



# The Downey Patriot



**TLC celebrates seventh year**  
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**Former firefighter dies**  
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Friday, October 26, 2007

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

## New procedures and equipment saving lives

BY BRAD VAN ERT,  
CAPTAIN/EMS COORDINATOR, DOWNEY FIRE DEPARTMENT

**DOWNEY** – Don Ord, a Downey resident, has experienced first hand the benefits of new Downey Fire Department paramedic procedures and cardiac monitors recently put into service.

On Friday, September 21, Don had just finished mowing his lawn. Feeling tired, he went inside to rest. It was late afternoon and his wife was not home. Don began to feel discomfort in his chest and noticed he was sweating. Concerned, he laid down. The feeling persisted and he became concerned that if he continued to lie down, he may not be able to get up. He went to his computer and looked for information on heart attack symptoms on the Internet. He realized the classic symptoms of a heart attack he found closely resembled the symptoms he was having, so he immediately dialed 911.

Luckily for Don, Downey Engine 62, which responds from the fire station on Imperial Highway near Bellflower Boulevard, and Paramedic Rescue 641, from the Headquarters Fire Station on Paramount Boulevard, were available for immediate assistance and responded to Don's home. From the time they were alerted to the time they arrived, only four minutes had elapsed.

When they arrived, they immediately realized from Don's appear-

**MORE INSIDE**  
For tips on how to tell if you are having a heart attack, see page 3

ance and his pale, moist skin that he was not doing well. They assessed his vital signs and connected him to their new 12-lead cardiac monitor. The monitor alerted the crew that Don was having a heart attack, or more specifically, an ST elevation myocardial infarction.

Paramedics Ted Waldrup and Sean Moffett quickly established an IV and placed Don on oxygen. They contacted St. Francis Medical Center, their base hospital, and requested permission to rush Don to the nearest STEMI hospital, which was Whittier Presbyterian. A minute later they administered medications to assist with his low blood pressure. The engine company, staffed by Captain Dave Calderwood, Engineer Rich Vos, and Firefighter Raul Ochoa, assisted the paramedics with Don's care and transport. Both fire paramedics administered care to Don as the crew transported him.

When they arrived at the hospital, they rushed Don directly to the Cath lab, bypassing the typical emergency room reassessment normally done. The cardiologist

See HEART ATTACK, page 3

## Rescue 911: Quick action saves a life



Don Ord with his family and some of the Downey Fire Department EMS Team with their new 12-lead cardiac monitor. Left to right: Firefighter Paramedic Sean Moffett, Don Ord, Cathy Ord R.N. (daughter-in-law), Captain Brad Van Ert (EMS Coordinator), Barry Ord (Don's wife), Firefighter Paramedic Ted Waldrup, and Monica Bradley R.N. (DFD Nurse Educator) Photo courtesy Capt. Brad Van Ert, Downey Fire Dept.

## Yanik says he wants to rebuild Broiler

**■ Tenant claims demolition was completed with owner's consent**

BY ERIC PIERCE, CITY EDITOR  
**DOWNEY** – On January 7, Ardas Yanik drove by the local Home Depot on Firestone Boulevard, sought out three meandering day laborers, and paid them "a couple thousands dollars" to get behind the wheel of a rented bulldozer and raze Johnie's Broiler.

The demolition had been planned for some time.

In an exclusive interview with *The Downey Patriot*, Yanik admitted to the charges, but claimed the demolition was done with knowledge and blessing of property owner Christos Smyrniotis.

The interview was conducted last Friday at the dusty remains of Johnie's Broiler, now mostly a pile of rubble cordoned off by a chain-link fence at Firestone Boulevard and Old River School Road.

"(Christos) lied to us. He lied to everybody," Yanik, who was sub-leasing the property to a used car dealership, said. "He was here the morning of the demolition to collect the rent. He and his brother were here for three hours."

"I have the receipt to prove it." Yanik pleaded "no contest" three weeks ago to charges stemming from the demolition. He received three years probation, fined upwards of \$10,000, and ordered to complete 15 days of work with Caltrans.

He's due back in court Dec. 12 where details of his probation are expected to be hashed out.

"(Christos) didn't tell me it was historic, he lied to me," Yanik said. "I wouldn't have done it if I had known."

Yanik, of Northridge, said he approached Smyrniotis late last year, seeking permission to demol-

ish the diner and redevelop the property.

"He said OK," Yanik claimed. "He said he would knock it down if I didn't do it. He orchestrated the destruction."

Smyrniotis did not return calls for comment. In previous interviews, he denied having prior knowledge of the demolition.

The City of Downey Planning Department received an application to tear down Johnie's Broiler last November, but it was denied because it lacked an environmental impact report. The application has a signature ostensibly signed by Smyrniotis.

Yanik had that paperwork in hand, he said, when Downey police officers rolled up to Johnie's Broiler on the Sunday afternoon to stop the demolition.

"I showed them the paperwork and the police didn't know what to do," Yanik said. "They left for three hours so I went home. What was I supposed to do?"

Yanik said he told investigators about Smyrniotis's alleged role in the demolition, but was told they lacked enough evidence to charge him.

"This place is history, and I apologize," Yanik said. "I made a mistake. I trusted a dirty old man. I'm really sorry. But I want to give back to the community."

By "giving back to the community," Yanik said he wants to help rebuild the historic diner, and will match – dollar-for-dollar – any contributions made to a trust for its restoration.

"And I don't want to make any profit off of it," Yanik said. "I'm willing to do it. You can put it in writing – I won't touch the money. I'll donate the funds to Children's Hospital, schools and charities. I won't make a penny."

Yanik, who said he manages other properties in Downey, estimated the lot could sell for \$2.5 to \$3 million. But he recommended the City Council try acquiring the



Ardas Yanik admitted to demolishing Johnie's Broiler, but said it came with the blessing of property owner Christos Smyrniotis. Yanik said he now wants to help rebuild the classic drive-thru diner, which city officials say should be cleaned up soon. Photo by Eric Pierce

property themselves, possibly through eminent domain.

"If those elected people push, they could get this restaurant back," Yanik said, motioning to the wreckage. "Look at it. When the moratorium is over in January, they could try to get it back."

When asked if he had the financial means to really match a restoration fund dollar-for-dollar, Yanik said he did.

"Do not underestimate me," he said.

Yanik also said he has been in discussions with a company willing to pay \$15,000 to \$20,000 per month for the rights to place an LCD sign (similar to the one at Downey Theatre) at the diner.

"That will pay for the operating costs," Yanik said.

But Yanik said he will only try

to save the diner if the name is changed back to its original moniker of Harvey's Broiler. Original owner Harvey Ortner sold the restaurant to Smyrniotis in 1966, and the name was changed to Johnie's Broiler soon after.

Yanik also said the city of Downey and Smyrniotis mustn't profit from the restaurant if Yanik helps.

"I don't want the city or the owner getting anything," a heated Yanik said.

Looking over the debris left over from the demolition, Yanik said the restaurant could be restored.

"The frame is still good," he said. "The sign is still there. If we all work together, we can build (Johnie's Broiler) back up."



The grave of Indian Joe rests at Downey Cemetery, a graveyard some experts say is ripe with paranormal activity. Photo by Art Montoya

## Paranormal activity said to haunt Downey Cemetery

BY BROOKE KARLL, STAFF WRITER

**DOWNEY** – If not already aware, Downey has its own set of ghost stories. There are the stories of the friendly "presence" at the Dismukes House, the woman of the Manning House, and the poltergeist activity of Lost in Time Antiques (See page 13). But there is no better evidence of ghosts in Downey than that provided by Downey Cemetery.

For years, the Downey Cemetery has been the breeding ground for Santeria rituals, a combination of Catholic and African religions with voodoo rites, which typically take place 30 minutes prior to midnight, lasting until 30 minutes after midnight. The *Press-Telegram* reported in October of 1989 that the beheading of a chicken found at the cemetery was more of a satanic ritual than a prank. The chicken's body was found alongside a carved coconut shell with blood-soaked coconut meat, a mixture containing chicken blood, honey and alcohol, and uncooked beans, corn and black and green seeds scattered around the scene.

Within the last year, the Pasadena Paranormal Research Society (PPRS) – a group made up of investigators, case managers, psychics, UFO specialists and mediums – began investigating Downey Cemetery after catching wind of the frequent Santeria's taking place. During their investigation, the group was able to capture EVPs (Electronic Voice

See CEMETERY, page 12

## Youth Fishing Day set for next Saturday

**DOWNEY** – The City of Downey and the California Department of Fish and Game have teamed up to provide youth an opportunity to fish on Nov. 3 from 8 a.m. to noon at Wilderness Park.

Downey Youth Fishing Day is free and will consist of learning stations, safety procedures, safety tips and casting. They will also learn about different types of fish, what happens to the lake environment when it is not clean, and how to be a responsible angler. The event is designed for kids ages 15 and under.

A supply of bait, fishing rods and reels will be available on loan in a limited quantity for those who attend the sessions. The youth who participate need to have a parent with identification to check-out the fishing equipment. The youth who do have their own fishing rods are encouraged to bring them. A junior fishing license will be given to every child who participates.

In addition, the event will offer other activities. There will be free t-shirts for the first 250 youth, as well as giveaways. A demonstration of fly tying will be provided by the Fly Fishers Club. A breakfast consisting of pancakes, sausage patties and a drink will be provided for a fee of \$2 while supplies last.

For information, call (562) 904-7238.

## Help serve Thanksgiving dinner to needy

**DOWNEY** – Volunteers are needed for the 16th Annual Thanksgiving Outreach Dinner to be held Nov. 16 at the Barbara J. Riley Community & Senior Center. Volunteers are needed to help prepare and serve a hot meal, set-up, decorate and more.

The dinner is being organized by Pastor Garnett Simpson-Grier and the Breath of God Christian Fellowship, in conjunction with the Aggressive Community Training and Services (ACTS) Foundation.

Food donations are also needed for the 100-plus baskets that will be prepared and distributed throughout Downey schools.

To volunteer or donate food, call the church office at (310) 767-9620. Financial gifts in lieu of food can be sent to Breath of God, P.O. Box 39903, Downey, CA 90239.

## Former senator featured at breakfast

**DOWNEY** – The 22nd Annual Downey Mayor's Prayer Breakfast will feature former California State Senator Bill Morrow, who previously represented the 38th District including northern San Diego County and southern Orange County.

During his time in office, Morrow was chair of the Senate Veterans Committee, and vice chair of the Judiciary Committee and Energy, Utilities and Communications Committee.

He was voted "Legislator of the Year" in 2001 by the California Small Business Association.

The Mayor's Prayer Breakfast is open to the community and costs \$15. A breakfast buffet will open at 6:30 a.m. while the formal event starts at 7 at the Rio Hondo Event Center.

For tickets or more information, call (562) 923-9616.

## Moravian Church hosts boutique

**DOWNEY** – The Moravian Church of Downey will be hosting a boutique on Nov. 3 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The church is located at 10337 Old River School Rd.



Downey Soroptimist Treasurer Dorothy Pemberton presented a \$1,000 donation to Optimist Club member Roy Acker in support of the pumpkin patch the two clubs support every year. Children are invited to the patch at Apollo Park on Oct. 31 to enjoy a safe Halloween. The free event will feature food, games, a costume contest and more.



Calvary Chapel of Downey is collecting simple gifts to pack in shoe boxes that will be shipped to disadvantaged children around the world as part of Operation Christmas Child. Gifts can include school supplies, toys, necessity items, candy and letters of encouragement. For more information on how to contribute to the drive, call (714) 432-7030. The picture above shows shoe boxes being delivered to children in Cambodia. Photo courtesy Samaritan's Purse

## Seniors learn how to prepare for disasters

■ Senior citizens urged to plan for both natural and man-made disasters. Help is readily available.

BY BROOKE KARLI, STAFF WRITER

**DOWNEY** – With wild fires engulfing numerous areas of Southern California, there was no better time for Harriett and Susan Paine to host a disaster preparedness class for older Americans in recognition of National Preparedness Month.

At Monday's OASIS class at Downey Adult School, the two discussed the challenges preparing for a natural disaster entails, especially for older citizens and those with special needs or disabilities.

The 86 participants, ranging in age from 60 to 95 years old, were urged to follow four basic steps when having to prepare for a natural disaster: (1) Get informed, (2) Make a plan, (3) Assemble your kit, and (4) Maintain your plan and kit.

"Each plan and kit will be different depending on individual needs," said Susan, member of Downey's Community Emergency Response Team. "That is why it is so important to prepare!"

Susan also emphasized getting acquainted with your neighbors because in an emergency, they will serve as your lifeline.

"This program strictly addressed the needs of elder adults and persons with special needs," said Harriett, adult education teacher for 54 years. "It was designed to emphasize the importance of being ready to evacuate at a moments notice."

Participants not only learned how to be prepared for evacuations, earthquakes, and possible terrorist attacks, but were also provided with materials from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and the American Red Cross.

"The class was very informative," said Eloise Word, 54-year Downey resident. "We don't think about being prepared until disasters happen, and then it's too late."

OASIS offers a variety of programs every Monday from 3 to 6 p.m. inside the Downey Adult School Auditorium. The free program is followed by an optional full-course dinner, which costs \$3.50. Downey Dial-A-Ride provides transportation to those who qualify.

For information, call (562) 940-6200.

## Jimenez graduates from basic training

**DOWNEY** – Army National Guard Pvt. Christopher N. Jimenez has completed basic combat training at Fort Jackson in Columbia, S.C.

During the nine weeks of training, Jimenez studied the Army mission, history, tradition and core, and physical fitness. He also received instruction and practice in basic combat skills, military weapons, chemical warfare and bayonet training, drill and ceremony, marching, rifle marksmanship, armed and unarmed combat, map reading, field tactics, military courtesy, military justice system, basic first aid, foot marches, and field training exercises.

Jimenez is currently a student at Downey High School and is the son of Silvia Jimenez of Downey.

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## HEART ATTACK

Continued from page 1

inserted a balloon catheter into his blocked arteries, and a placed a "stent", or wire mesh device similar to a small, short straw, into the artery to keep it open. From the time at his home when the paramedics first attached their cardiac monitor to Don's chest, to the time the procedure was complete and his coronary arteries were re-opened, only 63 minutes had elapsed. A short time later, Don was sitting in the Cardiac Care Unit recovering.

When Don's wife, Barry, returned home, she knew something had happened when she saw the gloves and medical supply wrappers the paramedics had left behind. A few minutes later, Don phoned his family to explain he had had a heart attack. They questioned how he could be calling them from the hospital if he was truly so sick, but Don assured them he was now feeling much better. This positive outcome is a result of the early diagnosis and treatment of Don's condition.

The equipment that allowed the paramedics to diagnose Don's life-threatening condition was their new 12-lead EKG monitor. The Downey Fire Department Paramedics recently purchased these new monitors and completed training in their use in the spring of 2007. The purchase of these machines was made possible with the use of Los Angeles County Measure B tax funds. Voters approved the Measure B tax levy to address the trauma center and emergency medical care problems a few years ago.

These monitors allow paramedics in the field to obtain early diagnosis of potentially life-threatening heart attacks. The type of heart attack Don was experiencing, known as an ST Elevation Myocardial Infarction (STEMI), can be aggressively treated with an early diagnosis.

This operational and equipment breakthrough has led to a recent change in L.A. County policy, which now mandates immediate transport of these patients to a specially designated "STEMI Center." The nearest STEMI centers to Downey are Whittier Presbyterian Hospital, Beverly Hospital, and Long Beach Memorial Hospital. When paramedics transport STEMI patients to these hospitals, they are immediately rushed to a Cardiac Catheter Lab where an angioplasty can be performed to open blocked cardiac arteries and minimize damage to the heart muscle. The quicker this is done, the less potential there is for heart muscle damage. This technology can truly save lives and improve the quality of life for heart attack survivors.

## Council denies World of Décor's appeal

BY HENRY VENERACION,  
STAFF WRITER

**DOWNEY**—A prolonged and at times acrimonious debate Tuesday developed between officials of World of Décor, known for its antiquarian and gigantic statuary along with other hard-to-find bric-a-brac, and City Council members as the merchandiser sought for an amendment to the city's Specific Plan 90-1, that would allow the outdoor display of merchandise on the north side of the building fronting the 5 Freeway.

Among the arguments advanced by World of Décor were: 1) The 127,000-sq. ft. facility on which World of Décor sits had been vacant for the better part of seven years, and since it has enhanced the prospects of the place and brought in business to the city, it was only right that the city allow the presence of its garden display center; 2) Before, World of Décor alleged, graffiti and all sorts of unsightly items pervaded the place, especially its eastern side, and now, after fencing in the northern side

with iron gates and the placement of solid- and expensive-looking merchandise in the garden display center, all signs of graffiti have ceased; and 3) All sorts of inconsistencies and confusion seemed to accompany World of Décor's dealings with Code Enforcement, Police and Fire, and such.

In short, World of Décor insisted, because it has invested heavily in its facility, the least the city can do is be "business-friendly" and provide appropriate assistance as it

See COUNCIL, page 4

## How to tell if you are having a heart attack

Although the Internet proved to be a valuable resource to Don Ord, the Downey Fire Department strongly encourages you to call 911 immediately if you are experiencing symptoms that might be signs of a heart attack. These may include:

**Chest discomfort**- This can often present as a dull pain, pressure, or tightness.

**Shortness of breath**- Some heart attack patients will experience shortness of breath without any other pain.

**Other associated pain or discomfort**- Cardiac pain can also result in upper body pain that radiates to the back, the jaw, upper abdomen, or sometimes the left arm.

