

The Downey Patriot



Robert Becker's vital role
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Friday, April 16, 2010

Vol. 8 No. 52

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



Farmers market relocated

Divided City Council moves farmers market to Downey Avenue.

BY CHRISTIAN BROWN, STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY – Hoping to encourage growth and increase visibility, the City Council narrowly approved a three-month relocation of Downey's farmers market, which will be moved from Second Street to Downey Avenue next month.

In a 3-2 vote on Tuesday, Councilmen Mario Guerra, Roger Brossmer and Luis Marquez voted in favor of the move to Downey Avenue, which will be shut down every Saturday from Firestone Boulevard to Second Street, while Mayor Anne Bayer and Councilman David Gafin opposed the change.

"It's a major inconvenience," said Gafin prior to the vote. "I would rather see the market expanded on the side streets as opposed to shutting down major streets."

Brossmer agreed that the move could produce some inconvenience, but argued that a brief trial period was the only way to confirm that.

"The farmers market was a great addition to our city, but it is a little hidden," said Brossmer. "You can literally get close to the farmers market and never see it. I'm in favor of doing a three-month trial and if it works, great."

Established by the City Council on Feb. 12, 2008, the Downey farmers market opened two years ago on Second Street between New Street and La Reina Avenue. Starting with just 25 vendors, the

market has quickly expanded to 30-35 regular vendors each week. According to a city staff report, despite a slow economy, market sales have remained relatively unchanged over the past 12 months.

In January, the City Council requested an opportunity to revisit the location of the farmers market, hoping to increase its visibility and attract more patrons to the growing market.

"It's a part of the plan to bring more people to the downtown," said Guerra. "The farmers market needs to be on Downey Avenue. If we're going to do this then let's get it right – it needs to be done."

Mayor Pro Tem Marquez echoed Guerra's comments, confident that relocating the market could also attract new customers for the many businesses and restaurants on Downey Avenue.

In order to determine the potential impact the change would have on traffic and local businesses, the city collected Saturday traffic counts over two weekends. According to the city report, the street closure would affect nearly 5,000 vehicles that travel through the downtown area on Saturdays from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.

In addition, city staff asked business owners in the vicinity how they might be impacted if the market was relocated. Out of the nearly 50 businesses polled, 74 percent were in favor or neutral with regard to moving the market while 26 percent were against the move, concerned about parking, accessibility and noise.

Prior to the vote, Bob Udoff, building manager for Miller-Mies Mortuary, made his case against the move.



PHOTO COURTESY FLICKR USER DOWNEY FARMERS MARKET

"If you do this, you'll be causing a tremendous problem," said Udoff, concerned that the street closure might block the mortuary's Downey Avenue entrance. "Are you going to tell people having a funeral that they cannot exit on Downey Avenue? – don't put this market on Downey Avenue."

Conversely, Downey Chamber of Commerce President Robert Zavala praised the relocation, hopeful that the move will help

increase foot traffic in the downtown area.

"I enjoy the farmers market, but I get the feeling that we're on a back street," said Zavala who owns Freedom Vacations, a travel agency on Downey Avenue. "I support moving it to Downey Avenue – it's a win-win situation."

According to the city report, about four weeks lead-time is required to facilitate the market's move.

Lee Ann Sears eyes office

BY CHRISTIAN BROWN, STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY – With Mayor Anne Bayer being termed out of office this November, Lee Ann Sears, a Downey recreation and community services commissioner and local community volunteer, has announced her candidacy, joining a crowd of community leaders vying for Bayer's District 4 (northeast) council seat.

"I am proud to announce that I am running for Downey City Council," said Sears in a released statement. "I am committed to finding the answer to the questions facing our community."



Sears, who moved to Downey 35 years ago, has been an active community volunteer for the last 25 years. In addition to serving on the city's Recreation and Community Services Commission, Sears also serves on the city's emergency preparedness committee. Sears was appointed to both positions by Bayer.

"I've been involved in the community for so long and I hear what people want and don't want," said Sears, in a phone interview. "I just want to give back and do the best for the people of this community."

For several years, Sears, 54, has assisted various local organizations, volunteering her time helping the Downey Rose Float Association, Downey PTA and the Relay for Life Cancer Walk.

Sears completed her education in the medical field where she worked for 20 years as an EKG technician and phlebotomist. For the last nine years, Sears has worked for the women's gym Curves as a circuit trainer.

"My deep involvement in the city has enlightened me to some of the important issues facing our community such as the safety of our children," said Sears. "I have a new grandchild and I want this city to be safe in the future, for our kids."

Several community leaders have acknowledged their support for Sears' candidacy including former mayor and councilwoman Diane Boggs, Mayor Anne Bayer, real estate agent Maria Larkin, business owner Rick Porcaro, Dr. Mary Stauffer, the Downey Rose Float Association, fellow recreation and community services commissioner Mark Vasquez and Tracy Riley, widow of the late councilwoman Barbara J. Riley.

With attorney Alex Saab and community development manager Fernando Vasquez already in the race for the seat, Sears acknowledges that the campaign will be a challenge, but remains hopeful that voters will support her candidacy.

"I'm doing this from my heart and for the community," said Sears. "I can assure you that the city of Downey will remain a safe and vibrant community under my watch – we have a wonderful city and I want to keep it that way."

To reach Sears' campaign, call (562) 335-9764.

For Rancho families, there's no place like home

CONTRIBUTED BY THE RANCHO LOS AMIGOS FOUNDATION

DOWNEY – The Assistance League of Downey's HOME Project is an apartment style housing complex that has helped thousands of families stay close to their loved ones with catastrophic disabling illnesses and injuries while they are patients of world-renowned Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center.

The highly successful HOME Project (Housing of Medical Emergencies), was first conceived in the late 1980s when one of Assistance League members visited a similar project adjacent to the Stanford Medical Center.

"We thought it could work at Rancho...so we took our idea to Rancho and to Supervisor Don Knabe," said Assistance League HOME Project manager Mary Lou Schmidt. Soon Rancho, Knabe and the Assistance League of Downey joined hands, and in the end we really joined hearts, because this project was a true labor of love, and each supported the other."

See HOME, page 2

Downey Daily Photos



Woody the cowboy keeps watch 24/7 at Andy and Betty Wolfe's home on Ryerson Avenue. Andy hand-carved Woody's face and hands seven years ago after Betty mentioned that they needed someone to sit on the porch to keep an eye on the neighborhood. Betty painted and dressed him. Woody is so life-like that some folks have commented on his rudeness when he doesn't return their greeting. On the other hand, Betty sometimes reads on the porch, and surprises passers-by when she actually moves and proves she's not fake too!

The Downey Patriot will periodically feature photos and commentary from photographers Pam Lane, Joan Anderson and Allison Mansell, creators of DowneyDailyPhotos.com.

Locals heap praise on Jose Gomez

Gomez named successor to Cardinal Roger Mahony.

BY HENRY VENERACION, STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY – The appointment early last week of San Antonio prelate Jose Gomez as coadjutor archbishop of Los Angeles, to work alongside Cardinal Roger Mahony until the latter retires early next year at his official retirement age of 75, won showers of praise and opprobrium on both.

Scandal seemed to swallow Mahony in mid-2007 and it abated only when the sex abuse claims involving 508 victims of pedophile priests were settled for \$660 million. He has also been derided as the "Hollywood Cardinal."

The Los Angeles archdiocese, with its 5 million members, is the largest in the nation.

On the other hand, the Irish cardinal has been hailed for his cham-

panionship of social justice, the rights of immigrants, the role of the laity in worship and governance, his advocacy for the "poorest of his flock," etc., with people alternately lauding and condemning his liberal tendencies.

It is to his everlasting credit that the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels was built, after the former Cathedral of St. Vibiana was damaged in the 1994 Northridge earthquake. It was dedicated on Sept. 2, 2002.

Born on Feb. 27, 1936 to Irish parents in Hollywood, ordained in 1962 and elevated to cardinal in 1991, Mahony is the first native Angeleno and the third Archbishop of Los Angeles to be named a cardinal. He succeeded Cardinal Timothy Manning.

It was reported he rejoiced at the 58-year-old Archbishop Gomez' appointment. In welcoming

See GOMEZ, page 4

City denies request to close streets

BY CHRISTIAN BROWN, STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY – In a 4-1 decision, the City Council voted against granting the Sean Vernon Feliciano Amazing Day Foundation a street closure permit to host a 5K run/walk promoting suicide awareness and prevention, citing city policy, which prohibits such a closure.

With Mayor Anne Bayer as the sole dissenting vote, the City Council did express support for the cause, but denied the permit, apprehensive that the street closure would undermine city policy and set a new precedent for such events.

"I want to make this clear, I am very much in support of this event," said Councilman Roger

See FELICIANO, page 3

HOME: Lodging for patients' families.

Continued from page 1

The Assistance League membership worked for 11 years to raise the money to build the 10-apartment HOME. "This was the most fun project we have ever done," said Schmidt. "Once the money was raised, it was really fun to work with the architect, the contractors and the especially the women of the Assistance League."

Los Angeles County provided the land for HOME. Then the Assistance League spent \$750,000 to build and furnish the project. The Assistance League of Downey also takes care of all the maintenance for the facility and staffs the office on a daily basis.

"We help patients and their families from throughout the world," Schmidt said. "I especially remember a gentleman from Caracas, Venezuela, who had lost both legs after an automobile accident. He had saved his money for 12 years so that he could come to Rancho to get prostheses for both legs. He was here for nearly an entire summer. When he left here he stood up on both legs, and as he walked out of here he said, 'My children have never seen me walk, and now I am going home to walk to them.' And he did. He was just an amazing individual and a true success story, because without HOME, he couldn't have afforded to be near the Rancho campus during the recovery period from his surgeries."

Working closely with Rancho's Social Work Department, HOME has provided more than 16,000 nights of lodging, for nearly 3,000 families who have stayed there over the last 13 years. The lodging

fee for guests has remained \$10 a night since HOME opened. This allows Rancho patient families, who are often unable to afford a motel or hotel, the opportunity to stay within walking distance of their loved ones.

Now the HOME Project's amazing contributions to Rancho's patient families is receiving Rancho's highest honor, the Amistad Award. This prestigious award for Community Service will be presented to the Assistance League of Downey at the 24th Annual Amistad Gala on May 1 at the Westin Long Beach Hotel.

"We found that by providing a place for the families to stay so that they could be close to their loved ones who were receiving treatment at Rancho, that the outcomes were much better, that patients improved, the family became familiar with the treatment, and when the patient went home, they knew what to do to take care of them," Schmidt said. "It was really a win-win for everyone."

In addition to its use for patient families, HOME is also used to house clinicians who visit Rancho. For example, HOME will be used to house visiting researchers and clinical experts from as far away as Tel Aviv and Milan at Rancho's International Transformational Technology Conference this fall.

"We will use the home facility for a place for our speakers, Rancho staff and local people from the academic, neurology and engineering communities to discuss interesting topics all day and late into the evening," said Rancho Chief Medical Officer Mindy Aisen, MD. "It will literally be our HOME base for us to conduct a



PHOTO BY GREG WASKUL

A hummingbird can be seen near the fountain at Rancho's HOME 10-unit apartment complex, which houses family members of Rancho patients.

retreat and have discussions hoping to lead to innovative approaches to care in rehabilitation medicine."

The vast majority of HOME guests are patient families, however. "We remember a baby that came into Rancho that had been transferred from another hospital where the parents were told she would be in a permanent vegetative state," Schmidt said. "After eight months at Rancho, with her parents staying at HOME every night so they could encourage their child, this beautiful little girl was ready to be an outpatient. And although the family had been told before she came to Rancho that she would never have the capacity to move, we were delighted to see that on her check-

out day, the baby was sitting up, and clapping her hands to the beat of music that was playing on the radio. It was a joyous day, and a true Rancho miracle."

The Assistance League members who help out at HOME see first-hand what families have gone through. "It's incredible when you think that in the blink of an eye lives are changed because of accidents," Schmidt said. "Thank God we have a place like Rancho for these people to come to. Each and every family has a unique story that just touches your heart. And we're so grateful that we can make a place that's home away from home, because we are here to help them in any way we can."

Eunice Fox, 82, laid to rest

DOWNEY – Eunice Marie Fox, 82, passed away April 9. Born in Boone, Iowa, she lived in the same Downey home for 57 years. She was active at First Baptist Church of Downey, where she assisted with Sunday school membership.

She is survived by two children, Tim Fox and Rachel Wick; two grandchildren, Jennifer Fox and Brent Wick; and two great-grandchildren, Hailey and Ryan Wick.

Funeral services took place Wednesday at First Baptist Church of Downey. Interment followed at Rose Hills Memorial Park in Whittier.

Helen Tolle was library volunteer

DOWNEY – Helen Tolle, of Downey, passed away April 10 after a short illness.

A native of Afton, Iowa, she moved to California in 1945 with her husband, John, where they operated Tolle Food Service located in the Alcoa Aluminum plant in Vernon, until their retirement.

