

The Downey Patriot



Concert season set to begin
See Page 10



Actress, singer appearing here
See Page 2



Rancho needs volunteers
See Page 4

Friday, October 24, 2008

Vol. 7 No. 27

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

Caton: 'I want Downey to do well'

BY HENRY VENERACION, STAFF WRITER

Hired as city manager in 1989, Gerald M. Caton is by far the longest-serving city chief executive (19 years) since Downey's incorporation in 1956. And in case nobody has noticed, it truly is an achievement in itself.

Indeed, he says, the average stay of a city manager, "the norm," is less than five years. Close observation of what goes on in personnel matters in cities has made him cognizant of the fact that "It's the norm for a city manager to be fired."

He knows a thing or two about stamina. While attending St. Anthony's High School in Long Beach, where he grew up, he played football as well as lettering in track and cross-country. Today he keeps fit by walking. He resides in Fullerton.

Caton also knows the value of hard work, something he learned from his dad. His dad, he says, had only a 7th grade education and retired from North American Aviation where he worked in the machine shop for 28 years. He says his dad took him as a youth to Downey whenever possible.

He was a working student, first getting his AA degree from Long Beach City College in 1972, then his BA in history from CSU-Long.

See HANSTAD, page 9

Carmichael recovering after crash

DOWNEY — A small single-engine plane which crashed around 1:15 p.m. Monday on takeoff at the Catalina airport included Stan Carmichael as the lone survivor and his wife, Pat, as one of three casualties.

Carmichael owns a State Farm insurance agency in Downey and is past president of the Downey Rotary Club. Pat, described as a "distinguished attorney," had recently retired from her legal firm.

Stan was reportedly flown to County Harbor-UCLA Medical Center in Torrance after the crash. Rescuers said they could do nothing to help "three people trapped inside [the] burning plane."

The local Rotarians bowed their heads in prayer this week after close friend and fellow Rotarian Kevin MacDonald, who had a chance to visit Stan at the hospital, confirmed the jarring development.

MacDonald would only say Stan suffered a broken foot and broken ribs. An initial report listed Stan in critical condition.

Further details have been unavailable.
—Henry Veneracion, Staff Writer



Harriett Paine, an instructor at Downey Adult School and teacher for more than 55 years, celebrates the renaming of the school's recently renovated auditorium as the Harriett Paine Events Center. Paine, an accomplished cook and author of several books on healthy eating, currently directs the school's weekly OASIS (Older Adults Seeking Information and Skills) program, which draws nearly 100 senior citizens every week. Photo by Eric Pierce

Construction delays hampering businesses

Construction should be completed by end of this year, officials say.

BY MARY FORNEY, STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY — Businesses in the shopping center on the corner of Lakewood Boulevard and Imperial Highway continue to be put out amidst delays in the completion of the city's street widening and beautification project.

Backed up traffic and blocked entrances have been deterrents to incoming customers wanting to conduct business in the area.

"I have had complaints from people who were late or missed their appointments," said Donald Boyd, owner of Family Vision Care. "Our walk-ins were down

this year so we lost potential patients."

The project includes the improvement and replacement of concrete and asphalt; widening the street to create an additional turn lane; constructing sidewalks and new landscape, installing street lighting and medians, and upgrading traffic signals.

"It's lagging behind just a little bit," said Ed Norris, deputy director of Public Works. "It's really hard to say when it's going to be completed — definitely by the end of the year."

Norris estimates the cost of the construction portion of the project in that area to be \$2.5 million. The businesses have reported suffering a financial loss ranging from 20 percent to undetermined amounts.

"All of the businesses were paid handsomely and in the end, it's going to be for their betterment," said Deputy City Manager Desi Alvarez.

"The City settled with Gonzalez — the owner of the property — and it's up to him to settle with the tenants."

Speedy Cash considered its business fortunate despite having to move in June 2007 after the City of Downey enforced its use of eminent domain to accommodate widening the highway. The city assisted Speedy Cash in finding a new location and paid the company \$425,000 which included relocation expenses.

"Moving us was a critical com-
See CONSTRUCTION, page 3

Local campaigns turn ugly

Campaigns squabble over political signs at Rives Mansion.

BY ERIC PIERCE, CITY EDITOR

DOWNEY — You can officially label all promises of "clean" campaigns as broken and throw them out the window.

Local politics turned ugly this week when a grainy photograph of Mike Prokop — purportedly showing him removing a rival's campaign sign off a chain-link fence at the Rives Mansion — began circulating through e-mail boxes Monday night.

Prokop is recognized as the campaign manager of District 5 candidate Gary De Remer.

The photograph is said to show Prokop removing a political sign of Luis Marquez, who is also a District 5 (city-wide) candidate. The photo was widely circulated on the Internet this week, including through an e-mail by Mayor Pro Tem Mario Guerra.

According to Marquez, the photograph was taken by his brother-in-law, a campaign volunteer,

who spotted Prokop removing the signs at about 7:30 p.m. Monday.

Prokop said he removed the signs because he thought only De Remer had permission to post signs on the property. When he noticed someone erecting signage for Marquez, Prokop said he intervened.

"I approached this person who put the signs on the fence and asked him to remove them; he refused and became belligerent," Prokop wrote in a letter to this newspaper (read the full letter on page 5). "I proceeded to remove the signs in accordance with what I believed to be the owner's wishes. As I approached this person with signs in hand to give them to him, guess what, he pulled out a camera and snapped my picture."

Marquez said he arrived after his brother-in-law phoned him to report the incident. Marquez said he produced proof of the property owner's consent to have his signs posted.

"Still wondering under what circumstances his permission was obtained, I apologized for remov-



ing his signs and told him I would put them back up, which I did reluctantly," Prokop wrote.

Lauren Baumann operates a real estate company and says she began leasing commercial space at the Rives Mansion earlier this month. She said property owner Oscar Rivera granted both De Remer and Marquez permission to post their signs.

Rivera did not return a call for comment.

CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS DISTRICT 5



Gary De Remer — Partial list of donors includes:

Advantage Saw Service (loan)	\$5335.65
Circle C Printing (donated printing services)	\$1000
Jim Barger with J&B Fire Protection	\$500
Dorothy Pemberton	\$100
Brian Heyman	\$100
Attorney Joe Lumsdaine	\$100

De Remer has paid out about \$5,446.82 for campaign signs, pens, newspaper ads and filing fees.



Dr. Shahira A-Malek — List of donors includes:

Dr. Shahira A-Malek	\$5000
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A-Malek has paid out about \$3,400 for campaign signs and flyers, and typesetting costs.



Maria Larkin — Partial list of donors includes:

Downey Association of Realtors/California Real Estate Political Action Committee	\$3000
California Real Estate Political Action Committee/RSEADOR	\$500
Verizon communications technician David Buhler	\$500
Joseph Polselli (postage services)	\$439.23
Southern California Contractors Association	\$250
Prudential 24 Hour Real Estate	\$250
Century 21 My Real Estate	\$200

Larkin has paid out about \$4,700 for postage, campaign signs, newspaper advertisements and car magnets.



Luis Marquez — Partial list of donors includes:

Alan Lowenthal for State Senate	\$2000
Ernie Garcia, president, West Coast Galvanizing	\$2000
Hector De La Torre for State Assembly	\$1000
Dr. Elias Ayoub	\$1000
Friends to Re-Elect Maria Davila	\$500
Gabriel Buena, executive director, Plaza Community Services	\$500
Carl Gattis, development director, Plaza Community Services	\$500

Marquez has paid out more than \$7,000 for campaign signs, literature, newspaper advertising and filing fees.

Candidates report big contributions

Luis Marquez leads all candidates with more than \$16,000 raised.

BY ERIC PIERCE, CITY EDITOR

DOWNEY — A look at state finance records shows that District 5 City Council candidate Luis Marquez has jumped far ahead of his opponents when it comes to political contributions, raising more than \$16,000 in campaign funds since the beginning of the year.

Other District 5 — or city-wide — candidates did not reach half that amount, including Maria Larkin (\$6,979), Dr. Shahira A-Malek (\$5,000) and Gary De Remer (\$1,324).

The figures do not include final budget reports that were expected to be turned in to the city clerk yesterday.

Most of the funds were used on campaign signs, mailers, and newspaper advertising, records show.

District 5: Marquez

Marquez raised \$14,664 between July 1 and Sept. 30, records show. On June 25, he

received a \$2,000 contribution from Sen. Alan Lowenthal (D-Long Beach/Downey), whom he works for as a senior field representative.

Notable contributors to Marquez's campaign include local resident Ernest Garcia (\$2,000), Assemblyman Hector De La Torre (\$1,000), AppleCare Medical Group (\$500), Fiesta Taxi (\$500), property manager Ron Kolar (\$500), Lazo Investments (\$500), Water Replenishment District board member Lillian Kawasaki (\$200), and Downey Regional Medical Center executive Rob Fuller (\$100).

Larkin

Jeanette Baumann, executive director of the Downey Association of Realtors, is serving as treasurer for Maria Larkin, who pulled in \$6,979 from realtors, businesses and retired residents.

Notable contributors to Larkin's campaign include the California Real Estate Association Political Action Committee and the Downey Association of Realtors

See DONORS, page 2

Business Watch meeting Wednesday

DOWNEY — Downey business owners are invited to learn about crime prevention by attending a Business Watch meeting Wednesday at noon inside council chambers at City Hall.

The Business Watch program, sponsored by the city of Downey and the Downey Chamber of

Commerce, gives local business owners training in business security, effective crime reporting, burglary, theft and shoplifting prevention, and more.

Meetings are held quarterly and last about one hour. For more information, call (562) 923-2191 or (562) 904-1895.

CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS DISTRICT 3



Brossmer has paid out about \$3,500 for campaign signs, fundraisers and filing fees.

Roger Brossmer — Partial list of donors includes:

Elite Concrete Restoration Inc	\$500
Former Downey Eagle publisher Jerry Andrews	\$500
Former mayor Meredith Perkins	\$400
Jeweler Angelo Cardono	\$250
Mayor Pro Tem Mario Guerra	\$250
One-time District 5 candidate Fernando Vasquez	\$200
Fred Cartozian	\$200
Committee to Re-Elect Kirk Cartozian	\$166.22
Planning Commissioner Michael Murray	\$100



Russell Rankin — List of donors includes:

Russell Rankin has reported less than \$1000 in contributions.

CEO talks about time management

DOWNEY — David Sanders, CEO of Creative Business Strategies, Inc., will be the guest speaker at Tuesday's meeting of Rise 'N Shine networking at Stox Restaurant.

Sanders' topic will be "Time Management."

The meeting starts at 7:30 a.m. and the cost is an order from the menu. RSVP by calling the Downey Chamber of Commerce at (562) 923-2191.

Chamber mixer at Embassy Suites

DOWNEY — The Downey Chamber of Commerce will present a networking mixer Thursday from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Embassy Suites.

The mixer is free and includes refreshments, live entertainment and raffle prizes.

Chamber ambassadors will greet guests as they arrive. For more information, call (562) 923-2191.

Christian club is giving thanks

DOWNEY — Gloria Feralio will be the guest speaker when the Downey Christian Women's Club meets Nov. 12 at Los Amigos Country Club.

Feralio's topic will be "How Your Life Can Have a Happy Ending."

Also at the meeting, Marilyn Orlando will speak on beaded craft items and Connie Duggins will provide music. The meeting's theme is "Giving Thanks."

The cost is \$12 and includes a buffet lunch. The meeting begins at 11:45 a.m. and both men and women are invited.

Reservations are requested by calling Sonja at (562) 862-4347 or Jean at (562) 861-1114.

Feltham to be honored for service

DOWNEY — The John Hume Performing Arts Foundation will honor Joan Feltham with the fourth annual Margene Glenn Award at a recognition ceremony Nov. 8 at Granata's Italian Villa.

The Margene Glenn Award is the foundation's annual recognition of volunteer service to the community.

According to the foundation, "Feltham generously gave her time and resources to many civic projects, most notably the Downey Children's Theatre. Serving for many years in executive positions with the Downey Children's Theatre, Joan was a guiding force that helped make Downey the community it was to become."

For more information on the ceremony, e-mail frigate@roadrunner.com or call (562) 869-0422.

Baptist church celebration Sunday

DOWNEY — Pastor Jon Manzat of the First Southern Baptist Church of Downey announced that the church will be celebrating its 60th anniversary Sunday.

The church, which was founded Oct. 26, 1948, has invited former pastors, church staff and members to attend. Presiding over the morning service will be Pastor Charles Hausser (pastor from 1989-2005) and the evening worship will be led by Pastor Kenneth Reed (pastor from 1984-88).

The event will include a music program and visual presentation of past church events.

All former church members are invited to attend. RSVP by calling the church at (562) 869-6673.

The First Southern Baptist Church of Downey is located at 12383 Downey Ave.



Actress and singer Cheryl Carter, accompanied by Grammy winner Wayne Cook, will highlight the "A Salute to Veterans" luncheon presented by the Woman's Club of Downey on Nov. 11. Tickets are \$25 each and available by calling Doris Patterson at (562) 869-0377.

Middle school dance tonight

DOWNEY — Middle school students are invited to a Halloween dance tonight from 7 to 10 p.m. inside the gymnasium at Apollo Park.

The dance costs \$5 to attend and is open to all students in grades 6-8 with current student I.D.

Students must conform to a strictly-enforced dress code, which includes a collared shirt with tie and slacks for boys, and a blouse or sweater and knee-length skirt or slacks for girls.

No jeans, T-shirts, sandals, hats, bandanas, or halter tops will be allowed. Students also cannot wear costumes.

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

Donors: Contributions can mean big money.

Continued from page 1

(\$3,000 combined), the Southern California Contractors Association (\$250), Prudential 24 Hour Real Estate (\$250), Century 21 My Real Estate (\$200), Stonewood Lodge Motel (\$150) and Downey Inn (\$100).

De Remer

Records show \$1,324 in contributions to candidate Gary De Remer. But De Remer also gave himself a \$5,335.65 loan. Notable contributors include Jim Barger with J&B Fire Protection (\$500), local attorney Joseph Lumsdaine (\$100), and residents Dorothy Pemberton and Brian Heyman (\$100 each).

A-Malek

Dr. Shahira A-Malek gave herself a \$5,000 contribution on Sept. 16 to finance her campaign.

