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Thursday, November 18, 2010

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

## Plastic bags banned in parts of county

■ Ban, which is scheduled to begin in July, is not applicable in Downey.

**LOS ANGELES** – The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors voted Tuesday to ban plastic shopping bags at supermarkets, convenience stores and pharmacies in unincorporated county areas.

The ban, which does not affect incorporated cities and municipalities such as Downey, is scheduled to go into effect next July.

With the vote, Los Angeles County became the largest municipality in the nation to ban plastic bags. Officials said they expect the ban to trigger similar actions by other local governments throughout the state, including the city of Los Angeles.

In a phased rollout beginning next July, plastic carryout bags will no longer be available in supermarkets, large retail pharmacies, liquor stores and food marts in unincorporated county areas, which encompasses some 1 million residents.

Shoppers will have the option of purchasing recyclable paper bags at 10 cents per bag.

County officials said they enacted the ban “to end the environmental and fiscal waste created by the use of 6 billion single-use plastic shopping bags each year in Los Angeles County alone.”

“The supervisors’ leadership (Tuesday) will spur other local communities to take meaningful action to break our addiction to single-use shopping bags,” said Mark Gold, president of Heal the Bay, which has led legislative efforts to ban plastic bags for more than five years. “The plastics industry knows the writing is on the wall.”

Mike Antonovich was the only county supervisor to vote against the ban, which passed 3-1 with Supervisor Don Knabe absent.

“At a time of economic uncertainty, with a large number of businesses leaving our state and community, this would not be an appropriate time ... to impose this additional regulation,” Antonovich said.

At the request of then-Councilman Kirk Cartozian, the Downey City Council briefly floated the idea of a plastic bag ban in 2008 but declined further action.

At the time, Councilman David Gafin said he “feels a recycling program instead of a prohibition is a better option and would not be opposed to a Green Task Force looking into the issue.”

Councilman Mario Guerra said he was “unwilling to have staff spend time or money on this item and suggested it be reviewed by a Green Task Force,” according to city council minutes.

California lawmakers rejected a statewide ban on plastic grocery bags in September.

City editor Eric Pierce contributed to this report.

## Beach’s Market, Alin’s latest to go under

■ Beach’s Market and Alin’s Party Depot announce they will close.

BY CHRISTIAN BROWN, STAFF WRITER

**DOWNEY** – Citing a sluggish economy and a competitive business market, two more Downey businesses, Beach’s Market and Alin’s Party Depot, have lapsed, as an intransigent recession continues to cripple local restaurants, supermarkets and retail centers.

Established in the early 1950s as one of Downey’s first supermarkets, Beach’s Market supplied local residents with meat, fresh produce and dairy decades before major markets came into the city.

But after years of dismal profit margins and high operation costs, store manager and owner Ron Beach announced this week that the 50-year-old grocery store, located at 7900 Imperial Hwy, will finally close its doors, unable to withstand both changing demographics and a weak economy.

“Yeah – we’re closing,” said Beach with a sigh. “It’s sad, but it is what it is. The word is everybody’s hurting, people are down. I’m not sure exactly when, but we’ll probably close before Thanksgiving.”

Beach also cited the city’s four month-long construction project, which facilitated the placement of several medians near the market’s entrances on both Imperial Highway and Paramount Boulevard.

“That killed us – it was the final straw,” said Beach sharply. “But people can still do their shopping. We’re going to start pulling stuff off – we’ll mark it down until we blow it all out.”

Beach believes the aging supermarket, started by his grandfather, Max, as Downey Farm and Home Center, suffered from a recent change in business.

“Everything’s changing,” he said. “Shopping patterns are changing. Consumers are buying stuff at different outlets now. Today, we have the Targets, Wal-Marts, Costco, and Sam’s Clubs...there is a tremendous amount of food being bought in those stores.”

According to Beach, approximately 20 employees will lose their jobs, though a few will be relocated to the company’s Rosemead store, which remains open.

Despite the Downey closure, the Beach family will continue to own



Beach’s Market was a popular location for filming. The grocery store is in the process of closing.

the 4.1-acre lot on the southwest corner of Imperial Highway and Paramount Boulevard. Pepe’s Tacos, Crown Cleaners & Laundry and Streit German Bakery will remain on the property and will continue leasing space from the company.

Beach hopes to lease the facility in the future, but acknowledges that it may be a difficult task.

“We’ll lease it to whoever’s interested,” said Beach. “We’ve had some interest so far, but nothing has been worked out yet.”

Beginning in the early 2000s, Beach’s Market moved into a new industry altogether, playing host to several corporations and production companies who used the traditional market for a variety of commercials and films.

However, just a few blocks north, Alin’s Party Depot, a Downey staple since 1985, is also preparing to close, unable to renew a lease with real estate owners Westminster Properties.

Andy Richmond, finance executive for the Downey location, says the nearly 30-year-old company is undergoing several reductions as a result of many factors. Last week, the company’s website advertised six locations, today, just two.

“We’re closing down a few stores, all for different reasons,”

said Richmond. “At our Downey location, the lease will be ending in a few months. The landlord sold the property so we don’t have a lease going forward there...the liquidation will run until sometime in January.”

While Richmond acknowledged harsh economic realities, he also encouraged residents to support the remaining Alin’s locations in Riverside and Lakewood.

“We’re still open in Lakewood – not that far away,” he said. “Going forward, we’d be happy to serve them at our Lakewood location.”

According to a representative of Westminster Properties, the building was recently sold to a large, recognizable business, but ownership information for the property, located at 12270 Paramount Blvd., has not been updated by the County Assessor’s office.

Ron Beach, who serves as vice-president of the family company, believes his store’s closure is simply a sign of the times.

“It’s just a bad economy,” he said. “Even chains aren’t opening new stores these days...the Hispanic operators are doing well, but their sales are weak. There’s been a change in demographics, a change in business – it’s just a lot different than it used to be.”



PHOTO COURTESY HYGIENE MATTERS  
Health officials say proper hygiene is important to curb the spread of whooping cough, which has killed four infants this year.

## Whooping cough reaches epidemic proportions

■ Whooping cough has claimed the lives of four infants this year. Children and seniors most at risk.

**DOWNEY** – More cases of whooping cough were reported in October than any other month so far, the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health announced this week, renewing the call for residents to get vaccinated as soon as possible.

Whooping cough – known medically as pertussis – has reached epidemic levels, health officials said.

“We have received 101 pertussis reports for the first week of November alone, and 429 reports for the month of October. This is an epidemic that is reaching numbers we’ve never seen before in Los Angeles County,” said Jonathan Fielding, MD, director of public health. “This disease can be prevented with a vaccine and I urge everyone who is eligible to take advantage of this protection for themselves and their loved ones. If you have not already done so, make it a priority this weekend to get vaccinated.”

To date, more than 1,600 cases of whooping cough have been reported this year. Of those, only 480 have been classified as “probable” or “confirmed” so far – many turn out to be false reports, occurred outside L.A. County or simply cannot be verified.

But the numbers are still significantly higher when compared to previous years. In 2009, there were 156 probable or confirmed cases of pertussis countywide, and only 80 cases in 2008.

Officials are particularly concerned because whooping cough has claimed four lives in L.A. County this year, all of them infants. In a normal year, it is responsible for one or no deaths.

“Whooping cough is a disease that is especially dangerous for infants under six months of age, who are not old enough to have received the number of vaccine doses needed to be fully protected,” Fielding said. “Now is an especially important time to get vaccinated. Vaccinations do not give you instant immunity, and take time to develop full protection. By taking action now, you can ensure that you are protected for the holiday gatherings.”

The state Department of Public

Health recently expanded its vaccination recommendations amid rising numbers of whooping cough cases. In addition to the usual series of childhood pertussis vaccinations, the state now recommends a booster vaccine (Tdap) for kids ages 7-9 who did not complete the pertussis vaccination series at an earlier age; anyone 11 or older, especially women of childbearing age, during or immediately after pregnancy; and seniors 65 and older.

“Infants are most likely to be infected by parents, grandparents, older siblings, daycare workers and other caregivers who have whooping cough but often don’t know that this disease is the reason for their symptoms,” Fielding said. “People suffering from a cough illness who have contact with infants should seek medical care immediately. Anyone who lives with or has frequent contact with an infant should ensure that their vaccinations are up-to-date.”

According to a recent study, 41% of infants infected with whooping cough contracted the disease from a sibling, 38% from their mother, and 17% from their father. Anyone with a cough illness should avoid contact with infants, health officials said.

Whooping cough is spread by coughing. Typical symptoms in young children include intense coughing accompanied by a whooping sound, and post-cough vomiting.

However, some infants infected with pertussis may not show typical symptoms, but can still suffer life-threatening complications, which can include pneumonia and seizures. Among older children and adults, the primary symptom may be a cough that often lasts for several weeks or longer.

Children should receive three primary vaccinations containing the pertussis vaccine and two boosters by age 4-6, followed by a Tdap booster during their preteen years. Any teen or adult who has not received a Tdap booster yet should do so, particularly if they are in contact with an infant.

Residents who do not have a regular healthcare provider or insurance coverage can receive free or low-cost vaccinations by dialing 211 or going to [www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/ip](http://www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/ip) for referrals to providers. Some major pharmacy chains offer the Tdap vaccine for a fee.

## Kindergartener to ride with Santa

**DOWNEY** – Five-year-old Emilio Vela was selected from hundreds of Downey children to ride with Santa during the 59th annual Holiday Lane Parade on Dec. 5.

Emilio won the “ride of a lifetime” through a raffle sponsored by the Downey Chamber of Commerce.

Emilio is in kindergarten at Rio Hondo Elementary and his favorite things to do are “circles” (group work) along with puzzles, learning his ABCs and playing in the sandbox. He has two goldfish named Thomas and James, and his favorite food is corn on the cob.

He also enjoys coffee once a week “with lots of milk and cream.”



Emilio is the son of Berenis and Frank Vela, of Downey. He has two sisters, Sofia, 3, and Natalia, 2.

The parade, sponsored by Financial Partners Credit Union, will feature bands, marching units, drill teams, equestrians, clowns

and many characters, including Ronald McDonald.

The parade begins at 1:30 p.m. at Downey Avenue and Lexington Road before proceeding south to Third Street. The parade will disband near City Hall.

## Stauffer puts students on path to college

**DOWNEY** – More than 200 Downey Unified School District middle school students were honored as Stauffer Scholars during award presentations Oct. 27-28 at the Barbara J. Riley Community and Senior Center.

Philanthropist Dr. Mary Stauffer presented checks totaling \$26,200 to 210 students to help them start a college savings plan.

Stauffer Scholars earned straight As on their report cards for both semesters as fifth or sixth graders during the 2009-10 school year. Out of 242 eligible students, 228 applied for the award. Of the applicants, 210 attended the awards ceremony.

Most of the students received checks for \$100 while 13 were named Stauffer Scholars of the Year and received \$500. Their names were also engraved on their school's perpetual plaque.

Stauffer Scholars of the Year include Tara Kazimi (East Middle School); Andres Esparza (Griffiths Middle School); Grace Bowen (West Middle School); Martha Diaz (Carpenter); Megan Henry (Gallatin); Daniel Gonzalez (Gauldin); Valerie Cortez (Lewis); Jeremy Marquez (Old River); Ricardo Gonzalez (Price); Valerie Aguilar (Rio Hondo); Jonathan Jin (Rio San Gabriel); and John Kim (Unsworth).

The ceremonies included a speech by retired DUSD administrator Linda Kennedy, who discussed the benefits of starting a college savings plan.

Stauffer confirmed to the students that, "Education is the best investment that you could ever make."

## Christmas coming early for deserving families

■ Two struggling families have been chosen to receive refurbished vehicles.

**DOWNEY** – Two refurbished cars will be donated to two underprivileged families during a ceremony Monday at Little John's Bodyworks in Downey.

The donation is part of a program sponsored by the National Auto Body Council and administered by Esurance, the Automobile Club of Southern California and Fix Auto body shops.

The first recipient family is headed by Ann (no last name given), a single mom and grandmother with two daughters, one of whom is an adult with a daughter of her own. The other is a 16-year-old living at home.

Ann is in the process of adopting her 4-year-old granddaughter who has been exposed to significant neglect and abuse. As a result, Ann's granddaughter has developed significant emotional and behavioral problems which require intensive therapy.

Ann works full-time and does her best to meet her daughter's and granddaughter's needs. In addition, she has been taking parenting classes to help her learn how to take care of a special needs child.

Ann's car is more than 10 years old and has consistently broken down over the last year. This has created a hardship on the family as Ann has had to miss various therapy appointments. Being the sole supporter of her family, Ann does not have the resources to buy a reliable car, making the donated vehicle "a true godsend."

The second family receiving a vehicle is headed by Margarite and her husband, who have been raising Margarite's five grandchildren for more than five years, starting when the youngest was six weeks old.

The birth parents of the children had a history of addiction and criminal behavior, resulting in all of the children entering the foster care system. Margarite did not want her grandchildren being separated into different foster homes, so

she decided to take them in to her home, with the help of the children's aunt who also lives with them.

Margarite has successfully adopted them all – girls aged 6 and 13, and boys aged 7, 9 and 11. Some of the children have special needs related to their history of abuse and neglect, so there are many therapy appointments and activities on the schedule.

The family currently owns a Ford Taurus, which does not fit this family of eight. Help will soon be on the way in the form of a minivan or other family-sized vehicle.

"Fix Auto is proud to have helped...families have received valuable transportation the past three years," said Rick Halopoff, owner of Fix Auto Downey, operated by Little John Bodyworks. "I am grateful to be part of a project that clearly illustrates the giving nature of [National Auto Body Council] members and the collision repair industry."

Monday's ceremony begins at 10 a.m. and is open to the public.



Daniel Rooney, the American Ambassador to Ireland, is pictured with his wife and the bronze bust of John Gately Downey.

## Irish village pays tribute to Downey

■ Village unveils bronze bust of John Gately Downey.

**TAUGHMACONNELL, IRELAND** – After approximately 10 years of planning, organizing, fundraising and working hand-in-hand with local and county authorities, the Taughmaconnell Heritage Group finally saw their hard work rewarded when, on Oct. 15, a bronze bust of John Gately Downey was unveiled in the tiny village of Taughmaconnell, in South County Roscommon, Ireland.

The village of Taughmaconnell is adjacent to the town of Castlesampson, where Downey was born and raised. The effort to erect the memorial was led by Michael Moore, chairman of the Heritage Group. The Heritage Group also published an informative booklet detailing many of the highlights of Downey's career in politics and business, as well as his civic and philanthropic contributions.

Daniel Rooney, the American Ambassador to Ireland, was on hand for the statue's unveiling, California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger sent a congratulatory letter to the Heritage Group to mark the occasion.

(Schwarzenegger and Downey share a special distinction in that they are the only foreign-born governors of California.)