She was a longtime volunteer at the Downey City Library and attended exercise classes at the Barbara J. Riley Community & Senior Center.

The fifth in a family of 16, she leaves behind eight surviving siblings.

She is survived by her husband of 65 years, John; daughter-in-law, Jo Ann; son-in-law, John Bramble; grandchildren, Jennifer Sinclair and Steven Bramble; and great-granddaughter, Brytini Sinclair.

She was predeceased by a daughter, Elaine Simpson. A funeral will take place at 10 a.m. today at Downey Zrelak Family Mortuary, with interment to follow at Rose Hills.

Visitation took place yesterday at Zrelak.



Street Faire expected to draw thousands

DOWNEY – Brookshire Avenue will once again be lined with vendors on May 1 when the Downey Chamber of Commerce

presents the Downey Street Faire. The community event, now in its 17th year, will also feature a children's play area, centrally-located food court, live entertainment and car show with more than 200 classic vehicles.

The Downey High School marching band will open the event at 9 a.m. Live, non-stop entertainment will be presented on a stage on the grassy area in front of Downey High until 5 p.m., when the faire closes.

Scheduled to perform are Warren High School's marching band (9 a.m.); Warren High's jazz ensemble choir (9:05 a.m.); Roadhouse Ron (10 a.m.); Sebastian Sidi (11:20 a.m.); On Stage Dance Center (12:40 p.m.); the band Flight (2 p.m.); and Class 6 Band (3:15 p.m.).

Robert Simon, a solo guitarist, will perform between acts.

The car show will be presented in conjunction with the Old Memories SGV Car Club and will be held in Downey High's south parking lot on Firestone Boulevard.

Categories to be judged include Custom-Original '20s, '30s, '40s, '50s, '60s and '70s; Custom '80s, '90s and '00s; '55 Down Classic; Euro-Custom; Full Custom; Luxury Cars; Sport Car Street Custom; Muscle Car; Hot Rod; Pedal Bike; Motorcycles; Best Show; Club Participation; and Downey Chamber of Commerce Choice.

The Kid's Zone will include a 40-ft.-tall saber tooth tiger super slide, 60-ft.-long "rat race" obstacle course, 25-ft.-tall Jurassic "T-Rex" Survivor, and 15-ft.-tall pirate ship.

Tables, chairs and umbrellas will be provided for diners at the food court, which will offer funnel cakes, shaved ice, Italian ice, kettle corn, gyros, sausages, Philly cheese steaks, falafel, batelavra, hot dogs, pizza, submarine sandwiches, chicken, churros, smoothies, garlic fries, shakes, ice cream floats and more.

Exhibitors will be selling items up and down Brookshire, and service clubs will be sharing information about their organizations.

Admission to the Downey Street Faire is free.

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Library honors its supporters

■ Event receives a visit from local congresswoman.

BY HENRY VENERACION, STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY – Guest speaker Rep. Lucille Roybal-Allard (D-34) last week lauded the Downey City Library for the "tremendous work" it is doing for "this wonderful city" and the vital contributions made by volunteers in many areas of its operation as well as the invaluable assistance provided by its major donors.

"You really are the foundation without which none of its programs and projects can accomplish what they're designed to do," she said, adding: "Usually I'm up in Washington, D. C., but I'm glad I had this chance to celebrate what you stand for with you."

Doing a takeoff on the Academy Awards theme chosen to celebrate the library's 26th annual volunteer and major donor recognition program Saturday, city librarian Nancy Messineo surveyed the 85-odd volunteers and donors present and said: "You who are seated at the tables are our stars. You shine, you sparkle, you light our way in our efforts to serve the com-

munity."

Among those receiving special recognition were DUSD board vice-president Martha Sodetani for running the Friends' Books-on-Wheels program, while longtime supporter Dr. Mary Stauffer was cited for her advocacy.

Messineo at the same time paid tribute to her "hardworking" staff who comprised the event's planning and implementation team: Claudia Dailey, Andrew Despres, Cristina Anderson, Josephine de la Jingo and Christine Lee.

The honorees were each given a certificate of appreciation as well as a copy of Stephen J. Cannell's latest crime story, "The Pallbearers," courtesy of the Friends of the Downey City Library.

Entertainment was provided by Rancho Cucamonga's Michael Sinatra. He serenaded and interacted (and at times briefly danced) with members of the audience by crooning lively old standards, including: "It Had to Be You," "When You're Smiling," "All of Me," "I've Got the World on a String," and "Come Fly With Me."

The honored 2009 major donors included: the Friends of the Downey City Library (who under-

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Warren choirs in concert

DOWNEY – Under the direction of Robert Petersen, the Warren High School Choral Department will present its spring concert at the Downey Theatre this Wednesday at 7 p.m.

The chorus has moved their performances to the Downey Theatre after its Holiday Concert was performed in front of a standing room-only crowd at Downey First Christian Church.

Wednesday's program will include the four advanced choirs – Vocal Ensemble, Women's Choir, Concert Choir and Men's Ensemble – along with the 90-member Mixed Choir and 107-member Men's Choir.

The concert is open to the community. Tickets are \$7 and will be available at the box office.

Healthy Kids Day at the Y

DOWNEY – The Downey YMCA will host Healthy Kids Day, a free event for families, tomorrow from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Families will be able to sign up for summer programs, participate in giveaways, enjoy food and more.

For more information, call (562) 862-4201.

IRS rep to speak April 27

DOWNEY – Keith Kershner, stakeholder liaison with the Internal Revenue Service, will speak at the April 27 meeting of Rise 'N Shine Networking.

Kershner will speak on "Business Incentives and Credits from Recent Federal Legislation."

The meeting begins at 7:30 a.m. at Bob's Big Boy. Cost to attend is an order from the menu.

For information, call (562) 923-2191.

Donate used pants at Sears

DOWNEY – The Assistance League of Downey is teaming up with Sears and Haggag clothing company for a week-long event that puts a unique twist on charitable giving.

When customers visit a participating Sears location April 16-25 and present the sales associate with a gently-used pair of pants in wearable condition, they will receive a certificate good for \$5 off a pair of new Haggag pants.

Donated pants will be given to the Assistance League of Downey to raise funds for its community-based philanthropic programs.

"This generous donation will allow us to serve many more people in need through our programs," said Chapter President Judy Faust.

For more information about the pants recycling program, visit www.assistanceleague.org.

Story of the Yiddish language

DOWNEY – Old wives' tales will be discussed when the Ezra Center for Mature Adults meets Tuesday at Temple Ner Tamid in Downey.

Ann Nanes, founder of the Yiddish Club at the Ezra Center in Anaheim, will entertain with stories and anecdotes about Jewish life and the Yiddish language as it once was and is now being rediscovered in the 21st century.

Interest in the language is being reborn, Nanes said, and Yiddish words – such as "shlep" – have crept into daily use.

The program begins at 10:30 a.m. and is open to the public. A catered kosher lunch will be served at 12 p.m. Cost is \$6 for Ezra members and \$7 for non-members.

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

'Edgar Allan Poe' at the library

DOWNEY – The life and works of Edgar Allan Poe will come to life at a special performance at the Downey City Library on Tuesday at 7 p.m.

Actor Duffy Hudson will portray Poe in the free event held in celebration of National Library Week.

"This program is perfect for both teens and adults," said Young Adult Librarian Julia Butler. "Edgar Allan Poe rises from the scene of his mysterious death to tell his life story."

Visitors will learn how Poe wrote such classic poems as "The Raven," "Annabel Lee" and "The Tell-Tale Heart," Butler added.

The event is sponsored by the Friends of the Downey City Library.

To register, call (562) 904-7360 ext. 132 or visit the library.

Award seeks to honor students

DOWNEY – Applications are now being accepted for the Downey Youth Service Award, a recognition for local students active in community service.

The award is jointly sponsored by Downey Kiwanis Club and The Downey Patriot.

Eligible students must reside and attend a school in Downey. Winners will be recognized during a special dinner at the Rio Hondo Event Center, where they will receive an awards certificate and gift card from Stonewood Center.

There is no fee to enter. Applications are available at Downey school offices.

Entries should be mailed to The Downey Patriot, Attn: Eric Pierce, 8301 E. Florence Ave., St. 100, Downey, CA 90240.

Entries may also be e-mailed to fvasquez562@gmail.com or eric@thedowneypatriot.com.

Newscaster Stan Chambers to be feted

DOWNEY – A video presentation honoring veteran television newscaster Stan Chambers will be hosted by the Downey Historical Society on Thursday, 7:30 p.m., at the Barbara J. Riley Community and Senior Center.

Chambers' career at KTLA spanned 60 years, where he covered the assassination of Bobby Kennedy, the Manson murders, Watts Riot and more.

A scheduling conflict will keep Chambers from attending the event. The public, however, is invited.

For more information, call (562) 862-2777.

DCLO casting for musical

DOWNEY – The Downey Civic Light Opera will hold auditions next week for "Carousel," opening May 28 at the Downey Theatre.

Auditions will take place April 19 and April 22 from 7 – 10:30 p.m. Auditioners should bring a photo and resume, and be prepared to sing 16 bars.

Callbacks will take place April 24 at the director's request.

Auditions will take place at First Baptist Church of Downey, 8348 E. 3rd St. For more information, call (562) 923-8061.

DFCU brings light to autism

DOWNEY – Staff at Downey Federal Credit Union dressed in blue to commemorate the third annual United Nation World Autism Day on April 2.

Themed "Light it Up Blue," the goal was to raise awareness and understanding about autism.

Autism hits close to home with Steve Hammit, IT manager at Downey Federal. Hammit's eldest son, Bryson, is autistic and is in special classes at school to deal with his developmental disability.

Bryson works hard to deal with his disability, Hammit said, and plays baseball and the clarinet.



Teresa Margaret Perez, daughter of Kathy and Steve Perez of Downey, will be married tomorrow afternoon, April 17, to Juan Bosco Robleto, son of Maria de los Angeles and Roger Robleto of San Jose, Costa Rica. Fr. Gustavo Castillo will perform the ceremony at St. Frances of Rome Catholic Church in Azusa. The bride will be attended by her matron of honor, Ada Flores. Roger Robleto Jr. will be best man. Ushers will include the bride's brothers, Nicholas and Steve Perez Jr. The bride, a 2003 Warren High School graduate, is currently working as a paraeducator with ABC Unified School District and will be graduating from Cal State Fullerton in May. The groom is also a paraeducator with ABC Unified School District. After a trip to Las Vegas, the couple will reside in Downey.



Downey Federal Credit Union staff members dressed in blue to mark World Autism Day on April 2. From left: Maggie Gutierrez, Steve Hammit, Adele Castellon, Marianne Noss (front), Peter Hernandez, Marvin Grande and David Quillen.

Feliciano: City urges different route.

Continued from page 1

Brossmer. "It is a very worthy cause, but we don't close streets."

Councilman Mario Guerra offered similar sentiments, encouraging the non-profit organization to keep the run/walk in Downey, but seek a new route.

"I want it to be something like the Arc Walk – for that we didn't have to close any streets," said Guerra. "I hope the Amazing Day Foundation will go on and do this, but I cannot support closing down streets. I hope they won't consider the location an end-all."

Last year, Bob Feliciano founded the Sean Vernon Feliciano Amazing Day Foundation in memory of his late son, Sean, a Downey native, who committed suicide last March while attending UC Santa Barbara.

Proposed for Saturday, September 11, 2010 to coincide with National Suicide Prevention Week, the 5K Run/Walk for Life would have started at Stonewood Center and traveled along Woodruff Avenue to East Middle

School where attendees would have made a turnaround to come back to Stonewood Center.

The City Council began its consideration of the organization's application at a Council meeting on Feb. 23, but delayed its decision after Councilman David Gafin requested that all impacted residents be contacted and allowed to share their views concerning the street closure.

According to the city report, staff contacted 27 of the 46 residents potentially affected by the 5K run/walk. Eleven residents indicated that they supported the current city policy, while another 11 residents said they would support a change in the city policy. Another five residents needed more time to consider the issue, but never followed up with the city.

Like Councilmen Brossmer,

Guerra and Luis Marquez, Gafin shared his support for the organization, but would not agree to close streets for the event, which would be held from 7:30-8:30 a.m.

"It's the location that's a disruption to residents," Gafin said. "I'd love to get this moved to another venue – we just cannot go against our basic policy."

Currently, the city's parade/street closure policy allows "persons or organizations the opportunity to express their first amendment rights and freedom of expression," but prohibits closing city streets. Although residents and organizations can still apply for a street closure, city policy states that "no consideration may be given to the message of the event."

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- My hands and feet get cold and numb.
- I have ulcers that will not heal.
- I have varicose veins and/or heaviness in my legs.
- I have a history of smoking, high blood pressure, or diabetes.

If you answered YES to any of these questions, you may be at risk for Peripheral Vascular Disease (PVD).

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We are open from 8:00am to 4:30pm M-Sa

Gomez: Cannot escape criticism.