District 3: Roger Brossmer

Records show District 3 —

northeast Downey — candidate Roger Brossmer is easily outspending his political opponent, Russell Rankin.

Brossmer has raised \$5,942.22. Major and notable donors include developer Fredrick Burbeck (\$1,000), retired developer and former Downey Eagle publisher Jerry Andrews (\$500), Elite Concrete Restoration (\$500), former mayor Meredith Perkins (\$400), Mayor Pro Tem Mario Guerra (\$250), campaign for Councilman Kirk Cartozian (\$166.22), DUSD board member Tod Corrin (\$100), and DUSD administrator Robert Jagielski (\$100).

Rankin

The second candidate for District 3, Russell Rankin, reported he would receive and spend less than \$1,000 during his campaign, and was not required to submit a list of political donors.

A Message From FORMER COUNCILMAN & MAYOR BOB WINNINGHAM



Dear Residents of Downey,

After reviewing the four candidates who have chosen to campaign for the District Five seat on the Downey City Council I firmly believe that Maria Larkin is by far the most qualified candidate to represent the best interests of the Citizens of Downey.

Maria Larkin is a fifty plus year resident of the City of Downey, she knows this city extremely well. I have known Maria Larkin for many of these years and have worked with her on numerous projects in the City of Downey. Maria has a proven record of integrity and experience. Her extensive business background and knowledge in commercial and retail development will make her a valuable asset to the City Council as Downey moves forward during these challenging economic times that we face over the next few years. Maria's thirty plus years of real estate experience will help to restore and the correct decisions regarding neighborhood preservation issues, which will help to restore and increase our personal property values.

Maria Larkin has worked long and hard for the citizens of Downey. Her many years of serving and chairing various City of Downey Committee's has given her an excellent working knowledge of how the different city departments operate and what is necessary to even improve services for the residents and business' of Downey.

Maria Larkin has the technical skills, a positive attitude and most importantly a dedication and love for the City of Downey to make her an excellent Council Member. As a former councilmember and Mayor of the City of Downey I know first hand the attributes, qualities, and dedication necessary to serve and represent the needs of the residents of Downey. Maria Larkin is heads above the other candidates in meeting these requirements.

I hope that you will join with me in supporting Maria Larkin for election to the Downey City Council on Tuesday, November 4th.

Respectfully,

Bob Winningham
Former Councilman and Mayor,
City of Downey

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SEMINAR 1

GUEST SPEAKER:
David Chang, M.D.

Date:
Wednesday, October 22, 2008

Time:
6:00 pm – 6:30 pm
Registration
6:30 pm – 8:00 pm
Presentation, Q&A

Location:
Hilton Los Angeles North/Glendale
100 West Glenoaks Blvd.
Glendale, CA 91202

SEMINAR 2

GUEST SPEAKER:
Robert Watkins, Jr. IV, M.D.

Date:
Wednesday, October 29, 2008

Time:
6:00 pm – 6:30 pm
Registration
6:30 pm – 8:00 pm
Presentation, Q&A

Location:
Embassy Suites Hotel LA-Downey
8425 Firestone Boulevard
Downey, CA 90241

Funding cuts force program shutdowns

■ Downey AIDS shelter hit hard when its federal grant is eliminated.

BY MARY FORNEY, STAFF WRITER
DOWNEY – The building is so quiet that water can be heard gently dripping from a bathroom faucet. Positive Steps HIV/AIDS shelter in Downey is sitting empty of the women and children who were living in the home until last month.

Established in 1994, the women's program was funded by a grant from the federal Center for Substance Abuse Treatment. The grant was eliminated this year, forcing the women and children to be placed in other Southern California Alcohol and Drug Program shelters last week.

A total of 97 men, women and children lived in the transitional home last year – 68 of them were women and children. Now, only 7 men remain living in the home. The men are allowed to stay because the federal grant which was established in 1996 for male HIV/AIDS patients with addictions is continuing.

"This is tragic because they had a very high success rate with the women," said Lynne Appel, who is the executive director of Southern California Alcohol and Drug Programs Inc.

"They are cutting back the poorest of the poor. Now, many children will be removed from their mothers who have HIV and may never be back to live with their mothers again."

Combining resources and shelters is one of the ways the program is trying to combat the federal and state cutbacks. Not an easy task for a program that provided drug and alcohol rehabilitative outpatient

services to 5,075 people living in Los Angeles and Orange counties during 2007, provided 616 people from Downey alone with residential treatment, and sheltered 1,441 homeless individuals with drug and alcohol addictions.

"We need to offer drug treatment at little or no cost," said Community Outreach Coordinator Sylvia Leyba.

"Believe me, where they're at, they don't have any money. We've already had to remove a psychiatrist from our program, licensed medical staff, and therapeutic child care staff," she said.

A non-profit organization, Southern California Alcohol and Drug Programs Inc. first formed Cider House in Norwalk during the 1970s. Since then, the program has created 39 sites for the homeless, battered women, and substance-addicted abusers in Los Angeles and Orange counties. Many of the centers offer supportive services encouraging parent-child relationships, education, and employment assistance.

The program relies on federal, state and personal funding to keep the sites open and services running.

"Every day, we're hearing something bad – we haven't even gotten the worst news yet from the state," said Chief Financial Officer Bob Larsen.

Angel Step Inn, a confidential emergency shelter in Whittier for battered, substance addicted, and homeless women and children is the next site scheduled to close at the end of the month.

For more information about Southern California Alcohol and Drug Programs Inc. and how to donate, call (562) 923-4545.



Conroy's Flowers at Lakewood Boulevard and Imperial Highway received a "big ugly scar" as a result of a street-widening project that was supposed to be completed in September. Photo by Mary Forney

Construction: City officials say delays have been unforeseen and unavoidable.

Continued from page 1

ponent of the process," said Chad Faulkner, president of Speedy Cash Holdings Corporation. "It was nothing more than luck that we were able to move across the street. "It's nice but not as preferable as it was prior. We weren't compensated 100 percent for the loss of business to us, but at least our customers are finding us," Faulkner said.

"We are hoping that the street widening benefits the community and we want to be supportive because we plan to remain a part of the community."

The city and the owner of the

Conroy's Flowers building are currently in negotiations for compensation for the damage caused by the street widening and sidewalk construction. The city tacked sheets of plywood onto the front of the Conroy's Flowers building, and the torn up concrete on one side of the business prohibits entry into a once usable glass door.

"They tore down our overhangs and permanently cut off an entrance to the business," said Richard Scherer, owner of Conroy's Flowers. "The city has caused a big ugly scar on our building. I don't know when the owner

of the building and the city will settle and I will be compensated."

The businesses received a letter from the city saying the construction would be done in September.

"It's October and it's still going on," said Speedy Cash's store manager Raymond Garcia. "This has slowed us down pretty dramatically and because people avoid this intersection, it has affected our ability to get new business."

Pamper Me tanning salon has also been affected by the congestion.

"Customers have had to fight traffic and just turn around and

leave," said Kim Trevino, manager of the salon. "They don't have the time so we lose their business. All we can do is wait."

According to Deputy City Manager Desi Alvarez, the delays have been unforeseen and unavoidable.

"We're still dealing with things like Edison poles that still haven't been moved and other organizations not doing their part," Alvarez said.

"But, it will be great once it's done. It will be much more attractive and traffic movement will be smoother."

Tennis pro is instructing classes in Downey

DOWNEY – The city of Downey Community Service Department is offering their next session of tennis classes for children and adults beginning Nov. 19 at Independence Park.

Instruction will be led by tennis professional Fabian Grassini and his staff.

Adult classes will be held Wednesday night from 6-7 and 7-8 p.m. Each class will focus on continued skill development for beginning and advanced players. The fee for the eight-week class is \$95.

Classes for children ages 4-7 and 8-14 will be held Wednesdays from 4-5 p.m. (Level 1) and from 5-6 p.m. (Level 2). Fee is \$95 for eight weeks.

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

Halloween fun at Messiah Lutheran

DOWNEY – Messiah Lutheran Church will celebrate Halloween with a "Neighborhood Funfest," a free event for Downey children featuring candy, snacks, games, prizes, bounce houses, and more.

The event is Oct. 31 from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. Messiah Lutheran Church is at 10711 Paramount Blvd. For information, call (562) 923-1215.

Holiday bazaar at Moravian Church

DOWNEY – The women of the Moravian Church of Downey will be holding their annual holiday bazaar Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The event will include a boutique, baked goods, handmade crafts, Moravian items, Christmas decorations, pumpkin pies, and a soup or lasagna salad luncheon.

The lunch is \$5 per person.

The Moravian Church of Downey is at 10337 Old River School Rd. To place an order for a pumpkin pie, or for more information, call the church office at (562) 927-0718.

Donations accepted for U.S. troops

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

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

The Armed Forces Recruitment Center is at 8566 Firestone Blvd., across the street from Downey High School.

'Visions of Israel' presented at Temple

DOWNEY – "Visions of Israel," an armchair pilgrimage to the world's only Jewish state, will be presented Tuesday at the Ezra Center for Mature Adults at Temple Ner Tamid of Downey.

Registration and refreshments begin at 9:45 a.m. The program begins at 10, and is followed by a catered kosher lunch. Cost of the lunch is \$6 for Ezra members and \$7 for non-members.

For more information, call the Temple office at (562) 861-9276.

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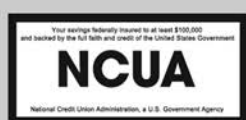
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Please join us and many other community leaders as we unite in support of Luis Marquez for Downey City Council.

- State Senator Alan Lowenthal**
Assembly Member Hector De La Torre
Assembly Member Betty Karnette,
 (Former Downey State Senator)
David Gafin, Downey Mayor
Dn. Mario Guerra, Downey Mayor Pro Tem
Rick Trejo, Downey Councilmember
Kirk Cartozian, Downey Councilmember
Bob Brazelton, Former Downey Mayor
Barbara Samperi, Downey USD Boardmember
Mike Murray, Downey Planning Commissioner
Rick Rodriguez, President, Downey Chamber of Commerce
Dr. Ed Sussman, Former Downey USD Superintendent
Jim Derry, Former Chair of Downey YMCA Board
Margarita and Jerry Rogers, Downey Unity in the Community
Lois Buchanan, Downey Community Leader
Joe and Diane Lumsdaine, Downey Community Leaders
Ronald Kolar, Downey Business Owner and Community Leader
Mario Trujillo, President, Downey Kiwanis
Vincente Ortiz, Downey Resident and Business Owner
Steve Hoffman, Past President, Downey Chamber of Commerce
Leonard Zuniga, President, Downey Sister Cities
London Steverson, Past President, Downey Sister Cities
Betty Monroy, Past President, Downey Sister Cities

My Priorities

- Public Safety and Quality of Life Issues are my top priorities.
- Will donate council salary to establish scholarships for graduating High School seniors
- I will be fiscally prudent and will make sure our city funds are spent wisely.
- I have many years of experience working for our community and have the honor of serving on two Downey City Commissions.

For a complete list of my priorities, please visit my website. www.luishmarquez.com

Vote November 4th!

Paid for by Luis Marquez for Downey City Council-I.D.# 1306627

Rancho Los Amigos looking for concierge volunteers

■ Hundreds of volunteers sought to help direct Rancho visitors.

By Mary Forney, Staff Writer

DOWNEY – Walking into the Administration Building at Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center, a woman looks confused as she reads the map in her hand.

Edward Aceves quickly moves his motorized wheelchair toward her to greet her and assist her by giving her directions to the room she is looking for.

Aceves is part of the newly formed personal concierge services for patients and visitors to Rancho Los Amigos.

“I started to do this because I wanted to volunteer,” Aceves said. “So I went to the volunteer office a month ago and asked to be a concierge for information. I wanted to give back to Rancho so I thought I would do them a favor by volunteering once or twice a week.”

Aceves has been an outpatient of Rancho Los Amigos for more than 50 years because he has been a post-polio quadriplegic since age 5. Despite knowing the campus well, he currently stays posted at an information booth in the administration building because he can't venture far from his ventilator.

“My wheelchair isn't equipped for a ventilator, but once it is equipped, I'll be all over,” he said.

Aceves' request to be a concierge of information put Rancho Los Amigos in motion to enact a proposed program that has



For information on concierge volunteer opportunities at Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center, call (562) 401-7651. Volunteers do not need to be Rancho patients. Photo by Mary Forney

been sitting on the back burner.

The program involves placing volunteers at building entrances and Debbie Tomlinson, director of the Volunteer and Support Services at Rancho Los Amigos, would like to see the program expand to inpatient areas in the future.

Tomlinson is excited about the program and is looking for volunteers from the community.

To be a concierge, the volunteers must be 18 years of age or older, have an outgoing personality, and be able to answer questions and give directions. The volunteers must attend an orientation session; complete an annual health clearance; and able to commit to working a minimum of three hours a day, at least one day a week.

“It's going to take hundreds of

people to do this,” said Tomlinson, who is reaching out to Rancho Los Amigos patients and community service organizations.

“We have five more patients who called wanting to be concierges,” Tomlinson said. “You don't have to be a patient here – you just have to be familiar with Rancho. Our patients are the perfect candidates for these positions because they're familiar with the campus. It doesn't matter how many maps you put up, people are always going to get lost and need help.”

To sign up for an orientation session, call (562) 401-7651.

The Poet's Corner

Unvented Heater

Not exactly a lethal device
but good enough for those
who took their warm winter rooms
seriously

Charlie cherished his gas fire
when you entered his domain the smell
was fossil fuel and onions mixed

Many the time we warned him
of impending disaster
The city even passed an ordinance
outlawing the use of such heater --
but Charlie was always cold

It happened like we always predicted
one Christmas night the family
forgot the heater --
Next morning four family members
and a neighbor were on the list of lost --

Charlie? Oh, he died of
something else.

–John Vincent,
Downey

Can you hear it?

Shh...Can you hear it?
The Sweetness of Silence
The Sounds of life...

In the Silence you can hear it
In the Silence you can feel it

Shh...Can you hear it?
The Children laughing
Living life, fun and innocent...

Shh...Can you hear it?
The Sirens screaming
Rushing to the aid of a Stranger...

Shh...Can you hear it?
The Dogs barking
With excitement at another Canine...

Shh...Can you hear it?
Can you hear the life in Our city?
Can you hear what the Silence can bring?

