



The Downey Patriot

Celebrating Breast Cancer Awareness Month



Fundraising pro joins DRMC
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Young women empowered
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Friday, October 12, 2007

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

Breast cancer survivors offer stories of hope

By BROOKE KARLI, STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY — Women, regardless of their circumstances, are to always be celebrated.

They are, after all, our mothers, daughters, sisters and friends.

And for over two million women in the U.S., they are also breast cancer survivors.

Like many women, Mary Anne Iriarte was a healthy 48-year-old, who exercised regularly, had a healthy diet and received routine mammograms, when she was diagnosed with breast cancer.

That was 11 years ago, and since then, she has lived cancer free.

Mary Anne's story is one of many who have overcome a disease that claims the lives of thousands each year.

According to the Y-ME National Breast Cancer Organization, breast cancer is the third most common cancer in the U.S. — after lung cancer and colon cancer — and is expected to take the lives of 40,910 men and women in the U.S. in 2007 (less than one percent of all breast cancers occur in men). In addition, women in the U.S. have a 1 in 8 lifetime chance of developing invasive breast cancer and 1 in 33 chance of breast cancer causing their death.

But if you ask anyone who has survived breast cancer, they will tell you that those statistics are merely numbers — surviving breast cancer is more common now than ever before.

"You automatically think you're going to die when you're told you have breast cancer," said Mary Anne. "But there is always light at the end of the tunnel and that's what we all hope for."

In talking to breast cancer survivors, they all said the most difficult part of their battle was understanding their diagnosis.

"You get bombarded with information and testing when you are going through the initial diagnostic stage," said 50-year-old Lorna Majorf, a breast cancer survivor for almost two years. "The best thing to do is inform yourself and ask your doctor questions."

In a nutshell, breast cancer is a malignant and invasive growth or tumor in the glandular breast tissue. Ninety percent of breast cancers are due to genetic abnormalities that happen as a result of the aging process and life in general.

"Just think about the many things that might cause the wear and tear that leads to abnormal cell growth — pollutants, hormones, pesticides, smoking, alcohol use, obesity and stress," said Marisa Weiss, M.D., breast radiation oncologist at Lankenau Hospital in Philadelphia, Penn., according to www.breastcancer.org. "Or maybe your cells just made a mistake one day when they were making new genes to pass on to their baby cells."

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Blood drive Wednesday at Downey High

DOWNEY — Downey High School's ASB is hosting their annual fall blood drive this Wednesday from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. All adults arriving to donate will get priority.

Donors must be at least 17 years old and weigh at least 110 pounds. The community is invited to contribute.

Town hall meeting at Community Center

DOWNEY — Councilman Mario Guerra will host a town hall meeting this Wednesday from 7 to 8 p.m. at the Barbara J. Riley Community & Senior Center.

Guerra said he will provide information on what is currently taking place in the City of Downey as well as what is on the horizon.

"These are exciting times for Downey and our citizens should know what we are doing and what our future holds," Guerra said.

Citizens from all districts are invited to attend.



Downey firefighter Sergio Zavala shared his enthusiasm for books with 75 children and parents at the Downey City Library's storytime event on Tuesday. Zavala read some of his favorite books, "Curious George and the Fire Fighters" by Margaret and H.A. Rey and "Fireman Small" by Wong Herbert Yee. Assisted by firefighter Matt Coomes, the children also got a close-up view of a city fire engine. Given during National Fire Prevention Week, the program helped children learn about fire safety. Photo courtesy Jan Palen

Tenant avoids jail time by accepting plea.

By ERIC PIERCE, CITY EDITOR

DOWNEY — At least one chapter of the Johnie's Broiler saga is finally complete.

Ardas Yanik, the man prosecutors say illegally bulldozed landmark diner Johnie's Broiler last January to the chagrin of residents and historical preservationists throughout Southern California, agreed to a plea deal Tuesday, avoiding a jury trial and the possibility — however minute — of jail time.

Under the agreement, Yanik pleaded no contest in Downey Municipal Court to three misdemeanor charges stemming from the Jan. 7 afternoon bulldozing.

He was sentenced to three years probation, levied a \$2,500 fine and ordered to complete 15 days of work with Caltrans.

He will also reimburse the city for costs it incurred as a result of the demolition (not including legal fees), money that could reach \$10,000, according to city prosecutor James Eckart.

"Finally the truth came to the surface," property owner Christos Smyrniotis told *The Downey Patriot*.

Yanik, dressed in a blue polo shirt, blue jeans and sneakers, was accompanied by his lawyer as Superior Court Judge Ross Klein handed down the sentence.

Yanik pleaded no contest to performing a demolition without a permit, performing a demolition in the presence of live electrical wires, and illegal dumping.

The city, in exchange for the plea, dropped two additional misdemeanor counts.

Eckart — citing the lack of felony charges accompanying the case — said Yanik probably would not have received jail time even if he had been found guilty by a jury.

Yanik was leasing the property from Smyrniotis, and then subleasing it to a used car dealership. Yanik was charged with the demolition in March.

Student rides off with a sweet reward

By ERIC PIERCE, CITY EDITOR

DOWNEY — Bryan Race received a pleasant (and pricy) surprise Wednesday when officials from Downey High School and the Downey Police Officers Association presented the 12th grader with a shiny new mountain bike, a gift to replace Bryan's original bicycle which was stolen as he volunteered to clean his campus last week.

Bryan, an honor student and member of the school's Eco Club, had volunteered to spruce up the campus last Thursday in preparation of Parents Night. He properly locked his bike in the designated bike rack at the north end of the campus, but when he returned later that afternoon, it was gone.

"I wasn't even going to report it [stolen], I just figured it was gone," said Bryan, a tall and lanky teenager. "But then my dad asked me where my bike was so I had to tell him."

When school officials caught wind of the theft, they wanted to help. Vice Principal John Haynes called the Downey Police Department and asked if they had any discarded bikes in their evidence room.

They didn't have any spare bicycles, said Detective Steve Auchobon, but they still wanted to help. Auchobon passed word to the Downey Police Officers Association, which decided to buy Bryan a new bicycle.

"From what the school was telling us, he's just a really great kid," Auchobon said. "This isn't something we normally do, but this is a special case."

Staff at Downey High School also chipped in, agreeing to pay for half of the bicycle. And Ramiro Nieves, manager of Russell's Bicycles in Downey, volunteered to sell them a brand new bicycle at cost. They even gave Bryan free lifetime service on the bike.

Bryan said he was grateful — and pleasantly surprised — by the gesture. "I figured I would be walking home the rest of the year," Bryan said as he admired his shiny new mountain bike. "Now I don't have to."

Yanik cops plea, gets probation



Most of Johnie's Broiler was illegally bulldozed last January on the order of tenant Ardas Yanik, prosecutors allege. Yanik accepted a plea deal Tuesday and was sentenced to three years probation, community service and fined \$2,500. Photo courtesy Carol Holliday

Even with the sentence, it still remained unclear what will become of the Johnie's Broiler property, a popular car-hop diner in the 1950's and 60's featured in several Hollywood movies. The City Council placed a 10-month moratorium on the lot in February; when that expires in November, the Council has the option of extending it one more year, Eckart said.

Any development plans would have to be approved by the city, Eckart said.

Meanwhile, 10 months after the demolition, the Johnie's Broiler property remains a pile of unsightly rubble: the windows have been broken out, taggers climbed high to splay graffiti across the famous "Johnie's" signage, scavengers have tried stripping valuable copper from the concrete wreckage, and city officials said the ruins were home to a rodent infestation.

But no one seems to know who will clean up the mess and, perhaps more importantly, when.

Smyrniotis said he has no plans to clear the debris, pinning the responsibility on Yanik, and adding that city officials have yet to ask him to clean up the property.

"Why didn't [the court] somehow put their foot down and say, 'Mister, clean up the mess,?'" Smyrniotis said of the court's sentencing of Yanik. "Why didn't the prosecutor, or whoever's in charge there, make him clean it up? He's

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Downey High School senior Bryan Race, center, received a new mountain bike this week after his old bicycle was stolen as he voluntarily cleaned up his school's campus for Parents Night. The gift was made possible by the Downey Police Officers Association, Downey High School staff, and Russell's Bicycles. Left to right: Detectives Paul Hernandez and Chris Hansen, Bryan, Detective Steve Auchobon, and Vice Principal John Haynes. Photo by Art Montoya

Last of guest conductors opening concert season

■ Clyde Mitchell will lead the Downey Symphony in concert Oct. 27 at Downey Theatre.

By JOYCE SHERWIN, DOWNEY SYMPHONY

DOWNEY – The first concert of the season by the Downey Symphony, on Saturday, Oct. 27, is one of the year-long series of events recognizing the orchestra's 50th year in our community, and the evening promises to be of exceptional interest.

Guest conductor Clyde Mitchell will lead the orchestra in a program of works by Dvorak and Mozart, and the featured soloist is Sarah Jackson, principal piccolo of the Los Angeles Philharmonic, playing Lowell Liebermann's 1996 Concerto for Piccolo. Opening the concert is a special tribute, "Fanfare for Downey," composed for the occasion by Mitchell in honor of the Symphony's Golden Jubilee Anniversary.

The performance takes place in Downey's Civic Theatre, located at 8425 Firestone Blvd., at Brookshire Avenue. Mitchell will present a pre-concert discussion of the music to be heard at 7:15 p.m., with an 8 p.m. performance time.

Reserved seat tickets to this concert are \$20 and \$25, students \$10, and may be purchased by phoning the Symphony office, (562) 403-2944, or in person at the theater box office on Wednesday, Oct. 24, between noon and 4 p.m., or before curtain time on Saturday, the 27th.

A search for the orchestra's permanent conductor, to succeed the late Thomas Osborn, will conclude after this appearance by Mitchell, who is one of six candidates being considered for the position. Again, audience members are invited to participate in the selection process by noting their comments in the search committee's poll. Ballots will be available in the theater lobby.

This is a golden opportunity to honor the orchestra's golden anniversary, and to support its future in the cultural life of Downey and our neighboring communities. You will be warmly welcomed at the door and throughout a wonderful evening.

Community invited to eat with guest conductor

By ROSALIE SCIORTINO, DOWNEY SYMPHONY GUILD

DOWNEY – It is a lovingly prepared Greek luncheon, made with care by the Greek Orthodox Ladies Philoptochos Society. It is a salon where, in a relaxed fashion, we will meet with Clyde Mitchell, our guest conductor of the Downey Symphony Orchestra, it is a rare opportunity to tour St. George's Greek Orthodox Church, to view the beautiful new paintings inside the dome and even perhaps to win a prize.

All this being presented to the community by the Downey Symphony Guild on Oct. 20 at 11 a.m. at St. George's Greek Orthodox Church, 10846 Downey Ave.

Pauline Hume, program vice-president and former president of the Symphony Guild, has selected this venue to engage the community in a social atmosphere while aiding the Guild's aim to benefit "Music in the Schools" and the Downey Symphony Orchestra.

The community is cordially invited to this event with a reservation of \$25 per person, \$10 of which is tax deductible, mailed to Downey Symphony Guild, 9700 Garnish Dr., Downey, CA, 90240.

Third graders being treated to concert

DOWNEY – All third graders in the Downey Unified School District will be treated to a performance by the Downey Symphony Orchestra at the Downey Theatre on Oct. 24.

Downey Savings Bank will donate money to the Downey Symphonic Society's "Music in the Schools" program to make the concert possible.

As part of the concert, the orchestra will explain musical terms and concepts before students listen to the pieces of music. Teachers will prepare students for the performance using study materials provided by the Symphonic Society.



Over 400 pastors hosted a gala dinner Oct. 1 for L.A. County Sheriff Lee Baca and other top law enforcement officials at the site of future church Llamada Final at 12145 Woodruff Ave. in Downey. The dinner was organized by Alianza Ministerial Hispana in celebration of its one-year anniversary and featured officials from the Sheriff's Department, LAPD and Pasadena Police Department (the Downey Police Department declined to attend, church officials said). Delegates from the American Jewish Committee were also in attendance.



Geneve Villacres (center, pictured with Karina Madariaga and Sue Potter, vice president and president of Soroptimist International of Downey), District Representative of Senator Alan Lowenthal, recently spoke to Soroptimist International of Downey regarding the upcoming Young Women's Empowerment Day Conference, which will be held tomorrow at California State University, Long Beach. Numerous workshops will be presented, with topics ranging from "Setting Career Goals" to "Becoming A Leader." For information, call Villacres at (562) 940-6659.

E-waste collection at Stonewood

DOWNEY – Stonewood Center will be collecting electronic waste today and tomorrow from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the parking lot behind Sears. The collection is a free service to Downey residents and businesses that want to properly dispose of unwanted electronic products.

Electronic waste includes computer monitors, televisions, PC systems, printers, home entertainment systems, copiers and fax machines, in working condition or not.

For more information on the event, call Lisa Galvan, Marketing Manager, at (562) 861-9233.

Mayor's Prayer Breakfast Nov. 8

DOWNEY – The 22nd annual Downey Mayor's Prayer Breakfast will be on Nov. 8 at 7 a.m. at the Rio Hondo Event Center.

The event's keynote speaker will be Bill Morrow, who is a former California State Assemblyman and Senator.

The Downey Mayor's Prayer Breakfast is the local community version of the National Prayer Breakfast held annually in Washington D.C., which was inaugurated in 1952 by spiritual leadership groups in the U.S. Senate and the House of Representatives as a time for rededication of the individual and the nation.

Tickets are \$15 per person, or \$150 for a table of 10. Checks can be made payable and sent to Mayor's Prayer Breakfast, P.O. Box 279, Downey, CA, 90241.

For information, call George Cade at (562) 923-9616.

Donations needed for outreach dinner

DOWNEY – The Breath of God Christian Fellowship, in partnership with the Aggressive Community Training and Services Foundation (A.C.T.S.), will host the 16th Annual Thanksgiving Outreach Dinner for men and women of local shelters on Nov. 16, followed by the Annual Food Basket Project Nov. 19.

The Outreach Dinner will be held at the Barbara J. Riley Community & Senior Center and volunteers are needed to help set-up, decorate, and prepare and serve hot meals. Food donations are also needed for the 100-plus food baskets that will be prepared and distributed throughout Downey schools.

If interested in volunteering or donating, call (310) 767-9620, or send monetary donations to Breath of God, P.O. Box 39903, Downey, CA, 90239.

Adult Education this Sunday

DOWNEY – Adult Education classes at Temple Ner Tamid of Downey will be held on Oct. 14, 21 and 28, and Nov. 4, at 10 a.m.

Rabbi Len Muroff and Cantor Ellen Jaffe-Gill will be teaching the classes, which will focus on "Introduction to G-D" and "What does it mean to be a Jew?"

