



**New Rotary president**  
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**Jan Scott leads Chamber**  
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**Ron Kolar lauded**  
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Thursday, July 7, 2011

Vol. 10 No. 12

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

## Rancho patient Katy Sullivan runs to glory

■ To actress, athlete and motivator Katy Sullivan, “can’t” is the worst four-letter word.

BY GREG WASKUL,  
RANCHO LOS AMIGOS FOUNDATION

**DOWNEY** – When Katy Sullivan was born without legs, it seemed inconceivable that she was really born to run.

Growing up in Alabama, Katy’s family and friends didn’t treat her as if her limb loss was a problem. “I never realized I was different,” she said. “If I noticed kids staring at me, I would go up to them and answer all their questions. I became an expert at blending in.”

She got the acting bug as a child. “I saw a production of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory at a local theatre in Alabama,” Katy said. “One of the girls in the play attended my school, and before the play was over I decided that I was going to be an actor. I spent the next ten years doing anything in the theatre from building sets to stage management – just to be involved in the process.”

Katy earned a bachelor’s degree in Fine Arts from Western University in St. Louis, then won a part in a play directed by Philip Seymour Hoffman at the prestigious Goodman Theatre in Chicago. “My parents moved to Alabama so I could avoid winter,” she said. “Then as soon as I had a choice, I moved to a place that had some of the worst winters in the world!”

She came to Southern California in 2004 and soon decid-

ed to try running. But her running legs and feet were very different than what she was used to. “The carbon graphite feet are very springy,” Katy said. “It was difficult at first to get the feel for them. If there had been a hopping event at track meets, I would have been first every time.”

Katy had never run in her life. “I was asking my body to do something it clearly wasn’t ready to do,” she said. Soon she had a serious fall and badly damaged her back. Will Yule, her prosthetist from Hangar Prosthetics and Orthotics, recommended she go to Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center for Rehabilitation.

When she arrived at Rancho, she began working with physical therapist Julie Kasayama.

“I had several appointments a week with Julie, and soon she helped me learn about the mechanics of running,” Katy said. “Running without knees is a very different process than what able-bodied athletes experience, because my prosthetic legs don’t bend. Also, the energy expended by an amputee is three times as great as that expended by an able-bodied person.”

“Julie was remarkable,” she said. “Many, many times, she jogged with me on baseball fields and tracks on her own time. She was as determined as I was that I

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Mosaik Hookah Lounge promotes itself heavily on social networks to young adults. The new hookah lounge in Downtown Downey also hosts a Biker Night on Wednesdays from 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.

## In Downey, signs of a growing nightlife

■ More restaurants, bars and lounges are staying open past midnight in the downtown district.

BY CHRISTIAN BROWN,  
STAFF WRITER

**DOWNEY** – From sports bars and hookah lounges to trendy restaurants and nightclubs, the heart of Downtown Downey is accommodating a new crowd these days.

At least that’s what many city officials and business leaders are anticipating as the downtown district attempts to emerge as the next hub for late night entertainment and social activities.

Abraham Mourad never thought his small business would be among the first to kick off Downey’s newfound night life, but nonetheless, the 44-year-old real estate broker and co-owner of Mosaik Hookah Lounge is excited about the transformation taking place along Downey Avenue.

“We’ve always liked Downey. It’s a very open-minded city,” Mourad said. “That’s why we opened in Downey. The city is going in the right direction and there seems to be more pro-business people focused on building up the city.”

Since its grand opening last month, Mosaik Hookah Lounge, located at 11029 Downey Ave., has become one of the few late night destinations still open after 10 p.m. downtown.

“After 9, 10 p.m. it’s dead,” Mourad said. “We stay open late until around 2 a.m. and nothing’s open at that time. It’s incredible. How has an area like this been so dead for so long?”

According to Mourad, the hookah lounge, which prohibits

alcohol and anyone under the age of 18, is starting to draw a diverse crowd of young adults into the area.

“We decided to open a hookah lounge here for a new generation...so they can have a social life in a safe environment,” he said. “We’ve been doing this for the last 22 days and it’s been very successful. We’ve been getting a lot of good reviews from people.”

Mourad said some customers have come as far as Anaheim and Westwood, only demonstrating the benefits of Downey’s central location.

Interestingly enough, while Mosaik Hookah Lounge may have been the first hookah establishment downtown, it’s no longer the only one.

Last Friday, Hookah Time Café, located at 8323 Firestone Blvd., opened its doors, offering customers a club-like experience with large flat screen TVs and live music.

Anthony Madrid and Omar Monzon, who also own and operate Custom Cutz barbershop in South Gate, searched in the area for nearly two years before acquiring the space on Firestone Boulevard.

“We opened a week and a half after we signed the lease,” said Madrid, 22. “The first night we were sold out. We had a line out the door, all the tables were taken. There were people waiting an hour in line.”

“The way we see it, we’re pulling in business from other places,” said Madrid.

According to Monzon, the café sells finger foods, offers free Wi-Fi and plans to feature live DJs and entertainment in the future with various themes each night such as reggae, Latin, hip hop, and Middle Eastern music.



PHOTOS COURTESY MOSAIK HOOKAH LOUNGE

“The city is trying to make a statement – ‘we’re not dead,’” said Monzon, 29. “Why not be the first ones to support it? We should be a part of this.”

Hookah Time Café, which also prohibits minors and provides on-site security, is open Sunday through Wednesday, 5 p.m. – 12 a.m., and Thursday through Saturday, 5 p.m. – 4 a.m.

In addition to the hookah lounges, Downtown Downey may also soon welcome a nightclub.

On Wednesday, the Downey Planning Commission granted a beer and wine, eating place license to ICON’s Cafe, located on 8239 2nd St. According to the city staff report, owner David Devis has plans to revamp the small eatery as a restaurant and nightclub.

While city officials maintain that these new businesses were not sought out, city planner William Davis acknowledged the establishments as a vital part of the downtown specific plan, which calls for more restaurants and entertainment venues.

“The city is concerned with creating a destination...that’s the scope and vision of what the downtown is supposed to be,” said Davis. “We’re not seeking to make Downey the place for night life, but the vision does include walkable space, restaurants, more places to sit down.”

David Llamas, owner of Mambo Grill, located at 11018 Downey Ave., took the city’s vision to heart, deciding to literal-

ly expand his restaurant by adding a 45-seat sports bar, which opens this Saturday night.

“When the people next door moved out, the landlord and I agreed, ‘let’s create a bigger space for the customers,’” said Llamas. “So we set up a sports bar. Individuals and couples can sit at the bar – large groups can occupy the tables. It’s an advantage for us.”

Llamas believes the new businesses will only enhance the downtown district leading more young adults to stay in Downey for recreation and entertainment.

“Everyone in Downtown Downey is creating more places for our kids so they don’t have to go to a hookah bar in Long Beach,” Llamas said. “They can stay close to home.”

In the future, Llamas hopes to host DJs, regular karaoke, and live entertainment every weekend at his sports bar, which currently features nine flat screen TVs.

“Alcohol is only 10 percent of it, 90 percent is the food and fun,” he said. “We want to please everyone.”

On Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays the bar will stay open until around 2 a.m., according to Llamas.

“Everyone will benefit from this...we’re not competing, we’re just trying to make Downtown Downey better for everyone,” said Llamas. “I think if we work together, Downtown Downey will have a renaissance.”

### CONCERTS IN THE PARK



## Salsa band to spice up concerts

**DOWNEY** – Opa Opa, a Los Angeles-based Latin and salsa band known for its rich and distinctive use of percussion rhythms and robust brass horns, performs next Wednesday in the city’s concerts in the park program.

The concert begins at 7 p.m. at Furman Park. Admission is free and residents should bring chairs or blankets.

Over the years, Opa Opa has performed with some of Latin America’s musical giants, including Celia Cruz, Willie Colon, Tito Puente and others. The band has entertained large audiences at outdoor music events at the Hollywood Palladium, Conga Room and other venues.

Opa Opa was formed in 1987 by band leader Oswaldo Bernard. The band includes a unique group of musicians from all corners of the Caribbean and across the Americas to offer their take on salsa.



**First Presbyterian Church of Downey**  
10544 Downey Ave.  
(562) 861-6752

July 13-16: Summer Tour 2011 is for kids in grades 1-8 and includes movies, sports, a water park and more. Cost is \$80 per child, \$60 for each additional sibling.

**Trinity Lutheran Church of Norwalk**  
11507 Studebaker Rd.  
Norwalk  
(562) 864-3712

July 18-22, 9 a.m. to noon: PandaMania is free and open to kids in preschool through sixth grade. Sign-in begins daily at 8:30 a.m. Featuring Shave It shaved ice and a water slide.

**Messiah Lutheran Church**  
10711 Paramount Blvd.  
(562) 923-1215

July 25-29, 6-8 p.m.: Big Jungle Adventure features games, music, Bible adventures, a banana hut and more.

**Calvary Chapel Downey**  
12808 Woodruff Ave.  
(562) 803-5631

Aug. 1-5, 9 a.m. to noon: The Son Surf Kids Camp is free and open to kids at least 4 years old and up to sixth grade. Kids can bring a friend.

To list your church's vacation bible school in *The Downey Patriot* at no cost, call Linda or Jennifer at (562) 904-3668.