Shh...Can you hear the music of the silence?
Can you hear
The Trumpets roaring?
The Piano singing?
The Violin sopping?

Shh...Can you hear it?
The ocean Waves crashing...
The Seagulls laughing...
The Wind whistling...

Shh...Can you hear what the silence is?
Can you feel what the silence is?
The Silence is not the ability to not have any sound...
But it is to listen to Life around you...

Shh...Can You hear it?
–Nicholas Baxter,
Downey

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

For a safe and prosperous Downey

Elect

Dr. Shahira A-Malek Councilwoman District 5

Dear Downey Neighbors and Friends,

I share your pride and concern for our great city, Downey. My Christian family and I have been living in Downey for 25 years, during which I have been serving the community as a pediatrician. My children attended Downey public and private schools.

Some of my Qualifications

My long list of experiences includes serving on a number of humanitarian institutions and other committees, including planning, financing, and bylaw committees, as well as governing boards. I have held the position of Chief of Medical Staff at two hospitals simultaneously, and I am willing to apply all of my skills and experience to serve our community.

Some of my Goals

1. After-school programs to help prevent violence, crime, and teenage pregnancy. This can be coordinated with schools, churches, parents, and volunteers, including utilizing the great abilities of our honorable seniors.
2. Support for our police, fire, and other civic services to help keep Downey safe and free of gangs and drugs.
3. Attract decent businesses to Downey, such as an amusement park.
4. Review the building codes and colors, to preserve our city's beauty, class, and integrity.

With your involvement and support, we can keep Downey prosperous, safe, and classy.

Please allow me to work on your behalf by voting for
Dr. Shahira A-Malek on November 4th.

Integrity • Commitment

Experience • Devotion

Shahiramalek@aol.com State ID# 0261312



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our publication
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TAKE YOUR BEST SHOT!

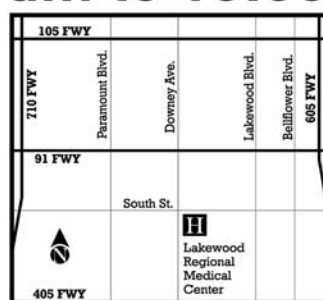
LAKWOOD REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER
will host a

FREE FLU SHOT CLINIC*

Saturday, November 1st • 8:00 am to 10:00 am

In the Hospital Parking Lot
3700 East South Street • Lakewood
1-800-813-4345

Lakewood Regional
Medical Center



*Flu Vaccines are for individuals 18 years or older and are limited to the first 1000 attendees.

Dentist Offers Money for Halloween Candy

Dr. John Mc Allister and staff this Halloween are hoping kids will pick out a few pieces of their favorite candy and then turn the rest in. Why? Because he knows how damaging candy can be to children's teeth. Dr. Mc Allister sees the effects of Snickers bars and

M&Ms in the mouths of his young patients. The candy will then be shipped to our troops overseas. Children who participate in this event will receive a toothbrush, along with one dollar per pound of candy.

Here is how to participate:

On Monday, November 3, 2008, bring your children and the candy they want to donate to the troops overseas to 10917 Paramount Blvd. between 3 pm to 6:30 pm.

We will weigh the candy, and pay your child a dollar per pound of candy.

Your child will also receive a toothbrush. The candy will then be shipped to troops overseas.

If you're not sure of where our office is located, or have any questions, feel free to call us: (562) 869-0928.



Rhetorical, maybe

By Eric Pierce

Why do people choose to run for office? Specifically city council. Looking at how ugly - nay, juvenile - local politics are turning, it's the one question that nags me persistently.

Is it the \$700 or so monthly stipend? Is it the free use of a cell phone? The city credit card, expense accounts, your own parking space?

The third floor office? With a personal secretary?

Or do some people simply get a rise by sitting in elevated leather chairs during council meetings, looking down at us peons? Is it egotism?

Do you enjoy bragging of your power and authority? Is it the fancy title before your name?

Or is it because you love your community, and wish to serve your fellow citizens, honestly and faithfully?

Letters to the Editor:

Prokop's version

Dear Editor:

For two weeks I had adorned the fence at the Rives Mansion with my candidate's (Gary De Remer) yard signs, by permission of the property owner. Then strange things began to happen. Almost every other candidate running for City Council began putting his or her respective signs up with ours. And then ours began to disappear.

Further conversation with the owner revealed that he only gave additional permission to a candidate running for District 3. So now, because of the unsightly condition of his fence with an overabundance of signs, the owner removed all the signs, including ours.

On Monday evening, I had a meeting with the person who holds the lease on the Rives property. While at that meeting we noticed that a person was putting up several sign on the fence. At closer look they turned out to be Luis Marquez signs. I knew the property owner had decided to remove all signs, including ours. I thought that for Mr. Marquez to put his signs back up with such disregard for the owner's wishes was very disrespectful to the property owner, who by now, I considered my friend.

I approached this person who put the signs on the fence and asked him to remove them. He refused and I proceeded to remove the signs in accordance with what I believed to be the owner's wishes. As I approached this person with signs in hand to give them to him, he pulled out a camera and snapped my picture.

It was at that moment I noticed Luis Marquez standing on the corner across the street. I walked over to him to ask why he was putting signs up without permission. Luis claimed to have the necessary permission showing me a paper with a signature that he claimed to be of the property owner.

We then had a bit of a heated discussion, but eventually we parted amicably and we shook hands. Still wondering under what circumstances permission was obtained, I apologized for removing his signs and told him I would put them back up, which I did reluctantly.

What you have just read is the truth about the circumstances of the way the photo was taken.

— **Mike Prokop,**
Downey

And Cartozian's version

Dear Editor,

If I hadn't witnessed it with my own two eyes, I wouldn't have believed it - that and the fact that a few friends were there to witness it with me and pinched me to make sure I wasn't watching some B-rate movie.

We were across the street at the new Downey Brewing Company, formerly Nordic Fox, watching Monday Night Football. It was around half-time of the game and Luis Marquez called me after getting a second, indisputable, and signed (not required by code) letter of authorization from the Rives Mansion owners Carmen Amarillas and Oscar Rivera to again put up his signs.

The first set had been taken down illegally last week from an "unknown" source.

Marquez told me that he suspected someone will try to steal his sign again from the Rives Mansion. He has contended that this has already happened in the hundreds all over town.

There around 7:30 p.m., in clear view from the Downey Brewing Company, was Mike Prokop, who is the self-proclaimed advocate and manager of Gary De Remer's campaign, taking down Luis Marquez signs in front of the Rives Mansion on Paramount Boulevard.

It was fortunate for Marquez that someone from his campaign was there to capture the thievery by taking a picture of the act. I believe that picture was already submitted to the paper.

If you've guessed that I'm mad about what is transpiring, you are absolutely correct. What was more troubling to see was that the candidate Gary De Remer, was standing by just feet away witnessing it too.

You have got to be kidding me! I have run successfully in two previous city council elections and have never touched another candidate's sign. The golden rule is never to touch the signs of other candidates - everyone knows it.

This campaign just doesn't seem to care and that greatly concerns me.

— **Kirk Cartozian,**
Councilman, city of Downey

Prop. 8 debate

Dear Editor:

Marie Augimeri's letter does not properly present the facts on the Prop. 8 campaign ("No on 8," 10/17/08). In 2000, 61 percent of California voters passed Prop. 22, which entered into the California Family Code the statement, "Only marriage between a man and a woman is valid or recognized in California." Prop. 8 will insert this statement into the California State Constitution.

This overwhelming decision of the California voters was overturned by four activist judges in May 2008. Prop. 8 is simply about preserving the will of the people to define marriage and protect the family.

It is true that Prop. 8 doesn't have any wording about education. However, the California Education Code already requires that health education classes instruct children about marriage. If the definition of marriage is changed by law, then teachers will be required to teach that law. Children will be taught that marriage is between any two adults regardless of gender.

No rights already granted to same gender couples are being denied with the passage of Prop. 8. All of the rights guaranteed under the laws for civil unions will remain intact. Prop. 8 simply preserves the definition of marriage to be between a man and a woman so that families and children will be protected.

— **Larry Larsen,**
Downey

Dear Editor:

This week, "Yes on 8" yard signs were stolen from my home and from six other homes in my Downey neighborhood.

I want my civil rights of free speech and private property to be respected. I don't want people trespassing in my yard and stealing my property. Why don't opponents just put up their own signs instead of stealing mine?

If you see "Yes on 8" signs at a location one day, and on the next day see that they are gone, maybe that tells you something about who demands the tolerance of others but refuses to practice it themselves.

— **Kristie Larsen,**
Downey

Dear Editor:

Four justices on the California Supreme Court said allowing gay marriage was the right thing to do in their opinion.

However, it is not what Man thinks is right that counts. What God says is right is what counts. God instituted marriage between man and woman for the procreation of the races. Two men or two women cannot procreate.

— **George Teats, Sr.,**
Downey

Dear Editor,

After reading all the propaganda being distributed by the "Yes on 8" backers, I feel I have to say something. The "Yes on 8" backers are employing the same negative and untruthful tactics as the McCain campaign.

Having the right to marry the person you love should be a fundamental right in America. It does not mean the end of marriage. Churches will not lose their tax exempt status. The "No on 8" backers do not want the various religions to change their policies with regard to same sex couples contrary to what the "Yes on 8" backers state.

In addition, not one word in Prop 8 mentions education, and no child can be forced, against the will of their parents, to be taught anything about health and family issues at school. California law prohibits it, and the "Yes on 8" campaign knows they are not being truthful in this regard as well.

I have been in a strong, loving relationship for over five years now. We are registered as domestic partners with the State of California. Whether we choose to marry or not will not negatively effect one church service, one tax bill, or one classroom lesson. However, it has the chance to positively affect tens of thousands same-sex couples who share a life together, just like everyone else.

Imagine if the laws prohibited interracial marriages - Barack Obama might not be poised to become the next President of the United States.

Please vote 'no' on Proposition 8.

— **K. Zelezik,**
Downey



Letters to the Editor:

Bounced check

Dear Editor:

In this political season when our choices for national, state and local offices are standard at best, and the best are lost under slick marketing campaigns, we hunger for great leaders with vision, judgment and strong wills to lead us out of the mess we find ourselves in. We get bits and pieces of candidates through skillful marketing exploit to emphasize the good and conceal the bad.

For this reason, I feel compelled to share my experience with a candidate running for Downey City Council. I've known Maria Larkin since 1992 when I purchased my travel agency here in Downey. We worked together on committees to improve Downtown Downey and other issues.

In October 2004, Maria and her business associates paid \$14,194 for three airline tickets, which the check eventually bounced for non-sufficient funds. I pursued her and her associates for over a year as she promised endlessly to make good on the check. They never did. She stopped calling and avoiding my calls hoping the issue would go away. That's when I turned the matter over to the Downey Police Department.

I honestly feel this experience with Maria Larkin raises serious questions about her judgment and ability to lead this city. I feel compelled to share this experience with the residents of Downey, from which many are my friends and customers. On Nov. 4, we will vote for nation, state and local leaders who we hope will bring great judgment, morals and ethics to their jobs.

Please vote on Nov. 4. Make the right choice.

— **Robert Zavala,**
Owner, Freedom Vacations

Editor's note: According to the Downey Police Department, Maria Larkin was not considered a suspect in the case, which was rejected by the district attorney's office in 2005.

More Letters to the Editor, page 12

Teens aware of street racing risks

CONTRIBUTED BY STEPHEN WALLACE, M.S. ED.

Amid rising concerns about dangerous teen driving behaviors sits a common threat rarely considered outside of popular depictions in such movies as "Rebel Without a Cause," "Grease," and "The Fast and the Furious": street racing.

Perhaps surprisingly, teens themselves rank street racing as one of the most risky in a slate of driving practices that lead to crashes, injuries, and, too often, deaths (between 2001 and 2006, 804 fatalities have been attributed to street racing, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration).

Indeed, a new study from Liberty Mutual Insurance and SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions) reveals that a vast majority of teens (97 percent) feel that street racing is dangerous, listing it above cell phone use, speeding, having more than three passengers in the car, being upset, using a GPS system, and changing clothes while driving.

Nevertheless, the research points out that more than one third of teen drivers (38 percent) say they have engaged in street racing.

That's bad news.

So, too, are media accounts of the consequences. In Eagle Rock, Calif., four teens were killed (including three from one family) and another was critically injured in what an LAPD lieutenant called "a high speed drag race," according to egnews.com.

In Eugene, Oregon, a college football player required 75 stitches to close a gash in his head, the result of speed racing, said the Associated Press.

In Mountainside, New Jersey, an 18-year-old and a 20-year-old were killed after their Chevy Corvette crashed in a street race against a Chevy Camaro, reported My Central Jersey.

And on Staten Island in New York, seven teens were transported to the hospital after a street racing crash that ultimately claimed the life of a 17-year-old who succumbed to what WNBC4 referred to as severe head and internal injuries.

These stories merely scratch the surface of the death and destruction wrought by this alarming activity.

Fortunately, good news can be found in the fact that some states, including California, Massachusetts, and Illinois, are revisiting or introducing laws to better protect teen drivers - and, by extension - other motorists on our roads and highways.

In California, drivers convicted of street racing face prison sentences of 30 days to 6 months and/or as much as \$1,000 in fines, if their offenses

resulted in injury for someone other than themselves.

In Massachusetts, a new law effective in February 2008 dictates that convicted street racers be punished with up to 2½ years of jail time or a fine of up to \$1,000. Offenders also get their licenses suspended for up to 30 days for the first offense and 180 days for subsequent violations.

In Illinois, current legislation states that driving privileges be revoked for any person convicted of street racing and that law enforcement may impound the offender's vehicle for up to five days.

As if street racing isn't enough to worry about, teen drivers also report engaging in other high-risk driving behaviors in startling numbers.

- 39 percent say they speed often
- 37 percent say they often talk on a cell phone when behind the wheel
- 30 percent say they often text message while driving

When you take "often" out of the equation, those numbers jump precipitously to 91 percent (speeding), 90 percent (talking on a cell phone), and 73 percent (text messaging) of teen drivers.

Of course, the drivers aren't the only ones in jeopardy. More than one quarter of teens indicate that they are frequently passengers in a car where such unsafe behaviors are taking place.

What's their responsibility? Research shows that young drivers may be more likely to listen to their friends than to adults - so teen passengers need to be empowered to speak up when drivers are placing them, and others, at risk.

