



The Downey Patriot



Students earn scholarships
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8301 E. Florence Ave., Suite 100, Downey, CA 90240

Barber school OK'd for south Downey

■ ABC School of Barbering will offer instruction to students of all ages, discounted haircuts to the public.

BY ERIC PIERCE,
CITY EDITOR

DOWNEY – A barber school is slated to open in an Imperial Highway retail strip after gaining approval from the Planning Commission on Wednesday.

ABC School of Barbering will lease a 1,200-ft tenant space inside the shopping center at 8828 Imperial Highway.

According to owner Kresha Crawford, the school will offer training in haircuts, facials and "scalp manipulations" to students as young as 16 1/2 years old. The school will also cater to retirees and adults with "too much time on their hands who may get into trouble."

"We would like to help rehabilitate people," Crawford told planning commissioners.

Crawford said her family has owned and operated a barber school in Los Angeles for more than 30 years. They're moving the business to Downey, she said, because many of their students are from the Downey, Norwalk and Lakewood area.

Crawford said her classes are 1,500 hours long and can be completed within 9-12 months, depending on whether the student attends classes part-time or full-time. The barber school will be open five days a week, Tuesday through Saturday.

Residents will be invited to receive free or discounted haircuts by students, Crawford said, adding that she plans to market the school through Downey Adult School and advertising in the PennySaver.

The Planning Commission was unanimous in granting Crawford's request for an operating permit, which is required of all schools that open in the city.

"I think it's great you're coming out here and giving to the community," planning commissioner Ernie Garcia told Crawford.

Planning commissioner Michael Murray agreed, saying, "I'd like to see more of this in our city. I'm in favor of this 100 percent."

The barber school will be located in a retail strip on Imperial Highway and Lakewood Boulevard. The only other tenant is a karate school, and city officials said parking will not be an issue even if the remaining tenant spaces are rented.

The school will feature 14 barber chairs, two shampoo bowls, a classroom and waiting area.



PHOTO COURTESY DOWNEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

A Downey fire truck is pictured above on Firestone Boulevard approaching La Reina Avenue in 1964.

Looking back on... Downey Fire Department

■ Deadly 1922 fire prompted Downey to establish its own fire department.

BY CHRISTIAN BROWN,
STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY – Haygood Ardis did his best on that tragic spring day – but, in the end, the flames were just too much for anyone to fight.

"I was carrying a tubful of water with Freddie Robinson when suddenly the truck blew up," recalled Ardis. "The blast showered us with burning gasoline and set off the big tank trailer that was hitched onto the rear of the truck."

While many people rushed to fight the spreading blaze, Ardis remembers others standing on nearby rooftops, watching in horror.

The date was April 21, 1922

when a small static spark set off a gasoline tanker that was refueling Downey's main gas station, owned by Newbold and Speaker, near Downey Avenue and New Street, now the site of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church.

Nine were killed and 20 residents received disfiguring burns in the desperate attempts to control the flames that followed.

The whole town went into mourning over the catastrophe, deciding at that moment to invest in a full-time fire department.

By December 1923, the Downey Fire Protection District began to take shape. Community leaders purchased one new fire engine and hired two professional firefighters to assist and instruct the small volunteer crew that had served the community up to that time.

Housed inside a makeshift sta-

tion at 8313 Firestone Blvd., the new fire district, funded by Los Angeles County, would ultimately spearhead a courageous task that thousands of men and women have taken up since the pioneer days: fighting fires.

Downey's local fire company, as part of the LA County Consolidated Fire Protection District, consisted of a fire chief, assistant fire chief, six part-time firemen and one chief mechanic who was responsible for the truck and team training. Another six or more men served as substitutes without pay.

Local shoe store owner Carl A. Krueger served as the district's first fire chief. Sparing no expense, Krueger's first order of business would be the purchase of a new

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Veterans memorial still in the works

■ City officials say work is progressing on a planned monument honoring local military veterans.

BY ERIC PIERCE,
CITY EDITOR

DOWNEY – A planned monument paying tribute to Downey's military veterans will be overseen by a soon-to-be-established non-profit foundation, city officials said this week.

The monument has been in the planning stages for at least two years, since Mayor Pro Tem Roger Brossmer announced his desire for a memorial on Veterans Day 2009, when the city unveiled its first batch of street banners honoring active military personnel.

The monument is expected to cost up to \$200,000 and will likely be located in the Civic Center. City officials expect to use a combination of Public Art funds and community donations to finance the project, Brossmer said.

City officials have visited memo-

rials in neighboring cities and seemed most impressed with the "clean simplicity" of a memorial in Cerritos, said Councilman Mario Guerra, who, with Brossmer, sits on the city's veterans memorial subcommittee.

The Cerritos memorial consists of a 20-ft. tall stainless steel sculpture sitting on a circular piece of black granite. The monument also includes a water feature, surrounded by five podiums for speaking engagements. The memorial pays tribute to all branches of the U.S. military.

"We want the Downey memorial

to be artistic in nature," said Brossmer. "Staff will be working with different artists to develop some concepts. But we don't need to reinvent the wheel on this one at all."

Brossmer said a 501 (C) will be in place "within the next few months," after which a board of directors will be named to oversee the foundation. Then final decisions will be made on design elements and placement.

"By this time next year we hope to have broken ground on it," Guerra said. "We want to get this going sooner rather than later."

Armed Forces Day is Saturday

The U.S. Marine Corps recruit depot at 8566 Firestone Blvd. is collecting supplies for care packages to be sent to Marines overseas.

Here's a list of items needed:

Toilet paper, sun block, magazines, books, comic books, hooded sweat-shirts (black), book lights, local newspapers, tooth brushes and toothpaste (travel size), dental floss, disposable razors and shaving cream, baby wipes, Kleenex, body lotion, ChapStick, talcum powder, wash rages, nail clippers, disposable cameras, deodorant, shampoo, bar soap, Q-tips, eye drops, nasal spray, Frisbees, Nerf footballs, squirt guns, pain reliever, sewing kits, gummy bears, Ziploc bags, powder laundry detergent, dryer sheets, cigarettes, underwear, contact lens cleaner, hand sanitizer, instant soup, instant hot coco and coffee, dried fruits and hard candy, beef jerky, cookies, gum, granola bars, Kool Aid, tuna, dry cereal, powdered drinks and sunflower seeds.

Marquez hopes to reach out to Downey's forsaken fringes

■ Mayor is proposing picnics for often overlooked Downey neighborhoods.

BY CHRISTIAN BROWN,
STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY – Hoping to better embrace communities on the fringes of city limits, Mayor Luis Marquez is proposing the city host several community picnics this summer, bringing City Hall a little closer to the seemingly neglected neighborhoods of Downey.

"Everyone should feel a part of our city – we're all a part of Downey," Marquez said. "We haven't come up with a date yet, but we want to go out there and let them know that we're there for them. They're a top priority like any other neighborhood."

Marquez believes the community gatherings could help city officials highlight neighborhoods around the city that may feel marginalized due to geography or a variance in resources.

Living on Little Lake Road, for instance, offers residents a different experience when compared to homeowners living on Sixth Street.

Little Lake Road, which runs parallel to Wilderness Park in east Downey, is just one of the streets that make up the nearly 400-home neighborhood bounded by the San Gabriel River in the west, the 5 freeway in the east, and Cecilia Street in the south.

Although the triangle-shaped community is technically within Downey city limits, there are several differences that separate the neighborhood from the rest of the city.

First, the community is not a part of the Downey Unified School District.

While the DUSD does cover portions of South Gate, Bellflower, and Bell Gardens, district boundaries, established by Los Angeles County more than 50 years ago, do not extend past the Rio Hondo River on the west or the San Gabriel River on the east.

As a result, dozens of Downey students living in this area attend elementary and middle school in the Little Lake City School District, which largely covers Norwalk and Santa Fe Springs.

Kids Day breaks attendance record

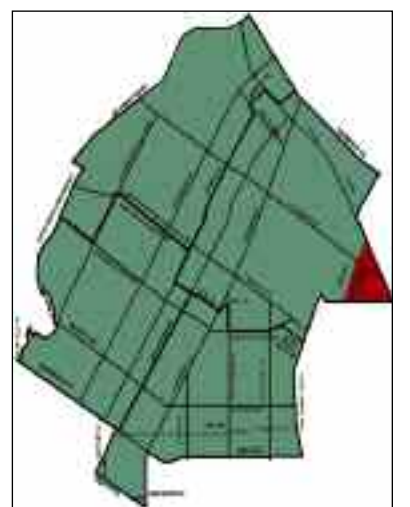
DOWNEY – Last week's Kids Day attracted about 12,000 people, breaking previous attendance records, city officials announced Wednesday.

The annual event at Furman Park featured carnival games, inflatable bouncers, dunk tank, demonstrations by the Downey Fire Department and more.

New this year was a college and career fair, and youth art expo.

"Thank you to all of those who helped make this event possible, who with their hard work and dedication were able to provide our city's youth with a day filled with fun, positive and educational activities," Mayor Luis Marquez said in a statement.

Added Mayor Pro Tem Roger Brossmer: "This is such a great event dedicated to celebrating the youth in our community and I am glad that it continues to grow each year."



Later, students enroll in the Whittier-Union High School District where most graduate from Santa Fe High School.

Also, residents living in this neighborhood receive water from two separate suppliers. The majority of Downey homes utilize the water from the city's own ground water wells, but in the triangle community, 300 homes get water from the city of Santa Fe Springs while another 100 homes receive water from Golden State Water Company.

Marquez acknowledges that there may not be much the city can do to change those differences, but he maintains that communities like this one will benefit after city leaders are able to meet with residents and hear their concerns.

"When I was running for office, walking through the districts, I talked with people who felt they were not a part of the city," said Marquez who lives in south Downey. "We want to hear from our residents north of Telegraph, south of Imperial and interact with them. That's why we're bringing City Hall to them."

"Coming together for a community picnic on a Saturday gives everyone a chance to meet their city officials," said Marquez over the phone. "I want to ask residents on Treasure Island what are some of the things we could do better – all our neighborhoods are great, we're trying to make sure their needs are met."

Marquez, who introduced the concept last December after becoming mayor, hopes to host the first community picnic in the early summer.

Controversy embroils coordinating council

■ Dispute between top leaders at Downey Coordinating Council culminates with a restraining order issued prior to annual awards banquet.

By HENRY VENERACION, STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY – The official line told the few curious souls who noticed the obvious absence of the outgoing president, Leonard Zuniga, at the well-attended 57th annual Community Service Awards and Installation Dinner on May 12 and hosted by the Downey Coordinating Council was that he was “under the weather.”

A handful of members, however, knew otherwise.

Lois Buchanan, who for a number of years has been actively involved with Coordinating Council affairs and was again this year’s banquet chairman (“Something I really enjoy doing”), had lately engaged Zuniga in “a war of words” that turned on the issue of Zuniga’s legitimacy as rightful president, or indeed even as a member, because, in Buchanan’s words, “He hasn’t paid his dues for two years, and because of this, and the by-laws are clear on this, he can no longer be considered a member in good standing.”

She added that Zuniga was wont to “do his own thing, had no regard for the by-laws, and was very defiant when advised of these matters.”

The tension between the two had risen to such a level that Buchanan, heretofore known for her active involvement since 1965 with the Second Century Foundation, obtained a temporary restraining order the day before

the banquet from the Norwalk Superior Court to prevent possible harassment by Zuniga at the banquet and to “protect the 243 guests from potential embarrassment.”

There was already palpable tension between her and Zuniga at the start of the organization’s last official business meeting on May 4. As soon as Zuniga went up front and tried to conduct business, most of the membership present, led by Buchanan, walked out to re-congregate at another room. Zuniga assumed the group “walked out” to pore over details of the upcoming May 12 banquet and went about his business.