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors marked the occasion by issuing a proclamation which detailed Downey's contributions to Los Angeles County, the city of Los Angeles, the state of California, and the nation. The city of Downey also issued a proclamation.

John Vincent, president of the Downey Historical Society, also submitted a congratulatory letter.

"Even the predictably rainy Irish weather cooperated, and the unveiling took place under clear skies," the Heritage Group wrote in an e-mail to the Patriot. "A large crowd assembled to witness the event and listened attentively to the many speeches given by the local politicians and other invited dignitaries. Following the unveiling, the assembled throng retired to the local parish hall, where food and refreshments were served and a good time was had by all."

The city of Downey was named for John Gately Downey, whose land company owned property that was subdivided to create this city.

## DUI scofflaws to be targeted

**DOWNEY** – The Los Angeles County Probation Department, which has its offices in Downey, has been awarded a new traffic safety grant for a year-long anti-DUI program aimed at preventing deaths and injuries on roadways.

Additional enforcement measures to combat impaired driving are coming as a result of the \$265,000 grant awarded by the California Office of Traffic Safety.

"We are extremely pleased to receive this traffic safety grant," said chief probation officer Donald

H. Blevins. "The benefit of this program will be increased public safety. Saving lives and preventing serious injury is the highest outcome that we can achieve."

The grant is called the Intensive Probation Supervision for High-Risk Felony and Repeat DUI Offenders grant and focuses on monitoring people on probation for felony DUI and multiple misdemeanor DUI convictions.

Supervision for high-risk DUI offenders will include unannounced home searches, random

alcohol and drug testing and monitoring to ensure compliance with court-ordered DUI education and treatment programs.

The Probation Department will also collaborate with local law enforcement agencies to conduct DUI and driver license checkpoints. They will also target people who fail to make court appearances after DUI arrests.

Drunk driving is one of the nation's deadliest crimes. In 2009, more than 10,830 people died in highway crashes involving a driver with a blood alcohol concentration of .08 or higher. California data for 2009 shows that 950 died in alcohol impaired collisions, a 7.6% reduction in deaths from 2008.

Funding for the program comes from the Office of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

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## Bands to compete in Anaheim

**ANAHEIM** – The Downey and Warren high school marching bands will be one of several band and color guard units participating in the 34th annual Savanna High School Field Tournament, taking place Saturday at Glover Stadium in Anaheim.

For more than 30 years the Savanna High School Band Boosters have hosted the field tournament, one of the largest in Southern California, which has attracted marching bands from as far away as Arizona and Idaho.

The top 12 scoring bands in each division are eligible to perform at the Southern California School Band and Orchestra Association finals on Dec. 4.

Downey and Warren will compete against each other and schools from Anaheim and Cypress. Downey is scheduled to perform at 5:02 p.m., and Warren at 5:34 p.m.

Tickets to the tournament are \$8 for adults and \$5 for seniors and children. Children under 6 are free. Military personnel with ID are also free.

For more information, call Brian Belski at (714) 220-4270 or Lori Aguirre at (714) 585-6097.

## Folklorico festival in Downey

**DOWNEY** – A Mexican ballet folklorico festival will be held at the Downey Theatre this weekend featuring dance groups from throughout Southern California.

The festival, "Sin Fronteras 2010," takes place Nov. 19-21.

Nearly 20 ballet folklorico groups will participate in the festival, including Ballet Folklorico Izel of Las Vegas and the Ballet Folklorico de Cal State Fullerton.

For information on tickets and show times, call (562) 477-4779 or e-mail [jmixteco@aol.com](mailto:jmixteco@aol.com).

## Interfaith Thanksgiving service

**DOWNEY** – Downey First Christian Church will host an Interfaith Thanksgiving Service on Monday at 7 p.m.

Spiritual leaders from Downey congregations will participate in the service, which is open to the community.

A basket will be set-up for donations non-perishable food items, which will be donated to a Downey food bank.

Downey First Christian Church is at 10909 New St. in downtown Downey.

## Noll Thompson was DMOA president

**DOWNEY** – Noll Gray Thompson, former director of the Downey Museum of Art and an actor in the Downey Children's Theater, died Nov. 13 at his home in Utah.

He was born April 5, 1919 in Durham, N.C., to Alson E. and Eleanore Temple Thompson. He married Alice M. Saunders on Feb. 10, 1946, and they were married for 64 years.

Noll grew up in Gary, Ind., and worked at the CCC Camp during the Depression. In 1941, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy, serving as Chief Aerographer's mate aboard the USS Roosevelt aircraft carrier. He was honorably discharged in 1947.

He graduated from USC in 1951 with a bachelor's degree in English. He taught fifth grade at Grove Avenue Elementary in Paramount for one year, and then worked for Westinghouse for more than 10 years. He also worked as a credit manager for Bedline Manufacturing and as an independent credit consultant.

Noll enjoyed acting in the Downey Children's Theater and was an active leader in the Downey YMCA. He also served as director of the Downey Museum of Art.

In 1989, Noll retired and he and his wife moved to Las Vegas. In 2007, the couple moved to St. George, Utah.

Noll is survived by his wife, Alice Thompson; son, Wyly (Denise) Thompson; six grandchildren, Tony (Liana) Araiza, Cindy (Jason) Descouteaux, Joseph Thompson, Michael Thompson, Lyndzee Polkey and Danielle Strubel; and seven great-grandchildren.

He was predeceased by his parents and daughter, Chanda Thompson. Graveside services will be held Nov. 19 at the Tonaquint Cemetery in St. George, Utah.



## Peter Mocciano was longtime dentist

**DOWNEY** – Peter Mocciano passed away on Nov. 17. He had lived in Downey for 60 years and was a dentist for 52 years before retiring in 1997.

He is survived by his wife of 40 years, Chloe; children, Perry (Rebecca), Maggi Spiro (Mike), Mark (Barbara), Steven and Christina; and grandchildren, Michael, Matthew and Sophia.

Mocciano was born in Villarosa, Sicily, on May 14, 1922 and immigrated to the United States as a baby. He grew up in Huntington Park with his parents, and attended Huntington Park High School, USC and USC Dental School before serving in the U.S. Navy.

A pioneer in dentistry in Downey, he was honored by his peers as president of the Los Angeles County Dental Society, member of the Board of Trustees and Judicial Council of the California Dental Association. He also served as president of the Downey Dental Academy.

An avid golfer and USC fan, he was active in many civic organizations.

A viewing will be held Monday at 4 p.m. at Miller-Mies Mortuary with a vigil to follow at 7 p.m.

A funeral Mass is scheduled for Tuesday at 10 a.m. at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church.



## Library auctioning books to raise money

**DOWNEY** – The holiday selection of silent auction items are now on display in the foyer of the Downey City Library.

Auction items include "Angels – An Endangered Species," by Malcolm Godwin, angel lore from ancient times to the present as seen in paintings, pottery and the cathedrals of the world; "The Simple Secrets of Happiness" by Glen Van Ekeren provides the inspiration and practical strategies to help us enjoy quality relationships and a more enjoyable life; "Out of Africa" by Isak Dinesen (Karen Blixen), a superbly illustrated edition brings to life the

day-to-day events in a Kenya of another time.

Bids may be placed inside the Friend's Bookstore before Dec. 11. A complete list of auction items is available online at [www.downeylibrary.org](http://www.downeylibrary.org) by clicking the "Friends" tab.

## Brian Ellis: A Son Remembered

A beautiful person was born, November 1, 1978, in the City of Downey. He was born severe hydrocephalus (a condition called water on the brain) and at the age of 2-weeks a shunt was placed in his brain, allowing the fluid blocked in his head to move down to his stomach. By doing this he was given a chance to live. He was never expected to achieve much in life, I was told he may never roll over, sit up, walk or even talk. When he was brought home from the hospital he had not developed a sucking motion and had to be fed by a tube. His neurosurgeon told me not to expect much...but "sometimes miracles happen."

Brian was a miracle. He did learn. He learned to sit up, walk, even ride a bike, and everyone who knew him will attest to his talking ability. Brian had disabilities, he never grew mentally past the age of a child, but he grew up healthy and happy.

He attended Speech and Language School in Buena Park and after graduation was a participant in the Easter Seal Program in Downey. He enjoyed being with people and was very social. My nephew nicknamed him the "Mayor of Downey" because he would greet everyone he saw with a smile, a handshake and a friendly compliment... "nice to meet you" or to the ladies "you look nice."

Brian never judged a person on what they could offer him, but freely offered all that he had to them. And to all he gave a smile. His smile came from a place deep within his soul and brightened any room he entered. Those who met Brian, remembered him. "He touched their hearts." I would hear that comment from doctors and nurse's who treated him, teachers and care-givers who worked with him, and even from people who only knew of him, from others. When you met Brian, you felt lucky to have known him; even if your time with him was brief and only once. His uncle Joe said "Brian is who we should be... we are who we are"... those words captured truly this special person in our lives.

The shunt he received at 2 weeks of age lasted 31 years, never needing to be replaced, until November 2009. The surgery was deemed a success. A week later, when recovery was taken for granted, an infection developed and a second surgery was undertaken. That night Brian stopped breathing. He was placed on a respirator and declared brain dead 48 hours later. They say a mother knows these things before they happen, I never saw it coming.

To honor his life, and the beautiful spirit he possessed, we chose to donate his organs through One Legacy a Donate Life organization. Brian gave the gift of life to 6 people. His heart never stopped beating; and within 6 hours after recovery from his chest, it belonged to a 12 year old girl at another hospital.

[Donatelifeofcalifornia.org/Brian-Christian-Ellis](http://Donatelifeofcalifornia.org/Brian-Christian-Ellis) is an e-campaign that I have created with One Legacy to tell his story. It is a beautiful way to honor a life by offering hope to others. So far 11 people have signed up as donors in



An Armenian patient at Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center communicates with his therapist with the help of a video interpretation system in this 2008 photo.

## Grant will help bridge language barrier

■ Video interpretation system bridges language barrier between patient and doctor.

**DOWNEY** – L.A. Care Health Plan announced Tuesday that it will contribute \$572,000 to help continue the video medical interpretation (VMI) system offered at four Los Angeles County hospitals, including Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center.

The VMI system provides quick and easy on-screen access to interpreter services, allowing patient-physician communication at the point of care.

Nearly one in three L.A. County residents experience difficulties communicating in English, officials said. Forty-eight percent of Latinos and 43% of Asians countywide face language barriers, which may hinder access to necessities such as health care and other social services, statistics provided by L.A. Care Health Plan show.

The VMI system is normally used in cases when a patient does not speak the physician's language. To facilitate one-on-one communication during a medical visit, the physician connects via video conference call to an offsite interpreter through a wireless mobile flat-screen computer station that can be wheeled to the patient's bedside.

When the connection is made, the on-screen interpreter is seen and heard live by both the physician and the patient.

"In the past my children had to act as my interpreter during medical visits because I do not understand English. It could get frustrat-

ing at times because they would not know how to explain a procedure or say the word correctly," said Teresa Hernandez, 39, a spinal cord injury patient at Rancho Los Amigos. "Now I have an interpreter who can see me and explain to me so that I understand. It helps to know that my feelings are also being expressed the right way."

Interpretation services are available in 15 languages including Spanish, Korean, Armenian, Cambodian, Cantonese, Farsi, Arabic, Hmong, Lao, Mandarin, Mixteco, Russian, Thai, Vietnamese and American Sign Language.

"At L.A. Care we recognize that available of services does not nec-

essarily mean access to care," said Dr. Elaine Batchlor, chief medical officer at L.A. Care. "This type of virtual communication has increased patient access to interpreters by 50 percent and continues to improve the quality of care, patient satisfaction and health care outcomes."

In addition to Rancho Los Amigos, the VMI system is also at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center in Torrance, Olive View Medical Center in Sylmar and USC Medical Center in El Sereno.

The hospitals are located in service areas where 75% of the patients with language barriers live and where interpretation services are needed most, officials said.

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"There are some who bring a light so GREAT to the world; That even after they are gone, the light remains." --Anonymous

his name. Most people are unaware that over 21,000 Californians are waiting for an organ transplant. "Tragically, one third of them will die – waiting."

Brian is gone, but he is still here; he is nowhere, yet he is everywhere. That is the juxtaposition of who he is now. His heart beats life into a child, his lungs give breath to 2 women; his liver filters the poisons of a 44 year old man; his kidney's purify the bodies of a young mother and a teenage boy. Although he lives no longer on earth as the young man we remember, he lives on in others, scattered across the states, a remembrance of his life in the hearts and minds of strangers who will never know him.

In his death he has become all of us. He is a child again, housed in all the innocence and laughter he possessed before he died. He is a young mother, who now has more time to spend with her family. He is a teenager playing videos, hanging with friends, planning for college and adulthood. He is a middle aged man, knowing he now has more time to get those things done, that had been put on hold. He is breath for 2 women, (one 62, the other 65) extending the purpose of their lives. This is my Brian today; this is what he is doing today; this is his life continued; and he is a hero, a shining star and our special angel.

Brian you are missed. Your family loves you; and will seek your smile upon your death. You gave us laughter, love and joy while you lived. You are giving us direction, purpose and destiny in your death. You have been transformed, and in spirit you are everyone and you are everywhere. But I would give all that I have of myself just to have you back one more day. Watch for the 31 white balloons on Saturday, Nov. 20, it is your family and friends letting you know, you are remembered and will never be forgotten. All my love, Mother

Written by Diane Linares



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## Artist Dory Grade to share work in Paramount

**PARAMOUNT** – Artist Dory Grade will be the guest demonstrator when the Downey Art League meets Sunday at 1 p.m. at Progress Park in Paramount.

Grade studied at the Jepson Art Institute in Los Angeles and under master painters Josef Silhavey and Robert Wood. A professional artist for more than 40 years, she has worked in graphic design, architectural tile and murals for Mosaic Tile Co., in addition to working as a nationally syndicated illustrator for Lois Wyse's poetry, "Day of Love."

She has also taught for more than 40 years in private and public Los Angeles schools, all the while raising seven children.

Grade has published a line of prints and greeting cards, along with original art from her life experiences. She has completed her 30th exhibition at the famed Descano Gardens in La Canada-Flintridge and has demonstrated her ability in nature-inspired painting for art associations throughout California.

Her works have received many awards from competitions throughout Southern California. The international competition, Art for the Parks, chose Grade's painting, "Balance of Nature," to be included in the second 100 finalists in 1998.

Sunday's meeting is free and open to the public. Progress Park is located at 15530 Downey Ave., south of Somerset Boulevard, in Paramount.

## Breaking holiday rules – a survival guide

BY LAURA CARPINI, SPECIAL TO THE DOWNEY PATRIOT

The time period between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day seems to arrive sooner each year. Holiday items are already hitting department store shelves. If the prospect of being bombarded by oodles of gadgets and sparkly items you don't need leaves you with shivers of joyous expectation, then kudos to you; your time has come.