Continued from page 1

the San Antonio prelate Tuesday, Mahony was quoted as saying, "I welcome Archbishop Gomez to the Archdiocese of Los Angeles with enthusiasm and personal excitement."

One correspondent sees Gomez' appointment as signaling the "decisive role Hispanic leaders will increasingly play in the church throughout the country," while another considers it a "statement by the pope on the direction he wants the American church, with its 68 million members, to take."

A similar trend is also being increasingly acknowledged here in Downey. Composition of the local population has recently been skewing towards a Latino majority, nudging local churches to help nurture Latino concerns and interests.

Gomez himself had this to say: "When I received word of my appointment, I went immediately to my chapel to pray... I asked for the grace of generosity, to be able to give myself completely to this new call from God. I also asked for fortitude, to be able to accept this responsibility, which is unquestionably immense...I will never forget that when I hung up after speaking with Archbishop Pietro Sambi, the Apostolic Nuncio in the U.S., the first thing that met my eyes was an image of Our Lady of Guadalupe in the hallway. I felt the love and protection of the Virgin of Guadalupe, who has accompanied me in each moment of my ministry. I entrusted my new ministry in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles to her."

Criticized also for lapses in taking errant priests to task in his diocese, Gomez has meanwhile been characterized as a "bridge-builder with excellent people skills," and not straitjacketed as a conservative, either, even with his affiliation with Opus Dei. He, too, is known as a strong supporter of migrant rights.



If nothing else, he has always reached out to immigrants throughout his whole apostolic career

I took a random opinion sampling of the reaction to the recent development by a handful of Downey Catholics. Deputy city manager Desi Alvarez said: "It's time there's a change. Mahony has been cardinal for 25 years, and all in all he's been doing a good job. But there are issues to be resolved, and the diversity of the church, especially the archdiocese of Los Angeles, the largest in the United States, can no longer be ignored."

Councilmember and deacon Mario Guerra: "I think Archbishop Jose Gomez is a symbol of what we can do, if we put our minds and hearts into it. I think he's a great choice. He's an immigrant like I

am." (Guerra currently serves as one of a dozen 'stational' deacons in the cathedral in Los Angeles; he has for three years been assisting Cardinal Mahony at Mass, and he says he's looking forward to do the same for the incoming L.A. Archbishop Gomez, who will presumably become the first Latino cardinal from the U.S.)

And this from Mike Pohlen: "It's probably the smartest thing they can do, since 70 percent of the archdiocese is Hispanic. I'm a realist, and I just want to live with reality. I didn't agree totally with what Cardinal Mahony tried to do, but they become a target in a position like that. I'll pray for Archbishop Gomez as well."

The first thing deputy city clerk Joyce Doyle uttered was, "It's, oh, so political," unaware that Cardinal Mahony is dutybound to tender his resignation upon reaching age 75. Upon learning this she said, "It's too soon to judge."

Fashion show May 10

DOWNEY - The Downey Newcomers Club will host a fashion show May 10 at the Rio Hondo Event Center.

The fashion show, titled "Springtime on Parade," is the club's major fundraising event of the year with proceeds going towards the club's scholarships for local high school seniors and charities.

Fashions from Glory M'Lou's will be modeled by club members Karen Davis, Lynn Dietlin, June Ferguson, Ellie Harrington, Jeanine Henson, Mary Kresonja, Melba Willbanks and Kim Yeager.

Tickets are \$25 and include lunch and door prizes. The event begins at 10:30 a.m. Pre-sale tickets are recommended by calling Melba Willbanks at (562) 862-2799.

Carnival of Champions goes on

DOWNEY - The Downey Unified School District's Carnival of Champions, now in its 49th year, will go on as expected April 24 at Warren High School from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Approximately 500 fourth and fifth grade students representing nine Downey elementary schools will compete in a variety of events, including the 50- and 100-yard dash, four-member 440-yard relay, mixed coed relay, standing long jump, softball throw for distance and baskets in one minute.

Field events begin at 8:30 a.m., followed by running events at approximately 10:15 a.m. and final heats at about 11:15 a.m.

Team scoring will be on a 10-8-6-4-2 basis for first through fifth place in each event.

The public is welcome to attend. Admission is free.

Yard sale at Unsworth

DOWNEY - Unsworth Elementary will host a yard sale tomorrow morning.

The principal, staff and PTA will be selling items all morning to raise funds for school field trips. Churros and hot chocolate will also be available.

Unsworth is at 9001 Lindsay Ave., south of Telegraph Road near Serapis Avenue.

Adoptable Pet of the Week



Hello, my name is Champ. I am happy puppy but already big. I am going to grow up to be a large dog and need a large yard and active family.

Breed - German Shepherd

Sex - Male

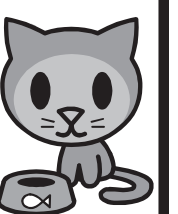
Age - Puppy

Kennel - 119

Impound - 10-23299



Adoption Fee = \$100.00
Includes spay or neuter, microchip, 1st set of vaccinations, rabies shot, de-wormer, and flea treatment
To adopt, call (562) 803-3301



Susan Domen was recently installed to a second consecutive term as president of the Downey Rose Float Association. She is pictured above with installing officer Mike Prokop. Domen's first float, "Jewels of the Pacific," was awarded the Founders Trophy in this year's parade. Other newly-installed officers include Mike Artherton, first vice president; Sue England, treasurer; and Pam Chambers, secretary. New board members are Madelyn Barefoot, Gary DeRemer, Annett Pasco, Lee Ann Sears, Margie Grisson, Jeff Shadic and John Johnston.



On April 3, several members of the Downey Kiwanis Club participated in helping build homes with Habitat for Humanity. Ten homes were built in Lynwood with the help of Kiwanis members from Bellflower, Long Beach and Huntington Park, and Key Club members from Warren and Downey high schools. Pictured above is Kiwanis Lieutenant Gov. Mario Trujillo and Kiwanis member Alex Saab.

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I M to save

Metro Briefs

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Isn't it about time you decided to start some serious saving by going Metro? Experts estimate you can save as much as \$9,000 annually by using public transit instead of paying for gas and parking. Find your best route with the Trip Planner at metro.net.

Go Metro To Dodger Stadium

Take advantage of a winning combination to reach Dodger Stadium this season. Just Go Metro to Union Station and connect with the Dodger Stadium Express. You'll avoid traffic and help reduce air pollution; and your Dodger ticket is good for the fare! The Dodger Stadium Express is made possible by Clean Transportation Funding from MSRC. For more information, visit metro.net.

Make April "Train Safety Month"

Never cross Metro Rail tracks when a train is approaching. Motorists and pedestrians must stop at a crossing as soon as the red lights start flashing, even if the crossing gates have not come down. It's the law - and it might just save your life!

Sign Up For Bike To Work Day

It's time to put away the rain coat and get out the bike helmet. Start training now for Bike To Work Day on Thursday, May 20. Pledge to join in and be eligible to win biking accessories and other prizes. You and your bike also ride free on Metro that day. To register or learn more, visit metro.net.

Line 128 Now Serving Cerritos Towne Center

Enjoy shopping, dining or take in a show at the Cerritos Towne Center when you get there on Metro Local Line 128. The route serves Alondra Boulevard between the Martin Luther King Jr. Transit Center in Compton and Cerritos, with connections to Cerritos Community College in Norwalk. For a timetable, check metro.net.



If you'd like to know more, please call us at 1.800.464.2111, or visit metro.net.

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Enrolled Agent

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www.taxsolutioncenter.com
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Taxpayers who need extra time to file their federal returns this year can file Form 4868 to request an automatic extension. The extension gives you an additional six months, until Oct. 15, to file the tax return.

Preparing and submitting Form 4868 is free to everyone at www.irs.gov.

In addition, taxpayers can use paid preparers or purchased software to electronically file Form 4868. A paper version is also available for download from the IRS Web site, IRS.gov.

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How pious

By Eric Pierce

It's not easy being Catholic these days. It feels like whenever I pick up the newspaper I read something involving the Catholic Church that makes me cringe, cry or bang my head against the wall.

And it's not just the usual sexual abuse allegations that make me question the ethical and moral capabilities of my religious leaders. (The Vatican is *only now* requiring bishops and clerics to report suspected cases of child abuse?) The *L'Osservatore Romano*, the Vatican's official newspaper, ran a statement from the Catholic Church last week "forgiving" the Beatles for their alleged drug use, blasphemous lyrics and "mysterious messages that were possibly even Satanic."

All is forgiven, according to the Church, although I have a hard time picturing Pope Benedict XVI walking around the Vatican bobbing his head to the infectious tunes of "I Want to Hold Your Hand" that supposedly emanate from his iPod.

I also read that the Pope listens to 2pac. Yes, 2pac, the guy who was shot five times, jailed for sexual assault and had "Thug Life" tattooed across his solar plex. Either the Pope has gone nuts or he's secretly a Crip.

Don't get me wrong, I listen to 2pac too. But in my defense, I'm not the freaking Pope. I hold the Pope to a much higher and, dare I say, purer, standard than I do most people, including myself.

If the Pope feels the need to listen to music, and the St. Joseph Catholic Choir is not available, this is what he should be listening to, in my humble opinion:

- 1.) "Good Time Music" - Brady Bunch
- 2.) "My God is an Awesome God" - Michael Smith
- 3.) "I Believe I Can Fly" - R. Kelly [At this point I'm not sure any Catholic leadership should be listening to R. Kelly, but it's an inspiring song nonetheless.]
- 4.) "Mmmmbop" - Hanson
- 5.) Anything by Ke\$ha [The Pope should have to suffer with the rest of us.]

I originally meant this column to be a clarification of my thoughts and beliefs as it pertains to God, and my frustrations when people we hold in high regard let us down. But that's too complicated an issue to put into words, and I don't want to trivialize the issue.

Let's just say I believe in God, I love God, I try to live my life in a manner that would be approved by God, and I will let God judge me when my life is over.

Spat of earthquakes not unusual, experts say

China's tragic magnitude 6.9 earthquake on April 13 and the recent devastating earthquakes in Haiti, Chile, Mexico, and elsewhere have many wondering if this earthquake activity is unusual.

Scientists say 2010 is not showing signs of unusually high earthquake activity. Since 1900, an average of 16 magnitude 7 or greater earthquakes — the size that seismologists define as major — have occurred worldwide each year. Some years have had as few as 6, as in 1986 and 1989, while 1943 had 32, with considerable variability from year to year.

With six major earthquakes striking in the first four months of this year, 2010 is well within the normal range. Furthermore, from April 15, 2009, to April 14, 2010, there have been 18 major earthquakes, a number also well within the expected variation.

"While the number of earthquakes is within the normal range, this does not diminish the fact that there has been extreme devastation and loss of life in heavily populated areas," said USGS Associate Coordinator for Earthquake Hazards Dr. Michael Blanpied.

What will happen next? Aftershocks will continue in the regions around each of this year's major earthquakes sites. It is unlikely that any of these aftershocks will be larger than the earthquakes experienced so far, but structures damaged in the previous events could be further damaged and should be treated with caution. Beyond the ongoing aftershock sequences, earthquakes in recent months have not raised the likelihood of future major earthquakes; that likelihood has not decreased, either. Large earthquakes will continue to occur just as they have in the past.

Though the recent earthquakes are not unusual, they are a stark reminder that earthquakes can produce disasters when they strike populated areas — especially areas where the buildings have not been designed to withstand strong shaking. What can you do to prepare? Scientists cannot predict the timing of specific earthquakes. However, families and communities can improve their safety and reduce their losses by taking actions to make their homes, places of work, schools and businesses as earthquake-safe as possible. The USGS provides information on how you can prepare at earthquake.usgs.gov/prepare.

Provided by the United States Geological Survey.

Letters to the Editor:

Big government

Dear Editor:

I used to look at problems in society through the "eyes of a Republican". Not anymore. I am still a Republican, but I do not base my decisions on what the "party line" says is best.

I am finally tired of both political parties, funded by big business, pitting us against each other. I feel they do this so we take our attention off the bigger picture. The bigger picture of progressive politicians growing our government so a majority of us will "need" them to do "stuff" for us. Things we could, and should, do ourselves through the private sector, with limited government oversight. Government should always help the helpless, but not the clueless.

If you look at any major city across this country, most of them controlled by the progressive politicians of both parties, they have been a total disaster, the worst problem being spending on things that are not mandatory. I am sure it was done with good intentions, but it has been run into the ground by big government. It looks great in the beginning but it will slowly, like under President Bush or Obama, start to deteriorate. Look back at the societies that chose big government. They have all failed under the pressure of high taxes, corruption and greed.

If businesses behave this way we have the freedom to choose to go someplace else (competition). We are basically stuck with big government for years to come. Limited government with lower taxes to spend on how you see fit is the best way.

— Jeffrey East,
Downey

Defending Beck

Dear Editor:

Regarding the three letters appearing recently about Glenn Beck, I also laughed, and my mouth flew open, but I do get the joke — which evidently they do not. Space does not allow me to answer all the remarks made in these three letters, so I will just give you my perspective on a few.

