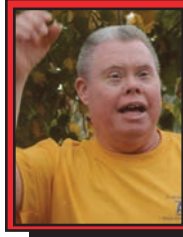




# The Downey Patriot



**A few good reasons to walk**  
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**Dr. John Sims passes away**  
See Page 8



**A Songfest of faith**  
See Page 10

Friday, March 16, 2007

Vol. 5 No. 52

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

## Charges filed in Johnnie's case

■ Prosecutors file five misdemeanor counts against the tenant of the Johnnie's Broiler property. If convicted, Ardas Yanik faces up to six months in jail on each count, plus fines.

BY ERIC PIERCE  
CITY EDITOR

**DOWNEY** – Prosecutors have filed misdemeanor criminal charges against the tenant of the Johnnie's Broiler property for nearly demolishing the former drive-in restaurant without building and safety permits.

Four other public safety and nuisance charges were also filed, according to a statement released by the Downey Police Department. Each of the five charges carries a maximum sentence of six months in jail and a \$1000 fine, plus any court-imposed assessments, if any.

Arrestment for Ardas Yanik, the lessee of the property, has been scheduled for April 4 at the Downey Courthouse.

The charges come after a three-month investigation by Downey Police, who worked in conjunction with the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office, Cal OSHA and the South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD).

Johnnie's Broiler was partially razed on the afternoon of January 7. City officials said no demolition permits were pulled and a 10-month moratorium prohibiting development of the property was instituted by the city council two weeks ago.

Yanik was leasing the property from Cristos Smyrniotis, a retired businessman who owns other property in Downey. No charges were filed against Smyrniotis, who told the *Patriot* the demolition was done without his knowledge or consent.

The restaurant, originally called Harvey's Broiler after its first owner, Harvey Ortner, closed in 2001. The property began housing a used car dealership the following year.

Yanik submitted a preliminary application to the City of Downey Planning Department in October seeking to redevelop the site into a strip mall, according to police and city documents. The application was denied by the city a month later, which asked for a traffic impact analysis and Environmental Impact Report.

Officials said the application was the last contact between the city and representatives of Johnnie's Broiler before the demolition took place.

The destruction of Johnnie's, once a popular car club destination for thousands of cruisers throughout Southern California, sparked an uproar



Passerbys look over what remains of Johnnie's Broiler, which was nearly completely demolished last January. The tenant of the property was charged with five misdemeanor counts this week. Photo by James Quick III/Brooks Institute of Photography

from angry residents, who have held protest rallies and filled City Hall chambers, calling for the restaurant to be restored to its original state.

Downey Mayor Rick Trejo said as recently as this week that he would like to see the property sold to somebody willing to rebuild the restaurant.

Smyrniotis, the property owner, told the *Patriot* Wednesday he was willing to sell the property, but since the alleged illegal demolition took place, he has not received any offers.

He also said he was not opposed to Johnnie's being either demolished or rebuilt, and said his lease left that decision up to his tenants.

"My happiness is to collect the rent," Smyrniotis said.

## Suspected gang shooting leaves one man dead

BY ERIC PIERCE  
CITY EDITOR

**DOWNEY** – One man was killed and another seriously wounded in an apparent gang-related shooting Tuesday near the intersection of Paramount Boulevard and Imperial Highway, Downey police said this week.

Police responded to a shots fired call just after 3 p.m. Tuesday, said Sergeant Jeff Calhoun with the Downey Police Department. There they found two male adult victims suffering from multiple gunshot wounds. The pair were treated by Downey paramedics and transported to a local hospital, Calhoun said.

Shahin Soudman, a 22-year-old San Fernando resident, later died, Calhoun said.

Witnesses told police that the victims were involved in a verbal altercation with suspects in a dark-colored Honda, Calhoun said. The suspects followed the victims to the Paramount Boulevard signal, Calhoun said.

When the victims stopped at the light, one of the suspects exited his car, approached the victims' vehicle, and began shooting from a handgun, Calhoun said. The suspect then fled and possibly re-entered the Honda.

The shooter is described as a male Hispanic, 24 years of age, 5 feet 8 inches tall, 180 pounds with short black hair and wearing a white T-shirt and blue jeans.

Because of the heavy traffic at the intersection where the shooting occurred, police suspect there may be more witnesses.

Anyone with information regarding the shooting is asked to call Detective Steve Aubuchon at (562) 904-2368.

## Time Traveler When women wrestled in salad dressing here

BY JOHN ADAMS  
EDITOR EMERITUS

In the realm of the bizarre and ridiculous is the date of June 6, 1991, when a promotion for Bob's Big Boy salad dressing brought two young women to wrestle in a ring filled with the blue cheese stuff here.

The bizarre event was set up on the Vons parking lot across the street from the Big Boy restaurant on Florence Avenue.

None who saw it are likely to forget it. It also featured a Bob's Big Boy look alike contest, a free salad bar (if anyone still had an appetite for salad dressing after the wrestling), a sale on "The Bob Book" (which claimed to list anyone of importance named Bob), and the KISS-FM radio van.

A goodly crowd (mostly male) stood around the ring as two young women in bathing suits waded into the salad dressing (blue cheese) and, after some slipping and sliding, came to grips.

There was some cheering, but more pushing as those in the back of the crowd surged forward to see.

TV cameras were aimed and salad dressing flew. The event was sponsored by K.T.'s Kitchen of Glendale, which manufactured Bob's Big Boy dressing. The contest went to the dark haired participant when her blonde opponent almost smothered after her face was shoved in the warm blue cheese dressing.

Whether the wrestling women helped the sale of salad dressing is unknown. But it certainly left a lasting effect on any who witnessed it.

Originally published February 4, 1994



Members of the Gaudin Downey Fitness Club, with community volunteers including Councilman Dave Gafin, left, and Keep Downey Beautiful, celebrated Arbor Day by planting a tree at Gaudin Elementary School last week. Alex Gaytan, right, leads the club. Photo by: Art Montoya

## Guerra calls for revision to existing term limits

■ Proposal would grant councilmembers three terms and eliminate so-called 'death penalty.'

BY ERIC PIERCE  
CITY EDITOR

**DOWNEY** – Downey city council members may soon start becoming mainstays in City Hall, and old council members could potentially return, if Mario Guerra gets his way.

Downey's newest councilman is pushing for a revision to this city's term limits law, which currently limits a councilperson to two four-year terms.

Under Guerra's plan, which was directed to staff for further review at Tuesday's council meeting, a councilmember could serve up to three terms. After that, he could again run for election after sitting out two years. Guerra, who took the seat of Meredith Perkins when he was termed out last November, said he consulted with eight former mayors in deciding whether to pursue the term limit revision.

"Term limits don't work and it's time for our city to look at it again," Guerra said. "I don't want to get rid of term limits, I want to revise them. It's a death penalty for some really good people here and it puts our city at a disadvantage."

Guerra said if his plan was in place last year, he probably wouldn't have run against Perkins.

Downey's current term limit provisions date back to a 1993 charter amendment. If the council votes to endorse Guerra's proposal, the issue would go to Downey voters this November.

## March 24 just got a little more special

■ Arc of Southeast Los Angeles County gets its own day on March 24.

BY HENRY VENERACION  
STAFF WRITER

**DOWNEY**—The City Council proclaimed Saturday, March 24, as Arc Walk for Independence Day. The day, featuring one and three-mile walks through Downey streets starting from in front of Stonewood Center on Firestone Boulevard, celebrates and raises funds for the work being done by the Arc of Southeast Los Angeles County for people with mental retardation and other developmental disabilities.

The Walk was initiated 11 years ago and has drawn droves of concerned residents and other supporters, including business and community leaders.

The proclamation states: "For 51 years, the Arc of Southeast Los Angeles County has changed lives by opening doors to literacy, workforce development, and inclusive after-school and senior programs" to scores of beneficiaries. Today Arc serves over 400 individuals each day from 26 L.A. County cities in 24 different programs and services.

The Council also issued a Certificate of Appreciation to Downey resident Jim Altmann for giving CPR to a woman last December at an AYSO event held at Griffiths Middle School.

The Council then heard a presentation by the California Highway Patrol and Automobile Club of Southern California as it awarded the CHP 10851 Award to six Downey Police Officers for the recovery of stolen

See COUNCIL, page 9

## Cartozian calls port tour an 'eye-opener'

BY ERIC PIERCE  
CITY EDITOR

**DOWNEY** – In public announcements/comments at this week's city council meeting, council member Kirk Cartozian said he recently visited the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach, taking a boat and land tour of one of the busiest seaports in the world.

He called the tour an "eye-opener" and stressed the ports' importance to both local and national economy.

Councilman Mario Guerra said he toured the Arc facilities with Rotary Club of Downey this week. He called it a "nourishing experience" and said he saw "400 faces of God" there, referring to the consumers.

He also reminded the audience of the St. Balderick's fundraiser at Downey Fire Station One on Saturday, where firefighters will shave their heads to help raise money for cancer research. Downey Fire Chief Mark Sauter said he would shave his head.

Guerra also said his daughter recently received a citation in front of his house for parking too close to a fire hydrant. Guerra said it was proof council members receive no special treatment from the fire and police departments.

Guerra called a recent meeting with Supervisor Don Knabe, Cartozian and City Manager Gerald Caton productive.

He said he would soon depart on a lobbying trip to Washington, D.C. to meet with Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard.

Guerra said he attended a Neighborhood Watch meeting attended by

See COMMENTS, page 13

## Irish folksongs 'tug at the heartstrings'

**DOWNEY** – Irish baritone Patrick Dundon and soprano Eileen Wright will perform folksongs and other "bawdy ballads" at the March 19 meeting of Downey Adult School's OASIS program inside the school's cafeteria.

"Eileen and Patrick's Irish folksongs will bring a smile to the lips, a tear to the eye and frequently a tug to the heartstrings," said Harriett Paine, OASIS' director. "Eileen's piano virtuosity and crystal clear soprano voice blended with Patrick's rich baritone voice culminate in a quality of music that is rare in today's raucous world."

The class opens for enrollment at 2:45 p.m. with Dr. Robert Flynn's piano entertainment. The program starts at 3:45 and a healthy full-course will be served at 4:45. Dinner tickets are \$3.50.

Downey Dial-a-Ride can provide transportation to the free class. For information, call Downey Adult School at (562) 940-6200.

## Gifts can make Grad Night special

**DOWNEY** – The Warren High School Grad Night Committee is soliciting donations for their 19th annual Grad Night, this year scheduled to take place June 21.

Gift certificates, merchandise and/or monetary gifts will help provide Warren students with a supervised outlet to celebrate their graduation. Their theme this year is "Rock Around the Clock."

Gifts can be sent directly to Warren High School in care of Grad Night 2007. The Grad Night Committee is a non-profit organization. Their tax I.D. number is 95-6006586.

For more information call Reggie Donahue at (562) 756-2427.

## Passover Seder dinner April 3

**DOWNEY** – Temple Ner Tamid of Downey is planning a Second Night Passover Seder dinner on April 3 at 6 p.m. The service will be conducted by Rabbi Len Muroff and Cantor Ellen Jaffe-Gill.

Early paid reservations are required for the traditional kosher-style dinner, which will be catered. A special Passover Haggadot will be used for the service.

The community is invited to attend. For reservations, call the Temple office at (562) 861-9276.

## Ezra Center to discuss Passover

**DOWNEY** – The Ezra Center for Mature Adults at Temple Ner Tamid of Downey will meet March 20. Registration and refreshments start at 9:45 a.m. and the program at 10.

This month's program is "The Holiday of Passover – Both Traditional and Innovative." Cantor Ellen Jaffe-Gill will discuss how, over the past 30 years, a growing number of Jews have personalized their Seders celebrated at home or with family and friends.

Although most are familiar with the "standard" Haggada being used the first and second night of Passover, Jaffe-Gill will also focus on the "themed" text that celebrate women, focus on nature, bridge different faiths and ethnic groups, or promote social activism.

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

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



**Old River School Elementary teachers recently received the California Title I Academic Achievement Award, an honor recognized this week by the Downey Unified School District. See story, page 12**



**Downey Unified School District Grounds Supervisor Craig Lackey was honored at Tuesday's school board meeting for improving the school's facilities. From left: Board of Education President William Gutierrez, Superintendent Wendy Doty, Lackey and Buck Weinfurter, Director, MOT.**

## DRMC Golf Classic tees off June 4

**DOWNEY** – The 22nd annual Downey Regional Medical Center Golf Classic will be held June 4 at Candlewood Country Club in Whittier, the hospital announced this week.

Presented by the Memorial Trust Foundation, the Golf Classic will raise funds to support the "Rising to the Challenge" capital campaign to build a new patient care tower for the community hospital.

Co-chairing the event are Gina A. Bates, DRMC Director of Contracting, and Rick Lopez, Vice President, Bank of the West. Serving with them are committee members Bob Goldstein, Katie Hare, Dr. Jack Kennis, CEO Allen Korneff, Director of Fund Development Richere L'Herault, Steve Roberson, Orlandus Water and Cashmere Wielenga.

For golf reservations or sponsorship information, call (562) 904-5055.

## Aerospace meeting this Sunday

**DOWNEY** – The Aerospace Legacy Foundation will have their next meeting this Sunday, March 18, at First Baptist Church of Downey, room 120. Start time is 1:30 p.m. Room 120 is off 2nd Street.

## Local students make the grade

**AZUSA** – Six students hailing from Downey have made the Deans' List at Azusa Pacific University.

The students are Jamie Blankman (Liberal Studies), Janette Fragoso (Social Work), Brianne Huff (Psychology), Daniella Panton (Theater Arts), Bethany Pillow (Communication Studies) and Jennifer Pillow (Liberal Studies).

## Spring boutique at community center

**DOWNEY** – A spring boutique will be held March 24 at the Barbara J. Riley Community & Senior Center from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The event is free to the public.

Homemade arts and crafts will be available for sale, as will breakfast and lunch items.

For information, call (562) 904-7223.

## Firemen shaving their heads for charity

**DOWNEY** – The Downey Fire Department will be hosting the St. Baldrick's Foundation at Fire Station One (12222 Paramount Blvd.) on Saturday, March 17, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., where firemen will shave their heads to raise money for cancer research.

Free food and refreshments will be offered by the Downey Firemen's Association. The community is invited.

To sponsor a "shavee," go to [www.stbaldricks.org/participants](http://www.stbaldricks.org/participants) and search for "Downey Firemen."

## Free screenings at Diabetes Health Fair

**DOWNEY** – A Diabetes Health Fair will be held at Downey Regional Medical Center March 17, where visitors can receive free glaucoma, stroke and blood pressure screenings, hear presentations on diabetes and wellness topics, ask questions and visit more than 20 booths for information, the latest diabetes management products and obtain free samples.

"Experts estimate that for every person known to have diabetes, there is another person in whom this 'silent disease' is undetected," diabetes educator Elsa Saucedo said. "At this health fair, we want to educate people on how to prevent diabetes, and provide resources for diabetics and their families."

Dietician Mary Jean Christian will speak on "Nutrition" at 9:30 a.m. At 10:30 neurologist Khalifa Mansour will present "Stroke and Diabetes." Endocrinologist David Berger will talk about "Pre-Diabetes" at 1 p.m.

Screenings will be performed from 9 to 11 a.m. "Ask the Doctor," "Ask the Pharmacist," and "Ask the Dietician" opportunities will also be offered.

The entire fair will run from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and will be held in the DRMC lower level conference rooms at 11500 Brookshire Ave.

For more information about the fair, diabetes education classes or support group, call (562) 904-5578.

Downey Regional Medical Center is a non-profit hospital.

## community lectures WINTER/SPRING 2007



RSVP REQUIRED FOR ALL COMMUNITY LECTURES & SCREENINGS. PLEASE CALL 1-800-813-4345.