If, however, you feel an uncomfortable pit in your stomach at the thought of sipping a gingerbread, peppermint stick latte while rushing about gathering items to bring to the annual get-together at your mother-in-law's house – if per chance you can't bake pies out of mince meat or Granny Smith apples, or you stink at projects involving a needle and thread, then read on. Here are some seditious tips for keeping your sanity.

**Rethink the Concept of Presents** – Spending a boatload of cash on "stuff" you don't want is insulting enough to your psyche. Doing it for other folks, particularly those you love, is deluded. Consider exchanging "presence" with your Beloved Ones instead of "presents." They'll be happier spending quality time with you than opening packaged items of fluff ordered via Pay Pal, anyway.

**Beware Excessive Amounts of Coffee and Alcohol** – Yes, coffee houses and restaurants all over America devise a slew of creative beverages this time of year – drinks with names like Mocha, Candy Cane Espresso Blast Off or Cherry Red, Mudslide, Curacao Martini with a Lime Twist. Consumption of these delights usually results in indigestion, new and undesired skin

eruptions, and migraine headaches. All true holiday rebels know to avoid them.

**Eschew Events with People You Can't Stand** – Family and friends aside, you'll receive invitations this month to "parties" from everyone from the local boutique selling Brighton holiday bracelets at a mark-up, to co-workers with French onion dip infused breath, carrying sprigs of mistletoe to dangle over your unsuspecting head. Pssst - you aren't required to attend every event to which you're invited. Some down time curled up with a book and a cup of hot cocoa, and your cat snoozing on your lap, can make you feel more festive.

**Limit Time Spent with Family Members** – Of course, you love and cherish your family. The problem is the inevitable dynamic of judgment and comparison between siblings that results from lengthy conversations about the past, usually from parents, as they discuss your foibles as a kid that have absolutely no relevance to who you are today.

Some manners guru, probably Emily Post, suggests three days is the limit of time one should spend with beloved, extended family. Consider following her sage guidance, and scheduling short, fun visits as opposed to lengthier ones rift with hidden land mines.

If that's impossible, find a place of sanctuary during long visits. Even a nook in your local video store where you can peruse the titles of non-saccharine films can provide a much needed respite from your own less sugary situation at home. After all, you're all there to carve the roast in the center of the table, not each other's self esteem. When you break bread with family, insist that it be in a spirit of joy and

mutual understanding, which can only hold up for so long. Keep family visits short.

**Respect Your Own Children** – If you have offspring refrain, from expecting them to put on a show, be it singing, dancing, or performing mind boggling feats of long division in front of company. Don't force them too often into itchy, uncomfortable clothing they despise for church services or other events. And find something for them to do over their long holiday break. Look for day camps – art, theatre, sports, whatever they enjoy – to enroll them in and keep them busy.

**Limit Your Commitments** – Refrain from volunteering to sew costumes for school pageants at the same time as you prepare your famous marshmallow, pineapple yams for the annual gathering of the extended cousins club. Don't offer to make the Frosty finger puppets for the holiday boutique unless you really enjoy that activity.

**Avoid Places with Large Crowds, Excessive Noise, and Loud Music** – Skip that extra trip to the mall in favor of going somewhere to soothe your nervous system, like a trip to a spa or an extra yoga class.

Ultimately, there are no "shoulds" when it comes to the holiday season. You aren't obligated to create traditions if you don't already have them. Let this be the year you allow yourself the freedom to relax and honor your inner promptings about what you want to do, even if it's only for a day, an hour, or a few minutes.

Laura Carpini is the author of *Bear Speaks: The Story of 7 Sacred Lessons Learned from a Montana Grizzly*. Visit her at [www.bearspeaks.com](http://www.bearspeaks.com)



Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Sheldon, of Downey, have announced the marriage of their granddaughter, Sabrina Aurand, to Michael Gleason on Oct. 10 in Fullerton. Sabrina is a graduate of Warren High School, has attended Cypress College and is currently a student at Cal State Fullerton. She works for State Farm Insurance in Huntington Beach. Michael is a graduate of Huntington Beach High School. He graduated from Cal State Long Beach in May and is pursuing a career in law enforcement. He works at Catel Restaurant at Downtown Disney. They are now residing in Huntington Beach.

## Crime Report

**Thursday, Nov. 11**

At about 11:00 a.m., a 66-year-old resident of Maywood accidentally crashed his vehicle into the McDonalds restaurant at 9250 Lakewood Blvd. after mistaking the accelerator for the brake pedal. No patrons were injured and the driver suffered minor injuries.

**Friday, Nov. 12**

At 10:30 p.m., a robbery occurred in the 8500 block of 5th Street. A group of juveniles had been confronted by two suspects, one armed with a handgun. The suspects took a cell phone from one of the victims and fled the area on foot. There were no injuries during the incident and detectives are investigating.

**Saturday, Nov. 13**

At 1:45 a.m., two suspects, one of whom was armed with a knife, robbed a man of his wallet in the 10800 block of Downey Ave. as he was walking to his car. Both suspects fled the scene on bicycles. There were no injuries during the incident.

At 1:30 p.m., a man armed with a gun robbed the Modern Image Store located in the 9200 block of Lakewood. The suspect selected merchandise from the store before approaching the cashier and demanding money. The suspect was last seen fleeing southbound from the scene. There were no injuries during the incident.

**Sunday, Nov. 14**

At 6:30 p.m., an adult male victim was walking in the 7800 block of Firestone Blvd. when he was confronted by a male suspect. The suspect brandished a handgun at the victim and demanded his personal property. The victim relinquished his wallet and the suspect fled the area in a vehicle.

At 11:30 p.m., an adult male victim was riding his bicycle on Firestone Blvd. at the San Gabriel River Channel when he was confronted by four subjects who demanded his bike. The victim refused to relinquish his bike and a struggle ensued. The victim was able to escape on his bicycle with minor injuries.

**Monday, Nov. 15**

At 3:30 p.m., officers arrested a male juvenile in the 15000 block of Rives Ave. after he was seen vandalizing numerous street signs in the area.

Information provided by Downey Police Department.

## Free-throw contest for kids

**DOWNEY** – Downey Elks Lodge 2020 will host its annual free-throw shooting contest for kids Dec. 11 in the gymnasium at Apollo Park.

The contest is open to boys and girls ages 8-13. Registration begins at 8 a.m.

For more information, call Ray Patacil at (562) 927-0990 or the lodge at (562) 803-3557.

## Boutique sale at church

**DOWNEY** – The seniors of St. Raymond's parish will host their annual Christmas boutique Dec. 6 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Msgr. Gipson Hall.

Many items will be on sale, including baked goods. There will also be raffles.

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## Letters to the Editor:

### Bark park

Dear Editor:

In Downey's fine new dog park, a man watched his two dachshunds romp with my mutts like kids at a picnic. When the gate opened, the four dogs strolled over together to welcome newcomers and show them around the enclosure.

I had approached this moment cautiously, since Cracker and Biscuit, on leash, over-guard me and their small size by growling and lunging at other dogs also on-leash. How would they behave without restraints? Like Roman Coliseum lions?

The dog park was a revelation. Everybody running around on four legs were so happy and busy, I had time to talk with other owners. The dachshund man, for instance, lives in Montebello, and the nearest bark park was in Pasadena. When he discovered Downey's on the Internet, he was delighted to travel only about 10 miles and find such an excellent facility.

"I really had no other reason before to come to Downey," he said. "But now when I bring the dogs, I'm going to stop somewhere for coffee or lunch, so it's good for your merchants, as well."

Nearly 20 years ago, someone circulated petitions for a dog park through the local veterinarian offices. I remember signing, in high hopes. (And I'm going to be immodest here and mention that in *The Downey Eagle* issue of Aug. 2, 1996, I suggested in a Letter to the Editor that the southeast corner of Rio San Gabriel Park looked like a great place for a leash-free dog park. Ta-da.)

Well, it took a while. These things do. Yes, we need funds for street repairs and a host of other concerns, but a dog park has been in the works a long time, and now that this well-thought-out area is here, with its aura of success and joy, it is a benefit to the city, and I thank everyone who had a part in bringing it to us.

-- Joyce Sherwin,  
Downey

### Sports reunions

Dear Editor:

Can you believe this is the 25th year for the Viking Sports Reunions?

In 1985, Lash Stevenson's friend, Dan Delaney, from the Bay Area, opened the Stuff Pizza restaurant in Downey. This was a great place to start our Viking reunions. Since then we have had them at many different places.

The best place has been at Barbara Stec DesRochers' Country Garden restaurant in Santa Ana. At the 2005 reunion, 50 classmates, teammates and coaches gathered at Barbara's place to watch the 1956 Downey-Anaheim CIF championship football game. Also there was Ron Ammermann, Las Vegas entertainer Fats Johnson, and coaches Wally Kincaid and Dick Hill. Coach Hill told us that he was fighting cancer. He gave an inspirational speech: his message was "Never give up!" We lost both Coach Hill and Ron the following year.

On Nov. 13 we gathered again at Barbara's restaurant with another 40 Vikings and their spouses. Allen Layne, who has been involved with various positions at Downey High School for 40 years, was there to tell us about the Downey Hall of Fame. Since 1999, 77 have been inducted.

Arvin Wenzleberg introduced Wally Kincaid. Wally was inducted the first year. Wally's illustrious coaching career has influenced so many players and coaches. That night he was visited by former players: Arvin, Scott Iverson, Bill Bogandoff, Dick Roche, Bob Edans, Jerry Dotson, Garry Dougan, Charlie Olander, Gary MacArthur and Bobby Dye.

Bobby Dye was introduced by Arvin, who told of his outstanding college coaching career. That is why he has been nominated for the Hall of Fame.

Others in attendance: Coach Gus Headington, (coach of the 1957 CIF champion Vikings), Donna Danforth Nelson, Winnie Iverson, Marilyn MacArthur, Tom Penfold, Lin Bjerken, Charlie Carter, Zack McCarty, Ron Russell, Steve Skinner, Joe Sallinger, Fred Peritorie, Bert Ward, Mona Kincaid, Ray and Ann Floyd, Bill Hauck, David Moon, Al Korneff, Greg Slevin and Bill Canada.

Barbara and I want to thank everyone that has contributed to these Vikings Sports Reunions. We grew up together, and you are the reason that we continue to have these reunions.

We would like to hear from you. Please contact us for information about our class of '56 reunion: Lash Stevenson (lashrffox@mac.com), Barbara Desrochers (Barbara@countrygardencaterers.com) and Donna Danforth Nelson (donna@cox.net).

-- Lash Stevenson and Barbara Desrochers,  
Downey High School, Class of 1956

### America's pastime

Dear Editor:

America's pastime should now be called "Beisbol."

Just look at the rosters of most MLB teams and you see them peppered by Spanish surnames like Netfali Feliz, Robinson Cano, Elvis Andrus, Mariano Rivera, Carlos Ruiz, Andres Torres, Juan Uribe, et al to name just a few.

I hope that these players are required to speak English as we usually expect of our homegrown sports heroes.

Not easily appreciated is the fact that these foreign players take high-paying jobs away from native American players. In the current economic malaise we should demand that high-paying jobs be reserved for Americans.

-- Jorge Montero,  
Downey

### Bah humbug

Dear Editor:

With regard to Elsa Van Leuven's letter of Nov. 11, "Where is Christmas," I, too, am dismayed to once again read that our traditional Christmas parade has morphed into the generic Holiday Lane Parade.

However, I sense a trend here, so it's best that I get on board. To this end, my decorations are now out and ready to adorn my Holiday tree. There will be no Christmas presents under the tree. There will, instead, be Holiday presents.

And one last thing. I needn't put cookies and milk out for Santa. He comes on "Christmas" Eve. I'll miss the jolly old elf, but, noting no Christmas preparations here, he will undoubtedly pass me by, opting for a more appropriate Christmas-friendly house.

-- Charlene Slocum,  
Downey

### Praising Bush

Dear Editor:

As a woman I saw a decent and honorable side of President George W. Bush that I admired then and I admire today.

Despite the vilification of the Democratic press printed over Iraq, it was the Senate on Oct. 8, 1998 who said Iraq was developing weapons of mass destruction; they mass produced poisonous gases Saddam Hussein used to massacre thousands of his own people, the Kurds, and supply others. Hussein had a nuclear reactor developing nuclear weapons that Israel took out in a raid, and China had shipped 200 tons of a long-range fuel for Hussein's missiles via Syria.

Bush was smart; his grades in college were far better than Al Gore's and some other Democratic leaders, he passed the Bar on one visit (where Gore failed), he flew our most difficult fighter plane, the F104, and he had experience in owning two businesses, where President Obama and most presidents had none.

Bush has strong feelings for the military; he and Laura showed up unannounced at veterans hospitals to visit, comfort and pray for the wounded, where Obama played basketball when he visited military bases. And it was Bush who straightened out the CIA and FBI that President Clinton had left in shambles.

Bush is blamed for our present situation, when it was Clinton who pressured banks to accept bad home loans, and it was Bush who tried 17 times to discourage the practice of the two Fannies, but no one in Congress listened.

Rush Limbaugh says Bush is a very decent and honorable man, and I agree. Bush never criticized other presidents, but said what he would do, which Democrats should do.

-- Thelma Simpson,  
Downey

## Why polarization hurts us

Lee Hamilton

By splitting control of Congress in the midterm elections, voters have handed Democrats and Republicans an opportunity to work together. Of course, the number of people in Washington who believe it will happen could fit in a phone booth, as party leaders tout their refusal to compromise on their core issues and the 2012 elections loom in the distance.

Still, as Capitol Hill transitions from campaigning, where the rhetoric gets heated, to the much harder task of governing, there is an opening for reason to take hold.

Let's hope that congressional leaders listen to the American people as a whole, rather than simply play to their core constituencies, because the spiraling polarization they're engaging in is clearly turning Americans off. This marks the third election in a row in which voters have rejected the party in power: in 2006 they gave the House and Senate to the Democrats, and followed that up in 2008 with the presidency; this year, of course, they've given the House back to the Republicans. Exit polls on election day showed almost identical majorities of voters holding negative views of both parties. The one message all voters seem to agree on is for politicians to stop the partisan clashes.

It's possible, of course, that voters are reacting to something other than the heated partisanship of the past decade. Watching a campaign, you can see the assembled crowds cheer loudest at the most intensely political statements. And the hard-fought battles of the last few elections seem to have led to a slight uptick in voter interest and turnout.

Yet many of the problems that Americans most closely identify with Washington are directly traceable to the bellicose politics to be found in Congress. The constant maneuvering for partisan advantage makes it supremely difficult to pursue responsible policies to meet our challenges. In a tension-filled environment, with constant scrapping for electoral advantage and a bitter response from activist political bases to any hint of compromise, politicians struggle to muster the political will to search for broadly acceptable remedies to the problems that beset us. They have an even harder time finding them.

