



The Downey Patriot



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Thursday, June 20, 2013

Vol. 12 No. 10

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

Downey passes \$140M budget

DOWNEY – Unwilling to dip into city reserves, the Downey City Council last Tuesday approved a \$140 million balanced budget, preserving cost reductions while maintaining vital city services.

The approved budget is a reduction of \$15 million in spending from three years ago, demonstrating the effort of city officials to reduce costs and reconfigure the organization to run more efficiently for less money.

With the economy stabilizing, city officials expect an increase in general fund revenues for the 2013-14 fiscal year to total \$67,556,475. The city's two key sources of revenue, sales and property taxes, are estimated to increase 11.6 percent and 7 percent respectively.

Next fiscal year, property taxes alone will garner \$21.4 million in revenue while sales taxes will bring in \$16.3 million.

City revenues will also collect nearly \$7.1 million from the Utility Users tax, \$3.8 million from Downey Fire Department services, and \$2 million from community services.

Overall, revenues are projected to increase 3.6 percent higher than last fiscal year.

City staff currently estimates general fund appropriations to reach \$67,544,066, leaving a \$12,409 operational surplus.

The bulk of city expenditures is directed towards public safety with \$26.2 million budgeted for the Downey Police Department and \$16.1 million for the Downey Fire Department.

General government spending on administration and personnel is 12 percent of city expenditures, totaling \$8,307,315. The remaining funds are allocated to public works, community services, and community development.

Using federal grants, city enterprise funds, and other capital revenues, the city is set to spend more than \$35 million on capital improvements during the 2013-14 fiscal year. \$20.5 million of the capital funds will go towards street improvements.

According to interim finance director Anil Gandhi, the council asked staff to produce a balanced budget that did not rely on the reserves.

"In order to achieve a balanced budget, several significant cost reductions were incorporated last year," said Gandhi.

During budget talks last June, council members closed an \$11.5 million deficit through shape spending cuts, layoffs, early retirements, program reductions, and equipment maintenance deferrals.

As a result of those steps, this year's proposed budget was already tight, requiring no use of reserve funds. The 2013-14 fiscal budget projects \$19.8 million in available reserves by the end of June 2014.

"We are extremely proud to once again approve a balanced budget and could not have done this without the hard work of our City Council and city management team," said Mayor Mario Guerra in a statement.

"Our city continues to remain in stable financial condition, which is very difficult to do during tough economic times and I want to sincerely thank my fellow council colleagues, city manager Gilbert Livas and his dedicated staff for making this possible for our city."

—Christian Brown, staff writer



Photos by Martin Trejo

PROMOTIONS, NEW HIRES AT THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

• Nine firefighters promoted to captains and engineers; new hires come on board.

DOWNEY – Nine Downey firefighters were promoted Wednesday during a badge-pinning ceremony at St. Raymond's Catholic Church, the largest single promotion in the history of the department.

Usually held at Fire Station 1, Wednesday's ceremony was held in the church's banquet hall and coordinated by the Downey Firemen's Association.

"It certainly is a privilege to be a captain in this department," said Mike Whitney, one of three new captains. "I could not have done it without the support of my colleagues."

After an invocation by Fr. John Higgins and a photo slideshow, each of the promoted firefighters shared brief remarks before a family member pinned them with a new badge.

Promotions include new captains Peter Browne, Mike Whitney and Anastacio Rios, and engineers Robert Landers, Anthony Matas, Chris Bohannon, Tim Clark, Zach Nielsen and Ivan Orloff.

Bohannon, who had a previously scheduled family vacation, and Clark, who was on duty, could not attend the ceremony.

Meanwhile, 10 new firefighters officially joined the department Thursday when they received their badges during a ceremony at Fire Station 1.

Before the ceremony, however, the recruits treated friends and family to a demonstration in the city's public works yard near Independence Park.

The recruits, who range in age from 24-34, rappelled down a four-story tower, demonstrated the jaws of life, extinguished a car fire and showed off other life-saving skills.

A FEMA grant is paying for nine of the firefighters, enabling the city to put Engine 61 -- taken out of service last year as part of budget cuts -- back on Downey's streets.

The 10 rookie firefighters were welcomed to the Downey Fire Department with a ceremonial dousing, courtesy of their firefighter coworkers.

—Eric Pierce, editor



Photo by Eric Pierce

Nine Downey firefighters were promoted during a badge-pinning ceremony Wednesday. Promotions include new captains Peter Browne, Mike Whitney and Anastacio Rios, and engineers Robert Landers, Anthony Matas, Chris Bohannon, Tim Clark, Zach Nielsen and Ivan Orloff.

Furman Park needs your votes in Coke contest

• Downey enters Furman Park into nationwide contest in an effort to win \$100,000.

By Henry Veneracion
Staff Writer

DOWNEY – Downey's Parks and Recreation Department, in conjunction with the "Healthy Downey" campaign, has announced it has joined Coca-Cola's third annual nationwide contest to determine "America's Favorite Park," in hopes its entry, Furman Park, gets the most votes from park goers and the general Downey community.

The park that garners the most votes wins the \$100,000 first prize.

Furman Park was chosen to represent Downey, according to Parks & Recreation director Arlene Salazar, because it is "one of the city's most visited parks and is extensively used for its existing walking trail."

The number of Furman Park goers in FY 2011-12, according to her, totaled some 298,750 visitors.

The prize of \$100,000 will go far towards fashioning a brand-new walking trail, she reckons, to replace the presumably aging old one, with appropriate outdoor exercise equipment to boot, for park visitors to experience and enjoy.

The contest, explained Salazar, is one of an array of non-traditional ways the department figures it can get the community involved in enhancing its park facilities and level of amenities. In this respect, she says her department is constantly on the lookout for "traditional funding such as grants and in-kind donations as

well as non-traditional methods for funding capital improvement projects at our parks."

For Downey's participation to succeed, even if not totally (because it joined the contest rather late—the contest officially began on June 6), and be meaningful, Salazar says an all-out effort by the community is needed.

This can be done by as many people as possible voting for Furman Park as "America's Favorite Park" starting now by registering at coke.com/parks. Once registered, you can vote once a day every day until the contest ends on July 15.

You can also link your Foursquare account (via your smartphone) to earn five votes per day, or link your "Map My Fitness" (via GPS technology) and log 20 minutes of activity to earn 10 votes per day. You can get more information about these apps by going to Foursquare.com and mapmyfitness.com, respectively.

You are urged to visit the first-mentioned website above to learn more about contest rules, voting and which parks are in the lead.

Votes logged on June 21 (the first day of summer) and July 13-14 (just before the contest ends) are worth double.

The community partners for a "Healthy Downey" include: the city of Downey, DUSD, Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center, Coca-Cola, Downey Chamber of Commerce, Family Health Care Centers of Greater Los Angeles, Inc., County of Los Angeles Public Health, Applecare Medical Group, Downey YMCA, Kaiser Permanente, U.S. Army, and Downey Bicycle Coalition. Its current spokesman is mayor Mario Guerra.

Downey named 'All America City'

DOWNEY – Downey has been named an "All America City" by the National Civic League, a designation that city officials claim will help Downey attract new business and create jobs.

Downey was the only West Coast city to earn the honor.

The award was handed down Sunday after a 3-day competition in Denver in which cities from across the country pitched their communities to a panel of judges.

Only 10 cities are awarded All America City honors each year.

Downey sent a 21-person delegation to showcase the city's efforts in revitalizing downtown Downey, the Columbia Memorial Space Center and its support of local veterans.

"Receiving this designation will help us recruit and retain new businesses, create new jobs and obtain grants for community betterment projects," said Councilman Alex Saab. "Participating in Denver was invaluable in sharing our successes and learning from other cities across the country in how to make Downey even better."

"To win this prominent national award confirms what we have always known, we are a special city with a unique history and a promising future," added Mayor Mario Guerra.

The All America City award has been described as a "Nobel Prize" for civic accomplishment. It was inception in 1949.

"All America cities set an example and a standard of excellence for local problem-solvers throughout the country," said Gloria Rubio-Cortes, president of the National Civic League. "This is an award that gives us hope, ideas and inspiration as we look for ways to address the difficult challenges we face as communities and as a nation."

Local cities that have earned the All America City award include Lynwood (2010), Inglewood (2009), Cerritos (2008), South Gate (1990), Paramount (1988), Montebello (1975), La Habra (1973) and Santa Fe Springs (1971).

Several major metropolitan cities have competed and earned the award as well, including San Francisco, Miami and Louisville, Ky.

Besides Downey, this year's other winners include Birmingham, Ala.; Montrose, Colo.; Peoria, Ill.; Dubuque, Iowa; Owensboro, Ky; Dunn, N.C.; Garner, N.C.; Thomasville, N.C.; and Norfolk, Va.

PIH Health takes over DRMC operations

• Ken Strople, Rob Fuller both gone as PIH Health assumes day-to-day operations.

By Christian Brown
Staff Writer

DOWNEY – In what's being called a progressive step for Downey, PIH Health has agreed to assume management responsibilities of all day-to-day operations at Downey Regional Medical Center, officials announced Tuesday.

The management services agreement with PIH Health comes exactly two months after Downey Regional's board of directors approved a multi-million dollar acquisition of the hospital by the Whittier-based health care network.

"Collaboration is an important element in the new era of healthcare reform, both locally and nationally," said DRMC Board chairman James

Ball in a statement. "The expert support of PIH Health ensures the high standards of quality and safety that residents of the Downey community have counted on for more than 90 years."

Although the acquisition is currently awaiting approval from the California attorney general's office, the management services agreement allows PIH to begin making changes at Downey Regional before the transaction is finalized.

