

## City pays for store's relocation expenses

**DOWNEY** – After exercising eminent domain powers to take control of a local cash advance shop, the city will pay approximately \$180,000 for its relocation costs.

The City Council approved the lump sum payment this week.

The city took control of the Speedy Cash at 8850 Imperial Hwy. earlier this year as part of its Lakewood Boulevard Improvement Project. The store's lease was not set to expire until 2010, and negotiations for the city to purchase its lease were unsuccessful, said Deputy City Manager Desi Alvarez.

"Since no agreement was reached for Speedy Cash to move, the city adopted a resolution of necessity and filed an eminent domain action to acquire Speedy Cash's leasehold interest," Alvarez wrote in a staff report.

Speedy Cash eventually agreed to move to a new larger location across the street. They submitted a claim of \$358,287 for relocation costs.

According to the report, the city retained a relocation consultant which determined Speedy Cash was entitled to \$179,653.51, which includes the store's fixtures and equipment.



# This Weekend

Sat., Sun. & Mon.  
Aug. 30, 31 & Sept. 1

## There's No Sales Tax to Pay at All American



# 3 DAYS ONLY!

## Aug. 30, 31 & Sept. 1

That's right! We will pay your sales tax on every item sold in our store, *Includes all special orders and all sale items!*

*Finally, a Tax Break you can count on!*

Open: Sat. 7AM - 9PM ▪ Sun. 8AM - 9PM ▪ Mon. 7AM - 9PM

7201 E. Firestone Blvd., Downey ▪ (562) 927-8666

## School district welcomes new teachers, administration

BY HENRY VENERACION, STAFF WRITER

**DOWNEY**—Boardmember Willie Gutierrez voiced the sentiments of his Downey Unified School System board colleagues last Thursday when he bid welcome to the new teachers and administrative staff as they began to get ready for the start of another school year next week.

Boardmember Martha Sodetani, meanwhile, happily took note of a press report that mentioned only 4.4 percent of DUSD students do not complete their schooling, a record second only to Los Alamitos. Los Alamitos is considered a topnotch district, scoring consistently well in many categories.

In other action, the Board:

- Accepted with gratitude cash donations from the Downey Rotary Club of a) \$7,200 for the Special Principals fund (in support of student and special activities at each school), as well as b) \$2,871 in support of 'Rotary Recognizes Readers', WHS Interact, Children's Christmas Party, and Downey/Warren Spirit Week;
- Also accepted cash donations of \$5,000 from the Jerome Foundation and \$573 from Price Elementary School, in support of the TLC Family Resource Center;
- Authorized the payment of expenses for convention and conference attendance;
- Ratified the general agreement with Maxim Staffing Solutions;
- Ratified the payment for a special education placement;
- Ratified the settlement agreement regarding case no. N2008060438 and approving the payment of \$8,000;
- Approved the amended monthly mileage allowances for 10-month, 11-month, and 12-month employees for 2008-09, at an estimated annual cost of \$61,745;
- Approved the amended Adult School memberships for FY2008-09;
- Ratified purchase orders by the Purchasing Department;
- Ratified the issuance of payroll orders for hourly, overtime, Civic Center work by classified personnel, Adult School, and Food Services through June, 2008;

- Ratified B warrants;
- Ratified the agreements between Downey Adult School Center and Education Center and Toni Johnson Chavis Medical Clinic, as well as Victoria Medical Group, to furnish practical experience to students enrolled in the Medical Assistant program;
- Ratified the legal service agreement with Breon & Shaeffer, a professional law corporation, to be used on an as needed basis only, effective July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009;
- Ratified the Student Teaching Agreement with Point Loma Nazarene University beginning July 1, 2008;
- Ratified the successor agreement with the Downey Family YMCA to cover facilities and services made available by Downey Unified School District for child care programs at various sites owned by DUSD, effective July 1, 2008;
- Approved the agreement with Family Service of Long Beach to provide a Student Counseling Program to children and families referred from the district, effective Oct. 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009;
- Approved the agreement with the Alliance of Schools for Cooperative Insurance Programs (ASCIP) which will provide actuarial services for other-than-pension post-employment benefits per GASB-45 accounting standards;
- Approved the renewal of the refuse/recycling system contract with CalMet Services of Downey for the 2008-09 school year, in the amount of \$150,014.02, to be charged to the General Fund;
- Ratified the contract for participation in the Los Angeles County Regional Occupational Program (ROP) with the Los Angeles County Office of Education, effective July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009;
- Authorized the advertisement for bids for Trade Labor—Painters, to assist the Maintenance, Operations, and Transportation Services department as needed with district-wide painting needs and projects for the school year, in the estimated annual amount of \$200,000, with no guarantee that this amount will be met or exceeded, to be funded by the General Fund, Maintenance Fund, and/or Bond Fund as appropriate;
- Approved the renewals of bids with A&R Wholesale Distributors of Anaheim and Campus Foods of City of Industry (for snack foods), Clearbrook Farms of Downey (for milk and dairy products), and Goody's Pizza of Lakewood (for pre-made pizzas), for the Food Services Department, to be charged to the Food Services Fund;
- Awarded bids for dry and refrigerated foods to A&R Wholesale Distributors, Inc. of Anaheim (\$89,768.65); Campus Foods of City of Industry (\$9,648); Gold Star Foods of Vernon (\$14,731.20); L.A. Foods of Canoga Park (\$2,677.50); Newport Farms, Inc. of Corona (\$1,336); and U.S. Foodservice Inc. of Vista (\$62,393.45) for the Food Services Department, to be charged to the Food Services Fund;
- Approved the change orders with various vendors for the Warren High School new library, classroom building and cafeteria (Portion 2) modernization projects reflecting increased amounts for such works as rough carpentry and framing, lath and plaster, painting, ceramic tile, and electrical; as well as for the Downey High School's new classroom building (Building B) construction—all amounts to be charged to Bond Funds;
- Accepted as complete electrical, fencing, and concrete work performed by various vendors;
- Approved the declaration and sale and/or recycling of district surplus property, and abated the income to the General Fund and/or the Food

## The Poet's Corner

### Doheny Beach's Sandstone Arch

Do you remember Doheny Beach's Sandstone Arch?  
Between the sandstone bluffs and the deep blue sea  
Sculpted by coastal winds and ocean surges

It stood for centuries  
Slowly giving way to nature's forces  
That carved it out ages ago.

Before the stips and shops  
When families camped beneath the trees  
And fell asleep with  
The rhythm of the waves in their heads  
When children played in the gentle surf  
And grownups tried to ride the waves.

Those were the days when we would  
Walk far beyond that beautiful arch  
And wonder about its earlier days  
How long had it been there?  
Hoping it would be there always

Today we have only memories  
A photo or two  
In our hearts and minds that wonderful old arch  
Will always be  
Part of our yesterdays  
— Leona Swanson,  
Downey

Services Fund, and/or pick up by a local e-waste recycler for proper recycling;

- Approved the purchase of equipment, as listed, in accordance with established purchasing policies and regulations;
  - Acknowledged the receipt of a claim submitted by Howard H. Hall, Inc, a law corporation, on behalf of Michael Gonzales, a minor, and denied said claim in compliance with Government Code Section 911-15 and 945;
  - Ratified routine Personnel items until subsequent action is taken by the Board of Education;
  - Ratified the reclassification of Principal, Adult School (Range 109), to Director, Adult Education (Range 110), effective July 1, 2008;
  - Ratified the abolishment of Senior Instructional Assistant positions, one at West Middle School and another at Downey High School, effective July 31, 2008;
  - Approved the establishment of two new limited-term positions with duties corresponding to the current classification of Intermediate Clerical Assistant, assigned to Food Service, varied part-time hours, effective Aug. 25, 2008 through Nov. 1, 2008;
  - Approved the establishment of one new position, eight hours per day, 12 months per year, with duties as specified, effective Aug. 21, 2008;
  - Reviewed the proposed 2008-09 Downey Adult School Course of Study;
  - Approved the schedule for elementary bus stops for the 2008-09 school year;
  - Reviewed the proposed revisions to BP 4110.1 and BP 5210 (Affirmative Action Program); AR 4113 (Certification requirement); AR 4116 (Permanent Classification); AR 4119 (Separation Policy); MAR 4162 and AR 4162 (Personal Necessity Leave); and the proposed deletion of BP 4138 and AR 4138 (Employees' Suggestion Plan).
  - Approved the temporary suspension of Article VII Part A with the Downey Education Association for the 2008-09 school year;
  - Approved the Memorandum of Understanding decreasing the PAR Panel annual stipend from \$1,250 to \$1,000; and
  - Endorsed the actions taken by the Superintendent on student cases.
- The next regular meeting of the Board will be held at 5 p.m. on Sept. 16 at the Gallegos Administration Center, 11627 Brookshire Ave.

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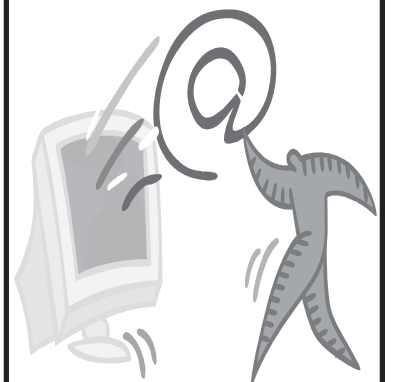
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## Out for Lunch

By Eric Pierce

When the Nordic Fox restaurant closes -- presumably for good -- this weekend due to slumping sales, with it will go a multitude of memories.

Nordic Fox was this newspaper's favorite location to conduct interviews; the restaurant was roomy, quiet and always safe.