They will discuss a variety of Jewish understandings of G-D. Some of the essays in the book, "I am a Jew," which is a reflection on the last words of Daniel Pearl, will also be read.

The community is invited to attend and registration is required.

For information, call the Temple office at (562) 861-9276, or email templeneramid1@juno.com.

Temple European fundraising dinner

DOWNEY – Temple Ner Tamid of Downey is continuing a series of international fundraising dinners with an Eastern European style dinner next Friday at 6 p.m. at the Temple, 10629 Lakewood Blvd.

Donation is \$12.50 for the homemade brisket dinner and reservations are required. The community is welcome.

For more information or reservations, call (562) 861-9276.

Learn to create letters and flyers

DOWNEY – "Beginning Microsoft Word," a free class to teach adults how to quickly compose a simple letter or create a flyer using a home computer, will be offered by the Downey City Library on Oct. 17 from 10:30 a.m. to noon in the computer lab.

Students will learn how to create, select and modify text, as well as how to edit and save documents.

"This class is ideal for the beginning user," said instructor Claudia Dailey. "Our computer classes offer students time to practice and ask questions as they learn."

The same class will be offered again on Nov. 17. For information, call the Adult Desk at (562) 904-7360, ext. 3.

Chamber plans 'Anniversary Mixer'

DOWNEY – The Downey Chamber of Commerce will host an "Anniversary Mixer" Oct. 25 at the Embassy Suites.

The mixer will start at 5:30 p.m. and feature refreshments, live entertainment and raffle prizes. Admission is free.

For more information, call the Chamber at (562) 923-2191.

Downey Family YMCA

59th Annual Rotary/YMCA Pancake Breakfast

at

Downey High School
Corner of Firestone Blvd & Brookshire

Saturday, October 13, 2007

Serving from 7:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Donation: \$5.00 per ticket
Tickets can be purchased at the Downey Family YMCA

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JOHNIE'S

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the one who demolished the building."

Smyrniotis has filed an unlawful detainer lawsuit against Yanik to reclaim the property, claiming he was reneging on the 99-year lease signed in August of 2006 by failing to make a payment since the demolition.

That case is scheduled to be heard Monday at Downey Municipal Court.

Depending on its outcome, the city will know who to direct to clear the destruction, said Mayor Pro Tem David Gafin.

The outcome of Monday's civil case may also have bearing on what ultimately becomes of the Johnnie's Broiler property, and whether Yanik or Smyrniotis choose to redevelop or restore the diner.

"If I take control of the property, I will hire an architect to restore, demolish or see what we can do to make (the property) productive," Smyrniotis said. "I'm not an expert, we might have to demolish it, I don't know. But nothing is impossible, all it takes is money. Money and will."

Selling the property – known as "Harvey's Broiler" before it was sold by Harvey and Minnie Ortnor to Smyrniotis in 1966 – remains another alternative. A coalition group named Save Harvey's Broiler is planning a rally this Sunday in the hopes of raising enough money "to buy back Harvey's, restore it, and re-open it in its 1958 condition for future generations to enjoy," according to the group's website.

Smyrniotis said he previously offered to sell the property to the Los Angeles Conservancy (a claim the Conservancy denies), but was told they lacked the funds to purchase it.

"This is America. If you want to buy a house, if you want to buy a ticket to the moon, you pay with money," Smyrniotis said. "One dollar, \$10, \$1 million, you pay. But how can you buy if you have no money?"

"If you want Johnnie's Broiler, you can buy it. But you need to have the money."

In the meantime, Smyrniotis said the entire ordeal has gone on long enough, and it's time for a resolution.

"I'm in limbo," Smyrniotis, now retired, said. "I have nothing to hide...I'm looking for peace."

More on the Web: www.saveharveysbroiler.com

Residents warned against so-called 'bunco scams'

■ Police say scam artists are targeting elderly and those looking to "get rich quick."

DOWNEY – Downey residents are being warned to protect themselves against a recent rise in "bunco scams," schemes that often target the elderly or individuals who put their confidence in get-rich-quick schemes.

"Bunco scams" are usually executed with two people; a common scheme involves one person approaching the victim claiming to possess a winning lottery ticket but for some reason cannot cash it, said Sgt. Leslie Murray with the Downey Police Department. While the first thief is explaining why he needs the victim's help, a second thief approaches claiming to have overheard the conversation.

The two thieves convince the victim to put up "good faith money," offering to accompany the victim to their home or bank, Murray said. Once the victim puts up the money, the thieves find a way to disappear, sometimes feigning illness and sending the suspect into a store to buy medicine.

When the victim returns, the thieves are gone.

"Bunco scams" can vary in their execution, but most promise lucrative payouts, said Murray.

"Use caution when dealing with strangers and be suspicious of strangers offering to share found money or lottery winnings with you," said Murray. "Bunco scam artists are persuasive and persistent. They are well-trained and have managed to take away valuable assets and, in some cases, life savings.

"Remember, if something sounds too good to be true, it probably is."

If you think you have been a victim of a "bunco scam," call Detective Jeff Hill at (562) 904-2335 or Detective Ron Gee at (562) 904-2331.

TLC lunch fundraiser next Friday

DOWNEY – The True Lasting Connections Family Resource Center staff will present their annual fundraising luncheon next Friday, Oct. 19, at the Rio Hondo Event Center. The community is invited.

True Lasting Connections offers services to families and children in need, including state health insurance enrollments for low-income families, free vision care, counseling services, parents education, family support and Kaiser Permanente-sponsored health clinics.

The lunch will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. The cost is \$28. All financial contributions are welcomed and tax deductible.

For more information or to reserve a table, call (562) 904-3577.



Police confiscated approximately 3,300 pounds of marijuana inside a Downey home last Monday. The pot had an estimated street value of \$7 million, detectives said. Five people were arrested. Photo courtesy Sgt. Jeff Calhoun, Downey Police Department

Five arrested in \$7 million marijuana bust

BY ERIC PIERCE, CITY EDITOR

DOWNEY – Downey police and agents with the Drug Enforcement Agency arrested five suspects and confiscated approximately 3,300 pounds of marijuana after performing surveillance of a Downey home last Monday.

The marijuana had an estimated street value of \$7 million, police said. Detectives said they also recovered two handguns and an unspecified amount of cash.

One suspect, 39-year-old Jermaine Wilson, of Los Angeles, was arrested as he drove away from the house, located at 13119 Adenmoore Ave.,

police said. A search of his vehicle reportedly revealed over 100 pounds of marijuana stored in plastic bags.

Also arrested were Ian Noble, 38, of Brooklyn, New York; Sergio Sandoval, 34, of Downey; Rodolfo Salazar, 28, of Huntington Park; and Joseph Saucedo, 24, of Fontana.

All were arrested on suspicion of selling drugs, police said. Salazar, police said, was in possession "of a large amount of cash."

The suspects were booked at the Downey Police Department where they were awaiting arraignment on federal charges.

DRMC announces new vice president

DOWNEY – Greg Bonn, former president of the Methodist Hospital Foundation in Arcadia where he reportedly spearheaded a \$10 million capital campaign for a replacement patient tower, has been named Executive Vice President, Fund Development, at Downey Regional Medical Center, hospital CEO Ken Strople announced Monday.

In addition to his position with the Methodist Hospital Foundation, Bonn also served as president of Santa Marta Hospital Foundation in East Los Angeles prior to joining DRMC.

He began his career in fund development at White Memorial Medical Center in Los Angeles, DRMC said in a news release.

Bonn ran his own consulting firm, Bonn Management Services, for several years, working with a number of nonprofit organizations throughout California.

According to DRMC, Bonn has more than 20 years experience in fund development, marketing and management. His work with Methodist Hospital Foundation netted \$30 million in total philanthropic revenue.

Bonn has been a member of the Association for Healthcare Philanthropy (AHP), Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP) and the Southern California Association for Healthcare Development (SCAHD) since 1983, according to his bio, including stints as president of SCAHD and regional director for AHP.

"We are honored to welcome Greg to our team," said Strople. "His leadership experience in fund development will be invaluable to Downey Regional Medical Center as we partner with the community to raise funds for a variety of projects, such as new and improved medical equipment, providing funds for nursing scholarships, or providing the capital needed to renovate or expand our facilities.

"These improvements will, in turn, benefit the 100,000 patients we see during the average year."



Greg Bonn has been named Executive Vice President, Fund Development, at Downey Regional Medical Center.

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CENTURY 21 MY REAL ESTATE COMPANY PAYS TRIBUTE

Century 21 Spotlights - Thanks To The Blood Donors

CENTURY 21 My Real Estate and the American Red Cross extend a HARDY THANKS to the Century 21 My Real Estate Team and the Community for it's response to the call for blood. Pictured are a few of the many donors that helped to make the event a success. The blood drive on September 11, 2007 produced 34 pints in 6 hours (non stop) which is an outstanding achievement. Steve Roberson owner/broker said "Teamed together with additional help from within the community we can make an outstanding donation of life to those who need it so desperately. The is an exceptional gift to benefit others."

DOWNEY'S BEHIND THE SCENE SUPERSTARS

Old DiLoreto property sees zoning change

BY HENRY VENERACION, STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY—The City Council Tuesday introduced an ordinance approving changing the zoning of the property owned by the DiLoreto Family Trust located at 8603 Imperial Highway from C-P (Professional Office) to R-3-0 (Medium Density Multiple-Family Residential Ownership). The change reflects an amendment to the city's comprehensive zoning map, and is consistent with the city's General Plan.

The subject property, located in the southern part of the community, has remained vacant for several years, although attempts have been made to develop it, all of them unsuccessful, because of inconsistencies in its various, and self-defeating, building requirements based on its heretofore C-P zoning.

In approving the zoning change, the Council endorsed it as in keeping with the spirit of the relevant city ordinance, which is envisioned as "complementary to adjacent uses and provid(ing) sufficient opportunities for those who prefer and/or need medium density multiple-family housing of [the] ownership type."

Examples of such housing types include fee ownership projects such as condominiums and townhouses.

In other action the Council:

- Renewed the agreement with S & S Labarge Golf Inc. for golf professional manager services at Rio Hondo Golf Course (RHGC), and recognizes Stephen G. LaBarge's success at operating RHGC;

- Approved the plans and specifications submitted by KFM Engineering, Inc. and granted authority to advertise for bids for the Old River School Road Pedestrian Improvements Project;

- Approved the plans and specifications and granted authority to advertise for bids for the Paramount Blvd. Fiber Optic Communication System;

- Approved a sole source acquisition from Systems Management PC and LAN Solutions, Inc. for the Police Department network digital video recording equipment and installation, to replace the aged system;

- Awarded a contract in the amount of \$160,500 with Environmental Assessment and Remediation Management Inc. for the Vapor Extraction System Project located at 9255 Imperial Highway (formerly Spartan Lacquer) and appropriated \$60,000 in additional gas tax funds, in connection with the construction of Congressman Steve Horn Way;

- Adopted a resolution upholding an appeal thereby overturning the Planning Commission's denial of Zone Variance No. 07-84, and approved a request to deviate from the maximum allowable amount a detached accessory structure can encroach into the required rear yard setback, for property located at 13108 Cornuta Ave.;

- Introduced an ordinance of the City Council for the city of Downey: amending Section 3186 of the Downey Municipal Code relating to the speed limits (unchanged, at 25 mph) for Third Street;

- Formed a subcommittee to evaluate the increased patient treatment/transport situation affecting the Downey Regional Medical Center and Fire Department Emergency Medical Service practices was formed, in view of the recent closure of Martin Luther King Jr-Harbor Hospital, comprised of Councilmembers Anne Bayer and Mario Guerra;

- Directed staff to hire a landscape architect to prepare a security lighting improvement plan for Treasure Island Park and appropriated \$25,000 from the General Fund for the purpose;

The next regular public meeting of the City Council will be on 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 23 at City Hall, 11111 Brookshire Ave., Downey.



Danielle Murray of Downey was recently awarded a \$500 scholarship from Gangs Out of Downey and a \$2,000 scholarship from the Mary Stauffer Foundation. She is currently attending Cerritos College.



Action Faith Ministries will host a Homebuyers Seminar on Nov. 3 at 10 a.m. Jennifer Herrera and Helena Palacios of Century 21 A Better Service Realty will be sharing the "Ten Things You Must Know Before You Buy a House." The seminar is free, open to the public and will be held inside the Action Faith Ministries main sanctuary at 10839 La Reina Ave. For more information, call (562) 372-7744.

The Poets' Corner

identity thief discovered in family photo, a villanelle about villains

the shocking fact is that family photos reveal
violinator and victim arm in arm side by side
identity theft has become a home-grown ordeal

the cousin avoiding arrest needs a cover to hide
a teen-ager forging i.d.'s wants drugs for a high
the trusted friend buys a trip neighbor's savings-supplied

a young mother desperate estranged on the fly
steals the social security number from her new-born child
that half-orphan's credit is blemished a life-long black eye

each wounded person is loathe to believe someone smiled
and then robbed them reluctant to tell police
that a relative close all their life had them beguiled

this memory book a protected and long-treasured piece
the first thing one would save in a fire now has lost its appeal
how repulsive the face of beloved grandson or niece

the shocking fact that family photos reveal
identity theft has become a home-grown ordeal

--Lorine Parks,
Downey

AI

I had a friend named AI
He was a special pal

He is now up in Heaven
With the rest of the brethren

He died in October
To me he was like a father

He is now with the Deliverer
And someday I hope to be there!

--Don Davis,
Downey

Johnie's Broiler cruise Sunday

DOWNEY – A "Holy Ghost Cruise" to "help rebuild Harvey's Broiler" is planned for Sunday. Cruisers will depart Bob's Big Boy in Burbank at 9:30 a.m., making their way to Johnie's Broiler in Downey.

The event is being coordinated by the Coalition to Save the Broiler. Bob's Big Boy is located at 4211 Riverside Dr. in Burbank. For more information, visit www.saveharveysbroiler.com.

Students visit Knott's Scary Farm

DOWNEY – The City of Downey Community Services Department has scheduled a Knott's Scary Farm trip for middle school students for tonight, from 6 p.m. to 1 a.m.

Check-in is at 5:30 p.m. at the City Hall flag pole. Those invited to attend must be in sixth to eighth grades attending a Downey school.

Cost is \$40 per person and no costumes are permitted. For information, call (562) 904-7238.

The Alley Cats featured at fundraiser

DOWNEY – The Southern California Rehabilitation Services (SCRS) will be featuring The Alley Cats at their "Rockin' & Rollin' Back to the 50's" fundraiser today at the Cerritos Park East Community Center.

The Alley Cats are a mixture of musical talent and comic timing. Their interaction with audiences, combined with their spontaneous humor, makes each show refreshing and exciting, organizers said. Tight harmonies, universal humor, and a cappella energy have made The Alley Cats "America's Premiere Doo-Wop Group."

