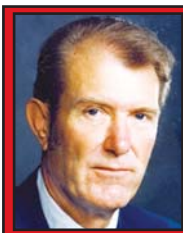




**Trujillo to lead bar association**  
See Page 2



**William Ritchie passes away**  
See Page 10



**Lumsdaine's life of service**  
See Page 11

Friday, January 30, 2009

Vol. 7 No. 41

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

## Symphony set to premiere exclusive piece

By JOYCE SHERWIN,  
DOWNEY SYMPHONY

**DOWNEY** – For more than 50 years, musicians with Downey's Symphony Orchestra have brought the enrichment of classical music performance to this community. That's a lot of notes under their collective hands, yet certain elements of the concert tomorrow evening will be unlike any that have come before it.

This is as it needs to be, of course: stay fresh, mellow with maturity, innovate.

For this concert, the second of our 51st season, we have not only a magnificent solo harpist in JoAnn Turovsky, but the premiere performance of a work written for her by composer Robert Litton, commissioned by the Downey Symphony. Litton will be on hand to check it all out, and you should be too.

Both a performer and composer, Robert Litton has appeared extensively in the Bay Area in percussion performance, and his compositions have been presented by members of the San Francisco Symphony, San Francisco Opera, the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Los Angeles Opera, Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, and the New York Philharmonic. He is also an emerging film composer.

The ink on "Mendocino," his new score for the harp, may be almost dry when we hear it at this Jan. 31 concert. Not a problem for JoAnn Turovsky, who is "one of Los Angeles' musical gems," according to our music director, Sharon Lavery.

"In addition to her duties as principal harpist of Los Angeles' Opera, Chamber and Master Chorale Orchestras," Lavery con-



Robert Litton

tinues, "Turovsky is the leading harpist in the motion picture and television industry. If you have been to any major movie in the last two decades and heard a beautiful harp in the background, chances are it was played by this incredibly talented musician."

All this and more comes to you in a neat package on Jan. 31 in the Downey Civic Theatre, with free parking. Reserved seat tickets are \$20 and \$25, available at the theater box office after 6:30 p.m.

You will hear both Sharon Lavery and Robert Litton discussing the evening's music, starting at 7:15 p.m. The 8 p.m. performance includes Mozart's Overture to The Impresario and Felix Mendelssohn's "Scottish" Symphony, Litton's "Mendocino" and Maurice Ravel's Introduction and Allegro. Scrumptious.

Lavery adds, "I look forward to seeing you all at this grand event, and please feel free to drop by and say hello to me and some of the DSO musicians in the lobby following the concert."

How can you resist?

## Lady Liberty gets day in court

■ Owners of Liberty Tax Service complain after Code Enforcement cites their outdoor sign carriers.

By MARY FORNEY,  
STAFF WRITER

**DOWNEY** – Hiral Kapadia and her husband Dhaval Oza are seeking liberty in court April 1 as they claim injustice over a City of Downey Code Enforcement ticket received Jan. 22.

Kapadia, owner of Liberty Tax Service, received the citation for sitting two buckets of flags on the sidewalk and allowing an employ-

ee dressed as Lady Liberty to stand outside her business. The ticket cites "Unlawful display of signs and subject on street attracting attention to business" as a violation of Downey Municipal Code 9614-02.

The day before being issued the ticket, Kapadia had received a violation notice in the mail for displaying a portable directional parking sign without a permit.

"I brought the sign in and stopped

sitting out our A-frame signs because the city adopted a new ordinance in October prohibiting use of A-frame signs on the sidewalk," Kapadia said. "When they tell me I can't do something, I immediately comply. But I still see portable A-frame signs on sidewalks all over Downey in front of other businesses. Why doesn't code enforcement say something to them and keep coming to my business?"

"Code Enforcement just showed up the day after I received the notice in the mail and wrote me

a ticket because an employee was standing outside wearing the Liberty costume in front of our business. I really feel harassed – why couldn't they just give me a warning? For three years they have come to my business looking for violations, yet the code isn't clear and code enforcement isn't treating all the businesses fairly."

Kapadia and co-owner Oza claim the city's municipal code does not clearly address the use of costumes to advertise a business

See LIBERTY, page 3



This acrylic painting by St. Matthias High School teacher Ann Storc was chosen for an art exhibition in Los Angeles next month. The painting depicts multi-national students from Storc's advanced arts class.

## Downey art teacher's work selected for exhibition

■ Ann Storc has been a teacher at St. Matthias High School for 39 years.

By MARY FORNEY,  
STAFF WRITER

**DOWNEY** – Ann Storc has had a calling to educate others since she was a child – her first students were her paper dolls.

Instructing English, drama, and art for 39 years at St. Matthias High School, Storc, 66, said it is the students themselves who have always inspired her to teach.

"I like the process," Storc said. "I see these kids growing and learning so I like teaching more than being an artist myself. In fact, I have never considered myself an artist – I am a teacher and it is the teaching that is my art."

Not even money or distance has kept Storc from educating children. Her desire to teach at St. Matthias High School caused her to turn

down a job offer as a graphic designer for NBC, and she travels from her home in Van Nuys to her students in Downey.

"The drive on the freeway is worth it because I'm going to St. Matthias. It's just a special place and has such a special spirit," Storc said.

Thousands of students have passed through Storc's classrooms since she first started teaching in 1970, but one sophomore group stood out to her two years ago.

As a class project, the students took pictures of each other.

"I loved the pictures," Storc said. "This was such a dynamic group that I decided to paint them."

What grabbed her attention was realizing that most of the students in her advanced placement art class are second generation Americans.

"They are Filipino, Mexican, and even El Salvadorian," Storc said. "The parents of these students are immigrants who sacrificed to send them to Catholic school just so they can get a good education. Ninety-five percent of our students go on to college, so that's a pretty good batting average."

The acrylic painting that Storc created from the pictures of her students was selected by Museum of Contemporary Art in Los Angeles Curator Alma Ruiz to be among the exhibitions in the Women Artists on Immigration: Crossing Borders, Confronting Barriers, Bridging Identities art show. Ruiz made her art show selections from 298 submissions from 125 artists.

Presented by the Women's Caucus for Art with the Korean Cultural Center of Los Angeles, Storc's piece entitled "2nd Gen." will be on view Feb. 20-March 7 at 5505 Wilshire Blvd. in Los



Ann Storc

Angeles.

An opening reception will be held on Feb. 27 from 7-9 p.m. The closing event will host an artists talk and celebration of International Women's Day on March 7 from 12:30-2 p.m.

The Women Artists on Immigration show will feature works by California-based female artists from all career levels.



A photo collage in last week's paper erroneously reported that West Middle School students accumulated 850,000 minutes of reading time over the course of a year to earn a visit from Los Angeles Clippers guard Jason Hart. The students read more than 850,000 minutes in a month. We regret the error. Photo by Art Montoya



Downey resident Mario Trujillo, a deputy district attorney for Los Angeles County, was installed as president of the Mexican American Bar Association last week. Trujillo is also president of Downey Kiwanis.

## Trujillo installed as MABA president

LOS ANGELES – Los Angeles County deputy district attorney Mario Trujillo was installed as president of the Mexican American Bar Association (MABA) on Saturday, in a gala ceremony at the Los Angeles Downtown Marriott Hotel.

Trujillo, a Downey resident, was installed by Los Angeles Superior Court judges Teresa Sanchez Gordon and Kathryn A. Solorzano.

Trujillo has tried 120 jury trials (30 misdemeanors and 90 felonies). He is currently assigned to Administration, serving as a special assistant to the directors of Branch and Area Operations.

His last trial assignment was with the Hardcore Gang Division, which is responsible for prosecuting the most serious of crimes and gang-related murders.

Trujillo received his juris doctorate from the Southwestern University School of Law in 1995 and was admitted to the bar in 1996. He joined MABA in 1996 and was one of the first prosecutors ever to sit on the board of the organization.

Trujillo was born in California and then raised in a small town in Jalisco, Mexico until the age of 6. He grew up in San Francisco, and obtained his bachelor's degrees from UC Berkeley in 1990, where he majored in Sociology and Chicano Studies.

While at Berkeley, Trujillo was active in MEChA, the Raza Recruitment and Retention Center, and student government. After Berkeley, he moved to Los Angeles to pursue a career in education. He was employed by the LAUSD as a bilingual elementary teacher from 1990-1996. After obtaining his teaching credential in 1992, he completed his juris doctorate at night while continuing to work as a teacher at South Central elementary schools.

Trujillo resides in Downey and is president of the Downey Kiwanis. He also serves on the board for the Latino Prosecutors Foundation of Los Angeles County and on the board for the Los Angeles Centers for Alcohol and Drug Abuse.

## Class helps kids with early literacy

DOWNEY – The Downey City Library is offering a free class for parents to help their preschool children with early literacy.

“Every Child Ready to Read” will be offered Monday from 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Instructor Claudia Dailey will give parents techniques for helping young children to read and develop early language skills through picture books. Learn why it is important to read to children and what you can do right now to increase your child's language skills.

Registration is accepted at the Adult desk or by calling (562) 904-7360, ext. 123.

## Float designs now being accepted

DOWNEY – The Downey Rose Float Association is now accepting submissions for next year's Tournament of Roses Parade float design.

Designs should be submitted on a 8 1/2x11 piece of paper with your name and contact information on the back. Anyone can submit a design and eligible Rose Float members will vote at their Feb. 10 meeting.

Submissions should be mailed to the Downey Rose Float Association, P.O. Box 765, Downey, CA 90241 by Feb. 9, or brought to the meeting in the Gallatin Room of the Barbara J. Riley Community and Senior Center on Feb. 10 at 7 p.m.

Next year's parade theme is “2010: A Cut Above the Rest.”

## Bingo luncheon scheduled Feb. 8

DOWNEY – The Italian Catholic Federation of St. Raymond's Catholic Church is sponsoring a bingo luncheon to be held Feb. 8 inside the church's Msgr. Robert Gipson Hall.

Cost is \$10 and includes lunch at 12:30 p.m., followed by bingo.

For tickets, call Aline Amatisto at (562) 693-9430 or Charlene Drobeck at (562) 928-1937.

## Resident showing off pin collection

DOWNEY – Downey resident Ray Erwin will share his collection of Olympic pins at the Feb. 11 meeting of the Downey Christian Women's Club at Los Amigos Country Club.

The lunch meeting begins at 11:45 a.m. Cost is \$13.

The meeting will also feature speaker George Beardsley, whose topic is “Money is not the Best Way to be Rich.”

Both men and women are invited to the meeting. RSVP by calling Sonja at (562) 862-4347 or Jean at (562) 861-1114.

## Nominations open for hall of fame

DOWNEY – Downey High School is now accepting nominations for its Hall of Fame in the areas of arts, athletics, business, community/government, education and professional.

The Hall of Fame was formed in 1999 and currently has 62 members. Distinguished alumni include Dr. Robert Ballard, discoverer of the Titanic; entertainers Karen and Richard Carpenter; international figure skaters JoJo Starbuck and Ken Shelley; and musician George Pajon, Jr. of the Black Eyed Peas.

To nominate a graduate, call Downey High School Assistant Principal John Baker at (562) 869-7301, ext. 5524, for an application.

## Singing twins set to perform

DOWNEY – The Good Twins, a pair of singing identical twins who have released 33 studio albums, will perform at Downey First Christian Church on Feb. 8 at 3:30 p.m.

The Good Twins, Dwight and Dwayne, began singing together at age 3. Growing up in Pontiac, Ill., they began gospel singing after graduating from Lincoln Christian College in 1958. Since then they have traveled nearly 3 million miles, and performed more than 8,000 concerts in 24 different countries.

The twins said they have memorized more than 500 gospel songs, and have appeared before kings, governors, at political rallies, Miss America pageants, state and county fairs, prisons, conventions, four national TV specials, and in “thousands of churches.”

In 1968, their album, “Church is Finally Over,” won the NEFF Award as the best duet album of the year. *Billboard* magazine gave it a four-star rating.

The Good Twins were selected to sing with the Promise Keepers Choir in Washington, D.C. in 1997, an event that drew more than 1 million men.

Downey First Christian Church is at 10909 New St. in Downey. The community is invited to the concert. A freewill offering will be taken.



Dr. Mary Stauffer was presented with the Mayor's Diakonia Award this week for her philanthropy and volunteer work. To nominate a person for the award, call (562) 904-7274.

## Stauffer receives Diakonia Award

DOWNEY – Local philanthropist and community volunteer Dr. Mary Stauffer was recognized at Tuesday's City Council meeting with the inaugural Mayor's Diakonia Award.

“Any resident who provides service with love deserves to be recognized,” said Mayor Mario Guerra, who initiated the award. “Dr. Mary Stauffer is a prime example of answering our call to serve others with her many years of dedicated involvement to our city and our citizens and I am honored to present her with the Diakonia Award.”

The Diakonia Award (“diakonia” is a Greek word meaning “service”) will be presented monthly at City Council meetings and residents are encouraged to nominate those who go out of their way to make a difference in the community.

To nominate someone for the award, call the City Council office at (562) 904-7274. To be eligible, the person needs to either live or work in Downey.

## DePaul graduates Downey native

CHICAGO – DePaul University has announced that Roxanne Yongvanich of Downey has graduated with a Master of Science from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Serving more than 23,000 students, DePaul University is the nation's largest Catholic university.

## Storytime featuring Curious George

DOWNEY – Preschool children and their parents can attend a storytime featuring picture books about their favorite character, Curious George, on Tuesday from 10:30-11 a.m. at the Downey City Library.

Bilingual storytime will feature the same stories in English and Spanish on Feb. 4 from 10:30-11 a.m. Family Story Night on Feb. 5 at 7 p.m. will also feature stories about the curious monkey.

“The classic picture books by H.A. Rey are a favorite with every generation,” said Children's Librarian Gina Orello. “Join us for stories and a special craft.”

The free events will take place inside the Cornack Room.

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- Attend an orientation – all orientations start promptly. If you are more than 10 minutes late, you will not be admitted.

**FREE ORIENTATIONS / WORKSHOPS  
WILL BE HELD AT**

**Good Shepherd Lutheran Church** at 13200 Clark Avenue, Downey, CA.

Wednesday, February 4, 2009 at 6:30 pm	Saturday, February 7, 2009 at 11:00 am
Thursday, February 5, 2009 at 6:30 pm	Sunday, February 8, 2009 at 3:00 pm

Number in household	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Maximum LIMITS	31,860	36,360	40,920	45,480	49,140	52,740	56,400	60,060
Minimum LIMITS	24,000	24,000	25,000	25,000	26,000	26,000	27,000	27,000

**QUESTIONS? Please call Nadia Urieta @ 310-323-4663 ext. 112 – [nurieta@habitatla.org](mailto:nurieta@habitatla.org)**

\*Details will be given at the orientations

[www.habitatla.org](http://www.habitatla.org)

## Man who died in collision identified

**DOWNEY** – The victim of the fatal traffic collision that occurred Jan. 15 on Firestone Boulevard and Stewart and Gray Road has been identified as Jerry Clyde Fitzgerald, 74, from Hawaiian Gardens.

The Downey Police Department is still waiting for the coroner's report to help determine why Fitzgerald failed to stop as he approached traffic that was stopped at a red light.

"It can take up to two or three weeks," said Detective Rosie Guterrez of the Downey Police Department.

Fitzgerald rear ended a 1999 Freightliner delivery truck and caused the delivery truck to move forward into the rear of a 1999 Oldsmobile Cutlass that was stopped in front of the truck.

The drivers of the Freightliner and the Oldsmobile sustained minor injuries. Fitzgerald was immediately transported to St. Francis Medical Center where he later died from his injuries sustained in the accident.

The traffic collision remains under investigation.

"The coroner's report could tell us more," Guterrez said.

Anyone with information regarding the accident is asked to call the Downey Police Department Traffic Division at (562) 904-2342 and refer to DR 09-3203.

—Mary Forney, Staff Writer

## Librarians dish on favorite books

**DOWNEY** – The public is invited to hear librarians discuss some of their favorite books during a lunch event at the Downey City Library on Feb. 12.

"I Love Books!" will be presented from noon to 1 p.m. in the library's Cormack Room.

A panel of librarians will give their recommendations on a variety of titles, including: "Garden Spells" by Sara Addison Allen; "Rekindled" by Tamara Alexander; "The Other Boleyn Girl" by Philippa Gregory; "The Thin Place" by Kathryn Davis; "Here on Earth" by Alice Hoffman; "Lonesome Dove" by Larry McMurtry; "To Say Nothing of the Dog" by Connie Willis; and "The Yiddish Policeman's Union" by Michael Chabon.