Maybe a little *too* quiet and a little *too* roomy, as it turns out.

The Nordic Fox was a favorite hangout of my old editor, John Adams. He particularly liked the breakfast. For a couple years his morning ritual included a T-bone steak and eggs at Nordic Fox, with the morning newspaper spread out in front of him.

The staff at Nordic Fox treated him well there, and when John's health and mobility skills faltered with age, they made sure he was always well-fed.

They treated John like a guest, not a burden. And for that I thank them.

Today, John is enjoying his retirement and doesn't do much writing anymore. But if he did, I know he would use this space to thank the Nordic Fox for their commitment to the community and genuine hospitality.

Good luck to all of them.

I think the new mansion on Lubec Street is gaudy, out of place and disproportionate with the neighborhood. And if I had the money to build such a place, I would rather buy or build my house by the beach.

## Letters to the Editor:

### Memories of Nordic Fox

Dear Editor:

This is a thank you to Nordic Fox for the type of service that they have given to a population of Downey. ("Nordic Fox Closing Its Doors," 8/22/08)

A group from our church has eaten lunch there for years but the real thank you goes to their service to folks at the evening meal. It is truly a "Cheers" for many folks living alone, unable or unwilling to prepare meals on their own and who have difficulty entering restaurants with their walkers, etc.

Lots of folks have met there in the evening for fellowship and nourishment. This service will be sorely missed by those who have developed friendships there.

I sincerely wish well to Jane, Joe and Mary in their future life.

— **Jean C. Tuohino,**

Downey

### Al Sanada mourned

Dear Editor:

I wish the obituary for Al Sanada would have come out sooner so I could have attended the funeral ("Salsa Artist, Band Leader Al Sanada Dies," 8/22/08). Please pass my condolences to the family if possible.

Al found me and two other friends from Warren High School and we played in his band for a few years before we went to college. It was truly an experience of a lifetime and I am so grateful to him for having given us that opportunity. My friends and I still talk about the numerous gigs we played and how much of a blast we had.

Al always took us to Johnnie's Broiler after the gigs and treated us really well. We will always have fond memories of him.

— **Patrick Zaw,**

Downey

### Boycott not the answer

Dear Editor:

So, we're all supposed to boycott the film "Tropic Thunder" because of the socially offensive word "retard"? Does this mean that if we're not guilty into boycotting this movie, then we are indirectly calling people retarded and supporting people who call people retarded?

While we're at it, we better remove the word "fat" from all food packages. Overweight people might become offended when we speak of fat content and ask us to boycott all food with the word "fat" on the packaging.

I empathize strongly with the offense taken. I think name-calling of any kind is horrid. But why not spend the energy boycotting movies with a plethora of vulgar, socially offensive words like the "F" word, "all the various "S" words, the "C" word, the "B" word, the "W" word, and the various forms of the "A" word for which there is no redeeming value in the English language and no other use but as a crass replacement for an actual word.

I am mortified that people would use any word to refer to someone in a hurtful manner, but that speaks to the lack of character in that person, not to the word itself. And that lack of character can not be restored by boycotting a movie.

— **S. Courtney,**

Downey

## Arthritis sufferers deserve safe options

CONTRIBUTED BY KAREN VICARI

Roughly 70 million Americans suffer from arthritis. With more than 100 forms, it's one of the most common chronic health problems in the nation. And it doesn't just afflict the old -- two-thirds of those with arthritis are under the age of 65, including 300,000 children. In fact, no other disease or condition causes more disability among Americans over the age of 15.

Arthritis patients like me are desperate for help. And while there is currently no cure, there are a few highly-effective treatments that significantly improve quality of life. The most promising of these are a class of drugs called biologics. Biologics are successfully treating cancer, Crohn's disease, multiple sclerosis, and other ailments that used to be untreatable. And they hold enormous potential for vanquishing other diseases in the future.

For those of us who live with the chronic pain and fatigue of arthritis, biologics are a small miracle. But they are not inexpensive or easy to make.

Because they're manufactured from intricate compounds like proteins, biologics are far more complex than the small-molecule drugs that doctors typically prescribe. And unlike conventional drugs, biologics aren't cooked up in a lab using breakers and common chemicals -- they're grown in living organisms, such as plant or animal cells.

Biologics are so complicated that they cannot be copied identically. With so many atoms comprising each molecule of a biologic, the potential for structural deviations within a batch of biologics is great. For example, it's not uncommon for arthritis sufferers to notice mild differences in each dose of their particular biologic -- even though every dose is technically the same.

To help drive down healthcare costs, there is a push to allow the sale of cheaper, similar versions of brand-name biologics, called "follow-ons." While this is a great idea, it is imperative that policymakers move forward with care so that millions of patients are not put at risk.

The biologic that I currently take has been approved by the FDA after years of independent safety testing. Yet some of the proposals to regulate follow-on biologics require no independent safety testing of the new product. This could have disastrous consequences.

If two doses of a branded biologic can have a notable difference in their effectiveness, imagine how big the variations could be among follow-ons, which could be made in an entirely different manner from the original.

For those who rely on biologics, the thought of taking an imprecise or untested follow-on can be frightening. Any small change in a biologic could dramatically affect an already compromised immune system, thus putting a patient at risk for disability or worse.

In addition, some current proposals would legally classify follow-on biologics as "interchangeable" with the originals. Insurers would likely cover only follow-ons, since they will likely be cheaper than the originals.

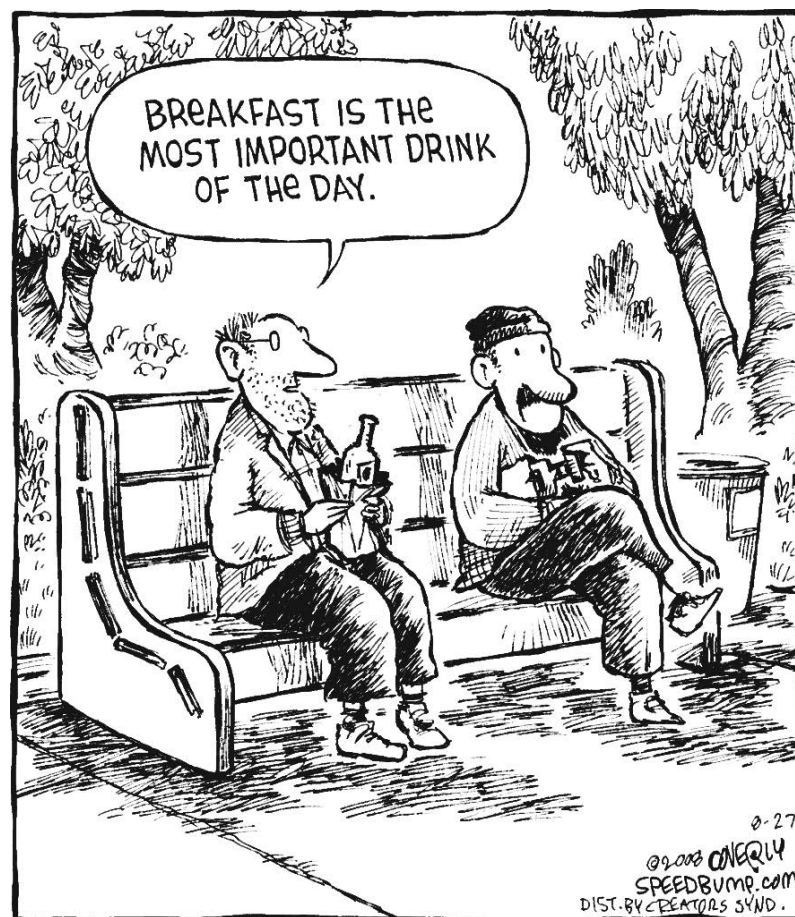
When it comes to medicine, one size does not fit all. If a person does not respond to a follow-on biologic, he or she should not be denied access to the product which has been proven to work. This is especially important for arthritis patients as delays in taking an effective medication can cause serious problems.

Of course, that doesn't mean Washington should ban follow-ons. They could be just as useful and cost effective as generic versions of conventional pharmaceuticals.

But it's critical that Congress establish a regulatory framework for follow-ons that puts patient safety first by requiring them to be tested for safety and effectiveness. Further, lawmakers should establish coverage guidelines for insurers so that patients aren't denied effective treatments because of cost considerations.

Biologics have been a small miracle for those of us suffering from arthritis, allowing us to enjoy our lives without agonizing pain. By instituting sensible regulations for follow-on biologics that puts patient safety first, lawmakers would preserve the promise of biologics for arthritis patients -- and for the millions of others with diseases that could be treated or even cured by biologics.

Karen Vicari is executive director of Cure Arthritis Now!, a nonprofit arthritis advocacy organization.



## AARP helping eligible seniors

**DOWNEY** -- AARP volunteers are providing free homeowners and renters assistance at the Barbara J. Riley Community and Senior Center to eligible seniors.

To be eligible, seniors must be at least 62 years old and be blind or disabled, and must have owned and occupied a home on Dec. 31 of last year, or paid at least \$50 rent each month. The total household income must also be less than \$44,096.

The services are offered on Mondays and Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to noon. No appointments are necessary.

Seniors should bring proof of age or disability, a property tax bill (if a homeowner), claim form, federal and state tax records, and other income records.

For more information, call (562) 904-7223.

## Church car show planned in Long Beach

**LONG BEACH** -- Los Altos United Methodist Church in Long Beach will host its second annual Vintage Car Show on Oct. 5.

Viewing time begins at 9:30 a.m. following worship service and continues to 3 p.m. in the church parking lot at Woodruff Avenue and Willow Street. Admission is free.