The event will also include a buffet dinner, awards ceremony, and silent auction. All proceeds will benefit the programs and services of SCRS.

Tickets are \$50 per person or \$350 for a table of eight and are tax deductible. Checks can be made payable to SCRS and mailed to 7830 Quill Dr., Downey, CA, 90242.

For information, or to purchase tickets over the phone, call (562) 862-6531.



Free Electronic Waste [E-Waste] Collection Event

Help our City get rid of E-Waste the right way by diverting it from the landfills to a proper recycling process!

- Electronic discards are one the fastest growing segments of our nation's waste stream.
- 56% of American households have functional e-products that they will no longer use.
- Less than 10% of e-waste is currently being properly dismantled or recycled.
- 70% of heavy metals, 40% of lead & mercury contents found in today's landfills come from e-waste.

E-Waste Collection Event
Friday & Saturday Oct 12 & 13, 2007
9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Stonewood Center
(Behind Sears in Parking Lot)
251 Stonewood Street, Downey, CA 90241

For more information on the e-waste collection event, please feel free contact us at (562) 861-9233 or go to www.shopstonewoodcenter.com

What is "E-waste"?
E-Waste is defined as any consumer electronic equipment that has reached its 'end-of-life' or 'end-of-usage'; whether in full- or non-working condition. Most electronics or electronic equipment with a cord or circuit board such as:
Computer Monitors, Television sets, Printers, PC Systems, Laptops, Copiers, Scanners, Fax Machines, Toner Cartridges, UPS & PDAs, Tower Supplies, Main Frame Units, Networking Equipment, Mother Board Systems, VCR/VCD/DVD Players, Home Entertainment Systems, Landline and Cellular Phones, & Small Portable Devices.
We also accept car batteries.

ARC also provides a door-to-door pick up service for a minimal fee; please feel free to contact us for further details at Toll Free: 877.2.E.WASTE / 877.239.2783

ProNetworkers of Downey
Join us each Friday at 7:15am
Mimi's Cafe, Downey
8455 Firestone Blvd
www.ProNetworkers.com

Come Visit Us On Our Website at:
www.TheDowneyPatriot.com



Volunteer
Winter Cleanups

To Keep Downey Clean and Beautiful

All cleanups are from 9 a.m.-10 a.m.

Join in to clean up the sidewalks and surrounding areas.
Bags, gloves & safety vests will be provided
Meet us in the following parking lots:

October 20 @ Lakewood Blvd. & Firestone
Parking Lot - behind Carl's Junior

November 17 @ Independence Park
12334 Bellflower Blvd.

December 15 @ Los Amigos Strip Mall
The corner of Paramount & Comolette

All cleanups are sponsored by **STONEWOOD CENTER**

"Great Raffle Prizes"

Anyone under the age of 14 must be accompanied by an adult
For more information call KDB @562-904-7159

Homework Assistance
Give your child a learning advantage with QWEST Homework Assistance.
Reading, Writing and Arithmetic...and Much More!
Enroll Today - After School Help
562-861-9119
Tony Taylor
11530 Lakewood Blvd.
Downey, CA 90241
www.qwesthomework.com

COUNTRY OAK FURNITURE

- TV Stand from.....\$68.95
- Headboard from.....\$66.95
- Mattresses from.....\$79.95 each piece
- Dinette Set from.....\$146.95
- Curios from.....\$218.95
- Bookcases from.....\$69.95
- Barstools from.....\$15.95
- Coffee or End Tables from....\$29.95
- Computer desks from.....\$197.95
- 5 drawer chests from.....\$168.95
- Hutch from.....\$388.95
- Captains Bed from.....\$268.95
- Sofa sectional from.....\$488.95

and more!
8145 E. Firestone Blvd., Downey
(562) 861-9000

What's Your Problem?

By Eric Pierce

I'm a fan of people who enrich our community. I'm a fan of teachers, coaches, volunteers, firefighters and, heck, even select politicians.

And I'm a fan of police officers, although sometimes you'll run into a real jerk of a cop.

I had my bad experience with a police officer – more accurately, a Los Angeles County Sheriff's Deputy – Tuesday while I was covering the Johnie's Broiler case at Downey Municipal Court.

According to his badge, his name was Ellington. Serving as bailiff, he was antagonizing, cocky and downright rude to everybody in the courtroom, minus the staff.

It started as I was entering the division three courtroom. Ellington emerged from inside and asked me to step away.

"Can I have some room?" he asked, "you're blocking my way."
"Sure," I replied. "I'm not blocking the way. I'm just going inside."

"You're crowding me. I don't like to be crowded."

Okay, I thought to myself. He must be having a bad day.

Inside the courtroom, it didn't get any better. I was seated in the back of the room, in the last row of seats.

"What are you here for?" Ellington asked me.

I'm an observer, I replied.

"Oh God," he groaned loudly. "What case?"

Ardas Yanik, I replied.

"Oh God," he groaned again. "Are you a friend of his?"

No, I'm media.

"What newspaper?"

The Downey Patriot.

Now, all of sudden, he was nice to me. He told me the trial was delayed because Yanik's lawyer was running late. Thank you, I told him.

Apparently you have to be a staff member or member of the press to receive common courtesy.

Ellington was rude to the people in courtroom awaiting their cases. He flat-out ignored peoples' questions (a simple response of "I can't help you, please sit down" would suffice) and when he did respond, he did so with a provoking attitude.

It got to the point where people in the courtroom were snickering at how downright disrespectful the bailiff was. And really, what else could you do but laugh at a deputy so apparently jaded, a chip on his shoulder the size of Montana?

He told one person, as he was walking away mind you, "You don't know how to listen."

Couple these bad attitudes with the so-called quotas some police agencies have (namely Lakewood Sheriff's Department), and it's no wonder there exists a negative stigma against law enforcement.

There's no law against a police officer being a jerk, but a little common courtesy can go a long way.

Recent appointments signal service resolve

■ Desi Alvarez and Gilbert Livas get appointed Deputy City Managers for the city of Downey.

BY HENRY VENERACION, STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY—Anticipating increased workloads because of the ongoing monumental development projects such as the Downey Landing and the unutilized/underutilized County property at Rancho Los Amigos, a reorganization has taken place to support the City Manager, Gerald Caton, who announced two important appointments on Sept. 25.

Appointed Deputy City Manager for Special Projects was former Public Works Director Desi Alvarez, whose new duties, in broad outline, will encompass the planning, organizing, and directing the activities of the city's legislative advocacy program, and interfacing with organizations, legislators and other governments, and otherwise work on citywide projects "benefiting the city."

A professional engineer and a former professor of water engineering, Alvarez obtained his bachelor's in engineering from Loyola University and a master's in environmental engineering from UC Davis. He has served the city of Downey for several years, in the last decade as public works director.


A new face comes in the person of Gilbert Livas, who assumes the similarly newly-created position of Deputy City Manager for Community Development.

A 1988 political science graduate of UCLA, he earned his master's in public administration from CSU-Long Beach in 1995. He formerly served the city of Bell Gardens as Community Development Director a total of 13 years.

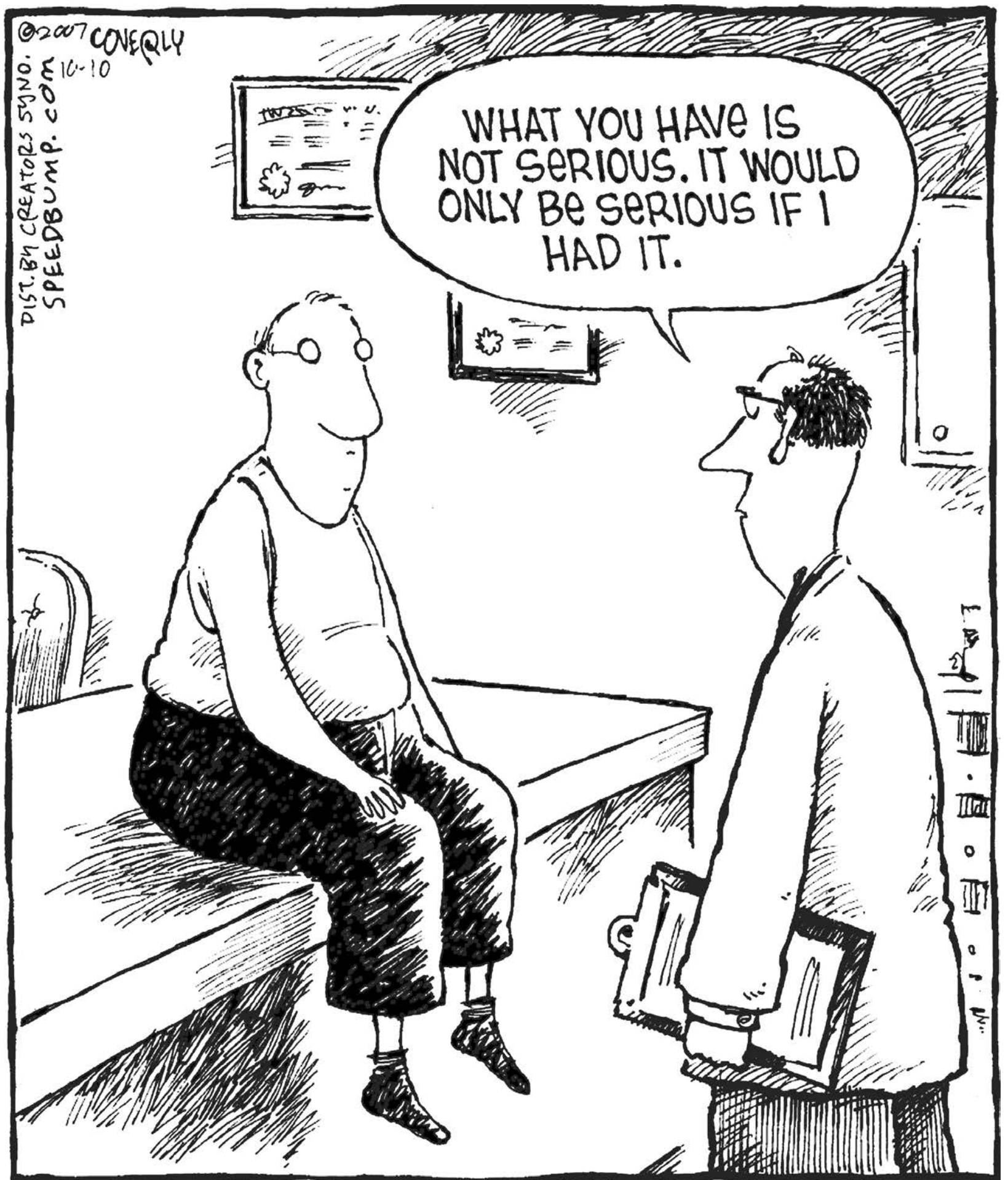
Livas, who says he is not entirely a stranger to Downey as he has family and friends residing here, will focus on stoking economic and redevelopment opportunities in the city. He says he is excited to be working here because "Downey has a fantastic reputation" and he aims to help bring about sound economic opportunities, as well as solidify its customer-oriented approach.

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. Letters may be edited for style and/or content. Letters must include a full name and address for verification.

The Downey Patriot

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Letters to the Editor:

Is new always better?

Dear Editor:

I recently have had the opportunity to visit our local Laundromats. Wow, was I enlightened! Not by the customers, but by the management.

People are people and if they are going to clean up after themselves they will do so anywhere – or not. They are naturally friendly – or not. I have visited with many pleasant people and have ignored those with scowls...you know, like life.

We live near the Laundromat at Downey Avenue and Imperial. I was sometimes perturbed that I had to wait for washers there but I have since found out why. We tried the "new" Laundromat at 9131 Imperial (near Clark). In my ignorance I thought it just had a hard day, but found out that its state of mess is "normal." The washers and dryers are new – great! But the trash can was stacked with all kinds of trash almost five feet high. (I am five feet tall – I know how high that is.)

Some people at this Laundromat for the first time, as we were, expressed concern about the filth as well. There were cardboard boxes strewn outside. I quit counting the filth and trash on the floor after I reached 100. I won't even talk about the back door area.

Thanks, but I'll keep at my local Laundromat where a smiling attendant keeps the establishment neat and tidy. Shame to any owner/manager who does not take pride in the opportunity to run their own business in a clean and honorable manner.

— **Bea Romano,**
Downey

'Pasta for Pennies' raises record amount

LOS ANGELES – A record \$5.2 million was raised nationally during Olive Garden's 13th annual "Pasta for Pennies" fundraising program, which benefited leukemia research.

In Los Angeles, more than 154,300 elementary, middle and high school students donated loose change to raise \$457,301.64. Downey High School was the top high school in the Los Angeles area, raising \$33,375.77.

Students from 147 local schools in Los Angeles participated in "Pasta for Pennies" by dropping coins in a collection jar in their classroom during a three-week period in the school year. The class collecting the most funds in each school received a pasta party delivered to their classroom and served by their local Olive Garden.

The money raised through student contributions went to support research initiatives and patient and family services, officials said.

Besides Downey, the other top fundraising schools were South Pasadena Middle School in South Pasadena (\$19,034.82), and Hollydale Elementary in South Gate (\$9,375.21).

"Olive Garden's 'Pasta for Pennies' rallies students to join us in our commitment to fight blood cancers and provide assistance to our patients and their families throughout their cancer experience," said Clare Cameron, campaign director of The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society Greater Los Angeles Chapter. "The funds raised by these dedicated students will help us continue to make advances in the search for cures. We really appreciate all of the support Olive Garden and these students have given us over the years."

The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, headquartered in New York, is the world's largest voluntary health organization dedicated to funding blood cancer research and providing education and patient services.

Drug bans a drain on our society

Dear Editor:

"Why are kids getting high?" The first sentence of this piece ("High Times," 10/5/07) was quite illustrative of the flagrant distortion, mischaracterization and factual inaccuracies that were soon to follow. Immediately, an oppressed minority group was blamed for the social ills that are caused by others. Is it so difficult to believe that demand for illicit substances does not come from aging Boomers? I doubt it. But then again, they are not easily scapegoated, as they are not oppressed as a result of their age. After all, we are "bringing drug coverage to America's seniors."

But I'm not quite finished. "Capitalizing on this are drug lords at the top of the very corporate-like enterprises, raking in millions of dollars in profits as our kids kill themselves slowly and methodically." What of the billions of dollars thrown away by the U.S. government on the vaunted "War on Drugs," a fact strangely absent from the article?

"What happened to just saying no?" Ah, "Just Say No," the lovely catchphrase championed by D.A.R.E., (the invasive home wreckers), not to mention Nancy Reagan, the wife of former President Ronald Reagan. Lest anyone forget, President Reagan was apparently not content with supporting Star Wars defense programs, funding Latin American terrorist groups, and creating a massive budget deficit, he also intensified the "War on Drugs."