Hospital officials say the collaboration between DRMC and PIH Health will benefit patients, employees, physicians, and volunteers affiliated with both institutions.

According to PIH spokeswoman Monique Rodriguez, Ken Strople has resigned as DRMC president and chief executive officer while DRMC vice-president and chief operating officer Rob Fuller has been relieved of his duties.

Former PIH chief information officer Brian Smolskis will now serve



as chief operating officer at the hospital, Rodriguez said.

"As nonprofit organizations, both DRMC and PIH Health share a rich history of meeting the healthcare needs of their communities and establishing a 'patients first' vision," Smolskis said in a statement. "Under healthcare reform, those hospitals that collaborate are rewarded for their efforts to improve wellness and increase care efficiencies. This collaboration will further strengthen the services and the reach of each institution."

Founded in 1959, PIH Health is a health care delivery network comprised of primary and specialty care, urgent care, home health, hospice and in-patient hospital services at the 400-plus bed Presbyterian Intercommunity Hospital in Whittier.

Citing the need for stronger strategic partnerships, Downey Regional Medical Center announced last December that it had entered exclusive negotiations with PIH Health in order to create a potential affiliation between the two not-for-profit hospitals.

Once approved by the attorney general, Downey Regional will join PIH Health as its second hospital.



DUSD officials unveil a new plaque at Warren High School, recognizing the campus as a California Distinguished School.

Warren High unveils Distinguished School plaque

DOWNEY – Warren High School unveiled a new plaque June 5 that recognizes the campus for being named a California Distinguished School.

Warren High was recognized by the state for having "exemplary programs" in Arts Education, Career Technical Education, and Physical Activity and Nutrition.

Warren High was the only high school in California to receive Distinguished School honors in all three categories.

The celebration opened with performances by Warren High's jazz band as district and community dignitaries, students and staff members arrived and were seated.

Principal John Harris welcomed the audience and invited all to stay after the ceremony for refreshments prepared by the school's Culinary Arts students.

Superintendent Dr. John Garcia introduced the school board members in attendance as well as retired superintendent Dr. Wendy Doty.

School board president Donald LaPlante shared a brief history of Downey and the significant role the city played in our nation's aerospace and engineering advancements.

LaPlante also detailed the rigorous process that "Distinguished School" candidate schools must endure to be considered for the honor. Officials with the state's Department of Education made personal visits to Warren High in early spring before bestowing the recognition.

After his comments, school board members and district officials pulled the drape off the new plaque, which is installed on the north wall of the administration building.

The program concluded with music from the Warren High Vocal Jazz Ensemble and refreshments.

Residents urged to be safe with fireworks

DOWNEY – The Downey fire and police departments are reminding residents to exercise caution and common sense when discharging fireworks.

Every year fireworks account for thousands of preventable fires and injuries, authorities said. In 2010, the National Fire Protection Association estimated that fireworks were responsible for an estimated 15,000 fires resulting in \$36 million in property damage.

Fireworks also caused 8,600 injuries in 2010, mostly to children ages 5-14.

Authorities offered the following tips when handling fireworks:

Buy only state fire marshal-approved ("safe and sane") fireworks from licensed fireworks stands

Always have an adult present (it is illegal for minors to possess fireworks)

Never use fireworks near dry grass or other combustible materials

Light one firework at a time

Keep a safe distance

Never point or throw fireworks at another person

Have a bucket of water and a hose handy

Never attempt to re-light fireworks

In Downey, fireworks can be discharged between 3-10 p.m. on July 4 only.

"The Downey Fire and Police Departments will be patrolling the neighborhoods to ensure residents are safely and lawfully enjoying the holiday," authorities said in a statement.

"Persons engaged in the use of dangerous illegal fireworks such as 'bottle rockets' or 'roman candles' will be issued citations that include fines up to \$1,000."

Lost Pet Dog!

REWARD IF FOUND



• **Bella, white chihuahua with two large brown spots on her back.**

• **Friendly, but runs if scared. Please take to local shelter.**

• **Last seen at Furman Park**

Please call 562-884-9657

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dnie Meyer@dusd.net
www.warrenband.net
**This camp is being sponsored by the Warren Band Booster Club

Instruction by:
Mr. David Niemeyer, Director of the Award Winning Warren High School Band and Color Guard Program



Photo by Ana Moreno

The Optimist Club of Downey awarded seven scholarships as well as cash prizes from its recent essay and oratorical contests totaling \$12,000 to 15 students from Downey, Warren and Columbus high schools. Optimist Club scholarship chair Beverly Mathis (left) is pictured with Optimist Scholars Brandon Herrerias and Alyssa Moreno and Optimist Club of Downey president Greg Waskul. The Optimist Club has quadrupled its financial commitment to Downey area high school students over the last two years.

Downey High class of '03 plans reunion

DOWNEY – Downey High School's class of 2003 is hosting its 10-year reunion Sept. 7 at Grand Catered Events in Orange.

Tickets are \$60 if purchased before July 31; tickets increase to \$65 in August and \$70 in September.

Tickets can be purchased online at downeyhigh03reunion.eventbrite.com. Checks can also be mailed to 2892 N. Bellflower Blvd., Suite 463, Long Beach CA 90815.

Details regarding the menu, entertainment and hotel accommodations are online at www.dusd.net/downey/alumni.

For more details, e-mail downeyhigh03reunion@gmail.com.

Group gives thousands in scholarships, donations

DOWNEY – Seven students received scholarships totaling \$1600 at an awards and scholarship night sponsored by the Italian Catholic Federation.

Six graduating students of St. Raymond's School – Lauren Loera, Jessica Costo, Elysa Garcia, Sarha Melendez, Crystal Montanez and Isabel Santamaria – each received \$200 scholarships.

High school graduate Alexander Johnson received \$400.

Meanwhile, the Italian Catholic Federation also made donations to local charities, as well as Cooley's Anemia and St. John's Seminary, totaling \$8,850.

SO CAL GAS BUILDING IS LEED CERTIFIED

• Downey facility earns LEED Gold certification for its efficiency, sustainable practices.

DOWNEY – Southern California Gas Co.'s Energy Resource Center in Downey, a showcase facility where business customers can learn about energy efficiency, alternative fuel transportation and make informed choices about energy consumption and conservation, has achieved LEED Gold certification by the U.S. Green Building Council for existing building operations and maintenance.

LEED stands for Leadership in Energy Efficiency Design. LEED Gold is the second highest rating (behind LEED Platinum) of the U.S. Green Building Council, a non-profit organization that promotes green building efficiency.

LEED certification for existing buildings helps maximize the efficiency of the operations while minimizing the impact on the environment, officials said.

The rating system encourages owners and operators of existing buildings to implement sustainable practices and reduce the environmental impacts of their buildings while addressing the major aspects of ongoing building operations, like exterior building site maintenance programs, water and energy use, environmentally preferred products and practices for cleaning and alterations, sustainable purchasing policies, waste stream management and ongoing indoor environmental quality.

In order to meet the LEED Gold certification requirements for existing buildings, So Cal Gas benefitted from the incorporation of the latest sustainable features in the Energy

Resource Center's design. Some of the facility's key elements include:

Replaced the heating, ventilation and air conditioning system and installed high-efficiency air handlers, natural gas absorption chillers and variable speed pumps.

Removed sod and high-water consumption plants and above-ground sprinkler system. Created a garden using California native plants, drip irrigation and bio swales to divert rain water back into the soil.

Installed a new dimmable lighting system which allows the building to control light levels throughout the facility. In areas with natural daylight, light levels were reduced through use of a daylight harvesting program.

Upgraded the energy management system to capture up to a year's worth of data on the HVAC components and lighting system.

Installed a zero-chemical Dolphin water treatment system, allowing So Cal Gas to maintain high water quality for its HVAC equipment.

The 44,572-square foot building was designed by recycling (demolishing only about one-third) of So Cal Gas' existing 1957 building complex. The building's center section was replaced with a new two-story addition, adding 12,572 square feet.

About 60 percent of the building materials were left in place, removed for future reinstallation or recycled. About 80 percent of all construction materials, internal furnishings and displays are either recycled, contain recycled material or are made of renewable resources.

The building consists of main office spaces, an exhibit hall and a dozen meeting rooms which highlight different themes from the energy industry: air quality, combustion, climate control, large equipment,



Solar panels at the Energy Resource Center in Downey. The Gas Co. building was recently recognized for its conservation efforts.

residential new construction, food service equipment, natural daylighting and natural gas vehicles.

A key component of the Energy Resource Center is the full commercial Food Service Equipment Center that boasts more than 150 pieces of energy efficient appliances. Chefs, restaurant owners and facility managers can test their recipes and compare new, energy efficient food-service equipment in the state-of-the-art facility.

"Since opening in 1995, the Energy Resource Center has been a valuable one-stop 'idea shop' where customers can find the most efficient, cost-effective and environmentally sensitive solutions to their energy needs," said Rodger Schwecke, vice president of customer solutions at So Cal Gas. "Earning LEED Gold certification is a significant milestone for

So Cal Gas. "The facility serves the community by demonstrating ways we all can move toward a more sustainable energy future."

The Energy Resource Center, located at 9240 E. Firestone Blvd. across from Stonewood Center, was the first building in the state to receive the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Energy Star Award.



