

The Downey Patriot



**That blister
could be herpes**
See Page 7



**Clippers visit
West readers**
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**Rotary keeps up
good work**
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Friday, January 23, 2009

Vol. 7 No. 40

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

Teen helps rob Downey Savings

■ Two suspects taken into custody.

By MARY FORNEY,
STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY – On Jan. 20, a quick-thinking Downey Savings employee dialed 9-1-1 and placed the telephone receiver on the counter to allow police to listen in while a robbery was taking place inside the bank.

The employee became suspicious and made the call after observing two men enter the bank wearing dark clothes, beanies, and black gloves.

Police dispatchers listened in as customers were ordered onto the floor and some of the employees were pushed into a bathroom by one of the suspects waving what appeared to be a handgun.

While the second suspect was removing money from the teller drawers, Downey Police Department units arrived at the bank located at 8444 Florence Ave.

"We were there within minutes because the employee called and didn't speak – she just sat the phone down," said Downey Police Department Cpl. Mike Pope. "The dispatchers could hear 'Give me the money' in the background so it

was obvious what was going on."

Refusing to surrender to the police, one of the suspects jumped into a vehicle, sped off, lost control of the vehicle and hit a tree near the corner of Downey Avenue and Lexington Road. Exiting the vehicle, the suspect dropped a "realistic-looking plastic replica handgun" onto the street during a short foot pursuit.

The other suspect fled on foot from the bank and jumped a fence into a nearby residential neighborhood where he was discovered hiding in the rear yard in the 9400 block of Lexington Road. A backpack was discovered near him containing \$10,000.

"All of the money stolen from the bank was returned," Pope said.

The suspects arrested for bank robbery are a 27-year-old male from Los Angeles and a 14-year-old male claiming to be from Las Vegas. The vehicle used by the suspects had been reported stolen earlier in the city of Los Angeles.

"This was kind of a takeover style robbery," Pope said. "Luckily no one was hurt."

"It was amazing that a 14-year-old would take part in something like this – it just blows me away."

Traffic collision results in fatality

■ Driver failed to stop at light, police said.

By MARY FORNEY,
STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY – The cause of a fatal traffic collision that occurred at 3:23 p.m. on Jan. 15 on Firestone Boulevard is under investigation by the Downey Police Department.

The accident occurred when the driver of a 2008 Chevrolet HHR failed to stop as it approached a 1999 Freightliner delivery truck that was stopped for a red light, police said.

The force of the collision pushed the delivery truck forward into the rear of a 1999 Oldsmobile that was stopped at the red light.

The driver of the HHR was first transported to Downey Regional Medical Center and then to St. Francis Medical Center where he later succumbed to his injuries. Both the driver of the Freightliner and the Oldsmobile sustained minor injuries and left the scene with their vehicles after being interviewed.

It is unknown why the driver of the HHR failed to stop for the, and the identity of the driver is being withheld pending notification of next of kin.

Anyone with information regarding the collision is asked to call the Downey Police Department traffic detective at (562) 904-2342 and refer to DR 09-3203.

Symphony fundraiser at Woman's Club

By ROSALIE SCIORTINO,
DOWNEY SYMPHONY GUILD

DOWNEY – See our flag wave, hear the bugle sound, and ring a freedom bell.

Get set for the Downey Symphony Guild's "Celebrating American Freedom" annual gala fundraiser dinner on Feb. 27 at 6 p.m. at the Woman's Club of Downey.

Be prepared to be entertained and fed – all for the glory of keeping Music in the Schools and our own Downey Symphony playing

beautiful music.

A robust American menu is planned and an entertainer will brighten the proceedings. A silent auction will showcase some unusual treasures.

As always, the community is invited to this patriotic evening. Please make reservations at \$65 per person (\$10 for children under 12) by Feb. 19. Mail checks payable to Downey Symphony Guild, 9700 Garnish Dr., Downey, CA 90240.

For more information, call (562) 861-8507.

Goodbye, dear friend



John Adams, editor of the Downey Eagle before creating The Downey Patriot, died Wednesday. A service is scheduled for Feb. 2 inside the Harriett Paine Event Center at Downey Adult School, 12340 Woodruff Ave.

John Adams passes away

■ Former editor and publisher was 69.

By ERIC PIERCE,
CITY EDITOR

DOWNEY – John Quincy Adams, the locally acclaimed writer, editor and poet who spent more than a decade reporting on local news before creating *The Downey Patriot*, where he served in dual capacities as both publisher and editor, died Wednesday at a Norwalk nursing home.

Adams passed away at Southland care center of complications from Parkinson's disease. He was 69.

A public memorial service is scheduled for Feb. 2 at 10 a.m. inside the Harriett Paine Event Center at Downey Adult School. Mayor Mario Guerra will officiate.

Adams is perhaps best known as the longtime editor of the *Downey Eagle* before establishing the *Patriot*. At both papers he provided readers with a pulse of the town, through extensive news coverage of city issues and folksy, first-person columns that ran weekly in the Editorial section.

Adams was born in Reseda on March 18, 1939. His formative years were spent in Northern California, where he graduated from San Francisco State University in 1966 with a BA in History.

In 1964 Adams had already secured a reporting job with the *San Francisco Chronicle*, where he mainly reported on sports with occasional forays into city issues. It was at the *Chronicle* where Adams – almost unilaterally described by friends as a liberal Democratic – efficiently covered the floor of the 1964 Republican National Convention in San Francisco.

After earning his degree, he moved on to the *Richmond (Contra Costa) Independent* and *Berkeley Gazette*, where he was a crime

reporter and feature writer. For two years he also handicapped thoroughbred racing for the sports sections of both papers, writing under the name John Quincy.

In May 1984, the publishers of both newspapers sued each other over terms of sale of the publications. The litigation subsequently landed both newspapers in bankruptcy court, and Adams was out of a job.

Adams enjoyed a passion for horseracing, and in 1984 he landed work with Fowli Thoroughbred Racing Stables as a racing agent. He left after two years, and began delivering cars for an automobile shipping service.

But Adams' passion for writing never left him. As he bounced from one to job to another, he began compiling books of poetry for future publication. He also contributed to an anthology of Berkeley poets, titled "All Birds Have Feathers."

It was in February 1988 that Adams found his way to Downey, when he was hired as city editor of the *Downey News-Tribune*. As Adams put it, he "wrote and covered all news in the city of Downey, including providing pictures and page makeup."

The gig was short-lived, only nine months. In late 1988 Adams took a job as reporter for the *Wave Newspaper* group, covering South Central Los Angeles with an emphasis on crime. He also covered Inglewood and Hawthorne city halls, wrote feature stories, and covered the "full spectrum of reporting," in addition to freelancing as a photographer.

He returned as a reporter for the *News-Tribune* in the summer of 1990. On Dec. 28, 1990, he was promoted to his previous position of city editor, but with the additional duties of covering the Downey



John Adams was a fixture at Downey events, usually with a notepad and camera in hand.

Unified School District and Cerritos College Board of Trustees.

This is about the time he met two of his best friends, former Downey superintendent of Downey Unified School District Ed Sussman and former Assemblywoman Sally Havice.

"John was such a good person, just a wonderful human being," said Sussman, who accompanied Adams on a few trips to Los Alamitos Race Course to bet on the horses. "John was a man of extremely high integrity. That's why I never hid anything from him, never. Of all the media people I think John was the honest of all reporters. He was interested in getting things straight and correct."

Havice, now working as an English professor at Cerritos

College, called Adams a "loyal, steadfast friend."

"You could always depend on him to be a person of tremendous integrity and strength of purpose," she said. "He knew right from wrong and he always went to the side of right. He stood up for what he believed in – it sounds almost trite in this day and age – but he was really a person who stood up for what he believed in."

While she was in office, Havice said she would meet with Adams regularly to discuss politics and city issues.

"We shared philosophies about politics and government service, and what it means to be an elected public official," Havice said. "He

See JOHN ADAMS, page 10

City's comprehensive annual financial report highly touted

By HENRY VENERACION,
STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY – The City Council at its regular public meeting on Tuesday last week received and filed the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) summarizing the city's financial activities and the results of its operations for the period July 1, 2007 thru June 30, 2008. It is prepared annually by the department of finance headed by John Michicoff.

According to Michicoff, his finance department takes pains to make sure the CAFR is easily readable, efficiently organized, and reflective of a high level of quality in its reporting and underlying accounting systems. Because it follows these guidelines closely, the department last year received a certificate of achievement for excellence in financial reporting from the prestigious Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada. Michicoff expects no less from its FY2007-08 CAFR.

The format features three sections: introductory, financial and statistical. The introductory section contains a Letter of Transmittal to the Council, which is believed to be the easiest part of the report for the average reader to understand.

The transmittal letter first gives a general background of Downey and a glimpse of its basic municipal services (police, fire, public works, recreational, library and cultural programs, etc.). Then follows a rundown on the difficult economic environment Downey has been operating in. This includes a troubling unemployment rate for the Los Angeles metropolitan area of 7.7 percent, which is higher than the national rate of 6.5 percent, although lower than the 8.2 rate (as of October 2008) in the state of California.

It cites other problems: the collapse of the financial and credit markets, the housing market's freefall, reduced consumer spending. The economic uncertainties are moreover exacerbated by the budget breakdown in Sacramento.

But despite all this, Michicoff is optimistic that things will turn around. (Indeed, there is at least one bright note that leaps out of the report: "for the General Fund, actual revenues of \$71.4 million exceeded final budgeted revenues of \$64.5 million, while expenditures were \$65 million, \$3.9 million less than the final budgeted expenditures of \$68.9 million.")

Michicoff pins his hopes on the fact that "city staff has worked diligently to retain and attract existing or new business that will continue to provide an economic stimulus to our local economy." (Example: the Porto's Bakery arrangement). He points to other positive developments: the 160-acre former Boeing property redevelopment project (over \$20 million of property improvements so far, including the Columbia Memorial Space Center and the Discovery Sports Complex) is "in progress"; the Downey Landing Retail Center has "performed positively"; the construction of new regional medical facilities "continues as planned," as well as street/traffic flow improvements.

Further, "due to the cyclical fluctuation of the movie industry, the city and Industrial Realty Group (IRG) are evaluating the redevelopment of Downey Studio to a high-end retail mixed use project. Also, the City Council plans to initialize the new downtown specific plan to revitalize the downtown in 2009."

Formal deliberations on the FY2009-2010 city budget have been tentatively scheduled to begin towards the end of May. We will know better then the contours the city's envisioned directions will shape.

In other action, the Council:

•Set a public hearing for Feb. 10 on the 2009-10 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and the Home Investment Partnership Grant (HOME) Programs, both federal grants earmarked for housing and

community development activities which primarily benefit low and moderate income residents;

•Approved the budget calendar for the 2009-10 budget which covers the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2009 and ends on June 30, 2010; the calendar establishes various deadlines so the budget can be completed in a timely manner and in accordance with the city charter; after a series of study sessions both by the Council and staff, a public hearing on the budget is tentatively scheduled for June 23, 2009, and, hopefully, adoption by the Council;

•Approved the amendment to the professional services agreement with Granicus, Inc., extending the current agreement to June 30, 2009 for internet streaming of City Council/Community Development Commission meetings;

•Adopted the investment policy for public funds of the city of Downey and its related entities; included are guidelines for the prudent investment of the city's cash and for maximizing the efficiency of its cash management system;

•Approved the extension of the agreement with Lehman, Levi, Pappas and Sadler from Jan.31, 2009 to Jan. 31, 2010 for general advocacy services in Sacramento;

•Approved and appropriated \$94,000 for the purchase and installation of an LED electronic message center and changing the facing of the Downey Civic Center sign at the Embassy Suites Hotel;

•Approved the agreement for special legal services with Liebert Cassidy Whitmore for personnel-related matters (especially labor relations);

•Adopted a resolution approving the reappointment of Dianne Lumsdaine to the Downey City Hospital Commission for Council District One;

•Adopted an ordinance adding Chapter 7 to Article VIII of the Downey Municipal Code requiring registration and maintenance of vacant and abandoned property;

•Approved City Council committee assignments for 2009;

•Proclaimed, Jan. 16, Religious Freedom Day; and

•Conferred a certificate of recognition to the city's Water Conservation Outreach Campaign.