And who can forget, "It doesn't help when political leaders admit to having done drugs, inhaling or not." This sentence presumably refers to Bill Clinton. And yes, we all know and realize that his past drug use is an aspect of his personal life. Just as we all know that the "liberal" media, as well as congressional Republicans have the utmost respect for Bill Clinton's personal life. It should also be noted that the politicians open and honest enough to admit past drug use stand in stark contrast to our current monarchist ruler, King George.

"And it certainly doesn't help when today's leading hip-hop artists flaunt their drug use in rap lyrics." This of course, is absolutely right. We must all emulate Tipper Gore's censorship, so that our children can grow up to become "straight-laced," drug free, good citizens, much like Tipper's son, Albert Gore III.

"Illegal drugs are a drain on our society and users don't belong among us. They deserve to be locked in jail, if only for their ignorance." No. Drug bans are a drain on our society and prohibitions don't belong among us. They deserve to be repealed, if only for their ineffectiveness.

— **Julian E. Gutierrez,**
Downey

College fair at Cal State Los Angeles

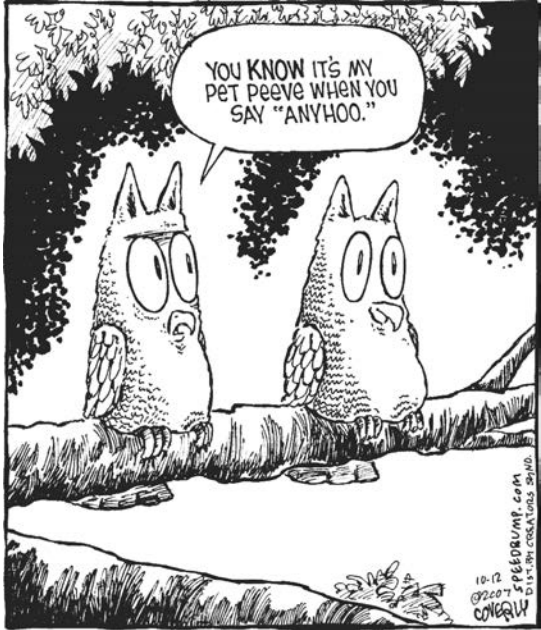
LOS ANGELES – Assemblyman Charles Calderon will present a college fair Oct. 27 on the campus of Cal State Los Angeles.

The fair will feature admissions representatives from 30 colleges and universities, information on college admission requirements, financial aid workshops in English and Spanish, and more.

"As the parents of two college students, I know how much time and effort is required in assisting a child in the selection of a college that best suits their needs and interests," Calderon said. "It is my goal to provide students and parents in my district with information as they proceed through a collegiate application process that can be intimidating and (then) encourage them to seek out the resources available that can make the process more accessible."

The event, scheduled from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., is free to parents and high school students from the 58th Assembly District, which includes portions of Downey. For more information or to RSVP, call Carlos Illingworth at (562) 692-5858.

SPEED BUMP



DAVE COVERLY



Downey Community Calendar

Events For October

- Sat. Oct. 13: **Rotary/YMCA Pancake Breakfast**, Downey High School, 7:30 a.m.
- Tues. Oct. 16: **"Every Child Ready to Read,"** Downey Library, 10:40 a.m.
- Wed. Oct. 17: **Blood Drive**, Downey High School, 8 a.m.
- Wed. Oct. 17: **Town Hall Meeting**, Barbara J. Riley Community & Senior Center, 7 p.m.

City Meetings

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

Regularly Scheduled Meetings

Mondays

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

Tuesdays

- 9 a.m.: **Downey Bocce Club**, at Apollo Park, for information call Vince Zoida at (714) 761-4439.
- 9:30 a.m.: **Downey Seniors Club**, at Apollo Park, for information call Nadine Morris at 923-9422.
- 9:30 a.m.: **Adventure with the Bible**, at the First Baptist Church call 928-4153.
- 12 p.m.: **Rotary Club**, at Rio Hondo, for information call Darren Dunaway at 806-5400.
- 12 p.m.: **Exchange Club of Downey**, at Sizzler, for information call Don Hollister at 927-5871.
- 6:00 p.m.: **Toastmasters Club 587**, at First Baptist Church, for info call 928-2658.
- 7 p.m.: **Boy Scout Troop 2**, at Downey United Methodist Church, for information call 869-6478.
- 7 p.m.: **Boy Scout Troop 441**, at Apollo Park Activities Room, for information call 923-3659.
- 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 at Downey High School library, for info call 862-3106.
- Last Tues., 11:00 a.m.: **Los Companeros Service Club**, at Los Amigos Country Club, for info call 863-1549.

Wednesdays

- 7 a.m.: **Kiwanis Club**, at Rio Hondo Events Center. Call Steve Roberson at 927-2626.
- 1 p.m.: **Women's Bocce Club**, for information call 869-8782.
- 1st Weds., 10 a.m.: **Woman's Club of Downey**, for information call Barbara Briley-Bear 869-7618.
- 1st Weds., 11:30 a.m.: **Downey Coordinating Council**, at Community Center, for information call 923-4357.
- 1st Weds., 7:30 p.m.: **Downey Stamp Club**, at Maude Price School cafeteria, for information call 928-3028.
- 1st Weds., 7:30 p.m.: **Downey Emblem Club #309**, at Downey's Elks Lodge, for information call 868-4386.
- 2nd Weds., 7:30 p.m.: **Downey Model A Club**, at Gallatin School Cafeteria, for information call 928-4132.
- 2nd Weds., 7:30 p.m.: **Downey Sister Cities Ass'n**, at Maude Price School, Call 862-7197.
- 2nd Weds., 11:45 a.m. - **Downey Christian Women's Club**, at Los Amigos CC. Call 927-8488.
- 2nd & 4th Weds., 11:00 a.m. - **AARP**, at Barbara J. Riley CC, Call Lorene Frazier 861-6075.
- 3rd Weds., - **Downey Dog Obedience Club** Apollo Park.
- 3rd Weds., 6 p.m. - **American Business Women's Association**, Rio Hondo Country Club, Call Barbara Carlson 863-2192.
- 4th Weds., 12:00 noon: **Retired Federal Employees**, at **Furman Park West Bldg.**, call 943-5513.
- Wed. & Fri., 10:15 a.m.: **Senior Bingo**, at Apollo Park, for information call 904-7223.

Thursdays

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

Fridays

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

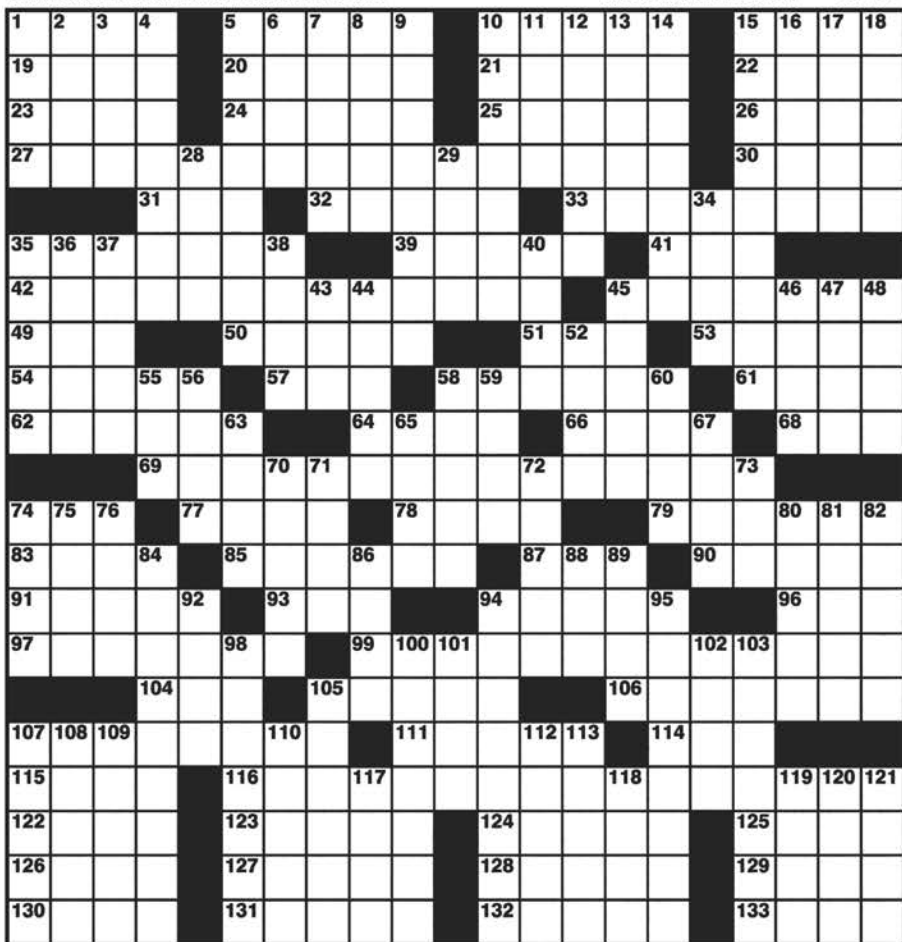
On This Day...

- Oct. 12, 1492: Christopher Columbus reaches the Bahamas. He thinks he has reached East Asia.
- 1823: The first raincoat is reportedly sold in Scotland.
- 1892: The United States Pledge of Allegiance is first recited in U.S. public schools.
- 1901: The "Executive Mansion" is officially renamed the White House.
- 1933: Infamous bank robber John Dillinger escapes from an Ohio county jail
- 1971: "Jesus Christ Superstar" opens on Broadway.
- 1997: Singer John Denver dies in a plane crash in Monterey Bay.
- 1998: Matthew Shepard, a gay student at the University of Wyoming, dies as a result of a beating five days earlier. Shepard had been beaten, robbed and tied to a wooden fence post.

THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com)
BRIEFLY STATED: We're being short with you
by S.N.

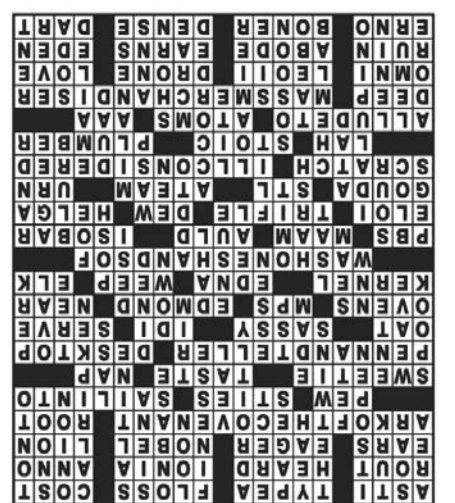
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- ACROSS**
- 1 Italian wine region
 - 5 Aggressive personality
 - 10 Dental device
 - 15 Set one back
 - 19 Disperse in defeat
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 - 21 Ancient Asia Minor region
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 - 53 Fill the bill
 - 54 Bakery needs
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 - 61 Close by
 - 62 Gist
 - 64 Hairspray mom
 - 66 Turn on the waterworks
 - 68 Antlered animal
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 - 74 American Masters network
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 - 90 Andrew Wyeth subject
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 - 93 Arch city, for short
 - 94 First-string squad
 - 96 Large brewer
 - 97 Square one, so to speak
 - 99 Rash
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 - 105 Imperturbable
 - 106 Pipe pro
 - 107 Mention indirectly
 - 111 Makeup of matter
 - 114 High bond rating
 - 115 Not at all superficial
 - 116 Warehouse outlet, e.g.
 - 122 Prefix for present
 - 123 Seventh-century pope
 - 124 Worker bee
 - 125 "A battlefield," to Benatar
 - 126 Render unusable
 - 127 Residence
 - 128 Has coming
 - 129 Paradise
 - 130 Rubik of cubes
 - 131 Foolish mistake
 - 132 Crowded
 - 133 Move swiftly
- DOWN**
- 1 Sector
 - 2 Reach a high altitude
 - 3 "Young" reformer
 - 4 Response to a doorbell
 - 5 Sign of spring
 - 6 "You tell 'em!"
 - 7 Loose leaves
 - 8 Standing tall
 - 9 With great skill
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 - 36 Drive erratically
 - 37 Response to a doorbell
 - 38 Cheese choice
 - 40 Cut to fit
 - 43 Sugar amt.
 - 44 Ruhr Valley metropolis
 - 45 Ate well
 - 46 Shade source
 - 47 Face shape
 - 48 Job benefit
 - 52 Pillow filling
 - 55 Compass reading
 - 56 Tailor's creation
 - 58 Come after
 - 59 Wonka creator
 - 60 I Love Lucy name
 - 63 Exam for an atty.-to-be
 - 65 Business arrangement
 - 67 Deluxe
 - 70 Jarring to the eye
 - 71 Fail to include
 - 72 Supplement
 - 73 Hostile force
 - 74 Coatroom features
 - 75 Voting group
 - 76 Like vinegar
 - 80 Brief promotional prose
 - 81 Go along
 - 82 Time off, for short
 - 84 High Sierra across
 - 86 Skim along
 - 88 Poetic dusk
 - 89 Nest dweller
 - 92 Just barely
 - 94 Bestowed
 - 95 The Prada family, for example
 - 98 High-school class
 - 100 With richer soil
 - 101 Lo-fat
 - 102 Couple
 - 103 Sent a cyberspace message
 - 105 "Already?"
 - 107 Like a lot
 - 108 Mammal from Madagascar
 - 109 Bolshevik leader
 - 110 Aerobic exercise regimen
 - 112 Jazz singer
 - 113 Carmen
 - 113 Bereft of locks
 - 117 Support, with "with"
 - 118 Raggedy dolls
 - 119 Ice-cream concoction
 - 120 Eternally
 - 121 Let property

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.

The ancient Asia Minor region of IONIA (21 Across) is today part of the Turkish region of Anatolia. Sailor EDMOND Dantes (58 Across) is the title character of the Dumas novel "The Count of Monte Cristo." The MILANESE fashion company Prada (95 Down) was founded by Mario Prada in 1913.



Paging Dr. Alan Frischer...

BY DR. ALAN FRISCHER



Does Grandpa keep asking the same question over and over? Does Grandpa appear confused and disoriented?

They are most likely suffering from dementia, which is the progressive decline in mental function beyond what might be expected from normal aging. This ultimately results in the limitation of daily activities, and in the long term, the need for full-time care.

Dementia usually appears later in life, most often after the age of 65. The frequency of dementia increases with age, with an incidence of less than 2% for ages 65-69, 5% for ages 75-79, to more than 20% for ages 85-89. By the time we reach age 90, our odds of developing dementia rise to one in three, and half of those 1/3 suffer from Alzheimer's.