But, ironically, that may be easier said than done.

Despite the fact that so many teens feel that so many behaviors are dangerous, only about half of teens (57 percent) say they would ask a driver to stop engaging in even the most serious behaviors, such as street racing. Sad when you consider that most teen drivers say that if their friends asked, they would stop racing (87 percent), speeding (79 percent), text messaging (80 percent), or talking on a cell phone (68 percent).

Speaking up about slowing down will fuel peer-led persuasion to stop teens from chasing cars.

Stephen Wallace, national chairman of SADD and author of the new book, *Reality Gap: Alcohol, Drugs, and Sex—What Parents Don't Know and Teens Aren't Telling*, has broad experience as a school psychologist and adolescent counselor. For more information about SADD, visit sadd.org. For more information about Stephen, visit stephengraywallace.com.

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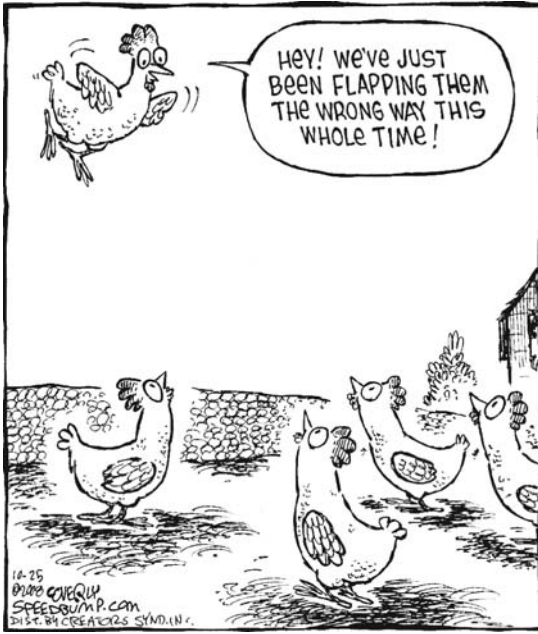
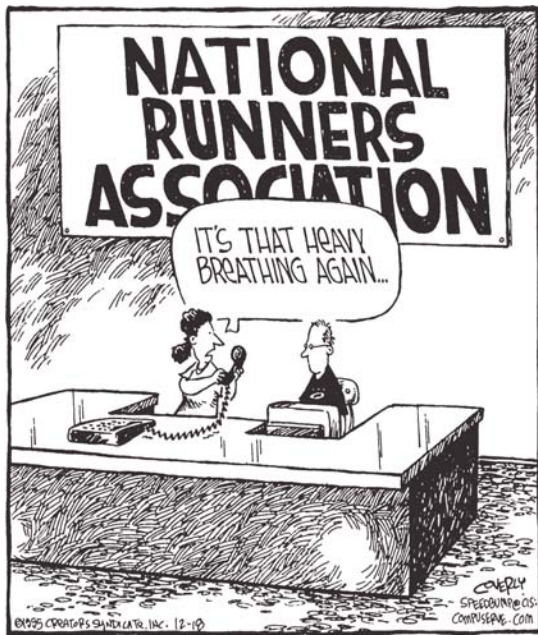
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SPEED BUMP



DAVE COVERLY



Downey Community Calendar

Events For October

- Sat. Oct. 25: **Holiday bazaar**, Moravian Church of Downey, 10 a.m.
- Sat. Oct. 25: **Downey Symphony concert**, Downey Theatre, 8 p.m.
- Sun. Oct. 26: **Special Care Nursery reunion**, DRMC, noon
- Wed. Oct. 29: **Business Watch meeting**, City Hall, noon
- Thurs. Oct. 30: **Chamber of Commerce mixer**, Embassy Suites, 5 p.m.

City Meetings

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

Regularly Scheduled Meetings

Mondays

- 6:30 p.m.: **Metropolitan Masonic Lodge #352 dinner**, mtg., for information call 426-6786.
- 6:30 p.m.: **Overeaters Anonymous**, at Downey Regional Med. Center Conf. Room A, for info. call 426-6786.
- 1st Mon., 4 p.m.: **2nd Century Foundation**, at City Hall, 1st floor, call 927-9790.
- 2nd Mon., 11 a.m.: **American Legion Auxiliary #270**, at United Methodist Church, for info. call 923-2481.
- 2nd Mon., 3 p.m.: **Keep Downey Beautiful**, at City Hall, for more information call 904-7159.
- 3rd Mon., 7 p.m.: **American Legion Post 270**, Los Amigos Country Club, call 869-1053.
- 4th Mon., 7:30 p.m.: **Downey Numismatists**, at Downey Retirement Center, call 862-6666.

Tuesdays

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

Wednesdays

- 7 a.m.: **Kiwanis Club**, at Rio Hondo Events Center. Call Steve Roberson at 927-2626.
- 1 p.m.: **Women's Bocce Club**, for information call 869-8782.
- 1st Weds., 10 a.m.: **Woman's Club of Downey**, for information call Barbara Briley-Beard 869-7618.
- 1st Weds., 11:30 a.m.: **Downey Coordinating Council**, at Community Center, for information call 923-4357.
- 1st Weds., 7:30 p.m.: **Downey Stamp Club**, at Maude Price School cafeteria, for information call 928-3028.
- 1st Weds., 7:30 p.m.: **Downey Emblem Club #309**, at Downey's Elks Lodge, for information call 868-4386.
- 1st & 3rd Weds., 7:00 p.m.: **AfterCare Post Cencer Therapy Group**, for information call 923-4800.
- 2nd Weds., 7:30 p.m.: **Downey Model A Club**, at Gallatin School Cafeteria, for information call 928-4132.
- 2nd Weds., 7:30 p.m.: **Downey Sister Cities Ass'n**, at Maude Price School, Call 862-7197.
- 2nd Weds., 11:45 a.m. - **Downey Christian Women's Club**, at Los Amigos CC, Call 927-8488.
- 2nd & 4th Weds., 11:00 a.m. - **AARP**, at Barbara J. Riley CC, Call Lorene Frazier 861-6075.
- 3rd Weds., - **Downey Dog Obedience Club** Apollo Park, for info. call Gina 869-5213 or Valerie 420-2972.
- 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**, 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...

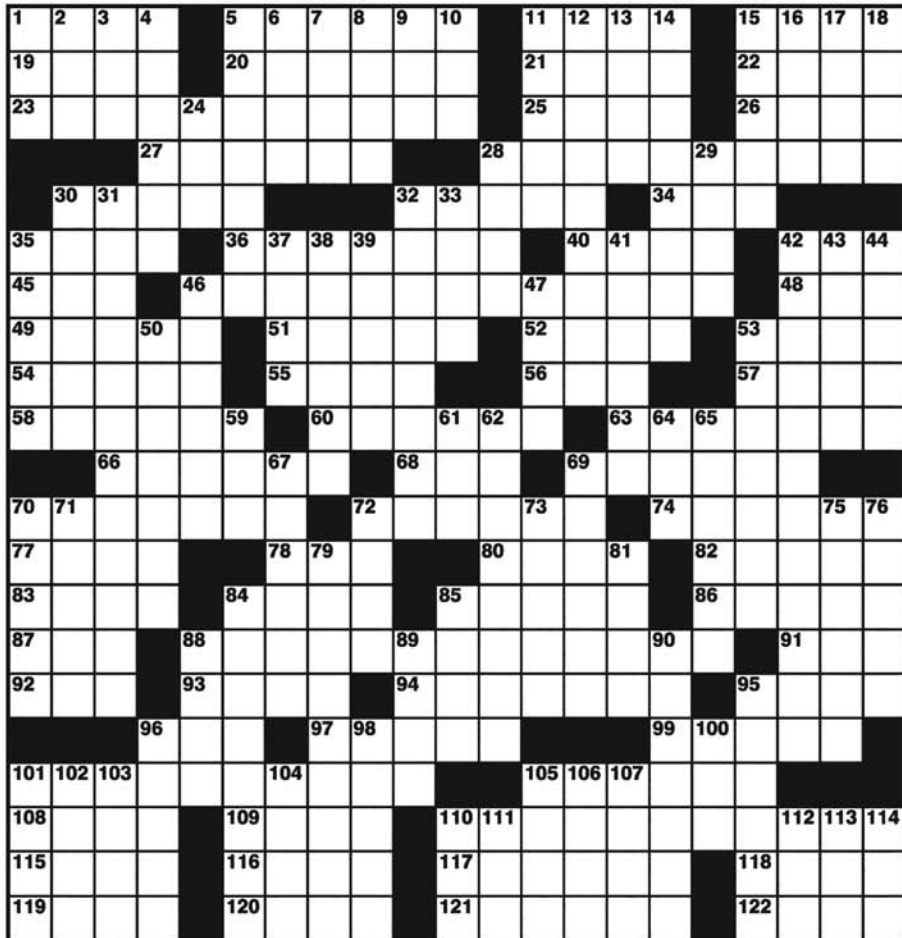
- Oct. 24, 1929: U.S. stock values collapse, triggering widespread panic and the stock market crash of 1929.
- 1931: The George Washington Bridge, connecting New York and New Jersey, opens to traffic.
- 1939: Nylon stockings are sold publicly in the United States.
- 1945: The United Nations is founded.
- 1992: The Toronto Blue Jays become the first non-U.S. team to win the World Series.
- 2005: Rosa Parks, civil rights activist, dies in her Detroit apartment. She was 92.

THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com)
SPEAKING VOLUMES: All at your favorite store
 by Gail Grabowski

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| 51 Swiftiness | 116 Take a shine to | 46 Way past ripe |
| 52 Nimble-fingered | 117 Was very fond of | 47 Mid-March day |
| 53 Green scl. | 118 Niagara River source | 50 More sentimental, perhaps |
| 54 Attack from all sides | 119 Dark-skinned fruit | 53 Demanded |
| 55 Catchall abbr. | 120 Sideways glance | 59 Flat-screen ancestor: Abbr. |
| 56 MPG rater | 121 Cracker seed | 61 Fiddler of rhyme |
| 57 Warrior princess of TV | 122 Steals from | 62 Basement setup, perhaps |
| 58 "Yada, yada, yada..." | DOWN | 64 "Dig in!" |
| 60 Puts up | 1 Egyptian snake | 65 Does a teacher's job |
| 63 Canceled out | 2 Guy's date | 67 Trip to the summit |
| 66 La Scala stagings | 3 Eggs: Lat. | |
| 68 Galley implement | 4 Old Faithful, for one | |
| 69 Shirt stiffener | 5 Experience | |
| 70 Sanctifies, in a way | 6 Box at the theater | |
| | 7 General's symbol | |
| | 8 Highland toppers | |

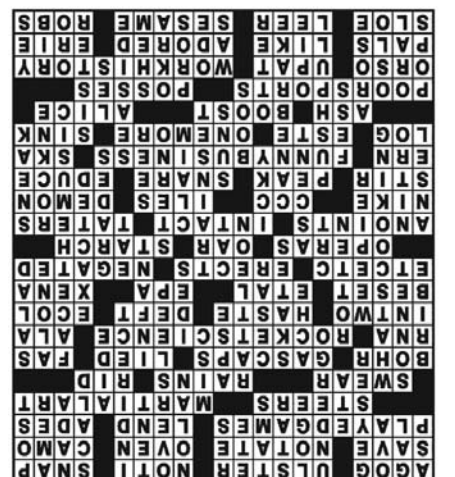
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|--|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 69 Buffet-table heater | 84 Like some toddler toys | 102 Face-to-face test |
| 70 Wilderness | 85 Phoenix hoopsters | 103 European capital |
| 71 Photographer Adams | 88 Come clean, with "up" | 104 <i>Andy Griffith Show</i> son |
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| 74 Gold Rush stake | 95 Many a bridesmaid | 107 Noah's eldest |
| 75 Coach of Notre Dame's "Four Horsemen" | 96 Cropped up | 110 Used to be |
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| 79 Bamboo thicket | 100 French article | 112 El Dorado treasure |
| 81 Clairvoyant | 101 Ice cream on a stick | 113 Barbecue piece |
| | | 114 "Agreed!" |

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.

"Kung fu" (28 Across) is derived from a Chinese phrase that means "achievement through great effort." Niels Bohr (35 Across) was one of the team of physicists on the Manhattan Project. Punta del Este (93 Across), on the southeast-ern tip of Uruguay, is an upscale beach resort.



Paging Dr. Alan Frischer...

BY DR. ALAN FRISCHER

"New Miracle Relief Formula eliminates even the worst pain...almost instantly." "Soothe away joint pain and watch as your skin regains a nourished, youthful appearance." "It's like oil for the joints - it helps promote full range of motion and flexibility." "Patented ingredients help support, ease, and rebuild joints."



Glucosamine chondroitin is the most popular dietary supplement for the treatment of osteoarthritis, the most common form of arthritis. It is also used often for acute inflammatory musculoskeletal conditions - those sore, inflamed muscles or joints where the pain just doesn't seem to go away. Your doctor, chiropractor, or physical therapist may have (sometimes reluctantly!) recommended it. Are you one of those who are sold on it? Does it really work? Is it harmful? How are we, as consumers, to evaluate the potential benefits of such a product - other than by trying it?

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) classifies dietary supplements as a subcategory of "food", providing manufacturers with greater leeway and less oversight than with products classified as "pharmaceutical". This leads to the asterisk syndrome. After claims, such as those in the opening paragraph above, are made on packaging or product inserts,

an asterisk is used with the following disclaimer: **These statements have not been evaluated by the Food and Drug Administration. This product is not intended to diagnose, treat, cure, or prevent any disease.**

Nevertheless I will, on occasion, recommend this product to my patients. This is what is currently understood:

Glucosamine is available in many forms, including glucosamine sulfate, glucosamine hydrochloride (HCL), and N-acetylglucosamine (NAG). There appears to be no conclusive evidence that one form is better than another. Chondroitin is typically sold as chondroitin sulfate.

Glucosamine is an essential component of our cartilage, mucous membranes, and synovial fluid. It can be manufactured synthetically, but commercial producers often extract it from lobsters, crabs, shrimp, and other sea creatures.

Chondroitin is also an essential component of cartilage. It can be manufactured synthetically, but is commonly extracted from cow and shark cartilage. It is believed to promote the production of new cartilage and delay the breakdown of existing cartilage. Study participants have generally reported a decrease in pain and increase in joint movement when taking chondroitin, but good controlled studies taking into account aspirin and other arthritis medication taken simultaneously have not been done. Study results vary widely, but are even more positive when chondroitin is taken in combination with glucosamine.