A light lunch will be offered for \$5, payable at the event. The book discussion is free to the public.

For reservations, call (562) 904-7360, ext. 132.

## Lifeguard training during spring break

**DOWNEY** – The city of Downey Community Services department will offer an American Red Cross lifeguard certification course during spring break, April 13-17, at the Downey Aquatic Center at Downey High School.

The course will be offered each day from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The certified instruction will provide the necessary minimum skills training for a person to qualify to serve as a non-surf lifeguard.

Participants must be at least 15 years old on or before the beginning of the course and show proof of age at registration.

Students will receive certificates of completion on the final day of class if they pass both the written and physical testing. The fee for the week is \$105, which includes a training book, pocket mask and certification card.

Register at the Community Services department inside City Hall. For more information, call (562) 904-7238.

## Cardiovascular Fair open to public

**DOWNEY** – Downey Regional Medical Center will host its annual Cardiovascular Wellness Fair on Feb. 7 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the hospital's conference rooms.

The fair, which is open to the public, will feature a variety of complimentary screenings and activities, including: carotid and respiratory screenings, blood pressure checks, consultations with a DRMC pharmacist, nutrition consultants, massages, cooking demonstrations with Jennifer Miyagawa, giveaways, raffles, and Mended Hearts representatives.

The fair will also feature a heart healthy snack (served at about 9 a.m.) and a presentation by Paiboon Mahaisavariya, MD.

For more information, contact Downey Regional Medical Center's Cardiac Rehabilitation Department, (562) 904-5413.

## Liberty: Tax office complains of what they deem selective enforcement.



Liberty Tax Service was cited for its outdoor advertising, which included a bucket of flags on the sidewalk and a woman dressed as Lady Liberty. Photo courtesy Dhaaval Oza

Continued from page 1

and that equal enforcement is not being used.

"Every morning I see protestors using their free speech in front of the abortion clinic. They are using portable signs which businesses aren't allowed to use and aren't they distracting traffic? They even block other businesses," Oza said.

"Non-profits can demonstrate and advertise on the sidewalks. I can have my employees stand outside advertising 'Cell Phones for Soldiers' but I can't have them stand in front of my business advertising my business even though we belong to the Chamber of Commerce and contribute to the city?"

"We create eight or nine jobs every year for the costume wearers during a time when there are no jobs. Now we can't offer jobs because the costume isn't allowed. I don't understand because we are a non-hostile business and don't bother other businesses because we stay in front of our own."

An investigation by *The Downey Patriot* this week revealed

multiple businesses displaying A-frame signs and mannequins on the Firestone Boulevard sidewalk – just blocks from Liberty Tax Service. Someone wearing a chicken costume advertising a Cuban bakery was also found on Florence Avenue waving at traffic across the street from the business.

"We have a finite number of officers out there looking at the businesses so we respond according to complaints," said Downey Police Department Cpt. Jim McCullough. "We are taking a look at the whole ordinance since it is new, and what we're looking for is what's currently in place and what's fair to the community."

Code Enforcement Officer Robert Weinrich, who wrote the Liberty Tax Service citation, was unavailable for comment.

"It is not equal enforcement," Oza said. "They come by three or four times during the tax season so we feel singled out. They need to make wearing costumes clear in the code and fairly enforce the code across the board."



A person in a chicken suit advertises a Cuban bakery near Florence Avenue and Paramount Boulevard this week. Photo by Mary Forney

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**9 a.m. to 1 p.m.** DRMC Conference Rooms  
*(located in the main building basement)*

**Activities include:**

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- Respiratory screening
- Consultations with a DRMC pharmacist
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- Diabetes Educator  
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- Cooking Demonstration with Jennifer Miyagawa, RD
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For more information, contact DRMC's  
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[www.drnci.org](http://www.drnci.org)



Robert Johnson, a student at Long Beach City College studying sheet metal, was the recipient of a \$500 scholarship.

## Sheet metal student lands scholarship

**DOWNEY** – Downey resident Robert Johnson has received a \$500 “GO-Brennan” scholarship toward his college education from the Fabricators and Manufacturers Association (FMA) Foundation and SolidWorks Corporation.

Johnson attends Long Beach City College and is majoring in sheet metal.

Johnson will also receive the full licensed version of the SolidWorks Student Design Kit CAD software, a Windows-based 3-D CAD application that gives students the ability to create “real-life” 3-D designs, and a Vista auto-darkening welding helmet, compliments of the Lincoln Electric Company.

The “GO-Brennan” scholarships are tied to FMA’s sponsorship of 17-year-old stock car driver Brennan Palmiter, who is proficient in four types of welding, a skill he uses to motivate other young people to consider the industrial trades as a career choice.

Palmiter appeared in a video on YouTube inviting high school, trade school and college students seeking careers in manufacturing to apply for the scholarships.

Applicants were required to create and post their own videos on YouTube explaining why they want to be in manufacturing, what career they seek and where they want to attend school. They also were encouraged to include footage of themselves welding or building with metal.

In 2008, 13 “GO-Brennan” scholarships totaling \$6,500 were awarded to students from across the country.

## Century 21 donation totals more than \$25K

**DOWNEY** – Century 21 My Real Estate announced this week that its 2008 contributions to Easter Seals Southern California totaled \$25,267.

Its participation this past year marked the office’s 31st year of being affiliated with the charitable foundation.

The donation far exceeded the 2008 goal and was the result of contributions from My Real Estate agents and staff, outside individual contributions, and the Oldies But Goodies concert held at the Downey Theatre in November.

“We are in the business of helping people, and it is no accident that we have an exceptional team who share in making that happen,” said Steve Roberson, broker and owner of Century 21 My Real Estate. “Our relationship with Easter Seals Southern California enables our sales associates and employees not only to give something back to the community, but to also help raise awareness of this worthwhile and reputable charitable organization.

“It is a great feeling to know that our contributions go directly toward helping people with disabilities achieve greater independence.”

The entire Century 21 system has been affiliated with National Easter Seal Society since 1979 and has raised more than \$91 million for the non-profit organization.

## How To Buy A New Central Furnace With No Money Down...Plus Get \$475 Cash

**\* If you decide to pay cash instead of financing, I can reduce your price by \$475. Either way, you save \$475.**

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If you are replacing a furnace I'm so sure you will save at least twenty-five percent on your gas bills that I will pay you the difference if you don't. In fact, many of our customers have said..."We saved enough money on our energy and repair bills to make our monthly

payment." You see, our new furnaces come with a full 5-year warranty (you can't spend a cent on repairs). And listen to this, if your heat exchanger fails within 5 years, we will give you a new furnace FREE (we don't just replace the heat exchanger).

There is no way you can lose. Your lower utility and repair bills will probably make you payment. And I will even pay you the difference for the 1st year if you save less than twenty-five percent. Here's how...Just call **Cooling 4 Less by Dockstaders** at (562) 698-0201 anytime. Joseph will come to your home for your free survey.

While he's there he will show you the price on the furnace that fits your home, and there is no obligation.

But please don't delay your call. This is a limited offer. I'm Doug Farnik, and I thank you for your time.

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www.cooling4less.com



Winners of Writers' Workshop West annual fiction writing contest were, from left: Anna Winslow, Yolanda Adele and Peggy Smith.

## Fiction contest winners announced

**DOWNEY** – Winners of the recent fiction contest were announced this week by Writers' Workshop West president Ralph Cohen.

First place honors went to Anna Winslow for “The Rooster of Bishop Randolpho” and to Yolanda Adele for “The Wallet.” Sharing the winnings was Peggy Smith for “Anthony.”

Adele is also a member of Mrs. Mansell’s memoir class in Norwalk. “We are extremely grateful to Mr. Baker and Downey High School for providing the new library for our meetings,” said Cohen.

Visitors are welcome to the meetings and writers will find a friendly, supportive atmosphere. Several contests are held throughout the year. Meeting are held each third Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m.

For more information, call (562) 862-3106.

## Donate old phone, ink cartridges

**DOWNEY** – Century 21 My Real Estate is collecting used ink jet printer cartridges and cell phones through the Cartridges for Kids program in an effort to generate funds to benefit Easter Seals Southern California.

For each ink jet cartridge and cell phone collected, My Real Estate earns money for Easter Seal in order to help children and adults with disabilities lead fuller, more independent lives.

Residents can participate in the program by dropping off their used ink jet cartridges and cell phones at the office located at 7834 Florence Ave. in Downey.

“Our relationship with Easter Seals enables our sales associates and employees to give something back to our community. We are pleased to participate in this worthwhile program that promises to garner substantial funds for Easter Seals,” said Steve Roberson, broker and owner of Century 21 My Real Estate.

## Symphony auditioning for conductor

**WHITTIER** – The Rio Hondo Symphony Guild will welcome Kimo Furumoto as guest speaker at their Third Concert Preview on Feb. 27 at 10 a.m. inside the First Friends Church, 13205 Philadelphia St., in Whittier.

Furumoto’s program, “An American Rhapsody,” will feature music by composers Bernstein, Barber, Copeland and Gershwin. He will be the third guest conductor for the Rio Hondo Symphony this year as the symphony continues their search for a new conductor to lead the orchestra.

The lecture is free and the community is invited. For more information, call (562) 861-7693 or (562) 693-5516.

## Radio analyst headlines dinner

**LONG BEACH** – Former USC football wide receiver and current ESPN radio analyst John Jackson will headline the Trojan Club of Long Beach’s annual recruiting dinner Feb. 11 at the El Dorado Golf Course in Long Beach.

Price for the dinner is \$30 and reservations are due by Feb. 6. Walk-ins will be accepted only if space and food is available.

For more information, call Hal Wellington at (714) 960-8724.

## What should you name the baby?

**WHITTIER** – Kathleen Trevena will be the featured speaker at the Feb. 21 meeting of the Whittier Area Genealogical Society. Trevena’s topic is “What Shall We Name the Baby?”

The meeting begins at 1 p.m. at the Whittier Masonic Lodge, 7604 Greenleaf Ave., in Whittier.

The group also announced that their annual seminar will be held Feb. 28. The speaker will be Curt Witcher.

The public is invited to the meetings. For more information, call (562) 941-0818 or visit [www.cagenweb.com/kr/wags](http://www.cagenweb.com/kr/wags).

## Group taking trip to San Manuel

**CERRITOS** – The Los Cerritos District will host a fundraiser March 12 at the San Manuel Indian Casino in Highland.

The cost is \$15 and includes transportation to and from the casino, and \$10 in slot play.

The group will depart the Woman’s Club of Bellflower at 9 a.m. and return at 4 p.m.

Reservations are due by March 1. For reservations, call Barbara Briley-Beard at (562) 869-7618 or Debra Miller Hernandez at (562) 619-0268.

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## POET'S CORNER

### A Winning Song

A rose grows in your gun barrel,  
A soul blooms in your heart.  
You get a funny feeling,  
Your life's about to start.

When you hear the whistle blow,  
And the game begins,  
You get a funny feeling,  
This time you're going to win.

Soon your lightning arm is throwing,  
The winning touchdown pass.  
You get a funny feeling,  
This time it's going to last.

The fans erupt and crash out,  
They tear the goalposts down.  
They lift you to their shoulders,  
And carry you around.

Can you crack the field with thunder?  
Yes, the lion in you roars!  
You're a king with golden thunder,  
A king home from his wars.

–Ben Platt,  
Downey

### Change

I heard it on the Internet  
The news was dark and dire  
Our democratic government  
Will very soon expire,  
And be replaced by those who feel  
With grand demands and fervent zeal  
That government should greatly change  
And many laws be re-arranged!

Now, I say, “Go Abama Go”  
And to us skeptics may you show  
That you can lead the way you should  
In fairness, truth, and for our good --  
That change will bring some lasting peace  
And corporate crimes and wars will cease --  
That all the stories I have heard  
Will be dispelled and found absurd!

–Martha J. Morrissy,  
Downey

### Moving Day

Piece by piece  
her life dismantles.  
One by one  
pictures lift from walls  
a clock unticks  
to haunt somewhere

Small possessions divided  
to hand out or throw away.  
Some sparking memories;  
a child's graduation,  
a husband's gold trophy,  
holiday photos. The  
eighty-foot pine was only  
so high when they planted it.  
Each stepping stone, bush,  
coat of paint, broken window --  
all incidents have been  
documented somewhere

A van backed up in the  
driveway opens wide and  
swallows large pieces like a  
great white shark. At last the  
house is empty and relieved.  
Whatnots and knickknacks are gone.  
She's happy. She's on her way  
to a brand new house with  
pristine bare walls.

Her heart beats fast.  
–Margaret Hehman-Smith,  
Hollydale

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## John's jokes

By Eric Pierce

I don't know what I'm going to say Monday at John Adams' memorial service at Downey Adult School. I'm going to say a few words, but I'm not sure what.

John wasn't the type to get overly sentimental. The closest I saw him get to crying was when Barbaro shattered a leg and broke down at the Preakness Stakes in 2006.

John was sincerely devastated -- he had put money on that horse.

Whatever I say Monday, you can bet it's not going to be sappy. John would not have liked that. In fact, he's probably upset we put him on the front cover last week. Had it been up to him, his obituary would have been buried in the Classified page.

Buried in the Classified page. Get it? John told me that once.

John was a jokester, a huckster. I think he was secretly a daredevil also. When he had a job delivering cars up north, he would take them to the desert and race them. He didn't last long at that job.

We went to breakfast once at the Nordic Fox. He ordered at T-bone steak and baked potato. It was 7 a.m.

Sometimes we receive gifts here at the office. I'm adamant at returning them, in the interest of staying neutral. John mostly agreed, unless they were chocolates. Neutrality went out the window.

John's frank mannerisms and compassion for people, especially children, touched those who knew him. His memory will live on forever.

## Stimulus package no help to poor seniors

Contributed by The Senior Citizens League

The U.S. Senate version of the economic stimulus package would provide Social Security recipients and disabled veterans a one-time extra payment of \$300.

The Senior Citizens League (TSCL) supports the \$300 payment to seniors, but maintains that amount is insufficient to truly help the nation's poorest seniors. The average Social Security beneficiary receives just \$13,836 per year, and more than 10 percent of seniors live below the poverty line.

TSCL is advocating for as much as \$1,000 in relief for the nation's poorest seniors - the same amount couples earning up to \$150,000 per year would receive.

A recent study released by TSCL found that seniors lost 51 percent of their buying power since 2000, a result of costs increasing more rapidly than the Social Security Cost of Living Adjustment.

"It's difficult to understand why the Senate would give the least money to the most vulnerable group in our economy," said Daniel O'Connell, chairman of The Senior Citizens League. "It seems clear that seniors - especially those barely getting by - are precisely the people that will stimulate the economy by spending their stimulus checks."

TSCL is concerned with one part of the Senate proposal: since workers would not pay a portion of their Social Security taxes, the Social Security Trust Fund would go into deficit spending as soon as 2010. TSCL encourages lawmakers to take the money required for this tax relief from the general treasury rather than the Trust Fund.

*With 1.2 million supporters, The Senior Citizens League is one of the nation's largest nonpartisan seniors groups. Visit [www.SeniorsLeague.org](http://www.SeniorsLeague.org) for more information.*

## Small business group also miffed at stimulus

Contributed by the SBE Council

Following passage of the economic stimulus package by the U.S. House of Representatives, Small Business & Entrepreneurship Council (SBE Council) president and CEO Karen Kerrigan issued the following statement:

"The 'economic stimulus' measure that passed the House includes too much spending that has little to do with helping the economy, and not enough for small business owners and entrepreneurs to help them survive, create jobs and grow their firms. We fear this will do little to help the economy.

"There is still time for our elected leaders to craft a better package, which would include critical incentives to help small business owners lead our nation out of this recession. But it will take more of a commitment to entrepreneurs than what is being reflected in the House-passed version. Small business owners are looking for tax certainty, relief and incentives.

"There is no doubt that President Obama and congressional leaders want to move quickly as the economic situation is dire. However, if small business owners are to shoulder the responsibility for getting our nation back on sound economic footing, they need something from this package that will encourage them to invest, hire and prepare for growth. Unfortunately, there is little in this package that does that."

*SBE Council is a nonprofit small business advocacy organization dedicated to protecting small business and promoting entrepreneurship.*

## Letters to the Editor:

### Worldwide abortions

Dear Editor:

O.K. America, you got your change. Big time!

President Obama, on his first day in office, announced his first edict: closing Guantanamo Bay, apparently with no clue as to where he will send the prisoners or what to do with them. Will he release them, bring them to the U.S., perhaps give them the same constitutional rights provided U.S. citizens (of course, free attorneys provided, at least free to them -- we foot the bill)?