Vintage car owners can their cars, motorcycles, and bicycles for \$20 before Sept. 2. The fee jumps to \$25 after that date.

Registration forms are available online at <http://laumc.com> or by calling (562) 598-2451.

Proceeds from the car show will benefit the Los Altos United Methodist Church Homeless Task Force, which helps feed homeless people in Long Beach.

## Conductor giving concert preview

**WHITTIER** -- Internationally recognized operatic and symphony conductor Dr. Brian Asher Alhadeff will be the speaker at the first concert preview of the season sponsored by the Rio Hondo Symphony Guild on Sept. 26.

The preview will begin at 10 a.m. at the First Friends Church, 13205 Philadelphia St., in Whittier.

Alhadeff will talk about the program he has put together, "Symphonic Landscapes," which he will conduct with the Rio Hondo Symphony on Sept. 28 at the Whittier High School auditorium. The program will feature music by Rachmaninoff and Dvorak.

Both the preview and concert are free to the public. For more information, call (562) 693-5516.

## Proposal would hurt endangered species

CONTRIBUTED BY SHARON GUYNUP

No more bald eagles? Sea turtles? Peregrine falcons? Manatees? That could be the legacy our children inherit if an aggressive, back-door overhaul of America's wildlife protections is rammed through by the Bush administration.

With Congress on August recess, the administration has sneaked a fast-track proposal into the Federal Register that will gut the 35-year-old Endangered Species Act (ESA) -- changes it has been unable to push through Congress. Three years ago, a Republican-led House bill reforming the Act died in the Senate.

The administration has also gagged public opinion on the matter, offering an extremely brief 30-day public comment period and no public hearings. The changes do not require Congressional approval, and could go into effect before November's presidential election.

The new rule will eliminate mandatory scientific review by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), agencies charged with preventing the extinction of 1,353 U.S. plant and animal species currently listed as threatened or endangered. These agencies oversaw more than 300,000 such scientific reviews between 1998 and 2002.

Under the new plan, the federal agency in charge of a building project -- be it a new dam, mine, highway, offshore drilling operation or other federally-funded or federally-approved construction project -- will decide whether that project poses dangers to already-imperiled species, or requires input from wildlife scientists.

Suppose there's a proposal before the U.S. Minerals Management Service (MMS) to drill for natural gas near a national park that is home, say, to an ESA listed species like the grizzly bear. Under the new rule, MMS geologists and fossil fuel specialists would evaluate ecological impacts and be permitted to green-light the drilling.

Would you consult your accountant if you were having a heart attack? The administration argues that agency experts with absolutely no background in wildlife or botany are qualified to make these often complex calls regarding plants and animals already teetering on the brink.

The rule would also allow a return to pre-ESA tactics, when agencies carved huge construction projects (such as roads) into multiple small projects that focuses analysis on immediate local impacts, never considering any overall harmful ecological consequences.

Proposed changes also state that if Fish and Wildlife or National Marine Fisheries scientists cannot reach a decision on a construction project within 60 days, work can move forward without further study. This timeline is virtually impossible for these severely under-funded, under-

staffed agencies, especially for projects requiring serious scientific research.

This attack on the Endangered Species Act, announced in the dead of August, has been given one of the shortest public comment periods of any environmental issue. The Interior Department is not allowing any e-mailed or faxed comments, nor are they holding public hearings. In contrast: Clinton's roadless rule regulating new road-building in national forests was given two years of public hearings and massed 1.6 million comments. Public opinion polls show that Americans overwhelmingly support wildlife conservation.

The administration's proposed ESA rule was drafted, says Interior Secretary Dirk Kempthorne, to prevent the act from being "used as a back door" to regulate the greenhouse gasses (GHGs) that cause global warming. (In May, the polar bear became the first species listed as threatened because of climate change.) The rule would prohibit federal agencies from assessing the effects of a project's GHG emissions on species or habitats.

What the administration is really proposing is the elimination of ESA's checks and balances, whereby wildlife scientists ensure that taxpayer-financed construction projects, and projects on land taxpayers own, do not harm threatened or endangered species. This system has fostered dramatic recoveries of big horn sheep, whooping cranes, grizzly bears, and other species, and prevented our national symbol, the bald eagle, from going the way of the dodo.

Sen. Barack Obama has stated that he would toss out the ruling if he wins the White House. Sen. John McCain had no comment, a hint that if elected he would let the ruling stand, especially considering his rating of just 27.8 out of a possible 100 given by the League of Conservation Voters on his environmental voting performance from 2003 to 2007.

Congress could over-ride the rule in the fall appropriations bill, or could overturn it through legislation. But it's smarter to stop the rule making now rather than fighting it later -- though a loud public outcry is needed (you can contact your representatives, or send comments to [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) and by snail-mail).

The administration should scrap the proposed ESA changes, but if they move forward, then it is imperative that they lengthen the public comment period to at least six months, open it to e-mails and faxes, and institute public hearings. Our wild heritage deserves protections based on sound science and democratic principles, not on political concerns.

Sharon Guynup's first book is titled, "State of the Wild 2006: A Global Portrait of Wildlife, Wildlands, and Oceans." She writes on science and the environment for national magazines and Web sites.

## The Downey Patriot

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8301 E. Florence Ave., Suite 100, Downey, CA 90240 | [www.thedowneypatriot.com](http://www.thedowneypatriot.com)

The Downey Patriot is published weekly by Jennifer DeKay-Givens. Controlled Distribution, 25,000 copies printed. Distributed by Great Western Advertising Distributors, Inc., Los Angeles, CA.

## SPEED BUMP



## DAVE COVERLY



## Downey Community Calendar

### Events For August/September

Sun. Aug. 31: **Joint Worship Service**, Messiah Lutheran Church, 9:30 a.m.  
 Sat. Sept. 6: **E-waste Roundup**, L.A. County Office of Education, 9 a.m.  
 Mon. Sept. 8: **Woman's Club Trip to Pechanga**, Woman's Clubhouse, 8 a.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-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.: **After-Care 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 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...

**August 29, 1936:** Arizona senator and presumptive Republican presidential nominee John McCain is born. Also born Aug. 29: Elliot Gould (70), Robin Leach (67), and Michael Jackson (50).  
**1944:** American troops celebrate the French liberation from the Nazis as they march down the Champ Elysees in Paris.  
**1957:** Sen. Strom Thurmond ends the longest filibuster in Senate history. Thurmond spoke for 24 hours, 18 minutes against the Civil Rights Act of 1957, a voting rights bill for African-Americans.  
**1966:** The Beatles perform their last concert, a performance at San Francisco's Candlestick Park.  
**2000:** Pope John Paul II announces his endorsement of organ donation and adult stem cell research.  
**2005:** Hurrican Katrina hits the Louisiana coast.

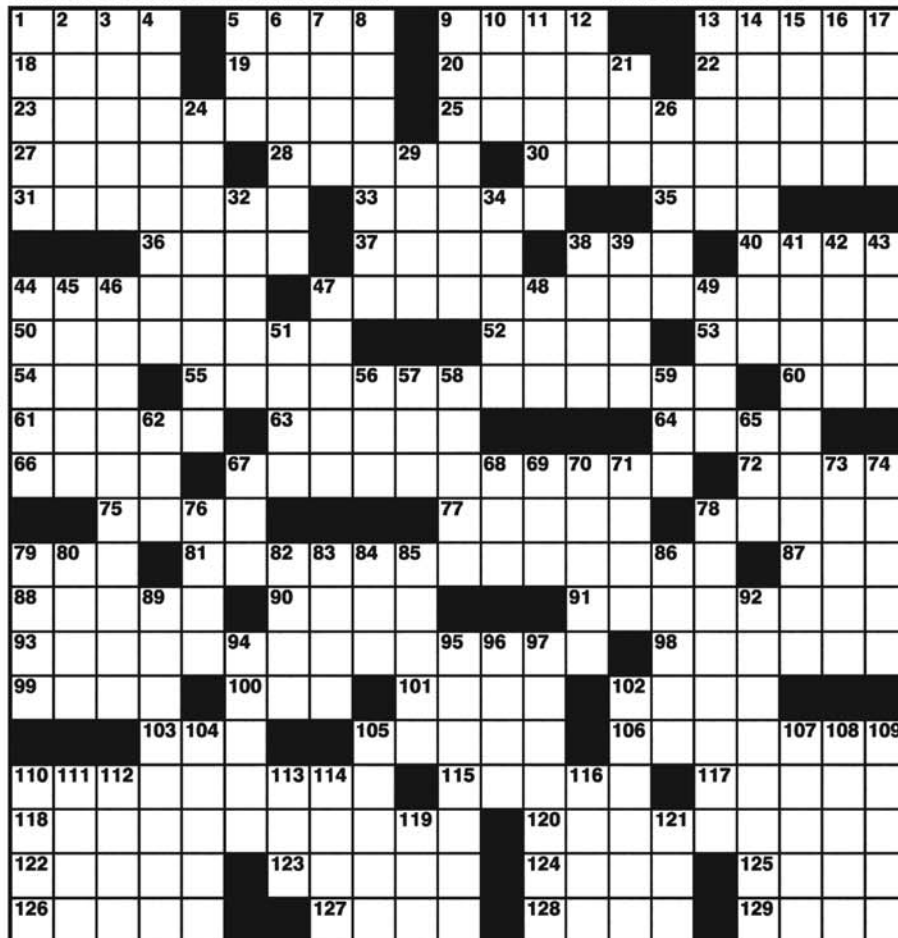
## THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com)

