



# The Downey Patriot

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Friday, December 8, 2006

Vol. 5 No. 33

11525 Downey Ave., Suite A, Downey, CA 90241

## Crowd gives parade cheers of approval

BY JACQUELINE MEJIA  
CONTRIBUTOR

**DOWNEY** – This past Sunday, Dec. 3, marked the date of the annual Downey Holiday Lane Parade, now in its 55th year.

The parade started on its traditional route of Downey Avenue, between Firestone Blvd. and Florence Ave. As enthusiastic onlookers lined up along the side streets, the festivities began. Cheerleaders cheered up the crowd with enthusiastic yells as bands marched by, floats were driven down the road, automobiles with city dignitaries, the 2006 Miss Downey/Miss Teen Downey and their respective courts, and characters rolled by...all in the holiday spirit of things.

Dorothy Anderson, a resident of Downey, discussed her opinion on the parade. It was her first time going to it, and she felt her favorite aspect was "the marching bands, [I] liked the music and the way they marched." When asked if she would return the next year, her answer was, "Definitely."

The atmosphere of the parade has certainly brought back many other Downey residents again and again to watch the parade. Dody Laney, whose home is right along the parade route, has been putting on parties for her fellow neighbors and children for the past 20 years, in order for them to have a pleasant experience while watching the parade. She can even be considered a local celebrity - one of the parade characters yelled "Hi Dody!" as they passed by. She explained that she likes the family traditions that the parade helps bring about.

Carlos Getino echoed the response given by Dody about the community event. A parade fan for the past couple of years, he likes the "sense of community and the general happiness of the people that come by."

The smiles on his and the majority of the crowd's faces was a testament to that.



**Downey City Councilman Kirk Cartozian riding in last Sunday's Holiday Lane Parade with Fay Campbell. Ideal weather helped make the parade a success. Photo by Art Montoya**

## Humble beginnings mark route to success

BY HENRY VENERACION  
STAFF WRITER

**DOWNEY**—Mayor Meredith H. Perkins gets termed out as Councilman next week, and for probably the first time in a long while, he seemed unsure of his next step: "I have no plans. Maybe I'll conduct sales training for a couple of companies. I'm not sure. We'll see what happens." This sounded strange, for it came from a man who has impressed us as being in control, decisive and does things in overdrive. Yet, come to think of it, by gum, probably the guy needs, and deserves, a little rest.

By any measure, Perkins had already led a strenuous life even before he took public office. He had just a few years left (27 years with the company) before retiring as a sales rep for L.A.-based Bowman Distributing Company when he ran for District 2 Councilman in 1998 and won. He replaced Barbara Riley. He ran and won again in 2002. The two terms were preceded by six years on the Planning commission, an opportunity given by Joyce Lawrence.

Summing up his years in the public eye, he says, "I've been very very fortunate to work with outstanding Council persons, and when I leave office, I hope those replacing me will continue to make the city the great city that it is, and that it will continue to grow."

He sees challenges ahead. A major one may come sooner than later. It concerns the Downey Studios. He conjectures that Downey Studios, for obvious bottom line considerations, may just go down the path of least resistance: that instead of continuing with its film production activities, it may just opt for putting the property it bought dirt cheap (now worth 10 times original valuation) to multiple home use.

The insight comes from someone who has closely felt the city's pulse, spending countless hours poring over reams of budget data, stacks of plans, and thickets of reports; holding discourse with public and colleagues alike; and otherwise charting courses of action according to a vision forged from a hardscrabble past and a temperate, pragmatic nature. The note of concern is thus a particularly earnest, and valid, one.

Even so, as he bids the Council farewell Dec. 12, his last day in office, Perkins sees encouraging signs that the city is starting to draw people from



**LOVE HIM TENDER** – Elvis (AKA Steve Murphy) dances atop the Downey Regional Medical Center float at Sunday's Holiday Lane Parade. 'Elvis' is recovering from a hip replacement, hence the walker. Photo courtesy DRMC

## Neil's Stationers has thwarted giants' surge

BY HENRY VENERACION  
STAFF WRITER

**DOWNEY**—For more than 50 years, office supplies retailer Neil's Stationers has done business in the same general area in downtown Downey, never straying far from the corner of Firestone Blvd. and Downey Ave.

Started in 1954-55, the store was first located at 11134 Downey Ave. (bet. Second and Third St.), moving to where State Farm is today (close to the corner of Firestone and Downey), relocating to 8232 Firestone Blvd. (southeast corner of Firestone and La Reina, then, finally, putting down stakes at 8152 Firestone (right across the street), where it has catered to its customers for over 25 years.

The coming of business behemoths Staples, Office Depot and Office Max a dozen years ago doomed store after store in Bellflower, Long Beach, Cerritos, Norwalk and Whittier. Not Neil's Stationers. Owner Dave Neil Jr., a CSU-Fullerton business administration graduate, says

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**Downey Mayor Meredith Perkins rides alongside his replacement, Mario Guerra, in last week's Holiday Lane Parade. Photo by R.D. Salyer**

out of town, indicative of the city's inherent vigor and unfading lustre. He offers three main reasons for this: a school district "second to none," a well-run police force, and a well-equipped fire department. Then there is the golf course. "There is no other city course like ours," he says. "Also, we have excellent city employees. Many are truly dedicated and good people, and for that we can be thankful. I have a motto—"I have never done anything without the help of others."

Perkins thus finds reasons to hope. Besides, "When we are being challenged, we become better people."

Born during the Depression in Bauxite, Arkansas, a little dot on the map close to Hot Springs and Pine Bluff—some 20 miles southeast of Little Rock—Perkins imbibed three lasting lessons from his parents:

See PERKINS, page 8

## Traffic collisions result in two deaths

■ Separate accidents - both on Downey Avenue - kill two people. One man under arrest.

BY ERIC PIERCE  
CITY EDITOR

**DOWNEY** – A 24-year-old Downey man was arrested on charges of vehicular manslaughter after his pickup truck collided with another car Monday, killing the driver, Downey police said.

The collision occurred at approximately 7:11 p.m. at the intersection of Imperial Highway and Downey Avenue, police said. The Downey resident was reportedly driving a 2002 Dodge pickup southbound on Downey Avenue. As he entered the intersection at Imperial Highway, he struck a Nissan pickup driven by a 60-year-old male resident of Paramount.

The Dodge pickup careened off the Nissan and crashed into a house at the intersection, where a family was reportedly hanging Christmas lights at the time.

The driver of the Nissan, whose name was not released, was transported to Downey Regional Medical Center where he was pronounced dead.

The driver of the Dodge was transported to St. Francis Medical Center where he was treated for minor injuries, police said. He was later taken to the Downey Police Department and booked for investigation of vehicular manslaughter.

The cause of the collision is still under investigation. Anyone who may

See COLLISIONS, page 3

## DUSD board has new officer slate

■ William Gutierrez elected new school board president, taking over for La Plante.

BY HENRY VENERACION  
STAFF WRITER

**DOWNEY**—The Board of the Downey Unified School District now has a new set of officers. Elected at Tuesday's meeting were William A. Gutierrez, president; Tod M. Corrin, vice president; and D. Mark Morris, clerk.

Gutierrez graduated with distinction from the University of Redlands in 1980, and is currently pursuing his MBA at Biola University. He became a CPA while working with the accounting firm Coopers & Lybrand (now PriceWaterhouseCoopers), and in the course of his employment audited USC and Redlands, as well as Pomona College, thereby picking up valuable familiarity with school budgets and fund accounting.

Corrin, a business executive and longtime resident of Downey, is well-known for his work on the YMCA board and active involvement in other community activities, while Morris, a Juris Doctor from the Western State University College of Law and equally known for his dedication to education, has served on the DUSD Board for 24 years. All have distinguished themselves serving the community.

At the brief turnover ceremony, Gutierrez lauded outgoing president

See SCHOOL BOARD, page 13

*Time Traveler*

## Ralph family has made Downey proud

BY JOHN ADAMS  
EDITOR EMERITUS

**DOWNEY** – It was April 14, 1922, and Art Ralph of Downey crouched for the start of the half-mile run at the 10th Annual Invitational Track and Field Meet at San Fernando High School.

Ralph was one of the best runners to come out of Downey in years, and along with sprinter Ed Reinke gave Downey a rugged track combination in the sprints and middle distances.

He would probably have run even harder had he known that he was to be the first of three generations of Ralphs that would make Downey proud, both on the athletic field and in the realm of community service.

Downey residents today probably know of Bill Ralph, Art's son, who through a quirk of fate didn't play football or run for Downey, but competed instead for Compton High School.

It seems father Art, who for many years worked for the gas company,

See TRAVELER, page 4

**Happy 50th Anniversary,  
City of Downey!**

Special commemorative magazine  
coming December 15

## Seniors not forgotten in holiday shopping rush

■ Christmas tree at Curves-Downey East has wish lists of local senior citizens.

**DOWNEY** – A local senior care company, along with area retailers and senior care agencies, are bringing Santa to the lives of seniors who may have been overlooked in the hustle and bustle of the holiday season.

The Downey office of Home Instead Senior Care, the world's largest provider of non-medical home care and companionship for seniors, has teamed with Lakewood Park Health Center and Downey Retirement Center along with Curves-Downey East to provide presents to seniors who otherwise might not receive a gift this holiday season.

"In addition to supplying gifts, "Be a Santa to a Senior" is also designed to help stimulate human contact and social interaction for seniors who are unlikely to have guests during the holidays," Leslie Cabral, owner of the Home Instead Senior Care office serving Downey, said. "Since children are often the focus of holiday festivities, we'd like to help brighten the holidays for some area seniors as well."

Here's how the program, which runs through Dec. 21, works: Prior to the holiday season, local organizations will identify financially challenged and lonely seniors and provide those names to Home Instead Senior Care.

A Christmas tree, which has gone up in Curves-Downey East, will feature ornaments with the names of seniors and their respective gift requests.

Holiday shoppers can pick up an ornament, buy the items on the list, and leave them at Curves along with the ornament attached. Home Instead Senior Care will enlist the volunteer help of its staff, senior care business associates, non-profit groups and others in the community to collect, wrap and distribute the gifts to the seniors.

A gift-wrapping day, when hundreds of the presents will be wrapped, will be held on Dec. 18.

"This program is a way we can give back to our community by providing gifts to some of our most treasured residents," Cabral said. "Our hope is that the presents also can help these seniors recapture some of the excitement of their childhood."

### Kids invited on skating excursion

**DOWNEY** – The City of Downey Community Services Department is offering an excursion to Skate Zone in Huntington Beach on Dec. 29 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. for middle-school age youth who live in Downey or attend school in the Downey Unified School District.

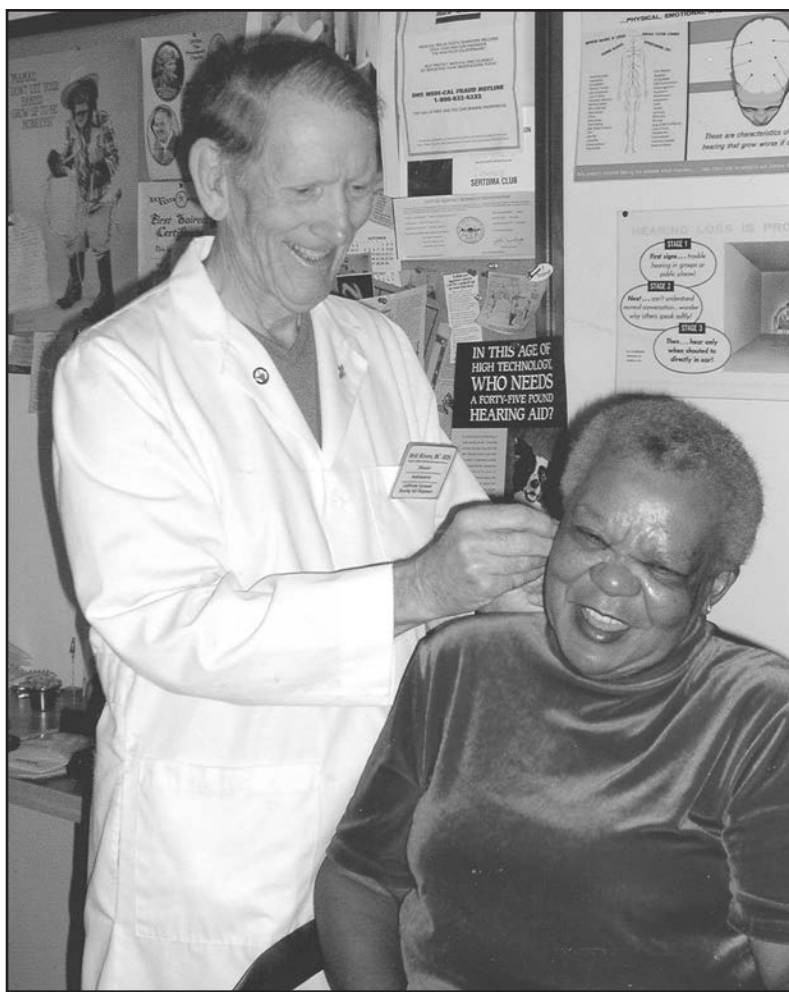
Skate Zone is a facility that gives participants the option of either ice or roller skating in a safe environment. The fee of \$15 includes bus transportation (leaving from the City Hall parking lot), skate admission and lunch.