## Looking back on... Streets, roads & boulevards

■ Downey's pioneering families remembered on local roads.

BY CHRISTIAN BROWN,  
STAFF WRITER

**DOWNEY** – For Downey's earliest settlers, life wasn't always easy.

In fact, many took long and arduous trips across the country in order to get to the Golden West.

Families, in essence, started from scratch – building new homes, tilling new fields, harvesting new crops, overseeing brand new communities.

While many people today would consider such a task insurmountable, 19th century pioneers took on the challenge, confident that their effort would produce thriving cities where their names would be remembered.

Overtime, the orange groves, dairy farms and family ranches vanished, but the names of Downey's pioneering families never faded away. Today, these men and women share a living legacy – the very streets, roads and boulevards that still bear their names.

According to historical records, Downey's first three streets were Dolan, Crawford and Venable; all named after men who helped establish the city, which initially cultivated near the intersection of Downey Avenue and Firestone Boulevard.

Dolan Street was named in honor of John Dolland, an early Downey rancher who migrated to the U.S. from Ireland in 1841. Dolland served as secretary of the Downey Land Association, the organization founded by John Gately Downey to help him both facilitate the new Southern Pacific

Railroad and develop the community of Downey.

Crawford Street took its name from Matson Duke Crawford, an early attorney and judge who also partnered with John Gately Downey. It remained Crawford Street from 1873 until 1935 when a group of local realtors launched a campaign to have the name changed to Downey Avenue, in honor of Downey, who served as governor of California from 1860-62.

Nevertheless, Crawford's name still lives on through Crawford Park, a small residential park located at 7000 Dinwiddie Street.

Prominent resident Judge J.W. Venable also had a street named for him, but the road soon became referred to as Depot Street because it led to the local train station. Eventually, the street became known as La Reina Street.

For many of Downey's roads, the names gradually changed over the years to reflect the people, places and events that shaped the town.

Old River School Road, for instance, got its name from the school respectively. Similarly, Gallatin Road, formally known as Gallatin School House Road, was named after the old Gallatin Schoolhouse built in 1893 near Brookshire Avenue.

Telegraph Road, which runs along Downey's northern border, didn't really have its name changed, it was just shortened.

The roadway was originally known as Anaheim-Telegraph Road because of the telegraph lines that connected Los Angeles to Anaheim. For a time, there was also a stagecoach line operated along the route. In 1952, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors approved the abbreviated name.



PHOTO COURTESY DOWNEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Traffic meets at the intersection of Old River School Road and Firestone Boulevard in 1966.

Just south of Telegraph is one of Downey's principal highways, which has taken several names since its development and remains a busy thoroughfare today: Florence Avenue.

Florence runs through the cities of Inglewood, Los Angeles, Huntington Park, Bell, Bell Gardens, Downey, and unincorporated parts of Los Angeles County bordering the City of Whittier.

Originally, the road was called Mayes Street after Robert Henry

Mayes, a prominent pioneer in the region. Later, it became known as Easy Street, reportedly because farmers who lived along the street often referred to themselves as living on "easy street."

According to an early account, a telephone operator called asking for the street's proper name, which was going to be included in a new phone book. Residents answered, "we have always just called it Easy Street."

But it was also known as Hunt's

Crossing. Mr. and Mrs. Hunt had a small ranch on the north side of Downey where Old River School Road ended.

Later, the street was permanently changed to Florence Avenue in honor of a woman who was a member of one of Cudahy's founding families.

Firestone Boulevard began as an old ranch road, surveyed in 1870 and first called Santa

See **ROADS**, page 11

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## Thousands enjoy city fireworks show

**DOWNEY** – An estimated 6,000 people enjoyed the city-sponsored July 4 fireworks at Downey High School.

The event took place inside the football stadium and featured live entertainment, game booths, bouncers and, the main attraction, a 20-minute fireworks show.

"It was great to be able to provide our community with a safe alternative to celebrate our country's Independence Day," said Mayor Luis Marquez. "Thank you to all of those who worked hard to help make this event a great success."

The holiday was a busy one for Downey firefighters, who responded to four fires possibly sparked by illegal fireworks.

Among the blazes reported Monday night and into Tuesday morning: a 60-ft. pine tree at Lubec Street and Tweedy Lane caught fire; a "minor" brush fire at Lakewood Boulevard and Gallatin Road; a brush fire along with 105 Freeway; and a tree fire on the 12000 block of Paramount Boulevard, which spread to the roof of a nearby apartment complex, prompting a temporary evacuation.

According to Battalion Chief Bruce English with the Downey Fire Department, firefighters had confiscated illegal fireworks from the apartment complex about one hour before the fire broke out.

Illegal fireworks are suspected to have caused most of the fire, although firefighters can't prove it.

"At this point, it's speculation," English said.

Between 7:30 a.m. on July and 7:30 a.m. Tuesday, firefighters responded to 26 calls for service, including nine incidents during the 9 p.m. hour.

## Mosquitoes test positive for West Nile virus

**DOWNEY** – Downey residents are being advised to avoid contact with mosquitoes after a sampling of mosquitoes collected in Downey tested positive for West Nile virus last week.

The samples were taken from the 90241 zip code and tested positive for West Nile virus, described by the Centers for Disease Control as a "potentially serious illness" that flares up during the summer.

With the finding, Downey is now one of 16 locations statewide to test positive for West Nile virus-infected mosquitoes this year.

Last week, vector control officials said three dead birds found in Cerritos also were contaminated with West Nile virus.

Officials with the Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District issued a list of recommendations to guard against mosquito bites, including:

When possible, avoid activities between dusk and dawn because that's when mosquitoes are most active;

Apply insect repellent containing EPA-registered ingredients such as DEET and Picaridin;

Eliminate standing water around the home because that's where mosquitoes breed;

Maintain tight-fitting screens without tears on windows and doors to prevent mosquitoes from entering the home;

Wear protective clothing like long-sleeve shirts and pants to keep mosquitoes from biting.

## School board passes \$174M budget

■ Latest budget avoids mass teacher layoffs, but deficit for 2011-12 stands at \$4.2 million.

BY HENRY VENERACION, STAFF WRITER

**DOWNEY** – The DUSD school board last week adopted, on schedule, its \$172 million 2011-12 budget a few hours before the Democrats-dominated state legislature passed its long-delayed \$86 billion budget. It then increases slightly to \$174 million in 2012-13, then, taking a leap of faith, goes to \$178 million in 2013-14. The three-year budget horizon follows years-old custom.

The budget's general fund figures above are decidedly on the conservative side, reflecting a fiscal strategy that, in combination with other carefully thought out and creative measures, has worked well for the district. This approach was responsible for preventing mass teacher layoffs, for example, as was and still is, the case with too many school districts all over, and has otherwise kept DUSD's budgetary ship safely afloat.

Given the uncertainties inherent in the state budget process and the incontrovertible fact that the district totally depends on the state budget for its life, the district went ahead with its (still conservative) forecasts of average daily attendance of 22,011 next school year, 21,922 the next, and 21,888 the third year. Based on these forecasted enrollments, the district is optimistically budgeting, in a best-case scenario, a per pupil funding of \$5,222 for 2011-12, \$5,389 for 2012-13, and \$5,535 for 2013-14.

This is based on an unexpected increase of student enrollment, according to assistant superintendent of business services Kevin Condon, as well as the receipt of stimulus funds in the year just ended, coupled with early teacher and staff retirements and programs/services cut in the not-too-distant past, which meant much-needed savings for the district.



These elements led to increased per pupil funding of \$5,222 for the school year just ended, instead of the original budget estimate of only \$4,943.

In a worse-case scenario, especially if the state's anticipated increased tax revenue of \$4 billion does not materialize, the district figures per pupil funding of \$4,891 (2011-12), \$5,059 (2012-13), and \$5,205 (2013-14) would be very realistic.

As if to remind the district that even if the worst seems to be over, that it cannot let its guard down: despite the seemingly encouraging numbers, the budgets for the next three years still carry deficits of \$4.2 million, \$3.2 million and \$3.6 million, or a total of \$11 million, over the three-year horizon under

discussion.

Still, despite all this, the district stands to maintain its reserves of over 17 percent of the general fund budget.

Another working assumption is the increase in class size in grades 1-3 to a 27:1 ratio.

"We'll have a better sense of where we're at by October," said Condon. "This is when revenues from taxes (sales, property, lottery, etc.) will be determined, and thus the district's funds stream. We can then review our budget and make the necessary adjustments and we'll be able to tweak our priorities."

"At any rate," he added, "I can say we're on a solid financial footing."

The district, formed in 1961, covers nearly 14 square miles, which includes the majority of Downey and portions of Bell Gardens, Bellflower and South Gate. It continues to operate 13 elementary schools, four middle schools, two high schools, a continuation school and an adult school.

## Turn down the tap on lawns

■ Best way to save money on water costs is to conserve.

BY LARS CLUTTERHAM, CONTRIBUTOR

**DOWNEY** – Water rate increases have been in effect for the past week in Downey. Single family residential accounts, which constitute 84% of rate payers, according to the Public Works Department, will see a rate increase of sixty-eight percent at the end of five stepped increases culminating in July 2015.