**Excessive sweating, nausea and vomiting, or weakness and dizziness**

These signs and symptoms are classic signs of a heart attack, but may not always be present. The key is, if you think you may be having a heart attack, call 911 and let the paramedics assess your condition. The purpose of our new cardiac 12-lead monitors is to provide a quick diagnosis, which can lead to rapid treatment of cardiac problems. For each minute that passes there is the potential for further cardiac muscle damage. Time is muscle. The clock is ticking.

Provided by the Downey Fire Department

Last week Don celebrated his 70th birthday with his family. A few days later, Don and Barry, along with their son, Mike and daughter-in-law, Cathy, came to Station 1 (Headquarters) to visit Ted and Sean and say thank you. Cathy is an RN who began her career at Downey Community Hospital, and now educates paramedics as the Director of Emergency Services for Newport Beach Fire Department in Orange County. Her background gives her a thorough understanding of the benefits of early diagnosis and treatment of cardiac problems. She explained to her father-in-law how fortunate he was to receive such rapid treatment.

Don stated that he is feeling better than he has in years. They all agreed that without the new 12-lead monitor and aggressive cardiac treatment procedures and equipment, Don might not have fared so well.

The Downey Fire Department wishes Don a belated 70th birthday and looks forward to celebrating many more birthdays with Don!



Sr. Officer John Mark-Erdelyan issues safety glasses to the crew prior to leaving for the San Diego fires. Photo courtesy Capt. Aaron Reyes with SEACA.

## Downey firefighters, SEACA helping wildfire efforts

BY ERIC PIERCE, CITY EDITOR

**DOWNEY**—The Downey Fire Department dispatched three "strike teams" this week to assist with the Southern California wildfires, according to Fire Capt. Darren Moon.

"All four stations are still being manned in the city and emergency service here has not been diminished," Moon said.

"Downey also sent out Battalion Chief Seely as an Area Representative for Area E," Moon said, referring to the coordinated fire effort. "The crews are set to be rotated on Friday morning if necessary. All staff is on alert and could be called in at any time if the situation dictates."

Fire Chief Mark Sauter said Downey firefighters were deployed to the Malibu fires, the "Magic Fire" and the San Diego wildfires.

Downey firefighters extinguished the flames at the Malibu Presbyterian Church, one of the

first of many buildings to be engulfed by the fires, Sauter said.

Sauter said no date was set for the firefighters' return.

Four SEACA animal control officers from Downey also left for San Diego this week, where they helped their sister agencies in rounding up and treating animals that were lost or may have fled the massive wildfires.

The officers were headquartered at the animal rescue command center located in Escondido, SEACA's Capt. Aaron Reyes said.

The team took with them a fully-equipped truck and horse trailer, an animal control transport vehicle, lead ropes, leashes, animal carriers, flashlights, water, safety equipment, and two-way radios.

"We're happy to help our sister agencies and their communities in this time of need," Reyes, who gave a 30-minute briefing to the officers before they departed, said.

"Animals are a big part of our lives and residents may need assistance with evacuating them."

Reyes said SEACA trains for emergency situations and routinely helps other agencies and communities during disasters.

"We train for these types of scenarios, but the reality is sometimes very different than mock situations," Reyes said. "Three years ago we thought we had lost a fully loaded horse trailer in a fire storm off Highway 8 (in San Diego) while assisting in the wildfires then, but got lucky when the fire laid back down allowing the officer to restart their vehicle and get to safer territory with four horses they had just rescued."

SEACA reminded residents to prepare for disasters and to include pets in evacuation plans. For information, visit [www.seaca.org](http://www.seaca.org).

Most high schools also discontinued outdoor activities because of deteriorating air quality.

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

To maintain healthy gums and teeth, we should brush our teeth for 2-3 minutes at least twice a day. With proper technique (brush all tooth surfaces at the proper angles), a conventional manual toothbrush provides good results. However, because not every one of us is proficient at manual brushing (especially children), an electric toothbrush is likely to serve us better. The latest generation of rotary-style electric toothbrushes tends to do a better job than the older models that feature simple back-and-forth motions. Sub-categories include "sonic" toothbrushes, which vibrate at ultra-high speeds, and "oscillating/pulsating" rotary toothbrushes, which move at higher rates. These higher-speed brushes may enhance the cleaning effect, but proper technique is critical whatever brush is used.

This column on tooth brushes has been brought to you in the interest of better dental health. We would like to increase dental awareness and the importance of regular dental care. We believe that with preventive dental care, daily brushing and flossing, and a well-balanced diet, people can maintain their teeth and gums in good health well into their later years. You can always discuss your dental concerns with us. Call (562) 923-3714 to schedule an appointment. We're here to help. We're located at 10800 Paramount Blvd., Suite 307.

P.S. Studies have provided a good amount of clinical evidence that rotary electric toothbrushes are superior to manual toothbrushing with regard to plaque removal and reduction in gingivitis (gum inflammation).

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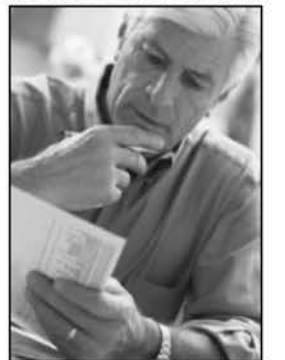
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## TLC puts its best foot forward at anniversary

■ TLC (True Lasting Connections) celebrates seven years of helping the community.

By HENRY VENERACION, STAFF WRITER

**DOWNEY**—Nobody who attended the 2007 TLC Recognition Luncheon last Friday at the Rio Hondo Event Center could have mistaken what TLC stood for, and yet, as part of a multiple choice questionnaire, more to give a touch of novelty to the proceedings than as a serious test of one's knowledge, one could very well have chosen Tender Loving Care as an appropriate substitute description of the family resource center that, this year, heads into its seventh year of service.

The other questionnaire questions ranged from routine to more difficult. Q: "Where is the TLC Center located?" Correct answer: "d.) at the corner of Bellflower Blvd. and Foster Rd." Q: "Who supervises the TLC program and staff?" Choices offered were: a.) Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, b.) Dr. Robert Jagielski, c.) Mrs. Jerilyn King-Brown, d.) Mrs. Bobbie Samperi, e.) Mr. Kent Halbmaier. If you picked b), you guessed right. Q: "Who refers students/families to TLC?" Choices: a.) SEACA, b.) ACLU, c.) NASDAQ, d.) SARB, e.) NFL. Answer: d.). Q: "How is TLC funded?" Choices: a.) Comedy act of Jagielski & Perez on weekends at the Improv, b.) community donations, c.) grants, d.) fundraisers, e.) B, C and D. Answer: d.). Q: "What services does TLC provide?" Choices: a.) Meals on Wheels, b.) Driver's Education, c.) Internet dating, d.) Counseling & insurance enrollment, e.) Medical, dental & vision, f.) d and e. Answer: f.). Q: "How many Downey U.S.D. families did TLC serve last year?" Choices: a.) 50, b.) Over 1,000 c.) 500, d.) 700, e.) 672. Answer: b.).

Other novel touches at the well-attended luncheon included souvenir TLC-embossed pens that came in different colors, little ribboned heart-shaped chocolates, and easily the most significant innovation, the intertwining and exemplification of TLC with the Six Pillars of Character, the mirror messages mounted on special colorful board uprights: *trustworthiness* = TLC demonstrates the courage necessary to support the children and families of Downey Unified; *respect* = TLC embraces the diversity of Downey Unified and considers all students to be worthy of dignity and respect; *responsibility* = TLC persists in its mission to serve the children and families of Downey; *fairness* = TLC exhibits the open-mindedness vital to enable our students to achieve their potential and beyond; *caring* = TLC shows compassion by connecting our children and families to much needed resources; and *citizenship* = TLC contributes to the preparation of Downey Unified students by empowering them. At the bottom of the uprights read: "To make the world a better place."

The all-important donors, sponsors, and service volunteers, on whom much of the continuing success of TLC depends, were of course recognized. Leading the list of supporters were platinum donors Don Knabe and Kaiser Permanente. Also lauded were gold donors Gypsy Johnson Auxiliary and the Mary R. Stauffer Foundation; silver donors Carpenter Elementary, City of Downey, the Delta Kappa Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma International, the Downey Association of Realtors, Downey



Shown in picture: Mario Guerra, MC; Lucy Perez, Supervisor TLC Center; and Dr. Robert Jagielski, District TLC Coordinator. Photo courtesy Stan Hanstad

Federal Credit Union, Downey Los Amigos Kiwanis, Old River Elementary, and Warren High School; and bronze donors Gauldin Elementary, along with John and Joell Harris.

Also lauded for their various vital contributions to TLC's progress were the following: Christina Ambrosino (Exchange Club), Elisa Avila (PTA president, Williams), Rose Boland (who needs no introduction), Debra Bravo (Sussman Middle), Ernestine Ferrell (Ward), Karen Dabney (Downey High), Jaime Garcia (Kaiser Permanente), Julie Helm (DUSD), Robert Jagielski, Ed. D. (DUSD) who gave the welcoming remarks and with Lucy Perez coordinated the affair, Robin Martin (Lewis), Aaron Peralta (Warren High), Jennifer Robbins (Ward), and Lucy Wilson (HSS Security).

A highlight was DUSD Superintendent Wendy Doty accepting a donated check of \$2,000 from Robin Matin, representing Downey Los Amigos Kiwanis.

Deacon and Councilmember Mario Guerra was effective as emcee, whose joke about a certain bodily function often seen but only privately felt drew nervous laughter, I thought, but genuine laughter nevertheless.

It's never inopportune to make a donation (tax deductible) to TLC, says Perez, "to ensure healthy and successful futures for all our children." The number to call: (562) 904-3577.

## Niemand's celebrate 60 years of marriage

**DOWNEY** – Don and Shirley Niemand celebrated 60 years of marriage on Sept. 6.

Don and Shirley are both graduates of Iowa State University. In 1952, after working on the Atomic Bomb at Los Alamos, Don brought his family to Downey, where he worked at North American Aviation, later known as Rockwell and Boeing.

While working on the development of complex guidance equipment for submarines, ships, tanks, aircraft, missiles and space vehicles, Don obtained a master's degree from the University of California in Los Angeles. He also participated in the beginnings of the Downey Symphony Orchestra, playing trombone under Mario Cajati. For a number of years, he and Shirley sang with the Downey Civic Chorus, participating in two trips to Guadalajara as part of the Sister Cities Program.

In addition, Don taught calculus at Long Beach City College for 22 years, later tutoring in math and English. Shirley worked as a stockbroker for 28 years, retiring in 2005.

About 10 years ago, Don joined a writers' workshop and discovered an ability to write. He has published five books – three novels, a collection of short stories, and a memoir – in addition to the hundreds of short stories and articles still to be published.

Don and Shirley currently split their time between their homes in Downey and Oakhurst.



## Kiwanis raises \$4,000 at fundraising event

By GWYNN GUSTAFSON, KIWANIS CLUB OF DOWNEY

**DOWNEY** – Kiwanis Club of Downey and Kiwanis Los Amigos recently joined with ten other non-profit organizations for a fundraising event at the Citadel Outlets.

Jess Irwin, marketing manager at Citadel Outlets, one of 14 retail centers that owner Craig Realty Group opens up for charity support every year, coordinated the center's 2nd Annual Shopping Extravaganza.

"As a company, it's good to give back to the communities we work in," said Irwin. "There is no greater way to stay involved than to support local non-profit organizations. This event is also a great way to showcase the mall and introduce people to the 'just plain fun' of shopping here."

During the 2006 Shopping Extravaganza, 600 people participated. This year there were over 1,500 participants. Kiwanis clubs in Downey raised \$4,000 during this event.

To participate in next year's October event, contact Irwin at (323) 888-1724.

## Marching Band Field Show tomorrow

**DOWNEY** – Downey High School will be hosting a Marching Band Field Show Tournament tomorrow at 3 p.m.

The school, however, will be unavailable for use from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. No parking will be allowed from midnight tonight until midnight tomorrow. Cars parked in the school's parking lot during that time will be towed.

The community is invited to attend the event. Tickets are \$12 per person, and admission is free for children six years old and under.

## The Poets' Corner

### Between Blazing Fire

Mountains that sore with winds  
Fires engulfed, due to singe  
What can I do to help?  
But rest at homes kept self  
Ashes cover my lungs  
Still I dine with my funds  
While others have lost homes  
Schools closed, for life postponed  
Mountains that sore with winds  
Fires engulfed, due to singe  
How long the brush will burn  
History repeats its turn  
Again but hush we learn  
Child wear your coat  
It won't be long before we cope.

--James Hernandez,  
Downey

### Eschatology

I guess I thought:  
Some sultry evenin' just past chores,  
the hot wind blowin' up a storm,  
the scud clouds racin' past the moon,  
the world would just go BANG!

and there we'd be  
my Em and me --  
"Walkin' out to meet Him face to face,"  
you might say.

And now she's gone.  
My God I'm scared!  
I've got to go alone.

--John Vincent,  
Downey



Gwynn Gustafson of Kiwanis Club of Downey showed Shopping Extravaganza participants the free lunch they received with the purchase of an event ticket.

## COUNCIL

Continued from page 1

sought to solidify its toehold in the area.

To which members of the Council responded with: 1) Counterarguments that the city bent over backwards a lot of times to try to resolve vexing issues involving emergency exits, fire truck access to the property, and so on; 2) Despite repeated warnings about code violations, World of Décor tended to disregard them, and this was exacerbated not least by a "failure to communicate" because phone calls were not returned for weeks on end; 3) There was an absence of revenue reporting and thus this left the city in the dark as to World of Décor's accountability in this regard.

In the end, the Council denied World of Décor's request to amend Specific Plan 90-1, which prohibits outdoor uses not fully enclosed

within a building (other than vehicle sales/display and vehicle storage), sticking to its principle that it will not tolerate "breaking of the law" and moreover "preserve the integrity" of the city's ordinances as to their universal, rather than particular, application.

In other action, the Council:

- Approved the professional services agreement with Granicus, Inc. for Internet replay broadcasts of actions taken at City Council/Community Development meetings and appropriated \$45,500 from the General Fund for the purpose;

- Adopted an ordinance amending Section 3186 of the Downey Municipal Code relating to the speed limits (unchanged, at 25 mph) for Third St.;

- Adopted an ordinance amending the city's Comprehensive Zoning Map, changing the zoning of the property at 8603 Imperial Highway owned by the DiLoreto Family Trust, from C-P (Professional Office) to R-3-O (Medium Density Multiple-Family Residential Ownership);

- Proclaimed Oct. 27 as "Make a Difference Day," in which citizens are enjoined to celebrate the spirit of volunteer service to benefit the community;

- Proclaimed Oct. 28 as "National Immigrants Day," in celebration of the "great ethnic diversity and multicultural character that have provided this (great) nation with boundless energy and strength, spurring growth, progress, and prosperity"; and

- Proclaimed November as "National American Indian Heritage Month," highlighting the contributions of American Indians that have "enhanced the freedom, prosperity, and greatness of America today."

The next regular public meeting of the City Council will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Nov. 13 at City Hall in Downey.

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## A beer, a pool cue, and a redheaded man

By John Adams, Editor Emeritus

I've always liked race tracks and the seamy crowd that always surrounds them. Not the broken down gamblers who are always on the hustle, but the men and women who work the backstretch, the people who spend their lives caring for their animals. It seems more honest to be broke if you work at it.

There is a whole world behind the glitter and glory of thoroughbred horse racing. It is a world of people who work with the horses every day, training them, grooming them, always hoping that just once their horse will run a little faster than he ever has before.

Of course, most of the time it is not their horse at all, but the horse they care for who actually belongs to a man who sits in an office many miles away. A man who uses the expenses of horse racing as a business tax write-off and who seldom cares whether he wins or loses at all.

For drinks today I chose a small bar called the Home Stretch, positioned near the barn area of Golden Gate Fields, and a favorite with the barn crowd.

I walked in and asked the girl behind the bar for a beer, then turned and peered into the other room where the eternal pool game had already begun.

The old man with the pool cue was obviously drunk, and had no teeth. But the men around the table gave him room as he shuffled from one end to the other and lined up his next shot.

"Hey, Shorty," one of the spectators yelled. "Give us a break and scratch for a change!"

The old man sank four balls in a row, then chuckled and took his seat. He was obviously a favorite of the crowd.

His eyes came up to meet mine as I sat there trying to figure out his background. He didn't seem the typical groom, nor a broken down gambler either.

"You seem to know this game," I said, for want of anything else.

"Sonny, this isn't my game at all," he said. "Why I was one of the hottest jockies around 20 years ago, wasn't I Jack," he said reaching across with his pool cue and tickling the man who was attempting to shoot.

"Yeah, you were good. But what good are you now?" growled the shooter, shoving aside the pool cue that was probing his ribs.

A big redheaded man at the bar turned on his stool and shouted across at us. "Tell him about all the batteries, Shorty. Fella, this was the greatest battery man of all time."

I know about batteries and horses. A jockey once told me he was going to win a race and I dared to ask him how. "I'll win the race and we'll shake on it right now," he had told me with a grin.

When I extended my hand he shook it, then placed his left over the back of my fist while still gripping it.

The jolt almost sent me through the ceiling. A "buzzer" fits inside the palm and carries enough electrical juice to let any horse know it is no time to be lazy. Of course, sometimes the horse gets really upset and jumps the rail. There are good plans and bad plans and you never want to bet too much money, even on a buzzer.