Alexandra Gresl
Griffiths Middle School 2013
You did it! As another door opens...spread your wings and fly. Reach for the stars and never give up. You're the BEST daughter in the world! I love you. XO Mom

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² Offer is subject to availability and is valid on new all-inclusive bookings of five nights or longer made with a AAA Travel Agent by June 29, 2013 for select travel dates through December 15, 2013. Offer applies to select hotels in Mexico, Costa Rica and the Caribbean. Activity vouchers do not apply to all-inclusive bookings, and may be combined toward a single activity or may be used independently on separate activities. The following Caribbean destinations receive up to a \$100 discount per booking instead of two \$50 Activity Vouchers: Turks & Caicos, Grand Cayman, Barbados, Bermuda, St. Kitts & Nevis, British Virgin Islands, Anguilla, St. Martin/St. Maarten, Curacao, Bonaire, Martinique, St. Barts, St. Vincent & Grenadines, Grenada and St. Croix (USVI).
³ Rates quoted are per person, land only, based on double occupancy for travel dates shown. Rates, terms, conditions, availability and itinerary are subject to change without notice. Certain restrictions may apply. Rates shown include government taxes and fees. Not responsible for errors or omissions. Your local AAA club acts as an agent for Phoenix Holidays. ©2013 AAA. All Rights Reserved.
⁴ Savings of \$50 is per booking and is valid for select Phoenix Holidays' vacations to Hawaii, Europe, Costa Rica or the Caribbean when booked June 5-30, 2013 for travel June 5-August 31, 2013. Savings is not yet reflected in rate shown.

John Gresl
I am so proud of you. 4.7 GPA, 5 AP classes, successfully built a Fusor on the path to creating fusion, double majoring in physics and math...and the BEST son a mom could ask for. Wishing you the best of luck for your future. Run with it!
And when you get the choice to sit it out or dance.....I hope you dance! I love you.
WARREN HIGH CLASS OF 2013 ROCKS! XO Mom

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF DOWNEY
FAMILY FIRST
SUMMER CALENDAR
LEADING OUR FAMILY OF FAMILIES INTO AUTHENTIC DISCIPLESHIP
Your family is invited to join our FAMILY OF FAMILIES every Wednesday Night, June 26 - August 28 from 6-8:30 p.m. for dinner, family Bible study, and a fun all family activity. COST FOR DINNER - \$4/person or \$15/immediate family • ALL ACTIVITIES FREE.

Date	Activity
June 26	• Drive-In Movie Night • families are encouraged to build a cardboard car to sit in as we watch a family-friendly movie & eat popcorn
July 3	• Game Night • bring your favorite game to share or enjoy the variety of board & table games we will have available to play
July 10	• Wild, Wild Wheels • bring your scooters, bikes, trikes, blades & skates to ride around & through obstacle courses (helmets required)
July 17	• Family Kickball Tournament • families will be joined together to make teams for a one game elimination mini-kickball tournament

all activities are designed for the whole family, children may not be dropped off

First Baptist Church of Downey
8348 3rd Street Downey, CA 90241
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The councils conduct monthly meetings about Metro bus service in five geographic regions:

- > Gateway Cities (Southeast LA County)
- > San Fernando Valley
- > San Gabriel Valley
- > South Bay Cities
- > Westside/Central LA

These community-based councils advise on planning and implementation of bus service within their area. They review proposed service changes, conduct public hearings, make recommendations to the Metro Board and participate in quarterly meetings with Metro executive management.

For times, dates and locations, check metro.net/about/service-councils.

M Metro

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Ham radio operators to show their capabilities

DOWNEY – The Downey Amateur Radio Club will show their emergency capabilities at a public demonstration Saturday at Apollo Park beginning at 11 a.m.

Despite the Internet, cell phones, e-mail and modern communication, entire regions are often left in the dark after natural disasters.

In these cases, amateur radio operators – often called “hams” – provide backup communications for everything from the American Red Cross to FEMA.

“The fastest way to turn a crisis into a total disaster is to lose communications,” said Allen Pitts of the American Radio Relay League. “Because ham radios are not dependent on the Internet, cell towers or other infrastructure, they work when nothing else is available. We need nothing between us but air.”

On Saturday, members of the Downey Amateur Radio Club will show their ham radio’s capabilities and offer details on how residents can obtain their own FCC radio license before the next disaster strikes.

Church plans weekly family activities

DOWNEY – First Baptist Church of Downey is hosting its Family First Wednesday Night Summer program, starting June 26 and continuing weekly through Aug. 28.

Residents are invited to meet for dinner (\$15 per family) followed by short Bible study and family fun.

The series begins Wednesday with “Drive-In Movie Night,” in which participants build a cardboard car and “drive in” for a family-friendly movie and popcorn.

Also on the schedule is “Wild, Wild Wheels Night” on July 10, where participants are encouraged to bring scooters, bicycles, tricycles and skates to compete in an age-appropriate obstacle course.

All activities are designed for participation from the whole family; children can not be dropped off. The only cost is dinner.

The full schedule is posted online at fbcdowney.org under the “Calendar/Notices” tab.

For more details, call (562) 923-1261.

Class aims to teach bicycle safety

DOWNEY – A bicycle safety education course will be offered at the Barbara J. Riley Community and Senior Center on Aug. 24 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Offered by Metro and Bike San Gabriel Valley, the free course includes one hour of in-class instruction, one hour of parking lot practice and a one-hour bike ride.

All participants receive a free helmet, lights, bike maps and more.

The course is open to adults and each class is limited to 12 people on a first-come, first-served basis. Students must bring a functioning bike to participate.

To RSVP, e-mail your name, e-mail address and phone number to info@bikesgv.org and indicate you are signing up for the Downey course.



From left: Melia Keller, Financial Partners VP of marketing and public relations; students Nicholas Pio, Elias Medina, Jonathan Iglesias, Bernabe Perez and David Gebert; and Fred Perez, VP of business development.

Engineering students earn scholarships

DOWNEY – Five Warren High School seniors were recipients of the Future Innovators Scholarships offered by Financial Partners Credit Union in partnership with the Columbia Memorial Space Center.

The Downey-based credit union handed out \$5,000 in scholarships to David Gebert, Jonathan Iglesias, Elias Medina, Bernabe Perez and Nicholas Pio during Warren High’s Senior Awards Night held June 5 at the Downey Theatre.

“Financial Partners was established in Downey and our original membership was those who worked in aerospace. So it is great to partner with the Columbia Memorial Space Center for this worthy scholarship program that celebrates the

long shared history we have with the community, the aerospace industry and (the space center),” said Nader Moghaddam, CEO of Financial Partners and a space center board member. “We applaud these students for their achievements to date and look forward to their future innovations.”

“We are proud to support the youth in our community and take pride in helping these students fulfill their educational goals,” added Melia Keller, vice president of marketing and public relations for Financial Partners and a member of the scholarship committee.

The Future Innovators Scholarship program was created in 2012 to encourage the desire for education in sciences among local students.

Financial Partners, in partnership with the Columbia Memorial Space Center, offers five \$1,000 educational scholarships to local high school students who have shown an interest in innovation through their participation on the space center’s robotics team.

Applicants must be in grades 9-12, participate in the Project Lead the Way engineering classes at their school, have a 3.0 or above GPA, volunteer at the space center, make the space center’s robotics team and actively participate in the program.

Applicants are also required to provide a personal video about innovation (no longer than 60 seconds).

Historical Society luncheon Saturday

DOWNEY – The Downey Historical Society will host its annual luncheon this Saturday at the Rio Hondo Event Center.

The event begins at 11:30 a.m. and guests are asked to bring their favorite Downey history story to share with the crowd.

Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased by calling (562) 862-2777.

Barbecue at Downey temple

DOWNEY – Temple Ner Tamid is hosting a barbecue Friday, June 21, at 6 p.m., with traditional Shabbat services following at 7:30.

The barbecue menu consists of chicken, hot dogs, hamburgers or salmon burgers. Cost is \$15 for any two items mixed or matched, including sides and soft drinks.

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

Barbecue to support symphony

DOWNEY – Supporters of the Downey Symphony are planning an all-you-can-eat “beach party barbecue” July 16 at the Rio Hondo Event Center with proceeds benefiting the symphony’s Music in the Schools program.

Cost if paid in advance is \$22 for adults and \$12 for children ages 4-11. Price at the door is \$25.

Checks should be made payable to Downey Symphony Guild and mailed to Downey Symphony Guild, 9700 Garnish Dr., Downey CA 90240.

CATALINA ADVENTURE CAMP

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YMCA Front Desk at 562-862-4201

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P 562 862 4201 F 562 861 1700 www.yocala.org/dow

11237 04/12

Letters to the Editor:

Defending the mayor

Dear Editor:

My response to Stacey Rodgers' opinion regarding Mayor Guerra's recent trip to Ireland ("Sister City Benefits," Letters to the Editor, 6/6/13) is that I personally don't think she can see a thing, let alone through anything.

It's an excellent question about why the Sister City program (and many other programs) have been extremely active since Mayor Guerra was elected to the City Council. The answer is because he is always doing something for our beloved city of Downey. His picture is in our fine Downey Patriot a lot because he does a lot.

The idea that he used taxpayer money for a vacation is absurd. He would be happy to give the citizens of Downey an itemization of expenses (which I am sure he has already provided to the city) but how about asking him for an itemization of all the money (not to mention time) he has put out of his personal pocket for events, trips, courses, etc. that have benefited Downey.

I'm sure not one red cent of our money was used for his own benefit. He didn't just go to Ireland to vacation or to establish a sister city; he went to honor the founder of our fine city. Excuse me, but what's wrong with that?

For months Mayor Guerra's character has taken a beating by uninformed citizens and unions and the clergy at St. Raymond's Church. He has held his head high and taken every lick.

My family, as citizens of Downey and members of St. Raymond's Church, is honored to have been represented by him.

Diana Hansen
Downey

Close the border

Dear Editor:

On Feb. 28, five ladies wrote asking President Obama to keep his promise for immigration reform and to just forget about closing the border ("Immigration Reform," Letters to the Editor). Do the ladies have more friends or relatives to bring across the border illegally?