The same will be true for three other types of rate payers: multi-family residences, non-residential and recycled water accounts. This four-year 68% increase includes the additional cost of water only and does not include an increased bi-monthly fixed meter charge, which varies for the four types of rate payers, but for single family residences is up 71%, from \$7.80 to \$13.43, beginning with the rate increase commencing last Friday.

While a water price increase can be unsettling after 16 years at the same rates, this presents a marvelous opportunity to actively and thoughtfully adjust to a water environment in Southern California that will always be fragile and tenuous, unless you make changes to protect yourself

from these uncertainties.

In this light, the most important thing you can do is use less water on your lawn.

Wide-ranging data indicates that from 30 to 70 percent of residential water use is for landscape irrigation. A significant part of this usage comes from overwatering and overspray or run-off. In all probability, your lawn will do just fine with less water. Ideally, water deeply twice a week in the early morning (in order to minimize evaporation). Secondly, check your watering patterns for overspray and run-off and adjust sprinkler heads and water pressure accordingly.

This is a significant source of water waste in Downey, as anyone can tell from a morning walk through the neighborhoods, where driveways and curbs are soaked and water runs in the gutters. This is illegal, by the

way, but not currently enforced, so the best thing you can do is to approach it proactively, and in the process save yourself some money.

There is much more to explore on the subject of water use, and there are many online resources with an abundance of valuable information. One of the best is bewaterwise.com, sponsored by the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

Lars Clutterham is a Downey resident and charter member of the city of Downey's Green Task Force and Downey Chamber of Commerce's Green Committee.

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## Crime Report

Friday, July 1

At 3:00 a.m., an adult male from Huntington Beach was assaulted and robbed as he left the Pow Wow Bar at 9560 Firestone Blvd. The suspects were described as two males in their 20's and were last seen leaving the area in a white, compact vehicle. The victim sustained minor injuries during the incident. Detectives are investigating.

At 4:45 p.m., a male fraudulently obtained approximately \$4,000 worth of electronics at the Best Buy store located at 12118 Lakewood Blvd. This was accomplished when the suspect gained access to a customer's store credit by providing a false identity. The suspect left the store with the property before Best Buy representatives discovered the fraud.

Saturday, July 2

At about 12:30 am, a road rage incident escalated into the driver of one vehicle intentionally sideswiping another vehicle in the parking lot of CVS Pharmacy located at 7947 Florence Ave. The victim driver was struck in the arm by the suspect's vehicle, but was not seriously injured.

Monday, July 4

At around 12:00 pm, officers arrested a 41-year-old male from Los Angeles after he was seen stealing a catalytic converter from a vehicle parked at the Stonewood Shopping Center. When officers arrived on scene, the suspect was attempting to drive away from the area, but was stopped a short distance from the scene of the crime. The catalytic converter was recovered in the suspect's vehicle.

At 7:45 pm, a male and a female adult were walking in the 9300 block of Firestone Blvd. when they were confronted by two male suspects. One suspect began assaulting the male victim while demanding money. The suspects took \$40 in U.S. currency from the victims and fled the area on foot. The victim sustained minor injuries during the incident.

At 9:00 p.m., officers responded with the Downey Fire Department to a tree fire in the 9800 block of Tweedy. The investigation revealed that the tree was ignited by illegal fireworks. Ultimately, one local resident was cited for being in possession of illegal fireworks, which were confiscated. It was unknown if the person cited was responsible for the tree fire.

At around 11:45 pm, Officers responded with the Downey Fire Department to a tree fire in the 12000 block of Paramount Blvd. Upon arriving on scene, it was discovered a nearby roof had also been ignited. Downey Fire was able to extinguish the fire, the cause of which is unknown.

Information provided by Downey Police Department.

## Bullet hits car on freeway

**DOWNEY** – Downey resident Fred Macintosh narrowly avoided injury when his car was hit by a bullet while driving down the freeway during Fourth of July celebrations Monday.

The bullet was apparently shot straight up and landed on the roof of Macintosh's 2008 Ford Edge as he drove on the 405 Freeway in Carson. The bullet struck a double-reinforced area, preventing it from entering the passenger area, Macintosh said.

If not for the reinforced steel, the bullet would have landed eight inches away from his arm.

"My first impression was my car was hit by stray illegal fireworks that exploded on top of my car. It made a loud noise like an exploding M80 firecracker and it was so loud my ears were ringing for five minutes," said Macintosh. "I didn't know what it was until I got out of my car to see the bullet hole."

"I reported it to the CHP and they said there is nothing they can do about it," he added. "I was so careful not to get any scratches (on my car) and now there is a bullet hole in the roof."

Macintosh said he can't wash the car until the roof is fixed, but conceded he's "lucky to be alive."

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NCUA ASB

## Former mayor to speak

**DOWNEY** – Former mayor Anne Bayer, executive director of a teen pregnancy counseling center, will be guest speaker when the Downey chapter of the Christian Businessmen's Committee meets July 14 at the Sizzler restaurant on Lakewood Boulevard. The meeting begins at noon and is open to the public.

## Sports bar at Mambo Grill opening

**DOWNEY** – Mambo Grill will hold a grand opening for its new grill and sports bar Saturday at 4 p.m. Miss Tecate will be on hand for the festivities. There will also be live music, and free appetizers and wine tasting. The new bar and grill will feature live entertainment Friday nights from 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. and a DJ on Saturday nights from 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. For more information, call (562) 622-7373.

## Kits to help senior caregivers

**DOWNEY** – Home Instead Senior Care has unveiled a new, free resource to help family caregivers prepare for senior emergencies. The "Caring for Your Parents: Senior Emergency Kit" was developed by Home Instead Senior Care and Humana Points of Caregiving and is designed for grown children who don't know about their parents' medical histories. The online management tool allows caregivers to document the senior's doctor, pharmacy and insurance company information, medications and dosage details, list of allergies, and more. The kit can be downloaded for free at [senioremergencykit.com](http://senioremergencykit.com) or by calling the local Home Instead Senior Care office at (562) 401-0010.



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## New Rotary president knows all about service

■ ER nurse Diane Davis began term as Downey Rotary president on Tuesday.

By Henry Veneracion, Staff Writer

**DOWNEY** – As a nurse for 25 years, and working with kids first as a camp volunteer early on and for seven years now as a development and admissions administrator and school nurse at Our Lady of Perpetual Help School, Diane DiMarco Davis, whose ancestors hail from Sicily and Ireland, has acquired a firm grasp of the idea of service.

"From the nursing viewpoint," she says, "it's about helping the person who is experiencing pain deal with the particular situation and otherwise assist in the healing process. Educating the patient and the patient's family on the steps needed to cope with the situation is part of it. It is important to remember that caring doesn't end when a patient leaves the hospital and not to lose sight of the dignity of the patient. Medicine, on the other hand, is about curing the patient."

Her involvement from 1984 to 2006 as camp director and RN from 1986 to 1999 at Camp (Ronald McDonald) Good Times for children with cancer ("in the mountains near the Palm Springs area"), as an activities volunteer as well as RN at Camp Laurel ("in the local mountains") for children with HIV/AIDS (1994-1995), and later as a Girl Scout leader (2003-2006) are also concrete manifestations, she says, of her living the service concept.

After graduation from USC in 1986 with a BS in nursing degree, Davis worked initially at Downey Regional Medical Center as an ER nurse (1986-1996), then served in the same capacity and as a supervisor at various periods at each of these three hospitals -- Saint Francis Medical Center, Children's Hospital of Los Angeles and White Memorial Medical Center in Boyle Heights -- while keeping her working options with DRMC open. After her return to DRMC fulltime,

Davis is out of the emergency room now and currently works as radiology department nurse and PICC (line catheters) RN.

Thus, she says that serving as Downey Rotary president "will be but a natural extension of what I've been doing all along, both as a nurse and as a volunteer, giving back to the community." Davis conducted her very first meeting as Rotary president on Tuesday. She succeeded financier Ingrid Martin.

Davis has an interesting pedigree. Her journalism graduate father, Tony, now retired, was a TV writer and wrote scripts for such shows as "Happy Days," "Laverne and Shirley," "Love Boat," and "Wonder Woman." He still resides in Silver Lake, where Davis was born and raised (she attended Catholic schools from grade 1-12). Her mother was a textile artist.

Former Downey fire chief and city manager Don Davis and a past president of the Downey Rotary himself, is her father-in-law. Her husband, John, is currently serving as a fire captain for the L.A. County Fire Department. A fondness for travel (Europe, Mexico, Hawaii, New York City, Washington, D.C., etc.) once took the family to Scotland, where Don the father and John the son found the St. Andrews course irresistible and played a round.

"The place is very nice. I had a wonderful time there," Davis said. "My visits to New York ("at one of our wedding anniversaries") and Washington, D.C., turned out to be very, very nice, too."

"I've always enjoyed volunteering," she continued. "And I enjoy my work as a nurse. Now, I look forward to my deeper involvement with Rotary affairs with its spirit of service. Each area of activity feeds on the other. It's going to be fun."

"I must say I've gotten used to serving in a leadership role. What's wonderful about this added bit of responsibility with the Rotary is that it gives me a chance to model to our OLPH students what we faculty and staff try to impart to them—that it's not enough to learn the 3 R's, but it is



equally important, if not more, especially later, to develop a consciousness of service, of giving back, to the community, and encourage them to take positions of leadership."