It must be wonderful to be so compassionate to those who would kill us.

But I see another area where the President doesn't seem to be so compassionate. That on his third day in office, he (behind closed doors with no reporters present) made possible the deaths of thousands or perhaps millions of aborted babies. Of course, we all know these babies are a threat to all humanity.

There is another parallel also, the taxpayers of the U.S. get to foot the bill for that too, not only for U.S. citizens' abortions, but for the whole world. Doesn't that make you feel good? If we really want to murder babies, perhaps the tactics of partial birth abortion could be followed. It would be cheaper just to give everyone who doesn't want a baby a pair of scissors, thereby eliminating the need for Planned Parenthood. I think the organization's name is a flat-out lie; it should be "we don't want you to be parents, we just want the money for killing your babies."

How ghoulish and sick can the U.S. be to support this? President Obama promised change, but if these edicts are a sample of what changes he wants, I hope U.S. citizens will not be uninformed Kool-Aid drinkers, but will counter his bad judgments and hold him accountable. President Obama needs to be stopped in his tracks on this. I don't want to pay for killing babies, do you? If so, do it with your own contributions and don't confiscate my tax money for it.

— Elsa Van Leuven,  
Downey

### PAC amends agenda

Dear Editor:

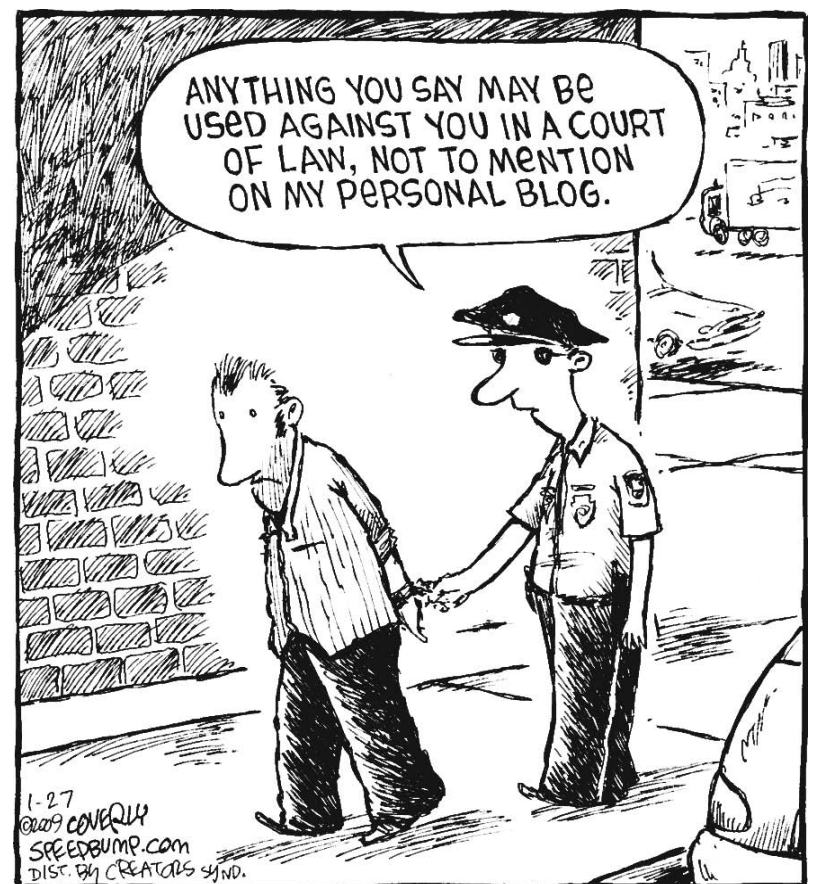
The Downey Redevelopment Project Area Committee (PAC) wishes to make the public aware of a change to its Feb. 3 agenda.

At this meeting, the PAC had planned to continue discussions from its January forum on the Avenue Theatre and Verizon property in order to hear details on the development proposal selected by the City Council for these projects. When this continuation was first announced, the PAC and city staff anticipated that the selection would be made in January in time for the February meeting.

However, because the City Council has not yet acted on the matter, the PAC has been informed by staff that no new information will be available at this time. As a result, the PAC will postpone further discussion of the Avenue Theatre and Verizon property to its March 3 meeting.

The PAC will still meet in February to discuss other issues, including the Porto's Bakery development and a downtown parking study. This meeting will be held Feb. 3 in the Cormack Room of the Downey City Library at 6:30 p.m.

— Michael Hutchinson,  
PAC Secretary



### Defending Michael Griffin

Dear Editor:

While I found Mike Sandoval's letter ("NASA's False Hope," 1/23/09) entertaining, I would like to address some of its statements.

Michael Griffin was indeed nominated by President Bush in March of 2005. He was confirmed by the Senate on April 13, 2005. The administrator of NASA serves at the pleasure of the President. Mr. Griffin did not, as the letter stated, resign from NASA; in fact, his wife petitioned the Obama administration to retain his position. This failed and President Obama appointed Air Force Maj. Gen. Scott Graton.

Each orbiter was designed for a projected lifespan of 100 launches or 10 years' operational life and was named in a manner similar to ships and numbered using the NASA Orbital Vehicle designation. The system was designed to carry and return payloads to and from low and high Earth orbit, provide crew rotation for the International Space Station, and perform servicing missions. The shuttle system was never designed to leave earth orbit, therefore never to fly to the moon.

Mr. Griffin was not behind the moon base, the Mars missions or the timeline for shuttle retirement, The Vision for Space Exploration announced by President Bush in 2004, or mandates that NASA must use the space shuttle to finish construction of the International Space Station by the end of 2010. The announcement also included Bush's desire to pursue a manned station on the moon in anticipation of future flights to Mars and beyond -- the initiative was quickly abandoned due to a myriad of issues.

Astronauts, cosmonauts and space tourists survive on shuttle and Soyuz missions, and live and work on the International Space Station for months at a time despite the dangers of solar radiation.

There were those who said man would never fly, never explore the deep oceans or the galaxy, and then there were those that said, 'Why not?' Just a bit of research can truly go a long way.

— Mike Riche,  
Downey

## Don't let recession stifle your dreams

Most people get up in the morning, grab some coffee and head out to a job where they work for peanuts, work hard, and work for someone else. Many people wonder if they worked just as hard for themselves, if they could make as much money and maintain a living.

The truth is, according to Maria Simone, author of "Passion 2 Prosperity," from BookSurge, most people can make far more working for themselves. And they can do it, even in a down economy -- even in a recession. Her foundations for a strong entrepreneurial business apply even to the wage slaves and hourly workers who think they don't have what it takes to succeed:

**Start with Your Passion** -- The French writer Françoise de Motteville once wrote, "The true way to render ourselves happy is to love our work and find in it our pleasure." Those words ring true with any entrepreneurial enterprise, because if you start with an occupation or vocation that drives our passion, then you'll never have to worry about losing interest.

**Have a Vision** -- Visualizing your business, from what you want to do, how you'll do it, how you'll market it and how you'll appeal to your customers and clients is the first step. Most new businesses start and fail quickly not because of a lack of market opportunity, but because of a lack of vision.

## Economic freedom is cure for recession

By Lawrence J. McQuillan

As Americans buckle down for what could be a severe recession, many state governments are scrambling to find ways to keep their economies afloat. Unfortunately, when it comes to economic freedom -- a major component of a state's business climate -- California is falling far behind.

According to the U.S. Economic Freedom Index, a recent study published by the Pacific Research Institute in association with Forbes, California is among the least economically free states in the country. Although it often goes overlooked, the amount of economic freedom enjoyed by Californians will play a significant role in determining how much damage the ongoing recession will do.

So what is economic freedom? It's the ability to voluntarily exchange property under the rule of law. It can be as simple as buying a pack of gum from the corner store or as complex as merging two multinational corporations.

States with high levels of economic freedom avoid excessive regulations, high taxes, unfair licensing requirements, and wasteful welfare spending. Such policies get in the way of productive economic activity and retard a state's economic growth and prosperity.

The data bear this out. In 2005, per-capita income grew 31-percent faster in the 15 most economically free states than it did in the 15 least-free states. That translates into more money in the pockets of average workers. Employment growth was a staggering 216-percent higher in the most-free states.

These figures should be of interest to policymakers contemplating economic stimulus packages. The facts show that the most effective way to create jobs and raise take-home pay is to expand economic freedom.

Economically unfree states, like California, New Jersey, Rhode Island,

and New York, will have a harder time recovering from the downturn. California faces crushing budget deficits and might not be able to issue tax refunds this year. And New York is reeling from the implosion of the financial industry.

In times of great economic growth, these states could get away with high taxes and tort laws that fleece businesses. But in the wake of the financial crisis, their wrongheaded policies will have disastrous, magnified consequences.

For one, less-free states could see an exodus of talent and capital. Census data showed an astounding 245-percent difference in migration rates between the most free states and least free states in 2005. In other words, even in good economic times, people choose to leave economically restrictive states for free ones.

Fortunately, some states have caught on to these realities and have taken steps to become more economically free. Chief among them is South Dakota, a state that has risen in the rankings 14 places since 2004. It is now the nation's economically most free state. The Mount Rushmore State imposes no corporate-income tax, no personal-income tax, no personal-property tax, no business-inventory tax, and no inheritance tax.

If California hopes to emerge from our nation's economic rough patch, its leaders would be wise to rethink its overbearing economic policies. If they don't, California could be in for hard times for a long time.

*Lawrence J. McQuillan, PhD, is director of Business and Economic Studies at the Pacific Research Institute. He is coauthor of the 2008 U.S. Economic Freedom Index. Contact him at [LMcQuillan@pacificresearch.org](mailto:LMcQuillan@pacificresearch.org).*

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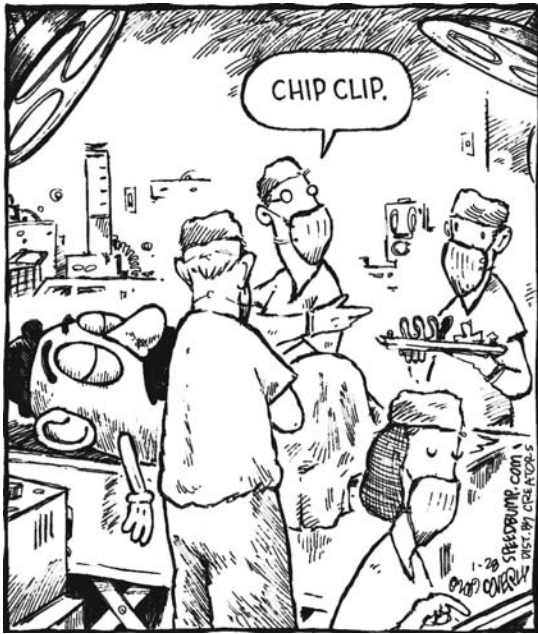
**STAFF**

Jennifer DeKay-Givens	Publisher/Adv. Director
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Mary Forney	Staff Writer
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Dorothy Michael	Display Advertising
Linda Larson	Classified Advertising
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8301 E. Florence Ave., Suite 100, Downey, CA 90240 | [www.thedowneypatriot.com](http://www.thedowneypatriot.com)

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## SPEED BUMP



## DAVE COVERLY



# Downey Community Calendar

### Events For January/February

- Sat. Jan. 31: **Downey Symphony concert**, Downey Theatre, 8 p.m.
- Monn. Feb. 2: **Preschool literacy class**, Downey City Library, 6:30 p.m.
- Tues. Feb. 3: **Curious George storytime**, Downey City Library, 10:30 a.m.
- Thurs. Feb. 5: **Fast-Fix Jewelry ribbon cutting**, Stonewood Center, 4 p.m.

### City Meetings

- 1st Tuesdays, 6:30 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.
- 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 Pat Rooney at 923-5352.
- 9:30 a.m.: **Downey Seniors Club**, at Apollo Park, for information call Nadine Morris at 923-9422.
- 9:30 a.m.: **Adventure with the Bible**, at the First Baptist Church call 928-4153.
- 12 p.m.: **Rotary Club**, at Rio Hondo, for information call Darren Dunaway at 806-5400.
- 12 p.m.: **Exchange Club of Downey**, at Sizzler, for information call Don Hollister at 927-5871.
- 6:00 p.m.: **Toastmasters Club 587**, at First Baptist Church, for info call 928-2658.
- 7 p.m.: **Boy Scout Troop 2**, at Downey United Methodist Church, for information call 869-6478.
- 7 p.m.: **Boy Scout Troop 441**, at Apollo Park Activities Room, for information call 923-3659.
- 2nd and 4th Tues., 7:30 a.m.: **Chamber "Rise&Shine" Networkers**, for info. call (562) 923-2191.
- 2nd and 4th Tues., 6 p.m.: **Sertoma Club**, at Cafe 'N Stuff, 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 p.m.: **Writer's Workshop West**, at at Downey High School library, for info call 862-3106.
- Last Tues., 11:00 a.m.: **Los Companeros Service Club**, at Los Amigos Country Club, for info call 863-1549.

#### Wednesdays

- 7 a.m.: **Kiwanis Club**, at Rio Hondo Events Center. Call Steve Roberson at 927-2626.
- 1 p.m.: **Women's Bocce Club**, for information call 869-8782.
- 1st Weds., 10 a.m.: **Woman's Club of Downey**, for information call Barbara Briley-Beard 869-7618.
- 1st Weds., 11:30 a.m.: **Downey Coordinating Council**, at Community Center, for information call 923-4357.
- 1st Weds., 7:30 p.m.: **Downey Stamp Club**, at Maude Price School cafeteria, for information call 928-3028.
- 1st Weds., 7:30 p.m.: **Downey Emblem Club #309**, at Downey's Elks Lodge, for information call 868-4386.
- 1st & 3rd Weds., 7:00 p.m.: **After-Care Post Cencer Therapy Group**, for information call 923-4800.
- 2nd Weds., 7:30 p.m.: **Downey Model A Club**, at Gallatin School Cafeteria, for information call 928-4132.
- 2nd Weds., 7:30 p.m.: **Downey Sister Cities Ass'n**, at Maude Price School, Call 862-7197.
- 2nd Weds., 11:45 a.m. - **Downey Christian Women's Club**, at Los Amigos CC. Call 927-8488.
- 2nd & 4th Weds., 11:00 a.m. - **AARP**, at Barbara J. Riley CC, Call Lorene Frazier 861-6075.
- 3rd Weds., - **Downey Dog Obedience Club** Apollo Park, for info. call Gina 869-5213 or Valerie 420-2972.
- 3rd Weds., 6 p.m. - **American Business Women's Association**, Rio Hondo Country Club, Call Barbara Carlson 863-2192.
- 4th Weds., 12:00 noon: **Retired Federal Employees**, at **Furman Park West Bldg.**, call 943-5513.
- Wed. & Fri., 10:15 a.m.: **Senior Bingo**, at Apollo Park, for information call 904-7223.

#### Thursdays

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

#### Fridays

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

#### Saturdays

- 9 a.m.: **Farmers Market**, Second Street at New Avenue, for information call (562) 904-7246.

#### Sundays

- 3rd Sun. Odd # Months 1:30 p.m.: **Aerospace Legacy Foundation**, at First Baptist Church Room 120.

## On This Day...

- Jan. 30, 1649:** England's King Charles I is beheaded in a public execution. He had been convicted 10 days earlier of treason and "other high crimes."
- 1941:** Former U.S. vice president Dick Cheney is born. Also born Jan. 30: actor Gene Hackman (79), rock singer Phil Collins (58), actress Brett Butler (51), and "Batman" actor Christian Bale (35).
- 1948:** Indian political and spiritual leader Mahatma Gandhi is shot and killed by a Hindu extremist.
- 1969:** The Beatles give their last performance as a group on the roof of London's Apple Records.
- 2006:** Exxon Mobile announces a profit of \$36.13 billion for the year, a record for any U.S. company.