The next regular public meeting of the Council will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 27 at City Hall, 11111 Brookshire Ave.

Norma Roberts returning to OASIS

DOWNEY – Guitarist, pianist and composer Norma Roberts will headline Monday's OASIS program at Downey Adult School, which begins at 3:45 p.m. inside the Harriett Paine Event Center.

Roberts' award-winning children's songs and albums were written for her grandchildren. Her Christmas album with her original song, "Listen to the Angles Sing," has been a favorite of the OASIS class since she first sang it there many years ago.

Roberts' program is titled "Singing and Ringing in the New Year."

The OASIS program is open to all older adults. Enrollment is free and begins at 2:45 p.m. on Mondays. The program begins at 3:45 and is followed by an optional dinner which may be purchased for \$3.50 at time of enrollment.

Downey Dial-a-Ride can provide transportation to OASIS for those who qualify. For more information, call (562) 940-6200.



Charles Anderson is governor of Rotary District 5280 and oversees 48 Rotary clubs and about 2,300 Rotarians. Anderson will visit each of these clubs, direct a district leadership team of more than 70 volunteers, and oversee the various events and projects related to the goals of Rotary, which include literacy projects, clean water concerns, youth projects and vocational services.

Renowned bassist hosting workshop

DOWNEY – Abe Laboriel, a renowned bassist who has previously performed with Lionel Richie, Chaka Khan, and Kenny Rogers, among others, will conduct a music workshop tomorrow at Action Faith Ministries at 10 a.m.

The event is free and open to the public.

Guitar Player magazine called Laboriel "the most widely used session player of our time."

"There are a lot of great bass players in this world, but there is one, and only one Abraham Laboriel," jazz guitarist Larry Carlton said.

Action Faith Ministries is at 10839 La Reina Ave. For more information, call (562) 650-4131.

Singing twins set to perform

DOWNEY – The Good Twins, a pair of singing identical twins who have released 33 studio albums, will perform at Downey First Christian Church on Feb. 8 at 3:30 p.m.

The Good Twins, Dwight and Dwayne, began singing together at age 3. Growing up in Pontiac, Ill., they began gospel singing after graduating from Lincoln Christian College in 1958. Since then they have traveled nearly 3 million miles, and performed more than 8,000 concerts in 24 different countries.

The twins said they have memorized more than 500 gospel songs, and have appeared before kings, governors, at political rallies, Miss America pageants, state and county fairs, prisons, conventions, four national TV specials, and in "thousands of churches."

In 1968, their album, "Church is Finally Over," won the NEFF Award as the best duet album of the year. *Billboard* magazine gave it a four-star rating.

The Good Twins were selected to sing with the Promise Keepers Choir in Washington, D.C. in 1997, an event that drew more than 1 million men.

Downey First Christian Church is at 10909 New St. in Downey. The community is invited to the concert. The concert is free but a freewill offering will be taken.

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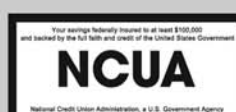
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Adult school forced to lay off teachers

■ State budget crisis forces cuts.

BY MARY FORNEY,
STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY – Downey Adult School Principal Roger Brossmer announced this week that 10 part-time off-campus instructors will lose their jobs next month.

Citing lack of funding due to the state of California's budget crisis, Brossmer said personnel and service cuts are unavoidable without the support of Assembly Bill 23 continuing education funds.

The teachers losing their positions are assigned off-campus and have been collectively covering 96 hours of instruction at 7 different retirement facilities in Downey. To meet the adult school's budgetary needs this year, the 10 part-time teachers will be replaced by two full-time teachers who will cover 46 hours of classroom instruction.

"Downey Adult School is the fastest growing adult school in the state of California," Brossmer said. "There's not a lack of need for it in the community – there's a lack of

funding."

"This year, due to the state's poor planning, we will not be getting the projected \$2 million in funds which would have covered payroll."

The adult school relies on funding from the state to pay the instructors because the school cannot charge fees to the retirement facility residents.

"We have no choice but to reduce the number of class offerings, and it's very unfortunate that we have to impact the lives of these part-time teachers," Brossmer said.

Downey Adult School may be forced to reduce or eliminate other services, as well.

"We haven't worked everything out yet, but this is the first round of cuts," Brossmer said.

"We kept waiting for this year's funding, but we don't want to keep waiting until we have no money left to cut. We have to reduce some services now."

The Downey Adult School Career and Education Center, located at 12340 Woodruff Ave., was established in 1940 and serves about 14,000 students yearly.



Harp soloist JoAnn Turovsky will perform at the Jan. 31 concert of the Downey Symphony. She will play a piece exclusively written for the concert by composer Robert Litton.

Heavenly harp coming to Downey

■ Symphony tickets now on sale.

BY JOYCE SHERWIN,
DOWNEY SYMPHONY

DOWNEY – The most enviable reputation in all recorded history may belong to the harp, and with good reason. Music from the harp soothed troubled souls 4,500 years ago, and has never faltered since. The Biblical King David prized the powers of the harp so highly he learned to play it himself.

Cultures throughout the world incorporate some form of the harp, the Irish particularly enjoying a close tradition with the instrument. Even Harpo Marx, noted zany, noted harpist, became calm and contemplative when wrapped in the ethereal magic of its voice.

You doubt the harp? Just check it out with some angels, friend.

Now in these later times, as we rush about our jangled world, we too could use a dose of ancient soothing, but encountering harp music up close and live is a rare occurrence. So it is with great pleasure that our local symphony orchestra can say to the community, Take heart! The harp is coming to Downey!

Specifically, the harp is coming to the Downey Theatre at 8 p.m. on Jan. 31, when soloist JoAnn Turovsky appears with the Downey

Symphony in a concert titled "Heaven at Your Fingertips." Turovsky will play the ravishing Introduction and Allegro by Maurice Ravel, and "Mendocino," a new work written for her by concert and film composer Robert Litton. Also on the program, conducted by Music Director Sharon Lavery, are the Overture to The Impresario by Mozart and the Scottish Symphony by Mendelssohn.

The Downey Theatre is at the corner of Firestone Boulevard and Brookshire Avenue, with plenty of free parking nearby. Reserved tickets are \$25 and \$20, available by phone at (562) 403-2944, or at the theater box office on Jan. 28, between noon and 4 p.m. and after 6:30 p.m. on Jan. 31, before performance time. Lavery's pre-concert discussion of the evening's music begins at 7:15 p.m. for ticket holders.

In closing, we leave you with these fun facts about the modern harp: Number of strings – 46 or 47. Number of pedals – 7. Weight – about 80 pounds. Cost – up to \$50,000. Easier job, fingers on the strings or feet on the pedals – fingers. Extras – you need strong shoulders both to lug the thing and to support it while playing; you also need a roomy van or lots of cartage money. Is it worth it? Absolutely.

Daggett to tell Rancho's story

DOWNEY – Richard Daggett, president of the Polio Survivors Group and who spent time inside an iron lung at Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center, will speak Thursday at 7:30 p.m. inside the John Downey Room at the Barbara J. Riley Community and Senior Center.

Daggett's topic will be "Downey, Rancho and Richard." The story is of the polio epidemic of the middle 1900s and the role that Rancho played in the treatment and research related to the disease.

The presentation is part of the Downey Historical Society's January program. The public is invited to attend.

Learn to make and break habits

DOWNEY – Gloria Riese of the Medicine Education Program will be the guest speaker at Wednesday's meeting of the National Association of Active and Retired Federal Employees Southeast Chapter at Furman Park.

Riese's topic will be "Making and Breaking Habits." Her talk will begin at 1 p.m. after a short meeting.

The public is invited and prospective members are welcome. Visitors should bring a snack; coffee, cake or cookies will be served.

Nominations open for hall of fame

DOWNEY – Downey High School is now accepting nominations for its Hall of Fame in the areas of arts, athletics, business, community/government, education and professional.

The Hall of Fame was formed in 1999 and currently has 62 members. Distinguished alumni include Dr. Robert Ballard, discoverer of the Titanic; entertainers Karen and Richard Carpenter; international figure skaters JoJo Starbuck and Ken Shelley; musician George Pajon, Jr. of the Black Eyed Peas; and James Hetfield, lead singer of Metallica.

To nominate a graduate, call Downey High School Assistant Principal John Baker at (562) 869-7301, ext. 5524, for an application.

Business Watch meeting Thursday

DOWNEY – A meeting of Business Watch, a crime prevention program for local business owners, will be held Thursday at noon inside council chambers at City Hall.

Participants of Business Watch receive training in business security, effective crime reporting, and burglary and theft prevention.

The meeting is free and begins at noon. For more information, call the city of Downey at (562) 904-1895.

First Presbyterian to host concert series

DOWNEY – In celebration of its newly-renovated auditorium, First Presbyterian Church of Downey will host the 2009 Celebration Concert Series, an effort to provide "high-quality artistic performances for the surrounding community at a reasonable cost."

The series debuts tomorrow with a concert designed for audience participation by pianist and organist Christopher Martin. Martin hails from the USC Thornton School of Music and is presently teaching from his own studio in Anaheim.

In March, trumpeter Knox Summerour will headline a concert with nationally-acclaimed ensemble members. Summerour is a trumpeter and vocalist in Los Angeles, in addition to being a film composer.

Paulie Pesh, an active composer and performer in Southern California, will visit in May. Accompanied by his acoustical guitar, Pesh has been described as an "incredible talent."

The summer months will feature trombonists Steven Humenski and Bob Sanders, along with up-and-coming musician Jeffrey Reynolds.

Award-winning musician Brandon Bernstein has performed with "some of the best jazz musicians in L.A." His concert is in September.

Closing out the series will be nationally acclaimed and award-winning speaker, author and humorist, Ken Davis.

The concerts are sponsored by First Presbyterian Church of Downey and proceeds will cover the costs of the musicians. Any leftover funds will support of musical classes for children in the church's Kidz Konnection after-school program.

Tickets are \$10 in advance and \$15 at the door. Season tickets are available for \$50 for all six concerts, and \$150 for season tickets for a family of four. Tickets can also be purchased online at www.brownpapertickets.com.

Each concert will begin at 7:15 p.m. and will include an intermission.

Jewelry repair store to open

DOWNEY – Fast-Fix Jewelry and Watch Repairs will celebrate its grand opening inside Stonewood Center with a ribbon-cutting ceremony Feb. 5 at 4 p.m.

The store is located near the mall's southwest entrance, next to See's Candy. Appetizers and refreshments will be served at the event.

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The Downey Symphony

Sharon Lavery, Music Director

JoAnn Turovsky, Harp

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Saturday, January 31, 2009
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Griffiths Middle School's AVID students shared their gratitude for Downey school board members Martha Sodetani and Donald LaPlante, who spoke to the group last month.

'Thank you' notes from AVID students

BY MARY FORNEY,
STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY – Downey Unified School District School Board members Martha Sodetani and Donald LaPlante spoke to Griffiths Middle School 7th and 8th grade Advancement via Individual Determination (AVID) students on Dec. 5.