In any case, a couple of Downey police officers (requested by Buchanan) stood outside the Barbara J. Riley Community Center (where the group meets on a designated Wednesday each month) ostensibly to “keep the peace, just in case.”

The roots of what can be surmised on several levels as a clash of personalities, or of perceptions, or of principles, can be traced several weeks before. It seems that a wrong word here and there uttered by Zuniga, or ignoring her altogether, had touched off a strong accusatory reaction from Buchanan, as reflected in this e-mail to him dated May 4, selected excerpts from which follow:

“[This is] how I feel about a few things. I don’t appreciate your nasty scathing email about me being very disrespectful to you and all the other incorrect ‘stuff’... If you recall reminding you about guidelines and by-laws being disrespectful then I am... I seem to be the only one in D.C.C. to correct you. That’s because it is the responsibility of all members and the executive board to protect

this organization and see that it is run correctly. For two years you have not followed any by-laws because you have not read them and you told me you did not need to because it was the president who does what he feels is the right to do. How wrong you are. You have created many problems and have not conducted yourself as a president should.

“In Feb. I mentioned to you at the March meeting we need to vote on the honoree for D.C.C. and take a picture. Was ignored.

“I mentioned to you after that meeting it should be done at the April meeting. Ignored.

“In April you would not announce the new officers according to our by-laws. I mentioned to you [that] since the membership could not vote on the honoree we should not have one. Instead you asked the board to send you three names each and you selected a person. This was wrong. You knew the bio deadline was due April 10th. You ignored that.... You have made many areas very difficult for me when you knew better. You think you can do whatever you want, and you do with no respect to me or any of the members....

“Well, at this time I am telling you, you are not a member of D.C.C. You have not paid your dues for two years, how dishonest is that? The nerve of you to stand before this membership and play ‘president’ for two years. How wrong is that? You have no conscience....etc., etc.”

I read these excerpts to Zuniga. This was his reply: “She was constantly looking over my shoulder and telling me what to do. Basically she wanted to run the meeting herself. Frankly I don’t really know why all of a sudden she decided to bring these matters up. I’m the president and



Leonard Zuniga



Lois Buchanan

I know I’ve been doing my job legally. And I’m a member of good standing.”

Elaborating, Zuniga, who has been engaged independently for several years now in the practice of Social Security law, further explained: “I consider myself a bona fide member of the D.C.C., and been president for two years now. My job is to run the meetings. If anybody wants me to pay my dues, it would have to be the Coordinating Council. If I were to pay the dues myself, I’d in effect be paying myself. Anyway, in this matter, it is [standard operating procedure] to have the club you represent pay the dues. In my case, during the last year I’ve been the alternate representative for the Lions Club. (The annual membership fee was originally \$15; it’s now \$20.) I’ve never been asked by any member, or the executive board, to pay any membership fees until now.”

The two have been ordered to a court hearing before Judge B. Gonzales on June 3 at Norwalk Superior Court to settle their dispute.

Depending on the judge’s ruling, Zuniga says he’s ready to go to court and enjoin Buchanan to give up her membership in the Coordinating Council and “prevent her from joining same because of her negative actions and her pattern of disruptive behavior.”

If need be, Buchanan says she can seek an extension of the original temporary five-hour injunction she got for last May 12.

The honorees at the banquet, meanwhile, included: Ilda Vaja (American Business Women’s Association—El Dorado Chapter), AnnaMarie Brislin (Aerospace Legacy Foundation), Adele Alexander (Assistance

League of Downey), Steven Marroquin (Columbia Memorial Space Center), Robert Zavala (Downey Chamber of Commerce), Dalya Graciano (Downey City Library), Barbara Emry (Downey Coordinating Council), Bessie Gonos (Downey Emblem Club (#309), Nancy Luna (Downey Family YMCA), Stan Hanstad (Downey Federal Credit Union), Julie Konkol (Downey Newcomers Club), Fran Reveley (Downey Regional Medical Center Auxiliary), Jean Brown (Downey Regional Medical Center), Oscar Camacho (Downey Rose Float Association), Dr. and Mrs. John Keipp (Downey Symphonic Society), Carol Kearns (Downey Symphony Guild), Brenda Warner (Downey United Methodist Church), Sharon Macias (Friends of the Downey City Library), Dr. Mary Stauffer (Gangs Out of Downey), Sean Ashton (Keep Downey Beautiful), Sandy Esslinger (Downey Lions Club), Elaine Krupp (Living Help Center), Paula Mayfield (O.L.P.H. Women’s Guild), Mark Sauter (Optimist Club of Downey), Debra K. Loera (Polio Survivors Association), Linda Kennedy (P.T.A. HELPS), Red Cross Club (Warren High), Mia Vasquez (Sorooptimist International of Downey), Julie Helm (TLC Family Resource Center), Julie Hale (Together for Hope), and Joan Rasmussen (Women’s Club of Downey).

The D.C.C. incoming officers are: Cindy Galindo, president; Cleola Brown, first vice-president; Paula Mejia, second vice-president; Kathy Blackburn, secretary; Carol Rowland, treasurer; and Christie Pearce, auditor.

County posts personal information online

LOS ANGELES – The personal information of child care providers in Los Angeles County was available on Google’s public search engine last week, county officials said Monday.

An employee with the county’s Internal Services Department placed four data files containing confidential information on a Web server thought to be internal to the county, authorities said.

The files, three Microsoft Excel spreadsheets and one Word document, contained approximately 2,200 records that included the names and addresses of county child care providers, along with their tax identification numbers.

When a person provides services to Los Angeles County, the tax identification number is the person’s Social Security number.

A private citizen discovered the information on Google on May 12 and contacted authorities.

“Once notified, the county immediately took the associated web server out of service, and the files were removed from the server,” county officials said in a news release.

Google confirmed on May 15 that the content was removed from its search engine. County officials said the information was not found on other public web sites.

An investigation has been launched “to identify and correct the process that allowed the placement of these sensitive files on a public facing server,” officials said.

Marketplace grill to serve alcohol on patio

DOWNEY – The new Marketplace grill still under construction at 7877 Florence Ave. was approved for an extended use of its liquor license this week.

The restaurant was granted permission from the Planning Commission to serve alcohol in its 900-sq. ft. patio area. Its license previously allowed alcohol to be served only inside the restaurant.

The patio will be surrounded with walls 42 inches high, plans show.

The restaurant is anticipated to open in about six weeks, owner George Efstathiou said Wednesday.

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3 films on local history

DOWNEY - The Downey Historical Society will screen three short films relating to local history at its next meeting May 26 at the Barbara J. Riley Community and Senior Center.

The films include "Parker Lyon Pony Express Museum," one episode from a local, short-lived television series; "Plans for Progress," the story of the Pomona Mall; and "The City of Perfect Balance," a film by Art Redfox.

The meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. in the John Downey Room.

Church is collecting used clothes

DOWNEY - Downey First Christian Church is accepting donations of new or gently used clothes, shoes and accessories that will be given away to needy residents on May 28.

Donations will be accepted May 26-27 from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. each day in the church gymnasium. Clothes should be clean, folded and sorted according to size.

The church will distribute the clothes May 28 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Needy residents are invited to attend and receive free clothing.

For more information, or to volunteer, call the church office at (562) 862-2438.

Warren's class of '71 reuniting

DOWNEY - Warren High School's class of 1971 will celebrate its 40th reunion Sept. 17 at the San Juan Golf Club in San Juan Capistrano.

For more information, contact Kathy Hamilton at (951) 694-6586 or chattykathy90@hotmail.com.



Three AVID students from Warren High School have earned prestigious scholarships. From left: Kelly Apaza, Desiree Greenhouse and Hector Rivera.

Warren AVID students earn scholarships

■ Scholarships will help students as they prepare for college this fall.

DOWNEY - Three senior AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) students at Warren High School have earned college scholarships, teacher David Cha announced this week.

Kelly Apaza won the Dell Scholarship, worth \$20,000 to help her finish college over the course of six years.

In addition, as a member of the Dell Scholars Program, Apaza will receive Dell technology, access to a private scholar networking community, resources and mentoring "to ensure they have the support they need to achieve their college degrees," Cha said.

Scholars become part of a support network for each other that is made up of themselves, their schools, families, peers and a Dell

Scholar team from the Michael & Susan Dell Foundation.

Apaza will attend UC Irvine this fall.

Meanwhile, Desiree Greenhouse and Hector Rivera won Gates Millennium Scholarships, part of the Gates Millennium Scholars Program established in 1999 by a \$1 billion grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

The GMS scholarship provides support for the cost of education by covering unmet need and self-help aid; renewable awards for scholars maintaining satisfactory academic progress; graduate school funding for scholars continuing in the areas of computer science, education, engineering, library science, mathematics, public health or science; and leadership development programs with personal, academic and professional growth opportunities.

The scholarship also funds stu-

dents who pursue a doctoral degree. The program can essentially help fund 10 years of higher education if the students pursue their studies after high school.

Greenhouse, who plans to study pre-medicine at Chapman University but first will major in biology at UC Irvine, picked up bottles last summer to help her family financially while maintaining a rigorous academic schedule. In the process, she started the Flourish and Blotts Club at Warren High to aid others who, like her, need financial support to pay for academic services such as AP exams.

Rivera, who will attend Duke University to study political science, arrived from El Salvador at age 12 to join his father in the United States. He taught himself English by circling words in the *Los Angeles Times* one word at a time.



Emmett Andrew Janczak, a seventh grader at St. Raymond School in Downey, was awarded the Ad Altare Dei Medal from the Catholic Committee on Scouting at a ceremony Sunday at Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels. Emmett earned the award as a First Class Scout with Troop No. 441 of Downey. He is the son of Mark and Dania Janczak. His sister, Annissa, is a Girl Scout with Troop No. 2825, also of Downey.

FRIENDS OF THE DOWNEY CITY LIBRARY

ANNUAL AUTHOR LUNCHEON
 Saturday June 4th, 11:30 AM - 2:00 PM
 Author: Sue Ann Jaffarian

Rio Hondo Event Center
 10627 Old River School Road
\$20.00 includes your choice of entree

Deadline - May 31 - sign up in the Friends Bookstore inside the Downey City Library at 11121 Brookshire Ave.

**Sue Ann Jaffarian is the Author of The Oldelia Grey Mystery, Ghost of Granny Apples Mystery Series. Books available for purchase at event.*

SUMMER SCHOOL 2011

High School Program

Academic Course Dates: June 17 - July 15, 2011
Session I: 8:00am - 11:00am • **Session II:** 11:30am - 2:30pm
Athletic Course Dates: June 27 - July 21, 2011
Courses Offered: Review / Enrichment / Athletic / Elective
Fee: \$275 per course



SUMMER DAY CAMP 2011

CAMP LITTLE JESTERS

Grade Levels K - 8
Dates: June 20 - July 22
Time: 7:30am - 3:00pm
Camp Little Jesters offers:
 academic opportunities • arts & crafts • sports activities
 pool time • field trips • snacks

Session I June 20 - 24	Session II June 27 - July 1	Session III July 5 - 8
Session IV July 11 - 15	Session V July 18 - 22	

Fee: \$160 per session
For more information
 call (562) 925-5073, ext. 882



SUMMER ACADEMY 2011

Middle School Program

for students entering the 7th & 8th grade

Sessions: Math 8:00-9:00am (M-Th)
 Language Arts 9:15-10:15am (M-Th)

Dates: June 20 - July 14, 2011
Fee: \$95 per session

For more information
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Report: Most minorities in college do not graduate

■ According to report, 73% of minority students fail to earn a degree or certificate, or transfer to a university.