### MARCH

#### COLORECTAL CANCER AWARENESS

**Speaker: Willie Goffney, M.D. – General Surgery**  
Light breakfast provided.  
Lakewood Regional, Conference Rooms A, B, & C  
Saturday | March 17 | 9:00 am

#### SLEEP & AGING

**Speaker: Paul Eisman, M.D. – Family Practice**  
Lunch will be provided.  
Lakewood Regional, Conference Rooms A, B, & C  
Thursday | March 22 | 12:00 noon

#### BLOODLESS MEDICINE SEMINAR

**Speaker: Kartik Thaker, M.D. – Cardiology**  
Interventional cardiac procedures in a transfusion-free setting. Light refreshments provided.  
Lakewood Regional, Conference Rooms A, B, & C  
Saturday | March 24 | 2:00 pm

### APRIL

#### GENDER-SPECIFIC JOINT REPLACEMENT

**Speaker: Ramy Elias, M.D. – Orthopedic Surgeon**  
Light breakfast provided.  
Lakewood Regional, Conference Rooms A, B, & C  
Saturday | April 7 | 9:00 am

#### MANAGING DIABETES WITH HEALTHY FOOD CHOICES

**Speaker: Maurice Bell, M.D. – Internal Medicine**  
Blood sugar screening provided.  
Weingart Senior Center  
5220 Olivia Avenue, Lakewood, CA  
Wednesday | April 11 | 10:00 am

#### DIABETES FOOT CARE SEMINAR

**Speaker: Theodore Qozi, DPM – Podiatry**  
Lunch will be provided.  
Lakewood Regional, Conference Rooms A, B, & C  
Wednesday | April 18 | 12:00 noon

#### FOOT SCREENING TO FOLLOW 1:30-5:00 pm

LRMC Outpatient Diagnostic Center  
3650 E. South Street, Lakewood, CA, Suite 101

### MAY

#### HEALTH CONDITIONS THAT CONTRIBUTE TO STROKE

**Speaker: Peter Hugh, D.O. – Family Practice**  
Light Breakfast provided.  
The Center at Sycamore Plaza – Weingart B,  
5000 Clark Avenue, Lakewood, CA  
Thursday | May 3 | 9:00 am

### PERIPHERAL VASCULAR DISEASE

**Speaker: Roman Litwinski, M.D. – Surgery**  
Light breakfast provided.  
Lakewood Regional, Conference Rooms A, B, & C  
Saturday | May 5 | 9:00 am

### GENDER-SPECIFIC JOINT REPLACEMENT

**Speaker: Perry Secor, M.D. – Orthopedic Surgeon**  
RSVP by calling (562) 916-8550.  
Cerritos Senior Center – Pat Nixon Park, Conference Room  
12340 South Street, Cerritos, CA  
Tuesday | May 22 | 1:00 pm

### GENDER-SPECIFIC JOINT REPLACEMENT

**Speaker: Chris Combs, M.D. – Orthopedic Surgeon**  
Light meal provided.  
Weingart - Lakewood Family YMCA, Conference Room  
5835 East Carson, Lakewood, CA  
Wednesday | May 30 | 6:00 pm

### JUNE

#### MANAGING THE OVERACTIVE BLADDER

**Speaker: Jonathon Perley, M.D. – Urologist**  
RSVP by calling (562) 916-8550.  
Cerritos Senior Center – Pat Nixon Park, Conference Room  
12340 South Street, Cerritos, CA  
Tuesday | June 12 | 1:00 pm

### NUTRITION SEMINARS

**Speaker: Koby Moridzadeh, RD, CNM**  
Lakewood Regional Medical Center, Conference Room B  
3rd Thursday of each month. Time: 3:00-4:30 pm

#### HEART HEALTHY EATING

Learn the basic nutritional guidelines for heart healthy eating.  
Feb 15 | May 17

#### NUTRITION AND AGING

Research shows that good nutrition is essential throughout the lifespan and is linked to health, quality of life, and self-sufficiency in later years. Learn the importance of your food choices.  
March 15 | June 21,

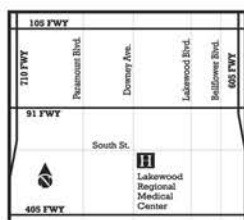
#### NUTRITION FOR DIABETES

Learn how to make appropriate meal planning and food choices to help manage diabetes.  
April 19

### MENED HEARTS SUPPORT GROUP

Support Group for people who have had heart surgery and their family members.

Lakewood Regional Medical Center, Conference Room B  
2nd Wednesday of each month from 6:30 – 7:30 pm  
Feb 14 | March 14 | April 11 | May 8 | June 13



## Lakewood Regional Medical Center

3700 E. South St. | Lakewood, CA 90712 | (562) 531-2550 | [LakewoodRegional.com](http://LakewoodRegional.com)

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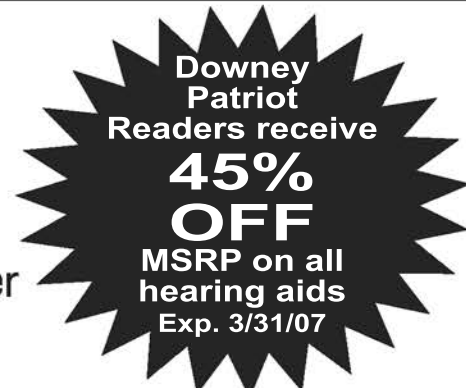
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## Walking the Walk

By Eric Pierce  
City Editor

Why should you walk the Arc Walk? You should walk for people like Giovanni, a 24-year-old Arc consumer who nearly died in a car accident, but recovered well enough to be living a happy, rewarding and productive life.

"This is hard work, but once you do it, you get used to it," Giovanni said during a break this week from his work at Southeast Industries in Downey, a packaging and assembly plant owned and operated by Arc. "I'm happy working here. I've been happy working here. Before I used to sit at home when [one day] my mom told me about Arc and I said, 'Well, why not give it a try?'"

Giovanni's job changes constantly but on this day he was packing miniature-sized, individually-wrapped peanut butter chocolate bars – hundreds of them – into small cardboard boxes, one by one, taped, labeled and ready for shipment.

Giovanni is handicapped, physically and mentally. "See, I only have use of one hand," Giovanni explains in a slow but prideful drawl. "My whole left side..."

Giovanni pauses a moment to gather his thoughts. "When I got hit by the car..."

He pauses again, as if remembering back to that day, although he couldn't possibly. He was only three. "The doctors didn't think I would make it..."

He pauses a third time, but this time he smiles. "...but here I am!"

Indeed, he is.

"Arc's been like a second home to me. Friends and staff have been like a second family to me," Giovanni says, his speech picking up speed now, eyes alive and big. "I love it so much."

"I get a lot out of Arc [like] how to be independent. Before I thought I'll never get a job. But now I have one. And I went to college. Cerritos College."

My burning question to Giovanni was, do you ever get tempted to eat one of those chocolate bars? You know, maybe when nobody's looking, like on "I Love Lucy"?

Giovanni roared. He thought that was hilarious.

"No," he laughs, shaking his head. "I'll never eat it. I don't want to eat my job!"

Employee of the month, Giovannia is.

"Besides," he says, looking me straight in the eyes, "I'm Christian." \*\*\*

Why should you walk the Arc Walk?

You should walk for people like Tom, who, despite obvious mental disabilities that slur his speech and impede his modes of communication, remains sharp as a tack and a natural born leader.

If the employees of Arc ever form a union, Tom would be their president. He currently serves on Arc's board of directors as a representative for the consumers.

"Everywhere I go, clients ask me to ask Kevin [MacDonald, Arc's executive director] or ask the board for things," Tom says. "They want a Coke machine, they come to me. They want things, they come to me. Everything they want, they come to me. And I go to the board."



Last year's Arc Walk drew a record attendance, which organizers hope to exceed this year. Walkers can choose between one and two-mile courses, with money raised going towards Arc of Southeast Los Angeles, which helps secure jobs for people with mental disabilities.

Does the board listen to their requests? "Oh yeah," Tom says, pointing to the roof. "Last week they fixed that because we asked them."

Kevin confirms that the board does listen to the consumers, although they can't accommodate all requests.

"Once they asked for a big-screen TV in the cafeteria," Kevin recalls with a laugh. "We told them that's not what the cafeteria is for."

Consumers (they're called consumers for lack of a better term) have also requested a swimming pool. Kevin says maybe a partnership with Bally's Total Fitness down the street can be worked out. He has to look into it.

Tom, meanwhile, could barely get out a mouthful during our interview before a nearby coworker interrupted.

"Don't forget a microwave!" the man tells Tom, who acts like he doesn't hear him. "And snacks. Don't forget the snacks."

"Microwave and snacks," Tom acknowledges, waving the man away with his head. "See? Everything they want, they come to me." \*\*\*

Another consumer, Laurie, will be walking with her "24 busy family members." She's going to try to walk all of it, but it's hard enough walking down the hall -- let alone three miles -- while dragging a 15-lb. oxygen tank.

Paul will be participating in his tenth consecutive walk, and he plans to complete the entire three-mile course.

"They tell me to keep on going," Paul shrugs, "so I keep on going."

Ruth will walk with a group from the Downey Church of Christ. She's only walking one mile, she says, because it's going to be hot. Besides, "the faster you finish the walk, the faster you get to breakfast. And it's free. From Acapulco."

Free breakfast, too? From Acapulco? Yet another good reason to walk the Walk.

## Why are you walking the Arc Walk?

Consumers of Arc tell why they plan to "walk the Walk" on March 24. (To retain the integrity of the submissions, letters have been edited for spelling but not grammar or punctuation.)

You should come to the Arc walk because we need the community to help us. We need you to raise money for Arc. It's a lot of fun and the Lakers cheerleaders will be there. You will get free food. Your heart will be better and you will feel good about yourself when you are walking with us. It is good exercise. Your family can come and your pets can walk with you if they are on a leash. We hope you come.



Arc of Southeast Los Angeles County

Karina Lujan

I'm going to the Walk for exercise and for support and to make money for the programs. The walk helps raise money for Arc and to bring new people so we can meet them.

The walk helps bring in new work to the workshop. You can see our past t-shirts along the workshop walls.

They have good food at the walk and you can see your friends. They will have chairs for you to sit and rest. They have background music for you to listen to. I like the way they cheer me on when I cross the finish line on my one mile walk.

Come and walk with us. Carol Rusting

See ARC, page 7



Kevin MacDonald, right, Arc's executive director, speaks at last year's walk. Gene Gleeson, left, of ABC 7, attended last year and will be a special guest again March 24.




**WALK FOR INDEPENDENCE 2007**

**SATURDAY, MARCH 24**

A ONE OR THREE MILE WALK TO RAISE FUNDS FOR PEOPLE WITH MENTAL RETARDATION AND OTHER DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES.

**STONEWOOD CENTER - DOWNEY**

**ACAPULCO RESTAURANT**  
(CORNER OF FIRESTONE AND LAKEWOOD)

OPENING CEREMONIES AT 8:00 A.M. • WALK BEGINS AT 8:30 A.M.

**FREE BREAKFAST COURTESY OF ACAPULCO**

REGISTRATION FEE \$10.00 PER PERSON

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Tredway, Lumsdaine & Doyle

All American Home Center

Andrew Avery

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Downey Amateur Radio Club

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Hoag Property Management

Kaiser Permanente

Lopez Family

MMZ Printing & Graphics

RBC Construction

Staples Inc.

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Cantley Family

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Pat and Mike Heineke

IndyMac Bank

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3052, 3678 & 3697

Lumsdaine Family

Optimist Club of Downey

Sam's Club

Assistance League of Downey

CareMore

Double E Enterprises

Farmers Insurance Group (FACT)

Marci Hoven & Friends

Infinity Insurance Group

L'Abri Management Inc.

MacDonald Family

Pacific Western Bank

Soroptimist Club of Downey

Stormforce

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## Trejo touches many subjects in address

BY ERIC PIERCE  
CITY EDITOR

**DOWNEY** – Downey Mayor Rick Trejo spoke on prevalent civil subjects ranging from mansionization to Johnnie's Broiler when he addressed Citizens For Downey this week at the Rio Hondo Events Center.

Trejo, a former planning commissioner and now in his second term in office, said the city is "financially stable" and spoke on upcoming projects, including the potential redevelopment of the Downey Studios property.

"It was going good for a while, then it died out," Trejo said, referring to filming at Downey Studios.

That land, Trejo said, could potentially be redeveloped into a new town center, with high-end restaurants and department stores.

"If he (the developer) can bring in top-notch businesses and restaurants, we'll talk," Trejo said.

Regarding Johnnie's Broiler, the mayor said he was "working on it silently in the back" and would like to see it brought back to its former glory. He also said the property owner, Cristos Smyrniotis, was facing a potential lawsuit, which he hoped would persuade him to sell the lot, "which I think is going to happen."

And he said Smyrniotis was facing fines for not shutting off the electricity during demolition.

### Firefighter negotiations

Trejo said salaries for Downey police and firefighters are among the highest in Southern California. Labor negotiations with the Downey Firemen's Association are currently ongoing in closed session, Trejo said, but added, in good nature, "If I had to do it again, I'd be a fireman because of their retirement plan."

### Mansionization

On mansionization, Trejo said he couldn't understand how a single family could afford such large mansions. He said many of the mansions going up now had permits pulled before the city council passed an ordinance last year restricting home construction.

"I bought my house 15 years ago and the mortgage payment was big then, so I find it hard to imagine how they pay for it now," Trejo said.

Trejo then briefed the audience on ongoing talks with the county regarding 40 acres of land on the south side of Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center. The talks are progressing slow, according to Trejo.

"It's going to be a while to make progress on that," he said.

Lastly, Trejo announced that a groundbreaking ceremony will be held next month for the Columbia Space Science Learning Center and yet-unnamed 13-acre park. Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard is expected to attend, Trejo said, but not former Congressman Steve Horn, an instrumental figure in originally securing the land, who is experiencing health problems.



**Chris Colantonio and the Last Mile band will present a night of rhythm and blues and classic roll at a concert March 24 at Granata's Italian Restaurant. Colantonio is a veteran performer who has backed such legends as Jackie Wilson and Bo Diddley. He has just released a new CD of 10 original love songs that will be available for sale that evening. For reservations to the show, call (562) 861-2997.**

## Tour will travel to Sequoia for four days

**DOWNEY** – Experience the wonder of springtime in Sequoia National Park with Downey Adult School's Great Western Tours on May 29.

The tour will embark on a four-day, three-night trip, spending two nights at the Wuksachi Lodge (located inside the park) and one night at Wonder Valley Ranch. Sequoia National Park features towering sequoia trees, mountain peaks, creeks, flower meadows and other pieces of nature.

Price of the trip is \$579 per person (double occupancy) or \$759 per person for a single. The tour includes deluxe motorcoach transportation, three nights hotel accommodations, two breakfast buffets, two lunches, one boxed lunch, one dinner, and a guided tour of Sequoia National Park's Squaw Valley Herb Garden, with lunch.

To register, or request a tour coupon, call Downey Adult School at (562) 940-6213.

## The Poets' Corner

### Leprechaun

One day upon a shaded path, I met a little man  
Clad all in green with wrinkled age and face of leather tan  
Two twinkling, shiny eyes of blue pierced thru me at a glance  
He gave a little smile and held out a gnarled old hand  
"Dear stranger, tell me pray, what calleth you this land?"  
"Why sir," said I, "we call this land the Isle of Ireland."  
"Oho," said he, "no wonder for it's look, 'tis emerald green,  
Give me your hand, me bucko, see I have a gift for you."  
The little man made one quick move and 'ere I could recover  
Then he was gone and in my hand I found a four-leaf clover

For many years since then,

Tho I've searched hither, thither and yon

Alas dear friends, never again met I the Leprechaun

— George Geller,  
Downey

### E-mail From a Leprechaun

Received an email from a leprechaun

And here is what it said

You can only find me in Ireland

Where I was born and bred

I travel no more from my native land

I'm old and in bad health

Tired of sitting at the end of the rainbow

Guarding my treasured wealth

So if you see me anywhere else

You might just be dreaming

Yet it could be me the leprechaun king

Taunting you and scheming

Happy St. Patrick's Day

From King Brian

— Fionnuala Anderson,  
Downey

### Spring

The trees and bushes sprout new life  
And everything turns green within our sight

Our lives are effected by the joy of the season  
Down to almost each and every person

We need the Spring's rain to bring us all this  
And it's just like being on God's list

So we love to walk around at this time of year  
When everything is so bright and clear!