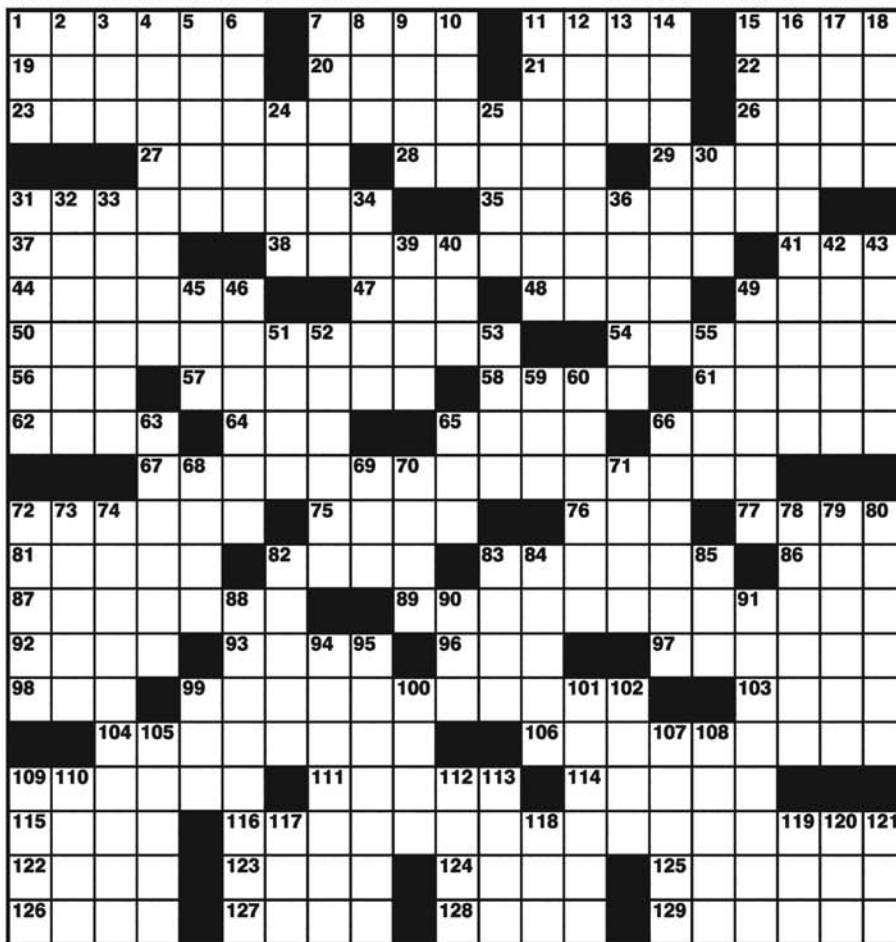
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Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com)

**GIMME A BREAK: Nine breaks, actually**

by Merle Baker

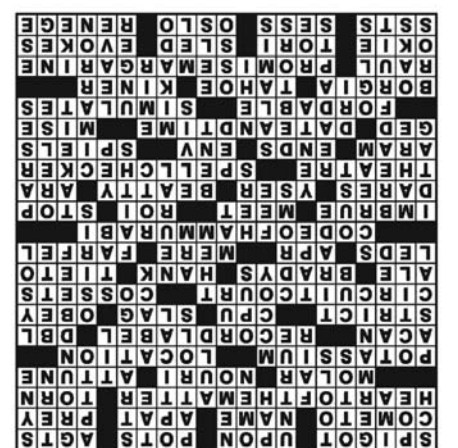
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- ACROSS**
- 1 Tap
- 7 Familiar with
- 11 Flower holders
- 15 FBI employees
- 19 Snap out of it
- 20 Tom, Dick or Harry
- 21 Pit\_\_ (heart sound)
- 22 Hunted animals
- 23 Crux
- 26 Having a hard time deciding
- 27 Grinding tooth
- 28 Michael of *Flashdance*
- 29 Bring into accord
- 31 Mineral in bananas
- 35 Whereabouts
- 37 Open \_\_ of worms
- 38 Motown, e.g.
- 41 Two-bagger: Abbr.
- 44 Uncompromising
- 47 PC core
- 48 Smeltery residue
- 49 Comply with
- 50 Frontier-justice venue
- 54 Molluscoidles
- 56 Bar choice
- 57 Blended sitcom family
- 58 Handful of hair
- 61 Connect with
- 62 Digital displays
- 64 Bank-loan abbr.
- 65 Nothing more than
- 66 Pellet-sized pasta
- 67 Early written law
- 72 Stain
- 75 Bump into
- 76 French king
- 77 "Cut that out!"
- 81 Has the nerve
- 82 Scene of 1914 fighting
- 83 Shampoo star
- 86 Altar constellation
- 87 West End playhouse
- 89 Word-processing function
- 92 Composer
- 93 Khachaturian
- 96 Ltr. carrier
- 97 Sales pitches
- 98 H.S. proficiency test
- 99 Broadcast data
- 103 \_\_-en-scène (stage setting)
- 104 Like the Rio Grande, in spots
- 106 Feigns
- 109 Infamous Italian surname
- 111 Lake near Squaw Valley
- 114 Seven-time NL home run champ
- 115 President Castro
- 116 Blue Bonnet alternative
- 122 *The Grapes of Wrath* character
- 123 Singer Amos
- 124 Downhill runner
- 125 Brings to mind
- 126 Bygone boomers
- 127 Congressional mtg.
- 128 1952 Winter Olympics site
- 129 Back out (on)
- DOWN**
- 1 Oberlin, for one: Abbr.
- 2 "The Bells" poet
- 3 \_\_ Yankee Doodle dandy"
- 4 Like the Goths
- 5 Preminger et al.
- 6 Equipment
- 7 Not so
- 8 Oom\_\_ band
- 9 Bad sign, maybe
- 10 Fictional sub captain
- 11 Walks a beat
- 12 Film's special effect
- 13 \_\_ kwon do
- 14 Board-game debut of 1961
- 15 Words of likelihood
- 16 Meat-loaf ingredient
- 17 Coastal flier
- 18 Word in a New Year's Eve tune
- 24 So-so
- 25 Word in a New Year's Eve tune
- 30 Up to, briefly
- 31 French mathematician
- 32 Typical pizza slice
- 33 Repaired, as roads
- 34 *Star Trek* doctor
- 36 One way to be taken
- 39 Composer's work
- 40 Capek play
- 42 Davis of Hollywood
- 43 Mr. Clean alternative
- 45 Den dweller
- 46 Bitter outburst
- 49 Egyptian god
- 51 Cash-register output
- 52 PC inserts
- 53 Oates novel
- 55 Rough guess
- 59 Steeve filler
- 60 Like certain networks
- 63 Laugh riot
- 65 Gymnastics need
- 66 Relief systems
- 68 Remove from power
- 69 Invoice amount
- 70 His partner
- 71 Campus mil. org.
- 72 Convention handout
- 73 Olympic skier Phil
- 74 Bligh's quest
- 78 Ultimatum start
- 79 Ultimatum end
- 80 Analyzes, in a way
- 82 Busybody
- 83 Inclination
- 84 *Viva Las Vegas* star
- 85 "Uh-huh!"
- 88 Makes suitable again
- 90 \_\_ XING
- 91 Edna Ferber novel
- 94 They owe
- 95 Sandwich meats
- 99 Moistureless, in product names
- 100 *M\*A\*S\*H* soft drink
- 101 Japanese emperor's title
- 102 Mideast leader
- 105 Stares at
- 107 Madison's housemate
- 108 Go away
- 109 Family-business abbr.
- 110 "Mighty" trees
- 112 \_\_ buco
- 113 Elusive swimmers
- 117 Fish eggs
- 118 Blanc who voiced Bugs Bunny
- 119 Presidential nickname
- 120 Photo orig.
- 121 Chicago-to-Baltimore dir.

You can contact puzzle editor Stanley Newman at his e-mail address: [StanXwords@aol.com](mailto: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.

Based on the Chinese board game **STRATEGO** (14 Down) originated in the Netherlands. Captain William Blich (74 Down) of "Bounty" fame was responsible for introducing **BREADPUIT** to the West Indies, where it remains a staple today. The Edna Ferber novel "**CIMARRON**" (91 Down) was adapted into a 1931 film that was the first western to win a Best Picture Oscar.





## Trip to Germany opens her eyes

By: Brianne Schar, Intern

Entschuldigung was the word that Warren senior Brittney Dreher had the hardest time learning during the first few weeks of her six-month stay in Germany as a foreign exchange student.

Dreher returned to her home in Downey on Jan. 8. After traveling through the Youth For Understanding (YFU) program.

"I would recommend the program to anyone-everyone," Dreher said. "I think people our age should go out and see more of the world to gain more perspective of life. The world is so much bigger than Downey (and) than Warren."

During her first month in Germany, Dreher stayed with a host family in a house in the country, or as she said, "In the middle of nowhere," sharing the home with other exchange students from around the world were there.

"The first month was my best month," Dreher said. "It was so much fun."

Dreher was able to experience a new country with other teenagers her age during this month. They learned the language, culture and history of Germany, as well as having other fun moments like eating ice cream.

After that first month was over, Dreher went to stay with another host family in Hamburg where she went to school with her host sister Gaja Zogt, 15.

All of her classes were lectured entirely in German. Since Dreher didn't know a word of German before her trip, the classes were difficult.

In Germany, students take many more classes than in America. Dreher took English, Religion, French, History, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Math, Geography, four art classes and German, but not all in the same day, of course. Each of her classes would meet either once or twice a week for about two hours.

Dreher also experienced German theater and music. Her other host sister, Sonka Zogt is an aspiring actress attending an acting university in Hamburg. Dreher attended all of her plays with her host family.

Gaja Zogt also introduced Dreher to a number of German bands that she currently enjoys, including Die Ärzte, Zwei Raumwohnung and Peter Fox.

From wienerschnitzles to currywurst, Dreher fell in love with the



Photos courtesy: Brianne Schar

German food. She said that her host family ate a lot of sandwiches and would only eat hot meals on the weekends.

Dreher plans to keep in close contact with her host family and her other friends that she met during her stay.

"I'll keep in touch with them via e-mail and phone," said Dreher. "I'll be mailing them presents for Christmas."

A simple school announcement was what prompted Dreher to attend the informational meeting for YFU, which was held on Warren's campus last year.

"When I told my mom about the meeting she said, 'Get out of the house and tour the world,'" said Dreher. What Dreher referred to as a split-second decision did have a little bit of history to it.

Dreher's grandfather housed a foreign exchange student seven years ago and Dreher formed a relationship with the girl, Swenka.

"I thought it would be cool to go see my host family every once and a while and they could see me," said Dreher. Gaja Zogt will be coming to visit Dreher next year, this time she being the foreign exchange student.

themes for the dance. Once they had a few themes put together they then narrowed it down to three and from there they went on to let ASB take a vote on the final name. The popular vote went to the theme of "Walking in a Winter Wonderland."

For this special exclusive night, Knott's closed the park to the public from the hours of 8 p.m. to midnight, and had certain rides operating for the students. Some of the rides open were Accelerator, Supreme Scream, Boomerang, Log Ride, and Wipe Out.

"The students really enjoy going to the theme park for a private party after hours," said Weisenburger. "They get to enjoy their favorite rides with no lines."

Yang and Ortiz did not just help out with the selection of the theme this year but did so much more. They also organized the decorations for this dance and were in charge of speaking with Sanford Studios, who took care of making the invitations and tickets for this event. Sanford also took professional pictures at the dance for couples and groups of friends, who wanted to remember that lovely night.

## Ballbusters thriving in bowling league

By Brianne Schar, Intern

Balls have been flying Saturday mornings at Del Rio Lanes since the Teen Mania league began last Saturday.

The league is back for a new season and so is team Ballbuster. Warren students Kevin Gonzalez, 16, David Wilson, 16, Cody Trepte, 14, and Downey student Joel Carreto, 14, make up the Ballbuster's. Gonzalez leads the team with his impressive average of 187, but Wilson and Trepte are not far behind with averages of 167 each.

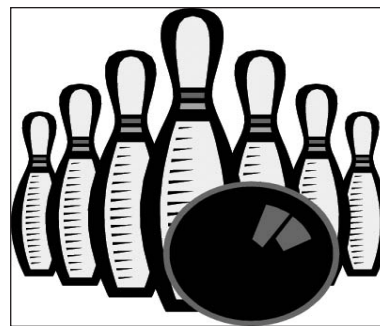
The Ballbusters placed a close second last season, losing by a mere 4 points.

"We are back again and ready to bust some balls and kick some pin," said Gonzalez.

The team has been bowling together for two years. They have formed a sense of camaraderie but still kid around with each other during the game.

The Teen Mania league meets every Saturday from 1-3 p.m. The cost per bowler is \$10 a week which includes team shirts and four games of bowling, including shoe rental. This is more than just a league because teams are informed of upcoming tournaments that they may choose to compete in.

The Ballbusters have been to many tournaments, including the California USBC 3rd Annual



Championships in Canoga Park last July. Competing against other bowlers in northern Los Angeles County, Trepte placed first in the singles competition. Wilson and Carreto placed first in the doubles competition and Gonzalez and Trepte placed third.

This team is still going strong, as they are preparing for upcoming tournaments in Reno, NV, Honolulu, HI, and Indianapolis, IN.

Their main focus is on dominating at the Pepsi Tournament in March. In this national competition, the winner earns a spot on Team USA. This is an individual competition, so although the Ballbusters will be competing together, they will also be competing against each other. The participant must qualify in the preliminaries, and then move up through regional, state, and then national competitions.

In previous years, Gonzalez has made it to state, but he plans to excel even further this year.

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## Inauguration a day to remember always

By Bridget Sagrero and Michelle Muller, Interns

History was made Jan. 20 as President Barack Obama's inauguration was held in Washington's Congressional Mall with over 2 million people present to witness him swear in as the 44th President of the United States.

Prior to the ceremony in which Obama took the oath of office, he attended the morning worship service, followed by the procession to the Capitol.

Upon arriving to the Congressional Mall, Obama was cheered by many spectators, who are convinced that his presidency could potentially demonstrate an ease to racial discrimination.

"[This presidency will not end racial discrimination completely], but it's a great moment in which minorities can see that anything is possible in America," said Warren High School history teacher David Cha. "This shows that the American dream is within all of our [reach]."

Many Americans are optimistic that Obama will be capable to ease tensions not only between races, but countries as well.

"I think that Obama's presidency will help end racial discrimination," said Warren High School student Luz Garduño. "It will make countries more united and help us better understand each other."

Obama inspired many viewers with his inaugural address when he spoke against those in the Middle East who judged Americans as being "immoral".

"We will not apologize for our way of life, nor will we waver in its defense, and for those who seek to advance their aims by inducing terror and slaughtering innocents," Obama said. "We say to you now that our spirit is stronger and cannot be broken; you cannot outlast us, and we will defeat you."

These were the moving words

that Obama said that induced hope in Americans.

"Who suggest that our system cannot tolerate too many big plans," said Obama. "Their memories are short, for they have forgotten what this country has already done."

Although Obama's ceremony had good reviews, prior to the event former President George W. Bush declared a state of emergency in order to pay for the expenses necessary to proceed with this historical event.

A mistake that was strongly criticized by viewers was the fact that during the President's swearing-in ceremony, Chief Justice John Roberts misread the oath, which led to Obama repeating it incorrectly. Aware of the fact that Roberts had made a mistake, Obama paused and had him repeat it, but Roberts once again said it incorrectly. The following day, Obama asked to have a judge swear him in once more with the correct words to the oath.

"I was confused at first, then it made me angry," said Warren High School student Andrea Elizalde. "It was one of the most important things [Roberts] could of done that day, and he messed up."

Not many were happy with the mistake that was made, but others were able to accept that mistakes happen and sometimes are inevitable.

"It is not a big deal at all," said Warren High School student Favian Briceno. "It is the last thing anyone should worry about, besides it's just something the media loves."

The night concluded with the inauguration luncheon, parade and ball. The day will go down in history and will be remembered as people remember when the Constitution was first established.

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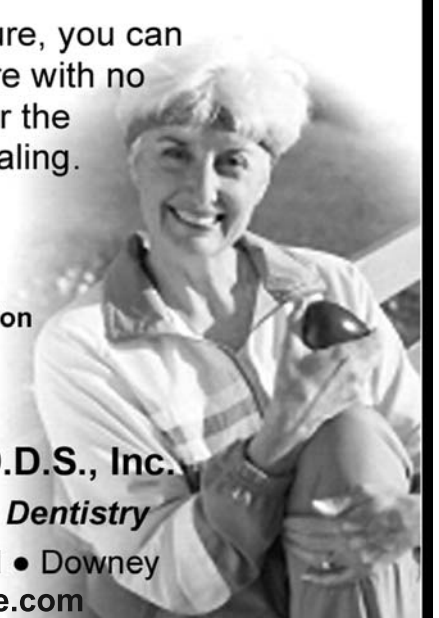
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# It doesn't look good for Arizona

By Scott Cobos, Staff Writer

With the Big Game just days away, there are still unanswered questions to be digested. The biggest question that still remains is if a team with a high octane offense like the Arizona Cardinals can beat a top-ranked defense like the Pittsburgh Steelers.