The five ladies should appreciate President Obama and Eric Holder. After all, they are doing everything possible to allow illegals, criminals and drug cartels to enter the U.S. by not enforcing United States laws. They have also hindered efforts of the state and local police in Arizona and Texas from getting rid of the bad elements in their states.

President Obama and the U.S. Senate are formulating an immigration reform plan that does not close the border. If their plan does not pass, they will just blame the opposition in order to get Hispanic votes in 2014. They don't really care about immigration reform.

On the other hand, the Congress reform plan includes closing the border for safety.

America is a melting pot of many nationalities which makes the U.S. the greatest nation in the world. Immigration reform must protect all of the people and must provide for the safety and welfare of every American citizen.

Lee Woodfin
Downey

Mexican farms

Dear Editor:

Mexican President Felipe Calderon slammed the door on Mexican farmers as he left the presidency.

He opened up the destruction of Mexican farms. He opened up the doors to Monsanto, Due Pont and Dow Chemicals, now on the prowl for new land to promote their genetically engineered crops, opening the door to the corporate state of America.

When genetically engineered corn was introduced in the mid 90s, Mexico was inhospitable to this crop. The country's national biosecurity commission established a (non-legally binding) moratorium on genetically engineered corn in 1998 as a means to safeguard what is considered to be the planet's cradle of maize cultivation.

Introducing engineered crops was the death knell for Mexican farms. With farms destroyed, the workers came across our border. For minimum wage they work in the slaughterhouses in the Midwest. They stay silent – no OSHA around here.

Shame on us for staying silent. What this country did was destroy their farms, make a land grab and leave them with nothing.

Now as they come across our borders, let's stop crying about this. We have a debt to pay.

Margaret Hittinger
Downey

Make Music Downey

Dear Editor:

Congratulations to Carol Kearns and Bea Romano for co-founding the Make Music Downey festival last Saturday.

Our downtown felt vibrant and bustling with a rainbow of Downey residents and visitors enthralled with the performers and the music. Mayor Mario Guerra has issued a well-deserved Certificate of Appreciation to Carol Kearns and Bea Romano.

My thanks to the "miracle workers", the myriad of community churches, businesses and volunteers responsible for manifesting the Make Music Downey festival.

Mayor Guerra: Carol Kearns deserves a key to the city for this effort and her pivotal role in increasing the quality of life in Downey with her ongoing and superior journalism support the arts in Downey.

Zaida Ramos
Downey

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The pillars of smart bipartisan corporate tax reform

By David Williams

Sen. Max Baucus (D-Mont.) just announced plans to retire next year. The 71-year-old Montana Democrat has spent the twilight of his career working to fix America's broken tax code, and all signs indicate that he wants to make tax reform his legacy.

In terms of both politics and policy, he'd do well to focus on America's corporate tax system. Its flaws are seriously impeding business growth and choking off job creation.

That last major overhaul of corporate taxes occurred in the mid-1980s and the time is now for the corporate code -- a rickety, antiquated mess -- to catch up with the changing global economy. Currently, the inflated and overly complex corporate tax code is shunning capital away from our shores, an effect that can only grow more pronounced as other countries become more competitive by lowering their tax rates.

There are three simple provisions any comprehensive bill must include. Each will stimulate business growth at home and help American businesses compete abroad.

The first is to lower the corporate tax rate. Every major political figure -- from President Obama to House Speaker Boehner -- has expressed support for such a move. At 39.1 percent, the American corporate tax rate is the highest in the Western world. It's a full 14 points above the average rate among Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) countries.

The American corporate rate hasn't been reduced since 1988 - in fact, it has increased twice. Meanwhile, 32 other OECD nations have cut corporate taxes by an average of 19 percentage points since then. The consequences of this disjunction have been devastating. Companies are doing business elsewhere, denying Americans new jobs and growth.

Lowering the corporate rate to fall in line with general OECD trends would stimulate business growth here. Research from Cornell and the University of London shows that just a one-percentage-point cut in U.S. corporate taxes could generate a 0.4 to 0.6 percent increase in GDP within a year. That would contribute to rising income for America's workers. That would

also mean more capital for companies to expand and hire more people.

The second essential component of real corporate tax reform is simplification. The U.S. tax code now runs an astonishing 70,000 pages. It's been modified over 4,500 times in the past decade, with lawmakers routinely adding new wrinkles to benefit special interests. The result is a massively complex code that's expensive for businesses to navigate.

Money spent on accountants and tax lawyers is money that's not financing new plants and projects. Streamlining the corporate code would radically reduce the financial burden of compliance and free up capital for productive investment. And it would eliminate the countless tax carve-outs now granted to the politically connected.

Finally, comprehensive corporate tax reform must bring an end to the antiquated and deeply destructive practice of double taxing profits earned by American companies in foreign markets.

The United States is alone among G-8 countries in seeking to tax the foreign earnings of its companies. Such businesses end up getting taxed twice -- once at the foreign rate, then again when earnings come back to the States.

Companies have responded to America's uniquely oppressive system in a perfectly predictable fashion -- they're keeping their money abroad. According to a report from J.P. Morgan, American companies are currently holding \$1.7 trillion in foreign earnings outside the United States. Ending double taxation would stimulate the repatriation of that capital and fuel additional growth in the domestic economy.

Sen. Baucus has a real opportunity to leave a lasting legacy: a serious overhaul of the American corporate tax code. There is political will for such a move. And smart reform would lead to lasting improvements for our economy.

David Williams is president of the Taxpayers Protection Alliance, a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization dedicated to educating the public on the government's effects on the economy.

NSA spying on us must stop now

By Glenn Scherer

The United States government is spying on the American people.

A shadowy organization known as the National Security Agency has been given authority by the Bush/Obama administrations, Congress and the Courts to potentially track, collect and read every email and listen to every phone call you've ever made.

Fire union tactics

Dear Editor:

This letter is in support of Fire Chief Lonnie Croom and his excellent character.

As a 40-year resident of Downey, I have seen and experienced more than most in this community. I am appalled but not surprised that a union would try to discredit his reputation and years of knowledge. But that's what self-serving unions do when they don't get their way. As an educator, we call that bullying.

I chose to live here after graduating from Downey High because of three reasons: 1) top notch school district (which my children attend), 2) homes here have the highest value of any of the surrounding cities, and 3) our own independent police and fire departments. These are the same reasons I hear from my fellow residents and, as a realtor, from people looking to buy in our city.

I concur with prior statements that home values stay high because of Downey Unified, our private police and our private fire departments. That could change drastically if we were to go L.A. County.

Response times for all calls I have ever made for paramedics is fast and the personnel are good, caring individuals and many are "homegrown" employees. I agree with Mr. Souza that the union needs to be disbanded. They have lost sight of our best interests.

Did you read about how ballot signatures were obtained at grocery stores? Union members were using false information which is a scare tactic; that's what bullies do. They were on school campuses to tilt the scales for a prior election.

I feel these people are not honest or ethical and we cannot be blind come election time next year. I will say that these are the good people who help our citizens in emergencies but they are making bad choices for the city, as well as attacking Chief Croom's reputation, just because they are not getting their way.

If you are unhappy as an employee then there is plenty of opportunity to go elsewhere. Go! Do not berate the good character of a man or woman who has served this community well. Do we listen to our children when they are unhappy and want us to do as they say? Certainly not. We act as an educated parent or adult and make good decisions based on fact and experience.

I ask that you use your good judgment for our city when making this decision. Not for a group of individuals. Think about that.

Dorothy Pemberton
Downey

Immigrants' assimilation

Dear Editor:

Thank you for you and your family's service to our country, Mr. Mathews ("Serving Our Country," Letters to the Editor, 6/13/13). Being a retired serviceman and my son six years away from his military retirement, my cousin in the infantry in Afghanistan right now, service to our country is very important.

However, the only individuals allowed to join the military are American citizens and legal residents with a green card. Illegal aliens are not allowed to join the military.

I guess he didn't understand my satire regarding French. I was referring to George Washington's participation in the French and Indian War.

Regarding ballot information being printed in foreign languages, to become a citizen one must take a test in English and it's only the people in Congress pandering to different groups in order to get their vote to stay in power.

We have always been a country that wanted people to come here and assimilate, not like now where everyone is dividing themselves into different groups in order to leverage power.

I never stated that drug use was a victimless crime. Users and sellers should all go to jail. However, many liberals and do-gooders believe drug use is a disease and not a crime.

His statement that compares gun-makers and dealers to criminals is patently false.

George Hofstetter
Downey

You and I have no knowledge of when they're eavesdropping and no legal recourse.

"It is an incredibly invasive system of surveillance worldwide that has zero checks of any kind," says Guardian newspaper journalist Glenn Greenwald who broke the story. The government's objective, he says, is nothing less than "destroying all remnant of privacy."

The U.S. government is also using the IRS, FBI and other agencies to harass diverse groups -- ranging from the Tea Party on the right to the Occupy Movement on the left -- anyone who expresses legitimate grievances against the government.

It must stop -- Now.

Both the Obama and Bush administrations likely carried out these acts of surveillance and harassment in violation of the U.S. Constitution. That they legitimized their deeds via the Patriot Act and Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) is no excuse for spying on law abiding Americans.

Who's being spied on? Well, if you have a phone or email account with Verizon, AT&T, Sprint, Google, Microsoft (Hotmail), Facebook, YouTube, AOL, Skype, or Apple, then NSA can access your data for collection, analysis and storage without your knowledge.