— Don Davis,  
Downey

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8:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

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is coming to  
**First Baptist Church of Downey**  
Worship Center

**Saturday, March 24**  
Session 1 3-5 p.m.  
Session 2 6:30-8:30 p.m.  
Hot dogs and hamburgers  
available for purchase, 5-6:15 p.m.

**Sunday, March 25**  
Personal Testimony  
8 & 11 a.m. worship services  
Session 3 6:30-8:30 p.m.

8348 3rd Street, Downey CA 90241 • 562.923.1261 • www.fbcdowney.org

## Charitable Fundraising

By Brooke Karli

School fundraising has come a long way. I remember when fundraising consisted of selling foil-wrapped "World's Finest Chocolate" bars and bringing home wrapping-paper laden catalogs.

Now, you can buy anything from cookie dough to community discount cards to support your local school.

But a couple of weeks ago, my brother brought home a fundraiser that was quite unique.

One of his teachers at West Middle School, Pamela Sensat, had challenged all of her math students to a math-a-thon. Students would find sponsors that would either donate a certain dollar amount per problem completed or give a flat donation. One hundred percent of the earnings would be donated to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

Immediately, my brother started flipping through phone books to get the numbers of relatives and friends. And without hesitation, everyone eagerly pulled out their checkbooks and generously donated.

Although it is beneficial when schools receive a portion of what is raised through fundraisers, the concept of raising money to give to others not only aided St. Jude's, but also taught this group of sixth-graders that it's far more fulfilling to raise money for a cause that will change the lives of other human beings.

### Letters to the Editor:

#### Don't trivialize Johnnie's

Dear Editor:

A point of clarification regarding a letter about Johnnie's Broiler in your paper last week. (The Downey Patriot, 3/9/07)

Johnnie's does have the same protection as a registered state resource. The state commission (a panel of nine) voted to unanimously make Johnnie's eligible for the state historic registry in 2002. Due to the fact that the property owner declined, there is no plaque or sign but that does not cancel out its significance or protection.

How anyone in our town would want another strip mall is beyond my comprehension. Why do we want to continue cheapening our landscape with nondescript, quick-fix architecture to house yet another video shop or pizza place? Trivializing Johnnie's with a picture and plaque is a slap in the face to the crime committed and an insult to American culture and history.

Let me ask you this: If this crime is relegated to a slap on the wrist, why should we even continue to have a code enforcement department? We can all just save some taxpayer bucks since their jobs will be useless. Every resident and business owner in the city can just have carte blanche to do what they want.

This criminal is not above the law; the guilty party deserves no mercy, support or leniency.

— Glenn Hungerford,  
Downey

Dear Editor:

I am appalled at the attention Johnnie's Broiler has been getting from so many misguided people. In the old days when it was Harvey's Broiler, it was widely known as a pick-up point for prostitutes. Maybe they feel a monument featuring a large statue of a prostitute should be erected by the city to welcome people as they are entering Downey.

If people want to memorialize Johnnie's, let them put their money where their mouth is. It is an eyesore right now. I feel sorry for the man who owns it, and hope he will be allowed to develop the property without interference from anyone.

— Raymond E. Gross,  
Downey

#### Stickler for grammar

Dear Editor:

While I fully understand your desire to win the big Lottery and quit your job to enjoy the white-sand beaches of the world (The Downey Patriot, 3/9/07), I would suggest in the meantime that you do not throw your grammar and journalism teachings to the wind quite so soon.

Your use of the words "this here" in your otherwise fine piece were like fingernails on the blackboard when I read them and surely would not have pleased your instructors either.

Yours for better reading, I remain...

— Hugh T. Hoskins,  
Downey

#### We love kids

Dear Editor:

Thank you for accepting our invitation and coming to our school for the Arbor Day celebration. It was great to finally meet you in person and talk to you.

We really appreciate all the work you do for the city of Downey and we are grateful to you for taking interest in our kids.

— Alex Gaytan,  
Gauldin Elementary School



#### Student's letter draws sharp reaction

Dear Editor:

In regards to the letter of Julian E. Gutierrez (Letters to the Editor, 3/9/07), I feel compelled to give a few words of benevolent advice to the young man:

Lose the thesaurus. If you really are trying to call attention to a problem in the local school district, and not merely displaying arrogant affectation as a smarty-pants, you should state your complaint in language that the general public can understand. One of the problems with using one's thesaurus is that it often leads to the misuse of the English language. Your letter is a minefield of such miscarriages of usage.

Do some research into the laws regarding educational codes. The courts have upheld the rights of school districts to regulate details such as dress code. Furthermore, free speech is limited if it can be regarded as harassment by the person to whom the remarks are made. This includes other students, staff, teachers, and administrators.

Since you chose to both obfuscate your argument with grandiose language, and also refused to give salient examples of the alleged abuses, it is hard for one to sympathize with your plight.

So, Mr. Gutierrez, I suggest you try a new draft of you letter, cutting out the verbiage and getting to the point. Then the citizens of Downey will be far more likely to understand exactly what it is you are complaining about, and may even want to give you their support.

— Jane Beemer Shults,  
Downey

Dear Editor:

This is in regards to Julian E. Gutierrez's letter. First of all, I have to commend the educators that gave Julian the outstanding verbal tools to pen such an advanced commentary. I have to admit, I had to reach for my dictionary several times to complete the article.

But I have to give these same educators a lower mark on this young man's ability to link up historical words and events with present day issues. Words have meaning and should not be hyper exaggerated whether you are a politician or writing a community editorial. For example, results of the power of "Nazism" is when my grandfather got kicked at the point of a rifle during World War II for not addressing a Nazi soldier in German.

And Stalin's "totalitarianism" resulted in my great-grandmother burying four husbands that were part of the millions that perished and were denied any freedoms. Using these words to describe high school educational annoyances dishonors the memory of the innocent that truly suffered.

As for the unfair imposition of "unconstitutional dress codes, etiquette guidelines, and speech limitations," I have found these to be minimal rules to participate in a civil organization. You have the right to other alternatives besides public schooling. Home or private schooling produce fine results.

And as a reminder to Life Scout Julian Gutierrez, he is requested to wear his full BSA Class A uniform with sash to the annual Green and Gold Court of Honor. There he can once again rededicate his oath to the Boy Scout Law (a Scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean and reverent). The fine adult leaders encourage you to make use of your speech freedoms to be dutiful and serve your family, friends, schools, scout troop and community.

— Tom Foskarino,  
Troop 2, Troop 441  
Assistant Scoutmaster

Letters to the editor may be submitted by writing to The Downey Patriot, 11525 Downey Ave., Suite A, Downey CA 90241 or by e-mail to downeypatriot@yahoo.com

Dear Editor:

Julian E. Gutierrez expressed himself very eloquently if, indeed, he personally wrote the letter. As a freshman in high school, Julian either has taken advantage of the education that is available to him despite the restrictions or has done a very good job of self-education.

It would be very interesting to see Julian's attitude in a few years, after he becomes a parent and/or teacher and/or administrator with adult responsibilities.

— Frank Myers,  
Downey

Dear Editor:

I find it difficult to believe this letter was authored by a 9th grader without assistance from an adult. If it truly was written by a freshman alone, then he should thank the teachers that he has universally insulted that he has learned to read, use a thesaurus and use a dictionary.

Contrary to what this juvenile wants to believe, the school administrators and teachers have not held their positions for the sole purpose of tormenting and "oppressing" students. It is obvious that the author of this letter, whether 9th grader or adult, has no respect for authority or for those who choose to behave appropriately in this civilized society. Save your ranting for the university campus when you're over 18 and you can regurgitate your skewed and invalid views to whomever you wish.

Meanwhile, I'll do my best to keep my child away from children like you so that he learns to be a responsible, independent, intelligent adult.

—Janice Allen,  
Downey

Dear Editor:

As a 2005 graduate of Warren High School, I am compelled to respond to Gutierrez's baseless and libelous comments against the Downey Unified School District. I cannot speak to the conditions of other districts that may "exist as nothing more than totalitarian regimes that seek to impose their will on students by denying them their civil liberties." But I can say with certainty that this is not the case in Downey. At Warren, students have always had the opportunity to speak freely with reasonable exceptions.

Mr. Gutierrez needs to realize that the district does not use dress codes, etiquette guidelines, and speech limitations to oppress students. Rather, they are necessary steps to maintain order and decorum on campus. It is absolutely unreasonable to suggest that students should be allowed to wear anything they want, act anyway they want, and say anything they want while at school. Further, these rules are not unconstitutional as Mr. Gutierrez suggests, for in a number of cases the U.S. Supreme Court and various appellate courts have upheld the right of schools to limit student expression when it interferes with the school's ability to maintain a safe and orderly environment.

Finally, it was quite irresponsible for Mr. Gutierrez to make vague accusations against the teachers and administrators in general. If he has a legitimate complaint against a particular individual, then he has a right to express it. But it is unfair to label all teachers and administrators as arrogant and desirous of denying him his constitutional rights and freedoms without providing any evidence.

I sincerely hope that during the next three years, the first-class education that the Downey Unified School District provides its students will instill Mr. Gutierrez with the wisdom and maturity to see the fallibility and irresponsibility of the arguments that he presented in his article.

—Jean Fiddler,  
Downey

## The Downey Patriot

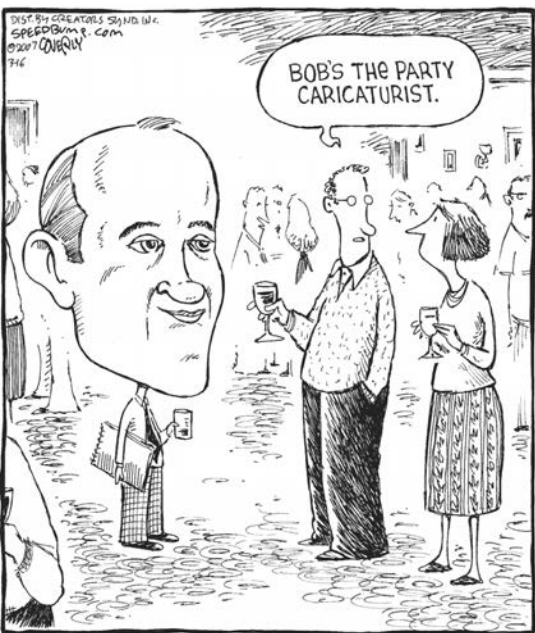
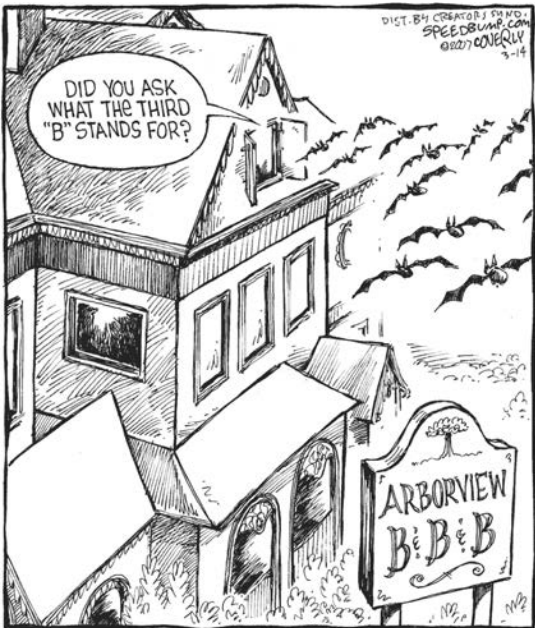


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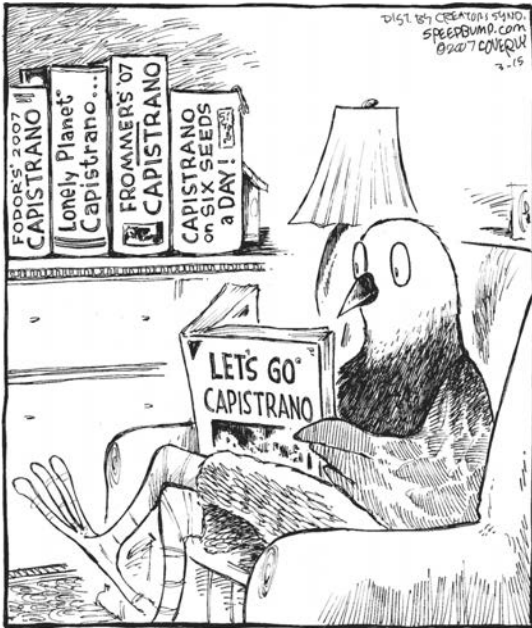
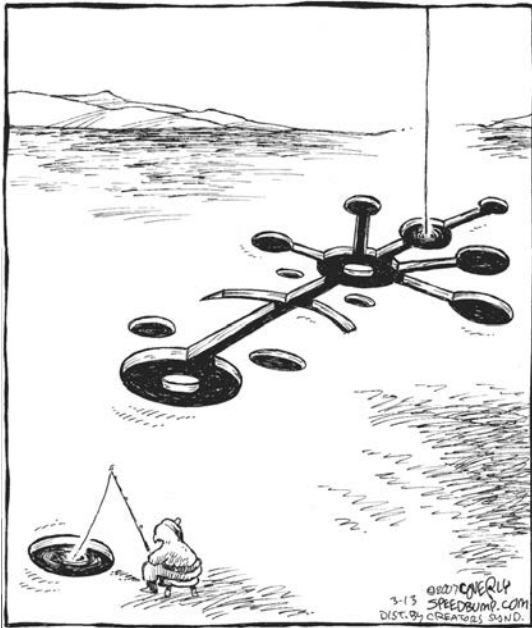
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## SPEED BUMP



## DAVE COVERLY



## Downey Community Calendar

### Events For March

Sat. March 17: **St. Baldrick's Foundation fundraiser**, Fire Station One, 10 a.m.  
 Sun. March 18: **Aerospace Legacy Foundation meeting**, Downey First Baptist, 1:30 p.m.  
 Sun. March 18: **"Natural Wonders of the Northeast Coast: Virginia Beach to Maine" travelogue**, Downey Theatre, 2:30 p.m.

### City Meetings

1st Tuesdays, 6:15 p.m.: **Redevelopment Project Area Committee**, Cormack Meeting Room at Downey Library.  
 1st & 3rd Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.: **Planning Commission**, Council Chamber at City Hall.  
 1st Tuesday, 4:00 p.m.: **Recreation and Community Services Commission**, Council Chamber, City Hall.  
 1st Thursday, 9 a.m.: **Traffic Committee**, Training Room, Second Floor of City Hall.  
 2nd & 4th Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.: **City Council/Community Development Commission**, Council Chamber.  
 2nd & 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 928-2658.  
 7 p.m.: **Boy Scout Troop 2**, at Downey United Methodist Church, for information call 869-6478.  
 7 p.m.: **Boy Scout Troop 441**, at Apollo Park Activities Room, for information call 923-3659.  
 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 Sambi's, for information call Steve Allen at 622-7655.  
 12:30 p.m.: **Take off Pounds Sensibly**, at First Christian Church, call (800) 932-8677.  
 6:30 p.m.: **Downey United Masonic Lodge # 220**, 8244 3rd St., Call 862-4176.  
 7 p.m.: **Troop 351, Boy Scouts of America**, at First Baptist Church, for information call 776-3388.  
 4th Thurs., 7:30 p.m.: **Downey Historical Society programs**, at Community Center. Call 862-2777.  
 2nd Thurs., 7:30 p.m.: **Beaming Rebel Foxes Collectors Club**, for more information call Carl D. Jones at 923-2400.