The elective class focuses on motivating at-risk children to succeed academically through guest speakers and special projects.

The 8th grade AVID students wrote 'thank you' notes to the school board members for talking to them about their careers and the importance of an education.

"Dear Mrs. Sodetani,

"You had a great presentation and everyone liked you. Maybe one day you can come back again...I just wanted to ask you if you get tired of kids." – **Manuel Cuellar**

"Thank you for coming to our classroom to be our guest speaker, and for telling us how all the hard work that we do in middle school will pay off when we go to college." – **Justine Zapata**

"The thing that you said that got my attention was that 100 percent of kids in AVID go to a four-year college. Another thing you said that really got me to think was to leave a lot of options for myself so I don't get stuck on a dead end street." – **Eric Flores**

"I would hate to be a part of the school district, but I guess someone has to figure out what our school has to do about our school budget..." – **Leilani Miyadi**

"Your talk has motivated me to stay in AVID as long as I can...P.S. I was the one in the front with the glasses." – **Celeste Moreira**

"I found it interesting when you told us about how you adopted many children. It takes a good person to give someone a home and love." – **Yesenia Barrera**

"Dear Mr. LaPlante,

"I thought it was interesting that you teach 8th grade. It must be hard having two jobs and both with children." – **Michael Gaitan**

"I really enjoyed you coming to AVID and telling us about yourself and that you are a USC fan because so am I – USC beat the Bruins." – **Rebecca Gonzalez**

"I think it is true that USC is the best, and the game was a good game on Saturday. Wow. The score was 28-7. Did you tail gate? Have you seen *The Downey Patriot*?" – **Celeste Moreira**

POET'S CORNER

Editor Emeritus

John Quincy Adams
What a great name to hang on a kid
But it stuck
And he lived up to it as best he could.
Newsman in Frisco
And other places
And then he came to Downey

NEWS TRIBUNE
Then The Eagle
Finally The Patriot

Instituted a poetry page – unheard of
But popular.

"Time Traveler" he learned more of
local history than the folks at the
History Center knew John with his camera
Was everywhere

"Local News" with a flair of big city
An all-including rhymed list
At Christmas
The best of good friends always
So now he'll be Editor Emeritus
Hope that means he'll
Keep on writing
Off into the sunset

–*John Vincent,
Downey*

"I want to thank you for coming and making me laugh." – **Katherine DePaz**

"The thing you said that inspired me was your pride for the college you attended – USC. This inspires me because when I leave college, I want to leave with my head up high and very happy that I had what it took to attend college." – **Eric Flores**

"It is amazing how the board does so many things to every elementary, middle, and high school in Downey. Don't you ever get frustrated from all that work? I know I would." – **Manuel Cuellar**

"I enjoyed your talk about college – great advice. Well, thank you for sharing your time with AVID, and sorry – I love UCLA." – **Celinna Montano**

"I never knew that you guys were the ones that make all the rules for the entire district. That's so cool and interesting." – **Lauren Cisneros**

"Why do you like USC? UCLA all the way." – **Julia Molinaro**

"I have always wondered what the people of the school board did all day...I finally know, so thank you for that. Your dedication towards children is really inspiring, and I will always remember becoming a school board member as an option." – **Leilani Miyadi**

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Bye, John

By Eric Pierce

John Adams, editor and mentor, our friend – my friend – has died. Wow. I can't believe I'm typing that.

John Adams has died.

I knew he wasn't invincible, but the way I saw him battle Parkinson's disease the past few years, a part of me thought he was, well, invincible.

Just last week he called me to find out "how things are in the office." I told him.

I asked how things were at the convalescent home. He told me he had a new nurse.

"Is she treating you well?" I asked.

"She's not cute," he answered.

"But is she treating you well?"

"I told you, she's not cute," a hint of exasperation in his voice.

That was John.

I looked up to John. He gave me my first real newspaper job. He gave me an opportunity to succeed when other editors peered down at me through their bifocals.

Two months after I was hired, he slapped me on the back and said, "You're doing a hell of a job."

That was my performance evaluation. That was John.

Things got tough for John towards the end. He would shuffle his feet, fall, get up, and sometimes fall down again. But he would always get up. Always. He should have been a prize fighter.

Every morning he would call the Downey Police Department and ask the front desk "Did anything happen overnight?" Sometimes the officer on the other end couldn't understand John, whose speech gradually became more slurred, and would hang up, mistaking John for a prankster.

I saw John hang up, collect himself, and hit redial. That was John.

John's mind was sharp as a tack. As editor of a small community newspaper, he knew he had the dubious responsibility to not only report the news, but also to analyze it for readers. He excelled because he cared.

Whenever my car broke down he always lent me his large yellow Buick. I called it "The Tank." I turned the key, the engine roared, and Bob Dylan boomed from the speakers.

When he lost his driving privileges, he donated the car. Didn't receive a dime in return.

I can't believe John's gone. He loved the Downey Rose Float. He loved the Downey Historical Society. He loved Arc.

He hated Elvis.

I can't believe John's gone.

I miss him already.

...

Our office will be closed the morning of Feb. 2 as we remember John at a service inside the Harriett Paine Event Center at Downey Adult School. The public is invited.

We thank the DUSD for lending us use of the facilities.

...

Staff writer Henry Veneracion, who knew John for many, many years, wrote the following:

"I was privileged to work closely—and spend quality time—with John whose dedication to duty and work was total. And he had extraordinary talent to back it up. And he knew how to give, and take, a joke.

"He exuded a deep seriousness about him, but he never took himself seriously. He was generous to a fault, respectful, and enjoyed the company of those he considered his friends but detached and cold to those, for one reason or another, he disliked. He had his faults, but given his journalistic gifts and his professionalism, his impact can only be described as immense. I know I owe him a lot.

"His last days must have been terrible, but I'm sure he was up to it. He was one tough guy."

...

The Downey Historical Society issued the following statement:

"We heard with sorrow of the passing of John Adams, known as city editor and to those of us at the history center as poet, friend and history buff. When he was able John was a frequent visitor at the center and his Time Traveler essays are classics in Downey history

"We miss him much. And most especially we'll miss his annual Christmas poems which always touched all of us."

Letters to the Editor:

NASA's false hope

Dear Editor,

Michael Griffin, who was chosen by Bush in 2005 to be the 11th NASA Administrator, submitted his resignation due to the new President, which was chosen to be accepted.

Griffin wants to replace the shuttle fleet with the Ares-Orion Spacecraft although critics inside and outside the agency disagree with the idea. Griffin feels the shuttles are unsafe and all will be retired by 2010. He also thinks NASA should establish a permanent presence on the moon and go to Mars.

Replacing the shuttle for safety is a logical thing to do, but stating NASA should establish a permanent presence on the moon and go to Mars is far-fetched. Doing such a task would take 14 months round-trip, and man could never survive the solar radiation. The only material that can block it is lead, and due to its weight, no rocket of any kind could lift the amount that is necessary.

Radiation is the reason why the space shuttle never went to the moon and never will. NASA is well aware that solar radiation will prohibit any real trip to Mars by man, but false hope is given that we could truly go to Mars, when in actuality, probability is highly unlikely.

NASA just wants our government to give large amounts of money to spend as they please.

— Mike Sandoval,
Downey



Roybal-Allard presses for technology skills

Emphasizing the importance of using technology in the classroom to help students perform better in school, Rep. Lucille Roybal-Allard (D-34) introduced legislation this week in the U.S. House of Representatives to assist students who attend economically disadvantaged schools obtain critical technological skills.

"Technology skills are more critical than ever if America's children are going to compete in today's world economy," said Roybal-Allard, who serves on the appropriations subcommittee for Labor, Health and Human Services and Education, which has federal funding jurisdiction over the U.S. Department of Education and federal education programs. "Whether students are preparing for college or planning to go straight into the workforce, we must provide them with the high tech skills employers increasingly demand to meet the challenges of the 21st Century."

The congresswoman's legislation, titled the Achievement Through Technology and Innovation (ATTAIN) Act (HR 558), amends the current "Enhancing Education Through Technology" program in the No Child Left Behind Act, which is expected to be reauthorized by the U.S. House of Representatives in the near future. ATTAIN would better target federal education technology resources toward technology professional development and systemic reform initiatives in struggling schools.

ATTAIN does this by providing federal funding to help schools that serve disadvantaged and low-income students purchase computers, software and other technology. The measure ensures teachers are properly trained to effectively teach the newest technology and puts in place stan-

dards to ensure all students are technologically literate by the 8th grade. The bill also requires that states provide guidance to districts on how to ensure that schools have access to the most up-to-date computers and software. Finally, the ATTAIN Act calls for research initiatives to determine the effectiveness of the new technology program at the state and national levels.

"In this era of ever shrinking school budgets, overcrowded schools and overextended teachers, studies show technology can have a tremendous impact on student learning," Roybal-Allard said. "I am confident that the final passage of ATTAIN will help to ensure that our students who attend struggling schools will become more engaged, eager to learn, and ultimately better prepared to meet the challenges of today's high-tech and competitive, global workforce."

Joining Congresswoman Roybal-Allard as original cosponsors of the ATTAIN Act are: Congressman Rubén Hinojosa (D-TX), Chairman of the House Subcommittee on Higher Education, Competitiveness, and Lifelong Learning; Congressman Ron Kind (D-WI), and Congresswoman Judy Biggett (R-IL).

In recognition of the congresswoman's work to enhance the use of technology in the classroom and promote student achievement, the State Educational Technology Directors Association presented her with its prestigious Federal Policy Maker Award. In addition, the Computer Using Educators named Congresswoman Roybal-Allard its 2008 Legislator of the Year.

A Thomas Paine Day celebration

By Bernice Stumps

One man – Thomas Paine – contributed major achievements that changed history. He brilliantly unraveled many societal problems and gave us equally brilliant solutions.

If we ignore our humanitarian benefactors, such as Paine, we offer no evidence to our youth or young in spirit of how we advanced to have the individual freedom and the standard-of-living benefits we enjoy today. These came about by determining "what is right" through reason.

Therefore, for the hope of a future, for further discoveries to solve societal problems, the story of the great author, genius, and liberator – Thomas Paine – and other major, rational and moral reasoning individuals should be made widely known to our youth and young in spirit, for they are the hope of a better world as we face one with enormous, alarming problems.

If there is any doubt of how the remembrance of Thomas Paine's

achievements can influence the future, it is abundantly clear in Professor Andrew J. Galambos' Course V-76: The Declaration of Independence, Thomas Paine and Your Freedom. Galambos (1924-1997) was the founder and director of The Free Enterprise Institute that thousands attended, listening attentively to a remarkable man who lectured from an encyclopedic and brilliantly innovative mind. His approach to real solutions to our current problems is both motivating and uplifting. Galambos acknowledges he stands of the shoulders of Thomas Paine and Isaac Newton, an amazing connection!

Without Paine's "Common Sense," as to why we should break away from monarchy, we would otherwise be saluting today the British flag!

Come join in a Thomas Paine Celebration Day, this Thursday, Jan. 29 (his birthday, 1737) at 6:30 p.m. For more information, call (562) 869-0608.

Mixed-bag of recommendations

Contributed by Lawrence J. McQuillan

Which state policies would California's small-business owners like to change? To find out, Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger recently convened a two-day conference in Los Angeles.

The first-ever "Governor's Conference on Small Business and Entrepreneurship" included small-business owners, community-college administrators, state employment and development officials, trade-group representatives, and policy researchers, including me.