The old man was laughing at the redheaded man's comments.

"Sonny, let me tell you about the time I rode with a real battery," said the short man with no teeth. "It was at Portland Meadows more than 20 years ago, and it was a rainy night. I was on the inside getting the worst of it at the head of the stretch and I knew I was going to need the juice on the nag I was riding. I reached down and hit him good with the buzzer."

The whole room had become quiet. "What happened," the redhead said leaning forward from his seat at the bar.

"Why, the lights went out in the grandstand," said the old man laughing so hard he bent forward and nearly fell down.

"But did you win the race," asked the redhead, desperate now to know the end of the old man's story.

"Don't know," said the old man cackling in a wild circle and holding his drink over his head. "Couldn't see!"

## Lonely down here

By Eric Pierce

Jeez, John, way to hog up the Editorial page! But it's OK, though, because I'm a little too upset to write anyways. I've been under the weather recently, and I just found out the prescription medication I need will cost me \$230 for a one month supply. My insurance doesn't cover it.

That's \$230 per month. That's \$230 I can't afford. I did some online investigating, and the same medicine is available through Canadian pharmacies for half the price. I can buy it online (legalities notwithstanding) and save a ton of money.

My other option is to drive down to Tijuana and buy my medicine there. Is it illegal to transport legal drugs into the U.S., even if you have a prescription? I don't know.

It all sounds so seamy, buying prescription drugs online or from other countries. But it's not hard to see why people do it.



### Letters to the Editor:

#### 50 years of memories

Dear Editor:  
Downey High School's class of 1957 came home for a wonderful three-day visit last weekend, in celebration of the 50th anniversary of our graduation. The welcome could not have been warmer, and we are so appreciative of the extra efforts by the current Downey High School Assistant Principal in charge of Facilities, John Baker; Gordon Weisenburger, ASB and Activities Director; and the wonderful students themselves.

Over 70 of our classmates signed up for a campus tour, assisted by members of the Student Council, and all were impressed by the wonderful new facilities as well as the excellent condition of the historic structures and landmarks — especially "Building A" and the "Bell Tower." On Friday night, we "helped" the football team beat Paramount with our enthusiastic cheering section, which was set aside especially for us. The "Bell Tower" is apparently now referred to as the Victory Tower, and we also threw ourselves into the spirited celebration. Even the yearbook staff pitched in, taking pictures, conducting interviews, etc. — all of which made us feel extremely special and welcome.

Many of our classmates enjoyed a weekend stay at the Embassy Suites, where we also held a Sports Reunion on Friday night. All the accommodations at the Embassy Suites really added to a successful weekend — from the nice rooms to the happy hour drinks and hors d'oeuvres. How wonderful to have such a nice facility right next to the high school! We returned to the campus on Sunday for a catered box lunch before we reluctantly said, "Goodbye, see you in five years."

Our 50th reunion dinner was held at the beautifully remodeled Rio Hondo Events Center, and we cannot say enough good things about Mark Shelton and his staff. We met personally with Mark several times in the year preceding the reunion, and he accommodated all our needs and then some, even offering ideas and suggestions. Even with over 200 people in attendance, the meal itself was beautifully served and of amazing quality that somehow magically stayed within our budget. We know we could not have had anything comparable to the overall quality, service and beautiful setting anywhere else in Southern California.

One of the highlights of our evening was a surprise visit by the Viking cheerleading squad. Led by instructor and spirit leader Leslie Patterson, they really set the tone for the evening. We've had seven reunions since we graduated, and scores of our classmates told us this was the best one ever.

So, thank you, Downey, for a wonderful life growing up in the '50s and for a wonderful weekend 50 years later.

— Kay (Wilde) Coffield,  
Reunion Committee, Downey High School class of 1957

#### A much-appreciated letter

Dear Editor:  
Please express a thank-you to James E. Jones for a most-enjoyable Letter to the Editor ("The Old Way," 10/19/07). His variety of complaint should be widespread.

—Miriam Shenkman,  
Downey

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.

#### An action not taken lightly

Dear Editor:  
On behalf of the Board of Directors for the Downey Junior Athletic Association (DJAA), I sincerely apologize to Edward Garcia ("Rivalry At Its Worst," 10/19/07) and to anyone else who was offended by a T-shirt worn by one of our coaches during a DJAA football game. We understand that it is very important that every coach be an exemplary role model and maintain the highest standard of conduct at all times. DJAA coaches represent our community and the children we influence through our leadership, or lack thereof. Many people closely observe our coaches' conduct, as they should. So it is imperative that the coaches recognize that the purpose of extracurricular activities is to promote the physical, mental, moral, social, and emotional well-being of its participants.

The DJAA sports program has established the Pursuing Victory with Honor/Character Counts program. We have adopted codes of conduct for coaches, athletes, parents, and spectators. We have set in place our coaches' background checks and fingerprinting through the Department of Justice, also setting in place training seminars, and CPR and first aid classes.

This incident has been brought to the attention of the coach in question by one of our board members and he apologized for his serious lack of judgment. I will personally speak to him and our board regarding this matter at our upcoming board meeting.

Again, I apologize to Edward Garcia and the citizens of Downey. And I welcome any child to come be a part of the Downey Junior Athletic Association. It is my belief that the impact of sports can and should enhance the character and uplift the ethics of the community.

—Carnel Anderson, Sr.,  
DJAA President

#### Fun at the library

Dear Editor:  
Cheers to you for the wonderful editorial in the Patriot ("A Book for Thee," 10/19/07). Thanks to you, people are now more aware of the great library in Downey.

Besides finding a good book and checking it out, there is much to see and do at the library. All that is needed is a library card. A delightful part of the library is the Friends Gift Store. Check it out next time you are in the library.

Soon the Library Advisory Board and the Friends of the Library will be announcing "Community Happening: One Book/One Community," when Downey residents will be reading the same book. The title of that book will be announced soon.

Again, thanks for the editorial.  
— Cleo Latimer,  
President, Friends of the Downey City Library

#### Luncheon celebrates DMOA's 50 years

DOWNEY — The Downey Museum of Art will host its annual luncheon at the Rio Hondo Country Club tomorrow at 11 a.m.

This year's founder's luncheon celebrates the museum's 50th anniversary, presenting Lillian Ashton Brooks with an award for her work in supporting the museum. The Art Angels, as well as past board members, will also be honored.

The fashion show — moderated by Marsha Moode — will include fashions from Draper's & Damon's.

Tickets are \$35 and reservations can be made by calling (323) 773-0074, or (562) 861-0419. Checks with names of guests can be mailed to the Downey Museum of Art, 10419 Rives Ave., Downey, CA, 90241.

### The Downey Patriot



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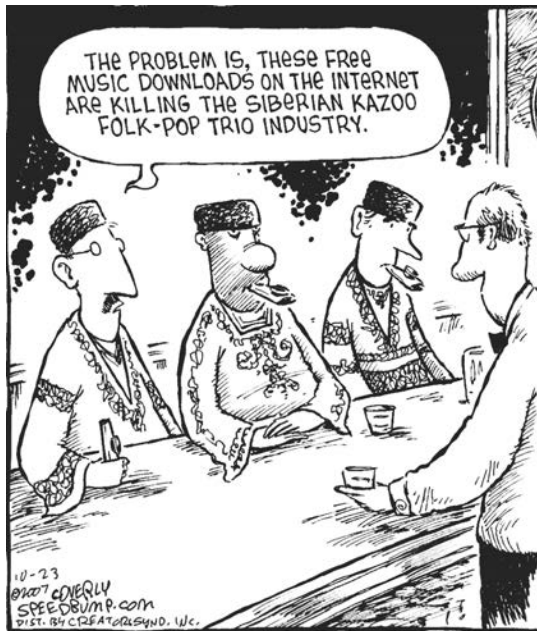
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## SPEED BUMP



## DAVE COVERLY



## On This Day...

**Oct. 26, 1776:** Benjamin Franklin departed America for France on a mission to seek French support for the American Revolution.

**1825:** The Erie Canal opens, connecting Lake Erie and the Hudson River in upstate New York.

**1951:** Boxer Joe Louis comes out of retirement to fight Rocky Marciano. Marciano wins the fight in eight rounds.

**1984:** A newborn with a severe heart defect is given the heart of a baboon in an experimental transplant in Loma Linda, Calif. She lived for 21 more days.

**2001:** The U.S. passes the USA PATRIOT Act.

## Downey Community Calendar

### Events For October

Fri. Oct. 26: "Spookrageous" Halloween Dance, Apollo Park, 7 p.m.  
 Sat. Oct. 27: "U.S. Service Academy Workshop," Downey Library, 8:30 a.m.  
 Sat. Oct. 27: Downey Symphony Concert, Downey Theatre, 8 p.m.  
 Tues. Oct. 30: "Dia de los Muertos," Downey Library, 4:30 p.m.

### City Meetings

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

### Regularly Scheduled Meetings

#### Mondays

6:30 p.m.: Metropolitan Masonic Lodge #352 dinner, mtg., for information call 426-6786.  
 6:30 p.m.: Overeaters Anonymous, at Downey Regional Med. Center Conf. Room A, for info. call 426-6786.  
 1st Mon., 4 p.m.: 2nd Century Foundation, at City Hall, 1st floor, call 927-9790.  
 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-Beard 869-7618.  
 1st Weds., 11:30 a.m.: Downey Coordinating Council, at Community Center, for information call 923-4357.  
 1st Weds., 7:30 p.m.: Downey Stamp Club, at Maude Price School cafeteria, for information call 928-3028.  
 1st Weds., 7:30 p.m.: Downey Emblem Club #309, at Downey's Elks Lodge, for information call 868-4386.  
 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

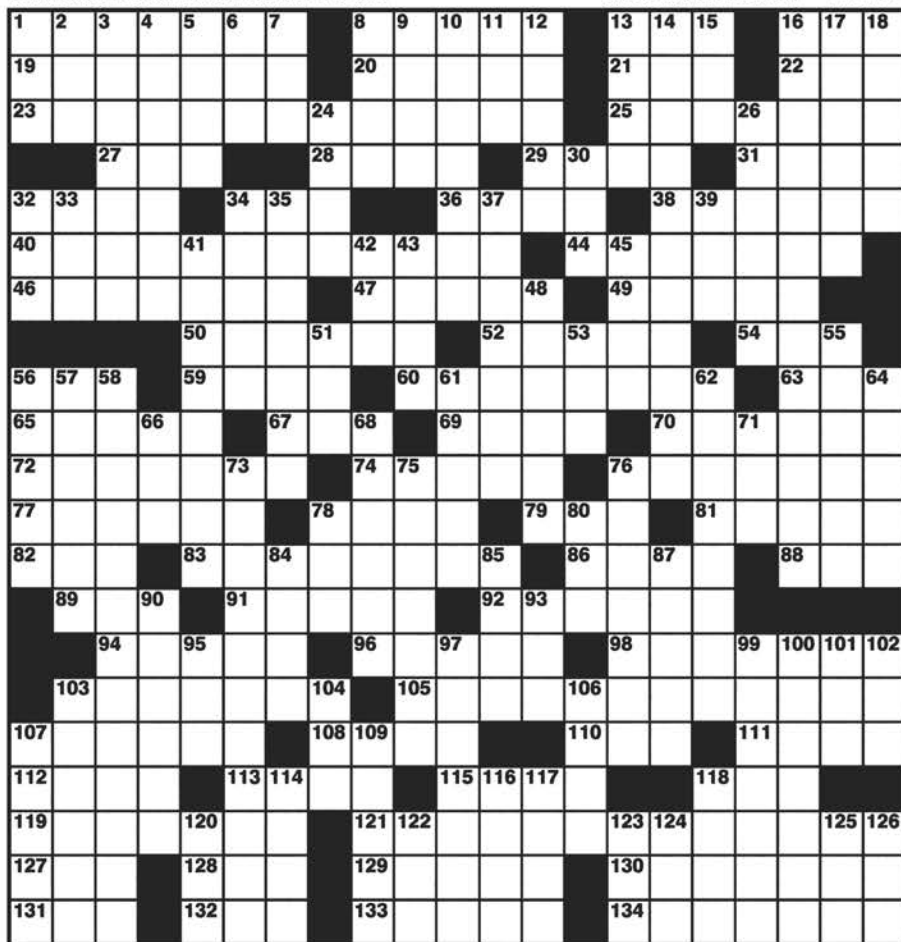
7:30 a.m.: Pro Networkers, at Mimi's Cafe, for information call Barbara Briley Beard at 869-7618  
 3rd Fri., 8:30 a.m.: Women's "In His Glory" Ministry at Los Amigos C. C. (562) 622-3785.

## THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com)  
**FINISHING SCHOOLS: Some "celebrity alumni"**  
 by Fred Piscop

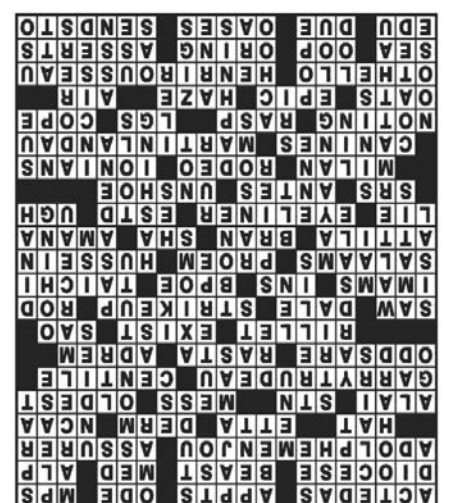
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You can contact puzzle editor Stanley Newman at his e-mail address: StanXwords@aol.com. Or write him at P.O. Box 69, Massapequa Park, NY 11762, Please send a self-addressed, stamped envelope if you'd like a reply.

Bulldogging, or steer roping (96 Across), is a RODEO event in which contestants wrestle a steer to the ground by twisting its horns. The ground by twisting its horns. Web site of West Point, aka the U.S. Military Academy. In Greek mythology, EUPHROSINE (37 Down) was the muse of music.



## Paging Dr. Alan Frischer...

BY DR. ALAN FRISCHER

When you drink your next bottle of water, will you picture the pure mountain spring from whence it came? Will you be stronger and healthier as a result of drinking that water?



In 2006, Americans drank about a billion bottles of water per week. That comes to 167 bottles per person per year in America. We have raised a generation that views tap water with suspicion, and is willing to pay three to four times the cost of gasoline for bottled water. Furthermore, the cost to society includes moving these bottles around every week in ships, trains and trucks. We purchase these bottles of water with the images of majestic mountains, beautiful glaciers, and crystal clear springs firmly implanted in our minds. Are we consuming something pure and healthful, or is the marketing misleading? Is bottled water indeed purer than tap water?

Bottled water seems like a pretty new idea - one born during this era of heightened awareness of fitness and pollution. However, water has been bottled and sold far from the source for thousands of years. In Europe, water from mineral springs was often thought to have curative and religious powers. In the late 1940's, the office water cooler began to pop up everywhere. Today, there are dozens of brands of bottled water and many different varieties, including flavored and carbonated, which the FDA (Food and Drug Administration) is responsible for regulating. They classify bottled water into artesian well water, well water, mineral water, and spring water. However, don't assume that bottled water is necessarily any purer, more regulated, or safer than tap water. Municipal water sys-

tems serving communities across America are subject to the federal Safe Drinking Water Act. As such, tap water is consistently and thoroughly tested for harmful substances. If a problem is found, consumers are notified. Further, tap water often contains fluoride and bottled water usually does not.

Some marketing is clearly and intentionally misleading, implying that the water comes from pristine sources when in fact it does not. According to the National Resource Defense Council (NRDC), a nonprofit environmental protection organization, one brand of "spring water" has a label picturing a lake and mountains, when in fact the water comes from a well in an industrial parking lot not far from a hazardous waste dump. Another brand claimed to be "Alaska Premium Glacier Drinking Water: Pure Glacier Water From the Last Unspoiled Frontier, Bacteria Free", and comes from a public water supply. This label was changed after FDA intervention. Finally, Vals bottled water claims the following: "Known to Generations in France for its Purity and Agreeable Contribution to Health.... Reputed to Help Restore Energy, Vitality, and Combat Fatigue." The International Bottled Water Association voluntary code prohibits health claims. Regardless of bottle labels, according to government and industry estimates, about 25-40% of bottled water is from the tap.

Taking one step forward, just this month Governor Schwarzenegger signed a bill into law that requires bottled-water manufacturers to disclose the source of your bottled water on the label.

Both tap (or municipal) water and bottled water are considered safe to drink. The FDA regulates bottled water, and the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) regulates tap water. The

present regulations for the FDA and the EPA are similar. (During the 1990's, FDA guidelines for bottled water were actually weaker than were the EPA guidelines for tap water.) Even with present guidelines being equally stringent, the argument has been made that bottled water policing is not a high priority for the FDA. If you are drinking bottled water instead of tap water because you are concerned about a specific contaminant, it is very difficult to assess the risk for a given brand. It is also fair to say that bottled water is often simply municipal water bottled and sold at a cost of over 400 times the cost of tap water. Also, for those of us who attempt to be environmentally conscious, bottled water uses more resources and produces more waste than does tap water.