#### Fridays

7:30 a.m.: **Pro Networkers**, at Mimi's Cafe, for information call 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...

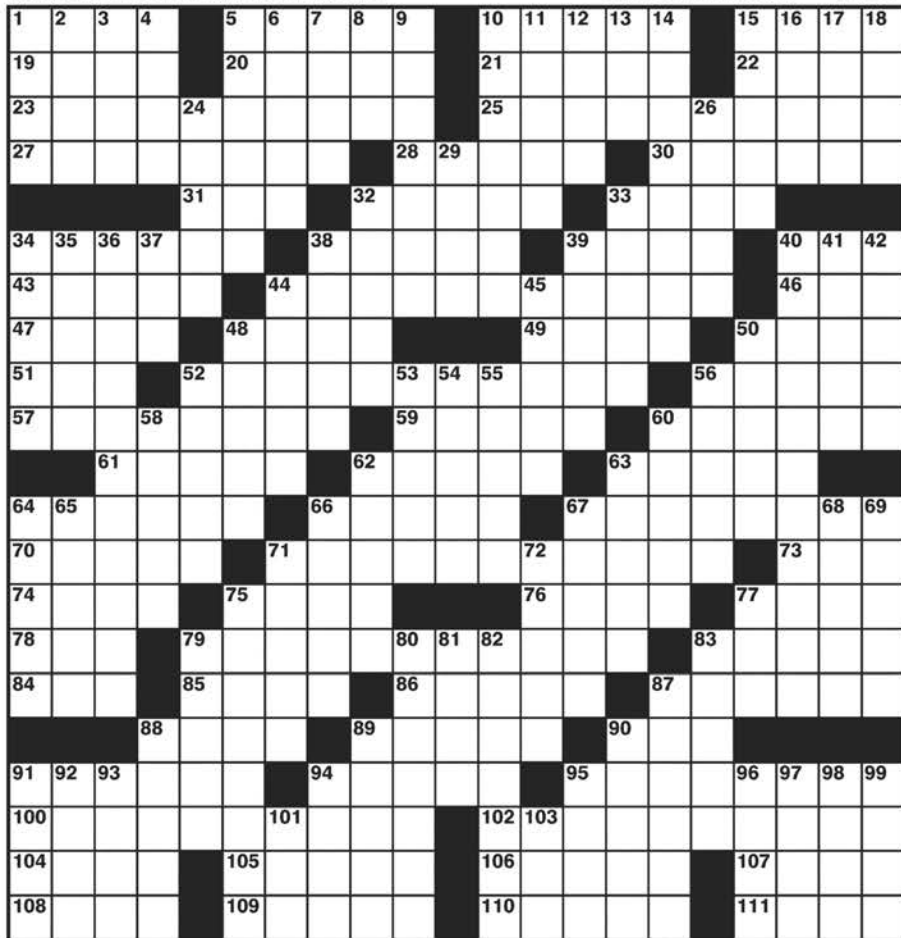
**March 16, 1521:** Portuguese explorer Ferdinand Magellan reaches the Philippines. He is said to have exchanged gifts with the native people while spreading Christianity.  
**1802:** The U.S. Military Academy at West Point is established by Congress.  
**1850:** Nathaniel Hawthorne's classic, "The Scarlet Letter," is published for the first time.  
**1998:** Pope John Paul II expresses remorse over the actions of certain Roman Catholics during the Holocaust.

## THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com)  
**THE OCCIDENTAL TOURIST: Places of interest out West**  
 by Sally R. Stein

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  - 100 New Mexico national monument
  - 102 California wine country
  - 104 Word on Irish stamps
  - 105 Old saying
  - 106 \_ de menthe
  - 107 British limerick writer
  - 108 Electronic read
  - 109 Irrigate
  - 110 Magic Kingdom neighbor
  - 111 '70s tennis star
- DOWN**
- 1 Foot part
  - 2 Where Scarlett lived
  - 3 Brit's streetcar
  - 4 Ends up with
  - 5 Drawing room
  - 6 Book of the world
  - 7 Pathway
  - 8 Antlered beast
  - 9 Posh
  - 10 Argentine assent
  - 11 Article of faith
  - 12 Author Hunter
  - 13 Cry of fright
  - 14 Intros that come later
  - 15 Principal
  - 16 Hot rock
  - 17 Olympus inhabitant
  - 18 Thin and strong
  - 24 Lightens, as a burden
  - 26 Bucolic
  - 29 \_ of passage
  - 32 Alaskan city
  - 33 Shortens slightly
  - 34 Manhattan Project product
  - 35 Finland's largest company
  - 36 Arizona attraction
  - 37 Nora Charles portrayer
  - 38 Prom refreshment
  - 39 Traffic-light color
  - 40 Wyoming national monument
  - 41 Computer name
  - 42 Founded
  - 44 Take care of
  - 45 Large beef quantities
  - 48 Hoodlums
  - 50 Walk casually
  - 52 Libel and slander
  - 53 Imperturbable
  - 54 Construction machine
  - 55 Poet friend of Tolkien
  - 56 Spanish squiggle
  - 58 Commemorates
  - 60 In a wild way
  - 62 Part of LCD
  - 63 Kenya neighbor
  - 64 Azalea, for one
  - 65 Antlered beast
  - 66 Goes across
  - 67 \_ Dragon (kids' film of '77)
  - 68 Got up
  - 69 Rental sign
  - 71 Surprises and then some
  - 72 Road curves
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  - 77 It means "atmosphere"
  - 79 Nerve
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  - 90 Battleground of 1836
  - 91 Meadow grazers
  - 92 Stylish
  - 93 Turkish money
  - 94 Art-sch. class
  - 95 Vienna-based cartel
  - 96 Singer Fitzgerald
  - 97 Bullfight cheers
  - 98 Informal assent
  - 99 Orpheus' instrument
  - 101 Nabokov novel
  - 103 French-born sculptor

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

On 9/8/74, daredevil Evel Knievel attempted unsuccessfully to jump across the SNAKE RIVER CANYON in a custom-built "skycycle." National Limerick Day is celebrated on May 12, in honor of the birthday of Edward Lear (107 Across), the "father of Limerick." Nick and Nora Charles, portrayed by William Powell and Myrna Loy (37 Down) in six "Thin Man" films, were based on their creator, Dashiell Hammett, and author Lillian Hellman.



## ARC

Continued from page 3

You should come to the Walk for Independence because we need to raise money for Arc so people can get outside jobs. It's a lot of fun and a lot of entertainment. You get to meet all the people at Arc and you get a free breakfast burrito. We get along with all other people. We are all one big happy family.

**Elmo Cooper**

To donate money. To have fun and exercise. I am proud of Arc. We learn good things. We will get a pizza party for the most walkers. Lots of people come to the walk. To donate time. We work together.

**Charles Holzer**

To walk with people who will walk and do their best to get along with others. You can get a t-shirt too. To be with friends. To walk with boyfriends and girlfriends. To have a free breakfast burrito from the Acapulco restaurant.

**Cynthia Madrigal**

To keep the workshop from closing because the county can't afford to keep it open. We wouldn't be able to learn new things like packaging items and counting and sorting. Also, you will meet new people and learn about the community. Walking is fun.

**Sergio Sierra**

I love to walk in the Walk for Independence because we can raise money for Arc. We want to help people who have disabilities. We want to dance and listen to the band. It will be a nice day for the Arc walk and we will enjoy ourselves outside. We will have breakfast burritos after the walk. When you give help you give hope.

**Wendy Krause**

You should join the Walk because you can make more money for Arc. You can support the Arc and ask more people to come. I love to walk all day. We can have breakfast burritos too. Come and enjoy us at Arc. Come to have fun and hear the music play. You can get a T-shirt when you make a donation. Bring your family too.

**Elena Cardenas**

You should join the Arc walk to have fun, meet new people and to help Arc. It brings people together. It is fun exercise. The Arc walk helps with money. It will help people with disabilities.

**LaTasha Charles**

To have fun and meet new people. To talk to your friends and shake hands with your friends. I like to walk with my family to help Arc and bring people together to have breakfast with friends. Have your picture taken. Its lots of fun and to help raise money. Yours truly, your friend

**Yoly DeLaCruz**

I'm going to Arc walk because my girlfriend is there and my teacher is there also. I also go to walk to have fun. I'm planning on walking the three mile walk. After we are going to Stonewood Mall.

**Pete Margaritis**

I want to go to the Arc walk to help raise money for the programs and to see all my friends and to help all the people and to see all the food and the balloons. And to be part of the walk is to see the city and the mall to see all the stores and to have fun for six hours then I go home for the day to be with mom.

**Donald Earles**

Because they want us to go there. We walk for the workshop for Arc. They have food and drink there too. They have a lot going on there. They have balloons too. People can walk one or three miles. They have fun with their family. The TV man comes to the walk. There are prizes there to be won. Going to the Stonewood Mall for the Arc walk on March 24 2007. My teacher is going to the walk.

**Linda Bonner**

I'm going to the Arc Walk because my girlfriend is there and to help raise money for Arc. After, we are going to Stonewood Mall.

**Ricardo Bugarin**

I'm going to the Arc walk to help raise money for Arc. People will enjoy the walk. You can take pictures with Lucy. The walk is Saturday March 24th. It starts at eight o'clock in the morning. We will get a bag with many things in it. Come to the walk and fun.

**Anna Cardenas**

The walk is fun and is good for making money. A lot of people will come to see us walk and cheer us on and the band will play the music when we start the walk. I like when a lot of people come to see us walk and cheer us on and when I finish the three mile walk I'm happy.

**Paul Arballo**

I'm going to the walk because it is fun and to help make money for Arc. There will be lots of people to cheer us on like Lucy and your friends. I will be walking three miles walk for the workshop. The Downey band will be there and you can take a picture with Lucy. They will have chairs for you to sit and rest. They have t-shirts for you and your friends and there will be food for the family and your friends too. Come with us.

**Martha Nolan**

The Arc walk is great for exercise, it helps raise money to support the Arc program, there is entertainment, you will have fun, and the people in the community can get involved in supporting Arc.

**Ruth Crownover**

I like going to the walk because it is fun and it is exercise. It helps our programs by making money for them. Lots of people get involved from the community and lots of people come to see us walk and cheer us on. A lot of bands come and play music before we start walking and it is fun. I like it when I walk the walk.

**David Cobine**

I'm going to the walk to have fun. I have good time at the walk. Then to go the mall after the walk.

**Salvador Martinez**

I want to go to the Arc Walk with my family because I want to help raise more money for Arc. I will be walking the 3 mile walk with my friend Nancy. I'm looking forward to Saturday March 24 2007. We will be going to the mall after the walk to eat hamburger and drink.

**Jaime Hernandez**

I am proud to have good friends at the Arc walk. We learn new things as we go along. It's fun to be in the Arc walk because they have a good band and lots of special people to work as hard as they can by donating their time and effort. We all work together.

**Yolanda Chavez**

### Assistance League offers scholarships

**DOWNEY** – The Assistance League of Downey is offering \$1,000 scholarships to graduating seniors from any of the Downey high schools who have excelled as volunteers.

To qualify, students must have a 3.0 grade point average and be in good standing, which includes citizenship and attendance. Members of Assistance League or their relatives are not eligible.

Applications are available at the guidance office of each high school. Completed applications should be postmarked by March 31 and mailed to 11026 Downey Ave., Downey, 90241.

Awards will be announced at the annual awards assembly at each high school at the end of this school year.

### Tickets available for April trip to zoo and garden

**DOWNEY** – Downey Theatre has a limited number of tickets available for its spring excursion to the Living Desert Zoo and Gardens on April 21.

Participants of the trip will depart from City Hall at 7:30 a.m. and arrive at the Living Desert (in Palm Springs) at 10 a.m. Once there, the group will board a tram and tour the 1,200-acre zoo and gardens, riding through the exhibits.

Animals, in their own natural habitats, include cheetahs, camels, hyenas, leopards, zebras, meerkats and many other species found in the African deserts. In the North American section, there will be a visit to Eagle Canyon, home to the golden eagle, mountain lions, bobcats, foxes and a walk-in bird aviary.

The tour will include the desert gardens, where visitors will learn how our local Native Americans lived in the desert valley for so many generations. Also, just opened, is the new "Butterflies Alive" exhibit, which concludes in April.

Included in the package is lunch at the Meerkat Café at noon and the Wildlife Wonders Show, a live animal show, presented in the Tenny Amphitheatre at 2 p.m. where participants can experience how animals hunt and live in the wild.

The return trip to Downey will feature a stop at the popular Hadley Fruit Orchards in Cabazon, featuring California's finest quality dates, dried fruits and nuts.

Cost of the excursion is \$45 per person. Cash or check is accepted for payment. Tickets may be purchased at the Downey Theatre box office Monday through Friday from noon to 4 p.m.

For more information, call the box office at (562) 861-8211.

### School of choice enrollment in April

**DOWNEY** – The Downey Unified School District will be conducting its annual school of choice open enrollment during the month of April for the 2007-08 school year.

Downey students wishing to attend a Downey school out of their attendance area may apply and may pick up an application beginning April 2 at any Downey school or at the DUSD office during the open enrollment period.

It is recommended that students, including kindergarten students entering a Downey school for the first time and wishing to apply for school of choice, should also register at the school in their assigned attendance area. This will guarantee registration in the district for the new school year.

Applications must be submitted to the DUSD office by the closing deadline of 4 p.m. on April 30. Applications are not processed on a first come, first served basis. A random, unbiased lottery will be held to place students on a school of choice waiting list for the 2007-2008 school year. Schools may accept students from the established waiting lists according to priority, but only if space is available.

For information, contact the office of pupil services at (562) 469-6554.

### Jewish St. Patrick's Day dinner planned

**DOWNEY** – Temple Ner Tamid of Downey is hosting a Jewish St. Patrick's Day dinner on March 16 at 6 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall, located at 10629 Lakewood Blvd.

The dinner will be welcoming all new members and will consist of corned beef and trimmings.

Donation is \$10 per person.

For information, call (562) 861-9276.

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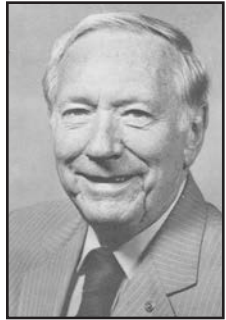
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# Dr. John Sims, beloved dentist, passes away

■ Longtime community pillar wrote Downey High School's alma mater.

**DOWNEY**—Retired dentist Dr. John C. Sims, who enjoyed a successful practice in Downey for 61 years and had retired to Balboa Island in Newport Beach, has died. He died at his home on March 12. He was 92.



Dr. John Sims

Sims was born January 29 in Watonga, Oklahoma, and moved to Downey when he was 6. He attended Downey schools all throughout, graduating from Downey High.

He received his dental degree from USC Dental School in 1939.

He was a respected and well-known figure in the community, and had scores of friends. Among his noteworthy activities was his service as president of the Downey Rotary Club in 1949 and president of the Downey Chamber of Commerce in 1984. He never failed to secure season tickets to his beloved Trojans' games.

He attended Downey United Methodist Church on Downey Ave.

Surviving him are his third wife, Crystal; son Jeff; stepchildren Clark Bruner, Jill Branscome, and Julie Tidwell; and 12 grandchildren. His other son, John, predeceased him.

Services will be held in his honor at 11 a.m. Monday, March 19, at the Hillside Chapel, Rose Hills Memorial Park, in Whittier.

A reception will follow at Granata's Italian Restaurant in Downey.

## Good Shepherd School open house

**DOWNEY** – Good Shepherd Lutheran School will host an open house and social studies fair March 20 in the Parish Hall from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

A free hot dog supper will be served to visitors of the event, which will feature the announcement of the social studies fair winners.

Classrooms will be open for families looking for a school and teachers will be available for questions. Registration packets will also be available.

Good Shepherd Lutheran School is located at 13200 Clark Ave., south of Imperial Highway. Their phone number is (562) 803-4918.