The conference featured 10 caucuses in policy areas such as taxation, regulation, education, health care, transportation, and procurement. Each caucus developed policy recommendations and submitted them to participants for a vote on the final day. There were 37 recommendations total, and the top-10 vote getters would be refined and advanced as part of the governor's small-business agenda for his final two years in office.

The top-10 recommendations are an interesting mixed bag: restore state investment in Small Business Development Centers to support small businesses and leverage federal dollars with matching state funds; have the California Air Resources Board assess the costs to small businesses of complying with AB 32 and identify financing programs to help alleviate these costs; permit more involvement by small businesses in the state regulatory process and have the state adopt a regulatory flexibility act; conduct an independent audit to ensure current laws and regulations regarding small business contracting procedures, laws, and goals are enforced.

Other top-10 recommendations: increase federal and state funding for loan guarantees and micro-lending programs to lower lender risk exposure; amend the mission statement of the California Education Code to emphasize preparing students to "compete and contribute to a global economy;" create a more effective and transparent system for monitoring small-business procurement goals and increase set-aside contracts and unbundling; change the minimum franchise tax to a uniform fee applicable to all businesses that incorporate; require shared financial responsibility among all stakeholders to facilitate health-care access for all; and eliminate barriers to capital by establishing new public-private funding mechanisms to encourage investment in small businesses.

The group's best recommendations call for reducing regulatory costs on small businesses, which are greater on a per-employee basis than for large companies. But a major drawback with many of the proposals is that they invite more government involvement in the everyday life of

Californians: new government programs, more government spending and debt, more regulatory agencies and oversight, while not even starting a discussion on the merits of AB 32, school choice, and a nondiscriminatory tax code.

Greater government dependency and intervention will reduce innovation, economic growth, and job creation. Or, as Albert Einstein said, "Bureaucracy is the death of all sound work." Research proves that the most dynamic, innovative, and robust state economies are those that minimize government intervention and maximize economic freedom. Giving entrepreneurs the freedom to create, take risks, and assume both the profits and losses of their actions is the best recipe to drive job creation and prosperity.

California's 3.6 million small businesses are primary sources of jobs and innovation. Small employers represent 99 percent of California's employers and hire 52 percent of the state's private-sector workers. Small businesses created 88 percent of the state's net new jobs from 2004 through 2005. They generate annually more than \$150 billion in sales.

It's no exaggeration to say that small businesses will propel California out of its current recession. So it's important that the governor and state legislature know what small-business owners want. But it's equally important that business owners seek reforms that will actually invigorate the state's economy, not make it worse and more dependent on government revenue.

Sadly, California's small-business community missed an opportunity boldly to shout: "repeal AB 32, lower the minimum wage, loosen overtime rules, grant school choice for all, cap state spending, don't enact the proposed 1.5-cent sales tax hike, enact a flat income tax to reduce the revenue rollercoaster, and generally leave us alone, Sacramento!"

The State of California is now priced as a greater bankruptcy risk than Slovakia. We shouldn't ask the state to take on more debt or spending. Instead, we should ask the governor and state legislature to free the California economy so that businesses can grow, hire new workers, produce new products for global markets, and generate needed tax revenue.

Lawrence J. McQuillan, Ph.D., is Director of Business and Economic Studies at the California-based Pacific Research Institute for Public Policy. Contact him at LMcQuillan@pacificresearch.org.

The Downey Patriot

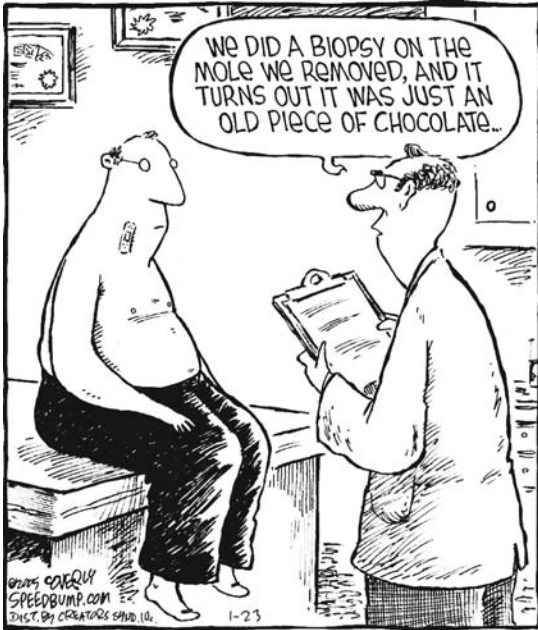
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SPEED BUMP



DAVE COVERLY



Downey Community Calendar

Events For January

- Fri. Jan. 23: **Open house**, Arc of Southeast Los Angeles County, 9 a.m.
- Sat. Jan. 24: **Christopher Martin in concert**, First Presbyterian Church of Downey, 7:15 p.m.
- Sun. Jan. 25: **"Blazing Paddles" travelogue**, Downey Theatre, 2:30 p.m.
- Thurs. Jan. 29: **Richard Daggett presentation**, Community Center, 7:30 p.m.
- Thurs. Jan. 29: **Business Watch meeting**, City Hall, 12 p.m.

City Meetings

- 1st Tuesdays, 6:15 p.m.: **Redevelopment Project Area Committee**, Cormack Meeting Room at Downey Library.
- 1st & 3rd Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.: **Planning Commission**, Council Chamber at City Hall.
- 1st Tuesday, 4:00 p.m.: **Recreation and Community Services Commission**, Council Chamber, City Hall.
- 1st Thursday, 9 a.m.: **Traffic Committee**, Training Room, Second Floor of City Hall.
- 2nd & 4th Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.: **City Council/Community Development Commission**, Council Chamber.
- 3rd Thursday, 3:30 p.m.: **Parking Place Commission**, Second Floor Training Room at City Hall

Regularly Scheduled Meetings

Mondays

- 6:30 p.m.: **Metropolitan Masonic Lodge #352 dinner**, mtg., for information call 426-6786.
- 6:30 p.m.: **Overeaters Anonymous**, at Downey Regional Med. Center Conf. Room A, for info. call 426-6786.
- 1st Mon., 4 p.m.: **2nd Century Foundation**, at City Hall, 1st floor, call 927-9790.
- 2nd Mon., 11 a.m.: **American Legion Auxiliary #270**, at United Methodist Church, for info. call 923-2481.
- 2nd Mon., 3 p.m.: **Keep Downey Beautiful**, at City Hall, for more information call 904-7159.
- 3rd Mon., 7 p.m.: **American Legion Post 270**, Los Amigos Country Club, call 869-1053.
- 4th Mon., 7:30 p.m.: **Downey Numismatists**, at Downey Retirement Center, call 862-6666.

Tuesdays

- 9 a.m.: **Downey Bocce Club**, at Apollo Park, for information call Pat Rooney at 923-5352.
- 9:30 a.m.: **Downey Seniors Club**, at Apollo Park, for information call Nadine Morris at 923-9422.
- 9:30 a.m.: **Adventure with the Bible**, at the First Baptist Church call 928-4153.
- 12 p.m.: **Rotary Club**, at Rio Hondo, for information call Darren Dunaway at 806-5400.
- 12 p.m.: **Exchange Club of Downey**, at Sizzler, for information call Don Hollister at 927-5871.
- 6:00 p.m.: **Toastmasters Club 587**, at First Baptist Church, for info call 928-2658.
- 7 p.m.: **Boy Scout Troop 2**, at Downey United Methodist Church, for information call 869-6478.
- 7 p.m.: **Boy Scout Troop 441**, at Apollo Park Activities Room, for information call 923-3659.
- 2nd and 4th Weds., 7:30 a.m.: **Chamber "Rise&Shine" Networkers**, for info. call (562) 923-2191.
- 2nd and 4th Tues., 6 p.m.: **Sertoma Club**, at Bakers Square. for information call (562) 927-6438.
- 2nd Tues., 7 p.m.: **Downey Fly Fishers**, at Apollo Park, for information call 943-3904.
- 3rd Tues., 7:30 p.m.: **Writer's Workshop West**, at at Downey High School library, for info call 862-3106.
- Last Tues., 11:00 a.m.: **Los Companeros Service Club**, at Los Amigos Country Club, for info call 863-1549.

Wednesdays

- 7 a.m.: **Kiwanis Club**, at Rio Hondo Events Center. Call Steve Roberson at 927-2626.
- 1 p.m.: **Women's Bocce Club**, for information call 869-8782.
- 1st Weds., 10 a.m.: **Woman's Club of Downey**, for information call Barbara Briley-Beard 869-7618.
- 1st Weds., 11:30 a.m.: **Downey Coordinating Council**, at Community Center, for information call 923-4357.
- 1st Weds., 7:30 p.m.: **Downey Stamp Club**, at Maude Price School cafeteria, for information call 928-3028.
- 1st Weds., 7:30 p.m.: **Downey Emblem Club #309**, at Downey's Elks Lodge, for information call 868-4386.
- 1st & 3rd Weds., 7:00 p.m.: **After-Care Post Cancer Therapy Group**, for information call 923-4800.
- 2nd Weds., 7:30 p.m.: **Downey Model A Club**, at Gallatin School Cafeteria, for information call 928-4132.
- 2nd Weds., 7:30 p.m.: **Downey Sister Cities Ass'n**, at Maude Price School, Call 862-7197.
- 2nd Weds., 11:45 a.m. - **Downey Christian Women's Club**, at Los Amigos CC, Call 927-8488.
- 2nd & 4th Weds., 11:00 a.m. - **AARP**, at Barbara J. Riley CC, Call Lorene Frazier 861-6075.
- 3rd Weds., - **Downey Dog Obedience Club** Apollo Park, for info. call Gina 869-5213 or Valerie 420-2972.
- 3rd Weds., 6 p.m. - **American Business Women's Association**, Rio Hondo Country Club, Call Barbara Carlson 863-2192.
- 4th Weds., 12:00 noon: **Retired Federal Employees**, at **Furman Park West Bldg.**, call 943-5513.
- Wed.& Fri., 10:15 a.m.: **Senior Bingo**, at Apollo Park, for information call 904-7223.

Thursdays

- 7:30 a.m.: **Soroptimist Int'l of Downey**, for information, call Pat Heineke, 904-3534.
- 7:30 a.m.: **Connections Networking**, for information call 869-1414.
- 12 p.m.: **Kiwanis Club of Downey**, at Rio Hondo Events Center, call Roy Jimenez 923-0971.
- 12 p.m.: **Downey Christian Businessmen's Committee**, for information call 928-4153.
- 12 p.m.: **Optimist Club of Downey**, at Sambis, for information call Steve Allen at 622-7655.
- 12:30 p.m.: **Take off Pounds Sensibly**, at First Christian Church, call (800) 932-8677.
- 6:30 p.m.: **Downey United Masonic Lodge # 220**, 8244 3rd St., Call 862-4176.
- 7 p.m.: **Troop 351, Boy Scouts of America**, at First Baptist Church, for information call 776-3388.
- 4th Thurs., 7:30 p.m.: **Downey Historical Society programs**, at Community Center. Call 862-2777.
- 2nd Thurs., 7:30 p.m.: **Beaming Rebel Foxes Collectors Club**, for more information call Carl D. Jones at 923-2400.

Fridays

- 7:30 a.m.: **Pro Networkers**, at Mimi's Cafe, for information call Barbara Briley Beard at 869-7618
- 3rd Fri., 8:30 a.m.: **Women's "In His Glory" Ministry** at Los Amigos C. C. (562) 622-3785.

Saturdays

- 9 a.m.: **Farmers Market**, Second Street at New Avenue, for information call (562) 904-7246.

