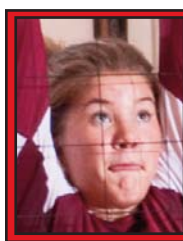


The Downey Patriot



Vikings cruise to victory
See Page 8



Warren cheer inspires kids
See Page 7



Teaching in Italy
See Page 4

Friday, October 2, 2009

Vol. 8 No. 24

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

Message from the mayor

BY MARIO GUERRA,
MAYOR, CITY OF DOWNEY

I hope this finds you all well. I wanted to bring you up to date on a few items that we are very excited about and some updates on Downey happenings.

We were recently informed that we are one of six finalist for "Most Business Friendly City" from the Los Angeles Economic Development Corp. for cities over 60,000 population (by the way, Downey has approximately 115,000 residents and is the 12th largest city by population out of the 88 in L.A. County).



Mario Guerra

This is a great honor to be nominated and I know our staff has worked very hard to earn this title. Our current and past councils have also worked to instill this attitude and workings but our staff deserves so much of the credit. We continue to make great progress in this area.

I also wanted to invite you to my annual Town Hall Meeting on Thursday, Oct. 15 at Apollo Park at 6:30 p.m. We have always had great turnouts and I am very excited to be able to share some of the details of what is happening in our fine city and get feedback on what our residents think and want.

We have actually implemented many of the things that citizens have brought up in past years and I love listening and sharing ideas about how to make our city even better. Feel free to pass this information along.

A recent article was just published Tuesday in the *Long Beach Post* about Tesla Motors and Downey vs. Long Beach. I love Long Beach and they are a great city, but Tesla belongs in Downey and we are doing all we can to make that a reality.

We continue to be very optimistic and excited about Tesla coming to Downey. We have had several meetings with them and their top officers recently and that is all I can say at this time. Stay tuned.

There are many openings and new adventures in Downey for October. Wednesday morning at 7 a.m. (did I say 7 a.m.? Yes, 7 a.m.) we cut the ribbon for our new Kohl's store at Stonewood Shopping Center.

Also coming up in October, the Soroptimist 1st Annual Chili Cook-off this Sunday the 4th. They have asked me to be one of the judges. Can you believe it? I still do not know how I feel about that...ha. Happening and/or openings are: Bob's Big Boy (formerly known as Johnies Broiler), The Palms Restaurant opening next week on Florence Avenue, Downtown Barbecue on Downey Avenue, and Columbia Memorial Learning Center on Oct. 24 to the public, and the Rotary pancake breakfast with the proceeds going to our Downey YMCA will be on Oct. 17 at Warren High this year.

Our Chamber is also hosting a

See MAYOR, page 2



PHOTO BY BERNICE STUMPS

The Downey Symphony's Circle of Stars award was presented to pianist Elizabeth Wilson, pianist Paulina Yang, pianist and composer Richard Carpenter, and composer Robert Litton. The award honors soloists who have appeared with the symphony orchestra.

Stars to the symphony

Organizers call garden party fundraiser a success. Next symphony concert is Oct. 24.

BY JOYCE SHERWIN,
DOWNEY SYMPHONY

DOWNEY – Garden parties have long enjoyed a reputation as pleasant affairs, though it must be acknowledged that the first one on record ended rather badly. (That was the one in Eden, of course, attended by everybody who was anybody, with a rotter on the guest list.)

Notwithstanding, the recent gathering in Downey to benefit our symphony orchestra continued the positive tradition of garden parties, and the rolling green lawns of Dr. Walter Kelley's home were the perfect site for an afternoon of elegant light music and sinfully delicious food, along with the opportunity to contribute support for Music in the Schools and the orchestra's 2009-10 concert season.

Scores of gleaming white chairs under umbrellas beckoned guests, and from one area of the garden a brass quintet, graduate students from USC's Thornton School of Music, sent show tunes

wafting into the fragrant breeze. Katie Hare's incomparable food table was never without an appreciative audience crowding around for firsts, seconds, thirds. The delightful concert pianist Pauline Yang performed Chopin and Brahms. Downey Symphony Music Director Sharon Lavery strolled everywhere, speaking with every guest.

And the occasion also marked the first Circle of Stars awards given by the Symphony Board. Circle of Stars recipients are the soloists who have performed with the Downey Symphony over the years, and the board wishes to recognize these artists for their collaboration with our orchestra and to assure them of our continuing interest in their careers.

While a comprehensive list of these distinguished soloists is still being formulated, several attended this garden party and received their Circle of Stars pins. They were pianist Elizabeth Wilson, whose two performances with the orchestra under Mario Cajati were between 1957 and 1966, pianist/composer Richard Carpenter, composer Robert Litton and pianist Pauline Yang.

Downey's own Marsha Moode, a narrator with the symphony, received her Circle of Stars pin

also, but popped in so briefly between Civic Light Opera rehearsals, that it was difficult to catch a picture of her.

Board treasurer Bill Hare conducted the spirited auction of 16 tempting opportunities, ranging from L.A. Opera tickets to dinner for 10 at the Rio Hondo Event Center, from a guitar to lunch and tour at the Downey Police Department, all in support of the Symphony. Appreciative guests, acknowledging the excellence of the orchestra and its outreach to schoolchildren, bid generously.

Then there was just enough time before party's end for a full-scale assault on the dessert table, covered with cake stands and trays of yummys provided by board members.

Everyone on the symphony board devoted time, thought and hard work to this fundraising event, to help assure the continuing presence in our community of a fine symphony orchestra. Enthusiastic response from supporters in attendance proved once again that garden parties are happy deals. And can be successful. Thank you.

The first concert in our new season will be on Oct. 24, in the Downey Theatre. For information, visit www.downeysymphony.org or phone (562) 403-2944.

Kohl's open for business

Kohl's draws hundreds for grand opening at Stonewood Center.

BY ERIC PIERCE,
CITY EDITOR

DOWNEY – Just in time for the holidays, Kohl's department store at Stonewood Center opened for business Wednesday.

About 150-200 shoppers were already lined up before the store opened at 7 a.m.

Store manager Gil Ponce was joined by Mayor Mario Guerra and Mayor Pro Tem Anne Bayer in cutting a celebratory ribbon to mark the grand opening.

"Now more than ever we need your tax dollars," Guerra told the crowd.

Priscilla Gutierrez was one of the first customers in line. Clutching a store flier, she said she planned to buy a digital camera that was marked down in price.

"You don't see them this cheap anywhere, unless it's the day after Thanksgiving" Gutierrez said. "I don't know if I'll keep (the camera) or give it to my husband for Christmas."

The new Kohl's takes over approximately 83,000 square feet of retail space that was left empty when Mervyn's went bankrupt last year.

More than 150 full-time and part-time employees are employed at the Downey Kohl's, Ponce said. The employees were hired in August.

"Service is our number one priority here," Ponce said, as he stood at the front entrance and welcomed in the early-bird shoppers. "Everyone who shops here can expect to be greeted with smiles, and they can expect great things."

Whitney Wigle, marketing manager for Stonewood Center, said Kohl's will fit perfectly into the Downey community.

"Our shoppers have been anxiously awaiting the opening of Kohl's, which we saw first hand Wednesday morning," Wigle said. "The long line of shoppers at 7 a.m. clearly demonstrated that Kohl's is a perfect fit for Stonewood Center and the Downey community."

Terry Williams is superintendent of EMJ Corporation, a general contracting company hired by Kohl's to build nine stores in California. (Kohl's opened 37 stores nationwide on Wednesday, including 30 in California.)

Williams said demolition work on the Downey Kohl's began in January. Merchandise and displays started going up Aug. 27, giving employees about a month to get the store customer-ready.

Ponce, speaking to the early-morning crowd using a megaphone, said Kohl's issued more than \$1 million in grants last year, and pledged to donate money to local non-profit organizations.

"So if you know of any groups, please let me know," Ponce told the crowd.

Guerra leaned over and said, "We'll talk later."



PHOTO BY ERIC PIERCE

A Kohl's department store opened at Stonewood Center on Wednesday. Pictured above are store manager Gil Ponce, Mayor Mario Guerra and Mayor Pro Tem Anne Bayer.

Porto's Bakery to break ground next week

Ownership expects new bakery to open by May of next year.

BY CHRISTIAN BROWN,
STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY – After months of anticipation, Downtown Downey is getting ready to change. Starting next week demolition will begin on the future Porto's Bakery site, located near the corner of Firestone Boulevard and Downey Avenue.

"We're constructing a brand new building from the ground up," said co-owner Raul Porto, who expects the store to open next May. "It will be completely different from our other locations. The design of the building will be more

modern, it's going to be beautiful – and it will have many of the same food items."

Similar to its locations in Glendale and Burbank, the Downey store will prepare all of Porto's signature pastries, cakes, sandwiches and desserts on site.

"Each store sells what the customers like," Porto said. "Because we're a family-owned business, it gives us the ability to test things. We find out what the popular items are."

In preparation for their new Downey location, Porto's Bakery has a booth at Downey's farmers market every Saturday where Porto's workers sell pastries and inform shoppers about their stores.

"We're not waiting to open to get involved in the community," said Porto, in a phone interview.

"We chose Downey and every expectation we have is good."

Before the Porto family decided to bring their store to Downey, Porto recalls the most asked question he would receive from customers.

"When are you coming to my city?," Porto said. "We asked them, 'Where would you want us to open it?'"

After surveying many of their customers, Porto said Downey was one of the areas people suggested as a possible new location.

"We took everyone's zip codes and there was a pocket within Downey, Whittier and the surrounding cities," said Porto. "We met the mayor and everything came together in that area. We're receiving a lot of positive feedback, even more

than when we opened in Burbank."

According to their website, Porto's Bakery was founded in 1974 by Rosa and Raul Porto Sr., who started off making custom decorated cakes and Cuban baked goods. As the bakery's clientele began to grow, the small store eventually relocated into a 20,000-square-foot facility in 1993. Porto's opened a second location in Burbank in 2006.

Once completed, the new 15,000-square-foot facility will include a rear two-story parking garage to accommodate their customers.

"There will be a courtyard between the buildings with some water features," said Porto. "It's going to be a lot more than just a store."



PHOTO BY LADY DUCAYNE/CREATIVE COMMONS

Mayor: Space Center will open to the public Oct. 24.

Continued from page 1

Business Mixer at the Embassy Suites on Oct. 29.

I have been scheduled for many speaking engagements throughout the month and too many to mention but I did want to say how happy I am when I go to clubs or organizations in our city and how they feel about being a Downey resident. I know I have that same feeling and it is good to know we live in a community that genuinely cares.

I recently attended meetings in September, including five neighborhood watch meetings, Sanitation Board meeting, Contract Cities legislative committee, Contract Cities workshop, Independent Cities board, Southern Cal Area of Government Transportation committee, Keep Downey Beautiful, YMCA board, Chamber Business Watch, Metropolitan Lodge honoring our fine men and women from our school district, police and fire, Green Garden workshop co-sponsored by Green Task Force and Water board along with Southern California Edison, Gas Co. and Coke, Blue Mass for our public safety by OLPH, and their 100 year anniversary Mass, Unity in the Community, and a Sister Cities meeting about our 50 year relationship with Guadalajara...Busy but fun. I was out the first two weeks and only part time. Almost back to full speed now.

Some other items I want to mention or let you know about :

Seasonal Flu-Shot Clinic and Emergency Preparedness Fair: A free seasonal flu-shot clinic was conducted Saturday at the Downey Theater.

An Emergency Preparedness



PHOTO COURTESY DOWNEY EXPRESS

The Downey Express travel baseball team participated in the Sept. 19 Heal the Bay cleanup along the San Gabriel Valley Riverbed. More than 90 volunteers collected 1,860 pounds of trash.

fair was held in the same location to get the Emergency Preparedness "word" out to the large number of people attending the clinic. Nearly 1,200 vaccinations were given to community members during the four hour event.

The event went smoothly and benefitted from a number of planning meetings held with members of the City staff and several public and private groups. The local hospitals (Downey Regional Medical Center and Kaiser) were very helpful in staffing the vaccination stations. The L.A. County Department of Public Health provided the vaccine and the L.A. County Department of Mental Health assisted with the event.

City departments involved with

the event were Community Services, Fire Department, Downey Theater, Police, Physical Services and the Building Department.

Several Downey volunteer groups worked hard to ensure the success of the event. There were representatives from the Emergency Preparedness Committee, the Downey CERT team, the Red Cross, Police Explorers, Fire Explorers and Fire Auxiliaries.

The next free flu-shot clinic will provide the vaccine for the H1N1 virus and will be held on Tuesday, Oct. 27 from 1 p.m. - 9 p.m. City staff are currently planning for the event.

Our Loved Library: The

Downey City Library is inviting the public to attend the 50th birthday celebration on Saturday, Oct. 3rd from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The library rededication and ribbon-cutting ceremony with City Council members will take place from 9:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. in front of the library.

The free celebration with music and refreshments will include a scavenger hunt, book giveaways, a juggler, birthday piñatas for children, book raffles and a cake decorating demonstration for adults with Hector Navarro from Cakeland. Commemorative gold library cards will be available on Saturday to mark this special anniversary.

And speaking of space, space

flight historian, Dr. Jim Busby, will present "Sputnik I and Explorer I" on Oct. 4 at the library. When Russia launched Sputnik I on October 4, 1957, the Earth got its first artificial satellite and the space race was born. A small group of scientists from Caltech's Jet Propulsion Laboratory built America's first successful artificial satellite, Explorer I, launched on January 31, 1958. Dr. Busby will discuss these milestones in the early days of the space race and their legacy 50 years later. This event is offered as part of the library's "One Book, One Community" reading project featuring the book "Rocket Boys" by Homer Hickam.

Keep Downey Beautiful (KDB): The Keep Downey Beautiful (KDB) cleanup on Saturday, Sept. 19, was one of the most successful cleanups in KDB history. This is the fifth year KDB has partnered with Heal the Bay for their annual Coastal Cleanup Day.

The campaign for the cleanup actually began on Sunday, Sept. 13 with a Heal the Bay television special that aired on Channels 2 and 9. This special program was filmed last year and featured the City of Downey and other participating agencies.

National Public Radio KPCC-FM continued to broadcast the Coastal Cleanup all week, directing volunteers to their nearest cleanup site. The City of Downey, being recognized as an inland site, had volunteers from Los Angeles, Diamond Bar, Montebello and Compton, all eager to participate in Coastal Cleanup Day.