No serious side effects have yet been found from either glucosamine or chondroitin. The most common side effects of glucosamine are mild gastrointestinal complaints such as constipation and diarrhea, and sometimes headache. There have been no major reports of allergic reactions, but glucosamine is made from shellfish, and people allergic to seafood should be cautious. With chondroitin, hair loss and minor gastrointestinal complaints have been seen. Chondroitin can decrease the blood's ability to clot, so if you are taking blood thinners such as aspirin, plavix, or coumadin, it is not advisable to take chondroitin.

Quality evidence for the efficacy of the joint supplements glucosamine and chondroitin is hard to find and often contradictory. The combination of the two appears to have the most benefit based on existing studies, but not all researchers are yet in agreement. My recommendations are:

- Get a good diagnosis before treating the problem
- Explore the pros and cons of all treatment options with your physician
- If you wish to try glucosamine chondroitin, have your physician guide you
- Remember that all dietary supplements are subjected to less strenuous scientific review than are pharmaceuticals, so be wary of "miracle cures" and keep a healthy skepticism.

As always, I wish you good health and easy, pain-free movement!

Dr. Alan Frischer is former chief of staff and current chief of medicine at Downey Regional Medical Center. Write to him in care of this newspaper at 8301 E. Florence Ave., Suite 100, Downey, CA 90240.

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



Gum disease may raise the risk of developing cancer. This finding is based on a long-running study in which male health professionals with a history of gum disease were found to have a 14 percent higher overall risk of developing cancer. After controlling for smoking and other risk factors, periodontal disease was found to be significantly associated with an increased risk of lung, kidney, pancreatic, and hematological (blood) cancers. This higher overall risk was even detected in men who had never smoked. Researchers point out that people with gum disease have inflammation in their blood, and inflammation has been linked with cancer. It is also possible that whatever causes the inflammation may also cause gum disease and cancer.

Always feel free to discuss your dental concerns with us. We're located at 10800 Paramount Blvd., Suite 307, where we practice modern dentistry. We provide the best care possible by evaluating your needs individually. We'll explain our findings and recommendations, and together we'll choose the best treatment plan. Our concern is your comfort and confidence - our goal is to help you preserve your natural teeth for a lifetime. Rest assured that you can trust the health of your teeth to our extensive experience and training. Please call (562) 923-3714 to schedule an appointment.

P.S. Whether or not maintaining good oral hygiene can help prevent cancer, preventing and treating periodontal (gum) disease is a good end in itself.

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October Fashion Tips: Indian Summer

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

From Angelica Staves:

According to Wikipedia, Indian summer is a name given to a period of sunny, warm weather in autumn, not long before winter. I focus more on the warmer colors. In this picture, I have on a brown Graphic Tee and a pair of jean shorts (for those warmer days). These clothing items can be found at the wonderful Charlotte Russe.



This is my first year ever shopping at this particular store because I used to think that the clothing in there was too fancy. One day I had the urge to venture out and shop in a store out of my element and I come to find out they had clothing that I would wear! I could have added extra accessories but I thought that might take away from the outfit so I just added a pair of gold earrings to blend in with the brown and yellow. (A pair of dark blue skinny jeans would go well with this tee, too)

From Brian Peterson:

I was shopping at Stonewood Center when I checked out Pac Sun and saw this Billabong tee and Dillon skinny's that were tight. To top it off, I got the sickest combo to close the deal, a Rodney hoodie for just \$50! I was stoked and my deal was a steal!

P.S.: I really did buy this stuff: tee, \$19.95; Dillon jeans, \$39.50; Hurley hoodie, \$49.50; my experience? Priceless!

From Cailee Workman:

Although school just started and the leaves are changing, we are still living with summer temperatures. I turn to looser fitting shirts and a nice comfortable pair of jeans. Lately, I have been attracted to shirts with empire waists. They are flattering and trendy. Also, they keep me cool in the Indian Summer temperatures.

From Joseph Szekula:

If you're like me, you don't really care if your outfit goes with the weather, just as long it's not too over the top. I mean, don't wear a big rain coat on a hot summer day! My favorite summer colors are gray, yellow, and white; to me these colors are fashionable and stand out but are not loud.

From Lauren Alvarez:

During this hot fall season, sometimes it's difficult to find an outfit that is cute, classy, and comfortable all in one! With this look, you can experience the new fall trends while staying cool in this sizzling weather. A high-neck dress for \$21.40 from Forever 21 will definitely have people turning heads!

From Stanley Doeum:

It's coming into the end of the summer and fall is near, and so the question is, "What to wear?!" So wear clothes that keep you cool and comfortable, and fresh as well. For this I recommend lightweight shirts to give your body some air, along with simple jeans and fresh kicks. And from time to time a light jacket with a few accessories.



For my outfit I headed to Pac Sun and picked up a pair of gray skinny jeans and this amazing black and purple vest. I kept it simple with a plain V-neck with the vest over it, and it looks great with these gray skinny jeans and a pair of my own matching shoes (I threw in my own sunglasses to pick up the mood). Pac Sun is the place to go right now to keep it cool and stylish, yet simple.

From Sunnie Mao:

Let's rock this unusually warm weather. My advice: buy a pair of trendy boots. They're perfect for fall and winter, and guess what? They look



Introducing the new Teen Life of Style Crew for Lakewood, Los Cerritos and Stonewood Centers (from left): Joseph Szekula, Brian Peterson, Marlene Castillo, Stanley Doeum, Angelica Staves, Sunnie Mao, Cailee Workman, Lauren Alvarez, and Tiffany Ford.

Style crew gets new members

Downey – Nine local teens were selected last month as "crew members" for the Teen Life of Style Crew at Lakewood, Los Cerritos and Stonewood Centers.

The nine were selected from 25 semi-finalists at three back-to-school fashion shows on Aug. 22, 23 and 24.

The members include: Brian Peterson of Downey; Marlene Castillo of Downey; Angelica Staves of Inglewood; Cailee Workman of Lakewood; Sunnie Mao of Lakewood; Joseph Szekula of Long Beach; Lauren Alvarez of La Palma; Stanley Doeum of Long Beach; and Tiffany Ford of Long Beach.

They group each received \$250 shopping center gift cards and will serve as the teen spokespersons and stylists for the three centers.

Their fashion tips for teens also appear monthly in this newspaper.

fabulous with a pair of shorts! I bought a pair of versatile, gray boots from Vision shoes in the Lakewood Center for only \$35.

From Tiffany Ford:

Are you looking for something totally cool to wear for this Indian summer season? Well, start off with something breezy and cool. It's still hot out so wearing a flowy shirt wouldn't hurt. The shirt that I chose is breezy, allowing air to flow and keep me cool. You should also focus on light colors to keep the sun off your skin. Darker colors seem to attract the sun, making you hot and sweaty.

Whites, blues, greens and pinks are the perfect colors for a fun and breezy style. You might also want to add a hint of a warm color like brown to symbolize the upcoming fall season. So get up and get out and enjoy the sun while you still can!

Tickets on sale for DMOA concert

Downey – Violinist Dr. Jim Sitterly will present a program of solo violin pieces combining the baroque music of Telemann and 20th century music of Debussy at a Nov. 6 concert at the Downey Museum of Art.

Featured on the program will be "Gypsy Dreaming," an unaccompanied violin piece five years in the making by Sitterly.

A music teacher at Harbor College and the Westland School, Sitterly has been active in a variety of performance situations in Los Angeles. For 10 years, he served as violin soloist and conductor in the concert tours of pop pianist John Tesh. Sitterly also plays and records with PBS guitarist Benise.

In addition to pop groups, Sitterly also plays with contemporary ensembles such as Lentz, Little Emo and Marstin Smith.

Active in the TV music scene, Sitterly's work has included the concertmaster position of the hit shows "Alias" and "Lost."

The concert begins at 7:15 p.m. General admission is \$10 and senior/student tickets are \$5. DUSD teachers and students are free.

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



'Sweeney Todd' will play for two nights at the Long Beach Terrace Theatre.

'Sweeney Todd' in Long Beach

Long Beach – "Sweeney Todd, the Demon Barber of Fleet Street," will make its Long Beach premiere at the Terrace Theatre at the Long Beach Convention Center for just two performances on Dec. 5 and 6.

Tickets, ranging from \$30 to \$50, are now on sale.

"Sweeney Todd" is based on the 19th century legend of a London barber driven to a life of crime after a malevolent judge takes his wife and child from him. Sweeney's plan for revenge includes a cutthroat partnership with Mrs. Lovett – an enterprising businesswoman – who is soon producing the tastiest meat pies in London.

Tickets are available at all Ticketmaster outlets or by calling (213) 480-3232.

Romantic comedy hits the stage

Long Beach – "Bus Stop," a romantic comedy by William Inge, is now playing at the Long Beach Playhouse Studio Theatre.

When a raging snowstorm blows into a Kansas town, eight unlikely strangers become stranded overnight in a bus stop diner. Over the course of the night, the eight strangers realize that each has something to learn about life, love and – most of all – themselves.

"Bus Stop" runs through Nov. 22. For tickets, call (562) 494-1014.

Boutique fundraiser in Long Beach

Long Beach – The Assistance League of Long Beach will hold its annual boutique fundraiser, "Destinations," Nov. 16 at the Long Beach Philanthropic Center, 6220 E. Spring St., in Long Beach.

The boutique will include home décor, children's gifts, fine jewelry, and more. There will also be raffle for a trip to the JW Marriott Hong Kong and \$4,000 cash. Raffle tickets are \$100 each.

For more information, call (562) 627-5650 or visit www.allb.org.

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Caton: Longest-serving city manager in city of Downey's history.

Continued from page 1

Beach in 1974, and, exhibiting a practical streak ("Who will hire a history major?"), earning a master's in public administration at USC in 1976.

While in college, he worked for three years for the city of Long Beach and, after getting his master's, started as a non-paid intern for the city of Garden Grove "to learn." Soon, though, the city offered him a paying job, in the planning department. Today, he really could claim, "I started at the bottom."

His next job took him to Signal Hill, where he would rise to assistant city manager. His administrative duties embraced the personnel department, then purchasing, then recreation services. "At each successive assignment, I would learn a bit more about how to run a city," he says.

He then accepted the city manager's job at Cudahy, a small contract city, where he would serve for seven years. "Here I really learned how to manage one," he says. "I even served as city clerk."

Thus when he came to Downey in 1989 as the city's sixth city manager, Caton says he came prepared. Over the years, Caton says he has always nurtured a team approach, encouraging his department heads to be creative, to come up with ideas (how and where to save money, how to do things more efficiently, etc.) on how to realize Downey's articulated vision.

"Then it's my job to be supportive of them," he says. "The fun part for me is if you allow them to be creative, then things happen. My job is to let them go out there and make Downey better."

Downey has avoided the hard times that befell such cities as Bell Gardens and South Gate, because he says "we've been blessed with very honest, sincere, and hard-working City Council members. We truly are the envy of other cities. Oh, there was an anxious time that lasted six months a few years ago when I had a little difficulty with some council members who allegedly made a move to oust me. There were people who were for it, and there were also people who were against it. The matter



Gerald Caton "started at the bottom" before rising through the ranks to become city manager. "I love Downey," he says. "The point is I really enjoy working here. That's why I want Downey to do well."

was eventually resolved in my favor. I wasn't really overly concerned as I had a severance package. Through it all, the supposed instigators and I have remained friends."

There was also another time in the early 1990s, he says, when "we lost six or seven city car dealerships that included Chevrolet, necessitating a freeze on hiring and salary increases, and so on."

"This was a time when we really tried to be smart about things. The recent boil-water order dislocation, ultimately traced to glacial state procedures, was irritating and upsetting more than anything else," he says.

He points out that Downey is lucky in many other aspects as well: "We are the last full-service city in the Gateway Region. We have our own police and fire departments, for instance. We are one of the few cities that have a full-time engineering department and a community services complement. We are one of the very few that have a golf course and a community theatre. Downey is a spe-

cial place, a special city. I love Downey. The point is I really enjoy working here. That's why I want Downey to do well."

He continues, "Our major challenge is to make sure the quality of our services stays high and that we can pay for these services. In fact, I'd like it said of me when I'm gone that I left a well-run city that is financially sound."

Caton cites the city's "flat" organizational structure. "We don't have layers upon layers of people. We try to do away with bureaucracy. We run a very lean ship compared to other full-service cities. The City Council sets policy. All major decisions are made by them. They're the big picture people. They're the ones who decide how to spend the city's money. The day-to-day business I run. Once the Council decides on the budget, their most powerful tool, it's up to me to spend the budgeted money properly."

Among the highlights in his long tenure, Caton takes particular pride in Downey's acquisition from the federal government of the for-

mer NASA/Boeing property. He says NASA held all the options one could imagine on the property, and it took the monumental efforts of a lot of people, from Sen. Dianne Feinstein to former Council members Bob Brazelton, Joyce Lawrence, and Diane Boggs, to Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard, to finally close the deal.

He remembers flying, almost on a moment's notice, along with other Council members, to either Washington, D.C. or Houston to follow up on negotiations, which took 10 years.

"The major players were Sen. Feinstein and then Congressman Steve Horn," he says.

"In any event," says Caton, whose 22-year-old daughter, Rachel, is a senior at USC while 16-year-old son, John, attends Servite High (their mom is a nurse), "I follow the dictum that when everything is running well, the City Council gets the credit. When things make a bad turn, we really swing into action."

It is a philosophy that has served him well.

Health screenings offered Nov. 19

DOWNEY – Stroke and osteoporosis screenings will be offered to Downey residents Nov. 19 at the Downey United Masonic Lodge #220, 8244 3rd St. Appointments begin at 9 a.m.

Life Line Screenings will administer the screenings, which take about 60-90 minutes to complete.

For more information or to schedule an appointment, call (877) 237-1287.

Boutique, fashion show planned

LAKESWOOD – The Bellflower Soroptimist Club will hold a "Fun with Fashion" fundraiser Nov. 15 at the Centre at Sycamore Plaza in Lakewood.

The event begins with a boutique sale at 11 a.m., followed by a fashion show and lunch at noon.

Cost is \$45 and reservations will be taken until Nov. 8 or at capacity. For reservations, e-mail patangeldog@aol.com.