Sundays

- 3rd Sun. Odd # Months 1:30 p.m.: **Aerospace Legacy Foundation**, at First Baptist Church Room 120.

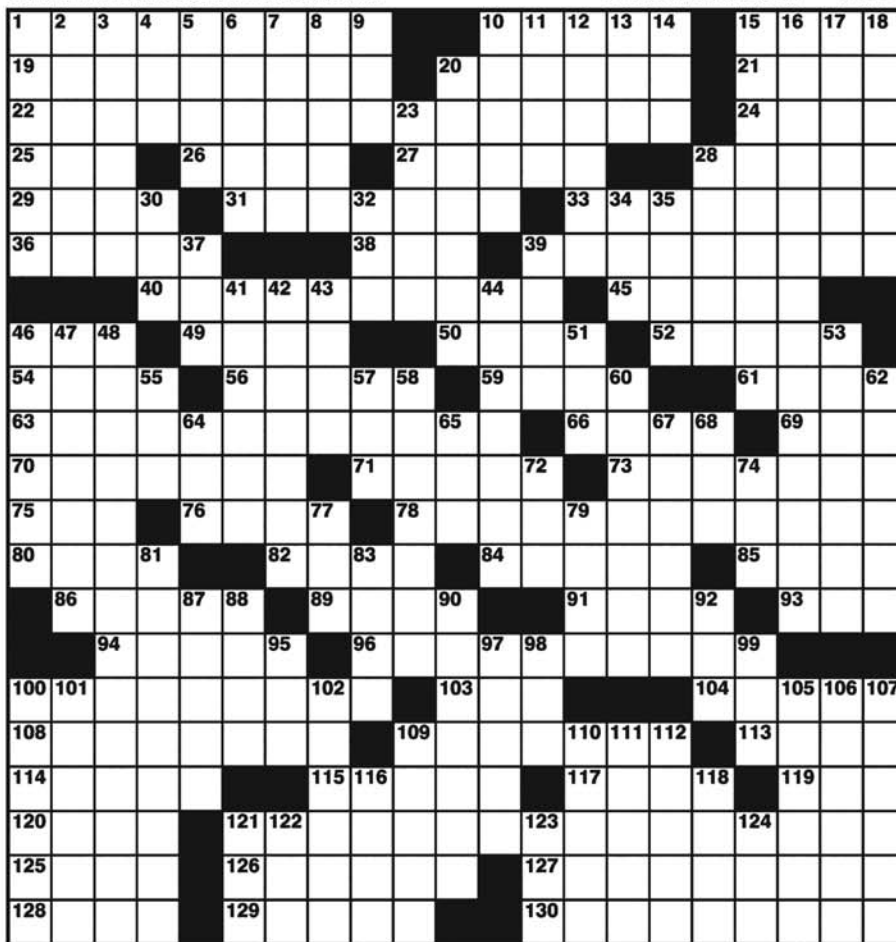
On This Day...

- Jan. 23, 1849: Elizabeth Blackwell becomes the first woman to receive a medical degree in the United States.
- 1953: Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa is born. Also born Jan. 23: "MacGyver" actor Richard Dean Anderson (59), "Beverly Hills, 90210" vixen Tiffani Thiessen (35), and UFC fighter Tito Ortiz (34).
- 1979: President Nixon announces an accord has been reached to end the Vietnam War.
- 2002: "Wall Street Journal" reporter Daniel Pearl is kidnapped in Karachi, Pakistan. He is later killed.
- 2005: Former "Tonight Show" host Johnny Carson dies at 79.

THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com)
HEARD FROM THE HERD: Pasturized wordplay
 by Randolph Ross

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- ACROSS**
- 1 Vermicelli relative
 - 10 Gave a four-star review
 - 15 Mob scene
 - 19 "Sixteen Tons" singer
 - 20 Having better circulation
 - 21 ___ account (never)
 - 22 Bovine slapstick trio?
 - 24 Some free TV ads
 - 25 Incl. shipping
 - 26 Reason for a stop
 - 27 Words to the wise
 - 28 "___ pray"
 - 29 Felt sorry about
 - 31 Bovine headache remedy?
 - 33 Kiss
 - 36 Derby Stakes locale
 - 38 Cul-de-___
 - 39 Turkish region
 - 40 Bovine celebrity?
 - 45 Exhausted
 - 46 Not very bright
 - 49 Nanny of India
 - 50 *The Lion King* villain
 - 52 Antagonist
 - 54 Buck ender
 - 56 Arden of literature
 - 59 Copay requirers, for short
 - 61 Like some grapes
 - 63 Bovine communicator?
 - 66 "To ___ not to ..."
 - 69 Bullfight cheer
 - 70 Dow Jones stats
 - 71 Explosive experiment
 - 73 Puts in a shell
 - 75 Tempe sch.
 - 76 "___ girl!"
 - 78 Famous cow puncher?
 - 80 News reporter's asset
 - 82 Car bar
 - 84 Nightingale, e.g.
 - 85 Designer von Furstenberg
 - 86 Very lite
 - 89 Piece of bank business
 - 91 Former Ford models
 - 93 Ostrich's origin
 - 94 Greek city-state
 - 96 Bovine band selection?
 - 100 Supporting frameworks
 - 103 Dernier ___ (latest fashion)
 - 104 Tropical trees
 - 108 Explorer of the Southwest
 - 109 Cow's favorite composer?
 - 113 Old-time movie mogul
 - 114 Inedible orange
 - 115 Remington rival
 - 117 "Va-va-va ___"
 - 119 Spat ender
 - 120 Actress Anderson
 - 121 Source of a bovine fine?
 - 125 Film buff's collection
 - 126 In rhythm
 - 127 Move it
 - 128 "And ___ goes"
 - 129 Dist. between stars
 - 130 Foment
- DOWN**
- 1 Throughout, in music
 - 2 Support
 - 3 Battery poles
 - 4 Jazz pianist Evans
 - 5 Pick up on
 - 6 Actor ___ Zimbalist, Jr.
 - 7 Type of sculpture
 - 8 "___ Remember" (*Fantasticks* tune)
 - 9 Sun Valley's st.
 - 11 Cut ___ (dance)
 - 12 Insect-eating birds
 - 13 Sushi selection
 - 14 Wine preference
 - 15 Crowd-control devices
 - 16 Cow communication?
 - 17 Working by itself
 - 18 Restless sleeper
 - 20 Very devoted collectors
 - 23 Grammy grp.
 - 28 Light unit
 - 30 ___ Perignon
 - 32 *The Waste Land* monogram
 - 34 ___ for *Silence*
 - 35 Part of a Dracula costume
 - 37 Bygone bird
 - 39 Composer
 - 41 Khachaturian
 - 42 Brunch selection
 - 41 Singer Williams
 - 43 Denny's alternative
 - 44 Truman Secretary of State
 - 46 Reggae artist Marley
 - 47 Attaches, as patches
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 - 81 "Green" researcher
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 - 95 Turf
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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.

The Derby Stakes (36 Across), the second leg of the English thoroughbred Triple Crown, is held annually at EPSOM Downs. Francisco de CORONADO (108 Across) was the first European to see the Grand Canyon. Truman secretary of state Dean ACHESON (44 Down) was instrumental in the creation of NATO and the World Bank.



Paging Dr. Frischer...

By Dr. Alan Frischer



This week's article concerns an incurable disease that afflicts about one in every five people (approximately 67 million) in the United States! Every year there are 500,000 new cases. This disease is preventable with common sense and some specific protective behaviors.

I am referring...of course...to genital herpes.

What is herpes, and how do you get it? Two viruses, herpes simplex 1 (HSV1) and herpes simplex 2 (HSV2) are responsible. In its most common form, an HSV infection involves the face and mouth, the lesions are cold sores, and it is considered oral herpes. Most typically the cause of oral herpes is HSV1, although HSV2 is possible. Genital herpes is the second most common form of herpes, and is typically caused by HSV2 (although HSV1 is possible).

Genital herpes is contracted through direct contact with an infected person's active lesion or body fluids. The virus then travels through tiny breaks in the skin or mucous membranes (which include the genital area). Genital herpes is mostly *asymptomatic* (without symptoms), but note that even when asymptomatic, disease transmission can still occur through

viral shedding (the virus can still reproduce and cause infection). Passing along herpes when symptoms are not apparent is most likely during the first year of having the virus.

What about toilet seats? In theory, the virus can indeed live on a toilet seat for two to four hours. However, evidence of transmission from this source has never been well documented.

Herpes cycles between periods of activity and remission. Triggers for a herpes outbreak include physical as well as psychological factors. Common physical factors include being run down, suffering from other genital infections, menstruation, drinking large quantities of alcohol, exposure to sunlight, other UV light exposure such as tanning booths, and any disease that weakens the immune system. Psychological factors include prolonged stress and anxiety.

Infections occur 2 to 12 days after exposure to the virus. Symptoms include tingling, itching, burning or pain, followed by the appearance of the classic blisters. That first outbreak of lesions is called the initial or primary infection, and tends to be the most severe. The blisters contain infectious viral particles and last between 2 and 21 days, followed by a remission period during which the sores go away. There may be fever, fatigue, body aches and headaches. In women, the sores for genital herpes most often involve the vulva and entrance to the vagina. In men, sores are most commonly seen on the glans (end), foreskin and shaft of the penis. While some people never experience a recurrence of this initial infection, for those who do, the episodes over time tend to be less

severe and less frequent.

A herpes diagnosis, practically speaking, is made by a visual inspection of the sores. To confirm the diagnosis, the doctor may perform a swab test, in which a sample of the fluid is taken from a blister, ulcer, or a genital secretion. While many who are infected will develop the classic skin lesions, for others the first clue that they have the disease is when their partner develops it. Up to 60% of people who have genital herpes show NO SIGN. Occasionally, one partner in a long-term relationship may develop symptoms of herpes for the first time because one or both of them were unaware of being carriers of a silent HSV infection. The sudden appearance of herpes does not necessarily imply recent transmission from someone outside the relationship. However, it makes the task of controlling the spread of herpes extremely difficult when those infected may be unaware that they have the disease.

There is no cure for herpes, and no vaccines available to prevent the infection. The current focus is on treatment to reduce viral reproduction and shedding, preventing the virus from entering the skin, and lessening the severity of symptomatic episodes.

What else can the herpes virus do to the body? In addition to the common oral and genital infections, there are more serious infections that can infect and damage the eyes (herpes keratitis), or invade the central nervous system and cause brain damage (herpes encephalitis). Recurrent skin infections can occur anywhere on the body where contact has been made, causing blisters and pain. Bell's Palsy has been linked to the presence and reactivation of the

herpes virus inside the sensory nerves of the face.

Prevention is the best policy, and for genital herpes, condoms are highly effective in limiting transmission. The virus cannot pass through a condom; however, the condom may not completely cover all the sores or protect all of the skin. As is true for all STD's, women are at higher risk of getting the disease from men than vice-versa. On an annual basis, without the use of condoms or antiviral medication, the transmission risk from male to female is 8-10% per year. The transmission risk from female to male is 4-5%. Taking an antiviral medication cuts that risk in half. Condom use also cuts the risk in half. Using both cuts the risk by 75%.

Treatment for the symptoms of an outbreak includes taking salt baths, wearing loose underclothes, and using common analgesics such as Tylenol or Advil. Antiviral medications such as Valtrex or Zovirax reduce the length of an outbreak as well as the severity. Those who suffer from frequent and painful recurrent episodes typically take the antiviral medicine daily, and it can also be used on an episode-by-episode basis.

What does it mean to have genital herpes?