Many of you have heard about the dangers caused by re-using plastic bottles or storing them in your car. E-mail has widely circulated the claim that the bottles contain DEHA, and label DEHA as a potential carcinogen. Another often-forwarded e-mail states that women should never drink from bottled water that has been left in a car because the heat releases chemicals from the plastic of the bottle that can lead to breast cancer. These e-mails were apparently based on a single Master's thesis that has not been replicated. DEHA is in fact not found in the plastic used to make these bottles, and the EPA states that DEHA "cannot reasonably be anticipated to cause cancer, teratogenic effects, immunotoxicity, neurotoxicity, gene mutations, liver, kidney, reproductive, or developmental toxicity or other serious or irreversible chronic health effects."

Other concerns circulating about plastic water bottles involve two additional chemicals, bisphenol A (BPA) and polyethylene terephthalate (PET). The debate rages on because heat does cause the release of some chemicals from plastic. Whether this is dangerous is still unresolved. The best I can say is that at this time there is no

conclusive evidence linking re-used or heated water bottles and health dangers. Of course, simply re-using a water bottle too many times can cause your own germs to transfer from your mouth to the bottle, and then multiply into potentially disease-causing quantities.

What about problems with plastic water bottles and landfills? The largest bottled-water factory in North America is located in Maine. Stored there at any one time are 24 million bottles of Poland Spring water. They stretch across six acres, and are shipped off and replaced with new bottles on a regular basis. As noted above, we are consuming one billion plastic water bottles per week. Presently, we recycle some of those, but we bury 38 billion water bottles into landfills each year. Do note, however, that we also consume carbonated drinks at twice that rate. They too pose the same significant environmental issues. Practical solutions for recycling are necessary to solve many issues, not just water bottle disposal. The difference is that water is simply available from the tap, and soda is not.

So where does that leave us? While most bottled water is apparently of good quality, public awareness of data is scarce. Regulatory agencies have found numerous cases where bottled water has been contaminated at levels that exceed state or federal standards. Since municipal water is tested far more often than bottled water, it is found far more often to be in compliance with federal standards.

Given that tap water faces tougher regulatory guidelines, my suggestion is to install a water filtration system and use that water to refill a well-cleaned, durable Nalgene-type bottle. You'll get good taste, a pure product, and your pocketbook will thank you. Good health to you all. Cheers!

*Dr. Alan Frischer if 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*

## Paying the ultimate price for cheap pills

CONTRIBUTED BY PETER PITTS

CENTER FOR MEDICINE IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST

When was the last time you picked up a bottle of Bayer Aspirin and wondered whether it was authentic?

Never? Well, Bayer is a well-known brand. You were probably in a chain store, or at least on a popular website like drugstore.com. Plus, you don't need a prescription for aspirin.

But what if you wanted a drug that might be unavailable or cost too much in your area? What would you do if, alternatively, the government, your doctor, or your insurance company denied your request for something you thought could help you?

Like many others, Marcia Bergeron of Quadra Island in Canada was in just such a situation when she turned to the Internet.

While she likely thought she was purchasing inexpensive medicine from a safe online supplier in Canada, authorities found that she had actually ordered pills produced in Southeast Asia from a website based in the Czech Republic. It was a costly mistake that killed her.

Toxicology tests found three well-known drugs in her system: alprazolam - more commonly recognized as the anti-anxiety drug Xanax; zolpidem - which most are acquainted with as the brand-name sleeping pill Ambien; and acetaminophen. Zolpidem is not available in Canada, so it's understandable why Bergeron turned to the Internet to get the drug.

The number of additional substances found in toxicology tests, however, was astounding. Bergeron had high levels of "filler" materials like aluminum, tin, and even arsenic in her system. Such materials are the hallmark of dangerous counterfeit drugs.

As more consumers head online for cheap drugs, it's all too likely that Bergeron's story could become common - especially because the world's drug market is already awash in counterfeits.

The World Health Organization estimates that up to 10 percent of drugs sold around the world are fake. In fact, a 2005 FDA operation at the New York, Miami, and Los Angeles airports found that 85 percent of drugs from so-called "Canadian pharmacies" didn't actually come from Canada.

Supporters of drug importation hope to ease concerns about counterfeits by mandating the thorough inspection of imported drugs. Unfortunately, the FDA will have a hard time making sure everything is safe, legal, and properly labeled because counterfeiting is so decentralized.

In the European Union, for example, regulations prohibit manufacturers from managing their supply chains. This results in a lucrative market for wholesalers, who can open a package of pills only to repackage and relabel it. Because the manufacturer has no say in the process, dosages and expiration dates are frequently incorrect, and the drugs themselves are also subject to tampering.

Fortunately, elderly Americans don't need to scour the Internet for cheap drugs. Anyone who's 65 or older qualifies for the Medicare drug benefit. Although this program is only two years old, it is already providing subsidized coverage to around 24 million seniors. Its remarkable success is due to the fact that the drug benefit, unlike most government programs, is administered by private companies.

If the tragic story of Marcia Bergeron has proven anything, it's that turning to a pharmacy supposedly based in Canada to fill one's medical needs can have disastrous consequences.

*Peter J. Pitts is president of the Center for Medicine in the Public Interest and a former FDA Associate Commissioner.*

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## Visitors get preview of weekend concert

By Henry Veneracion, Staff Writer

**DOWNEY**—Last Saturday, towards the end of the viewing and tour of the iconography of the St. George Greek Orthodox Church of Downey jointly hosted by the Downey Symphony Guild and the Ladies Philotochos Society, congregant Dr. Themy Sparangis of the L. A. Unified School District and one of the two tour guides (along with Harold Tseklenis), challenged the powers of observation of the few guests who lingered behind at the church. The others had already marched on to St. George's dining hall situated at another building just a few steps from the church and where an appetizing Greek meal awaited.

"See if you notice anything unusual," he said, pointing to the depiction of the Christ about to give bread and wine to his apostles, who affected various poses. "Note especially the feet." The pastor nodded knowingly as he joined the little curious group.

So we looked and looked and, after several minutes of futile guessing, Sparangis finally supplied the answer: "Notice how all the apostles are facing toward the figure of Christ except one, and how his two hands are upraised in a form of rejection?" "Of course," an elderly guest said. "That must be Judas, isn't he?"

The Special Greek Luncheon prepared by the Philotochos Ladies, however, made us forget our failure at the observation test. The menu included Greek salad, Pastitsio (a Pasta dish with meat and Bechamel-type sauce), Dolmades (stuffed grape leaves), and Tyropita (phyllo triangles with cheese). Dessert was a custard baked in phyllo called Galactobouriko.

Providing the day's ultimate treat was Clyde Mitchell, one of the leading candidates to succeed the late Tom Osborn, as he gave a rousing preview of the program he will guest conduct at tomorrow's performance of the Downey Symphony Orchestra at the Downey Theatre. Mitchell, erstwhile music director of "Sinfonia" of Vancouver, B.C.,

will begin the concert titled "The Magic Flutist" with "Fanfare for Downey," which he himself composed, he said, weaving elements of Francis Scott Key's "The Star Spangled Banner" into his original composition. This will be followed by Mozart's "Overture to the Magic Flute." His favorite composer, Mozart, he said unequivocally, is simply "the greatest composer to ever walk the face of the earth," no doubt raising some eyebrows who fancy Beethoven best.

In any case, he said since his wife, Sarah Jackson, is piccolo soloist, she will have all the chances to display her virtuosity in Mozart's "Overture." Ditto for Lieberman's "Concerto for Piccolo." Jackson is principal piccolo with the Los Angeles Philharmonic. She delighted the guests at the church earlier with a few bars of "The Magic Flute." If you haven't heard Mitchell speak about music, be prepared for his expressive and animated style of delivery. In describing what to expect from "New World Symphony" by Dvorak, another favorite composer of his, he tried to convey the gamut of emotions, from Dvorak's haunting horn tone poem about his homesickness away from Prague to the gut-wrenching sounds of the old Negro spirituals to the chug-chug-chug and clang-clang-clang of the city's railroad engines.

If you love classical music, don't miss this one. For tickets/information, call (562) 403-2944.

## 2008 Rose Parade tickets for sale

**DOWNEY**—The City of Downey Community Services Department has been assigned grandstand seating for the 2008 Rose Parade, where Emeril Lagasse will preside as Grand Marshall.

Tickets are \$66 each and there is no limit on the amount of tickets to be purchased. The bus will depart from the City Hall flag pole area on Jan. 1 at 6:30 a.m. and will return around 2 p.m.

Sign-ups will be taken at the City Hall Community Services Department, as well as at the Barbara J. Riley Community and Senior Center from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

For information, call (562) 904-7238.

## Harvest Festival Week begins Sunday

**DOWNEY**—The Love, Peace and Happiness Family Christian Fellowship Church will be hosting their Annual Pre-Thanksgiving Harvest Festival Week Oct. 28 – Nov. 2, with Rev. Martin Johnson of Life Givers Christian Center as the guest speaker.

The festival will begin Sunday, with services at 8 and 10 a.m., and 4:30 p.m. Nightly services will be at 7:30 p.m. and daily sessions will be held at noon Wednesday through Friday.

The church is located at 11022 Old River School Rd. in Downey.

For information, call (562) 806-9890.

## New & noteworthy titles at the Downey City Library

### Fiction

- **"The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao"**: by Junot Diaz. A sci-fi loving nerd and his Dominican American family struggle to deal with their past.
- **"Clear Blue Sky"** by F.P. Lione. New York police officer Tony Cavalucci questions the purpose of his life as he heads for work on a beautiful Fall morning of September 11, 2001.
- **"Not Yet Drown'd"** by Peg Kingman. After receiving a mysterious package, a young Scottish widow begins a journey around the world to find the truth about the brother she thought had died.
- **"Playing for Pizza"** by John Grisham. A third-string Cleveland Browns quarterback finds himself in the Italian National Football League playing for the inept but full-of-heart Parma Panthers.
- **"The Woods"** by Harlan Coben. Twenty years ago, four teenagers at summer camp walked into the woods at night; two were found murdered and two were never seen again. Now, two decades later, their families' lives are about to change again.

### Non-Fiction

- **"The Coldest Winter: America and the Korean War"** by David Halberstam. The award-winning journalist brings extensive research to this book about geopolitics and the personal accounts of those who served in the war.
  - **"The House that George Built: With a Little Help from Irving, Cole and a Crew of about Fifty"** by Wilfrid Sheed. This book celebrates the Golden Age of American popular music featuring great songwriters such as George Gershwin, Cole Porter, Irving Berlin and Harold Arlen.
  - **"The Last Dropout: Stop the Epidemic"** by Bill Milliken. An increasing number of high school students nation-wide fail to graduate with their class. This book offers nine key principles developed by the Communities in Schools organization to help at-risk students and families succeed.
  - **"The Preacher and the Presidents: Billy Graham in the White House"** by Nany Gibbs and Michael Duffy. At a time when the nation is divided over the role of religion in public life, this book shows how the world's most famous evangelist worked with presidents to blend faith and politics.
  - **"The Zookeeper's Wife: A War Story"** by Diane Ackerman. This is the dramatic, true account of Jan and Antonina Zabinski, keepers of the Warsaw zoo, who saved the lives of hundreds of Jews during the Holocaust.
- 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.

## New Entertainment this week

### CD Releases

- Britney Spears - *Blackout*
- Andrea Bocelli - *The Best of Andrea Bocelli: Vivere*
- Levon Helm - *Dirt Farmer*
- Backstreet Boys - *Unbreakable*
- Avenged Sevenfold - *Avenged Sevenfold*
- Will Downing - *After Tonight*
- Baby Bash - *Cyclone*

Source: Amazon.com

### Concerts

FRIDAY, OCT. 26

- Blue October, Yellowcard - Greek Theatre
- Al Di Meola - Coach House
- Blonde Redhead - HOB Anaheim
- Dana Carvey - Grove of Anaheim
- Eagles, Dixie Chicks - Nokia Theatre
- Velvet Revolver, Alice in Chains - Verizon Wireless Amphitheatre

SATURDAY

- Eagles, Dixie Chicks - Nokia Theatre
- Gwen Stefani, Fabolous, Timbaland, more - Verizon Wireless Amphitheatre

SUNDAY

- Hot Hot Heat - Henry Fonda Theatre
- Pinback - Wiltern
- Pogues - HOB Anaheim
- Shiny Toy Guns - Galaxy Theatre
- Sugarland - Nokia Theatre

MONDAY

- Bruce Springsteen, E Street Band - L.A. Sports Arena
- Avenged Sevenfold - Wiltern
- Hot Hot Heat - HOB Anaheim
- Queens of the Stone Age - Nokia Theatre

TUESDAY

- Neil Young - Nokia Theatre
- Regina Spektor - Wiltern
- Battles - Henry Fonda Theatre
- Leo and the Pharmacists - El Rey
- Onerepublic - HOB Anaheim
- Rooney - Grove of Anaheim

WEDNESDAY

- Danzig - Greek Theatre
- Pogues - Wiltern
- Static-X - Galaxy Theatre

THURSDAY

- Danzig - Grove of Anaheim
- Vicente Fernandez - Gibson Amph.
- Joe Rogan - HOB Anaheim
- Keiko Matsui - Cerritos Center

Source: Casenet

### Book Releases

- "Before Your Dog Can Eat Your Homework, First You Have to Do It: Life Lessons from a Wise Old Dog to a Young Boy" by John O'Hurley
- "Mister B. Gone" by Clive Barker
- "Everlasting" by Kathleen E. Woodiwiss
- "Our Dumb World: The Onion's Atlas of the Planet Earth, 73rd Edition" by The Onion
- "Steve & Me" by Terri Irwin
- "Amazing Grace" by Danielle Steel
- "No Reservations: Around the World on an Empty Stomach" by Anthony Bourdain
- "The Race" by Richard North Patterson
- "Protect and Defend" by Vince Flynn
- "The Quiet Girl" by Peter Hoeg
- "Christmas with Paula Deen: Recipes and Stories from My Favorite Holiday" by Paula Deen

### Book Releases

- "Home to Holly Springs" by Jan Karon
- "You: Staying Young: The Owner's Manual for Extending Your Warranty" by Michael F. Roizen
- "American Creation: Triumphs and Tragedies at the Founding of the Republic" by Joseph J. Ellis
- "Gentlemen of the Road: A Tale of Adventure" by Michael Chabon
- "Ronnie Wood: The Autobiography" by Ronnie Wood
- "The Heir" by Barbara Taylor Bradford

Source: barnesandnoble.com

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SAW IV R	(12:00 2:30) 5:00 7:30 10:00
DAN IN REAL LIFE PG13	(11:30 2:05 4:40) 7:15 9:50
THE COMEBACKS PG13	(10:30 12:55 3:20) 5:45 8:10 10:35
30 DAYS OF NIGHT R	(11:10 2:00 4:50) 7:40 10:30
RENDITION R	(10:50 1:45 4:40) 7:35 10:30
WE OWN THE NIGHT R	(11:00 1:50 4:40) 7:30 10:20
WHY DID I GET MARRIED? PG13	(11:30 2:20) 5:10 8:00 10:50
THE HEARTBREAK KID R	(11:30 2:15) 5:00 7:45 10:30
THE GAME PLAN PG	(11:00 1:45 4:30) 7:15 10:00
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**★ 30 DAYS OF NIGHT R** (11:00, 11:45, 1:40, 2:25, 4:25, 5:10), 7:15, 8:00, 10:00, 10:40

**THE COMEBACKS PG-13** (12:00, 2:15, 4:40), 7:10, 9:35

**RENDITION R** (11:05, 1:55, 4:55), 7:55, 10:45

**WE OWN THE NIGHT R** (11:20, 2:00, 4:50), 7:40, 10:30

**THE HEARTBREAK KID R** (11:25, 2:00, 4:35), 7:20, 10:10

**THE GAME PLAN PG** (11:00, 1:35, 4:20), 7:05, 9:40

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## Dedication to youth hallmark of Teri Akloff

BY HENRY VENERACION, STAFF WRITER

Another huge turnout is expected at the 10th annual Fish Fest for Downey's youth next Saturday, Nov. 3 at Wilderness Park, as it doubtless provides one of the purest and most fascinating experiences a youngster can ever have growing up. The fun time frame is from 8 a.m. to noon.

Teri Akloff, recreation supervisor of the Downey Community Services Department and as homegrown as anybody in the city's staff, has been in charge of the event, the department's major fall event and perhaps of the entire year, since it started in 1997. No wonder Teri calls it her "baby."

The department is staging the fish fest in partnership with the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG). Together they are stocking Wilderness Park's North and South lakes with 1,500 pounds of catfish.

The first 250 registrants – ages 15 and under – will get a free T-shirt. Gift certificates and other give-away prizes will be given every 15 minutes to lucky ticket holders. The individual participants go from one learning station to another (five in all) where one learns fishing tips, safety, ethics and the basics of casting, dispensed by members of CDFG and the Downey Fly Fishers. At the conclusion of their 45-minute learning process, the children will be given bait and loaned rods and reels (if they haven't brought any), and can commence to fish. Depending on one's karma, a child may catch a wriggling 1-1/2 to a 2-1/2 pounder.

Volunteers from the South Bay Lady Anglers are coming down, says Teri, to lend a hand. So are Downey Police and Fire. Breakfast will be available for \$2. A snack bar will be set up served by Volunteers. Over 30 stellar sponsors are supporting the event.

Parents are in total agreement with the program's peculiar benefits, in addition to its base value as an alternative to the oftentimes vacuous activities of youth. Fishing, points out Teri, teaches patience, motor skills, strategy, courtesy, and responsibility.