The result is that Congress can't do its job properly. It is supposed to be the place where the diverse voices and needs of Americans, their workplaces, and their communities can all be heard, respected, and taken into

## Hispanic legislators examining trade schools

The National Hispanic Caucus of State Legislators (NHCSL) passed a resolution at their annual National Summit in San Antonio, TX on Nov. 13 urging the Department of Education to keep access to career colleges an option for Latino students and carefully tailor its proposed "Gainful Employment" rule to remove the industry's bad actors, and to increase overall quality for Latinos seeking higher education.

One of three panel discussions at the summit was dedicated to a discussion on higher education and policy options for preserving the benefits that career colleges provide even as the Department seeks to institute new rules.

"Career colleges play an important role for many non-traditional students, many of whom are Hispanic," said Sen. Iris Y. Martinez, NHCSL president. "We applaud the department's efforts to address the bad actors in the career college industry. But Hispanic students disproportionately rely on financial aid to go to school and we worry that the proposed rule will have unintended consequences that will negatively affect Hispanic students. We have followed the issue very closely throughout the year and urge the department to establish a commission to further study the impact the rule will have and develop a more comprehensive approach to this issue."

NHCSL believes that career colleges have proven to be a key entry point to higher education for many Latino students who might otherwise



### Eat, drink & be entertained

Dear Editor:

Affordable housing in the downtown area will obviously put people there. Porto's Bakery is definitely bringing people there.

All of these people will be there and what are they doing? Eating? Absolutely! Great choices within walking distance of the proposed housing complex and Porto's. Lots and lots of eating. And then what? More eating?

Downey Avenue, the core of the historic downtown area, needs something else, something to do besides eat! There are the plays and symphonic performances at the Downey Theatre, but nothing on a nightly basis throughout the year.

There is the Krikorian, Downey Billboards on Firestone Boulevard, and the...no, I guess that's about it. No place to sit and listen to a live band, be entertained by a comedian, watch a classic or independent film, or stimulate your mind with an art show.

Revitalize Downey Avenue with a restored Avenue Theater where all of these forms of entertainment (and more) that are missing from the downtown Downey experience could be enjoyed on a full stomach.

-- Kathy Perez,  
Downey

account when policy gets made. These days, however, the process either gets manipulated so that significant viewpoints can be elbowed out of the way, or gets so poisonously partisan that no progress at all occurs.

Especially in the House, polarization tends to force the exclusion of the minority party from deliberations — the majority has the votes, and so controls procedures to keep the minority from participating. Republicans did this when they were in power, and Democrats did it after they took over. The result was the same in both instances: the minority got so incensed that it spent its time searching for ways to obstruct and frustrate majority rule.

Meanwhile, the Senate's intense partisanship has, among other things, yielded a judicial confirmation process that is long on rancorous debates over judicial philosophy and short on actual confirmations. The judiciary is being hobbled by congressional polarization.

Congress is also charged with ensuring that the federal government properly carries out the laws and remains accountable to citizens. Partisan maneuvering, however, focuses members on scoring political points rather than overseeing the implementation of the law.

It's worth pointing out that the polarization we've been seeing does not just hurt us at home. Faced with a host of challenges, from the rise of China to negotiating a new arms control agreement with Russia to combating international terrorism and dealing with North Korea and Iran, our policies need to be consistent and our nation unified. Both of these goals are near-impossible to attain when political leaders are constantly at loggerheads, even though each one knows full well that the country is stronger abroad when it conveys unity.

Watching all this, Americans are losing faith in their institutions of government. When the people who represent them appear incapable of resolving their differences and moving forward on broadly acceptable solutions to issues that they all agree need addressing — energy, health care, immigration, reining in spending — it's no wonder so many Americans mistrust politicians and government. And until our political leaders figure out a way of working cooperatively, they'll deserve that mistrust.

Lee Hamilton is Director of the Center on Congress at Indiana University. He was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives for 34 years.

find post-secondary education unattainable and passed a resolution asking the department to consider several concerns:

1. The issues of remediation, student benchmarking and testing and clear rules for disclosing student debt responsibilities must be key components of reform.

2. The ultimate rule must not deter college-going for our most vulnerable students and families.

3. We should not take an unfair or slanted view to career programs, like culinary arts or graphic design, among others, which attract many students who begin college more economically vulnerable.

4. A rule must increase quality of higher education, not simply take away funding for programs that either don't, or can't meet graduate salary goals within a few years of graduation.

5. In evaluating a "gainful employment rule," if this remains the measure ultimately used, then the economic realities of the college-goers and their intended occupations must be considered in order to ensure we do not impose an elitist or simply inapplicable standard on those seeking careers with lower pay.

The resolution can be found at <http://higheredu.nhcsl.org/the-resolution/>.

Contributed by the National Hispanic Caucus of State Legislators.

## The Downey Patriot

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## SPEED BUMP



## DAVE COVERLY



## Downey Community Calendar

### Events For November

- Sat. Nov. 20: **DJAA basketball sign-ups**, Apollo Park, 10 a.m.
- Sat. Nov. 20: **Free Thanksgiving meal**, Downey Christian School, 2 p.m.
- Sun. Nov. 21: **Harvest festival**, Moravian Church of Downey, 11:45 a.m.
- Mon. Nov. 22: **Interfaith Thanksgiving service**, Downey First Christian Church, 7 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 Tuesday, 6:00 p.m.: **Emergency Preparedness Committee**, at Fire Station No. 1, 12222 Paramount Blvd.
- 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.

### Regularly Scheduled Meetings

#### Mondays

- 2nd Mon., 11 a.m.: **American Legion Auxiliary #270**, at United Methodist Church.
- 3rd Mon., 7 p.m.: **American Legion Post#270**, at Los Amigos C. C., for more info. call (626) 445-2582.
- 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 Ingrid Martin at 413-4001.
- 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 Tues., 3 p.m.: **Keep Downey Beautiful**, at City Hall, for more information call 904-7159.
- 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., 11:30 a.m.: **Christian Women's Club**, at Los Amigos Country Club, call Sonja 862-4347.
- 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 p.m.: **Lions Club**, at The Palms, for information call 803-4048.
- 3rd Weds., - **Downey Dog Obedience Club**, at Apollo Park, for info. call Gina 869-5213 or Valerie 420-2972.
- 3rd Weds., 10 a.m.: **Los Angeles County Quilters Guild**, at Women's Club, for information call 426-2418.
- 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 Bob's Big Boy, for info., call Nick Smith, 861-5222.
- 7:30 a.m.: **Soroptimist Int'l of Downey**, for information, call Mia Vasquez, 806-3217.
- 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.

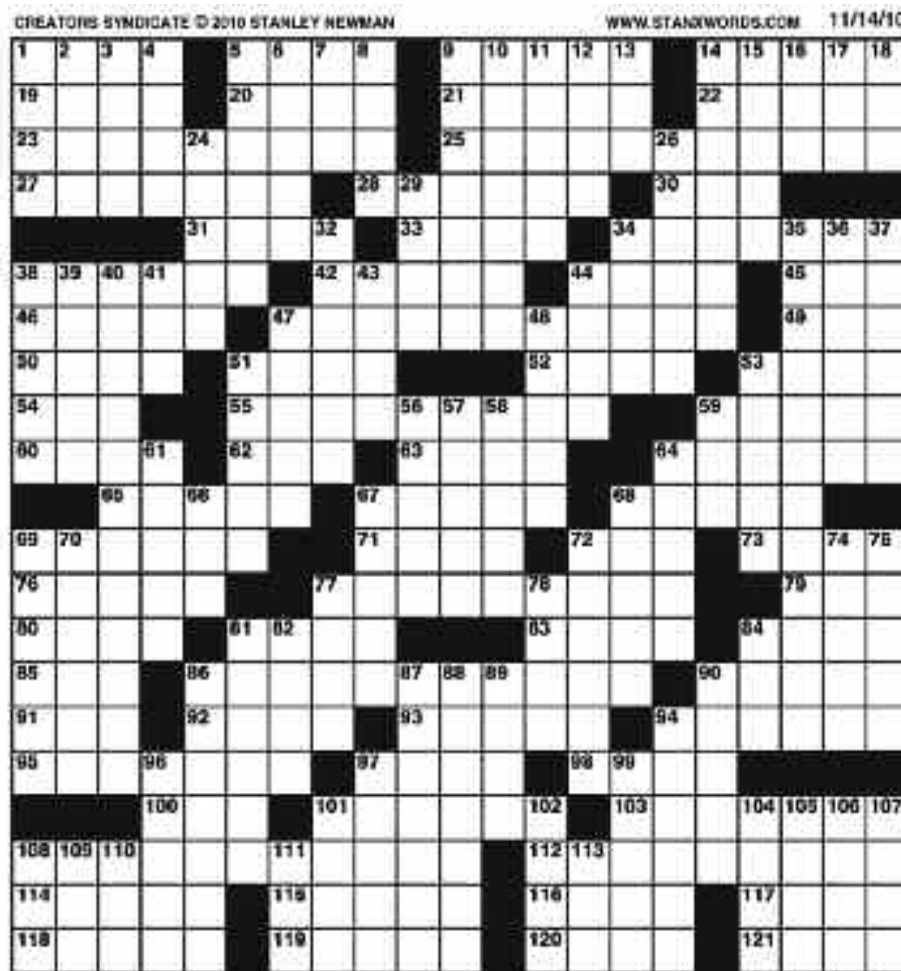
## On This Day...

- Nov. 18, 1883:** The United States and Canada adopted a system of standard time zones.
- 1928:** "Steamboat Willie," marking the first appearance of Mickey Mouse, premiered in New York.
- 1966:** U.S. Roman Catholic bishops did away with the rule against eating meat on Fridays.
- 2006:** Actor Tom Cruise and actress Katie Holmes were married in Italy.
- 2008:** The "Big Three" automakers pleaded with Congress for a \$25 billion bailout.
- Birthdays:** Actor and comedian Kevin Nealon (57), football hall of famer Warren Moon (54), baseball player Gary Sheffield (42), actor Owen Wilson (42), actor Mike Epps (40), actress Chloë Sevigny (36), Boston Red Sox slugger David Ortiz (35), rapper Fabolous (31) and rapper Mike Jones (30).

### THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com)  
**ALL IN THE GAME:** As revealed at 112 Across  
 by Fred Piscop

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

The Niagara River (19 Across) flows from Lake Erie to Lake Ontario, and includes Niagara Falls. In the Melville novel *Moby-Dick* (59 Across), PILEFT is one of the owners of the ship *Pequod*. The word BARISTA (103 Across) means "bartender" in Italian.





PHOTO BY REBEKAH JIN

## A closer look at Porto's Bakery

■ Quality food at affordable prices is what keeps people coming back.

BY REBEKAH JIN, INTERN

**DOWNEY** – For many months, the opening of Porto's Bakery in Downey excited not only residents of the city, but also many others who live too far away from the Glendale and Burbank locations. Eager to get a taste of Cuban food, I visited the newly opened location with my mother on its first Saturday of business.

Even before entering the front door, I could already see that several customers were waiting for the same purpose—to sample the wide variety of pastries that makes Porto's so well-known in Southern California. The two lines were packed with both loyal Porto's fans and first-timers like me, but I did not mind waiting for my turn to order as I pondered about what I should try. A sample Cuban cracker whetted my appetite as I admired the endless display of treats at the counter.

To my surprise, I ran into my fifth grade teacher, whom I had not seen for many years. I explained to her that this was my first time at Porto's, and she recommended one of the most popular items — potato balls. Quite honestly, I did not think much about the potato balls when I read a brief description on paper. But why not give them a try if they were the main reason that my fifth grade teacher loved Porto's so much?

The potato ball is a combination of meat and potatoes in an interesting package. Ground beef is

stuffed inside a mound of mashed potatoes and then fried to a golden brown. I could easily imagine having a few potato balls for a perfect light lunch. This customer favorite makes the stomach happy while not being too pricey.

A coffee enthusiast, my mother chose the carrot and apple muffin to complement her drink. For just over \$1, this muffin exceeded our expectations. It was not overly sweet, but it had the perfect balance of flavor that gradually built up as we savored each bite. All of the muffin varieties are highly recommended to anyone who wants to stick with a traditional item.

For those who are curious to try both sweet and savory at the same time, the meat pie (also known as "pastel de carne") is the perfect choice. At first glance, the meat pie looks like any other puff pastry. When I bit into it, however, I was surprised with the flavorful ground beef. Combining the crispy, sweet exterior and the meat filling presents the best of both flavors.

Porto's Bakery offers such a tremendous selection of baked goods, sandwiches, drinks and more that it is nearly impossible to experience every item in just one visit. The potato ball, carrot and apple muffin, and meat pie are just a few of the several delicious options. Best of all, the prices keep customers returning for more without burning holes in their wallets.

"The thing that keeps customers coming back is comfort food," said Betty Porto. "People come here to buy our potato balls, then go out with many more items. We focus on providing affordable quality, consistency and great customer service."

## Disneyland no longer an option for grad night

■ New Disneyland policy sends students scrambling for alternate grad night sites.

BY DEANNA KIM AND JENNIFER CHO, INTERN

**DOWNEY** – Because major theme parks are not available for rental in late June, Warren and Downey high schools are facing problems with where the location of their annual grad night should be.

The fate of Downey's grad night still remains uncertain, even after Assistant Principal John Baker announced at the Senior Assembly on Oct. 8 that the school's traditional grad night at Disneyland would most likely have to be reconsidered.

Because Disneyland's grad night promotion to local high schools ends on June 16, the week before Downey's graduation, the festivity will have to be at a new venue or Six Flags Magic Mountain will have to be replaced with Disneyland as the senior trip location.

Nothing is set in stone as of now, Baker says. At the assembly he suggested hosting grad night in the school's gymnasium, to which the seniors expressed great disapproval.

"The gym is not a factor," Baker said. "We need at least 50 to 60 parent volunteers, yet at the most recent senior meeting we only have one."

Senior class president Riza Karnadi says seniors tried to convince administrators to hold grad night a week before graduation, but the idea was declined by principal Tom Houts, who said grad night is supposed to be a healthy alternative to partying after graduation.

Baker said he is doing the best he can to support the celebration, but he emphasized that grad night is not up to the students but rather up to their parents.



PHOTO BY FLICKR USER BFURLONG/ CREATIVE COMMONS LICENSE

**Disneyland is discontinuing their grad night promotions on June 16, one week before Downey high schools hold their graduation ceremonies.**

"Grad night is a parent-driven activity and it hasn't been that way," he said.

Warren seniors are choosing among Disneyland, Speedway and Boomers for their grad night after facing complications with Disneyland as well. Many seniors object to having grad night anywhere else other than Disneyland, which would require having it a week in advance.

Having the event a week in advance may seem like a plausible idea but this would eliminate the sole purpose of this occasion.

"I don't think Disneyland would be the best option for our grad night," said senior Irwin Luna. "It would be overcrowded

and wouldn't be as intimate with our class as it had been previous years where only Warren seniors were at a place, like Boomers."

If the PTSA can not book a desired theme park for the night of graduation, they will allow seniors to vote on the venue location such as Speedway or Boomers.