**EXISTENTIALISM: Verbal wordplay**  
by Randolph Ross

- ACROSS**
- 1 Fish holder
  - 5 Soy product
  - 9 Mariner's concern
  - 13 Jazz singer Mercer
  - 18 Garfield's foil
  - 19 Impasse
  - 20 Sharp
  - 22 "Well, \_\_\_!"
  - 23 Have very successful children?
  - 25 Washed up?
  - 27 Hebrew letter
  - 28 Fall, to Ferdinand
  - 30 Do some informal polling
  - 31 Rhyming triplets
  - 33 Shake awake
  - 35 \_\_\_ Studies (HS class)
  - 36 Plains tribe
  - 37 Hacienda room
  - 38 George Smiley, e.g.
  - 40 Help, as a hood
  - 44 Awakened spiritually
  - 47 In back of the barracks?
  - 50 Youngman specialty
  - 52 Wilson predecessor
  - 53 Chicago Oscar role
  - 54 What MPH measures
  - 55 Trouble a Broadway production?
  - 60 Alpine river
  - 61 Undermine
  - 63 Shea Stadium mascot
  - 64 Graceful galloper
  - 66 T. \_\_\_ Price (investment firm)
  - 67 Where Allen stood while performing?
  - 72 Mystery writer Macdonald
  - 75 Soft cheese
  - 77 Yemeni capital
  - 78 Walk proudly
  - 79 "turn up the heat!"
  - 81 Gaze upon a stronghold?
  - 87 "In excelsis \_\_\_"
  - 88 Wisher's words
  - 90 Medicinal plant
  - 91 Something to remember
  - 93 Captivate the AMA?
  - 98 Worn at the edges
  - 99 Diamond corner
  - 100 Suffers from
  - 101 "Here comes trouble!"
  - 102 Half of Brangelina
  - 103 IRS employee
  - 105 Adjusts, as sails
  - 106 No less than
  - 110 Theater section
  - 115 Thin-sounding
  - 117 Submit tax forms electronically
  - 118 Put down scout excursions?
  - 120 When dinosaurs roamed the Earth?
  - 122 River to the Bay of Biscay
  - 123 Reviewer from Chicago
  - 124 Org. led by Peter Ueberroth
  - 125 House overhang
  - 126 TAs and RAs
  - 127 Round Table knights
  - 128 Gossip
  - 129 Dele's opposite
- DOWN**
- 1 Go \_\_\_ for (help)
  - 2 Die Fledermaus maid
  - 3 Burkina Faso neighbor
  - 4 Remain calm
  - 5 Sticky stuff
  - 6 Slothful
  - 7 True thing
  - 8 Defeat, in a joust
  - 9 Mideast salad
  - 10 Water cooler
  - 11 Ticket
  - 12 H H H
  - 13 Film starter
  - 14 Ration out
  - 15 Semi-soft cheese
  - 16 Abba of Israel
  - 17 Do banking work
  - 21 JFK's kid brother
  - 24 Cleveland baseballers, familiarly
  - 26 Cinch course
  - 29 Ham's father
  - 32 Metric heavy weight
  - 34 "A votre \_\_\_"
  - 38 Carpet-store meas. "\_\_\_ sock in it!"
  - 41 Perfect time to be a nag?
  - 42 Cope Book aunt
  - 43 Put down scout excursions?
  - 44 Alexander
  - 45 Nomad
  - 46 Where eyes are found?
  - 47 Joel Chandler Harris characters
  - 48 Law & Order characters
  - 49 KOA customer
  - 51 Salinger girl
  - 56 Pa. plant in '79 news
  - 57 Turner of CNN
  - 58 Explosive experiment
  - 59 Nitrous oxide, for one
  - 62 German article
  - 65 Illustrations
  - 67 Quilters' gathering
  - 68 Dickensian expletive
  - 69 French equivalent of 62 Down
  - 70 Scads
  - 71 Sodium hydroxide, symbolically
  - 73 Guys and Dolls tune
  - 74 Lost one's lap
  - 76 Skeptic's challenge
  - 78 Something amazing
  - 79 Variety of lettuce
  - 80 Ostrich relative
  - 82 Gag reaction
  - 83 Erstwhile GM division
  - 84 Card game
  - 85 Furnishings
  - 86 Adapt for new uses
  - 89 Annual-report diagram
  - 92 Consequences for tardiness
  - 94 Lincoln treasury secretary
  - 95 Cravings
  - 96 Treater's comment
  - 97 Future flower
  - 102 Fund
  - 104 Sampras et al.
  - 105 Sulu on Star Trek
  - 107 Draw a bead on
  - 108 Work too hard
  - 109 Basic principle
  - 110 "\_\_\_-di..."(start of a Beatles lyric)
  - 111 Classic cars
  - 112 Sportscaster Collinsworth
  - 113 Word ignored in indexing
  - 114 Teases
  - 116 Lucie's dad
  - 119 Goof
  - 121 UN Day month

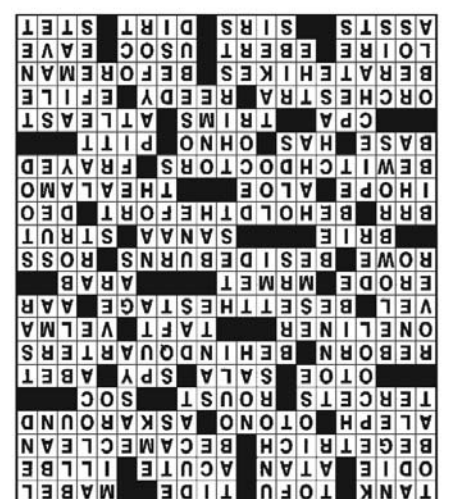
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- 73 Guys and Dolls tune
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You can contact puzzle editor Stanley Newman at his e-mail address: StanXwords@aol.com. Or write him at P.O. Box 69, Massapequa Park, NY 11762, Please send a self-addressed,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

OTONO (28 Across) is the Spanish word for "autumn," "Brangelina" (102 Across) is the media nickname for celebrity couple Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie. Former baseball commissioner Peter Ueberroth is the current chairman of the USOC (124 Across), or United States Olympic Committee.



# DOWNEY BUSINESS REVIEW

ADVERTISING SUPPLEMENT

Each year at The Downey Patriot we like to give Downey Business owners a chance to tell us who they are in their own words. This year's Downey Business Review acquaints us with 11 of Downey's finest businesses.



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## Miller-Mies Mortuary

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## Ortega Group Real Estate & Finance

Ortega Group Real Estate & Finance is a family owned real estate brokerage which has been in business for a little over a year. Broker, Luz Ortega has been serving Downey and its surroundings for over 20 years and is excited to have realized her dream of opening her own office. She works closely with husband Rene, who specializes in finance. Her, her son Rene, daughter Vanessa, and daughter-in-law Danielle, work as agents, and comprise the rest of Luz's team. The Ortega's are passionate about working as a family to help other families reach their real estate goals. Ortega Group Real Estate & Finance is located at 10022 Tristan Drive Downey, CA 90241. The team can be reached by phone at **(562)774-7388**.



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## The Rivers Group

The Rivers Group was established 48 years ago (1960) in Huntington Park, CA. Rivers Group is currently located at 8202 Florence Avenue, Suite 100, Downey, CA 90240. It remains a Family Practice. The Group Members are a product of Kansas State University, UCLA and University of California Long Beach. The Group specializes in comprehensive hearing examinations and hearing aid dispensing. Britt Rivers the director is Board Certified in Hearing Instrument Sciences. He remains a member of the Ethics Committee of Hearing HealthCare Providers and chairman of the Grievance Committee of the International Hearing Society. The Rivers Group will accept most insurance programs and remain providers for : Anthem Blue Cross, Pers Care, Alliance Physicians Medical Group, Progressive Medical Group, and others



Established in 1956, Rose Cleaners has been servicing the Downey Community and surrounding area for 52 years. This family-owned and operated cleaner operates its own plant, and prides itself on quality service and integrity. The last of the old-tyme cleaners with all the modern touches, Rose makes it a point to make their customers feel good about patronizing the business and being part of the family. They are located at 10033 Paramount Blvd. #D (South of Vons Market) they can be reached at **(562) 928-2911**.