LOS ANGELES – College success remains an elusive goal for many students in Los Angeles County, according to a supplement to the statewide "Divided We Fail: Improving College Completion and Closing Racial Gaps in California's Community Colleges" report released jointly this week by The Campaign for College Opportunity and the Institute for Higher Education Leadership & Policy (IHHELP) at Sacramento State University.

"Although Los Angeles County Community Colleges are struggling to improve student success rates, the results of this report show that we have a long way to go to achieve the levels of student success needed to create one million additional college graduates for California's workforce needs by 2025," said Michele Siqueiros, executive director of The Campaign for College Opportunity. "In Los Angeles County, community colleges are a critical gateway for students to participate in the local economy. The region is home to the largest community college population in the state with nearly half a million students enrolled, including the largest number of Black and Latino college students.

"Given the sheer magnitude and diversity in Los Angeles County, and the needed training of our workforce, improving student success is absolutely vital," she continued. "Unless we are ready to settle for a younger population that is less educated than we are, we must ensure more students who go to college earn a certificate, degree or transfer to a four year university."

Siqueiros warned that the current state budget crisis will only compound the completion challenge.

"Drastic cuts to our community

colleges will close the doors of higher education to thousands of students," she said. "As Californians, we all benefit from an educated citizenry and we all need to pitch in and support our institutions of higher education by standing up against any further cuts to our colleges and universities. At the same time, we must encourage our college leaders and policymakers to put students first and encourage changes that will increase college success rates now."

Los Angeles County is home to 20 community colleges. Combined, these colleges serve almost half a million students (approximately 447,392), 50% of whom are Black or Latino. The regional report tracks 60,026 degree-seeking students who entered a California community college (CCC) in Los Angeles County during 2003-04 over six years and analyzes their progress and outcomes by major racial/ethnic populations.

The report found the following:
 •71% of degree-seeking students had not completed a certificate or degree, and had not transferred to a university, with most of the non-completers having dropped out. Los Angeles County had lower rates of completion, transfer, and certificate attainment than the statewide average.

•There were significant disparities across racial/ethnic groups in rates of progress and completion, with only 20% of Latino students in Los Angeles County completing compared to 39% of whites. In fact, Latino and Black students accounted for 56% of degree seekers but, only 39% of completers.

•Only 31% of degree seekers had transferred to a university, with only 13% of Latino students transferring, compared to 24% for their white counterparts.

•A large share of transfer students are enrolling in the for-profit sector, where students are often saddled with substantial debt and employability prospects remain unclear. Black and Latino students

in Los Angeles County are especially likely to transfer to for-profit institutions (19% and 16% respectively) compared to white and API students (6%) and to leave the CCC system with far fewer credits completed than are required to transfer to one of the state's public universities.

"There is no institution in the United States, private or non-profit, that could survive in the long run with a 30% success rate," said Blair Taylor, president and CEO of the Los Angeles Urban League and co-releaser of the report. "The data in the 'Los Angeles County Divided We Fail' report is cause for significant alarm. We need to revisit the purpose of our community colleges and remember that we must put students first. We must improve the performance of our students and focus not on what's in the best interest of adults but preparing students to be a part of the workforce and economy.

"Plain and simply, our young people are not prepared to compete," Taylor added. "We need more elected officials willing to stake their careers on educational reform. We need to focus ourselves on publicly stated goals for completion and measurement of those goals. We need to reaffirm and recommit to partnerships and dialogue between community colleges and our community based institutions if we are going to turn things around."

Los Angeles' business community is also keenly focused on the challenge at hand regarding student success.

"It is in the best interest of our local economy to have an educated workforce to provide the innovation necessary to keep Los Angeles competitive in a global economy. California must ensure that its public and private sectors will be able to tap into a pool of talented, well-educated citizens who will bring creativity, invention, innovation, entrepreneurship, industriousness and high levels of productivity to the region's future," said L.A. Area Chamber president and CEO Gary Toebben. "Improving community college student success is the first of several outcomes that can make a significant contribution to regional growth and prosperity."

In addition to tracking the cohort's progress over six years, Divided We Fail also contains recommendations for improving student success locally and in the state. These include:

•Collect data on student progress by race through milestones and ensure that the colleges use the results of these analyses to guide changes to campus practices.

•Provide colleges with local flexibility from onerous statewide rules and regulations linked to providing the support services students need to succeed.

•Support a new statewide funding model that rewards colleges for helping students progress through college milestones and onto successful outcomes.

•Take steps to ensure that all degree-seeking students are assessed for college readiness and are directed appropriately into courses that will expedite their transition to and success in college-level instruction.

•Increase Transfers, Associate Degrees and Certificates by prioritizing these pathway opportunities for students.

•Set goals across all three segments for college participation and degree completion, identify the policies and investments needed to reach these goals, and monitor progress toward them.

According to Siqueiros, this data reaffirms the important charge of the Task Force on Student Success led by the Community College Chancellor's Office to examine and recommend to the legislature how California's Community Colleges can improve student success. The Task Force is charged with making recommendations for creating a student success measurement framework, setting degree completion rates, and looking to alternative funding models that incentivize college completion.

"All Californians should be engaging the task force and putting pressure on them to deliver a plan that will close the completion gap" said Siqueiros.

"Business as usual approaches and incremental actions will not produce the needed changes in the outcomes and gaps documented in this report," said Nancy Shulock, report co-author and executive director of IHHELP. "In today's fiscal environment, resources must be used more efficiently to increase student success. Through the current funding formula, Californians, in effect, invest in access to community colleges irrespective of success. Some good funding models are emerging by which states invest in access and success. California should join those states in finding equitable ways to incorporate incentives for student success into the college funding model."

Local health providers who are already facing workforce shortages are uniquely concerned about increasing student success and the data presented in the report.

"Community Colleges play a pivotal role in providing a well-qualified health workforce that can meet the future demand of the state, said Teri Hollingsworth, vice president of human resources services for the Hospital Association of Southern California. "New and innovative models of educating and training health professionals must be developed to increase access to education and provide opportunities for more students to pursue careers in health care. Our state policymakers must also ensure adequate funding for colleges and place a high value on health workforce preparation and student success. Collaboration of the state, Legislature, education and industry is important to effectively address this issue."

Information from The Campaign for College Opportunity was used in this report.



A student from Gauldin Elementary's K-kids Club conducts research at the Columbia Memorial Space Center.

Gauldin kids learn from field trips

■ Community donations fund three local field trips for Downey students.

By ALEX GAYTAN, TEACHER AND CLUB ADVISOR

DOWNEY – During the past four months students from Gauldin Elementary School's K-kids club (50 fourth- and fifth-grade students) have gone on field trips to the following destinations: Downey Coca-Cola plant, Columbia Memorial Space Center and Newport Landing whale watching.

In the tour of the Coca-Cola plant, students learned that chemistry is an integral part of the Coca-Cola manufacturing operations. Students were brought into a large conference room where the staff talked to them about the history and daily functions of the company with a little trivia and prizes.

With more than 100 different flavors to sample from, students were able to sample different products and flavors from a new Coca-Cola Freestyle Soda Machine.

Finally, students were able to walk through the production area and learn about the composition of Coca-Cola and how Coke bottles are produced on a fully-functioning bottling line.

At the Columbia Memorial Space Center, students transformed themselves into scientists, engineers, researchers and astronauts through their participation in the Center's space simulation. They voyaged to the moon, and in Mission Control one team directed the critical activities of the students onboard the space station navigation, maintaining life support systems, communicating or conducting research.

The students experienced the critical thinking, leadership, coop-

eration and problem solving challenges necessary for mission success. They were able to learn and apply concepts in math, technology and science.

In the Newport Landing whale watching trip, students learned about the marine eco system and were able to view whales, dolphins, sea lions and marine birds. The experience of being on a boat provided unique ways to learn about the marine environment.

Field trips are an important part of academics because they enrich a child's education. Many students don't have the opportunity to go to new places, let alone see what they're learning. Attending these field trips provided a new and welcomed experience to students who wouldn't otherwise have them.

Expenses for these trips were met by generous contributions by Kiwanis Club of Downey and food donations from Porto's Bakery & Café. We thank them for their support. We would also like to thank Councilman Fernando Vasquez, a Kiwanis board member, and the Downey City Council for helping secure the transportation for Downey student leaders from Gauldin Elementary and East Middle school Builders Club to the Columbia Memorial Space Center.

Free lunch for kids at West MS

DOWNEY – The Downey Unified School District is participating in the Summer Food Service Program and will provide free lunch to children this summer at West Middle School.

Meals are distributed Monday through Thursday from 12-12:30 p.m., starting June 27.

Meals are provided to all children "regardless of race, color, natural origin, sex, age or disability," the DUSD said in a news release.

For more information, call the Department of Nutrition Services at (562) 469-6672.

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SPEED BUMP



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Downey Community Calendar

Events For May

- Sat. May 21: **Rummage sale & car wash**, Warren High School parking lot, 8 a.m.
- Sat. May 21: **Downey Sister Cities Assoc. fundraiser**, Columbia Memorial Space Center, 2:30 p.m.
- Sat. May 21: **Open mic**, Moravian Church of Downey, 6:45 p.m.
- Sun. May 22: **Joint choir concert**, Moravian Church of Downey, 10:30 a.m.
- Thurs. May 26: **Film screening with Downey Historical Society**, Barbara J. Riley Community & Senior Center, 7:30 p.m.

City Meetings

- 1st Tuesday, 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 Rio Hondo Event Center, 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 904-7117.
- 2nd and 4th Tues., 6 p.m.: **Sertoma Club**, at Cafe 'N Stuff, for information call 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.
- 3rd Thurs., 4 p.m.: **Public Works Committee**, at City Hall Training Room.
- 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. 622-3785.

Saturdays

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

On This Day...

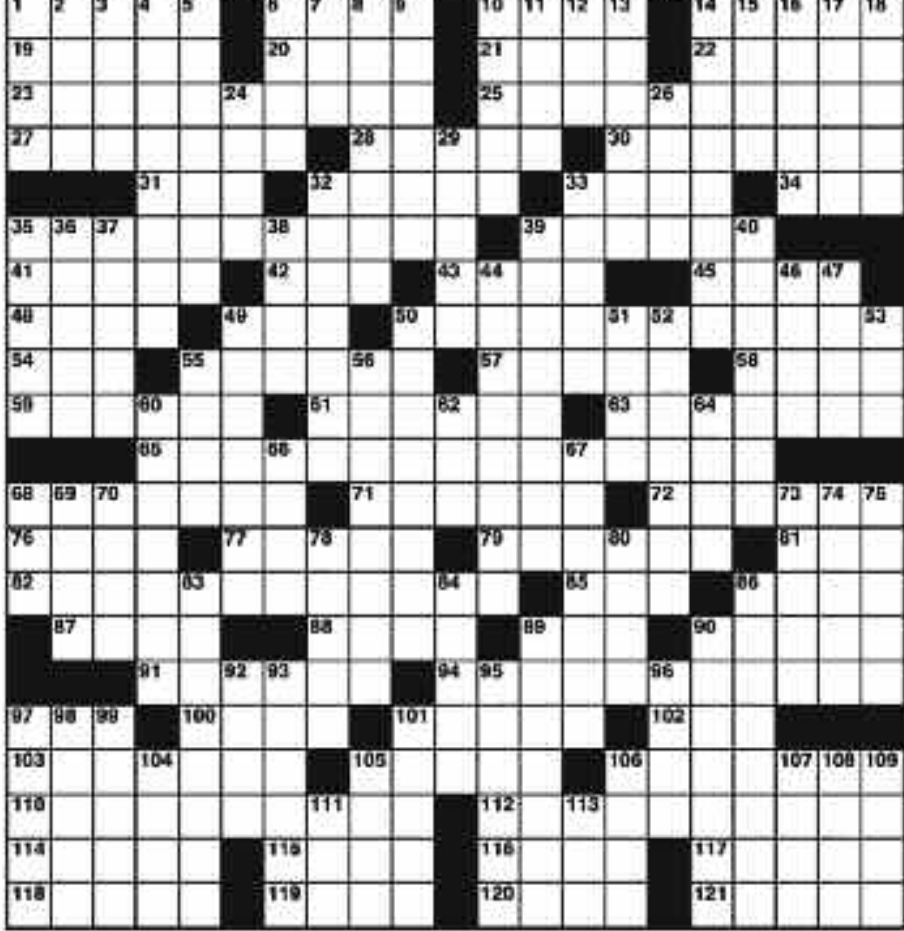
- May 19, 1536:** Anne Boleyn, the second wife of England's King Henry VIII, was beheaded after being convicted of adultery.
- 1962:** Actress Marilyn Monroe performed a sultry rendition of "Happy Birthday" for President John F. Kennedy during a fundraiser at New York's Madison Square Garden.
- 1992:** Vice President Dan Quayle criticized the CBS sitcom "Murphy Brown" because the title character chose to have a child out of wedlock.
- 1992:** Mary Jo Buttafuoco was shot and seriously wounded in by her husband Joey's teenage lover, Amy Fisher.
- Birthdays:** Broadcaster Jim Lehrer (77), rocker Pete Townshend (66), retired quarterback Archie Manning (62), retired basketball player Bill Laimbeer (54) and Boston Celtics forward Kevin Garnett (35).

THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com)
EXISTENTIALISM: Starting off with wordplay
 by Merle Baker

- ACROSS**
- 1 Speedily
- 6 Cornerstone abbr.
- 10 Rio contents
- 14 Pageant winner's wear
- 19 Invigorate
- 20 SF Giant, for one
- 21 Maryland athlete, for short
- 22 Everything, in Essen
- 23 Defeating actor Romano
- 25 In a lodge, maybe
- 27 Vouch for
- 28 Rusty hinge sound
- 30 The Princess Bride novelist
- 31 "Alley _!"
- 32 Rapids
- 33 Astronaut Slayton
- 34 Walk- (cameo roles)
- 35 Where Gracie Allen was often filmed
- 39 Sonora celebration
- 41 Wonderland visitor
- 42 Alphabetic trio
- 43 Martinique or Tahiti
- 45 _ podrida (miscellany)
- 48 Ill temper
- 49 Drink slowly
- 50 Push to sell hippie accessories
- 54 Hurly-burly
- 55 Friends character
- 57 Cafe order
- 58 Pouting grimace
- 59 Do a cobbler's job
- 61 Club
- 63 Up in the Air star
- 65 Make light of composer Wagner
- 68 "T" sounds
- 71 Capital of Albania
- 72 Must
- 76 Utah ski resort
- 77 Small and mischievous
- 79 "C'mon!"
- 81 W. Hemisphere alliance
- 82 Unhinge an Untouchable
- 85 Fr. holy woman
- 86 Misprint
- 87 Sicilian spewer
- 88 Sphere starter
- 89 HS department
- 90 Sandbank
- 91 Ripped off
- 94 "Look out, it's haunted!"
- 97 Houston of Texas
- 100 Acapulco aunts
- 101 Long-legged wader
- 102 Hawk's advocacy
- 103 Geneses
- 105 Cable channel, e.g.
- 106 Mexican shawls
- 110 Put on lots of rings
- 112 When bait is attached
- 114 Preposterous
- 115 Olympics blade
- 116 Senator Hatch's state
- 117 Rodeo rope
- 118 Neon and helium
- 119 Like morning grass
- 120 Explorer Hernando de _
- 121 Lean one
- DOWN**
- 1 PD alerts
- 2 Slight sound
- 3 Lhasa _
- 4 Be unimportant
- 5 60 minutes of CSI
- 6 Many an MIT grad
- 7 Camera type
- 8 Server on wheels
- 9 Rehearsal
- 10 Facing the pitcher
- 11 Dweeb
- 12 Internet address
- 13 Orbital extreme
- 14 Lazy Susan locale
- 15 "Where is the Life That Late _?" (Kiss Me, Kate tune)
- 16 Battle site of 1836
- 17 Supply with fresh personnel
- 18 Orgs.
- 24 "Uh-uh"
- 26 Chinese frypana
- 29 Beast of Borden
- 32 Questionable
- 33 Frisbees, e.g.
- 35 Kid-lit elephant
- 36 Leave out, in speech
- 37 Farm structures
- 38 Vivacity
- 39 Lied to
- 40 Apple-pis order
- 44 Football passes
- 46 Zodiac beast
- 47 Flu symptom
- 49 With husks removed
- 50 Sheets and such
- 51 Author Sholem
- 52 Hedgepodge
- 53 Napoleonic marshal
- 55 Entreaty
- 56 Interiors with
- 60 Aquiles
- 62 Aus. neighbor
- 64 Creme cooide
- 66 Martinique or Tahiti
- 67 Picture of health?
- 68 Pat gently
- 69 Gen. Robt. _
- 70 Food label abbr.
- 73 " _ mind?"
- 74 Spanish appetizers
- 75 " _ Mio"
- 78 Fast-food side
- 80 Cooking direction
- 83 Crossed-strip structures
- 84 Sensible
- 86 Of the chest
- 89 Vouched for
- 90 Generous ones
- 92 Pen sound
- 93 Securely fastened
- 95 Mount _ (Antarctic volcano)
- 96 Decorative pitcher
- 97 Ferber novel
- 98 Sports stadium
- 99 Mythical king
- 101 _-hole (refuge)
- 104 Unit of heredity
- 105 From scratch
- 106 Neighborhood north of Piccadilly
- 107 Johnny Carson predecessor
- 108 Are: Sp.
- 109 Antlered beast
- 111 Tailless primate
- 113 Dietary concern

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





Things to do this week:



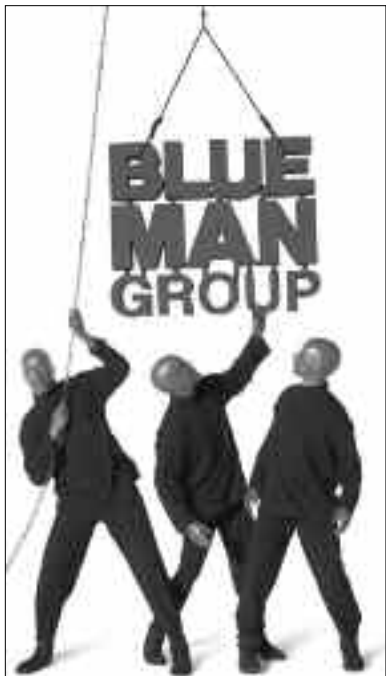
Kylie Minogue with Special Guest Kaskade
When: Friday, May 20
Where: Hollywood Bowl
How much: \$50 and up
 Pop musically speaking, worldbeaters such as Kylie Minogue are few and far between.



Rammstein
When: Friday, May 20
Where: The Forum
How much: \$64 and up
 Rammstein were formed in 1993 by an assembly of factory-weary proletarians raised in East Germany.



System of a Down
When: Tuesday, May 24
Where: The Forum
How much: \$40 and up
 Formed in California in the mid-'90s, System of a Down delivers a thrilling mix of thrash metal, sharp lyrics and unusual melodies.



Blue Man Group
When: Friday, May 20
Where: California Theatre of the Performing Arts
How much: \$48 and up
 The critically acclaimed Blue Man Group Las Vegas show has been called "visually stunning," "wildly inventive," and "hysterically funny."

2010-2011 Interns for The Downey Patriot
Joseph Apodaca
Nichole Hamilton
Rebekah Jin
Deanna Kim

Ben Temple looks forward to time in the Army

■ His biggest fear is time away from family and friends; he's scheduled to leave Oct. 17.

BY NICHOLE HAMILTON, INTERN

DOWNEY – While students graduate from high school with many very different goals in mind, one student hopes to not only position himself in a career that he'll love, but serve his country and make America safer.

Ben Temple, 20, is a Downey High School graduate who is in the process of enlisting in the military. While Temple was highly involved in various music programs throughout his high school career and after, he feels passionately about his country, and wants to do his part in helping to protect it. Temple has a high respect for the armed forces and the veterans that have been involved in it, and looks forward to contributing himself.

"I enlisted in the U.S. Army to serve my country, and for the benefits my future and current family will receive," said Temple. "Joining the Army for me is my way of helping us as Americans stay free, especially with everything happening in the world. The Army also has a lot of great benefits for me now, and one day for my family. It's definitely steady pay with free health care from great doctors, which is hard to find elsewhere right now."

Along with the great benefits that Temple will reap, there are also some fears. Temple describes himself as a person who loves to take on a challenge, and this may be his biggest one yet.

"My biggest fear about joining the Army is the time I will be spending away from my family and friends – that'll be a challenge," said Temple. "There will be a lot of family time lost by being deployed, but my family and friends definitely support me, so that will make the distance a little easier to deal with. It's going to be a huge challenge



PHOTO BY RICKY BELTRAN

Downey resident Ben Temple stands with his recruiter and sergeants of various ranks in the Norwalk Recruiting Station.

for me – but I'm highly looking forward to it."

Fears are normal when facing any new challenge, but unfortunately, this challenge had to be postponed. Due to an accident, he suffered an injury that prevented him from leaving on his original ship date.

"I was scheduled to leave May 3, but due to an ATV accident, I was delayed five months," said Temple. "While it is unfortunate, while my collar bone heals it gives me more time to spend with my family and friends. It's kind of helped me realize there are still a lot of things I want to do before I leave."

Ben is scheduled to leave Oct. 17 for basic combat training, and is looking forward to this new adventure. Of course, Temple had a lot to say about his appreciation for veterans today, and hopes he can one

day be recognized as one.

"I respect veterans for what they endured to let us live the life we live today," said Temple. "I think their role after leaving the service should be to be a role model citizen – and all of the ones that I have encountered are. I hope to one day be one, and be able to talk to the youth and help them understand what the U.S. and the military is all about."

Temple will be leaving to defend our country, and also represent the city of Downey. While he is of course somewhat nervous for the challenges that lay ahead, Temple is anxious to begin his training, and embark on this new adventure.

"I am excited for this new chapter in my life," said Temple.

For Alexis Satterwhite, joining the Marines was an easy decision

■ Former Downey High basketball player is enjoying life as a U.S. Marine.

BY JOSEPH APODACA, INTERN

DOWNEY – The courage it takes for a person to enter the Armed Forces industry is both admirable and inspiring, and for one former Downey High School student, the inspiration it took to join the Marine Corps came easily.

For former Downey High School varsity basketball player Alexis Satterwhite, a class of 2009 graduate, joining the Marines was one of the best decisions she's made in her entire life. Hoping to be an inspiration to her three younger brothers and to make her family proud, she chose the Marines knowing it would be a challenge that was both professionally and personally rewarding.

"Being a member of the Marine Corps means everything to me, I've never been happier with any other decisions I've made," said Satterwhite. "It's a feeling that no one will ever understand until they earn the title United States Marine. The reason I chose the Marine Corps over any other branch is because they're the best of the best. I needed the challenge. I wanted to prove to myself that I'm capable of anything. Plus, have you seen our

uniforms?"

Flattering uniforms aside, the Marine Corps, or any Armed Forces career, is not for the faint of heart. Basic training is one of the biggest early challenges new members will encounter and is a true test to their dedication and commitment to the Corps. In addition to the intense training, being one of few females in the Marine isn't always easy, but Satterwhite is determined to prove she's just as good as the boys.