If history is any barometer in answering this question, it's not looking good for Arizona. Yes, it's a cute story that Kurt Warner was able to turn back the clock to his days in St. Louis and bring back flashes of "The Greatest Show on Turf" as described by ESPN's Chris Berman about the 1999 Rams.

But as the cliché goes, offense sells tickets while defense wins championships. As cliché as it may be, it has been very true with the stingy defenses that have recently gotten into the Super Bowl. With that said, it's the Steelers' game to lose.

Let's first take a look at the 2003 Tampa Bay Buccaneers. In Super Bowl XXXVII, the Bucs faced off against the Oakland Raiders and a stacked offense with league MVP Rich Gannon at quarterback and his two hall of fame receivers in Tim Brown and arguably the greatest football player to ever play the game, Jerry Rice.

The Raiders were favored to win the game, but the end result was a lopsided 48-21 loss for Oakland because Tampa Bay stopped the offense in its tracks. Gannon, who led the Raiders through the air most of the year, passed for 272 yards but also threw five interceptions.

Our next example would be the Baltimore Ravens in 2000. They were one of the few wildcard teams to win the Super Bowl but had the No. 1 defense. With their suffocating defense, they held the New York Giants, who were also favored to win the game, to only one touchdown the entire game.

Finally, one of the best examples that defense wins championships was last year's game with the Giants facing off against the most prolific offense in NFL history: Tom Brady, Randy Moss, and the New England Patriots.

New England was the first team in NFL history to finish a 16-game season undefeated and was the first team to win 18 games in a season. While the fairytale ending would have been the Patriots blowing out the Giants, Brady and the offense was never able to get in sync.

The Patriots on the season were averaging over 25 points a game and

Brady and Moss were averaging more than three touchdown hookups a game. In the Super Bowl, New York made sure to put double coverage on Moss and make Brady check down to other players and make them win the game. It worked in the end as the final score was 17-14, one of New England's lowest outputs offensively in the whole season.

What would be any different about this Sunday's game? The Steelers were the No. 1 ranked defense in the NFL this year, allowing a measly 14 points a game while scoring 22.

Also, the Steelers have already been here not too long ago, and quarterback Ben Roethlisberger said he's not as nervous this time around. A relaxed, cool and collected Roethlisberger can only mean one thing to a Cardinal defense that is already awful: more points scored.

Arizona will obviously go as far as their big three will take them. If Warner and receivers Larry Fitzgerald and Anquan Boldin are clicking early and often, it will be difficult to stop them. The Steelers, who only on average allow 157 passing yards per game, will be throwing Cover 2 schemes at them all night long, making sure that if Fitzgerald or Boldin go up for a ball, they'll have to deal with a defender both underneath and over the top.

Look for Warner to check the ball down to his tight ends and running backs often because of the pressure Pittsburgh will be putting on Fitzgerald and Boldin. Not only will it be difficult for Warner to get the ball to those two receivers with double coverage, it will be even more difficult with a man named Troy Polamalu hovering around the secondary.

The Pro Bowl safety is one of the best in the league at reading where the pass will be thrown. You can bet if the ball is in the air, Polamalu will be within the vicinity of it. Not only is he lightning quick, he also hits like a wrecking ball. Going to the sidelines through the air will be tough enough for Arizona. Trying the middle of the field might tack on some pain.

Now, defense does win championships, but you still need to score the ball. While the Steelers don't score as much as Arizona does, they play ball control much better than most teams in the league.

If Arizona is to win this game, they have to have success running the ball to keep the Steelers defense off balance. Any team has a good defense if they know what's coming.

# Warren-Downey rivalry heats up

By Scott Cobos, Staff Writer

**DOWNEY** – "Too touchy and too feely" best described the first of two basketball games between the Bears and the Vikings, the latest a 68-50 victory by Downey last Friday.

That's the best way to describe the rivalry, according to Bears second-year-head coach Brent Willis, who said his team was robbed by the officiating on the floor because of Warren's physical play.

"The referees killed us," Willis said. "The young [official] absolutely killed us. What I did like was we're a more physical team [than Downey]. The temperament of the officiating killed us because we like being physical. [Downey] likes being physical. I wish they would have let us play a little more."

Warren and Downey both got a little chippy toward one another throughout the game and at times seemed to revive the bitterness this once heated rivalry used to have.

The Vikings were the more physical team though, almost doubling the rebound totals of the Bears. While Willis thinks his team is the more physical group, the statistics and Downey forward Matta Black disagree.

"They couldn't handle our physicality," said Black. "They're just not used to it and I think that's their problem in league most of the time. Look at the rebounding stats. There's no chance they were even close to us."

Downey guard Alex Mediola led all scorers with 17 points and nine rebounds. Black also got in the action with 13 points and nine rebounds, leading Downey to their first league win and keeping Warren without a victory in the San Gabriel Valley League.

"Downey/Warren is always big," said Downey head coach Larry Shelton. "This rivalry has so many years of tradition and it's basically the city championship. I grew up in this city so it means a lot to me and I try to convey that to the kids."

Shelton's team allowed a Warren lead for the opening minutes of the game but then took the lead before the first quarter was over and never looked back. From that point, the Vikings never allowed the Bears to get any closer than six points.

"We just wanted to exert ourselves physically on them," Shelton said. "I think we dominated the boards in the first half. Our kids are a senior group who are experienced and they play really hard. We wanted to be as physical as we could be and the kids execut-

"This rivalry has been too touchy and too feely and that's going to change under my tenure."

We aim for Downey. And they can put that in the papers and they can put it up in their lockers if they want."

—Warren boys basketball coach Brent Willis, on rivalry with Downey High School

ed the game plan great all night."

More than 30 fouls were called which resulted in plenty of trips to the free throw line. Neither team shot particularly well at the charity stripe but Downey didn't need to, getting open shots and run outs on fast breaks.

Willis was called for a technical foul at the 3:50 mark in the second quarter when he argued with a referee about a touch foul on his player. The foul sparked his comments after the game regarding the officiating.

"We focused on being more physical on the defensive end," Willis said. "I thought we were and that's what I'm saying. When we're physical and they're physical and they're getting the calls and we aren't, it puts us behind the 8-ball early."

Willis was impressed how his kids were able to put small runs together after fouls were called on them, saying his kids regrouped and didn't complain like Downey. In response, Shelton downplayed the comment by referencing the past games in the series.

"All I can say is that I'm looking at the scoreboard afterwards and we won 12 of the last 15 in this series so it's pretty evident who has the better program in this city," he said.

But Willis was very stern on making sure that it's understood that this isn't the last of his team in the league and that they will be back on the floor in their next game, now counting down the days until they meet the Vikings again.

"We aim for Downey," he said. "And they can print that in the papers, and they can put it up in their lockers if they want. We're aiming for them because that's what this rivalry is about. This rivalry has been too touchy and too feely and that's going to change under my tenure."

# Vikings set their sight on CIF playoffs

By Michelle Müller and Bridget Sagrero, Interns

**DOWNEY** – Downey High School's girls varsity water polo team is working hard this season to qualify for CIF playoffs, holding a current record of 6-6.

Leading the team to a successful season are three-year varsity players Dominic Diaz, Sarah Aguayo, Felishia Aguirre and Brenda Rosero, said Coach Dani Bell.

"I put these girls on varsity their freshman year because I saw

potential in them," Bell said.

"[We] wish to accomplish a confident and positive season no matter what the scoreboards show," said Aguayo. The team has taken a new focus on working together rather than as individuals. Although some of the players have less experience than the veteran players, they have managed to slowly work their way towards qualifying for CIF.

"My team wishes to beat Warren this year because last year we lost to them," said Aguirre. "I also want to beat Warren because they are not only our rivalry school

but their game is a league game."

The team played their first league game versus St. Joseph's, which concluded with a victory for the Vikings with a score of 10-7. The win demonstrates a good start into the league games for the team, since Warren lost to St. Joseph's last year.

"I'd rather have a team that executes what we practice and lose some games," said Bell. "Rather than have a team that depends solely on one or two people and win."

In previous seasons, the team has dealt with difficulties in playing as a team, but along the way they have managed to come together and give it their all at each game.

"I am constantly pleasantly surprised at the leadership I see coming from the girls," said Bell. "The players are stepping up and getting the job done rather than playing timidly and scared."

"Before the end of the season, as a team we wish to have everyone on the same page," said Bell. "When they play together and can

anticipate what their team is going to do, then it allows for individual as well as team success."

Other troubles that the players have faced are concerns with keeping up their grades, as well as giving it their all at each game, but the girls have managed to keep it up this far.

"Our success is earned by our dedication, drive, ambition and [our] love for our team," said teammate Ashley Mendez.

Although the team has been faced with troubles, they are working their way through the season and becoming the team that they wish to be.

"Our success is attributed to the encouragement from other teammates," team member Julie Hofstra said. "[Along with realizing] that there is no success when you give up."

With a couple months left of this season, the girls have the opportunity to show what they can do.

## New Titles at the Downey City Library

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- **"Murder at the Academy Awards"** by Joan Rivers. A starlet's demise is the perfectly calculated crime in this whodunit with a dash of glamour and gossip.
- **"Pictures at an Exhibition"** by Sara Houghteling. The Paris art world of the 1030's and 40's is depicted in this fictional account of a Jewish family and the Nazi's systematic looting of art treasures in France.
- **"Random Acts of Heroic Love"** by Danny Scheinmann. Two apparently unconnected love stories merge when a backpacker wakes up in a hospital and blames himself for his girlfriend's fatal accident.
- **"A Rule Against Murder"** by Louise Penny. In this classic drawing room mystery, Chief Inspector Armande Gamache is looking forward to spending his anniversary at a remote, luxurious lodge: a place where visitors come to escape their past, until their past catches up with them.
- **"School of Essential Ingredients"** by Erica Bauermeister. Eight students gather in Lillian's restaurant on Monday nights for cooking class, each seeking a secret ingredient for something in their lives beyond the kitchen.

### Non-Fiction

- **"Bailout Nation: How Easy Money Corrupted Wall Street and Shook the World Economy"** by Barry Ritholtz. The author shows how the Federal government rewarded corporations to take risks and how the consumer suffers in an economy of bubbles and a devalued dollar.
- **"The Future Church: How Ten Trends are Revolutionizing the Catholic Church"** by John L. Allen, Jr. A leading religion journalist identifies trends that will change the policies and practices of Catholicism over the next decade.
- **"The Legs Are the Last to Go: Aging, Acting, Marrying, Mothering and Other Things I learned Along the Way"** by Diahann Carroll. The barrier-breaking actress discusses her career, marriages and the racial and sexual politics that shaped her roles in Hollywood.
- **"Letter to My Daughter"** by Maya Angelou. A collection of personal reminiscences, wisdom and inspirational thoughts from the poet and best-selling author.
- **"Magnificent Mind at Any Age: Natural Ways to Unleash Your Brain's Maximum Potential"** by Dr. Daniel Amen, M.D. From the popular PBS program, a psychiatrist gives you practical tips for improving brain health and function.

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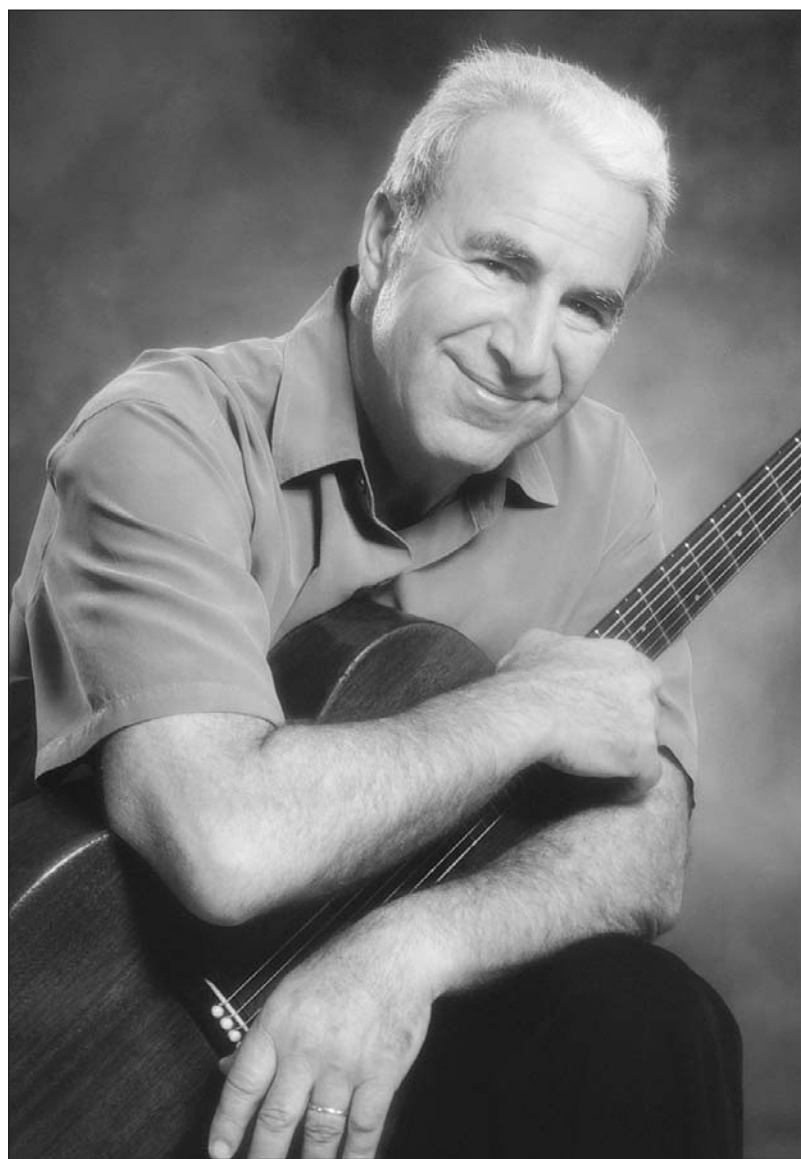
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Blues legend Bernie Pearl will begin hosting an Internet radio show tomorrow on WPMD.org, which originates out of the Cerritos College campus. Photo by E.K. Waller

## Blues great hosting new Internet show

**NORWALK** – Bernie Pearl is a Southern California blues legend that has lent his life to this laid-back, soul-baring genre of music that he loves.

Pearl became the first all-blues FM disc jockey in Los Angeles when he started hosting his show, "Nothin' but the Blues," on KPPC-FM in 1968. He stayed on KPPC for two years.

After a 10-year hiatus from radio, Pearl returned to the airwaves in 1980 with the revival of his radio show on the Cal State Long Beach radio station KILON, which is now known as KJAZZ. Pearl stayed with KILON, where he had the top-rated program and highest fundraising totals, in 1990.

While with KILON, Pearl helped found the Long Beach Blues Festival. The festival has become one of the largest of its kind, and the second oldest blues festival on the west coast.

Since leaving KILON, Pearl hosted his "Nothin' but the Blues" show at KCRW for two years and has made a few on-air cameo appearances.

Tomorrow at 3 p.m., Pearl will once again become the blues disc jockey he was meant to be. He will sit down behind the controls of Cerritos College's WPMD.org and begin what will become his two-hour, Saturday tradition, of playing the best of what the genre has to offer from the 1920's to the present day.

"My first purpose is to present the great music that is not being heard," Pearl said. "I've got only two hours a week to show the world what I feel about the blues, and I must go home each week fulfilled and eager to do it again next week."

Pearl visited the station on Jan. 22 to get used to what used to be second nature for him. He hasn't spun records or been a DJ for more than 15 years.

He has great expectations for his new show, "My Kind of Blues," that took its name from the title of one of his favorite B.B. King albums.

"I'm going to start slow by playing some of the great stuff I love and miss hearing," he said. "I intend to build an international following for 'My Kind of Blues.'"

WPMD.org originates from the campus of Cerritos College in Norwalk. WPMD features an eclectic programming mix of news, talk, sports and music, presented primarily by students, with help from the Cerritos College community and radio professionals.