## Fundraiser dinner at Golden Palace

**DOWNEY** – Temple Ner Tamid of Downey will have a mini-fundraising dinner at the Golden Palace Restaurant at 9116 Telegraph Rd. in Downey on March 28 at 6 p.m. The community is invited.

Participants will enjoy a Chinese family-style dinner, which will have no shell fish or pork served. Reservations are required at \$16 per person.

Checks should be made payable to Temple Ner Tamid of Downey and mailed to 10629 Lakewood Blvd., Downey, 90241. For more information call (562) 861-9276.



Dr. John Sims was a frequent visitor to Downey schools, where he entertained students with his trumpet. Photo courtesy Lorine Parks

## Free dance classes for children

**DOWNEY** – The Athletic Arts Academy in Downey invites children ages 3-14 to explore the creative world of dance through a series of free Monday evening classes.

Students will learn the fundamentals of dance and choreography in this one-of-a-kind enrichment experience. Students will explore a variety of dance styles including tap, jazz and folklorico, and opportunities to perform in shows, competitions and annual showcases will be available.

The class entitled "Dance I" is designed for children ages 3-5. Students will have fun with unique choreographed routines designed to develop rhythm, timing and grace.

"Dance II" is for kids ages 6-8. Students will learn to refine their dance and performance skills.

"Dance III" is designed for children ages 9-14. Advanced choreography and performing skills will be taught in this class.

Classes begin Monday, April 2. "Dance I" will meet from 4:15 to 5 p.m.; "Dance II" from 5 to 6 p.m. and "Dance III" from 6 to 7 p.m. All classes will be held at the Sky Dance Studios, 12405 Woodruff Ave.

To register, call Gretel at (562) 745-5869.

# Sims recalled days of illegal booze

■ John Sims tells of a time when Florence Avenue was the outlet for illegal alcohol sales.

By JOHN ADAMS  
EDITOR EMERITUS

Have you ever heard of the illegal whiskey still that federal agents raided in the thick brush just off Florence Avenue near the Rio Hondo River, or how the corner of Florence and Paramount Boulevard was once called the "Dago Red" intersection because that's where you could buy a bottle of strong wine during the dry days of prohibition?

John Sims, Downey dentist and fountain of local history that the blue noses would just as soon forget, recalls it all.

Sims actually heard the story of the still from security personnel in Las Vegas, who had once known the players on both sides in the catch-me-if-you-can game of tag between the feds and those who peddled alcohol illegally.

The raid came down in the late 1920s. The bootleggers were actually undone by the owner of a nearby orange grove who wondered why his trees didn't produce like they should. He called in the Department of Agriculture who sadly informed him the trees weren't producing because there was too much malt mixed with their soil.

The feds were subsequently notified and the still was uncovered and raided in a matter of days. If you don't know, malt is used in the brewing of strong drink. The still operators had been dumping it in the nearby orchard for years.

And then comes the Dago Red story. Downey had a number of Italian residents in the late 1920s and early 1930s, the height of prohibition. They found an easy way to make money was to make homemade wine, just like their fathers before them. They then took it to Florence and Paramount and sold it by the bottle. That innocent fellow by curbside had a bottle under his coat just for you if you wanted it.

A car pulled up, in went the bottle, out came the cash and the intersection was known as "Dago Red" for years thereafter.

Sims also recalls the old Mexican Town where Downey Community Hospital stands today. If you knew the residents you could get a free meal and a glass of home brew anytime there. Many of the residents worked at the old EMSCO asbestos company that manufactured items such as brake shoes.

EMSCO was famous for resisting all efforts to incorporate the city. Management felt it didn't need a city government nosing around in its corporate affairs. Workers were allegedly told to vote against incorporation "or else."

The company finally accepted the inevitable and moved on, said Sims, as did most of the workers.

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## Word of MOUTH

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

The cosmetic dental procedure known as "tooth contouring and reshaping" helps to reduce or eliminate minor imperfections that adversely affect the overall look of an otherwise attractive smile. Tooth overcrowding and overlapping can detract from a smile, much as pits, grooves, chips, and misshapen teeth can. Fortunately, in many cases, all it takes to correct these minor imperfections is skillful reduction of tooth enamel with a drill or laser. In places where added enamel would be beneficial, bonding resin may be added to teeth and sculpted in place. It only takes a little bit of correction to make a big difference in a smile. When the desired effect is achieved, teeth are smoothed and polished.

Dental contouring and reshaping can be just the ticket for a more beautiful smile. Good cosmetic dentistry can give you a smile that is the envy of others. Beautiful and healthy smiles are a team effort. We can discuss all of your options with you and help you decide if contouring and reshaping are right for your situation. At our office you will be treated by professionals who have the experience and knowledge you can trust. If you're looking for a family dentist at this time, please call (562) 923-3714. Our "personal touch" philosophy is reflected throughout our practice in many ways. We're located at 10800 Paramount Blvd., Suite 307, where we're currently accepting new patients.

P.S. In some cases, tooth contouring and reshaping may avert the need for orthodontic treatment.

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# COUNCIL

Continued from page 1

vehicles and arrest of a good number of the thieves: Ed Hano, Jason Klevos, Christopher Kurtz and Vincent Rosario, and Corporals Justin Prentice and Nathan Weinrich.

In other action the Council:  
 •Voted support for mayor Pro Tem Dave Gafin as their candidate of choice for Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) District 25 Council representative;

•Adopted a resolution approving the destruction of certain obsolete records of the Police Department;

•Adopted a resolution approving the appointment of Irma Landesfeind to the Library Advisory Board for Council District II;

•Adopted a resolution approving the final subdivision map for Tract Map No. 64754 (7714, 7722, and 7724 Steward and Gray Road) by approving an agreement with the subdivider and accepting a subdivision improvement performance bond as surety;

•Adopted a resolution adding the management position of Senior Human Resources Analyst and establishing compensation;

•Introduced an ordinance amending Section 3186 of the Downey Municipal Code relating to the speed limits for various stretches of Woodruff Ave.;

•Introduced a similar ordinance amending Section 3186 of the Downey Municipal Code relating to the speed limit for Cherokee Drive which is now at 30 mph; and

•Awarded a contract to Palp, Inc, dba Excel Paving Company, for \$2,466,160.50, and appropriating \$1.5 million from Prop C funds and \$1.1 million from Gas Tax funds, for the traffic safety improvement project on Imperial Highway.

Some residents on La Reina spoke against the proposed changes on their street, saying they would pose danger especially to their kids, in addition to other safety and convenience concerns.

Staff was instructed to look into the localized problem more closely, and recommendations will be discussed at the next meeting.

The next regular public meeting of the City Council will be on Tuesday, March 27 at 7:30 p.m. at City Hall, 11111 Brookshire Ave.

## 'McTeacher Night' at McDonald's

DOWNEY – Teachers and staff of Gallatin Elementary School will be working as McDonald's employees as part of a school fundraiser March 20.

Teachers will be serving up burgers and fries from 5 to 8 p.m. at the McDonald's located at Lakewood Boulevard and Gallatin Road. The community is invited to attend.

## Hall of fame inducting two more

DOWNEY – Two area high school coaches will be inducted into the 605 All Star Hall of Fame at an induction ceremony and dinner scheduled for May 4 at the Rio Hondo Events Center.

Marijon Ancich and Ernie Johnson will be inducted that night. Ancich retired from St. Paul High School last year as the winningest coach in state history. He ranks among the top 20 in wins nationally and has won three CIF championships.

Johnson coached at El Rancho High School from 1956-68. In that span, Johnson coached the Dons to five CIF championship games, winning three. He left El Rancho to become head coach at Cerritos College.

The reception will begin at 6 p.m. with dinner and ceremonies to follow. Frank Mazzotta of Cerritos College will be one of several guest speakers.

The 40th annual 605 All Star Football Classic, meanwhile, is slated for June 2 at La Mirada High School. The game will feature players from several local schools, including Downey and Warren, which will compete on the West squad.

For information on attending the banquet or game, call Rich Estrella at (714) 522-8895.

# Travelogue takes you to the Northeast Coast

BY MARK KELLER,  
DOWNEY THEATRE

DOWNEY – The Downey Theatre will present the eighth film of its 2006/07 "Armchair Adventure" Travelogue Series, "Natural Wonders of the Northeast Coast: Virginia Beach to Maine", filmed and narrated by award-winning filmmaker John Holod, this Sunday.

When you think of the northeast coast, you usually think of big cities and crowded beaches, but there are still many "natural wonders" to explore. This 1500-mile adventure begins in busy Virginia Beach and ends at the Maine/Canada border. Along the way we observe an amazing array of birds, mammals, whales, insects, amphibians, flora, and endangered species. We also experience kayaking, sailing, aerial tours, lobstering, crabbing and over 30 lighthouses. This is a true adventure!

This film includes visits to such sights as Virginia Beach, Chesapeake Bay Bridge, Chesapeake Bay, Maritime Museum,

Tangier Island Watermen, Blue Crab Harvest, Tilghman Island skip-jack sail, Chincoteague ponies, Assateague Island National Seashore, Delaware Prime Hook National Wildlife Refuge (NWR), horseshoe crab/shorebird migration, Cape Henlopen, ferry to New Jersey, Cape May, Monarch butterfly migration, marsh tour, Wetlands Institute turtle rescue, Atlantic City area, Edwin B. Forsythe NWR, Sandy Hook National Seashore, Long Island, Fire Island National Seashore, Montauk Lighthouse, Shelter Island Mashomack Preserve, Mystic CT Seaport Museum and town, Newport Rhode Island, Block Island, Cape Cod National Seashore, Monomoy NWR, Provincetown, Race Point Light House overnight, Plymouth Rock, Boston Harbor Islands, Parker River NWR, Portsmouth New Hampshire, Isle of Shoals sail and kayak, Maine lobster fishermen, Monhegan Island, Windjammers, Lighthouse Museum,

Ise Au Haut Lighthouse, Boothbay Harbor, Arcadia National Park, Machias Seal Island puffins, Lubec, Canada border, and more.

John Holod is an internationally recognized cinematographer who has filmed all over the world and has presented his documentaries to audiences across the nation. He stands out in the travelogue industry because he travels in a state-of-the-art RV, immersing himself in the culture and surroundings he's depicting.

The RV serves as home and studio while he is on the road. He has lectured at such prestigious venues as the National Geographic Society, the Carnegie Institute, Cal Tech and the Franklin Institute.

In recognition of his outstanding film achievement, he received the "Rising Star" award from the travelogue industry in 1995.

"Natural Wonders of the Northeast Coast" is the eighth "Armchair Adventure" of a 10-film series.



John Holod

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**Alpha Schedule - Spring 2007**

Alpha Course Introduction	Alpha Course
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Note each evening schedule includes:  
 6 - 6:30 pm  
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## Tour will travel to see works of art

**DOWNEY** — The Downey Adult School Creative Great Western Tour will travel to the Rolling Hills Estates on March 25 to view a theatrical masterpiece that places live models into some of the world's most renowned works of art.

Participants will experience the life of Jesus Christ through living reproductions of works of art and music, created by 300 volunteers.

The tour group will enjoy dinner at an Italian restaurant following the presentation.

Registration is open and is \$69 per person. The cost includes motor-coach transportation, "Pageant of Our Lord" tickets, dinner at Il Toscano Ristorante, and driver's gratuity. Harriett Paine is the tour escort.

To register or more information, call Downey Adult School at (562) 940-6213.

Tour registration coupons are available in the school's main office can be mailed upon request.

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## Inter-faith Songfest set for tomorrow

**DOWNEY** — The 15th annual interfaith, multi-cultural Songfest, sponsored by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, will be held March 17 at the church's south Downey facility, 12425 Orizaba Avenue.

Prelude music will begin at 6:45 p.m. while the program starts at 7. Admission and parking are free.

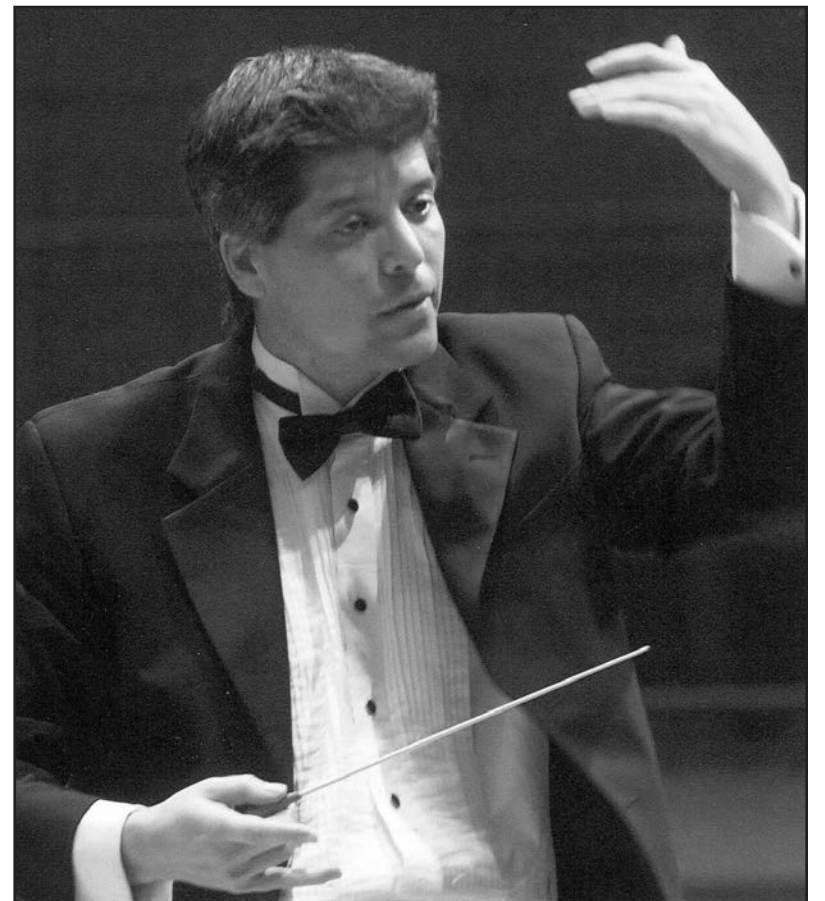
Songfest will feature choral and gospel singing and solo performances by talent from Downey and neighboring communities. Nine musical groups and soloists are scheduled to perform.

The lineup of performers include: New City Parish Choir of the Ascension Lutheran Church, led by Mark Coates; Voices of Inspiration and Immanuel Gospel Choir, led by Alexander Hamilton; Hollywood Presbyterian Mass Choir; Hacienda Heights Chinese Choir; Lynwood Samoan Choir; and the Downey Stake Choir representing The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, led by Kristie Larsen.

Soloists scheduled are Cantors Jay Harwitz and Ellen Guild, Henry Charles and Lottie Brown of Lottie Brown Ministries.

"We are happy to once again have such marvelous talent at our annual musical togetherness event," Lois Buchanan, community relations director for the Downey Stake of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and coordinator of the event, said. "It is our pleasure to again offer an evening of music and togetherness to the people of Downey and to our neighboring communities."

For more information on the program, call (562) 861-8450.



Michael Hall will conduct this year's final evening concert March 24.

## A season of changes for Downey Symphony

By JOYCE SHERWIN  
DOWNEY SYMPHONY

**DOWNEY** — It's been a season of changes, revelations, accommodation, stimulation, intense work and overall success for the beleaguered Downey Symphony, whose conductor of 19 years died suddenly last July.

Already committed to a full schedule of performances for the public and for all of the city's elementary school children, the Symphony Board has scrambled to locate guest conductors for the position held by the late Tom Osborn.

From a flood of 80 applicants, the search committee for the Board selected a short list of strong candidates, four of whom have already appeared with the orchestra.

This month, two more on the conductor's stand. Eimear Noone is slated for the fifth-graders' concerts on March 21 in the Downey Theatre (see related story, page 9), and Michael Hall conducts the year's final evening concert on Saturday, March 24.