For more information or to register, call the Community Services Department at (562) 904-7238.

### Dr. Stauffer will be guest speaker

**DOWNEY** – Dr. Mary Stauffer, one of Downey's most beloved citizens, will share her life, vision and goals as the featured speaker at the Citizens for Downey meeting Dec. 13 at the Rio Hondo Country Club.

The meeting starts at 7:15 a.m. with a buffet breakfast available starting at 7 a.m. The community is invited.



Lorene Moch is the happy recipient of a Downey Sertoma Hearing Award, and Britt Rivers gladly donates his professional services for testing and fitting new hearing aids. The hearing aid was part of Downey Sertoma's work to assist deaf and hard of hearing people who are unable to obtain much-needed but expensive hearing aids.



Members and employees of Curves-Downey East collected and donated various gifts and essentials for U.S. soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan. The photo above shows some of the volunteers with U.S. Marines.

## Santa making calls to Downey children

■ Free program puts Santa Claus in touch with Downey kids.

**DOWNEY** – The City of Downey Community Services Department is offering an opportunity for children ages 4-8 to receive a surprise phone call from Santa Claus through a program called "North Pole is Calling You."

The program is free. Parents should fill out a card inside City Hall with information on each child, including name, pronunciation of name, parents or guardians name, boy or girl, address, hobbies/interests, school and holiday wish list.

Cards will be available at the Community Services Department beginning Dec. 5 and must be turned in by Dec. 12 at 5:30 p.m. Santa Claus will make calls to children either Wednesday or Thursday, Dec. 13-14, between 6 to 7 p.m. He'll have a brief chat with each child and "check Santa's Workshop" to see what he can do.

Those filling out cards for several children in the same family are asked to fill out one card per child and staple the cards together.

For information on the program, call (562) 904-7238.

### Scholarship applications being accepted

**DOWNEY** – The Downey Association of Realtors is accepting scholarship applications from graduating seniors at Columbus, Downey and Warren High Schools and also from students receiving their GED at Downey Adult School. Applications will be accepted until March 2, 2007.

Students should see their guidance counselor for information or visit [www.daor.com](http://www.daor.com) for an application.

### Book drive for Ward Elementary

**DOWNEY** – Downey Federal Credit Union is sponsoring a book drive for new or used books in English or Spanish to donate to Ward Elementary School, the credit union's Adopt-A-School.

Stop by the credit union's main branch at 8237 Third Street or at the Express Service Office at the Downey Regional Medical Center to make your donation.

There is an entry form to fill out for each book donated and a winner will be chosen at random to win a \$100 supermarket gift certificate on Dec. 18.

### Duran graduates basic training

**COLUMBUS, GEORGIA** – Army Pvt. Miguel A. Duran has graduated from basic infantry training at Fort Benning, Columbus, Georgia.

Duran is a 2005 graduate of Downey High School.

During the nine weeks of training, Duran received training in drill and ceremonies, weapons, map reading, tactics, military courtesy, military justice, physical fitness, first aid, and Army history, traditions and core values.

Additional training included development of basic combat skills and battlefield operations and tactics, and experiencing use of various weapons and weapons defenses available to the infantry crewman.

He is the son of Manuel and Irma Duran of Downey.

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## COLLISIONS

Continued from page 1

have witnessed the accident is asked to contact Detective Rocio Gutierrez at (562) 904-2339.

In a separate accident, a 25-year-old Downey resident was killed when his 2002 Ford Mustang collided with three other cars at the intersection of Downey Avenue and Florence Avenue early Saturday morning.

Rodrigo Sanchez entered the intersection at approximately 2:08 a.m. Saturday when his car hit three cars traveling east on Florence Avenue. Sanchez' vehicle careened off the vehicles and collided with a tree on the north side of the intersection.

Downey firefighters and paramedics responded and pronounced Sanchez dead at the scene. An unidentified male passenger inside Sanchez' car was ejected during the collision. He was transported to St. Francis Medical Center where he was listed in critical condition.

None of the occupants in the other vehicles were injured. The cause of the accident is still under investigation.

### Special Hanukkah meeting and dinner

**DOWNEY** – The congregation of Temple Ner Tamid of Downey will have special meeting of food, fun and prayer on Dec. 15 starting at 6 p.m.

Families are invited to bring their Menorahs (if they have one) and light their first candle. A traditional Hanukkah dinner will be served.

Donation is \$12 per person and the community is invited to attend. Prepaid reservations are a must.

Shabbat services will follow dinner at 7:30 p.m. Rabbi Len Muroff and Cantor Ellen Jaffe-Gill will conduct the services with Norberto Guinaldo at the organ.

A special Shabbat Oneg (refreshments) and songs are planned for after the service.

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



Jona Capino was declared an International Winner in the Elementary Class Section in the National Piano Auditions. Capino is a fifth grader at St. Mark's School.

## Pianist strikes success at local, national levels

■ Fifth grader Jona Capino honored for her piano work after passing state test.

**DOWNEY** – Jona Capino, a fifth grader at St. Mark's School in Downey, recently received her Certificate of Merit from the Music Teacher's Association of California with a score of 98 percent and was awarded Branch Honors for her achievement in Piano Level 2 at Cal Poly Pomona.

She also passed the required test and was declared an International Winner, Elementary Class Section E, in the National Piano Auditions and was awarded a gold pin and a certificate from the National Guild of Piano Teachers, Teacher Division of American College of Musicians, United States of America and a membership in the National Fraternity of Student Musicians, Student Division of American College of Musicians and Piano Hobbyists of the World for one year.

She has also been a member of the National Auditions for three years and the National Roll for two years.

### Christmas boutique at Greek Church

**DOWNEY** – The St. George Ladies Philoptochos Society invites the public to their "Home for the Holidays" Christmas Boutique and Luncheon on Dec. 9 at 10830 Downey Avenue from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Unique Christmas items and pastries will be available for purchase. Sasha Vithoulkas and Georgia Covell are the event's chairpersons.

Cost of the luncheon is \$50 per person and seating is limited. Reservations are requested by calling (562) 869-3533. Proceeds will benefit the Pantocrator Iconography Fund (interior of the dome).

"I was gratified to be able to answer you promptly. I said I don't know."  
-Mark Twain

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Inpatient Hospital Stay <sup>2</sup>	\$0
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Part-D Premium	\$0

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Mon., Dec. 18th  
11:30am  
Sizzler  
10315 Lakewood Blvd  
Downey

Tue., Dec. 19th  
9:00am  
Hometown Buffet  
6257 Atlantic Ave  
Bell

Tue., Dec. 19th  
10:00am  
Carrow's  
10640 Rosecrans Ave  
Norwalk

Fri., Dec. 22nd  
11:30am  
Szechwan  
11010 Paramount Blvd  
Downey

Thu., Dec. 28th  
9:00am  
Hometown Buffet  
6257 Atlantic Ave  
Bell

Thu., Dec. 28th  
3:00pm  
Sizzler  
11835 Imperial Hwy  
Norwalk

Fri., Dec. 29th  
10:00am  
Carrow's  
10640 Rosecrans Ave  
Norwalk

Fri., Dec. 29th  
3:00pm  
Geezers  
12120 Telegraph Road  
Santa Fe Springs

<sup>1</sup> All benefits are based on the 2007 Calendar Year. <sup>2</sup> \$50 co-pay on hospital emergency room visit (waived if admitted). <sup>3</sup> Unlimited non-emergency transportation to and from medical appointments within our service area.

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CMS Approval # H0544\_12010601A CVP (12/06)

## TRAVELER

Continued from page 1

was made a division chief and moved with his family to Compton during young Bill's athletic years.

Bill made up for it by coming back to Downey and working 33 years for the City. He retired two years ago as the city's public works director, and now fills a seat on the Downey Cemetery District Board.

The archives of the Downey Historical Society still contain the old track and field programs with father Art Ralph's name. When asked about them, Bill reminisced about his father's athletic career.

It seems Art held the Downey High School record in the high hurdles until 1984, partially because Downey didn't run the highs for many years.

Bill said he almost got to see his father's and his son's name on the same record chart. Bill's son, Chris, set a shot-put mark at Downey, but it came the year after his grandfather's hurdles mark was shattered.

Close enough to give the reader an idea of the athletic prowess of this family, however.

Bill said his father went on to run one year for Whittier College, then transferred to the University of Nevada, Reno, where he trained by mail.

Many athletes in the West in the 1920s and 30s got their training direction from noted Eastern coaches who mailed them their regimen.

Bill added that interestingly enough his son, Bill, also attended the University of Nevada, Reno, years later.

While the old program indicates the Ralph family probably holds the record for having three generations of local athletes, Ed Reinke was the best local runner of his era.

He went on to compete at the 1923 California Interscholastic Federation Field and Track Championships in Santa Ana, and won the 100 and 220. Veterans who remember those days said he ran in the 10-furlong range, very swift for the times.

Other Downey names of note in the old programs include Benstead in the low hurdles; Hair and Nooschekian in the mile; Haygood who joined Ralph and Reinke in the half-mile relay, and Cline who ran with Ralph in the 440.

A toast to them all!

## Seniors Christmas banquet Dec. 11

**DOWNEY** – The Downey Senior Citizens Recreation Club will celebrate Christmas Dec. 11 at the Los Amigos Country Club.

The banquet will also include the installation of officers for 2007.

The event is from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and is open to all seniors 55 and over. Price is \$5 per person for members and \$11 for non-members.

For information call Nadine at (562) 923-9422.

## NEIL'S

Continued from page 1

proudly: "I'm the last traditional store in the area."

His explanation is simple. The superstores, he says, are notorious for their "impersonal touch": "We provide personalized and speedy service. We have a great deal of product knowledge and experience on our side. If an item is not on the floor, we can get it delivered in a day or two."

Neil's Stationers, whose catalog is as thick as a telephone book and contains a listing of 28,000 items, has access to a network of 35 warehouses nationwide, not to mention its own warehouse in the back. Prices are competitive, he says. Routine deliveries are made to such places as Cerritos, Compton, South Gate, Culver City and Los Angeles.

In addition to traditional office supplies, Dave has noted a rise in sales of art supplies. "There is a growing demand for them especially among students," he says. Another major item is paper shredders, reflecting today's security concerns.

Dave's father, who exposed him to the business at age 5 and who retired 6 years ago, still comes to the store once a week. Other members of the store staff include manager Dave Sedillo, "who's been with us 18 years"; delivery driver Frank; and part-timer Candace. Hours are 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday. Orders may be done by phone (562: 923-7701) or fax, and online.

His two daughters, Michelle (9) and Alissa (7) by a "wonderful wife," were "lucky to be featured in Santa Clause 3," he says, and were duly "paid and fed." Stepson, Pete (16), goes to Warren.

Tuesday, Neil's Stationers, a Chamber member also for over 50 years, received recognition alongside other longtime business establishments in Downey.

## Diving Talents giving free concert at Downey Library

**DOWNEY** – The Downey City Library will host a performance by Divine Talents, a non-profit music education group, on Dec. 19 at 6:30 p.m. in the library lobby.

Under the direction of John Heideman and Tim Garcia, Divine Talents have also performed for the Holiday Lane Parade, Kids Day and at Stonewood Center.

Young singers in grades kindergarten through eighth grade will also perform holiday carols inside the library. The public is invited to bring their entire family to the free event.

For information, call (562) 904-7360, ext. 32.

## The Poets' Corner

### 'tis the Season

Boulevards are shining bright  
With numerous twinkling, colored lights  
Adorning many homes and trees  
With decorations gloriously!

Children's eyes are filled with glee  
With all the Christmas scenes they see.  
They love to view the lights aglow  
Nestled in the man-made snow!

Christians all around the earth  
Rejoice in Jesus' holy birth,  
Which for us is the primary reason  
For celebrating this wonderful season!

-- **Martha J. Morrissy,**  
**Downey**

### Merry Christmas

As I entered a beckoning forest I looked through new eyes scrutinizing the beauty and the mysterious growth of the forest, verbalizing the wonder of it all. I tried to conceal my effervescence but failed, the scent of the rain dancing on tangled foliage and being orchestrated by a breezy wind rendered me breathless, for it was breathtaking. When I entered the forest it was like a canopy, I tried to drink all its beauty in one gulp, I could not comprehend it. I could only take a few sips at a time, for the forest was too awesome to consume all at once. With trees, vines and other foliage overhanging the world outside. The sounds were melodious and I felt safe inside. I could commune with God one on one, for there was harmony inside and I was at peace in my own little corner of that world that God led me to, for our own personal fellowship.

-- **Rosa Sciascia Neal,**  
**Downey**

## Middle Eastern politics at Ezra Center

**DOWNEY** – The Ezra Center for Mature Adults, which meets on the third Tuesday of every month, will meet again on Dec. 19. The program runs from 10 a.m. to noon and the topic is "Mid-term Elections: Will There be Changes in Middle Eastern Politics?"

Ken Reich, retired journalist for Life magazine, United Press International, the Los Angeles Times, will analyze and predict U.S. Middle Eastern policy based on the results of the mid-term elections.

Reich has more than just a reporter's interest in the topic, as his son is starting his third tour of duty in Iraq as a member of Naval Intelligence.

A catered kosher lunch will be served after the program at a cost of \$6 for Ezra members and \$7 for non-members.

For information, call Miriam Brookfield at (562) 943-3170.