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TAKEN PG-13	(12:00, 2:30), 5:00, 7:30, 10:00
UNDERWORLD 3 R	(10:00, 12:30, 3:00), 5:30, 8:00, 10:30
UNDERWORLD 3 R	(11:40, 4:30), 9:00
INKHEART PG	(11:10, 1:50, 4:30), 7:10, 9:50
FROST/NIXON R	(10:20, 1:20, 4:20), 7:20, 10:20
MY BLOODY VALENTINE 3D R	(10:25, 12:55, 3:25), 5:55, 8:25, 10:55
MY BLOODY VALENTINE 3D R	(11:25, 1:55, 4:25), 6:55, 9:25
PAUL BLART: MALL COP PG	(10:35, 1:00, 3:25), 5:50, 8:15, 10:40
HOTEL FOR DOGS PG	(10:30, 1:15, 4:00), 6:45
NOTORIOUS R	(10:50, 1:45, 4:40), 7:35, 10:30
THE UNBORN PG-13	(2:10), 6:55
THE CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON PG-13	9:20

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**THE UNINVITED PG-13** (12:20, 2:45, 5:10), 7:25, 9:50  
**INKHEART PG** (11:10, 1:50, 4:30), 7:30  
**\* UNDERWORLD: RISE OF THE LYCANS R** (12:05, 2:25, 5:05), 7:45, 10:15  
**HOTEL FOR DOGS PG** (11:30, 2:05, 4:35), 7:10, 9:55  
**\* MY BLOODY VALENTINE 3D (DIGITAL 3DX) R** (11:40, 2:10, 4:50), 7:35, 10:20  
**NOTORIOUS R**  
*Fri to Sun:* (11:05, 1:55, 4:40), 7:50, 10:40;  
*Mon to Thu:* (11:05, 1:55, 4:40), 7:50  
**\* PAUL BLART: MALL COP PG** (11:50, 2:20, 4:55), 7:20, 10:05  
**GRAN TORINO R** (11:00, 1:35, 4:20), 7:05, 9:50  
**THE UNBORN PG-13** 10:10 PM  
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## Writers finally get their crack at fame

**HOLLYWOOD** – If you think the chance to win on a show like "American Idol" is steep, try writing or drawing. Each year, tens of thousands are turned away by the publishing industry. It's a brutal weeding out process that causes many creatives to stop their dreams dead.

But there's one entrant-friendly contest that's been called the "American Idol" for writers and illustrators. That's because it gives instant worldwide recognition, cash, and coaching to fledgling writers and illustrators. It's the worldwide L. Ron Hubbard's Writers and Illustrators of the Future Contest just completing its 24th successful year -- a writing contest and illustrating contest that's free for all entrants and age groups.

"Beginning writers and illustrators are driven by the same things that you see of the contestants on 'American Idol,'" said John Goodwin, president Galaxy Press, contest book publisher. "They've got passion, creative drive, and a dream: they just need a break."

This year's winners came from around the globe including Argentina, Australia, Canada and throughout the United States.

"You could call the Writers of the Future Contest 'The American Idol for Writers' -- long before there ever was an American Idol," said *USA Today* and *New York Times* best-selling author and Contest judge Kevin J. Anderson ("Dune" prequels, "Saga of Seven Suns," "Star Wars"). "It's amazing to me that a good 60 to 70 percent of the winners go on with successful careers in writing, and several have become best-selling authors themselves."

Each year, Galaxy Press awards all winners with cash prizes, free travel and accommodations, week-long professional workshop, and guaranteed publication in their best-selling annual speculative fiction anthology, L. Ron Hubbard Presents Writers and Illustrators of the Future.

Throughout the Contest's 24-year history, more than 500 writers and illustrators have been recognized as winners, according to Galaxy Press' Goodwin. Writers have gone on to publish over 300 novels and 3,000 short stories.

Former writing contest winners with works listed on the *New York Times* best-seller's list include Stephen Baxter, Jo Beverly, Leonard Carpenter, Nancy Farmer, Karen Joy Fowler, Robert Reed, Patrick Rothfus, Dean Wesley Smith, Sean Williams, Dave Wolverton and David Zindell. In addition to Kevin J. Anderson, well-known contest judges include national best-selling authors such as Orson Scott Card, Anne McCaffrey, Larry Niven, Jerry Pournelle, Tim Powers, Robert Sawyer, Robert Silverberg and K.D. Wentworth.

Inspired by best-selling author L. Ron Hubbard, the merit-based Writers of the Future writing contest was initiated 25 years ago to discover and encourage talented beginning writers of science fiction and fantasy. The Contest was later expanded to include illustrators whose winners have also gone on to successful illustration and design careers.

For information on how to enter the contests, go to [www.writersofthefuture.com](http://www.writersofthefuture.com).

## Jewelry repair store to open

**DOWNEY** – Fast-Fix Jewelry and Watch Repair will celebrate its grand opening inside Stonewood Center with a ribbon-cutting ceremony Feb. 5 at 4 p.m.

The store is located near the mall's southwest entrance, next to See's Candy.



"Prisoner of Second Avenue" is set against the backdrop of 1971 New York. The production runs through Feb. 8 at the La Habra Depot Theatre.

## Theater rolling back prices to 1971

**LA HABRA** – Taking a cue from the plagued economic hardships in Neil Simon's comedy hit, "Prisoner of Second Avenue," the La Habra Depot Theatre is offering to "bailout" fans of live theater by cutting the prices of tickets of "Prisoner" from \$18 to \$8.

The dramatic comedy, which takes a hilarious look at the nervous breakdown of the play's protagonist Mel Edison, is set against the backdrop of the financially frustrated times of 1971 New York.

Less than the cost of a movie ticket, the rollback price of \$8 is available for the remaining performances through Feb. 8.

"One of the things I like about Neil Simon is how he makes us laugh at serious modern problems, like economic hardships. The play is a nice distraction for people in these tough times," director Phillip Brickley said. "The play has received much critical acclaim, but even our loyal patrons are having difficulty justifying an \$18 ticket in these economic times."

"That's why we decided to rollback the prices to 1971."

"Prisoner of Second Avenue" runs through Feb. 8, with performances on Friday and Saturdays at 8 p.m., and Sunday matinees at 2:30 p.m. Reservations are available by phone at (562) 905-9625 or online at [www.lhdepottheatre.org](http://www.lhdepottheatre.org).

The theater is at 311 S. Euclid Ave. in La Habra.

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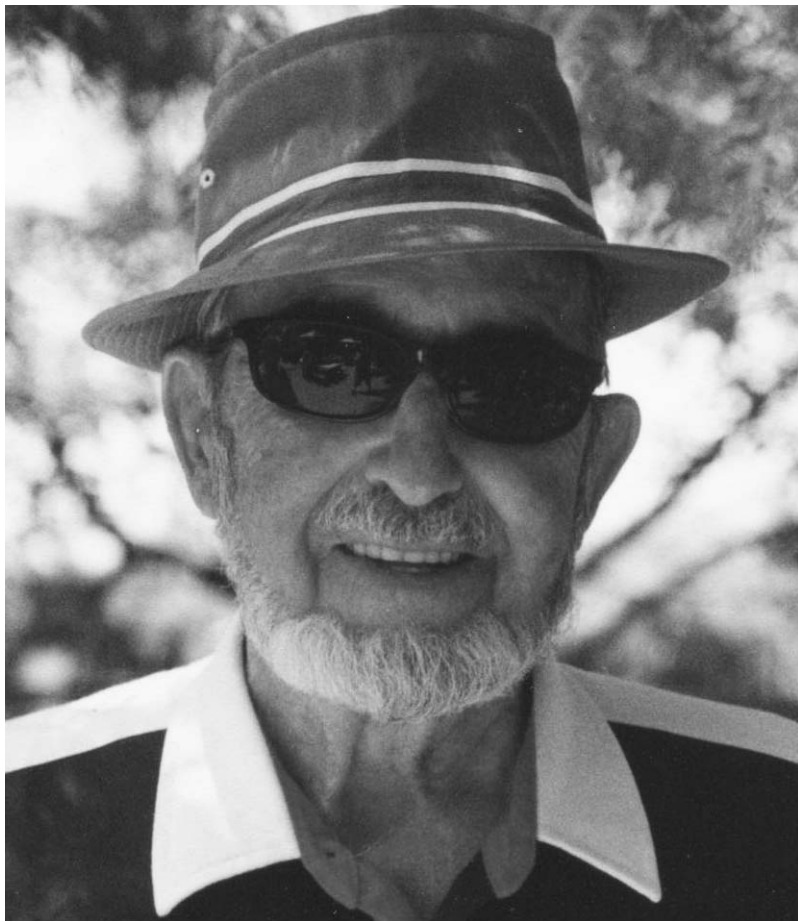
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Pete Bonasoro was 86 when he died Jan. 10 surrounded by family. He was a World War II veteran.

## Pete Bonasoro served in U.S. Navy

**DOWNEY** – Pete Bonasoro, 86, passed away peacefully on Jan. 10 at Downey Regional Medical Center surrounded by his family.

Bonasoro was born in Los Angeles on May 28, 1922. After serving in the U.S. Navy during World War II, he worked for Douglas Aircraft before beginning a long career with Bank of America, serving as a branch manager.

He met his future wife, Priscilla, while serving in the Navy. They were married for more than 61 years. They lived in Downey for more than 50 years.

Bonasoro is survived by his wife, Priscilla; sons Michael (Cindy) and Jim (Nancy); grandchildren Stacy (Jimmy), Michael, Jennifer and Amber; sister Pat (Stan); brother-in-law Frank; and many nephews, nieces and cousins.

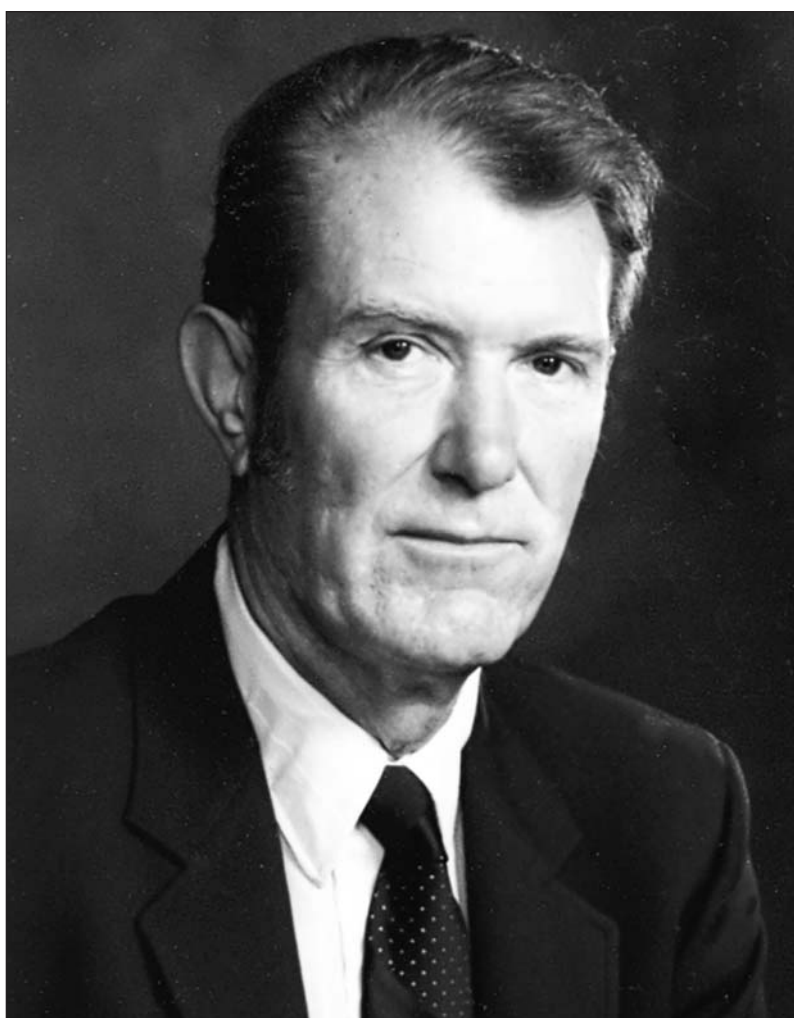
He was predeceased by his sister, Jennie, and niece, Debbie. Bonasoro will be laid to rest at the Meadows in Rose Hills Memorial Park.

## Richard Olsen dies unexpectedly

**DOWNEY** – Richard Duane “Richie” Olsen, formerly of Downey, died unexpectedly Jan. 24 at the Milwaukee Hospital for Veterans in Milwaukee. He was 65.

Friends are invited to meet with Olsen’s family at First Lutheran Church in Gladstone, MI today from 2 to 4:45 p.m. Military rites conducted by the Gladstone American Legion Post #71 will follow in the Narthex of the church. A memorial service led by Rev. Jonathan Schmidt will be held in the church’s sanctuary at 5 p.m., and will be followed by a luncheon.

Burial will take place at Fernwood Cemetery in the summer.



William Ritchie, former president of the Downey Chamber of Commerce, died Jan. 21 at age 73. Services will be held tomorrow at SeaCliff Country Club in Huntington Beach.

## Margaret Crowe was library volunteer

**DOWNEY** – Margaret Mary (Morrissey) Crowe, a volunteer who dedicated much time to several local organizations, passed away Jan. 21. She was 89.

Crowe was born May 18, 1919 in Chicago to Irish immigrant parents. She grew up in Homewood, Ill., the eldest of three.

She worked as a secretary and librarian helping to support her family after her father died during the Depression. She married John “Jack” Crowe in 1945 and together they moved to California after World War II.

They lived most of their married life in Lynwood, raising their children and being active members of St. Emydius parish. She volunteered at the parish school and became involved with many organizations, including the Boy Scouts, Altar Society, Junior Catholic Daughters, and the Mother’s Club. She also helped in both the church and school libraries.

She later worked at Huntington Park Public Library and volunteered at the Southeast Churches Service Center.

Margaret and Jack moved to Downey in 1986 and became members of St. Raymond’s Catholic Church. That same year Jack died from cancer. Margaret continued to live in Downey until 2001, during which she volunteered at the Rancho Los Amigos library and was a member of the Legion of Mary. She then moved into assisted living facilities in Whittier and then Sierra Madre.

She is survived by her sister Joan Kuffer, of Chicago; children John, Tom, Dan and Kathy (Perez); daughter-in-law Mary; grandchildren Kevin (Jen) and Brandone Crowe, and Teresa, Nicholas and Steve Perez; and great-grandchildren Christine and John Crowe.

She was predeceased by her brother Jim Morrissey of Downey. A visitation and rosary were held Jan. 26 at All Souls Cemetery in Long Beach. A funeral mass took place the following day at St. Raymond’s. Internment later followed at All Souls Cemetery.

## William Ritchie mourned by family

**DOWNEY** – William V. Ritchie, of Huntington Beach, passed away on Jan. 21 surrounded by family and friends after a battle with liver cancer. He was 73.

He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Joy; daughter Sharon Westall; son-in-law Ken Westall; grandchildren Kathryn and John Westall; sisters Pauline Hume and LaVonne (Jack) Clark; three nephews; and eight nieces. He was predeceased by his parents, John and Gladys Ritchie, and son John.

Born on Nov. 14, 1935 in Belen, New Mexico, Ritchie moved with his family to California at an early age. He served in the U.S. Army from 1953-1957 and was in Korea from 1954-1956.

He married his wife, Joy, in 1956. They moved to Downey where they raised their daughter, Sharon, and son, John. In 1957, Ritchie joined his father in their family-owned business, the All American Nut Co. Inc., originally located in Downey before moving to Cerritos in 1969. Ritchie became president of the company when his father retired in 1962.

Ritchie was active in the community for many years. He was president of the Downey Chamber of Commerce and Downey Rotary, master of the Downey Masonic Lodge #220, and was a fundraising leader for the Downey YMCA, Downey Community Hospital, Boy Scouts of America, and the City of Hope.

He was also involved in professional organizations, serving as president of the National Peanut Council and the Peanut Butter and Nut Processors organizations of Washington, D.C.

He was an active member of the Moravian Church of Downey and served on its board of trustees for many years. He was also the church treasurer for three years.

Ritchie retired from All American Nut Company in 1986 to pursue golf and fishing. After moving to Huntington Beach in 1985, he joined SeaCliff Country Club, where he made many new friends.

A celebration of life will be held at SeaCliff Country Club, 6501 Palm Ave., in Huntington Beach, tomorrow from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The Rev. Hopeton Clennon, formerly of the Moravian Church of Downey, and Pastor Chris Grange of St. Peter’s by the Sea Presbyterian Church in Huntington Beach, will officiate.

A buffet lunch will be served. At approximately 2 p.m. buses will transport family and friends to Newport Beach to board the Royal Princess, to take Ritchie to his final resting place at sea.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center of New York.

## John Emerick was longtime resident

**DOWNEY** – John Edward “Jack” Emerick, a longtime Downey resident, died Jan. 8 at Country Villa Belmont Heights nursing home in Long Beach. He was 63.

Emerick was born in Cleveland, Ohio on Feb. 1, 1945. His family relocated to Downey in 1955. He attended Rio San Gabriel Elementary School, East Junior High School, and graduated from Downey High School in 1963.