Yes, if you have only watched Beck one time and saw him do a caricature bit about a particular figure or a comedic bit, you might think this is all there is to him, because he was an entertainer/comedian at one time.

But the remark about him fanning the flames of bigotry or hatred means you do not watch often, or never saw the recent show in which Beck had a large number of African Americans in attendance, giving their insights, concerns and open discussion about today's problems. It had to be one of the most eye-opening and interesting segments I have ever seen on TV.

Beck is currently on a mission to teach his viewers history (the truth) and the Constitution. When he recently asked his viewers to read the book "A Patriot's History on the United States," I immediately checked with our local library, only to find out it was not available, nor available for request. Then I checked with two book stores to find it was not available. By the very next morning it was No. 1 on Amazon.com and this past weekend you could find it stacked on the book table at Costco.

When Beck uses his blackboard you can be sure he is going to "connect the dots," meaning the connections between many of the people in the current administration. Personally, I want to know if there are communists (Van Jones), socialists, Marxists or someone (Anita Dunne) when speaking before a group states that her inspiration comes from Mao Tse Tung. Many of these videos are on YouTube.

There is a telephone on Beck's desk with the number known to the White House, in which Beck has asked/begged the White House to call him if anything he has said was not true. Guess what? No calls.

There was one remark about Beck being classified as a "wing nut" by all the responsible (now there is an oxymoron) stations on TV. That should be your first clue as to their agenda. They are all so far left they fall off the charts. NBC, for instance, was a supporter of the president.

Yes, Beck is different — but I find him much more interesting to watch than passionless, boring pundits reading from a teleprompter.

— Bonnie Waisner,
Downey

Letters to the editor may be submitted by writing to The Downey Patriot, 8301 E. Florence Ave., Suite 100, Downey, CA 90240 or by e-mail to downeypatriot@yahoo.com. Letters may be edited for style and/or content. Letters must include a full name and address for verification.

Planning for an emergency - Week 3

By Mark Sauter

Did you feel the ground move on Easter Sunday? Although the earthquake was centered a long way from Downey, things still swayed and moved here. I noticed a couple of items had fallen from my office shelf when I arrived that Monday morning.

The experts are predicting the next major earthquake will be centered in the southern desert area of California (not that far from the epicenter of Sunday's quake). They predict the waves of energy will then radiate up the San Andreas Fault into our area, in a similar manner as our most recent event. The experts say we won't always be as lucky as we were on Easter; they say the chance of a disastrous earthquake occurring in our area within the next 30 years is very high.

If the next big earthquake strikes along the southern San Andreas Fault line, it will likely have a major impact on the East-West supply lines we depend on. Everyday we use water, natural gas and electrical power delivered across the San Andreas Fault. Experts predict it could take a week before the infrastructure lines are repaired and supplying vital resources to our area after a major earthquake in the southern desert area.

This week's objectives for our on-going emergency preparedness efforts will remain consistent. Each week we need to increase our understanding of our local disaster risks, expand our planning efforts and obtain more supplies.

When we consider our local disaster risks, we should be thinking about all of those events that could disrupt our lives. For example, the earthquake last Sunday is an obvious risk. However, the not so obvious issues such as traffic accidents and power failures can also cause problems for us. In just the last two weeks there have been local examples of these two calamities in our area as well.

When the power goes down, we may have problems with our own homes. It could be the power-dependent health equipment that is necessary to maintain a person's air-supply or the refrigerator storing the family food supply. Power interruptions also cause problems with traffic lights and other safety equipment we rely upon. Do you know the 'rules of the road' when the traffic lights are inoperable? Do your loved ones know another route to school or work when the nearby intersection is closed due to a serious accident? Do your home smoke detectors work without electricity? Most smoke detectors have a battery back-up option.

Planning...Can you communicate the local situation to your co-workers or family members? Can you use a cell phone or send a text message without



Support for the arts

Dear Editor:

The city of Downey — those of us who attended the Downey Symphony's concert at the Downey Theatre on Saturday evening — was treated to a remarkable performance by one of the country's outstanding young violin virtuosos in her performance of the solo in Max Bruch's Violin Concerto No. 2 in G minor. It was an outstanding performance by Ms. Elizabeth Pitcairn, with matching support by the orchestra.

What made the Downey Symphony's performance even more remarkable for those in the city was advocate for the arts was to see our fine mayor, Anne Bayer, step up on stage and recognize with a certificate Ms. Pitcairn for her performance. Mayor Bayer's unexpected action goes a long way in encouraging not only the Downey Symphony to keep doing all they can to continue to enrich the cultural-artistic ambiance of our city with its programs but also all those others who advocate for the arts for our fine city.

As Mr. Lawrence Christon has often reminded us on this page, fostering, encouraging and supporting the arts is the mark of a city which cares for the quality of life of its residents. Our mayor should be commended for coming forth with a truly meaningful gesture of support for the Symphony and the performing arts in the community.

— Harold Tsklenis,
Downey

Selective enforcement

Dear Editor:

Our Code Enforcement branch of the police force is a reactive agency, not proactive. If you want to get revenge on your neighbor, you can look for a violation, call Code Enforcement, and they will happily issue a warning to the offending citizen.

As the Code Enforcement officer is driving to your house to notify you that your Christmas lights have been up a day too long, he is tripping over corn cobs as they pass by the man with the stolen shopping car, in which is a black trash bag filled with corn-on-the-cob. This unidentified vendor has no apparent way to wash his hands, pays no taxes, accounts to no one, and disturbs the neighborhood by honking his way down the street.

I am certain our police and Code Enforcement have driven past these men quite a few times. Yet they persist. Right behind the honking man is an honest person driving a marked ice cream truck, who has a business license, is paying his taxes and is trying to sell to people who have already bought either corn or flavored ice from the recesses of a black trash bag.

It seems to me it would be very simple for Code Enforcement agents to use their time wisely by actually driving around and observing these things for themselves and dealing with them proactively instead of only responding when a neighbor tattletale on another neighbor, thereby encouraging the spirit of revenge among citizens in the community.

The reasons Code Enforcement responds and how they respond need to be examined. The tunnel vision needs to be corrected.

— David Dominessy,
Downey

relying on a teenager for assistance? Could you warn them about a dangerous situation like a hazardous materials spill near your home? Is there a predetermined, out-of-state number your family members could call to check-in and report their location and condition? Power interruptions and traffic accidents unfortunately occur in our city. The important thing to remember is preparing for emergencies will always benefit our families and our workplaces.

How about our local support network? Work with your neighbors to establish some expectations on what will be done if one family is home and the other is away. Develop the trust necessary to count on your neighbor to check on your house after a problem. Do you have contact numbers (landline and cell) for your neighbors? Consider working with your neighbors and making a commitment to check on each others family members as well. How about the senior citizen who lives down the street? Can you help them during an emergency? Perhaps they can help you with a child care issue in a pinch or maybe they can be the eyes of the neighborhood while most of your neighborhood is away at work.

Supplies...Obtain the following:

- additional gallon of water for each family member. After this week you should now have two (2) gallons of water stored for each family member. Water (or a lack of it) is the number one problem after an emergency.

- one can of meat per family member. Each family member should now have two cans of meat in storage. Keep in mind, there are lots of options for meats. Emergency supplies do not have to be tasteless or bland. Consider buying foods that you can use in a couple months and replace later.

- one can of fruit per person. Again, consider a variety of fruits.

- personal hygiene items. If you need it to make it through a day, then have enough for an extra week in a kit. With most supplies now sold in bulk, this item is almost forced upon us. Just don't wait until you have exhausted all of your supplies before re-filling.

- map of the area. These are readily available from the internet or other local sources. Good information for evacuations and for finding certain spots in the city if points of distribution are established. For example, had the flu vaccinations last fall been offered at a city park, would you and your family be able to find the specific park?

Finally, please be sure you have met the first two weeks emergency preparedness objectives. If not, start working towards meeting those objectives.

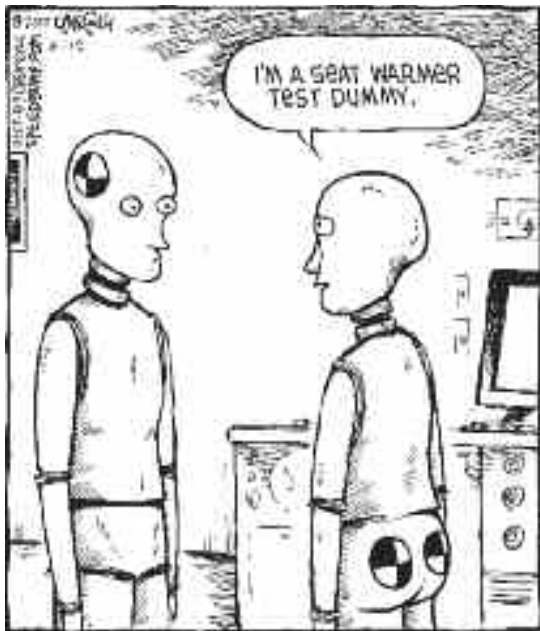
Any questions or comments? Please send them to ready@downeyca.org. Mark Sauter is deputy city manager in charge of emergency preparedness for the city of Downey.

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STAFF	
Jennifer DeKay-Givens	Publisher/Adv. Director
Eric Pierce	City Editor
Henry Veneracion	Staff Writer
Scott Cobos	Staff Writer
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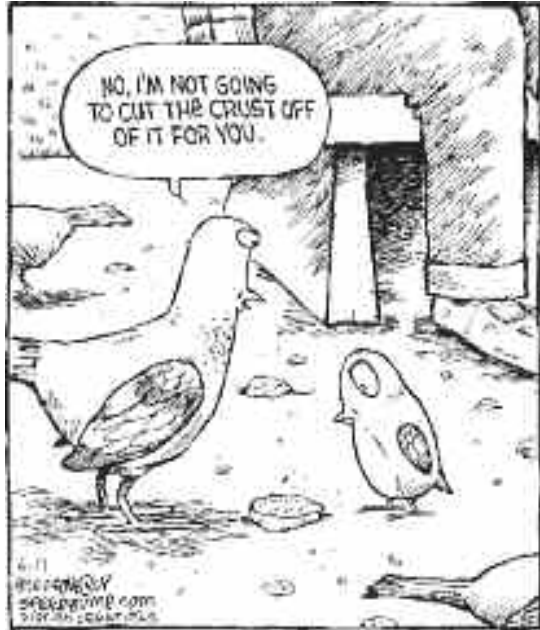
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The Downey Patriot is published weekly by Jennifer DeKay-Givens. Controlled Distribution, 25,000 copies printed. Distributed by CIPS Marketing Group, Inc., Los Angeles, CA.

SPEED BUMP



DAVE COVERLY



Downey Community Calendar

Events For April

- Sat. April 17: **Downey Youth Football signups**, Apollo and Furman parks, 10 a.m.
- Sat. April 17: **Healthy Kids Day**, YMCA, 10 a.m.
- Tues. April 20: **Yiddish language discussion**, Temple Ner Tamid, 10:30 a.m.
- Wed. April 21: **Speaker Paul Caporali**, OLPH Parish Center, 10 a.m.
- Wed. April 21: **Warren choir concert**, Downey Theatre, 7 p.m.
- Thurs. April 22: **Historical Society meeting**, Barbara J. Riley Community & Senior Center, 7:30 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

- 8:00 a.m.: **Job Club**, 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

- 9:30 a.m.: **Downey Seniors Club**, at Apollo Park, for information call Nadine Morris at 923-9422.
- 10 a.m.: **Downey Bocce Club**, at 7850 Quill Drive, for information call John Fiorenza at 652-4399.
- 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.
- 1st Tues., 7:30 a.m.: **Gangs Out of Downey**, at City Hall training room.
- 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.
- Tues., Thurs. & Sat., 10 a.m.: **Downey Bocce Club**, at 7850 Quill Drive, for info. call John Fiorenza 652-4399.

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 7850 Quill Drive, for information call Marie Puch at 869-4366.
- 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., 7:30 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 Pearl Koday 633-4355.
- 2nd & 4th Weds., 5:30 9.m.: **Lions Club**, at Cafe & Stuff, for information call 803-4048.
- 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.