The 91 volunteers removed 1,860 pounds of trash from the Rio San Gabriel Riverbed. Everyone enjoyed themselves, but left very tired. I was very happy to be there and picked up a few bags and left knowing we have a great community. Remember, keep Downey Beautiful cleans up every month here in Downey. Great opportunity

to volunteer or have your group volunteer.

Recycling / Green:

The Recycling Office will be hosting a Used Oil Collection and Free Oil Filter Exchange event on Saturday, Oct. 10 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Pep Boys, located at 10231 Lakewood Blvd. Residents are encouraged to bring in used motor oil and oil filters for recycling. The used oil filter will be exchanged for a new one - free! (Limit one new filter per customer).

Used motor oil recycling containers, funnels, and other giveaways, will be distributed to those in attendance.

The public is invited to a free "Smart Gardening" workshop on Saturday, Oct. 24 from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., hosted by the City's Recycling Office and presented by the County of Los Angeles. The event will be held at Wilderness Park at the Smart Gardening Information Center.

Participants will receive instruction on composting grass, leaves, and yard clippings. Also covered will be Worm Composting, Grass Cycling and Water-Wise Gardening techniques. Participants will learn how to improve their yard and garden, recycle yard waste and kitchen scraps, and create water-wise landscapes.

Stay tuned for upcoming Green Task Force items.

I hope this wasn't too long but I wanted to give you all a few important informational items and to also remind us all what a great city we have.

From our staff to our council to all our residents and volunteer groups, we are so blessed here in our city. From our fine school district and schools to our Police and Fire which keep us safe, we live in Downey because it all matters.

As always, I welcome your thoughts and comments.

mgueerra@downeyca.org

OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP SCHOOL ANNUAL CARNIVAL

October 16, 17 & 18

2009

OLPH Presents:

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- Exciting Games
- Delicious Food
- Silent Auction
- Raffles
- Karaoke
- Live Entertainment



Join Us On:

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 Saturday, October 17 Noon - 10:30 p.m.
 Sunday, October 18 Noon - 8:00 p.m.

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 Only 300 Tickets will be sold! Grand Prize: CAR
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OLPH Carnival: 10441 S. Downey Avenue Downey, CA
 Visit OLPH School to purchase Ride Tickets and Car Raffle Tickets

For more information call: (562) 869-9969



Soroptimist International of Downey 1st Annual Chili Cook Off

Sunday, October 4, 2009

Elks Lodge - Downey

11233 Woodruff Ave. (behind BofA) • 1:00 to 5:00 pm

\$20 Admission • \$10 Children under 12 years

BBQ Lunch, Chili Tasting, Entertainment and Fun!

So, you say you make the best chili in these parts?

Bring it on!

\$50 Enters your best recipe!

\$20 Join the Fun

\$50 Enter your favorite chili

Taste the best chili in town, entertainment and food provided. Cash libations available!

Do you dare to compete? Contestant Rules will be provided.

Four Categories!

• Hottest • Most Unique • Best Tasting • Best Aroma

Three awards for each category

For tickets & information call Mia Vasquez at (562) 806-3217 • missaywell@verizon.net

Help Support the Display of IN GOD WE TRUST Sign at Downey City Hall For More Information Call Dan Cristea (562) 413-9842

Fox Chiropractic (562) 862-0744 Don't just reach for the pill bottle or box, call Dr. Fox.

All American HOME CENTER (562) 927-8666 Like having an expert in the family!

Downey Redevelopment Project Area Committee

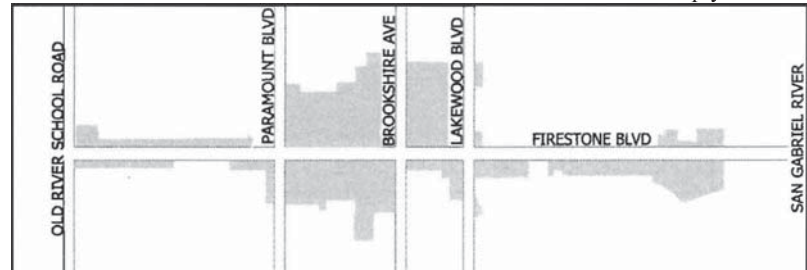
Annual Meeting & General Election - October 6, 2009

The Downey Redevelopment Project Area Committee (PAC) will hold its Annual Meeting on Tuesday, October 6, 2009, at the Downey City Hall Library, Cormack Room, 11121 Brookshire Avenue, Downey, CA at 6:30 p.m.

The PAC serves as the means through which the Community can participate with the Community Development Commission (CDC) in the planning

A representative of a business owner or a community organization must be designated as a representative of the business owner or community organization through a letter from the organization and be filed with the PAC at this meeting.

Members must be present and actively participate in PAC meetings and special meetings and deliberations. Members must comply with the



and implementation of neighborhood revitalization programs for the Downey Redevelopment Project. The original project was adopted in 1978, with major amendments in 1987 and 1991. Maps of the project areas are shown on this page.

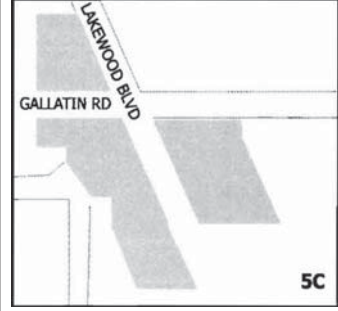
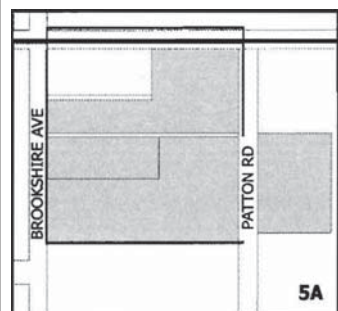
You are eligible for membership and to vote if you reside in or are a business owner including the owners of rental properties in the Downey Redevelopment Project Area and are present at this meeting. Existing community organizations within the Downey Redevelopment Project Area will be verified by the Committee.

disclosure and disqualification provisions of the Political Reform Act. PAC members will be required to complete a Form 700 on an annual basis.

Vacancies are available for the following categories:
 Business
 Resident Owner
 Resident Tenant
 Organization

To obtain more information and to determine eligibility for voting or candidacy, please contact Dr. Michael Sullivan at (562) 862-4892.

REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT AREAS 5A & 5C



5A - Approximately 14 acres of land north of Downey Regional Medical Center, south of the railroad tracks and between Brookshire Avenue and Patton Road.

5C - Approximately 15 acres of land at the intersection of Lakewood Boulevard and Gallatin Road, the three corners not including Ralph's Market Shopping Center.

Library celebrating 50 years

DOWNEY – The Downey City Library will celebrate its 50th birthday with a slew of free events tomorrow from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The library will be rededicated with a ribbon-cutting ceremony at 9:30 a.m. featuring the City Council.

The celebration will include a scavenger hunt, book giveaways, book raffles, and piñatas for children. Hector Navarro of Cakeland will lead a cake decorating demonstration for adults at 1 p.m.

“There will be something for all ages; you might even meet one of your favorite book characters at our party,” said City Librarian Nancy Messineo.

The library will also be issuing commemorative gold library cards in honor of the event.

For more information, call (562) 904-7360, ext. 132, or visit the library.

Bingo luncheon at St. Raymond’s

DOWNEY – The Italian Catholic Federation of St. Raymond’s Catholic Church will host a bingo luncheon Sunday at 1 p.m. inside the Msgr. Robert Gipson Hall, 12349 Paramount Blvd.

Cost is \$10 and includes one bingo card, a door prize and lunch. A \$25 money tree will be raffled off.

For tickets or information, call Aline Amatisto at (562) 963-9430 or Charlene Drobeck at (562) 928-1937.

Casino night to benefit hospital

DOWNEY – A casino night fundraiser to benefit Childrens Hospital Los Angeles will be held Oct. 9 at the Rio Hondo Event Center in Downey.

Tickets are \$45 per person and include casino gaming, a buffet dinner and music.

Stonewood Center has donated a \$500 shopping spree to be used as an opportunity prize at the event.

The event begins at 7 p.m. For tickets or information, call Sarah Zepatos, event chairperson, at (562) 644-5538.

Fundraiser to benefit symphony

DOWNEY – A cooking school fundraiser to benefit the Downey Symphony Guild will be held Thursday at the Firestone Grill inside Embassy Suites.

Visitors will enjoy special recipes, lunch and a silent auction.

Reservations are \$40 and are available by calling (562) 861-8507.

Town hall meeting Oct. 15

DOWNEY – A town hall meeting with Mayor Mario Guerra will be held Oct. 15 from 6:30-8 p.m. at the Barbara J. Riley Community & Senior Center.

The meeting will include time for the public to speak and share thoughts, ideas or concerns.

For more information, call (562) 904-7274 or e-mail mguer-ra@downeyca.org.

More than 1,200 line up for flu shots

■ H1N1 swine flu vaccines will be administered here Oct. 27.

BY MARK SAUTER,
DEPUTY CITY MANAGER,
EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

DOWNEY – A free seasonal flu-shot clinic was conducted last Saturday at the Downey Theater. Nearly 1,200 vaccinations were given to community members over the course of the 4-hour event.

An emergency preparedness fair was also held in the same location to deliver the emergency preparedness message to the large number of people attending the clinic.

The event went smoothly and benefited from a number of volunteers from community, educational and private groups. Both walk-in and drive-up clinics were offered to those attending.

The local hospitals (Downey Regional Medical Center and Kaiser) were very helpful in staffing the vaccination stations. The LA County Dept of Public Health provided the vaccine and the necessary equipment for the vaccinations. The L.A. County Dept of Mental Health staff assisted with the event. Nursing students from Rio Hondo and Shepherd Colleges were helpful as well.



PHOTO BY MARK SAUTER

Officials from Downey Regional Medical Center and Kaiser Permanente administered more than 1,200 flu shots last week at the Downey Theatre. A second clinic for the H1N1 vaccine will take place Oct. 27.

Many City Departments participated in the planning and operations of the event. Staff from Downey community services, fire department, theater, police, physical services and the building department all contributed to the success of the event.

Several Downey volunteer groups worked hard to ensure the success of the event. There were representatives from the

Emergency Preparedness Committee, the Downey CERT team, the Red Cross, Police Explorers, Fire Explorers and Fire Auxiliaries.

The next planned free flu-shot clinic will provide the vaccine for the H1N1 (aka swine flu) virus and will be held on Tuesday, Oct. 27 from 1 – 9 p.m. City staff are planning for the event now.

Information and delivery dates

for the H1N1 vaccine is changing frequently. Please look for future information in *The Downey Patriot* and on the city of Downey website. The following federal websites are also helpful www.flu.gov and www.cdc.gov/flu/

Questions about the Downey flu-shot clinics should be directed to ready@downeyca.org.

Woman pleads not guilty in hit-and run

DOWNEY – An arrest has been made in the hit-and-run death of a motorcyclist from Downey.

Jessica Alejandra Aba, 21, plead not guilty Wednesday to one felony count of leaving the scene of an accident and one misdemeanor count of vehicular

manslaughter, said Deputy District Attorney Susan Mills.

Aba was allegedly driving a 2006 Nissan Versa C11X hatchback when she collided with Federico Porras, 29, on Aug. 3 at Marianna Avenue and Valley Boulevard near downtown Los

Angeles.

Porras, who was riding a 2007 Honda motorcycle, was pronounced dead at a local hospital, police said.

Last week, the LAPD announced a \$50,000 reward in the case. Officers arrested Aba on

Monday after receiving a tip.

Aba is due back at the Foltz Criminal Justice Center on Oct. 15. Her bail was set at \$50,000.

If convicted, she faces a maximum of five years in state prison.

Connections Networking
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Downey, CA 90241

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Membership is subject to eligibility. All new accounts will be verified through ChexSystems and are subject to credit approval. *APR=Annual Percentage Rate. Rates quoted as of 9-10-09 and are for 60-month terms. Rates include a 25% discount for autopay, which must be from a Southland Checking or Money Market Account and 1.00% discount with a maximum loan-to-value of 80%. The monthly payment is \$18.87 per \$1,000 at 4.99% for 60 months on new vehicles. The rate and payment shown assumes that you have a FICO of 730 or above. Other rates may apply based on credit profile. Rates are subject to change without notice. **\$25 gas cards are given to qualified new Members that join Southland and open a Checking Account or apply for a Vehicle Loan. Good while supplies last. Ref: Downey-Sept09

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LOCATED AT THE CORNER OF FIRESTONE & LAKEWOOD BOULEVARDS IN DOWNEY.
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Free oil filter exchange Oct. 10

DOWNEY – The city of Downey is sponsoring a free used oil collection event Oct. 10 at Pep Boys, 10231 Lakewood Blvd.

Residents who bring in their used oil filter between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. will receive a new Fram filter free. Residents can also bring in their used motor oil and oil filters for recycling.

The event will also feature free giveaways, including used motor oil recycling containers.

Motor oil for recycling should be in clean, non-metal, non-breakable containers up to 5 gallons in size. Oil filters should be placed inside a plastic bag to prevent leaks.

For more information, call (562) 904-7103 or (562) 944-4766.

The event is funded by a grant from the California Integrated Waste Management Board.

Toastmasters hosting open house

DOWNEY – Mayo Mario Guerra has proclaimed October to be "Toastmasters' Month," in celebration of the non-profit organization's 85 years helping members feel comfortable speaking in front of groups.

Downey Toastmasters Club 587 will celebrate the proclamation at its open house even Oct. 20 where the mayor will be a guest speaker.

Toastmasters Club 587 meets every Tuesday at First Baptist Church of Downey, room 116, at 6 p.m. and is open to anyone with a desire to improve their communication and leadership skills.

Church to host Harvest Festival

DOWNEY – Downey United Methodist Church will host its annual Harvest Festival tomorrow from 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

There will be a large rummage sale and a variety of food booths and baked goods to enjoy.

The church is located at 10801 Downey Ave.

Workshop for business owners

DOWNEY – A free workshop for business owners will be offered Oct. 10 at 10 a.m. inside the offices of Tax-411, 11455 Paramount Blvd., Suite A, in Downey.

The workshop will cover proper record-keeping, tax reporting requirements, legal write-offs, payroll, workers compensation and more.

To reserve a seat, call (562) 869-4000.

Nieman wins first place

DOWNEY – Downey resident Alaina Nieman took first place in a humorous speech contest and will now compete in the division contest tomorrow at the Smart & Final corporate offices in Commerce.

Nieman is a member of Toastmasters Club 587 in Downey.

Toastmasters Club 587 meets every Tuesday at First Baptist Church of Downey, room 116, at 6 p.m. and meetings are open to the public.