## Chamber hosting open house

**DOWNEY** – The Downey Chamber of Commerce will hold their annual holiday open house on Dec. 15 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. The community is invited.

The Chamber office is at 11131 Brookshire Avenue. RSVP's are requested by calling (562) 923-2191.

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- Secure Horizons

12/11/06	9:30 am	<b>MARIE CALLENDERS</b> 12402 Washington Blvd. Whittier
12/13/06	9:30 am	<b>CARROWS</b> 10640 Rosecrans Ave. Norwalk
12/13/06	2:00 pm	<b>SZECHEWAN</b> 11010 Paramount Blvd. Downey
12/18/06	9:30 am	<b>DENNY'S</b> 8600 Whittier Blvd. Pico Rivera

A sales representative will be present with information and individual election forms.



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Dec. 10 - Pastor Glenn Koons on  
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## Special Edition

By Eric Pierce

An inordinate amount of letters doesn't leave me much space to write (I'm not complaining), so I'll be brief and remind everyone that our special commemorative magazine will be out next week, tucked inside Friday's *Downey Patriot*.

It's this newspaper's first attempt at a project of this type but hopefully it's a predecessor to more great projects in the future.

The City of Downey's future is unlimited. And I'd like to think ours is too.

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:

#### Stamping out polio

Dear Editor:

Polio is a scourge of the past thanks to Rotary and the Rotary International Foundation. Rotarians initiated the program. Rotarians raised and contributed \$600,000,000. Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation matched this and the World Health added its support.

I cannot give Rotary enough credit as it initiated the program, financially enabled it and personally administered the oral vaccine. Administration of the vaccine was the most important and least acknowledged part of the campaign.

It was the Rotarians themselves in their true spirit of service above self that spent their time and effort to give the vaccine, dose by dose, to the children of the world. Rotary that has members in 166 countries is an international service club which can and does link the world into an international network of action. The Rotarian members went to their own people, explained the value and necessity of the vaccine in their own language. It was true people to people. Mothers allowed their children to get the vaccine because it was presented by people they knew and trusted. Rotary's reputation and credibility was the key to the widespread acceptance and administration. A professional medical team of paid foreign, medical professionals could never have accomplished so much.

This momentous joint effort has just about stamped out the dreaded scourge of polio. To all I say a big, big thank you.

— Mary R. Stauffer,  
Downey

#### Red flag warning

Dear Editor:

The television news has to stop with the red flag day, which means a very windy day for the forest areas.

Sometimes they even show a red blowing in the wind.

They are enticing all the arsonist-born people. It's like waving a red flag in front of a bull. The television news should consider the harm that they sometimes cause.

— Mike Sandoval,  
Downey

#### U.S. suffering from illegal population

Dear Editor:

Billions of dollars sent to Mexico – all from the new arrivals. Next to their oil producing money – the windfall from America's new arrivals – and not so new arrivals is their next best source of income. They have to pay upward of \$600 to the "coyote" to be transported here. Who is financing all of this?

I know several people who have had to go the reverse mortgage route in order to survive. I have attended several meetings – and they all say they can't survive on social security, pensions and their saving are being depleted. My husband and I are just barely able to pay our bills – taxes – and even our water service is charging an extra \$2.00 (calling it an oil surcharge) because of the high cost of gasoline. We are considering not having that service. A one bedroom costs \$1000 plus, larger spaced apartments even higher. People that rent out a bedroom with kitchen facilities - \$400, \$500, \$600 a month. This new population is bankrupting all our services. They have to be on welfare of some sort to survive. Domestic help get \$10 an hour all under the table – they want to be paid in cash.

I am a Catholic. I come from generations of Catholics. I am astounded and ashamed by Cardinal Mahoney's directives to the illegal population. Do not pay attention or obey this country's laws. These people are the new parishioners – all religions are courting these people. Labor unions paid for the food, transportation to the big city demonstration in L.A. I didn't make that up – it was written in the newspaper. Their new membership.

The U.S. Government is spending millions to protect us from terrorists. Yet, politicians, senators, etc., and the President are allowing the borders to be flung open - easy for terrorists to come into this country. The only thing the Democrats and the Republicans don't do is send buses over there to transport them to the U.S.A. Both parties are afraid to tackle the issue of illegals. For all they accomplish that is good, do we need senators, representatives, governors – forget the L.A. mayor – going to represent us? President Bush, I doubt that. We are a work force with great ethics – proven during World War II, or else we would all be speaking Japanese or German right now.

Look what the Mexican population has done for (or to) their own country. Nothing! That is why it is such a mess. Why don't they stay home and work to change all that is wrong. With the numbers coming here – and all over the United States – are we going to end up like Mexico?

— Merceded Rios,  
Downey



#### Downey not all that bad

Dear Editor:

This is in response to Mr. John Powell's letter (*The Downey Patriot*, 12/1/06). I would like to ask, "What part of Downey do you live in?" I, a Mexican-American resident, have lived here in this city for 29 years and except for a few things, the city is much prettier than it was before.

I feel very offended by Mr. Powell's letter as anyone who reads it knows it is an extremely racial letter addressed to the Hispanic community. My street started out with smaller houses that looked very plain, now people are re-building homes and putting beautiful additions to their homes. The city now has a very nice open strip mall which brings in a tremendous amount of revenue to our city. My children live in beach cities both in L.A. and Orange County and say the homes in their cities don't compare to the new ones in Downey unless it's right on the water.

The houses in North Downey are painted mostly in warm muted colors like beige, taupe and a few yellow. There are no loud parties in our neighborhood, our lawns are always manicured, and toys put away at night.

There are always a few exceptions and people who don't respect others around them as well as themselves, but this goes for any city, not just Downey.

— M. Gutierrez,  
Downey

#### Trees need help

Dear Editor:

When the City of Downey decided to improve the looks and ambiance of our town by creating medians and planting flowers and trees in them, I was delighted and so were many others. Thank you very much for doing that!

However, for the last half year I have been troubled by what our city's tree trimmers have done on Paramount Boulevard on the stretch between Imperial Highway and Gardendale. The beautiful liquid amber trees were cut to look like toothpicks or, perhaps, someone wanted to create the impression that they were poplars. If they wanted poplars they should have planted poplars. Even now in the fall, when these trees should be a beautiful red, the trees themselves seem too shocked to know whether to turn yellow, red or brown.

If our tree trimming "experts" need some lessons in what to do they should go to the city of Paramount and take a look at what trees should look like and how they can be trimmed without destroying the essence of the tree.

— Irma T. Landesfeind,  
Downey

#### Not going to miss Perkins

Dear Editor:

I grew up in Downey, and have recently attended several City Council meetings, so I read with interest your article on Mayor Meredith Perkins wanting to "clear his name." (*The Downey Patriot*, 12/1/06) During my attendance of the council meetings I saw Mayor Perkins glad-handing people and smiling a phony smile that would put a televangelist to shame.

I used to say Downey had the best politicians money could buy, but then I saw the reports from our neighboring city, South Gate, and realized our politicians were a bunch of pikers in comparison. But I at least have to admire the voters in South Gate. They had the fortitude to throw out the riff-raff, and eventually the crooks were sentenced to well-deserved prison sentences. In Downey we all the swine to term limit out!

— Thomas D. Smith,  
Downey

#### Dog-gone problems

Dear Editor:

I am hoping someone in charge of SEAACA or the irresponsible dog owners I am speaking of read this.

I am wondering what SEAACA's function is exactly, especially when it comes to enforcing loose dogs running around. My dog has been attacked twice by loose dogs over the last two months. The first time the owners were responsible enough to pay the vet bills, albeit the psychological damage to my dog had started. Ten days later a loose pit bull attacked my dog almost tearing off her leg.

SEAACA showed up after witnesses called (we had gone to the vet as this was an emergency situation) and was writing a report when we returned to the scene. We were told they would find the owner (the witnesses had the car's license number after the owner retrieved the dog) and would notify us, along with taking the dog in; after all, someday the dog could chase after another dog or even a human.

Well it is four weeks later, SEAACA won't give me the report.

Now I try to walk my dog and she is terrified. The one place I thought she would be safe is at a park. So I go to Wilderness Park, and there are loose dogs everywhere (owners ignoring the "Dogs must be on Leash" signs) and no one at all enforcing the rules.

SEAACA was happy enough to go door to door making sure we all have licensed pets, but they have no time to enforce the rules.

And by the way, to the irresponsible owners that let their dogs run loose, I will stun gun anyone's dog that comes after me or my dog, so be prepared for vet bills of your own. After all there is a leash law in this county...but if you disagree about that, well, call SEAACA.

— Ronald C. Zrodlo,  
Downey

#### Preserve our homes, before it's too late

Dear Editor:

I am responding in reference to the 'Historic Preservation' letter in *The Downey Patriot* (Nov. 17, 2006). I would like to point out that there was a request from members of the Downey City Council to send in their suggestions in regards to a Downey Historic Preservation Ordinance to be initiated and so far I haven't seen any responses.

I would like for the readers of this paper to take notice. This is the same city council that failed to pass a moratorium to stop the progression of those "mini-mansions". The year between the time the moratorium should have been enacted and the "Bulk and Mass" ordinance was designed and enacted. The Planning Dept. was approving plans, issuing permits, and allowing for the building of these "mini-mansions." I have the distinct feeling that the Historic Preservation Ordinance will be enacted after there is no need for it anymore. There are only 11 historically significant sites here in Downey. That is down from 25 from at least 10 years ago.

I would hope the citizens of Downey would take an active role in preserving these sites. I have attended many city council meetings. There have been some meetings I have attended where I was the only one (or just a few others) in the audience. That is very sad. I would think that homeowners would be concerned how their hard-earned tax money is being spent by the city council with the citizens of Downey's best interests in heart and not for personal interests of council members. Those council members need to hear from you.

There was a survey sent to citizens asking what was important to them in regards to Downey's priorities. Historic Preservation was high on their list. This is the time to show your interest and put it into action.

— Mark Niehaus,  
Downey

### The Downey Patriot



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## SPEED BUMP



## DAVE COVERLY



## Downey Community Calendar

### Events For December

Sat. Dec. 9: **Christmas Boutique** at St. George Greek Church, 11 a.m.  
Tues. Dec. 12: **Mayoral Transition Ceremony** at City Hall, 7:15 p.m.  
Wed. Dec. 13: **Citizens for Downey meeting** at Rio Hondo Country Club, 7:15 a.m.

### City Meetings

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

### Regularly Scheduled Meetings

#### Mondays

6:30 p.m.: **Metropolitan Masonic Lodge #352 dinner, mtg.**, for information call 426-6786.  
6:30 p.m.: **Overeaters Anonymous**, at Downey Regional Med. Center Conf. Room A, for info. call 426-6786.  
1st Mon., 4 p.m.: **2nd Century Foundation**, at City Hall, 1st floor, call 927-9790.  
1st Mon., 7 p.m.: **American Legion Post 270**, Los Amigos Country Club, call 869-1053.  
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.  
4th Mon., 7:30 p.m.: **Downey Numismatists**, at Downey Retirement Center, call 861-3989.

#### 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 923-9464.  
7 p.m.: **Boy Scout Troop 2**, at Downey United Methodist Church, for information call 869-6478.  
7 p.m.: **Boy Scout Troop 441**, at Apollo Park Activities Room, for information call 923-3659.  
7:30 p.m.: **Southland Harmony Chorus of Sweet Adelines**, at Downey's Woman's Club, for information call 947-6802.  
2nd and 4th Tues., 7:30 a.m.: **Chamber "Rise&Shine" Networkers**, at Nordic Fox, for info. call (562) 923-2191.  
2nd and 4th Tues., 6 p.m.: **Sertoma Club**, at Bakers Square, for information call (562) 927-6438.  
2nd Tues., 7 p.m.: **Downey Fly Fishers**, at Apollo Park, for information call 943-3904.  
3rd Tues., 7:30 p.m.: **Writer's Workshop West**, at 9968 Lakewood Blvd., 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 927-0271 or 861-3493.  
1st Weds., 11:30 a.m.: **Downey Coordinating Council**, for information call 927-9790.  
1st Weds., 7:30 p.m.: **Downey Stamp Club**, at Maude Price School cafeteria, for information call 928-3028.  
1st Weds., 7:30 p.m.: **Downey Emblem Club #309**, at Downey's Elks Lodge, for information call 868-4386.  
2nd Weds., 7:30 p.m.: **Downey Model A Club**, at Gallatin School Cafeteria, for information call 928-4132.  
2nd Weds., 7:30 p.m.: **Downey Sister Cities Ass'n**, at Maude Price School, Call 862-7197.  
2nd Weds., 11:45 - **Downey Christian Women's Club**, at Los Amigos CC. Call 927-8488.  
4th Weds., 12:00 noon: **Retired Federal Employees**, at **Furman Park West Bldg.**, call 943-5513.  
Wed. & Fri., 10:15 a.m.: **Senior Bingo**, at Apollo Park, for information call 904-7223.