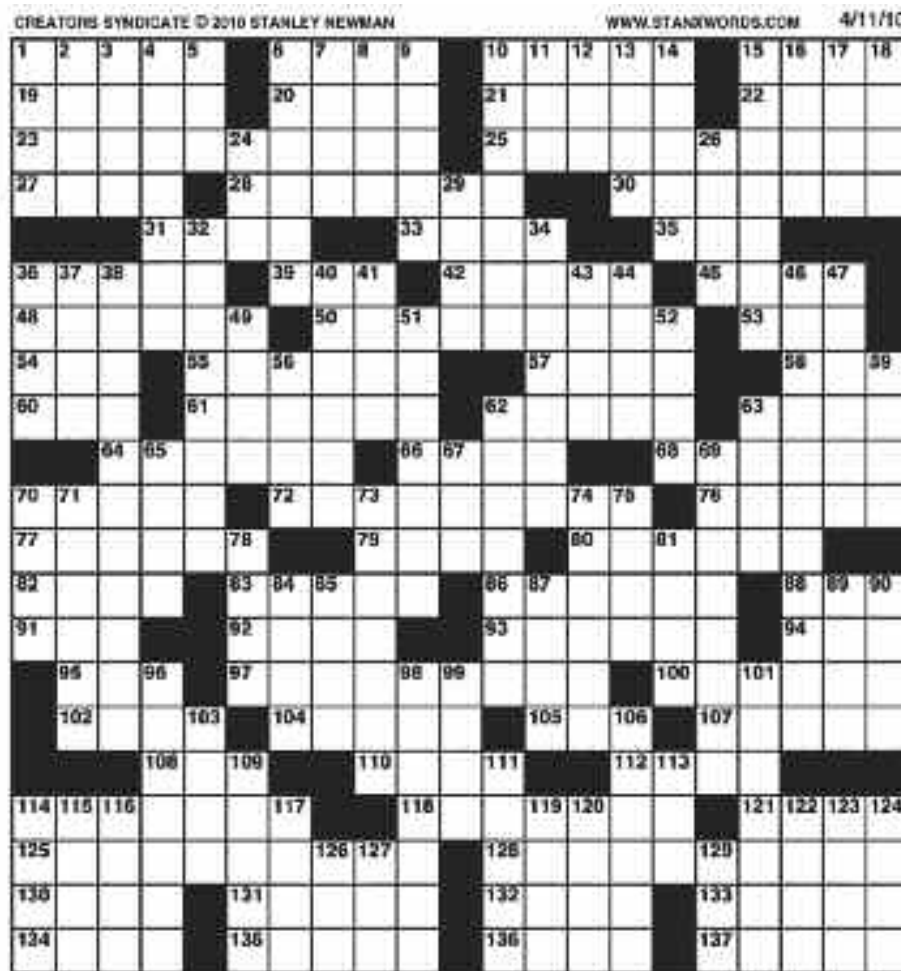
On This Day...

- April 16, 1789:** President-elect George Washington left Mount Vernon, Va. for his inauguration.
- 1862:** A bill ending slavery in the District of Columbia became law.
- 1947:** More than 500 people were killed and 200 left missing when a French ship carrying ammonium nitrate fertilizer caught fire and blew up in Texas City, Tex. harbor.
- 1972:** Apollo 16 departed on a voyage to the moon.
- 2003:** Michael Jordan played in his last NBA game as a player on the Washington Wizards.
- 2007:** A student gunned down 32 people on the campus of Virginia Tech University.
- Birthdays:** Pope Benedict XVI (83), singer Bobby Vinton (75), basketball hall of famer Kareem Abdul-Jabbar (63), actor Jon Cryer (45), comedian Martin Lawrence (45) and actor Peter Billingsley (38).

THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

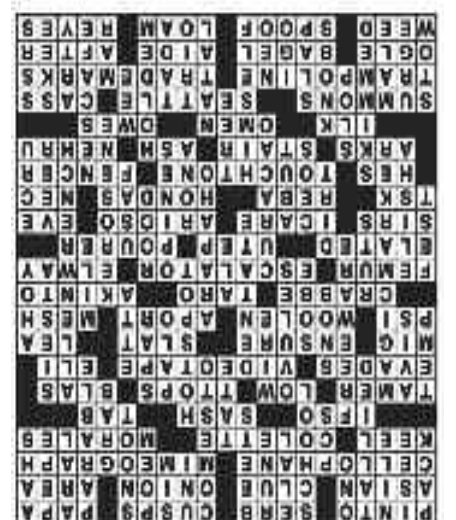
Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com)
THE MARKS BROTHERS: They were all once 128 Across
 by Fred Piscop

- ACROSS**
- 1 Spotted horse
- 5 Now! Sad native
- 10 Zodiac borders
- 15 Biggest of the Three Bears
- 19 Like most Turks
- 20 Colonel Mustard's game
- 21 Satiric news source, with The
- 22 Floor space
- 23 Packaging material
- 25 Duplicator of old
- 27 Capsize, with "over"
- 28 Gigi novelist
- 30 Esal of NYPD Blue
- 31 "In that case..."
- 33 Window part
- 35 File-folder feature
- 36 Whip snapper
- 39 Nearing depletion
- 42 Sporty car roofs
- 45 Gif (Le Sage novel)
- 48 Slips by
- 50 Recording medium
- 53 Ivy League
- 54 Korean War jet
- 55 Nail down
- 57 Mattress support
- 58 Gambling place
- 60 Letters on a tire
- 61 Like many mittens
- 62 Left on deck
- 63 Go well together
- 64 Flash Gordon portrayer
- 66 South Seas tuber
- 68 Closely resembling
- 70 Our longest bone
- 72 Way up or down
- 76 '90s Denver Broncos star
- 77 Buoyed up
- 79 Lone Star State sch.
- 80 Wine steward, often
- 82 Formal letter intro
- 83 Words of compassion
- 85 Melodic passage
- 88 Woodward's Oscar-winning role
- 91 Chiding sound
- 92 Musical McEntire
- 93 Kawasaki alternatives
- 94 Japanese monitor manufacturer
- 95 Bucks and bulls
- 97 Rotary-dial successor
- 100 One with a foil
- 102 Torah holders
- 104 72 Across alternative
- 105 Volcanic spew
- 107 Indira Gandhi's dad
- 108 Kind
- 110 Gathering clouds, say
- 112 Is in the hole
- 114 Judge's citation
- 118 Space Needle city
- 121 Mamas and the Papas member
- 125 Thing with springs
- 128 What the puzzle's long answers all were
- 130 Feast one's eyes on
- 131 Sort of roll
- 132 Right-hand person
- 133 Diet-ad photo caption
- 134 Nursery intruder
- 135 SNL bit
- 136 Good earth
- 137 Spanish kings
- DOWN**
- 1 Work in the shipping department
- 2 "Got it"
- 3 Africa's longest river
- 4 Counted up
- 5 Beatie bride
- 6 Any of the Ivies
- 7 Super-secure airline
- 8 Ancient character
- 9 Root crop
- 10 Reacts to smelling salts
- 11 Prefix for dimensional
- 12 Computer model, for short
- 13 Greeting-card feature, often
- 14 Nose-in-air type
- 15 Story with a moral
- 16 Fast-shrinking sea
- 17 Cartoon skunk
- 18 Sounds of relief
- 24 Windows 7 runners
- 26 Excite, slangily
- 29 Modern (London gallery)
- 32 No-cost programs
- 34 "In" place
- 36 Sidewalk Santa, e.g.
- 37 Budget alternative
- 38 Postor maker's buy
- 40 Rudimentary seeds
- 41 Undercover device
- 43 Alto, CA
- 44 Exchange zingers
- 46 Tool with a hexagonal shaft
- 47 Afternoon snooze
- 49 Nose-in-air type
- 51 With a toothed edge
- 52 Sundance's girlfriend
- 56 "H!" ("Amen!")
- 59 Ship-to-ship shout
- 62 Plains Indian
- 63 1,760 yards
- 65 Dirt-road grooves
- 67 Tankard filler
- 69 Lantern filler
- 70 Suffix for slug or song
- 71 Otis of elevators
- 73 Mai-tai liqueur
- 74 Puts one's two cents in
- 75 Crucifix
- 78 Gossip, slangily
- 81 Its academy is in Colo. Spgs.
- 84 Co. bigwigs
- 85 Touch on
- 87 Author Jaffe
- 89 Zig or zag
- 90 Tights shade
- 96 Looked over quickly
- 98 Celeb's cameo-role credit, perhaps
- 99 Place for a small house
- 101 Folger's alternative
- 103 Zero-star fare
- 106 Poker variety
- 109 Dresser features
- 111 Birth-related
- 113 Itay-bitay
- 114 Pack (away)
- 115 The munchies, for example
- 116 Buck or bull
- 117 Open-handed assault
- 119 Small jazz group
- 120 Mock fanfare
- 122 Pseudo-cultured
- 123 Ball (arcade game)
- 124 Baltic states, once, Abbr.
- 126 "My turn!"
- 127 Prefix for 111 Down
- 129 Spoil, as a view



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 name of NOVI SAD (6 Across), SERBIA's second-largest city, literally means "New Plantation." MITC (54 Across) is an acronym of the last names of the aircraft's two Soviet designers, Artem Mikoyan and Mikhail Gurevich. SIM (12 Down) is short for "simulation."





In step with the Mirabal sisters

■ **BOOK REVIEW:** 'In the Time of the Butterflies.'

BY GABRIELA COYA, INTERN

In the first few pages of Julia Alvarez's novel "In the Time of the Butterflies," the reader discovers the deadly fate of three of the four main characters. What is left to find out are the events that led up to their tragic end at the bottom of a 150 foot cliff.

Alvarez's novel, mostly taking place from 1943 to 1960 in the Dominican Republic, fictionalizes the true story of the four Mirabal Sisters — Maria Teresa, Minerva, Patria, and the only survivor, Dede — who were famous revolutionaries against the corrupt General Trujillo and his dictatorship.

Told through each of the four sisters' points of view as they grow out of their childhoods and into adulthood, the novel follows many of the conflicts the girls must face, ranging from boys to lies and even the politics of their country. The Mirabal sisters, later also known as *Las Mariposas* ("the butterflies" in English), become symbols of bravery and freedom in their homeland when they publicly stand up to their country's dictatorship during a time when everyone had to hang a portrait of their leader on their wall according to the law.

Unfortunately, being women revolutionaries (or just plain revolutionaries) is not easy. While opposing the government, the four women struggle juggling their children, husbands, religions, and education all at once. In their ideological conquest, the four women constantly find themselves having to choose between what they want to accomplish in terms of changing the world, and what needs to be done in terms of raising their children and keeping their families safe.

Unfortunately, just like in reality, three of the four sisters die except Dede. But why is she the sole survivor? Dede, in the novel and in real life, becomes the only living *mariposa* and martyr who continues to tell their story to the media that never seems to stop asking questions. She is the one who experienced the revolution with them. She is the one who knows that their deaths were not a coincidence.

Although the story takes place in the Dominican Republic more than 40 years ago and deals with the Dominican culture, the story of family and political strife is undoubtedly universal. Parents will always disagree with children one time or another, siblings will have rivalries, and everyone has to face a situation that is unfair.

"In the Time of the Butterflies" not only provides insight on an important historical event, but on family and deciding between skimming through life surviving or fighting for the greater good even when it seems the bad is great.

Dealing with the AP tests

■ Students have different methods to prepare for AP testing.

BY JOANNA QUINTANA, INTERN

DOWNEY -- With Advance Placement exams soon to be arriving in May, ambitious students at Downey and Warren are caught in the throes of their preparations, using every study skill and stress relieving technique they have ever obtained to help them survive.

Though anxiety is an emotion likely to be felt in the last weeks before the AP tests begin to take place, the question of a student's ability to do well lies not entirely in the numerous study sessions they participated in, but in their confidence of their capabilities.

Guidance Counselor Melody King, who has been a part of Downey faculty for more than six years, believes in the correlation between a teenager's success on an exam and their confidence, and that this confidence should indeed be felt since Downey made the extra effort to recruit the best teachers for these difficult courses.

"Stress is one of the biggest obstacles people have to overcome," says King. "I know the kids are prepared. In the past, Downey scored so well on the AP tests that I know they will all do very well, so basically it's just: you're ready, so go in, relax and get it done."

"We've made what we believe to be the correct adjustments so that everybody is prepared and the teachers here are the best at what they do. If the administration can't find someone that does an outstanding job teaching an AP class, we do away with the AP class. It's either the best of the best or nothing."

Though the AP teachers may be keeping up on their end of the bargain, students do not hesitate to take extra measures so as to ensure their success on these tests. Especially when they are forced to balance more than one AP exam, the ambitious students at Downey sacrifice and learn how to manage their time so that they can get their studying in.

One such student includes senior Eileen Rico, who has learned the art of balancing the studying



PHOTOS BY FLICKR USER MERELYMEL13/CREATIVE COMMONS LICENSE

for three AP exams and a sport that requires a fair amount of her time and effort.

"I try to pace myself," she said. "I usually start preparing for an AP test a little bit beforehand. All I do is not stress too much about it and keep myself involved in extracurricular stuff like my softball, ASB and everything, and just hang out with friends but still save time to study so it's kind of a counterbalance of the fun things, but also of study time. I think that is the best way I cope with it."

Though students are given the resources to perform well, test-taking strategies and stress-relieving techniques can play a part in determining just how far that student's capabilities will reach. Calculus teacher and previous AP test-taker, Richere Barbeau, attempts to assist her anxious students as they prepare for other AP exams.

"Study ahead of time and do not wait until the last minute because if you wait until the last minute, you're going to be really stressed out and there really isn't a whole lot you can do at the last minute, anyway," says Barbeau. "Just try to study ahead of time and once that week comes around, eat a good breakfast and get some sleep and just do your best because stressing out about it isn't really going to make a difference. I see students who are taking like the AP English test and they're stressing out and you can just tell that they're really nervous the week before. I try not to give them that much homework and try to go easy on them but there isn't really much you can do."