COURTESY PHOTO

Downey resident Elise Cimino has been awarded a Fullbright U.S. Student scholarship to teach English in Italy. Cimino, who graduated magna cum laude from the University of San Diego, is one of more than 1,500 U.S. citizens who will travel abroad for the 2009-10 academic year through the Fullbright program. Cimino has lived in Downey since 1986 and attended OLPH School.

Free festival on Halloween

DOWNEY – The Bernabe Community Center will host its eighth annual Harvest Festival on Halloween, Oct. 31, from 5-9 p.m.

There will be jumpers, a dunk tank, live music, and free candy and games.

Food and raffle tickets will be sold, with proceeds benefiting Bernabe's after-school sports pro-

grams and tutoring programs.

The festival will take place on the campus of Redeemer Covenant Church, 10801 Fairford Ave., one block south of Florence Ave.

For more information, or to volunteer at the festival, contact Nick von Stein at (562) 863-4621 or nickjonvon@gmail.com.

Weldon returning to OASIS

DOWNEY – Jimmy Weldon, a popular television personality in the 1950's and 60's, best known with his sidekick Webster Webfoot, will present his newest program titled "Attitude: Our Greatest Asset," Monday at the OASIS class at Downey Adult School.

Weldon has appeared in numerous television shows and is still a sought-after motivational speaker at corporate and community events.

The OASIS meeting is free and enrollment begins at 2:45 p.m. The program begins at 3:45 and is followed by an optional dinner which may be purchased for \$3.50 at time of enrollment.

Downey Dial-A-Ride will provide transportation to OASIS for those who qualify.

For more information on OASIS, call (562) 940-6200.

POET'S CORNER Cruising the Mediterranean

On the sea, on the sea - oh how wonderful to be
Cruising along ever merrily
Upon clear waters in every hue
Of emerald green and cobalt blue.

We walked over bridges in Venice so pretty,
And rode a gondola on canals in the city.
In historic Athens, at the Acropolis renown,
We saw the Parthenon and ruins around.

From volcanic cliffs of Santorini
We had some awesome, spectacular scenery
And from the coast of Napoli,

We saw Mt. Vesuvius, Sorresnto, and the Isle of Capri.
Rome's antiquity held as in awe

With the Coliseum, fountains, and arches we saw,
And Pisa's Leaning Tower built in 1173

Is truly a phenomenon to personally see.

Skirting the sea magnificently,
The French Riviera so gloriously

Stretches for miles along the shore
Past Cannes, Nice, and villas galore.

Built in 1882, so we had heard

Gaudi designed a church so very absurd
In Barcelona City where Sycamore Trees

Line the streets to prettily.

After 14 days, our trip was done

After seeing many sights and having great fun,

But now my rounded, over-stuffed belly

Is beginning to shake like a bowl full of jelly

So it's time to bid rich foods adieu

And restrict my calories to just a few!

–Martha J. Morrissy,

Downey

And Lose Our Liberty

We are a sovererign power
So proud and strong are we
We dare not ever cower
And lose our liberty.

Some say: "Let's globalize"
A world-wide entity
Why can't they realize
We'll lose our liberty.

God blessed the USA
He kept us strong and free
Don't throw that all away
And lose our liberty.

Consider why we're here
We came here to be free.
To globalize, I fear
We'll lose our liberty.

Just take a look around
Our freedom isn't free
We'll have to stand our ground
Or lose our liberty.

Don't let our leaders sign
Away our sovereignty
This land is yours and mine
Don't lose our liberty
–Bill Milburn,
Downey

PRO NETWORKERS OF DOWNEY

ProNetworkers Membership Includes:

Linda Dong
Linda Dong, EA
(626) 288-8558
speaking 10-9-09

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Promote your business.
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www.pronetworkers.com

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www.allaboutdowney.com

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Saturday, October 10th
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

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10231 Lakewood Blvd.

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Funded by a grant from the California Integrated Waste Management Board.
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Dan Brown knows how to hook 'em

By Henry Veneracion

Dan Brown is nothing but a hooker. But a great one. If you've read the opening lines of the prologue ("House of the Temple") to his latest opus, "The Great Symbol" – reprinted in the Sept. 13 issue of Parade Magazine (an insert of the Sunday papers including the *Los Angeles Times*)—you know what I mean.

It begins with these tantalizing sentences, "The secret is how to die. Since the beginning of time, the secret had always been how to die."

Then he goes on with his narrative. Of course you want to read on. You want to know what the hell he's talking about. You're hooked.

Then he finishes the prologue with another 'prophet of doom' line: "Soon you will lose everything you hold most dear."

It's reported that only one day after its release, "The Great Symbol" sold more than 1 million copies in the U.S., England and Canada. Now, I'm not exactly nutty about Dan Brown, per se. I've read the "Da Vinci Code" and I thought it was OK. No, I haven't, and don't plan to, read "Angels and Demons." I think I can do without his perceptions/theories/imaginings about a number of things. But I think I want to read his latest, if only to surmise how he constructs his story.

I've got to hand it to him. He has captured the imagination of the public. He has hit a nerve in me at least. It could be he might rank eventually as a great storyteller.

For now I'll say he's a hooker. A great hooker.

As far as Jay Leno's 10 o'clock show is concerned, I say it sucks.

No tolerance for drunk driving

By the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department

Driving under the influence (DUI) is a significant problem that affects every community. DUI collisions resulting in death, injuries, and property damage are pervasive around the nation. The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD) will be vigorously enforcing DUI related laws in the 40 contract cities.

The additional law enforcement services will be provided to the cities at no additional cost. The Department sought and received a grant from the Office of Traffic Safety in the amount of \$1.25M, dedicated to DUI enforcement and education. This grant will be in effect for the upcoming Federal Fiscal Year (October 1, 2009 to September 30, 2010).

The grant will be managed by Sgt. John Burcher and Deputy Aaron Percy of LASD's Risk Management Bureau's DUI Education and Enforcement Program. Cpt. Dave Long, of the Risk Management Bureau, has made DUI enforcement a top priority.

"Make no mistake. Our message is clear and simple. If we catch you driving impaired, we will arrest you. No exceptions, no excuses," said Long. "We continue to see too many people suffer from the loss of loved ones or debilitating injuries as a result of impaired driving. This behavior is irresponsible, is a danger to the community, and it must be stopped. The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department is dedicated to arresting impaired drivers wherever and whenever we find them."

Several DUI enforcement operations and educational campaigns will be hosted through the grant. CDL/DUI checkpoints, saturation patrols (targeting DUI and traffic violations), a variety of school education programs, and training for patrol deputies are just a few examples.

This grant will begin in the start of the Federal Fiscal year, October 1st, 2009.

All of the contract cities will be beneficiaries of these operations. DUI is a wide spread problem, and it will take vigorous enforcement and education to mitigate these incidents.

The financial consequence of a DUI arrest or crash can be very significant. Violators often face jail time, the loss of their driver's license, increased insurance rates, attorney fees, time away from work, and countless other expenses.

"Driving impaired is simply not worth the risk. Don't take the chance. Remember, if my deputies find you driving impaired, then you will be arrested," said Long.

Funding for this program was provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

The Downey Patriot

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Letters to the Editor:

PAC elections Tuesday

Dear Editor:
Next Tuesday, the Downey Redevelopment Project Area Committee, or PAC, will conduct its Annual Election. This event is an opportunity for the PAC and Downey citizens to interact with the goals of explaining the PAC's role and function, gauging public sentiment and recruiting new members.

The PAC is an advisory panel to the City Council comprised of citizens that have a stake in the Project Area, a zone that incorporates most of the land along Firestone Boulevard, Downtown Downey, and the Lakewood/Gallatin intersection.

The designation as Project Area grants the City expanded powers to redevelop these regions, but the PAC has resisted redevelopment abuse for over 20 years and is the reason eminent domain has not existed here for development purposes since 1987. Members volunteer their time to protect the residents of the Project Area while advising the City Council and staff on the direction and emphases of redevelopment.

All interested citizens are invited to attend this year's Annual Election on Tuesday, Oct. 6 at 6:30 p.m. in the Cormack Room of the Downey City Library and to take part, either to voice your concerns, to learn more about redevelopment, or to apply for membership. Members are selected from four categories to represent their respective interests: Homeowners, Residential Tenants, Business Owners, and Community Organizations. Candidates and voters must be from the Project Area but need not be property owners; residential and business tenants within the Project Area are equally affected and welcome. Representatives for another party, such as a business or community organization, will need to provide a letter confirming their authorization to participate.

Please come, even if you have no intention of joining—active voters are just as important as the candidates they elect. The PAC membership still seeks your opinion as an affected party in the Project Area, and you might discover some useful information. Concerned citizens from outside the Project Area are also welcome to attend and give input, although they cannot vote in the election or serve as members on the committee unless as the confirmed representative of an eligible party.

So long as the PAC exists, we can prevent the return of eminent domain for economic development while advising the City on the fair and proper course of redevelopment planning. But to do this, we need the support and membership of the community—you.

Come to the Cormack Room of the Downey City Library at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 6 and see how you can shape our future!

If you have any questions or need additional information, please call (562) 896-2000.

—The Downey Redevelopment Project Area Committee

Bias is palpable

Dear Editor:
Responding to Helga Weiss's letter titled "Media Bias" (9/18/09): Quoting Weiss, "I quite frankly am having a hard time finding it..."

Likewise the lobster in the pot can't tell us where the hot water is and little does it know that soon he'll be served up as cannon fodder for the elite gourmands. A bias you don't see is usually one of your own you are blind to.

The leftward slant of the majority of the press is palpable, as is the right of center position Fox News has staked out.

—Scott Ramey, Downey

Restricting news racks

Dear Editor:
Congratulations to staff writer Christian Brown for an excellent and informative article ("Stricter Restrictions on Newspaper Racks," 9/25/09). This is an excellent idea whose time has come – sooner rather than later. Thanks to Mayor Guerra who directed staff to find ways to make new rack locations in the city more attractive.

These news racks in Downey are an eye sore. Many are broken, some are used, while others are empty, and many have graffiti internally that is difficult to remove without disassembling the rack.

The appearance of Downey will be greatly improved immediately by implementing the City Council-approved new standards, which will produce more uniformity among the new racks by strictly regulating the size, shape, color and location of the vending machines.

Thanks to Keep Downey Beautiful and other organizations that support and work to improve our city.

—Dr. Don Dillon, Downey

Health reform on a dime

By J.P. Wieske

While Washington once again debates reforming our health care reform system, the states have marched on. Washington-based proposals, like those currently before Congress, are too expensive and ignore the fact that most Americans don't want and are concerned about a big-government takeover of the U.S. health care system. President Ford had it right when he said, "A government big enough to give you everything you want is a government big enough to take from you everything you have."

Instead of throwing away our state-based system, we should build on it. Take the problems of access and affordability. Most states guarantee access to health insurance despite a clear lack of federal support, and some states have taken significant steps to increase the affordability of health insurance. As one regulator stated, "Affordability without access is meaningless but accessibility without affordability is equally meaningless."

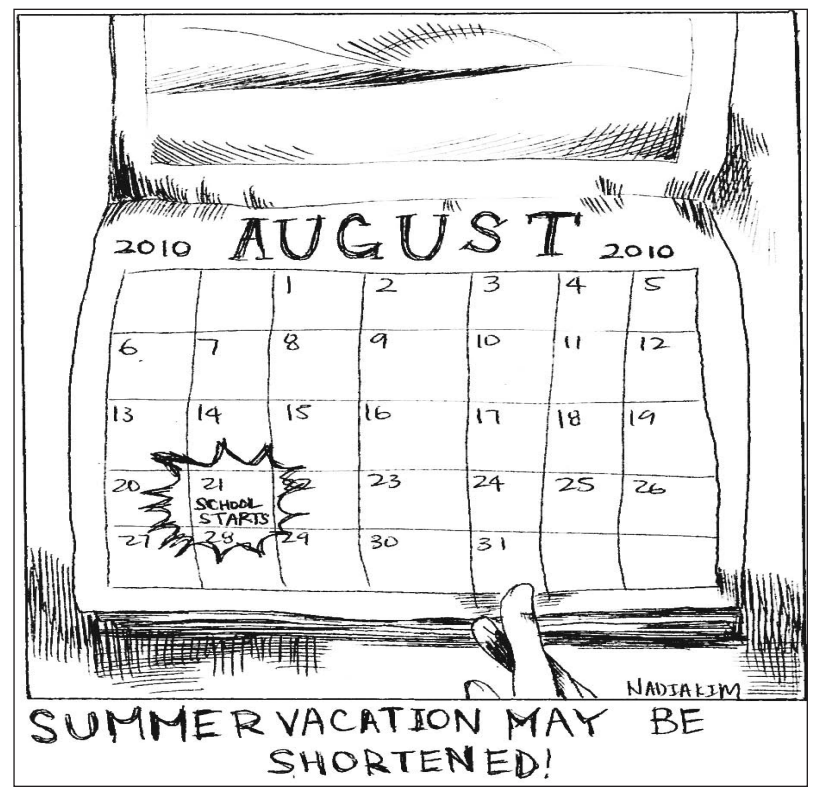
There are many reasons why people don't have coverage (e.g., they have low incomes, are in job transition, don't think they need it, etc.), and the solutions can and should be equally diverse. Instead of throwing away our current system, which relies heavily on state oversight and regulations, we should improve upon it - guaranteeing access without making health insurance unaffordable. Several limited and targeted reforms would do exactly that.

Guaranteed Access. The healthy can always buy coverage when they need it, but the sick can't. So President Obama proposes requiring health insurers selling to individuals to accept any applicant (that already happens in employer-sponsored coverage). But that's like requiring an auto insurer to accept a person after a car wreck.

A better solution for the uninsured with pre-existing conditions is what we call the "Tri-Share Guaranteed Access Plan." It is similar to the current state-based high risk pool system but with standardized federal guidelines and increased funding.

Tri-share (i.e., three funding sources: federal and state, health insurers and premiums from participants) would provide health coverage for those with a pre-existing medical condition, creating a true safety net for the uninsured. The guaranteed access plans would preserve what is good about the state-based system, protect the vulnerable and keep health insurance premiums more affordable.