#### Thursdays

7:30 a.m.: **Soroptimist Int'l of Downey**, for information, call Pat Heineke, 904-3534.  
7:30 a.m.: **Connections Networking**, at Nordic Fox 10924 Paramount, for information call 869-1414.  
12 p.m.: **Kiwanis Club of Downey**, at Rio Hondo Events Center, call Roy Jimenez 923-0971.  
12 p.m.: **Downey Christian Businessmen's Committee**, for information call 928-4153.  
12 p.m.: **Optimist Club of Downey**, at Samb's, for information call Steve Allen at 622-7655.  
12:30 p.m.: **Take off Pounds Sensibly**, at First Christian Church, call (800) 932-8677.  
6:30 p.m.: **Downey United Masonic Lodge # 220**, 8244 3rd St., Call 862-4176.  
7 p.m.: **Troop 351, Boy Scouts of America**, at First Baptist Church, for information call 776-3388.  
4th Thurs., 7:30 p.m.: **Downey Historical Society programs**, at Community Center. Call 862-2777.  
2nd Thurs., 7:30 p.m.: **Beaming Rebel Foxes Collectors Club**, for more information call Carl D. Jones at 923-2400.

#### Fridays

7:30 a.m.: **Pro Networkers**, at Mimi's Cafe, for information call Harry Sacks at 319-1063  
3rd Fri., 8:30 a.m.: **Women's "In His Glory" Ministry** at Los Amigos C. C. (562) 622-3785.

## On This Day...

December 8, 1941: The United States, Republic of China and The Netherlands all declare war on Japan in response to its attack on Pearl Harbor.

1942: Jim Morrison, lead singer of The Doors, is born.

1980: Iconic singer and songwriter John Lennon is killed outside his home in New York.

1993: The North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) is signed into law by President Bill Clinton. The free trade agreement involves Canada, the United States, and Mexico.

## THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com)  
**LITTLE INVADERS: They're hiding everywhere**  
by Roger Coburn

### ACROSS

- 1 Attention getter
- 5 Ice, as a cake
- 10 Drescher of TV
- 14 Value greatly
- 19 Volcanic output
- 20 Wedding walk
- 21 Enthusiastic review
- 22 Places to bowl
- 23 Affirm
- 24 Ryan of baseball
- 25 Foe of Troy
- 26 Dread
- 27 West Virginia city
- 29 Massachusetts island
- 31 Gas-pump numbers
- 32 Pricey boat
- 34 Cartoonist Keane
- 35 Aisle, essentially
- 36 Reverend Jackson
- 38 Hispanic shops
- 42 Mary-Kate or Ashley
- 45 Single performances
- 46 Story's point
- 48 It's between Can. and Mex.
- 49 Fuel from plants
- 50 Betting setting
- 52 Be unwell
- 53 Summer acquisition
- 54 Certain sense
- 55 Sore spot
- 56 Remove, as wrapping
- 57 Vacation destination
- 58 Tax assessment
- 59 Actor Edward James
- 61 Speed up
- 63 Mythical weeper
- 65 Dagwood's dog
- 66 Wife of Jason
- 67 Place for a Parliament

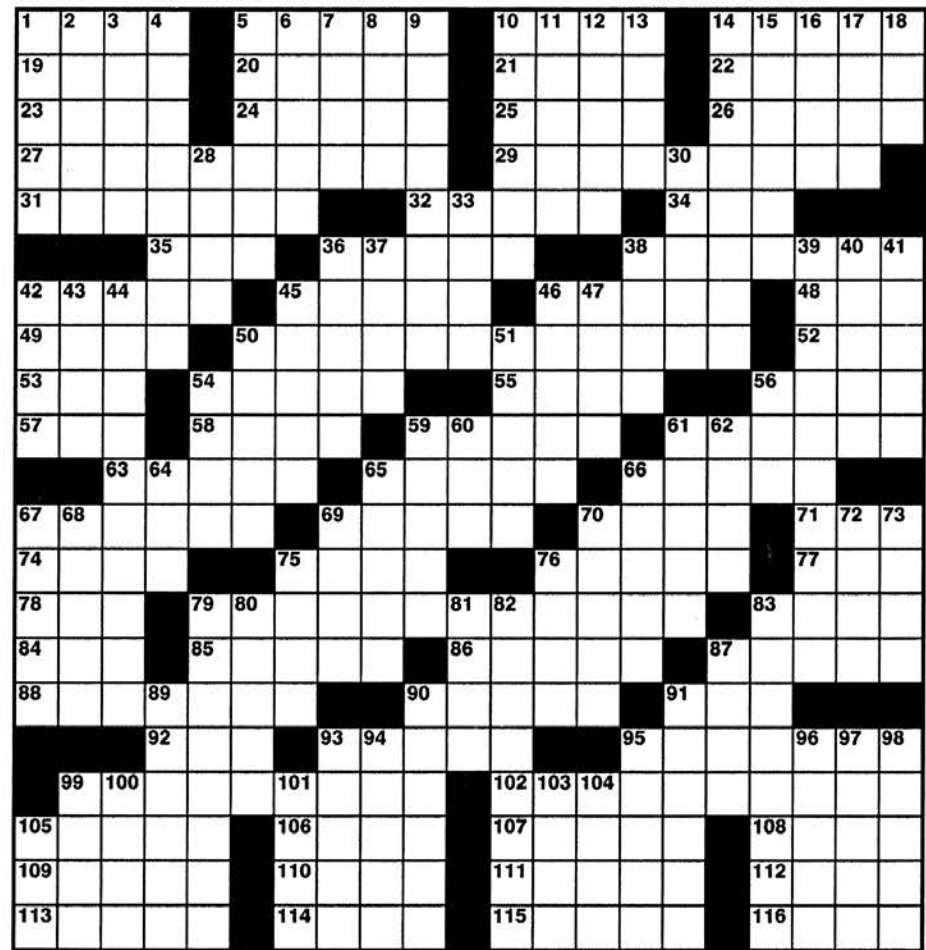
### DOWN

- 69 Small songbird
- 70 Blend together
- 71 CBS rival
- 74 Day's halfway point
- 75 Roof edge
- 76 Wraps closed, as a flag
- 77 \_\_\_ carte
- 78 Very long time
- 79 Capital on Hispaniola
- 83 Stuck-up
- 84 Former ring king
- 85 Lift up
- 86 Chop up
- 87 Cross the plate
- 88 Author Elmore
- 90 Egret's hangout
- 91 Rocky hill
- 92 Acct. posting
- 93 Swedish money
- 95 Was in store for
- 99 California city
- 102 Pilgrims' destination
- 105 Japanese-American
- 106 Certain vibe
- 107 Legal document
- 108 Grain husk
- 109 Flower of society
- 110 Shadow box
- 111 Goofed
- 112 Diet word
- 113 Gives the thumbs up
- 114 Sentry's shout
- 115 Popular beans
- 116 Seth's son

### 6 WHOOPS IT UP TO EXCESS

- 6 Whoops it up to excess
- 7 Norwegian city
- 8 Cabbage product
- 9 "The Charge of the Light Brigade" poet
- 10 Calais' country
- 11 Indian prince
- 12 \_\_\_-garde
- 13 On deck
- 14 In a calm fashion
- 15 Gnow into
- 16 Bus Stop playwright
- 17 Gusto
- 18 Ft. Myers clock setting
- 28 Poetic "soon"
- 30 WWII vessel
- 33 Sec'y., for one
- 36 Happy
- 37 Mideast airline
- 38 Soft cheese
- 39 Cuban city
- 40 Dramatic device
- 41 Hair port
- 42 Goes (for)
- 43 Jump
- 44 Location of 1 Down
- 45 Jobs of Silicon Valley
- 46 Star Trek doctor
- 47 Folk singer Phil
- 50 Tiny creature
- 51 Playground retort
- 54 Apply the brake
- 56 Take off the shelf
- 59 Used a pair of paddles
- 60 Say what's not so
- 61 Greeting
- 62 Folds in
- 64 Writer Fleming

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- 65 Fairway flaw
- 66 Blend together
- 67 Ryan of films
- 68 A Confederacy of Dunces novelist
- 69 Brewery containers
- 70 Chew noisily
- 72 Become unclear
- 73 Batting place
- 75 Oklahoma city
- 76 Fish features
- 79 Crude shelters
- 80 Main artery
- 81 Arabian sultanate
- 82 Amazing occurrences
- 83 Write carelessly
- 87 Take to the sky
- 89 XC
- 90 Don Giovanni composer
- 91 Winter wear
- 93 Drummer Gene
- 94 Country-style
- 95 Confused
- 96 Italian city
- 97 Muse of poetry
- 98 Units of force
- 99 Fine fabric
- 100 Where Mongolia is
- 101 Hard currency
- 103 Flying start?
- 104 \_\_\_ a soul (no one)
- 105 Prefix for classical

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.

ATLANTIC CITY (50 Across) is game Monopoly. Chris Evert's (3 Down) won-lost record of 1,309-146 ('900) in singles matches is the best of any professional tennis player in history. Writer IAN Fleming (64 Down) introduced secret agent James Bond in the 1954 novel "Casino Royale."



Photos by Art Montoya and R.D. Salyer

## 50 YEARS OF PROGRESS

The City of Downey celebrated its 50th birthday with an outside concert and celebration this week outside City Hall. 1950s doo-wop group The Wonderelles provided entertainment while city dignitaries helped cut complimentary cake provided to visitors.

Downey was officially incorporated on Dec. 17, 1956, though this city's history traces back to earlier. The Downey Patriot will publish a special commemorative magazine next week recounting some of that history, tracing the city's intrepid journey towards incorporation and a future deemed unlimited. -Eric Pierce

**ProNetworkers OF DOWNEY**

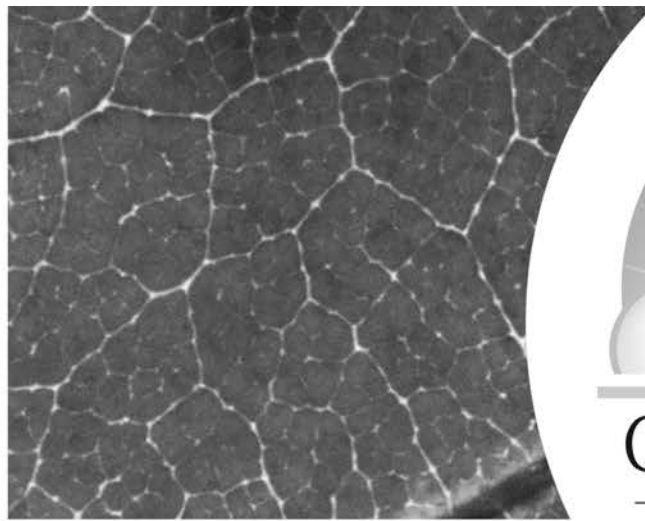
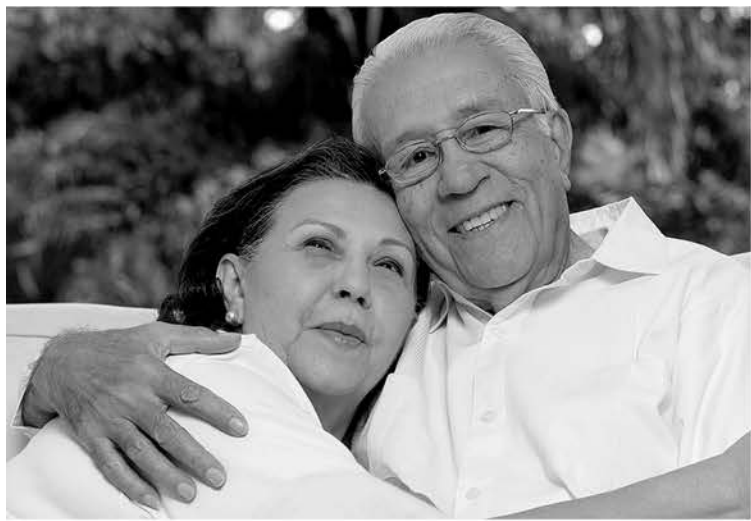
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**Word of MOUTH**

by Soheir S. Azer, D.D.S.



If you notice a crevice at the base of your tooth (at gum level), you may have a condition known as "dental abfraction." The teeth that are most likely to display dental abfractions are the bicuspid teeth (particularly the upper bicuspids), cuspids, and molars. What causes these notches in the tooth enamel? It is largely a matter of bruxism, or tooth grinding. You might imagine that the teeth would wear from grinding at the tops of the crown, where they contact each other. While this is so, a tooth is also vulnerable to grinding forces at its base, where it flexes. As the area at the base of the tooth flexes, minerals dissolve and leave a notch.

If you suspect that you suffer from bruxism see your dentist. It is now well known that stress and anxiety can also play a major role in causing bruxism. This column has been brought to you in the interest of better dental health. Most dental insurance policies allow two cleanings per year. Have you had yours? Take advantage and call us at (562) 923-3714 for an appointment. Have you been putting off seeing a dentist? We're located at 10800 Paramount Blvd., Suite 307, where we're currently accepting new patients. We provide cosmetic, functional, and preventive dental care for all ages. You can rely on us to answer all your questions about dental treatments and procedures.

P.S. Before dental abfractions are filled in with composite resins, the underlying cause must be addressed with nightly use of a mouthguard.

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# Woman's Club releases '07 Pechanga schedule

■ Club will make monthly trips to Pechanga beginning in January, 2007.

**DOWNEY** – Due to the continued success of their monthly bus trips to the Pechanga Entertainment Center in Temecula to benefit their Scholarship Fund, the Woman's Club of Downey has released their 2007 bus schedule: Jan. 8, Feb. 5, March 5, April 2, May 7, June 4, July 2, Aug. 6, Sept. 10, Oct. 1, Nov. 5 and Dec. 3.