"Life as a Marine now is a lot better than it was the first six months," said Satterwhite. "The basic training was three months and that was the hardest thing I've gone in my life. It was a complete culture shock. As a female in the Marine Corps it's a little difficult at times because you work with mostly all males and you have to prove that you can do what they can do. But at the end of the day it doesn't matter if you are a male or a female because you're both Marines and that's what matters."

Throughout her journey into the Marine Corps, Satterwhite looked to key people in her life that have greatly inspired her to keep moving forward.

"Since I was 7, I've always looked up to my cousin Christina, she's such a positive role model," said Satterwhite. "I always wanted to be somewhat like her when I grew up; she motivates me. My

aunt Vivian has been my backbone she's been here for me for everything. I She's the most caring and giving person I know and I hope someday I can make a difference in someone's life like she has mine. My high school basketball coach, Coach Harris, has been someone that I go to for support as well. I've learned a lot from that guy. He gave me the motivation I needed to want to do something with my life because he always knew I could do anything even when I didn't know I could myself."

Since being in the Marine Corps, Satterwhite as learned a lot about not only what it takes to be a member of the Armed Forces, but also lessons she could adapt to everyday life. With her family by her side and her duty to protect the country, Satterwhite's focus and clear and can never be broken.

"I've learned that no matter what situation or type of environment you're in, you have to adapt and overcome," said Satterwhite. "You're gonna get frustrated and go through hard times you just need to know why you're here and remember how much being a Marine means to you. There's a bigger picture and you realize it's not all about yourself anymore. I hope to learn how to become a better leader so I can motivate and teach the new Marines that join the Corps."

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Hats Off to the Graduates! Congratulations, Class of 2011!

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 Line 3
 Line 4
 Line 5

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The Downey Patriot
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 Line = approximately 20 to 23 characters including spaces and punctuation

Line 1 (Graduate's Name) _____
 Line 2 (School) _____
 Line 3 (Your message here) _____
 Line 4 _____
 Line 5 _____

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 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Phone: _____

Please call The Downey Patriot with any questions regarding your announcement. Phone (562)904-3668

Vikings advance in wild card round

■ **BASEBALL:** Downey travels to Beckham High School in Irvine on Friday.

BY SCOTT COBOS,
STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY – As if this season wasn't a roller coaster of emotion already, Downey baseball scratched out a 5-4 win in nine innings on the heels of a game-winning double by center fielder Josh Guerra to advance out of the CIF Wild Card round at home against Palmdale on Tuesday afternoon.

Overcoming two different deficits late in the game, Guerra who at times this season has struggled mightily at the plate, looking far from his San Gabriel Valley League MVP self from a year ago, drove a fastball over the head of Palmdale's Kris Aranda, scoring Anthony Cortez who had reached base with a single to push Downey

into a Friday afternoon matchup with Beckman.

Guerra's struggles have been well documented this season with Downey manager Jess Gonzalez moving him around in the lineup to get one of his best players going, but when it counted, the senior came up clutch, having the best game of his season with three hits, two runs, three stolen bases, and the game-winning RBI.

"Hopefully we get him going because he's the best guy out here," Gonzalez said. "I mean, he's the best athlete out here. I mean you see what he can do when he's on. It's tough sometimes when you're a senior and everybody's looking at you and stuff."

While Guerra's heroics helped Downey advance to the next round, it was the bottom of the eighth inning that set everything into place with the Vikings' clutch 2-strike hitting.

Trailing 4-3 in the bottom of the eighth inning after Palmdale's Mike Gonzalez was singled home by Carlos Ochoa earlier, Guerra followed Franz Jacinto's lead off strikeout with a 2-strike single up the middle.

Downey shortstop Steve Pascual, who struggled the entire game, then punched a 2-strike fastball to right field, moving Guerra to second. Joel Sabajan then walked on four pitches to load the bases for Yamel Delgado.

Delgado struck out, but Jonathan Grana followed with a game-tying walk after being down

in the count 2-2.

"Grana came up big with two strikes," Gonzalez said. "He fouled a ball off that was up that could've been 3-1. They sacked up. We played well today even when we were down 3-1, we just couldn't come up with a big hit."

"Defensively we were alright, pitching-wise we were good. We weren't missing signs, we were doing good things."

A big reason for Downey's come back was the pitching of Jared Gibson who pitched a complete game, striking out nine and only having a bad fifth inning. In the inning, Gibson allowed three runs with two outs. Other than that, Palmdale's bats were all but silenced.

"There was no reason for me to take him out," Gonzalez said. "He had battled, even in that one inning when they got the bases loaded. He had command, so we left him in. We felt like that was the right thing to do at that time."

Gibson matched Palmdale's big lefty Jerry Keel pitch for pitch until the fifth inning when Palmdale drew first blood.

With one out, Mike Gonzalez singled, then was followed by a walk to Aranda. Ochoa advanced both runners on a ground ball to second base for the second out in the inning. Gibson then loaded the bases, issuing a walk to Mike Livingston.

Keel helped his cause with a single that scored Gonzalez, then

Willie Smith came up with a 2-run single to put Palmdale up 3-0.

Downey earlier in the game squandered a couple chances to score with Cortez fouling off a squeeze attempt, and the bottom third of the line up was a big cause to the struggles, going a combined 1-for-11 with eight strikeouts.

But Guerra led off the bottom of the fifth with a single then stole second base. He cruised in to score on a Sabajan double to cut the deficit to 3-1.

The Vikings went quietly in the sixth inning, but rallied to tie the game in the bottom of the seventh inning. Pascual led the inning off with a strikeout, then Sabajan reached on a single. Delgado followed with a walk.

In one of the more gutsy moves in the game, Gonzalez called on Grana to bunt over Delgado and Sabajan, pushing them into scoring position, but giving up the crucial second out.

Randy Rubio, who had struck out twice already in the game, drove a fastball off closer Livingston into right field, scoring Delgado and Sabajan to tie the game and send it into extra innings. Guerra in the ninth then stole the spotlight to seal a date in the next round.

Downey has a ton of confidence going into Friday's matchup with Gonzalez saying multiple times last week that if his team got into the playoffs, they would have a puncher's chance at winning games.

"One thing we talk about is we can play with anybody," he said. "As far as us being intimidated, we're not going to be intimidated. We know we can play. If we come out with our pitching staff and the way we play defense, and we're on, we can beat anybody. We honestly feel that way."

"So who knows? Who knows what will happen?"

Warren reflects on record-breaking season

■ **SWIMMING:** Bears finished their season undefeated heading into playoffs.

BY JOSEPH APODACA,
STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY – Not only have the Warren girls' swim team enjoyed one of the most successful seasons to date, their showing at CIF this year proved to be a milestone event for the Bears.

After finishing their regular season with a 7-0 overall record and a 3-0 league record, the Bears were on a winning streak, carrying that success over into the CIF semi-finals held at the Belmont Pool in Long Beach. For the first time in the Warren program's history, the team managed to qualify for each event at the meet, giving them plenty of ammunition to dominate. While head coach Josie Cordero knew her team was talented, their abilities in the water still leave her surprised.

"Perhaps the greatest surprise of the end of the season came from Jessica Casas, a freshman who was only moved into the varsity line up at the end of the season-for League Prelims and Finals," said Cordero. "Casas wowed the crowd with a 1st place qualifying time in the 100 breaststroke in League Prelims. She finished 3rd in finals, but qualified for CIF in the 100 breaststroke in that meet."

In addition to Casas' impressive showing at the CIF finals, the 200-medley relay team of Danniella Flores, Jessica Casas, Saree Waugh and Star Meza placed 11th overall with a time of 2:02.85 while the

200-meter freestyle relay team of Destiny Hernandez and Casas earned their best time at 1:49.24 finishing in 10th place. The 400-meter freestyle relay team of Casas, Hernandez, Waugh and Joanne Svendsen also made it to the finals, placing 13th overall with a time of 4:01.97. Danniella Flores also placed 15th overall in the 100-meter backstroke event, as the only member of the Bears invited back to the finals for a solo event.

Not only is the Warren swim team extremely successful, they're a relatively new team, with the nine members qualifying for CIF made up of five freshmen, one sophomore, two juniors and one senior. Between these swimmers, several CIF records were broken, including the 400-meter relay time that was set in 2003, the 200-free relay record set in 2002 and the 200-medley relay set in 2001.

"Prior to entering league prelims and finals, I talked about the amount of time and hard work the girls put into the pool and explained to them that success should be expected," said Cordero. "I think the girls really understood what I was saying and took it to heart. They were eager from the beginning to swim fast and have a great season, and the small and large victories they celebrated along the way just kept reinforcing what they were doing. The way the team did at League finals and at CIF finals is really the best way to finish off your season, one that ends on an exciting and positive note and also shows promise and potential for next year. I could not have asked for a better ending."

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Bears' win streak hits 6 games heading into playoffs

DOWNEY – After a 1-0 barn burning win over the Downey Vikings last Friday, Warren softball has extended its winning streak over their town rivals to six straight games, and has also defended their San Gabriel Valley League championship not once, not twice, but for the third time.

As good as Downey has been over the past three years, never being ranked lower than No. 10 in the CIF polls, Warren has been that much better, beating Downey both times this season by a combined three runs, wrapping up the No. 1 seed out of the SGVL going into the CIF playoffs.

Warren's only run, which proved to be the winning run, was cashed in by Tina Josefa who drove in Arianna Palomares in the sixth inning. Palomares walked to lead off the inning and then was bunted into scoring position by Stephanie Olivias.

Josefa followed the sacrifice bunt with a drive off the center field fence just past the outstretched glove of center fielder Staci Rodriguez, all but wrapping up the game for Franny Vaaulu who pitched a complete game shutout.

Vaaulu allowed only three hits, a single to Andrea Arellano and Alexis Zavala, and a double to Desirae Romero, and struck out five.

Downey pitcher Ale Guillen matched Vaaulu pitch for pitch, keeping Warren in check for the entire game until the sixth inning scratch on the scoreboard. Guillen pitched six innings, allowing the game-winning run, and giving up four hits but not striking out anyone.

Both teams go into the playoffs ranked in the top 10 in CIF's final softball polls and will host their first round matchups on Thursday.

Downey will host No. 2 St. Joseph's and Warren will host Harvard Westlake, the winner of a game in the wild card round. Both games are scheduled for 3:15 p.m.

Turns out Clippers traded away No. 1 pick

■ **PRO SPORTS:** Cleveland received the Clippers' draft selection in February's trade involving Baron Davis.

By **JAMES WILLIAMS,** CONTRIBUTOR

LOS ANGELES – The Los Angeles Clippers may have actually given up more than they thought at the NBA trade deadline on Feb. 24.

The Clippers traded away point guard Baron Davis and their 2011 first-draft pick to the Cleveland Cavaliers for point guard Mo Williams and forward Jamario Moon.

What the Clippers or Cavaliers did not know was that the unprotected first round pick would become the first overall pick in the 2011 NBA draft.

It was announced at the NBA draft lottery on Tuesday that the Cavaliers had won the number one overall spot, with the Minnesota Timberwolves getting the second pick and the Utah Jazz securing the third overall pick.

The Cavaliers also own the fourth overall selection from their own first round draft lottery pick.

Clippers fans probably were not happy with the fact that they gave the number one overall pick to the Cavaliers but it may still have been a smart move.

If the Clippers did not make the trade they probably were going find themselves in what would seem like the same situation they have been in for the last few off seasons.

The Clippers would of had to pay Baron Davis the big money contract that he was owed for another two years, add yet another

player under the age of 23 to their roster that would of been acquired through the draft and then have no cap flexibility to work with during the rest of the off-season.

Since the Clippers did make the trade adding Williams and Moon, the Clippers saved nearly \$8.5 million in cap room.