"They quite literally can watch your ideas form as you type," says the career intelligence officer who courageously leaked the story to the Washington Post and Guardian. The Wall Street Journal reports that NSA even collects credit card transaction data.

The NSA top secret spying program -- known as PRISM -- has been in full swing since 2007, says the newspapers. Our government admits to these facts, and to constructing a Utah data storage center with enough computer memory to likely hold every word Americans privately share over their entire lives.

No one -- no one -- can be trusted with such a treasure house of information.

One has to wonder how Martin Luther King and the Civil Rights movement would have fared under such a system. It is clear that the veil of secrecy cloaking NSA's vast spying operation makes responsible management of surveillance impossible.

It must end -- Today. Those who approved spying on the American people need to be held accountable, and criminal investigations need to be conducted. The Patriot Act and FISA should be revoked, and the Department of Homeland Security broken up.

A non-government, non-military bipartisan blue ribbon commission of respected citizens needs to be given full powers to investigate NSA. Illegal spying abuses must be ferreted out and unlimited data collection ended.

Some will say the threat of terrorism is too great to bring spying abuses into the sunlight. I suggest that those arguing for greater secrecy look at the all-seeing surveillance networks of Russia under Stalin and Putin, Germany under Hitler, and Iraq under Saddam Hussein, to see the greater risk of unlimited secret police powers.

There is no place in a democracy for carte blanche spying on a nation's people.

I suggest that the investigation of our spy network start with the higher ups, with Director of National Intelligence James Clapper, who arrogantly declared that: "The unauthorized disclosure of information about [the PRISM spying] program is reprehensible and risks important protections for the security of Americans."

Let us see how Mr. Clapper responds when every email he has written and phone call he has made since 2007 is subpoenaed for public scrutiny.

Likewise with anyone in the Bush or Obama White House, Congress, or the Courts who played a role in this abuse of power.

In the days after 9/11, Americans, seeing terrorist enemies on every airline flight and under every bush, allowed Congress to pass the Patriot Act and to create the Department of Homeland Security. We did not give permission for NSA's unlimited spying powers.

If you don't think this is scary, consider your next email or phone call. NSA may be listening and storing every word. Does that make you feel safe?

President Obama dismisses federal invasions of privacy as a minor "inconvenience" However, there is no greater threat to democracy than mass secret surveillance of citizens.

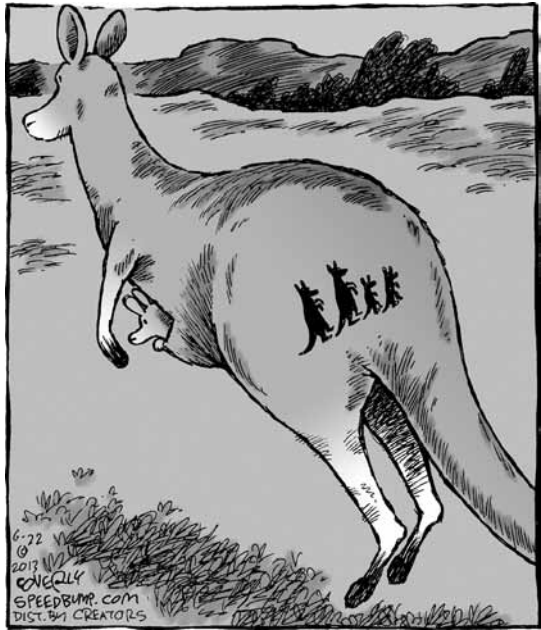
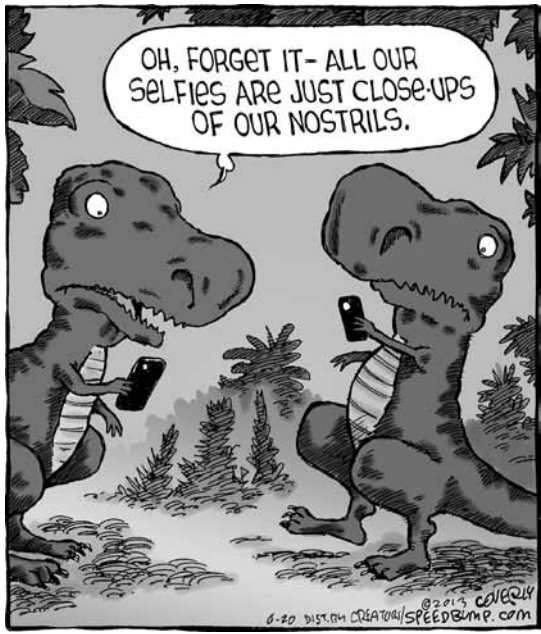
It must stop -- Now. And if it means that legislators and Supreme Court justices and even presidents go to jail -- if that is what it takes to make Americans safe from the prying eyes and ears of secret surveillance by our own government -- then let the heads of state roll.

Blue Ridge Press Senior Editor Glenn Scherer lives in Vermont. ©2013 Blue Ridge Press.

SPEED BUMP



DAVE COVERLY



On This Day...

June 20, 1893: A jury in New Bedford, Mass., found Lizzie Borden innocent of the ax murders of her father and stepmother.

1967: Boxer Muhammad Ali was convicted in Houston of violating Selective Service laws by refusing to be drafted. (The conviction was later overturned by the Supreme Court.)

1975: The movie "Jaws" was released.

1994: O.J. Simpson pleaded innocent to the killings of his ex-wife, Nicole, and her friend Ronald Goldman.

Birthdays: Actress Olympia Dukakis (82), singer Brian Wilson (71), TV host Bob Vila (67), singer Lionel Richie (64), actor John Goodman (61), actress Nicole Kidman (46) and actor Christopher Mintz-Plasse (24).

Downey Community Calendar

Events For June

Sat. June 22: **The Wizard of Rock**, Downey Theatre, 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.
Sat. June 22: **The Americans in concert**, Epic Lounge, 9 p.m.

City Meetings

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**, 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 806-2100.
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 e-mail Diane Davis at ddavis87@me.com.
6 p.m.: **Toastmasters Club 587**, at First Baptist Church, for info call Raul Castillo 400-2561.
6:15 p.m.: **Downey Knights of Columbus Bingo**, at 11231 Rives, for info call 923-1932.
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., 11 a.m.: **Woman's Club of Downey**, for information call Cheryl Olson 833-8954.
1st Weds., 11:30 a.m.: **Downey Coordinating Council**, at Community Center, for information call Cindy 803-4048.
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 Anita 861-3414.
2nd Weds., 7:30 p.m.: **Downey Model A Club**, at Gallatin School Cafeteria, for information call 928-4132.
2nd & 4th Weds., 5:30 p.m.: **Lions Club**, at Sunrise Realty, for information call 862-4176.
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 (310) 322-2342.
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.
4th Weds., 7:30 p.m.: **US Coast Guard Aux. Flotilla 5-10**, at First Presbyterian Church of Downey, call Brian 419-5420.
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.
9:30 a.m.: **Take off Pounds Sensibly**, at Barbara Riley Senior Center, call (800) 932-8677.
12 p.m.: **Kiwanis Club of Downey**, at Rio Hondo Events Center, call Roy Jimenez 923-0971.
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.
1st Thurs., 12:00 noon: **Downey Christian & Professional Luncheon**, at Sizzler's Restaurant, call James Vanlengan 310-1335.
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.
3rd Thurs., 6 p.m.: **Downey CIPAC**, at Sizzler's Restaurant, for information call Rich Tuttle 413-6045.
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**, Downey Avenue at 3rd Street, for information call 904-7246.
2nd Sat., 12:30 p.m.: **AAUW**, Los Amigos Country Club.

THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com)

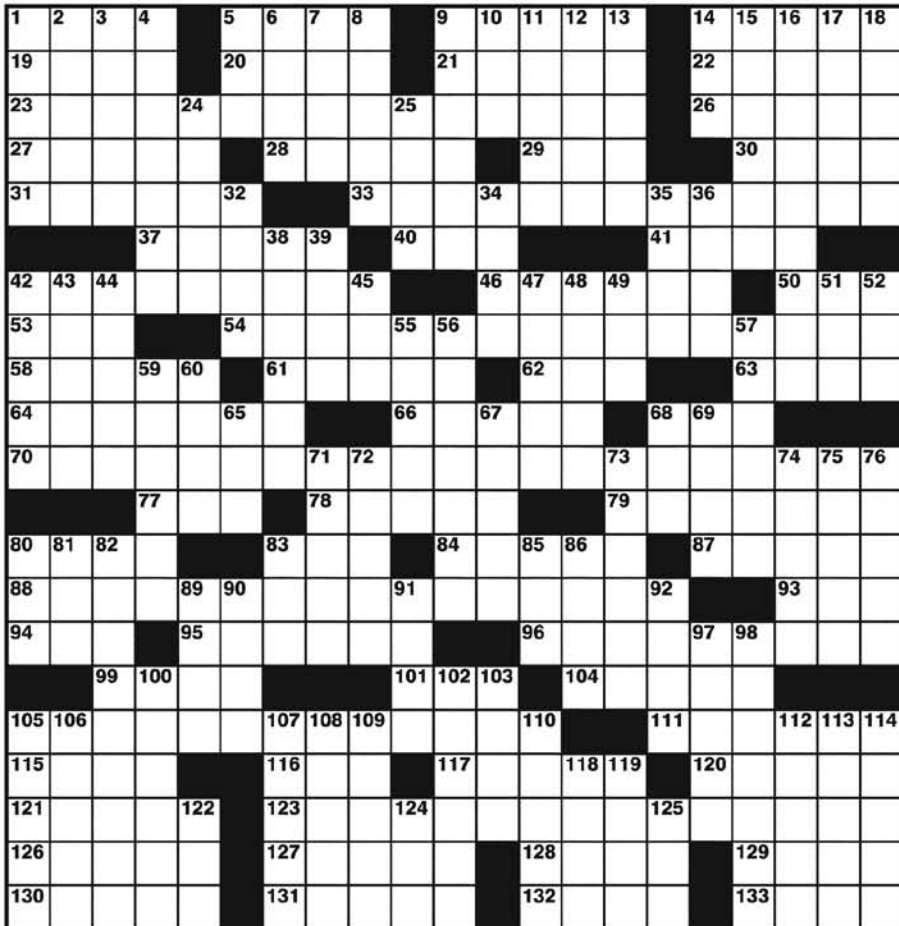
CABINET MERGERS: Taken two at a time

by Tony Orbach and Steve Salitan

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 - 97 Sister of Marge Simpson
 - 98 Place the golf ball for a drive
 - 100 Element in kelp
 - 102 Plaintive songs
 - 103 Spend time (at)
 - 105 Nigerian city
 - 106 Battleground
 - 107 Large pitchers
 - 108 Creek craft
 - 109 Deplete
 - 110 Stock stat
 - 112 Country singer Patsy
 - 113 Govt. instrument
 - 114 Man from Madrid
 - 118 Time for action
 - 119 "You bet"
 - 122 Newspaper VIPs
 - 124 Alphabetic trio
 - 125 Digital photo holders