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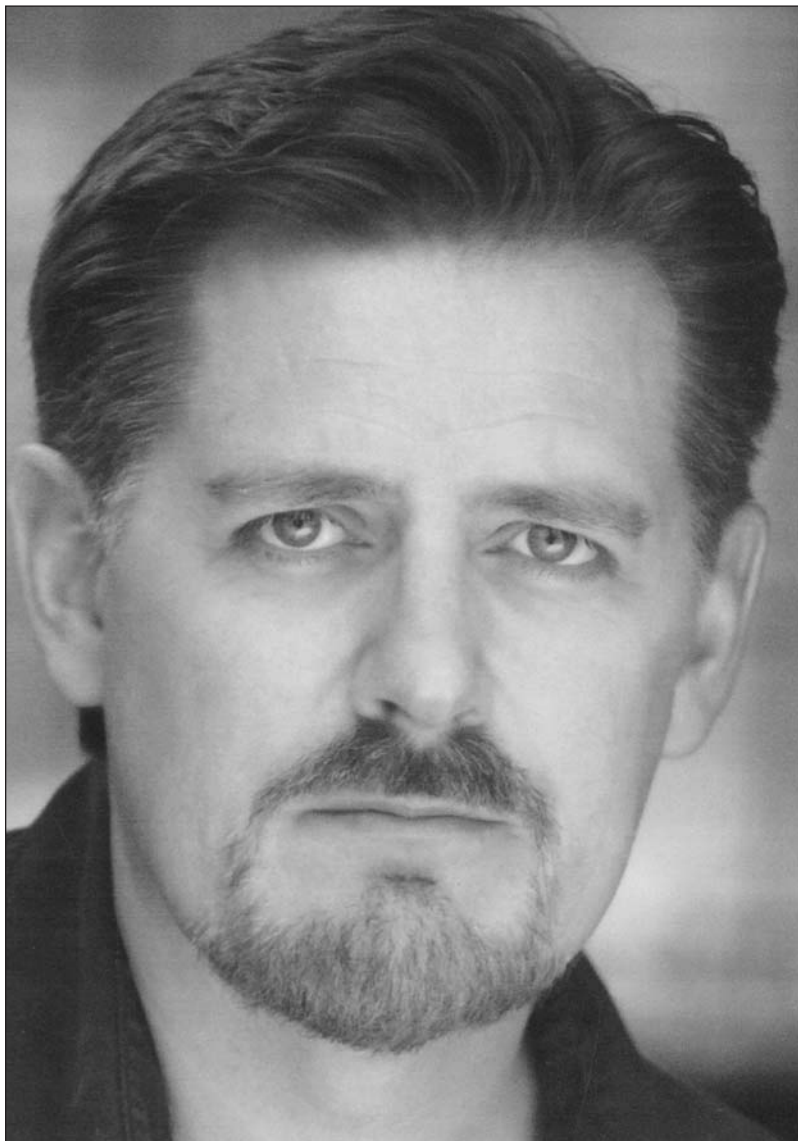
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Gregory North returns to star a second time at the Downey Civic Light Opera as Emile De Becque in "South Pacific," playing Oct. 2-19 at the Downey Theatre. North appeared on Broadway in "Into the Woods," "The Secret Garden," and "Grand Hotel." On television, he could be seen on "Frasier," "ER," "Malcolm in the Middle" and "Law & Order." For tickets and information for "South Pacific," call (562) 923-1714.

## Downey in Action:

### Bocce Ball Club of Downey

BY SCOTT COBOS, STAFF WRITER

A way from the eyes of mainstream sports exists a club hidden deep at Apollo Park. While it is a simple game, there is no doubt about the competition and camaraderie that occurs weekly.

Bocce ball is the game, and those who play it have an obvious passion for it. Not only does the game give these folks who play it a reason to get outdoors and get some exercise, but the friends that are made in the process are priceless. All this and more is offered with the Bocce Ball Club of Downey.

The game is simple and very similar to lawn bowling. Matches are played to 12 points in this club with teams normally having four people.

Both teams are broken up into two and two and sent to opposite ends of a surface that resembles a bowling alley with walls.

Two balls a person are thrown per round down the lane per turn. In the middle of the lane there is a line where a small ball called the pallina must be rolled past.

After the pallina has been cast, the first team then rolls their first and second boccia, or their first and second ball to as close as possible to the pallina.

The next team will then throw their next two balls. If the second team manages to get their first tosses closer to the ball than the first team, the first team then rolls next. If not, then the second team rolls their last two balls with the first team following up with their last two rolls.

After all balls have been cast, the team who has their ball closest to the pallina is awarded one point with one additional point for every other ball that is closer to the opposing team's closest ball.

The scores are totaled up and then the balls are given to the opposite side to start the new round.

The Bocce Ball Club of Downey has been around for more than 20 years and continues to go strong. Members while playing will converse with teammates and tease and jeer opposing players even though they're all good friends.

The group is separated into two different clubs, one being the women's division and the other being the men's division.

"We're all here to just have fun," said women's president Maria Puch who made sure to emphasize the friendships that were built around this club.

The club is always looking to expand in both divisions and offers a very cheap fee for an entire year. To join the women, it costs \$5 a year and anyone who has an interest in the game can join.

If you want to join the men's division, club fees can run \$25 a year with the same rules applying as far as who can join.

Women meet on Wednesdays at 1 p.m. at Apollo Park behind the Barbara J. Riley Community & Senior Center.

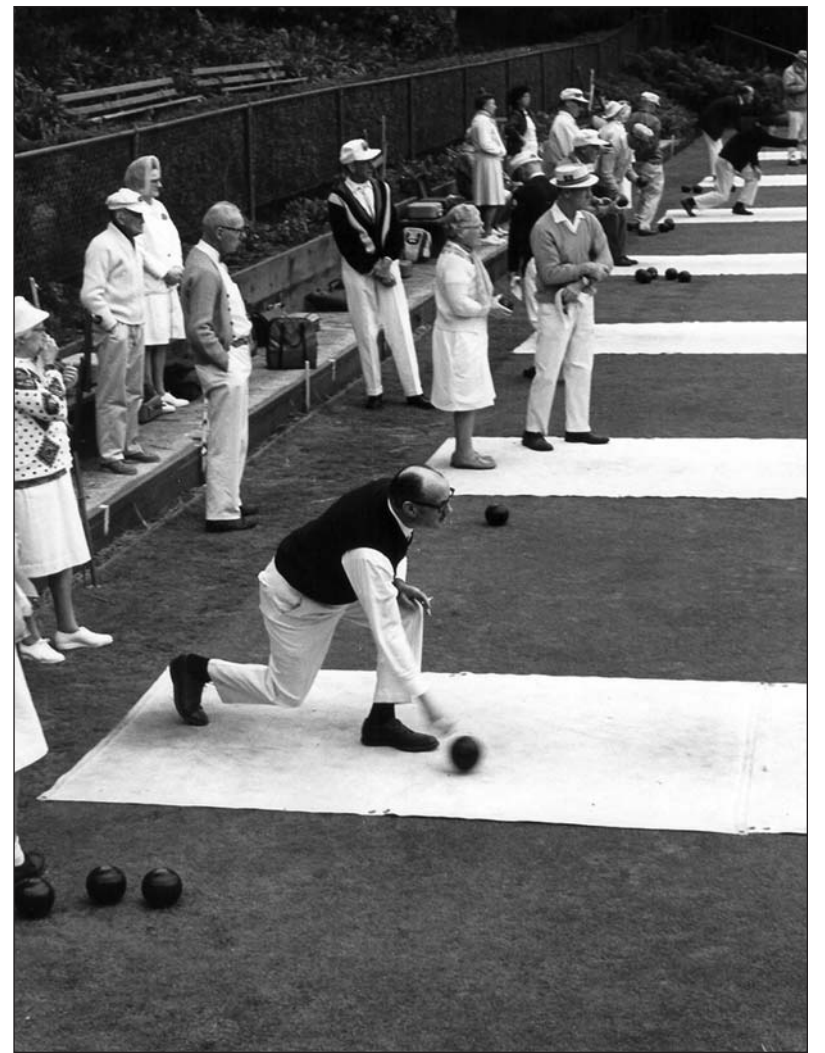
Obviously a very energetic group of women, they normally play for about an hour and a half, but don't put a time limit on how long they will be there.

For these ladies, it's all about having fun, enjoying the fresh air and talking with their fellow members.

The game for the ladies extends outside the game lanes and makes its way into a more social setting. Sometimes the ladies will meet for lunch and participate in other activities just to have fun and be in the company of friends.

Currently there are about 12 women in the ladies division who play every week and they're always looking for new members to come out.

The women are most excited about the game because it can be com-



Bocce ball is a precision sport played around the world. The Bocce Ball Club of Downey enjoys the game throughout the week at Apollo Park. The photo above was taken at a bocce ball tournament in San Francisco during the 1970's. Photo courtesy Flickr member km6xo

petitive if you make it that way, but it can also be a very pleasant game.

The men's division is different from the women's in many areas. First, they meet twice a week at the same place as the women and take the game in a slightly different direction.

While most of the same trends such as friendship and having fun do take place, the game is played with a higher intensity and competitive spirit.

The men meet on Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 10 a.m. and have been known to play all day. The men also play in tournaments against other clubs from other cities and have been known to travel all over California to play in matches.

There are approximately 25 men in their respective division who travel to cities like San Diego and Poway to play in these tournaments.

The club also holds meetings once or twice a month to discuss the advancement of the club. Among the other bocce ball details discussed, plans like holding tournaments, preparing a club picnic or having a Christmas party are chatted about.

For more information on the club, you can show up to any of the days they meet to play or you can visit Apollo Park's community center and pick up a brochure with more information.

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DEATH RACE R	(11:20 2:00 4:40 7:20 10:00)
THE LONGSHOTS PG	(10:05 12:35 3:05 5:35 8:05 10:35)
THE ROCKER PG-13	(12:00 2:35 5:10 7:45 10:20)
FLY ME TO THE MOON 3D G	(10:20 12:50 3:20 5:45 8:10 10:40)
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**LONG BEACH** - "How the Other Half Loves," a comedic farce by Alan Ayckbourn, opens this weekend at the Long Beach Playhouse Studio Theatre.

Set in 1971, "How the Other Half Loves" juggles time and space to present the lives and loves, passion and panic of three married couples.

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**TRAITOR** PG-13 (11:05, 1:50, 5:00), 7:55, 10:45

**DEATH RACE** R (11:20, 1:55, 4:40), 7:40, 10:20

**THE HOUSE BUNNY** PG-13 (11:30, 2:10, 4:45), 7:15, 9:45

**THE ROCKER** PG-13 (11:35, 2:20, 4:55), 7:35, 10:10

**FLY ME TO THE MOON 3-D (DIGITAL 3DX)** G (11:00, 1:05, 3:10, 5:15), 7:20, 9:30

**TROPIC THUNDER** R (11:10, 1:45, 4:35), 7:25, 10:05

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# First-year coach Benadom not sure what to expect

BY SCOTT COBOS, STAFF WRITER

**DOWNEY** – It's a process, according to first-year-football head coach Chris Benadom when asked about his young football team. With only seven more days to go before the start of the regular season, the Warren Bears are looking to replicate – if not improve – their season from last year.