This could help the Clippers add another veteran player to the roster by either trade or free agency and help lead the charge with All-Star player Blake Griffin.

As for the Cavaliers, who are looking to rebuild through this year's NBA draft, they are likely to take point guard Duke's Kyrle Irving with their first pick.

The Cavaliers are also likely to use the number four pick on center Enes Kanter from Turkey, who was recruited to play college basketball at Kentucky but was ruled ineligible in 2011 because he had received \$33,000 in excess benefits from a Turkish professional basketball team.

Basketball camp at Warren

DOWNEY – Warren High School boys' basketball coach Ryan Hart will host a basketball camp this summer beginning June 27.

The camp is three weeks long and open to kids ages 8-14.

Registration is \$135 and includes a Warren High reversible jersey. The camp takes place at Warren from 12-2 p.m., Monday through Thursday.

Participants can register the first day of camp on June 27. For more information, e-mail rhart@dusd.net.

Where have baseball's fundamentals gone?

DOWNEY – I was sitting in the bleachers at the Downey-Palmdale wild card game on Tuesday when Downey's Randy Rubio failed to bunt over Yamel Delgado and Jonathan Grana in the bottom of the fourth inning. Instead of moving the runners over, Rubio struck out.

Already earlier in the game, Grana failed to successfully sacrifice bunt some runners over in the second inning, instead popping out to right field.

Thinking to myself here we go again, Downey was showing signs of not being able to do the small things, more specifically the fundamental things like bunting runners over, a Downey baseball trademark this season for some reason.

My head was already filling with the voice of Downey manager Jess Gonzalez and the inevitable post game interview that would probably include things like not being able to move runners over, not hitting cutoff men, swinging at bad pitches, and so on. Thank God Downey won. I was watching Gonzalez pace back and forth in the dugout during the game and could tell he was probably thinking "Not again!"

I was also joined by Warren assistant coach Carl Chavez who was taking in the game because the Bears were rained out on Tuesday. The ever fiery coach on the field is one of the nicest guys you'll meet off the field. But baseball being baseball, I couldn't help myself from asking him a baseball question.

Recalling a brief conversation I had with Warren manager Paul Alvarez this season, I had asked Chavez if it would be fair for me to assume that no one at lower levels teaches the fundamentals of baseball any more.

Without hesitation, he looked me in the eyes and completely agreed. For whatever reason, the small

things of baseball are just not taught at the lower levels anymore.

Gonzalez had raved all season long that his team wasn't hitting cutoff men with throws from the outfield, or properly bunting runners over, or even getting signs.

One has to ask, aren't these things supposed to be taught at the little league levels of baseball? I'm sure that the proper way to pinch the barrel of the bat, and "catch" the pitch with the top hand should be taught when learning how to bunt in little league.

Heaven knows that was drilled into my head when I was younger. But Chavez also posed the same question but in a more specific context. What is going on at West Downey Little League and Northwest Downey Little League?

Well, Coach, I say fantastic question. You watch defenders nowadays, and they're more worried about color coordinating their wristbands and having the proper batting gloves on while having base running gloves in their back pockets.

But is rounding a ball and getting into the proper throwing position important? Well, since I've seen a lot of players catch the ball flat footed, I guess not.

While I guess it's kind of visually appealing to see what cool new design you can do with your eye black, it's nauseating to have seen how many failed bunts I saw this season.

It doesn't surprise me to hear about sore arms in pitchers either, because mechanics have become so 1990s for this generation. Everyone wants to hit the game winning home run, but why should you be in that position when you could have easily won the game in the earlier innings with a solid line drive or hard ground ball instead of striking out?

It's a disturbing trend to see



SCOTT COBOS

because the game is changing back to the way it should be played. Bunting, stealing bases, and reading wild pitches has become more important than being able to jack a letter-high fastball 660 feet.

The game is being played quicker again, and within the boundaries of the field. The long ball is starting to disappear, and that rectangular slab of rubber and who stands on it continues to be the make-it-or-break-it point of every team.

Is there a ton of athleticism out there? Absolutely. Both Downey and Warren coaches can agree that the city has a ton of athletes. The real question though is whether or not they want to learn the game the right way.

Can Downey and Warren be atop the San Gabriel Valley League again? Without a doubt they can. But it's not up to the coaches, but up to the players on whether or not they want to commit to playing the game the right way again.

Chuck the base running gloves. Grab some extra time in the cages and on the field working on the fundamentals. Watch those championships start to stack up again.

Golfers falter in early rounds

DOWNEY – Although Downey and Warren boys' golf teams shared a San Gabriel Valley League title, neither team managed to get out of the divisional playoff round, nor did either team have a player finish over the cutline in the CIF individual regional tournament.

Warren finished in 15th place in the team divisional tournament, firing a combined 436 strokes, while the Vikings finished 12 strokes back in 17th place with a 448 at Lakewood Golf Course last Monday.

On Monday at Skylinks Golf Course in Long Beach at the individual regional tournament, Warren's Kittichai Damabhorn and Phillip Delgado both fired 80s, finishing T-58, 12 strokes off the pace, and Downey's Paul Heidecker shot an 83, finishing T-78.

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Sandra Tucker, a veteran actress who has appeared in television, film and regional theaters, will make her Downey Civic Light Opera debut when she portrays Rose Brice in "Funny Girl," opening June 2 at the Downey Theatre. For tickets and information, including group rates, call (562) 923-1714. The Downey Theatre box office is open Tuesdays from 1-5 p.m.

CareMore creates foundation

CERRITOS – CareMore has established a not-for-profit foundation to grant funds, resources and recognition to local senior-based community organizations, the health plan announced last week.

The CareMore Foundation was established and funded through a donation from CareMore's parent company, CareMore Medical Enterprises, based in Cerritos.

A board of directors will guide the foundation while an advisory committee is charged with its daily operations, officials said.

There are currently many unmet critical health needs for seniors that go unaddressed due to a lack of resources at the community level, said Leeba Lessin, president of CareMore.

The foundation will initially provide grants to local senior-focused organizations. CareMore will eventually lend other resources and volunteer support, Lessin said.

For a grant application, or to learn more about the foundation, call (562) 622-2968.

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PHOTO BY REBEKAH JIN

Mushnik (Nick Mezeraani), Seymour (Carlos Gamboa) and Audrey (Selena Dolmuz) inspect the carnivorous Audrey II for the first time. By the end of the musical, the plant occupied the entire stage and satisfied its thirst for blood by consuming the characters.

'Little Shop of Horrors' was something special

Production by Downey High's drama department a hit with students & faculty.

BY REBEKAH JIN, INTERN

DOWNEY – Under the direction of Lars Hansen, Downey High School's drama department successfully performed rock musical "Little Shop of Horrors," the first of its kind in many years.

The musical revolves around a run-down flower shop known as Skid Row Florists, owned by the grouchy Mushnik (Nick Mezeraani). At first, there is not much to do for Mushnik and his two workers Seymour (Carlos Gamboa) and Audrey (Selena Dolmuz), because hardly anyone visits the shop.

But everything changes when Seymour finds a carnivorous plant, which he names Audrey II in honor of his co-worker. Suddenly, the flower shop is up and running again as the plant attracts curious visitors.

Unlike the roses in the flower shop, Audrey II does not thrive on

water. Seymour discovers that the only way to feed Audrey II is to give up his own blood. Blinded by the prospects of becoming famous and winning Audrey's love, Seymour willingly pricks his finger to feed this unusual plant that cries, "Feed me, Seymour!"

This method only works for a while, however, as Audrey II exponentially increases in size and demands for more blood. Eventually, the characters are fed to Audrey II one by one. They come back from the dead and declare that these carnivorous plants must not be fed no matter what, or else they will multiply and take over the planet.

Despite the limited size of the school theater, Hansen and his crew managed to overcome technical problems by the opening night of the musical. Through the collaboration of many departments on campus, "Little Shop of Horrors" came to life.

"We have a lot of talented drafters and crafters on campus and they were willing to use their talents in creating the innovative puppets that 'Little Shop' demands," said Hansen. "I love terrible sci-fi movies and the ones that are truly

entertaining are the ones where the actors don't know they're in a bad movie. They are acting like the cheesy special effects are the real thing. 'Little Shop' is exactly like that."

The musical attracted large audiences of all age groups, and nearly all of the school administrators were in attendance. Glowing reviews over the loudspeaker during morning announcements encouraged the cast and crew to perform to the best of their abilities.

"I'm blown away by the response this play received," said Hansen. "All the cast and crew knew going into the production that they were going to be a part of something very special. We never deviated from our goal and the audience size and response every night was evidence enough that we had done our jobs. I'm very pleased with how everything came together as a whole."

Downey High's production of "Little Shop of Horrors" exceeded all expectations with its lively music and creative special effects. The talented cast and crew have proven that they are capable of taking on any challenge, whether it be memorizing their parts or escaping the depths of Audrey II's stomach.

'Dog party' at Rio San Gabriel Park

DOWNEY – Rio San Gabriel Park will host a "dog party" June 4, featuring information booths and live demonstrations from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The Southeast Area Animal Control Authority (SEAACA) will be conducting on-site dog adoptions, and live demonstrations will be provided by local dog obedience groups.

"I'd like to encourage everyone to bring your dogs out to Rio San Gabriel Park the first Saturday in June for a fun-filled day," said Mayor Luis Marquez.

Dogs must be on a leash when outside the dog park, which opened last year.

"The dog park is a very popular addition to our city, and this event allows us to bring everyone together to celebrate being outdoors with their dogs," said Councilman David Gafin.

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

Cheerleader registration goes on

DOWNEY – Downey Youth Football still has room for cheerleaders wanting to compete in the upcoming Razorbacks season.

Registration is \$100 and does not include the uniform. Registration for cheerleaders ages 5-14 will be taken Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Furman Park.

Cheerleader registration "will be closing soon," officials said. A cheerleader uniform fitting is scheduled for June 11.

For information, visit downeyrazorbacks.com or call (562) 928-6081.

Church choirs come together

DOWNEY – The choirs from Moravian Church of Downey and First Presbyterian church of Downey will perform a joint concert this Sunday at 10:30 a.m. at the Moravian church.

Moravian composer David Moritz Michael will lead the choirs as they sing church anthems.

The churches will also hold joint Sunday school classes.

In addition, Moravian Church of Downey will host its open mic night May 21 at 6:45 p.m.

Local residents are invited to share their talents in singing, dancing, poetry, storytelling and more.

Residents can also attend simply to observe.

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PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: ON STRANGER TIDES IN DISNEY DIGITAL 3D (DIGITAL 3D) PG-13 11:25, 7:55, 4:55, 7:15, 9:55

THE HANGOVER PART II R Wed 12:01 AM

PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: ON STRANGER TIDES IN DISNEY DIGITAL 3D (DIGITAL 3D) PG-13 Fri & Sat 12:00, 2:45, 7:25, 11:45, 3:30, 4:45, 5:00, 6:35, 7:55, 9:45

PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: ON STRANGER TIDES IN DISNEY DIGITAL 3D (DIGITAL 3D) PG-13 11:00, 12:25, 1:45, 3:30, 4:50, 5:00, 6:35, 7:55, 9:45

BRIDESMAIDS R 11:00, 1:45, 4:40, 7:25, 10:20

SOMETHING BORROWED PG-13 11:15, 1:55, 4:30, 7:10, 9:50

THE HANGOVER PART II R 11:55, 2:40

FAST FIVE PG-13 Fri to Sat 11:00, 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00; Mon to Wed 11:25, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00

NO 3D 11:25, 2:30, 4:50, 7:20, 9:45

Times for Friday, Wednesday, May 20-25, 2011
Screening Multiple • Special Engagement No Passes •

Bingo

Thursday Afternoon

Games start at Noon

many special programs

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DVD Releases: May 24, 2011

Gnomeo & Juliet
I Am Number Four
Burning Palms
Lemonade Mouth

Childrens' Hospital: Season 1 & 2
Source: www.comingsoon.net

CD Releases: May 24, 2011

Born This Way: Lady Gaga
Torches: Foster the People
Valleyheart: She Wants Revenge
This Is Country Music: Brad Paisley
Glee: The Music, Volume 6: Glee Cast
Source: www.amazon.com

Book Releases: May 24, 2011

Eat Like a Man: Richard D'Agostino
Fancy Nancy and the Mean Girl: Jane O'connor
Killer Pizza: Greg Taylor
Watchmaking: George Daniels
Legends: Heroes and Villains: Anthony Horowitz
Source: www.tower.com

FIRE: Growth over past century.