Dementia is not actually a disease, but rather a group of symptoms. It affects the areas of the brain involved with learning, memory, language, and decision-making. What are the most important early indications of dementia?

- Forgetfulness
- Difficulties with familiar activities
- Language problems
- Problems with spatial and temporal orientation leading to confusion about one's whereabouts, or the time or date
- Impaired judgment
- Problems with abstract thinking
- Tendency to leave things behind
- Mood swings and behavioral changes
- Personality changes
- Loss of initiative

There are several causes of dementia:

- Diseases that cause degeneration or loss of nerve cells in the brain, which include Alzheimer's, Parkinson's and Huntington's
- Diseases that affect blood vessels, such as stroke, which can cause multi-infarct dementia
- Toxic reactions, including those caused by excessive alcohol or drug use
- Nutritional deficiencies, like vitamin B 12 and folate deficiency
- Infections that affect the brain and spinal cord, such as AIDS dementia complex and Creutzfeldt-Jacob disease (a close cousin of Mad Cow Disease)
- Hydrocephalus (an accumulation of fluid in the brain)
- Brain tumors
- Head injury – either a single severe head injury or longer term smaller injuries
- Illness in organs other than the brain, such as kidney, liver and lung disease

While dementia's most common cause is Alzheimer's disease, there are at least 50 other causes.

Some of the ones noted above can be cured or partially treated, so it is important not to miss a poten-

tially treatable condition. These are known as pseudo-dementia (false dementia), and 10% of dementia cases fall into this category.

Alzheimer's disease causes over half of all cases of dementia. The most common known symptom is confusion. This may cause estrangement from loved ones and unpredictability. Confusion may be short term, triggered by a hospital stay or other trauma in one's life. People with Alzheimer's suffer from problems with concentration, planning, and judgment. They display personality changes, and eventually perceptual, speech, and walking disorders, and loss of control over bodily functions. They lose their independence in managing everyday life and become more and more dependent on care, and inadvertently place tremendous hardships on family and loved ones, straining both emotional and financial aspects of their life.

Sadly, dementia caused by Alzheimer's disease is increasing faster than all other types of dementia. The cause of Alzheimer's disease is unknown, but the result is the destruction of nerve cells in the brain. Losing nerve cells during aging is normal, but this loss occurs much more rapidly in Alzheimer patients.

The physician makes the diagnosis of dementia clinically. While there are no formal tests to confirm the diagnosis, a diagnosis can be given through use of a questionnaire called the Mini Mental Status Examination (MMSE).

Unfortunately, in most cases true dementia is incurable. At this time, the best we can do is to prevent it from developing in the first place, and the best way to do that is to live an active life, both mentally and physically. Controlling hypertension and diabetes are important. There are prescription medications that appear to slow down the process of dementia, such as Aricept, Exelon, Razadyne, or Namenda.

In parting, I try to leave my readers with specific instructions and hope. Unfortunately, for this condition, no specific causes have yet been confirmed. Theories come and go through the years, but none have been proven. Remember, however, that keeping your mind and body active makes a real difference. Some causes of dementia are treatable, and I am confident that rapid advances in medical treatment and overall understanding of the disease are occurring.

There are many resources in the community, including daycare, caregiver education, and in-home support, that can help with the burden of dealing with dementia. Locally, we are fortunate to have Rancho Los Amigos Hospital as one of those outstanding resources.

Consult your physician, and don't lose hope.

Dr. Alan Frischer is former chief of staff at Downey Regional Medical Center. Write to him in care of this newspaper at 11525 Downey Ave., suite A, Downey, CA 90241

BREAST CANCER

Continued from page 1

Perhaps there was a misprint in the genetic instruction manual that said switch 'growth on' instead of 'growth off.'

There are two types of breast cancer: non-invasive and invasive. Non-invasive cancers confine themselves to the ducts or lobules and do not spread to the surrounding tissues in the breast or other parts of the body. Invasive cancers, however, break through normal breast tissue barriers and invade surrounding areas. Invasive cancers can also spread cancer to other parts of the body through the bloodstream and lymphatic system.

Once a doctor identifies which cancer exists, the stage is determined:

- **Stage 0** – Non-invasive breast cancer.
- **Stage I** – Invasive breast cancer in which the tumor measures up to two centimeters and no lymph nodes are involved.
- **Stage II** – Invasive breast cancer in which the tumor measures at least two centimeters, but no more than five, or cancer has spread to the lymph nodes under the arm on the same side as the cancer. At this stage, affected lymph nodes have not yet stuck to one another or to the surrounding tissue.

• **Stage IIIA** – Invasive breast cancer in which the tumor measures larger than five centimeters, or there is a significant involvement of lymph nodes. At this stage, lymph nodes are clumped together, or stick to one another or surrounding tissue.

• **Stage IIIB** – Invasive breast cancer in which a tumor of any size has spread to the breast skin, chest wall, or internal mammary lymph nodes. This stage includes inflammatory breast cancer, a very uncommon but very serious, type of breast cancer.

• **Stage IV** – Invasive breast cancer in which a tumor has spread beyond the breast, underarm, and internal mammary lymph nodes, and a tumor may have spread to the supraclavicular lymph nodes, lungs, liver, bone or brain.

Depending upon diagnosis, there are numerous treatment options. They include mastectomy, which involves removal of the entire breast and may later be followed by radiation treatments, and breast preservation therapy, which removes the cancer by lumpectomy – partial removal of the breast – also followed by radiation treatments.

Systematic treatments include hormonal therapies, which are medicines used to reduce or block estrogen; chemotherapies, which are medicines or injections that interfere with the cancer's ability to reproduce and function; immune therapies, which use the body's own system to fight cancer; and anti-angiogenesis therapies, which prevent the growth of new blood vessels that bring nutrients to cancer cells.

"Besides losing both my breasts, one of the hardest things to go through was losing my hair," said Mary Anne, a Downey resident for 25 years. "I'm a hair dresser and losing my hair was like losing my passion. But once I got a wig, I got over it and was just happy to be alive."

Mary Anne said her diagnosis of Stage I breast cancer came after she told doctors of pain in her left breast. Ironically, ultrasounds showed the tumor was in her right breast, but was spreading to the left. It was also determined that her cancer was not hereditary, but instead estrogen related. After all her options were presented to her, Mary Anne decided to have a full mastectomy, removing both her breasts.

"I just wanted it out as soon as possible," Mary Anne said. "And at that point, I preferred to have both removed to be on the safe side."

Following five months of chemotherapy, Mary Anne underwent breast reconstruction at UCLA Medical Center, a procedure known as free flap reconstruction, where areas of fat, muscle and skin from one part of the body are moved to another.

A year and a half later, Mary Anne's sister was diagnosed with Stage II breast cancer.

"It's always scary, but there's always hope," Mary Anne said. "Everyone's cancer is different, but we are all surviving."

Lorna, as well, was a healthy woman with no cancer evident in her family's medical history when she was diagnosed.

Although faithfully receiving mammograms yearly, Lorna became alarmed while bathing one evening.

"While I was washing myself, I felt a huge lump – about the size of an egg – in my right breast," said Lorna, a four-year Downey resident. "It literally happened over night because it was not there the night before."

At first, doctors didn't think it was breast cancer because it did not look like a typical lump. But after conducting a biopsy, it was clear that it was cancer – and the tumor was 6.7 centimeters in size.

Fortunately, the cancer had not affected any lymph nodes and only a third of her breast had to be removed. Following eight rounds of chemotherapy, the cancer was beginning to disappear. She then underwent breast reconstruction, known as DIEP flap reconstruction. This type of reconstruction uses only skin and fat from the abdominal area to construct the breast.

Lorna later had nipple reconstruction and had her left breast lifted. She will undergo another surgery later this month to even out the breasts.

"People are always afraid of never looking normal again after surgery," Lorna said. "But I'm living proof that you can look and feel like a woman again."

All of these women said that if it was not for their husbands and children, they would not have been able to do it on their own.

Nelly Giron, a four-year breast cancer survivor, recognizes that and has started a cancer support group called Strength by Faith.

Nelly was 44 years old when she was diagnosed with Stage I cancer,

later having the tumor in her left breast removed and receiving chemotherapy and radiation treatments.

"I thought it was going to be a lot worse, but with the help of God and my family, I was able to get through it," said Nelly, also of Downey. "And that's why I wanted to start this group – there are many women in our own community that need encouragement and support, someone to relate with."

Strength by Faith meets every second Saturday of every month from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Calvary Chapel of Downey, and is specifically for women who have or have had any form of cancer, or know someone that does.

Although all women are at risk of getting breast cancer, all women have the opportunity to overcome it as well.

Mary Anne, Lorna and Nelly are not just women who have survived breast cancer, but they are also women who have provided hope and inspiration to those in our community.

As we celebrate Breast Cancer Awareness Month, be sure to appreciate those that have survived, and honor those that have lost their lives.

After all, it could someday be our mother, our daughter, our sister, or our friend.

Information from www.breastcancer.org was used in this report.

City marks Cancer Awareness Month

WHEREAS, October and November are National Breast Cancer Awareness and End Domestic Violence months; and

WHEREAS, Domestic Violence is a serious and violent social problem that exists in all economic segments of society, in all cultures, and in all countries of the world; and

WHEREAS, an estimated 211,240 new cases of female breast cancer were diagnosed, while an estimated 2,000 new cases of male breast cancer were diagnosed in 2005 and that mammography is recognized as the most effective method of detecting breast changes that may be cancer long before physical symptoms can be seen or felt; and

WHEREAS, the Soroptimist Workplace Campaign to End Domestic Violence and Breast Cancer Awareness are ongoing Soroptimist efforts to promote awareness, advocacy and action; and that Soroptimists are in a position worldwide to educate everyone, especially women, that they have the right to feel safe and to live free from violence; and

WHEREAS, Soroptimists in Camino Real Region launched a region-wide campaign called "Color Me Pink (for breast cancer) and Purple (for domestic violence)" – to provide information about breast cancer and services available for prevention of domestic violence.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Rick Trejo, Mayor of the City of Downey, do hereby proclaim the months of October as "Breast Cancer Awareness Month" and November as "End Domestic Violence Month" with special recognition to Soroptimists of Camino Real Region for their various contributions to many communities for advancement of human rights and dissemination of information.

Rick Trejo, Mayor



Left to right: Mark Korth, Lakewood Regional Medical Center CEO; Dr. Larry Pasquali, foundation chairman; Joe Esquivel, secretary/treasurer and Lakewood City Councilman; and Wayne Piercy, LRMC Board Member.

LRMC makes donation to scholarship

LAKEWOOD – Mark Korth, left, CEO of Lakewood Regional Medical Center, recently donated \$4,000 to the hospital foundation's Scholarship Fund. The scholarship program, which began 30 years ago, was established to provide help to area students pursuing a career in health care.

Since 1978, the foundation has given more than \$1 million in grants to dozens of students from Lakewood, Cerritos, Bellflower and surrounding cities. Funds for the scholarships come from profits from the foundation pharmacy, donations from the hospital medical staff and the Tenet Healthcare Foundation. This year, the foundation will award \$31,000 in scholarships.

"It's a pat on the back for these young people who have made this investment and sacrifice," said Dr. Larry Pasquali, foundation chairman. "We need to recognize that they are the health-care providers of the future and we need to inspire them."

Downey Regional Medical Center's Rehabilitation & Wellness Center presents

"Fit Bodies, Calm Spirits"

One FREE session with this ad on first-time visits

Pilates Core and Stretch class for beginners and intermediate level students. Improve your balance, posture and abdominal strength.

Kundalini Yoga class utilizes the body, breath and mental focus to achieve spiritual, emotional and physical balance. All age groups and levels welcome!

Pilates and Yoga classes are held on the DRMC campus Monday – Thursday. Please call for class times. The cost is \$70.00 for 10 one-hour sessions.

Senior Movin Better: Low impact exercise for seniors doing gentle stretching and strengthening exercises. The cost for this program is \$3.00 per session.

Massage for Relaxation: Licensed massage therapists combine massage techniques for stress reduction and release of muscle tension. Call for price list.

"Se habla español"

Reduce stress! Find more energy!

To get started, call the Wellness Center, (562) 904-5551.





The cast of "Oklahoma!" bring the Rodgers and Hammerstein Broadway classic to life in a theatrical run now playing at the Downey Theatre. Photo courtesy Marsha Moode

'Oklahoma!' comes to life in California

By BROOKE KARLL, STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY – Downey Civic Light Opera's production of Rodgers and Hammerstein's "Oklahoma!" opened last weekend, providing for no better way than for the 2007-08 season to begin.

"Oklahoma!," a cat-and-mouse tale of two guys, "Curly McLain" and "Jud Fry," chasing after one girl, "Laurey Williams," originally hit Broadway in 1943. The musical is based on Lynn Riggs' "Green Grow the Lilacs" – a play that had been around eight years prior to the opening of the musical – and was originally adapted by Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein II.

For the past 64 years, "Oklahoma!" has continued to gain recognition in the industry and capture the hearts of audiences.

And rightfully so – with musical numbers such as "The Surrey With the Fringe on Top," "Poor Jud is Daid," and "I Cain't Say No," audiences are bound to tap their toes, if not sing along.

DCLO's cast did a magnificent job of preserving such a classic, adding their own flare when necessary.

Karen Volpe's portrayal of "Ado Annie Carnes" was clumsy, quirky, adorable and annoying all at once. Her character fit hand-in-hand with that of George Champion's "Ali Hakim," a peddler looking to sell anything he could get his hands on, including "Ado Annie." On the contrary, Casey Garritano's "Will Parker" was not only willing to put up with "Ado Annie," but also pay for her.

Jill Van Velzer's "Laurey" was sweet, vulnerable, and hard to get, while Ann Peck McBride's "Aunt Eller" was aggressively hilarious, a sort

of "Daisy 'Granny' Moses" character from "The Beverly Hillbillies."

"Jud," played by August Stoten, is a dangerously attractive farmhand whose love for "Laurey" is far beyond normal, and Robert Stanley's "Curly" is determined to win "Laurey" over, no matter the cost.

The overall production was an all-around success. The sets, complemented by corn stalks, windmills, and dusty porches, captured the state at the turn of the century – clothes lines, butter churns, and all. The costumes, resembling those of "Little House on the Prairie," were fitting for each character, and the choreography – especially the ballet routine during "Dream Ballet" – was unexpected and delightful.

As always, the show's success must be credited to executive producer and director Marsha Moode, musical director and conductor Eddy Clement, and choreographer Miriam Nelson – what I consider to be DCLO's triple threat.

Students from West Middle School, who were treated to the show by Dr. Mary Stauffer's generous donation of 50 tickets, were fond of the production as well.

"This is the first musical I've been to and I would definitely come back again," said eighth grader Adan Munguia. "I love the action and the actors' expressions in this show."