- Have open and honest discussions with your partner(s)
- Refrain from sexual activity during an active outbreak of the disease
- Use condoms to lessen the risk of transmission

- Consider using an antiviral medicine to lessen the risk of transmission

- In an on-going relationship, where both partners fully understand the chance of transmission, they may wish to consider the choice to use condoms

- Become a member of a support group

- Speak with your doctor regarding the diagnosis, prevention, and treatment of this disease

Be well, and be safe!

Dr. Alan Frischer is former chief of staff and current chief of medicine at Downey Regional Medical Center. Write to him in care of this newspaper at 8301 E. Florence Ave., Suite 100, Downey, CA 90240.

Cardiovascular Fair Feb. 7

DOWNEY – Downey Regional Medical Center will host its annual Cardiovascular Wellness Fair on Feb. 7 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the hospital's conference rooms.

The fair, which is open to the public, will feature a variety of complimentary screenings and activities, including: carotid and respiratory screenings, blood pressure checks, consultations with a DRMC pharmacist, nutrition consultants, massages, cooking demonstrations with Jennifer Miyagawa, giveaways, raffles, and Mended Hearts representatives.

The fair will also feature a heart healthy snack (served at about 9 a.m.) and a presentation by Paiboon Mahaisavariya, MD.


For more information, contact DRMC's Cardiac Rehabilitation Department, (562) 904-5413.

Don't forget to visit our website online - Updated weekly with Downey news as well as breaking news during the week. We have many new features including a discussion system, blog, news columns, archives, and a search engine for all of our articles.

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Thurs., Jan. 29 • 2:00pm Original Roadhouse 15156 E Whittier Blvd Whittier	Fri., Jan. 30 • 10:00am Mimi's Café 12727 Towne Ctr Dr Cerritos		

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New Titles at the Downey City Library

Fiction

- **"A Day and a Night and a Day"** by Glen Duncan. Suspected of being a terrorist, a Harlem activist and restaurateur survives his interrogation by immersing himself in his memories.
- **"Eat, Drink and Be from Mississippi"** by Nanci Kincaid. Having left their rural southern home for more lucrative opportunities in San Francisco, siblings Truly and Courtney find their happiness unraveling with the failures of their marriages until they meet an ambitious stranger determined to move into their comfortable world.
- **"Lark and Termite"** by Jayne Anne Phillips. Set against the backdrop of the Korean War in the 1950's, this moving story focuses on a single family: Robert, a soldier, his daughter Lark and her brother Termite, a radiant child who is unable to walk or talk.
- **"Mounting Fears"** by Stuart Woods. In Woods' latest thriller, President Will Lee must deal with the unexpected death of the Vice-President, a CIA plot against the First Lady and nuclear threat in Pakistan.
- **"Three Silent Things"** by Margaret Mayhew. A colonel has been living in a peaceful Dorset village for nearly a year, and is well respected for his role in solving the murder of the late Lady Swynford. But when police find the body of a famous actress, the colonel begins to make some inquiries of his own.

Non-Fiction

- **"Biggest Loser Family Cookbook"** by Devin Alexander. This new collection offers healthy, affordable meal plans to satisfy every member of the family.
- **"It Seemed Like a Good Idea at the Time: My Adventures in Life and Food"** by Moira Hodgson. The daughter of a Foreign Service officer, Hodgson came of age in many exotic lands, experiencing unusual cuisine wherever she lived. This memoir reflects her love of food and the people and places in her life.
- **"Marilyn Revealed: the Ambitious Life of an American Icon"** by Ted Schwarz. In a new biography of film legend Marilyn Monroe, the author reveals the series of rejections and insecurities that shaped her personal life and death.

Visit www.downeylibrary.org and click on "New and Notable Books" to browse more titles

'Blazing Paddles' travelogue packs thrills, spills

By MARK KELLER,
DOWNEY THEATRE

DOWNEY – The Downey Theatre will present the sixth film of its '08-09 Armchair Adventure Travelogue Series, "Blazing Paddles," filmed and narrated by Gray Warriner, Sunday at 2:30 p.m.

This is the wildest, wettest travelogue you'll ever see! No need for a life jacket, but if you're afraid of water you may need to find an aisle seat! "Blazing Paddles" packs thrills, spills and a ton of fun into one soggy film. But there's more to it than white water. Discover the half-forgotten history and scenic grandeur of rivers across America, Canada and exotic locations across the globe.

Our journey begins on the New River in West Virginia. We explore the old mines, forgotten towns, and coal tipples along the rivers, relics from the Industrial Revolution. This is also railroad country, home to the historic story of John Henry, the steel-drive'n man. Take a steam train down the rails that border the New River. Look up at the death-defying base parachutists on Bridge Day.

West Virginia's Gauley River is a colorful autumn spectacular. White water thrills and spills combine with hilarious bad timing at "the box" below Sweet's Falls. Marvel at Tennessee's beautiful Ocoee, a river that is turned on and off each day like a faucet. Canoe Florida's spring-fed streams and get a little too close to alligators. Paddle hidden bayous in Louisiana and the Ouachita Mountains, and challenge Arkansas' aptly named Cossatot (skull crusher).

Jump to the West Coast, where we visit old mining camps and descend through history in California's mother lode country on the American River and the Tuolumne. Explore timeless Yosemite and its Merced River, and the upper King in King's Canyon National Park. The wildest ride is reserved for Northern California's Salmon River.

Ernest Hemingway's Rogue River is one of Oregon's most beautiful. But nothing equals the grandeur and the history of the high desert of Oregon's Owyhee, named after Hawaiian Mountain Men of the early 1800's.

Float into the deepest canyon in North America, Hell's Canyon. Idaho's Salmon River is dubbed "the river of no return" and flows through some of the most spectacular wilderness in America.

In Grizzly Bear country, we float into the heart of Grand Teton National Park on the Snake River.

Go back millions of years to the age of dinosaurs on the Ymoa River

in Dinosaur National Monument. This is one of the last best places, and one of the most spectacular river trips anywhere. Here, we join the Green River in the Canyon of Lodore and follow in the wake of John Wesley Powell, the first to explore the Green and Colorado Rivers in 1869. We descend through geologic time and human history as we follow the Colorado on its course through the southwest.

Venture up the Missouri and down the Columbia retracing the footsteps of Lewis and Clark and the Corps of Discovery on their epic two-year journey to explore the west for a newly expanding nation.

Finally, we leave North America behind and put in on the Zambezi just below Victoria Falls in Africa. Here, there's added incentive to stay in the boat, as hippos and crocodiles await just below the rapids! Join us for one of the wildest rides in nature on the biggest run-able rapids in the world and a surprise ending!

Gray Warriner is an independent producer of documentaries and travelogues. He has worked as a cameraman, director and producer, and has won more than 80 national and international awards for film excellence (including Eastman Kodak's award for best film).

He brings with him 15 years experience as a professional filmmaker. He has also been an instructor of cinematography at the University of Washington. For the past 20 years he has headed up Camera One, a Seattle-based production company that specializes in educational and adventure/travel films.

Warriner is an honors graduate from the University of Washington, where he majored in geology and physical geography. He entered the film business as a result of a chance encounter with a French documentary film crew while on a trip to the Mayan ruins of Tikal in Guatemala.

The work fascinated Warriner and he decided to abandon his graduate studies in pursuit of filmmaking. Warriner is a pilot, certified diver, underwater photographer, skier, hiker and whitewater rafter.

"Blazing Paddles" is the sixth Armchair Adventure of a 10-film series. The series features full-color, feature-length travelogues with live, in-person narration by the film producer.

All films are on Sundays at 2:30 p.m. at the Downey Theatre. Tickets for individual films may be purchased on day of performance only, beginning at 1:30 p.m. at the theater's box office. Adult tickets are \$7 and senior/student tickets are \$6 (cash or check only).

For more information, call the box office at (562) 861-8211, Monday through Friday, between noon and 4 p.m.

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Artist at Progress Park Sunday

PARAMOUNT – Accomplished watercolor and sketch artist Ernie Marjoram will provide a free painting demonstration Sunday at 2 p.m. at Progress Park.

The event is part of a regular meeting between Downey Art League and the Traditional Artist's Guild of Paramount.

Marjoram was born in 1954 in Rochester, N.Y. An early interest in perspective drawing led to a degree in architecture, which included a year of study in Florence, Italy.

Inspired by Italy's rich cultural history, Marjoram returned to Los Angeles and practiced architecture for 15 years. During this time he traveled extensively to study the architecture of Europe, Japan and Egypt.

In 1995, he began designing and sketching sets for TV, film and themed environments for entertainment industry clients, including Walt Disney Imagineering.

Marjoram began exhibiting his own personal art in 2003 and has participated in several group exhibits since. He held his first solo exhibit and followed it with a second one-man exhibit at the Ebell Club of Los Angeles in 2007.

Marjoram teaches design and perspective sketching to production designers at the American Film Institute.

Progress Park is located at 15530 Downey Ave., in Paramount.

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★ **UNDERWORLD: RISE OF THE LYCANS R** (12:05, 2:30, 5:00, 7:00, 7:40, 9:30, 10:15)
HOTEL FOR DOGS PG (11:30, 2:05, 4:40, 7:15, 9:55)
★ **MY BLOODY VALENTINE 3D R** (11:40, 2:15, 4:50, 7:35, 10:20)
NOTORIOUS R Fri to Sun. (11:05, 1:55, 4:45, 7:45, 10:40, Mon to Thu. (11:05, 1:55, 4:45, 7:45)
PAUL BLART: MALL COP PG (11:15, 12:00, 1:35, 2:20, 4:00, 4:55, 7:25, 10:05)
BRIDE WARS PG (11:25, 2:00, 4:25, 7:10, 9:45)
GRAN TORINO R (11:00, 1:35, 4:20, 7:05, 9:50)
THE UNBORN PG-13 (12:15, 2:40, 5:10, 7:30, 10:00)
Times for Friday-Thursday, January 23-29, 2009
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INKHEART PG (11:10 1:50 4:30) 7:10 9:50
FROST/NIXON R (10:20 1:20 4:20) 7:20 10:20
MY BLOODY VALENTINE 3D R (11:25 1:55 4:25) 6:55 9:25
MY BLOODY VALENTINE 3D R (11:25 1:55 4:25) 6:55 9:25
PAUL BLART: MALL COP PG (10:35 1:00 3:25) 5:50 8:15 10:40
HOTEL FOR DOGS PG (10:30 1:15 4:00) 6:45 9:30
NOTORIOUS R (10:50 1:45 4:40) 7:35 10:30
THE UNBORN PG-13 (12:00 2:40) 5:20 8:00 10:40
THE CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON PG-13 6:00 9:40
MARLEY AND ME PG (10:05 12:35 3:20pm)

'Phantom' opens tonight at Pantages

HOLLYWOOD – Andrew Lloyd Webber's "The Phantom of the Opera" will return to the Pantages Theatre in Hollywood for the first time in more than a decade when it opens tonight.

The engagement marks the opening of Broadway/L.A.'s 2009 season at the Pantages Theatre, where "Wicked" had been in residence the past two years.

With worldwide grosses estimated at more than \$5 billion, "The Phantom of the Opera" is the most successful entertainment venture of the 20th Century, surpassing such blockbuster films as "Titanic," "Lord of the Rings," "Jurassic Park" and "Star Wars."

The winner of seven Tony Awards, including Best Musical, "Phantom" has been seen by more than 80 million people in 124 cities in 25 countries. Worldwide, the show consistently plays to larger audiences and in longer engagements than any other musical in history.