All trips are scheduled on a Monday and ample parking is provided at the Woman's Club, located at 9813 Paramount Blvd. in Downey. The Woman's Club opens at 7 a.m. on trip days, offering donuts and coffee for sale.

The Woman's Club first-class bus, provided by Pechanga, leaves promptly at 8 a.m. and returns to Downey between 5:30 and 6 p.m. Bingo, featuring a grab bag of prizes, is played on the bus going and returning. Each guest will receive a \$5 voucher for casino play and is encouraged to register for a "Rewards Card" at the casino for additional benefits. Guests must be at least 21 years old.

Cost of each trip is \$6 for Woman's Club members; \$11 for non-members. All reservations must be paid one week prior to departure date. No refunds will be given for last-minute cancellations.

For reservations or more information, call Jeanine Keys at (562) 923-6620 or Doris Patterson at (562) 869-0377.

## Library accepting food for fines

**DOWNEY** – The Downey City Library will begin accepting food donations as payment for overdue fines during the month of December. The food will then be donated to needy families.

The library will accept new canned and packaged staple goods as payment for overdue fines on library materials. People who don't owe fines are also free to donate.

The Downey Council PTA HELPS program will help distribute the food during the holidays.

Food used as payment for fines will be accepted through Dec. 31 at the library circulation desk. The donated value of each item will be 50 cents. For questions, call (562) 904-7360 ext. 28.



A holiday favorite, Norma Roberts will perform Monday at Apollo Park. The show is free and starts at 4 p.m.

## One-woman musical performance

**DOWNEY** – "Music & Mistletoe" will be the title of the program when Downey Adult School's OASIS program meets this Monday, Dec. 11, at Apollo Park.

Guitarist, pianist and composer Norma Roberts will perform original Christmas songs and carols from around the world. Her one-woman musical show has been a holiday favorite in years past.

The show starts at 4 p.m. with dinner following. There is no charge to attend and Downey Dial-a-Ride can provide transportation. For information, call (562) 904-6200.

## Christmas musical event at local church

**DOWNEY** – Final touches are underway for the upcoming Christmas musical event, "The Glorious Impossible" at First Presbyterian Church of Downey, which includes presentations of the chancel choir, instrumental ensemble, string quartet, and harpsichord.

The program also includes soloists and "GIVEN," a contemporary Christian group which entertained shoppers at Stonewood Center just this week.

"Christmas is a wonderful time to appreciate the ambience of our historical sanctuary with its subdued lighting and holiday greenery," Musical Director Evelyn Oglesbee said. "Everyone is invited to take a break from the holiday rush and come re-ignite the spirit of Christmas."

Programs will be held Saturday, December 16 at 3 p.m. and Sunday, December 17 at 6:30 p.m. There is no charge for the program and handicap access and childcare is provided. There will be a light reception after the program.

The church is located at the corner of Downey Avenue and Seventh Street. For additional information call (562) 861-6752.

## PERKINS

Continued from page 1

hard work, good ethics, and character. "For that I'm grateful," he says. "In that classic mining town, we enjoyed three things: food, clothing and shelter. The company my dad worked for, Alcoa, owned everything in town, except for the barbershop, the post office, and the school. A phone was unheard of, and a car was an extreme luxury. We didn't have a car until the '50s. These days, people can't relate to that. People in those days knew how to survive."

Nothing to lose, Perkins moved to California in the late forties with his mother, father and younger brother. "We took the train and arrived with three suitcases, and not much in our pockets. We lived in a one-bedroom apartment. The bathroom was at the end of a long hallway. Despite it all, we seemed to be very happy."

Later, after they had moved to Lynwood, came a succession of employments, mostly smalltime but at the time crucial: delivering 320 copies of the Bell Gardens Review Thursday mornings, and the L.A. Examiner seven times a week, 365 days a year; as a boxboy for a supermarket; then a journeyman stock clerk—all this through elementary and high school, while he saved as much as he could for college (he never finished his bachelor's in business administration at CSU-Long Beach). Anyway, with his savings, he lucked out by buying into a partnership in a company called Plasticast, which supplied drills and taps for the aircraft industry. Their clients included Lockheed, Rockwell, and Rohr. Had it succeeded, and it almost did, a failed Plasticast project would have made him a millionaire, he says.

Meanwhile, he continued his regular employments with Safeway Stores (this time in the computer department), then KL Design, then Eutectic Welding Alloys for 15 years, and finally Bowman Distributing. A graduate of Lynwood High, Perkins next moved to South Gate, then finally, in 1962, to Downey. "I've lived in Downey, in the same house, for 44 years," he says.

Leisure pursuits have included a little golf, reading mostly self-help books, and frequent trips to St. Louis visiting son Greg who's finishing medical school. He also finds surcease in Pismo Beach, which he visits once a month. Daughter Peggy, the oldest, lives in Santa Monica, while Jeff, a frequent guest at the Council meetings, is office manager for Victolic, a Long Beach pipe company. All three offspring graduated from Warren High ("Is there any other high school?" he asks, in an obvious dig at a Downey High product and Council colleague). Younger brother Johnny lives in Las Vegas.

Last year he established the Soaring Eagle Award, which rewards those who go back to continue their interrupted education while holding on to their jobs. It's totally financed by him. He says, "It's one of the most rewarding programs I've been a part of."

"I've been on top of the hill, and down in the valley below," he says, "but I've been very fortunate. I've lived a good life." Then he got a little more philosophical: "Really, our lives are contained in just that dash between the two dates that are carved on tombstones. Sometimes, that's all we've got."

## 'It's Christmas Time' at club meeting

**DOWNEY** – "It's Christmas Time" is the title of the next meeting of Downey Christian Women's Club, whose next luncheon is scheduled for Dec. 13 at Los Amigos Country Club.

The day's special feature will be "Jewelry and Ponchos by Victoria." Lillie Knauls will provide music and speak on "Songs of Songs."

Men are invited to the meeting, which starts at 11:45 a.m. The price is \$12 for the buffet lunch and reservations are requested by calling Ginnie at (562) 927-8488 or Delores at (562) 868-7135.

## Holiday camp for kids offered by city

**DOWNEY** – The City of Downey Community Services Department is offering a holiday camp for children ages 6-14 which the city says will give them the opportunity to make new friends, learn new activities and enjoy a fun excursion.

The camp will be managed by trained Community Services personnel for the two-week camp.

The first week of camp runs Dec. 18-22 and includes a trip to the Long Beach Aquarium. The second week is Dec. 26-29 (Tuesday through Thursday) with a trip to Skate Zone in Huntington Beach.

Camp hours are 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. with extended hours offered to assist working parents. Extended hours are 7 to 9:30 a.m. and 3:30 to 6 p.m. each day of camp.

Cost is \$75 per week for the first family member and \$70 for each additional family member (fees will not be pro-rated for week two). Extended camp is \$35 for the week and \$30 for each additional family member. Camp fees include materials, supervision, lunch beverage (campers should bring a sack lunch each day), daily snack and excursion.

For more information on the holiday camp, call (562) 904-7238.

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<p><b>Glazed Ham (Bone-In 10-12lbs)</b> Fruit Sauce - Candied Yams Freshly Baked Bread Yummy Pumpkin Pie Serves 6-8 guests \$74.95</p>	<p><b>Prime Rib</b> Mashed Potatoes &amp; Gravy Green Beans - Freshly Baked Bread Yummy Pumpkin Pie \$10.95 per person (minimum 6) 9306 Firestone Blvd. At Woodruff, Downey Orders Accepted Until Dec. 20</p>

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# An 'extraordinary' show at First Baptist Church

■ Original production opens this weekend with local cast and choir members.

BY MARY FORNEY  
CONTRIBUTOR

**DOWNEY** – Residents can experience gifts of laughter and enjoyment watching performances of "An Extraordinary Christmas" this weekend at the First Baptist Church of Downey.

The original script was written by Jim Lacy who has penned more than 100 show scripts for churches and secular groups across the country.

"An Extraordinary Christmas" isn't the typical Christmas presentation. Inspired by the Innkeeper, Lacy focuses on how God used ordinary people to usher the baby Jesus into the world.

"I have always found the Innkeeper to be a hero," Lacy said. "I wanted to write something about him because he was an ordinary man who made biblical history because he made room for the Christ Child at the inn."

Matilde Saravia also contributes originality to the production as the costume creator. Saravia has designed stage outfits and wedding dresses worldwide, to include Hollywood. Creating costumes for churches has been Saravia's favorite pastime.

"I prefer to work for the church and serving the Lord," Saravia said. "I am happy that God gave me this ability and this is my joy to work for Him," she said.

Saravia's costumes shine on stage as special effects illuminate the choir of heavenly voices, soloists and dancers during this humorous, captivating story.

Choir and cast members from Downey are: Valarie Anderson, Adriana Baek, Joyce Beach, Margaret Brady, Matthew Brady, Sarah Brinkley, Wayne Brown, Jennifer Burpo, Kasee Campbell, Steven Chavarria, Karen De La Torre, Michael DeMitchell, Liana Ekk, Julie Fiktarz, Debbie Fox, Rob Fox, Julie Gomez, Andrea Griffin, Geoff Gross, Emilia Halasz, Alberie Hansen, Mary Ann Heyer, Jim Lacy, Sherri Lacy, Damaris Lielan, Megan Lielan, Pat Morton, Maggie Olmedo, Ricky Olmedo, Autumn Picazzo, Rosemary Rodriguez, Patty Roller, Carlos Saravia, Matilde Saravia, Daisy Warman, Riley Werner.

Hosted by the First Baptist Church of Downey, 8348 E. Third St., the public is invited to attend these free performances. Showtimes are 7 p.m., Dec. 8, Dec. 9 and Dec. 10, and a matinee will begin at 4 p.m., Dec. 9.

Tickets can be obtained by calling (562) 923-1261, ext. 275 or online at info@fbcdowney.org.



The cast of The Lion King make an appearance in Disney on Ice, which comes to the Los Angeles area starting Dec. 21.

## Disney on Ice making local appearance

**LOS ANGELES** – Join hosts Mickey and Minnie Mouse in an original adventure that reveals what happens when everyone's Super family, the Incredibles, take a fun-filled family vacation to Disneyland. The story begins where the blockbuster movie left off.

Disney on Ice will be presented in the Los Angeles area for one month at Staples Center, Dec. 21-25; Honda Center, formerly the Arrowhead Pond of Anaheim, Dec. 27-31; Los Angeles Sports Arena, Jan. 3-7; and Long Beach Arena, Jan. 10-15.

Audiences will swing to the beat with Baloo through the Jungle Cruise, fly like a space ranger through Space Mountain with Buzz Lightyear and spin wildly through the Mad Tea Party with Alice and the Mad Hatter.

Comedy ensues as Disney/Pixar's the Incredibles experience famed Disneyland attractions like the Haunted Mansion, "It's a Small World," and Pirates of the Caribbean in an ice spectacular.

And when things get a little too crazy, the audience can help the Incredibles save the day.

Ticket prices are \$15, \$20, \$25, \$40 and \$60 and available at all Ticketmaster outlets.

## Local Concerts this week

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8**  
Gin Blossoms - HOB Anaheim

**SATURDAY**  
Hot 92 Jamz Winter Wonder Jam - Forum in Inglewood  
KROQ Almost Acoustic Christmas (Foo Fighters, Gnarl Barkley) - Gibson Amphitheatre

**SUNDAY**  
Andrea Bocelli - Honda Center

**THURSDAY**  
Twisted Sister - HOB Anaheim

## New on DVD this week

**MOVIES**  
Barnyard  
The Devil Wears Prada  
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**THE NATIVITY STORY** PG (11:15 1:50 4:25) 7:00 9:35  
**VAN WILDER: THE RISE OF TAJ** R (11:55 2:30) 5:05 7:40 10:15  
**TURISTA** R (10:15 12:45 3:15) 5:45 8:15 10:45  
**DEJA VU** PG13 (10:30 1:30 4:30) 7:30 10:30  
**DECK THE HALLS** PG (10:15 12:45 3:15) 5:45 8:15 10:45  
**HAPPY FEET** PG (10:00 12:45 3:30) 6:15 9:00  
**CASINO ROYALE** PG13 (11:20 2:40) 6:00 9:20  
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## Epple Scholarships awarded to Cerritos College students

**NORWALK** – The Cerritos College Foundation recently awarded the Cheryl A. Epple Memorial Scholarship to two student volunteers who live as models of volunteerism and service to their school and community. Each student received a check for \$1,000.

Former foundation board member Bob Epple, who is a Cerritos College board trustee, presented the \$1,000 scholarships honoring his late wife to Syntia Hadiningtias and Mahtab Panthaki. Epple said that Cheryl's friends, he and their family created the scholarship honoring volunteerism because Cheryl had felt so strongly about public service within her community.

"Cheryl believed that those of us who are blessed have a responsibility to give back to others," Epple explained.

Hadiningtias, of Long Beach, is a sophomore at Cerritos College and plans to pursue a doctorate in the field of geology. She is involved in the campus' International Student Association as a treasurer and serves as president of the Muslim Student Association. Hadiningtias attended high school in both Indonesia and Germany before coming to the United States to pursue higher education.

She spends her time supporting student club activities, volunteering at beach clean-up events and providing traditional Indonesian dance performances for fundraisers and festivals.