"Again, the purpose of grad night was to allow all students a safe place to celebrate their graduation," said Lois Worthy, grad night chairperson for the class of 2011. "All it takes is one student to make a poor and/or fatal choice graduation night and we would have failed all our students by not being able to provide that safe place."

## Construction causing headaches at Warren

■ Work on Paramount Boulevard putting a strain on morning commuters.

BY DEBORAH WON, INTERN

**DOWNEY** – Nearly 4,000 students trying to squeeze into a single gate at the same time to get to school at Warren is a mission in itself.

With street construction occurring along Paramount Boulevard from Alameda Street to Brookmill Road, which is expected to end around Nov. 22, that mission has become a lot more difficult.

"It is so annoying because you're trying not to be late to class, but the chaotic traffic and students cutting in front of you makes it a hassle to even go to school," said Binal Patel, a senior who drives himself to school every day.

To be fair, the district and school did warn the students ahead of time. A notice went out to the staff and students several weeks before construction was planned to begin, as Warren anticipated the construction to begin in mid-October, with heavy impacts starting Nov. 1. True to the warning, the normally hectic parking lot has become a chaotic flurry of rushing parents and students all trying to squeeze into the tiny available gateways.

Many students have made an effort to come to school earlier to avoid heavy traffic, although much

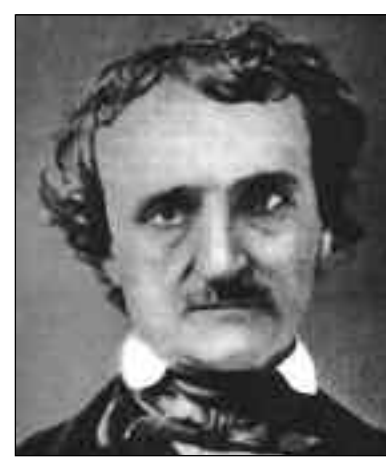
grumbling and complaining about the situation ensued.

True, it is quite a nuisance to take time out of the precious sleep that is so scarce in a high school student's agenda, yet getting to school earlier does make a huge difference in both individual and group efforts to lessen the giant traffic jam. It takes many students around 20 minutes just to drive into the school gates.

However, the situation can become an issue greater than just a mere nuisance. With the extensive amount of traffic, irresponsible driving also seems to be on the rise, which raises traffic concerns amongst pedestrians and drivers alike.

"It was unexpected for me to walk in the parking lot and almost being hit by a car. You would think that drivers in a school campus would be careful, but they are not, especially because there is so much construction going on in the area," said student Hector Rivera, describing his near-accident in the parking lot.

Luckily, construction is expected to come to a close soon enough, with the expected completion date announced as Nov. 22.



## Poe still sending chills down spines

BY JOSEPH APODACA, INTERN

**DOWNEY** – Edgar Allan Poe has kept us on the edge of our seats for years and with the Downey High School drama production's recent reincarnation of his work, it's a surefire sign that Poe isn't going anywhere anytime soon.

Just last week, Downey brought Poe's work to life on stage for An Evening with Edgar Allan Poe, composed of a series of some of his most stories famous stories including "The Raven," "Tell Tale Heart," "Fall of the House of Usher," "Oblong Box," "The Cask of Amantillado" and "The System of Dr. Tarr and Professor Fether."

Poe is most notably famous for maintaining scares and while his stories can leave some with nightmare, he left the drama department wanting more.

Poe's stories have long fascinated readers and continue to do so in classrooms today. Far from what may be considered scary in the films of today, Poe has cleverly crafted a way to keep us titillated and make us go back to reread what just happened.

His stories are among the most popular at Downey High School and that does not surprise the teachers that have come to know him well.

"I think Poe has lasted through time because he haunts and disturbs the mind rather than the 'in your face' gore of today," said English teacher Tina Carlson. "You think about his stories long after they are over, because they make one uncomfortable not just scared. He brings to the forefront our weaknesses as humans, such as greed and power, so we can all relate."

"Students enjoy his work because there are just enough details to make him interesting, but he leaves enough out that your imagination can take over."

As every year passes, it appears that Poe's stories have a continually greater impact on those who read his work. Students become enamored by his words and the emotions they provoke in them. Among the most popular with students are "Annabel Lee" and "The Raven." Read in anthologies time and time again and even parodied by "The Simpsons," the two are staples in English literature and readers couldn't be happier than to have had the chance to read them.

"My favorite work by Poe is 'Annabel Lee.' It captures his emotions so well that the first time I read it I almost cried," said senior Sarah Menendez. "The Raven is also one of my favorites. Not only is it a classic, but I think that that piece says so much. Like most of his works, I can never get tired of The Raven."

## Ready for Black Friday?

■ Shoppers are making plans for annual after-Thanksgiving sales.

BY NICHOLE HAMILTON, INTERN

**DOWNEY** – Shoppers everywhere are constantly on the lookout for the best deals, and on Black Friday, shoppers flock to their favorite stores to catch all the deals and steals for the holiday season.

Black Friday is the day after Thanksgiving when stores everywhere cut back prices and open

for extended hours. Many shoppers seek out the best deals, and get their family and friends' holiday wish lists completed early.

Many shop on this day in hopes of saving some money, especially students that are on a tight and limited budget. Students are beginning to save that holiday cash and get ready for one of the biggest shopping days of the year.

"For me, Black Friday is important because I know I will be saving more money on that day than any other day," said Downey resident and shopper Angela Castelli. "I'm a college student with a part time job, so saving money is a pretty smart thing for me to do. On Black Friday, I would normally go for the things that are generally harder to get during the holidays, like electronics. Also the bigger ticket items for my nephews, such as the more expensive toys."

While Black Friday is clearly a day for saving money and finding steals, it's also a day for something many shoppers dread – crowds. With so many bargains, it's obvious that lines may be longer than normal; however, Stonewood Center marketing assistant Brian Malony has a few tips to help shoppers beat the rush.

"If you're not specifically going for door-buster sales, I personally would suggest shopping between 10 a.m. and noon," said Malony. "So many people camp out overnight or leave their house

at 3 a.m., that we traditionally see an 'eye of the hurricane' type calm during that time frame.

"But don't wait too long – the afternoon crowd will flood the center before you know it! However, if you are interested in getting the biggest and best deals, you need to be there first thing."

Students and Downey residents alike will be shopping on Black Friday, and many can be found at Downey's shopping hub: Stonewood Center. According to their

webpage [www.shopstonewoodcenter.com/events/blackfriday2010](http://www.shopstonewoodcenter.com/events/blackfriday2010), there will be many deals and incentives to lure shoppers in to the mall on the big day. From two-for-\$12 cardigans at Forever 21, to Daniel's Jewelers giving free freshwater pearls to those who spend \$49.95, there's sure to be something to spark your shopping interests. There are also events and special mall hours posted on the site, along with more offers and details on the big day.

Another big shopping location in Downey is Best Buy located in the Downey Landing, where each year shoppers are known to camp out starting as early as Thanksgiving night to get the best deals on their electronic needs.

Black Friday is only one week away, so start saving that cash and get ready to experience the best sales you'll find all holiday season.

### 2010-2011 Interns for The Downey Patriot

- Joseph Apodaca
- Jennifer Cho
- Nichole Hamilton
- Rebekah Jin
- Deanna Kim
- Deborah Won
- 
- Photographers
- Paul Heidecker

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# How to give and know you're helping

**ARA CONTENT**

Making a charitable donation during the holidays isn't just an act of kindness, often it's also an act of faith. As you mail your donation check or drop some bills and loose change into that collection bucket outside the grocery store, it's only natural to wonder just where the money is going, who it's helping, and if it's really helping anyone at all.

Wouldn't it feel good this holiday season to know your contribu-

tions are really making a difference? Knowing who your donation benefits can help make the act of giving even more enriching for you and the recipient of your generosity. Fortunately, there are ways to do good that you can also feel good about, knowing the real effects of your efforts. Here are two ideas for holiday giving that you can know will make a difference:

**Donate your time**

Everyone is busy during the holidays, but if you want to be

confident your charitable giving is really making a difference, donating your time to a worthy cause is a good option. Not only will you enjoy the spiritual nourishment of actively helping others, you'll be able to see the actual results of your contribution. The options are virtually endless and you can find a way to give that fits your schedule and personal preferences.

Are you handy around the house? Contribute your time to an organization that builds or repairs homes for those in need. Perhaps you're a good cook or a deft server? Volunteer to prepare or serve meals at your local soup kitchen. Do you get along well with kids? Contact churches or homeless shelters in your area and volunteer for their child care programs.

No matter how you choose to do it, donating your time costs you nothing more than a few hours, but can deliver the reward of seeing firsthand just who your contribution is helping.

**Finance a micro loan**

Money is often what people in need require most. Yet if you believe the old adage "Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish and you feed him for a lifetime," you may feel hesitant to just hand over cash without knowing your donation will help the recipient build a better future for themselves.

Funding a microfinance loan for a small business owner in a

developing country is a great way to ensure your donation not only helps someone immediately, but helps create a better future as well.

Organizations like World Vision provide micro loans - ranging from \$25 to \$5,000 - to small businesses in Mexico, the Philippines, Kenya and Rwanda. Through the organization's website, [www.worldvisionmicro.org](http://www.worldvisionmicro.org), you can fund a loan - entirely or partially. What's more, you can select the entrepreneur you would like to help and designate exactly how much to loan that person. The website provides details on business owners, why each needs a loan, and how they will use the loan.

After you've made a loan, you'll get reports on how your chosen entrepreneur has spent the money, how his or her business is faring and how the entrepreneur is re-investing profits.

Your loan is recorded as a tax-deductible monetary donation. When borrowers repay their loans, their funds go back into World Vision's local community bank and the money is loaned out again to help other entrepreneurs in the same community. The repayment rate for World Vision loans is nearly 99 percent. Microfinance loans foster small-scale entrepreneurship and foster long-term solutions to poverty by helping individuals and communities transition from poverty to independence. Log on to [www.worldvisionmicro.org](http://www.worldvisionmicro.org) to learn more.

When you make a charitable donation during the holidays - or any time of year - your heart is in the right place. You'll feel even better about your contribution if you know for sure your money is ending up in the right place as well.

## Youth service award seeks nominees

**DOWNEY** - Applications are now being accepted for the next installment of the Downey Youth Service Award, which honors students in grades K-12 who are active in community service.

Winners will receive a gift certificate from Stonewood Center at a recognition dinner Dec. 2 at the Rio Hondo Event Center.

Applications are available in school offices. Entries must be postmarked no later than Nov. 22 and mailed to The Downey Patriot, Attn: Eric Pierce, 8301 E. Florence Ave., Suite 100, Downey, CA 90240.

Entries can also be e-mailed to [fvasquez562@gmail.com](mailto:fvasquez562@gmail.com) or [eric@thedowneypatriot.com](mailto:eric@thedowneypatriot.com).

## DJAA taking sign-ups for basketball

**DOWNEY** - Registration is now being taken for the new season of DJAA basketball for kids in kindergarten through eighth grade.

Sign-ups will be taken Saturday from 10 a.m. to noon at Apollo Park. Registration is \$60 (cash or check only).

The league is open to children who live or attend school in Downey. Non-residents will be considered on space availability.

Parents should take a birth certificate or report card when signing-up. Other sign-up dates are Dec. 1 from 6:30-8 p.m., and Dec. 4 and 11, 10 a.m. to noon.

For more information, or to volunteer as a coach, e-mail [info@djaasports.org](mailto:info@djaasports.org).

## Harvest Festival at Moravian

**DOWNEY** - The Moravian Church of Downey will host a Harvest Festival this Sunday from 11:45 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Homemade food from Nicaragua and the U.S. will be available for purchase, along with fresh produce. There will also be music.

The church is at 10337 Old River School Rd.

## Carpenter kids raise money

**DOWNEY** - Students in B10 at Carpenter Elementary School raised \$108.37 in October by collecting loose change to benefit UNICEF.

The fundraising was a way for students to learn about Character Counts.

"We are very proud of them practicing the Characters Counts pillar of Caring," principal Ruth Hesketh said.

## Soup and shopping at Masonic Lodge

**DOWNEY** - Downey No. 160 Order of the Easter Star will host its annual soup buffet and Christmas boutique Dec. 5 from 1-6 p.m. on the second floor of Downey Masonic Lodge, 8244 3rd St.

Admission is \$7 for adults and \$4 for children 10 and younger. The event will include all-you-can eat homemade soup and salad, and an opportunity to purchase unique gifts, including candles, jewelry and decorations.

The public is welcome.

## Let the Federal Government and the State of California PAY YOU to get a NEW AIR CONDITIONER or FURNACE!

The Government's 2009 Economic Stimulus Bill has now been offered to the American Homeowner! And there's more good news: For a *Limited Time*, local utility companies are offering **CASH Rebates** on energy efficient upgrades!

You MUST act NOW, because this is a unique opportunity and it won't last long. Right now, you can actually replace your old, inefficient furnace or air conditioner with **no money down** and, when you apply the Federal Tax Credit utility company rebates and utility cost savings they can actually **Pay You** to install a brand new, energy efficient furnace or air conditioner!

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local utility companies are offering up to **\$200.00 in CASH REBATES** and \$1,300 for the State of California when you invest in a new energy saving air conditioning system or furnace. Now, including rebates, discounts, tax credits etc., your total savings can be as much as \$4,300.00!

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said Terry Dwyer, president of the Orange County Performing Arts Center. "We're very pleased that we are able to present it again, with all its extraordinary production values, powerful score and a wonderful cast."

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tious and very popular. "Wicked" tells the story of their remarkable odyssey, and how these two unlikely friends grow to become the Wicked Witch of the West and Glinda the Good.

Tickets to see "Wicked" start at \$38.75 and go on sale Dec. 12 at 10 a.m. They can be purchased online at www.ocpac.org or by calling (714) 556-2787.



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## Vikings have been road wary

**DOWNEY** – It took a last day win against their cross-town rivals in order to get to the playoffs, but the Downey Vikings, on the shoulders of new head coach Jack Williams and running back Kyle Lewis, slipped in as the No. 2 seed out of the San Gabriel Valley League and will go on the road against Inglewood to open up their playoff run.

A difficult test awaits the Vikings who have not fared well at all on the road this season going 1-4 overall and 1-1 in league play. On the road they are also allowing 27.4 points per game to their opposition while scoring 26.2 points per game themselves.

A couple reasons why the disparity isn't as dramatic as it might seem when you realize the Vikings had only a single win on the road could be due to the blowout victory at Lynwood when the Vikings scored 40 points on the lowly Knights. The second reason being the blowout loss on the road to La Habra when Downey was bludgeoned 49-20.

Downey without a doubt can put up many points on the scoreboard in the blink of an eye, but on the road they have seemed to struggle more defensively than offensively.

Opponents at home aren't necessarily rallying against the Vikings through the air as they're only averaging just over 160 yards per game passing, but rather on the ground where teams are really wearing down the defensive line.