On Jan. 9, 2006, "Phantom" became the longest-running show in Broadway history, surpassing the record-holding run of 7,485 performances achieved by "Cats."

Based on the classic novel "Le Fantome de l'Opera" by Gaston Leroux, "Phantom" tells the story of a masked figure who lurks beneath the catacombs of the Paris Opera House, exercising a reign of terror over all who inhabit it.


He falls madly in love with an innocent young soprano, Christine, and devotes himself to creating a new star by nurturing her extraordinary talents and by employing all of the devious methods at his command.

"Phantom" had its world premiere on Oct. 9, 1986 at Her Majesty's Theatre in London, winning every major British theater award including the Olivier and Evening Standard Awards. The New York production opened on Jan. 26, 1988 with a then-record advance of \$18 million. The musical went on to sweep the 1988 Tony Awards, winning seven.

"Phantom" features music by Andrew Lloyd Webber with lyrics by Charles Hart and additional lyrics by Richard Stilgoe.

The performance schedule for "The Phantom of the Opera" is Tuesday through Friday at 8 p.m., Saturday at 2 and 8 p.m., and Sunday at 1 and 6:30 p.m.

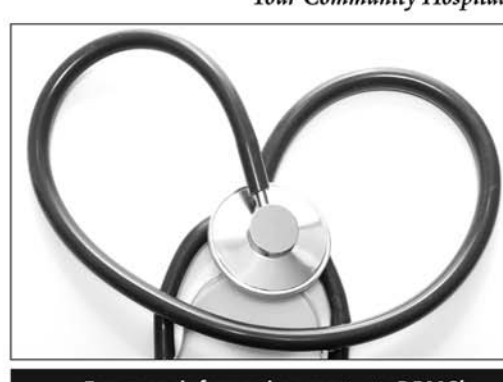
Tickets are priced between \$29.50 and \$85. Tickets are available at all Ticketmaster outlets or online at www.broadwayla.org.

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For more information, contact DRMC's Cardiac Rehab department at 562-904-5413.
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Locks of Love

■ Hunter Skill, 10, growing hair for Locks of Love organization.

BY MARY FORNEY,
STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY – Measuring more than 11 inches, the golden tresses of 10-year-old Hunter Skill are locks of love.

Following in the footsteps of his idol, right winger George Parros of the NHL Anaheim Ducks, Hunter has been letting his hair grow. His tresses will be donated to Locks of Love, a non-profit organization that provides hairpieces to children suffering hair loss.

Parros gets his hair shaved off annually to benefit the Childhood Leukemia Foundation.

The retail cost of hair prosthetics range between \$3,500 to \$6,000 so Locks of Love provides the hairpieces to disadvantaged children free of charge or on a sliding scale, based on financial need.

Hunter, who attends Ed C. Lewis Elementary School, started letting his hair grow about 18 months ago.

"It takes some time to grow – it has to be at least 10 inches long," Hunter said. "And you have to deal with knots – lots of knots – but it's worth it."

Sometimes mistaken for being a girl, Hunter laughs it off. "Waitresses especially think I'm a girl," he said. "What matters is my hair can help people with cancer. I have a favorite hockey player that did it so I wanted to do it."

Hunter first became a fan of Parros after becoming a member of the Anaheim Ducks Wild Wings Kids Club two years ago.

"I even got his autograph on my shirt during a meet and greet," Hunter said.

Johnny Crowsaw from Johnny & Co. in Downey has volunteered to shave off Hunter's hair during a school assembly in February.

The hair-cutting event is personally significant to Ed C. Lewis Elementary School Principal Robin Martin because she is a cancer survivor.

"I definitely have to be there," Martin said. "I think it's a great thing to have a fifth grader care so much. Fifth graders often go off in their own world, but he is thinking of others."

After Hunter gets his buzz cut, he plans on growing his hair long again. "I would still do it again knowing one life can make another life happy," he said. "It's easy – I'm just growing my hair."

For more information about Locks of Love, e-mail info@locksoflove.org.



Hunter Skill's hair has grown to more than 11 inches. He'll soon have it shaved off in support of Locks of Love. Photo by Mary Forney



Christopher Martin will be featured in his debut concert on the Rodgers 788 2-Manual digital organ at 7:15 p.m., Jan. 24, at First Presbyterian Church of Downey. The concert will be a repertoire spanning the centuries and showing the full range of the organ's capabilities. Tickets can be purchased by calling (562) 861-6752, by stopping by the First Presbyterian Church office on the corner of 7th Street and Downey Avenue, or online at www.brownpapertickets.com.

Resident showing off pin collection

DOWNEY – Downey resident Ray Erwin will share his collection of Olympic pins at the Feb. 11 meeting of the Downey Christian Women's Club at Los Amigos Country Club.

The lunch meeting begins at 11:45 a.m. Cost is \$13. The meeting will also feature speaker George Beardsley, whose topic is "Money is not the Best Way to be Rich."

Both men and women are invited to the meeting. RSVP by calling Sonja at (562) 862-4347 or Jean at (562) 861-1114.

Musicians set to jam Tuesday

DOWNEY – Musicians, singers and fans of music are invited to a Downey Folk Music Jam at the Barbara J. Riley Community and Senior Center this Tuesday at 6 p.m.

The jam is a round-robin format with musicians joining and leaving at will. Non-musicians may sit outside the circle and listen or sing along.

The jam is free and sponsored by the city of Downey Parks and Recreation Department.

For more information, call Bea or Jim Romano at (562) 861-7049.

Float designs now being accepted

DOWNEY – The Downey Rose Float Association is now accepting submissions for next year's Tournament of Roses Parade float design.

Designs should be submitted on a 8 1/2x11 piece of paper with your name and contact information on the back. Anyone can submit a design and eligible Rose Float members will vote at their Feb. 10 meeting.

Submissions should be mailed to the Downey Rose Float Association, P.O. Box 765, Downey, CA 90241 by Feb. 9, or brought to the meeting in the Gallatin Room of the Barbara J. Riley Community and Senior Center on Feb. 10 at 7 p.m.

For theme topic, visit www.downeyrose.org.

Class helps kids with early literacy

DOWNEY – The Downey City Library is offering a free class for parents to help their preschool children with early literacy.

"Every Child Ready to Read" will be offered Tuesday from 10:40-11:10 a.m., and again Feb. 2 from 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Instructor Claudia Dailey will give parents techniques for helping young children to read and develop early language skills through picture books.

Registration is accepted at the Adult desk or by calling (562) 904-7360, ext. 123.

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John Adams: Editor left long legacy of integrity, accuracy and trustworthiness.

Continued from page 1

always gave me really good insight into issues. It's supposed to be the other way around!

"He never told you what to do, but you know, with his experience, he had so many years of experience in the world and he knew a lot of things," Havice continued. "He saw issues for many years and he saw their beginning and their progress and their outcome. So he was a good resource person for me. And I think I was a good resource person for him too."

The News-Tribune ceased publication in January 1992. Two months later he joined the *Mid-Cities Examiner* as an editor, where he and staff attempted to "re-establish [the] Mid-Cities Examiner as a community weekly newspaper in Downey..."

The Examiner never established a connection with readers, and Downey was without a community newspaper until 1993, when Downey resident and developer Jerry Andrews launched the *Downey Eagle*.

Andrews and Adams first met at the outside patio of Mimi's Café. The meeting came at the urging of former Downey mayor Joyce Lawrence.

Andrews said he instantly settled on Adams as the Eagle's editor.

"He brought the years of experience I didn't have," said Andrews. "John brought stability, and was even-handed in his approach. He always wanted to express both sides."

"He knew how to run a newspaper, but more importantly he knew how not to run a newspaper."

Andrews said he would occasionally run an "experiment" past Adams, who would usually shoot down the idea.

"You have a right to know what is happening in your local community.

The first Amendment is not only a right, it is a privilege and a challenge to inform in the best interests of the community and nation."

—John Adams

"And that was OK," Andrews said. "He brought a lot to the town. He brought skill and judgment. This is a much better town because of him."

Andrews' daughter, Tanya, was the Eagle's business manager. She said Adams' fondness for Downey was genuine.

"He cared about the people, not so much the location," she said. "He loved the community, and the community loved him."

The Eagle ceased publication in 2002 after 10 years in business. Using mostly the same writing and advertising staff, Adams launched The Downey Patriot on May 3, 2002.

In a promise to readers, Adams vowed to "maintain a family atmosphere in its pages at all times." He also promised to maintain a high-level of journalistic integrity.

"Why should you read The Downey Patriot?" Adams editorialized in the Patriot's first issue. "Because you have a right to know what is happening in your local community. The First Amendment is not only a right, it is a privilege and a challenge to inform in the best interests of the community and nation. The Downey Patriot accepts this challenge."

Adams maintained an active, hands-on role as the Patriot slowly developed into a respected news-

weekly.

"The Patriot wouldn't be what it is without John," said Stan Hanstad, an assistant superintendent with DUSD. "John was brilliant, one of the best writers I've ever known. He was always very positive, but very honest and very thorough."

Since his days at the News-Tribune, Adams would join DUSD administrators every Friday at district headquarters for coffee and donuts. Together they would read the newspaper together and discuss local issues.

"He helped promote DUSD," said Hanstad. "We didn't always share the same take on things. There were times we'd argue when it came to children and philosophies. But there were times he'd say 'I appreciate what you do for the kids,' and that was his way of saying 'We may not agree, but I admire you.' The feeling was mutual."

Downey City Manager Gerald Caton shared similar sentiments.

"I put John right at the top," Caton said. "To me he was a very special person as he always tried to get all the facts straight. He probably called me - without exaggeration - several hundred times to find out what was going on."

Caton said Adams would sit in the same seat at City Council meetings (back row, left side) and would



John Adams became fast friends with many of his reporting subjects, including the late Dr. Jordan Phillips, left, and his wife, Mary.

occasionally be the only person in audience during routine and sometimes mundane budget meetings.

"John put together a great local paper," Caton said. "Basically if you lived in Downey you were really fortunate."

Councilman David Gafin had known Adams since the early 1990's, when Gafin became involved with the Downey Chamber of Commerce.

"What a super guy, he was Mr. Downey," said Gafin, who also worked as Adams' accountant. "I don't think there's been an event in 20 years where he was not there. He was very vocal, camera in hand. When you turned around he was there."

"He was not just a reporter, but a fixture in town."

As current Police Chief Roy Campos rose through the ranks of the Downey Police Department, he became familiar with Adams as well.

"He respected the entities within a city, respected journalism, but

also respected and treasured the need for the public to be informed," Campos said. "And as an editor he always made it a point to speak the truth. And then he had the courage to publish it."

Unfortunately, an on-going battle with Parkinson's disease slowly took its toll on Adams' health. Adams would lose his balance and fall in public, although he usually refused help getting back on his feet.

"He had such a drive to do his job, with his deteriorating health, his drive would sometimes place him at risk," Campos said. "We had to help him by his arm to get him around sometimes."

Through it all, Adams maintained a positive sense of humor. At one point, he even proposed writing an article titled "The Top 10 Places to Fall in Downey."

In October 2006, Adams sold the Patriot to Jennifer DeKay-Givens, a former Miss Downey Princess who had been working as the Patriot's business manager.

Adams, who by now was living at Downey Retirement Center, stayed on as editor emeritus, assisting with editing duties and the newspaper's overall direction.

"John had his finger on the heartbeat of the city," said DeKay-Givens, who first met Adams as a student at Downey High School. "Without him the Patriot wouldn't be here. We dedicate this issue to him."

Adams spent the last year of his life at Southland nursing home in Norwalk, where he received regular visits from friends, including Sussman, Hanstad, DUSD board member Martha Sodemani, and Mayor Mario Guerra.