Panthaki, of Norwalk, recently came to the United States from India and is involved with the Cerritos College International Student Association and Phi Beta Lambda, the campus business club. While in India, Panthaki volunteered her time to work with disadvantaged children, and she is eager to continue this type of outreach through her involvement with campus clubs.

Panthaki's educational goal is to receive a bachelor's degree in business administration with a concentration in marketing. She plans to obtain a master's degree in the same discipline and become a certified public accountant, eventually owning her own firm.

The Cerritos College Foundation, a non-profit organization, serves as a charitable vehicle for the community, individuals and alumni, to assist with financial support of Cerritos College beyond that which state funding supports.

Visit the Foundation online at [www.cerritos.edu/ccf](http://www.cerritos.edu/ccf).



**DYNAMITE PERFORMANCE** – The Downey Dynamites AYSO U10 girls took first place in the Surf City Open Turkey Tournament held on Thanksgiving in Huntington Beach. Top row, left to right: Coach Eddie Sanchez, Nadalie Valdez, Monique Miramontes, Jocelyn Maldonado, Mireya Ocegueda, Ariana Cruz and Elisa-Marie Gonzalez. Bottom row: Braylyn Bennett, Elli Spain, Nicole Flores, Sabrina Iunza, Marlene Palafox and Vanessa Sanchez.



**POWERHOUSE** – The St. Raymond football team recently completed their season as CYO Southland champions. The fourth through sixth grade squad finished a perfect 7-0 and beat such notable schools as OLPH and Savio.



**THUNDEROUS PLAY** – The Downey Thunder will travel to Oxnard next week for a shot at the state championship. Top row, left to right: Assistant Coach Arnold Castellanos, Head Coach Steve Cook and Assistant Coach Kenneth Bond. Middle row: Jack, Nicholas, Adam, Sammy, Adan, Manny and Dominic. Bottom row: Andy, Anthony D., Anthony B., and Ricky.

## Thunder make noise at Apollo Park tournament

**DOWNEY** – The Downey Thunder flag football team, fourth grade and under division in the Downey Junior Athletic Association, beat out five other teams in the Southern California Municipal Athletic Federation and will now travel to Oxnard next week to compete for the state championship.

The Thunder beat out Bell Gardens, Bellflower, Cerritos, Cudahy and another Downey team in the regional tournament played at Apollo Park last weekend.

The Thunder will represent Downey in the state championship Dec. 16 and 17 in Oxnard.

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## Masato 'Mas' Fujimoto enjoyed amateur radio

**DOWNEY** – Masato Fujimoto, known as “Mas” or W6CZL to friends, passed away at Downey Regional Medical Center on December 2. He had resided in Downey for 46 years and in the area for 90 years.

He enjoyed being involved in Boy Scouts, amateur radio, photography and fishing.

He is survived by his wife, Ida; son, Norman; daughter, Kay Ono; and three grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held at the Moravian Church of Downey on Saturday, Dec. 9 at 1 p.m. followed by interment at Rose Hills Memorial Park.

## Ruth Caroline Shaw services this Saturday

**DOWNEY** – Ruth Caroline Shaw was born on October 8, 1913 in Pilot Township, Cherokee County, Iowa. She passed away at home on November 29 in Downey.

Shaw was the fourth child in a family of seven siblings. Her parents were Victor Frank and Mary (Sellers) Frank.

As a child Ruth enjoyed working on the family farm. She hatched many a chick and drove a tractor for her father who suffered several debilitating illnesses.

She attended a country schoolhouse and graduated from Wilson High School in Cherokee in 1931. She worked as a housekeeper and factory worker until 1942 when she and an adventurous friend headed to California. During World War II, she worked for Douglas Aircraft.

Next, Shaw went to work for the City of Compton in the Treasurer's Office then as secretary to Compton's fire chief. She retired from this position in 1979 after working for the City of Compton for 35 years.

Shaw married Clyde Shaw, battalion chief in Compton's fire department on March 5, 1949 in Las Vegas. Her married life was a brief six years and ended with Clyde's sudden and unexpected death in 1955.

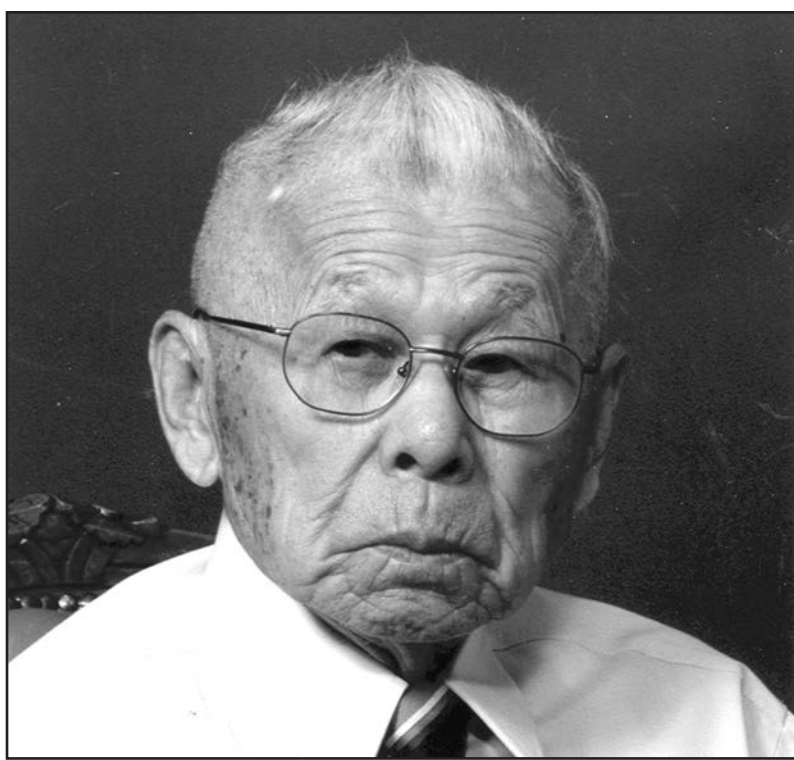
Shaw was a seasoned traveler, having visited the majority of the United States, the territory of Hawaii, Canada and Cuba. She took many trips with her nephew Joel.

She also cared for many relatives in her retirement years, specifically her Uncle Merrill, her brother, Ralph, and her sister, Doris, when they became seriously ill.

She was a member of the Baptist churches wherever she lived. She always involved herself in ministry whether it was with the children or working behind the scenes.

Even though she lived the majority of her life in California, she always considered Iowa home and her desire was to be buried there, so she will be laid to rest next to her parents.

Services will be held at Downey Zrelak Family Mortuary on Saturday, Dec. 9, at 11 a.m.



**MASATO FUJIMOTO** – Funeral services will be held Dec. 9 at the Moravian Church of Downey.

## Genealogy group installing officers

**LONG BEACH** – Dr. Wendy Elliot-Scheinberg, president of the Federation of Genealogical Societies, will install the officers and directors of the Questing Heirs Genealogical Society of Long Beach when the group meets for its December meeting on Dec. 17 in the Parish Hall of the Resurrection Lutheran Church.

Also at the meeting, Neena R. Strichart, publisher and editor of the Signal Tribune, will be honored as the first recipient of the “Friend of Questing Heirs Genealogical Society” award for her service to the Society and the genealogy community.

The meeting starts at 1:15 p.m. For more information call Jeanette Jones at (562) 421-5610.

## Cemetery breaks ground on mausoleum

**SAN GABRIEL** – Ground was broken this week for a new multi-interment mausoleum at San Gabriel Cemetery in San Gabriel.

Cemetery administrator James Porter said the imposing granite and stone structure, scheduled for completion in mid-2007, will house single and companion crypts for casket entombments and companion niches for inurnment of cremated remains.

Families are invited to visit the grounds and begin planning arrangements prior to need.

Steeped in local history, San Gabriel is a non-denominational cemetery that has served people of all faiths since 1872. Its 14 acres are located at 601 West Roses Road.

For information on the new mausoleum or other services at the cemetery, call (626) 282-2764 or visit [www.sangabrielcemetery.com](http://www.sangabrielcemetery.com).

## LaGrand 'Lee' Leavitt was former city engineer

**DOWNEY** – LaGrand P. “Lee” Leavitt, a former city engineer for the City of Downey, passed away Nov. 28. He was 82.

He was born in Utah in 1924, raised in Las Vegas. He graduated from Las Vegas High School in 1942 and graduated from the University of Utah in 1952.

Leavitt was a veteran of World War II, serving in the United States Marine Corps for three years. He was also a member of the Lions Club and an Eagle Scout and a long-time member of Church of Jesus Christ – Latter Day Saints, Downey III Ward.

He was preceded in death by his son, Dudley. He's survived by his wife of 60 years, Theresa “Terry”; three daughters, Carol Ann Waite (Bill), Debbie Combs (Alan), and Bonnie Perkins; two sons, Gary (Shirley), and Kurt (Donna); brother, Fred; three sisters Donna, Bonnie and Joan; 19 grandchildren and 16 great grandchildren.

## Cynthia A. Hinnen passes away at 38

**WHITTIER** – Cynthia A. Hinnen, a 38-year-old resident of La Mirada, died Nov. 28 in Whittier.

She is survived by her husband, Geoff; daughters, Brianna and Jenna; and son, Nicholas.

In lieu of flowers, the family requested flowers be sent to the Presbyterian Hospice of Whittier.

Miller-Mies Mortuary handled the services.

## St. Raymond's taking trip to state line

**DOWNEY** – The St. Raymond's class of 2007 invites the community a trip to the California-Nevada state line on Dec. 9. Coffee and donuts will be served on the bus and there will also be entertainment, bingo and raffles.

The bus leaves the St. Raymond's parking lot at 6 a.m. and will return at 10:30 p.m. Cost is \$30 per person and includes a buffet.

To purchase tickets or information, call Rosie at (562) 842-6370 or Diane at (562) 889-3816.

## Seating available for Rose Parade

**DOWNEY** – The City of Downey Community Services Department still has assigned grandstand seating available for the 2007 Tournament of Roses Parade.

The bus will depart from the City Hall flag pole area on Jan. 1 at 6:30 a.m. with an approximate return time of 2 p.m. Sign-ups are at City Hall Community Services Department from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Cost is \$64 per ticket. For information, call (562) 904-7238.

## Book Lover's Club makes new selection

**DOWNEY** – The Downey City Library Book Lover's Club, a free monthly book discussion group that explores the best in literary fiction, biography and popular nonfiction, will meet Dec. 14 from noon to 1 p.m. in the Cormack Room. This month's featured selection will be *The Bridge at San Luis Rey* by Thornton Wilder.

Winner of the Pulitzer Prize, this brief novel tells the story of Friar Brother Juniper in rural 18th century Peru. After witnessing the death of five people in the collapse of a rope bridge, Brother Juniper vows to prove the existence of God and find meaning in the lives of the victims.

New book club members are welcome at the meeting and light refreshments will be served. Reservations are recommended by calling (562) 904-7360, ext. 3.

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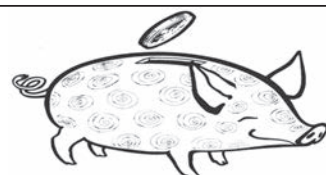
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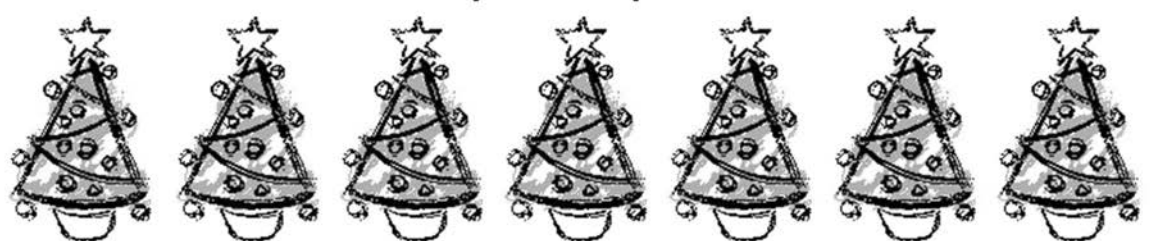
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## SCHOOL BOARD

Continued from page 1

Donald La Plante, who himself has served on the Board since 1979 and as its heretofore president for a "mind-boggling" fifth time, for the latter's lengthy years of dedicated and dynamic service and leadership.

For his part, Gutierrez said he would try to carry on the great tradition blazed by his predecessor(s) and the Board, in ensuring quality education for all students in the district.

The Board also assigned the following to the various committees: Corrin, La Plante, Barbara Samperi, and Martha Sodetani to the Audit Committee; Gutierrez, Morris, and Nancy Swenson to the Budget Committee; Corrin and Sodetani to the School/City Coordinating Committee; (and re-assigned) La Plante as representative for Electing Members to the County Committee on School District Organization, as well as to LACSTA.

The Board also heard a musical presentation by the Downey High School Choir under the direction of Corneliu Olariu, who announced that it, too, has been invited to perform at Carnegie Hall. The group performed jazzy renditions of Jingle Bells and Silent Night.