Affordable Choices. Any American who has lost a job can tell you



Glass recycling

Dear Editor:
In a recent newspaper article, details are discussed regarding the economics of glass recycling and that in several cities in the U.S., glass is piling up in landfills because there isn't a market for recycled glass. Can Cal-Met respond to Downey residents and tell us what happens to the glass we recycle in our blue Downey recycle barrel?
—Ms. Jimmie Renner, Downey

Corporate pirates

Dear Editor:
It is interesting to note that in his 10 years as medical director of Downey Regional Medical Center, culminating in his written endorsement and support of this troubled Downey institution, Dr. Kim seemingly neither recognizes nor, perhaps, remembers the source of DRMC's fiscal ailment. Indeed, it was on his watch that previous CEO Allan Korneff bled the hospital of its financial resources all the while running the organization on a shoe string budget. Korneff's million dollar annual salary alone was, if not under-served, definitely fiscally unsound.

As Korneff was lining his own pockets, and those who served him, he also opened the hospital to "greater opportunities" with insurance providers outside the hospital's historic relationship with CareMore. When the other insurance providers would not take the bait, for good reason, they were not going to buy into a healthcare facility whose quality of care was becoming decreasingly less, Korneff then reconciled with CareMore, forgiving them the debts they owed DRMC. At least CareMore could now staff the hospital with real medical doctors with degrees in medicine, unlike the cadre of osteopaths, homeopaths, chiropractors and chiropractors Korneff wooed into the staff ranks in the name of "New age" and "alternative medicine."

If the people of Downey want to know why their regional hospital is in bankruptcy, they should look at its long history of mismanagement by greedy corporate pirates.
—Michael J. Parmer, Downey

Personal responsibility

Dear Editor:
Recently, in the city of South Gate, a terrible accident occurred when a family crossing Tweedy Boulevard was mowed down by a drunk hit and run driver. I know that there was death and injuries but I did not keep up with the story.

However, I did notice the reaction of the city people. Rather than condemning the driver, there were demands that the city install new traffic lights and crosswalks.

First of all, the family was in a crosswalk when they were hit so that criticism is moot, and how many times do we see drivers run traffic lights? Apparently in other countries, the yellow caution light means speed up instead of slow down.

So instead of pointing blame at others, let us take personal responsibility for our own actions, condemn those friends and family who make bad behavioral choices and stop this slide in the direction of non-responsibility.

—Ed Romero, Downey

employer health insurance is expensive. The stimulus bill provided a temporary subsidy for coverage, but only to continue the employer's expensive coverage. The unemployed should have access to Affordable Benefit Choices (ABC Plans), which allow them to choose not only from the plans offered by their employer, but a less-expensive "basic" health insurance plan that's sold in any state.

Equalize Tax Treatment. Most of the uninsured work for employers but don't have access to employer-provided coverage. It is fundamentally unfair that these employees who decide to purchase health insurance on their own do not get the same tax break as those who have employer-provided coverage. Congress can fix this disparity by providing them with a "refundable" tax credit (in essence, a voucher) to help offset the cost of coverage.

Increasing Competition. If President Obama is really concerned with competition - especially in states like Maine, Massachusetts and New York, which have ruined their market with onerous regulations - he would allow individuals living in one state to buy health insurance that's approved and being sold in other states.

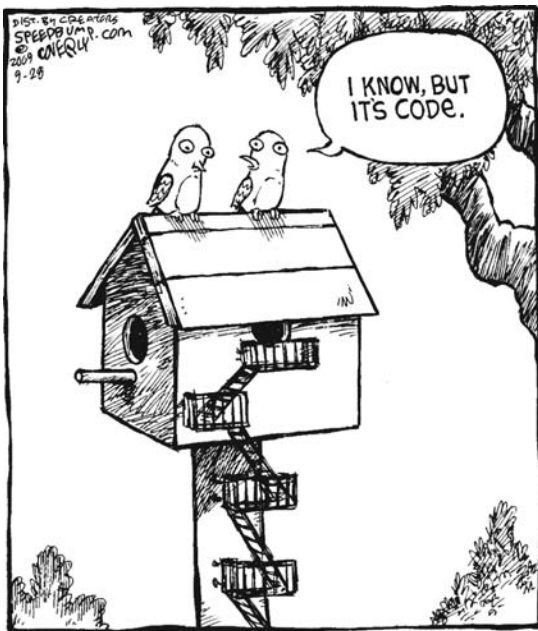
Safety Net for the Poor. The most important issue for the poor is not access to health insurance but access to needed medical care. Some people will not get health insurance or are too transient to have a medical home. Federally qualified health clinics provide medical care in locations that are easy for the poor to access. In 2007, this safety net program was funded at a \$1.99 billion dollars - not nearly enough to provide a true safety net.

Malpractice Reform. One area where the states are leading is malpractice. California, Texas and recently Oklahoma have passed significant tort reform legislation. The downward pressure on malpractice premiums in Texas, for example, and the reduction in needless lawsuits prove the value of reform. States may continue to lead on tort reform, especially if the federal government refuses to take any significant steps.

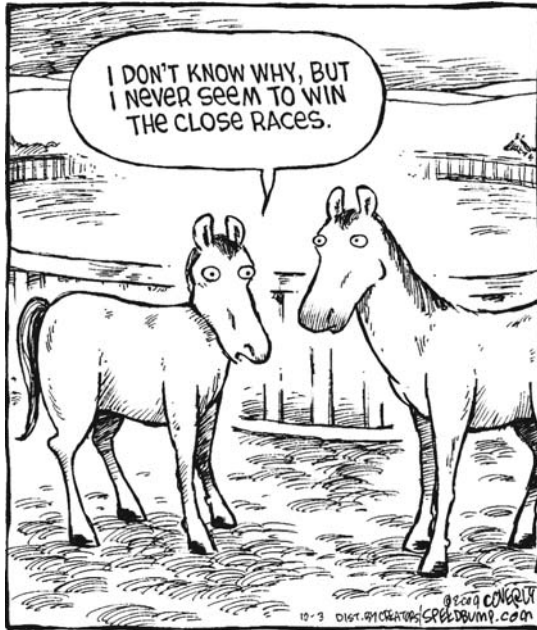
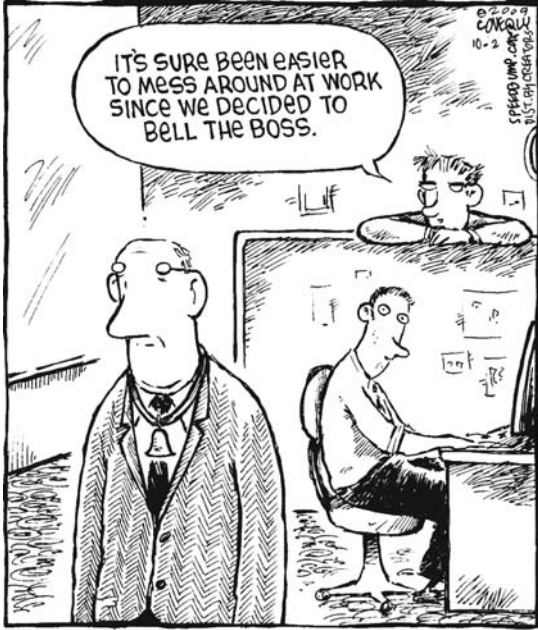
We need to free ourselves from the idea that we need to achieve universal coverage through a federal mandate. Building on our current system allows us to refocus on solving the targeted problems we can fix while maintaining long-term financial sustainability - and get close to universal coverage in the process.

J.P. Wieske is director of state affairs for the Council for Affordable Health Insurance.

SPEED BUMP



DAVE COVERLY



On This Day...

- Oct. 2, 1919:** President Woodrow Wilson suffers a stroke that leaves him partially paralyzed.
- 1950:** 'Peanuts,' the comic strip by Charles Schulz, is first published.
- 1967:** Thurgood Marshall becomes the first African-American to serve on the U.S. Supreme Court.
- 1970:** A plane carrying the Wichita State University football team, administrators, and supporters crashes in Colorado killing 31 people.
- 1998:** Gene Autry, Hollywood performer and owner of the California Angels, dies of lymphoma. He was 91.
- 2002:** The first victim is shot and killed in a series of sniper attacks in the Washington, D.C. area.
- Birthdays:** Former Dodgers shortstop Maury Wills (77), singer Don MacLean (64), photographer Annie Leibovitz (60), singer Sting (58), talk show host Kelly Ripa (39) and singer Tiffany (38).

Downey Community Calendar

Events For October

- Sat. Oct. 3: **Harvest Festival**, Downey United Methodist Church, 7:30 a.m.
- Sat. Oct. 3: **50-year celebration**, Downey City Library, 10 a.m.
- Sat. Oct. 3: **E-waste collection**, First Presbyterian Church of Downey, 10 a.m.
- Sun. Oct. 4: **Bingo luncheon**, St. Raymond's Catholic Church, 1 p.m.
- Sun. Oct. 4: **Chili cook-off**, Elk's Lodge, 1 p.m.
- Sun. Oct. 4: **Sputnik discussion**, Downey City Library, 2 p.m.
- Mon. Oct. 5: **Jimmy Weldon performs**, Downey Adult School, 3:45 p.m.

City Meetings

- 1st Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m.: **Redevelopment Project Area Committee**, Cormack Meeting Room at Downey Library.
- 1st & 3rd Wednesday, 6:30 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 Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.: **Library Advisory Board**, at Downey City Library.
- 3rd Wednesday, 7:00 p.m.: **Water Board**, at City Hall.
- 4th Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.: **Emergency Preparedness Committee**, at Fire Station No. 1.

Regularly Scheduled Meetings

Mondays

- 7:30 p.m.: **Job/Career Coaching**, at The First Presbyterian Church, for info. call 861-6752.
- 2nd Mon., 11 a.m.: **American Legion Auxiliary #270**, at United Methodist Church, for info. call 923-2481.
- 2nd Mon., 3 p.m.: **Keep Downey Beautiful**, at City Hall, for more information call 904-7159.
- 4th Mon., 7:30 p.m.: **Downey Numismatists**, at Downey Retirement Center, call 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.
- 12 p.m.: **Rotary Club**, at Rio Hondo, for information call Brian Saylor at 927-2000.
- 6:00 p.m.: **Toastmasters Club 587**, at First Baptist Church, for info call John McAllister 869-0928.
- 7 p.m.: **Boy Scout Troop 2**, at Downey United Methodist Church, for information call 869-6478.
- 2nd and 4th Tues., 6 p.m.: **Sertoma Club**, at Cafe 'N Stuff, for information call (562) 927-6438.
- 2nd Tues., 6 p.m.: **Downey Fly Fishers**, at Apollo Park, for information call 425-7936.
- 3rd Tues., 6:30 p.m.: **Community Emergency Response Team meeting**, Fire station 1, 12222 Paramount.
- 3rd Tues., 7:30 p.m.: **Writer's Workshop West**, at at Downey High School library, for info call 862-3106.

Wednesdays

- 7 a.m.: **Kiwanis Club**, at Rio Hondo Events Center. Call Steve Roberson at 927-2626.
- 1 p.m.: **Women's Bocce Club**, at Apollo Park.
- 7 p.m.: **Out Post 132 Royal Rangers**, at Desert Reign Church, for info call 928-8000.
- 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.
- 2nd Weds., 7 p.m.: **Downey Sister City Assoc.**, at Maude Price School, for information call 884-9657.
- 2nd Weds., 7:30 p.m.: **Downey Model A Club**, at Gallatin School Cafeteria, for information call 928-4132.
- 2nd & 4th Weds., 11:30 a.m.: **Downey AARP**, at Barbara J. Riley Senior Center, for info. 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 Barbara J Riley Center, call 943-5513.
- Wed. & Fri., 10:15 a.m.: **Senior Bingo**, at Apollo Park, for information call 904-7223.

Thursdays

- 7:30 a.m.: **Connections Networking**, at Cafe N Stuff, for information, call Sandy Esslinger, (310) 491-8989.
- 7:30 a.m.: **Soroptimist Int'l of Downey**, for information, call Pat Heineke, 904-3534.
- 12 p.m.: **Kiwanis Club of Downey**, at Rio Hondo Events Center, call Roy Jimenez 923-0971.
- 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.
- 2nd Thurs., 7:30 p.m.: **Beaming Rebel Foxes Collectors Club**, for more information call Carl D. Jones at 923-2400.
- 4th Thurs., 10 a.m.: **Assistance League**, at Casa De Parley Johnson. for information call 869-0232.
- 4th Thurs., 7:30 p.m.: **Downey Historical Society programs**, at Community Center. Call 862-2777.

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

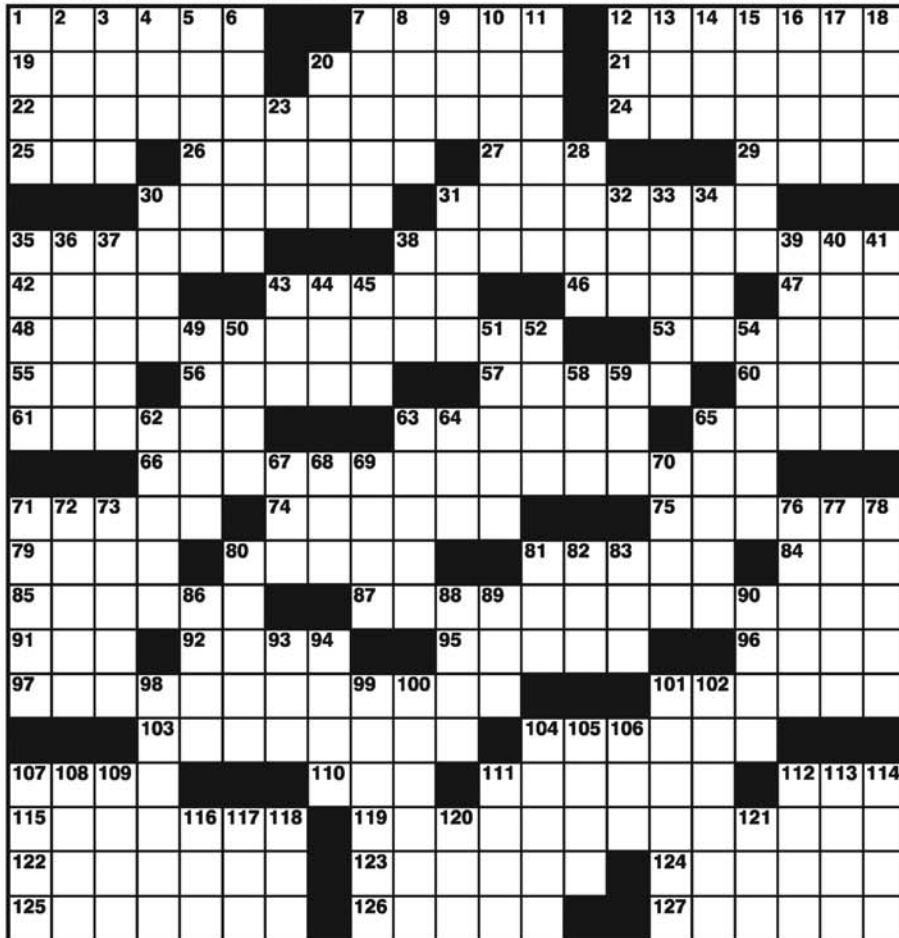
- 9 a.m.: **Farmers Market**, Second Street at New Avenue, for information call (562) 904-7246.
- 2nd Sat., 12:30 p.m.: **AAUW**, Los Amigos Country Club.

THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com)
ALIEN ABDUCTION: Seven have disappeared
 by David W. Cromer

- ACROSS**
- 1 Changes chemically
 - 7 Gaucho's lasso
 - 12 Took out
 - 19 Tainted
 - 20 Spot for Spot
 - 21 Come before
 - 22 Blacksmith's talent?
 - 24 Shade of red
 - 25 Something that may swell
 - 26 Sitcom test-runs
 - 27 Salt Lake City-based grp.
 - 29 Burn the surface of
 - 30 Falls in icy pellets
 - 31 Judge anew
 - 35 Canadian writer Robertson
 - 38 Cover a ship's door?
 - 42 Iowa college town
 - 43 Rechargeable cell, for short
 - 46 Fileted fish
 - 47 ___ Baba
 - 48 Water-park attraction?
 - 53 Scored 3 on a par 5
 - 55 One for Juan
 - 56 Gaucho, at times
 - 57 Harder to find
 - 60 Put on the payroll
 - 61 Author John Dos ___
 - 63 Reached the heights
 - 65 Overcharges
 - 66 Rain money?
 - 71 Squirrel food
 - 74 Shade of red
 - 75 Like liters
 - 79 Metallic fabric
 - 80 Rebel Without a Cause actor
 - 81 Smirnoff rival
 - 84 That: Sp.
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 - 2 Online zine
 - 3 Lhasa ___
 - 4 Director's cry
 - 5 Extra-large drink
 - 6 Episodic TV
 - 7 Sits a spell
 - 8 Signs, as a contract
 - 9 Wheel of Fortune buy
 - 10 Deposit taker
 - 11 From dawn to dusk
 - 12 Tach letters
 - 13 Notable span
 - 14 Tom's Sleepless in Seattle costar
 - 15 Black Sea city
 - 16 Barn topper
 - 17 Singer ___ James
- 18 Letter opener**
- 20 Tree-trunk feature**
- 23 Grand ___ Opry**
- 28 Former transatlantic fliers**
- 30 Spanish ayes**
- 31 Designer Gerneich**
- 32 HBO rival**
- 33 Conger catcher**
- 34 Former New York stadium**
- 35 Stop the flow of**
- 36 Whirlpool alternative**
- 37 "What happens in ___"**
- 38 81 Across server**
- 39 Actress Shire**
- 40 Office filer**
- 41 Puts out of sight**
- 43 Doze**
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- 45 EMT's skill**
- 49 Sing like Bing**
- 50 Ending for micro**
- 51 Draw off**
- 52 Pull down**
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- 58 Civil War soldier**
- 59 www.yale. ___**
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- 68 Da Vinci Code author**
- 69 Lode rocks**
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- 77 Dot in the sea**
- 78 Popular drinks**
- 80 The voice of Shrek**
- 81 Wine specification**
- 82 Sound of disdain**
- 83 Gives the go-ahead**
- 86 "___ girl!"**
- 88 Landers et al.**
- 89 Frat-party delivery**
- 90 Sinewy**
- 93 ___ tai (cocktail)**
- 94 Air-freshener scent**
- 98 Accounts book**
- 99 Check amount, maybe**
- 100 Tristan's love**
- 101 Soaks in the tub**
- 102 Yet to be posted**
- 104 Gently dabs**
- 105 Lummoxes**
- 106 The Closer channel**
- 107 ___bitsy**
- 108 Fancy spread**
- 109 Draft classification**
- 111 Agitated state**
- 112 Quick trip**
- 113 Bushel fraction**
- 114 Lacking color**
- 116 Before, in verse**
- 117 Football great Dawson**
- 118 Not quite right**
- 120 Doc bloc**
- 121 Entourage agent Gold**

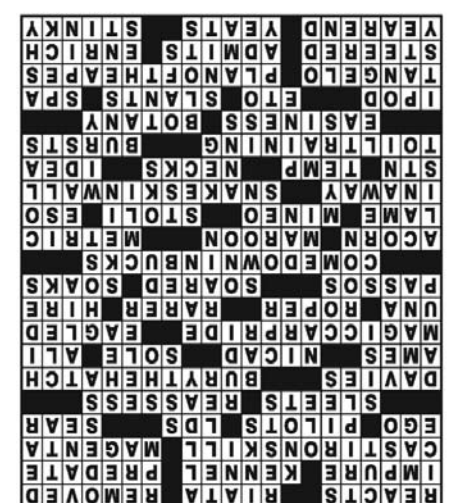
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You can contact puzzle editor Stanley Newman at his e-mail address: StanXwords@aol.com. Or write him at P.O. Box 69, Massapequa Park, NY 11762, Please send a self-addressed, stamped envelope if you'd like a reply.

The color-word MAROON (74 Across) is derived from "maron," the French word for "chestnut." Dante's 14,000-line "Divine Comedy" (72 Down) consists of 99 CANTOS. Specifically, a PECK (113 Down) is a dry measure of eight quarts, or one-fourth of a bushel.





Mayoral visit adds credibility to club

By Jennifer Cho

DOWNEY – Mayor Mario Guerra was a guest speaker and awarded letters of congratulations at the Business Education for Learning Ladies of America Club's first meeting of the year at Downey High on Wednesday.

Now in its second year, BELLA is an all-girls after-school club where members learn about the business industry and how to succeed in an increasingly competitive business world. Members are chosen through an interview process, which took place this week. Guerra spoke to the girls on Wednesday to give letters of congratulations and certificates welcoming new members to the club.

"I commend the young ladies who are taking part in it and exploring possible future careers in business," he said.

BELLA advisor and business teacher Jeannette Hernandez says she invited Guerra to Wednesday's meeting, and Guerra accepted the invitation to be the club's first guest speaker of the year.

"I'm excited," Hernandez said. "He's someone who is known in

the city, and to have him as a guest speaker at our meeting makes a big statement."

BELLA president and Downey senior Yaheli Aguilera said Guerra's attendance is "great" and hopes the visit will establish the club's credibility as a group.

"It establishes credibility and shows we're serious," she said. "The city recognizes what we're doing."

With the same goal in mind, Hernandez said she hopes that Guerra's visit will open up opportunities for additional outside support from the local business community.

"This is the first year we really established ourselves as a club," she said. "We want to brand and establish ourselves, and by the girls hearing a special guest, it shows them how hard-working we are."

Guerra commended the club for its promoting business as a future career to high school students.

"It's a great club," he said.

For more information on BELLA, visit www.belladhs.webs.com.

Club Rush offers opportunities

By Gabriela Coya

DOWNEY – New and old clubs on the Downey High School campus get the opportunity at the beginning of every year during Club Rush week to promote their clubs to potential members.

During both lunches on last Wednesday and Thursday, many clubs set up tables in the quad informing about their club and trying to attract people.

"We invite our clubs that already exist to set up tables on the quad and advertise their club," said Associated Student Body activities director Gordon Weisenburger. "They're allowed to bring trophies, pictures, and projects they've worked on to advertise in the hopes that other kids might be interested in joining the club and ask information about it."

Club Rush week results in much success in recruiting new members for a large diversity of clubs.

"Clubs get a lot of sign-ups," said Downey senior and ASB Commissioner of Clubs and Organizations Roshan Patel. "We

have a lot of great clubs on campus."

According to Weisenburger, 33 clubs currently exist on campus. He advises students interested in starting a club how to go about and start.

"First, there has to be an interest on campus," said Weisenburger. "Then they have to get a club advisor, which is an adult on campus, preferably a teacher that has a room where the kids can have their meetings. The advisor is also responsible for the overall functioning of the club for any financial arrangements that they want to make. Then, once they get an advisor, they have to fill out a club constitution stating the purpose of their club and what their club is about and then a club charter that lists the club president and the rest of the board, and how they are chosen."

All clubs on campus can advertise their club throughout the school year in a variety of ways, such as writing announcements for the public address system in the morning, the weekly bulletin, and hanging flyers all around campus.



PHOTO BY REGINA DONAHUE

During a recent assembly, Warren High School cheerleaders urged students at Gallatin Elementary to read at least 20 minutes every day.

Warren cheerleaders urge kids to read

By Joanna Quintana

DOWNEY – Inspired and motivated by Warren cheerleaders to meet a goal of 90,000 days of reading for the Read At Home (RAH) program, Gallatin Elementary students ended their "Celebrate Reading Week" with a grand finale.

An additional 5,000 days of reading from last year's goal of 85,000 days led to an increase in the effort made to motivate the students attending Gallatin. This includes the invitation of admired figures so as to help rouse excitement for this year's program.

"Younger students always look up to older students as role models so we thought we'd have them come out and encourage the kids,"

said Gallatin principal Rani Bertsch. "So today, when we had an assembly, we had the cheerleaders start with a cheer. The kids were really pumped up and motivated."

Warren cheerleaders were invited to cheer and provide a speech so as to encourage students to read at home daily, with 20 minutes counting as a day.

The events held during Celebrate Reading Week, which also consisted of other activities related to literature such as a Books & Burgers night and a week-long book fair, ended with a connection between high school and elementary students.

"This year we're really going to (partner) up with the cheerleaders'

environment and, at Gallatin, we just feel that reading at home is important to follow up with reading at school and with kids going to the libraries," said Gallatin resource specialist Regina Donahue. "We want to emphasize going to the library."

It would seem that this event was a win-win situation for both the cheerleaders and students of Gallatin. Students of Gallatin repeatedly asked their teachers whether the Warren cheerleaders would revisit while the cheerleaders, not knowing to what extent their performance had affected the elementary kids, in turn asked whether they could be allowed back so as to ensure that the kids are meeting their milestone and

reading almost every day. It appears that not only the students of Gallatin reaped some benefits from this event.

"A big thank you to Gallatin Elementary school for asking us to help out with their great program," said Michelle Page, Warren cheerleader who made a motivational speech at the assembly. "Without them, we wouldn't have learned how much they look up to us, and we wouldn't have had that opportunity to stand there and be like 'yeah, reading is great! Take pride in learning!', taking the stereotype of a cheerleader and inspiring kids to go out and read a book now and then, and to read books every day."

Normaneers club to make changes

By Joseph Apodaca

DOWNEY – The Downey High School Normaneers, an all-girl community service club, are looking to start fresh and reach out further than ever before by committing to several different charities and projects this year.

The cabinet members of Normaneers plan to completely reinvent the already established campus group, expanding their name into social networks such as Twitter and settling into a classroom specifically for their club.

"We want to start a revolution," said club president Andrea Ortiz. "We're going to do what we can to make it one of the most popular clubs again."

Only about a month into the new school year, the girls have wasted no time in getting things up and ready for their club. They spent an entire Saturday morning cleaning their new classroom, where they plan to meet weekly to plan and discuss their various projects.

"The point of the club is to volunteer," said historian Elena Ortiz. "We want to leave a legacy and hope people recognize the changes we're making this year."

In addition to supporting the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, CHOC Walk, and going green initiatives, the girls are

looking and planning to help as many organizations as possible. They plan on adopting a child from Ethiopia, where just a dollar a month from the potential 35-member large club could support a child in need. Visiting senior citizen homes and conducting food drives are also just a few things they plan to accomplish over the course of the year.

"There are so many organizations we would like to help, we can't even help all of them," said at-large representative Allison Solano.

In order to support the various

charities they plan to be involved with, the cabinet members look for ambitious girls who are willing to dedicate their time to volunteer after school and on weekends. An application and interview process are conducted in order to join Normaneers, to show potential members that what they do is taken very seriously.

"We're looking for girls that really are passionate about helping the various organizations," said secretary and treasurer Sarah Ortiz. "We don't want people to just join for a college application; they need to have the drive."

Donations and sponsorships are a major entity of the club. Local restaurants such as Tacos Don Chente and several other local businesses have all stepped up in the past to sponsor the girls' initiatives, and the club is hoping to double their sponsorships this year. The more funds they are able to raise, the more charities they are able to support.

With their tenacity and ambition as a club, the Normaneers girls are poised for success and are well on their way to achieving their dreams for the year.

DVD RELEASES FOR OCTOBER 2

- Year One
- Imagine That
- The Children
- It's Alive
- My Life in Ruins
- Offspring
- Seventh Moon
- Staunton Hill
- Trick 'r Treat
- Bones: Season 4
- Medium: Season 5

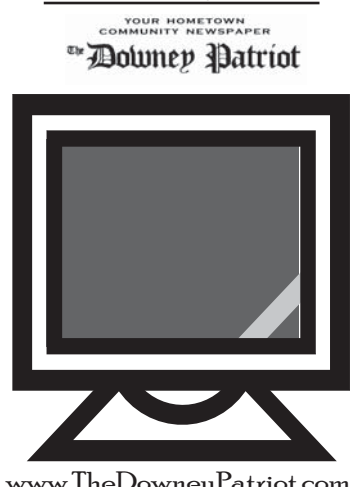


Source: www.comingsoon.net

2009-2010 Interns for The Downey Patriot

- Jennifer Cho
- Gabriela Coya
- Joanna Quintana
- Deborah Won
- Joseph Apodaca - Sports
- Jared Head - Sports
- Alyssa Wynne - Sports
- Paul Heidecker - Photographer
- Carlos Ontiveros - Photographer

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Is rainbow trout a steelhead?

Question: I have been trying to decipher the wild steelhead regulations and the definition of anadromous waters. Based on what I've read, I believe a rainbow trout is considered to be a wild steelhead if it meets the following criteria: 1) is 16 inches in length or greater, 2) has an intact adipose fin, and 3) resides in anadromous waters (waters that somehow connect to the ocean). Is this accurate? Are there wild steelhead trout in non-anadromous waters?

Also, if I'm fishing in a body of water known to have wild trout, do I need to have a Steelhead Report Card in case I catch a rainbow that fits the steelhead description listed above? (Larry G.)

Answer: Steelhead are rainbow trout that migrated out of fresh water as juveniles and spent some portion of their life in the ocean before returning to fresh water to spawn.