The Centre at Sycamore Plaza is located at 5000 E. Clark Ave. in Lakewood.

DRMC nursery reunion Sunday

DOWNEY – Downey Regional Medical Center is inviting all alumni of its Special Care Nursery, along with their families, to their annual Special Care Nursery Reunion Sunday.

Sponsored by Downey Regional and its Foundation, the event will be held in the hospital's basement conference rooms and patio from noon to 3 p.m. A light lunch will be served, and guests will have an opportunity to participate in a number of carnival-themed games and activities, as well as visit with staff members from the Special Care Nursery.

Children are encouraged to wear costumes, and parents to bring cameras.

For more information on the reunion or to RSVP, call (562) 904-5573. There is no charge to attend.

Calvary accepting gifts for needy kids

DOWNEY – Calvary Chapel of Downey is accepting donations for Operation Christmas Child, a gift-giving crusade benefiting needy boys and girls around the world.

As part of the Operation Christmas Child, residents are invited to pack a shoe box with toys and gifts. The shoe boxes will be collected by Calvary Chapel of Downey during Nov. 17-23 for shipment to disadvantaged children around the world.

Gift ideas include toys: small cars, balls, stuffed animals, yo-yos, jump ropes, etc.; school supplies: pens, pencils and sharpeners, crayons or markers, solar calculators, and picture books; hygiene items: toothbrush and toothpaste, mild bar soap, comb, and washcloth.

Boxes should not contain war-related items, including toy guns, knives or military figures; chocolate or food; out-of-date candy; liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins, breakable items such as snow globes or glass containers; or aerosol cans.

Donors are also encouraged to include a personal note for the child. For more information, call (800) 643-4667.

Chrysanthemum show at CSULB

LONG BEACH – The Earl Burns Miller Japanese Garden at Cal State Long Beach will host its annual Chrysanthemum Show Saturday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Visitors can taste fine Japanese teas as they stroll through the garden. This year, displays will focus on the aesthetic and horticultural exchange of plants and styles that took place between Meiji Japan and Victorian England after the Meiji Restoration in 1868, when Japan opened its borders to the world once again.

Those in attendance will view flowers in a nationally juried show by the Chrysanthemum Society of Orange County. Blue-ribbon winners in many shapes and colors will be on display. Many varieties, including cut and potted mums, will also be available for purchase.

Admission to the event is \$7 for adults, \$6 for seniors and \$5 for Japanese Garden members. Children 12 and under are free.

For more information, call (562) 985-8420.

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Member of the City Council, 5th District	LUIS H. MARQUEZ	145	➔ ○
	MARIA J. LARKIN	146	➔ ○
	SHAHIRA A-MALEK	147	➔ ○
Vote for one	GARY DE REMER	148	➔ ●

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Mike Prokop

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Instructor Valentin Flores will lead a one-day class tomorrow on digital photography at Downey Adult School.

Digital photography for beginners

DOWNEY – Do you want to know the difference between taking a picture and making a photograph? Downey Adult School is offering an introductory photography course geared towards those wanting to improve the quality of their everyday pictures.

The one-day course will be held Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The class will focus on what to look for when purchasing a new digital camera, understanding the basic settings and functions of the camera, and comprehending fundamental rules of photography.

Students will examine the post-production aspect of digital photography – from properly storing images to editing, printing, and presenting finished work.

Instructor Valentin Flores holds a degree in photography from UC Berkeley. He has been involved with photography for seven years and is currently a local working photographer. His main emphasis has been portraiture, but his personal passion is documentary and travel photography.

Flores documented his travels with his camera throughout more than 30 countries and will be incorporating much of his work throughout his lecture.

Fundraiser to help with hearing loss

LAKEWOOD – The Hearing Loss Association, Long Beach/Lakewood chapter, is hosting a Nov. 13 fundraiser to help with the establishment of other chapters.

Opportunity tickets are \$1 each or six for \$5. Visitors will receive items donated for the fundraiser, including tickets to the Long Beach Playhouse, pies from Hof's Hut, hearing aid supplies, and more.

The fundraiser starts at 6:30 p.m. at the Weingart Senior Center, 5220 Oliva Ave., in Lakewood. Admission is free. For information, call (562) 433-6509.

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In the parking lot of Trinity Christian School

Symphony concert tomorrow night

By JOYCE SHERWIN, DOWNEY SYMPHONY
DOWNEY – What a difference a year makes.

In October of 2007, Symphony board members were still holding auditions for a new conductor. Finally in December, following an extended search and after polling orchestra members, audiences and its board, the Symphony Society announced enthusiastically that Sharon Lavery would be our new music director. She conducted the remaining performances of that concert season, garnering acclaim and affection.

This October – tomorrow evening, in fact – Lavery will open the 51st concert season of the Downey Symphony Orchestra in an exciting program titled "An American Touch." It includes Charles Ives' Variations on America and Antonin Dvorak's Symphony No. 8. The splendid young artist Pauline yang is featured in Sergei Rachmaninoff's First Piano Concerto.

Downey's Civic Theatre is the site, 8435 Firestone Blvd., near Brookshire Ave. Saturday, Oct. 25, is the date. A preview discussion begins at 7:15 p.m., and the concert itself at 8. The theater box office opens at 6:30 p.m. for purchase of reserved seat tickets, priced at \$20 and \$25, \$10 for students. Free parking surrounds the theater, dress ranges from casual to glitter.

Going back in time again, we remember that in October, 2007, we had just launched a yearlong huzzah for the Symphony's 50th year. Celebrations included the Golden Jubilee Banquet, our first-ever entry in the Holiday Parade, and an ice cream social with ragtime piano. Commendations poured in from officials at all levels, city, county, state, national, recognizing the Downey Symphony Orchestra's long, outstanding presence in our community. Tireless workers of the Symphony Guild offered an array of interesting fundraisers to support the orchestra, and the annual baton auction was the most successful on record.

Committed to its Music in the Schools program, the Symphony board for the 13th year sent out a quintet of musicians from the orchestra to present instructional programs at each elementary school in the Downey Unified System. The entire orchestra gave concerts in the theater for every third and fifth grade child in the District, and of course performed a season of three exceptional evening concerts.

Well, after that bubbling, memorable year, there certainly wasn't time to sit back and just reminisce. So we put on a lovely fundraising Garden Party at the home of Dr. Walter Kelley, and had so much fun there is talk of an encore.

Actually, there is talk of a lot of encores, and new stuff besides. Everyone affiliated with Downey's Symphony is committed to providing excellent music for this community, and to keep the tradition alive and well. Onward, into the next half-century!



Music Director Sharon Lavery will lead the Downey Symphony tomorrow as it opens its 51st concert season. The concert starts at 8 p.m. at the Downey Theatre. Tickets are still available.

Fire station administering free flu shots

DOWNEY – The Downey Fire Department will host a flu shot clinic on Nov. 1 at Downey Fire Department Headquarters, located at 12222 Paramount Blvd.

Flu shots will be offered free of charge to the community beginning at 9 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. Nurses from the Los Angeles County Public Health Department and Downey Regional Medical Center will be on hand to administer the injections.

More than 600 residents were vaccinated at the clinic last year. Flu vaccinations help to prevent or reduce the spread of the flu virus throughout the community. Besides minimizing the spread within our schools, vaccinating school children will help to reduce the chance they will bring the virus home to their families.

According to the Center for Disease Control website, "People who

should get vaccinated each year are: children aged 6 months up to their 19th birthday; pregnant women; people 50 years of age and older; people of any age with certain chronic medical conditions; people who live in nursing homes and other long-term care facilities; people who live with or care for those at high risk for complications from the flu including health care workers, household contacts of persons at high risk for complications from the flu, household contacts and out of the home caregivers of children less than 6 months of age (these children are too young to be vaccinated)."

For more information, visit the CDC website at www.cdc.gov/flu/protect/keyfacts.htm.

Christmas brunch fundraiser Nov. 23

DOWNEY – The Assistance League of Downey's annual Christmas Tree Brunch, "Celebrate the Season," will be held Nov. 23 at 10 a.m. at the Long Beach Hilton.

Festivities include door prizes, drawing, hand-crafted items, collectibles, homemade treats and a "spirit basket." There will also be a silent auction, and clothing/jewelry vendors.

The Citrus College Singers will provide the evening's entertainment,

and guests will have an opportunity to win decorated Christmas trees. Tickets are \$65 for adults and \$30 for children 12 and under. Tickets must be purchased by Nov. 15.

Proceeds from the event will be used to fund Assistance League of Downey projects, including H.O.M.E., Operation School Bell, Kids on the Block, Books on Wheels, Hug-A-Bear, and more.

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

Frisco's carhop hosting fundraiser

DOWNEY – Frisco's carhop restaurant will host a fundraising event today to benefit the Exchange Club Family Support Center.

Diners who eat at the restaurant between noon and 9 p.m. and present a special flyer upon ordering will have a portion of their bill donated to the Exchange Club.

The Exchange Club works in child abuse prevention and parent education.

Frisco's is located at 12050 Woodruff Ave. For a flyer, call (562) 904-9590.

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Auction to be conducted at the Woman's Club of Downey

wooden relic and other Asiatic decorator pieces, including old aged bronze statue collection, finest European Czech crystal, Wagon wheel bench, Cigar Indian, Rocking horse, Mammoth ivory huge carving, Tibetan drum, Dorit Levi porcelain statues, Bohemian crystals, Jade & bone & wood carved animal statues and a lot more. **A fabulous Persian Rug collection** including silk Persian Quoms, stained glass & Tiffany style lamps and other treasured heirlooms.

MANY ITEMS UNRESERVED

Local churches join together in hosting Alternative Christmas Fair

■ Unique event to raise money for Rio Hondo Temporary Home.

BY MARY FORNEY, STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY – Looking for a meaningful and different Christmas gift to give this year? You might find something interesting at the Alternative Christmas Fair.

Downey Memorial Christian Church will join Christ Lutheran Church in hosting the alternative fair on Nov. 1.

Open to the public, a pancake breakfast will kick off the event at 8 a.m. at Christ Lutheran Church, located at 7707 Florence Ave. in Downey. Proceeds from the breakfast will benefit the Rio Hondo Temporary Home in Norwalk.

After the pancake breakfast, guests can check out the variety of trade products for sale that will help promote the social and economic progress of people in developing regions of the world.

Shoppers can buy a goat for someone in Uganda in honor of a gift recipient at the Heifer International booth. Since 1944, Heifer International has helped 9.2 million poverty-stricken families in 125 countries gain greater self-reliance by providing animals and training.

The African Team Ministries Jewelry booth will provide funds for orphan and refugee relief, missions, and evangelism in East Africa. The financial gifts received at this booth pay for school fees, tuition, books, and uniforms for children in Kenya and Uganda.

Lutheran World Relief will



Pastor Nancy Hamm of Christ Lutheran Church and Pastor Richard Kurrasch of Downey Memorial Christian Church are coming together to host an Alternative Christmas Fair on Nov. 1. Photo by Mary Forney

have a booth, as well as SERRV International, which are also non-profit alternative trade and development organizations.

"This is a good way to help someone else instead of going all out for Christmas and buying people things we already have. Christmas has become so commercialized when it's supposed to be about giving," said Nancy Hamm, pastor of Christ Lutheran Church.

"This is a good way to get our focus back, and it's an opportunity

to explain what Christmas is truly about – why the Lord came into the world. The simplicity is that Jesus was all about giving to the poor," she said.

The idea to host an alternative Christmas fair in Downey stemmed from Richard Kurrasch's involvement with the Progressive Christians Uniting organization. Kurrasch, who is the pastor of Downey Memorial Christian Church, approached Hamm with the concept.

"I don't know of an alternative Christmas fair ever being held in Downey before so I wanted it to be an outreach – a mission of our church," Kurrasch said. "These fairs have been around for more than a decade and it has become a way of gift giving to third world or developing nations."

For more information about the Alternative Christmas Fair, call Nancy Hamm at (562) 927-4421 or Richard Kurrasch at (562) 869-7291.

Spanish class begins Monday at Downey Adult School

DOWNEY – Downey Adult School is offering a new course, "Occupational Spanish for Medical Personnel," beginning Monday

The seven-week course teaches students "real-world Spanish" for the medical field. No prior Spanish skills are required.

The cost of the class is \$49, plus textbook. For more information, call (562) 940-6200.

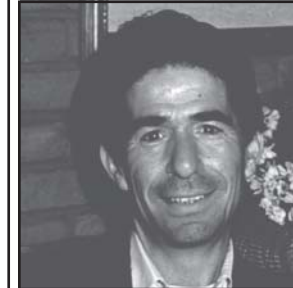
Financial planners offer advice

LONG BEACH – Two speakers will discuss financial planning "in these uncertain times" at an AAUW meeting Nov. 1 at the Long Beach Yacht Club.

Emerson Fersch, a certified financial planner and owner of Capital Investment Advisers, along with Kim Onisko of Onisko and Scholz LLP, a CPA firm, will speak and answer questions regarding financial plans and how to survive and thrive in today's world of finance.

The meeting begins at 11 a.m. and cost is \$30, which includes lunch. For reservations, call (562) 421-5348.

Antonio Di Matteo 1942 - 2008



Owner and President of Apollo Metal Spinning & Stamping Co. passed away peacefully on Saturday, October 18 following a courageous battle with cancer. He was born on March 12, 1942 in the town of Casteldaccia, Sicily to the late Bartolo and Rosalia Di Matteo.

He came to the United States in 1968 to be reunited with his family and begin a new and wonderful life.

Throughout his life Antonio had many great achievements. Among these are becoming an American citizen and successful business man whose humility, skill and integrity earned him the respect of his valued employees and colleagues. His greatest success was being a loving father, devoted brother, caring uncle and loyal friend. He enjoyed spending time with family and friends and simple pleasures like good food, music, dancing, classic movies and good conversation. His passion for life lives on in the memory of his smile and the echo of his laugh.

Antonio is survived by his son, Anthony; his daughter and her husband, Tracy and Ben Wallingford; three sisters, Giovanna (Salvatore) Bica, Giuseppina (Salvatore) LoCoco, Sara (John) LoCoco and his sister-in-law, Josephine (George) Di Matteo. He is further survived by nieces, nephews, other relatives and many friends. In addition to his parents he was preceded in death by his beloved brother, George.