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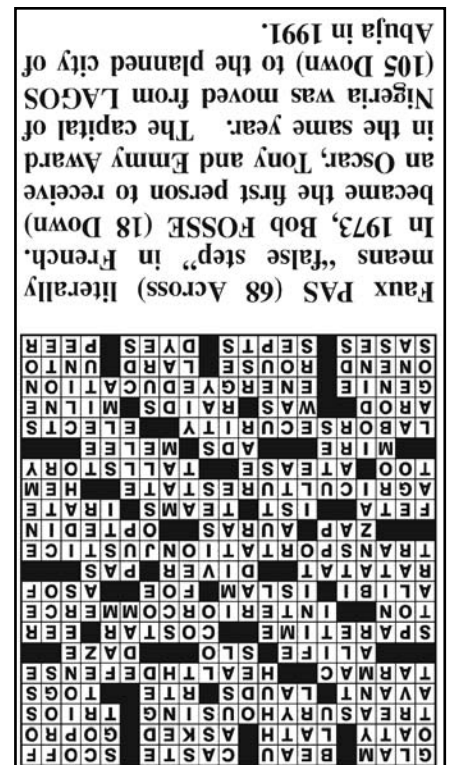
- 81 Sense of self
- 82 *Music Man* instruments
- 83 Suffix for percent
- 85 ABA member
- 86 "My dear woman"
- 89 *The Alienist* author
- 90 Salt Lake City collegians
- 91 Bring up
- 92 *Cosmo* rival
- 97 Sister of Marge Simpson
- 98 Place the golf ball for a drive
- 100 Element in kelp
- 102 Plaintive songs
- 103 Spend time (at)
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Reach Stan Newman at P.O. Box 69, Massapequa Park, NY 11762, or at www.StanXwords.com

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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.





McAlister-Labrada wedding

DOWNEY – High school sweethearts Cody McAlister and Dayana Labrada will tie the knot at a July 13 wedding in the presence of family and friends. Both 22, the couple attended Griffiths Middle School and then Warren High School, where they met. Both graduated in three years. Dayana received a B.S. in Corporate Finance at UC Riverside and Cody double-majored in Supply Chain Management and Business Economic at Cal State Long Beach. Since Cody's surprise proposal in 2011, all their wedding plans will be realized this July. After the wedding, the newlyweds will travel to the Dominican Republic for a honeymoon. The couple plan to reside in Downey, where they will continue with their careers and raise a family.

Puppet show at church

DOWNEY – First Presbyterian Church of Downey will host a "Hall of Fame Puppet Show" Friday, June 21, at 7 p.m. The show will feature balloon twisting, face painting and a puppet show. The event is free and the public is invited. For more information, call the church office at (562) 861-6752.

Former paratroopers reuniting

SANTA FE SPRINGS – Former U.S. military paratroopers are invited to a picnic at Little Lake Park in Santa Fe Springs next month organized by the Hispanic-American Airborne Association and the All Airborne Chapter of Covina. Paratroopers who served in World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Grenada, Panama, Desert Storm, Bosnia, Iraq and Afghanistan are particularly sought. Airborne military veterans who served during peace time are also encouraged to attend, as well as USMC Force Recon, Navy Seals and Air Force Para-Para Rescue Men. The picnic is July 20 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Veterans are invited to bring their families. Cost is \$15 for adults (kids 12 and younger are free). A similar picnic was held last year and attracted paratroopers from Santa Fe Springs, Whittier, Pico Rivera, Monterey Park, La Verne, San Diego and even from out of state. The group participated in the third National Convention of the Military Paratroopers of Mexico held in Mexico City. For more details about the picnic, call Fernie Pena at (562) 693-6025.



Tony Martinez of the Downey Family YMCA was guest speaker at Wednesday's meeting of Downey Los Amigos Kiwanis. Martinez gave an update on the newly renovated YMCA pool and a new aquatic program called Splashball, a t-ball version of water polo for kids ages 5-9.

Church to mark 100 years

MONTEBELLO – The 100th anniversary of Our Lady of Mount Carmel of Simons, Calif., will be celebrated July 6 at St. Benedict's Church in Montebello. Our Lady of Mt. Carmel was dedicated on July 6, 1913. At the time, the Tidings wrote, "Our Lady of Mount Carmel church, Simons, was the first of a series of churches to be established for the Mexican population of the Diocese." Twenty-two Mexicans from Simons would be confirmed that morning and Bishop Conaty was in attendance for the dedication. The land was donated by Arcadia Bandini de Baker in 1912, and Mexican workers built the church. Former members of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel are invited to the anniversary Mass, which begins at 6 p.m.

The Assistance League of Downey installed its new officers at a recent luncheon at the Rio Hondo Event Center.

Florence Towers, pictured here, was installed as president.

Other new officers include Adele Alexander (first vice president), Joan Frey (second vice president), Carol Steyer (third vice president), Beverly Young (secretary) and Judy Faust (treasurer).



The program was presented by Marian Curtis, who highlighted the history of the League and some of the changes that have occurred over the years.

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The 7th grade division Lady Hogs were victorious at the Swoosh Summer Kick Off tournament. Top row, from left: Katelyn Seymore, Eibun Kalejaiye, Coach Lovel Johnson, Diana Gamboa and Madison Arellanes. Bottom: Surie Camacho, Alexandria Lucas, Stephanie Chavarria, Darlene (Djae) Berberabe, Leila Garcia, Dlnai Avila, Brittney Curd and Mariah Lora.



The Lady Hogs won the 5th and 6th grade division at the Swoosh Summer Kick Off tournament held June 1-2. Top row, from left: Coach Marvin Harris, Leigha Harris and Jane Alouhani. Bottom: Alyssa Urias, Rachel Spinosa, Leila Garcia and Kaylie Lara.



The AAA Reds of West Downey Little League finished their regular season 20-0 and 5-0 in the Tournament of Champions to become District 29 champions.



The JV Lady Hogs won their division in the Swoosh Summer Kick Off tournament held earlier this month at the Thunderdome on the campus of UC Santa Barbara. Top row, from left: Essence Puneda, Melanie Gonzalez, Coach Peter Rodriguez, Cynthia Zuniga, Arlyn Soto and Lynette Garcia. Bottom: Angie Porras, Denise Gonzalez, Elizabeth Salmeron and Ebony Ayala.



The Downey Ponytail 14u All Stars advanced to the championship game of the Peninsula Tournament in San Diego last Saturday. The girls took second place overall.



The Downey United 14u AYSO girls soccer team recently won two championships, the Downey Memorial Classic Tournament played Memorial Day weekend and the Chino Milkcan Tournament this past weekend. The Memorial Classic win was dedicated to Isaac Rincon, a member of the 14u boys team who is currently not playing because he was diagnosed with a rare form of cancer. The girls and their coaches, Gerry Gutierrez and Sergio Ramirez, visited Isaac in the hospital and gave him the championship trophy along with a championship T-shirt signed by the girls.



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Hardware store announces giveaway winner

DOWNEY – Downey resident Rizal Ordanes was chosen the winner of Hometown Hardware & Garden's \$1,000 shopping giveaway.

Ordanes was selected at random from more than 2,000 entries submitted between March and May.

"Everyone has a few extra chores this time of year, and we're glad that Rizal was able to choose whatever she wanted to get the job done," said store owners Greg Fuller and Ray Brown. "We thank all those who entered the giveaway for their participation."

Hometown Hardware & Garden opened last summer and will celebrate its one-year anniversary July 6 with free tacos, giveaways and music.



State Sen. Ricardo Lara honored two teachers from Kirkwood Christian Schools in Downey recently. Jacqueline Torres received "Teacher of the Year" while Amor Serrano received a Certificate of Exemplary Service for 15 years of teaching. Pictured above, from left: Principal Jennifer Hartl, Jacqueline Torres, Amor Serrano and Julia Juarez, representative for Sen. Lara.

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Dominguez High class of '73 plans reunion

COMPTON – Dominguez High School's class of 1973 is reuniting this Saturday with a softball tournament fundraiser at the Compton Major League Urban Youth Academy.

The class has not reunited in 20 years. Saturday's event is a fundraiser to help for a formal reunion planned Aug. 24 at Ports O' Call in San Pedro.

The co-ed softball game is open to participants and spectators. Tickets are \$10 at the gate.