"Oklahoma!" will be showing Friday through Sunday this weekend and next, with performances at 8 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays, and 2:30 p.m. on Sundays. Tickets can be purchased at the box office, 8435 E. Firestone Blvd., or over the phone by calling (562) 923-1714.

Student art competition underway

DOWNEY – The 15th Annual 34th Congressional District Student Art Competition is now underway, with the grand prize winner going on a trip to Washington, D.C. and having their artwork displayed in the U.S. Capitol for one year.

All artwork must be two-dimensional, no larger than 26x26 inches, and one or a combination of the following mediums:

Paintings – oil, watercolor, acrylic, collage, etc.
 Drawings – pencil, pen, chalk, pastel, charcoal, etc.
 Prints – lithographs, silk screens, monotypes, woodcuts, intaglio methods.

Photography – no smaller than 8x10 inches, no computer manipulation allowed, negative of photo must be attached to quality.

The competition is open to all high school students in grades 9 to 12 residing in the 34th Congressional District. Entries must be an original concept; the entry may not reproduce an image from somebody else's work in the same way or any other medium.

For more rules or information, call Veronica Flores at (213) 628-9230. The deadline to submit a work is Feb. 18.

New dance program begins at Gretel's

DOWNEY – Gretel's Dance Studio will be offering a new dance program beginning this Monday at 4:15 p.m.

The program includes an open creative movement class for 3-year-olds at 4:15 p.m., a pre-dance class for girls and boys ages 4 to 6 at 5 p.m., and a beginners dance class for boys and girls ages 7 to 9 at 6 p.m. The classes will teach students basic body movement, coordination, balance, and interaction with other students.

The studio, located at 12405 Woodruff Ave. in Downey, offers three classrooms with equipment, ballet barres, and hardwood-sprung floors. Dance curriculum includes ballet, tap, jazz, and mime.

For information, call (562) 745-5869.

New Entertainment this week

CD Releases

Neil Young - *Chrome Dreams II*
 Angie Stone - *The Art of Love and War*
 AC, DC - *Plug Me In*
 Jimmy Eat World - *Chase This Light*
 Toby Keith - *A Classic Christmas*
Source: Amazon.com

DVD Releases

MOVIES
Transformers
Grindhouse Presents Planet Terror
TV/MISC.
Studio 60 on the Sunset Strip
That '70s Show - Season 7
Source: Amazon.com

Video Game Releases

Tony Hawk's Proving Ground - PS2, X360, Wii
 Daisenryaku 7 Exceed - PS2
 Avatar: The Burning Earth - PS2, X360, Wii
 Beautiful Katamari - X360
 Elder Scrolls IV: Oblivion - Shivering Isles - X360
 Oblivion Game of the Year - PS3
 Rockstar Games Table Tennis - Wii
 Code Lyoko: Quest for Infinity - Wii
 Guilty Gear XX Accent Core - Wii
 Thrillville: Off the Rails - Wii
 Victorious Boxer - Wii
Source: ebgames.com

Book Releases

"The Almost Moon" by Alice Sebold
"Become a Better You: 7 Keys to Improving Your Life Every Day" by Joel Osteen
"The Abstinence Teacher" by Tom Perrotta
"Think Big and Kick Ass in Business and Life" by Donald J. Trump
"20th Century Ghosts" by Joe Hill
"Musicophilia: Tales of Music and the Brain" by Oliver W. Sacks
Source: barnesandnoble.com

Concerts

FRIDAY, OCT. 12
 Genesis - Hollywood Bowl
 Morrissey - Hollywood Palladium
 Subdudes - Coach House
 Super Diamond - HOB Anaheim
 Viva La Bands - Wiltern
SATURDAY
 Australian Pink Floyd Show - Greek Theatre
 Baby Bash - Grove of Anaheim
 Alan Jackson - Verizon Amph.
 Brooks & Dunn - Verizon Amph.
 Genesis - Hollywood Bowl
 George Jones - Pecharanga
 Morrissey - Hollywood Palladium
 Regina Spektor - Grove of Anaheim
SUNDAY
 Alan Jackson - Coors Amph.
 Brooks & Dunn - Coors Amph.
 David Crowder Band - HOB Anaheim
MONDAY
 Big Head Todd - Grove of Anaheim
TUESDAY
 Dashboard Confessional - Orpheum
 Augustana - Orpheum
 Jimmy Eat World - Wiltern
WEDNESDAY
 B.B. King - Fox Theatre Bakersfield
 Dashboard Confessional - Orpheum
 Augustana - Orpheum
 Rilo Kiley - Grove of Anaheim
 Zucchero - Grove of Anaheim
THURSDAY
 Eagles - Nokia Theatre
 Dixie Chicks - Nokia Theatre
 Benise - Grove of Anaheim
 Solid Blues - Malibu Perf. Arts Ctr.
Source: Casenet

Book Releases

"Schulz and Peanuts: A Biography" by David Michaelis
"Gulf Music" by Robert Pinsky
"Alice: Alice Roosevelt Longworth, from White House Princess to Washington Power Broker" by Stacy A. Cordery
Source: barnesandnoble.com

New book releases at the Downey City Library

Fiction

"An Arsonist's Guide to Writers' Homes in New England": a novel by Brock Clarke. Same hadn't intended to torch the Emily Dickinson house, but he served 10 years for the crime. After being released from prison, he finds that the homes of Robert Frost, Herman Melville and others are going up in smoke.
"Blond Faith" by Walter Mosley. Easy Rawlins, L.A.'s most reluctant detective, returns home to find his friend has disappeared and left a daughter on his doorstep.
"The Pirate's Daughter" by Margaret Cezair-Thompson. In 1946, Hollywood legend Errol Flynn journeyed to Jamaica, had an affair and a daughter May -- who met him only once.
"World Without End" by Ken Follett. The sequel to "Pillars of the Earth," about the building of a Gothic cathedral, Follett's new book is set in the same town of Kingsbridge, England two centuries later.
"You've Been Warned" by James Patterson. Photographer Kristin Burns wakes up every morning from the same nightmare and realizes that the fate of everyone she loves is in her hands.

Non-Fiction

"Be the Pack Leader: Use Cesar's Way to Transform Your Dog...and Your Life" by Cesar Millan. The bestselling author and "dog whisperer" shows how to use calm leadership skills to improve your pet's behavior and your life.
"Change Your Thoughts -- Change Your Life" by Wayne Dyer. Popular PBS philosopher Dyer interprets the ancient wisdom of the Tao Te Ching.
"Easy Money: How to Simplify Your Finances and Get What You Want Out of Life" by Liz Pulliam Weston. The personal finance columnist gives advice on how to consolidate your financial records, reduce paperwork and guard against identity theft.
"Louder Than Words: A Mother's Journey in Healing Autism" by Jenny McCarthy. A mother's world changes after her 2-year old son Evan is diagnosed with autism.
"Peter Jennings: a Reporter's Life" by Kate Darnton. Jennings' family, friends and colleagues share an intimate portrait of the life and work of the respected journalist.

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

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 8-Hour Turn-Around
 Departing: Downey High School at 6:00 am Back at 11:30 pm

River Palms Resort & Casino Laughlin, Nevada
\$108⁵⁰ p.p. 3 days and 2 nights
 Dbl. Occ. Jan. 15, 16, & 17, 2008
 Tues., Wed., Thurs
 Includes room, transportation, taxes, baggage handling & 1 buffet
 Departing: Downey High School at 6:00 am

ENTERTAINMENT FUN BUS
 For Reservations or information on Other Tours Call Alen (562) 923-1755

'Jewish Themes in Opera' discussed

DOWNEY – The Ezra Center for Mature Adults at Temple Ner Tamid will have their next meeting on Oct. 16, featuring a presentation on opera by Louis Bernstein.

Registration, coffee and tea, and refreshments begin at 9:45 a.m., with the program to follow at 10 a.m.

A catered Kosher luncheon will be served following the program. Cost is \$6 for Ezra members and \$7 for non-members.

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

San Manuel Casino fundraising trip

DOWNEY – The Downey Emblem Club #309 invites the community to participate in a fundraising trip to San Manuel Casino on Oct. 30.

A bus will be leaving the Downey Elks Lodge parking lot at 8 a.m. and will return around 5 p.m.

Cost is \$6 for members and \$11 for non-members.

For information, call Nancy Watson at (562) 413-6414.

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 October 20 Noon to 10:30 p.m.
 October 21 Noon to 8:30 p.m.

Presale Ride tickets and Raffle tickets can be purchased at the school.

Featuring thrilling rides, delicious food, live entertainment and family fun.

All Welcome

Don't forget to visit the car raffle booth!

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 Games start at Noon
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 Enjoy a picnic buffet and 3 hour sail on
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Downey Tennis Club serves up fun and exercise



At one point, the Downey Tennis Club had a robust 300 members. Not that large anymore, it still have over 100 members, club officials say. Photo courtesy Downey Tennis Club

BY BROOKE KARLI, STAFF WRITER

For 41 years, the Downey Tennis Club has served our community, making Downey its perfect match.

Since its beginning in 1966, when over 30 people responded to an ad asking those interested in playing tennis to show up at what is now Apollo Park, the club has grown tremendously. At one point during the last four decades, the club had over 300 members. Now, the club has over 100 members, ranging in age from twenty-something to early eighties.

A few years after the club began, the club paid for the tennis courts at Downey High School to be refurbished. Soon after, the club began sponsoring high school tennis teams and eventually began playing at Furman Park, after then-president Sam Dunkin proposed that tennis courts be built there. By 1976, the club's 10th anniversary, membership continued to thrive and more tennis courts were needed. It was during that time that tennis courts at Independence Park were built, which is where the club has played since.

Although the club officially meets every Tuesday and Thursday from 8 a.m. to noon, there seems to always be a club member on the courts.

"We're so thankful to the City of Downey for allowing us to reserve the courts as often as we want," said Michael Murray, five-year Downey Tennis Club president. "We get to play tennis as often and as long as we want."

The City does more than just take reservations, Murray said. They also allow the court to be resurfaced and make sure the courts, as well as the rest of the park, are well-kept and presentable. In addition, the City also offers tennis lessons for those interested in learning and/or advancing in the sport.

Along with the club's weekly meetings, there are also many other additional events offered throughout each month. For example, the club will host socials – usually on Fridays, Saturdays, or Sundays – that may include doubles matches, mixed doubles matches, and the switching of partners.

"Socials are really meant for everybody to get to know each other while being challenged in tennis," said Gail Garland, a Downey Tennis Club charter member. "It's fun to switch things up

Join Downey Tennis Club

\$25 yearly fee; optional tennis lessons extra. Call Michael Murray at (562) 862-7197.

a bit."

Another additional event includes Interclub Play, where the Downey Tennis Club competes against other clubs, primarily from Cerritos, Cypress, Santa Ana and Whittier.

Members compete in doubles and mixed doubles matches at tournaments throughout the year and Sunday Funday takes place the last Sunday of every month, providing basic instruction not only to members, but also non-members.

To be a member of the Downey Tennis Club, a person only pays \$25 a year. That pays for court fees, which are \$5 an hour. Club members also receive a monthly newsletter, as well as a directory with members' contact information. And if interested in receiving lessons, a person can go through the City – which has their own rates – or through Efram Morales, a private instructor that charges \$30 an hour.

But for many of the members, the fun doesn't stop on the court. "We have so much fun on the courts that it carries on beyond tennis," Murray said. "We are always doing something together – there is something going on at least four nights a week."

Members line-dance every Monday at the Downey Moose Club, eat spaghetti and pizza at the Downey Elks Lodge twice a month, and host annual Christmas and summer parties. The club has also participated in the Downey Street Fair for the past few years.

"The Downey Tennis Club doesn't just give the community something to be active in, but also allows each person to connect with people of different abilities and skills," said Murray. "We want more than anything to see the community come out and participate – it's a great way to exercise and meet people."

For those interested in becoming a member of the Downey Tennis Club, or simply attending one of their events, call Michael Murray at (562) 862-7197, or Jean Jones at (562) 927-4820.

TV, radio stations targeting Christians

BY BROOKE KARLI, STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY – At Tuesday's Rise 'N Shine Networking Group, project manager Daniel Reyes of Downey-based Zion Multimedia Corporation spoke of the company's radio and television stations, which broadcast throughout Downey and most of Southern California.

Radio Zion, 1580 AM, is a non-profit, Christian radio station and has been on air since 1994. Zion TV, however, is quite new and has only been on air since 2005. Both broadcasts were primarily founded by Ministerios Llamada Final (Final Call Ministries) and serve, for the most part, the Latin community – in particularly first and second generation immigrants. Ministerios Llamada Final founded the stations in order to provide an opportunity to other ministries who were looking for a platform to impact the community.

According to Reyes, Zion Multimedia Corporation is a Christ-based organization that partners with other Christ-based churches, regardless of their denomination.

"Zion has been a catalyst for unity in the Spanish-speaking Christian community where church leaders and community leaders meet and work together to benefit our audience," Reyes said. "They all provide job opportunities and vital resources to an audience that for the most part, lacks educational background."

Currently, there are 10 churches and ministries that work together to produce Radio Zion. And although a non-profit organization, the corporation is allowed to bill clients for airtime purchased from the station. All other funds and financing comes from audience support and donations.

"Zion Multimedia Corporation looks to provide a form of media that's educational and open to businesses and ministries," said Reyes. "We aren't just looking to preach – there are greater needs than just the Bible in everyone's daily activities."

To contact Zion, call (562) 401-4030.

On the Web: <http://www.radiozion.net>.

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WHY DID I GET MARRIED? PG13	(11:30 2:20) 5:10 8:00 10:50
WHY DID I GET MARRIED? PG13	(12:00 2:50) 5:40 8:30
THE FINAL SEASON PG	(10:45 1:35 4:25) 7:15 10:05
THE HEARTBREAK KID R	(11:30 2:15) 5:00 7:45 10:30
FEEL THE NOISE PG13	(12:05 2:30 4:55) 7:20 9:45
THE SEEKER: THE DARK IS RISING PG	(11:25 2:00 4:35) 7:10 9:45
THE GAME PLAN PG	(11:00 1:45 4:30) 7:15 10:00
THE KINGDOM R	(11:15 2:00 4:45) 7:30 10:15
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WE OWN THE NIGHT R	(11:15, 2:00, 4:45), 7:40, 10:30
FEEL THE NOISE PG-13	(11:55, 2:15, 4:50), 7:10, 9:30
THE HEARTBREAK KID R	(11:20, 2:00, 4:35), 7:20, 10:10
THE SEEKER: THE DARK IS RISING PG	(12:05, 2:30, 5:00), 7:30, 9:55
THE GAME PLAN PG	(11:00, 1:40, 4:25), 7:05, 9:40
THE KINGDOM R	(11:10, 1:55, 4:40), 7:20, 10:05
GOOD LUCK CHUCK R	(2:40), 7:35
RESIDENT EVIL: EXTINCTION R	(11:40, 2:10, 4:45), 7:15, 9:45
MR. WOODCOCK PG-13	(12:20, 5:10), 10:00

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Vikings continue to struggle with offense

By Scott Cobos, Contributor

DOWNEY – The ghosts of last year stood on the sidelines watching the game but it was the skeletons of this year that ultimately closed the door on the Downey Vikings as they lost 13-11 to the Santa Fe Chiefs Friday night.