A funeral Mass will be held at St. Raymond Catholic Church in Downey, CA on Saturday, Oct. 25 at 10:00 a.m. with Father Ossy. Interment to follow at Calvary Cemetery, Los Angeles, CA. Family assisted by Miller-Mies Mortuary, Downey, CA.

Genealogical Society talks Canada

WHITTIER – Debby Horton will be the featured speaker at the Nov. 15 meeting of the Whittier Area Genealogical Society at the Whittier Masonic Lodge, 7604 Greenleaf Ave., in Whittier.

Horton's topic will be "Researching Immigration into Canada." Visitors are welcome to the meeting, which begins at 1 p.m. For more information, call (562) 941-0818.

'Legend of Sleepy Hollow' for kids at Downey library

DOWNEY – A live performance of "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow" will be offered for children ages 5-12 at the Downey City Library Thursday from 7-7:45 p.m.

Kids can enter the world of Washington Irving's classic ghostly tale featuring characters Ichabod Crane and Brom Bones. Performers from Open Window Entertainment will present the story set in the mystical 19th century town of Sleepy Hollow as Ichabod, a school teachers, tries to win the heart of the fair Katrina.

Seating is limited and free tickets will be distributed 30 minutes before show time. The program is sponsored by Friends of the Downey City Library.

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

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Letters to the Editor:

Mixer or political rally?

Dear Editor:
On Sept. 18 I attended what I thought was a Downey Chamber of Commerce mixer/ribbon cutting event for the re-opening of the Downey Rose Float Association building. When I arrived, I was surprised to see Gary De Remer for City Council lawn signs and cars with Mr. De Remer magnets at the entrance to the event. I double-checked my flyer to confirm that I was at the correct address and I was.

As I entered, I was met with a big Gary De Remer for City Council banner. Nowhere throughout the event did I even see one sign or banner identifying the event with the Downey Rose Float Association, and it got worse. As I took a tour of the building, I walked right into a pallet full of Mr. De Remer's lawn signs and discovered they were using the building to assemble and store the political signs. I was so upset about the whole situation that I left the event shortly after.

What makes it all the more alarming is that the city of Downey gives money to support the Downey Rose Float Association's activities. I surely hope this organization and its leadership are not misusing their facility or resources in an inappropriate way.

I am asking and do hope that the city of Downey and the Chamber look into and discuss this matter further.

To all the council candidates and their supporters, I ask that you act responsibly and think about your actions.

— Ernest Garcia,
Downey

Police staffing

Dear Editor:
This month the Downey Police Department changed to a new work schedule ("PD Modifies Work Schedule," 9/26/08). As Chief Roy Campos says, it is needed to "bring the department to full staffing."

Officers will now be working three 12.5-hour shifts per week. However, this new system requires the elimination of one patrol officer position and the addition of one new lieutenant position at an additional cost to the city of \$52,907 per year. Campos explains that this new position was necessary to "maintain the proper supervision and management within the new system."

True, I don't know what the new lieutenant's job entails, but just by adding the salary of the eliminated officer and adding the cost of the new position, that seems like quite an increase to "maintain proper supervision." Would it be possible to spread these new duties among other supervisors? Was it really necessary to hire a new one? I am still at a loss at how taking an officer off the street and adding one indoors makes this city safer.

I thought that in these belt-tightening times the city had an obligation to find ways to save money. Maybe I'm wrong.

— Ed Romero,
Downey

Help with stuttering

Dear Editor:
International Stuttering Awareness Day was Oct. 22, and it's a great time to remind your readers that there are speech language pathologists in your area who specialize in helping people who stutter.

The nonprofit Stuttering Foundation provides a free list of local resources for your readers. Just call (800) 992-9392 or visit our website, www.stutteringhelp.org. Click on "Referrals" for a listing of local therapists.

We also provide the latest research information and self-help materials compiled by the leading authorities.

Thank you for helping us reach those who stutter in your community.

— Jane Fraser,
President, Stuttering Foundation

Endorsement for Dr. A-Malek

Dear Editor:
As a Downey resident of more than 25 years, I see the importance of having the right people in the office of the city council.

The time has come to have some new blood that reflects the real needs of the residents of the city of Downey without any personal gain.

After carefully reviewing what the different candidates stand for, I believe that Dr. S. A. Malek is most suited for the job at hand.

There are many challenges that are facing our city these days, and it is my opinion that Dr. Malek has adequately outlined some of these challenges and has come up with useful and intelligent ideas to create solutions and implement some very necessary and yet practical changes.

It is to her honor that Dr. Malek has devoted her own time, effort and money to run for this office, having not received any financial contribution to her campaign.

As many might agree with me, this is not a time for career politicians, but rather for concerned long-time citizens to get involved in the welfare of our community. What we need is a real person, with real and practical ideas that will benefit all the citizens of Downey for a long time to come.

Dr. Malek, whom I personally know to be a person of integrity, with an honest sense of community, will do an awesome job in representing the citizens of our beloved town.

— Dr. John Kaddis,
Downey

Endorsement for Marquez

Dear Editor:
As a Warren High School graduate and a Downey resident, I am supporting Luis Marquez for District 5 because I feel that he has the experience necessary to make sure that there is actual accountability in the city.

Luis has over a decade of experience working in local government and knows first-hand what works and what does not. I am confident that Luis will draw on his breadth of knowledge and work tirelessly to ensure Downey remains the fiscally sound city that has made it an example throughout the southeast.

I have had the opportunity to work with Luis on a number of projects for the cities we mutually serve in our official capacities. I know that Luis is not running for Downey City Council for anything other than his calling for public service. Luis does not even plan on taking his City Council stipend.

Please vote for Luis Marquez for Downey City Council on Nov. 4.

— Daisy Pizana,
Downey

A Rays fan

Dear Editor:
A message to Ellie and Mike Longoria (parents of major league baseball player Evan Longoria): Congratulations on being the parents of that "one in a million!"

You were the parents that, like all of us, thought that their kid was going to make it to the big leagues. And in your case, it happened!

On behalf of all your past and present friends and acquaintances, that you have met on the Downey Little League baseball fields, the DJAA, all the patients you've loved and cared for while working for CareMore, the parents, faculty and students at St. John Bosco, all your co-workers, and behalf of all the residents of Downey...we congratulate you, your family, and of course, Evan.

We will be rooting for him and his team, the Tampa Bay Rays, in the World Series.

It is such a thrill to watch him play, and even among all the media attention surrounding Evan, see him manage it all with humor, confidence, and humility. Again, a tribute to you as his parents and how you raised Evan and your other children.

Congratulations, good luck, and go Rays!

— Alicia Wheeler,
Downey

Letters to the editor may be submitted by writing to *The Downey Patriot*, 8301 E. Florence Ave., Suite 100, Downey, CA 90240 or by e-mail to downeypatriot@yahoo.com. Letters may be edited for style and/or content. Letters must include a full name and address for verification.



Williams Elementary School celebrated National Character Counts Week with festivities throughout the month of October. Mario Persico, a real estate agent and alum of Williams Elementary, donated inspirational Character Counts incentives and prizes, including bracelets for all students, necklaces for students "Caught With Character," and money for instructional supplies for the class with 100 percent participation. Persico is shown with teachers Mrs. Weyers and Mrs. Allison Israwi, and Williams Elementary students Lauren Martinez, Melissa Chavez, Mallory Noor, and Nancy Diaz.



The Walk the Talk Against Child Abuse event held Oct. 4 was successful, organizers said. The fundraiser was held at Downey Memorial Christian Church and featured a community bake-off and pie-eating contest for men. The event was organized by Shirley Johnson.



Downey Girl Scout Troop 378 celebrated the 100th birthday of Ellsworth "Al" Hazzard on Oct. 9.

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School thefts force closure of student music program

BY MARY FORNEY, STAFF WRITER
DOWNEY - When second grade teacher Ray Friedrich wanted to start a band and percussion club in 2003, he had no idea the concept would soar. At the time, he was only thinking about the children and the lack of a music program at Rio San Gabriel Elementary School.

Offering to teach musically-inquisitive children during his off-duty time and without pay, Friedrich, 38, started giving lessons to a handful of students before and after school.

Learning how to sing, play the guitar and drums, the children began performing at school events and at Apollo Park. The popularity of the Strum & Drum Club grew and Friedrich found himself having to draw names from more than 150 applicants every year.

"I just didn't have the equipment or room for all of them," Friedrich said.

This year, the Strum & Drum Club came to a halt. The musical instruments are gone, and there are no singing and playing children at Rio San Gabriel. There is no Strum & Drum Club this year because the club's equipment was stolen when Friedrich's classroom was broken into twice during a two week period in August.

Friedrich and the children have been devastated.

"I bought some of the equipment with my own money and received two Mary Stauffer grants," Friedrich said. "They even took my first guitar that I learned on growing up."

The stolen equipment included a Fender Stratocaster MIM electric



Members of the Strum and Drum Club perform at a Rio San Gabriel Elementary School event. Photo courtesy of Ray Friedrich

guitar, a Les Paul Jr. electric guitar, two six-string acoustic guitars, a bass guitar, a public announcement system with speakers and stands, and a turn table.

"This had to be multiple people because one person couldn't carry out the P.A. system and get it over the fence which is what they would have to do," Friedrich said. "The children are sad because they enjoy the club, but I would like to get some sort of security in the classroom because I don't want it happening again."

The perpetrators gained access to Friedrich's classroom by breaking a window.

Raul and Marylou Aldaco are parents who hope members of the community will come forward to help replace the club's equipment. Their sons Todd, age 12, and

Jarred, age 10, were Strum & Drum participants with Todd starting out in third grade. Jarred began in first grade and was looking forward to participating in the club again this year.

"Our sons registered in the Battle of the Bands last year - that shows how much he helped them with their desires to grow and learn

musical skills," Raul said.

Donations to help replace the Strum & Drum Club's equipment will be accepted at the Rio San Gabriel Elementary School's Parent-Teacher Association talent show Nov. 6 from 6-8 p.m. For more information about donating to the Strum & Drum Club, call Ray Friedrich at (562) 904-3567.

Workshop educating tenants on rights

DOWNEY - The city of Downey and the Fair Housing Foundation are conducting a joint tenant workshop Nov. 25 at the Downey City Library.

The workshop will review fair housing laws, leases and notices, rules and regulations, foreclosure issues, discriminatory rules, occupancy standards, late fees, security deposits, habitability issues, and more.

There will also be an opportunity to ask questions.

The workshop starts at 4 p.m. Guests who RSVP will receive a complimentary workbook. RSVP by calling (800) 446-3247, ext. 1104.

Bob Rysavy belonged to YMCA, Kiwanis

DOWNEY - Bob Rysavy, a former longtime resident of Downey, died Oct. 7 in Bermuda Dunes, Calif.

Rysavy was born March 25, 1930 in Kansas City, Mo. He was the first student body president at Bell Gardens High School, and played two seasons of baseball in the Boston Braves farm system. A knee injury forced his early retirement from baseball.

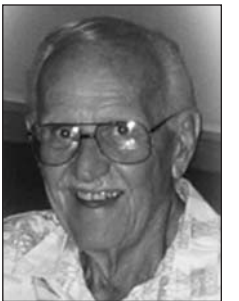
He met and married Barbara Miller, and together they had three sons. The family moved to Downey in 1960, and all the boys went through Downey schools and graduated from Warren High School.

Rysavy was a Downey Little League coach for 21 years, and coached Gray Y for nine years. He was a member of the Los Amigos Kiwanis and YMCA for more than 30 years.

Rysavy operated his company, Automated Valve Systems, located on Washburn Road in Downey, for more than 25 years before retiring to the desert area in 2002.

He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Barbara; sons Craig of San Clemente, Kevin of Cypress, and Kyle of Downey; and six grandchildren.

The family is currently planning a memorial tribute in Rysavy's honor.



Services tomorrow for James Kenney

DOWNEY - James (Jim) LeRoy Kenney died in his home Oct. 19 after a short illness. He was 67.

A Downey resident for 35 years, James was a meat manager at Albertson's and also worked at Beach's Market.

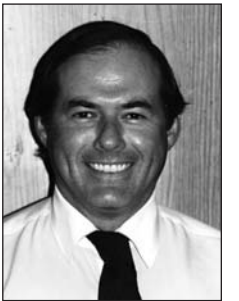
James is survived by his wife of 29 years, Rosemary; son Steven Kenney; daughters Laura Sean Clark and Cynthia Wright; and grandchildren Rebecca, Samantha, James, Briana, and John. He was preceded in death by his daughter Dawn Marie Wright Lynch.

Services will be held Saturday at 11 a.m. at Rose Hills Memorial Chapel.

Services for Maria Haas set

DOWNEY - A memorial mass for Maria Haas, who passed away Sept. 6, will be held Wednesday at 1 p.m. at the Rainbow Chapel at Rose Hills.

The chapel is located off Workman Mill Road, in gate 17.



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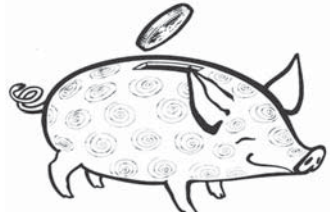
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Outstanding teacher, teaching staffs honored by DUSD board

By HENRY VENERACION, STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY — The Board of the Downey Unified School District heard several presentations at its regular meeting last week.

It first heard Griffiths Middle School principal Gregg Stapp present Kysya Green as DUSD's selection to receive Downey Metropolitan Lodge No. 352 honors as "Masonic Teacher of the Year."

Stapp characterized her as "creative, enthusiastic, [and possessing] boundless cheerfulness and energy." "The words 'above and beyond' typify Kysya," he said, adding that she works well with her students' families to "provide the best education at home and at school."

"She gives her all," he said.

Stapp also honored Griffiths' English Department Professional Learning Community (PLC) in the area of student achievement, as its 8th graders gained an 11-point spike in their test scores, and described it as the "highest 8th grade score ever attained in the district."

Lewis Elementary principal Robin Martin also honored Lewis' 2nd grade PLC in the area of student achievement. Martin said the team's "commitment to continuous improvement, their focus on learning and results, and collectively inquiring into 'best practices' and 'current reality' are actually the characteristics of an effective Learning Community. They really did an outstanding job."

Composing the 2nd grade team were: Judy Yee, Deena Eichen, Patti Flynn, Cindy Johnson, Stacie Charlton, Amy Silva, Jennifer Teague, and Cheryl McCollough, team leader.