In addition to developing and maintaining good and positive relations with OLPH alumni, Davis says, "We continue to cheer their successes with the hope, quite frankly, that they'll be generous with their donations." OLPH educates an average of 300 pupils a year.

Davis likes to follow politics, learn what's going on in the world. As may be surmised from her upbringing and background, she's a conservative and finds no fault with the Tea Party or Sarah Palin ("I find her interesting").

Davis says it was DRMC head of nursing Heather Conwell, erstwhile Rotary secretary (together with Patricia Megallon) who hired her. She takes pride in pointing out that her 18-year old daughter, Elisabeth, who plans to attend Cerritos College before matriculating later at the University of Dayton to pursue a psychology degree, and her 15-year old son, Sean, who is a sophomore at Loyola High School in L.A., are both products of OLPH. (Sean has mentioned he wants to join the Rotary as well someday).

Former Downey residents, the Davis family now calls La Mirada home.

## Restaurant, nightclub has permit OK'd

**DOWNEY** – A planned restaurant and nightclub on 2nd Street in Downtown Downey had its operating permit revised Wednesday so it could begin serving customers of all ages, not just those 21 and older.

The restaurant currently operates as Al Sultan Grill & Kabob at 8237 2nd St. and has space for an adjacent nightclub. It previously operated as the Epic Lounge.

The business was originally granted a permit to serve alcohol and have live entertainment in 2009. The Planning Commission imposed several restrictions at the time, including building modifications and a minimum age limit of 21 after 9 p.m.

However, the city was recently informed by the California department of Alcohol and Beverage Control that the age restriction is in violation of current state regulations.

Planning commissioners unanimously rescinded the age limit on Wednesday, stipulating "there will be no age restrictions on the business, but the applicant is responsible to take all necessary actions to ensure...alcohol is not sold, given to, or consumed by persons under the age of 21."

Business owner David Devis said the restaurant and nightclub will likely stay open until 2 a.m. on weekends. He plans to sell tickets for entry into the nightclub, which will subsidize the cost of required security.

The city also stipulated that alcohol sales cannot constitute more than half of the business's total sales, and set guidelines on how customers waiting for entry into the nightclub should be lined up outside.

"Just for clarification, this is a restaurant first, a nightclub second," said planning commissioner Louis Morales.

Devis recently completed building renovations on the property, including the installation of fire alarms and additional bathrooms, and is preparing to open. The planning commission will review the nightclub's operating permit six months after it opens.

"This is what were trying to promote downtown, have some people some dancing, have a good time," planning commissioner Michael Murray told Devis. "I hope you're successful and do a good job. I'm in favor of this."

Morales agreed.

"I'm all for entertainment in the downtown as long as it's controlled and within the sphere we want," he said.

## Downey Brewing Co. upgrades permit, extends hours

**DOWNEY** – Downey Brewing Company received approval on a new permit Wednesday that designates the business as a pub, allowing it to brew its own beer and sell alcohol for off-site consumption.

The new permit, known as a type 75, allows the brewery to create its own beer on-site after securing the proper state and county permits.

Downey Brewing Company is also now allowed to sell beer and wine for off-site consumption. Beers are required to be sold unopened, meaning customers who begin drinking a beer inside the restaurant cannot take the drink home.

The brewery also received permission to stay open an additional hour, to 2 a.m.

"We've had almost uninterrupted karaoke and DJ's playing during the week," said owner Sergio Vasquez. "A lot of customers arrive around 11 p.m. and that's when the DJ's and karaoke are shutting down."

The restaurant has a "last call" for drinks one hour before closing time.

In granting the expanded permit and business hours, city officials said the police department had received zero noise complaints from neighboring residents and businesses.

Planning commissioners voted 4-0 to grant the requests, with commissioner Ernie Garcia absent.

"I think this gives Mr. Vasquez an opportunity to grow his business," said planning commissioner Robert Kiefer.

"Mr. Vasquez has shown us he can be a good businessman, keep the noises under control, he deserves to have this," said commissioner Michael Murray. "I'm sure he'll be successful."

Commissioner Louis Morales said Downey Brewing Company and the soon-to-open La Barca restaurant across the street could serve as "anchors" for the western portion of Downtown Downey.

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## YMCA gives inaugural service award to Ron Kolar

■ Ron Kolar's contributions to the Downey YMCA go back to 1970's.

**DOWNEY** – On June 11, the Downey YMCA honored Ron Kolar with the inaugural Exceptional Service Award, the highest award given by the Downey YMCA. Kolar was recognized at an awards banquet that raised more than \$30,500 for the Y.

The following write-up highlighting Kolar's contributions to the YMCA was written by the Downey YMCA and provided to the Patriot:

Downey is described as a unique city in the heart of Southern California that is a place of pride, history, involvement, and community. Ask residents familiar with the city and they will tell you that this is not by mere happenstance, but as a result of efforts by active, dedicated and hard working community-minded leaders. One of these distinguished leaders, of course, is Ron Kolar.

For the past 52 years, Ron has called Downey home. Born in Hastings, Nebraska, Ron moved to the Glendale area when he was in junior high school. He attended Eagle Rock High School, Glendale Junior College and the University of Southern California, where he earned a bachelor's degree in civil engineering and a master's degree in business administration. In 1959, Ron settled in Downey because he says, "it was a nice community with a convenient location and had many fellow USC alumni".

In 1972, he established L'Abri

Management, Inc. The challenges and measurable results as a Certified Property Manager have always appealed to Ron. He began his business on Florence Avenue with a card table and one secretary; the Downey-based L'Abri now has more than 200 employees. It holds the highest designation given by the Institute of Real Estate Management as an Accredited Management Organization. L'Abri manages properties mainly in Los Angeles, Orange, San Bernardino and Riverside Counties.

L'Abri is a French word meaning "shelter". Ron chose the name because of his admiration for one of his favorite authors, Dr. Francis Schaeffer. Dr. Schaeffer was a theologian who founded L'Abri Communal Referral Center in Switzerland. From this study center, individuals could seek answers to questions about God and the significance of human life. Dr. Schaeffer's book, L'Abri, can be found on a coffee table in Ron's office.

Ron resides in Rancho Mirage, with his wife, Kathy, and daughter Kelsey, a student at Point Loma Nazarene University. He also maintains a home in Downey. He attends the First Christian Church of Downey and the Southwest Community Church in Palm Desert. His Christian faith has shaped his strong ethics, and guided him through good and tough times.

Ron's children and wife, Kathy, are a continuing source of pride and

joy. His grown children include a son, Troy; daughters Kouy and Kelsey; and step-children Jacob Bullock and Kati Duarte.

Ron's wife Kathy is an excellent golfer and also enjoys hiking and spending time with her grandchildren. Ron is an avid golfer as well, and the family has memberships at both Candlewood and Morningside Country Clubs.

Along with his family, Ron takes great pride in his community service, including the many hours given to the Downey Family YMCA. Ron's involvement with the Y started in the 1970's initially as a Y-Indian Guide dad; in 1978, he served as the Sunset Nation Chief. In 1980, with the urging of his friend Bob Brazelton, Ron joined the Y's annual fundraising campaign and later the Board of Managers. Since joining the board of managers, Ron has held many leadership positions including Treasurer, Major Gifts Chair, and Board Chair. He was instrumental in the opening of the Y Gymnastics and Dance Center on Firestone Boulevard, which served over 850 boys and girls.

In the mid-80's Ron chaired and participated in several YMCA auctions, generously donating several of his classic cars to the events. Ron is a founding member of the Downey YMCA's Chairman's Round Table and Lifetime Chairman's Round Table; he is also recognized as a member of the Los Angeles YMCA's George Williams Society, for his sig-

nificant lifetime giving.

In 1992, Ron was given the highest honor by the Los Angeles YMCA and was cited to the Golden Book of Distinguished Service. He was honored for "balancing his contributions as a program leader with those as a policy maker." The citation to Ron read, in part, "...Few people in the history of the entire Association have demonstrated as broad a degree of volunteerism. His record of service on every conceivable level – from Y-Indian Guide Nation Chief to Board Chairman; from Basketball Coach to Chair of the Chairman's Round Table – is virtually without equal".

In addition to his tremendous support of the Y, Ron gives with equal enthusiasm throughout the community: past president and past treasurer of the Downey Dolphins Swim Club; Sunday School Teacher at Downey First Baptist Church; Chairman of the Citizen's Committee that built a new Olympic-size community swimming pool; past Chairman of the Memorial Trust Foundation of Trustees for Downey Community Hospital, Chairman of the Charter Ball of Downey Community Hospital, and past Chairman of the DRMC Corporate Board and Hospital Board.

For more than 25 years, Ron has also been a member of the Downey Los Amigos Kiwanis. Fellow Kiwanian Hal Nelson has described Ron as "one of the most generous men we have in the club. He was a superb (club) president. He is a very



kind man and a real asset to the club, community and hospital".

Ron truly exemplifies the YMCA's Christian mission and has provided enduring and significant leadership to the Downey Family YMCA and the community. He has generously shared his personal talents and treasures well beyond anyone's expectations. We congratulate Ron on being the first honoree of the Downey YMCA's Exceptional Service Award.