Ex-Head Coach Grant Warhurst and recently graduated running back Darren Tubbs, two significant losses from this year's team, looked on as the Vikings produced a spirited effort only to struggle in the second half.

Downey jumped out to an early first quarter lead after forcing a safety on the Chief's second possession. Downey proceeded to recover a fumble on Santa Fe's four yard line then rushed it in for a touchdown.

The Vikings didn't score again until the final minutes of the fourth quarter. Chances came few and far between for any scoring chances for both teams. Locked in a defensive battle, Santa Fe finally broke through in their last possession of the first half.

After a defensive stop, the Chiefs marched down the field into Downey territory. Quarterback Cameron Fooks then broke loose for a 24-yard touchdown run putting the Chiefs within two points after a failed two-point conversion.

Fooks gave the Vikings defense fits all night long with his athletic ability. He made something out of nothing on many plays running wild on Downey. Fooks finished his night hooking up on 10 of his 12 passes for 123 yards, rushing for 78 yards then passing and rushing for one touchdown each way.

Santa Fe's first possession of the second half proved to be the difference in the game as they attacked Downey's cornerback Jeff Simen multiple times. Simen was left alone guarding Santa Fe receiver Rolando Najera on three straight plays, allowing Fooks to fire passes on mid range patterns to his receiver.

Najera's receptions on the drive helped put Santa Fe on Downey's six yard line where Fooks found an open David Bomer for the game-deciding touchdown. Najera finished his night with six receptions for 80 yards.

Downey's offense stalled in the second half, missing chances and not being able to convert on short yardage plays. The Vikings' only whisper of the second half was a field goal to put them two points behind.

On their final drive, they turned the ball over on downs, which allowed Santa Fe to take a knee and burn the rest of the clock, wrapping up the game.

Downey may have lost the game, but showed improvement compared to their performance last week in every statistical category.

Vikings Head Coach Will Capps was unable to be reached for comment on the game.

Downey starts league play by hosting Paramount tonight at 7 p.m.

Downey Sports Reunion tonight

DOWNEY – A Downey Sports Reunion will be held tonight at the Embassy Suites, with a special recognition for the Downey High School 1958 CIF Championship football team.

A section of the Downey High School stadium will be set aside for members of the reunion who want to attend tonight's game against Paramount.

The reunion will start at 5:30 p.m. For information, call Lash Stevenson at (650) 345-5274 or visit www.lashspace.com.



Downey High School's Eric Hayes, above, shows some love for his mom as his team battled Santa Fe last week. Photo by Art Montoya



The Downey YMCA Midnight Ballers were named division champions on Sept. 22 and 23, following an undefeated summer season. Pictured are (top, left to right): Coach Greg, Daniel Bustamante, Sam Bettencourt, Isaac Dan, Coach Jim, Dior Ellis, Edgar Ruiz, Jose Quinonez and Coach Vince; (bottom, left to right) Garrett Neilan, Vincent Quigg, Dillon Tanner, and Sergio Flores. Eighth grade boys interested in joining their travel team are asked to call Carla Quigg at (562) 260-9648.

News and notes

By Scott Cobos, Contributor

Warren

•Running back Nate Colbert who sustained a concussion before league play started has been downgraded to possibly missing the whole season. Colbert was originally only supposed to miss two weeks but is still not ready for game play.

•The baseball head coaching position is vacant once again after Ariel Guitron resigned as coach to pursue other professional opportunities. Currently, part time coaches and volunteers are running workouts for the team.

•So far, the women's volleyball team has a .500 winning percentage as they start league play.

Downey

•Like the women's volleyball team at Warren, the Lady Vikings are also playing .500 volleyball as league play kicks off.

•There is no news or significant injuries to report on the Viking's football team.

Downey Midgets play big to stay undefeated

By Mike Baumann, Downey Youth Football

DOWNEY – The Downey Razorbacks' six tackle and three flag teams were scattered over the Southland last weekend. While the PeeWee team rested with a bye, flag and lower division teams played at Don Bosco Tech and the MityMite Red, Jr. PeeWee, Jr. Midget and Midget teams were in action at Cabrillo High School in Long Beach.

MityMite White returned to their winning ways, and MityMite Red lost 30-6 in their game against a strong Lakewood non-conference foe. The Jr. PeeWee's solved their run defense problems against quick sweep teams, by shutting down Long Beach 16-6. Two touchdowns and a safety were enough for the resurgent defense.

The Jr. Midgets defense had a stellar performance and held the Long Beach Jags scoreless. Defensive standout Brian Salazar led the defense with two touchbacks. The offensive line dominated the Jags and allowed tailback/quarterback David Saenz to score a personal record of four touchdowns, including a 60 yard kick-off return.

The undefeated (5-0) Downey Midget's kept the Bakersfield Rams off-balance all day with a diversified offensive attack. Two long passes from Andrew Magana to Shane Baumann led to their first score by Eddy Cyprus Moreno. Two runs by Baumann and a Magana toss to Jabari Ruffin and the score was 14-0. Dwayne Franklin's pass reception for good yardage and a 15-yard run capped the drive for a 22-6 Downey lead. A 55-yard Bakersfield touchdown on the ensuing kickoff made the score 22-13. Magana once again hit Ruffin on a 60-yard TD pass, and Moreno kicked the extra point for a 30-13 lead.

The defense held the Rams after a Baumann fumble in Hog territory and the offense drove the ball downfield, highlighted with Eddy Moreno's 30-yard scamper and Dominick Cortez's 15-yard run. The final Razorback touchdown came on a Magana to Moreno 15-yard toss to make the score 38-13. The Ram's had Razorback fans uneasy by scoring two late td's, one right after the other to make the score 38-27. The Hogs regrouped and drove the ball to the 10 yard line where Baumann's second fumble turned the ball over to the Rams. Downey fans were a little uneasy until Ryan Mcfaddin picked up a Ram fumble with four minutes left in the game to preserve the Downey win.

Razorbacks travel to Gardena and Buena Park for action tomorrow, Oct. 13.



Razorback Eddy Moreno scores on a 30-yard scamper against Bakersfield last week. Photo courtesy Mike Baumann

Flag football for kids at Bernabé

DOWNEY – The Bernabé Community Center After-School Sports Program is now taking sign-ups for flag football for boys and girls ages 11 to 14.

Those interested in signing up can do so at Lakeside Middle School in Norwalk, or by calling the Bernabé Community Center at (562) 863-1899.

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Police misconduct cases not alien to Downey

BY ERIC PIERCE, CITY EDITOR

DOWNEY – With her blond hair, lean figure and pleasant personality, Sgt. Kathleen Mendoza is not an imposing figure.

But make no mistake, she means business, and the moral upkeep of this city's police force rests on her slight but competent shoulders, as the Downey Police Department's Citizens Academy found out this week.

Mendoza is in charge of Professional Standards – perhaps more familiar to some as Internal Affairs – at the Downey Police Department. Educated at Cal State Long Beach, she spent six years working patrol and another three years as a detective prior to assuming her position.

Mendoza investigates all complaints, small and large, against Downey police officers. Whether a simple complaint that an officer was rude while issuing a traffic citation, to more serious allegations of brute and excessive force, every claim is investigated, Mendoza said, and kept in an officer's personnel file for five years.

Mendoza will investigate a complaint as thoroughly as she can, she said. Obviously, she'll check a police unit's in-dash camera for visual evidence; she can also listen to an audio recording of a traffic stop for unbiased evidence, all easily accessible from her computer. But she might also conduct interviews or check store surveillance cameras for different viewpoints (cameras in today's society are everywhere, Mendoza pointed out).

Any officer-involved shooting must also be investigated, regardless of whether a person was struck or not, Mendoza said. Her investigation runs parallel to one by the Sheriff's Department, which independently looks into all officer-involved shootings. Sheriff's Department's reports, Mendoza said, can sometimes come in boxes because they're so large and complex, and many times contain hundreds of photographs.

Citizen complaint forms are available at the Downey Police Department. After a complaint is filed, it's investigated by Mendoza and the findings forwarded to Police Chief Roy Campos for a final ruling.

The complainant is notified in writing of the Chief's decision; if the complaint is founded, the law forbids the Department from disclosing any disciplinary action taken, Mendoza said. If the complainant is dissatisfied with the result of the investigation, they can contact a city council member or the city manager for direction.

A total of 15 personnel complaints were levied against Downey police officers last year, Mendoza said. Of those, three of the complaints were deemed to be unfounded and two lacked sufficient evidence for recourse. The remaining 10 complaints, Mendoza said, were found to be true situations where police misconduct occurred.

But Mendoza pointed out the 15 complaints were out of 31,985 calls of service, including over 4,000 arrests.

Still, Mendoza said most citizen complaints result in changes to their training and/or conduct code. And officers found culpable of misconduct are disciplined at the discretion of the police chief; punishments can range from verbal reprimands to outright termination and possible criminal prosecution.

"I've seen people who I really cared about let go before," Mendoza, who has no say in how an officer is punished, said. "They weren't bad people, but they might have made a mistake."

Mendoza, in her presentation, also touched on officers securing secondary part-time jobs. Second jobs, Mendoza said, can't result in conflict of interests or be morally degrading, even if it is a legal business (Downey police officers, for example, cannot own bars or strip clubs). All secondary jobs require the approval of Campos.

More times than not, Mendoza said, officers will work second jobs conducting police training.

Also speaking to the Citizens Academy was Robert Weinrich, a senior Code Enforcement officer with the city of Downey.

Weinrich, as he'll openly admit, is not always the most popular person in town: he's the guy who will tell you to tear down your garage because it was built to sub-standards; he's the guy who will have you excavate your brand new swimming pool because it was built without proper permits; and he'll tell you that your garage conversion is illegal, and you have a limited number of days to fix the problem or face stiff consequences.

Mind you, he's doing it for your own safety.

In fact, Weinrich said a fire last year at a Firestone Boulevard tanning salon was the result of an illegally installed sign.

Brian Ragland: praying for precipitation

BY HENRY VENERACION, STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY—The recent elevation of Long Beach native and UC Berkeley-educated (B.S. civil engineering, 1980) Brian A. Ragland to the top job at the Department of Public Works comes at a propitious time.

The days of city budget cuts and belt-tightening are over, and once again the city has come alive with projects destined to have major impacts on future generations.

One need only look at the exciting developments now taking, or about to take, place at the Downey Landing site or imagine the possibilities latent at the County-owned Los Amigos property on Imperial Highway to appreciate the fresh new directions in which the city of Downey is headed. Erstwhile public works director Desi Alvarez has gone on to become deputy city manager for special projects, no doubt to tackle the aforementioned gigantic undertakings. A deputy city manager for community development, Gilbert Livas, has also come aboard, to flesh out the many human and societal dimensions these and other city projects represent.

With Ragland's promotion and the departures of a few key personnel, due to retirement or moves to other cities, a staffing realignment is possible, he says, not only to fill vacant slots but to shake out department dol-drums, if any. At any rate, postings on websites and in professional journals/magazines for four positions have been made.

With years of highly significant experience behind him, beginning with a private engineering firm and a long stint (10 years) with the city of Long Beach, immersing himself in all aspects of the design, construction and maintenance of water and sewer systems, project management, capital improvement programs, and utilities management, all using computerized information networks, it's no surprise that Ragland regards experience as a valued qualification of employment candidates. He started with the city of Downey as principal civil engineer-utilities in 2000, shifted venues for two years as water services manager for the city of Tustin from 2002 to 2004, then came back, this time for keeps, to Downey as deputy director of public works in July of 2004.

Other desirable traits he seeks in candidates, he says, are enthusiasm, eagerness to work, getting along well with people, and willingness to learn. "Downey provides a good environment in which to learn," he says. "And if the desired experience is lacking, we will train them." In fact, he says, the department right now is working with Cal State Long Beach, Cal Poly Pomona, and places like that, on possible internship programs. "If the student finds the work environment here interesting or fulfilling enough, then he/she can perhaps decide to work with us after graduation."

"Right now, we're working on a master plan for the city's water sys-



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- N.) Falsification of reports, records, or communications.
- O.) Improper political activity.
- P.) Feigning sickness or injury to escape duty.
- Q.) Rough or careless handling of City property.
- R.) Any other act or omission contrary to good order and discipline of the Department.

Source: Downey Police Department

Comprised of six officers and a supervisor, Code Enforcement is responsible for "improving the quality of life and property for all persons who live and work within the city." Previously operating out of City Hall's Building Division, they're now under the authority of the Downey Police Department, meaning Code Enforcement officers have the legal right to issue citations and arrest people (not something they like to do, Weinrich said.)

Code Enforcement officers also attend the police academy like any other police officer.

Code Enforcement mostly responds to citizen complaints, Weinrich said, and try to work with the home or business owner to resolve the situation. Those "situations" can include overflowing Dumpsters, high weeds and grass, peeling paint, discarded furniture dumped on the curb, stagnant pool water, illegally parked vehicles, lack of building permits, and a lot more.

Officers try to be compassionate and respectful, Weinrich said, especially with dealing with elderly residents on fixed incomes who may not be physically or financially able to maintain their homes. In these times, the community often lends a hand: the Kiwanis and Optimist Clubs routinely volunteer at distressed homes, as do employees of All American Home Center, Weinrich said. Even a group of wealthy doctors from Kaiser Permanente have volunteered, "a great sight," as Weinrich called it.

Code Enforcement averages 3,000 cases per year, with a 99 percent compliance rate without going to court. Because of the high volume of cases, and only six officers to deal with them, Weinrich said life-saving code violations are given top priority, including commercial properties that have been illegally converted into housing.

Conversions, Weinrich said, are susceptible to fire because of shoddy wiring. And if a fire does break out, the fire department has no way of knowing that people may be trapped inside.

Code Enforcement responded to over 400 illegal garage conversions last year alone, Weinrich said, and expects to see more as the population in Downey continues to boom.

But there are also situations Code Enforcement can do very little about, including mansions with large families living inside, streets overflowing with parked cars, and bright, glaring paint jobs (exhibit A: Shoe City on Florence/Paramount).

Downey's municipal codes are brimming with regulations, Weinrich said, but still, "there's no law against ugly."

tem, for both potable and recycled water, as well as for a sanitary sewer system," he says. "These master plans will include the requirements envisioned for the IRG (Downey Studios) project and the County area. We will make sure these and the utilities are available for people who need them."