On the road, the Vikings defense is allowing 226 rushing yards per game with Paramount's rushing attack led by Jermain Jackson lighting up the Vikings for a league high against the Vikings at 303 total yards. In the game, Paramount didn't run a single passing game and was able to squeak out a 24-21 victory.

Downey's offense has been balanced the entire season led by the rushing attack of Kyle Lewis. Lewis is leading a running back squad that is averaging 135.8 rushing yards per game on the road. Lewis' best game on the road was his 194 yard performance against

Lynwood. Quarterback Dallas Lopez is showing that he can handle hostile crowds, averaging 214.2 passing yards per game and also had nine touchdown passes on the road this season.

But Downey's defense will have its hands full with the Ocean League champions Inglewood Sentinels. The Sentinels were 8-2 this season going an undefeated 5-0 in league play to capture their league championship and a No. 1 seed along with a home game in the first round of the playoffs.

Inglewood won five of their six home games with their only loss at home this season against a top ranked team in Quartz Hill. Inglewood, a top ranked team in the state themselves, have been extremely tough at home with their offense being as explosive as anyone else's.

At home, the Sentinels are averaging an average of 41.5 points per game. The only game they didn't score more than 20 points at home was against Quartz Hill where they lost 7-0.

Sentinels quarterback Sean Simmons led the offense under center completing 53 percent of his passes this year and averaging 108.2 yards per game in the air. Although, Simmons has been proven to be susceptible to throwing interceptions having a 1:1 ratio of touchdown passes to interceptions.

Where the Sentinels thrive the most is their rushing attack. It may



SCOTT COBOS

not compare to the one man show that Jesse Callier was last year for the Bears, or the rushing attack Dominguez put on display late last year in the playoffs or all through the season this year, but without a doubt, it'll be the running game that fuels the offense.

Running back Kyle Evans led the team this year with 1,162 rushing yards and averaged 145.3 yards per game, 9.30 yards per rush, and found the end zone 12 times on the ground.

Evans wasn't by himself even though he possessed the bulk of the carries for the Sentinels. Christopher Lewis and Derrick Woods spelled Evans with Woods doing the most damage averaging 37.7 yards per game, and Lewis averaging 23.5 yards per game. The three together accounted for over 90 percent of the scoring.

Downey will have their hands full on the road Friday night. The game is scheduled to start at 7 p.m. at Coleman Stadium in Inglewood.



PHOTO BY PAUL HEIDECKER

The Downey High School girls defeated Palm Springs on Tuesday to advance to CIF finals for the first time in program history.

## Vikings make history, reach CIF finals

■ **VOLLEYBALL:** Defense leads Vikings to 3-0 victory. Finals are Friday.

BY JENNIFER CHO, INTERN

**DOWNEY** – Euphoric was the best word to describe the atmosphere at the Donna Ganser Boose Gymnasium on Tuesday night as the Downey girls' volleyball team made history in its 3-0 victory over Palm Springs in the CIF semifinals.

Never in the history of the girls' volleyball program at Downey has the team advanced to the CIF finals. Head coach Andrea Sims began jumping up and down like an excited teenage girl after the win, while the girls cried tears of joy and relief.

"It's surreal," Sims said. "As

cliché as it may sound, I'm so proud of my girls."

Downey played a game of catch up for most of the first set but a cliffhanging turnover at 15-19 led the girls to tie 19-19. Makayla Taylor, Lara Gutierrez and Heather Schnars helped to eventually close out the set 25-22.

The girls kept a close lead in the second set, with Taylor sneaking in with an unexpected set angled at the side of the net and making it work towards Downey's favor, 14-10. A 17-17 tie and an unfavorable call by the referee at 24-22 put the team on high alert, but Staci Rodriguez helped Downey close the set at 25-23.

A crucial third set needed to seal a spot in the finals started with a strong lead, after Gutierrez, Rodriguez and Schnars gave

Downey a consecutive streak over Palm Springs from 7-7 to 15-7. The Vikings made errors toward the end of the game, until Taylor secured the team its last points at 23-13 and 25-13.

"I'm so excited and proud of my teammates," said Taylor. "Going in to the game we knew it was going to be tough, but we pulled through in the end and won."

For Rodriguez, a four-year varsity player, the win is even more special. "It's amazing," said Rodriguez. "In all my years on the team, we've made it to playoffs, but this is the first time we're going to finals."

Downey will play Troy in the finals Saturday at 10 a.m. at Cypress College.

## Offensive surge leads Downey to victory

■ **FOOTBALL:** Win propels Vikings into playoffs.

BY JENNIFER CHO, INTERN

**DOWNEY** – Revenge was a dish best served cold as the Vikings celebrated a 27-16 victory over the rival Bears at Allen Layne Stadium

on Thursday night.

It was a seesaw game throughout, with Warren leading in the first few minutes of the game after a field goal before Downey snatched the lead when quarterback Dallas Lopez scored the Vikings' first touchdown.

With the score 16-13, a surge in Downey's offense punched in a touchdown by wide receiver Jabari Ruffin, once again swinging the lead back to the Vikings' favor, 20-16.

The Vikings attempted a fake punt in the third quarter that resulted in the Bears taking control of the ball. But with 10:24 left in the fourth quarter, Downey secured its final touchdown that led to the night's victory.

"The whole entire defense did a great job," said Downey head coach Jack Williams. "Our weakness was that there was too much emotion in the first half of the game. We let the game get to our heads with penalties and fumbles, but we played hard in the second half."

Downey will travel to Inglewood for the start of CIF playoffs Friday night.

## Downey stopped in second round

■ **WATER POLO:** Vikings are eliminated in second round by Agoura.

BY JOSEPH APODACA, INTERN

**DOWNEY** – The Vikings may have been able to defeat San Luis Obispo in their first round of CIF, but that was as far as Downey High School went, ending their season in the second round of CIF against Agoura last week.

Though the Vikings were

unable to get past Agoura, the win against San Luis Obispo marked the first time in years the Vikings advanced past the first round of CIF.

"I'm very proud to say I was on this team. Our goal was to have the best season we possibly could and we came pretty close to that so I'm pretty satisfied," said captain Derek Dodson. "Were like a family, we really enjoyed being around each other so it made this year a lot of fun."

"This year we were the most focused we've ever been and worked the hardest we ever worked and all that practice paid off."

Now that the season has ended,

the Vikings have a lot to reflect on and a lot to look forward to in the future. For seniors like Dodson, Derek Klotzer and Juan Rivas, this will be their last season playing together and in the four years they've been in the pool, they have each grown into forces to be reckoned with, something they always knew could be possible.

"Derek Klotzer has always been a good player and he really came through for us this year with his defense and non-stop swimming. It was cool having him as a teammate and a good friend because it was similar to how our brothers [Nick Dodson and Ethan Klotzer] were," said Dodson. "Juan has improved greatly. At first he has trouble just understanding the game and not drowning swimming back and forth, but now he's a really smart team player and I could always count on him."

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## Dark comedy on stage at CSULB

**LONG BEACH** – “Our Lady of 121st Street,” a widely popular dark comedy that gives a contemporary voice to an eternal problem, is now being presented at Cal State Long Beach.

In “Our Lady of 121st Street,” the body of Sister Rose has been stolen from the Ortiz Funeral Home. While waiting for the body of their beloved community activist to be returned, a group of New York City misfits tries to find a channel for their grief, checkered pasts and uncertain futures.

Emotions are running high, tensions are at the breaking point and people are trying to deal with their feelings for Sister Rose – as well as each other – as best they can.

“Our Lady of 121st Street” originally premiered in 2003 at New York’s LAByrnth Theater Company, and was directed by Philip Seymour Hoffman.

The play is being produced locally by the Cal State Long Beach University Players. It is being directed by Edgar Landa.

“[The play is] about redemption, forgiveness and acceptance – themes that are always relevant regardless of the time,” Landa said.

Landa said he hopes audiences will find a piece of themselves in one or more of the 12 characters.

“I hope they see...a recognition of the uniqueness of their own faults, vices and imperfections as human beings,” he said.

“Our Lady of 121st Street” will run until Dec. 5 in the Players Theatre on the CSULB South Campus. Tickets are \$15 general admission and \$12 for seniors and students with ID.

For tickets and information, call (562) 985-5526 or visit [www.csulb.edu/depts/theatre](http://www.csulb.edu/depts/theatre).



**OLPH Women’s Guild officers Christine McCluskey, Nora Szechy, Bette Lloyd and Joyce Prokop invite residents to a champagne luncheon Dec. 4 at 10:30 at the Rio Hondo Event Center. For information and reservations, call Rosemary Meyer at (562) 927-2706. Deadline for reservations is Nov. 29.**

## Long Beach administrator to speak

**LONG BEACH** – David Gonzalez, leadership and organizational development manager for the city of Long Beach, will be the guest speaker Dec. 2 as part of Cal State Long Beach’s Notable Speaker Series.

Gonzalez’s topic is “Inside City Management: A Discussion of the Structure and Practice of Long Beach City Management.”

The meeting begins at 7 p.m. in Room 139-A of the College of Business Administration.

The meeting is free but visitors should register online at [www.csulb.edu/colleges/cbs/nss](http://www.csulb.edu/colleges/cbs/nss).

## Donate food, watch a play

**LONG BEACH** – The Long Beach Playhouse is offering free admission to see “The Plight Before Christmas” to anyone who donates human or pet food Dec. 2.

The family-friendly show begins at 8 p.m. and seating is limited to 200 people. Admission will be on a first-come, first-served basis.

In “The Plight Before Christmas,” Ebenezer Humbug is about to “raise the dickens” by foreclosing on everyone in town and forcing Felicity Fuzziwig to marry him – much to the dismay of his clerk, Bob Scratchit.

The play features five song parodies and puns galore.

The Long Beach Playhouse is at 5021 E. Anaheim St. in Long Beach.



The West Downey Little League Challenger baseball team played at Angels Stadium this month.

## WDLL kids play at Angels Stadium

**DOWNEY** – The West Downey Little League Challenger Division was one of 30 challenger teams that participated in the fifth annual Bank of America Challenger Classic at Angels Stadium on Nov. 6.

Former Angel Bobby Grich was there to support the kids. Grich is a former second baseman and was the first player elected to the Angels’ hall of fame in 1996.

This was the third year that the West Downey team has participated in the tournament. The WDLL Challenger division is a baseball program for kids with special needs and has more than 30 kids enrolled.

For more information about the WDLL Challenger Division, e-mail director Tammie Waldo at [wddlchallenger@yahoo.com](mailto:wddlchallenger@yahoo.com). Sign-ups for the spring program are now starting.

## Rehab center on TV

**DOWNEY** – Downey Rehabilitation Care Center, a nursing center located at 13007 S. Paramount Blvd., will be featured on the television show “Best of L.A.,” airing Friday at 10 a.m. on the Ion channel.

The episode will be replayed Nov. 27 at 10 a.m. on channel 13.

The care center was selected after it received the AHCA Quality Care Award in 2008 and the Operational Excellence Award in 2009.

## Hanukkah dinner at temple

**DOWNEY** – The public is invited to join with Temple Ner Tamid in their annual Hanukkah dinner Dec. 3 at 6 p.m.

Visitors may bring a Menorah and light candles at their table. The dinner will include drawings for door prizes.

Cost is \$10 per person and reservations are due by Nov. 26.

For more information, call the temple at (562) 861-9276.



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2010















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3 BR, 2 Ba house. Appl blt-ins, \$1,895 mo. Avail. Nov. (562) 869-9600

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2 bed, 2 bath, \$1,250 mo. 1 bed, \$940 mo. A/C, ceiling fan, (562) 776-5815

**DOWNEY APT.**  
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2 bed, 1 bath, \$1,300, pool, secured bldg. (562) 869-4313 mgr.

**3 BED, 2 BA HOUSE**  
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**Early Deadlines for 11-25-10 Edition**

**Advertising Space will be Friday Nov. 19, 2010 @ 3:00 PM**

**LEGAL NOTICES CONT.**

(payable at time of sale in lawful money of the United States). DATE OF SALE: 12/08/2010 TIME OF SALE: 10:30 AM PLACE OF SALE: AT THE WEST SIDE OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY COURTHOUSE, DIRECTLY FACING NORWALK BLVD., 12720 NORWALK BLVD., NORWALK, CA. STREET ADDRESS AND OTHER COMMON DESIGNATION, IF ANY, OF THE REAL PROPERTY DESCRIBED ABOVE IS PURPORTED TO BE: 12320 BLODGETT AVE, DOWNEY, CALIFORNIA 90242 APN#: 6261-018-073 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. Said sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by said Deed of Trust, with interest thereon, as provided in said note(s), advances, under the terms of said Deed of Trust, fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust. The total amount of the unpaid balance of the obligation secured by the property to be sold and reasonable estimated costs, expenses and advances at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale is \$255,019.11. The beneficiary under said Deed of Trust heretofore executed and delivered to the undersigned a written Declaration of Default and Demand for Sale, and a written Notice of Default and Election to Sell. The undersigned caused said Notice of Default and Election to Sell to be recorded in the county where the real property is located. FOR TRUSTEE SALE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL: AGENCY SALES & POSTING 3210 EL CAMINO REAL SUITE 200 IRVINE, CA 92602 714-730-2727 www.lpsasap.com NDEX West, L.L.C. MAY BE ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. NDEX West, L.L.C. as Trustee Dated: 11/18/2010 NDEX West, L.L.C. 15000 Surveyor boulevard, Suite 200 Addison, Texas 75011-9013 Telephone: (866) 795-1852 Telecopier: (972) 661-7800 ASAP# 3802044 11/18/2010, 11/25/2010, 12/02/2010

**The Downey Patriot, #BS124251 11/18/10, 11/25/10, 12/2/10**

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE TS No. 10-0095970 Title Order No. 10-8-376041 Investor/Insurer No. 170485122 APN No. 6258-012-034 YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST, DATED 08/21/2007. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER." Notice is hereby given that RECONTRUST COMPANY, N.A., as duly appointed trustee pursuant to the Deed of Trust executed by RONALD FLORES, A SINGLE MAN, dated 08/21/2007 and recorded 08/29/07, as Instrument No. 20072013572, in Book , Page ), of Official Records in the office of the County Recorder of Los Angeles County, State of California, will sell on 12/16/2010 at 10:30AM, At the West side of the Los Angeles County Courthouse, directly facing Norwalk Blvd., 12720 Norwalk Blvd., Norwalk, CA 90650 at public auction, to the highest bidder for cash or check as described below, payable in full at time of sale, all right, title, and interest conveyed to and now held by it under said Deed of Trust, in the property situated in said County and State and as more fully described in the above referenced Deed of Trust. The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 12004 PATTON ROAD, DOWNEY, CA, 90242. The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. The total amount of the unpaid balance secured by the property to be sold plus reasonable estimated costs, expenses and advances at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale is \$418,861.16. It is possible that at the time of sale the opening bid may be less than the total indebtedness due. In addition to cash, the Trustee will accept cashier's checks drawn on a state or national bank, a check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, savings bank specified in Section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state. Said sale will be made, in an "AS IS" condition, but without covenant or warranty, express or implied, regarding title, possession or encumbrances, to satisfy the indebtedness secured by said Deed of Trust, advances thereunder, with interest as provided, and the unpaid principal of the Note secured by said Deed of Trust with interest thereon as provided in said Note, plus fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust. DATED: 11/17/2010