The class of '73 will challenge a team of alumni who graduated from Dominguez High between 1970-72 and in 1974.

Retired Dodgers outfielder Kenny Landreaux, a Dominguez High alumnus, will serve as honorary team captain. He joked that softball was chosen as the fundraiser he didn't think "the team was in good enough shape to play a game of fast-pitch baseball."

"I think it will be great to see everybody again, to catch up on our lives and see what we've all been doing," Landreaux said. "If fellow alumni don't want to play in the game, then it would be great to see them in the stands."

The softball tournament begins at noon at the Urban Youth Academy, 901 E. Artesia Blvd. in Compton.

For more information about the tournament or reunion, call Deborah Jackson at (562) 522-4386.

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- ★ **FAST & FURIOUS 6** PG-13 Fri to Mon (11:20, 2:05, 4:55, 7:55, 10:40, Tue (11:20, 2:05, 4:55, 7:55, 10:40, Thu (11:20, 2:05, 4:55, 7:55, 10:40, Thu (11:20, 2:05))
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In Memory of
Gary Ray Givens
September 17, 1939 – June 13, 2013



The Givens family lost its rock. Gary Ray Givens passed away on June 13, 2013. Gary was a Downey resident for the past 37 years. He was the son of Elmer and Georgia Givens, born in Hutchinson, Kansas the youngest of 5 children. Gary married his high school sweetheart Patricia in August 1959 and moved to California in 1961. He worked different jobs that included being an Apartment manager and gas station clerk. He finally found his job that would define his career. He got a job selling signs and traffic safety equipment with Hawkins Traffic in 1965. From that moment on he became one of the pioneers of the traffic safety and markings industry. He took a job with Bauer Paint in 1968 and worked there for 20 years selling pavement marking materials and equipment to municipalities. Having grown as far as he could at Bauer, Gary embarked on his own company based on his own vision. He opened Roadline Products Inc. U.S.A. in 1988 that specialized in manufacturing the paint stencil truck. He became the pioneer in this field. His vision of this equipment became a part of the majority of city and counties equipment fleet. Gary was known in the industry as a man that would get things done and with integrity. He was always willing to give his time and efforts to help anyone out. The Givens family moved to Downey in 1975 and still remain. Gary is survived by his loving wife Patricia, daughters Brenda and Ann, and son Scott. Grandkids Matthew, Megan, Stephen, Kelsey, Nicholas and Alexis. The last of the family tree was born on February 6, 2013 in the form of a Great Grandson Evan. He will be truly missed. We love you dad!

In Memory of
Gordon Elmer Madru
August 17, 1932 to June 15, 2013



Gordon Elmer Madru, 80, passed away, June 15, after 6 years battle with Parkinson's and other complications. He was born at Mission Hospital, Huntington Park on August 17, 1932, to Elmer and Ethel Madru. Gordon graduated from Huntington Park High School in 1950. After high school he attended Frank Wiggins Trade School (now LA Trade Tech) where he studied auto mechanics. On September 5, 1952, shortly before enlisting in the US Air Force, he and his wife Marilyn were married. While in the armed forces Gordon was stationed in Guam and later reassigned to Long Island, New York. In August of 1954, while still in the Air Force, Gordon and Marilyn were surprised with being a guest on the Truth or Consequences TV Show. After serving in the military, Gordon settled in Downey and went to work for Mobil Oil Corporation where he worked for 32 years beginning as a mechanic and retiring as an accountant. He was active in Indian Guides, Boy Scouts, CBMC, Aerospace Legacy Foundation, Downey Historical Society and First Baptist Church of Downey. Gordon enjoyed traveling, working on cars, helping others and spending time with his family. He is survived by his wife Marilyn of 60 years, two sons, Stephen (Esmeralda) and Victor (Beverly), and 5 grandchildren - Lyndsay, Shannon, Justin, Micah, and Jared, as well as niece Linda and her husband David in addition to a large extended family. A memorial service will be held at First Baptist Church of Downey at 8348 3rd street Downey CA 90241, at 10:00 a.m. June 20, 2013, followed by a reception at the church and family interment at Rose Hills. In lieu of flowers please consider making a donation to the Living Help Center 10642 Downey Ave. Suite 107, Downey, CA 90241.

Bicyclists: always the underdogs

By Lars Clutterham
Contributor

DOWNEY - Whatever bad rap bicyclists may get for their behavior on the road, they are still the underdogs to motorized vehicles. Why is this a problem? More specifically, why is anything about bicycles important from an environmental standpoint, the fundamental focus of this ongoing series? In the broadest terms, bicycles are important because they - along with public transit and walking (you've heard of walking, right?) - are our culture's best hope for solving the ever-pressing, ever-expanding issue of vehicular infrastructure, with its attendant problems of fossil fuel consumption and air pollution. Oh, and the incremental effect of sitting-on-your-rear-end-in-your-car on the health of a sedentary and overweight population. Here's an example: at a City of Downey Public Works Committee meeting about a month ago, representatives from the California Department of Transportation presented an overview of the I-5 overhaul, which will commence in the next few months and take about two years to complete, significantly impacting local Downey freeway access and traffic during that entire period. To a question at that meeting about how long the renovated I-5 would support traffic demands until the freeways were so crowded the process had to be repeated, one of the Caltrans engineers said: "23 years from now, back to square 1."

that paradigm, so consequently it has suffered from a huge lack of helpful infrastructure.

On a very personal level, I can give you several examples of this. The intersection of Fifth and Paramount in Downey is a perfect case in point. As a bicyclist, not only am I unable to trigger a light change, but, since there are no sensors for my bike and no timing accommodation for my relatively slow speed, it's impossible to follow other traffic through the intersection before the light turns red. At the red light, if there are no cars at the intersection, I must get off my bike and walk to the pedestrian switch at the crosswalk. How would a driver feel if he or she had to exit the vehicle and walk to the side of the street to initiate a light change? This is true at light after light on my early morning crosstown commutes from Downey to Culver City. Unless I happen to have the company of a motor vehicle at the light, I must leave the street and push the button at the pedestrian crosswalk, then make the transition, once the light changes, from pedestrian back to bicyclist.

There is a solution to this problem, which I encounter at two intersections along my usual West L.A. bike route: accompanied by an instruction sign, there are two narrow white lines at the light on which a bicyclist can place the wheels of his or her bike. A weight sensor under the asphalt then triggers a light change just like the universal implementation for cars and trucks. Keep in mind, that's a bicycle sensor at an insignificant two out of some thirty or forty intersections I traverse during my commute--surely the sign of a vehicular underdog.

Stated slightly differently, population growth of both people and vehicles will put us back in the same situation in a couple of decades. In short, we have a transportation model that will continue to overload unless we find ways to modify it. And the bicycle, bless its heart, is one of those ways. So it's appropriate to have a clear picture of the challenges of integrating into our transportation system a meaningful place for the bicycle, this underwhelming force for change and for good.

Stop signs are another problem for cyclists, who obviously rely on momentum for efficient progress. A rough equivalent experience for a motorist would be a requirement to turn off the ignition at every stop sign. Not a very effective way to enhance "mobility." One excellent solution would be roundabouts, which, when efficiently designed, enhance traffic flow, not only for cyclists, but also for other vehicles. But such a solution would require significant changes in infrastructure and street design, an expensive, time-consuming, and disruptive process not likely to be seen in Downey in the foreseeable future.

How is the bicycle the underdog? First and foremost, if a motorized vehicle and a bicyclist collide, simple physics kicks in and the vehicle wins. And the faster the vehicle is going, the more likely the cyclist will be killed. In fact, at 45 miles per hour, the mortality rate for bicyclists and pedestrians is 90%. So bicyclists are at a distinct safety disadvantage on the streets they legally share with motor vehicles.

On a broader scale, bicycles and pedestrians share underdog status when it comes to infrastructure funding, where what's called "active transportation," is projected to receive only 1% of regional funding through 2035, despite the fact that 20% of all trips in the region are by pedestrians and bicyclists.

Secondly, the entire traffic system is designed around the concept of "mobility," a fancy bureaucratic way of saying that the most important priority is to get folks to their destinations as fast as possible. The bicycle doesn't quite fit

Let me repeat that: 20% of the travel gets 1% of the funding. If that doesn't describe an underdog, what does?

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SPORTS BRIEFS: Dream Team line-ups, summer clinics

• Downey, Warren players named to Press-Telegram's Dream Team.

By Mark Fetter Contributor

DOWNEY - Downey High School has several summer sports programs that will begin on June 24.

Three such programs are boys' and girls' water polo and boys' tennis. Girls' tennis will begin later in the summer on August 1.

Boys' water polo will begin on Monday, June 24, and run through Thursday, July 26. Practices will be held Mondays through Thursdays from 6:30 a.m. until 8:30 a.m.

You can contact Head coach Shaun Delhousay at sdelhousay@dusd.net for further information.

Coach Delhousay and his staff hope to see you in the pool this summer.

Girls' water polo will begin on Thursday, June 27, and run through Thursday, July 26. Practices will be held Mondays through Thursdays from 6-80 a.m.

You can contact Head coach Stephen Judy at sjudy@dusd.net for further information.

Boys' tennis will begin on Monday, June 24, and run through Friday, August 9. Practices will be held Mondays and Fridays from 4:30-7 p.m. at the Downey High School tennis courts.

Contact head coach Byung Park at bpark@dusd.net for further information.

Girls' tennis, the 2012-2013 S.G.V.L. champions, will begin their summer practices on Thursday, August 1, and run through the month of August. Practices will be held Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 9-11 a.m.

You can contact Head coach Denise Diego at ddiego@dusd.net for

further details.