Warren High School's Special Education Department PLC was similarly honored. Subbing for WHS principal John Harris, Kerrie Weiglin said the six ladies who formed Warren High's special CAHSEE intervention team (Kelli Acosta, Emily Emanuel, Ana Macias, Jeannette Preece, Connie Quintero and Cari White) did a superb job that eventually enabled all the special education seniors (numbering 21 in all) under their tutelage to earn their high school diplomas.

The one-on-one partnerships that were developed with the students, along with the team's professionalism and dedication, were cited as the main reasons for the "incredible" development.

Meanwhile, the Board also was apprised of the district's Emergency Preparedness Plan, presented by Dr. Robert Jagielski, director of Pupil Services.

In view of the numerous potential disasters that may put DUSD at risk (e.g., earthquakes, fires, contaminated water supply, etc.), Jagielski briefly enumerated the safety measures that have all been put in place.

These include: a comprehensive school safety plan for every school; lockdown procedures; annual district-wide disaster drills; regular fire and earthquake drills; monthly meetings with the Downey Police Department, as well as regular meetings with Downey Fire; co-administration meetings' focus on safety; enhanced communication with city, police and fire officials; crisis intervention teams; availability of counselors; access to multiple agencies for assistance; partnership with TLC Family Resource Center; and a fail-safe internal communication system.

"It is to be hoped that none of these things are ever put to the test," he said.

In other action, the Board:

- Accepted with gratitude a cash donation of \$30,000 from the Mary R. Stauffer Foundation, in support of the district-sponsored Character Counts program; other cash donations from Robin Martin (for the TLC Family Resource Center) and Jaime A. Varela (for instructional and classroom use at Lewis Elementary School); and donations in kind from Unisource (for classroom use also at Lewis Elementary), from Beth Corrin (for Adaptive Physical Education use), as well as 48 cases of bottled water from Coca-Cola Bottling Company and 20 cases of bottled water from Juan and Shane Rios, for student use during the water contamination crisis;
- Authorized the payment of expenses for convention and conference attendance;
- Ratified the 2008-09 school year General Agreements with Autism Behavior Consultants, Gallagher Pediatric Therapy, Speech and Language Development Center, and Vista School (these agreements are available for public review upon request);
- Ratified the payments for special education placements;
- Ratified a couple of settlement agreements, one for \$9,000 and the other for \$6,000;
- Ratified purchase orders by the Purchasing Department;
- Ratified the issuance of payroll orders for hourly, overtime, Civic Center work performed by classified personnel, Adult School, and Food Services through September 2008;
- Ratified B warrants;
- Ratified the School Safety Police Program agreement with CSU-Long Beach with the city of Downey, through June 19, 2009;
- Ratified the Student Field Placement agreement with CSU-Long Beach for the 2008-09 school year;
- Ratified the Student Teaching agreement with the University of Phoenix, effective Sept. 2, 2008;
- Ratified the contract for consultant services related to the California Storm Water, California School Monitoring Group (CSMB), with Los Angeles County Office of Education, effective July 1, 2008-Aug. 31, 2009;
- Ratified the contract for 2008-09 participation in marine education programs, science and conservation education with Los Angeles County Office of Education, effective Sept. 1, 2008 through Aug. 31, 2009;
- Accepted the Quarterly Uniform Complaint report summary;
- Accepted and approved the use of the Glendale Unified School District bid (on a piggyback basis) with Palmer Hamilton, LLC, for school furnishings, office furnishings and accessories on an as needed basis, to fill orders for cafeteria furniture with the same advantages, terms and conditions;
- Awarded a bid for electrical equipment and supplies as needed to AAA Electrical Supply, Inc. of Montebello and to B&K Electric Wholesale of Downey, in the estimated annual amount of \$500,000 with

options to renew for two additional years, to be charged to Maintenance, Deferred Maintenance, and/or Bond Funds;

• Approved the change orders with various vendors for the Warren High School new library, classroom building and modernization projects, as well as for its cafeteria (modernization Portion 2) project; and for the Downey High School new classroom "Building B" construction;

• Accepted as complete electrical, roofing, fencing, and concrete work performed by various contractors;

• Approved the adjustments of the 2008-09 General Fund, Adult Education Fund, Adult School Fund, Cafeteria Fund, and School Facilities Fund budgets, to reflect increases/decreases in their balances as the case may be;

• Approved the transfer of the maximum allowable amount of 15 percent of Block Grant monies into other eligible categorical programs for the 2008-09 fiscal year;

• Approved routine Personnel items until subsequent action is taken by the Board of Education;

• Authorized the services of teachers, assigned a subject area not listed on their teaching credentials for the 2008-09 school year, pursuant to the applicable sections of the Education Code and Title 5's;

• Ratified the abolishment of certain positions attached to different schools, as well as the establishment of new ones attached to different schools and to Special Education;

• Reviewed the proposed revisions to BP 5211, "Employment";

• Reviewed the proposed deletion of BP 5238 and AR 5238, "Employee's Suggestion Plan";

• Reviewed the proposed revisions (mainly for clarification purposes) to BP 7310 and AR 7310, "Conventions and Conference Attendance";

• Reviewed the proposed revisions to BP9262 and AR 9262, "Complaints or Charges Against Employees";

• Adopted Resolution No. 200809-03 on "Temporary Interfund Cash Transfers";

• Adopted Resolution No. 200809-04 in support of "Character Counts Week," Oct. 19-25;

• After an open hearing, appointed John Kennedy to the Personnel Commission for a three-year term ending Nov. 30, 2011;

• Received and approved the annual report of Developer Fees for FY2007-08;

• Approved the use of the Single Budget Option, which requires that the district's final budget for the 2009-10 fiscal year be adopted at an advertised public hearing by July 1, 2009 (DUSD has been successfully using the Single Budget Option ever since the option became available);

• Approved the Memorandum of Understanding to correct Article XX of the contract between DUSD and Downey Education Association regarding the attainment of permanent status by an Adult School teacher;

• Approved the Memorandum of Understanding with the California School Employees Association, Ch. 248, to temporarily suspend Article V, "Renegotiations," due state budget uncertainties, and another to effect an addendum to Article X11 on "Transfer/Involuntary Transfer";

• Approved waivers for a number of student petitions (200708-CAH-SEE-017 through 025); 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 Tuesday, Nov. 18 at the Gallegos Administration Center, 11627 Brookshire Ave.

Citywide Group Welcomed Marlene Rodriguez to its Bank Owned/REO team
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Razorbacks limp into playoffs

Razorbacks struggled last week, but playoffs should be in their future.

BY MIKE BAUMANN,
DOWNEY YOUTH FOOTBALL
DOWNEY – With two games left before the Pacific Coast Conference playoffs begin, Downey Razorback tackle teams had a chance to enhance their seeding in the conference standings. Unfortunately, all but one team lost their contest last Saturday.

But based upon their previous league wins, all of the Razorbacks will probably make the postseason schedule. The final regular season games are tomorrow at Downey High School and begin at 8 a.m.

The four flag Razorback teams, (Red, White, Blue and Gray) have shown that they are learning the game and are well on their way to becoming competitive Razorback football players in future years. The flag teams are home Saturday, playing teams from Palos Verde

and Montebello. Flag games begin at 8 a.m. tomorrow at Downey High School.

The lone victorious Razorback tackle team, MityMite Red, dominated West L.A., posting a 28-6 victory over the Eagles. Jordan Mayes scored four touchdowns for the Hogs in their explosive offensive showing. He had strong support from his offensive line of Sergio Sanchez, Isaac Garcia, Dominic Urritia, and Brian Prescott.

MityMite Red's defensive line – notably Sammy Sanchez, Matthew Gomez, and Julian Velasquez – stopped the Eagles repeatedly, allowing only the one score. MityMite Red has a remote chance to make the conference playoffs, and must win this week while getting help from others. MityMite Red plays at El Segundo tomorrow.

MityMite White (5-2, 3-1) and the Jr. PeeWee Razorbacks (3-4, 2-1) have clinched at least a No. 3 seed in the conference playoffs

after losing to Lakewood and Lynwood, respectively. White plays the Long Beach Warriors at 8 a.m. and the Jr. PeeWee's play at noon.

The PeeWee (5-1, 3-0) suffered their first loss this season against the undefeated Palos Verde Cowboys. The loss did not affect the Hogs No. 1 seeding in their conference but did make it clear that to go very far in the playoffs they must be prepared to play with a lot more effort and toughness. Montebello is visiting at 2 p.m. tomorrow.

Jr. Midget Razorbacks (4-3, 2-0) lost a non-league game to the Lakewood Longhorns. The loss did not harm their No. 1 seeding in the playoffs. The Long Beach Warriors are their next opponent. Their home game starts at 4 p.m. The Midget Razorbacks (5-2, 2-0) lost to the Lakewood Titans. The Midgets have locked up a No. 2 seed in the playoffs, and are home to the Long Beach Warriors at 6 p.m.

League preview: Dominguez still the team to beat

Dominguez is No. 1, but Warren may prove a threat.

BY SCOTT COBOS,
STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY – Very simply put, the time to strike is now in the San Gabriel Valley League. There are at least two great teams in the division and four very good teams looking to steal the crown away from the Dominguez Dons. But alas, it will be the Dominguez Dons who outlast the rest.

Why outlast and not dominate like they have for the past few years in the division? Here's something to think about. The Dons started this year 0-6. That record included their first league game versus Gahr High School.

They lost their head coach, Cornell Ward, as well. He says he quit because he was having difficulty commuting from an additional job he has as a youth minister.

"I was just doing the kids a disservice," he said to the *Los Angeles Times* after a fourth consecutive loss to start the season.

Besides the obvious turmoil on the exterior, you need to understand that the Dons still have some of the best talent in the area and have been playing some very elite teams in the state, not to mention the country.

As one head coach said, until someone knocks them off the top, they're still the team to beat.

Second place will go to the Gahr Gladiators. Just a few years ago, this team was one of the worst in the division. There were a few years where they didn't win a single game in SGVL play, but with a new philosophy, they're chopping down very good teams.

What is that philosophy? Throw the football. Throw it everywhere and anywhere. Just let it fly.

And they do it with great success. Part of it has to be the superb athletes they have suiting up and catching one of the most prolific quarterbacks in quite sometime Corey Nielsen's passes.

Nielsen, a senior this year, led all passers in yards, touchdown

passes and completion percentage in the SGVL 2007 season.

Through the first five games, Nielsen already has over 1,500 yards in the air with 18 touchdowns. And now that he helped beat Dominguez, there's no reason he won't completely blow away the rest of the league.

Third place but popular sleeper pick of this year has to go to the Warren Bears. Boosters and other spectators were whispering thoughts of a league championship this year and they have every right to be.

First year head coach Chris Benadom has taken over the reigns flawlessly from one of the most successful coaches in Warren football history, Jeff Welch.

Benadom has his team firing on all cylinders and winning games by large amounts. It doesn't hurt that he has one of the more dynamic duos in running back Jesse Callier and receiver Bailey Cowins.

These two are huge playmakers for the Bears and can explode during games without warning. Callier who will impact the game more than Cowins because he'll get more touches throughout the season rushed for over 1,000 yards last year.

He said 1,000 yards was great, but why not 2,000? He's more than on his way so far, already having a few games with over 100 yards rushing. Just last week, Callier had his most dominating performance, rushing for over 300 yards against Lynwood's pretty good defense.

The scariest thing about this team echoes in every one of Benadom's quotes. He constantly refers to his team as the young Bears. He's right. They are young. Callier and Cowins are both juniors, his quarterback is a sophomore and most of his linemen will be returning next year. The most appropriate question is not how good are they, it's how good can they be?

Downey High School can finish in fourth place if everything head coach Will Capps has said comes true.

From the ashes of a very rough 2007 campaign, comes a more balanced offense and a very athletic defense.

According to Capps, last year was a transition year to help the kids feel their way around his system. Now that a year has passed, Capps believes his system is now in place and will translate into more wins.

Downey does prove to be enigmatic at times. Warren was beat up by Santa Fe earlier this year, but the Vikings came close to pulling an upset. At the same time, the Vikings were run over by Millikan this year, a team they scored over 40 points on in 2007.

The team looks to the senior leadership of running back Jeremiah Higgins who last year went down with an unfortunate injury in the Downey/Warren game.

He wanted to bounce back this year and show what he has in his final season with the Vikings but had a slow start due to a couple more less serious injuries.

If Higgins can get it going, heads will start turning and the Vikings can surprise a few teams and possibly bring back glimpses of just a couple seasons before.

The Lynwood Knights are in danger of surprising themselves by finishing in fifth place this year. After a 4-0-1 start in non-league play, Warren ran all over a team that has been said to be very quick and athletic.

It's still unknown what happened to that pre-league schedule team that was shutting everyone down and winning games. The Knights didn't play any pushover teams in their first five games. It makes you wonder what happened against Warren.

Like a pesky brother, the Paramount Pirates will stay in the basement for another year but beat up on teams along the way. It's interesting to watch a team that constantly has a "we might not beat them, but lets make them hurt anyway" type attitude.

Callier runs for a career night

BY SCOTT COBOS, STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY – Jesse Callier ran the ball 48 times for 340 yards and four touchdowns in Warren High School's shootout win, 41-28, over the visiting Lynwood Knights Friday night.

Callier's career night helped the Bears get past a quick Lynwood defense that had early success this year in holding opponents down offensively.

"Whoever had the ball at the end of the game was going to win," said Warren head coach Chris Benadom.

Warren's Bailey Cowins at the end of the game came up with a key interception to seal the deal for the Bears.

Cowins also had four receptions for 73 yards and a touchdown hooking up with quarterback Sam Bettencourt.

With the win, the Bears come sprinting out of the gates in San Gabriel Valley League play starting 1-0, and 4-2 overall.

The Bears will be visiting the Paramount Pirates tonight at Paramount High School. Game time is 7 p.m.

Downey

Downey head coach Will Capps said his defense would be the best part of his team this year and it really showed in their 24-6 win over the Paramount Pirates Friday night.

Downey quarterback Steven Cervantes was all over the field rushing for 26 yards and completing 11 of 21 passes for 131 yards and a rushing touchdown.

Running back Jeremiah Higgins had a return to form with nine rushing attempts for 90 yards and a touchdown.