"You've been preparing all year so if you have been doing work and putting in the time, then when it comes down to it, you'll be okay."



PHOTOS BY FLICKR USER BRITNEYBUSH/CREATIVE COMMONS LICENSE

It's crunch time

■ With spring break nothing but a memory, attention turns to academics.

BY DEBORAH WON, INTERN

DOWNEY -- Spring break has come to an end, and instead of celebrating for the arrival of the final quarter of the year, many students are dreading these next few months of "crunch time."

"After spring break, everything speeds up," said student Allison Worthy. "You have testing, AP tests, and finals aren't far behind. In order to prepare, you spend a lot of time studying. But without the break, people would crack under pressure. It's definitely a student's crunch time if you want good grades."

Most students share similar viewpoints as Worthy, as the rapidly approaching last weeks of school wave a red flag to students to get their act together and push toward their goals of obtaining good grades.

"After spring break, I have to start preparing for finals and testing which can be stressful, but this gives me an opportunity to bring my grades up," said junior Julie Ledesma.

April and May are also the infamous months of test preparation and test taking, and are the last obstacles students must overcome before being rewarded with a school-free summer vacation. Within these hectic months, teachers are rushing to finish the curriculum and material, while trying to work around the Standardized Testing and Reporting schedules, which in turn increases the stress on the students' parts.

But for many other students, the stress doesn't stop with state testing. Academically competitive students are in the Advance Placement collegiate level classes, and are expected to take the Advanced Placement tests in the first two weeks of May.

"During the last months of school, academics become my life!" said sophomore Darien Fehn. "I am in an AP European

History class, so the biggest test of the year requires a lot of preparation and dedication. Also, state testing comes along. I have to make sure I stay focused."

Wait, there's even more, especially for the juniors. With college applications swiftly approaching, college-bound juniors are also preparing to take the SATs, the ACTs, or both. Preparation for these classes may mean anything from reviewing guideline and prep books such as the Princeton Review, or taking certain SAT classes specialized to raise those scores. Regardless, juniors are being bombarded with the need to prepare for various tests that can make or break their college applications that will be completed later this fall. For many four-year universities, taking additional SAT II tests, or the SAT Subject tests, are an additional requirement. What a headache

"It's always hard coming back to school after a week of relaxing, but with senior year less than 11 weeks ahead focusing on classes is key," said Chelsea Vinas. "I want to make sure senior year is filled with enjoyable classes and no repeats."

It is very important for all students to keep in mind that a D or an F on a report card can be devastating to one's transcript, and often times require a retake of the class during the summer or the following year. It would be wise to take Vinas' advice and focus on academics these next few months, or else you may be stuck with taking a class all over again next year

But the only group of students that can truly take a deep breath and relax a bit these next few months are the top dogs of the school, the seniors. With college nearing very soon, the only thing seniors need to worry about is choosing which school they will next be attending, how to make that transition, and of course keeping grades up to a decent level. But otherwise, seniors are free from the stresses of standardized testing and finals.

Netflix now available via Wii

Netflix members who own a Nintendo Wii can now have thousands of movies and TV episodes streamed directly through their Wii.

Netflix streaming through the Wii costs no additional money to Netflix members who have a plan starting at \$8 a month, a Wii console and a broadband Internet connection.

"More than 28 million people already use the Wii console to play games, stay fit and have fun," said Reggie Fils-Aime, president of Nintendo of America. "Now they have another reason to use the sys-

tem every day -- to enjoy great movies from Netflix and other video content."

Wii now reaches more consumers than any other device that currently supports streaming movies from Netflix, which had 12.3 million members at the end of 2009.

"Launching Netflix on the Wii home console marks a significant advance in the evolution of our service," said Netflix co-founder and CEO Reed Hastings. "Wii has created immense consumer excite-

ment and has meaningfully altered the consumer electronics landscape."

To enable Netflix streaming, users will need a broadband Internet connection and a Netflix instant streaming disc for the Wii. Netflix members can receive a free disc by going online to www.netflix.com/wii.

The discs will be delivered for free by first-class mail, generally one day after a request is received.

2009-2010 Interns for
The Downey Patriot

Gabriela Coya

Joanna Quintana

Deborah Won

Joseph Apodaca - Sports

Alyssa Wynne - Sports

Paul Heidecker - Photographer

Carlos Ontiveros - Photographer

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Please contact SMHS for tickets or they may be purchased at the door. Several of the actors are students from neighboring schools.
Admission applications are still being accepted Join the Victorian Family
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Office: (562) 861-2271
www.stmatthiashs.org
HOME OF THE VICTORIANS

APRIL WHAT'S HOT TIPS

		
<p>Francesca Baldi It Ain't Easy Being Green</p> <p>Going green just got easier...It's time to take a turn for the best and go green 'cause we all know it's the NEW black. Eco-friendly finds have hit the runways and designers are cautious of their carbon footprint as new trends take form, so why shouldn't we? One small way that we can become eco-friendly is by recycling paper, bottles and even makeup. GNC is proud to go green this season and has aluminum water bottle on sale for \$9.99. This great buy is fabulous for reducing our consumption of H2O bottles and cuts down on the amount of plastic we throw away. Celebs like Amanda Bynes, Beyoncé and John Mayer are among the few who have jumped on the go green band wagon and for \$9.99 I encourage you too to head over to GNC in the Stonewood Center and pick up your eco-friendly find. April 22nd marks the 40th anniversary of Earth Day so I urge you all to spend the day outdoors and thank Mother Nature for all she has given us! Go for a hike ride, have a picnic, or just walk the dog...but don't forget your water bottle. XOXO, FB PS Give a hoot, don't pollute!!</p>	<p>Erika Kimura B is for Bamboo</p> <p>After a long, drawn-out cold spell, be ready to ditch the wool sweaters and thick sheepskin boots in favor of breezy summer dresses in the spirit of warm-weather fashion. I've been looking around and was pleased to see Forever 21 now offers the perfect little sundress made from bamboo. Bamboo is gaining popularity for its sustainability, soft texture likened to cotton and cashmere and ability to be cultivated without the use of pesticides. In other words, it's eco-friendly. The icing on the cake is that this dress is available in eight vibrant, seasonal colors (I'm in love with the teal) and will cost you less than \$25. Now they're really speaking my language. I paired my organic dress with a vintage colorful seashell necklace from my mom's old jewelry box. Go green and buy yourself an eco-friendly dress and dress it up with your grandmother or mother's "recycled" jewelry!</p>	<p>Brittney Miller Step Into A Cleaner World</p> <p>Lets be kinder to Mother Nature by stepping out in our "106 SF VANS". This surf shoe is built with natural hemp and is outlined with eco-friendly bamboo. The water based ink and glue keeps moisture out and is comfortable to wear! Soo Lets GO GREEN with van's sneakers for \$60.00</p>

New Titles at the Downey City Library

- Fiction**
- **"Love and Summer"** by William Trevor. The tragic consequences of a woman's lost honor and a family's shame haunt several generations in Trevor's masterful 14th novel.
 - **"Nothing Right"** by Antonya Nelson. A collection of eleven stories about the beauty and struggles of daily life in Kansas.
 - **"Orange County Noir"** edited by Gary Phillips. This anthology of mystery stories from some of California's best writers proves that there is a dark side to most places, even sunny Orange County.
 - **"The Prodigal Wife"** by Marcia Willett. A television personality takes his new girlfriend home to meet his extended family—and the mother who deserted him and his father years ago.
 - **"Shades of Grey"** by Clea Simon. Dulcie, a 20-something grad student, is having an awful summer. She has to put her beloved cat, Mr. Grey, to sleep, she can't decide on a thesis topic—and then she's framed for murder.
- Non-Fiction**
- **"The Genius and the Goddess"** by Jeffrey Meyers. A biographer gives an intimate look at the relationship and marriage of Arthur Miller and Marilyn Monroe.
 - **"How Patients Should Think"** by Ray Moynihan and Melissa Sweet. Ten questions to ask your doctor about drugs, medical tests and treatment.
 - **"Switch"** by Chip Heath and Dan Heath. The authors of "Made to Stick" discuss why it is so hard to make a change at work, in our communities and in our personal lives.
 - **"Twitterville"** by Shel Isreal. Advice for business owners on how to survive and thrive in the new global neighborhoods.
 - **"Your Brain After Chemo"** by Dan Silverman, M.D. A doctor offers practical tips for lifting the mental fog and getting back in focus after chemotherapy.
- Visit www.downeylibrary.org and click on "New and Notable Books" to browse more titles

Skate, video game competition

LONG BEACH – Lakewood SK8, a ministry of First Baptist Church of Lakewood, will hold its ninth annual skateboarding, BMX and video game competition May 15 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and May 16 from 1 to 8 p.m.

Competitions will also be held in aggressive inline skating and scooter. Admission is free and prizes will be awarded to the top finishers in each competition level. Food, T-shirts and autographed items will be available for purchase.

Registration is required the day of the event and release waivers must be signed by a legal guardian for all minors.

Every event will include different levels of competition, from 10-and-under to sponsored categories. The video game competition will include Super Smash Brothers Brawl, Street Fighter IV, Skate 2, Guitar Hero, Mario Kart Wii, Rock Band 2 (no drums) and Wii Sports Resort (swordplay).

First Baptist Church of Lakewood is at 5336 E. Arbor Rd. in Long Beach, near Del Amo and Bellflower boulevards.

For a full itinerary of events, visit www.lakewoodsk8.org or call (562) 420-1471 ext. 150.

DINING-OUT DEALS

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4 Gyro Sandwiches or Donair Sandwiches Valued at \$23.80
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Managers Special • No coupon needed • limit 4

Turkey Walnut Sandwich \$3.25
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Expires 4-30-10 • Downey Location Only • 1 coupon per party

20% Off Your Total Bill
Present this coupon to the server at the time of sale and receive a 20% discount off your total bill (including entrées, non-alcoholic beverages, side items and desserts). Order your Holiday Pies Now!

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Restaurant & Bakery

Not valid on Whole Pie To-Go, Whole Quiche To-Go and Take Home Feasts. Not Valid on Holidays, Excludes Banquets. Limit 1 coupon per party per visit. Dine-in only. Cannot be combined with any other offer, discount or coupon. No cash value. Sales Tax must be paid by guest. Discount not valid on alcoholic beverages. Not valid with Kids Eat Free. Valid at Downey location only. Offer expires 4-30-10.

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ALL DIGITAL PRESENTATION

CLASH OF THE TITANS 3D (DIGITAL 3DX) PG (11:40, 1:50, 4:35, 7:10, 9:50)

HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON 3D (DIGITAL 3DX) PG (11:40, 1:50, 4:35, 7:10, 9:50)

DEATH AT A FUNERAL R (12:05, 2:35, 5:05, 7:35, 10:05)

KICK-ASS R (10:40, 11:20, 1:30, 2:10, 4:20, 5:00, 7:20, 8:00, 9:20, 11:00)

500 KIDNAPERS (10:40, 11:20, 1:30, 2:10, 4:20, 5:00, 7:20, 8:00, 10:20)

DATE NIGHT PG-13 (11:40, 11:45, 1:30, 2:15, 4:00, 4:45, 7:35, 7:45, 9:25, 10:00)

CLASH OF THE TITANS PG-13 (11:40, 2:10, 5:00, 7:50, 10:30)

TYLER PERRY'S WHY DID I GET MARRIED TOO PG-13 (7:40, 10:20)

HOT TUB TIME MACHINE R (11:35, 2:35, 5:10, 7:55, 10:25)

HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON (11:50, 2:30, 5:10)

Times for Friday-Thursday, April 30-31, 2010

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SCOTT COBOS

Welcome back, Tiger

My only regret in life, well, maybe not in life but this weekend, was not buying the premium sports package for DirecTV.

There was so much baseball on, and we all know that I bleed Dodger blue, and just baseball in general. Also, the Lakers were wrapping up the top seed in the Western Conference. Good for them, but it was expected. The most entertaining thing though, while people will say that they fall asleep watching the sport, was the Masters.

Yes, this is going to be another column about Tiger Woods, but come on, the guy is like a reality television star now. Wherever he goes, cameras are there. Whatever he says is televised like a national address to the United States. Whatever he does is ridiculed, discussed and even still imitated.

But what made this weekend so entertaining was not the fact that he was coming back to professional golf finally. It wasn't the interviews that he gave after his rounds, or the cool shades that he decided to wear because of the "high pollen count." It wasn't his interaction with the fans either.

The most entertaining thing about this weekend is that after a five month hiatus, he came back to golf, threw down the gauntlet to all the players in the field and essentially said "I'm back and I'm still Tiger Woods."

One of ESPN's columnists a few weeks ago wrote an article about how people were starting to immediately write off Tiger in the Masters. The biggest question that he kept asking over and over again was "What if Tiger won?"