In other action the Board:

- Approved the certification of signatures for the period Dec. 2006 to Dec. 2007, or until subsequent action is taken by the Board of Education;
- Accepted with gratitude gifts from the private sector to the district, including a donation of 350 puzzles, valued at \$500, to be used for district students to create their own puzzles regarding stopping violence, from Ruth Hillecke and Gloria Crum of the Los Angeles County Medical Association; a cash donation of \$10,000 from Kaiser Permanente, to be used in support of psychological services at the TLC Family Resource Center; and a donation of 25 teacher enrichment grants, valued at \$5,000, from the Downey Federal Credit Union;
- Ratified payment of expenses and fees for convention and conference attendance;
- Ratified general agreements with Behavioral Education for Children

with Autism, First Steps, and Orlingua School for the Hearing Impaired, effective July 1, 2006 and ending June 30;

- Ratified general agreement with Lovaas Institute of Early Intervention effective July 1, 2006 and ending December 31, 2006;
- Ratified general agreement with New Haven Youth and Family Services effective Aug. 21, 2006 and ending June 30, 2007;
- Ratified general agreement with ARC of Southeast Los Angeles County effective Sept. 1, 2006 and ending June 30, 2007;
- Ratified payments for special education placements;
- Ratified agreement between Downey Adult School Career and Education Center and Newhope Medical Clinic to offer externships to Office Skills Center students;
- Ratified agreement between Downey Adult School Career and Education Center and Victoria Medical Group to offer externships to Office Skills Center students;
- Ratified single subject internship agreement with CSU-Long Beach;
- Ratified contract for consultant services related to the California Storm Water California School Monitoring Group (CSMG), with Los Angeles County Office of Education, effective July 1, 2006 and ending June 30, 2007;
- Ratified contract for reimbursement employees on-loan for the Regional Occupational Program, with the Los Angeles County Office of Education, effective Nov. 1, 2006 and ending June 30, 2007;
- Approved change orders for various work on the Warren High School classroom and modernization project, involving increased funding, to be charged to the Bond Funds;
- Approved change order for the Downey High School new classroom building ("C"), with P.W. Construction, Inc. of Glendora, in the increased amount of \$46,454, to be charged to the Bond Funds;
- Approved change order 2 to the open purchase order for chicken products with Kings Delight of Atlanta, Georgia, in the increased amount of \$8,000, to be charged to the Food Service Funds;
- Accepted as complete backhoe services provided by Terra Pave of Whittier in the amount of \$8,440, as well as paving and repairs in the

amount of \$17,821.79, the first to be charged to the Maintenance, Deferred Maintenance and /or Bond Funds; and the latter to the General Fund and/or Bond Funds;

- Accepted as complete concrete work by 3D Concrete of Downey in the sum of \$20,048, to be charged to the General and /or Bond Funds;
- Accepted as complete trade electrical work by Spike Electric of Anaheim in the amount of \$44,941.48, to be charged to the General Fund and/or Bond Funds;
- Accepted as complete fencing work by McCullah Fence Co. of Bell Gardens in the sum of \$56,370.85, to be charged to the Bond and/or General Funds;
- Approved adjustment to the 2006-07 Food Services budget to reflect a decrease in the fund balance;
- Approved adjustments to the 2006-07 General Fund budget to reflect decreases to the fund balance;
- Denied the claim submitted by J. L. Martin in compliance with Government Code Section 911-15 and 945;
- Ratified routine Personnel items until subsequent action is taken by the Board of Education;
- Authorized the establishment of two new limited-term positions, according to their applicable classifications, with one assigned to Ward Elementary School and the other to West Middle School; meanwhile ratifying a new classified position assigned to Pupil Services;
- Approved the change(s) to the duties of Child Care Assistant, Maintenance Glazier, and Registrar, effective Dec. 5, 2006;
- Approved the test administration calendar for the 2006-07 school year;
- Received the 2006-07 first period interim financial report as of Oct. 31, 2006, and approved the positive certification that Downey Unified School District can meet its financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year;

See SCHOOL BOARD, page 15

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Remodeled home with 3 spacious bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths plus central air. 2 car detached garage, dual pane windows plus copper plumbing. Large master suite with private bath. Park like backyard for entertaining or the growing family. Beautifully maintained and in move in condition. Seller want to see all offers.  
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**SOLD**  
**NORTH DOWNEY - \$789,000 CHEROKEE ESTATES**  
Spacious custom 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath home with 2,275 sqft of living space. Sparkling pool and spa, formal dining room and family room open to kitchen. Granite countertops in kitchen and baths. Direct access from 2 car garage. Large master suite with private bath and walk-in closet. Priced to sell at \$789,000. Call Carol for a private showing.

**SOLD**  
**NORTH DOWNEY NEAR STONEWOOD**  
Spacious 3 bedroom, 1 3/4 bath home with almost 1,900 sq. ft. of living space. Living room with fireplace, family kitchen plus separate dining area. Large family room (can be 4th br), central air and hardwood floors throughout. Direct access from 2 car garage. Large covered patio and situated on an 8,494 sq. ft. lot. All this and more for \$729,000. Call Carol today!



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**2 BED APT.**  
Gated, many amenities, close to fwys.  
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### 1 BEDROOM

Close in central location, redecorated. Call for appt.  
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Winter clothes like new, boys size 3, girls size 8, womens medium & large sizes. Small appliances, toys, plus other great merchandise.  
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### MOVING SALE

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10723 Old River School Rd.

### CONDO FOR SALE

**LEISURE WORLD - SEAL BEACH (55+)**

2 bed, 1 bath end unit, excellent loc. Nicely furnished. \$195K. Call Will, BFR, Broker  
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### FOR RENT

**2 BEDROOMS**  
Close in central location, redecorated. Call for appt.  
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### 3 BED 2 BATH

Downey condo. Newly carpeted, large closets, mirrored walls, 2 car security garage, pool, washer & dryer inside unit, gas range, dishwasher, central heating & air. \$1,800 mo.  
(562) 927-5437

### 4 BED, 1 1/2 BATH HOUSE

Fam. rm., din. rm., F/P \$2,300. Ask for Susie.  
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### 2 BED DUPLEX

Paramount - Garage, ldry. hook ups, new floors, \$1,175. Call (562) 867-4710

### NORWALK 1 BED

Gated parking, A/C, coin ldry., \$845 mo. Call Joan  
(562) 863-6599

### SPACIOUS 4 BED, 1 3/4 BATH

Plus den, completely remodeled Artesia home. \$2,500 + dep.  
18724 Alburdis Ave., Artesia  
(562) 804-7889

### 1 BED, LYNWOOD

Garage, gated community, refrigerator & stove, \$635 mo. Call Lilliana (310) 632-0314

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#### ARMAS PATCHING & RESTUCCO

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### PERSONALS

#### PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

You who made me see everything and showed me the way to reach my ideals. You who gave me the divine gift to forgive and forget the wrong that is done to me, and You who are in all instances of my life, with me. I thank You for everything and confirm once more that I never want to be separated from You no matter how great the material desires may be. I want to be with You and my loved ones in Your perpetual glory. Thank You for Your love towards me and my loved ones. AMEN.  
My favor was granted R.P.

### SERVICES

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9216 Lakewood Blvd., Downey, CA 90240  
9027 Gallatin Rd., Downey, CA 90240  
12070 Telegraph Rd., Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670  
9849 S. Atlantic Ave., Ste. H, South Gate, CA 90280

**We Found Your Treasure On The Island**  
Lovely cul de sac home situated in the great desired Treasure Island area of Downey. Properties consists of the following amenities 3 Bedrooms w/ wall to wall closets, 2 bathrooms, inside laundry, step down den, remodeled kitchen, new paint, carpet, & tile throughout.  
Freddy Gamboa 562-244-2701

**Local Commercial e Industrial - Los Angeles**  
Muchas posibilidades - 2,700 pies cuadrados. 1516 W. Slauson Ave., Los Angeles. Precio \$435,000.  
Dene M. Molina (562) 904-9729

**3 Bedroom 2 Bath Family Room Home**  
Remodeled kitchen w/ granite counter tops and island, maple cabinets and stainless steel appliances. Gorgeous remodeled bathrooms. New central air & heating. Master bedroom has it's own bath. 1,600sqft. of living space. THIS IS A MUST SEE!  
Teresa Arana 562-569-1499

**Beautiful Quiet Hillside Home!**  
Total Remodeled, Granite Counter tops, New stainless appliances, New Tile and choice of color carpet to be installed. Located in one of the most Beautiful, quiet, hillside areas of Whittier. Home is ready for move in.  
Tony Bauer 951-377-2284

**Only \$444,900**  
Only 444,900 for this gorgeous 3 bed, 2 bath, home in La Puente bordering West Covina. Kitchen has been remodeled with solid oak kitchen cabinets and granite countertops. Gazebo, playground and storage room to remain with the sale.  
Armando Mendez 562-307-2852

**Ready to move In!**  
Nice home located in Hollydale 3 bedrooms, 1 bathroom good room size. New exterior, interior paint, entry door and molding. Ceramic tile floors in living room, kitchen and remodel bathroom. Attached car garage with big lot size and nicely landscaped. For more info, Debbie Santiago  
Debbie Santiago 562-307-5429

**New Downey Listing!**  
2 beds, 2 bath, 2car garage. Den, Fireplace Large family kitchen. 1,594 sq ft of living space on a 7,500 sq ft lot Lots of improvements, Nicely landscaped. This home won't last long! CALL Wilson now  
Wilson Ruiz (562) 869-4111

**Best Price In The Area!**  
2 bedrooms 1 bath 6,200 Sq. Feet Lot New Carpet and flooring. Immaculate condition perfect for first time buyers. All this for just \$454,900.  
Mey Alvarez 562-900-4531

**Nice quiet Neighborhood**  
3 bedrooms, 1.75 bathrooms, den with fireplace, 1 car garage. Call Maria for more info  
Maria Fernandez 562-577-1104

**Exclusive area of South Gate Only \$512,000**  
Lowest price in the exclusive area of Hollydale.  
Ray Penado (562) 569-8488

**Two parcels with six houses**  
16,400 square feet with both parcels. Each house has it's own yard. Great opportunity to live in one and rent the other houses. Great area of Mount Washington, close to the Pasadena Freeway. Please Buyer inquire only.  
Abraham Garnica 562-755-7696

**Save money and build your dream home here!**  
Approved plans, ready to build 4,300 Sq. Ft. home! Existing: 3 bedroom, 2 bath 1,176 Sq. Ft. home on 5,767 Sq. Ft. lot desirable area of North Downey. Cozy fireplace in master bedroom. Start building your dream home today!  
Luther Sanchez 562-755-9387

## SCHOOL BOARD

Continued from page 13

- Approved the successor agreement to the master agreement with DEA/CTA/NEA including a 6.5 percent salary increase effective Sept. 1, 2006;
  - Approved a 6.5 percent salary increase for Superintendent, Assistant Superintendents, certificated and classified management, and confidential employees, effective July 1, 2006;
  - Approved increase to unclassified salary schedule, effective Jan. 1, 2007;
  - Declared that as a result of financial uncertainties, negotiations, legislation, and other factors, all management including Superintendent, Assistant Superintendents, confidential, and other unrepresented employee salaries are indefinite for 2006-07; and
  - Approved the taking of appropriate action on several student cases;
- The next public meeting of the DUSD Board will be at 5 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 16, 2007 at the Administration Center, 11627 Brookshire Ave.

## Holiday performance celebrates Mozart

**LOS ANGELES** – The Hollywood Master Chorale, in performance with The Crown City Chamber Players, will provide Southern California with one of the final opportunities to mark the sesquicentennial of one of music's most enduring and cherished composers - Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart - with a special performance of *Coronation Mass* on Dec. 19 at 8 p.m. at Wilshire United Methodist Church in Los Angeles.

The evening will also include Christmas, Chanukah, and holiday music including arrangements from Cameroon, Spain, and Germany, and a new arrangement of a classic Robert Frost poem. A pre-concert discussion will take place at 7:30 p.m.

The *Coronation Mass*, composed in 1779, is one of the most popular of Mozart's 17 existing settings of the *Ordinary of the Mass*. This particularly joyful and exuberant orchestration includes fanfares, pageantry, trumpets and trombones.

For ticket prices and information, call (323) 960-4349 or log onto [www.hollywoodmasterchorale.org](http://www.hollywoodmasterchorale.org).

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## New Years party planned aboard L.B's Queen Mary

**LONG BEACH** – Thousands of partygoers are expected to attend the Queen Mary's 25th Anniversary New Year's Eve Stars and Lights Celebration Sunday, December 31. The elaborate event, for guests age 18 and older, offers a variety of themed parties with live bands and celebrity radio personalities for one admission price of \$89 per person. Guests holding the \$89 ticket are invited to go from party to party throughout the evening.

The parties, located all over the ship, will include top 40 hits, rock and hip hop, big band and swing, Latin pop, salsa, stand-up comedy and even a Brazilian carnival.

Doors will open at 6:00 p.m. for ticketed guests who wish to come aboard to dine before the party rooms open at 7:30 p.m. Entertainment begins at 8:00 p.m.

Tickets are now available and may be purchased via Ticketmaster or at the Queen Mary Box Office between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. daily. The ticket also includes party favors, balloon drops at midnight and the Queen Mary's traditional fireworks show just after midnight. An extensive New Year's Eve dinner buffet (served from 6:00 - 11:00 p.m. at \$24.95 per person plus tax and gratuity), fast food items, beverages, parking and coat check are priced separately. Everything is included in festive Hotel Queen Mary Packages and the Hollywood-themed Sir Winston's Dinner Package.