Born and raised in Downey, Teri got her elementary schooling at OLPH and her high school education at Pius X, where she played volleyball ("I love the sport. I think it's a great participant and spectator sport," she says.) She practically grew up at the parks: after finishing her chores, off she would run to Furman. She took part in Downey's park programs and, later, as a part-time junior leader, helped out with the city's summer and holiday activities, as well as at special events. She obtained her BA in recreation and leisure studies from CSU-Long Beach in 1984, receiving the university's David Gray Award.

Her dad, who was born in Los Angeles, has Ukranian ancestry, while her mom came from Blackfoot, Idaho. A brother, Alex, is a horticulturist living in Downey.

Her first full-time employment was as recreation program coordinator with Santa Monica's Human Services Division. The superintendent was former Community Services director Bonnie Kehoe's husband, Ed Adams. In her first week on the job, she says, the city ran a marathon race and she was put in charge of the 21 water stations along its route, "a kind of baptism of fire." In addition to her regular duties (hiring/training/supervising 40 part-time staff and volunteers, budget preparation, developing/coordinating educational, cultural, and recreational services for the city's youth and families, operating 11 after-school sites year-round, etc.), Teri served on different outreach and community committees. "We hosted basketball, football, and track and field events, including elementary and middle school activities in the surrounding Bay Area cities," she says, adding: "This was where I honed my skills in supervision and programming."

As tournament chairman of these events and as a community presence in Santa Monica, she crossed paths with a lot of movie stars. On any given occasion, she would bump into the likes of Ted Danson, Sally Fields or Peter Graves. At one time, she says, she sat next to Brooke Shields and her mom while they did their nails at a favorite salon.

When she became Downey Community Services recreation supervisor in July 1994, she had already had contact with Bonnie Kehoe. "I would consider Bonnie my life coach because we had an on and off work relationship that would develop over the years. She saw me grow up, she held my hand, and she actually helped me get through Long Beach State. I treasure her friendship," she says.

Of her boss, Sheila, Teri says: "She is a smart, dedicated person who has a love for this profession. She is also a respected professional among her peers and, to me, this is a valuable asset to me as a supervisor."

Teri relishes the relationships she has developed over the years with Downey's diverse families. "They all have one thing in common," she



Teri Akloff is recreation supervisor of the Downey Community Services Department. Homegrown, she says she was a frequent visitor of Downey's parks as a child.

says. "They all want the same things, the same good things for their kids, whether it's help with their homework, a safe place to play, a place where they can learn how to play. And it's our job, of course, to provide these things."

"The kids I had in the beginning are now moms, and they have children of their own," she goes on. "Thus I got to see, and serve, three generations. Changes may occur in the city, but there are therefore pockets of loyalty. These families remain faithful to the city and what it offers, whether it's swimming, or softball, or some type of recreational activity. And, mark this, those who stayed with the programming have gone on to pursue higher education. Others who have dropped off eventually just caused hardships and pain for themselves."

She mentions Gary McCaughan, former police chief John Finch, and Judge Brian Gastia as either one-time rec leaders or somehow in leadership positions in the parks programs. "What these people, and others who have gone on to prominence in their professions, displayed was a heart for service," she says.

Her longevity of service, Teri says, has its deep rewards. "Since I get to see their family life close up, once in a while one of the kids in a previous program would be an employee for me, and the mentorship would continue," she says.

She has only admiration and praise for her staff: "My staff works with minimum supervision, they work by themselves. I've always wished that they're smarter than me. And in many ways they are. I can put my trust in them and I'm comfortable with their leadership. They're the ones who run the daily operation, who keep the ship running. They're a treasure."

Teri is referring especially to her two "invaluable" part-time coordinators: David Valdez, who works nights, weekends and holidays; and Natalie Mora, who covers the afternoons and special events. "We strive to keep all our parks clean and safe," Teri says. "And team effort is the key here, as well as our good relationship with the police department and others. We want people to enjoy our parks, to celebrate on the weekends, to continue holding their baby showers here, or simply to get away from it all."

For the kids and families who appreciate a good time, there's no better place to be than at Wilderness Park next Saturday. A shuttle bus will be available at World of Décor on Florence Ave. For information, call Teri at (562) 904-7238.

## Public invited to hear accomplished flutist

BY JOYCE SHERWIN, DOWNEY SYMPHONY

DOWNEY – "The Magic Flutist" is the title chosen by guest-conductor Clyde Mitchell for the Downey Symphony's concert on Oct. 27, in the Civic Theatre, and actually the reference is to two magic flutists involved in the evening's performance – one in the Overture to Mozart's wonderful opera, "The Magic Flute," and one in the program's accomplished soloist, Sarah Jackson.

When she was in 7th grade in Ottawa, Canada, Jackson took up the flute ("the saxophone was too big") and played in her junior high school band. For some years, though, it was a toss-up between studying flute or voice, until finally, in college, she chose flute and the flute's kid brother, the piccolo, and has since enjoyed a career performing on both instruments here and abroad.

Jackson will play a work not heard before by our audiences, Lowell Liebermann's Concerto for Piccolo, composed in 1996. The program notes tell us that this concerto is "unabashedly romantic" and enjoyable to listen to, and uses the piccolo "in a manner never heard before, and in a way we don't normally hear in the concert hall. Usually, the piccolo is that 'icing on the cake,' sounding high above the orchestra in a major work...[but] in the Liebermann Piccolo Concerto, the orchestra's tiniest and highest-pitched instrument is often heard in its middle and lower registers, and what a haunting beautiful sound it can make!"

Opening the concert is a Fanfare for Downey, composed by Mitchell in celebration of the orchestra's Golden Jubilee Season, and the evening concludes with Antonin Dvorak's Symphony No. 9, "From the New World."

Audience members are encouraged to submit their evaluations of this last guest-conductor in the Search Committee's poll to select our next permanent conductor. Materials will be available in the theatre lobby.

The Downey Theatre is located at 8435 Firestone Blvd., near the corner of Brookshire Avenue. Tickets to the concert, priced at \$25, \$20 and \$10 for students, may be purchased at the box office after 6:30 p.m. on Saturday night. Mitchell's preview discussion is at 7:15 p.m., with the performance beginning at 8 p.m. Intermission refreshments in the theatre patio, furnished by the Symphony Guild, include coffee, hot apple cider and freshly-baked cookies.

## OLPH Guild to view 'Dead Sea Scrolls'

DOWNEY – The Our Lady of Perpetual Help Women's Guild is sponsoring a day trip Nov. 14 to the San Diego Museum of Natural History to view the "Dead Sea Scrolls."

The group will travel aboard the Amtrak train at the Fullerton station. Museum admission is \$20 while the roundtrip train ticket is \$40 for adults or \$32 for seniors. All fees must be paid to the Guild in advance.

There will also be an additional cost for the 2 1/2 mile taxi ride to and from the San Diego train station to the museum.

The train will depart Fullerton at 9:02 a.m. and depart San Diego at 4 p.m.

For reservations, call Charlene McCluskey at (562) 776-1177 or (562) 884-7704. Reservation and payment deadline is Nov. 4.

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# Vikings reminisce 50 years later

BY SCOTT COBOS, CORRESPONDENT

**DOWNEY** – The headline in the *Los Angeles Times* the day after the game read “Downey smashes San Diego, 24-7.” The story called them “precision-working Vikings,” a team that according to the article marveled the crowd with their beautiful ball handling skills and heavy dose of trickery. On this night, these Downey Vikings of 1957 won the school’s last CIF title.

Fifty years later, most of the same team sits inside the Embassy Suites right across the street from where those memories were made. Laughing and chatting it up, heroes from those days remember the final game and that season.

The game plan was simple according to ex-Head Coach Gus Headington who is now retired back in Yuma, Arizona. More importantly, Headington knew what to expect from San Diego High School.

“We felt they were better than us,” he said as one of his ex-players laughed in the background. “They had more skill players than we do. When they get the ball they score.”

“Now we said, we can not let them have the ball,” he continued. “So we did onside kickoffs every time. We recovered three of the four onside kicks. And I said I don’t care when it comes fourth down, if it’s less than five yards to go, we’re going for it.”

And the strategy worked. Without controlling the ball, San Diego was unable to run up the score allowing for Downey’s offense to grind there way to a victory. According to Headington, that was the most perfect game he had ever watched a team he has coached.

It had to be as the San Diego Hillers had not lost all season and were heavy favorites to win the game.

“We would’ve lost to them maybe nine out of ten games,” he said. “We beat them on their home turf at San Diego at Balboa Stadium.”

With the likes of all-league players such as Ed Williams, Bob Harris, Steve Skinner, Pete Yoder, Dallas Moon and Fred Gallagher that one out of ten came to life on the beautiful night that was Dec. 13, 1957.

Gallagher said the win on that night was a complete team effort. According to him, there weren’t any real superstars like a Randy Meadows from the year before’s team. It was just a good mixture of a bunch of people who tried hard and over achieved at that time he said.

# Razorback playoff pictures clears up

■ Jr. Midget and Midget teams qualify for postseason and will play Palos Verde for championship.

BY MIKE BAUMANN, DOWNEY YOUTH FOOTBALL

**DOWNEY** – The status of the Downey Razorback’s Pacific Coast Conference playoff picture became somewhat clearer after last weekend’s games. Three teams were eliminated from post season play: MityMite Red (2-2), after a loss to Santa Monica; MityMite White (1-3), losing to Redondo Beach; and PeeWee (1-2), also having lost to Santa Monica.

Downey’s Jr. PeeWee’s (6-1 overall) is tied for second place in their league with Culver City, both posting a league record of 2-1. Downey must win this week’s game against first place Palos Verde to have a chance at a playoff game. In head-to-head competition, Culver City holds the advantage. Against Santa Monica, the Razorbacks once again prevailed in a double-overtime game, their second this season, 21-20. The Razorbacks led by two touchdowns with less than four minutes to play but allowed the Vikings to tie the score and force the overtime.

Both the Jr. Midget (5-2, 3-0) and Midget (7-0, 3-0) have made the playoffs and both teams are tied for first place in their respective leagues. Both play Palos Verde for the league championship at Peninsula High School Saturday.

In last week’s action, in front of their home crowd, and in their last regular season home game, the Jr. Midget Razorbacks were firing on all cylinders. They defeated Santa Monica 14-6 and secured a conference playoff berth. Early in the second quarter Michael San Angelo intercepted a Viking pass and ran it back 40 yards before he was stopped at the eight-yard line.

The Razorbacks immediately capitalized on the turnover as San Angelo connected with Austin Wisenburger for an eight-yard touchdown toss. David Saenz’s point after kick made the score 8-0. Later in the quarter, Saenz intercepted a pass and ran it back for the score and a 14-0 lead. Santa Monica did score in the third period but the Razorbacks controlled the ball and the clock for the remainder of the game and held on to their lead.

The undefeated Downey Razorback Midgets (7-0) took another step toward the division championship by outlasting a well prepared and speedy Santa Monica team 54-34 in the late afternoon game at Downey High School. The Razorback win eliminated the Vikings from the playoff picture and sets up what should be an exciting game for the undefeated title with the Palos Verde 49ers, also 7-0.

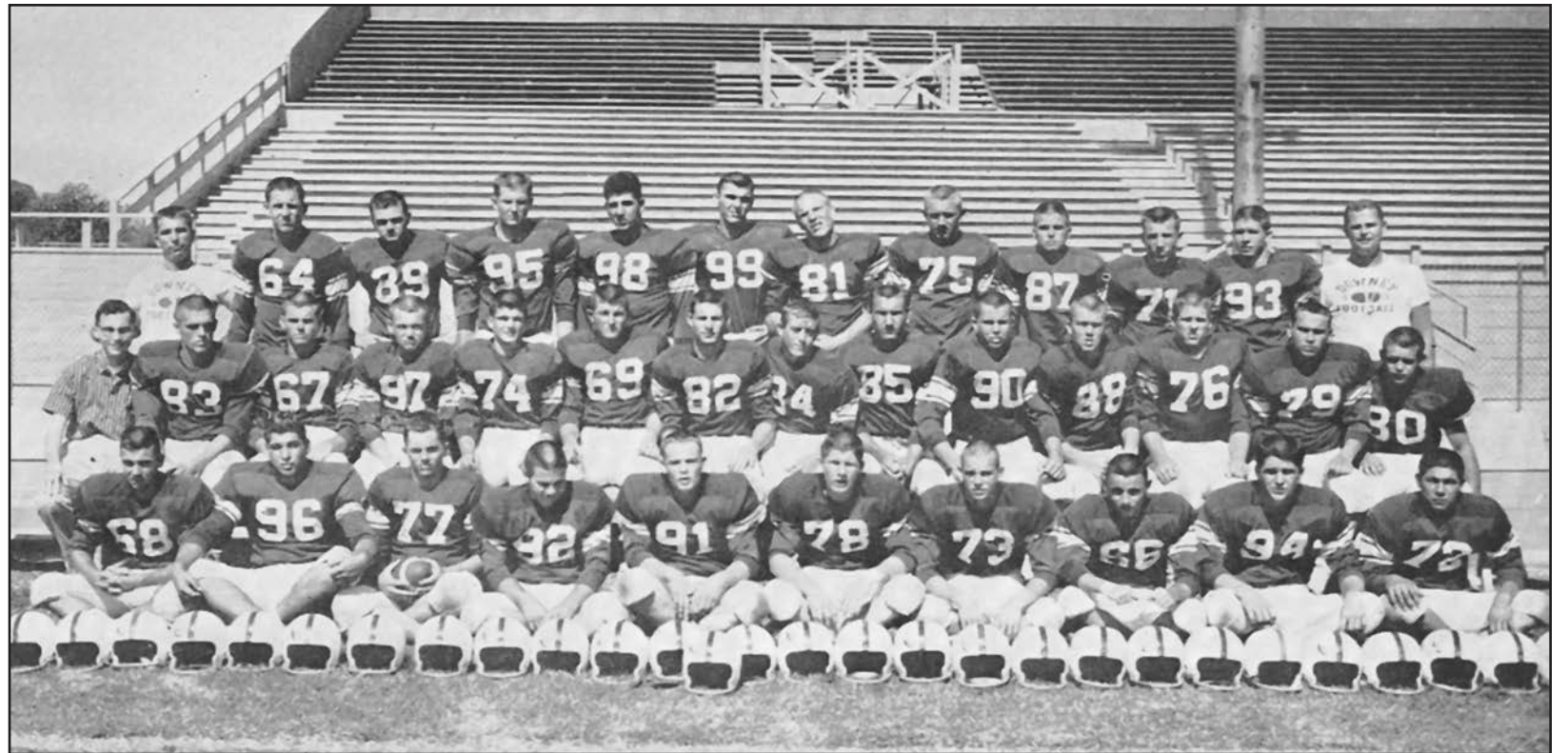
Santa Monica’s quick strike offense matched Downey’s balanced attack of smash-mouth running and opportunistic passing, touchdown for touchdown, until well into the third quarter.

The Hogs drove the ball on every possession with strong running by wingbacks Shane Baumann, and Derek Smith (three touchdowns), and fullbacks Dwayne Franklin (two touchdowns) and Dominick Cortez. Eddy Moreno kicked five extra points for the Hogs in the high scoring game and also ran for a 10-yard touchdown (youth football teams are awarded two points for the kick). On one of the Razorback’s seven touchdown drives, Andrew Magana completed a 30-yard pass to Baumann before hitting Smith for a 20-yard touchdown. The offensive line – tackles Sam Austin, Anthony Gonzalez, and Refugio Quinones Jr.; guards Louis Azurduy, Ralph Regalado, and Miguel Olivares; and center Joseph Palacios – opened significant running lanes for the Hog’s dominant running attack.

Downey must shore up their pass defense against the undefeated 49ers if they hope to secure their second consecutive undefeated season. All Downey Razorback teams will play against Palos Verde tomorrow 10-27.

All but MityMite White play at Peninsula High School in Palos Verde. White plays at Cabrillo High School in Long Beach at 1 p.m.

# Reunited and it feels so good



The 1957 Vikings were the last team to win a CIF football title at Downey High School. The team reunited last week, 50 years later. Photo courtesy Fred Gallagher

That night was not the only game that was played though. The whole season to these men was memorable and even at times comical.

“You know who Al Bundy is on ‘Married with Children?’” Williams asked. “He made four touchdowns in one game. Well we played a team in a CIF playoff game. The team was Mt. Carmel. And the Los Angeles Times newspaper guy must’ve been drunk because Steve Skinner made a touchdown and his number is 91. Mine was 81. I made a touchdown, Steve Skinner made a touchdown and Dallas Moon made a touchdown and they credited them all to me.”

“They gave me these three touchdowns in one game,” he said laughing. “So they made me Times player of the week right in the sports page. So at our championship dinner, everyone was mad at me and I wasn’t able to control it.”