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GREG LAKE

## Getting fit for shafts

Hello again fellow golfers. We left off last week with talking about custom fit golf clubs and how they can affect your score more than you think. I'm going to continue this topic with you, but concentrate on the subject of finding the right shaft for each of your clubs, most importantly the driver. It has become more and more evident that the quality off your golf shaft has great correlation with how good your golf strikes get. Technology has introduced many new materials other than regular graphite that are used in making custom golf shafts. Let's breakdown a couple of the characteristics of a golf shaft that you should be familiar with.

The most commonly refereed to characteristic of a golf shaft is the flex. There are several different flexes of golf shafts that golf clubs are made with so that they can be used by different people. These flexes include ladies, senior, men's regular, men's stiff, and men's extra stiff. A ladies or senior shaft will be lighter than a men's regular shaft. The club head speed of your swing is a good place to start when trying to identify the correct shaft flex for you. The faster you swing, then generally you should use a more stiff golf shaft.

Shafts are also made out of different materials such as steel, graphite, or a composite of several different lightweight materials. Irons are generally made with steel shafts while fairway woods and drivers are made with graphite. As a golfer ages, it may be a good idea to switch from steel to graphite shafts. This decreases the weight of the club, allows the golfer to swing faster, thus hitting the ball similar distances to when they were younger.

A more confusing topic to some is the kick point of a golf shaft. The kick point refers to a maximum bending point of the shaft, and is also called flex-point or bend-point. If you watch golf on television, they sometimes show a swing in slow motion where you can see how much the shaft bends before impact. When a golf shaft has a low kick point you will have a higher ball flight, while the opposite happens for a high kick-point shaft.

The business for custom golf shafts has become increasingly popular with technology. Popular golf shaft companies include Fujikura, UST, Fubuki, and Diamana just to name a few. If you are willing to pay a pretty penny, you can get shafts that may allow for a large increase in margin of error. Custom driver shafts can range from \$100 to over \$1,000.

Now that you know a little about golf shafts, you can easily talk to and understand your local PGA professional when getting fitted. They will be able to recommend the best golf shaft for you and your budget.

Until next time, keep it in the short grass!

Greg Lake is a PGA Apprentice at Rio Hondo Golf Club and former Warren golf MVP. Lake also conducts lessons at RHGC. For lessons and more information, please contact the pro shop.

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## Downey High retires Staci Rodriguez's jersey

■ Staci Rodriguez honored for stellar athletic career at Downey High School.

By JAMES WILLIAMS, CONTRIBUTOR

**DOWNEY** – Downey High School softball player Staci Rodriguez was honored during graduation in front of all her family and classmates when it was announced that the school would retire the young athlete's jersey number.

"Wow this is an amazing experience" Rodriguez said, when asked what was going through her mind when she found out her number was being retired.

Rodriguez had a tremendous career as a Lady Viking, starting on varsity for both volleyball and softball since her freshman year. Rodriguez help lead the volleyball team to a 27-2 record as a captain during the 09-10 season, when they defeated Troy High School for the first girls' CIF volleyball title in school history.

"It felt amazing because we knew we had a great team and we knew we had potential to go far in the CIF playoffs but never did we think we would win it, but when we did, it was great," Rodriguez said.

Rodriguez was also a captain as an outfielder on the softball team and helped lead the team to a 24-6-1 record during her senior year. Rodriguez ranked second in both runs and stolen bases in the San Gabriel Valley League.

Even with Rodriguez graduating and moving on to the next level in both education and athletics at New Mexico State University, the family name will still be represented at Downey High for the next few years with her little sister, Rachel, on the team. Rachel got to



PHOTO COURTESY SUSAN RODRIGUEZ

Staci Rodriguez had her No. 7 jersey retired by Downey High School. A member of the varsity volleyball and softball teams since freshmen year, she will attend New Mexico State University on a softball scholarship this fall.

play on the varsity team this season as a freshman alongside her older sister.

"It was fun and a cool experience since she is three yrs younger than me," Staci added.

After Staci's final season came to an end, she received a full-ride scholarship offer from New Mexico State University to play

softball. She will attend NMSU next semester and will begin practicing and meeting her new teammates later this summer.

When asked if she had any regrets about anything in her high school sports career, Rodriguez said "nothing."

"I'm happy with the way my teams and I did."



The Downey Ponytail 12u Gold All-Star team took first place at the Mountain Top Girls Softball Tournament held in Big Bear. Pictured above, top row from left: Coaches Russell Brasher, Chris Forseen, Al DeLaTorre and Danny Alvarez. Second row: Manager Tina Hernandez, Nala Osorio, Anna Collier, Sarah Brasher, Brianna Lerma, Celeste Hernandez, Head Coach Chris Hernandez and Coach Ismael Trejo. Third row: Ashley Machado, Chelsea Lopez, Jelissa Castanon, Brandi Trejo and Samantha Alvarez. Bottom: Jaelyn Candelas and Alena DeLaTorre.

## In soccer, women rule the sport

**DOWNEY** – I was really bummed on Wednesday when I went to Buffalo Wild Wings with the girlfriend to watch the U.S. women's soccer team lose to Sweden 2-1 in FIFA's women's World Cup. Honestly, the game could have gone either way with the U.S. having ample opportunities to score, but for whatever reason, the ball didn't bounce their way.

U.S. goalie Hope Solo looked hopeless on one of the goals that bounced off the thigh of Amy LePeilbet on a free kick by Sweden, then before, Solo was unable to stop a penalty kick by Lisa Dahlkvist, which was just outside the reach of the U.S. goalie who has not allowed a goal in eight straight games.

So, the women's team will be taking the long way to the World Cup finals, with Brazil standing in their way in the quarterfinals, and with all the information that I spent in the past two paragraphs talking about soccer, I've already bypassed my knowledge of men's soccer.

I'm sorry, but I just would much rather watch women's soccer than men's soccer. When I think about World Cup moments for the U.S., I don't think about Landon Donovan's goal in pool play last year versus Algeria. I think about Brandi Chastain's tournament winning goal in a shootout against China and her ripping her jersey off.

No, I don't remember that moment for the jersey removal, I remember it for the win. I remember driving to a Little League game that afternoon and listening to it on the radio, and the first thing you should ask yourself is why I listen to soccer on the radio.

Truth be told, I don't really listen to any sports but baseball on the radio. The mere fact that I was listening to the World Cup is amazing in itself. When it comes to soccer, we don't care about the men. Donovan, Tim Howard, Clint Dempsey, and Jozy Altidore are fun players to watch I guess.

But when I think U.S. soccer, I think about Mia Hamm and Chastain's hey days, and now I think about Solo and Abby Wambach in this year's World Cup in Germany. And the biggest reason why is found in the world rankings.

The U.S. women are ranked No. 1 in the world. What are the men ranked? We barely crack the Top 25, coming in at No. 24. How embarrassing is that for the men? It's like the men keep getting worse and worse as the years go by.

It's always easier to watch a winner, and honestly that's what draws me to U.S. soccer. I'm definitely a casual watcher of soccer and probably will never commit to watching Major



SCOTT COBOS

League Soccer in the country. But when it's a World Cup year, I'm more likely to be drawn to the women than the men.

I feel like the rest of the country shares my opinion when it comes to who to watch. We're the United States of America. We're all about being the best, winning, and flexing our muscles. With that said, it's not a surprise that the women are probably more commonly watched than the men.

The sad thing is that we applauded the men for having a strong showing in pool play, then whatever they do after that is house money lost. When it comes to the women, they are expected to win the group they're placed in and at least show up in the semifinals. Anything below that is not good enough.

That should be the attitude we have with the men. We have players, or so I've been told, but do we have the right coaching? Does anyone want to coach a hopeless men's roster? The best players in the world don't play in MLS, they play in Europe in the Premiere League. A good chunk of our men's roster is from MLS.

Our women's soccer league is much stronger in the world, compared to the men's soccer league.

When people ask me to go to a Los Angeles Galaxy game, I always ask where the seats are because I don't want to go to a sloppy, slow paced soccer game unless I've been drinking with seats so close I can feel the flops from uncommitted fouls.

But when I watch women's soccer, I feel like there's an intensity that isn't matched in men's soccer. I feel like there is a sense of urgency that can be found with our females than our males. I'm into the game, watching the ball movement and chances on goal.

There's a passion that's played with when the women take the pitch that is suspiciously absent when the men play.

With that said, I can't wait until our girls play Brazil in the quarterfinals. Don't ask me what the men are doing. I really don't care.

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## Louise Frank passes away at 92

**DOWNEY** – Louise Frank, a Downey resident for more than 50 years, passed away on July 2 at the age of 92.

She was born Aug. 5, 1918 in Sikeston, Mo., and grew up during the Great Depression.

Frank graduated from Moline High School in 1937. The quote under her yearbook photograph read, "A whiz in shorthand and typing," which served her well in her secretarial career.

She married Walt Meyers in December 1941 and the couple moved to California in 1946. Several years after the death of Walt in 1969, she married Edward Frank. Edwin passed away in 2004.

She was active in Eastern Star during her married life with Walt. In her later years she enjoyed playing cards, watching movies and exchanging e-mails with friends.

## Services Friday for Marian Burns

**DOWNEY** – Marian Josephine Bloomfield Burns passed away on July 4 in Downey.

She was born March 19, 1915 in Pine River, Minn. Her husband, Edward Hamilton Burns, a former Downey Kiwanis member, predeceased her on Feb. 26, 1987.