As Associate Conductor of the Pacific Symphony in Orange County, and the director of its Youth Orchestra, Michael Hall is described as "an acclaimed and commanding presence on the podium." He also offers a wealth of experience in areas which Downey's permanent conductor would need to oversee.

Hall has made numerous guest appearances with some of the finest ensembles in North America and has worked with a diverse range of soloists. And he is "dedicated to encouraging the growth and success of younger musicians."

For our concert, Michael Hall will conduct the Downey Symphony in Glinka's Overture to Ruslan and Ludmilla, Beethoven's Symphony No. 5, and the Violin Concerto of Tchaikovsky, with soloist Roger Wilkie, concertmaster of the Long Beach Symphony.

Concert time is 8 p.m., with Hall's preview presentation of the music to be heard starting at 7:15. The evening includes an appearance by last years Baton Auction winner Elena Santana, and the Symphony Guild's complimentary reception in the theater patio, following the concert, for audience and orchestra members.

Downey's Civic Theatre is located at 8435 Firestone Blvd., surrounded by free ample parking. Tickets are \$25 and \$20, \$10 for students, and may be purchased by telephone at (562) 403-2944, or at the theatre box office on March 21 between noon and 4 p.m., or after 6:30 the night of the concert.

The Symphony Board encourages everyone in the audience to participate in evaluating our guest conductor with written comments, as part of the selection process, which may extend into the 2007-08 season.

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TORTILLA HEAVEN (12:10, 2:40, 5:10), 7:40, 10:10  
300 (11:15, 1:15, 2:00, 4:15, 5:00), 7:15, 8:00, 10:00, 10:45  
WILD HOGS (11:40, 2:15, 4:50), 7:30, 10:05  
ZODIAC (11:50, 3:20), 7:20, 10:40  
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GHOST RIDER PG13 (11:30 2:15) 5:00 7:45 10:30  
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Eric Clapton - Honda Center  
Lupillo Rivera - Gibson Amph.  
Zombies - Grove of Anaheim  
SUNDAY  
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## 'Fifty' isn't such a dirty word after all

By Mary Forney

Stopping behind a car at a red light early one morning last week, I noticed the license frame said, "40...the other 'F' word." Chuckling, I went on my way as the light turned green but as I pulled into the parking lot where I work, I thought, "Wait a minute, I'm 47 - does that license plate mean I'm old?"

It dawned on me that I'm going to turn 48 this summer and that's only two years away from 50. As the week progressed, I started noticing my forehead and eyes wrinkle when I laugh. I have two chins where there used to be one and I admit I was squinting when I read that license plate because for the last few years, I've needed bifocals to read.

The thought of turning 50 loomed over me all week, as if I was looking at the remainder of my life through the barrel end of a gun. My mind kept repeating, "Old age is coming, there's nothing I can do about it, and life as I know it is ending."

Desperately looking for a solution which would stop me from aging, I went to the mall for a makeover - something I have never done before. I thought it would lift my spirits and make me feel better about my age. "Help me," I said to the young saleswoman behind the counter. "I need a new face because this one's starting to look old. Maybe I need new make-up."

Sitting me in a chair, the saleswoman who looked barely 20, began cleaning my face and putting on moisturizers and makeup. Several times she said I didn't look my age and that I looked great with the makeup she was applying.

Looking in the mirror once the makeover was complete, I was shocked at the transformation - I looked at least 10 years older than what I am. The young saleswoman had applied a thick layer of foundation on my face and you could spot the dark red blush on my cheeks if you were standing a block away. The sparkly eye shadow she used seemed to spotlight wrinkles I didn't even know I had but it was the lips that startled me the most. Since I commented that my lips seem to be getting smaller with each passing year, she fixed that problem by extending bright, brassy lipstick around my mouth and I couldn't decide if I looked more like Joan Crawford once upon a time or Bozo the Clown.

Not wanting to hurt the young woman's feelings, I told her I looked great and thanked her before hurrying home to wash my face. Looking at what she had done from the sanctity of my bathroom, I started to laugh. I was happy to see the natural me as I wiped away the excessive makeup. This is my face and I'm keeping it just as it is. Sure, I want to look my best - who doesn't? But I realized I can stick with my regular makeup because the best of me can't be purchased at the makeup counter.

The best of me can be seen when I'm hugging my grandchildren, writing a good read, taking a captivating photograph, or sharing a heartfelt laugh. These are things I've acquired or come to appreciate in my 40s, so being my age is exactly where I want to be in my life right now.

I still don't like the new wrinkles and what I deem to be other developing physical flaws, but I've decided to greet my marks of ancient living with grace and humor instead of costly surgeries or pancake makeup. I'm going to continue living my 40s with lots of "F" words like "fun," "fabulous," and "flirty." And as for 50 staring me in the face, all I can say is, "50...Bring it on."

## Downey's early years in slide presentation

**DOWNEY** - A slide presentation of Downey in its more primitive years, "The Way It Used to Be", will be presented in the John Downey Room of the Barbara J. Riley Community Center on March 22. Showtime is 7:30 p.m.

Several things will be on sale by the Downey Historical Society at the meeting, including the VCR of the 16-mm movies that featured the vintage Lindberg flight as well as three politically incorrect "comedies."

Postcards and a limited number of Barbara Callarman's unique book on early photographers of Southern California will also be on sale.

## Two businesses celebrate openings

**DOWNEY** - The new owners of Del Mar Real Estate and A-One Tax Pros, along with the Downey Chamber of Commerce, will host a ribbon cutting and grand opening celebration on March 23 beginning at 4:45 p.m.

Both businesses are located at 11213 1/2 Downey Ave., behind the Gourmet Café restaurant.



**Eimear Noone will be leading the Downey Symphony Orchestra in three separate performances for fifth-graders on March 21 at the Downey Theatre.**

## Guest conductor has big task ahead of her

By Joyce Sherwin  
Downey Symphony

**DOWNEY** - First we will have to get past the obvious in order to focus on what is really important.

The subject of this scrutiny is the next guest conductor of the Downey Symphony, Eimear Noone, who will lead the orchestra in three separate performances of the symphony's program for fifth graders in the Downey Theater next Wednesday morning, March 21.

What is obvious in meeting this slender, friendly woman with the impossible name is her Irish charm and coloring, the delicious lilt of her speech, and the warm handshake. And could we get the pronunciation problem settled right now? Cheerfully, she says, "Oh, it sounds like Beemer."

There. That's a relief.

What will really count, however, is how she handles an orchestra that she met only the previous morning for rehearsal, and 1,650 ten-year-olds. And you think your job is tough.

Solid credentials are called for here, and Eimear Noone seems to have them. Listen to the opening sentences from the biography she submitted to the symphony's search committee and Board of Directors:

"On being invited to conduct a piece during a concert of the Irish Military No. 1 Band at age 15, Eimear Noone got her first experience of conducting a professional ensemble, and it was on the insistence of the band's musicians that she began her education as a conductor.

"Since then she has conducted everything from Early and Renaissance choral music, boys choirs and smaller contemporary works to large-scale symphonic concerts, film scores and cutting-edge multi-media premieres."

Reaching out to audiences became a top priority for Noone, whether that brings classical performance to people who know little about it, or catches listeners through works with the ink still wet. Now living in Los Angeles, she teaches conducting for UCLA Extension and composition at Macy Gray's new M Gray Academy in North Hollywood. But Noone's particular love has become orchestrating and composing for film. She knows she is in the right environment, and already her screen credits are on a long, impressive roll.

The fifth-graders' concerts are supported by a generous grant from the Ralph M. Parsons Foundation, and are a cooperative endeavor between the Downey Symphony's Music in the Schools program and the Downey Unified School District.

## Contestants vie for Miss Downey crown

**DOWNEY** - The annual Miss Downey Pageant will be held March 17 at the Downey Theatre.

Tickets to the pageant are \$22 and available for purchase through the contestants or by calling the pageant director, Susan Domen, at (562) 7172.

Anyone wishing to help sponsor a contestant or donate towards the awards program should contact Domen as well.

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# DUSD board members praise schools, honor longtime employee

By HENRY VENERACION  
STAFF WRITER

**DOWNEY**—The Board of the Downey Unified School District, at its regular Tuesday meeting March 13, heard a presentation by Buck Weinfurter, Director of Maintenance, Operations and Transportation, honoring Craig Lackey with the Vision Award for the Environment. Lackey is the Certified Playground Inspector (CPI) for the District. He began his stint with DUSD in September 1989.

In tracing Lackey's career with the District, moving up the ladder from groundsman to equipment operator to operations leadman, Weinfurter noted his many vital contributions: taking care of the trees and turf at all the schools, keeping the play areas and athletic fields "in top notch condition," and renovating the grounds areas whose functions keep changing over time.

As CPI, supervising a trained crew, Lackey makes sure all the play equipment continues to meet the ever-changing state rules and manages the hazardous material disposal for the District.

Because of all this, and because Lackey has "provided immeasurable support for the schools" thus providing a "great environment for

their teaching mission," Weinfurter said he is "most deserving of this special honor."

The Board also recognized Old River Elementary School for receiving the 2007 Title I Academic Achievement Award. School principal Teresa Medina made the presentation, saying it was not an easy task, that it was through the team effort of the classroom teachers, the students, the parents, the support and clerical staff "that have made this award possible." She noted the students' API score had over the last two years gone from 707 to 754.

Medina also underscored the importance of the Title I funding. Among other benefits, she said, the funding has allowed teachers release time to analyze student achievement data, peer collaboration to "tighten instruction and strive for best teaching practices," and the hiring of additional support teachers and instructional assistants.

"Our work is not finished," Medina said. "Teaching is not easy... and there are still challenges ahead. (But) we will continue to work hard to ensure success for all students."

Board Member Martha Sodemani voiced the Board's sentiments in thanking Dr. Mary

Stauffer, through her foundation, for her donation of \$30,000 to be used in support of the Character Counts program.

Not to be outdone was the Downey Kiwanis Foundation, which gave the District a cash donation of \$50,000 earmarked for the new science building at Downey High School.

The Board also accepted with gratitude cash donations from Verizon (for Carpenter Elementary) and Annette Galarreta (for Ward Elementary).

Board Member Tod Corrin was all praise for Gauldin Elementary's "Day of the Reader." The other board members said much the same thing.

Board Member D. Mark Morris marveled at the transformations taking place at the high schools, saying "Hats off to the school staffs!"

Board Member Barbara Samperi lauded Assistant Superintendent-Personnel Services Stan Hanstad on his nomination to serve on the CSU-Long Beach Dean's Advisory Council.

Board Member Nancy Swenson also praised the work of Phil Davis and his department (Support Programs, Career and Vocational Education), especially its ROP program.

DUSD Board President Willie Gutierrez summed up what was apparently on everyone's minds:

"We're so blessed and thankful that our schools really prepare our students (for success). And I can't say enough about the great people we have."

In other action the Board:

- Authorized payment of expenses for convention and conference attendance;
- Ratified a General Agreement with Gallagher Pediatric Therapy for 2006-07;
- Ratified payments for special education placements;
- Reviewed and approved the proposed revisions to the 2006-07 Schedule of Regular Board meetings;
- Ratified purchase orders by the Purchasing Department;
- Ratified the issuance of payroll orders for hourly, overtime, Civic Center work by Classified, Adult School and Food Services through February, 2007;
- Ratified B warrants;
- Approved the settlement agreement and mutual general release with Toby B. Hayward Construction, Inc. for a claim for additional work and materials for the campus expansion at Unsworth Elementary in the amount of \$10,000;

- Ratified agreement with Los Angeles Office of Education for facilities, supplies and services, for Special Education programs;
- Approved the change order for the purchase of commodity egg products from Sunny Fresh Foods, Monticello, MN, in the increased amount of \$3,385, to be charged to Food Services funds; ;
- Accepted as complete electrical work provided by Spike Electric, Anaheim, and fencing work provided by McCullah Fence, Bell Gardens;
- Reduced the retention amount, from 10 to 5 percent (per Public Contract Code 9203-a), held against the bid for the new classroom buildings construction at Downey High School;
- Approved the adjustments of various budgets (the 2006-07 Adult School restricted and unrestricted budgets, Cafeteria Fund, Deferred Maintenance Fund restricted budget, General Fund restricted and unrestricted budgets, to reflect decreases or increases in their respective fund balances;
- Approved purchase of equipment according to established purchasing policies and regulations;
- Approved routine Personnel items until subsequent action is taken by the Board of Education;
- Ratified the abolishment and establishments of various positions lodged in selected elementary and middle schools;
- Adopted a resolution approving the assignment of delinquent tax receivables to the California Statewide Delinquent Tax Finance Authority for the fiscal years end-

-ing June 20 in each of the years 2008 through 2010, and authorized the execution and delivery of related documents and actions;

- Adopted a resolution to order biennial Governing Board elections;
- Declared March 12-16 as the "Week of the Administrator," to include all personnel who serve in education leadership posts, including: superintendents, assistant superintendents, principals, assistant principals, special education and adult education leaders, curriculum and assessment leaders, school business officials, classified educational leaders, and other school district employees;
- Reviewed the high school textbooks proposed for adoption for the 2007-08 school year. Superintendent Wendy Doty said the textbooks are on display in the 2nd floor lobby of the Gallegos Administration building for public inspection; a full report on this will be made in the next meeting;
- Received the Administrative Report known as the Second Period Interim Financial Report as of Jan. 31, 2007, certifying that the District can meet its financial obligations for the remainder of the 2006-07 fiscal year; and
- Endorsed the actions taken by the Superintendent on several student cases;

The next public meeting of the DUSD Board of Education will be at 5 p.m. Tuesday, April 17 at the Administration Center, 11627 Brookshire Ave.

## School textbooks open to review

**DOWNEY** - The public is invited to examine textbooks being considered for adoption by the Downey Unified School District Board of Directors for use in high school classes.

Copies of the textbooks will be on display in the second floor lobby of the Gallegos Administration Center at 11627 Brookshire Ave. from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, March 13 through April 16.

Suggestions or criticisms must be submitted in writing to the superintendent by April 10.




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# Nora Szechy: a far from ordinary girl

BY HENRY VENERACION  
STAFF WRITER

In fulfilling a daughter's request, Nora Wright Szechy, a 30-year resident of Downey, is reaping unimagined riches. No, not in gold or lucre—she doesn't care for these, anyway—but in far more satisfying, far more important things in her life: things like her family's happiness, affection, and gratitude simply for the magnificent ordinariness of her life, her immediate circle's unqualified endorsement of her as a good storyteller and, more surprising and fulfilling still, finding herself, at age 75, a published writer.

Nora was born and raised while World War II raged on, in a modest district in South Dublin, Ireland, called Inchicore. In her memoir, "NORA: An ordinary girl from Inchicore," published by iUniverse, Inc. last year, she relates, in impeccable and compelling prose, episodes from her life laced with "humor and pathos," from her days of growing up in a large Catholic family (she is one of ten children), to her adventures in New York and London, through an asymmetric, heart-breaking relationship, up to the time she met her future husband in, of all places, Toronto, Canada.

At 9 a.m. today, Irish eyes will be smiling at Los Angeles City Hall as Nora, along with other honorees of Irish extraction, will be recognized at an event sponsored by the city of Los Angeles, the Los Angeles City Council and the Irish Fair Foundation. The annual event honors the outstanding contributions by Irish and Irish Americans to the greater Los Angeles community. She has no idea why she was selected. She suspects it's because of her memoir's merits; it's been available at the Downey Library where she volunteers for Friends, at Barnes & Noble and the Internet. Nevertheless, Nora Bernadette Wright Szechy, named after St. Bernadette of Lourdes, is being honored as the "Irish-born Writer of the Year 2007." Conferring the awards will be Mayor Antonio R. Villaraigosa and other Los Angeles City Council members.

The event will be followed by the traditional St. Patrick's Day Parade downtown. Nora, who will have a coterie of family, relatives and friends from all over, gets to ride with the Mayor. A gala luncheon follows. The public has been invited to attend. As Nora was wont to say in her younger days, "It's time to have some fun!"