According to Steelhead Program Coordinator Terry Jackson, adult California steelhead are usually at least 16 inches in length. It is not possible to be sure, however, if a large rainbow trout (16 inches or larger) in anadromous waters has been to the ocean without examining a scale (fish scales can be read like tree rings) or an otolith (a bone in its head, which unfortunately requires sacrificing the fish), so this regulation reflects probabilities based on years of data.

Your basic wild steelhead definition is correct, and in most cases any wild steelhead caught must be immediately released. One exception is the Smith River, where some harvest is legal (current limits are one wild steelhead per day and five annually). In addition, harvest of hatchery steelhead (adipose fin-clipped) is allowed in many streams in the state, so check your freshwater fishing regulations for specific waters (CCR Title 14, Section 7.50).

As to whether wild steelhead live in non-anadromous waters, for the purposes of the regulations and the Steelhead Report Card, the answer is no. Technically, some rainbow trout that originate in non-anadromous waters (such as above a dam without a ladder or falls) will occasionally escape and migrate downstream to the ocean. But when they return as adult steelhead, they remain in the anadromous portion of the stream.

Because the rainbow trout/steelhead matrix of potential life history from generation to generation is so complex, DFG designed Steelhead Report Cards to better understand and track steelhead.

Question: I know that it is not legal to spotlight hunt, but what if I'm just out looking around in the dark with my vehicles headlights on and I happen to have a rifle, shotgun or bow with me? Can I get in trouble for just looking around if I'm not even hunting?

Answer: Yes! It doesn't matter if you say you are not hunting; you can still be cited if the following are true:

1) You are throwing or casting the rays of any spotlight, headlight or other artificial light on any highway or in any field, woodland or forest where game mammals, fur-bearing mammals or nongame mammals are commonly found; and

2) You have in your possession or under your control any firearm or weapon with which those mammals can be killed, even if no mammals are killed, injured, shot at, or otherwise pursued (FGC Section 2005).

If you want to view wildlife at night with lights, leave your guns and bows at home and be aware that if you are observed shining a light, you will be stopped by law enforcement and questioned about your activity. You should realize too that this stop may be done at gunpoint and your vehicle will be searched for weapons, as spotlighting is considered a high-risk crime.

Carrie Wilson is a marine biologist with the California Department of Fish and Game. She cannot personally answer everyone's questions but will select a few to answer in this column each week. Contact her at CalOutdoors@dfg.ca.gov.



PHOTO BY CARLOS ONTIVEROS

Downey needed only four sets to defeat La Serna on Tuesday.

Vikings make quick work of La Serna

■ Downey picks up its fifth win of the season after defeated Lancers.

BY SCOTT COBOS,
STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY – A small blip on the radar was all that the second set turned out to be as the Downey Vikings girls' volleyball team cruised to a 4-set win over visiting La Serna 25-13, 23-25, 25-15, 25-10, on Tuesday.

In the first set that really carried

the tone for the rest of the game, Downey cruised with three kills, a dig, and an ace from Makayla Talor. She was also accompanied by Staci Rodriguez, whose power was difficult for La Serna to handle. Rodriguez led the team in the kills for the match.

La Serna struggled all match long but was able to scratch in the second set where Downey seemed to lose focus.

"I think they got a little complacent," said fill-in head coach Mark Rand. "With this team, what I look for is ball control. When

they're passing well they can attack. They didn't do that in the second set."

Rand was in control of the team while current head coach Andrea Sims had to attend to personal matters and was not able to be at the match.

While down all second set, the Vikings were able to rally back and come within one point of tying up La Serna. Unfortunately they rallied to 24-23 before giving back the one point that ended the set.

That would be the last time La Serna had any chance of winning

the match with the Vikings completely over powering them in the third and fourth set. In the third set, they regained their true form behind Rodriguez and Heather Schnars who led them to a dominating 10-point win.

It was all but routine in the fourth set, putting away La Serna for good being up 21-6 at one point in the set.

Rand said after the game that after watching the first set, he expected the girls to perform and lock up their fifth victory of the season.

Warren may test air attack versus La Serna

■ With defenses expected to clamp down on Callier, Warren looks to throw.

BY SCOTT COBOS,
STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY – While neither team met last year, there's no reason why Warren should not improve to 4-0 on the early season against La Serna tonight.

Warren, coming off a bye-week, continues to shine after a San Gabriel Valley League championship last year, and it's no surprise that they're being lead on the ground by their all-CIF running back Jesse Callier.

The projected 3,000-yard man Callier is currently right on track to reach his ambitious goal and is averaging 279 yards per game. That yard total is tops in the SGVL and is actually more yards per game than some schools all together.

Look for Callier to run all over La Serna as he accounts for more than 80 percent of Warren's total offensive yards.

So far so good for Warren's young inexperienced offensive line. It's not by some magical occurrence that Callier is able to run circles around the teams they've been playing.

Callier is able to find the gaps

he needs with the line making that initial push at the snap. Not only are they making Callier look like the next Randy Meadows, they're also giving quarterback Sam Bettencourt plenty of time to drop back in the pocket and make the throws necessary to keep defenses off balance.

Head coach Chris Benadom though has gone on the record and said that eventually Warren is going to have to pass the ball more. It wouldn't be a surprise if teams started stacking eight men in the box to stop the rushing attack by Warren, he said.

If there's a team to start experimenting with the pass it definitely is La Serna as La Mirada proved last week. La Mirada quarterback lit up La Serna for 295 yards on 12 for 14 passing and three touchdowns.

Downey in their first game against La Serna was also successful with quarterback Steven Cervantes completing 16 of 24 pass attempts for 179 yards and two touchdowns. It would be good for Warren to get Bettencourt going in the air as he hasn't had much of a chance to do any passing.

If all else fails, there's always the boring but effective handoff to Callier in the backfield.

Another thing that should lead to a victory for Warren is their defense. Compared to the teams



PHOTO BY PAUL HEIDECCKER

Warren head coach Chris Benadom said his team will eventually need to begin throwing the ball. They may start tonight versus La Serna.

that La Serna has played, they've had a taste of what Warren's defense can do.

Downey's defense has proven that they can hang with the big boys and did so last year by giving Warren their only league loss. There were a lot of returning defensive starters for the Vikings and they were able to hold La Serna to 13 points only.

In fact, La Serna has scored more than 17 points only once and that was against La Mirada in where the game was so out of hand already that they were more than likely concession touchdowns.

Warren's defense has been playing much better and with more

energy compared to last year. Always known as a team that loves to hit, Warren's starting defense hasn't allowed more than 14 points in a game.

When looking at the scores though, they have given up 21 points in a game, but that's because Callier has already scored at least four times and the game is out of hand and the junior varsity team is inserted.

Look for the Bears to improve to 4-0 at home and get ready for next week's game at Vista Murrieta. Tonight's game time is 7 p.m. at Justice Stadium.

Downey opens league with win

■ Both varsity and junior varsity teams victorious against Gahr.

BY ALYSSA WYNNE,
SPORTS INTERN

DOWNEY – Last Friday, in their first San Gabriel Valley League match, Downey girls' tennis defeated the Gahr Gladiators at home 15-3.

The girls did very well in this opening match. Not only was varsity victorious but the junior varsity team was as well, 17-1.

No. 1 singles player Sandra Lee swept up her competition as did her teammate, No. 2 singles player Christina Arsenescu. No. 3 teammate, Irene Saavedra was successful as well winning one of her sets by three games and losing the other two by a slim margin.

No. 1 doubles partners Katie Medina and Janette Rico continue to dominate in their place by winning each set and making it tough on Gahr to get any upper hand by scoring any points during their games. No. 2 doubles partners Claudia Guzman and Rosanna Calderon were just as successful until one of their sets in which they lost 2-6.

No. 3 partners Christine Tran and Caroline Tran were adding a surplus of effort into their game; particularly when they won their tiebreaker.

Substitutes Jennifer Cho and Jennifer Kheang replaced the ladies allowing another tiebreaker and victory.

Downey loses a close one

BY ALYSSA WYNNE,
SPORTS INTERN

DOWNEY – Vikings tennis has had a fairly even season thus far, and adding to this equilibrium was their loss in points against St Joseph's High School on Monday, 77-80.

The ladies were tied in sets, each team having an overall set total of nine. But when the actual points acquired from the specific games were tallied, St. Joseph's were the ladies to celebrate.

St Joseph's was not the team laughing when the game started off. Downey was putting all of its effort into the match. Head coach Denise Diego said she was very proud of the determination and skill that the girl's displayed throughout their sets.

No. 1 singles player Sandra Lee won two of her sets out of three as did her teammate, No.2 singles player Christina Arsenescu. Arsenescu was also involved in a nail-biting tiebreaker; she was able to win that round and acquire more points for her team.

No. 3 singles player Irene Saavedra never lost her fortitude and battled on despite losing all of her sets. Unsurprisingly, No. 1 doubles partners Katie Medina and Janette Rico received the most individual points—16 out of the possible 18.

Following right behind them were No. 3 doubles partners Christine Tran and Caroline Tran with a 12 out of 18 score. No. 2 doubles Claudia Guzman and partner Rosanna Calderon won two of their three sets.

Substitutes Jennifer Kheang and Jennifer Cho were not used in this match.

Golf coaches differ on goals

By JARED HEAD,
SPORTS INTERN

DOWNEY – A cross-town rivalry showdown opened up San Gabriel Valley League competition for the Warren and Downey girls' golf teams yesterday.

Played at Rio Hondo Country Club, both teams are looking to reach for the top, some albeit with a much harder climb.

"We would hope to win half of our matches," said Downey's head coach Drew Heidecker, serving as a temporary coach.

But in a recent talk with missing Downey head coach Al Holley back at the reigns, this idea was dashed.

"Our prediction for league is third place or higher," he said. "If the girls play up to what is expected, we could finish first or second. We're led by Ashley Reyes and Nicole Kim. Both of these girls should play an important role on this year's team."

Over at Warren, head coach Rob English is talking SGVL title with CIF dreams.

"Obviously we want to win league," said English. "Our only two losses were against Gahr. But our top two players from last season have returned and we're aiming for both to reach CIF while developing our new players."

Those two returning players would be Savannah Vilanbi and Darlene Yao. Vilanbi is ranked No. 1 overall in the SGVL with Yao ranked No. 2.

With a formidable line-up like Warren's and a glimmer of hope at Downey, these two competitive teams will be battling it out on the links for both cross-town bragging rights and SGVL supremacy.

Meet draws mixed reaction

By ALYSSA WYNNE,
SPORTS INTERN

DOWNEY – On Tuesday, the Downey High School cross country team met at their first San Gabriel Valley League cluster of the year, and took home third place for girls and fourth place for boys.

The competitors attending were the Paramount Pirates, Warren Bears, Gahr Gladiators, Lakewood Knights and Dominguez Dons.

Three-year varsity runner Carmen Escalante did very well in her race.

"Based on the first cluster meet our girls cross country team has a good chance at making a statement," said Escalante. "Because they're a young group running with the big girl, they have potential and dedication to run cross country."

The coaches, however, did not necessarily agree with Escalante. Runners said they were told by coaches that they were disappointed in the outcome in the race and were definitely expecting more from their runners.

Hopefully, these coaches will not be disappointed at the next race on Oct. 7.

WEEK 3 FOOTBALL RANKINGS

Western Division Football

1. Alemany (3-1)
2. St. Francis (3-0)
3. Culver City (3-0)
4. Mira Costa (2-2)
5. Warren (3-0)
6. Inglewood (3-0)
7. Palmdale (2-2)
8. Leuzinger (2-1)
9. West Torrance (3-0)
10. Chaminade (3-0)

CIF rankings are compiled based on votes by coaches and media.



PHOTO BY CARLOS ONTIVEROS

Fullback Joseph Ortiz (32) led Downey with 71 rushing yards, but it wasn't enough to overcome the Vikings' multiple turnovers.

Turnovers prove costly for Downey

■ Downey started the game by scoring a safety, but it was downhill from there.

By JOSEPH APODACA,
SPORTS INTERN

DOWNEY – How quickly fortunes can change as Downey football found out last Friday, losing 45-15 at home against the La Habra Highlanders.

Downey started the game's scoring with a safety, but found itself chasing La Habra the rest of the night, not being able to contain the Highlanders' offense in any aspect.

Downey wide receivers Jabari Ruffin and Miles Claiborne scored two touchdowns for the Vikings in addition to the two points being scored within the first 15 seconds

of the game on a safety.

The Highlanders had the upper hand all night long, running the ball all over the Vikings and getting their receivers past Downey's secondary to open up the passing game.

Fullback Joseph Ortiz and quarterback Steven Cervantes rushed the most yards of the night with 71 and 63 respectively. Cervantes completed 19 passes totaling 194 yards while Ortiz, along with linebacker Steven Williams, tallied six and five respective carries. Claiborne received the most passes throughout the game, with a total of eight and 77 yards.

Following the two-point safety for the Vikings on the first down, Cervantes completed a pass to wide receiver Dallas Lopez at the 33-yard line bringing up a first down situation. Cervantes later

handed the ball off to Ortiz, who fumbled the ball on a miscommunication, resulting in La Habra taking over on offense.

Later in the game Cervantes completed a pass to Claiborne, who fell out of bounds on the 23-yard line. Kicker Antonio Roman attempted a field goal but his kick fell short and La Habra took over on offense. Defensive tackle Daniel O'Veal managed to tackle a Highlander offensive player but not before La Habra scored their first touchdown. The Highlanders, following running back Kyle Lewis' impressive kickoff return, scored a second touchdown with a pass into the end zone.

On the following Downey drive, running back Eric Martinez received a pass from Cervantes at the 20-yard line that gained no yards on a second down situation. Ortiz later received a handoff at the

16-yard line, though he fumbled and La Habra recovered it. A pass to Lewis in the end zone later in the game was ruled a fumble, yet another turnover for Downey.

After halftime, it didn't get much better for Downey, who continued to turn the ball over. La Habra made Downey's mistakes become costly by scoring on every Downey turnover.

Though unsatisfied with the multiple interceptions and fumbles throughout the game, Downey head coach Will Capps said he was nonetheless proud of his team.

"They played hard and kept their heads up," said Capps. "They completed some good passes and didn't give up."

Vikings lose Cervantes to injury

■ An arm injury will keep QB Steven Cervantes on the sidelines.

By JOSEPH APODACA,
SPORTS INTERN

DOWNEY – The Downey varsity football team faces off against Kennedy High School tonight in their second away game of the season at Western High School's field.