She is survived by her extended family: Allen and Kathy Korneff, Alexandra and Ryan Vanderhook (granddaughters: Tatum and Skylar), Natasha Rudar (grandsons: Dustin and Cory), Ted's two daughters, Rosemary Forbes and Margaret Ellis, and four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

She was a member of the Assistance League of Downey and the Woman's Club of Downey, and volunteered at Downey Community Hospital.

A memorial service will take place July 8 at 11 a.m. at First Baptist Church of Downey.

In lieu of flowers, donations are requested to the Assistance League of Downey, 11026 Downey Ave., Downey 90241.

## Alma Scheel passes away

**DOWNEY** – Alma Scheel, a grocery checker in Downey for many years, passed away peacefully June 25. She was 101.

Born March 20, 1910, in Owen, Wis., the second of nine children, she married Arthur Scheel in 1927. He passed away 17 years ago.

They lived in Downey 68 years, where they raised one son, Robert.

In addition to Robert, she is survived by three granddaughters, several great-grandchildren, and several great-great-granddaughters.

A memorial service will be held July 16 at 11 a.m. at Miller-Mies Mortuary.

## PTA moms charged in Ponzi scheme

■ Victims include residents in Norwalk, Pico Rivera and other surrounding cities.

**DIAMOND BAR** – Two PTA moms were arrested at their Diamond Bar homes Tuesday for allegedly operating a scheme that defrauded victims out of millions of dollars.

Maricela Barajas, 41, and Juliana Menefee, 50, were arrested following a six-month fraud investigation by detectives from the Commercial Crimes Bureau of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

A third suspect, 51-year-old Eva Perez, was previously arrested by the Chino Police Department on fraud charges and is currently incarcerated. She is now facing additional charges from this case.

Perez, Barajas and Menefee are accused of stealing millions of dollars from more than 40 people who thought they were investing their money in a legitimate business venture. The women claimed to have the exclusive right to sell Alta Dena dairy products at Disneyland, Disney hotels and to small retailers. They allegedly told investors they needed funds to grow the business and offered lucrative rates of return of up to 100 percent.

The women assured investors their original investment was guaranteed, even if they did not earn the promised rates of return, authorities said. All investments were required to be made in cash.

Approximately \$14 million was collected during the scheme; about \$10 million was returned to investors to keep new money coming in, and the remaining was kept by the suspects.

More than \$1.5 million has been proven as actual losses to the victims, while \$2.5 million has not been accounted for. Detectives speculate the women used the money for lavish vacations, expensive hotels, new cars and at casinos in California and Nevada.

The investment scheme began to unravel when the women were pressed for payment by their investors. Perez, Barajas and Menefee organized informational

meetings and attempted to pacify investors by explaining the delays in payment were a result of an internal audit of the business, authorities claim.

Meanwhile, one of the victims reported the scheme to the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

The majority of the transactions took place at Perez's homes in Chino and Diamond Bar between 2008 and 2010.

In order to get money, many of the victims took out second mortgages on their homes, maxed out their credit cards and "invested" their life savings. All transactions were done in cash and the victims losses ranged from \$5,000 to as much as \$208,000. Victims were given serialized receipts like those commonly available in office supply stores.

All three women had been actively involved in the PTA at Armstrong Elementary School in Diamond Bar. They were successful in gaining the friendship and trust of investors during organized school events and social functions, authorities said.

The known victims reside throughout Southern California, including Norwalk, Pico Rivera, Santa Fe Springs and South Gate. Victims were also located in Salt Lake City, Utah.

"The victims are mostly typical, hard-working people. When they were interviewed by sheriff's detectives, their main reaction was to emotionally describe their embarrassment that they fell for this scheme," authorities with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department said in a press release. "They said they saw others making a lot of money and didn't want to miss out on the opportunity to make a better life for themselves and their families. They are in hopes that people who hear about what happened to them will look for the warning signs that they ignored, and not have this happen to them. They also made the mistake of investing in people they thought they could trust."

None of the money has been recovered. Detectives think the

suspects used it or lost it all through purchases and other ventures.

The fraud is typical of a "Ponzi" or pyramid-type scheme where a fraudulent investment operation promises to pay large returns to separate investors.

Payments, if made, are not from actual profit earned by the organization or business, but from their own money or money paid by subsequent investors.

The scheme typically collapses when the promoters start having problems paying the promised returns, as in the case of this fraud scheme, detectives said.

The scheme is named after Charles Ponzi, who became

notorious for using the technique to defraud victims in the early 1920s.

Perez, Barajas and Menefee could face up to 20 years in prison each in convicted of the 22 felony charges filed against them, including seven counts of grand theft and 15 counts of securities fraud.

Perez pled guilty in San Bernardino County court last year to multiple felony counts of grand theft, where she orchestrated and conducted the same investment fraud scheme. She was sentenced to 11 years in prison and ordered to pay restitution to victims.

Barajas and Menefee are being held in Los Angeles County Jail and were scheduled to be arraigned July 7.



Jan Scott, an executive at Pacific Western Bank, is new president of the Downey Chamber of Commerce.

## Jan Scott takes over as chamber president

**DOWNEY** – Jan Scott, an executive at Pacific Western Bank, was installed as the 108th president of the Downey Chamber of Commerce during a rock-and-roll themed luncheon last Wednesday.

Scott was installed by past president Fionnuala Anderson. Councilman David Gafin served as master of ceremonies, and singer Johnny Croshaw entertained.

Outgoing president Michael Murray, owner of Downey Used Cars, was honored by local dignitaries for his year of service.

In addition to Scott, new chamber officers for 2011-12 include president-elect Patricia Kotze; vice president Alex Saab; immediate past president Michael Murray; and treasurer George Zumberakis.

Executive director Sue Nordin serves as secretary of the corporation.

Incoming and returning directors are Delores Bacus, Dr. Joel Bird, John Casillas, Bob Ciatti, Carlos Galvan Jr., Steve Hoffman, David Llamas Sr., John Quagliani, Elizabeth Trombley and Mark Wallace.



Maricela Barajas



Juliana Menefee



Eva Perez

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*Dale Jervis*

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

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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.

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

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## Rules tightened on carbon monoxide detectors in homes

■ State law requires carbon monoxide detectors be installed in single-family homes.

**DOWNEY** – A California law passed in May 2010 requires all single-family homes with an attached garage, or appliances that burn fuels like gas, coal or wood, to have carbon monoxide detectors by July 1, 2011.

Multi-family dwellings, such as apartment buildings or condominiums, have until Jan. 1, 2013 to comply with the law.

The Carbon Monoxide Poisoning Prevention Act (SB 183), written by Sen. Alan Lowenthal (D-Long Beach), is intended to prevent the 30-40 acci-

dental annual deaths and hundreds of "avoidable" emergency room visits and hospitalizations in California due to carbon monoxide poisoning.

"It's likely these were exposures to leaky or faulty equipment in homes and on boats," said Dimitri Stanich, public information officer with the California Air Resources Board.

When appliances such as water heaters or gas stoves burn their fuel, one of the byproducts of combustion is carbon monoxide gas. It's colorless, odorless and is toxic to humans and animals in high concentrations. The molecule binds to an area on red blood cells that normally carries oxygen, essentially suffocating the body's organs.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention say the symptoms of exposure to carbon monoxide include nausea, headaches, chest pain, confusion

and/or unconsciousness, followed by death. Statistics show more than 400 Americans die of unintentional carbon monoxide poisoning each year, while about 4,000 are hospitalized. A recent survey by CalFIRE found that nine out of 10 California households do not have a carbon monoxide detector.

Prices for carbon monoxide detectors at several local "home center" stores ranged from less than \$20 to more than \$100. According to the California State Fire Marshal's Office, the detectors should be installed according to manufacturers' instructions, generally outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home.

Carbon monoxide detectors are available in battery-powered, hard-wired or plug-in models and must have a battery backup feature. If the carbon monoxide detector is a combination carbon monoxide/smoke detector, it must sound an alarm that is different than the smoke alarm and have an "approved by the California State Fire Marshal" stamp on the unit.

A list of approved detectors can be found at [osfm.fire.ca.gov](http://osfm.fire.ca.gov). Scroll down to the "Hot Topics" section and click on "Carbon Monoxide Information and Approved Devices."

–Contributed by Downey Fire Department

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# ROADS: Streets are living memories to Downey pioneers.

Continued from page 2

Gertrudes. Subsequently, the road took many names including Front Street, First Street and Manchester Boulevard.

Lakewood Boulevard used to be called Cerritos Avenue. It served as the primary route to get from Bellflower into Downey, but stopped at Firestone Boulevard. Years later, the road was extended north. Today, the street is a state highway that connects the eastern parts of Long Beach to Pasadena through the Whittier Narrows.

Paramount Boulevard was once known as College Avenue due to the early college, Los Nietos Collegiate Institute, located at the southeast corner of Alameda Street. It was once the main thoroughfare between the two communities of Gallatin and College Settlement. The settlements would later merge with Downey in the 1870s.

When the road's name was changed to Paramount, Mr. and Mrs. J.P. Squire put a short street in their apple orchard, just north of Third Street between Myrtle and Paramount, named College Avenue to perpetuate the memory. The road still exist today.