Continued from page 1

\$10,800 fire truck with the words "Downey" and "Los Angeles County Fire District No. 10" painted on the side.

During the fiscal year of 1928, the district received just 38 alarms, but held 72 drills in preparation for future emergencies.

Focusing on fire prevention, firemen visited schools and businesses inspecting buildings for potential fire hazards. Through local advertising, town residents were urged to call the "fire department" or "phone 199" during an emergency and they did.

According to the *Downey Live-Wire*, the causes of most Downey fires varied including the "careless burning of weeds, defective chimneys, children playing with matches, clothes near stove, overheated water heaters, short circuits, tobacco, electric wires in palm trees, and even spontaneous combustion."

After several years in the Firestone firehouse, a new \$40,000 station was built near the corner of Downey Avenue and Phlox Street by James Stamps, one of the 1922 gas station burn victims who later became Downey's first mayor.

From the new site, the county continued providing protection for Downey with updated equipment including a 1000-gallon pumper and tank Mack truck, a resuscitator unit and the city's original American La France 750-gallon engine.

In order to keep up with the growth of the community, the station soon employed a brigade of 15 full-time firefighters. In the case of multiple emergencies, the firemen called on an auxiliary force consisting of more than a dozen 16 and 17-year-old boys from Downey High School. The small group of teenagers was trained to man the station and respond to local calls when the full-time crew was overwhelmed.

However, despite the proficiency of the county district, Downey, which incorporated in 1956, was soon ready to set up its own municipal fire department.

With the assistance of the personnel board and the fire chiefs of Santa Monica, Los Angeles and Burbank, Robert W. Gain was selected as Downey's first fire chief. Gain, who took the helm on June 16, 1957, was given just six months to organize the fire department.

After Gain completed his basic planning, a contract was awarded to Crown Coach Corp. for the delivery of four 1,250 gallon per minute pumpers. Beyond this little had been accomplished.

But through the co-operation of surrounding city fire chiefs, pumpers, hoses and other fire

equipment was made available. Santa Ana, Vernon, South Gate, Glendale, Huntington Park, Long Beach, and Los Angeles were generous in helping Downey during this period.

Burbank and Montebello also assisted, lending sufficient radio equipment for firemen until Downey received its own.

When the fire department began taking applications for new firefighters, more than 300 qualified men eagerly applied, seeing in the development of a new city the opportunity for advancement and expansion.

Examinations were given and selections from the successful candidates were made. Ultimately, the Downey Fire Department would start off with 48 firemen, many of whom migrated from other local fire departments.

The first major problem facing Gain during his tenure was finding a suitable place to store equipment.

Downey's first fire station, the original county fire district headquarters on Downey Avenue, would serve as the department's main station for 17 years until a new Fire Station No. 1 was built at 12222 Paramount Blvd in September of 1974.

When Downey took over fire services, Stations No. 2 and No. 3 were in the construction phase. Borrowing plans from the Riverside Fire Department, Gain would pattern the new Downey stations after those in Riverside.

In the interim, Trinity Baptist Church, located at Florence and Downey avenues, offered classroom facilities that would serve as Fire Station No. 3 while a garage inside the Southern California Gas Company on Washburn Road would serve as Fire Station No. 2.

Today, Fire Station No. 2, now located at 9556 Imperial Hwy, and Fire Station No. 3, located at 9900 Paramount Blvd., are both still in operation, celebrating 53 years of service this year. Fire Station No. 4, located at 9349 Florence Ave., was dedicated on November 17, 1959 and also remains in service.

Known as the "Father of the Fire Code" for his leadership in the development of the Uniform Fire Code, Gain also helped establish the minimum set of fire prevention standards for the city to safeguard life, property, and public welfare.

On November 4, 1972, after 33 years of fire service in both Burbank and Downey, Gain retired, handing the reigns over to Assistant Chief Don Warren who served for a period of 9 months.

On July 1, 1973, Battalion Chief Edwin Wood, one of Downey's original firemen, was promoted to fire chief. Wood would retire after five years on the job leaving Don Davis to assume command of the department until



Robert Gain became Downey's first fire chief on June 16, 1957.

his promotion to city manager in December 1985.

Chief Ron Irwin was then promoted to lead the department and would do so for the next 15 years, retiring in January of 2000. Under Irwin, the duties of the fire department expanded to encompass more than fire fighting and prevention. The city soon looked to the fire department in cases of search and rescue, health and hazardous materials, and emergency response to chemical, nuclear, biological threats.

In 2000, Mark Sauter was named Downey's sixth fire chief, but left the post in 2008 to head the city's emergency preparedness efforts. Jeff Turner served as interim chief for more than two years until Donald L. Croom, a 26-year veteran of the Downey Fire Department, was promoted to fire chief.

Today, the Downey Fire Department consists of 85 employees providing a variety of comprehensive fire and life-safety services to the community.

Altogether, the four fire stations contain four engine companies, one truck company, two paramedic squads, one basic life support ambulance, a Urban Search & Rescue (USAR) unit, and one command vehicle.

From 363 fire and rescue calls in 1957 to nearly 9,000 emergency incidents each year, the Downey Fire Department has grown considerably since its inception, turning tragedy into triumph everyday when brave firefighters save dozens of businesses, hundreds of homes, thousands of lives.

Raymond Felix passes away at home

DOWNEY — Raymond Charles Felix, born in Long Beach on Nov. 26, 1957, passed away May 1 at his home in Downey with his family by his side. He was 53.



He is survived by his wife, Phyllis Hoff, of Downey; sons, Devon Hoff-Felix and Clayton Powell; daughters,

Raegina Felix and Brittany Hoff, of Downey; grandchildren, Ethan, J.J., Samuel and Katelyn; brothers, Fernando (Nancy) Felix, Roy (Robin) Felix, Bob (Tammy) Felix and Rick (Gina) Felix; sister-in-law, Sandi Felix; sisters, Grace (Jim) Lee, Cathy Berkebile, Lilly (Frank) Masotto, Gloria Silva and Alisha Howell; and brothers-in-law, Mike (Deby) Hoff, Steve (April) Hoff and Phil Hoff, all of Ohio.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Fernando and Darlene Felix; brother, Steve Felix; and his mother- and father-in-law, Wilbur and Irene Hoff.

Ray and his wife met 20 years on a blind date set up by Phyllis' brother, Steve. Ray worked with his brother, Bob, and family at All Area Plumbing, where he was a warehouse manager.

Services held for Eulalia Pajon

DOWNEY — A funeral Mass was held Wednesday for Eulalia Pajon, who died May 12 in Downey. She was 87.



She was born July 21, 1923 in Marianao, Cuba.

She is survived by her husband, Jose Pajon; sons, George (Estrella) Pajon Sr. and Robert (Josie) Pajon; grandchildren, George (Naomi) Pajon Jr., Elizabeth (Stephen) Pajon, Christy (Todd) Mobraten and Robert (Brandi) Pajon; great-grandchildren, Elena B. Williams

and Emily M. Mobraten; and many brothers and sisters.

Father Joseph Magdaong led the funeral service held at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church. Burial was at Park Lawn Cemetery in Commerce.

Downey High's JSA wins chapter of the year

Students accepted the award last month at a convention held at the LAX Hilton.

DOWNEY — Downey High School's Junior State of America chapter won the Los Angeles region's Ernest A. Rodgers Chapter of the Year Award. Students accepted the award at JSA's spring state convention held April 2-3 at the LAX Hilton.

JSA is a national student-leadership and civics-education organization. It hosted 10 similar conventions across the country.

Four different chapters from throughout the Los Angeles region submitted applications for the award, which seeks to recognize one JSA chapter that "stands above the rest and serves as a model for an ideal JSA chapter,"

according a press release.

Chapters were judged from presentations that highlight chapter activities, leadership, sustained chapter interest, community involvement and attendance at conferences and conventions.

As chapter of the year, Downey High School received a plaque, \$1,000 in scholarship money to attend JSA summer school and another scholarship to attend a JSA summer institute.

Downey High will now compete for the National Civic Impact Award, scheduled to be awarded May 25.

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Dump the pump.

Metro Briefs
GATEWAY CITIES

Join In "Dump The Pump Day" June 16
Now in its sixth year, National Dump the Pump Day encourages people to ride public transportation and save money. Instead of driving a car, in LA taking public transit could mean saving as much as \$10,000 annually instead of paying for gas and parking. Find out how at metro.net and join in on June 16.

New Metro Bus Schedules June 26
Starting June 26, Metro is making changes in its bus service to improve efficiency and effectiveness through better use of resources. For complete details on the service changes, visit metro.net. Revised timetables will be available online or on buses starting in June.

Metro Introduces El Pasajero Spanish Language Blog
The nation's first Spanish language transit agency blog, *El Pasajero*, has been introduced by Metro. For Latinos interested in the latest transportation news of importance in LA County, just log on to elpasajero.metro.net for breaking news, features, service advisories and project updates.

Detours Get Upgrades For I-5 South Project
Metro approved \$12 million in funds for roadway improvements in Southeast LA County in anticipation of motorist detours during construction along a 6.7-mile stretch of the I-5 Freeway from the 605 Freeway to the Orange County line. The I-5 South project will add a carpool lane and general-purpose lane in each direction.

1,800.COMMUTE Ends June 30; Call 323.GO.METRO Instead
The 1,800.COMMUTE telephone number, provided by Caltrans since 1994 for reaching Metro's Customer Information agents, is being discontinued June 30. Customers should now call 323.GO.METRO (323-456-3876) for transit assistance, or 511 for automated traffic, rideshare and other travel information.

Metro
If you'd like to know more, visit metro.net.

In Memory of
William Woodrow "Bill" Lehmann
February 14, 1916 - May 12, 2011

William Woodrow "Bill" Lehmann - Born February 14, 1916 in Skagway, Alaska, and passed away peacefully in his sleep May 12, 2011 at his home in San Clemente, California. He was predeceased by his wife of 64 years Mable Marine Attkisson Lehmann. He is survived by daughters, Colleen Samoian of San Clemente, and Jean Popoff (Jack) of Rancho Santa Fe; grandchildren, Dan (Ann) and Julie Kramer, Kate Samoian, Tessie Decker and Gabrielle Popoff, and great-grandchildren Nicholas, Madeline and Kathryn Kramer and Moreo Decker.

Before moving to San Clemente, Bill and Mable resided in Downey, California for 57 years. He worked for more than 40 years at Douglas Aircraft Company in Long Beach, where he met his future wife Mable during WWII. After their marriage in 1943, Bill and Mable built their home in Downey where they raised their two daughters. Bill was a hard worker, a skilled mechanic and inventor. He was proud to say that his father was a prospector in the Klondike Gold rush. His mother worked for an Alaskan railway line as a cook. When Bill was 7 his father moved the family to Oregon where he hoped his son would have a chance at a better education. Bill loved his family more than anything, and they will all miss him deeply.