Not all memories of the season were funny or good. Center Bill

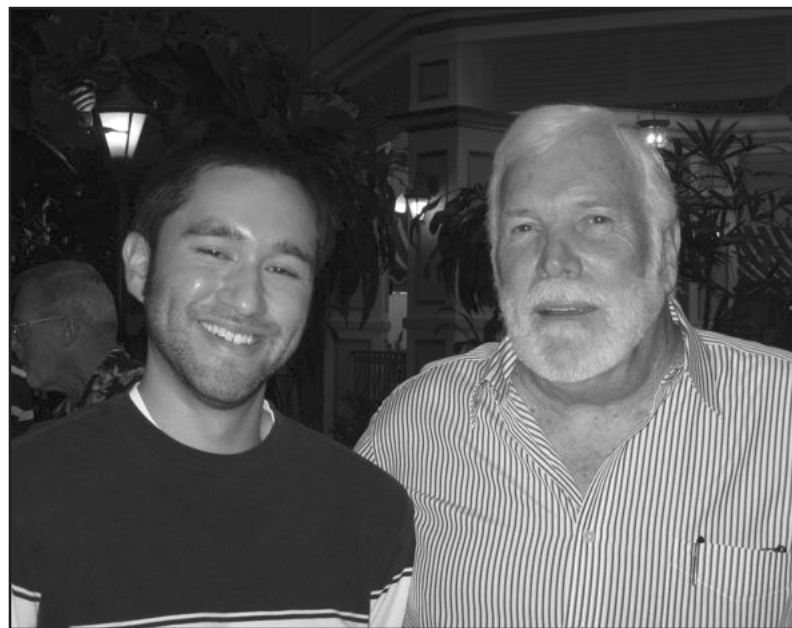
Garcia remembered the one hiccup of the season.

“I remember the last game and the one game against Long Beach Wilson that we lost,” he said. According to Garcia, the game was lost because the whole team was under the weather with the flu.

These boys turned men finished their season with a record of 11-1-1 and claimed the outright championship, something the team was unable to do a year before.

“The most famous team didn’t win it,” said Skinner who was talking about the attendance-record holding game that was held on a foggy night at the Coliseum. “But we did.”

And so they were heroes for that night, heroes that did not just fade into memories past. They were honored then and as they made their way to that night’s Downey game versus Paramount, they were honored again.



Sportswriter Scott Cobos visits with Eddie Williams of the 1957 Downey Vikings. Photo courtesy Lash Stevenson

## San Gabriel Valley League Football Standings

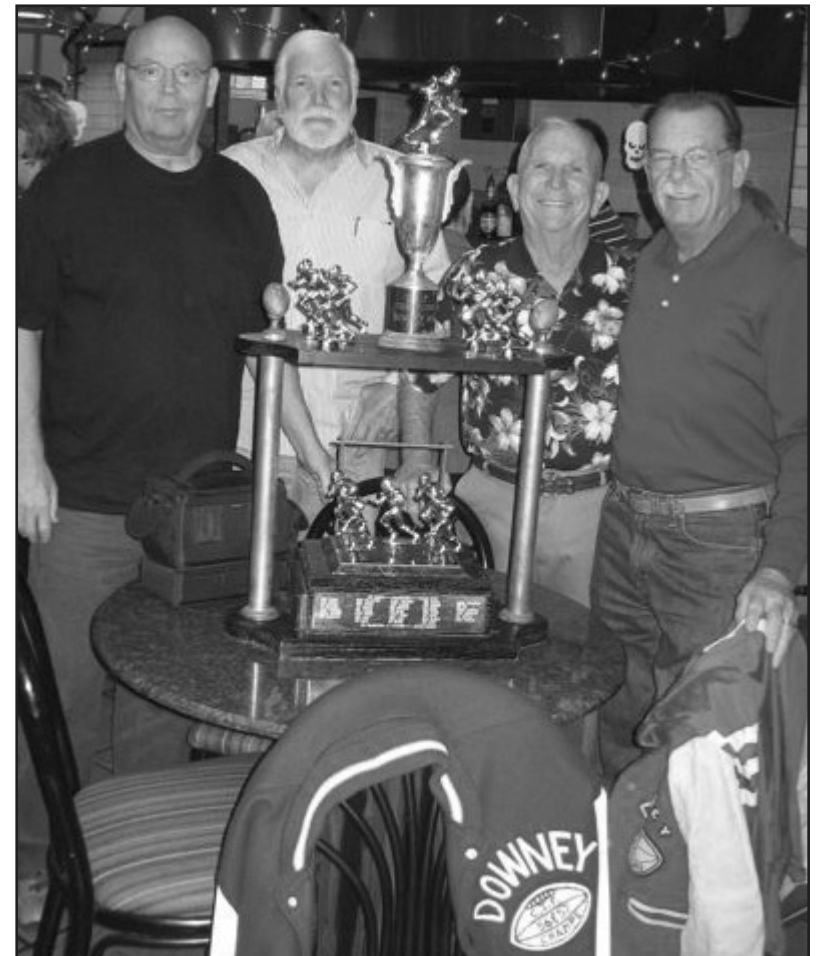
School	Record
Dominguez	5-2
Warren	5-2
Gahr	5-2
Downey	2-5
Lynwood	1-6
Paramount	1-6



**Downey Football Schedule**  
10/26 vs. Lynwood @ 7 p.m.  
11/2 @ Warren @ 7 p.m.  
11/9 @ Gahr @ 7 p.m.



**Warren Football Schedule**  
10/26 @ Gahr @ 7 p.m.  
11/2 vs. Downey @ 7 p.m.  
11/9 @ Dominguez @ 7 p.m.



Members of the 1957 CIF Championship team. Left to right: Steve Skinner, guard; Eddie Williams, end; Coach Gus Headington and Fred Gallagher, halfback. Photo courtesy Lash Stevenson

# Poor air quality shuts down outdoor sports

SCOTT COBOS, CORRESPONDENT

### Warren

•Warren football routed Paramount last Friday 42-7. The win kept the Bears undefeated in league play and unbeaten at home this year. The win put them in a first place tie with Dominguez. They look to keep their unbeaten streak alive in league on the road tonight versus Dominguez who are the defending their SGVL championship from last year. Game time is 7 p.m.

•All outdoor activities and practices were suspended on Tuesday due to the poor air quality from the Southern California wildfires. Warren was advised by the Downey Fire Department to stop any outdoor activities for the school. According to athletic director Steve Hill indoor sports such as volleyball did hold normal practices but outdoor sports had to wait for use of the gym if they chose to practice. Warren’s tennis team also had to cancel and reschedule a match on Tuesday. Practices and other activities were expected to resume on Wednesday.

### Downey

•Downey football stumbled against Dominguez last Friday, losing 43-9. The Vikings kept it close in the first half staying within one score but were unable to hold back Dominguez in the second half. Downey is now 1-1 in league falling into a tie for third place with Gahr. They take on a tough Lynwood team who is better than their 0-2 league record shows tonight at home. Game time is 7 p.m.

•Downey also suspended all outdoor activities and practices on Tuesday due to the air quality from the fires. Downey was also advised by the Downey Fire Department to stop all outdoor activities by the school. According to athletic director Mark Rand, a Lady Vikings water polo match had to be postponed and rescheduled for a later date. He also said the football team did not practice outside but did participate in weight room activities while the cross country team practiced inside the cardio training room on the campus.

All practices and activities were expected to resume once they received word from the district, which was expected to come in on Wednesday.



Who will take home the trophy this year? The Second Annual Philly’s Best Cheese Steak Bowl will be held tomorrow at the Philly’s Best inside Downey Landing. The competition pits Downey and Warren High School football players, who will eat as many cheese steaks as they can in the allotted time period. The event is from 1 to 3 p.m. and all proceeds during that time will go to both schools’ boosters clubs. Photo by Art Montoya

## Student pursuing a global perspective

BY ALLISON ABEL, CERRITOS COLLEGE

**NORWALK** – When Jasmin Gonzalez started school last month, it wasn't just a new circle of friends, new school and new teachers she had to get used to; she also had to adjust to life in a new country more than halfway around the globe.

Gonzalez, a 20-year-old history major from Norwalk, is the first exchange student from Cerritos College to study at International Pacific College in Palmerston North, New Zealand.

"It's going to be a completely different experience," she said in an interview conducted the week before her departure. "I don't plan to think about L.A., my home or my friends. My goal is to absorb their culture."

Having an interest in international relations in addition to her history major, Gonzalez could hardly ask for a better supplement to her education than to study overseas.

And as colleges go, IPC happens to be a prime institution for cross-cultural interaction, according to Nick Kremer, executive dean of Cerritos College's Community, Industry and Technology Education division. Kremer, Cerritos College's chief link with IPC, was a key player in negotiating an exchange agreement with the college several years ago.

"IPC is an excellent place to immerse one's self in other cultures," he said. "The college draws students from Japan, Malaysia, China and Indonesia, among other countries. And with her interest in international relations, Jasmin is a perfect fit for this opportunity."

While Gonzalez is considered a minority in the United States, she's grown up surrounded by others who share her Hispanic heritage. But she knew that once in New Zealand, being a minority would take on a whole new meaning. Fortunately, Gonzalez isn't a stranger to being friends with those of other cultures. In the past, she's served as vice-president and secretary of Cerritos College's International Student Association (ISA), building friendships that transcend racial and ethnic differences.

"ISA and all its members and staff are a second family to me," she said. "Through ISA, I have gained friendships I will always cherish and will always work hard to keep. Even though all of us come from either different cultures or different parts of the world, we all get along and understand each other perfectly."

Danita Kurtz, coordinator of International Student Services at Cerritos College, knows well the benefits of international study.

"The experience Jasmin is getting for herself and her future career is wonderful," said Kurtz. "Studying abroad is an experience unlike any other. It exposes students to new cultures, opportunities and experiences."

Gonzalez found in Kurtz, as well as Kremer, enthusiastic support as she prepared to study abroad.

"Both of them pushed and pushed to get me as much scholarship money, help and information as they could," she said.

Gonzalez originally learned of IPC through one of her instructors, history professor Dr. John Haas. Haas leads a program at Cerritos College called the Global Consortium that gives students the opportunity to participate in teleconferences with students from other colleges and universities all over the world – one of them being IPC, where Haas has guest lectured.

"I have been involved in almost all the teleconferences Dr. Haas has done," said Gonzalez. "The conferences are absolutely necessary, in my



Cerritos College student Jasmin Gonzalez traveled to New Zealand to study a semester abroad. Photo courtesy Allison Abel

opinion. They not only connect many different parts of the world, but also allow us to hear others' opinions and interact with them."

Gonzalez also appreciates that the teleconferences have helped her see that "other parts of the world are interested in things that are happening here in the U.S., and vice versa."

While Gonzalez thoroughly enjoyed the teleconferences, she knew that interacting with people in far-flung parts of the world and building cross-cultural understanding would take on a whole new dimension if it were face-to-face. So when Gonzalez heard of IPC, she wasn't about to let the opportunity pass her by.

"I'm really excited about being surrounded by people from different cultures and different parts of the world," she said.

One senses that for this outgoing 20-year-old, a semester in New Zealand is only the beginning.

## Honors students find unique opportunities

**NORWALK** – Students who want the fast track to a UC know where it's at: Cerritos College's Scholars' Honors Program (SHP). Now in its 11th year, the program provides advanced students with unique opportunities for scholarships, closer interaction with professors, smaller class sizes, priority admission consideration from top California universities, and other benefits.

At an orientation last month, a new group of students met with director Timothy Juntilla to find out all that the year had in store for them. Juntilla has high hopes for this crowd; last year's outgoing class had a 94 percent acceptance rate at UC Irvine, and 95 percent at UCLA.

"I want students to know that there's nothing standing in the way of them and the top schools in the state," said Juntilla.

During the past several years, the program has seen steady growth. Its increase this fall over the previous year stands at 10 percent.

Several students at the orientation were returning as sophomores to complete their second year of studies at Cerritos College before

transferring. Bryan Rowe, an English major, said he hopes to attend UCLA, UC Berkeley, or perhaps Columbia University.

Rowe is the 2007-08 president of the Scholars' Honors Club, which provides an avenue for students to form support structures for each other. It also assists them in their transfer goals by setting aside time for community service, something that college admissions officials want to see on the records of incoming students. Club members volunteer at a senior center across the street from the college, and also participate in beach clean-up days.

Sarah Jimenez, an art major, has taken several honors courses through SHP since she entered the program in the fall of 2006. She said the program has helped her build relationships with her professors.

"A lot of students are afraid of their professors, but SHP helps you overcome that," she said.

Students are brought into closer contact with instructors through smaller class sizes. They also work closely with professors in contract courses – non-honors courses that SHP students can count as honors classes when they complete an

additional research requirement.

"One of the strengths of SHP is that it allows students to customize their own learning experience," said Juntilla. "Aside from the many courses custom-designed for honors students, the students can make their honors experience virtually anything they want through means of contract courses."

Rowe, who is enrolled this fall in a contract course in logic, is currently working on a research project which he describes as "the ontological status of definite descriptions" – or, in layman's terms, the validity and existence of nouns that refer to a singular individual or object.

Upon completion of his research, he'll have the opportunity to make presentations at student research conferences.

"Conferences are beneficial to the students not just in giving them experience in presenting research to experts in academia, but also for the fact that they can network with honors administration, faculty and students," said Juntilla. "In addition, the experience they gain gives them understanding in how to apply for research grants and internships."

remain to be answered. Who decided to hire Rivera in the fall of 1932? Why did the artist modify his original sketch and insert the portrait of Lenin in April 1933? Why was the mural not transferred to MoMA? What role did John D. Rockefeller Jr. play in hiring Rivera and destroying the mural? What political, economic and social pressures came to bear in Rockefeller junior and Rivera's decision?

With the grant, Paquette seeks to demonstrate that the overall aesthetic program for Rockefeller Center was political in every sense of the word.

"Many doctoral students complete a tremendous amount of research in writing their dissertations, and in the early years of their careers they have a substantial amount of material to write about," she said.

## Services set for fireman Cecil Edwin Brownlie

**DOWNEY** – Cecil Edwin Brownlie, one of the original members of the Downey Fire Department, died peacefully on Aug. 7 with his family at his side.

Brownlie was born in Artesia, N.M. on Sept. 10, 1922, the first child of Marguerite and Rye Cecil Brownlie.

He was hired by the Compton Fire Department in 1948. After eight years, he transferred to become one of the original members of the Downey Fire Department, serving the city for 22 years.

He was one of the founding members of the California Firefighters Olympics and the California Firefighters Athletic Association, both successful organizations that routinely involve thousands of firefighters from throughout the state.

Brownlie was also a director for the California State Firefighters Association for many years.

He is survived by his companion, Marty Kachivas; son, Mike (Caren) Brownlie; daughter, Karen Brownlie; grandchildren, Jennifer (Jim) Deslaurier and Scott Brownlie; great-grandson, James Deslaurier; brother, Ray (Revis) Brownlie; sister, Mary Anne Ladd; and numerous cousins, nieces and nephews.

A memorial service has been planned for this Tuesday at the Norwalk Masonic Lodge, 12345 E. Rosecrans Ave., in Norwalk at noon. In lieu of flowers, the family requested donations be made to your favorite charity or to the Shriner's Hospital for Children, Al Malaikah Shrine, 665 W. Jefferson Blvd., Los Angeles, 90007. Reference Children's Transportation Fund.



## Ronald Shoji Kadoguchi owned dental laboratory

**DOWNEY** – Ronald Shoji Kadoguchi, owner of a local dental laboratory, died Oct. 17. He was 63.

Kadoguchi founded Kadoguchi Dental Ceramics in Downey in 1986. He also worked for a number of local dentists.

He is survived by his wife, Kathleen; daughters, Leslie (Kolodziej) and Kelly (Bennett); grandchildren, Jordan, Kyle, Lauren and Taylor; brothers, Larry, James and Edward; sisters, Shirley, Janie and Gayle; mother-in-law, Kay Satow; and son-in-laws, Kenneth Kolodziej and Darren Bennett.

A memorial service will be held today, Oct. 26, at the Cerritos Sheraton, 12725 Center Court Dr., in Cerritos at noon. A public viewing was held Wednesday at Miller-Mies Mortuary.

## Donald W. Hickerson attended 1st Presbyterian

**DOWNEY** – Donald W. Hickerson, longtime Downey resident, passed away on Oct. 16 at the age of 84.

Hickerson was born on April 14, 1923 in Kirksville, Mo. He and his parents, Raymond and Viola, moved to California when he was a young boy.

After his retirement from Goodyear, he and his wife Peggy spent much of their time traveling to Monterey, square dancing, playing golf and attending the 1st Presbyterian Church of Downey.

Hickerson was nicknamed "Little Frank Sinatra" for his voice. He was preceded in death by wife Jackie in 1969, and wife Peggy in 2006.

He is survived by son Dean Hickerson, stepdaughter Wendy (Bob) Holmes, and granddaughter Nicole Holmes.

Memorial services were held at the 1st Presbyterian Church of Downey. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations to the church.

## Examining the art of Diego Rivera

**LONG BEACH** – Catha Paquette, an assistant professor of art at Cal State Long Beach (CSULB), has been awarded a \$40,000 Getty Foundation Post-Doctoral Fellowship in the Arts and Humanities to support a year's research and writing on her book, "The Dynamics of Power in Art Patronage, Production and Censorship: Diego Rivera at Rockefeller Center, 1932-1934."

Paquette's research will explore the historic confrontation between famed Mexican artist Diego Rivera and millionaire patriarch John D. Rockefeller Jr. over Rivera's controversial mural for the RCA Building in New York's Rockefeller Center.

"Rivera produced a sketch of his planned mural in 1932 and the Rockefeller family approved that sketch," explained Paquette, who received Faculty Scholarly and

Creative Activity Awards in 2005 and 2006 to write the first chapters of her book on this subject. "But when Rivera began painting in April 1933, he inserted into the mural a portrait of Lenin. The Rockefeller family released him from the project, covered the mural and grappled for nine months with what to do with it."

In December 1933, a transfer of the mural to New York's Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) was contemplated but never took place. In February 1934, the original Rivera mural was destroyed, but later that year, the artist went on to produce another version in Mexico City's Palace of Fine Arts.