He was drafted into the U.S. Army in 1965 and spent two years serving in Korea. When he returned, he settled in Whittier where he raised his own family and worked as a computer technician for 25 years.

In 1994, Emerick returned to Downey where he resided until his death. He is survived by brothers, Gary and Robert; daughters, Tami McGarry, Traci Tellers and Tawni Montoya; and five grandchildren.

Services were held Jan. 24. He was interred at Forest Lawn Cemetery in Cypress alongside his parents, Merl and Virginia Newmyer Emerick.

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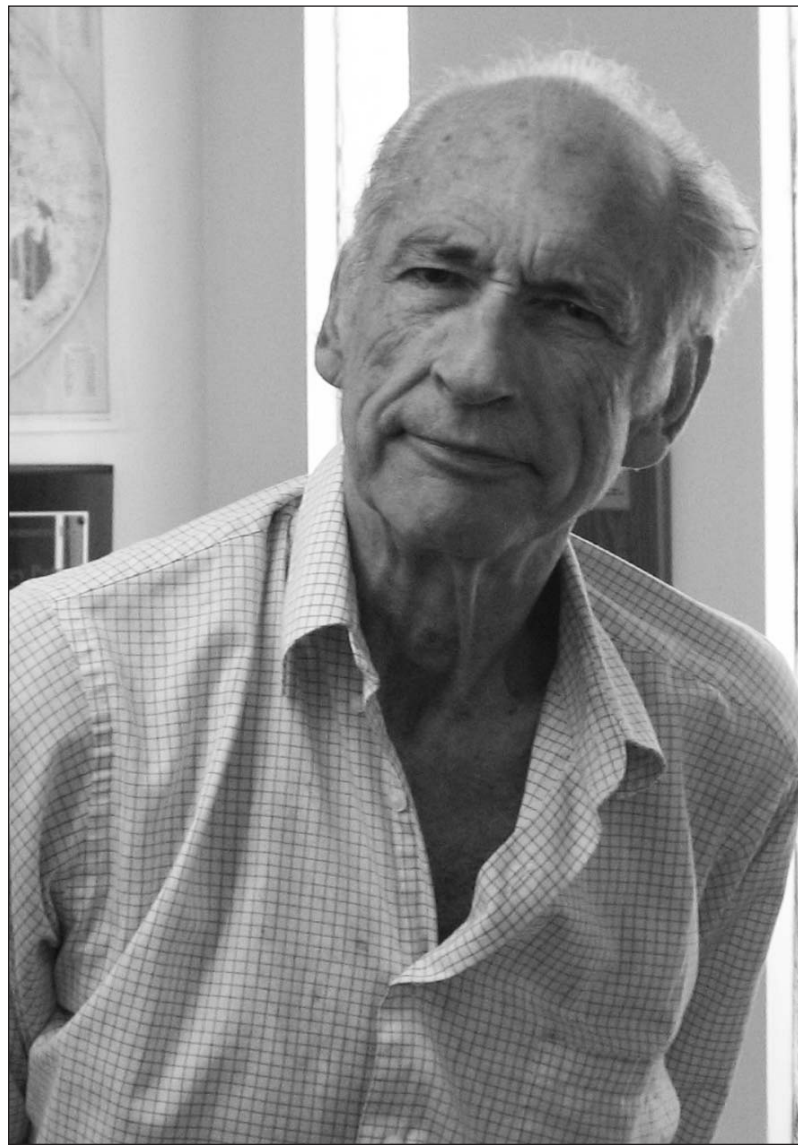
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A memorial service for former Downey Patriot publisher and editor John Adams will be held Monday at 10 a.m. inside the Harriett Paine Event Center at Downey Adult School. The community is invited.

## Hearing disabled have phone options

**LAKESWOOD** – Roberta Smith, outreach specialist with the California Telephone Access Program (CTAP), will be the featured speaker at the Feb. 12 meeting of Hearing Loss Association at the Weingart Senior Center in Lakewood.

Smith will be speaking on "Amazing Phones: Free!" for people who have difficulty hearing, seeing, moving, speaking or remembering.

CTAP is a state program that provides specialized phones – at no cost – to California residents who have trouble hearing. The phones make dialing easier, allow hands-free operation, display conversation in text, and more.

The meeting begins at 6:30 p.m. and is free to attend. The Weingart Senior Center is at 5220 Oliva Ave. in Lakewood. For more information, call (562) 433-6509.

## Auction items now on display

**DOWNEY** – The Friends of the Downey City Library are now displaying their February silent auction items in the lobby of the Downey City Library.

Items to be auctioned include "Disney's Gardening with Mickey," featuring popular gardening ideas from Walt Disney theme parks and resorts; "I Love Lucy – The Classic Moments," featuring 40 of the most memorable scenes from the iconic TV show; "The Smithsonian Collection of Newspaper Comics," including hundreds of comic strips from 1986 through the mid-1960's; "David Copperfield" by Charles Dickens, a Franklin Library edition and; "Turning the Tide of War," with detailed maps and battle plans examining the 50 battles that changed the course of modern history.

Bids can be placed inside the Friend's Book Store until noon, Jan. 31. The book store is also conducting a half-price sale on already reduced coffee table books, Christmas books, and best-sellers.

# Joe Lumsdaine's concept of service is transcendent

By Henry Veneracion, Staff Writer

To Joseph "Joe" A. Lumsdaine, the senior partner at the Downey-based law firm Tredway, Lumsdaine & Doyle, LLP, helping a client with a legal problem and helping a fellow church member resolve a moral dilemma are but two sides of the same coin: both involve a salutary act of service.

Thus Joe, a former seminarian whose avowed first love was philosophy and who in 1976 obtained his Juris Doctor degree from UC-Berkeley (from where he also earned his BA with double majors in philosophy and psychology in 1973), today moves seamlessly in and out of both legal and humanitarian worlds. Thus steeped in first principles – whether they be moral or philosophical or legal – he is likely to drive home his notion of service, of helping people, with a bit of *Matthew*, as in 25: "...when you do it to the least of my brethren, you do it unto Me."

A successful and respected law practitioner whose special focus in more recent years has been on estate planning, probate, trust administration, elder law and conservatorships, he is equally at ease with the ideas of Plato, Aristotle, and St. Augustine. In other words, he is comfortable with his spirituality, and he approaches his professional, as well as his community, work with a high sense of purpose.

He has logged more than 30 years of legal work, most of it out of Downey's Tredway, Lumsdaine & Doyle main offices on Paramount Boulevard, but he also works with clients from the law firm's other offices in Irvine and Long Beach. Prior to joining Tredway et al in 1979, he worked for the National Labor Relations Board in San Francisco and a labor law firm in Los Angeles. For "excellence in lawyering and his area contributions to the legal profession," he is being honored tomorrow at Rio Hondo Event Center with the Southeast District Bar Association's "2009 Lawyer of the Year" award.

Sharing the spotlight at the bar association's annual dinner are two Los Angeles Superior Court judges: the Hon. Yvonne Sanchez, who will be honored as "Judge of the Year," and the Hon. Larry S. Knupp, who will get a "Lifetime Judicial Award." Scheduled installing officer and keynote speaker is California Supreme Court Justice Carlos R. Moreno. Los Angeles County Deputy District Attorney Mario Trujillo is Master of Ceremonies.

Tredway, Lumsdaine & Doyle offers a range of services that include representation in business and securities law, real estate, litigation, credit unions and other financial institutions. A line in Joe's resume reads: "[He] has concluded more than 50 state and federal, jury and court trials to verdict, involving business disputes, personal injury, real estate and probate litigation."

As his dealings with the elderly have increased, none has benefited more, he says, from his high moral ground approach than this client group. At any rate, his relationships with his clients have become symbiotic. This is fine by him. In discussions with associates, Joe avers that "if such relationships make me a better person, then this will make me a better lawyer." He has meanwhile for years, along with wife Dianne, done parish work at St. Dominic Savio in Bellflower. To better serve the parishioners, the couple (she is, as well, a lawyer and a former president of Arc, 'our dearest charity in town') got their master's degrees in pastoral ministry two years ago from St. Marty's University in Minnesota. They are currently in the fourth year of a five-year diaconate program with the Archdiocese of Los

Angeles. "God willing," Joe says, "I'll be ordained as deacon in June 2010."

He has begun to expand the range of his pastoral ministry. Faith formation has been a mainstay from the start. He got involved with the church's bereavement ministry some seven years ago, and he has just started with prison ministry (ministering to the imprisoned, ministering to the juveniles at Los Padros). Over the years, his list of community involvements is, of course, a long one: with Arc, with the Y, with Downey Regional Medical Center, Kiwanis, and on and on.

The youngest of 11 children, Joe was born in Shanghai, China on July 2, 1950 to his merchant American dad, Clifford Vere Lumsdaine, and his Chinese mom, Miao Ying Ho. According to family lore, his dad had to learn Cantonese to win his mom's affections. Immigrating to California in 1962, Joe quickly adapted to his new home in Ventura, where he finished high school.

He and Dianne got married while both were working toward their undergraduate degrees at UC-Berkeley. Dianne, whose own story was featured in these pages in 2007, would get her Juris Doctor degree from Golden Gate University in 1977. Both of them point to each other as 'the smart one.' In any case, Joe says: "We mostly took different courses. She got a better grade in statistics, that's why she manages the money." They have resided in Downey since 1978.

They have four children: the older two daughters, Jodi Anne (now Mrs. Richard Chapin) and Jennifer, are both attorneys; of the two younger boys, Paul, already has his master's in English, while Casey the youngest is in college. Joe likes to relate that when Jennifer took only three years to get her law degree, he rewarded her with a car.

Instead of a business lunch, Joe goes for a business run, where he and a few associates at a time run through the streets of Downey at lunchtime for exercise. "At first, to reduce stress, I would exercise at the Y. Then I started running a marathon-length 26 miles by myself," he says. "Then I cut it to half a marathon. These days, especially in the company of one or two associates, I usually go six to seven miles. I've been doing this for several years. I enjoy it." His appreciation of the benefits of exercise took root in his seminary days, "where the 'bell' dictated our every move."

"I read of course, mostly fiction, and I go fishing whenever time permits," says Joe. "And I like gardening. We watch the Lakers. But mostly I'm into running. I've come to really enjoy it."

He was preaching, and practicing, the 'can do' spirit well before Obama. When Joe coached Little League baseball, he would tell the kids, "'You can hit the ball. Tell yourself you can hit the ball', and darned if they didn't. Baseball is not based on physics, it's a game of the head."

"Whenever I encounter people or kids who say 'I'm not good enough' or who give up on their dreams," Joe goes on, "I show them a sheet of paper with 'NO's occupying every rank and every file. I challenge them to find the one 'YES' on the page. I want them to persevere, dream the dream. I truly believe that sooner or later they'll realize it."

He proudly told me he has occupied the same office room where firm founder Harold Tredway conducted business until his death in 2005, including the original furniture. When I noticed a bust of Lincoln on his back shelf, Joe said it reminded him most of Lincoln's courage, a virtue he called on during his 25 years of trial work. "In representing a client," he said, "you've got to stand up for him, no matter how hard the case. This requires the utmost courage. I hope Obama shows it can be done."

The law firm has issued this invitation: "We will be hosting a reception in honor of Joseph Lumsdaine's accomplishments at its Downey office, 10841 Paramount Blvd., on Thursday, February 12 from 5 to 7 p.m. We invite the Downey community to join us in celebrating Mr. Lumsdaine and his fine service to the profession and the community."



Joe Lumsdaine

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**CITY of DOWNEY**  
Community Participation Meetings for CDBG and HOME Programs.

The City of Downey has scheduled several meetings on the City's federal CDBG and HOME Programs for Fiscal Year 2009-2010. The City is now working on the required Action Plan and Application for these federal grants. These meetings are provided to give those in attendance information on these federal programs, and allow an opportunity to provide input in the annual development process. Interested Downey residents and representatives of community groups are encouraged to attend and comment on the City's housing and non-housing needs, program priorities and propose uses for either of these funding sources. The City estimates it will receive \$1,484,754 in CDBG and \$712,852 in HOME funds for this fiscal year.

**Community meetings will be held on:**

**Thursday, February 5<sup>th</sup>** Barbara J. Riley Community/Senior Center 7810 Quill Dr., Gallatin Room **6:30 p.m.**

**Wednesday, February 11<sup>th</sup>:** Downey City Library Cormack Room, 11121 Brookshire Avenue. **1:00 p.m.**

**Thursday, February 12<sup>th</sup>:** Golden Park Activity Room, 8840 Golden Avenue **6:30 p.m.**

**A Public Hearing will be held on:**

**Tuesday, February 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m.:** Downey City Hall Council Chambers, 11111 Brookshire Avenue

For additional information or to arrange special accommodations to attend any meeting, please contact Ed Velasco at (562) 904-7167.

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## Council denies appeal for zone variance

■ Disabled resident said he wanted a "sitting area" to recuperate from surgery. Plans went against code.

BY HENRY VENERACION,  
STAFF WRITER

**DOWNEY** – The City Council on Tuesday denied the appeal made by Downey resident Robert van der Velde to overturn a decision by the Planning Commission with regard to a possible deviation from the maximum floor area ratio (FAR) as set forth in the Downey Municipal Code for the city's single family residential zone.

Van der Velde wanted to build a sitting area on the second floor of his home located on the 7800 block of Benares Street to accommodate a post-surgery recuperation period on his legs, as a means of escaping the confines of his bedroom by wheelchair. He said allowing him to construct a 217 square foot loft would let him do just that. His house falls within the zone category.

The only problem with this, said the Planning Commission after reviewing the case, was that: 1) granting Van der Velde's appeal for a variance that would give him a FAR of 0.75 will result in a FAR that exceeds the city's development standards for properties in the specified zone; the zone's maximum FAR being 0.65; this would set a precedent and will result in potentially unmanageable future requests; 2) further, the Planning Commission said the existing house has been classified as a legal nonconforming use, as it was built with a FAR of 0.70, which of course is greater than the current standard of 0.65.

In this regard, the Planning Commission said the proposed loft would be problematic because it would enlarge and structurally alter the house in a way that increases its nonconformity—which is against code provisions.

The Council agreed with the findings of the Planning Commission, and approved its recommendation to deny the appeal.

In other action, the Council:

- Rejected all bids to the Fire Station No. 1 Perimeter Walls Project;
- Adopted a resolution approving the appointment of Roy Beard to the Emergency Preparedness Committee for District 3;
- Approved the reappointments of Dwight and Julie Simpson to the City Hospital Commission for District 4;
- Approved the appointments of Andy Doyle to the Emergency Preparedness Committee, and Diane Boggs to the Water Facilities Corporation;
- Selected Feb. 14 and 28, both Saturdays, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m., to hold retreat meetings with city management to determine City Council goals and priorities for the coming fiscal year;
- Presented the mayor's Diakonia (servant) Award to Dr. Mary Stauffer; and
- Presented certificates of appointments to: Jeff McCaughan to the Recreation and Community Services Commission, District 3; Betty Conroy to the Library Advisory Board, District 5; Fernando Vasquez to the Planning Commission, District 5; Mark Hemsath to the Recreation and Community Services Commission, District 5; Rick Rodriguez, to the Emergency Preparedness Commission; and Carlos Galvan, to the Public Finance Corporation Commission.

The next regular public meeting of the City Council will be at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 10 at City Hall, 11111 Brookshire Ave.



Prudential 24 Hour Real Estate has announced the addition of a new sales associate, Joe Rodriguez, to their growing team. Rodriguez joined "The 24 Hour Team" after recently completing the company's exclusive "Smart Start Success Course." "We are very excited about having Joe join us," said Mel Berdelis, broker/owner of the office. "He possesses the type of enthusiasm and commitment we know is critical in this business. We believe he will be a positive addition to our office." To contact Rodriguez for your real estate needs, call (562) 861-7257.

## Street Faire sponsorships available

**DOWNEY** – Sponsorship opportunities are available for the 16th annual Downey Street Faire, scheduled for May 2 and sponsored by the Downey Chamber of Commerce.

Sponsors will be displayed prominently in ads, posters, fliers, and publicity in *Downey Business* and local newspapers.

The faire is held annually on Brookshire Avenue, near Downey High School. Between 10,000-15,000 people visit the faire every year, Chamber officials said.

Ten-ft. booth spaces are also available for vendors to sell merchandise or food. Spaces are \$110 each, or \$125 for food vendors.