Brookshire Avenue was once known as Church Street, named because of a Nazarene church, which sat at the corner of Firestone and Brookshire. The street originally ran down from Gallatin and stopped at Cherokee Lane. However, the road was later extended and renamed in memory of James Brookshire, an early resident, who had a small ranch on the east side of Brookshire, just north of Cherokee Lane.

Cherokee Lane, once Ball Road, was renamed for the Cherokee roses Albert Ball planted along both sides of the lane that used to lead up to the two-story Ball residence.

Tweedy Lane, named for the Tweedy family runs from Telegraph Road down to Florence Avenue. It was the street that led into the Tweedy ranch holdings, which exceeded 100 acres. Prior to being called Tweedy, the street was known as Telegraph and Jaboneria Road.

Jaboneria was the name of a soap factory in the early 1900s that operated near the Rio Hondo River.

In 1895, Tweedy partnered with Albert Ball and the two began packing their own fruit as well as citrus they purchased throughout the valley. The two families created and jointly operated the Ball and Tweedy Sunkist Packing Co.

The Tweedys are also credited with planting the row of stately palm trees along Tweedy Lane. In 1911, James K. Tweedy and his wife planted the Washingtonia palms along the street in front of their Tweedy Ranch and encouraged the owner of the Ball Ranch to do the same so they would extend along the street.

Years later, the County tried to remove the palms on the lane, but Tweedy protested and County officials conceded.

Wiley-Burke Avenue, which runs from Suva Street down to Firestone Boulevard, gets its name from both the Wiley and Burke families. Frank Burke had large holdings (more than

88 acres) from Rives Avenue to the Old River School Road while William K. Wiley owned land from Third Street to the railroad tacks near Firestone Boulevard.

Second Street, west of Paramount Boulevard, used to be called Burke Lane because it was the best roadway to the Burke Ranch.

Stewart and Gray Road also took its name from two families who lived on opposite ends of the street. Joseph Henry Stewart, who opened the first blacksmith shop in Los Nietos Valley, lived on the west side of the road. He moved into the region in 1869 and purchased 33 acres of land near the Rio Hondo River with his wife, Mary Rule Stewart.

The other end of the road was named for Algernon Sidney Gray, a farmer, businessman, and municipal judge who moved to Downey in the early 1870s. He served as an active community leader and justice of the peace in the early years of Downey's history.

As Downey began to develop and prosper, the city's population grew exponentially and large farm fields soon became thriving subdivisions, full of new homes and families. But despite the addition of new streets and roads, many of the original family roads kept their original names.

Rives Avenue, for example, once known as Old Wagon Road, bordered the 75-acre estate of James C. Rives. A successful lawyer and newspaperman, Rives was elected to serve two terms as the district attorney of Los Angeles from 1898 to 1902. Although the large estate was subdivided, the street remained, taking its name from the pioneer family.

Just south of Imperial Highway, east of Bellflower Boulevard, is Ardis Avenue, named after the Ardis family, chiefly the Rev. John C. Ardis who came to Downey in 1867. Ardis helped establish Alameda Elementary School and College Settlement. The street pays tribute to his contributions to the community.

Rev. Ardis' son, Julius, became a prominent local attorney and the first president of the Downey Kiwanis Club. Julius Avenue, which runs north to south from Suva Street to Quill Drive, is named in his honor.

Otto Street, which runs east to west in segments across the city, was named for Frank Otto, who had a small orange grove northeast of Florence and Downey avenues. He served as principal and administrator of Downey High School from the early 20s until the mid 40s.

Stamps Avenue, which sits near the corner of Gallatin Road and Downey Avenue, is named for the Stamps family, early settlers, who also had a home near the northeast corner of Downey and Florence avenues. One of the Stamps, James, became the city's first mayor.

All of these streets are a living memory. While the great pioneers who once lived along these routes may be gone, their names were indeed remembered. It may not be much to commemorate all that these men and women have accomplished, but it's definitely a start down the right road.

# SULLIVAN: 'Can't' is a 4-letter word.

Continued from page 1

would be able to run one day." Day by day, week by week, month by month, Katy got better and better. "Then one day my goal of running track was in sight," she said.

Katy started running in track meets, and quickly established herself as a rising star. "I began to compete at a higher level and started to excel in the competitive world of physically challenged sports." Since there were no other bilateral (both legs) above-knee amputee women competing, she was running against women who had one sound leg and one leg amputated above the knee. This was a significant disadvantage, but it didn't stop Katy.

She participated in the 2007 Para Pan Games in Rio de Janeiro and in the 2007 Paralympic National Championships. "At the Nationals, I broke a nine-year old World Record for my category by nearly a second with a time of 39.41 seconds," Katy said. "I had gone from baby jogging steps to sprinting onto the world stage."

Racing changed the game for Katy, but positive changes also occurred in many other parts of her life. Most importantly, she met fellow patient and future husband Jay Cramer at Rancho. He had recently suffered a major spinal cord injury in a rock-climbing accident and was in rehabilitation on his way to becoming a noted stand-up comedian. "Jay has the warmest heart of anyone I know," she said. Today he is the Director of the Performing Arts of Rancho program and Katy is one of his stars.

Her career was suddenly on a roll, too, as she landed a continuing role as Tiffany on "My Name is Earl". She also posed for the cover of Mobilita Magazine, Europe's highest-circulation publication for individuals with disabilities.

But then fate took a hand-- Katy contracted mononucleosis, and her hopes of competing in the

2008 Paralympic Games in China were dashed.

Katy put her dreams away for another day, and focused on her acting career. "Working in television, movies and independent films in Los Angeles keeps me very busy," she said. "When I'm not acting or running, I travel around the United States and give motivational speeches at schools and corporations. My message is that no matter what life throws at you, you can rise above it all and be successful."

As her acting career accelerated, Katy still yearned to fulfill her destiny as an athlete. At age 31, she is significantly older than most of her competitors. But that doesn't bother her at all. "If you believe in what you are doing and you want to do it, go for it and don't let anyone tell you that you can't do it," Katy said.

So she took to the track again, and several interesting developments occurred. "I met a young woman named Vanessa from Germany, who also was a double above-the-knee amputee," Katy said. "After she lost her legs in a car accident, she was shown a video of my running—and she said it changed her life."

"Meeting Vanessa made me think about how each of us has a ripple effect in life, and how we touch people with everything we do," Katy said. "I always try to remember that the things that make you different are also the things that make you special."

Katy found that her hectic schedule over the past four years had not dampened her speed on the track. After just missing a podium position at the World Championships in January in Christchurch, New Zealand, Katy was determined to make the U.S. Paralympic team by winning the 100 meters at the U.S. Championships in Miami last month.

"As I looked around at the other women in the race, I thought about how young they all were,"



Katy Sullivan will represent the United States at the 2012 Paralympics in London.

Katy said. "It feels like I was a part of getting them there, like I am part of a legacy in U.S. and Paralympic sport. They are the future and I will be proud to someday hand off the reigns to them—but not quite yet!"

"My mom was at the stadium pulling for me, and I felt that I ran a pretty good race," Katy said. She raced across the finish line first in 17.68 seconds, becoming the U.S. Paralympic Champion. Her victory also earned her a berth on the team that will represent America at the 2012 Paralympics in London.

"The first time I put on a USA jersey, it was an incredible rush," Katy said. "It also comes with a heavy responsibility, because you want to bring home medals and do well for your country. I am looking forward to being on that podium in London next year!"

Katy is also moving forward on several other fronts. "I am working towards some new sponsorships, building new motivational speeches, writing a blog and a book and taking meetings with

major decision makers in the entertainment world," she said. "But first and foremost, I am an actor, and my long-term goals lie there. I want to continue to work as an actor and someday star in a sitcom."

Katy and Jay are also grateful that Rancho is a major part of their lives. "Rancho is a place that creates hope for the seemingly hopeless, creates a path for the seemingly impassible and creates action for those who are stuck," she said.

"I think of how far I've come since Julie and I began jogging around Rancho and Apollo Park, and I realize how fortunate I was to be touched by the magic of Rancho," Katy said. "Jay and I also consider ourselves lucky to have the opportunity to reach out to people and change the perception of what people with disabilities can accomplish."

For more information, call the Rancho Los Amigos Foundation at (562) 401-7053 or visit [www.rancho.org](http://www.rancho.org)

## Credit union emphasizes financial literacy

**DOWNEY** – Downey Federal Credit Union is offering a series of financial education classes – for children, teens and adults.

In elementary schools, DFCU offers the Kirby Kangaroo Club, a savings club for children up to age 10, and Saving with Mandy and Randy, a curriculum supplement that helps students learn vocabulary words related to savings.

In middle schools, the credit union promotes CU Succeed Teens Financial Network, encompassing students ages 11-15, which teaches students how to budget and save money.

And in high school DFCU sponsors Making the Right Money Moves, a program which teaches students how to manage a checking account and their credit using workbooks.

To help young adults better manage their financial skills, DFCU offers a magazine called "BRASS," which contains articles on auto insurance, budgeting and living outside the family home.

In addition to the prepared programs, Kari Johnson, the credit union's community education and development representative, visits Downey classrooms, teaching practical money skills to students of all ages, including basic budgeting skills, the true cost of spending habits, the difference between a credit union and a bank, how to obtain credit, how to write a check, and how to reconcile a checkbook.