"I am very excited to receive this grant," Paquette said, "because it gives me the chance to complete my manuscript. And the subject is an intriguing one. Lots of questions about the mural (and) controversy

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The Pasadena Paranormal Research Society will return to Downey Cemetery next month. Photo by Art Montoya

## CEMETERY

Continued from page 1

Phenomena) of young children. One EVP records two investigators observing temperature drops when a child is heard saying "hello." Another EVP records a child saying "mommy," followed by investigators discussing the pictures they are capturing. The recording goes on, with a child saying "daddy," followed by an investigator observing one of the photos showing a faint, low-to-the-ground orb light – a term used to describe the possible presence of a spirit – near the other's leg.

"Because there is active Santeria happening at the Downey Cemetery, there's a better possibility of paranormal activity happening as well," said Syd Schultz II, founder and director of the PPRS. "That place always has activity and we plan on returning mid-November."

The group's most recent visit to the cemetery, about a month and a half ago, consisted of conducting an interview with the cemetery's most recent groundskeeper, Tim Chandler. According to Syd, Chandler, who was long-time groundskeeper Hank Spears' predecessor, called the PPRS saying he had stories and sightings to share with the group. The interview will be posted on their website, [www.pasadenaghosthunters.com](http://www.pasadenaghosthunters.com), in coming months.

The PPRS was started by Syd and his wife, Trisha, almost four years ago, following Syd's experiences at his workplace and in his home.

About nine years ago, while working on the Back to the Future ride at Universal Studios, Syd saw a young girl enter the ride. The problem was, she wasn't really there. Upon questioning, Syd was told by fellow employees that a nine-year-old girl had suffered from a pre-existing brain aneurism, causing her death while experiencing the ride. Syd went on to say that he saw her numerous times and the car and dome in which she passed away in consistently caused problems. And although the ride was

closed at the end of this summer, those working on The Simpsons ride said they have had contact with her as well.

In addition to his contact with the young girl, Syd also experienced weird happenings in his home shortly after his mother-in-law passed away. He and Trisha wanted answers and did whatever they could to be educated on the situation. Upon learning about paranormal activity and the equipment needed to contact spirits, the Schultz's began the PPRS, with the intent of reaching out and helping those that have experienced similar situations.

According to their website, "The Pasadena Paranormal Research Society is about bringing the unknown to life, making it OK to talk about things that have happened to you or to someone you know who is dealing with the paranormal. Reaching out to those who need help, and collecting, protecting and analyzing evidence that might erroneously make someone seem crazy to the outside world."

The PPRS grew tremendously with the addition of numerous investigators and specialists, all of which volunteer their knowledge and time to each investigation.

"We never charge clients for the work we do," Syd said. "If clients feel led to make a donation, then we are happy to receive it. But we never ask for anything in return for our help – knowing we have answered a client's questions and made them at ease is payment enough."

The PPRS conducts an average of two investigations a month, each consisting of one week for research and another week for on-site investigating.

When asked if he ever got scared during an investigation, Syd said, "I'm more afraid of the living than of the dead."

Documents, photographs and EVPs concerning Downey Cemetery can be found on the PPRS's website.

If interested in having the Pasadena Paranormal Research Society investigate your home or business, call (626) 396-9935.

## Money, mansions and murder

CONTRIBUTED BY JOHN VINCENT, DOWNEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Sometime in June of 2002 Barbara Callarman dropped an envelope on my desk which contained a form letter from a Michael J. Kouri of Pasadena who billed himself as a historian and parapsychologist. In the same envelope was a business card for Nicholas A. Curry, "Historian and Writer."

I thought, if I thought anything at all, that this was a clever ghost hunter since even his alias was spooky. I conferred with Barbara about contacting the guy since we always need a good ghost program for our October general meeting. We agreed that it was worth a try and I called the number on the card. I'm sure we weren't on a first name basis so he must have responded to my "Mr. Kouri." We exchanged pleasantries and settled on the date and fee for his appearance. The conversation ended amicably.

Fast forward to about Oct. 10. I called the same number to confirm the date. Mr. Curry and I had a good chat and promised to meet on the 24th of October. On Wednesday the 23rd I was at my desk and happened to pick up the parapsychologist's letter and noticed an e-mail address on the bottom. "Fine," I mused, "I'll send him a friendly note." I did so and promptly forgot about the whole thing. The next day I checked our e-mail and got a shocker from Michael J. Kouri to the effect that I must be mistaken somehow since he had never heard of me or the Historical Society – or the talk title: "Money, Mansions and Murder"!

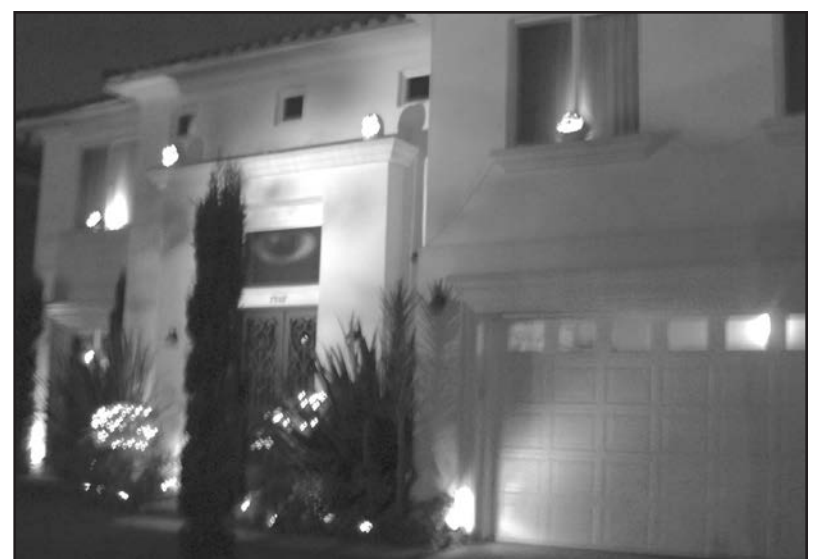
I was pretty taken aback, but noticed that the letter also had an unfamiliar phone number with it. I called it and Mr. Kouri answered and confirmed his e-mail. When I explained my position he opined that there must be another person with a similar name doing programs. I agreed and he volunteered to check the Internet book shelves to see if he could find the title. He was back in a few minutes with the title and its author, Nicholas A. Curry!

I thanked him and he said he was booked or else he would have helped us out that evening. I thanked him again and called Nick Curry asking him for some personal data since I was a little embarrassed at the mix up. I did tell him about it, however, and we had a good laugh over the coincidences. Barbara and I discussed the situation – remember, the card and letter were in the same envelope when she handed it to me. I think we were both aware of the "clever alias" theory. As for an answer to the mystery of two similar persons in the same envelope, I held out for a theory that an envelope stuffer was working for both men and had accidentally put their information in one envelope – a pretty good coincidence in itself. Barbara suggested that "they" were the same person, a joker, who enjoyed playing tricks on his clients.

Come evening and we all repaired to the auditorium at Apollo Park – I was a little early so I was well prepared to meet the very personable Mike Curry held forth for about an hour and a half with tales of the famous Edward Donehy family with their oil wells, Rolls Royces, two mansions in Los Angeles, the best part of a Gutenberg Bible and a son who ended up dead as the result of a quarrel with a male domestic servant. I had several of our members tell me afterwards that this was the best talk we'd ever had.

I gave Nick a check for \$100 (there were no ghosts in the Doheny residences – Kouri, the ghost hunter, charges \$250) and a copy of my Halloween poems – he'd brought a biography of Edward for a door prize. We went our ways at about 9 p.m. and so the story ends – so I thought. Barbara and husband Don went home to watch the news. Channel 5 didn't please them so Don chose another station at random. The program in progress was a Halloween party at a Hollywood cemetery. Suddenly, as Don tells it, a hulking shape appeared over the crest of a large tombstone. As the figure rose so did a "credit line" above its head. Perhaps you've guessed it. It was "Michael J. Kouri"!

I kid you not.



Roger and Jackie Slobe of Lyndora Street in Downey have transformed their home into a twenty-first century haunted house, with motion sensors initiating lightning effects, heavy fog, and scores of sounds and howls.

## Harvest Fest a safe place for youth

DOWNEY – The New Generation Youth Ministry of the Love, Peace and Happiness Family Christian Fellowship Church will be hosting a "Keep Our Children Safe" Harvest Fest on Oct. 31 from 6 to 9 p.m.

The event will include food, music, games and prizes. Admission is free and youth of all ages are invited to attend.

For information, call (562) 806-9890.

## Rosemead hosts Oktoberfest

ROSEMEAD – The City of Rosemead will host their first annual Halloween Oktoberfest and street fair tomorrow at Mission Drive and Rosemead Park.

A costume contest will take place at 7 p.m. For more information, call (626) 569-2160.

## Protect your pets this Halloween

CONTRIBUTED BY PETFINDER.COM

A pack of ghosts and goblins at your door can scare your pets, but ghouls are not the only thing to be aware of on Halloween. Kellyann Conway, director of animal training and behavior at Animal Planet's Petvideo.com Pet Video and a certified, award-winning trainer, offers the following tips to make sure everyone has a howlin' good time this Halloween:

- First, beware of unsafe holiday decorations. Wires and electrical cords are an invitation to your teething pets or those who just like to chew on whatever is available. Use a cord container to prevent wires from being chewed and gnawed. Also, avoid dangling decorations that your pet may become tangled in.
- Carving a pumpkin is fun – but placing a candle inside of it may be hazardous to your pet. Candles are easily knocked over and can burn wagging tails, paws and noses. So forget the candle and use a glow stick or battery-operated tea light instead.
- Keep your bowl of candy up and away from your pets' reach. Most people know that dogs and cats shouldn't have candy – especially chocolate, which is toxic – but even the candy wrappers can be hazardous if swallowed. So remember, no matter how much your pet begs for a sweet...no sharing! If you think your pet has eaten something he shouldn't have, contact your veterinarian immediately.
- Before the trick-or-treaters begin, take your dog on a nice long walk. The exercise will help her relax later. Make sure she's on leash during her walk in case you encounter any early trick-or-treaters. Dogs can easily be "spooked" by costumes, especially those with little people in them.
- While most pets prefer to go au-naturel – some seem to enjoy dressing-up. If your pet will be in costume for Halloween, make sure it's safe and comfortable. Always avoid masks or any other costume parts that might impair his or her vision, hearing or breathing.
- Your pets can be easily overwhelmed by trick-or-treaters coming and going. Manage your pets by limiting their access to the door. Use a leash or a baby gate or put him in his crate or even in a separate room while the trick-or-treaters are out and about. Turn on some music to muffle the knocking and doorbell ringing and prepare a yummy chew or catnip toy to help keep him occupied so he knows what a good boy he is.
- Finally, keep your pet inside on Halloween. People have been known to tease pets, injure pets, steal pets or worse on Halloween.

For additional animal care tips, visit <http://petfinder.com>, or [www.petvideo.com](http://www.petvideo.com).



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# HAUNTINGS OF DOWNEY

Every city has its devilish ghost stories and Downey is certainly no exception. In honor of Halloween, we asked John Vincent of the Downey Historical Society to share some of his favorite phantom tales he's collected over the years. The stories have not been authenticated, as we leave it up to you to decide whether to believe or not.

## The ghost inside the Dismukes House

The following is a letter received by the Downey Historical Society on July 7, 1994 regarding the Dismukes House, now preserved at Apollo Park.

I am writing this letter because I am pleased to hear that the farm house that was located on Firestone Boulevard just off of Paramount Boulevard was not demolished.

For years my husband and I thought that the house had been demolished. Just recently we found out from a sales clerk at the Broadway department store in Stonewood Shopping Center that the house had been moved to Apollo Park and preserved.

We drove to Apollo Park and viewed the house – it looks very nice. My husband and I rented the house for about a year, in 1970-71 for \$50 a month. Our daughter, Colette, our first child together, was born to us while living in that house.

We were young and just starting out in life together. We did not have much money, but we had some wonderful memories in that house. I have pictures of my little boy, Chris, in his wading pool behind the house – there wasn't much of a yard there.

My husband had trouble finding steady work at that time. He did do car detailing for a man a couple of doors down where the auto shop and boat shop were located next to the restaurant.

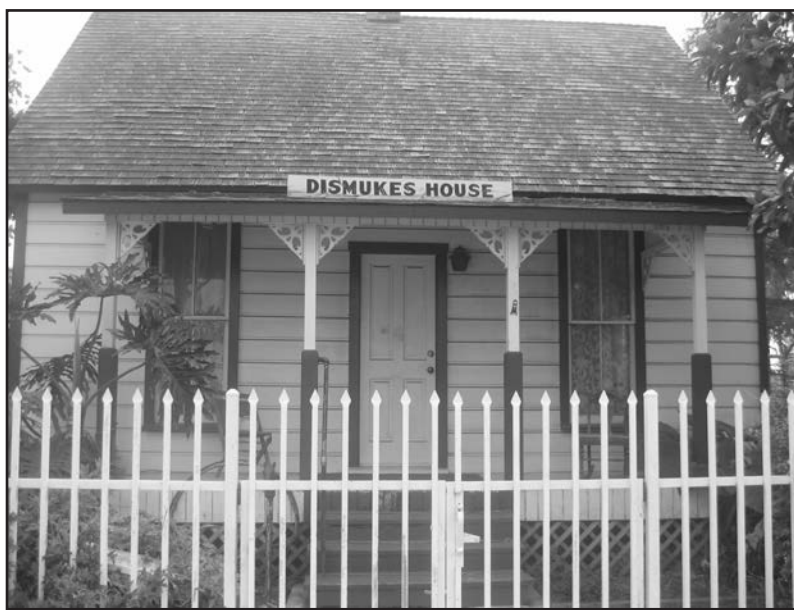
My husband later found steady work and we found another house to rent on 5th Street between Brookshire and Downey Avenues.

We did live in the farm house, however, during the 1971 Sylmar Quake. It was interesting to say the least.

The floors looked like waves on the ocean and the walls swayed to and fro. But the house held up with no problems – better than some built today. Viewing the house brought back good memories of being young and in love.

I also would like to tell you that we always felt there was a kind and loving "presence" about the house and to tell you of an incidence that happened that confirms this idea.

One day I was drawing some bathwater in that wonderful large old-fashioned bath tub with the feet. I had left the bathroom and returned to the living room to talk to my husband while the water was filling the tub. Suddenly, I remembered I had been drawing the bathwater and quickly



The Dismukes House is being preserved on the grounds of Apollo Park. Some claim it to be haunted.

returned to the bathroom. As I approached the kitchen door (the bathroom was to the north of the kitchen), I could hear the water still running. However, by the time I entered the bathroom, the water was not running. No one else was near the bathroom. I checked to see if it was a plumbing problem and turned both the cold and hot water on – the taps were working fine, but was in the off position. The tub was full to the rim and was on the verge of overflowing.

I don't know how the water was shut off, but I know "someone" was watching out, taking care of the house.

It's always been a mystery to me.

Again, thank you for preserving the old farm house. We'll be back to see it again.

— Gregory and Karen Phillips

## My own true ghost story as a little boy

By JOHN VINCENT

I first knew for certain that the house was haunted at about 10 o'clock on a summer evening when I was 9 years old.

My stepmother and I were alone in the house, sitting at the table in the dining room of our farmhouse. The kerosene lamp cast a yellowish glow over the table and the center of the room. As usual, it left the corners dark. The weather was cool, and as I remember the doors were closed, but in those days in that remote farming community in west central Wisconsin, it would have been an act of bad faith to lock them.

Mom closed the book she had been reading and suggested that I go to bed. My bedroom was on the second floor at the far end of the house. To get to it one had to climb a wooden stairway that made a quarter turn on its way to the upper landing. A long hall led from the landing past Elmer Hansen's room on the left (Elmer was our hired man), past a closet filled with books on the right, then past a "front" bedroom on the left. At the end of the hall was my bedroom.

I made my way to the door which led to the stairwell, and at that moment we heard footsteps ascend a back stairway and make their way down the hall into my bedroom! In memory I can hear them now, firm footsteps, solid footsteps, with no more of the ghostly about them than the footfalls of a night watchman in an upper story.

My mom answered my inquiring look by saying, "That's Elmer Hansen coming back from town. He thinks you are in bed and has gone back to say good night to you. You can go up now..." And then, as a long moment stretched still further she said, "I wonder why he didn't leave your room when he found that you weren't in bed yet? I'll go up with you." Mom picked up the kerosene lamp, and together we walked up the stairway, peering carefully into the gloom around the edges of the lamplight. Together we searched the top floor of the house. There was no one there!

For a few seconds we waited unbelieving and then we searched again, carefully, fearfully, in the wardrobes, under the beds, behind the door, everywhere. As the minutes passed, our fear grew to a sort of speechless terror – there was really nothing there.

Elmer Hansen came home from town some time later. His coming was heralded by the chortling of his Model T Ford. As I feared, Elmer had no knowledge of our visitation. We discussed the episode at length, but with no more conclusion than a nameless sort of dread that ebbed and flowed as I relived the experience mentally. With Elmer in the house within calling distance, I retired to my bedroom, and eventually, I suppose I slept that night.

Next morning my dad returned from a business trip. I'm afraid he was a bit skeptical, and more than a bit unfeeling when he remarked upon hearing our description of the night's events. "I know what it was, it was 'Old Man Peck's' ghost, he died up there!" Well, that put the finishing touches on my fantasy about the event. At nine I believed my father explicitly, and even now I must admit that his tongue-in-cheek remark may not have been far from truth at that.