A great question indeed it was. What if Tiger won the whole thing? What would have changed? Would people be more forgiving to what happened? Would it feel tainted? Would it be one of the most endearing achievements seen in sports?

In all honesty, the answer lies in two words: who cares? The one thing that we found out by watching the Masters is that Tiseger's golf game is still as good as anyone's on the planet. He won't be vacating that No. 1 world ranking any time soon.

Phil Mickelson winning the Masters really was a touching story, especially with his wife Amy who has been battling breast cancer meeting him at the 18th green. Lefty played a fantastic bogey-free round on Sunday and absolutely deserved to win the green jacket.

But do you honestly think he wasn't looking at the leader board thinking to himself whether or not Tiger was going to make a big move? Tiger is still in the dome of every golfer out there.

Some of the shots he made were ridiculous. Can you hole one out on Sunday from 150-plus yards out? Or can you purposely snap hook a 212 yard approach shot to be within six feet of the hole for birdie?

Well, Tiger still can. It was good seeing him back out there struggling with his swing and still almost winning a major. While he did say he didn't know when he'll be back and that he's going to reevaluate a few things, we do know we'll see him again in the coming month or so. Why? He just turned in his application for the US Open.

Until next time Tiger. Welcome back.



The Downey United soccer team defeated Canyon Country, 2-0, in the finals recently to be crowned BU14 champions. The team is coached by Mauricio Sarmiento and William Del Valle. Pictured above, top row, left to right: Frankie, Hector Jr., Andrew, Brandon, Matthew, Andy, Justice, Alex and Miguel. Kneeling: Mike, Phillip, Luke, Justin and Joshua.

Girls learning lessons beyond lacrosse

■ LACROSSE: Coach preaches heart and desire.

BY ALYSSA WYNNE, SPORTS INTERN

DOWNEY – The dream of having a girls lacrosse program at Downey High School never received any thought until Carmen Escalante, a determined junior at the time, refused to take "No, you can't play on the boys team" for an answer.

"[Downey boys' lacrosse head coach Scott Witkin] told me that many girls had asked to join as well and if I really wanted to go all in, I should take a risk and see if a girls lacrosse team could be possible," said Escalante. "[We] spoke to [Downey principal Tom] Houts and he said that if enough girls wanted to join and if we could find a coach then it would be all right. So I placed announcements and what do you know: a lot of girls had always wanted to play lacrosse!"

Although Escalante decided not to pursue the sport for personal reasons, she still stuck by the girls and attended every game and practice. But it wasn't until Witkin approached David Thompkins that the dream became a reality.

"I told the 50 or so girls in a meeting that I hadn't played the sport and that I was aware that they hadn't played either, but if they were willing to go on a journey with me then I was all in," Thompkins said after he accepted the coaching offer.

And so the adventure began. Thompkins and each eager lady learned how to hold the stick and began the process of learning how to play girls' lacrosse. Thompkins even developed a mantra: "Heart plus desire equals victory."

The girls who had experience with boys lacrosse were deeply disappointed, however, when they realized that lacrosse for males and females are almost entirely different games. The rules and regulations are made so that the girls do not get hurt, considering they do not wear helmets nor pads, and goggles, gloves, and mouth guards are optional.

Still, the biggest obstacle that remains with girls' lacrosse is how to finance the sport, which, on average, costs a minimum of \$400 to play the first year. Many of the ladies have worked hard through fundraising efforts and raising publicity. Eventually, Thompkins hopes to develop a summer camp

that will supply girls interested in playing with sticks, goggles and a ball.

"We have several girls right now that could compete at the next level. For instance: our two captains, Candy Andrade and Evelyn Arroyo, are our scoring leaders, while all the other seniors would have to be mentioned because they complete and make the team whole," said Thompkins. "I also think it is fair to say that we have three juniors that are and will continue to be the backbone of the team."

The team continues to have recognition in Downey. They are in a very difficult and experienced league and are hopeful to compete for the CIF championship.

"Thus far we have only two games where the scores weren't close, but all others have been a loss by one or two points in regulation and overtime. Our record (2-5) shows one thing but the teams that we have faced know that we don't play like a two year team," said Thompkins. "We still have eight games left before playoffs, so with heart and desire we will have victory."

Downey keeping an eye on Warren

■ SOFTBALL: Vikings are impressive, but Warren looms.

BY ALYSSA WYNNE, SPORTS INTERN

DOWNEY – Warren remains Downey's toughest competitor in softball after losing first to them last season, and Downey manager Micah Karzen said that it will more than likely come down between the Bears and the Vikings.

"I am quite pleased where we stand right now and optimistic that we will do very well in league," said Karzen. "I see [league] coming down to a battle between us and Warren if we take care of our business elsewhere."

He has every reason to hold this opinion after the lady Vikings put up a tough fight in their preseason to finish 9-4.

"All four losses have been to quality teams who are all ranked highly and the four losses are by a total of seven runs," said Karzen.

The nine wins Downey has acquired are to be redeemed, particularly those made with incred-

bly high scores. The Vikings' first game was against St. Joseph's High School and it ended with a victory of 12-0. Games against Bell and South Gate both ended in a 16-0 win for Downey and another against Palos Verdes brought a 10-0 success.

"Top players are center fielder Staci Rodriguez and Shortstop Katie Medina, both juniors, and sophomore newcomers Desirae Romero, left field, and Jazmyne Cortinas, catcher, have had solid seasons so far and pitchers Brittany Colenzo and Lauren Canas, both seniors, have been great as well," said Karzen.

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In swimming, it's all about technique

■ SWIMMING: Practice results in fewer disqualifications.

BY JOSEPH APODACA, SPORTS INTERN

DOWNEY – To the untrained eye, swimming looks as if it could be one of the easier sports to join on campus, but with the demands on both the body and breathing abilities, the Downey Vikings and the Warren Bears are giving skeptics a second look.

Swimming might look like just a bunch of laps, different strokes, and a good tan but there is much more to it than that. For many first time swimmers, which is what both the Downey and Warren swim teams mainly consist of this season, shock sets in at just how demanding swimming can actually be on the body. The swimmers know, however, that in order to succeed in the sport they have to give 100 percent in every event.

"There are a lot of fresh faces and since they know they have to earn their events, it makes for a great competitive environment," said Joy O'Dowd, head coach of Warren's boys' swimming team.

For both the Vikings and the Bears, practices are essential in maintaining strength and endurance to last throughout the grueling meets. Practices can last up to two hours after school every day, where the coaches run team-building drills in order for them to succeed. Practices starting off with sprints, continuing on with building distance in the middle, and ending with relays are typical for swimmers to encounter on a daily basis. Despite having long and intense practices on non-meet days, team members still have difficulty coming to terms with distance events on meet day.

"Distance is difficult (especially 500 freestyle) because the kids think 'Oh my gosh, I have to swim 20 laps?'" said Warren head girls coach Josie Cordero. "I laugh all the time and tell them 'you swim that in warm up everyday! It's not a big deal!'"

In addition to lasting physically in the water, swimmers have to worry about maintaining their breathing throughout their event. Coming up for air adds time that no swimmer wants for their overall score, so the less they breathe the better. Taking deep breaths before

take off and coming up very few times during the event will ensure swimmers the best and most accurate time. Maintaining good breathing techniques will also ensure that swimmers don't go through their event just to be disqualified, which can be caused by the smallest of mistakes. For the Downey girls, disqualification has become a rarity.

"Not one person was disqualified [at the El Rancho meet]," said Downey girls' head coach Sal Castro.

League meets are on the radar of both the Downey and Warren swim teams, with the San Gabriel Valley league finals approaching at the end of the month. A classic Vikings vs. Bears rivalry is expected when they cross paths April 29, but the Downey coaches have several other things on their mind in addition to the big meet.

"Our challenge is league and to qualify swimmers for CIF. The big meets for this season include Warren and Paramount, which are both at Downey," said Downey head boys coach Shaun Delhousay.

Quake to take on division rival

DOWNEY – The California Quake women's professional tackle football team will host the Los Angeles Amazons tomorrow at Downey High School's Allen Layne Stadium.

Kick-off is at 6 p.m. The Quake won their division in 2008 but were eliminated in the first round of playoffs. The Amazon won the division title last year, sparking a Southern California rivalry.

"The rivalry is intense with both teams competing for players, fans, championships and the title of L.A.'s winningest professional football team," a Quake team official said.

The Quake defeated the Tucson Monsoon, 60-20, last Saturday while the Amazons are coming off a bye week.

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LEGAL NOTICES

PROBATE

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF MAE R. MULKEY

Case No. BP121943
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of MAE R. MULKEY
A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by Judy Sharon Sinclair in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that Judy Sharon Sinclair be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court. THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A HEARING on the petition will be held on May 16, 2010 at 8:30 AM in Dept. No. 11 located at 111 N. Hill St., Los Angeles, CA 90012.

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within four months from the date of first issuance of letters as provided in Probate Code section 9100. The time for filing claims will not expire before four months from the hearing date noticed above.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

Attorney for petitioner:
JOHN R. GOTTES ESQ.
SBN 134317
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The County of Los Angeles and Sapphos Environmental, Inc. are conducting oral history interviews to document the history of Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center. Potential interviewees may be past employees, residents, and other individuals who possess substantive knowledge, including letters, photographs, or memorabilia, regarding the history of Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center from its founding to 1952. If you have information regarding the Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center and would like to participate in the Rancho Los Amigos Oral History Project, please call Marlise Fratinardo, Senior Cultural Resources Coordinator, Sapphos Environmental, Inc., at (626) 683-3547 or e-mail your contact information to mfratinardo@sapphosenvironmental.com. For more information about Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center, please visit: <http://www.rancho.org/>

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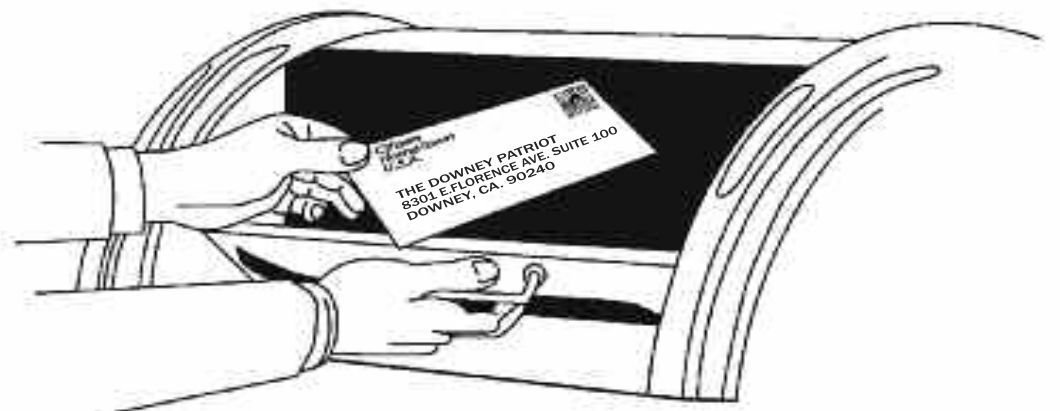


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Letters may be edited for style, space and/or content

Becker plays vital role at East Middle School

■ Robert Becker is helping students keep up with latest technologies.

BY HENRY VENERACION, STAFF WRITER

Robert E. Becker is known at East Middle School to student and fellow faculty as 'Tech Beck' because of his, among other things, technological expertise.

He has taught at East since 1999, and he teaches industrial and technology education, keyboarding and video broadcasting.

This video broadcasting 8th grade class runs East Studio One (ESI), the school's closed-circuit TV system that broadcasts live a miscellany of items and information (school news, announcements, sports scores and highlights, year-book advertising, Character Counts, flag salute, etc.). Class and teacher thus occupy center stage every morning at the start of classes.

A 1993 graduate of CSU-Fresno, Becker hasn't taught anywhere else but here. He says, intrinsically, his is a very rewarding job. He's aware of the shortage of qualified engineering and technological talent in the U.S. "In fact, the U.S. is actually importing engineers from foreign countries," he said, "similar to the shortage of doctors."

"I feel lucky to be in a position to affect students' lives and steer them in the right direction," Becker continued.

It's easy to see why Becker feels this way. In addition to his responsibility for "maintaining technology" at the school site which includes maintaining personal student accounts, the so-called 'accelerated reader' program, five classroom laptop (mobile) carts, and the brand-new 40-computer Kiwanis Lab (used by faculty and students alike), he is the administrator of the school website as well as the school's Technology Club (which meets every Thursday).

"If a situation arises here that we can't fix, we can look for assistance by the district office," he said.

His industrial and technology education course covers the following areas of study: aerodynamics, architecture, business graphics,



PHOTOS COURTESY DUSD

East Middle School students are pictured above working on an electrical outlet as part of the school's industrial and technology education classes, led by teacher Robert Becker.

electricity, engineering, music development, woodworking, and the already-mentioned video production, taught in learning modules.

At one session, a couple of students were making switches, another small group was working with lie detector sets, the graphic design module was building airplanes and rockets, and the wood-working group had just finished a floor plan as well as a city zoning map. By engaging in hands-on projects, the kids are learning practical skills that will help enhance people's lives.