The Bears were 6-5 overall last year and 3-2 in league, which put them in third place, just edging out Downey High School for the final spot in last year's CIF playoffs.

The Bears were knocked out in the first round by a very tough Palmdale team that ended up scoring over 30 points on what was a very good Warren defense. Warren has not been to the second round of the playoffs for some time now and hopes to reach that goal this year.

Realistically speaking though, Benadom has stuck to his guns when it comes to his opinion on his team for this season.

"We're young," he said. "We're still learning and we really won't know what we have until we've played our first game."

While that may be true, Benadom has said he expects his team to come out competitive in the season opener Sept. 5 versus Bellflower and expects to continue what he calls the "Jeff Welch tradition of winning."

Welch stepped down as head coach last year after saying he was going back to help his wife with the expansion of a preschool the couple owns, but he continues to participate in the program in a lesser role, and is head coach for the freshman team.

### Expectations

The 6-4 record is what Benadom wants his team to finish with at the end of the season, but he hopes his team can bypass that mark.

There are vacancies that need to be tended to on the team, but Benadom will have a returning cast including key offensive weapons to help his cause.

Offensively, he'll have young upcoming running back Jesse Callier returning, hoping to top his breakout season from last year. Callier replaced starting running back Nate Colbert last year when Colbert suffered a season ending injury.

The opportunity forged Callier, a once described "raw talent," into a legitimate running threat who compiled 1,053 rushing yards, ranking him third in the San Gabriel Valley League.

Callier will be flanked on the sidelines by wide receiver Bailey Cowins, who looks to head a core that will be new targets to Warren's young quarterback, Sam Bettencourt.

Bettencourt will be taking the snaps as starting quarterback for the Bears and will do his best imitation of last year's quarterback Alfonso Gonzalez. Gonzalez last year never put up gaudy passing numbers but helped Callier's cause in the backfield by commanding an efficient passing game.

In this offense, Bettencourt is expected to do much of the same. Warren's offense won't change any, according to Benadom, who has plenty of experience in this system after being the assistant head coach last year.

"It's the same ol' Warren Bear offense we've been running," he said, explaining how his team will continue to be a run-first-pass-later scoring unit.

Defensively, some of the young kids are a year older and wiser and will be expected to help fill the gaps that were left by the graduated seniors. Benadom still insists that they won't know anything until after the first game as far as the progress the unit has been making.

One thing will remain constant. Warren continues to be a quick, hard-hitting team defensively, as demonstrated at one of their recent practices where there was an emphasis on tackling technique with a surplus of full-contact drills.

Warren looks to perform well this season and place high in the San Gabriel Valley League, with some people even whispering possibilities of a Dominguez and/or Gahr upset. Benadom maintains his composure and keeps a level head.

"We're still very young and there's still a lot of learning to be done," Benadom said.

Warren travels to Bellflower next week to play their first game. Game time is 7 p.m.



The Downey Ball Hogs branched off the DJAA and operates through private sponsorships.

# Ball Hogs not a team to be ignored

BY SCOTT COBOS, STAFF WRITER

**DOWNEY** – Downey Ball Hogs head coach Carl Johnson wants to set the record straight: the Downey Youth Basketball Hoopsters are *not* the only youth basketball traveling team in the city.

In fact, while the Hoopsters are just now starting, the Ball Hogs have been around for a year. According to Johnson, they have tried to play the Hoopsters but have so far been rebuffed.

In that year's time Johnson has been able to put together what he believes to be some of the best talent in the city of Downey. Not only the best talent, but some of the brightest kids as well.

Comprised of only Downey residents, the Ball Hogs have been together since Dec. 2007 and have been playing and winning tournaments for as long.

The Ball Hogs include four different age groups that include 11 through 14-year-old kids; younger if their skills are up to par. The team currently has a cumulative grade point average of over 3.4, according to Johnson.

Johnson also said there are plans on building a development league for youngsters who want to play for the team but aren't yet ready for travel ball.

"We really don't want to turn any kids away," said Johnson. "We want to give kids an opportunity to play. If they aren't ready for travel ball though, this will be good for them."

The team originated from DJAA and stays afloat through donations from different private benefactors. The Rotary Club of Downey has even been mentioned as a potential sponsor, according to Johnson.

The team plays in at least two tournaments every month, with a handful of shootouts as well.

The Ball Hogs make their home at Warren High School and hope to start holding their own tournaments at the school.

Warren head basketball coach Brent Willis was generous enough to give the team nearly full access to all of the school's facilities and equipment, and has even appeared at a couple practices to help teach basketball fundamentals.

The coaching has apparently helped as the team has been ranked as high as No. 8 in the nation for youth travel basketball teams. In the Ball Hogs' last tournament, the 11U team took third place in its bracket while the 12U team took second.

Kids are always more than welcome to come join the family as they hold open tryouts every Wednesday and Friday at Warren's gym.

The Ball Hogs will defend their championship in the Triple Threat Back to School Fall Classic in San Diego this weekend.

## Hoopsters win tournament title

**DOWNEY** – The Downey Youth Basketball Hoopsters were able to go undefeated winning all four of their games last weekend in San Diego, securing the championship in the National Junior Basketball Summer Classic.

In their first game of the tournament, the Hoopsters blew out San Diego PBC by 20 points, 64-44, they struggled against the South Bay Suns before coming out on top, 52-49.

The team quickly rebounded to blow out the Bakersfield Prodigy by 29 points, 63-34. They brought home the championship by beating Chino Valley, 59-49.

– Scott Cobos



## Elect Gary DeRemer

I have operated a successful business for 20 years, I know how important holding to a budget is to being successful. I have lived in Downey for 33 years. I have no special allegiance, except to you the voter, I am a candidate with no past involvements that would effect my decisions as a Council Member.

- ✓ I believe in term limits!
- ✓ I believe it is important to properly enforce existing laws and city codes.
- ✓ I believe it is important to provide an environment that will encourage new businesses to want to be in Downey.
- ✓ I believe in local control of our Police and Fire Departments.

**My Community Service** is devoted to: Downey Rotary, Downey Rose Float Assoc., Downey Chamber of Commerce, Downey PTA, Relay for Life, Downey Soroptimist, Downey Sister Cities Assoc., ARC, DARE, Downey & Warren Football programs, Gangs Out of Downey (GOOD)

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### Contact Me:

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Joseph Morelli would build models of cars and rocking horses to be raffled off for charity. He died Aug. 24.

## Joseph Morelli passes away at Norwalk home

**DOWNEY** – Joseph Morelli, 79, died Aug. 24 at his home in Norwalk. He was an employee of Alloy Die Casting for 40 years. In his spare time, he constructed models of cars and rocking horses, many of which were auctioned off in Nebraska for the Hecht Family Fund. He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Alta Clawson-Morelli of Curtis, Nebr.; son Nick Morelli; sisters Rosie Sutherland, Sara Plamero, Mamie Corbo, Mary Ann Weidman and Rosie Sutherland, all of Southern California; and numerous family members across the nation.



Arthur W. Montroy passed away last week. He would have turned 99 Sept. 9.

## Funeral today for Arthur W. Montroy

**DOWNEY** – Arthur W. Montroy, a Downey resident, passed away Aug. 22. He was 98. He was born in St. Louis, Mo. on Sept. 9, 1909 to William and Cordelia. Vigil services were held yesterday at Downey Zrelak Family Mortuary Chapel. A funeral Mass is scheduled for today, Aug. 29, at St. Eymdius Catholic Church at 9 a.m. Interment, with military honors, will take place at All Souls Cemetery in Long Beach.



Services for Emma Jean Cook were held yesterday in Riverside. She died Aug. 20 at age 82.

## Emma Jean Cook was longtime resident

**DOWNEY** – Emma Jean Cook, a longtime Downey resident, died Aug. 20 at age 82. She was born in Mena, Ark. on March 12, 1926 to George and Elizabeth Bickle. She is survived by her husband, Don Cook. Services were held yesterday at Riverside National Cemetery. Services were entrusted to Downey Zrelak Family Mortuary. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations in her name to the charity of your choice.

## Charlotte Glendon services Tuesday

**DOWNEY** – Longtime community member Charlotte Virginia Glendon died Sunday in Encinitas. She was 89. She was born Dec. 3, 1918 in Los Angeles. Glendon was a member of the Native Daughters of the Golden West, Huntington Park Women's Club, the Sewing Club of Huntington Park, and the Alumni Committee for Huntington Park High School. She was preceded in death by her husband, Herman Glendon. She is survived by her daughter Charlyne (Alan); grandchildren Sarah Lyons, Matthew Lyons, Aaron (Loretta) Irwin; and great-grandchild Oliver. Services will be held Tuesday at Rose Hills Mortuary at 1 p.m. inside the Memorial Chapel. Interment will follow.

## Joint worship service at Messiah

**DOWNEY** – Messiah Lutheran Church will combine both traditional and contemporary for a single worship service Aug. 31 at 9:30 a.m. A hoagie sandwich luncheon will follow. The community is invited to attend. Messiah Lutheran Church is at 10711 Paramount Blvd.

## Retired teachers meeting Sept. 1


**WHITTIER** – The California Retired Teachers Association (CRTA), Area 8, Division 31, will open its 2008-09 schedule of general meetings for retired teachers and interested community members Sept. 9 at the Greenleaf Masonic Center in Whittier. The meeting will honor all retired teachers with a performance from the Legacy band, who will perform old-time American favorites. The meeting begins at 11 a.m., followed by lunch at noon and the program at 1 p.m. The Greenleaf Masonic Center is at 12001 Beverly Blvd. For more information, call (562) 696-4474.