I never quite had the courage to ask my dad about the circumstances of "Old Man Peck's" departure, and I was always careful not to ask in which of the upstairs rooms he made his demise.

I can't say, though, that I ever had any other indication of unusual presence – at least none which could not be attributed to mice, crackling timbers, or the howling of the winter winds in season – except one.

It was in the summer also, when I was about 14 years old. We men-folk were "batching it" as the expression has it. My mom was away.

I had been elected to cook for the day, and was preparing breakfast at the old wood-burning stove in the kitchen. My dad and the hired man (another man by this time) were finishing up morning chores in the cattle barn; I could hear their voices and the sound of milk buckets rattling, and suddenly I heard the steps again! This time they clumped down the back stairway coming from above. The stairway was behind the wall where I was standing. A door at my right opened directly on the foot of the stairs. Heart in mouth I walked quietly to the door, turned the knob, and...

I've often been sorry that I couldn't do it. My hand relaxed, the knob returned to center, the door remained shut. The footfalls reached the bottom of the stairs, and I went out the front door of the house and joined my father and the hired man, who were sauntering up the hill to breakfast. I looked over my shoulder furtively, but neither I nor the others saw anything emerge from the back door at the foot of the stairs.

The years have polished all the edges off my experiences on the farm in Wisconsin. The first incident was observed by two people, one an adult, scientifically educated and not given to imaginings. The second time I was alone. I am a lot more sophisticated now than in those callow boyhood days, and am fairly certain that given the same set of circumstances today, I open the door and peek through.

But still I wonder...one muscle movement, even a reflective one, would have put a different ending on the story. I'm often glad it happened as it did.

## Dentist buying back Halloween candy

DOWNEY – The Family Dentist Office of Dr. John McAllister will be buying back Halloween candy for \$1 per pound in an effort to protect kids' teeth this Halloween.

McAllister will be sending the candy overseas to the armed forces. To have your candy bought, or for information, call (562) 869-0928.

## Preschoolers trick-or-treat at the library

DOWNEY – Preschool children are invited to "Trick or Treat Storytime" at the Downey City Library on Oct. 30 from 10:30 to 11 a.m.

After listening to Halloween stories, the children will go "trick or treating" throughout the library and make a "haunted house" craft. Children are encouraged to wear Halloween costumes.

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

## 'Dia de los Muertos' celebrated

DOWNEY – Teens are invited to a free program at the Downey City Library celebrating "Dia de los Muertos" (Day of the Dead). The event will be held Oct. 30 from 4:30 to 5:45 p.m. in the Cormack Room.

"Dia de los Muertos" is a three-day Mexican holiday honoring and celebrating loved ones who have died.

"Learn about the history of the holiday and decorate your own 'calaveritas de azucar' (sugar skull)," said Young Adult Librarian Julia Butler.

Everyone who would like to participate and decorate a "sugar skull" must register in advance at the Adult Information desk or call (562) 904-7360, ext. 32.

## Halloween dance for kids tonight

DOWNEY – The City of Downey Community Services Department is holding a Halloween dance, "Spookrageous," for middle school-age kids tonight from 7 to 10 p.m. at the Gary P. McCaughan Gym.

Kids should be of middle school-age and live or attend school in Downey. No costumes will be allowed.

Cost to attend is \$5, which includes dancing with a live DJ, raffles, games, and a snack bar for food and drinks. The first 50 kids in attendance will also receive a free glow stick.

For more information about the dance or its dress code, call (562) 904-7238.

## Halloween florist class offered

DOWNEY – The Downey Adult School will be offering a "Mommy & Me Halloween Florist Class" on Oct. 27 from noon to 2 p.m.

The class will teach parents and children how to make a flower arrangement, which will be designed in keepsake containers. The class will be taught by florist Terrie Mercurio.

Cost is \$15, which includes instruction, flowers and container per arrangement, and registration is required.

To register, or for information, call (562) 940-6200.

## CLOSE ENCOUNTERS

•Sometime in the late 1980s a lady came by with questions about the area just south of Imperial and east of Paramount Boulevard. She described a "haunting" that might be termed aboriginal. As I recall, she came back a time or two to look at obituary sheets...

•A lady called from an apartment on Brookshire Avenue just north of Gallatin Road. I talked with her twice. She described activities that might be termed poltergeist. She had two young children who could be heard in the background. (1989)

•The manager of Lost in Time Antiques on Firestone Boulevard near La Reina called in 1990 asking for information on the property. He described poltergeist activity and, as I recall, they called in a psychic. "The 'ghost' left but came back" was a later report.

•A friend described a "presence" in a house which he and his family occupied on Horton Street north of Cecilia in 1992.

Submitted by John Vincent, Downey Historical Society

## A friendly ghost roams the Manning House

This woman has known to walk the halls every night. She is known to lift and separate the blinds in the room above me. She has also been found sitting in laundry baskets. Lately she has started jamming the lock on my front door and locking me out of my house.

She is known to show up after midnight with two children, a boy and a girl; only my son can see them. They take a toy then walk through the wall with the toy. She opens cabinets in the bathroom. I have heard voices once and that was Thursday, the 23rd. It was as though she was having a tea party. It started at 9:30 p.m. and ended at 10:30 p.m. They were talking very loud and laughing behind the staircase wall.

She is seen every day, but I believe she is harmless, not threatening.

— Julie Ferrulli

The Manning House is a home on Downey Avenue and Cherokee Drive once owned by Riley Manning, a local businessman in the 1920's. The preceding account was received on Sept. 29, 1993.

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 •Sun. 2 to 5 7816 Harper, Downey asking \$799,900 www.premiumdowneyhome.com  
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## Downey Museum of Art celebrates 50 years

**CONTRIBUTED BY KATE DAVIES, DOWNEY MUSEUM OF ART**  
**DOWNEY** – The Downey Museum of Art was founded by a group of women bonded by art and community. And one woman in particular, Alice Woodrow, decided in 1957 to build and open the DMOA in order to provide a place for modern artists to show their works, a place to have a voice.

Downey is a city of historical landmarks: the first Taco Bell, the oldest McDonald's, sites where we helped put the man on the moon, and DMOA. DMOA was the first museum of art in Los Angeles to be founded exclusively to exhibit and collect modern art – an important historical footprint in L.A. art history.

The idea for DMOA was born from Woodrow's friendship with art dealer Felix Landau in the 1950's. Landau, an important modern art dealer, introduced her to the artists of the time and from those encounters she came to an understanding that there was a need for space and support of modern artists visiting and working in L.A. at the time.

In the mid-1950's, when Woodrow went to L.A. to Landau's, there were only a few private art galleries clustered on La Cienega Boulevard. Actually, it was here that the birth of the L.A. modern/contemporary art world occurred. The Felix Landau Gallery was one of the few spaces in all of L.A. to show modern art and it wasn't until 1960 that the Ferrus Gallery opened, which went on to become the most important gallery in L.A. art history. There were few places for modernists to exhibit in L.A. at that time.

So in the mid-1950's, when it came to the art world, L.A. was a very small town. No museum was devoted to current art. The County museums in Exposition Park were the cultural center of the city, with the County Museum of Art as an encyclopedic museum that only occasionally showed modern art. The art would constellation also included the Pasadena Art Institute which exhibited "19th century American and European art and hosted annual shows of California artists and works from other cultures," said the Norton Simon Museum. It wasn't until the 1960's, under the direction of Walter Hopps, that the Pasadena Museum focused on the cutting edge artists of the time.

A pioneer, Woodrow set out to establish an art museum to exclusively collect and exhibit modern art. The museum would be a place for modern artists to gather and show their work and a forum for modern ideas.

In 1957, Woodrow struck a partnership with the county. She then built and opened DMOA in the county's park that is now Furman Park. Later, she donated the building to the City when it acquired the park with the provision that it would always be home to DMOA. Downey Museum of Art at Furman Park is the original historic site that hold's an important place in Downey and Southern California history.

Woodrow's efforts and connections quietly created a museum that became an important mainstay in the early L.A. modern art world. In those

early years, some of today's well-known artists exhibited at DMOA such as Ed Moses, June Wayne, Boris Deutsch, Gordon Wagner, and Vic Smith. Later artists include Ed Ruscha, Woods Davy, Laddie John Dill, Bettye Saar and others. DMOA holds one of the largest collection of works by artist Boris Deutsch.

"The DMOA was an outpost of cutting-edge culture when the Southland was a cultural desert," said Peter Frank, art critic. "For instance, Bettina Bendell, a German-born artist, first lived in Downey when she moved here from New York. She organized several shows of abstraction at DMOA, working with the likes of John McLaughlin and Lerser Feitelson and Oskar Fischinger and Helen Lundeberg, and was featured in several other exhibitions such as DMOA annuals and juried shows in the 1950's and 60's. We don't realize how barren the scene was before La Cienega Boulevard blossomed with galleries in the early 1960's and LACMA moved to the Tar Pits in 1965."

In spirit of Woodrow's vision, Downey Museum of Art at Furman Park will continue as the historical site. And in keeping with this visionary spirit, the DMOA steps into the 21st century as the most deeply green art museum in the U.S. – Downey Museum of Art at The Glidehouse.

For information, call (562) 927-5849.



The March of Dimes recently awarded Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard with the 2007 Public Affairs Leadership Award. Pictured are (left to right) Gail Margolis, Children's Hospital Los Angeles vice president and business relations; Roybal-Allard; and Angele Price, March of Dimes L.A. Division executive director.

## March of Dimes awards congresswoman's efforts

**WASHINGTON D.C.** – The March of Dimes presented Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard (CA-34) with the foundation's national 2007 Public Affairs Leadership Award for her sponsorship of legislation to improve the health of mothers, infants, and children.

The foundation cited the congresswoman's "Newborn Screening Saves Lives Act of 2007" (HR 1634), which would establish national newborn screening guidelines intended to make comprehensive newborn screening widely available throughout the country. The bill provides federal funding to educate parents and health care professionals about the importance of newborn screening. The bill also improves access to follow-up care for infants detected with an illness through newborn screening tests.

In addition, the bill requires the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to ensure the quality of laboratories involved in newborn screening and establishes a system for collecting and analyzing data that will help researchers develop better detection, prevention and treatment strategies.

The foundation also recognized the congresswoman for her hard work on the "Folic Acid Education Act of 2000." The law, which was sponsored by Roybal-Allard, directed the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to undertake a public education campaign on the importance of folic acid in preventing birth defects. In addition, the March of Dimes

noted the congresswoman's continued leadership in securing funding for folic acid education, newborn screening and prematurity research.

Founded in 1938, the March of Dimes is a national voluntary health agency with a mission to improve the health of babies by preventing birth defects and infant mortality. The March of Dimes funds research, community service, education, and advocacy programs and, in 2003, launched a five-year campaign to address the increasing rate of premature births.

### Guest speaker discusses 'American Ugly'

**LONG BEACH** – The Long Beach branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) will feature Tracy Sachtjen, recipient of an American Fellowship Endowment, at their meeting on Nov. 3.

Sachtjen will speak about her Ph. D dissertation "American Ugly: The Production of Ugliness in American Culture." She asserts that ugliness has become a public way of talking about different groups – women, immigrants, migrants – who do not conform to dominant standards of appearance.

A catered lunch will be provided, followed by the program at 11 a.m. The meeting will be held at Grace First Presbyterian Church, 3955 Studebaker Rd.

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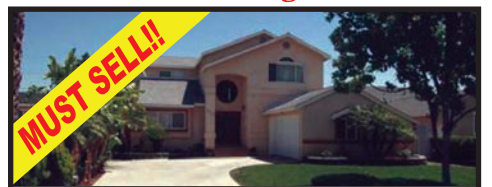
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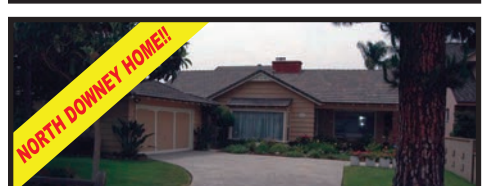


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Call Roger Today! Or visit www.RogerBeltran.com



**9805 Tweedy Ln, Downey**  
4 BD, 3BA, 2800 Sq. Ft., N.E. Downey home on an 8500 Sq Ft lot, fresh paint, hardwood floors, dual French doors (up & downstairs) large living room & family room, formal dining room & large kitchen.  
Call Roger Today! Or visit www.RogerBeltran.com



**15523 Sylvanwood St., Norwalk**  
3 BD, 1 BA, Near Cerritos College  
1,028 sq. ft. of living space, 6,850 Lot, 3 Car Garage  
Only \$ 375,000  
Call Russell Skersick Today @ 562-619-8280



**Splish, Splash!!!**  
3 BD, 2 BA, family room w/ fireplace, pool, covered patio, 7,503 Sq. Ft. lot.  
Priced at: 799,950  
Call Maria Razo Today @ 323-573-1843



**Nice Ranch Style Home On A Large Lot!!!**  
3 BD, 2 BA, 2 Fireplaces, refinished hardwood floors, fresh interior paint, central air, RV parking & much more!!  
\$535,000  
Call Frank Moreno Today @ 562-949-8139

**Vicki Spearman**  
"I Care For Downey"  
562-367-9520  
Vicki@Prudential24Hours.com



**Picture Perfect**  
Beautiful 3 BD, 1 1/4 BA, family kitchen, FA/CA, 2 car garage, 1,544 sq. ft. home in excellent area.  
Turnkey property priced to sell.  
**NOW ONLY: \$499,900**  
Call Vicki Today (562) 367-9520



**Fixer Upper!**  
Great house w/ 4 BD, hardwood floors & 2 1/2 car garage!  
ONLY \$489,000  
Call Marie Picarelli @ 562-618-0033



**Downey Deal!!**  
7431 Muller St., Downey, 3 BD home in ideal location of Orange Estates on a 7,548 sq ft lot. Price Reduction \$549,950  
Across from Golf Course and close to everything!  
Call Zeke Pinaya @ 562-746-8840



**Home Sweet Home!**  
3 Bed, 1 1/2 Baths, Living Room w/ Fireplace Family Kitchen w/ Eating Area, 2 Car Garage, 1,610 Sq. Ft. Priced @ \$659,000  
Call Mary Jane Lee @ 562-618-0390

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**NORTH DOWNEY TURNKEY**  
3 BD, 2 BA, 2,000 Sq. Ft. of living space!  
Built in 1974.  
Priced to SELL!



**WOW! A HOT BUY!**  
3 BD, 2 BA, remodeled kitchen & baths.  
All for ONLY: \$465,000



**THE BEST DEAL IN DOWNEY!**  
3 BD, + Family ROOM, 1,443 Sq. Ft.  
A REAL STEAL @ \$449,000



**A STEAL OF A DEAL!**  
3 BD, 2 BA, 1,633 Sq. Ft., & a LG. lot.  
REDUCED TO: \$575,000



**A-1 NEIGHBORHOOD**  
3 BD, 2 BA, LG master suite, 1,722 Sq. Ft.  
OWNER SAYS... BRING AN OFFER!

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

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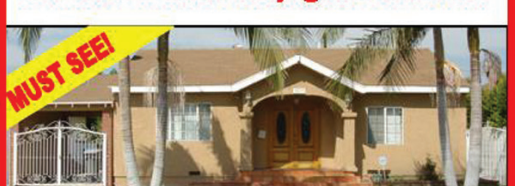
Date: Tuesday Nov. 6, 2007  
Time: 7:00 - 9:00 PM  
Location: 8635 Florence Ave., Suite 201, Downey Ca. 90240  
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Townhouse w/ 3BD, 2.5 BA, 2 Car Garage.  
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2 Separate houses!  
Price \$599,000  
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**Decorator Perfect!**  
Gorgeous 3BD, 1.75 BA, N. Downey Home!  
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## Feature of the Week



### Downey Northeast Downey Pool Home!

4 bedrooms + office, 2.5 bathrooms, remodeled kitchen, living room & family room with fireplaces, formal dining room, large master bedroom, & pool / spa.

Price reduced to: \$999,950

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.

Price: \$675,000

Call Michael Berdelis at (562) 818-6111



### Classic Tuscan Country Estate!

6 BD, 4.5 BA, over 5,000 sq ft, 14,600 Sq. Ft. Lot, on a private secluded street in North Downey.

Price: \$1,995,000.

Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com



### Champagne Taste, Beer Budget!

5 bed, 3 bath, 2800 sq ft, new construction 2006 - North Downey!

Price: \$899,000

Call Michael Berdelis at (562) 818-6111



### Picture Perfect North Downey Townhome!

3 bedroom, 2.5 bath plus a family room with wet bar. The gourmet kitchen and breakfast room opens up to the lovely tiled patio. This one is READY for you to move in!

Value Range Price: \$499,950-\$529,950  
Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com



### 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



### 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: \$649,900

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



### 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



### 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: \$675,000

Call Michael Berdelis at (562) 818-6111



### So Much for So Little!

3 bed, 2 bath pool home with extra large 2 car detached garage on quiet street in Downey. Home is 2,189 sq ft on a 7,380 sq ft lot.

Price: \$679,950

Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com



### Perfect for Entertaining!

Amazing 4 bed, 2.5 bath, 2682 sq ft house on a 8200 sq ft lot, remodeled through out.

Price reduced to \$785,000.

Call Michael Berdelis at (562) 818-6111



### Beautiful Inside & Out!

3 bed, 2 bath, 2203 sq ft, 6900 sq ft lot, large family room, master bedroom, & spacious yard.

Price: \$679,950

Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com

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