**LEGAL NOTICES CONT.**

RECONTRUST COMPANY, N.A. 1800 Tapo Canyon Rd., CA6-914-01-94 SIMI VALLEY, CA 93063 Phone: (800) 281 8219, Sale Information (626) 927-4399 By: - Trustee's Sale Officer RECONTRUST COMPANY, N.A. is a debt collector attempting to collect a debt. Any information obtained will be used for that purpose. ASAP# FNMA3794217 11/18/2010, 11/25/2010, 12/02/2010

**The Downey Patriot, #BS124251 11/18/10, 11/25/10, 12/2/10**

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE TS No. 10-0095924 Title Order No. 10-8-375766 Investor/Insurer No. 1703784062 APN No. 8070-010-018 YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST, DATED 05/11/2007. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER." Notice is hereby given that RECONTRUST COMPANY, N.A., as duly appointed trustee pursuant to the Deed of Trust executed by ERNESTO CARBAJAL, A MARRIED MAN AS HIS SOLE & SEPARATE PROPERTY, dated 05/11/2007 and recorded 05/18/07, as Instrument No. 20071212965, in Book , Page ), of Official Records in the office of the County Recorder of Los Angeles County, State of California, will sell on 12/16/2010 at 10:30AM, At the West side of the Los Angeles County Courthouse, directly facing Norwalk Blvd., 12720 Norwalk Blvd., Norwalk, CA 90650 at public auction, to the highest bidder for cash or check as described below, payable in full at time of sale, all right, title, and interest conveyed to and now held by it under said Deed of Trust, in the property situated in said County and State and as more fully described in the above referenced Deed of Trust. The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 14445 MARYTON AVENUE, NORWALK, CA, 906505148. The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. The total amount of the unpaid balance with interest thereon of the obligation secured by the property to be sold plus reasonable estimated costs, expenses and advances at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale is \$431,810.61. It is possible that at the time of sale the opening bid may be less than the total indebtedness due. In addition to cash, the Trustee will accept cashier's checks drawn on a state or national bank, a check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, savings bank specified in Section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state. Said sale will be made, in an "AS IS" condition, but without covenant or warranty, express or implied, regarding title, possession or encumbrances, to satisfy the indebtedness secured by said Deed of Trust, advances thereunder, with interest as provided, and the unpaid principal of the Note secured by said Deed of Trust with interest thereon as provided in said Note, plus fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust. DATED: 11/17/2010 RECONTRUST COMPANY, N.A. 1800 Tapo Canyon Rd., CA6-914-01-94 SIMI VALLEY, CA 93063 Phone: (800) 281 8219, Sale Information (626) 927-4399 By: - Trustee's Sale Officer RECONTRUST COMPANY, N.A. is a debt collector attempting to collect a debt. Any information obtained will be used for that purpose. ASAP# FNMA3791430 11/18/2010, 11/25/2010, 12/02/2010

**The Downey Patriot, #BS124251 11/18/10, 11/25/10, 12/2/10**


NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE TS No. 10-0097840 Title Order No. 10-8-381340 Investor/Insurer No. 1703717931 APN No. 8044-022-008 YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST, DATED 03/30/2007. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER." Notice is hereby given that RECONTRUST COMPANY, N.A., as duly appointed trustee pursuant to the Deed of Trust executed by JOYCE PAULINE CRUZ, A MARRIED WOMAN AS HER SOLE AND SEPARATE PROPERTY, dated 03/30/2007 and recorded 04/05/07, as Instrument No. 20070811292, in Book , Page ), of Official Records in the office of the County Recorder of Los Angeles County, State of California, will sell on 12/16/2010 at 10:30AM, At the West side of the Los Angeles County Courthouse, directly facing Norwalk Blvd., 12720 Norwalk Blvd., Norwalk, CA 90650 at public auction, to the highest bidder for cash or check as described below, payable in full at

**LEGAL NOTICES CONT.**

time of sale, all right, title, and interest conveyed to and now held by it under said Deed of Trust, in the property situated in said County and State and as more fully described in the above referenced Deed of Trust. The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 13949 RATLIFF STREET, LA MIRADA, CA, 90638. The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. The total amount of the unpaid balance with interest thereon of the obligation secured by the property to be sold plus reasonable estimated costs, expenses and advances at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale is \$397,410.87. It is possible that at the time of sale the opening bid may be less than the total indebtedness due. In addition to cash, the Trustee will accept cashier's checks drawn on a state or national bank, a check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, savings bank specified in Section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state. Said sale will be made, in an "AS IS" condition, but without covenant or warranty, express or implied, regarding title, possession or encumbrances, to satisfy the indebtedness secured by said Deed of Trust, advances thereunder, with interest as provided, and the unpaid principal of the Note secured by said Deed of Trust with interest thereon as provided in said Note, plus fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust. DATED: 11/17/2010 RECONTRUST COMPANY, N.A. 1800 Tapo Canyon Rd., CA6-914-01-94 SIMI VALLEY, CA 93063 Phone: (800) 281 8219, Sale Information (626) 927-4399 By Trustee's Sale Officer RECONTRUST COMPANY, N.A. is a debt collector attempting to collect a debt. Any information obtained will be used for that purpose. ASAP# FNMA3790833 11/18/2010, 11/25/2010, 12/02/2010

**The Downey Patriot, #BS124251**

**GOT ANY STORY IDEAS? LET US KNOW!**

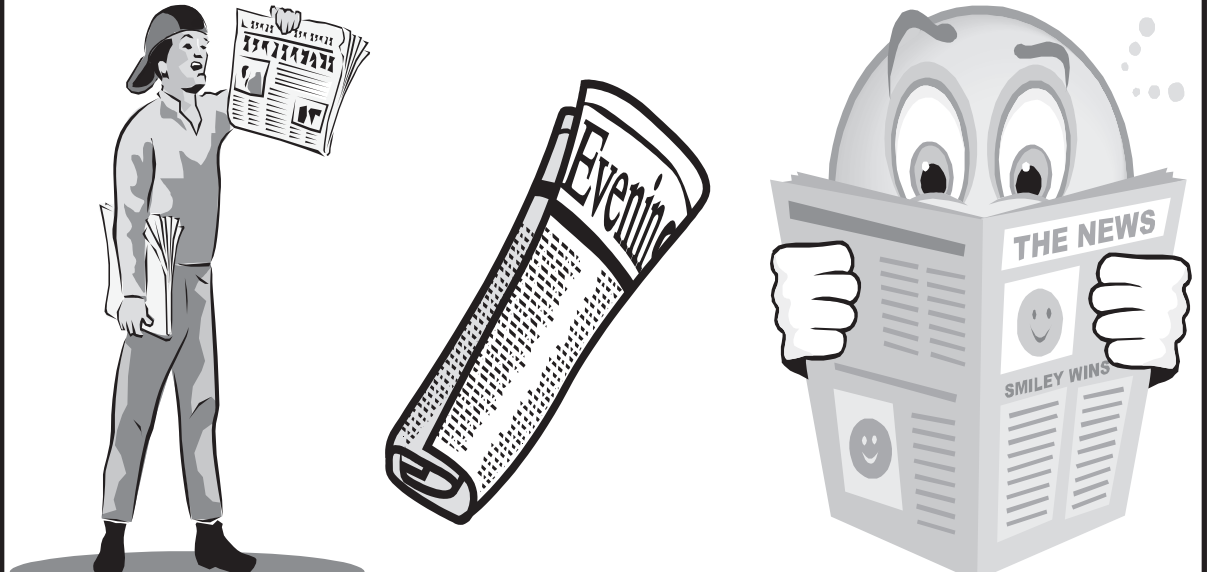


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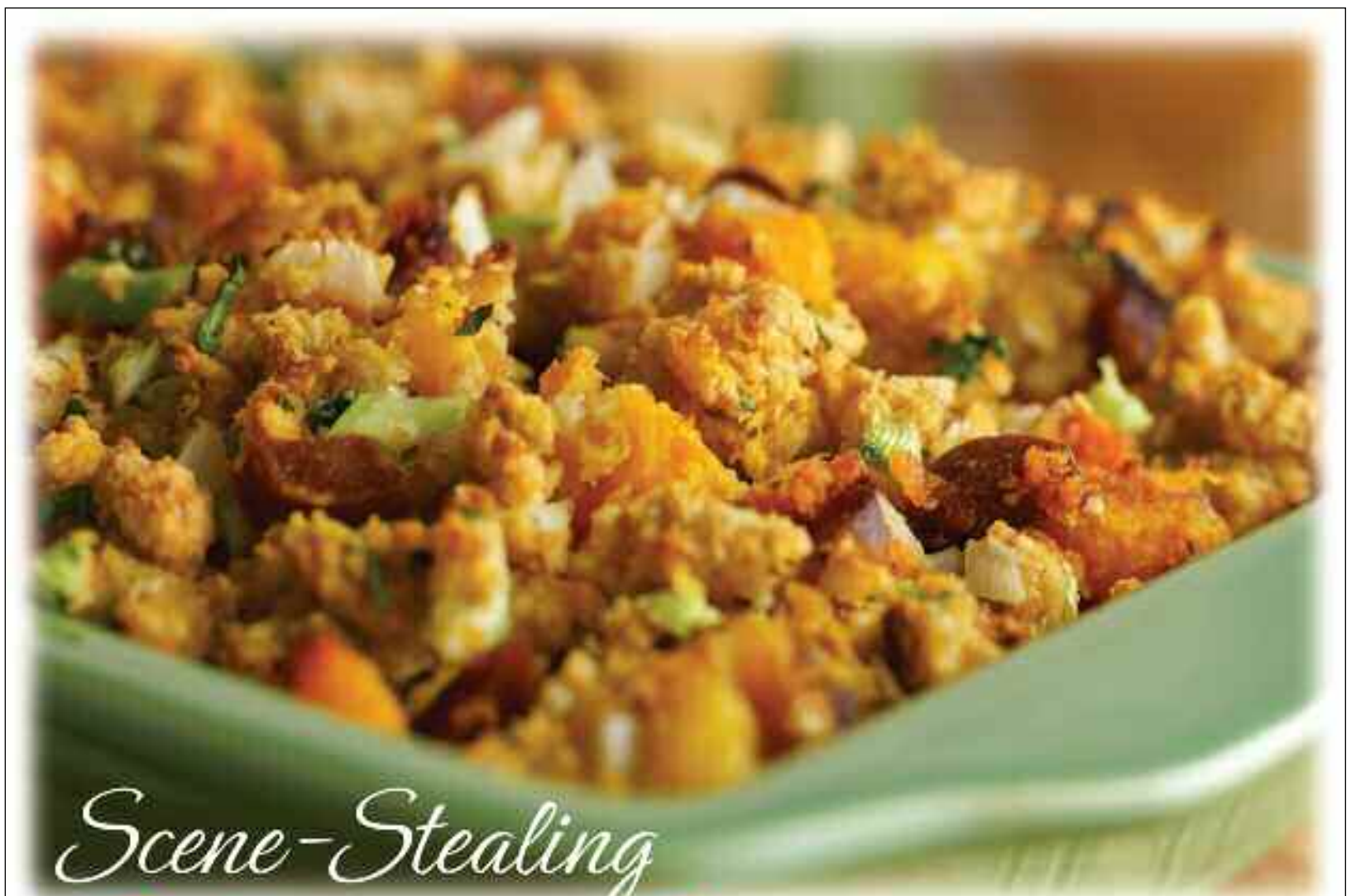
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*Scene-Stealing*  
**Holiday Stuffing**

Roasted Vegetable & Cornbread Stuffing

**Roasted Vegetable & Cornbread Stuffing**  
Prep: 30 minutes  
Roast: 30 minutes  
Bake: 30 minutes  
Makes: 16 servings (about 3/4 cup each)

- 1 butternut squash, peeled, seeded and diced (about 6 cups)
- 2 medium sweet onions, chopped (about 2 cups)
- 4 cloves garlic, coarsely chopped
- 2 teaspoons ground cumin
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1/2 cup chopped fresh cilantro leaves
- 2 stalks celery, diced (about 1 cup)
- 3 cups Swanson Chicken broth (Regular, Natural Goodness or Certified Organic)
- 1 package (14 ounces) Pappardelle Farro Cornbread stuffing
- 1 package (about 4 ounces) chorizo sausage, chopped (optional)

- 1 Heat the oven to 500°F. Place the squash, onions and garlic into a large bowl. Add the cumin and oil and toss to coat. Spoon the squash mixture onto 2 rimmed baking sheets.
- 2 Roast for 30 minutes or until the squash mixture is lightly browned, stirring occasionally.
- 3 Reduce the oven temperature to 350°F. Stir the squash mixture, cilantro, celery and herbs in a large bowl. Add the stuffing and mix lightly. Spoon the stuffing mixture into a greased 3-quart casserole. Cover the casserole.
- 4 Bake for 30 minutes or until the stuffing mixture is hot.



Roasted Fennel with Lemon Stuffing

**Roasted Fennel with Lemon Stuffing**  
Prep: 25 minutes  
Roast: 30 minutes  
Bake: 30 minutes  
Makes: 12 servings (about 3/4 cup each)

- 2 medium fennel bulbs, trimmed and sliced (about 3 cups)
- 2 medium sweet onions, chopped (about 2 cups)
- 4 cloves garlic, chopped
- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 4 teaspoons grated lemon zest
- 1/4 cup chopped fresh parsley
- 1/2 cup pine nuts, toasted
- 3 cups Swanson Chicken broth (Regular, Natural Goodness or Certified Organic)
- 1 package (14 ounces) Pappardelle Farro Herb Seasoned stuffing

- 1 Heat the oven to 400°F. Place the fennel, onions and garlic into a large bowl. Add the oil and toss to coat. Spoon the fennel mixture onto 2 rimmed baking sheets.
- 2 Roast for 30 minutes or until the fennel mixture is lightly browned, stirring occasionally.
- 3 Reduce the oven temperature to 350°F. Stir the fennel mixture, lemon zest, parsley, pine nuts and herbs in a large bowl. Add the stuffing and mix lightly. Spoon the stuffing mixture into a greased 3-quart casserole. Cover the casserole.
- 4 Bake for 30 minutes or until the stuffing mixture is hot.