After losing their first game of the season last Friday, the Vikings are now 2-1 while Kennedy is 2-2. The match up pairs the San Gabriel league Vikings with the Empire league Fighting Irish, who lost to the Vikings last season in a close 21-20 game.

At the end of last season, Kennedy finished 2-3 in league games while Downey finished slightly better at 3-2.

So far this season, fullback Joseph Ortiz has tallied up the most rushing yards for the Vikings, with an average of 97 yards per game. Quarterback Steven Cervantes has the most passing and overall yards, with 150 and 177 respectively per game. Linebacker Justin Haro has the most tackles with an average of 13 per game this season.

The Vikings will be without two of their star players tonight. Running back Joe Hill is suffering from a torn ACL while Cervantes has sustained an arm injury. The Fighting Irish also pack an impressive team, with their quarter back rushing an average of 335 yards while they're a strong defensive line, averaging 58 tackles per game.

Despite the injuries and a well-prepared team, the Vikings are looking towards a comeback from last week's game against La

Habra, where they lost 45-15. Unsatisfied with their performance during last week's game, the varsity boys are aware of what they need to do to perfect their game to succeed in tonight's game. The Vikings plan on bringing their toughest offense and a smart defensive plan that has worked for them in previous games.

Not being able to move the ball down the field effectively hurt the Vikings in the last game, where they were plagued by multiple fumbles and interceptions. The defensive line also took a hit last week, where the La Habra Highlanders were able to score several touchdowns, seemingly, without effort.

"It was a practice game and we're looking forward to playing our league games," said Downey head coach Will Capps.

Basketball, volleyball leagues at Apollo

DOWNEY – Registration is now being accepted for a girls' basketball and volleyball league at Apollo Park, sponsored by the city of Downey.

Both programs emphasize basketball and volleyball fundamentals, teamwork and sportsmanship

by incorporating the six pillars of Character Counts.

The basketball league is \$105 and includes a 10-game season, game and practice uniform, professionally-trained practices and awards. Girls must be between the ages of 8-13 and in grades 3-8.

The volleyball league is \$85 and includes the same.

Registration will be accepted until Oct. 10 or until all divisions are full. For more information, visit the gym at Apollo Park or call (562) 904-7128.

Cerritos College athletes 'dig pink'

NORWALK – The Cerritos College women's volleyball team will help raise money for breast cancer research by participating in a "Dig Pink" national awareness campaign in October.

During all Cerritos home games, spectators will be encour-

aged to wear pink and make a donation at the door. Games will also feature 50/50 raffles in which half of the proceeds go to the Side-Out Foundation.

The Side-Out Foundation has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for breast cancer research

through tournaments, clinics and rallies. Cerritos College has set a \$2,500 fundraising goal to donate to the foundation.

For information on the "Dig Pink" campaign, contact Teresa Velazquez at (562) 860-2451, ext. 2881.

Warren falls to Whittier

By ALYSSA WYNNE,
SPORTS INTERN

DOWNEY – After strenuous effort, the Warren girls' tennis fell short of a victory against Whittier last Thursday 10-8.

When asked how her girl's were doing during the match, head coach Mary Starksen gave a grave look.

"I don't think we can pull out of this one," Starksen said. "Whittier is very consistent. They don't make many mistakes. They have a new coach this year and new players, but I have new players too."

At that point in the match, Warren was losing badly and was forced to place all of its faith in No.1 singles player Rebecca Lopez and No.1 doubles partners Ariel Gonzalez and Eran Kalashyan. Though their exact score was not available at press time, it was clear the girl's used combined effort into gaining the points as a team.

After her second set, No. 3 doubles player Brianna Bordette replenished herself with water and set her mind for the task at hand.

"I lost the first set against the No. 1 team," she said. "But I won my second set against the No. 3 team. Hopefully I win the last one against the No. 2 team."

After asking Bordette about her expectations for league next week, Lopez approached Bordette anticipating a conversation with her teammate.

"We now have to be undefeated," said Lopez. "Lots of practice pays off in the end. If we work as a team we'll win."

Bordette agreed with Lopez adding that their preseason prepared them for what is to come in league.

"I don't know how we'll do with league next week," said Starksen. "It's hard to tell but after the first round you kind of know where you end up."



Metro Briefs

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PHOTO BY BARBARA HILL

The Warren High School girls' varsity volleyball team set the tone for the season, beating rival Downey High on Sept. 16 during both teams' final match in the Gahr Tournament. The cross-town rivals meet again Oct. 20 at Warren, then Nov. 6 at Downey during league play. Back row, from left: Coach Brad Simons, Paulina Torres, Franny Vaaulu, Jazmin Mitchell, Amaris Medina, Briana Cervantes and Heather Adamson. Middle row: Gabie Ruiz, Tina Makary and Arianna Palomares. Bottom row: Coach Melanie Fernando, Chelsea Cabrajac, Karen Trejo, baby McKenzie Fernando, Mallory Hill, Lauren McCaughan and Samantha Madrid. Photo courtesy Barbara Hill

Pastors celebrate 35 years

DOWNEY – The Love, Peace and Happiness Family Christian Fellowship will mark 35 years of service by Bishop Leon and Dr. Jacqueline Martin with appreciation services Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. and Oct. 11 at 3 p.m.

Scheduled to attend the services is Cheryl Martin of the TD Jakes Ministries and formerly of BET, Bishop Truman Martin of Dayton, Ohio, and Bishop Broderick Huggins of Oxnard. Fellowship pastors from surrounding cities are also expected to attend.

The public is invited to the celebration. For more information, visit www.lphfamily.org or call (562) 806-9890.

Space race discussion at library

DOWNEY – Space flight historian Dr. Jim Busby will present "Sputnik 1 and Explorer 1" inside the library's Cormack Room at 2 p.m. Sunday.

When Russia launched Sputnik 1 on Oct. 4, 1957, the Earth got its first artificial satellite and the space race was born.

A small group of scientists from Caltech's Jet Propulsion Laboratory built America's first successful artificial satellite, Explorer 1, launched on Jan. 31, 1958.

Busby will discuss these milestones in the early days of the space race and their legacy 50 years later.

The free program is presented as part of the Downey City Library's One Book, One Community reading project featuring "Rocket Boys" by Homer Hickam.

For more information, call the library at (562) 904-7360, ext. 132.



The Downey Express 12U travel baseball team won the Little Sluggers Championship on Sunday. The two-day tournament featured eight teams from Southern California. The Express won both games Saturday and the semi-final game and championship on Sunday.

Website links to job openings

DOWNEY – Downey Adult School has announced the creation of an online job board where the general public can access job openings in the area.

Job openings can be accessed by clicking the "Online Job Board" link found on the school's website, www.das.edu.

Aside from being a tool for employment seekers, prospective employers can post their job openings by clicking the "Post a Job" button.

For more information on the new service, call Karina Madariaga at (562) 940-6236.

Bus trip to Pechanga casino

DOWNEY – The Woman's Club of Downey is sponsoring a bus trip to the Pechanga Resort & Casino this Monday.

The bus leave the Woman's Club at 8 a.m. and return by 6 p.m. Cost is \$6 for Woman's Club members, \$11 for non-members, and includes a \$5 voucher for casino play.

Travelers must be at least 21 years old. To reserve a seat, call Jeanine Keys at (562) 923-6620 or Doris Patterson at (562) 869-0377.

Funds raised by the trip will go towards the club's scholarship fund.

Church to collect e-waste

DOWNEY – First Presbyterian Church of Downey will collect unwanted electronics tomorrow at a free event.

Residents can drop off computers, monitors, televisions, LCD panels, printers, stereos, cell phones, VCRs, microwave ovens, and other household and computer-related electronics.

The church cannot accept air conditioners, dehumidifiers, smoke detectors and white goods such as washers, dryers and refrigerators.

For questions, call Antwon Guy at (310) 604-0200.

Chili cook-off at Elks Lodge

DOWNEY – Soroptimist International of Downey will host a chili cook-off Sunday at the Elks Lodge in Downey.

Entry fee is \$50. Admission is \$20 (\$10 for children) and includes a barbecue lunch, chili tasting and entertainment.

The chili cook-off runs from 1-5 p.m. For tickets and information, call Mia Vasquez at (562) 806-3217 or e-mail missaywell@verizon.net.

Coke employees beautify city

DOWNEY – Exactly 112 employees from Coca-Cola and their families helped pick trash from the railroad tracks running through Downey last Saturday.

Most of the employees live elsewhere, but volunteered on their day off to "give something back to the city that houses their business."

"The Coke employees were

wonderful; they worked hard and thanked members of the Keep Downey Beautiful committee for giving them the opportunity to participate in the cleanup," said Carol Rowland, coordinator of Keep Downey Beautiful. "Coca-Cola provided lunch for all the volunteers after the cleanup. It was a great cleanup event."

Other cleanup dates are:

Oct. 17 - Los Amigos Plaza parking lot, 12818 Paramount Blvd. (at Comolette Street)

Nov. 21 - Empire Liquor parking lot, 8710 Imperial Hwy. (at Barlin Avenue)

Dec. 19 - Rail road tracks behind Denny's Restaurant, 8350 Firestone Blvd. (at Dolan Avenue)

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<p>Friday, October 9 10am - 6pm DOWNEY Embassy Suites 8425 Firststone Blvd. 90241 562-861-1900</p>	<p>Saturday, October 10 10am - 5pm NORWALK Best Western 10902 Firestone Blvd. 90650 562-929-8831</p>	<p>Sunday, October 11 11am - 5pm WHITTIER Radisson Hotel 7320 Greenleaf Ave. 90602 562-945-8511</p>	<p>Monday, October 12 10am - 6pm LONG BEACH AIRPORT Holiday Inn 2640 N. Lakewood Blvd. 90815 562-597-4401</p>	<p>Tuesday, October 13 10am - 6pm DOWNEY Embassy Suites 8425 Firststone Blvd. 90241 562-861-1900</p>

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CSULB to present German film festival

LONG BEACH – As part of a campus initiative commemorating the 20th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall, Cal State Long Beach will present a film festival in October titled “Ostalgie – Stories from the GDR.”

The four films will screen on successive Wednesdays beginning Oct. 7 with a screening of the 2003 film “Goodbye, Lenin.” All four films will be shown in Lecture Hall 151 and begin at 6:30 p.m.

Screenings are free and open to the public.

The film festival’s title, “Ostalgie,” refers to nostalgia for life in Eastern Germany before the fall of the wall.

“There have been lots of problems with reunification,” said Nele Hempel-Lamer, an associated professor of German at Cal State Long Beach. “Some people look back to the Communist era and feel nostalgic for the East. We called the film ‘Ostalgie’ to provide a backdrop to the challenges Germany faced and still faces due to its recent past as a divided nation.”

After “Goodbye, Lenin,” the

series will continue Oct. 14 with a screening of 1995’s “The Promise” followed by 1973’s “The Legend of Paul and Paula” on Oct. 21. Closing out the series on Oct. 28 will be 1968’s “I Was Nineteen.”

The series will tell stories about the German Democratic Republic as East Germany was officially known.

“The festival is both a way to introduce this time period to students with no historical context as well as remind those who can still remember what it was all about,” Hempel-Lamer said. “The GDR was a country that existed for 40 years in the middle of Western Europe. Now it’s gone.”

With the exception of “Good Bye, Lenin,” none of the films have been major releases in the United States. The first two films were directed by West Germans after the fall of the Wall and the last two were directed by East Germans before the fall.

“The film series is a great opportunity for American audiences to see life during the Cold War from a German perspective,”

she said. “Most all of the films enjoy pop cult status in Germany, but few people here will have seen them. We will have short introductions to the films before the screening to provide some context to the audience, and we are also planning question-and-answer sessions after the viewing of the films.”

Hempel-Lamer pointed out that many CSULB students are not even 20 years old, which means the Wall fell before they were born.

When Hempel-Lamer recently

screened a 26-minute documentary about the fall of the Wall, she said students were impressed. The documentary chronicled the days leading up to the fall on Nov. 9, 1989.

“I want our students to be inspired to become agents of change,” she said.

For more information about the “Ostalgie” film festival, contact Hempel-Lamer at (562) 985-2666 or via e-mail at nhempell@csulb.edu.

Time Warner launches Jewish channel

DOWNEY – Jewish Life Television (JLTV), the nation’s only 24-7 Jewish television channel, launched last week on Time Warner Cable in Southern California on channel 177.

JLTV offers a wide variety of programming including live news, sports, motion pictures, documentaries, interviews, entertainment and special events. The network’s

original programming includes shows, “To The Point,” “Here’s Hollywood,” “School Judaica,” “J-Span,” “Israel Today,” “Judy’s Kitchen,” “The Big J,” “Sports and Scores” “Business Today” and “World Jewish Life.”

JLTV has studios in Los Angeles, New York and Israel to cover Jewish events and issues.

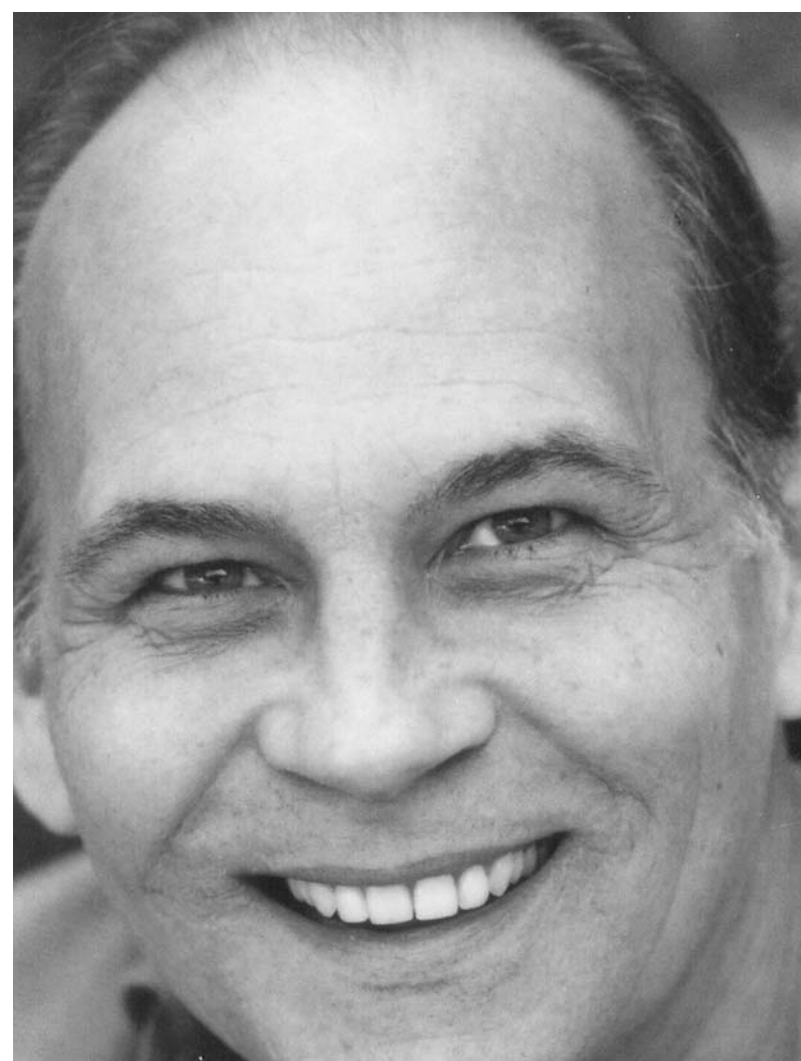


PHOTO COURTESY DOWNEY CIVIC LIGHT OPERA

Veteran actor George Champion stars as Alfred P. Doolittle in the Downey Civic Light Opera production of “My Fair Lady,” now playing at the Downey Theatre. Champion was previously cast by the DCLO in “Guys and Dolls,” “Oklahoma,” “A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum” and “42nd Street.” For tickets to “My Fair Lady,” which will continue until Oct. 18, call (562) 923-1714. Group rates are available.