The increased use of recycled water is very much in Ragland's master plan, especially in the light of the worsening water situation, exacerbated by drought and the thinning of the water table. Although Downey is not directly affected by the current water crisis plaguing other urban users, because Downey pumps its water from its own groundwater supply, nevertheless the threat of increasingly reduced water reserves and snow melt is bound to affect the whole region sooner or later. Long Beach has been required by its regulatory Board of Water Commissioners to limit lawn irrigation use to three days a week and only in the early morning or early evening, to conserve water.

In this connection, Ragland points out that Downey last year pumped 18,400 acre-feet of potable water from the aquifers beneath the city to serve residents and businesses, while it was able to use 822 acre-feet of recycled water to irrigate the city's parks, parkways and medians, the Rio Hondo golf course, the Caltrans right-of-way, and private commercial landscaped areas, in its determined program of water conservation. "The more we use recycled water wherever it can be used, the more clean water we'll have for drinking," he says.

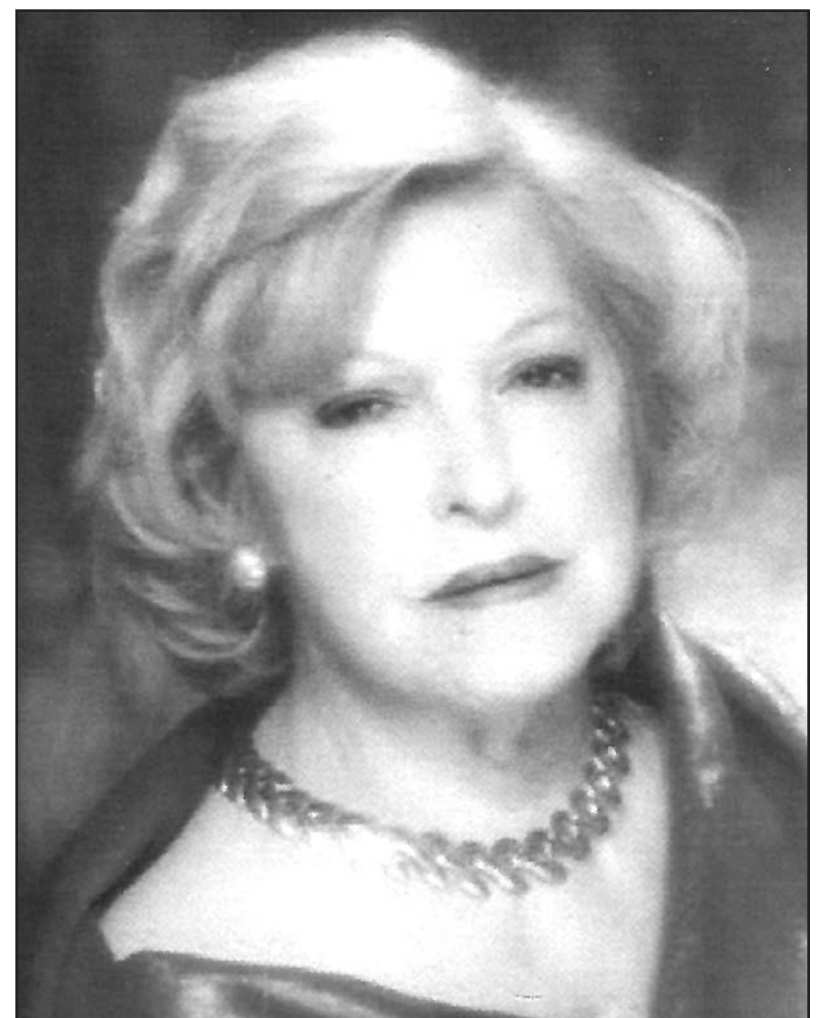
Ragland, who stands 6'5" ("I stand 6'5" in the morning, and 6'4" when I go home from work," he jokes), was varsity captain of Wilson High's basketball team. "We were All-City and All-League two years, in my junior and senior years," he says. His dad, who just turned 86, is from Cookeville, Tenn. and is of Welsh descent, while his mom, of Irish ancestry, is 83 and is from Spur, Tex. (pop. 3,000).

"They still live in the same house in Long Beach they bought in 1959," he says. "They both play bridge and dad still golfs at Little Rec." Ragland's wife, Cynthia, a PR consultant, comes from Valencia. The couple, who reside in Irvine, have two offspring: 6-year old Connor, is in the first grade, and fond of soccer and baseball, while 4-year old Kelley is in pre-school and into softball.

"My leisure time today is devoted to looking after these two," says he, the youngest of three children. One sister lives in Long Beach; the other in Memphis.

All this time, Ragland's mom didn't think much of where he worked, and when he mentioned recently that he works in Downey, a light came on: "My mom recalled she worked for Vultee, first as a file clerk, then as a riveter, in 1942. We had a chuckle over that one," he says. "My parents stressed persistence and hard work. I aimed for good communications skills, both oral and written, as good equipment for success."

"Right now," Ragland says, "we're all praying for rain."



Elida Ortega services were held Tuesday and Wednesday at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church.

OLPH hosts services for Elida Ortega

DOWNEY – Wife, mother and Downey resident Elida Ortega has died.

Ortega was born to Abraham and Micaela Espinoza on Nov. 12, 1934 in San Angelo, Tex.

She is survived by her husband of 53 years, Carmen; children, Robert, Sally, Gary, Joann, Diane and Denise; son-in-laws, Manuel, Robert, Frank and Dennis; 13 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Services were held Tuesday and Wednesday at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church. The family was assisted by Miller-Mies Mortuary of Downey.

Wisdom remembered for Boy Scouts volunteerism

DOWNEY – Albert Ernest "Ernie" Wisdom passed away Sept. 30 in Downey. He was 61.

He was recently preceded in death by his parents, Albert M. Wisdom and Florence (Price) Wisdom of Downey.

Ernie Wisdom grew up in Montebello, where he was actively involved at the First Baptist Church and with the Boy Scouts of America. Active in drama and debate, he graduated from Montebello High School in 1964 and attended East Los Angeles College.

He joined the U.S. Navy and served as chief petty officer for two tours supporting the ground troops in Southeast Asia.

After his service, Wisdom helped public school teachers set up tax sheltered annuity accounts for their future retirement income and owned and operated a video rental shop, as well as a pizza parlor in Downey.

He was an active volunteer with the Boy Scouts and enjoyed researching available grants for teachers to acquire extra money and equipment to benefit students in the classroom.

He is survived by his sister, Carolyn of Florida; and nieces and nephews in the San Gabriel Valley.

His funeral is today at 3 p.m. at the Rose Chapel at Rose Hills Memorial Park. In lieu of flowers, the family requested donations to the Boy Scouts of America—Frontier Division.

Join OLPH Guild on trip to the casino

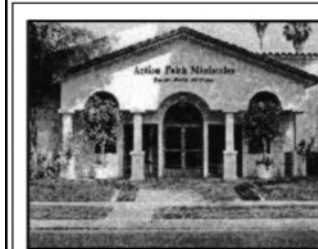
DOWNEY – Our Lady of Perpetual Help Women's Guild is sponsoring a day trip to Fantasy Springs Resort & Casino in Palm Springs this Tuesday.

The bus will depart at 7:30 a.m. Travelers will spend five hours at the casino before arriving home around 5:30 p.m.

The casino offers slot machines, table games, a poker room, large arcade and bowling. Various dining choices are also available, including the Pizza Kitchen and their New York style pizza; The Café, offering salads, burgers, panini sandwiches, ribs and more; the Fresh Grill Buffet and their chocolate fountain dessert bar; and Starbucks.

The cost to attend is \$10, which includes \$10 in casino play. Visitors must be 21 or over. For tickets, call Sally Johnson at (562) 861-8370.

For display advertising rates, call Dorothy or Mary at (562) 904-3668



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Pastor: David Sarinana
 10839 La Reina Ave. Downey, CA 90241
 562-862-7720

Thursday Mid-Week Service 7:00pm
 Sunday Worship Service 8:30am

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 And meet Fail-Safe 4 Felines

A No Kill Non-Profit Trap/Neuter/Return Serving Stray Cats in Downey

Saturday - October 13

11:00 AM

7707 Florence Ave., Downey 90240



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 Halloween Specials
 Trick-Or-Treat for the Kids

CONTACT:

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(562) 904-3668

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BY GEORGE VALVERDE, DIRECTOR, CALIFORNIA DMV

Q: I received a smog certificate last year. Why is my notice asking for another one?

A: A smog certification is due biannually for renewal and should not be requested two years in a row. However, in rare circumstances, it can happen. You would need to submit evidence of when the prior smog certification was obtained. This information can be found by looking at the smog paperwork you originally received or by going to the Bureau of Automotive Repair's website at www.smogcheck.ca.gov and providing the Department a copy of that information.

Q: I recently got married and was wondering what I need to do to have my married name appear on my license. Will I have to go into the DMV office or is it something I can do online?

A: In order to obtain a license in your new name, you will have to take your old license to a DMV field office. Make sure that you bring your marriage certificate as verification of your true full name. The application fee is \$21 and your photo will be taken for your new license. In addition, you must also provide a thumbprint. Your old license will be invalidated and returned to you. You will receive an interim and license and should expect to receive your new card in the mail within 60 days.

Q: I'm getting ready to sell my car and I seem to have misplaced the title. Is there any way I can obtain a copy from the DMV?

A: Yes. You can obtain a duplicate title without having to make a trip to a DMV office. Simply download and complete an Application for Duplicate Title, which can be found online by visiting www.dmv.ca.gov and clicking on the "Forms" tab. After you have completed the form, submit it along with the \$17 application fee to your local DMV office. You can expect to receive the duplicate title in the mail within six weeks.

Q: Do I need to have my car insured before I register it, or can I wait to insure it until I've completed the registration process?

A: In order to successfully register your vehicle in California, you must provide proof of liability insurance within 30 days of issuance of the registration card for a newly registered vehicle, or within 45 days of the cancellation of a policy for a currently registered vehicle.

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DOWNEY – Downey Federal Credit Union is sponsoring "Real Estate Lobby Days" for members and potential members in the lobby of its main branch on a monthly basis.

First-time homebuyers, or homeowners seeking refinancing, can speak to a lending representative between 9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. The next "Lobby Days" are scheduled for Oct. 31 and Nov. 15.

DHS class of 1957 reunion set

DOWNEY – The Downey High School class of 1957 will host a 50th reunion celebration tomorrow at the Rio Hondo Events Center. The evening starts at 6 p.m. and cost is \$80 per person.

Members of the class will meet at Downey High School today at 3 p.m. for a tour of the campus before attending tonight's football game.

For information, Carolyn Jo (Ward) Weigand at (714) 971-0948 or Karlene (Sibley) McDowell at (714) 871-5805.

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3bd/2ba – 7750 Gainford – Downey
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4bd/4ba – 10719 Richeon – Downey
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4bd/2ba – 9728 Brookgreen – Downey

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3bd/1ba – 1341 W. 54 – Los Angeles
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4bd/3ba – 15511 Grovehill – La Mirada
3bd/2ba – 14755 Mar Vista – Whittier
3bd/1ba – 11215 Crossdale – Norwalk
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Lovely Duplex in Downey. Each unit has 2 BD, 1 BA, laundry room & one car garage.
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Decorator Perfect!
Gorgeous 3 BD, 1.75 BA, home in North Downey Remodeled kitchen, custom interior paint, hardwood floors, patio & lovely backyard. Priced to Sell @ \$714,900
Call Carrie Uva TODAY! @ 562.382.1252
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89 Homes

SOLD in 2006!

Chairman Circle Award Winner 2000-2006!

FREE Market Evaluation!

Feature of the Week



Just Listed
Great Curb Appeal! Spacious 3 bed, 2 bath Downey home featuring formal living room with fireplace, updated kitchen with large dining area, extra large family room, and master bedroom & bathroom. The backyard has a covered patio and large grass area (enough room for playset & large trampoline). The home has central air & heat, 2 car attached garage with automatic opener, newer dual pane windows, and newer tile roof.
Price: \$679,900
Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com

OPEN HOUSE
New Construction - 2007!
New construction 4 bed, 3.5 baths, Granite counter tops in kitchen and baths. 2200 sqft., central air & heat, with beautiful landscaping.
Price reduced to: \$699,950
Call Michael Berdelis at (562) 818-6111

"Spectacular New Construction"
Spectacular New Construction. 5 bed, 4 bath, 3900 sq ft, 7500 sq ft lot, many amazing upgrades.
Price reduced to \$1,249,900.
Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com

OPEN HOUSE
Too Many Upgrades to List!!!
New Construction 2007- 5 bed, 4 bath, 3250 sq ft living space, many elegant upgrades and touches.
Price \$1,249,950
Call Michael Berdelis at (562) 818-6111

OPEN HOUSE
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: \$1,249,000
Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com

Orange Estates Beauty!!!
Large 3 bedroom, 3 bath, 2300 sq ft home with guest house on large 11,000 sq ft lot near Furman Park. Home has remodeled bathroom and remodeled kitchen with granite countertops, new cabinets, & new appliances. **Price reduced to \$919,950**
Call Michael Berdelis at (562) 818-6111

BACK ON MARKET
Honey, Stop the Car!
4 BD, 4 BA main house & 2 BD, 1 BA guest house on a 10,920 sq ft lot in NW Downey. Both houses have remodeled kitchens & baths.
Price: \$799,950.
Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com

OPEN HOUSE
Charm! Charm! Charm!
4 bed with den & bonus room, 2 baths, approx 2200 sq ft living space, near Stonewood Mall, Rio San Gabriel Elem & East Middle
Price: \$695,000
Call Michael Berdelis at (562) 818-6111

SELLER WILLING TO CARRY PAPER
Custom Built Beauty
5 bed, 4 bath, 3100 sq ft, North Downey mini-mansion.
Price: \$1,199,000
Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com

Welcome to the Island
3 BR, 2 BA Downey home with 600 sq ft guest room, remodeled kitchen, spa, and circular driveway.
\$675,000
Call Michael Berdelis at (562) 818-6111

OPEN HOUSE
Remodeled North Downey Home!
3 Bed, 2 bath, living room & family room, new kitchen, central air, and new windows. This house has it all!
Price: \$625,000
Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com

OPEN HOUSE
Large Lot in Cul-De-Sac
3 bed, 2 bath, 1622 sq ft house in Downey, 7940 sq ft lot, remodeled kitchen, 2 car detached garage, plenty of storage space.
Price: \$659,900
Call Michael Berdelis at (562) 818-6111

OPEN HOUSE
Gorgeously Renovated From The Ground Up!!!
Amazing 4 bed, 2.5 bath, 2682 sq ft house on a 8200 sq ft lot, remodeled through out.
Price \$849,950.
Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com

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