Caramelized Onion with Pancetta & Rosemary Stuffing

**Caramelized Onion with Pancetta & Rosemary Stuffing**  
Prep: 20 minutes  
Cook: 30 minutes  
Bake: 30 minutes  
Makes: 12 servings (about 3/4 cup each)

- 6 tablespoons butter
- 3 large sweet onions, diced (about 3 cups)
- 1 package (4 ounces) cubed pancetta (about 1 cup)
- 4 cloves garlic, chopped
- 2 stalks celery, diced (about 1 cup)
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh rosemary leaves
- 3 cups Swanson Chicken broth (Regular, Natural Goodness or Certified Organic)
- 1/4 cup sherry
- 1 package (14 ounces) Pappardelle Farro Herb Seasoned stuffing

- 1 Heat the oven to 350°F.
- 2 Heat the butter in a 3-quart saucepan over medium heat. Add the onions and cook for 15 minutes or until well browned, stirring occasionally.
- 3 Stir the pancetta, garlic, celery and rosemary in the saucepan and cook until the pancetta is well browned, stirring occasionally. Stir in the broth and sherry and heat to a boil. Remove the saucepan from the heat. Add the stuffing and mix lightly. Spoon the stuffing mixture into a greased 3-quart casserole. Cover the casserole.
- 4 Bake for 30 minutes or until the stuffing mixture is hot.

**Chestnut, Fig & Honey Stuffing**  
Prep: 20 minutes  
Cook: 10 minutes  
Bake: 30 minutes  
Makes: 12 servings (about 3/4 cup each)

- 1/2 cup butter (1 stick)
- 1 cup thinly sliced shallots
- 1 jar (7.4 ounces) roasted peeled chestnuts, coarsely chopped (about 1 1/2 cups)
- 4 cloves garlic, chopped
- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 4 teaspoons grated lemon zest
- 1/4 cup chopped fresh parsley
- 1/2 cup pine nuts, toasted
- 4 cups Swanson Chicken broth (Regular, Natural Goodness or Certified Organic)
- 1/2 cup chopped fresh parsley
- 1 package (12 ounces) Pappardelle Farro Herb Seasoned Cubed stuffing

- 1 Heat the oven to 350°F.
  - 2 Heat the butter in a 3-quart saucepan over medium heat. Add the shallots, chestnuts, figs and celery and cook until the celery is tender, stirring occasionally.
  - 3 Stir the honey and broth in the saucepan and heat to a boil. Remove the saucepan from the heat. Add the parsley and stuffing and mix lightly. Spoon the stuffing mixture into a greased 3-quart casserole. Cover the casserole.
  - 4 Bake for 30 minutes or until the stuffing mixture is hot.
- Easy Substitution: You can substitute 1 1/2 cup chopped walnuts for the chestnuts.

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Want to get into a nice mobile home? Great opportunity with this 3 bedroom, 2 bath home. Beautiful location, clubhouse with a pool and spa, exercise room and laundry room.

**Income Property**  
One 3 bedroom / 1 bathroom, One 2 bedroom / 1 bathroom, One 1 bedroom / 1 bathroom. Spacious corner lot. Units have been upgraded. Good investment opportunity!

**Spacious Living**  
A wonderful 3 bedroom and 3 bathroom home in a great area. Gourmet kitchen with an island, family room, fireplace in living room, spacious bedroom, inside laundry. Central heating and A/C.

**“I Should Have Called!”**  
This 3 bedroom and 2 bath home could be just right for you! Schools and freeway are not far. Located in a great neighborhood.

**Not A Short Sale**  
Outstanding 3 bedroom and 2 bath Downey home in a nice area. Big kitchen, living room, family room, electric gate and a long driveway. Nice home for a large family.

**Knock...Knock**  
A chance to own a beautiful 3 bedroom and 1 bath home with great curb appeal. Central heat and A/C, fresh interior paint, new carpet and refurbished hardwood floors. Roof is nine months old, workshop, breakfast nook, family room with a fireplace, good size living room and 2 car garage.

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 Toll Free: (800) 521.4572  
 Fax: (562) 861.0285

**Mel & Rita Berdelis**  
 Broker/Owners  
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<p><b>Carrie Uva</b>              "Let's Talk Real Estate &amp; Law Too!"  <b>562-382-1252</b>  <a href="http://www.CarrieUva.com">www.CarrieUva.com</a>              Lic. 01152047</p> <p><b>REDUCED!</b></p> <p><b>NICE AREA, NICE PRICE!</b>              N. Downey home w/ spacious bedrooms, 2 BA, living room w/ fireplace, hardwood floors &amp; more!! Priced at: \$399,900              Call Carrie Uva 562-382-1252</p>	<p><b>Marie Picarelli</b>              "The Intelligent Choice!"  <b>562-618-0033</b>  <a href="http://www.MariePicarelli.com">www.MariePicarelli.com</a>              Lic. 0610605</p> <p><b>REDUCED!</b></p> <p><b>NEED OFFER ASAP</b>              3 BD, 1.75 BA + family room w/ fireplace, remodeled kitchen, hardwood floors. Will not last! \$339,000  <a href="http://www.MariePicarelli.com">www.MariePicarelli.com</a></p>	<p><b>Mario Persico</b>              "Mario Did it AGAIN!"  <b>562-533-7433</b>  <a href="http://www.MarioPersico.com">www.MarioPersico.com</a>              Lic. 01341121</p> <p><b>CALL MARIO</b></p> <p><b>CALL MARIO</b>              3 BD, 2 BA, hardwood floors, RV parking, nearly 1,800 sq. ft., 7,500 + sq. ft. lot.  <b>STANDARD SALE IN DOWNEY!</b>              Call Mario Persico for details 562-533-7433</p>
<p><b>3 UNITS!</b>              3 units in Lincoln Heights area of Los Angeles. Front unit 2 BD, 1 BA, Middle unit 2 BD, 1 BA, &amp; End Unit 1 BD, 1 BA, Call Carrie for Price...562-382-1252              Call Carrie Uva 562-382-1252</p>	<p><b>COMING SOON!</b></p> <p><b>2 UNITS IN DOWNEY!</b>              1ST Unit: 2 BD, 1 BA              2nd Unit: 1 BD, 1 BA              on 11,830 sq. ft. large corner lot Price to be determined!              Call Marie Picarelli 562-618-0033</p>	<p><b>CALL MARIO</b></p> <p><b>MOVE IN READY!</b>              3 BD, 1.5 BA, 1,246 sq. ft., pool + LARGE bonus room.  <b>STANDARD SALE IN DOWNEY</b>              Call Mario Persico for more details 562-533-7433</p>
<p><b>FOR RENT</b></p> <p><b>7150 LUXOR, DOWNEY</b>              Charming 1 BD, 1 BA House with wash/dry hookups &amp; carport.              \$1,000 month              Call Carrie Uva 562-382-1252</p>	<p><b>JUST LISTED!</b></p> <p><b>ORANGE ESTATES BEAUTY!</b>              3 BD, 2 BA w/ approx. 1900 sq. ft. Granite kitchen countertops remodeled bathrooms, hardwood floors \$448,000. Move in Condition!              Call Jimmy Spathos (562) 400-2148              Lic. 01296368</p>	<p><b>CALL MARIO</b></p> <p><b>CUSTOM BUILT BEAUTY!</b>              4,500 sq. ft. custom built home on a 1/4 acre lot.  <b>STANDARD SALE IN DOWNEY!</b>              Call Mario Persico for a private showing 562-533-7433</p>
<p><b>FOR RENT</b></p> <p><b>11701 1/2 COLDBROOK, DOWNEY</b>              2 BD, 1 BA apt. w/ 2 car carport &amp; washer hook up, new carpet &amp; new paint.              \$1,000 per month              Call Carrie Uva 562-382-1252</p>	<p><b>REDUCED!</b></p> <p><b>BANK APPROVED!</b>              3 BD, 1,236 SQ. FT., 5,123 SQ. FT. LOT. A SUPER BUY! PRICED AT: \$300,000              Call Luis Gutierrez (562) 314-7780              Lic. 01346423</p>	<p><b>MARIO PERSICO DID IT AGAIN</b></p> <p><b>SOLD!</b></p> <p><b>3610 ROSE DR., YORBA LINDA</b>              Unique Yorba Linda Horse Property! 25,500 sq. ft. HUGE lot. Let Mario DO IT for you too!!! SOLD! SOLD! SOLD!              Call Mario Persico 562-533-7433</p>
<p><b>AVOID PROBATE!</b></p> <p>Living Trusts              Wills              Call Today to make Your Living Trust!!!  <b>CALL CARRIE TODAY!</b>              (562) 382-1252</p>	<p><b>JUST LISTED!</b></p> <p><b>LARGE CORNER LOT!</b>              3 BD, 1 1/2 BA, laundry room, 2 car garage, 1,187 sq. ft., 6,000 sq. ft. lot. Priced at: \$375,000              Call Pam Lee (562) 618-0390              Lic. 01750256</p>	<p><b>Mario Persico</b>              "Mario Did it AGAIN!"  <b>562-533-7433</b>  <a href="http://www.MarioPersico.com">www.MarioPersico.com</a>              Lic. 01341121</p> <p><b>BORN * EDUCATED * LIVES * WORSHIPS IN DOWNEY</b>  <b>MARIO PERSICO SELLS DOWNEY!!</b></p>

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<p><b>JUST LISTED!</b></p> <p><b>Pretty as a Picture!</b>              NE Downey area! 3BD, 2BA, family room 1,604 sq. ft., 7,540sq. ft. lot, new paint and carpet, hardwood floors in living room, sprinklers front &amp; back.              Price: \$439,000.              Call Michael @ 562-818-6111</p>	<p><b>OPEN HOUSE</b></p> <p><b>WOW! What a Value!</b>              4 BD, 2 BA house PLUS 1 BD guest house. Home has remodeled kitchen, new paint flooring and is ready to move right in.              Price: \$339,000              Call Michael @ 562-818-6111</p>
<p><b>OPEN HOUSE</b></p> <p><b>This One's Hot!</b>              3 BD, 1 BA with den in Downey near an elementary school. Remodeled exterior with newer windows and automatic opener and gate.              Price: \$359,900              Call Michael @ 562-818-6111</p>	<p><b>OPEN HOUSE</b></p> <p><b>Reduced and Ready!</b>              3 BD, 2 BA "Island" jewel! Hardwood floors, central air and heat, copper plumbing and well-maintained! Home has a master bedroom, living room and family room with fireplace.              NOW priced at: \$389,000              Call Michael @ 562-818-6111</p>
<p><b>COMING SOON</b></p> <p><b>Splish Splash!</b>              3 BD, 2BD NW Downey pool home on tree-lined, quiet street. Call Michael for more details.              Call Michael for price!              Call Michael @ 562-818-6111</p>	<p><b>SOLD!</b></p> <p><b>11825 Horton - JUST SOLD!</b>              Congrats, our buyer just bought a 3BD, 2BA home in SW Downey. Great value for the money!              CLOSED FOR \$405,000              Call Michael @ 562-818-6111</p>

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



## Water barrels to be distributed Nov. 20

**DOWNEY** – Emergency water storage barrels will be distributed for free Saturday at 8 a.m. outside the Columbia Memorial Space Center.

The barrels, a donation from Coca-Cola Bottling Co., will be distributed in a drive-thru format

only. No walk-up visitors will be accommodated.

Cars should enter Steve Horn Way from Bellflower Boulevard and drive west while following the signs.

The barrels are free but handles, pumps and siphon hoses will

be available for sale. Cash or checks (made out to the city of Downey) are accepted forms of payment.

There is a limit of one barrel per vehicle.

For more information, e-mail [ready@downeyca.org](mailto:ready@downeyca.org).

**Majority of Americans Believe Homeownership is a Solid Investment in their Future**

Despite economic uncertainty and recent challenges in the real estate market, nearly eight out of 10 Americans believe buying a home makes good financial sense. This is according to a recent annual survey released by the National Association of Realtors®. The 2010 National Housing Pulse Survey measures how affordable housing issues affect consumers.

Predictably, job security concerns were among the highest in eight years of sampling. A majority of Americans said layoffs and unemployment are top concerns in their area and eight in 10 say those issues are barriers to homeownership. Downey Association of REALTORS® (DAOR) also cites job security as one of the main obstacles for consumers who are considering whether to buy, although homeownership is still a worthy long-term investment.

"There is no doubt that job recovery is needed to get the economy and the real estate market back on track," said 2010 President Sossi Gabriel. "However, despite employment concerns, Americans continue to believe that owning a home is part of the American Dream, and it is a dream they still strive to achieve. Homeownership has proven to offer many social benefits and build wealth over the long term."

DAOR says historically low interest rates and affordable home prices are attracting buyers to today's housing market. According to the survey, more than one-fourth of renters say they are more serious about purchasing a home than they were a year ago. In addition, 63 percent of renter respondents say owning a home is a priority in their future, and nearly 40 percent say it is one of their highest priorities.

Despite attractive prices and low rates, a majority of Americans, 78 percent, consider having enough money for down payment and closing costs to be among the biggest obstacles to owning a home. Survey respondents are also concerned about their ability to be approved for a loan.

"When deciding whether to buy a home, buyers should carefully evaluate their finances and get preapproved for a loan before beginning the search process," said Sossi Gabriel. "Realtors® are a valuable source of information about the costs associated with buying and owning a home and can help consumers navigate the increasingly complex buying process."

While foreclosures are still an issue, survey respondents state that the rate of foreclosures is stabilizing in their area. DAOR says foreclosures in the area have at this time stabilized, and remained the same. The survey also showed a slight increase in the number of people who believe the federal government should take a more active role in overseeing loans and mortgages.

"When people lose homes to foreclosure, our communities, the housing market and our economy all suffer," said Gabriel. "DAOR along with NAR are working hard to keep more people in their homes."

The 2010 National Housing Pulse Survey is conducted by American Strategies and Myers Research & Strategic Services for NAR's Housing Opportunity Program. The telephone survey was among 1,208 adults living in the 25 most populous metropolitan statistical areas. The study has a margin of error of plus or minus 3.1 percentage points.

Sossi Gabriel can be reached at [www.SossiGabriel.com](http://www.SossiGabriel.com), or go to [www.DAOR.com](http://www.DAOR.com) to search for any local Realtor®.

2010 President  
 Sossi Gabriel

**How to Turn a \$100,000 Drop In Your Home's Value Into a \$200,000 Gain...**

Is the real estate market stabilizing? How are home values in my neighborhood? These are the top questions on homeowners' minds. Everyone is wondering how home prices are faring in their neighborhood. Some homeowners have put off moving indefinitely. For those considering moving up or downsizing, this could be a potential mistake. You could miss out on a window of opportunity with today's incredibly low interest rates and low (but stabilizing) housing prices. Waiting might mean higher interest rates (your real estate dollar buys less) and higher home prices in your move up or downsize range.

For a limited time, I'm offering a free market report on home sales and home prices in your area. Critical information if you are looking to move or if you just want to see how your investment is doing. Simply call or email me to request your Free Home Sales and Market Report.

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 Doing Things Better

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 Ask Dale to be your special agent. FROM \$100,000  
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