## City invests in traffic management

**BY HENRY VENERACION, STAFF WRITER**  
**DOWNEY**—The City Council Tuesday authorized Mayor David Gafin to execute an amendment to the 2005 agreement with the county of Los Angeles that originally allocated \$300,000 for the construction of the city's Traffic Management Center (TMC). Downey's TMC tracks vehicular traffic movements and patterns on major city intersections monitored on TV screens. Borrowing heavily from language used by deputy public works director Brian Ragland and deputy director Edwin Norris in their report to the Council, the amendment calls for the development of an interface between TMC and the Information Exchange Network (IEN), a countywide communications system that connects TMCs (including Downey's) from various agencies throughout the county by means of a dedicated data link utilizing existing telephone lines (which increasingly use fiber optics). Its purpose is to share traffic signal system status information among the agencies to allow for improved coordination a) to minimize traffic congestion, b) maximize regional mobility across jurisdictional boundaries, and c) to facilitate clearing roadway incidents. Its geographically centralized location in the Gateway subregion has made Downey an ideal choice to receive an IEN connection to its TMC. This will require the development of a Command Data Interface (CDI) between IEN and the i2 System, the city's TMC system software. Siemens ITS, which is the city's TMC software vendor, has been tapped to develop this CDI under the direct oversight of the city, with the blessing of the county. This has necessitated a change order to the contract with Siemens ITS to develop CDI, pushing the total allocation for the entire project to \$476,000, or an additional \$176,000. The entire cost of the effort will be funded by the county through the subject agreement amendment. In other action, the Council: •After a public hearing adopted a resolution finding the city to be in conformance with the Metropolitan Transportation Authority's (MTA) Congestion Management Program (CMP), which is designed to address the impacts of local growth on the regional transportation network, providing coordination between local land use decisions and the traffic impacts

of those decisions on the network; conformance assures the continued flow to the city of Downey of its allocation of Prop. 111 state gas tax monies, which staff estimates this FY2008-09 to amount to \$685,000; •Accepted and appropriated "Early Learning with Families at your Library" grant funds in the amount of \$21,823 to promote early literacy and Downey City Library services to children 0 to 3 years old and their families; •Received and filed the status report on the moratorium prohibiting the development of new standalone wireless communications facilities; because of two pending applications, an urgency ordinance will be presented for consideration at a public hearing at the next regular Council meeting on Sept. 9; staff is expected to come up with the permanent ordinance and design guidelines at a later date; •Approved and allocated \$14,600 for the purchase of mobile communications equipment, for use by a reserve Fire Department paramedic unit; •Authorized the unscheduled equipment replacement of the Public Works Department radio communication system, caused by the impending incompatibility with the new Signal Hill trunking system when this becomes operational in late September (the city of Downey has leased radio repeater service from the city of Signal Hill on a Motorola radio trunking system since 1989); because of cost considerations and other positive factors, Downey has opted for a tested Kenwood system (which Santa Fe Springs also uses), in the process picking up an interoperability feature that will allow DPW to communicate directly with Downey Police and Fire, a feature lacking in the old system, and deemed necessary in times of emergency; this entails an appropriation of \$30,800 from the Water Fund and \$15,800 from the General Fund; •Approved the plans and specifications and granted authority to advertise for bids for unexpected additional soil remediation work (Phase 3B of a vapor extraction system project) at 9255 Imperial Highway (formerly Spartan Lacquer); the project seeks to extract volatile organic compounds (VOCs) from the soil above the water table at the site, with vapor extraction equipment this time utilizing carbon filter material; •Approved the extension of the agreement with Willdan, whose services the city finds very satisfactory, for on-call construction inspection services, to augment city inspection staff and to ensure timely completion of the city's major capital improvement projects; •Approved the extension of the agreement with the Gateway Cities Council of Governments (COG) regarding the Truck Impacted Intersection Project, a federally funded program involving improvements


See COUNCIL, page 11



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**Upcoming Health Education Programs**

**September-October, 2008**



**FOR EXPECTANT PARENTS**  
**The Stork Tour:**  
 Expectant Parent Family Birth Center Tour  
 Wednesday, September 3  
 4 to 6 p.m. – DRMC Conference Room A

**Childbirth Education Classes (Series of 4)**  
 Mondays, October 20, 27, November 3, 10  
 7 to 10 p.m. – DRMC Conference Room A or B  
 \$75 per couple  
 (To register for this particular class, please contact instructor Roselyn Smith 714-319-4267 or prep4baby@sbcglobal.net)

**Breastfeeding Workshop**  
 Monday, September 8 – 7 to 9:30 p.m.  
 DRMC Conference Room C – \$10 per person

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

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

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


**Restless Legs Syndrome of Southern California:**  
 3 meetings held each year on Sundays from  
 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. – Contact: Janis at 714-633-0123

**OTHER CLASSES**  
**Community CPR**  
 Tuesday, October 7 – 6 to 10 p.m.  
 DRMC Conference Room C  
 \$25 per person or \$40 per couple

**Diabetes Management (Series of 4 Classes)**  
 Thursdays, September 4, 11, 18,  
 25 (Spanish Class) – 9 to 11:30 a.m.  
 Thursdays, October 2, 9, 16, 23,  
 6 to 8:30 p.m.  
 DRMC Conference Room A or B  
 \$10 materials fee

**Healthy Heart Nutrition Class**  
 Wednesday, September 10  
 or October 8, 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.  
 DRMC Conference Room A or B

For additional information or to register for any class (unless otherwise noted), please call 562-904-5580.



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# Council: Stretch of Downey Avenue being repaired.

Continued from page 1

to intersections in numerous locations throughout the Gateway subregion to accommodate future growth in goods movement and to facilitate truck movements through the region's arterial network; the project includes the intersection of Paramount Blvd. at Florence Ave., improvements on which are currently under construction with completion scheduled for Sept. 15, 2008;

- Approved the agreement with the city of Paramount for Downey Ave. street improvements, and appropriated \$90,000 in additional gas tax funds for the purpose; the joint project with Paramount comes about as Paramount wants to rehabilitate the pavement on Downey Ave. between Rosecrans Ave. and their north city limit (the center line of Gardendale St.) due to the current deteriorating condition of the pavement along this portion of the street; a 1,100-ft. section of this portion of Downey Ave., between Century Blvd. and 200 ft. west of Klondike Ave., is located within the city of Downey; in addition, the project will include the upgrading the traffic signal at the intersection of Downey Ave. and Gardendale St.;

- Introduced an ordinance approving the city's membership in the Los Angeles Regional Interoperable Communications System and approving the execution of the Related Joint Powers Authority Agreement;

- Designated Councilman Kirk Cartozian as the voting delegate and other Councilmembers as alternates for the annual League of California Cities Business meeting on Sept. 24-27 in Long Beach.

The next regular public meeting of the City Council will be at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 9 at City Hall, 11111 Brookshire Ave.

## Cheerleading clinic at Downey High

**DOWNEY** – Downey High School cheerleaders will offer their annual cheerleading clinic on Sept. 20 from 8:30 a.m. to noon inside the school gymnasium.

Girls between the ages of 5-13 will learn game-action cheers, and perform during halftime of the Vikings' home varsity football game on Sept. 26.

Cost of the clinic is \$25, which includes a T-shirt and two admission tickets for the Sept. 26 game.

For information and registration, call Kim Buss at (562) 822-4265.



Rev. Lui Tran is the new senior pastor at Downey United Methodist Church. He is pictured with his wife, Traci, and son Benjamin.

## Woman's Club going to Pechanga

**DOWNEY** – The Woman's Club of Downey is sponsoring a bus trip to the Pechanga Resort & Casino on Sept. 8.

Funds raised by the trip will go to the club's scholarship fund. The bus will leave the Woman's Club at 8 a.m. and return between 5:30 and 6 p.m. Cost is \$6 for Woman's Club members, \$11 for non-members, and includes a \$5 voucher for casino play.

Bingo is played on the bus and guests must be at least 21 years old. For reservations, call Jeanine Keys at (562) 923-6620 or Doris Patterson at (562) 869-0377.

## Christian Club getting travel tips

**DOWNEY** – Debbie Moore of AAA Travel will present the special feature at the Sept. 10 meeting of Downey Christian Women's Club at Los Amigos Country Club.

Jeanie Wheaton will be the guest speaker and will speak on "How To Lead a Re-Designed Life." The Ukulele Ladies will provide music.

Both men and women are invited to the 11:45 a.m. lunch meeting. Cost is \$12 and reservations are requested by calling Sonja at (562) 862-4347 or Jean at (562) 861-1114.

# New senior pastor at United Methodist

**DOWNEY** – Rev. Lui Tran is the new senior pastor at Downey United Methodist Church.

Tran previously served at Knollwood United Methodist Church in Granada Hills.

Born in South Vietnam, Tran immigrated as a child to Switzerland with his parents. He was baptized in the Swiss Evangelical Reformed Church and schooled in the German-speaking part of the alpine country.

While serving in the Swiss army as an infantry officer, Tran studied law at the University of Bern. Upon graduation, he worked for Amnesty International and the Swiss Federal Department of Justice.

Tran came to the United States in 1994 and attended Harvard Law School. After completing his studies, he moved to Montreal to pursue a teaching career, enrolling in the doctoral program at McGill University.

After receiving his Ph.D. in international human rights in 1999, he left his legal career to become a missionary with Wycliffe Bible Translators, serving in Africa and Southern California.