Sodemani regularly brought him reading materials through the Assistance League's Book on Wheels programs. On a book request form, Adams requested history and anthropology books, and varied fiction.

"The stranger the better," he wrote.

When notified of his passing, Sodemani said she had books in the trunk of her car she was preparing to deliver to him.

"It was not just the books that took me to see him. It was much

See JOHN ADAMS, page 11

Attention Downey Homeowners

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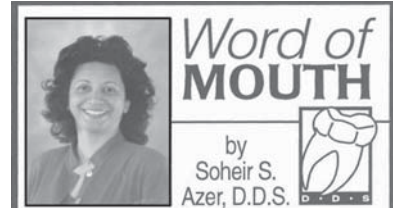
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John Adams enjoyed betting on horse racing, and once worked at a stable in Northern California.

John Adams: Memorial service Feb. 2 at Downey Adult School.

Continued from page 10

more than that. As a matter of fact, I did not always even take books when I went there" said Sodemani, who would often bring her children for a visit. "It was much more than the books. It was the camaraderie. He opened my children's eyes to be more compassionate."

Guerra would bring Adams non-fiction books and other small gifts as well.

"John was a simple man who cared about our city very much," said Guerra, a deacon with St. Raymond's Catholic Church. "He had high journalistic values and was well-known throughout our city."

"He represented what a local newspaper should be. His legacy will be one of kindness and love for our citizens and our community...He always left me with a smile, as best as he could."

Over the course of his career Adams earned many awards for

journalism and community service. He was a member of the Wave editorial staff that won Best Weekly of the Year Awards from the Los Angeles Press Club in 1988 and 1989; co-winner for Best News Story in 1988; Best Sports Story in 1982 by the Contra Costa Press Club; and Best News Story in 1978.

Adams is survived by a daughter and legions of friends. Next week's City Council and DUSD board of education meetings will be adjourned in his honor.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Adams' favorite organizations: Arc of Southeast Los Angeles County, 12049 Woodruff Ave., Downey, CA 90241; Downey Historical Society, 12450 Rives Ave., P.O. Box 554, Downey, CA 90241; and Downey Rose Float Association, P.O. Box 765, Downey, CA 90241.

Janet Fowler services tomorrow

DOWNEY – Janet Fowler, a resident of Downey for 20 years, died Jan. 12. She was 59.

Fowler was born in Paterson, N.J. She was employed by Neiman Marcus.

A memorial service will be held tomorrow at Miller-Mies Mortuary at 11 a.m. Burial will be private.

Olga Mercedes Waters was 96

DOWNEY – Long-time Downey resident Olga Mercedes Waters died in Olympia, Wash. on Jan. 10 at the age of 96.

A member of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, she attended daily Mass for years. Called "Grandma Ole," she was a supporter of Catholic missions.

Born Dec. 25, 1912, in Colon, Panama, and was the second of nine children born to Elena Stevenson and Ramon Bejarano.

She married Robert Neary Waters in the early 1940's who preceded her in death. She was also preceded in death by her parents and grandson Gregory Berwick.

She is survived by two daughters, Kathleen Elena Waters of Oakland and Nancy Ellen Moore of La Honda.

An outstanding athlete in golf, she won multiple tournaments throughout Southern California.

A self-proclaimed tomboy, she wore pants when ladies were advised to always wear gloves downtown. Her house was a boy's paradise with BB guns, trees to climb, and her knife collection.

A funeral mass will be held today at 10 a.m. at the Church of the Resurrection in Sunnyvale, followed by interment in the Santa Clara Mission Cemetery in Santa Clara beside her grandson.

A reception will be held at the Lima Family Mortuary in Santa Clara.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made in her name to the Maryknoll Fathers.

Eddie Fager helped found St. Raymond's

DOWNEY – Edward William Fager, a founding member of St. Raymond's Catholic Church in Downey, passed away Jan. 17.

Fager was born Aug. 5, 1922. He grew up in St. Paul, Kans. and moved to California in 1941. He married the former Lenore Volmer, from Parsons, Kans., in 1942.

He served in the military (Coast Artillery) at Ford Worden, Wash. for three years. He then returned to California where he owned and operated Fager's Body, Fender and Paint Shop on Firestone Boulevard in South Gate for 37 years before retiring in 1984.

Fager was an active participant in the monthly Mechanics Forum of the Viajeros Motorhome Club, and was also a member of the Los Otros Motorhome Club.

He is survived by his wife of 67 years, Lenore; three daughters Carolyn Alexander, Colleen (Tony) Van Horn, and Joanne Fager; son Roger (JJ) Fager; seven grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; siblings Olive Mae, Ronald, Raymond, Doris and George; and several nieces, nephews and cousins.

He was predeceased by three brothers, Callistus, Harold and Ralph.

A visitation will be held today at Miller-Mies Mortuary in Downey from 4-7 p.m., followed by a vigil. A funeral mass will take place at St. Raymond's Catholic Church in Downey Saturday at noon. Internment will follow at All Souls Cemetery in Long Beach.

St. Raymond's church hall will host a reception afterwards.



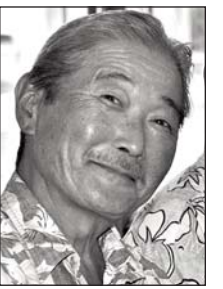
Shozo Sawada enjoyed architecture

DOWNEY – Shozo Mickey Sawada, who enjoyed the outdoors and working on ideas and inventions, died Jan. 11.

Sawada had a passion for architecture and worked in the profession for many years.

He is survived by his wife Marsha; his mother Margaret; brothers Yoji and Ken; sons Glenn and Jeff; and grandson Soren.

A funeral service will take place tomorrow at American Martyrs Church, 624 15th St. in Manhattan Beach, at 10:30 a.m. For information, call (310) 545-5651.



New physician joins Lakewood Regional

LAKEWOOD – Dr. Francisco Badar, a family practice physician, has joined the staff of Lakewood Regional Medical Center.

Badar graduated medical school from the University of Santo Tomas in the Philippines, and completed his residency in family medicine at North Oakland Medical Center in Pontiac, Mich., where he served as Chief Resident during his last year of training.

He is a member of the American Medical Association and is board eligible in family practice.

Badar, who has had research findings published in *Resident and Staff Physician* medical journal, said he believes family medicine is about providing caring and comprehensive health care to patients of all ages.

"I believe that the practice of medicine is a relationship," Badar said. "Every time I walk into a patient's room I ask myself, 'What would I do if this was my sister, brother or parent?'"

The desire to help heal through medicine runs in Badar's family. His father is a surgeon and his five sisters are all physicians or acute care nurses practicing in Southern California.


"My goal is to assist my patients maintain a comfortable level of general health, with a focus on education, prevention, early detection, and treatment," Badar said.

Badar recently moved to Irvine with his wife and three children. Besides starting up his new practice, he also holds free hypertension and BMI screenings at Lakewood Regional and various nursing homes around the area.

To contact Badar, or to schedule an appointment, call his office (562) 633-0201.

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Century 21 My Real Estate Company welcomes Richard Munoz. Richard has a background in computer hardware/software repair. "Richard is going to be an exceptional agent, with fresh ideas and a wealth of outstanding computer skills," said Angie Pierce, office manager. To contact Richard, call 562 927-2626.



Century 21 My Real Estate Company welcomes Lisa Munoz. Munoz has worked as an instructional assistant at Downey Unified School District and a freelance graphic designer. Munoz is with the city of Pico Rivera working with the parks and recreational department and is ready to start her real estate career with Century 21 My Real Estate Co. "Lisa is an outstanding young lady with a diverse background and a great personality," stated Steve Roberson, broker/owner. To contact Lisa, call 562 927-2626



Century 21 My Real Estate welcomes Jomari Sarmiento. He is currently employed with Kaiser Permanente as a support coordinator, and is attending Cypress College for his Nursing Degree. "Jomari is sharp and well prepared to assist clients in making one of the biggest financial decisions in their home investments. He is energetic and determined to better serve his clients needs," said Steve Roberson, Broker/Owner. To contact Jomari call 562 927-2626.



Century 21 My Real Estate welcomes Wendy Holden. "We are happy to welcome this dynamic person to the team. Wendy is bilingual and eager to start serving the community. She shows a great deal of dedication and an outstanding attitude," said Roger Nordin, V/P Relocation-Marketing. To contact Wendy call 562 927-2626



Century 21 My Real Estate welcomes Sandra Sanchez to our office. Sandra has a background in optical sales and has great enthusiastic approach, along with great customer skills. "She will be delivering a high level of quality service and customer satisfaction in her real estate dealings," said Angie Pierce, office manager. To contact Sandra. Call 562 927-2626.



Century 21 My Real Estate welcomes Pablo De La O. He is a graduate from Pacific Northwest Ballet which he was awarded a full scholarship and got his degree in arts. He is also a graduate from Royal Hair Institute and has been a licensed Barber for over 14 years. "Pablo has much strength and enjoys working with people which will enhance his overall service provided to his clients," said Angie Pierce, Office Manager. To contact Pablo call 562 927-2626.



Century 21 My Real Estate welcomes Marlen Villatoro. "Marlen is a great addition to our team, she has a great work ethic and a high level of quality service. I think she's going to be an outstanding realtor," said Steve Roberson. To contact Marlen call 562 927-2626

The Memorial Trust Foundation at Downey Regional Medical Center would like to thank the following donors who gave generously during December 2008:

<p>Gifts over \$10,000 Ms. Loraine Harris</p>	<p>Gifts between \$500 - \$999 Mountain View Pools Mrs. Judith B. Whitsit</p>	<p>Mr. Dewayne Goff Mr. & Mrs. Tad Goto Mr. & Mrs. Charles Gregorio Mr. Verne Horton Mrs. Lynn Jacobs Dr. & Mrs. Garo H. Kodjabian Mr. Richard Lapin Mr. Jack Lee Los Angeles County Medical Alliance Mr. Herbert Martian Mr. & Mrs. James McBride Mr. Robert V. Nogelhout Mr. Franklin O'Brien Mrs. Elizabeth Ortiz Mr. & Mrs. Manuel Palacios Mrs. Carol Perumean Mrs. Martha Rios Mr. Jim Rodriguez & Ms. Connie Patin Mr. & Mrs. Alex J. Shubin</p>
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"Manuel Acuna did a good job!" – Hector Juarez

"Michelle and Robert Secord did a good job for us and gave great service." – Roger Ayala

"Mario Acevedo did a wonderful job! Mario is honest and caring. I am pleased with him and will recommend him to others." – Hortencia Villasenor

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Supreme Living
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Outstanding 5 bedroom, 3 bath, central heating & A/C, fruit trees, wrought iron gate home. A special listing with a great price!

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Beautiful mobile home, well kept 2 bedroom, 2 full bathrooms, open large kitchen with large dining room and room for 3 cars.

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Los Angeles Clippers visit West Middle School

Photos by Art Montoya



West Middle School students tallied more than 850,000 minutes of reading time to earn a visit from Los Angeles Clippers guard Jason Hart this week. More than 50 students heard Hart read "Happy Birthday Martin Luther King."



Clippers cheerleaders handed out free books, bookmarks and pencils. Each student received two free tickets to an upcoming Clippers game.



The Clippers also gave West Middle School 200 tickets to a game earlier this month. Principal Craig Bertsch and librarian Julia Desalernos spoke with Clippers owner Donald Sterling before the game.



Last year, West students logged about 340,000 minutes of reading time. Next year, the kids plan to read more than 1 million minutes. Photos by Art Montoya