Warren High School will have several summer sports programs starting on Monday, June 24. Warren boys' and girls' basketball, as well as Warren boys' volleyball are just a few of the many.

Warren boys' basketball will start their skills camp on Monday, June 24 and run through Thursday, July 11. Practices will be held Mondays through Thursdays from 12-2 p.m. in the Warren High School Gymnasium. Ages range from 7-14 and the cost will be \$145.

Warren Basketball Skills Camp features three weeks of basketball instruction, Warren basketball reversible jersey, mesh shorts for freshmen, half and full court games and more.

Contact head coach Ryan Hart with questions at rhart@dusd.net.

Warren girls' basketball will start their skills camp on Monday, June 24, and run through Friday, June 28. The camp will start at 8 a.m. and run until 12 p.m.

This camp will feature ages 14-18 and cost \$100.

Little Bears Camp will feature two sessions. Session one will start Monday, July 1 and end Wednesday, July 3. Session two will start Wednesday, July 10, and end Friday, July 12.

These camps will start at 9 a.m. and run until 12 p.m.

Little Bears Camp will feature ages 8-13 and cost \$60 (\$100 for both sessions).

Contact head coach Rachel Palmer with questions at rpalmer@dusd.net.

Warren boys' volleyball will start their summer skills camp on Monday, June 24 and end on Friday, June 28.

Young players will learn passing, setting, hitting, strength, conditioning, speed, agility and much more.

The boys and girls Cubs Camp will be from 4-6 p.m. in the gymnasium. The cost of the Cubs Camp is \$75.

The boys' volleyball camp will be

from 6-8 p.m. in the gymnasium. The cost of the Boys Camp is \$125.

Contact head coach Brad Simons with questions at bsimons@dusd.net.

The Downey High School baseball team had one player selected to the annual Long Beach Press-Telegram's Dream Team second team.

Sophomore pitcher Randy Labaut earned this honor after finishing the season with a record of 7-2, an ERA of 2.09 and 63 strikeouts.

Downey baseball finished their season with an overall record of 15-14 and a league record of 6-9. Downey saw their season come to an end, 9-5, against Palm Desert in the first round of the C.I.F. Division III playoffs.

The Downey High School softball team was well represented in this year's edition of the Dream Team.

The Lady Vikings finished their season with an overall record of 21-11 and a league record of 7-3. The Lady Vikings saw their season come to an end with a 3-2 loss at home against La Habra in the second round of the C.I.F. Division III playoffs.

Several Lady Vikings were recognized for their efforts on the field. Senior third baseman Anissa Urtez was the only first team selection.

Urtez was the Press Telegram's Player of the Year in 2012 and followed that up with another outstanding season. Urtez had a .788 slugging percentage and hit .541 with three home runs and 24 RBIs. Urtez also scored 34 runs and stole 10 bases. Anissa will be playing softball for the University of Utah.

Senior pitcher Ale Guillen was selected to the Press-Telegram's second team. Guillen went 13-5 and had a 1.64 ERA. Guillen also helped herself out at the plate in many games by having a .472 batting average and by knocking in 24 runs.

Lady Viking junior second baseman Rachel Rodriguez was given honorable mention honors as was ju-

nior shortstop Alexis Zavala.

The Warren High School baseball team had one player selected to the annual Long Beach Press-Telegram's Dream Team second team. Junior utilityman Alan Trejo was given that honor.

Trejo hit .557 and won five games on the mound. Senior infielder Rene Vega was given honorable mention for his outstanding play.

Warren baseball finished their season with an overall record of 19-9 and a league record of 9-6. The Bears were defeated by Cathedral City 5-0 at home in the first round of the C.I.F. Division III playoffs.

The Warren High School softball team had one player selected to the Press Telegram's Dream Team first team. Senior first baseman Justene Reyes (Monmouth University) was given that honor. Reyes batted .441, drove in 19 runs and scored 21 runs.

Warren junior outfielder Alyssa Hanks and Warren senior pitcher Kendall Zarate both received second team honors. Hanks was selected as the 2013 S.G.V.L. Player of the Year. Hanks hit .398 and was an All-C.I.F.-SS Division III selection.

Zarate was the two-time S.G.V.L. Pitcher of the Year and went 13-6 with a 1.50 ERA.

The Bears finished their season with an overall record of 20-8 and a league record of 9-1. The Bears were the 2013 San Gabriel Valley League champions but were defeated by Kaiser 2-0 at home in the first round of the C.I.F. Division III playoffs.

Downey Calvary Chapel had senior shortstop Bridget Castro (Utah) and senior pitcher Larisa Petakoff (Colorado State) selected to the Dream Team first team. Senior catcher Sydney Colenzo (Cal State Fullerton) was named to the second team and senior first baseman Jasmyn Lopez was given honorable mention.



The Downey United 10u girls tournament team finished second at the AYSO 14th Annual Cruisin' Classic soccer tournament in Ontario this past weekend. The girls placed in three of their last four tournaments (third place Oxnard Sports Festival, semi-finalist Downey Memorial Open Cup and second place Cruisin' Classic).



The Downey United 10u boys team finished third in an Ontario tournament on Sunday. The team travels to Puerto Rico next month for an international tournament on the island. Bruno Leal is the coach.

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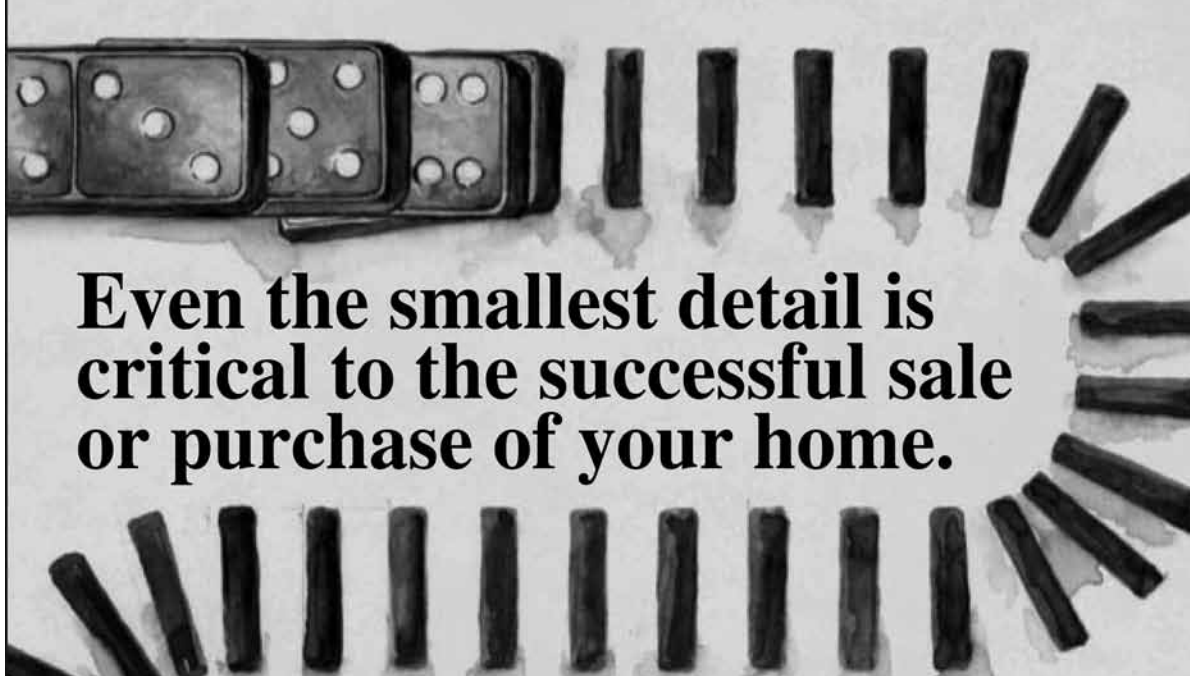
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Priced at: \$529,999



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16,000 sq. ft. HUGE LOT!
A fixer-upper 3 BD, 2 BA home with a pool, 2 driveways, and 2 car carport.
Priced at: \$449,950

SUMMER IS HOT BUT MICHAEL IS HOTTER!

7332 Quill #118, Downey.....	SOLD
9513 La Reina Ave., Downey.....	SOLD
7331 Finevale Dr., Downey.....	SOLD
10222 Eglise Ave., Downey.....	SOLD
12259 Caladre Ave., Downey.....	SOLD
12740 Adenmoor Ave., Downey.....	SOLD
4909 Meadaubrook Dr., Oceanside	SOLD
4030 Hoosier Lawn Way., Yorba Linda....	SOLD
10063 Karmont Ave., South Gate.....	SOLD
311 E. 59th Place, Los Angeles.....	SOLD
10818 Hasty Ave., Downey.....	SOLD
11118 Fallon, Norwalk.....	SOLD
67 Homeland, Irvine.....	SOLD
10330 Downey Ave. #5, Downey.....	SOLD
9245 Cecilia St., Downey.....	SOLD
9219 Lubec St., Downey.....	SOLD
9618 Cecilia, Downey.....	SOLD
12625 Woodruff Ave., Downey.....	SOLD
11556 Promenade, Santa Fe Springs.....	SOLD
8817 Birchleaf Ave., Downey.....	SOLD
10340 Newville, Downey.....	SOLD
7520 Fostoria, Downey.....	SOLD
5802 N. Vista, San Gabriel.....	SOLD
13940 Midvale, Whittier.....	SOLD
15323 Lakewood, PAR.....	SOLD
1100 Cajon, La Habra.....	SOLD
10932 Hasty, Downey.....	SOLD

Call Michael for a FREE Market Evaluation of your home
(562) 818-6111