Arts, crafts convention Oct. 2-4

LONG BEACH – The largest indoor arts and crafts show on the West Coast will be at the Long Beach Convention Center this weekend.

The Harvest Festival Original Art and Craft Show will feature thousands of unique, handmade items, including jewelry, photographs, sculptures, pottery, clothing, specialty foods and more.

Vendors are subject to a strict jury process to products offered are of high quality, organizers said.

The festival is open today and tomorrow from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is \$9 for adults, \$7 for seniors, and \$4 for children 13-17. Kids under 12 are free.

For tickets and more information, visit www.harvestfestival.com.

Country fair at Los Amigos

DOWNEY – The theme of Downey Christian Women’s Club’s Oct. 14 meeting will be “Country Fair” and will feature music and a silent auction.

Loretta Hughes will be guest speaker. Her topic is “Finding Strength and Peace in Times of Loss.”

The event begins at 11:45 a.m. at Los Amigos Country Club. Cost is \$13 and includes a buffet lunch.

Reservations are requested by calling Sonja at (562) 862-4347 or Jean at (562) 861-1114.

Familiar faces joins ‘Rent’

LONG BEACH – Jai Rodriguez, star of Bravo TV’s “Queer Eye for the Straight Guy,” has joined the cast of “Rent,” which opens Dec. 11 at the Carpenter Performing Arts Center in Long Beach.

Tickets to “Rent” at the Carpenter Performing Arts Center are now on sale range from \$30-\$80. Tickets are available by calling the box office at (562) 856-1999, ext. 4, or in person at 4350 E. 7th St.

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THE INVENTION OF LYING (PG-13) (12:00, 2:35, 5:10, 7:45, 10:20)

WHIP IT (PG-13) (11:35, 2:15, 4:55, 7:35, 10:10)

ZOMBIELAND (R) (11:55, 12:55, 2:15, 3:15, 4:35, 5:35, 6:55, 7:55, 9:15, 10:15)

FAME (PG) (11:15, 1:55, 4:35, 7:15, 9:55)

PANDORUM (R) 7:25, 10:10

SURROGATES (PG-13) (10:50, 1:00, 3:15, 5:35, 7:55, 10:15)

LOVE HAPPENS (PG-13) (11:25, 2:05, 4:45, 7:25, 10:05)

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Times for Friday-Thursdays, October 2-8, 2009

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of equal value or less (with coupon only)

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For information on this Dining Section Call Dorothy or MaryAnn at the Downey Patriot (562) 904-3668

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The Downey Patriot, a newspaper of general circulation for the County of Los Angeles, State of California, Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. VS019238

LEGAL NOTICES

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

REQUEST FOR ENTRY OF DEFAULT CLERK'S JUDGMENT CASE NO. 09C03063

PLAINTIFF/PETITIONER: Kakuk **DEFENDANT/RESPONDENT:** Din **TO THE CLERK:** On the complaint or cross-complaint filed on July 28, 2009 by Steve Kakuk Enter default of defendant, Martha Din and All Unknown Occupants. Enter clerk's judgment for restitution of the premises only and issue a writ of execution on the judgment, Code of Civil Procedure section 1174 (c) does not apply. (Code Civ. Proc., Section 1169.) Include in the judgment all tenants, subtenants, named claimants, and other occupants of the premises. The Prejudgment Claim of Right to Possession was served in compliance with Code of Civil Procedure section 415.46. Judgment to be entered: Daily damages were demanded in complaint at the rate of: \$26.93 per day beginning 8/1/09.

NOTICE OF SALE ABANDONED PERSONAL PROPERTY Notice is hereby given that the undersigned pursuant to Section 1988 of the California Civil Code the Property listed below believed to be abandoned by Martha Din whose last address was 11744 Lakewood Boulevard, Downey, California 90241 will be sold at public auction at 11744 Lakewood Boulevard, Downey, California 90241 on October 12, 2009 at 2:00 pm to 5:00 o'clock pm. **DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY:** Antique Box Piano, Dining Room Set with 4 Chairs, 2 small Hutch/Bookcases, 2 End Tables, 2 old portable TVs, One Bedroom Apartment Furnishings

Dated August 12, 2009 Default entered as requested on August 17, 2009 John A. Clarke Clerk, by S. Coronado, Deputy

William E. Windham, Attorney at Law Attorney for Plaintiff 5206 Benito Street, # 115 Montclair, CA 91763 Published in The Downey Patriot 9/25/2009, 10/2/2009

GARAGE SALE

YARD SALE SAT 8 AM

Antiques, Collectibles, Firewood, etc. 7944 Springer St., Downey

HUGE YARD SALE

We will be having a huge yard sale. Lots of items. Lots of slightly used clothes for babies and children. Please join us 7:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 3rd & 4th.

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Lara campaign raises nearly \$150K

By Christian Brown, Staff Writer

DOWNEY – As the economic recession continues to hover over many weary Californians, the thought of fulfilling the American Dream may seem farfetched to some, but Ricardo Lara hopes his campaign for the State Assembly can reignite that dream.

“I come from a working class family – a modest upbringing,” said Lara. “I’m an example of how with enough hard work and tenacity, you can achieve the American Dream.”

Lara is just one of four candidates in the 50th District vying to become the Democratic Party’s nominee in a race that will elect a new assembly member next year. With nearly \$150,000 collected in contributions, Lara, who lives in Bell Gardens, significantly leads his opponents in fundraising, which Lara believes is a result of his work and message.

“I’m proud and humbled by the support I’ve received,” said Lara over the phone. “We’ve received donations in small checks from \$25 to \$50 to \$100. It’s tremendous and paramount to running a campaign.”

Lara, 34, traces his interest in politics back to his days at San Diego State University, where controversial state propositions 187 and 209 led him to student government and activism.

Since graduating, Lara has spent the last 13 years in the legislature working with former Assembly Speaker Fabian Nuñez and Assemblyman Marco Antonio Firebaugh. Lara currently serves as Communications Director for Assembly Member Kevin De León.

“I am the best qualified candi-

date in the election,” Lara said. “I have a proven record of delivering resources to the 50th District. I worked on legislation with Fabian Nuñez to increase minimum wage and pushed for new schools in the district.”

As the state watches unemployment rates steadily increase, Lara acknowledges that the issue of jobs is an important part of his campaign.

“Southeast Los Angeles County has one of the highest unemployment rates in the county,” said Lara. “We can create jobs. It’s imperative that we create a regional plan for economic development to bring neighboring cities together.”

Lara believes that more sustainable jobs can be created if local cities partner up and vie for resources collectively, making smaller communities more competitive with big cities.

“I’ve ran into so many people – they don’t want handouts, they want innovative jobs,” Lara said. “We need to sit down and go beyond our jurisdiction and create a plan.”

Although Lara is one of the more experienced candidates running for the Assembly seat, sole republican candidate P.J. Mellana suggests that candidates like Lara, if elected, will only continue the wasteful spending practices of Sacramento.

Lara agrees that spending should be curbed, but believes voters deserve an honest conversation about fiscal restraint.

“The social programs we have in effect are working,” said Lara. “Our budget is a reflection of our morality. For example, academic preparation programs – they work. The added support makes a differ-



COURTESY PHOTO

Ricardo Lara, of Bell Gardens, is seeking the 50th Assembly seat currently held by Hector De La Torre, who will be termed out of office next June.

ence. Government is here to help people in need.”

Lara, who is openly gay, maintains that voters are concerned about jobs, health care and education, issues that he is committed to focus on throughout the election.

“Legislators in Sacramento empower working families,” Lara said. “I went to Sacramento with my core values of service and I’ve seen government work for people. The American Dream is real.”

Linda Jean Garcia passes away at 64

DOWNEY – Linda Jean Garcia, known to family and friends as “Moo,” passed away Sept. 22. She was 64.

Garcia was born in Pomona on Oct. 5, 1944 to Fred and Bertha Thomas. She enjoyed watching television and playing bingo.

She is survived by her husband, Frank; sons, Shawn, Joseph and Michael; daughter-in-law, Denise; daughter, Lori; son-in-law, Rick Keltner; sister, Lyn Thomas; and grandchildren, Krystal, Kaci, Karli and Karson Keltner, and Jade, Eryka, Shawn and Sarra Garcia.

A celebration of life service was held Tuesday at Downey Zrelak Family Mortuary.



QuickBooks training available

DOWNEY – Beginning in October, the Downey Chamber of Commerce will provide free QuickBooks training to small business owners in Downey.

The training is offered in collaboration with Professional Career Education and made possible through funding by the Employment Training Panel.

Workshops range from QuickBooks to e-commerce strategies. A series of workshops will also help entrepreneurs develop a business plan.

“We are responding to the many requests that we’ve received from our members regarding the need to learn accounting software,” said Susan Nordin, executive director of the Downey Chamber of Commerce. “We’re very excited about the QuickBooks launch in October. Each workshop will provide Downey’s small business owners with professional tools to help run their businesses more successfully.”

Workshops will be held at the Chamber beginning Oct. 15 at 8:30 a.m. For a complete training schedule, contact Christine Bosworth at (310) 407-5448 or christine@procareered.com.

New Titles at the Downey City Library

Fiction

- **“Half Broke Horses”** by Jeannette Walls. In this biographical novel, the author of “The Glass Castle” tells the story of her grandmother, a formidable horse trainer and poker playing rancher.
- **“Her Fearful Symmetry”** by Audrey Niffenegger. From the author of “The Time Traveler’s Wife,” a literary ghost story about two generations of twins who move outside of London near the historic Highgate Cemetery.
- **“Loot the Moon”** by Mark Arsenault. The murder of a Providence, R.I. superior court judge stymies chronic gambler, obituary writer and sometime investigator Billy Povich.
- **“September Fair”** by Jess Lourey. Wherever librarian and reporter Mira James goes, there is sure to be a murder, and the Minnesota State Fair is no exception.
- **“Spartan Gold”** by Clive Cussler. While exploring the great Pocomoke Swamp in Delaware, Sam and Rami find, hidden away at the edge of a river, a World War II-era German mini-submarine.

Non-Fiction

- **“The Clinton Tapes: Wrestling History with the President”** by Taylor Branch. Historian Branch recorded 80 meetings with Bill Clinton and then reflected immediately after each session. His thoughts are documented here in a book that gives a perspective on Clinton and America at the end of the 20th century.
- **“Have a Little Faith”** by Mitch Albom. What began as a reluctant assignment from his rabbi turns into a treasured friendship for the author of “Tuesdays with Morrie.”
- **“The Man Who Loved Books Too Much: the True Story of a Thief, a Detective and a World of Literary Obsession”** by Allison Hoover Bartlett. John Gilley committed petty crimes before stealing thousands of dollars worth of rare books from libraries, museums and dealers across the country.
- **“Moon River and Me”** by Andy Williams. The popular singer details his long career in show business in this engaging autobiography.
- **“Why Can’t U Teach Me 2 Read? Three Students and a Mayor Put Our Schools to the Test”** by Beth Fertig. Public radio reporter Fertig offers a view of the crisis in education through the lens of three young adults struggling with illiteracy.

Visit www.downeylibrary.org and click on “New and Notable Books” to browse more titles

Peggy Behar is ‘teacher of the year’

By Henry Veneracion, Staff Writer

DOWNEY — Peggy Behar, who teaches second grade at Imperial Elementary School, has received the 2008-09 Masonic Teacher of the Year Award.

At the dinner and awards ceremonies sponsored by the Masonic Metropolitan Lodge of Downey on Sept. 21, Behar, who began her teaching career with the Downey Unified School District in 1972, was hailed as “an exceptional educator and instructional leader, highly respected by her students, parents and colleagues, and a gifted teacher whose influence has been felt beyond the walls of her classroom.”

A coterie of co-teachers and school staff cheered as she accepted the award from presenter Alysa Marie Sia, who represented the Lodge.

Behar actually started her career as a substitute teacher. She was hired as a full-time teacher a few months after. She has taught grades first

through sixth, but for most of her career has taught first and second grade students.

Imperial Elementary principal Karen Trejo characterized Behar as “a gifted teacher, one of whose many strengths is the outstanding relationship she establishes with children. She has a talent for creating a wonderful rapport with [them], which in turn creates a mutual respect between teacher and child.”

The tribute, attributed to Trejo but delivered by Sia, went on with how Behar “creates a safe classroom environment where students are supported, encouraged, and respected, along with encouraging students to challenge themselves and take risks in their learning process. She is particularly skilled in eliciting exceptional growth from her students by incorporating high expectations into the required instructional standards. Every minute in Mrs. Behar’s classroom is used as an instructional moment.”

Behar’s efforts at keeping parents constantly informed about their children’s educational progress



PHOTO COURTESY DUSD

along with suggesting ways in which they can better assist their children with their homework were also underscored, as well as her singular impact on her students: “I live in Downey and often come in contact with former Imperial Elementary students,” said Sia, quoting Trejo:

“As I talk with these young adults, 99 percent of the time they always ask me if Mrs. Behar is still working at Imperial. When I answer yes, the former students always reply, “She was one of my favorite teachers.”

“Peggy Behar is very deserving of this award,” said Sia.



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 “Steve Roberson did a great job. Steve had good follow through and always communicated well. We have used Steve a couple of times and will continue to us him again in the future.” – **Bob Behrens**

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