Nora's memoir runs some 200 pages, but her story is far from complete, and she knows it. Her family/relatives/friends, all of whom have played prominent roles and come alive in the book, have begged her for the next installment. Nora will oblige, but at her own pace.

Nora's mother looms large in her story. She was, writes Nora, "outgoing and quick-witted, a natural mimic with a wonderful sense of humor, blessed with robust health, and a great storyteller." It was through her subterfuge that Nora, to everyone's relief, avoided "a fate worse than death." Nora fed on A. J. Cronin, as her dad, an avid reader, introduced her to such Cronin favorites as "The Citadel," "The Keys of the Kingdom" and "The Green Years."

When I mentioned that I became close to the Oblate missionaries (who were all Irish) in the south of the Philippines in the '50s, Nora said the Oblate Church in Dublin, which they used to frequent, was a local landmark. Mention of the storied potato famine led her to describe the burden of oppression suffered by the Irish populace, "much like your people in the Philippines, isn't it?" Talk of "The Quiet Man" and Maureen O'Hara and Notre Dame, all favorites of mine, quelled any doubts about my fondness for the Irish. I wanted to interject that I liked to sing "I'll Take You Home Again, Kathleen," but the moment didn't present itself.

Her sojourn in New York was all too brief. Her forays into Broadway, though, and the Sutton Hotel, and Central Park, her shopping with friends on Madison Avenue and such, brought back pleasant memories, too.

Back in London, her vivid descriptions of Westminster Abbey, the Parliament Buildings and Big Ben, Trafalgar Square, Hyde Park and Kensington inevitably led to a refrain from "My Fair Lady" (Pygmalion), "I think I've got it!"

You won't find any formal history or philosophy or any discussion of what we consider as weighty matters in Nora's memoir, because, in the first place, she wrote it just to please a daughter who was approaching her 40th birthday and in the second place, as was the custom in Ireland in those days, the women were supposed to stay at home and were not encouraged to pursue higher education.



Nora Szechy, a native of South Dublin, Ireland, has published a memoir currently available at [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com).

Given half the chance, Nora gives the impression that she could have pursued any profession she wanted. Instead she went to Secretarial School. But through the years, she studied English Literature and other subjects, and *learned*. I believe her when she says simply, "I believe I'm worth three Ph. D. degrees now."

Monday, April 16, Nora is scheduled to speak at the Downey City Library's Cormack Room.

When I joked that she might attain literary glory a la J. K. Rowling, she said naaaa, proceeds from her memoir go to cystic fibrosis research, anyway, in honor of a deceased grandchild.

Nora's memoir is a wonderful, interesting read, worthy of the line of storytellers from the "land of saints and scholars." Get the book, and prepare to be surprised.

## COMMENTS

Continued from page 1

45 residents. He recommended possibly involving the Chamber of Commerce and local businesses.

He also said he would like parking restrictions in the lot next to the 99 Cents Only store on Stewart and Gray Road and recommended tighter restrictions concerning campaign signs.

Finally, he said he attended a Gangs Out of Downey meeting last week and called the program "special."

Councilman Dave Gafin reminded the audience of his ongoing town hall meetings.

Councilwoman Anne Bayer told the audience about Mayor Rick Trejo's early-morning speech this week at the Citizens For Downey meeting.

Trejo and Caton had no public comments to make.

## Kids Day scheduled for May 12

**DOWNEY** – This year's Kids Day will take place May 12 at Furman Park from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., the City of Downey Community Services Department has announced.

This will be the 20-year anniversary of the event, which will carry the theme, "Shaping a Healthy Future for Downey's Youth."

Monetary donations, products and in-kind services help make the event possible. All of the awards, entertainment, refreshments and carnival supplies and prizes are obtained through the support of the community. Sponsors will be recognized at the Hall of Fame event May 2 at the Downey Theatre, in the winter Community Services Guide and in numerous press releases.

For information on how to contribute, call (562) 904-7238.

YOUR HOMETOWN  
COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER  
**The Downey Patriot**

# 14th annual Street Faire returns here April 28

**DOWNEY** – More than 200 crafters and businesses will line Brookshire Avenue when the 14th annual Street Faire returns to Downey April 28.

A food court and kid's zone will be housed inside the Downey High School south parking lot on Firestone Boulevard. An additional food court will also be located near the car show in the school's north parking lot.

Entertainment will be provided all day on a stage at Brookshire and Firestone, with live music and belly dancers wandering through the crowd. A car show featuring The Old Memories S.G.V. Car Club will be at the north end of Brookshire.

Sponsors to date include Colin Clarke, Century 21 Jervis & Associates (Platinum Sponsor); Downey Regional Medical Center (Diamond Sponsor); Big Blue House Real Estate, Press-Telegram, Stonewood Center and Wescom Insurance (Silver Sponsors); and All American Home Center, Downey Savings & Loan, On Stage Dance Center, Security Land Escrow Company and Southland Credit Union (Bronze Sponsors).

Sponsorships are still available by calling the Downey Chamber of Commerce at (562) 923-2191.

## SAT workshop for Downey students

**DOWNEY** – The Downey City Library will offer a SAT Pre-test workshop March 24 for students ages 13-19 who will take the SAT exam for college entrance.

Participants of the free workshop can take a practice test supervised by a proctor. Students should arrive 15 minutes early and bring a calculator and two #2 pencils. No other materials will be permitted.

"This three-hour practice test is ideal for students who want to be familiar with the kinds of questions on the SAT," librarian Julia Butler said.

The workshop will be held from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Cormack Room.

To register, call the adult information desk at (562) 904-7360, ext. 32.

## Students can learn MLA source format

**DOWNEY** – Students can learn how to create a works cited bibliography using the MLA format at a free workshop for teens at the Downey City Library on March 21.

The workshop, to be held in the Cormack Room from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m., will show students how to use the "MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers," published by the Modern Language Association of America. Teens will learn how to cite books, magazine and newspaper articles, electronic resources and Internet web sites used for their research papers.

"This class is so valuable because many teachers require students to use MLA format," librarian Julia Butler said. "Be sure to register early since class size is limited."

Call the adult information desk at (562) 904-7360, ext. 32, to register.

## Meals on Wheels honoring past president

**DOWNEY** – Meals on Wheels will honor outgoing president Roberta Broveleit when they host their annual luncheon April 25 at the Los Amigos Country Club. The lunch starts at 12:30 p.m.

George Bridges, a three-year volunteer and two-year board member, will take over as president. Bridges is a Downey resident where he also practices as a family counselor.

Meals on Wheels is a non-profit volunteer organization that delivers meals to clients' homes in Downey. Meals are delivered from Downey First Presbyterian Church.

For information on volunteering, services or to make a donation, call (562) 806-1815.

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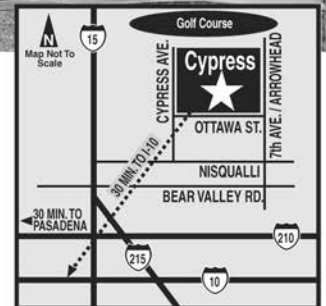
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 Exterior & interior plaster patching, matching all stucco textures. Very clean. 25 years exp. No patch too small. Free estimates. Ask for Ray Armas Lic# 882779  
 (562) 923-8227

**PAINTING & CONSTR.**  
 Lic. 456722. Call Steve  
 (562) 928-7680

**CARPET 4 U**  
 Carpet, Vinyl, Tile & Laminate. Free in home estimates! Mohawk, Shaw, Beaulieu, Kane, Congoleum, Unimaru. SALE! 6' Cushion Floor: 10¢ per square foot. 6' Vinyl Floor: 15¢ per square foot. Limited quantities.  
 (562) 866-2195  
 Showroom at 9303 Alondra Blvd. in Bellflower

**SERVICES**  
**CARPET, LINO. & LAMINATE**  
 Serving Downey since 1968. LIC# 421455. Call Kent  
 (562) 776-9933

**MIKE THE ELECTRICIAN**  
 Recessed lighting, remodel home and office, service upgrade 120-600 volts. FREE NO OBLIGATION ESTIMATE. Lic. #829705  
 (562) 861-4266

**SUPERB PAINTING**  
 Exterior, Interior, senior discounts, references, dependable & reliable. Free estimates. Lic. #634063. Wayne.  
 (562) 863-5478

**MACHADO CONSTRUCTION CO.**  
 Room additions, roofing, kitchen and bath remodeling, window replacement, paint. Senior discount. Lic#574972  
 (562) 803-8630  
 (323) 294-8745

**TAX PROBLEMS?**  
 Enrolled Agent admitted to practice before the IRS. Tax preparation, consultation and representation. If you have problems with the IRS or FTB I can help!  
 Office (562) 803-3569  
 Cell (562) 305-0874

**HONEST HANDYMAN**  
 Painting, plumbing, electrical, carpentry.  
 Call Jim (562) 869-0741

**TIRED OF YOUR TENANTS?**  
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**Across The Street Property Management**  
 (310) 617-3640  
 (562) 622-0820

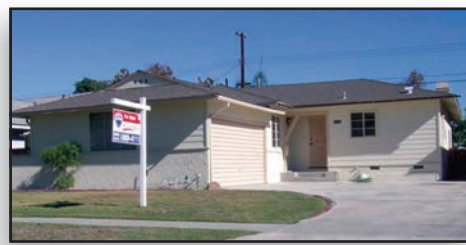
**RE/MAX Online** **562-904-8844** [www.onlinerealty.us](http://www.onlinerealty.us)



**Home With Pool & Spa**  
 4 bd/2 ba home w/1,790 sq.ft. of living space w/formal dining, living room and heated swimming pool and spa. Only \$799,000.  
**Louie Plascencia 562-552-0012**



**Great Starter!**  
 2 bedrooms, 1 bath and 1 car garage. Room to grow. This will not last long. Call for your private showing.  
**Luis Martinez 562-208-1737**



**Cerritos College Locale!**  
 3 beds, 2 baths, den with brick fireplace, updated kitchen, remodeled baths, 1,527 sq. ft. of living space, 2 car garage. This home won't last long! CALL for more details!  
**Wilson Ruiz (562) 869-4111**



**South Gate Park Area**  
 BEST AREA. 3 bedroom, 2 bath + Den with a detached rumpus room with a 2nd fireplace & 3rd bath. Hard to find. A must see. Call agent to see.  
**Mel Lopez (310) 635-5662**



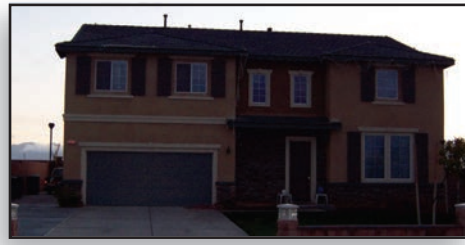
**Great Home!**  
 3 Bedrooms, 1 Bathroom, 2 car garage, central heat & air. Covered patio and gated back yard. Near shopping & freeways.  
**Henry Salazar (310) 488-3694**



**Seller Has To Sell**  
 Get out your paintbrushes, this 3 bed & 2 bath gem has huge potential with minor repairs needed. Large family room w/chimney, formal dining room off the kitchen with Spanish tile, laundry area and attached garage. Large back yard with block fence and covered patio.  
**Teresa Arana 562-569-1499**



**Pride Of Ownership Won't Last Long!**  
 3 bed, 2 bath, 2 car garage, central heat & air etc. Across the street from Padioson Square.  
**Armando Mendez 562-307-2852**



**Beautiful Large Home In Mira Loma**  
 5 Bedrooms, 3 Bathrooms, 2,885 sq. ft. of living space on a 7,405 sq. ft. lot. Built in 2005, comes with a huge deck/covered patio. Both yards are fully landscaped. R.V. parking and view of the park.  
**Luis Guevara (310) 704- 6298**



**Nice Long Beach Area!**  
 Nice home in established family neighborhood! 3 bed, 1 bath, bonus enclosed patio used as family makes it perfect for family gatherings. Detached garage and large yard make this ideal for a growing family. Priced at: \$459,900 makes it affordable for a starter home!  
**Tony Yopez (562) 712-9631**



**Remodeled - \$2,000 Total Move In**  
 3 bedroom house with 2 baths, large yard and garage. Located at 1273 W. Alexander Ave., San Bernardino Move in 15 days. Priced at \$335,000  
**Dene Molina (562) 904-9729**



**Home With Ocean View In Rosarito!**  
 Never home built in 2000. Approx. 1,600 sq. ft. of living space on 3,000 sq. ft. lot. A modern house w/ 3 bedrooms, 2 baths and a balcony with views of the city & ocean. All these for only \$99,000.  
**Jaime Enriquez (562) 927-3570**



**Priced To Sell!**  
 3 bd/3 ba home w/1,500 sq. ft. of living space priced to sell at \$460,000  
**Louie Plascencia 562-552-0012**

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### NICE HOME IN SOUTH GATE

3 bedroom, 2 baths, central air and heating. Priced at \$517,000.  
Call (562) 923-5507

### BRAND NEW HOUSE IN SOUTH GATE

4 bedrooms, 2 baths, double attached garage. Seller may help with some closing costs. Vacant & ready to move in.  
Asking \$555,000.  
Call (562) 923-5507

### BEAUTIFUL NORWALK HOME

2 bedrooms, 1 bath, nice area. Asking \$500,000.  
Call (562) 923-5507



Ask for  
**Rosy Cervantes**  
Cell (562) 644-0682

CALL US TODAY...  
(562) 923-5507



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DOWNEY SUITE A

### 3 BEDROOM, 1 1/2 BATH IN LOS ANGELES

Ready to move in! New hardwood floors, freshly painted inside and out. Asking \$499,500.  
Call today (562) 923-5507

### SANTA FE SPRINGS

3 bedrooms, 1 bath Fixer upper, lots of potential \$479,000.  
Call for details (562)923-5507

### BRAND NEW HOME IN LOS ANGELES

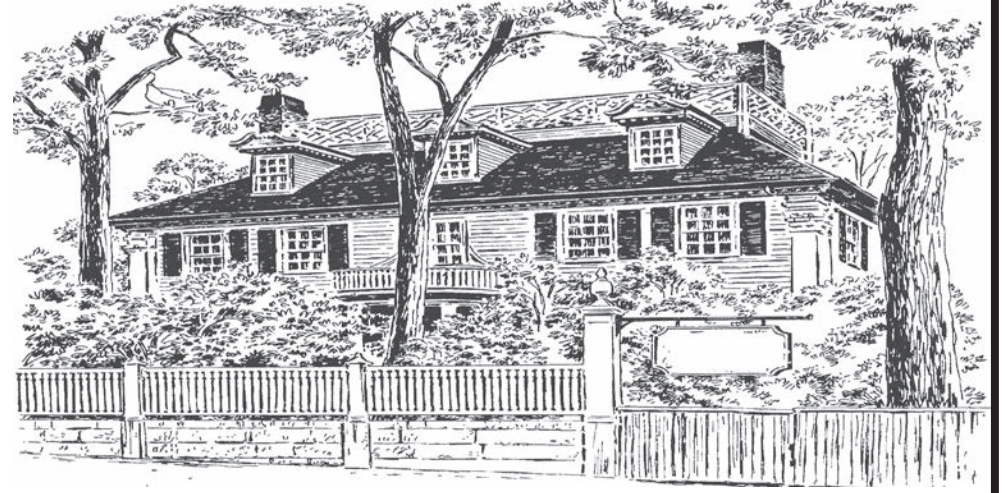
3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms will be complete in February. Owner may help with closing costs. Priced at \$425,000. Make an offer today, call (562) 923-5507

VISIT US ON OUR WEBSITE: [www.C21HI.com](http://www.C21HI.com)

## SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE

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WANT TO SELL A VACANT LOT?  
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REAL ESTATE PAGES EVERY FRIDAY!