"My kids get prepared for [further] tech education in the U.S.," he said.

Becker feels he should compliment the assistance provided by special ed teacher Vicki Arosteguy, who gives of her time in the technology area. The same goes to school staff, he said: "They're very patient over there."

At present the school is in the grip of the East Idol competition, where 12 finalists will be selected out of 27 student try-outs. Their images and entries get streamed online and broadcast on ESI. Finally in May, the three finalists will appear live in a school rally to determine the winner. It promises to be one of the most exciting events on campus, said Becker.

Meanwhile, there are other simultaneous, relatively minor programs to amuse the student population: "Student Library," "Student Swap" and "I Love Lucy."

Becker's programs enjoy the



full support of Principal Brent Shubin, who in the same breath says, "We are strong in science."

Shubin, who has a bachelor's from CSU-Long Beach and a master's in education from Azusa Pacific, at the same time enumerated what he deems the characteristics of a good principal: first, he/she should be an instructional leader; secondly, he/she should be a good manager; thirdly, he/she should have a vision for what a school can accomplish; and fourth, he/she should always look for ways to improve things.

He said East Middle has had the top API score district-wide for the past seven years until this year when Griffiths Middle beat it by one point.

Becker's wife Susan also teaches middle school in Garden Grove. They have a two-year old son, Edward.

Assembly candidate Miller hopes to represent voters

■ Gladys Miller campaigning to become assemblyperson representing 50th District.

BY CHRISTIAN BROWN, STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY – Gladys Miller once heard a politician say that the government could take better care of families than they could of themselves, a statement that reminds the republican why she is campaigning against the democratic establishment for lower taxes and less state regulations.

"I'm for common sense regulations," said Miller, who is vying to be the 50th district's next assemblyperson. "But our businesses are being taxed to death and are leaving. Something has to be done."

For Miller, who has lived in the district for more than 35 years, change is not an option if California wants to see growth again.

"We've lost industry and we've lost jobs – and the reason is high taxes and stringent regulations," Miller said. "We need to make this state more business friendly. We can't keep taxing people."

Born in Italy and raised in Michigan, Miller moved to southern California in 1975 with her husband and began working for Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, where she is currently an insurance analyst.

Since 1992, Miller has served as chairwoman for the 50th district's Republican Central Committee and is an elected member of the Los Angeles County Republican Central Committee. She also serves as a union steward of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

"I have a background in dealing with people," said Miller, 61, who currently resides in South Gate. "I'm a problem solver – I do that in my job now and I've done that in my past involvement in the party."

This year will not be the first that Miller has attempted to claim the 50th district assembly seat as the republican has ran several times unopposed for the republican nomination, but this year Miller will face P.J. Mellana, a 31-year-old recreation supervisor for the city of Bellflower.

Although the two share similar goals, Miller said she believes she has the experience needed to get the

job done.

"I've gone door to door and talked with voters and it's always the bread and butter issues," Miller said. "It's tough – there are families working two or three jobs just to make it – the government must be on a budget like you and me. It's their spending that got us into this mess."

Miller believes rolling back taxes and offering businesses tax credits will bring back business and, subsequently, create new blue collar jobs for residents within the 50th district.

In addition to jobs and taxes, Miller also hopes to change California's education system.

"We need to go back to basics," Miller said. "We need to go back and teach these types of things and make sure our kids are competitive in this century."

Moreover, Miller maintains that wasteful spending is the problem and lower taxes and fewer regulations is a part of the solution.

"What we have in Sacramento needs to be replaced," said Miller.



"I'm the best candidate with the experience and I'm asking for your vote. I can give you the promise to give you the best representation that I can."

After the June 8 primary, either Miller or Mellana will go on to face one of the four democratic challengers in the November election. The winner will claim the state assembly seat of Hector De La Torre who is being termed out of office.

AllAboutDowney.com
A free City Web Site that offers information about:
Downey's Community Calendar - Local Businesses - Job Opportunities - Downey's Schools - Downey Churches - Kids Section - Lost/Found Pets - Sports and Entertainment - About Health - Real Estate - Seniors - Home Improvement - Downey Emergency Preparedness and lots More - Site Contact Bev Baumann @ 562-244-3241

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Donations of wheelchairs sought

DOWNEY -- The Downey Sister Cities Association is collecting used (but working) wheelchairs, walkers and crutches, which will be donated to people who cannot afford them.

Items can be dropped off in the care of Moses Miranda at Downey Used Cars, 10021 Lakewood Blvd. Arrangements can also be made to have donations picked up at your home.

For more information, call Moses Miranda at (310) 428-0937 or Paula Mejia at (562) 884-9657.

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"Maria Franco did an excellent job!" – Tina Rios

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Views of Ocean and City!
Luxurious condo with direct beach access. Approx. 1580 sq. ft., 2 bedroom, 2 bath, ceiling mirrors, berber carpet, nice open kitchen, living room, dining room, tub with jets and separate shower.

Good Deal!
Take advantage of this opportunity. Nice 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 garage, close to shopping schools and freeway access. Needs a little TLC but it's a good deal.

Looking For Offers!
Look! A special N.E. Downey 3 bedroom, 3 bath, family room overlooking the pool, central heat & A/C, copper plumbing, pool, walk in closet, and jet tub in master bedroom. Outstanding location!

Great Starter
This is a beautiful home in desirable neighborhood, 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom, granite counter tops, tile floors throughout.

LA Studio
Studio with one bath, hardwood flooring, beautiful kitchen with granite countertop, and stainless appliance. Fantastic location!

Not A Short Sale!
A very nice two story home with 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, and 2 car garage, newer kitchen with granite counter tops and close to freeways and shopping.

JUST LISTED
It's Ready
Beautiful 4 bedroom, 2 bath home that is ready to move-in, 2 car garage, granite counter tops, central heat and A/C, bonus room.

Virtual Tour – www.towncenter.com/7818
Beautiful 3 bedroom, 2 bath home located in Orange Estates. Plush carpet, beautiful tile, and granite, formal dining room, mirror fireplace, extra large master bedroom and bath, built-in, remodeled kitchen with sub zero refrigerator, central heating and A/C.



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<p>UNDER \$250,000 OFFICE EXCLUSIVE LISTING! 2 BD, 1 BA, South Gate home w/ 1,270 sq. ft. Priced at: \$239,900 Call Carrie Uva 562-382-1252</p>	<p>MUST SEE! SO MUCH FOR SO LITTLE 2 Story, 6 BD, 3 BA home w/ fireplace, family room, 2 car, gar, 2,500+ sq. ft. Priced to Sell! Call Frank Moreno (562) 949-8139 Lic. 01129668</p>	<p>WOW! ONE OF A KIND! 3 BD, 3 BA, nearly 2,300 sq. ft. of living space, + rumpus room HUGE 14700 sq. ft. lot!! STANDARD SALE!!! Virtual tour at www.MarioPersico.com</p>
<p>SHORT SALE AFFORDABLE BUY! 2 BD, 1 BA home in E. LA on a R-3 Lot Priced at \$160,000 Call Carrie Uva 562-382-1252</p>	<p>CALL TODAY! EQUESTRIAN COMMUNITY! 3 BD, 3 BA, 2 car gar, R.V. parking, assigned house stable, assoc. clubhouse & pool, 5,720 sq. ft. lot. Priced at \$435,000 Call Maria Elena Serrano (562) 400-3373 Lic. 01312084</p>	<p>MUST SEE! EXTRAS! EXTRAS! EXTRAS! 4 BD, 3 BA, over 2,500 sq. ft., Move in Ready, North Downey, STANDARD SALE!!! Call Mario for a private showing 562-533-7433</p>
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<p>NEW LISTING! Room, Rooms, Rooms, and More Rooms! 6BR, 3BA N. Downey home with living room and family room. Home is 2,246 sq. ft. and is situation on a 6,372 sq. ft. lot. Price: \$489,000 Call Michael @ 562-818-6111</p>	<p>"Update Me!" Needs a Little TLC! 3 BD, 2 BA, 2115 sq ft, 7500 sq ft lot, large master BD, family room & detached guest house. Price: \$489,000 Call Michael @ 562-818-6111</p>	<p>REDUCED NE Downey Listing! 4 BD, 3 BA, formal living room and dining room with new laminate floors, remodeled master & hall bathrooms, cozy family room and bright kitchen w/ granite countertops. Price: \$675,000 Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com</p>
<p>Spic and Span Immaculate 3 BR, 1 BA South Downey home on a corner lot featuring a well manicured front and back yard and a 2-car detached garage. Price: \$349,000 Call Michael @ 562-818-6111</p>	<p>REDUCED A-1 Neighborhood! Lg 3 BD, 2 BA home in the NE Dow area boasting an open floorplan w/ almost 2,000 sq ft living space & a master BD and BA. This 7,500 sq ft lot is perfect for RV parking! Reduced Price: \$475,000 Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com</p>	<p>REDUCED NE Downey Development! 5 BD + loft (possible 6th BD) 4 BA w/ 3,839 sq ft, large re-landscaped backyard & 4 car att. Garage. Price: \$990,000 Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com</p>
<p>Bonus Points For This One Wonderful 2,452 sq ft home w/ 4 bd, 3 ba, formal living rm, lg family rm, spacious kitchen, formal dining rm, lg pool, a nice view of backyard from several areas of the home! All on a 13,000 sq ft lot! Price: \$665,000 Call Michael @ 562-818-6111</p>	<p>The More The Merrier 3BR, 2BAN. Downey home near East Middle School on a large corner lot. Property has a main house (approx. 1,500 sq. ft.) and a large detached guest house. Price: \$449,000 Call Michael @ 562-818-6111</p>	<p>REDUCED A Rare Find! Unique 3 bed, 2 bath home that features a large living room, master bedroom that has a sauna room, and it even has a solar powered system that makes your electrical bills practically non-existent! Price \$539,000 Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com</p>

View these homes at: www.MichaelBerdelis.com



Marie Picarelli



Carrie Uva

Realtors earn certifications

DOWNEY – Carrie Uva and Marie Picarelli, sales agents with Prudential 24 Hour Real Estate, have been certified as short sale and foreclosure resource specialists by the National Association of Realtors.

Uva and Picarelli completed class courses designed to help distressed homeowners facing financial hardship to save their home with a loan modification or short sale.

Homeowners are advised of the options available to them as well and receive assistance in avoiding tax consequences.

Uva is an attorney with 18 years experience in real estate. She can be reached at (562) 761-0597.

Picarelli has been a licensed realtor since 1976 and can be reached at (562) 618-0033.

Know these people?




DOWNEY -- Former councilman Kirk Cartozian is asking the public's help to return a framed photograph to its rightful owner.

Cartozian was cleaning out the attic of a home he recently purchased in the Orange Estates when he came across the large frame that features the words "Fruits of Your Labors" alongside four black and white photos. "It was left face down and, presumably, accidentally left here," Cartozian says. "I asked some of my neighbors but no one could place them. I'm guessing that their time living here was some decades ago."

The home is located near 7th Street and Smallwood Avenue, not far from Rio Hondo Elementary.

Anyone with information can reach Cartozian at (562) 852-1991 or kirkcartozian@yahoo.com.



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<p>PENDING Wow - Your Palace Awaits 6 BD, 8 BA, approx. 7,000 built, Pool, 4 car gar & 10,260 lot. Call for private showing! 562.445.3075 Price: \$ 1,200,000</p>	<p>Location, Location NE DOWNEY 4 BD, 2 BA, 2,339 built, Pool, 2 car gar detached & 12,284 lot. Price: \$ 550,000</p>	<p>JUST LISTED Custom Mediterranean Villa Complete Elegance - 6 BD, 8.5 BA, 3 Car Gar, backyard with Pool, Spa, BBQ, 6,425sqft & 12,863 lot. Price: \$ 1,550,000</p>
<p>JUST LISTED Price: \$ 875,000 Location, Location, Location Perfect Opportunity 17,000sqft \$3,000 + Lot & Much More Call for private showing! 562.445.3075</p>	<p>SOLD Approved Short Sale... Remodeled Orange Estates - 4 BD, 3 BA, 3 Fireplaces, 2,931 sqft, & 9,625 lot. Call for private showing! Price: \$ 560,000</p>	<p>Remodeled N. DOWNEY 4 BD, 3 BA, 2 Story Home 2,163 sqft, 8,443 lot & Det. 2 Car Gar Price: \$ 615,000</p>
<p>REDUCED Reg. Sale... Remodeled NE DOWNEY Gorgeous - 4 BD, 3 BA, 3,100 built, Pool, BBQ, 2 car gar & 10,260 lot. Price: \$ 900,000</p>	<p>PENDING Regular Sale... Big price reduction, 3 BD, 2 BA, 1,436 sqft Lrg Den 2 car gar w/ workshop 6250 lot. Price: \$ 350,000</p>	<p>KNOW YOUR OPTIONS Home Affordable Foreclosure Alternatives FREE CONSULTATION HAMP/HAF/A AGENT</p>
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