Tran enrolled in the Master of Divinity program at the Claremont School of Theology in 2001. While in seminary, he served with Indochinese youths and young adults in leadership training programs and camps, and helped to develop the English-speaking ministry at the Anaheim Vietnamese United Methodist Church.

Tran completed his seminary training and was commissioned as a provisional elder in the California-Pacific Annual Conference.

Tran is married to his wife, Traci. Together they have a son, Benjamin.

## Downey PD seeking local cadets

**DOWNEY** – The Downey Police Department is looking for a few good men and women – preferably homegrown.

The City Council on Tuesday established pay ranges for the Downey Police Department's new police cadet training program, designed to groom teens and young adults interested in law enforcement careers into becoming future Downey police officers.

Cadets will be paid between \$11.72 and \$14.52 per hour, in addition to tuition reimbursement for students attending Cal State Los Angeles or Cal State Long Beach.

Cadets must be between 17 1/2 and 21 years old and enrolled in school. The city will pay up to \$193,000 for six cadet positions.

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## PATRIOT ONLINE

The Downey Patriot proudly presents its new website, updated each week to reflect the news in our current issue and also updated during the week to cover breaking news as it happens. The Downey Patriot online is filled with rich features such as a blog, news columns, archives in PDF format, and a search engine for all of our articles. Keep in touch with Downey events easily and visit us online.

[www.thedowneypatriot.com](http://www.thedowneypatriot.com)



## WRITE TO US

Express your comments or concerns regarding news and events around Downey. Our letters to the editor section is a great way to voice those views publicly. We'd also love to hear any feedback you have in general - please feel free to e-mail us at [downeypatriot@yahoo.com](mailto:downeypatriot@yahoo.com).

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## DISPLAY ADVERTISING

If you are interested in display advertising, do not hesitate to call and inquire! With a circulation of 25,000 copies, we target more Downey citizens than any other publication. We offer flexible sizing to help tailor to your business's needs. Display advertising deadline: Monday at 3:00 p.m. Call in and ask for Dorothy or Mary.

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Beautiful ranch style home in a very desirable area of Downey. 3 bed 2 ba (1540 sq ft approx) on Pico Vista. Large lot (8237 sq ft approx) landscaped garden and pool. \$549,000. Call for private showing.  
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## MEET ONE LOCAL PROFESSIONAL WHO IS A Friend to the Community



Dale Jervis has become a staple in the Downey community—plain and simple. His family has called this beautiful area home for generations and nothing makes him prouder than to do his part to make a difference—from his volunteer efforts with the local animal shelter to his generous contributions to the local school systems to his work helping people achieve their real estate dreams.

The truth is, you're not likely to find a real estate professional who knows the intricacies of the local market like Dale. When you're looking not only for the right home, but the right neighborhood to fit your needs, Dale has the knowledge to make it happen. When you add the fact that he's been in the business since 1983, it seems only fitting that he's considered the local expert. Put simply, when it comes to your next move, there's no better professional to turn to than Dale. Give him a call today. You'll be glad you did!

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## A Year to Remember

Downey, 2007

Cover of last year's "A Year to Remember"

**A Year to Remember**

Downey, 2008... A Year to Remember is a special edition magazine recapping the significant news and events that transpired in Downey throughout the past year.

This full-color, vibrant magazine is produced once a year by The Downey Patriot. The magazine will be distributed with the December 12, 2008 edition of the newspaper.

With a circulation of 25,000 copies, this is easily the widest received publication in Downey, and an excellent opportunity to advertise your business for a large audience.

"A Year to Remember" has advertising solutions for any budget. Please allow us to accommodate your business, and join us in our remembrance of 2008.

For more information call (562) 904-3668 or email us at [downeypatriot@yahoo.com](mailto:downeypatriot@yahoo.com)



Century 21 My Real Estate has welcomed Josune Aguirre to its team of associates. Aguirre is a Downey High School graduate and currently attends Fullerton College. "She is motivated and excited to start her real estate career with Century 21, and we are pleased to have her join our team," said Roger Nordin, vice president for relocation and marketing. To reach Aguirre, call (562) 927-2626.



Alex Gamez has joined the office of Century 21 My Real Estate. "Alex is going to make an excellent addition to our office. He is sharp and well-prepared to handle clients," said Steve Roberson, owner/broker of the office. To contact Gamez, call (562) 927-2626.

## Learn to speak, write Chinese

**DOWNEY** – The Fa-Kwang Temple in Downey is offering free Chinese language classes beginning Sept. 13.

Students will learn to speak, read and write Chinese. Classes will be held Saturdays from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. at the temple, located at 12110 Pomeroy Rd. The course runs from Sept. 13 to June 13. To register, call (562) 927-3945.

## Temple to celebrate High Holy Days

**DOWNEY** – Temple Ner Tamid of Downey, a Reform congregation, will celebrate the High Holy Day Season with a series of services conducted by Rabbi Len Muroff and Cantor Ellen Jaffe-Gill.

The High Holy Day Services schedule is as follows:

Erev Rosh Hashanah	Sept. 29	7:30 p.m.
Rosh Hashanah Day 1	Sept. 30	10 a.m.
Rosh Hashanah Day 2	Oct. 1	10 a.m.
Kol Nidre	Oct. 8	7:30 p.m.
Yom Kippur	Oct. 9	10 a.m.

"Services are solemn and meaningful, and these High Holy Days are special times for reflection and soul-searching," the Temple said.

All services will take place in the Temple's sanctuary at 10629 Lakewood Blvd. Services will include a professional choir led by Edward Bruner, with Norberto Guinaldo at the organ playing traditional liturgical music.

Anybody interested in obtaining High Holy Day tickets and/or Temple membership, should call (562) 861-9276.

## Group looks at recent medical advances

**LONG BEACH** – Mark Haddad will be the guest speaker at the Sept. 11 meeting of the Hearing Loss Association, Long Beach/Lakewood chapter.

Meetings take place at the Weingart Senior Center, 5220 Oliva Ave., in Lakewood, at 6:30 p.m. Admission is free. Haddad will speak on "Recent Medical Advances: in Hearing."

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

## Carnival Day for pediatric patients

**DOWNEY** – Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center will host their annual Carnival Day on Sept. 6 in the north patio area from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

For more information, call (562) 401-6745.

## Winning copy is key online

With the downturn in the economy encompassing nearly every aspect of our lives, businesses large and small are feeling the pinch. A recently published survey showed that more than 60 percent of large companies are unceremoniously planning on slashing their marketing budgets significantly this year.

With smaller marketing budgets, companies are hunting for cost-effective, measurable solutions to sagging sales figures. This naturally leads to online marketing in order to generate new prospects and customers. Surprisingly, many sales and marketing heads don't know enough about the true power of Web marketing and the latest tips and tricks to take full advantage of its cost-effective nature.

"It all starts with a powerful, search-engine friendly Web site," says Jon Wuebben, author of "Content Rich: Writing Your Way to Wealth on the Web."

Wuebben says if you want to begin harnessing the power of cost-effective online marketing, here are seven quick and easy tips to follow:

**The Copy on Your Web Site Should Be Conversational.** Connect directly with your potential customer by writing copy in the conversational style you would use in speaking with them directly. Not only will it immediately appeal to your visitors, but it also enables your message to be easily understood.

**Use Bulleted Lists.** Long strings of sentences which create long paragraphs are hard for people to read and will tire their eyes. Convert the features and benefits that you promote on each page into bulleted lists. These will pop out of the page when your prospect is scanning through. The result? They won't miss any important details or sales points about why your product or service is so valuable.

**Limit the Amount of Words Per Page.** Each page of your Web site should be limited to 350 words. If you have more than this, you need to re-evaluate your copy and make some cuts. A wordy Web page can overwhelm to the point where your prospect may leave. So instead of being "copy-heavy" try to be "quality-heavy."

**Is Your Copy Interesting to Read?** Ask yourself the following questions about your Web site. Does the copy grab you? Is it interesting and informative? Is there variety in the copy layout? No's all around? Then you need to edit that copy and create a more engaging read for your visitor.

**Use Headings and Subheads.** Like bulleted lists, they break up the page and give the eye something to focus on. A prospect visiting your site will need you to direct them.

**Use the AIDA (Attention, Interest, Desire, Action) Method.** Your Web site and its copy should grab the reader's attention, build their interest, and create desire so they will take action – in that order. This method will bring you closer to closing the deal with your prospect.

**Ask for the Sale.** Make sure that the copy includes specific "calls-to-action" which compel your visitors to the next step in the sale. Are the words "Order Now" found next to your product? Is the phrase "Click here to get your free newsletter" visible anywhere? Add these calls-to-action as they promote the visitor to take a more active and involved approach.

Jon Wuebben is the founder of Custom Copywriting, one of the fastest growing content providers in the industry.



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### FEATURED PROPERTY



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**Additional Bonus For Buyer**



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**North Downey - Special**  
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**Bombshell Buy**  
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 <b>SOLD!</b> <b>Sold! Sold! Sold!</b> 3 BR 2BA home with large living room, family room, with fireplace, formal dining room, and master bedroom. List Price: \$499,950 Call Michael Berdelis at (562) 818-6111	 <b>SOLD!</b> <b>Sold! Sold! Sold!</b> 3 BD, 2BA, top level condo in North Downey, 1968 sq ft. living space, plenty of room for a great price! List Price: \$385,000 Virtual tour at <a href="http://www.MichaelBerdelis.com">www.MichaelBerdelis.com</a>	 <b>SOLD!</b> <b>Sold! Sold! Sold!</b> 4 BD, 4 BA home & 2 BD, 1 BA guest house on a 10,920 sq. ft. lot. Both are remodeled. List Price: \$749,950 Call Michael Berdelis at (562) 818-6111

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