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COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER  
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Call Darlene at (562) 927-2626 ext. 119

## TEAM UP WITH CENTURY 21 MY REAL ESTATE

REAL ESTATE ARENA

INTRODUCING OUR STARTING LINE UP

## THE CLIENTS

### THE FANS OUR CLIENTS

**#1** "Willie Gutierrez did a wonderful job for us. Willie was easy to work with and went out of his way to communicate regularly, giving practical advice." -- Sherry Monson

**#2** "Angie Pierce listed our home and did a fantastic job. Angie worked hard and was outstanding." -- Derrick & Danita Wright

**#3** "The best agent is hands down Brian Holden. Brian went above and beyond and I have already referred people to him." -- Wanona Goldsmith

### MVPs OF THE MONTH

TOP LISTING  
**Marlene Rodriguez**

TOP PRODUCTION  
**Maria Zuloaga**

TOP SALES  
**Lilian Lopez  
Lorena Amaya**

<p><b>REAL ESTATE 101 DRE APPROVED</b></p> <p>Live Real Estate School</p> <p>800-641-2111 x119 Darlene</p>	<p><b>HOME FIELD ADVANTAGE</b></p> <p>30 Years Serving Downey and Southeast Los Angeles</p> <p>Across the Field, Down the Court or Around the Bases Where Ever Your Game Takes You</p> <p><b>FREE RELOCATION SERVICES</b></p> <p>800-641-2111</p>	<p><b>MY ESCROW GROUP INC.</b></p> <p>Public Escrow Company</p> <p>562-776-5972</p> <p>Bank Of Orange County Building 8345 E. Firestone Blvd 5-102 • Downey, CA 90241</p>	<p><b>MY MORTGAGE</b></p> <p>A DIVISION OF METROCITIES</p> <p>SOUND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE</p> <p>800-641-2111</p>
<p>Changing Teams or a Career</p> <p><b>Century 21 My Real Estate</b></p> <p>Ongoing Training • Pension Plan • Freedom • Flexibility</p> <p>Teaming with the #1 Company</p>	<p><b>COMMERCIAL INVESTMENT NETWORK</b></p> <p>WHEN YOU'RE READY TO EXPAND YOUR INVESTMENTS</p> <p><b>THE CIN TEAM</b></p> <p>800-641-2111</p>	<p><b>PROPERTY MANAGEMENT</b></p> <p>YOUR SUPPORT TEAM</p> <p>Saving You Time While Keeping Your Investments Safe • Sound • Secure</p> <p>800-641-2111</p>	

<p><b>Shoes For Sale! Get Your Shoes Here!</b></p> <p>Great business opportunity in Huntington Park. Beautiful shoe store with athletic, sport, and dress shoes. Great area with busy foot traffic right on the street.</p> <p>(562) 927-2626 century21myrealestate.com</p>	<p><b>Double Your Pleasure</b></p> <p>2 units in Downey - First unit has 3 Bedrooms, 1.75 Bathrooms, family room, fireplace, and 2-car garage. Second unit includes 2 Bedrooms and 1 Bathroom.</p> <p>(562) 927-2626 century21myrealestate.com</p>	<p><b>Orange Country Here I Come</b></p> <p>Wonderful home in a great neighborhood with 3 Bedrooms, 2 Bathrooms, 3-car garage, central air and heat, spa, patio, interior laundry and close to high school.</p> <p>(562) 927-2626 century21myrealestate.com</p>	<p><b>Magic Eight Ball Says - INVEST</b></p> <p>Great investment opportunity! 3 units, which all include inside laundry, copper plumbing, newer windows and paint, kitchen and bathrooms remodeled. First unit - 2 Bedrooms, 1 Bathroom. Second unit - 1 Bedroom, 2 Bathrooms. Third (Detached) unit - 2 Bedrooms, 2 Bathrooms, 2-car garage.</p> <p>(562) 927-2626 century21myrealestate.com</p>
<p><b>I've Had Work Done</b></p> <p>Remodeled home with 3 Bedrooms, 1.75 Bathrooms, and fireplace in living room.</p> <p>(562) 927-2626 century21myrealestate.com</p>	<p><b>Plant Yourself Here To Bloom</b></p> <p>4 Bedrooms, 2.75 Bathrooms, master bedroom with master bath, walk-in closet, central air, and 2-car garage.</p> <p>(562) 927-2626 century21myrealestate.com</p>	<p><b>You Asked For It, We Got It</b></p> <p>Mini-estate, 24-hour gated security, 6,000+ sq. ft. of luxury living, 4 Bedrooms, 4 Baths, media room, gym room, office with built-in desk and book shelf, family room with fireplace, pool, spa, and professional landscaping.</p> <p>(562) 927-2626 century21myrealestate.com</p>	<p><b>Mother-In-Law? Noisy Teenagers? Out-Of-Town Guests?</b></p> <p>Downey's perfect set-up for those who have these needs and more! Main house has 3 Bedrooms, 2 Bathrooms, C/A &amp; C/H, tile roof, ceramic tile throughout, open floor plan, guest quarters has living room, bedroom, full bath with dual sinks, washer and dryer hook-ups and small kitchen area.</p> <p>(562) 927-2626 century21myrealestate.com</p>



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- Need out?
- Bankruptcy?

Call today for a private consultation!

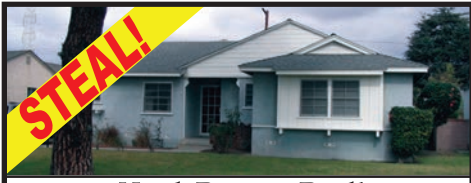


**Subject To Bank Approval!**

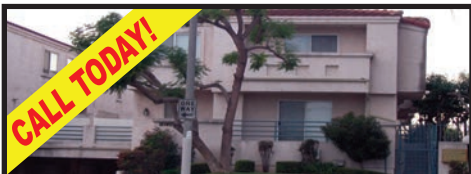
3 BD, 2 BA home in a nice area that needs work. Priced below market value. Call Roger Beltran today, or visit www.RogerBeltran.com  
See Other Inventory at www.RogerBeltran.com



**Marie Picarelli**  
"The Intelligent Choice"  
562-618-0033  
www.MariePicarelli.com



**North Downey Deal!**  
3 BD 1.75 BA, fireplace in living room, tree lined street, large rear yard 2 car garage, 1,300 + sq. ft.  
**Priced @ \$578,500 to \$598,500**



**Turnkey Town House!**  
2 BD, 2.5 BA Town House patio attached garage w laundry hook-ups, Low HOA dues \$150  
**Only \$405,000**



**Mario Persico**  
"Mario Moves You...24 Hours a Day!"  
562-533-7433  
www.MarioPersico.com



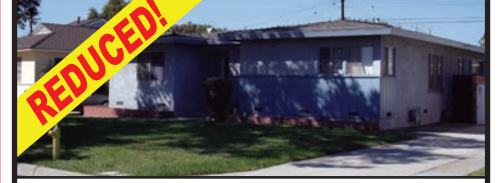
**Wow 6 Car Garage!!!**  
Unbelievable, Must see Property! 3 BD, hardwood floors, copper plumbing, newer roof, freshly painted, 7,000 Sq. Ft. lot, Must Call Mario To See! Price \$564,900  
**Call Mario Persico @ 562.533.7433**



**Back on the Market!!**  
Freshly updated home w/ 3BA, 2 BA, hardwood floors, approx. 1,450 Sq. Ft. on an almost 8,000 Sq. Ft. Lot more!! Call for details- Priced @ \$669,000  
**Call Mario Persico @ 562.533.7433**



**North Downey-Newly Updated! Reduced!**  
This super clean home features 3 BD, 2 BA, hardwood floors, newer roof, freshly painted, central air, and so much more, Move In Ready!!! \$599,950  
**Call Mario Persico @ 562.533.7433**



**Best Priced Home Per Sq. Ft. In N. Downey!**  
4 BD, 3 BA, Newer Carpet, Copper Plumbing & 2,111 Sq. Ft. Just Reduced to \$684,950. Send all offers!  
**Call Mario Persico @ 562.533.7433**

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



**Carrie Uva**  
"Let's Talk Real Estate...and Law, Too!"  
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**Downey Duplex**  
2 units featuring 1 unit w/ 2 BD, 2 BA, laundry room, & living room. Other unit w/ 1 BD, 1 BA, living room, 2 car garage, Live in one, rent the other. Price \$699,900  
**Call Carrie Uva Today @ 562.382.1252**



**Near Stonewood Mall!**  
Charming 3 BD, 1 BA home with living room, Dining room, hardwood floors & 2 car garage, Priced @ \$549,900  
**Call Carrie Uva Today @ 562.382.1252**



**North Downey Home**  
Lovely 3 BD, 2 BA home in nice Neighborhood with 8,494 sq. ft. lot  
Priced @ \$664,900  
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**Fixer Upper!**  
Large lot 11,891 Sq. Ft. in Bell Gardens w/ 4 Units. Office exclusive listing Price @: \$499,900  
**Call Carrie Uva Today @ 562.382.1252**

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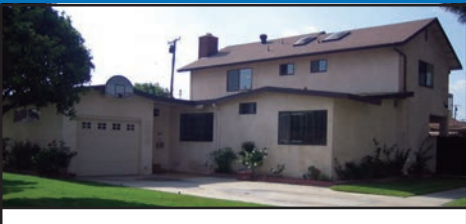
**Michael Berdelis**  
"The 24 Hour Agent!"  
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89 Homes

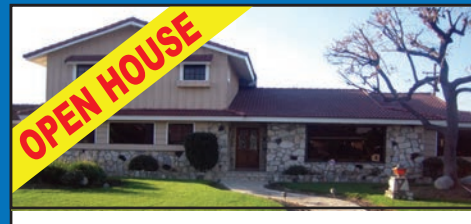
SOLD in 2006!

Chairman Circle  
Award Winner  
2000-2006!

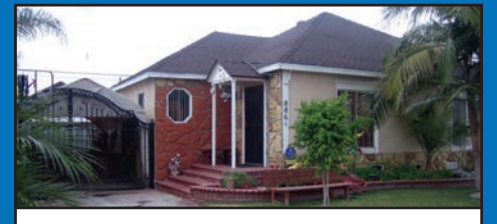
**FREE Market Evaluation!**



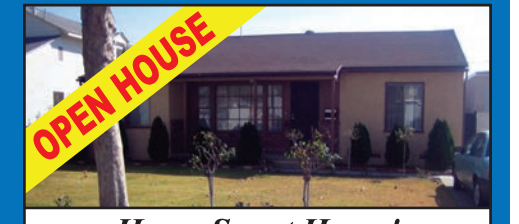
**Pool Home Near Stonewood Mall**  
4 BD (2 up & 2 down), 2 BA, Open Floor Plan.  
Price: \$749,900  
Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com



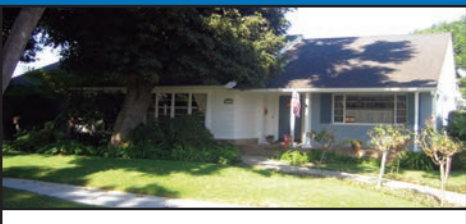
**A-1 Neighborhood**  
6 BD, 3.5 BA, 4 Car Garage, master suite, on a 10,690 sq. ft. lot.  
Price: \$1,299,000  
Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com



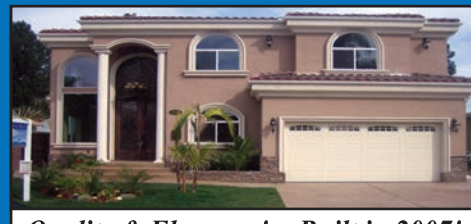
**Honey, Stop the Car!**  
3 bed, 2 bath Downey home w/ guest house, granite kitchen, copper plumbing.  
Price: \$579,950  
Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com



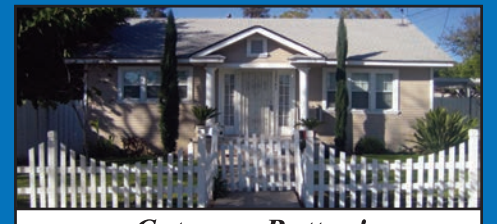
**Home Sweet Home!**  
3BD+bonus room, 1.75 BA, inside laundry room, Extra long 2 car garage, on a 6728 sq. ft. lot  
Price: \$649,900  
Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com



**Charming Home near Furman Park!**  
4 BD, 3 BA, 2500 sq. ft. With guest house, in Orange Estates!  
Priced to SELL at: \$859,950  
Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com



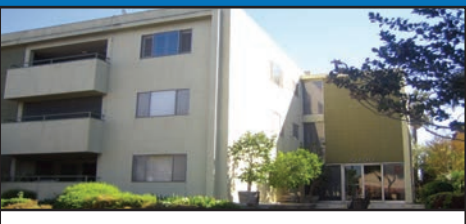
**Quality & Elegance! - Built in 2007!**  
5 BD, (4 up & 1 down) 4.5 BA newly Constructed home w/ Lg. master BA, marble floors, granite kitchen & 2 car garage.  
Price: \$1,349,900  
Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com



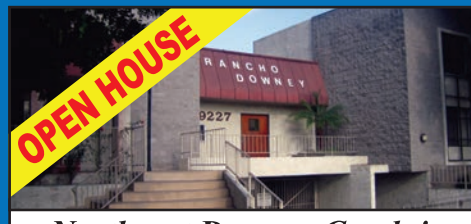
**Cute as a Button!**  
Clean 3 BD, 1 BD home with detached garage, large driveway, patio, and nice yard.  
Price \$449,950  
Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com



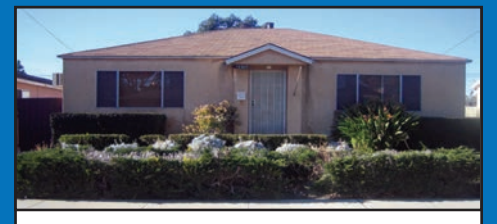
**A Smart Buy!**  
3 bed, 2 bath Norwalk home (on Downey border) with family room & larger master bedroom with fireplace.  
Price: \$549,950  
Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com



**Remodeled North Downey Condo!**  
Large bedroom, spacious living room, Remodeled Kitchen & Bathroom,  
Price to SELL: \$320,000  
Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com



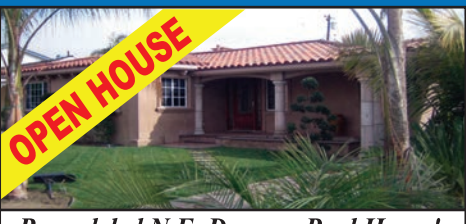
**Northeast Downey Condo!**  
2 BD, 2 BA townhouse-style condo w/remodeled bath, newer paint & carpet, & underground parking.  
NOW @ \$409,950  
Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com



**Won't Last Long!**  
3 Bed, 1 bath home in Downey w/large yard and two car Garage.  
Price to sell @ \$39,950  
Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com



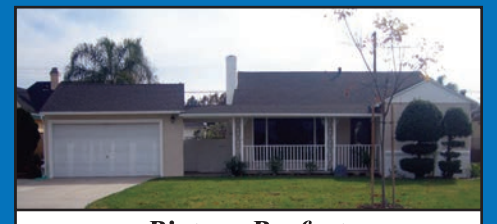
**Tuscan Beauty!**  
6 bed, 4.5 bath, over 5600 sq ft, 14600 sq ft lot, built in 2002.  
Price: \$2,099,000  
Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com



**Remodeled N.E. Downey Pool Home!**  
3 bedrooms + guest house, 3 baths, pool, 2 car detached garage, remodeled kitchen & baths w/ travertine and granite.  
Price: \$899,950  
Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com



**Remodeled Like New - 2006**  
4 bed, 3 bath, travertine floors, granite countertops in kitchen & baths, huge master suite, over 2900 sq ft living space.  
Price: \$1,049,950  
Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com



**Picture Perfect**  
3 bedrooms + bonus room, 2 bathrooms, remodeled kitchen & baths, great landscaping.  
Price: \$795,000  
Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com



**Dive Right In!**  
3 BD, 1.75 BA, living room w/ fireplace, 2 family rooms & large pool.  
Priced to sell \$699,950  
Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com

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