Johnson has also led classes outside the school system. She has taught financial literacy classes at after-school programs at the Downey YMCA, to students at Downey Adult School, to seniors at the former OASIS program, and to community members at large. The credit union also offers a series of financial literacy workshops geared towards women who need to know basic, real-life skills.

"We feel it is important that children have an opportunity to discuss and practice savings skills in the classroom," said Barbara Lamberth, president and CEO of Downey Federal Credit Union. "By sponsoring these school programs, we are reaching children at an impressionable age. If we can help them learn good money habits right from the start and raise their level of financial responsibility, it will pay big dividends for them and the community alike."

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## Concert at Presbyterian church

**DOWNEY** – As part of its 125th anniversary celebration, Downey First Presbyterian Church will hold a free concert Saturday night featuring past music directors, guitarists and accompanists.

Among those scheduled to perform are Tim Cox, Christopher Martin, Paulie (Talip) Peshkepia, Knox Summerour and Matthew Oden, along with folk singer Margaret Faulkner.

The concert begins at 7 p.m. in the church sanctuary, located at Downey Avenue and 7th Street. A \$6 taco picnic will precede the concert at 5 p.m. on the church's front lawn.

The event is open to the public.

## Jobs available for low-income teens

**LOS ANGELES** – The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors on Tuesday approved a summer jobs program expected to create at least 2,200 jobs for "economically disadvantaged" teens in L.A. County.

Job positions will be created at county departments, local cities, non-profit and for-profit organizations. The new jobs include clerical, maintenance, groundskeeping, child care, teacher's aid and librarianship assistance work.

Young people in foster care, on probation or those whose families receive welfare or general relief will receive priority.

"In these tough economic times, young people are really struggling to find employment, which limits their ability to gain necessary experience for the future," said Supervisor Don Knabe, who introduced the program in a joint motion with Zev Yaroslavsky. "This program will give them that experience and life skills, while providing local organizations with invaluable resources and support."

The unemployment rate for teens in L.A. County is 26.9 percent, officials said.

# Expo, car show in Bixby Knolls

■ Dragster expo and car show takes place Saturday in Bixby Knolls section of Long Beach.

**LONG BEACH** – Shirley Muldowney, known as the First Lady of Drag Racing, will be the special guest at the Bixby Knolls Dragster Expo and Car Show taking place Saturday.

Muldowney, who was the first woman to win a Top Fuel title, and the first racer of either gender to win three world titles, will sign autographs and fire up her restored world championship dragster.

The expo and car show is free to attend and takes place from 3-9 p.m. on Atlantic Avenue between Roosevelt Road and San Antonio Drive in the Bixby Knolls neighborhood of Long Beach.

Located less than four miles from the site of the legendary

Lions Drag Strip, the car show features more than 200 classic and specialty cars in multiple award categories.

In addition to featuring many of the famous cars and drives from the Lions Drag Strip, which operated on the outskirts of Long Beach from 1955-1972, the car show also showcases award-winning racing boats and race cars featured in the Long Beach Grand Prix.

Seventeen vintage Top Fuel dragsters will take part in the Lions Drag Strip Cacklefest, the most dragsters to simultaneously fire up their 3000-horsepower engines at the Dragster Expo and Car Show.

A Mickey Thompson tribute display from the NHRA Motorsports Museum will be on exhibit at the Expo Gallery, including several of Thompson's race cars.

There will also be a professional BMX bike demonstration in celebration of the 40th anniversary since BMX racing was founded in Long Beach.

In addition to the restaurants on Atlantic Avenue, the event will also feature gourmet food trucks and a beer garden. Live music will be featured on three stages.

The Long Beach Airport is sponsoring "the Holdroom," a new feature this year where car show attendees can eat, relax and watch classic racing videos and footage from the Lions Drag Strip on large-screen televisions. The TVs will be raffled at the end of the night, with proceeds benefiting the Long Beach Special Olympics.

For more information about the Bixby Knolls Dragster Expo and Car Show, call (562) 595-0081 or go to [bixbyknollscarshow.com](http://bixbyknollscarshow.com).



Downey residents Miguel and Michelle Banuelos took a copy of *The Downey Patriot* on a recent visit to Chicago. The picture was taken June 19 inside the Willis Tower (formerly the Sears Tower) while standing on the ledge, 1,353 feet in the air and above Chicago streets.

## Dental hygiene students win top prizes

■ Cerritos College students win first place for original research.

**NORWALK** – Cerritos College's dental hygiene students took home top prizes at the American Dental Hygienists' Association national competition in Nashville, Tenn., on June 16.

This year, students Jackie Counterman and Joni Fisher won first place in the Original Research Category with a presentation titled "The Big Cover Up."

The team utilized the expertise of the college's Biology Department to conduct a portion of their research.

Each year, students in the Cerritos College Dental Hygiene Program compete in a national table clinic competition, which is a table top competition addressing a topic in dental hygiene. Students are judged on the quality of the board, quality of the presentation and timeliness of the topic.

A total of 64 table clinics from across the nation competed this year.

"We are particularly proud, as



our students competed against students from four-year universities," said Adelle Krayer, director of the dental hygiene program.

Counterman and Fisher were approached by representatives from dental hygiene journals encouraging them to publish their research.

Additionally, in the Information Category, Jenn Edington and Katie Carter took home fourth place with

their table clinic titled "Connecting the Dots: TMD & Body Posture."

"It was an honor to be in Nashville with our students, watching their presentations and interactions with fellow colleagues, and to see all of their hard work pay off," said Dani Carroll, senior clinic director and student advisor. "I am very proud of our students and eagerly welcome them to their chosen profession of dental hygiene."



Downey resident Samuel Bettencourt was in Oklahoma City recently and visited the Oklahoma National Memorial.

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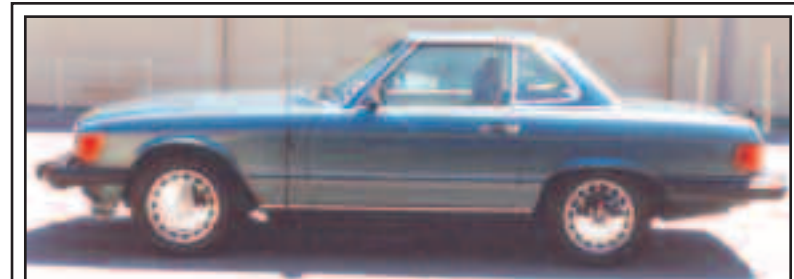
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### FEATURED PROPERTY

**JUST LISTED**

**Investors Dream**

What a great investment property! This apartment building has 7 total units featuring five, 2 bed 1 bath units and two, 1 bed 1 bath units. Two parking spaces have just been added to the carport totaling 9 parking spaces. This recently painted apartment building is ready for the right investor. Call Today For More Information!

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Gorgeous Triplex! This well maintained property is situated on a Quiet tree lined street with spectacular views. You can live in one and rent the other two. Two units are 2 bedrooms, 1 bathroom and the other unit is 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom. Priced right at \$409,000!

**Corner Lot**

This one is a must see!! This property is very clean and features 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms and 1,531 sq.ft. of living space. This home also has a formal dining room, an eating area in the kitchen and an enclosed back porch. The beautiful hardwood floors make this property really sparkle. Priced at \$379,900!

**Everything You Want**

Prime private community in Downey! This is your opportunity to buy and pay less than a rental property. The community features a gym, pool and spa. This one won't last! Call for more details. Priced at \$155,000

**Downey Delight**

A fabulous opportunity! This home features 1,344 sq.ft. of living space, a 2 car garage, a remodeled kitchen and a remodeled bathroom. This property is located on a private, cul de sac street and has a spacious 10,799 sq.ft. lot. Priced at \$369,900!

**Nice Floor Plan**

Excellent 3 bedroom 2 bathroom home is a desired community. This property also features a 2 car detached garage, paved side yard, and is close to the freeway. Beat the bank to this one! Priced at \$389,000!

**Pride of Ownership**

Well maintained home. This 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom home features a large master bedroom with an upgraded bathroom. This home also has family sized kitchen, open dining area and a beautiful back yard with fruit trees. Priced at \$389,000!

**Cute As A Button**

Standard Sale!! Enjoy this cute home with nice curb appeal. It features 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 1,316 sq.ft. of living space on a 6,400 sq.ft. lot. This property also has a great yard for entertaining, close to a park and close to shopping. Priced at \$300,000!

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| <b>REDUCED</b><br><br><b>Downey Duplex!</b><br>2 Bedrooms, 1 Bath each. Both units are in move-in condition.<br>Priced to sell at \$359,900<br>Call Michael at (562) 818-6111.  | <b>JUST LISTED</b><br><br><b>Don't Miss This One!</b><br>3 BD, 2 BA, remodeled kitchen, great layout, large family room and hot tub in back yard.<br>Price: \$435,000<br>Call Michael at (562) 818-6111.               | <b>REDUCED</b><br><br><b>A Summer Dream!</b><br>3 BD, 2.5 BA, over 1700 sq ft, 9100 sq ft lot, large master BD, hardwood floors, new roof.<br>Price: \$449,900<br>Call Michael at (562) 818-6111.                                |
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