- Sponsorship opportunities and their benefits include:
- Bronze sponsor (\$500): banner on fence facing Firestone Boulevard.
  - Silver sponsor (\$1,000): one booth space, banner.
  - Gold sponsor (\$1,500): two booth spaces, banner, and a plaque presented at the board of directors luncheon in June.
  - Diamond sponsor (\$2,000): three booth spaces, banner, and a plaque.
  - Platinum sponsor (\$2,500): three booth spaces, banner on the stage, and a plaque. (Limited to one sponsor only.)
- To become a vendor or sponsor, call the Chamber at (562) 923-2191.

## Gas Co. offers help to reduce winter heating bills

■ Rebates worth hundreds of dollars also available for energy efficient appliances, Gas Company says.

**LOS ANGELES** – As working families struggle to make ends meet due to the current economic downturn, Southern California Gas Co. (The Gas Company) is urging customers to take advantage of the utility's assistance programs -- programs that can help reduce winter heating bills and increase energy efficiency.

"I was really excited when I discovered The Gas Company's CARE program and how they are reaching out to people that are in need of help," said Reola Robinson, an Inglewood resident. "I am grateful for the assistance that we've received because we can now make our budget."

Robinson qualified for the California Alternate Rate for Energy (CARE) program, which provides a 20 percent rate discount on the monthly gas bill for eligible households. Customers may be automatically eligible if they currently receive benefits from the Women, Infants and Children, Healthy Families, Medi-Cal, Food Stamps, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families or LIHEAP programs.

"We strongly encourage customers to call us, especially if they're having trouble paying their bill by the payment deadline," said Michelle M. Mueller, vice president of customer operations. "We are here to help."

In addition to CARE, The Gas Company offers a wide range of assistance programs for qualifying customers on a limited income or with special medical needs.

The Direct Assistance Program provides energy-saving home improvements to income-qualified renters and homeowners. Services include: door weather-stripping and caulking to keep unwanted drafts out of the home; ceiling insulation to help the home stay cooler in the summer and warmer in the winter; low-flow showerheads that can save energy used to heat water; furnace replacement (owner occupied only) and other minor home repairs.

Customers who have a person in the home with certain medical conditions -- who may require additional heating to sustain their health -- may qualify for additional natural gas at the lowest baseline rate through the Medical Baseline Allowance program. There are no income requirements for the Medical Baseline program; however doctor certification is required.

The Gas Assistance Fund helps provide a one time grant to customers during the winter who are income qualified and unable to pay their bill. The program, which runs from the beginning of February through the end of April, or until funds are depleted, is administered by the United Way of Greater Los Angeles and is funded by donations from customers and employees of The Gas Company, as well as shareholders of Sempra Energy, The Gas Company's parent company.

The Gas Company offers hundreds of dollars in rebates for the purchase of energy-efficient appliances and can provide customers with a free energy and water-saving kit. The kit includes three faucet aerators and a low-flow showerhead to help customers save energy and water. These devices allow air to enter into the water stream, maintaining a high-pressure flow while reducing water usage -- ultimately saving money.

Customers can enroll to the assistance programs by visiting The Gas Company's Web site, [www.socalgas.com/assistance](http://www.socalgas.com/assistance), or call toll-free at (800) 427-2200 or (800) 342-4545 in Spanish.

To learn how to conserve energy at home, customers can visit [www.socalgas.com/energyefficiency](http://www.socalgas.com/energyefficiency).

## Mommy's Time Out on Feb. 5

**DOWNEY** – Mommy's Time Out, a volunteer organization created for moms and run by moms, will hold their first meeting this season on Feb. 5 at 9 a.m. at the First Baptist Church of Downey (3rd St. just west of Downey's Civic Center).

The meeting will include a brunch, a presentation called "Raising the Sail-How we Choose Faith over Fear when it comes to Our Children" and a discussion.

The meeting, including childcare, is free to first-timers.

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 "Ben Garcia did an outstanding job and I couldn't be happier. Ben really took care of us and we will recommend him to others!" – Mary Lou Jacobs  
 "Brian Holden went above and beyond and made everything so easy. We are so lucky to have worked with Brian. He is so knowledgeable and a person we can trust. It was such a pleasure." – Katrina Smythe  
 "Laquetta Minnix did a wonderful job and is a great friend." - Michelle Russell

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**North Downey Starter Home**  
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Great opportunity in Downey! 3 bedrooms, 1 1/2 bath, new full bath, granite countertop, recently painted inside and out. Fantastic short sale price!

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Great 2 bedroom, 2 bath, very clean, lots of storage in laundry room, floors redone recently, move in condition

**For The Starter In Downey**  
A very nice 2 bedroom, 1 bath, nice closed end street, nice area of Downey. Great fixer at a great price!

**Want A House With A Pool?**  
3 bedrooms, 2 bath home. Formal living room with a fireplace, atrium in entryway. To top it off it has a nice pool! You'll be surprised at the price. Virtual Tour at [www.towncenter.com/5347](http://www.towncenter.com/5347)

**Is The Price Too Low?**  
You don't have to drown in debt to own this 3 bedroom, 2 bath Downey home in a great location. Park like backyard, extra large family room with a fireplace. Price has been reduced.

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<p><b>Carrie Uva</b> "Let's Talk Real Estate" <b>562-382-1252</b> <a href="http://www.CarrieUva.com">www.CarrieUva.com</a></p> <p><b>FOR RENT</b></p> <p><b>FOR RENT!!!!</b> 3 bed, 1 bath home in North Downey. Rent=1650.00/month. Looking for Short Term Tenant 3-6 months only! Call Carrie @ 562-382-1252</p> <p><b>OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS!</b> Charming Duplex in Downey with 2 BD, 2 BA and other unit 1 BD and 1 BA. Price: \$420,000 Call Carrie @ 562-382-1252</p> <p><b>SWEET &amp; LOW!</b> Lovely 3 bedroom 2 bath home in Downey with living room &amp; fireplace. Price \$374,900 Call Carrie @ 562-382-1252</p> <p><b>HOUSE AND GUEST HOUSE!</b> Super clean 3 BD, 2 BA home with central air &amp; heat and 1 BD, 1 BA guest house. Price: \$479,900 Call Carrie @ 562-382-1252</p> <p><b>AVOID PROBATE!</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Living Trusts</li> <li>• Wills</li> </ul> <p><b>Make Your Living Trust!!!</b> (\$50 Discount if done by 3-31-09)</p> <p><b>CALL CARRIE TODAY!</b> (562) 382-1252</p>	<p>Thinking About A Career In Real Estate?</p> <p><b>GET A REAL ESTATE LICENSE NOW!</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ CLASSES NOW FORMING!</li> <li>✓ COMPLETE IN ONLY 8 WEEKS!</li> <li>✓ ONLY <b>\$299</b></li> </ul> <p><b>CALL (562) 861-7257</b></p> <p><b>NEW!</b></p> <p><b>NEW CONSTRUCTION 2009</b> 5 BD, 4 BA, 7,600 sq. ft. lot. Call Jason Lockwood 562-619-2979</p> <p><b>REDUCED!</b></p> <p><b>NEAR HUNTINGTON BEACH!</b> 3 BD, 1.75 BA, 8,333 sq. ft. lot. Priced at: \$519,000 Call Marie Picarelli (562) 618-0033</p> <p><b>RESTAURANT!</b></p> <p><b>OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS!</b> Busy Area, lots of parking space, 4,250 sq. ft. lot Call Julio Garcia (562) 533-3359</p> <p><b>LONG BEACH</b></p> <p><b>GREAT CURB APPEAL</b> 2 BD, Large Family Room w/ Fireplace PRICE: \$399,000 Call Mary Jane Lee 562-618-0390</p>	<p><b>Mario Persico</b> "Mario Did it AGAIN!" <b>562-533-7433</b> <a href="http://www.MarioPersico.com">www.MarioPersico.com</a></p> <p>Buying?... or Selling?...</p> <p>Call <b>Mario Persico</b> for a <b>FREE</b> Professional Consultation! &amp; Foreclosure Tips!</p> <p><b>MOVE IN READY!</b></p> <p><b>LEISURE WORLD'S BEST!</b> Stunning remodeled 2 BD, 2 BA. HUGE 1 story PERFECT LOCATION!! Priced to Sell!! Call Mario for price @ 562-533-7433</p> <p><b>BACK UP OFFERS!</b></p> <p><b>APPROVED SHORT SALE!</b> HUGE 3 BD, 3BA. Amazing Floorplan! Vacant &amp; Move in Ready! Sold in '05 for 740k Now...\$499,000!!</p> <p><b>N. E. DOWNEY!</b></p> <p><b>A MUST SEE HOME!!</b> Stunning 4 BD, 3 BA. Entertainers Dream AMAZING Floor plan 3000 + sq.ft. on 1/4 acre! Call Mario for price @ 562-533-7433</p> <p><b>OPEN HOUSE!</b></p> <p><b>I'M BIGGER THAN YOU THINK!</b> Huge Master Suite. Glorious Kitchen &amp; Family room 4 BD, 3BA. 3000 + Sq ft. Remodeled!! Virtual tour at <a href="http://www.MARIOPERSICO.COM">www.MARIOPERSICO.COM</a></p> <p><b>MARIO PERSICO SELLS DOWNEY!</b> Born * Educated * Lives * Worships in Downey</p>
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<p><b>Northeast Downey Estate!</b> Northeast Downey Estate! 5 bed, 4 bath, 3966 sq ft house + 1000 sq ft guest house on a 20,040 sq ft lot. Remodeled like new 6 years ago and priced to sell @ \$1,799,000. Call Michael Berdelis at (562) 818-6111</p>	<p><b>The Dream Deal in Downey!</b> The Dream Deal in Downey! 5 BD, 3.5 BA main house + 3 BD, 1 BA guest house with amazing amenities, awesome pool &amp; spa, and approx 20,000 sq ft lot in North Downey. Price: \$1,499,000 Call Michael Berdelis at (562) 818-6111</p>	<p><b>Move Right In!</b> NE Downey pool home w/ 5 BD, 4 BA, 4700 sq ft living space, 7500 sq ft lot, gorgeous master suite w/ fireplace &amp; balcony. Price: \$999,000 Call Michael Berdelis at (562) 818-6111</p>
<p><b>A-1 Neighborhood</b> NE Downey 5 BD, 4 BA home w/ entertaining floorplan, 3240 sf, large master suite, oversized 3 car gar w/ workshop, many great amenities, &amp; large yard with pool/spa. Price: \$995,000 Call Michael Berdelis at (562) 818-6111</p>	<p><b>Let's Make a Deal!</b> 5BD, 4BA, 3800sq ft., pool and spa, 3 car garage. Price: \$929,000 Call Michael Berdelis at (562) 818-6111</p>	<p><b>A Real Steal!</b> 5 BD + office, 4 BA, master suite w/ fireplace, 3,750 sq ft, 6,480 sq ft lot. Price: \$899,000 Call Michael Berdelis at (562) 818-6111</p>
<p><b>NE Downey Home!</b> 3 BD, 2.5 BA, 2587 sq ft, large master bedroom, new roof, 3 car garage, 10005 sq ft lot. Priced right @ \$799,000 Call Michael Berdelis at (562) 818-6111</p>	<p><b>New 2007 Construction!</b> 4BR + office, 4BA, approx 3100 sq. ft., marble floors, granite countertops, large master bedroom. Price: \$789,000 Call Michael Berdelis at (562) 818-6111</p>	<p><b>Cherokee Estates Charmer!</b> 4BD, 2.75 BA, N. Downey Home w/ spacious family rm, updated kitchen w/ newer appliances &amp; granite counters, pool size yard, 9900 sq ft. lot, and a master bedroom. Starting: at \$679,000! Call Michael Berdelis at (562) 818-6111</p>
<p><b>A Sizzling Buy!</b> 4 BD, 3 BA remodeled North Downey pool home, large master bedroom, travertine floors, granite counters, and much more. Price: \$599,900 Virtual tour at <a href="http://www.MichaelBerdelis.com">www.MichaelBerdelis.com</a></p>	<p><b>Downtown Downey Development!</b> 2BR+den, 1BA house w/ 2 car garage &amp; large parking in backyard, on a 8799 sq ft lot, can be built into a 7000 sq ft office/retail bldg. Price: \$499,900 Call Michael Berdelis at (562) 818-6111</p>	<p><b>Great Neighborhood, Great Price!</b> 3 BD, 2 BA Northeast Downey home with large yard, enclosed patio, hardwood floors, and living room with fireplace. Price: \$469,000 Call Michael Berdelis at (562) 818-6111</p>

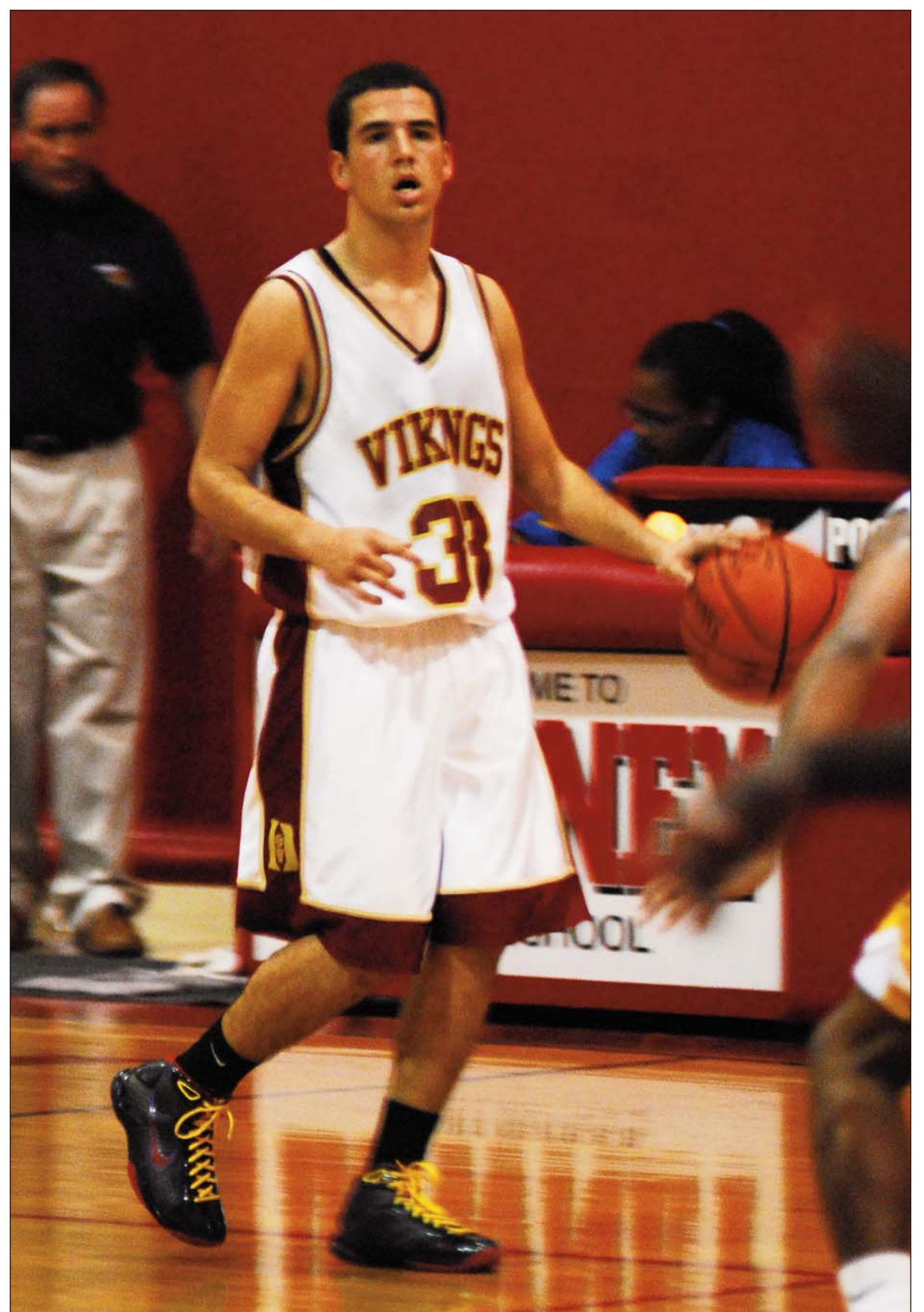
**View these homes at: [www.MichaelBerdelis.com](http://www.MichaelBerdelis.com)**

## Downey, Warren boys varsity basketball

Photos by Art Montoya



Warren High School was routed 88-37 by Dominguez High School on Wednesday. The Bears host Lynwood tonight.



Downey High School was edged by Gahr, 71-63, on Wednesday. They host Paramount High School tonight at 7 p.m.