For package pricing, additional information or to book Hotel Queen Mary or Sir Winston's Packages, call the Queen Mary at (562) 435-3511.

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**Drive A Little, Get A Lot**  
3 Bedrooms, 2 Bathrooms, master suite, central air and heat, formal dining room with attached china cabinet, formal living room, family room, huge laundry room with lots of closet space.  
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## College board elects new president

**NORWALK** – The Cerritos College Board of Trustees held its annual re-organizational meeting Wednesday, electing new officers for the coming year.

The board elected Tom Jackson, immediate past vice president and member since 2003, as president; Bob Arthur, past board president and member since 1995, as vice president; and Bob Epple, a board member who first served on the board in the mid-1980s, was appointed to the board in 2004 and elected again in 2005, as secretary.

The board presented outgoing Board President John Moore, a trustee since 1988, with an honorary plaque for his year of dedication and service to the board.

"John, we appreciate the fine example you've set through your presidency on this board for the past 12 months," said Jackson as he presented Moore with the plaque.

Jackson is a resident of Norwalk and was a full-time faculty member at Cerritos until his retirement in 2002.

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*Happy Holidays!*  
*May Your Home Be Filled With Blessings!*

**Orange State**  
You NEED to see it to believe it! Beautifully remodeled 3 Bedrooms, 2 Bathrooms, 4-car garage, 8,400 sq. ft. lot!

**Start the New Year...**  
In this Executive Brand New Home! Features 7 Bedrooms, 6 Bathrooms, family room and game room! 7,900 sq. ft. of magnificent construction!

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**#1** "Jason Cierpiszewski did a wonderful job listing my home. I was very impressed and happy with Jason." -- Abigail Plumley

**#2** "Karen Hayashi did an excellent job and was so professional. Karen listed our home and really looked out for our interest." -- Ambrose and Maria Hernandez

**#3** "Our agent Mario Acevedo went above and beyond in listing our home. Mario was helpful, patient and excellent." -- Elvia Holmes

**MVPs OF THE MONTH**

**TOP LISTING**  
Lilian Lopez & Lorena Amaya

**TOP PRODUCTION**  
Maria Cibrian

**TOP SALES**  
Marlene Rodriguez

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A Triplex for more investing power! All 3 units are 2 Bedrooms, 1 Bathroom each – each unit has a carport – very nice neighborhood.  
(562) 927-2626

**How Do You Spell SOLD**  
Try this beautiful home – you will love the excellent condition, 3 Bedrooms, 2 Bathrooms, formal dining room area, ceramic tile and long drive way!  
(562) 927-2626

**I've Been To Home Charm School**  
Charming Downey home with 3 Bedrooms, 1 Bathroom, huge corner lot, and a very nice neighborhood.  
(562) 927-2626

**La Cresenta Here I Come**  
This property fell out of escrow! Tons of Hummingbirds fly back and forth near this close-to-the-hills home, 3 Bedrooms, 3 Bathrooms, formal dining room, living room with cozy fireplace and sparkling pool with large grass area.  
(562) 927-2626

**Talk Of The Town**  
Great Business – Transmission Shop in Downey! Really good location with lots of drive-by traffic for free advertising, machinery and inventory included, seller is very motivated!  
(562) 927-2626

**Fill Your House With Guests**  
Need a guest house for holiday company? This Downey home has it all – 3 Bedrooms, 2 Bathrooms, living room with fireplace, a guest house and very nice neighborhood – all ready in move-in condition.  
(562) 927-2626

**Green Thumb Landscaping**  
Lush green new landscaping is just one great selling point of this lovely Bellflower home – 3 Bedrooms, 2 Bathrooms, family room with fireplace, formal dining room, new paint inside and out.  
(562) 927-2626

**OUCH!**  
I fell out of escrow! An excellent opportunity for a lucky buyer – 2 Bedrooms, 1 Bathroom, living room with cozy fireplace, hardwood floors, dining area, 4-car garage and zoned R-2 – plus potential to build 2nd home.  
(562) 927-2626

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**PENDING**



**Karmont Condo!**  
2 LG. master beds, 3 bas, 1,571 sq. ft., family room, 2 car det. garage.  
**Priced @ \$419,000**

**PRICE REDUCED**



**Lots For Your Money!**  
2 BD, 1.75 BA, Rumpus Room, Big Park Like Yard, R-2 zone, 1,267 sq. ft. On 13,910 sq. ft. Lot.  
**Priced @ \$750,000**

**CALL TODAY!**



**Quality & Elegance!**  
Newly Remodeled 2 BD, 2 BA, Kitchen Nook, Fireplaces, Laundry room 2 Car Garage, 5,749 Sq. Ft. Lot. Call for Price!  
**A MUST SEE!!! Priced @ \$675,000**

**CALL RUSSELL!**



**Opportunity Knocks!**  
3 BD, 1 BA, Near Carrillos College 1,028 sq. ft. of living space, 6,850 Lot, 3 Car Garage Only \$495,950  
**Call Russell Skersick Today @ 562-619-8280**

**WOW! 2 LOTS!**



**Room To Grow!**  
3 BD, 2 BA, Family room, 2 Car Garage 1,803 sq. ft., 2 Parcels, 11,590 sq. ft. lot. Call For Price!  
**Call Maria Elena Serrano Today @ 562-400-3373**

**R-3**



**Buildable lot!**  
Huge Home with 6+ Bedrooms Rented for \$3,000 a month w/14,810 sq. ft. preliminary approved plans for Units! PRICE: \$1,199,999  
**Call Marie Picarelli Today @ 562-618-0033**

**REDUCED!**



**Priced for a quick sale!**  
Newly remodeled home w/ 3 BD, 1 BA, 2 car garage, park like yard, close to everything! 7,000 sq. ft. lot. Price Reduced to \$499,500  
**Call Zeke Pinaya Today @ 562-746-8840**

**MOVE IN CONDITION!**



**Lakewood Manor!**  
3 BD, 2 BA, living room w/ fireplace, hardwood & tile floors, cul-de-sac, 1,316 sq. ft. on 5,000 sq. ft. lot, backyard with covered patio  
Priced From \$575,000-\$595,000  
**Call Frank Moreno Today @ 562-949-8139**

**WOW!!!**



**Just Listed!**  
1.25 acres of vacant land located on major road in Palmdale, zoned M1  
Asking price is \$29,900  
**Call Mary Jane Lee @ 532-618-0390**



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**Big & Spacious!**  
Newly Remodeled, 3 BD, 2 BA, Beautiful High Ceilings, Family Room w/2 Fireplaces, Great Neighborhood, 7,750 Sq. Ft. Lot A MUST SEE!  
**Priced @ \$789,000**

**CALL TODAY!**



**New Construction In Downey!**  
Unbelievable! 5,000 Sq. Ft. Home! 5 BD, 4B, Gourmet Kitchen, Custom Interior Details, 2 Fireplaces, Heated Pool & Spa! Price \$1,695,000!  
**Call Mario Persico @ 562.533.7433**

**REDUCED!**



**North Downey-Move In Condition!**  
Immaculate 3 BD, 2 BA home, Lg. living room w/ central air & heat, bright kitchen, hardwood floors, PRICE: \$634,900  
**Call Mario Persico @ 562.533.7433**

**CALL TODAY!**




**North Downey! Great Value!**  
4 BD, 3 BA, Newer Carpet, Copper Plumbing & 2111 Sq. Ft. Price \$720,000  
**Call Mario Persico @ 562.533.7433**

**CALL TODAY!**



**Mario Did It Again!!!**

**SOLD! SOLD! SOLD!**



**North East Downey Pool Home!**  
3 BD, 2 BA, Large Family Room, Air conditioning 50 yr. roof, full copper plumbing, paint & more... all 1 year old!!! over 9,000 sq. ft. lot. Price \$829,000.  
**Call Mario Persico @ 562.533.7433**

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**Mario Persico**  
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**CALL TO SEE!**



**Home Sweet Home!**  
Don't miss this 3 bedroom, 1 bath home in Lakewood. Spacious living room w/ lovely backyard & large patio.  
**Call Carrie Uva @ 562.382.1252 Price: \$489,900**

**REDUCED PRICE!**




**Opportunity Knocks!**  
Great 2 bed, 1 bath South Gate home w/828 sq. ft. of living space on a 5,120 sq. ft. lot.  
**Call Carrie Uva @ 562.382.1252 Price: \$375,000**

**GREAT BUY!**



**Nice Area, Nice Price!**  
Charming 3 bed, 2 bath home in Valencia w/ 1,324 sq. ft. on a 5,410 lot. Built in 1998  
**Call Carrie Uva @ 562.382.1252 Price: \$539,900**

**2 LOTS!**



**Build 2 Homes!**  
Downey home w/ 3 bedrooms, 1.75 baths, pool on a 11,500 sq. ft. lot.  
**Call Carrie Uva @ 562.382.1252 Price: \$1,150,000**

**IN ESCROW!**



**Look No Further!**  
Norwalk home with 3 BD, 1.5 BA Harwood Floors Patio, Central Air/Heat, 1,332 Sq. Ft. of living space 5,248 Sq. Ft. Lot.  
**Call Carrie Uva @ 562.382.1252 Price: \$499,900**



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**REDUCED!**



**North Downey! Great Value!**  
4 BD, 3 BA, Newer Carpet, Copper Plumbing & 2111 Sq. Ft. Price \$720,000  
**Call Mario Persico @ 562.533.7433**

**CALL TODAY!**



**Mario Did It Again!!!**

**SOLD! SOLD! SOLD!**



**North East Downey Pool Home!**  
3 BD, 2 BA, Large Family Room, Air conditioning 50 yr. roof, full copper plumbing, paint & more... all 1 year old!!! over 9,000 sq. ft. lot. Price \$829,000.  
**Call Mario Persico @ 562.533.7433**

**Mario: Born in Downey Raised in Downey Lives in Downey Worships in Downey \*\*\* SELLS DOWNEY \*\*\***

**www.Prudential24Hours.com (562) 861-7257**



**Michael Berdelis**  
"The 24 Hour Agent!"  
562-818-6111

**89 Homes SOLD in 2005!**

Chairman Circle Award Winner 2000-2005!

**FREE Market Evaluation!**

**Feature of the Week**



**Remodeled Northeast Downey Home!**  
3 bed, 2.5 bath home remodeled like new with marble flooring, custom kitchen, central air and heat. On a 10,740 sq. ft.  
**Price: \$1,125,000**  
Check out the virtual tour at [www.michaelberdelis.com](http://www.michaelberdelis.com)

**OPEN HOUSE**



**Paradise Found!!!**  
All New...5 beds, 4.5 bath Home w/ Gourmet Kitchen, Many custom Features.  
**Call Michael For a Private Tour!**  
Check out the virtual tour at [www.michaelberdelis.com](http://www.michaelberdelis.com)

**Entertainer's Dream!**  
5 Beds, 5 ba, Large Master, Custom kitchen w/ stainless steel appliances, over 4000 Sq. Ft. W/ Pool Let's Party @ \$1,299,000  
Check out the virtual tour at [www.michaelberdelis.com](http://www.michaelberdelis.com)

**OPEN HOUSE**



**Splish Splash!!!**  
2BD, 1BA, Family room, Large Pool, Backyard with 2 Patio Areas  
Priced to sell @ \$495,000  
Check out the virtual tour at [www.michaelberdelis.com](http://www.michaelberdelis.com)

**Pool Home Near Mall**  
4 Bedrooms, 2 BATHS, Spacious & Ready for you!  
**Priced @ \$785,000**  
Check out the virtual tour at [www.michaelberdelis.com](http://www.michaelberdelis.com)

**Warm & Cozy**  
3 bd, 2 ba, Master bed w/ Fireplace, Master Bath w/ Hot tub.  
**Price: \$590,000**  
Check out the virtual tour at [www.michaelberdelis.com](http://www.michaelberdelis.com)

**OPEN HOUSE**



**Picture Perfect!**  
3 bed, 2 bath, near Furman Park, 1749 sq ft on 8,000 lot with pool!  
**Wow, ... only \$745,000**  
Check out the virtual tour at [www.michaelberdelis.com](http://www.michaelberdelis.com)

**JUST LISTED**



**A New Condo for the Milinium**  
Large, remodeled 1-BD top-level unit features new carpet, paint, central air & heat, remodeled shower, and much more!  
**Priced to sell at \$379,950**  
Check out the virtual tour at [www.michaelberdelis.com](http://www.michaelberdelis.com)

**JUST LISTED**



**Country Charmer!**  
4 bed, 3 bath, 2500 sq ft, with guest house, in Orange Estates!  
**Price: \$879,950**  
Check out the virtual tour at [www.michaelberdelis.com](http://www.michaelberdelis.com)

**The Price Is Right**  
3 bed, 1.5 bath includes living room w/ fireplace, enclosed patio, updated kitchen, central air/heat, and large backyard.  
**Priced @ \$599,950**  
Check out the virtual tour at [www.michaelberdelis.com](http://www.michaelberdelis.com)

**OPEN HOUSE**



**Remodeled Pool Home**  
3 BD, 1.75 BA, large living room with fire place and Great Kitchen, + Pool.  
**Won't Last @ \$665,000**  
Check out the virtual tour at [www.michaelberdelis.com](http://www.michaelberdelis.com)

**www.MichaelBerdelis.com Call Michael today at (562) 818-6111**