A celebration of his life will be held at Rose Hills Memorial Park in Whittier, California on Friday May 20, 2011 at 1pm.

Crime Report

Thursday, May 12

At about 1:00 p.m., an attempted robbery occurred in Crawford Park. The suspects in their twenties wearing gang attire attempted to intimidate the victim by demanding that he empty his pockets. The victim ran from the suspects and was able to elude them before contacting police.

At 7:00 p.m., a residential burglary was discovered in the 7900 block of Stewart & Gray Rd. The resident returned home and discovered the sliding glass door had been pried open. The burglar(s) stole numerous items from the home before fleeing.

At 11:40 p.m., a shooting occurred in the 12200 block of Downey Avenue. The victim was standing in his driveway when a dark colored vehicle stopped in front of the residence and fired gunshots at him causing a grazing wound to his leg. Preliminary investigation points to the crime being gang related.

Sunday, May 15

At 4:45 p.m., an assault occurred in an apartment in the 8000 block of Telegraph Road. The boyfriend struck the victim with his fists and threatened her with a knife before fleeing the location.

Just before midnight, a street robbery occurred near Lakewood and Alameda St. The victim was walking on the sidewalk when a car stopped near him and a passenger exited. The suspect punched the victim in the face and knocked him to the ground then took several items from the victim. The suspect entered a car and drove away south on Lakewood Blvd. out of sight.

Information provided by Downey Police Department.

Renovating? How to check out a contractor before you hire

(ARA) - Warm weather is here and it's time to start thinking about those home renovation and home improvement projects you put on hold until the weather - or the economy - got better. While many indicators point toward a better economy, many contractors are still feeling the pinch, and are competing fiercely to win business.

The majority of contractors are honest, but you should still be cautious when hiring one. In 2010, the Better Business Bureau received more than 1.2 million inquiries about general contractors, making the industry the third-most researched on the BBB's website. Consumers also lodged 5,005 complaints against general contractors in 2010, the BBB reports.

Before you hire anyone, it's important to check a contractor's business license and the business' financial stability. Here are some steps that can help you ensure you're choosing the right contractor:

Know the facts: Before you hire a contractor, it pays to check the company's credentials, the via-

bility of the company's business and business history because it could directly affect the contractor's ability to get your job done. If the contractor has a history of liens and judgments or credit and collection problems, it could mean signs of trouble. For instance, the contractor may be unable to purchase the materials or hire the help needed to complete your renovation. If the contractor has liens or judgments against him, he might be less reliable in getting your job done.

Online resources like Experian's ContractorCheck.com can give you the inside track on a contractor's credentials. Known for its credit reporting and protection services, Experian also maintains a database of more than 5 million contractors and their businesses' information. ContractorCheck.com allows consumers to view Experian's verified data, which includes critical information such as:

- * Company name, address and phone number
- * Multiple operating addresses
- * Length of time the company

has been in business

- * License, bonding and insurance information
- * Contractor specialties
- * History of liens, judgments and bankruptcies
- * Credit review that will reveal any past collection or derogatory credit events
- * Easy-to-understand contractor rating

Consumers often overlook one of the most valuable contractor screening elements -- public record information such as liens or judgments against the business. An important fact, in 2010, 8.4 percent of the contractors in Experian's database had a lien on file and 6.2 percent had a judgment filed against them.

Free dental services May 27

EL MONTE - Mountain View Dental in El Monte will offer free dental services on May 27.

Patients can receive their choice of a free extraction, filling or cleaning. Patients will be seen on a first-come, first-served basis.

Registration begins at 6 a.m. and patients will be seen starting at 8 a.m. Mountain View Dental is at 4639 Peck Rd.

For more information, visit dentistryfromtheheart.org.

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Very nice property. This 1258 sq.ft. home has great potential. It features a 2 car garage and long driveway for all your vehicles. The back yard is excellent for entertaining. This property also includes a guest room and bath off the garage. Don't wait another minute!! \$299,900

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Need A Yard?

WOW! This 5 bedroom, 3 bathroom home needs a new owner. Featuring 1,854 sq.ft of living space and a family room with a fire place. Enjoy this north Downey location on a 14,590 sq.ft. lot. This one is going to sell fast! Priced at \$499,000

Live In One & Rent The Other

Great remodeled duplex. The front house has 3 bedrooms and 1 bath with inside laundry hookups and granite counter tops. The back unit has 2 bedrooms and 1 bathroom with inside laundry hookups and granite in the kitchen. This one won't last at \$259,000!

Clean As A Whistle

Very nice property! This home has new paint, new carpet and a recently remodeled kitchen and bathroom. The kitchen features granite counter tops. This move in ready home is priced at \$199,000.

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<p>NEW LISTING!</p> <p>AFFORDABLE BUY! Cute 3 BD, 1 BA home w/ hardwood floors + RV parking. Priced at: \$349,900 Call Carrie Uva 562-382-1252</p>	<p>OPEN HOUSE SUN. 1-5 PM</p> <p>7926 5TH ST., DOWNEY Prestigious Orange Estates 3 BD, 1.75 BA home w/living rm w/fireplace, family room, 1,727+ sq., lrg. backyard. \$479,000 to \$499,000 Call Marie Today 562-618-0033</p>	<p>CALL MARIO</p> <p>11613 ADENMOOR, DOWNEY Zoned R3, 2 BD, 1 BA on a 8450 sq. ft. lot. Priced at: \$299,900 STANDARD SALE IN DOWNEY Call Mario For more details 562-533-7433</p>
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<p>JUST LISTED</p> <p>Pride & Joy 3 BD, 2 BA, 1203 sq ft living space, 2 car garage, newer roof & windows near 105 freeway. Price: \$325,000 Call Michael at (562) 818-6111.</p>	<p>BACK ON THE MARKET!</p> <p>Move Right In! 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms + bonus room above garage, and a pool. Improvements: refurbished hardwood floors, new paint & remodeled bathrooms. This REGULAR SALE is listed for \$359,000. Call Michael at (562) 818-6111.</p>	<p>JUST LISTED</p> <p>A Sweet Deal! 3 BD, 2 BA near Stonewood Mall, remodeled kitchen, master BD, with private bath, large yard. Listed at: \$360,000 Call Michael at (562) 818-6111.</p>
<p>JUST LISTED</p> <p>Cul-De-Sac Location! 3 BD, 2 BA, step-down family room, remodeled bathrooms, near St. Raymond's Church. Listed at: \$365,000 Call Michael at (562) 818-6111.</p>	<p>JUST LISTED</p> <p>A Hidden Treasure 3 BD + den, 3 BA NW Downey pool home on private street. Large master bedroom with sunken tub, formal dining room and spacious family room off kitchen. Price: \$425,000 Call Michael at (562) 818-6111.</p>	<p>JUST LISTED</p> <p>Tip Top Shape! 3 BD, 2 BA NW Downey home. Living room with fireplace, family room, wet bar, large bonus room, remodeled bathrooms, approx 2000 sq ft. Price: \$444,950 Call Michael at (562) 818-6111.</p>
<p>JUST LISTED</p> <p>An Excellent Buy 4 BD, 2 BA Downey home built in 1999. It includes a formal living room, family room w/ fireplace & spacious master bedroom. Price: \$429,950 Call Michael at (562) 818-6111.</p>	<p>JUST LISTED</p> <p>Cute As a Button! 3 BD, 3 BA remodeled home boasting a large bedroom, another bedroom with its own bath, open floorplan & remodeled kitchen. Priced at: \$475,000 Call Michael at (562) 818-6111.</p>	<p>BACK ON THE MARKET!</p> <p>Jump In Before Summer 5 BD, 4 BA almost 5,000 sq ft, pool, 7500 sq ft lot in NE side of Downey. Built in 2008, this home is in excellent condition and ready for you to buy! Priced at: \$995,000 Call Michael at (562) 818-6111.</p>

View these homes at: www.MichaelBerdelis.com



Attendees at the special Board presentation included (from left) Bob Boucher, Aries Limbaga, Leilani Hermosura, Wendy Burton, Robin Bayus, Karen Wunch Dressler, Robin Bayus, Supervisor Knabe, Dr. Aisen, Gilbert Salinas, Diane Waskul, Greg Waskul, Dr. Katz, Bobbi Jean Tanberg and Jorge Orozco.

Rancho honored by county board

DOWNEY – Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center was honored by Supervisor Don Knabe and his colleagues at Tuesday's meeting of the Board of Supervisors for being ranked 7th out of 138 hospitals in Los Angeles and Orange County by U.S. News & World Report magazine. Rancho was the highest-rated hospital in Southern Los Angeles.

"Everyone knows I'm very passionate about the quality of the care at Rancho," Supervisor Knabe said as he presented a special scroll signed by all five Supervisors to more than a dozen Rancho leaders in attendance. "I have seen with my own eyes the miracles that happen each and every day at this remarkable hospital. This recognition acknowledges the extraordinary work being done by the doctors, therapists, nurses and team mem-

bers at Rancho on behalf of patients with catastrophic illnesses and injuries. I congratulate every member of the Rancho staff for a job well done."

Dr. Mitchell Katz, Director of the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services, was also present to salute Rancho. "Rancho has built an international reputation based on clinical leadership and quality," he said. "I am very pleased that this world-renowned hospital continues to build upon its legacy, having been selected one of 'America's Best Hospitals' in Rehabilitation Medicine for 21 consecutive years. My goal is that within five years every single L.A. County hospital will join Rancho in being recognized on the 'Best Hospitals' list."

Rancho Chief Medical Officer Dr. Mindy Aisen told the

Supervisors and the audience at the Board meeting that Rancho continues to innovate to hold its leadership position. "We are creating what we believe will be the most effective medical home in the nation for patients with disabilities," she said. "We are exploring new and better ways of providing care for our patients, including applying the latest in advanced technology to the patient experience."

Dr. Aisen explained Rancho's strategy to reinvent rehabilitation medicine by using robotics, virtual reality and other emerging technologies to enhance the patient experience at Rancho. "We are right where Rancho should be... at the forefront of advances that will improve our ability to deliver the best possible care for many years to come."

Bocce Club wins tournament

DOWNEY – The Downey Bocce Club hosted its annual tournament on May 1 at the bocce courts located at the Barbara J. Riley Community and Senior Center.

For the second consecutive year, Downey teams won the top two positions.

First place went to the "Downey 1" team, consisting of (from left) Miguel Tamagno, John Fiorenza, Pat Limitola and Amadio Egizii.



DOING THINGS BETTER

Dale Jervis

Does the thought of selling your home make you the least bit uneasy?

...or does the thought of selling your home make you cringe? Even people I know who've sold homes three, four, five times or more say they dread the thought of selling their home. Even so however, when the time is right or you face change in your life, you've got to sell your home and move on. Then, your goal becomes to do it as quickly and profitably as possible.

For me, selling homes is a daily part of my life. The truth is, selling homes is my passion, and to me there's nothing more rewarding than selling someone's home, easing their worries and helping them get on with their lives.

Choosing a Real Estate agent is a personal decision. In addition to considering qualifications and achievements, you'll want to find someone who makes you feel comfortable and who will work hard for you. Most importantly, you'll want someone who is experienced, honest and is responsive to your needs.

If this is the year for your move, think about these qualities as you search for the right person. If you would like to speak with me personally about your specific plans or questions, please call me at 562-743-2121. And in the meantime, I'd like to offer you my **FREE, online "Market Snapshot"** on homes sales in your area in the last 60 days. My clients find it very interesting and I'm sure you will, too. There's no obligation and you can sign up directly online at www.DaleJervis.com to order your report.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my thoughts during this challenging market and hope that you have a great 2011.

Regards,

Dale Jervis
Realtor

Century 21
Jervis & Associates

Dale Jervis
Realtor

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